



# Batting Rule 7

NEUA

March 5<sup>th</sup>

“get strikes and outs when you can”

## Ways a strike is called on a batter:

Pitch enters any part of **strike zone** – and not struck at

A pitch is struck at and missed – regardless of position in strike zone

A pitch is **fouled** when the batter has less than two strikes (including striking the batter in the batter's box)

A pitch becomes a **foul tip**

An attempted bunt becomes foul (regardless of count)

Batter delays – more than 20 seconds or steps out of the batter's box before time is granted



## Calling a Ball:

A ball is called if it does not meet strike criteria

Including a legal pitch - - (unless runners on base – then it's a balk— no ball or strike)

Including pitcher delay --



**Batter delaying the game** - how long is 20 seconds? Batter must take his position in batter's box within 20 seconds? When you beckon him.

BATTER MUST KEEP AT LEAST ONE FOOT IN THE BATTER'S BOX THROUGHOUT THE TIME AT BAT... with these exceptions...



A batter swings at a pitch

Batter forced out of the box by the pitch

The batter attempts a drag bunt

Pitcher or catcher feints or attempts a play at any base

Pitcher steps off the dirt area of the mound or more than 5 feet from the pitchers plate and has the ball

Either team requests "time" and it is granted

**Penalty - a strike shall be charged**

## BATTER INFRACTIONS: thou shalt not...

Hit the ball (fair or foul) while either foot or knee (really?) is touching ground completely outside the lines of batter's box or touching home plate

OR change batter's boxes while the pitcher is ready to pitch

### **Penalty - Dead ball and batter is out**

Permit a pitched ball to touch him -- ball or strike is called depending on position in strike zone



## BATTER INFRACTIONS: thou shalt not... (continued)



Interfere with a catcher's fielding or throwing...

- Leaning over home plate –
- Stepping out of batter's box
- Any movement which hinders action at home plate
- Failing to make reasonable effort to vacate a congested area when throw is to home plate and there is time to move away

**Penalty - Complex – if 2 outs batter is out –**

**Not two outs – runner advancing home... if he is tagged out – no interference otherwise – ball dead and runner is out**

**Attempt at any other base is unsuccessful -- batter out – runners return. Successful – play stands – no interference**

**Catcher is throwing back to third to attempt to catch runner off of third – the ball hits the batter (body or bat or helmet)... is this interference on the batter?**

## Other Ways a batter is out before becoming a batter/runner ...

Enters batters box with illegal bat – or it is discovered before next pitch

Third strike.. Is caught

Third strike.. Not caught but first base occupied < 2 outs

Foul fly is caught by a fielder - -or such catch prevented by a spectator reaching into playing area

Interference by offensive team players or coaches (not a runner) on a fielder attempting to field a foul fly ball

Bunt attempt with two strikes is a foul

If team is playing with less than 9 players - and that turn at bat is reached

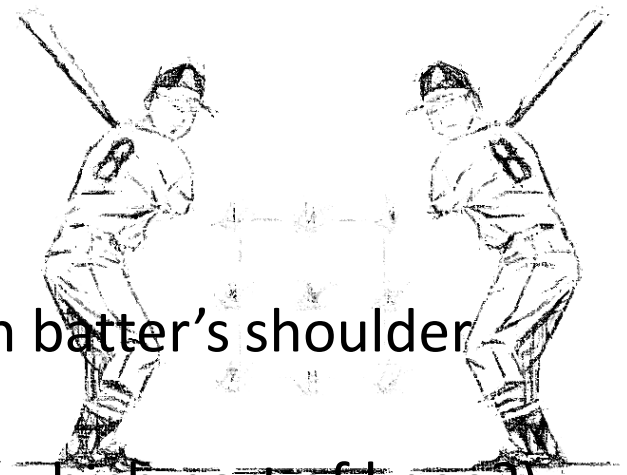
Enters the batter's box as an illegal substitute

