

RULE 12 – SCORING

Sec 1 The Official Scorer shall keep records of each game as outlined in the following rules. The scorer shall have the sole authority to make all decisions involving judgment. For example, it is the scorer's responsibility to determine whether a batter's advance to first base is the result of a hit or an error. However, a scorer shall not make a decision which conflicts with the Official Playing Rules or with an Umpire's decision.

Sec 2 The Box Score:

- a. Each player's name and the position or positions played shall be listed in the order in which they batted, or would have batted should the player be legally substituted, ejected, or removed from the game; or the game ends before their turn at bat.
- b. The name of each player inserted into a team's line up as a substitute player or runner shall be recorded and the subsequent record tabulated in the order in which he entered the game.
- c. Below each innings shall be listed the team's total number of runs for the innings; total team runs in the game so far: total hits for the innings: total errors for the innings: total left on bases for the innings: total strike outs for the innings: total walks for the innings.
NOTE: *(Blood Ruling) Any statistics accrued by the Replacement Player while he is in the game are credited to that player, even if he is a listed substitute, who does not eventually enter the game as a substitution for another player.*
 - (1) (FP ONLY) The Designated Player (DP) is optional, but if one is used, it must be made known prior to the start of the game and be listed on the score sheet in the regular batting order. Ten names will be listed, with the tenth name being the "FLEX PLAYER" for whom the DP is batting.
 - (2) (FP AND CLUB'S TOURNAMENTS ONLY) The Designated Runner (DR) is optional, but if one is used, it must be made known prior to the start of the game and be listed on the score sheet. The DR may be used once only per innings.

Sec 3 The Summary shall list the following items in this order:

- a. Each player's batting record must be tabulated. The columns shall show:
 - (1) Plate Appearances – the number of times each player first appeared as a batter at the plate.
 - (2) At Bat – the number of times each player batted during the game, but no turn at bat shall be charged on:
 - (a) An award of first base on a base on balls.
 - (b) A sacrifice bunt or a sacrifice fly.
 - (c) Being hit by a pitched ball.
 - (d) An award of first base because of interference or obstruction.

Note: *(a) – (d) above are all tabulated in columns after the At Bat column.*

 - (3) The total number of safe hits by each batter.
 - (4) The total number of two base hits by each batter.
 - (5) The total number of three base hits by each batter.
 - (6) The total number of home runs by each batter.
 - (7) The total number of runners batted in by each batter.
 - (8) The total number of strike outs conceded by each batter.
 - (9) The total number of bases stolen by each batter.
 - (10) The total number of instances of caught stealing by each batter.
 - (11) The total number of wild pitches and passed balls that advance other runners while each batter is at bat.

- (12) The total number of bases reached by each batter and the reach base opportunities for each batter.
- b. Each player's fielding record must be tabulated. The columns shall show:
 - (1) The total number of assists made by each fielder.
 - (2) The total number of put outs taken by each fielder.
 - (3) The total number of errors made by each fielder.
- c. Each team's total number of runs, hits, errors and runners left on base, including the batter whose batted ball results in other runners being retired for the third out shall be shown.
- d. Pitching summary should include:
 - (1) Number of batters faced by each pitcher.
 - (2) Winning or losing pitcher.
 - (3) Number of innings or parts of an innings pitched by each pitcher, A part of an innings is determined by the number of outs made, i.e. .1 for one out, .2 for two out. Example 5.1 for to show five innings and one out.

Note: *If a starting pitcher is replaced with one out in the fifth innings. Credit the pitcher with 5.1 innings. If a starting pitcher is replaced with none out in the 7th innings, credit the pitcher with 6 innings, and make the notation that he faced batters in the 7th. If a relief pitcher retires two batters and is replaced, credit the pitcher with .2 innings pitched.*

 - (1) Number of batters struck out by each pitcher.
 - (2) Number of batters walked by each pitcher.
 - (3) Number of runs permitted by each pitcher.
 - (4) Number of earned runs permitted by each pitcher.
 - (5) Number of safe hits permitted by each pitcher.
 - (6) Number of two base hits permitted by each pitcher.
 - (7) Number of three base hits permitted by each pitcher.
 - (8) Number of home runs permitted by each pitcher.
 - (9) Number of wild pitches by each pitcher.
 - (10) Number of batters hit by a pitched ball by each pitcher.
 - (11) Number of illegal pitches by each pitcher.
- e. Catching Summary should include:
 - (1) The number of passed balls by each catcher.
 - (2) The number of instances of runners caught stealing by each catcher.
 - (3) The number of stolen bases permitted by each catcher
- f. The start and finish time of the game shall be recorded along with the names of the game's scorer(s) and umpires. Any lengthy time stoppages for injury and/or protest should be noted.

