

Sport Terminology

Terminologie du sport

As of WED 21 OCT 2026

Term	Definition
Base	One of four points on the infield that must be touched by a runner in order to score a run. Ideal shape and size of all bases is a square of 50 centimetres per side. First base and third base are placed completely in fair territory, with one side tangent to the foul line. Bases are marked on the ground, unlike baseball/softball, no physical cushions are used.
Batter's box	The batter's box is the area to which the batter is restricted while in position with the intention of helping his team to obtain runs. The batter's box has a square shape of 3 meters per side. It is placed outside of fair territory and is built on the extension of the two foul lines crossing each other at the home plate corner.
Dead ball	When the ball leaves the court and is no longer playable by the defense.
Defense	The defense consists of the five players of the defensive team positioned in fair territory when the batter hits the ball.
Fair territory	Fair territory has a square shape of 18 meters per side, in which one of the corners coincides with the home plate). The no-hit zone in front of the home plate is not part of fair territory.
Hitting	The act of hitting takes place while a batter is entirely in the batter's box and shall remain within the lines until the hit ball leaves the batter's hand. The ball has to be hit/slapped either with a fist or a palm.
Illegal Hitting	The first bounce has to be after the no-hit zone line marked diagonally at 4.5 meters from home plate, inside of the fair territory.
Infield	The infield has a square shape, with a base in every corner. The distance between bases is 13 meters. Starting from the batter's box, behind home plate, the bases are numbered counterclockwise.
Inning	An inning is a division of a game consisting of a turn at bat for each team. A Baseball5 game consists of five innings.
Interference	Should a Game Official deem that a runner has interfered with the defensive play, the runner shall be ruled out.
Home plate	The base next to which the batter stands and which must be touched in scoring a run.
Mixed	In mixed gender competitions the defensive team must have a minimum of two athletes per gender on the field at all times.
No-hit zone	The zone formed by the straight line drawn starting from 4.5 meters from home plate on the first base foul line to its equivalent on the third base foul line.
Obstruction	Should a Game Official deem that the batter-runner is obstructed while running to the next base, the ball is dead, and all runners advance to the bases they would have reached had there been no obstruction.



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Offense	The team that is currently hitting is considered the offense. In the lineup card the teams must list the 5 active players hitting from 1 to 5. The batting order shall be followed throughout the game unless a player is substituted for another. In that case the substitute shall take the place of the replaced player in the batting order.
Out	A retirement of an offensive player during its time at bat. The defensive team needs to eliminate three opponents in an inning in order to switch sides and become the offensive team.
Run	A run (point) is scored when a player reaches home plate having passed all the bases during an offensive session of his/her team, therefore, after having touched 1st base, 2nd base, 3rd base and home plate in this order.
Run ahead rule	A game is over if a team leads by 15 runs at the end of the third inning or by 10 runs at the end of the fourth. Should a team reach a 10 or more run advantage during the top of the fifth inning the game shall be completed.

Note:
For further information please consult: www.wbsc.org