

## BASEBALL.

THE AMERICAN NATIONAL GAME.

BY

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**H**AVING been connected with athletic sports in one way or another for over forty years, I am naturally very much interested in all kinds of athletics, but without disparagement to any other sport, I don't mind admitting to you that my first and last love is the American national game of baseball.

Perhaps you would like to have me tell you something about the early history of baseball: and how it became the national sport of this country, its early struggles, how it was extricated from the gambling influences that practically controlled it in the early seventies, and how dissipation and other objectionable features were driven from its ranks, until it stands to-day probably the cleanest sport in the world.

Baseball is of American origin, was born in New York City, and the first baseball ground was located about where Madison Square now stands. Back in 1842 a few of the young business men of New York began to assemble every Saturday afternoon on these grounds to play what they called baseball. In 1845 these same young men organized the original Knickerbocker Baseball Club of New York, the first baseball club ever organized. This club printed the first playing rules in 1845, and it may interest you to know that the present game of baseball could to-day be played under these same rules with a few minor changes, showing that the main underlying principles of the game have not changed from that day to this.

Five years later, in 1850, the Gotham and Empire Clubs of New York were organized, and then began rival match games between clubs. In 1857 a convention of baseball players was held in New York, which resulted in the formation of the first National Association of Amateur Baseball Players in 1858, with a total membership of about twenty-five clubs, all from New York City or the immediate vicinity.

This national organization gave a great impetus to the game and clubs began forming in other cities.

The game had become well launched when the Civil War began in 1861. The New York baseball players of that period were among the first to respond to President Lincoln's call for troops, and they took their baseball accoutrements with them, and thus was the game introduced into the army, where it soon became a favorite camp pastime.

From an address before the Public Schools Athletic League of Greater New York. By permission.



Every regiment had its baseball team and the monotony of camp life was very much relieved by match games of baseball. In some unaccountable manner the new game found its way over into the Confederate lines, and while those two magnificent armies could not agree upon national policies, they could agree upon baseball. At the close of the Civil War in 1865 the soldiers of both armies in returning to their homes disseminated baseball throughout the nation, so you can see that baseball has its patriotic side and became the national game of America through the efforts of those battle-scarred veterans of the Civil War.

These returning veterans became the baseball instructors to the youths of that period, and I happened to be one of those youths that caught the baseball fever at that time.

Baseball, thus introduced throughout the country, became a furore, and nearly every city, town, and hamlet had its baseball club.

The rivalry between cities became intense and any young man with baseball skill was eagerly sought for by wealthy clubs.

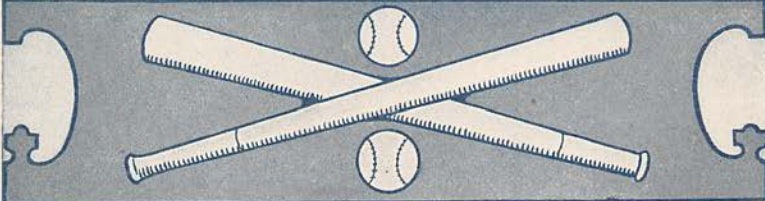
Every possible effort was made at this period to keep the game on a strictly amateur basis, but the demand of the public for a high degree of playing skill, together with the growing tendency to gamble on the result of the games, produced a sort of veiled professionalism which continued in vogue until 1871, when the first Professional Association of Baseball Players was organized, since which time the game has been governed by the professional element.

The tendency for gambling on the games that had arisen during the previous amateur period blossomed out into full bloom during 1871 to 1875.

Baseball poolrooms sprung up in every large city and were permitted on the baseball grounds, with the result which always happens when the gambling fraternity get possession of any athletic sport: the public interest began to wane, players were accused of throwing games, and at the close of 1875 baseball was near death's door.

As usually happens in this country when a public institution—and baseball is a public institution—becomes so bad and intolerable to the better element in the community, something or somebody invariably appears that can set things right again, and at this crucial period in baseball affairs there arose a man equal to the emergency in the person of the late Wm. A. Hulbert of Chicago, who is frequently referred to as "the man who saved the life of baseball."

It was my good fortune to be closely associated with Mr. Hulbert in his baseball reconstruction work, and to assist him in preparing the original Constitution of the National League, which was organized in 1876, and has ever since been a very important factor in the government and development of baseball. Through this new organization poolrooms were abolished from the grounds, public betting on the game was prohibited, and State legislatures were induced to pass laws prohibiting baseball poolrooms in all large cities. Liquor selling on



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THE WHITE SOX





BASEBALL

1. Base-ball game upon Illinois field at the University of Illinois, May 9, 1903, between the Universities of Michigan and Illinois. Garland Stahl of Illinois had batted a home run, with bases full, just as the camera was snapped. It won the game and the series for Illinois and decided the Intercollegiate championship of the Middle West for the year.
2. The Chicago American League—The "White Sox" Baseball Club, Champions 1906.

