

Eclipse Base Ball Club of Northville - Home Field Rules

Bound Rule

The Eclipse BBC opts for an eased adherence to historically-accurate rules to play a more practical game for 21st century players and spectators. Eclipse BBC plays by the pre-1865 bound rule. A fair or foul struck ball caught on one bound is an out. A struck ball, upon touching any object, is considered a bound, however, a ball touching an active fielder or fielders is not a bound unless immediately thereafter touching an additional object, thus equaling two bounds.

Ford Field Ground Rules

- Fielders may position themselves as they desire except that the pitcher's delivery must be made within an area 45-60 feet from home plate and no more than 3 feet either side of a line intersecting home plate and second base.
- The entire left field foul pole (light pole) is in fair territory.
- Unless readily bouncing back onto the field of play, a struck ball reaching the hill in right and right-center field shall become ground rule hits (see photo) and runners shall be awarded the same number of bases.
- Fielders may enter the area of the right field hill to catch a struck fly or bound, overriding the ground-rule hit.
- A fairly-struck ball, bounding foul and not readily retrievable due to brush, creek area, etc. shall be a single.
- If, on an errant throw, the ball reaches the hill, brush, creek, etc., in which the ball cannot be readily retrieved, all runners shall advance no more than the next base (if between bases) AND the base following.
- A play effected by spectator interference shall be resolved by both Field Captains.
- Modern batting order will be used.

Baserunning

Lead Offs & Stealing - Base runners must remain within 2-steps of their base until the pitch makes first contact, after which the runner is free to move at will, and in addition, may attempt a steal if a "muff" has occurred.

A "muff" occurs when a pitch or throw bounds more than one time as defined under "Bound Rule" above.

Unless already initiated, a steal attempt is void once the ball is held by the pitcher.

A baserunner attempting to steal when no muff has occurred must return to his base before being tagged out.

No Free Returns - Baserunners must return to their base after a struck ball is expediently declared "foul".

To be called "out" the ball must be first touched by the pitcher who, during the play, may be positioned anywhere on the field. The fielding club must then tag the base (as in a force out) before the baserunner is able to return.

Batter & Baserunners Touched By Fair Balls - A runner touched by a fair ball, yet untouched by a fielder, shall be called out (eliminating a force to advanced runners) and the play is declared "dead". The batter is awarded 1B and no runner may advance unless forced by the batter. A batter touched by his own struck fair ball yet untouched by a fielder shall be called out. The play is declared "dead" and no runners may advance.

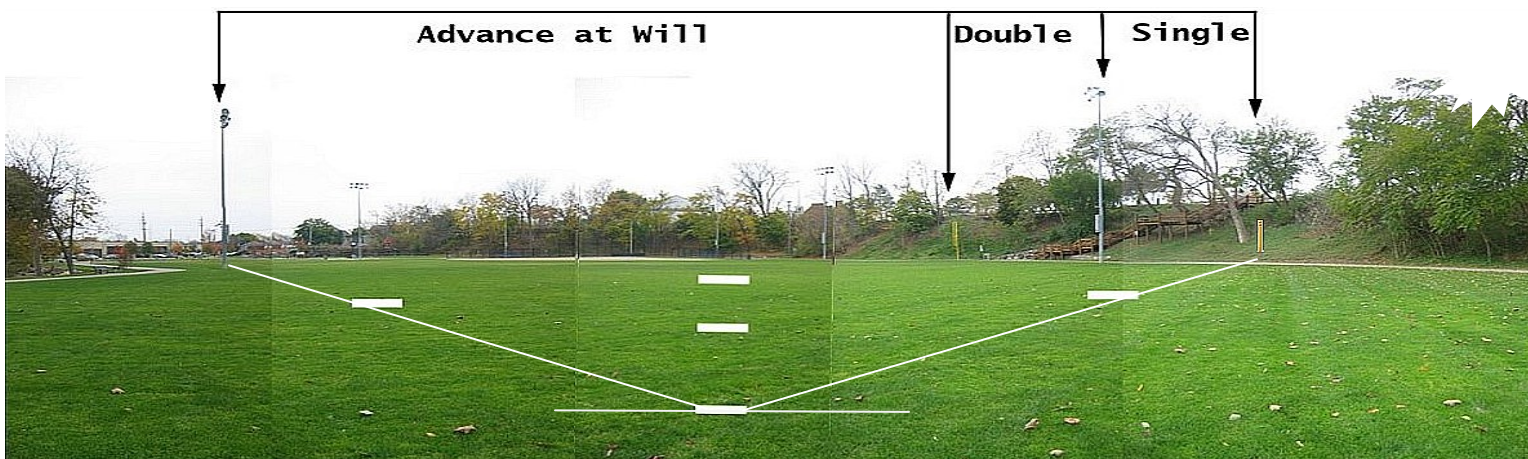
No Overrunning First Base - First base may not be overrun unless field conditions are determined hazardous by the Eclipse Field Captain.

No Advance On Foul Balls

Sliding - Sliding will be admonished and may prompt a meeting with both Field Captains.

Umpiring

Generally, the batting club will supply an umpire positioned so as not to interfere with the striker or the catcher and to best determine whether a struck ball is fair or foul. Upon determining that a ball is foul, the umpire shall immediately and loudly call it "Foul". There shall be no call for a fair ball. The Umpire shall not make calls on any play in the field. Players are expected, in an honest and gentlemanly manner, to make the rulings themselves. In the event that players are unable to agree on a call, it shall be resolved by the two Field Captains.



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