



2020-21 NFHS SOFTBALL

National Federation of State
High School Associations



Batting out of Order



BATTING OUT OF ORDER

Rule 7-1-1

Improper batter is discovered while still at bat.

Effect:

Correct batter takes their place in the batter's box.
Assumes the current ball and strike count.





BATTING OUT OF ORDER

Rule 7-1-2

After the first inning, the first batter in each inning shall be the player whose name follows that of the last batter who completed her time at bat in the preceding inning.





BATTING OUT OF ORDER

Rule 7-1-2, PENALTY 1-2

Improper batter is discovered after completing their turn at bat and:

Before a pitch (legal or illegal) to another batter, an intentional base on balls or before the pitcher and all infielders have vacated their fielding positions.

EFFECT:

- Person who should have batted is ruled out.
- Any advancement of runners due to the incorrect batter completing their turn at bat is nullified.
- Any advancement of runners not a result of the incorrect batter completing their turn at bat will stand.
- Any outs on play stand.
- Next batter is person in line-up following the batter declared out for not batting.





BATTING OUT OF ORDER

Rule 7-1-2, PENALTY 3

Improper batter is discovered after completing their turn at bat and:

After a pitch (legal or illegal) to another batter, an intentional base on balls or after the pitcher and all infielders have vacated their fielding positions.

EFFECT:

- Improper batter becomes legal, next proper batter is the person who follows them in the batting order.
- All action on the play stands (runs scored, runner advancement, or outs made).





BATTING OUT OF ORDER

Rule 7-1-2, PENALTY 4-5

- When the proper batter is called out because she has failed to bat in turn. The next batter shall be the batter whose name follows that of the proper batter who was called out.
- When an improper batter becomes a proper batter because no appeal is properly made as above. The next batter shall be the batter whose name follows that of such legalized improper batter. The instant an improper batter's actions are legalized, the batting order picks up with the name following that of the legalized improper batter.