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all league grounds was no longer permitted; and everything possible was done to remove all objectionable features from the game.

It was a hard fight, and there were many discouragements, for it was like pulling one's self by the boot straps out of deep mud. In the first year of the National League it became necessary to expel two of the most prominent clubs—New York and Philadelphia—for failing to fulfil their contractual obligations to the League, and there has never been occasion since to expel a club for a similar offence. Two years afterward four prominent players were accused and convicted of throwing games in the interest of themselves and certain gamblers, and they were promptly expelled and never reinstated, and from that day to this not a single player has been convicted of dishonesty.

In 1881, ten of the most prominent League players were expelled for dissipation and drunkenness, with the result that these vices have practically become a thing of the past among baseball players. These determined and drastic actions of the National League in the early years of its existence, have resulted in bringing baseball up to its present high standard of honesty and efficiency, and public sentiment will see to it that those in control of the game in the future must keep this great national sport up to the highest standard. I look upon baseball and kindred sports as one of the greatest educational factors of the times. We live in a strenuous age, and our American boys and youths should be educated and developed along lines that will enable them to meet and cope with these conditions.

What can better fit a boy for the rough and tumble business life of to-day than a thorough schooling in athletics properly directed?

As the mental faculties grow and develop, let the physical body grow along with it, in order to make a combination that will be useful, and in our crowded cities how is it possible to thus develop our city boys except through a systematic and properly directed training in athletic sports? An American boy takes to athletic sports and games like a duck to water, but this natural inborn love needs proper direction, and that is what I understand the Public Schools Athletic League has undertaken to do for the boys of Greater New York.

Baseball not only develops the muscles and the whole physical body, but it is of still greater value in developing the mental faculties, for the ball player must be alert, must think quick and act with the thought, for there is no place on the team for the laggard.

It is also a great training for the temper, for a boy soon learns that losing his temper is equivalent to losing the game.

As a moral force nothing excels baseball, and athletic sports generally, for it is a healthy medium through which a boy's youthful vitality can work off naturally, and after a hard-fought game he has become so physically tired out that he has no inclination for anything except a good meal and bed.

The game of baseball affords splendid discipline for the mental and



moral natures. The intense excitement of the game plays havoc with the emotions, for a player can go to the very heights of glory in victory, down to the very depths of despair in defeat.

There are no half-way stations, the journey is complete; the score is 10 to 4; you win or you lose.

After the game the victorious player walks or runs off the field with a proud step, touching only the high places, or perhaps his admiring friends may carry him off on their shoulders; but alas, how different is the step of the defeated player: his muscles are weary and almost refuse to work, his feet weigh a ton, and there is no glad hand or admiring friend to accompany him to the dressing-room. He looks crushed, and probably feels an unpleasant swelling in his throat. I know the feeling, boys, for I have been there. I know of no remedy for this tired, defeated feeling, but my experience long since taught me that the swelling in the throat can be reduced and the step made lighter by going, immediately after the game was over, up to the player who had played a similar position on the opposition team, shaking him by the hand and congratulating him on his victory, and telling him that he won because his team outplayed yours. Don't lay it on the umpire—only "muckers" do that—for that is unmanly, un-sportsmanlike, and invariably untrue.

The victor of to-day may be the vanquished of to-morrow, so if the boy can have a few years of this kind of training he will learn not to be unduly elated in victory nor too much cast down in defeat, all of which tends to that self-poise and equilibrium so necessary in the evenly developed boy and man.

This is becoming an athletic age. Americans are becoming famous as the most skilful athletes in the world. While we are here this afternoon our returning victorious athletes from the recent Olympian games at Athens are approaching New York harbor with their brows covered with the laurel wreaths of victory won at the Stadium in the ancient city of Athens in Greece, the birthplace of athletic sports.

At Washington there sits in the executive chair our first Athletic President, whose sportsmanlike qualities, energy, and "square deal" brand of integrity are an inspiration to the boys of this country.

Because of the athletic spirit that is permeating the boys of our nation, future generations will see more honesty and less hypocrisy in high places, will hear more of square deal and less of graft, for the spirit underlying all athletic sports is fair play, honesty, and integrity.

#### RULES OF BASEBALL

As adopted by the National League and American Association of Professional Baseball Clubs. Many apply to match games between organized clubs, and therefore do not apply to cases where sides are chosen just before the game.