Sec 4. All individual and team records of any tie or forfeited game which has reached or exceeded legal length (5 innings) when ended shall become part of the official statistics except that pitchers shall not be credited with a win nor charged with a loss.

Sec 5. A run batted in is a run scored because of one of the following reasons:

- a. A safe hit
- b. A sacrifice bunt
- c. A sacrifice fly
- d. A foul fly caught
- e. An infield put-out or fielder's choice

- f. A runner forced home by reason of the batter becoming a runner with the bases full (on a base on balls, or an award of first base for being hit by a pitched ball, or for interference or obstruction)
- g. For the run scored by the batter who hits a home run. Credit a run batted in for each runner who is on base when the home run is hit and who scores ahead of the batter who hit the home run.
- h. Credit a run batted in for the run scored, before two are out, an error is made on a play, which a runner from third base ordinarily would have scored. i.e 6-3, 5-3 etc.

NZ Note: Do not credit a run batted in:

- a. When the batter grounds into a force double play or a reverse force double play
- b. When a fielder is charged with an error because he muffs a throw at first base which should have completed a force double play.
- c. When a batter misses first base with two down.

Note: Scorer's judgment must determine whether a run batted in shall be credited for a run which scores when a fielder holds the ball, or throws to a wrong base. Ordinarily, if the runner keeps going, credit a run batted in, if the runner stops and takes off again, when he notices the misplay, credit the run as scored on a fielder's choice.

Sec 6. A base hit is a batted ball that permits the batter to reach base safely.

- a. When a batter reaches first base or any succeeding base safely on a fair ball that settles on the ground, clears a fence, or strikes a fence before being touched by a fielder.
- b. When a batter reaches first base safely on a fair ball which is hit with such force or such slowness. Or takes an unnatural bounce, making it impossible to field with ordinary effort in time to retire a runner
- c. When a fair ball which has not been touched by a fielder becomes "dead" because of touching the person or clothing of a runner or umpire
- d. When a fielder unsuccessfully attempts to retire a proceeding runner, and in the scorer's judgment the batter **runner** would not have been retired at first base by ordinary effort
- e. If a player cannot make a throw, the scorer shall award a base hit. "Cannot" includes an infielder falling while fielding a ball so that he is unable to play the ball
- f. When a batted ball strikes a cap, mask, or glove detached from it's proper place
- g. When fielders collide and the ball drops to the ground, so that the scorer cannot determine which fielder should have caught the ball.

NZ Note: In applying the above rules, always give the batter the benefit of the doubt. A safe course to follow is to score a hit when exceptionally good fielding of a ball fails to result in a putout.

Sec 7. A base hit should not be scored in the following cases:

- a. When a runner is forced out by a batted ball. Or would have been forced out, except for a fielding error
- b. When a player fielding a batted ball retires a proceeding runner with ordinary effort
- c. When a fielder fails in an attempt to retire a proceeding runner with ordinary effort
- d. When a runner is called out for interference with a fielder attempting to field a batted ball, unless in the scorer's judgment the batter – **runner** would have been safe had the interference not occurred.

Sec 8. The length of the base hit shall be determined by the number of bases the batter advances, without the aid of an error. Judgment errors are not considered errors, provided the

fielder does not touch the ball. The batter is credited with the number of bases he could have made if the ball were played on him

- a. When a batter attempts to make a two-base hit or a three-base hit by sliding, he must hold the last base to which he advances. If he over slides second base and is tagged out before getting back to the base safely, he shall be credited with a one base hit, if he over slides third base and is tagged out, he shall be credited with a two-base hit.

NZ Note: *If the batter overruns second or third base and is tagged out trying to return, he shall be credited with the last base he touched. If he runs past second base after reaching that base on his feet, attempts to return and is tagged out, he shall be credited with a two-base hit. If he runs past third base after reaching that base on his feet, attempts to return and is tagged out, he shall be credited with a three-base hit.*

- b. When a batter ends a game with a safe hit which drives in as many runs as are necessary to put the home team in the lead, the batter will be credited with as many bases as he needed to drive in the winning run. However, if the ball is batted over the fence, a home run shall be credited and all of the runs batted in shall be recorded. An automatic two-base hit shall be considered in the same manner.
- c. When the batter, after making a safe hit, is called out for having failed to touch a base, the last base he reached safely shall determine if he shall be credited with a one-base hit, a two-base hit or a three-base hit. If he is called out after missing home plate, he shall be credited with a three-base hit. If he is called out for missing third base, he shall be credited with a two-base hit. If he is called out for missing second base, he shall be credited with a one-base hit. If he is called out for missing first base, he shall be charged with a time at bat, but no hit.