Intentionally deflects a foul ball which has a chance of becoming fair



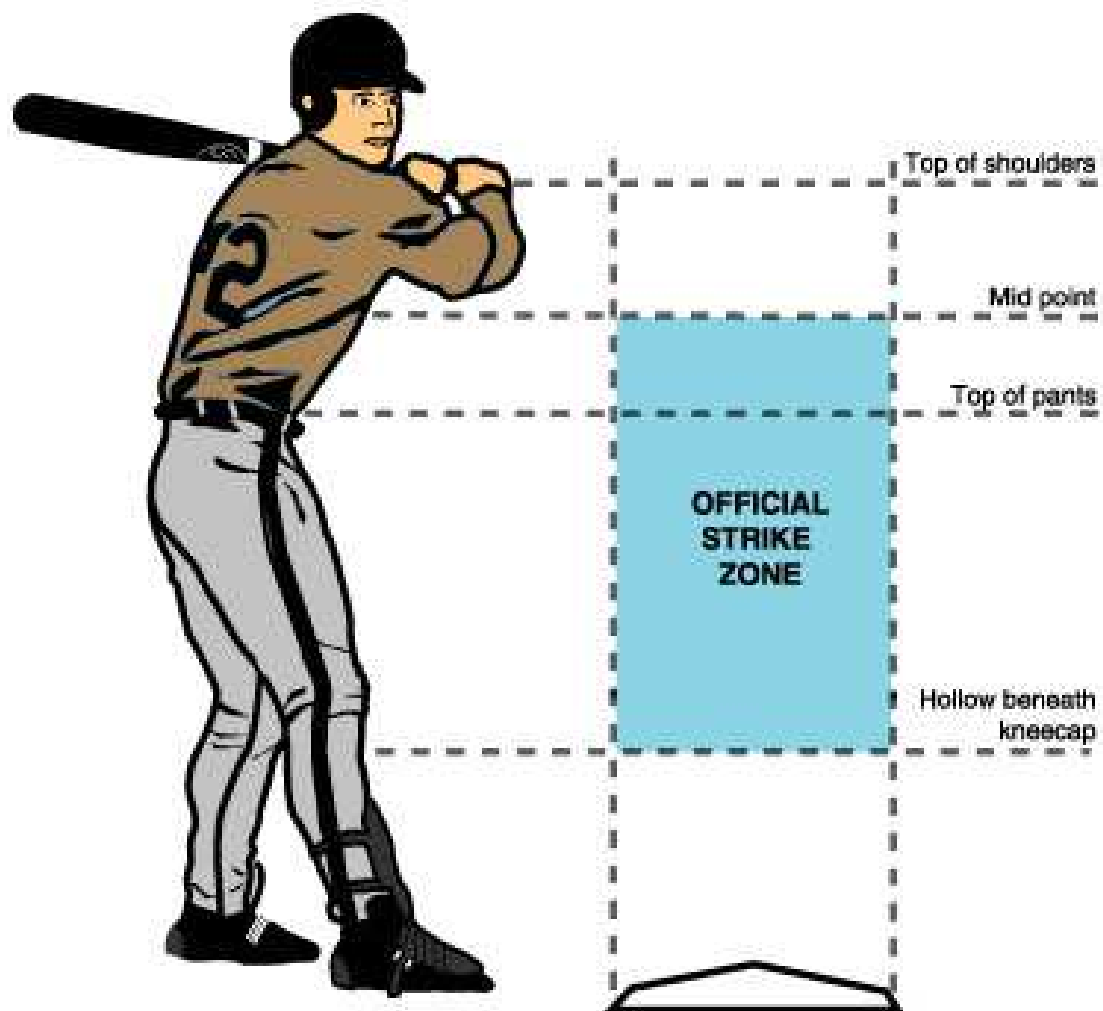
## STRIKE ZONE: by definition

- OVER HOME PLATE
- Top part of zone – halfway between batter's shoulder and waistline
- Bottom part of zone - the knees? (which part of knee?)
- Normal batting stance – crouching or leaning to lower the shoulder line is not acceptable
- Athletic stance – flex of knees
- Letters of uniform don't always work but a good guide to be consistent – find mid-way on the jersey



Do you ever call a pitcher a strike that by its truest definition is not a strike?