##### THE BALL-GROUND.

RULES 1-14.—Describe the proper manner of laying out the ball-ground, which it is hardly necessary to present here, since there is hardly a village or community of any kind to be found where one does not already exist.



## THE BALL.

**RULE 14. SECTION 1.**—Must not weigh less than five nor more than five and one-quarter ounces avoirdupois, and it must measure not less than nine nor more than nine and one-quarter inches in circumference.

**SEC. 2.** For each championship game two regulation balls shall be furnished by the home club to the umpire for use. When the ball in play is batted to foul ground and out of sight of the umpire, the other ball shall be immediately brought into play. As often as one of the two in use shall be lost a new one must be substituted.

## THE BAT.

**RULE 15.**—Must be entirely of hard wood, except that the handle may be wound with twine or a granulated substance supplied, not to exceed eighteen inches from the end.

It must be round, and it must not exceed two and three-quarters inches in diameter in the thickest part, nor exceed forty-two inches in length.

## THE PLAYERS AND THEIR POSITIONS.

**RULE 16.**—The players of each club in a game shall be nine in number, one of whom shall act as captain, and in no case shall less than nine men be allowed to play on each side.

**RULE 17.**—The players' positions shall be such as may be assigned them by their captain, except that the pitcher, while in the act of delivering the ball to the bat, must take the position as defined in Rules 8 and 29.

**RULE 18.**—Players in uniform shall not be permitted to occupy seats on the stands, or to stand among the spectators.

**RULE 19. SECTION 1.**—No player shall attach anything to the sole or heel of his shoes other than the ordinary baseball shoe plate.

**SEC. 2.** The catcher and first baseman are permitted to wear a glove or mitt of any size, shape or weight. All other players are restricted to the use of a glove or mitt weighing not over ten ounces, and measuring in circumference, around the palm of the hand, not over fourteen inches.

## PLAYERS' BENCHES.

**RULE 20.**—The players' benches must be furnished by the home club and placed upon a portion of the ground outside of and not nearer than 25 feet to the players' lines. One such bench must be for the exclusive use of the visiting club, and one for the exclusive use of the home club.

## THE GAME.

**RULE 21. SECTION 1.**—Every championship game must be commenced not later than two hours before sunset.

**SEC. 2.** A game shall consist of nine innings to each contesting nine, except that

(a.) If the side first at bat scores less runs in nine innings than the other side has scored in eight innings, the game shall then terminate.

(b.) If the side last at bat in the ninth inning scores the winning run before the third man is out, the game shall terminate.

## A TIE GAME.

**RULE 22.**—If the score be a tie at the end of the nine innings, play shall be continued until one side has scored more runs than the other in an equal number of innings, provided, that the side last at bat scores the winning run before the third man is out, the game shall terminate.

## A DRAWN GAME.

**RULE 23.**—A drawn game shall be declared by the umpire when he terminates a game on account of darkness or rain, after five equal innings have been played, if the score at the time is equal on the last even innings played; except when the side that went second to bat is then at the bat, and has scored the same number of runs as the other side, in which case the umpire shall declare the game drawn without regard to the score of the last equal innings.

## A CALLED GAME.

**RULE 24.**—If the umpire calls "Game" on account of darkness or rain at any time after five innings have been completed, the score shall be that of the last equal innings played, except, that the side second at bat shall have scored one or more runs than the side first at bat, in which case the score of the game shall be the total number of runs made.

## A FORFEITED GAME.

**RULE 25.**—A forfeited game shall be declared by the umpire in favor of the club not in fault, at the request of such club, in the following cases:

**SECTION 1.** If the nine of a club fail to appear upon the field, or being upon the field, fail to begin the game within five minutes after the umpire has called "Play" at the hour appointed for the beginning of the game, unless such delay in appearing, or in commencing the game, be unavoidable.



SEC. 2. If, after the game has begun, one side refuses or fails to continue playing, unless such game has been suspended or terminated by the umpire.

SEC. 3. If, after play has been suspended by the umpire, one side fails to resume playing within one minute after the umpire has called "Play."

SEC. 4. If a team resorts to dilatory movements to delay the game.

SEC. 5. If, in the opinion of the umpire, any one of the rules of the game is wilfully violated.

SEC. 6. If, after ordering the removal of a player, as authorized by the Rules, said order is not obeyed within one minute.

SEC. 7. If, because of removal of players from the game by the umpire, there be less than nine players in either team.

SEC. 8. If, when two games are scheduled to be played on the same afternoon, the second game be not commenced within ten minutes of the time of completion of the first game. The umpire of the first game shall be the timekeeper.

