



# Safety Base & Force-Play Slide Rule Addendum

These rules are intended to:

- Reduce unnecessary contact
- Protect players at all positions
- Promote proper fundamentals and sportsmanship

All coaches are responsible for teaching these rules and ensuring their players comply.

## 1. Double First Base (Safety Base)

To improve player safety and reduce collisions at first base, this league will utilize a **double first base** (white and colored base) on all fields where available.

### A. Initial Play at First Base

- The **batter-runner must touch the colored portion** of the double base on the initial play at first base.
- The **defensive player must touch the white portion** of the base.

If the batter-runner touches only the white portion when a colored base is available and a play is being made:

➡ The batter-runner shall be **declared out**.

### B. After Reaching First Base Safely

- The runner must use the **white base only** for:
  - Leading off
  - Returning to first base
  - Tag plays
  - Pickoff attempts
- The colored portion is **no longer in play** after the initial touch.

### C. Exceptions

- If a defensive player is **drawn into foul territory** while attempting to make a play, the batter-runner may use the **white base**.
- If a double base is not available, standard first-base rules apply.

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## 2. Force-Play Slide Rule (FPSR)

The Force-Play Slide Rule is in effect to prevent unsafe contact and interference during force plays, particularly when a double play is possible.

### A. When the Rule Applies

- On any force play at a base where the defense is attempting to record multiple outs (most commonly at second base).

### B. Runner Requirements

The runner must either:

1. **Slide legally**
  - On the ground
  - Before reaching the base
  - Within reach of the base
  - In a straight line to the base

**OR**

2. **Make a bona fide attempt to reach the base**
  - Run directly to the base
  - Without altering path to initiate contact with a fielder

### C. Illegal Actions

- Changing path to contact a fielder
- Sliding late and beyond the base
- Rolling or pop-up slides into the fielder
- Raising arms or legs to interfere with a throw
- Intentionally colliding with a fielder

### D. Penalty

If the Force-Play Slide Rule is violated:

- The **runner is out**
- The **batter-runner is also out**
- The ball becomes **dead immediately**
- No runners may advance

This results in an **automatic double play**.