BATTING OUT OF ORDER

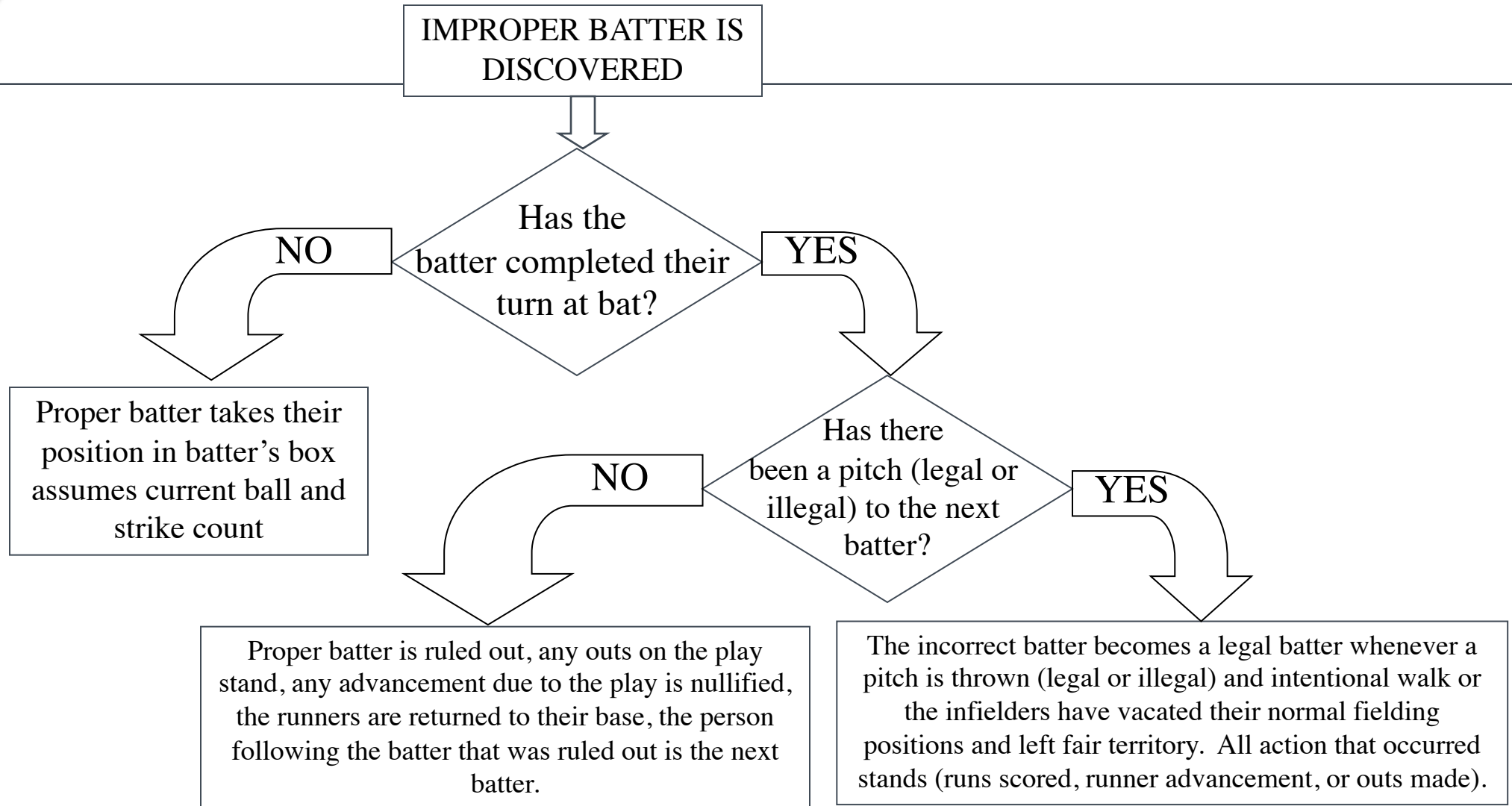
Rule 7-1-2, Penalty 6

- When several batters bat out of order, a runner will not be removed from a base to assume their proper batting position.

If a player is on base when their position in the batting order is reached, they will miss their turn at bat with no penalty.



