

Changes in the Seventeenth Edition

2025 RULES CHANGES

RULE 2 EQUIPMENT, Sec 13, page 17 (new) Authorizes use of one-way communication devices for defensive and offensive players

RULE 11 SPORTING BEHAVIOR, Sec 2.G page 62 Revises limits on electronic communication to accommodate new Rule 2.13

RULE 11 SPORTING BEHAVIOR, Sec 2, PENALTY A-K page 62 Delineates the penalty for violation of new Rule 2.13

Rule 2 Sec 13. ONE-WAY COMMUNICATION DEVICES

A coach may utilize exclusively one-way electronic communication devices from the dugout/bench area only (when on defense) and from the dugout/ bench area or the coach's box (when on offense) for the purpose of relaying signals to his/her players. The device/system must be worn as designed by the manufacturer and must be commercially available to the public for purchase (customized systems and devices are prohibited). No two-way communication devices, such as cell phones, pagers, walkie talkies, etc are allowed to be worn or carried onto the playing field. The choice to supply and utilize the one-way communication devices shall be an individual team decision and any team utilizing them shall be legally permitted to do so.

PENALTY: FIRST OFFENSE is a team warning and removal of the illegal devices. SECOND OFFENSE and any subsequent violation the current head coach is ejected pursuant to Rule 12.1, and the right to use equipment authorized under this rule is terminated for the game

RULE 11. SPORTING BEHAVIOR Sec 2. A coach, player, substitute, attendant or other bench personnel shall not:

G. Use electronic communication, television monitoring or replay equipment during the course of the game, **except as specifically authorized by 2.13 (one-way communication devices)**. Electronic scorebooks may be used to record the current game.

I. Be in possession of any object in the coach's box other than scorekeeping materials/devices, which shall be used for scorekeeping purposes only, **and/or one-way communication devices authorized by 2.13.**

PENALTY A-K: FIRST OFFENSE is a team warning. SECOND OFFENSE and any subsequent violation the offender is restricted to the bench for the remainder of the game and their current head coach shall be ejected. In K, if the illegal bat is altered or non-approved, the player and head coach are immediately ejected. **In G, for a first offense, a team warning is issued and the illegal equipment is removed; for a subsequent violation, the current head coach is ejected and the offending team's right to use one-way communication devices is terminated for the remainder of the game.**