

WBSC Player Cheat Sheet (2025–2026)

What Every Player Should Know Before First Pitch

Batting

Batter's Box Timing

- Be ready to hit.
 - WBSC uses a **20-second batter/pitch clock procedure**.
 - If you do not enter the box after being directed by the umpire and the timer expires, a **strike is awarded**.
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Base Running

Know the Run Difference Rule

Extra Innings

- Extra innings may start with runners already on base (competition specific).
 - Ask your coach before the tournament starts.
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Equipment

Approved Bats Only

- Only bats on the current WBSC Approved Wood Bat List may be used.
- Composite wood bats are prohibited.

Illegal Bat Consequences

- First team violation = warning.
- Second violation = manager ejection.

Helmets

- Double-ear flap helmets are generally mandatory.
- Single-ear helmets are allowed only in certain WBSC competitions.

Uniforms

- Uniforms must match teammates.
 - Numbers are required.
 - No altered uniforms or mismatched colours.
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Pitchers

Foreign Substances

Never put anything on the baseball.

Examples:

- Dirt
- Sandpaper
- Licorice
- Foreign substances

Penalty:

- Immediate ejection.
- Automatic 10-game suspension.

Glove Restrictions

- No white or grey glove.
- Nothing attached that distracts the hitter.

Pitching Positions

- Pivot foot must remain in contact with the rubber during delivery.

Quick Pitches

- Illegal.
 - Attempting to surprise a batter can result in a balk or illegal pitch ruling.
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Catchers

Catcher's Box

- Must remain inside the catcher's box until the ball is released.
- Violation with runners on base can result in a balk.

Protective Gear

- Full protective equipment required.
 - Applies to bullpen and warm-up catchers as well.
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Defensive Players

Start in Fair Territory

- All fielders except the catcher must be in fair territory when the ball becomes live.

Infield Fly

- Know the rule.
- Runners are still at risk if they leave early.
- Umpires may call "Infield Fly, If Fair."