BATting OUT OF ORDER FLOWCHART





BATTING OUT OF ORDER

Sample Plays





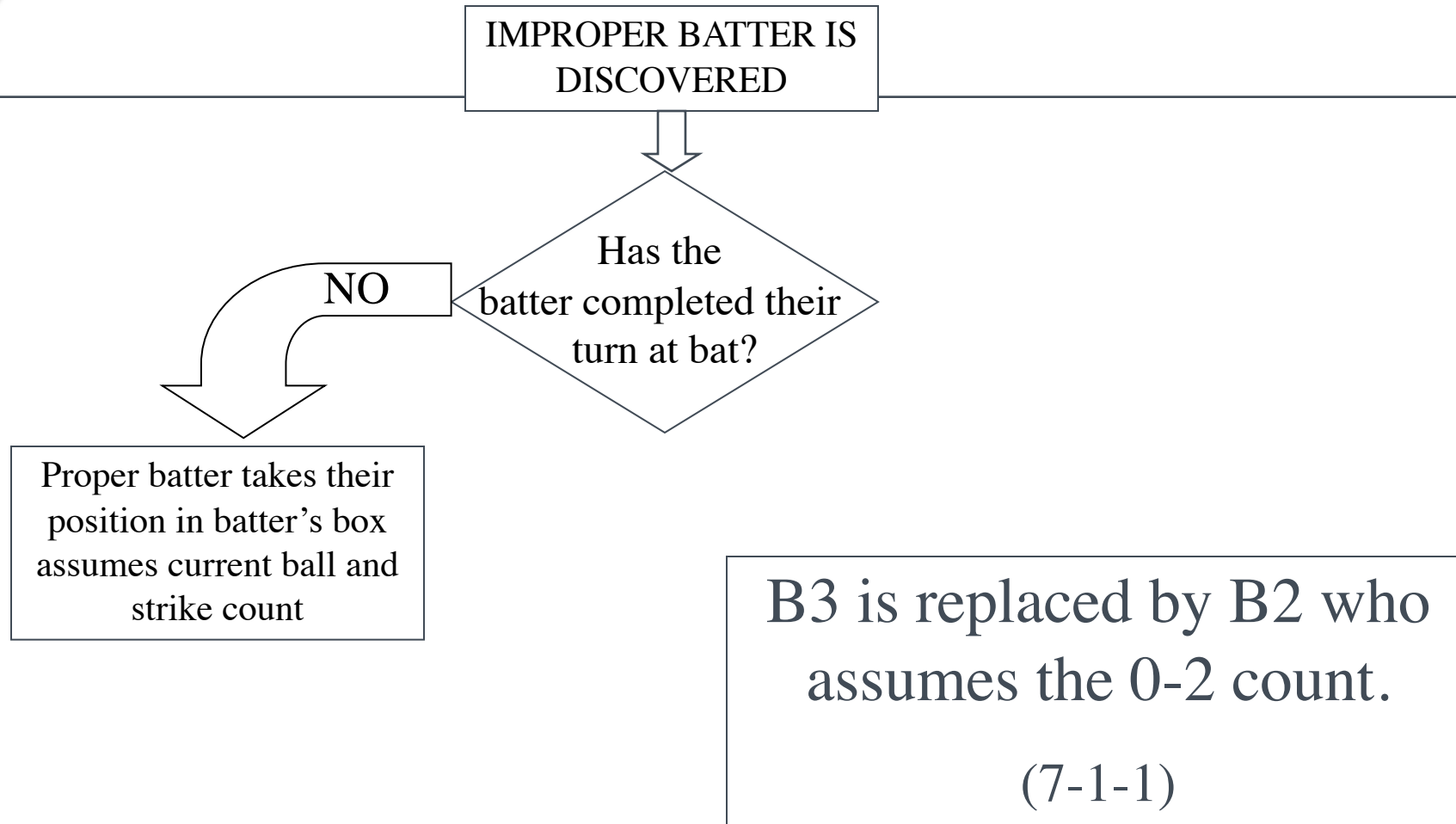
NFHS SOFTBALL BATTING OUT OF ORDER

Play 1

With R1 on 1B, B3 skips B2 in the batting order. The error is discovered by the defensive team and reported to the umpire after B3 has a 0-2 count.



