

# Changes in the Fourteenth Edition Playing Rules 2017

## Rule Changes

- Page 17      BATTER. The offensive player whose turn it is to bat. The batter has completed their time at bat when they ~~become a batter runner or put out~~ are put out or become a batter-runner.
- Rule 5 Sec 2      **PLAYING SHORT** is an exception to Rule 5.1 above . A team shall be allowed to play with one ~~or more~~ batting position(s) unfilled providing they have a minimum of 8 players. The batting position(s) the team cannot fill shall be designated as the absent player(s). When the absent player(s) is scheduled to bat, an out shall be declared for each turn at bat. A team may play short under the following circumstances:
- A. A team may continue a game with ~~one~~ less players than are currently in the batting order whenever a player leaves the game for any reason ~~other than ejection~~ and no substitutes are available. If a team falls below 8 players, a forfeit will be declared.
- Rule 5 Sec 2      C. The team may not play short if there is an eligible substitute available. If an eligible player arrives, they must enter the game immediately in the first available absent player position due up in the batting order.
- Rule 5 Sec 5      EFFECT: Placing the FLEX into one of the batting positions in the lineup for someone other than the original DP (or substitute) results in the illegal substitute being removed from the game and restricted to the dugout/bench.
- Rule 6 Sec 1 B      Preliminary to pitching, the pitcher must take a position with ~~the shoulders in line with first and third base with~~ the ball in the glove or pitching hand, with the hands separated.

## Editorial Changes

- 2 Sec 10 F      *Rule 2, Section 10 (vice Rule 2 Section 1)*
- 2 Sec 10 M      *Rule 2 Section 10 (vice Rule 2 Section 1)*