#### NO GAME.

RULE 26.—"No game" shall be declared by the umpire if he shall terminate play on account of rain or darkness before five innings on each side are completed. Except in a case when the game is called, and the club second at bat shall have more runs at end of its fourth innings than the club first at bat has made in its five completed innings; in such case the umpire shall award the game to the club having made the greatest number of runs.

#### SUBSTITUTES.

RULE 27. SECTION 1.—In every championship game each side shall be required to have present on the field, in uniform, a sufficient number of substitute players to carry out the provision which requires that not less than nine players shall occupy the field in any innings of the game.

SEC. 2. Any such player may be substituted at any time by either club, but a player thereby retired shall not thereafter participate in the game.

SEC. 3. The base-runner shall not have a substitute run for him except by the consent of the captains of the contesting teams.

#### CHOICE OF INNINGS—CONDITION OF GROUND.

RULE 28.—The choice of innings shall be given to the captain of the home club, who shall also be the sole judge of the fitness of the ground for beginning a game after rain, but, after play has been called by the umpire, he alone shall be the judge as to the fitness of the ground for resuming play after the game has been suspended on account of rain.

#### THE PITCHER'S POSITION.

RULE 29.—The pitcher shall take his position facing the batsman with both feet square on the ground, and in front of the pitcher's plate; but in the act of delivering the ball to the bat, one foot must be in contact with the pitcher's plate. He shall not raise either foot, unless in the act of delivering the ball to the bat, nor make more than one step in *such delivery*.

#### A FAIRLY DELIVERED BALL.

RULE 30.—A Fairly Delivered Ball to the bat, is a ball pitched or thrown to the bat by the pitcher while standing in his position and facing the batsman, the ball so delivered to pass over any portion of the home base not lower than the batsman's knee nor higher than his shoulder.

#### AN UNFAIRLY DELIVERED BALL.

RULE 31.—An Unfairly Delivered Ball is a ball delivered by the pitcher, as in Rule 30, except that the ball does not pass over any portion of the home base, or does pass over the home base, above the batsman's shoulder or below the *line* of his knee.

#### BALKING.

RULE 32.—A Balk shall be:

SECTION 1. Any motion made by the pitcher to deliver the ball to the bat without delivering it.

SEC. 2. Any delivery of the ball to the bat while his (pivot) foot is not in contact with the pitcher's plate, as defined in Rule 29.

SEC. 3. Any motion in delivering the ball to the bat by the pitcher while not in the position defined in Rule 29.

SEC. 4. The holding of the ball by the pitcher so long as, in the opinion of the umpire, to delay the game unnecessarily.

SEC. 5. Standing in position and *making any motion* to pitch without having the ball in his possession, except in the case of a "block-ball," as provided by Rule 35, section 2.

When the pitcher feigns to throw the ball to a base he must resume the above position and pause momentarily before delivering the ball to the bat.

If the pitcher fails to comply with the requirements of this rule the umpire must call "A balk."

SEC. 6. *The making of any motion the pitcher habitually makes in his method of delivery, without his immediately delivering the ball to the bat.*

SEC. 7. *If the pitcher feigns to throw the ball to a base and does not resume his legal position and pause momentarily before delivering the ball to the bat.*



## DEAD BALLS.

**RULE 33.**—A Dead Ball is a ball delivered to the bat by the pitcher that touches any part of the batsman's person or clothing while standing in his position without being struck at, or that touches any part of the umpire's person or clothing while he is standing on foul ground without first passing the catcher.

**RULE 34.**—In case of a foul strike, foul hit ball not legally caught out, dead ball, or base-runner put out for being struck by a fair-hit ball, the ball shall not be considered in play until it is held by the pitcher standing in his position and the umpire shall have called play.

## BLOCK BALLS.

**RULE 35. SECTION 1.**—A Block is a batted or thrown ball that is touched, stopped, or handled by any person not engaged in the game.

**SEC. 2.** Whenever a block occurs the umpire shall declare it and the base-runners may run the bases without being put out until the ball has been returned to and held by the pitcher standing in his position.

**SEC. 3.** In the case of a block, if a person not engaged in the game should retain possession of the ball, or throw or kick it beyond the reach of the fielders, the umpire should call "Time" and require each base-runner to stop at the last base touched by him until the ball be returned to the pitcher standing in his position and the umpire shall have called "Play."

## THE BATSMAN'S POSITION—ORDER OF BATTING.

**RULE 36.**—The batsmen must take their position within the batsman's lines, as defined in Rule 10, in the order in which they are named in the batting order, which batting order must be submitted by the captains of the opposing teams to the umpire before the game, and this batting order must be followed except in the case of a substitute player, in which case the substitute must take the place of the original player in the batting order. After the first inning the first striker in each inning shall be the batsman whose name follows that of the last man who has completed his turn—time at bat—in the preceding inning.

