

BULLETIN #12
INFIELD FLY AND DETACHED EQUIPMENT
RULE INTERPRETATION
Rules 5.1.13; 5.1.24; 5.1.26; 5.5.2 a) v and 5.11 Effects c

In the situation when an Infield fly and contact with the live fair ball by detached equipment occur simultaneously both rules shall be enforced.

Base loaded, 1 out. Batter hits a high fly ball that is about one-half way between the pitcher plate and home plate and:

- a) The pitcher touches the ball but does not catch it, the catcher scoops the ball up off the ground with their mask, or
- b) The catcher catches the ball with their mask, no other fielder had contacted the ball.

In play a) the ball is declared fair and is a live ball when first touched by the pitcher. The ball remains fair and becomes a delayed dead ball when scooped up by the catcher. Both the Infield Fly Rule and the Detached Equipment Rule should be enforced.

In play b) the ball is declared fair and is a delayed dead ball as the ball was contacted by detached equipment. As it is a fair ball, the Infield Fly Ball Rule is enforced and as the fair ball was touched by detached equipment, the Detached Equipment Rule is also enforced.

In summary, in both a) and b), the batter-runner is out under the Infield Fly Rule all other runners are awarded 3 bases under the Detached Equipment Rule.