



NCAA BASEBALL PLAYING RULES INTERPRETATIONS AND CLARIFICATIONS  
2022 – 2023

January 12, 2023

**Rule: 9-2-i, and Appendix F, page 119, #2 – Warm-up pitches by an ambidextrous pitcher.**

**Interpretation:** At the beginning of an inning, an ambidextrous pitcher who is continuing to pitch shall not throw more than five pitches with each arm to the catcher and must do so within the 120-second time limit. If beginning the game in the first inning as the starting pitcher or entering the game as a relief pitcher, no more than eight pitches with each arm are allowed. These pitches should not consume more than 120 seconds. However, should the time limit expire, the pitcher will be allowed to complete their warm-up pitches.

**Rule 9-2 c-Penalty**

**Correction:** In the Penalty for Rule 9-2-c, the first part of the sentence should be deleted. There is no long a warning for each pitcher when a violation of the 20-second time limit occurs. The penalty should read as follows: “A ball will be called each time the rule is violated.” The rule change is correctly described in Appendix F.

October 25, 2022

**Appendix F – 20-Second Action Clock Limit Protocol – #9 - Batter in Batter’s Box.**

**Interpretation:** As noted in Appendix F – 20-Second Action Clock Limit – #9, “Batters should not delay entry to gain an undue advantage.” The protocol designating that a batter shall be in the box and alert to the pitcher with 5 or more seconds remaining on the action clock was developed when the clock stopped when the pitcher started the motion to come to the set position. With the recent change to the 20-second action time limit, the mechanism that stops the clock is now when the pitcher “starts the motion to deliver the pitch.” Maintaining the protocol of 5 seconds would place undue burden on the pitcher to receive a sign, come set and start the motion to deliver the pitch when a batter waits until 5 seconds remain on the action clock. **To address voiced concerns about gamesmanship and to provide an equitable application of the rule for the offense and defense, the batter shall be in the batter’s box and alert to the pitcher with 10 seconds or more remaining on the action clock.**