**RULE 37. SECTION 1.**—When their side goes to the bat the players must immediately return to the players' bench, as defined in Rule 20, and remain there until the side is put out, except when called to the bat or they become *coachers* or substitute base-runners; provided, that the captain or one player only, except that if two or more base-runners are occupying the bases then the captain and one player, or two players, may occupy the space between the player's lines and the captain's lines to coach base-runners.

**SEC. 2.** No player of the side "at bat," except when batsman, shall occupy any portion of the space within the catcher's line. The triangular space behind the home base is reserved for the exclusive use of umpire, catcher, and batsman, and the umpire must prohibit any player of the side "at bat" from crossing the same at any time while the ball is in the hands of, or passing between, the pitcher and catcher, while standing in their positions.

**SEC. 3.** The players of the side "at bat" must occupy the portion of the field allotted them, but must speedily vacate any portion thereof that may be in the way of the ball, or any fielder attempting to catch or field it.

## THE BATTING RULES.

**RULE 38. SECTION 1.**—A Fair Hit is a ball batted by the batsman—while he is standing within the lines of his position—that first touches "fair" ground, or the person of a player, or the umpire, while standing on fair ground, and then settles on fair ground before passing the line of first or third base.

**SEC. 2.** A Foul Hit is a similarly batted ball that first touches "foul" ground, or the person of a player, or the umpire while standing on "foul" ground.

**SEC. 3.** Should such "fair hit" ball bound or roll to foul ground, before passing the line of first or third base, and settle on foul ground, it shall be declared by the umpire a foul ball.

**SEC. 4.** Should such "foul hit" ball bound or roll to fair ground and settle there before passing the line of first or third base, it shall be declared by the umpire a fair ball.

**RULE 39.**—A foul tip is a ball batted by the batsman while standing within the lines of his position that goes foul sharp from the bat to the catcher's hands.

**RULE 40.**—A bunt hit is a ball delivered by the pitcher to the batsman who, while standing within the lines of his position, makes a deliberate attempt to hit the ball so slowly within the infield that it cannot be fielded in time to retire the batsman. If such a "bunt hit" goes to foul ground a strike shall be called by the umpire.

## BALLS BATTED OUTSIDE THE GROUND.

**RULE 41.**—When a batted ball passes outside the grounds, the umpire shall decide it Fair should it disappear within, or Foul should it disappear outside of the range of the foul lines, and Rule 38 is to be construed accordingly.

**RULE 42.**—A fair batted ball that goes over the fence shall entitle the batsman to a home run, except, that should it go over the fence at a less distance than two hundred and thirty-five (235) feet from the home base, when he shall be entitled to two bases only, and a distinctive line shall be marked on the fence at this point.



## STRIKES.

**RULE 43.—A Strike is:**

**SECTION 1.** A ball struck at by the batsman without its touching his bat; or,  
**SEC. 2.** A fair ball legally delivered by the pitcher, but not struck at by the batsman.

**SEC. 3.** Any intentional effort to hit the ball to foul ground, also in the case of a "bunt hit," which sends the ball to foul ground, either directly, or by bounding or rolling from fair ground to foul ground, and which settles on foul ground.

**SEC. 4.** A ball struck at, if the ball touches any part of the batsman's person.

**SEC. 5.** A ball tipped by the batsman, and caught by the catcher, within ten feet from home base.

**RULE 44.—A Foul Strike** is a ball batted by the batsman when any part of his person is upon ground outside the lines of the batsman's position.

## THE BATSMAN IS OUT.

**RULE 45.—The Batsman is Out:**

**SECTION 1.** If he fails to take his position at the bat in his order of batting, unless the error be discovered and the proper batsman takes his position before a time "at bat" is recorded, and, in such case, the balls and strikes called must be counted in the time "at bat" of the proper batsman, and only the proper batsman shall be declared out, and no runs shall be scored or bases run because of any act of the improper batsman, provided, this rule shall not take effect unless the out is declared before the ball is delivered to the succeeding batsman. *Should batsman declared out by this rule be sufficient to retire the side, the proper batsman the next innings is the player who would have come to bat had the players been out by ordinary play.*

**SEC. 2.** If he fails to take his position within one minute after the umpire has called for the batsman.

**SEC. 3.** If he makes a foul hit other than a foul tip, as defined in Rule 39, and the ball be momentarily held by a fielder before touching the ground; provided, it be not caught in a fielder's hat or cap, or touched by some object other than a fielder before being caught.