RESULT 1





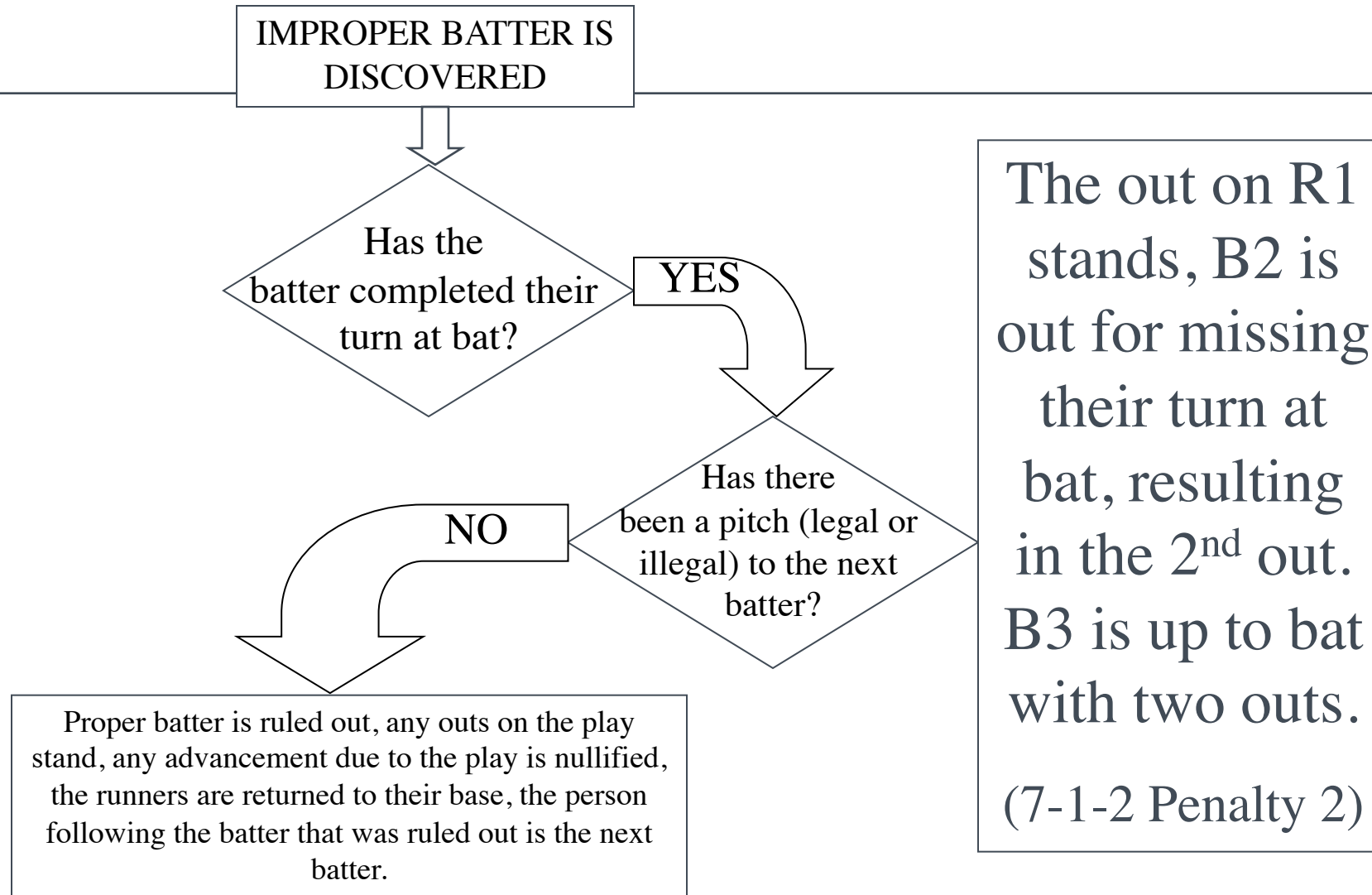
NFHS SOFTBALL BATTING OUT OF ORDER

Play 2

With no outs, R1 on 1B and B2 scheduled to bat, B4 comes to bat instead and grounds into a double play. The defense appeals B4 batting out of order before a pitch to the next batter.



RESULT 2





NFHS SOFTBALL BATTING OUT OF ORDER

Play 3

With R1 on 3B, B5 skips B4 in the batting order. B5 gets a base hit scoring R1 and ending up safe at first base. Following a pitch to B6, the defensive team appeals that B5 batted out of order.



RESULT 3

IMPROPER BATTER IS DISCOVERED

Has the batter completed their turn at bat?

YES

The appeal is denied. The pitch to B6 made B5 the legal batter all action of the play stands. (7-1-2 Penalty 3)

Has there been a pitch (legal or illegal) to the next batter?

YES

The incorrect batter becomes a legal batter whenever a pitch is thrown (legal or illegal) an intentional walk or the infielders have vacated their normal fielding positions and left fair territory. All action that occurred stands (runs scored, runner advancement, or outs made).





NFHS SOFTBALL BATTING OUT OF ORDER

Play 4

B3 leads off the inning followed by B1 and then B2 with all reaching base safely. With B3 now on 3B, B4 takes one pitch and the defense appeals batting out of order.



RESULT 4

The appeal is denied. B3, who is on base, merely misses their turn at bat with no penalty and B4 becomes the legal batter.

(7-1-2 Penalty 6)

IMPROPER BATTER IS DISCOVERED

Has the batter completed their turn at bat?

YES

Has there been a pitch (legal or illegal) to the next batter?

YES

The incorrect batter becomes a legal batter whenever a pitch is thrown (legal or illegal) an intentional walk or the infielders have vacated their normal fielding positions and left fair territory. All action that occurred stands (runs scored, runner advancement, or outs made).





NFHS SOFTBALL BATTING OUT OF ORDER

Play 5

With no outs, B1 bats and reaches 1B safely. B3 bats next, skipping B2 in the batting order. On the first pitch R1 steals second base, then with a 1-1 count, the defense intentionally walks B3. Before a pitch to the next batter, the defense appeals that B3 batted out of order.



RESULT 5

IMPROPER BATTER IS DISCOVERED

Has the batter completed their turn at bat?

YES

Has there been a pitch (legal or illegal) to the next batter?

NO

Proper batter is ruled out, any outs on the play stand, any advancement due to the play is nullified, the runners are returned to their base, the person following the batter that was ruled out is the next batter.

R1's advancement stands. B2, the batter who should have batted, is ruled out. B3 comes up to bat with one out.

(7-1-2 Penalty 2)





THANK YOU

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