GOODYEAR

GOODYEAR

the top of the shoulders

midpoint

the top of the uniform pants

the hollow beneath the  
kneecap



Assume the ball is within the strike zone up and down ... Right handed batter... would you call this a ball or strike?

What might influence your call?  
Should it? (I don't have an answer more philosophical)

The count?

The score of the game?

Runners on base?

Attitude of the coach ?

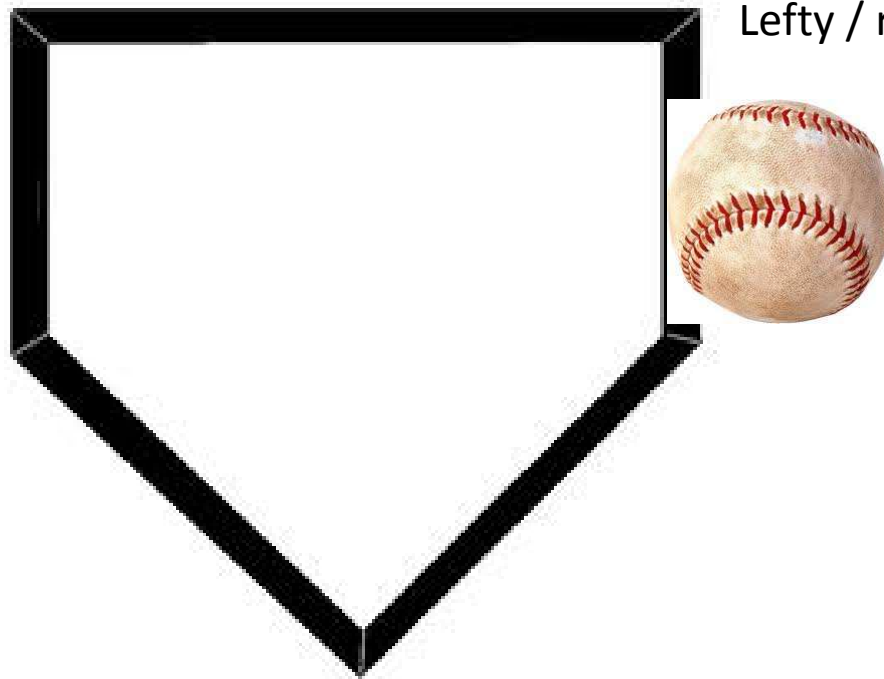
Attitude of the batter?

Attitude of the catcher / pitcher?