**SEC. 4.** If he makes a foul strike.

**SEC. 5.** If he attempts to hinder the catcher from fielding or throwing the ball by stepping outside the lines of his position, or otherwise obstructing or interfering with the player.

**SEC. 6.** If, while the first base be occupied by a base-runner, three strikes be called on him by the umpire, except when two men are already out.

**SEC. 7.** If, after two strikes have been called, the batsman obviously attempts to make a foul hit, as in Rule 43, section 3.

**SEC. 8.** If, while attempting a third strike, the ball touches any part of the batsman's person, in which case base-runners occupying bases shall return as prescribed in Rule 49, section 5.

**SEC. 9.** If he hits a fly ball that can be handled by an infielder while first and second bases are occupied, or first, second and third with only one out. In such case the umpire shall, as soon as the ball is hit, declare infield or outfield hit.

**SEC. 10.** If the third strike is called in accordance with section 4, Rule 43.

**SEC. 11.** The moment a batsman is declared out by the umpire, he (the umpire) shall call for the batsman next in order to leave his seat on the bench and take his position at the bat, and such player of the batting side shall not leave his seat on the bench until so called to bat, except as provided by Rule 37, section 1, and Rule 52.

## BASE-RUNNING RULES.

**RULE 46.—WHEN THE BATSMAN BECOMES A BASE-RUNNER.**

The Batsman becomes a Base-runner:

**SECTION 1.** Instantly after he makes a fair hit.

**SEC. 2.** Instantly after four balls have been called by the umpire.

**SEC. 3.** Instantly after three strikes have been declared by the umpire.

**SEC. 4.** If, while he be batsman, without making any attempt to strike at the ball, his person or clothing be hit by a ball from the pitcher unless, in the opinion of the umpire, he plainly avoids making any effort to get out of the way of the ball from the pitcher, and thereby permits himself to be so hit.

**SEC. 5.** Instantly after an illegal delivery of a ball by the pitcher.

*An illegal delivery of the ball is made if the pitcher's pivot foot be not in contact with the rubber plate at the time of the delivery of the ball, or if he takes more than one step in delivery, or if, after feigning to throw to a base, he fails to pause momentarily before delivering the ball to the bat.*

## BASES TO BE TOUCHED.

**RULE 47.—The base-runner must touch each base in regular order, viz., first, second, third, and home bases, and when obliged to return (except on a foul hit) must retouch the base or bases in reverse order. He shall only be considered as holding a base after touching it, and shall then be entitled to hold such base until he has legally touched the next base in order or has been legally forced to vacate it for a succeeding base-runner. However, no base-runner shall score a run to count in the game until the base-runner preceding him in the batting list (provided there has been such a base-runner who has not been put out in that inning) shall have first touched home base without being put out.**



## ENTITLED TO BASES.

**RULE 48.**—The base-runner shall be entitled, without being put out, to take the base in the following cases:

- SECTION 1.** If, while he was batsman, the umpire called four balls.  
**SEC. 2.** If the umpire awards a succeeding batsman a base on four balls, or for being hit with a pitched ball, or in case of an illegal delivery—as in Rule 46, section 5—and the base-runner is thereby forced to vacate the base held by him.  
**SEC. 3.** If the umpire calls a "Balk."  
**SEC. 4.** If a ball delivered by the pitcher, pass the catcher, and touch the umpire, or any fence or building within ninety feet of the home base.  
**SEC. 5.** If, upon a fair hit, the ball strikes the person or clothing of the umpire on fair ground.  
**SEC. 6.** If he be prevented from making a base by the obstruction of an adversary, unless the latter be a fielder having the ball in his hand ready to meet the base-runner.  
**SEC. 7.** If the fielder stop or catch a batted ball with his hat or any part of his uniform except his gloved hand.

## RETURNING TO BASES.

**RULE 49.**—The base-runner shall return to his base, and shall be entitled to so return without being put out:

- SECTION 1.** If the umpire declares a foul tip (as defined in Rule 39), or any other foul hit not legally caught by a fielder.  
**SEC. 2.** If the umpire declares a foul strike.  
**SEC. 3.** If the umpire declares a dead ball, unless it be also the fourth unfair ball and he be thereby forced to take the next base, as provided in Rule 48, section 2.  
**SEC. 4.** If the person or clothing of the umpire interferes with the catcher, or he is struck by a ball thrown by the catcher to intercept a base-runner.  
**SEC. 5.** The base-runner shall return to his base if, while attempting a strike, the ball touches any part of the batsman's person.

