

Official Ruling 14-03 Revised

AA Outfielders 20 Foot Baseline Restriction

October 1, 2015

Tournament Rule IV(I)(7)

Below is a revised ruling with respect to Tournament Rule IV(I)(7) relating to restricting the four AA outfielders to be no closer to than 20 feet behind the normal base path. This ruling applies, addresses when an outfielder can come inside the 20' mark and how the field will be marked.

The most practical geometric solution to positioning the AA outfielders 20 feet from the 60' square baselines is to create a painted or chalked 80' square. These lines will mark the closest point AA outfielders may be positioned before each pitch to a batter. Once a ball has been hit by a batter the outfielder may move inside the 80' square to make a play on the ball.

Until action by the AA Rules Committee to incorporate this ruling in the rule book in the present form or modify it, the following wording will be used to apply a penalty for violation of Tournament Rule XV (I)(7) to read:

(7)(a) The outfielders may play anywhere in the outfield but no closer than twenty feet behind the normal base path **until the ball is hit**. A chalked or painted line will be placed at the twenty foot point. **PENALTY: The offensive coach has the option of accepting a hit or taking a no pitch.**

(7)(b) Chalked or Painted 20 Foot Line

A marked square defining the closest point any outfielder shall be position prior to a ball being hit by a batter shall be formed by:

- (1) A straight line from a point 80' from the point of home plate along the first baseline to a point 104' 10" from the point of home plate across the center of second base;
- (2) connected to a straight line from a point 80' from the point of home plate along the third base line to a point 104' 10" from the point of home plate across the center of second base.

Note: These lines will be chalked or spray painted to form an 80' square which will provide a distance 20' from the baseline at every point along the baselines from first to third base.



Wes Skelton, Commissioner