



NCAA Softball Rules Book Corrections – 2026 and 2027  
Vickie Van Kleeck, Secretary-Rules Editor  
Updated January 16, 2026

Page(s)	Rule(s)	Correction
34	4.5	... If the injury to a student-athlete requires extensive treatment and they can be safely removed from the playing field, an eligible substitute or temporary replacement player in the event of a possible concussion <b>or medical condition with the potential to cause catastrophic injury or illness</b> (Rule 8.6.2) shall replace the injured player and play shall be resumed. In the event of either a serious injury or an injury of unknown severity, the injured party should remain on the field until medical personnel can arrange for transportation that will not compromise the injury.
64	8.1.2.2 Exception	<b>Exception:</b> Concussion and medical condition with the potential to cause catastrophic injury or illness reentry. (See Rule 8.6.2)
79	9.5.4.8 and EFFECT Exception	<u>Rule 9.5.4.8:</u> A fielder shall not at any time obstruct a runner returning to or leading off a base. <b>If a play is being made on the runner, the fielder may be charged with obstruction with no warning issued.</b>  <b>EFFECT—(9.5.4.7 to 9.5.4.10)—...Exception:</b> When a fielder, in the act of making a legitimate play on a runner returning to a base, obstructs that runner, obstruction may be called, but no warning shall be issued.
82	9.7.3	When a ball becomes lodged in a defensive player's attached equipment or clothing, <b>it is not considered a blocked ball.</b> <b>EFFECT—See Rule 12.13.6.4.</b>
91	10.18 EFFECT Exception	<b>Exception:</b> Intentionally violating the rule in order to walk the batter without pitching shall not result in a ball being awarded to <b>offending player</b> batter, but <b>each runner shall advance one base without liability to be put out.</b> The player in violation shall be warned. On the second offense, the offending player shall be ejected from the game. (Behavioral ejection; see Rule 13.2.1.)
96	11.3.3.9	When the batter fails to take their position in the batter's box within <b>10 12</b> seconds after being directed to by the plate umpire.
113	12.5.6 EFFECT	<b>EFFECT – See Rule 11.1817.2.</b>
165	Appendix B	<u>Second Column Header</u> <b>11.19 11.9</b>  <u>Second Column, Fifth Row (Batting Out of Order, Defense Reports After Next Pitch)</u> Turn at bat is legal; All play stands; Next batter is one who follows <b>missed improper</b> batter (unless on base-then go to next batter not on base)

		<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Issue</th><th>Batting Out of Order Rule 11.19</th><th>Inaccurate Lineup Rule 8.3.2</th><th>Unreported/Misreported Player Rule 8.3.3</th><th>Illegal Player Rule 8.3.4</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Offending Team Corrects Own Mistake (Offense or Defense)</td><td>Not recommended, but if coach insists, same effect as if reported by opponent</td><td>Not recommended, same as above or number if player was listed on the lineup card and none of the situations below apply</td><td>Unreported player is not in the lineup card, or the number listed on the card does not match the number on the situations below apply</td><td>Player is out and ejected; All play stands</td></tr> <tr> <td>Defensive Team Reports: Batter - While At Bat Before a Pitch</td><td>Correct batter bats; All play stands</td><td>Correct lineup; All play stands</td><td>Declared officially in game; Player is out; All other play stands</td><td>Player is out and ejected; Nullify advances on last pitch; 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172 43	Appendix G and 5.9.10	<p><u>Appendix G (second paragraph):</u></p> <p>The challenge must be indicated before the next pitch, <del>before the pitcher and all infielders have clearly vacated their normal fielding position and left fair territory, or</del> and before the umpires have left the field of play. Additionally, the crew chief may initiate a review of these plays at their discretion beginning with the sixth inning in any game if the challenging coach does not have a challenge remaining. Umpires may review malicious or flagrant conduct, <b>reviewable plays which were not properly covered by an umpire (i.e., uncovered or double covered with a different signal from each umpire)</b>, or any record keeping issue at any time during the game <b>without requiring a coach's challenge</b>. <b>Exception:</b> The crew chief may not initiate a review of runners leaving early on a pitch.</p> <p><u>Rule 5.9.10:</u></p> <p>5.9.10 Video review of designated plays is permitted as outlined in Appendix G. In games using video review, each head coach has two challenges to initiate a review of the plays designated in Appendix G for the entirety of the game. The challenge must be indicated before the next pitch, <del>before the pitcher and all infielders have clearly vacated their normal fielding position and left fair territory, or</del> and before the umpires have left the field of play. A head coach will retain their video review challenge if the ruling is changed. Additionally, the crew chief may initiate a review of these plays at their discretion beginning with the sixth inning in any game. <b>Exception:</b> The crew chief may not initiate a review of runners leaving early on a pitch.</p>																																																												
173	Appendix G Plays 11a	11a. A <del>base</del> runner passes a preceding runner before that runner is put out. <b>Exception:</b> Rule 12.4.3.																																																												
174	Appendix G Criteria 12 (new)	12. On a play in which a team has the option to accept either the result of the play or the application of a rule, the team may not request video review after it has made its selection.																																																												

*Note: Changes are not reflected in the online version of the rules book.*