## WHEN BASE-RUNNERS ARE OUT.

**RULE 50.**—The Base-runner is Out:

- SECTION 1.** If, after three strikes have been declared against him while batsman and the catcher fail to catch the third strike ball, he plainly attempts to hinder the catcher from fielding the ball.  
**SEC. 2.** If, having made a fair hit while batsman, such fair hit ball be momentarily held by a fielder before touching the ground, or any object other than a fielder; PROVIDED, it be not caught in a fielder's hat or cap.  
**SEC. 3.** If, when the umpire has declared three strikes on him while batsman, the third strike ball be momentarily held by a fielder before touching the ground; PROVIDED, it be not caught in a fielder's hat or cap, or touch some object other than a fielder before being caught.  
**SEC. 4.** If, after three strikes or a fair hit, he be touched with the ball in the hand of a fielder before he shall have touched first base.  
**SEC. 5.** If, after three strikes or a fair hit, the ball be securely held by a fielder while touching first base with any part of his person before such base-runner touches first base.  
**SEC. 6.** If in running the last half of the distance from home base to first base, while the ball is being fielded to first base, he runs outside the three-foot lines, as defined in Rule 7, unless to avoid a fielder attempting to field a batted ball.  
**SEC. 7.** If, in running from first to second base, from second to third base, or from third to home base, he runs more than three feet from a direct line between such bases to avoid being touched by the ball in the hands of a fielder; but in case a fielder be occupying the base-runner's proper path in attempting to field a batted ball, then the base-runner shall run out of the path, and behind said fielder, and shall not be declared out for so doing.  
**SEC. 8.** If he fails to avoid a fielder attempting to field a batted ball, in the manner described in sections 6 and 7 of this rule, or if he, in any way, obstructs a fielder attempting to field a batted ball, or intentionally interferes with a thrown ball; PROVIDED, that if two or more fielders attempt to field a batted ball, and the base-runner comes in contact with one or more of them, the umpire shall determine which fielder is entitled to the benefit of this rule, and shall not decide the base-runner out for coming in contact with any other fielder.  
**SEC. 9.** If, at any time while the ball is in play, he be touched by the ball in the hands of a fielder, unless some part of his person is touching a base he is entitled to occupy; PROVIDED, the ball be held by the fielder after touching him.  
**SEC. 10.** *The base-runner in running to first base may overrun said base, without being put out for being off said base, after first touching it, provided he returns at once and retouches the base, after which he may be put out as at any other base.* If, in overrunning first base, he also attempts to run to second base, or after passing the base he turns to his left from the foul line, he shall forfeit such exemption from being put out.  
**SEC. 11.** If, when a fair or foul hit ball (other than a foul tip as referred to in Rule 39) is legally caught by a fielder, such ball is legally held by a fielder on the base occupied by the base-runner when such ball was struck (or the base-



runner be touched with the ball in the hands of a fielder), before he retouches said base after such fair or foul hit ball was so caught; PROVIDED, that the base-runner shall not be out, in such case, if, after the ball was legally caught as above, it be delivered to the bat by the pitcher before the fielder holds it on said base, or touches the base-runner with it; but if the base-runner, in attempting to reach a base, detaches it before being touched or forced out, he shall be declared safe.

SEC. 12. If, when a batsman becomes a base-runner, the first base, or the first and second bases, or the first, second and third bases, be occupied, any base-runner so occupying a base shall cease to be entitled to hold it, until any following base-runner is put out, and may be put out at the next base, or by being touched by the ball in the hands of a fielder in the same manner as in running to first base at any time before any following base-runner is put out.

SEC. 13. If a fair hit ball strike him before touching the fielder, and, in such case, no base shall be run unless forced by the batsman becoming a base-runner, and no run shall be scored or any other base-runner put out.

SEC. 14. If, when running to a base, or forced to return to a base, he fail to touch the intervening base, or bases, if any, in the order prescribed in Rule 47, he may be put out at the base he fails to touch, or being touched by the ball in the hands of a fielder in the same manner as in running to first base; PROVIDED, that the base-runner shall not be out in such case if the ball be delivered to the bat by the pitcher before the fielder holds it on said base, or touches the base-runner with it.

SEC. 15. If, when the umpire calls "Play," after any suspension of a game, he fails to return to and touch the base he occupied when "Time" was called before touching the next base; PROVIDED, the base-runner shall not be out, in such case, if the ball be delivered to the bat by the pitcher before the fielder holds it on said base or touches the base-runner with it.

#### WHEN BATSMAN OR BASE-RUNNER IS OUT.

RULE 51.—The umpire shall declare the batsman or base-runner out, without waiting for an appeal for such decision, in all cases where such player is put out in accordance with these rules, except as provided in Rule 50, sections 10 and 14.