Sec. 9 Sacrifices are scored when with less than two outs:

- a. The batter advances one or more runners with a bunt and is retired at first base, or would have been retired except for a fielding error.

EXCEPTION – *Do not score a sacrifice bunt when any runner is put out attempting to advance one base on a bunt. Charge the batter with a time at bat.*

- b. A bunted ball is played, without error, in an unsuccessful attempt to put out a preceding runner advancing one base.

EXCEPTION – *If in the scorer's judgment perfect play would not have put out the batter at first base, the batter shall be credited with a one-base hit and not a sacrifice.*

- c. The batter hits a fly ball or a line drive handled by an outfielder or an infielder running in the outfield which:
 - (1) Is caught, and a runner scores after the catch, or
 - (2) Is dropped and a runner scores, if in the scorer's judgment the runner could have scored after the catch had the ball been caught.

Sec.10 Assists are scored in the following situations:

- a. To each fielder who throws or deflects a batted or thrown ball in such a way that a put-out results, or would have resulted except for a subsequent error by any fielder. Only one assist and no more shall be credited to each fielder who throws or deflects the ball in a run-down play which results in a put-out, or would have resulted in a put-out, except for a subsequent error.

Note: *Mere ineffective contact with the ball shall not be considered an assist. "Deflect" shall mean to slow down or change the direction of the ball and thereby effectively assist in putting out a batter or runner.*

- b. To each fielder who throws or deflects the ball during a play which results in a runner being called out for interference, or for running out of line.

- c. To the catcher, or any other player, who after a dropped or missed third strike, throws in time to take a runner out at any base.

Sec.11 Do not credit an assist to

- a. The pitcher on a strike out
EXCEPTION: *Credit an assist if the pitcher fields an uncaught third strike and makes a throw which results in a put-out.*
- b. The pitcher when, as the result of a legal pitch received by the catcher, a runner is put out, as when the catcher picks a runner off base, throws out a runner trying to steal, or tags a runner trying to score.
- c. To a fielder whose wild throw permits a runner to advance, even though the runner is subsequently put out as a result of continuous play. A play which follows a misplay (whether or not it is an error) is new play, and the fielder making any misplay shall not be credited with an assist unless he takes part in the new play.

Sec. 12 Put outs are scored in the following situations:

- a. A put out is credited to a fielder each time he:
 - (1) Catches a fly ball or line drive, whether fair or foul
 - (2) Catches a thrown or batted ground ball which retires a batter or runner
 - (3) Touches a runner with the ball when the runner is off the base to which he is entitled
 - (4) Is nearest the runner declared out for being hit with a batted ball, running out of the baseline to avoid being touched with the ball, as a result of interference, or for leaving a base too soon on a pitch.
 - (5) Catches a called infield fly, or is nearest to the called infield fly when it hits the ground.
 - (6) When the batter-runner is called out for interference by a proceeding runner, as provided in Rule 7, SEC 11 (f), credit the putout to the first baseman. If the fielder interfered with was in the act of throwing the ball, credit him with an assist.
 - (7) Credit participation in the double play or the triple play to each fielder who earns a put-out or an assist when two or three players are put out between the time a pitch is delivered and the time the ball next becomes dead or is next in possession of the pitcher in pitching position, unless an error or misplay intervenes between put-outs.

Note: *Credit the double play or triple play also if an appeal play after the ball is in possession of the pitcher results in an additional put-out.*

- b. A put-out is credited each time to the catcher:
 - (1) When he catches a third strike
 - (2) When the third strike is called when first base is occupied with less than two outs
 - (3) When the batter bunts foul after two strikes
 - (4) When the batter bats illegally, or uses an altered bat
 - (5) When the batter is struck by his own batted ball
 - (6) When the batter fails to bat in the correct order
 - (7) When the batter interferes with the catcher

Sec 13 Errors are recorded in the following situations:

- a. For each player who commits a misplay, fumble, muff or wild throw which prolongs the turn at bat of the player or the life of a **runner** or which permits a runner to advance one or more bases.

