

Some Rule Differences

1. Runners are not allowed to overrun 1st base. If they overrun the bag, they can be tagged out. Remember to stop on 1st base unless you are running to second.
2. There is no called ball and strike count. A batter can still strike out on three strikes but only a swinging miss counts as a strike. Foul balls never count as a strike. There are no called balls and no such thing as a walk. The pitcher should try to get the ball over the plate so the hitter can hit it.
3. Any ball which strikes inside the diamond in fair territory and then carries into foul territory before it reaches 1st or 3rd base is a fair ball. A skilled hitter will try to hit a ground ball with “english” on it so that it does this on purpose. 1st and 3rd basemen may need to play closer to the bag in order to cover these fair balls in foul territory.
4. Any ball caught after it bounces on the ground one time is considered to be caught as an out the same as if it had been caught on the fly. Experienced outfielders will play back far enough so that the ball can be caught on one bounce in front of them as catching a ball on the fly with bare hands can sometimes be an adventure. Experienced infielders will try to catch all pop flies on the fly as this type of ball usually has a spin on it and will go unpredictable directions on the bounce.
5. Any foul tip at the plate caught by the catcher on the fly or on one bounce is an out. The catcher should be alert for these types of plays.
6. Baserunners may not tag up after a flyball out and then advance. The ball is dead after this kind of play and the runner must return to his base and can be tagged out before he gets there. However, baserunners may advance at their discretion on any play when the ball is caught on one bounce (for an out) and are not required to tag or wait at all on this type of play. Therefore a baserunner will usually take off at the crack of the bat but should watch to see if the ball is caught on the fly in which case he must return (quickly) to his base.
7. There is no infield fly rule. Baserunning during a pop fly play in the infield can be very adventurous. Clever fielders will sometimes drop a ball on purpose in order to get a force out on a runner who has held his base in anticipation of a caught ball.
8. All pitches are delivered to the plate underhand. This is not fastpitch and the pitcher should concentrate on just getting the ball over the plate.
9. There are no baseball gloves used. They have not been invented yet. Everything is done with bare hands.
10. There is no hit batsmen rule. If you get hit by a pitch, it counts for nothing.
11. Stolen bases. Though they did have them, we have adopted a no-stealing rule. Base runners must wait until the ball is struck before they can go.