#### COACHING RULES.

RULE 52.—The coacher shall be restricted to coaching the base-runner only, and shall not be allowed to address any remarks except to the base-runner, and then only in words of necessary direction; and shall not use language which will in any manner refer to, or reflect upon a player of the opposing club, the umpire, or the spectators, and not more than one coacher, who may be a player participating in the game, or any other player under contract to it, in the uniform of either club, shall be allowed at any one time, except, that if base-runners are occupying two or more of the bases, then the captain and one player, or two players in the uniform of either club, may occupy the space between the player's lines and the captains' lines to coach base-runners. To enforce the above the captain of the opposite side may call the attention of the umpire to the offence, and, upon a repetition of the same, the offending player shall be debarred from further participation in the game, and shall leave the playing field forthwith.

#### THE SCORING OF RUNS.

RULE 53.—One run shall be scored every time a base-runner, after having legally touched the first three bases, shall touch the home base before three men are put out. (Exception)—If the third man is forced out, or is put out before reaching first base, a run shall not be scored.

#### GENERAL DEFINITIONS.

"Play" is the order of the umpire to begin the game, or to resume play after its suspension.

"Time" is the order of the umpire to suspend play. Such suspension must not extend beyond the day of the game.

"Game" is the announcement by the umpire that the game is terminated.

An "Inning" is the term at bat of the nine players representing a club in a game, and is completed when three of such players have been put out, as provided in these rules.

A "Time at Bat" is the term at bat of a batsman. It begins when he takes his position and continues until he is put out or becomes a base-runner; except when, because of being hit by a pitched ball, or in case of an illegal delivery by the pitcher, or in case of a sacrifice hit purposely made to the infield which, not being a base-hit, advances a base-runner without resulting in a put-out, except to the batsman, as in Rule 45.

"Legal" or "Legally" signifies as required by these rules.

#### SCORING RULES.

##### BATTING.

*No time at bat shall be scored if the batsman be hit by a pitched ball while standing in his position, and after trying to avoid being so hit, or in case of the pitcher's illegal delivery of the ball to the bat which gives the batsman his base,*



*or when he intentionally hits the ball to the field, purposely to be put out, or if he is given first base on called balls.*

A base-hit should be scored in the following cases :

When the ball from the bat strikes the ground within the foul lines and out of reach of the fielders.

When a hit ball is partially or wholly stopped by a fielder in motion, but such player cannot recover himself in time to handle the ball before the striker reaches first base.

When a ball is hit *with such force* to an infielder that he cannot handle it in time to put out the batsman. (In case of doubt over this class of hits, score a base-hit and exempt the fielder from the charge of an error.)

When a ball is hit so slowly toward a fielder that he cannot handle it in time to put out the batsman.

That in all cases where a base-runner is retired by being hit by a batted ball, the batsman should be credited with a base-hit.

When a batted ball hits the person or clothing of the umpire. *In no case shall a base-hit be scored when a base-runner has been forced out by the play.*

#### FIELDING.

Where a batsman is given out by the umpire for a foul strike, or where the batsman fails to bat in proper order, the put-out shall be scored to the catcher. *In all cases of "out" for interference, running out of line, or infield fly dropped, the "out" should be credited to the player who would have made the play but for the action of the base-runner or batsman.*

An assist should be given to each player who handles the ball in assisting a put-out or other play of the kind.

And generally an assist should be given to each player who handles or assists in any manner in handling the ball from the time it leaves the bat until it reaches the player who makes the put-out, or in case of a thrown ball, to each player who throws or handles it cleanly and in such a way that a put-out results, or would result if no error were made by the receiver.

#### ERRORS.

An error shall be given for each misplay which allows the striker or base-runner to make one or more bases when perfect play would have insured his being put out, except that "wild pitches," "bases on balls," bases on the batsman being struck by a "pitched ball," or in cases of illegally pitched balls, balks and passed balls, *all of which comprise battery errors*, shall not be included in said column.

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## BASKETBALL.

BY

JAS. NAISMITH, UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS, LAWRENCE, INVENTOR OF  
BASKETBALL.

**F**IFTEEN years ago basketball was introduced to meet a need that was urgent at the time and is of just as much moment to-day, viz.: There was a demand for some form of winter sport which would develop the whole man and at the same time be of such a nature that it would attract the individual. Formal gymnastics was about the only form of exercise that was available for the winter months, when outdoor games could not be indulged in. It was difficult to interest men, in this subject, who wanted simply health and recreation. It was generally agreed that there was no game that could be used in this way and the question of producing one was introduced. It seemed impossible, but that it was accomplished has been shown by the success that has attended basketball since its inception.

In the spring of 1892 it was first played in the Y. M. C. A. Training School at Springfield, Mass., and was carried by the students,