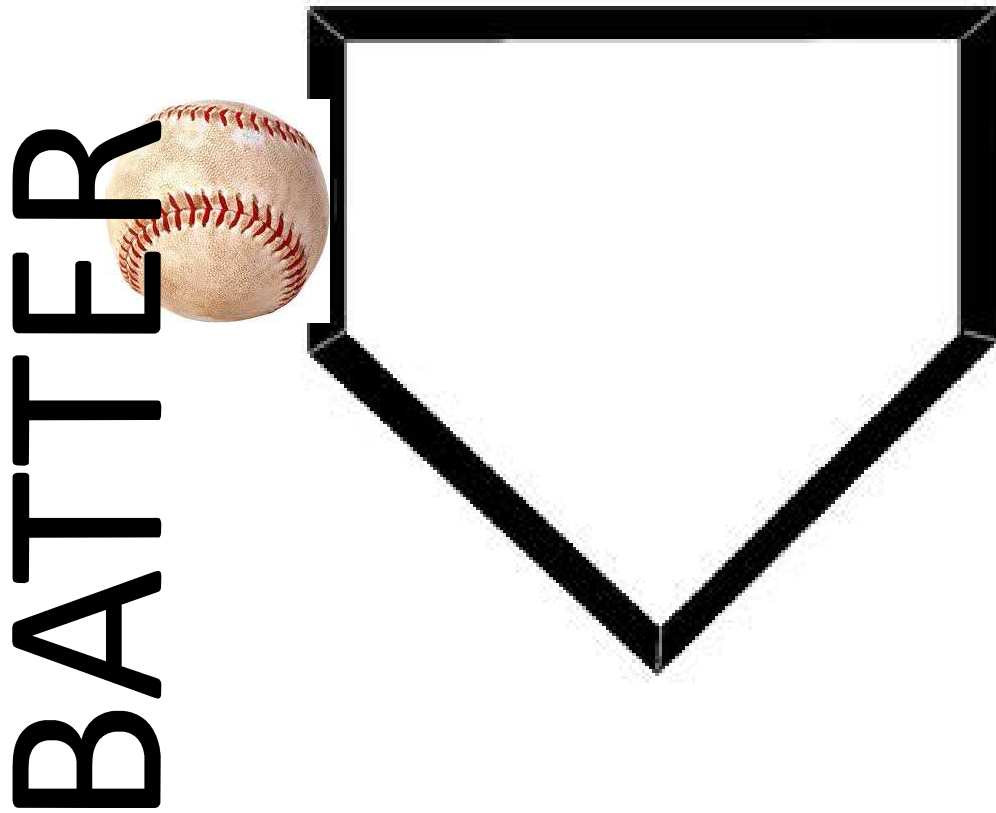
Your attitude that day?

Lefty / righty batter?

# BATTER

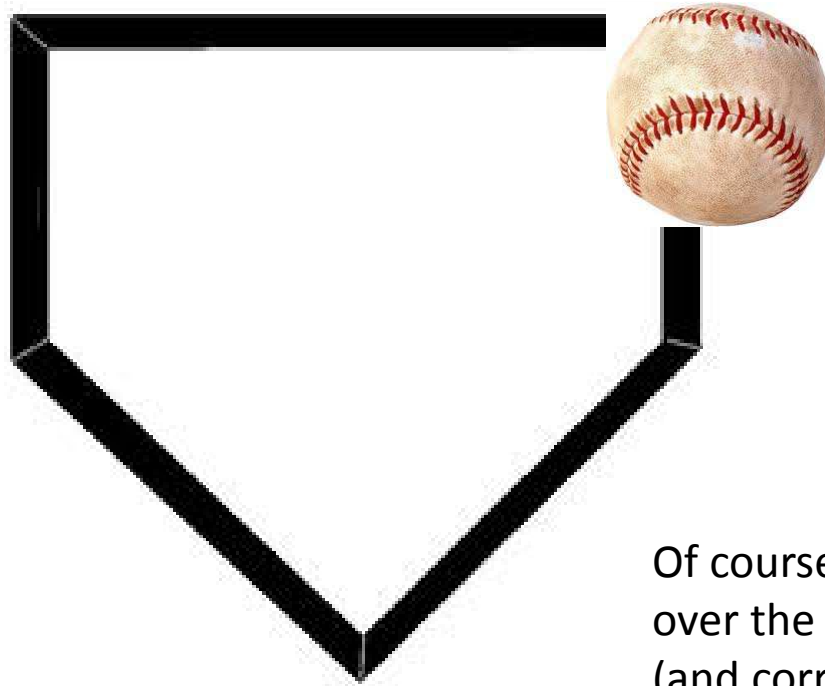


Assume the ball is within the strike zone up and down ... Right handed batter... would you call this a ball or strike?



Assume the ball is within the strike zone up and down ... Right handed batter... would you call this a ball or strike?

BATTER



Of course anything crossing over the white of the plate (and correct up and down) must be a strike

?