EFFECT

- (1) An error is charged to a fielder, whether he touches a ball or not, if in the scorer's judgment he could have handled the ball with ordinary effort. This includes a ground ball going through a fielder's legs, or a pop fly falling untouched;
 - (2) The above includes a dropped foul fly which was fielded with ordinary effort.
EXCEPTION: When a fielder deliberately permits a foul fly to fall safe, with less than two outs and a runner on third base.
- b. For the fielder who fails to touch the base after receiving the ball in time to retire a runner on a force out, or when a **runner** is compelled to return to a base.
 - c. For the catcher if a batter is awarded first base for catcher's obstruction. No turn at bat is charged to the batter.
 - d. For the fielder if a **runner** advances a base because of his failure to stop or try to stop a ball accurately thrown to a base unless there was no reason for the throw. When more than one player could receive the throw, the scorer must determine which player gets the error.
 - e. For the fielder who fails to complete a double play because of dropping the ball.
 - f. For the fielder who is charged with obstruction.
 - g. For the fielder making a throw which allows the runner to reach a base which he would not have reached except for the bad throw. Throws striking a runner, an umpire, taking a bad hop, or hitting a base, are examples of these type of errors.

Sec.14 Errors are not charged against fielders in the following situations:

- a. Because the catcher and the pitcher handle the ball more than other fielders, certain misplays on pitched balls are defined by wild pitches and passed balls. No error shall be charged when wild pitch or passed ball is scored.
 - (1) No error shall be charged when the batter is awarded first base on four called balls or because he was touched by a pitched ball, or when he reaches first base as the result of a wild pitch or passed ball.
 - i. When the third strike is a wild pitch, permitting the batter to reach first base, score a strikeout and a wild pitch.
 - ii. When the third strike is a passed ball, permitting the batter to reach first base, score a strike out and a passed ball.
 - (2) No error shall be charged when a runner or runners advance as a result of a passed ball, a wild pitch or an illegal pitch.
- b. No error shall be charged to the catcher when after receiving the pitch, he makes a wild throw attempting to prevent a stolen base, unless the wild throw permits the stealing runner to advance one or more extra bases, or permits any other runner to advance one or more extra bases.
- c. No error shall be charged against any fielder:
 - (1) Who makes a wild throw if in the scorer's judgment the runner would not have been put out with ordinary effort by a good throw, unless such wild throw permits any runner to advance beyond the base he would have reached had the throw not been wild.
 - (2) When he makes a wild throw in attempting to complete a double play or triple play, unless such wild throw enables any runner to advance beyond the base he would have reached had the throw not been wild.

Note: *When a fielder muffs a thrown ball which, if held, would have completed a double play or triple play, charge an error to the fielder who drops the ball and credit an assist to the fielder who made the throw.*

- (3) When after fumbling a ground ball or dropping a fly ball, a line drive, or a thrown ball, he recovers the ball in time to force out a runner at any base.
- (4) Who permits a foul to fall safe with a runner on third base before two are out, if in the scorer's judgment the fielder deliberately refuses the catch in order that the runner on third base shall not score after the catch.
- d. Mental mistakes or misjudgments, known as judgment errors, are not considered errors. This would include a fly ball lost in the sun, a fielder misjudging a line drive or fly ball carried away by the wind.

Sec.15 Stolen bases are credited to a runner whenever:

- a. He advances one base on the delivery of a pitch unaided by a hit, a put-out, an error, a force out, a fielder's choice, a passed ball, a wild pitch, an illegal pitch, a base on balls, a hit batter or catcher's interference.
- b. The runner leaves with the release of the pitch on a genuine steal attempt (not just a lead off) and a wild pitch or passed ball results, credit the runner with a stolen base and ignore the wild pitch or passed ball.

Note: If as a result of the misplay, the stealing runner advances an extra base, or another runner also advances, score the wild pitch or passed ball as well as the stolen base.

- c. A runner is attempting to steal, and the catcher, after receiving the pitch, makes a wild throw trying to prevent the stolen base, credit a stolen base. Do not charge an error unless the wild throw permits the stealing runner to advance one or more extra bases, or permits another runner to advance, in which case, credit the stolen base and charge one error to the catcher.
- d. When 2 runners steal together:
 - (1) If the catcher makes the play on either runner and runner is safe, credit a stolen base to the runner the play is made on and a fielder's choice to the other runner.
 - (2) If catcher elects not to make a play on either runner credit both with a stolen base. In this situation, two stolen bases are credited against the catcher in the catching summary.

