

2021 Rock River League Rules

COLLISIONS AT HOME PLATE

- 1. A runner attempting to score may not deviate from his direct pathway to the plate in order to initiate contact with the catcher (or other player covering home plate). If, in the judgment of the umpire, a runner attempting to score initiates contact with the catcher (or other player covering home plate) in such a manner, the umpire shall declare the runner out (even if the player covering home plate loses possession of the ball). In such circumstances, the Umpire shall call the ball dead, and all other base runners shall return to the last base touched at the time of the collision.**

Rule 7.13 Comment: *The failure by the runner to make an effort to touch the plate, the runner's lowering of the shoulder, or the runner's pushing through with his hands, elbows or arms, would support a determination that the runner deviated from the pathway in order to initiate contact with the catcher in violation of Rule 7.13. If the runner slides into the plate in an appropriate manner, he shall not be adjudged to have violated Rule 7.13. A slide shall be deemed appropriate, in the case of a feet first slide, if the runner's buttocks and legs should hit the ground before contact with the catcher. In the case of a head first slide, a runner shall be deemed to have slid appropriately if his body should hit the ground before contact with the catcher.*

- 2. Unless the catcher is in possession of the ball, the catcher cannot block the pathway of the runner as he is attempting to score. If, in the judgment of the Umpire, the catcher without possession of the ball**

blocks the pathway of the runner, the Umpire shall call or signal the runner safe. It shall not be considered a violation of this Rule 7.13 if the catcher blocks the pathway of the runner in order to field a throw, and the umpire determines that the catcher could not have fielded the ball without blocking the pathway of the runner and that contact with the runner was unavoidable.

3. *The fake to third, throw to first pick off move is no longer allowed. Violation will result in a balk.*
4. *5-7 minutes before game time will be utilized for lineup exchanges, ground rules, and any touch ups needed to get the field ready for game play. It's important to start the game at the designated time.*
5. *Umpire rates will be \$90 for single 9 inning game/\$160 for DH's (2-7's). Rain - Show up - \$25 per umpire. Game begins but is not completed - \$25 plus \$5 per inning per umpire.*
Payment will be made before the game. *Umpires--please check-in with the home manager 30 minutes prior to start time.*
6. *The RRL does not have a time limit but does follow a 10 rule run rule after 7 innings.*
7. ***Umpires---Please contact your partner at least a day in advance to discuss meeting time/location, attire, and plate/base assignments. Last year we had a situation where an umpire thought the game was cancelled and didn't show-up. His partner didn't call him. A phone call the night before would have rectified the problem.***

8. *We are not implementing the 5 visit MLB rule as that isn't an issue in the RRL.*
9. *The league is not implementing the pitcher 3 batter minimum rule or the extra inning MLB rule (California rule).*