

2022 Baseball Rules Waivers due to COVID-19

Due to challenges resulting from COVID-19, playing rules waivers for several sports have been granted for the 2022 spring season. The playing rules waivers are consistent with the guidance included in the previously published NCAA Resocialization of Collegiate Sport documents. In this regard, the NCAA playing rules committees and staff will continue to monitor any additional developments and make adjustments as appropriate.

<u>Rule(s)</u>	<u>Waivers</u>
1.16.b	To permit teams to utilize a designated area in the bleachers to space uniformed team personnel. Rationale: Enhance physical distancing; Reduce the spread of germs.
3.6	To permit the start or completion of a game with one umpire. Rationale: Allow for the completion of contests due to potential positive tests of umpires.
3.6.e; 4.4; 5.5; App.E	To require that the coach may only come to the middle point of their respective foul line when coming to the field to ask a question about a call in the field. To also require that the coach may not enter the dirt circle around home plate to ask a question about a call at the plate, when making a line-up change or during the pre-game/home plate meeting. Rationale: Reduce the spread of germs.
5.8.d	To allow, by conference rule or mutual agreement prior to the start of the game, teams to start each extra inning (10th inning in a 9-inning game or 8th inning in a 7-inning game) with a runner on second base. Rationale: Safety due to potentially consolidated playing schedule during the 2022 season.
App. E, Section 2	To permit that if the assigned umpire crew is reduced to only one available umpire due to illness, injury or other unforeseen circumstances, and video review is being utilized, the umpire working alone is allowed to review any of the 12 types of reviewable plays at any time during the game at their discretion. Each coach is allowed two (2) challenges per game. Rationale: Due to potential positive tests of umpires, to acknowledge it is very difficult for one umpire to see the entire field and the use of video review during the entire game may assist that umpire in getting the call right.