Sec.16 Do not credit a stolen base

- a. When a runner is tagged out after over sliding or over-running a base.
- b. When a fielder mishandles a throw, and in the scorer's judgment, the runner attempting to steal would have been put out. Score an assist and an error.
- c. When the defence is indifferent to a base stealer's advance. Score a fielder's choice.
- d. A runner shall be charged as "caught stealing" if he is put out, or would have been put out by errorless play, when he:
 - (1) Tries to steal
 - (2) Overslides while stealing.
- e. When a runner, attempting to steal, evades being put out on a run down play and advances to the next base without the aid of an error. Score the appropriate fielder numbers with the batter number.

NOTE: *Do not charge "caught stealing" unless the runner has an opportunity to be credited with a stolen base when the play starts.*

Sec.17 A pitcher shall be credited with a win regardless of how many innings he has pitched, if he is the pitcher of record when his team assumes the lead and maintains it to the finish of the game.

Sec.18 A pitcher shall be credited with a loss regardless of how many innings the first pitcher has pitched, he shall be charged with the loss of the game if he is replaced when his team is behind in the score, or falls behind because of runs charged to him after he is replaced, and his team thereafter fails either to tie the score or gain the lead.

Sec.19 Earned Runs. An earned run is a run for which the pitcher is held accountable. In determining earned runs, the innings should be reconstructed without the errors (which include catcher's obstruction and passed balls) and the benefit of the doubt should always be given to the pitcher in determining which bases would have been reached by errorless play.

- a. An earned run shall be charged every time a runner scores a run by the aid of safe hits, sacrifice bunts, a sacrifice fly, stolen bases, put-outs, fielder's choices, bases on balls, hit batters or wild pitches, (including a wild pitch on third strike which permits a batter to reach first base) before fielding chances have been offered to put out the offensive team. For the purpose of this rule, a defensive obstruction penalty shall be construed as a fielding chance.
 - (1) A wild pitch is solely the pitcher's fault, and contributes to an earned run in the same way as a base on balls or an illegal pitch.
- b. No run shall be earned when scored by a runner who reaches first base
 - (2) On a hit or otherwise after his time at bat is prolonged by a muffed foul fly.
 - (3) because of obstruction, or
 - (4) because of any fielding error.
- c. No run shall be earned when scored by a runner whose life is prolonged by an error, if such runner would have been put out by errorless play.
- d. No run shall be earned when the runner's advance is aided by an error, a passed ball, or defensive obstruction, if the scorer judges that the run would not have scored without the aid of such misplay.
- e. An error by a pitcher is treated exactly the same as an error by any other fielder in computing earned runs.
- f. Whenever a fielding error occurs, the pitcher shall be given the benefit of the doubt in determining to which bases any runners would have advanced had the fielding of the defensive team been errorless.
- g. When the pitchers are changed during an inning, the relief pitcher shall not be charged with any run (earned or unearned) scored by a runner who was on base at the time he entered the game, nor for any runs scored by any runner who reaches base on a fielder's choice which puts out a runner left on base by the preceding pitcher.
- h. A relief pitcher shall not be held accountable when the first batter to whom he pitches reaches first base on four called balls if such batter has a decided advantage in the ball and strike count when pitchers are changed.
 - (1) If when pitchers are changed, the count is;
 - i. 2 balls, no strike;
 - ii. 2 balls 1 strike;
 - iii. 3 balls no strike;
 - iv. 3 balls 1 strike; or
 - v. 3 balls 2 strikes; and the batter gets a walk, charge that batter and the walk to the proceeding pitcher, not the relief pitcher.
 - (2) Any other action by such batter, such as reaching base on a hit, an error, a fielders choice, a force out, or being touched by a pitched ball, shall cause such batter to be charged to the relief pitcher.
 - (3) If, when pitchers are changed the count is;
 - i. 2 balls 2 strikes;
 - ii. 1 ball 2 strikes;

- iii. 1 ball 1 strike; 1 ball no strike;
 - iv. no ball 2 strikes; or
 - v. no ball 1 strike; charge that batter and his actions to the relief pitcher
- i. Tiebreaker: A run scored by the player starting as a runner at second base shall be charged to the defensive team and not the pitcher. The run is neither earned or unearned. Any other run in a tiebreaker inning must be charged to an actual pitcher as either earned or unearned.