

A baseball game in progress, featuring a batter (Wright, #18) swinging a bat, a catcher, and an umpire. The scene is overlaid with a semi-transparent blue filter. The text 'WBSC' is prominently displayed in yellow, with a red swoosh underneath it. Below that, 'INFIELD FLY' and 'UMPIRE INSTRUCTION' are written in white, separated by a white horizontal line.

WBSC

INFIELD FLY

UMPIRE INSTRUCTION

An Infield Fly is a fair fly ball (not including a line drive nor an attempted bunt) which can be caught by an infielder with ordinary effort, when first and second, or first, second and third bases are occupied, before two are out. The pitcher, catcher and any outfielder who stations himself in the infield on the play shall be considered infielders for the purpose of this rule.

When it seems apparent that a batted ball will be an Infield Fly, the umpire shall immediately declare “Infield Fly” for the benefit of the runners. If the ball is near the baselines, the umpire shall declare “Infield Fly, if Fair.”

The ball is alive and runners may advance at the risk of the ball being caught, or retouch and advance after the ball is touched, the same as on any fly ball. If the hit becomes a foul ball, it is treated the same as any foul.

If a declared Infield Fly is allowed to fall untouched to the ground, and bounces foul before passing first or third base, it is a foul ball. If a declared Infield Fly falls untouched to the ground outside the baseline, and bounces fair before passing first or third base, it is an Infield Fly.

- **ORDINARY EFFORT BY INFIELDER**
- **NOT INCLUDING A LINE DRIVE NOR AN ATTEMPTED BUNT**
- **RUNNERS ON 1ST & 2ND OR BASES FULL**
- **IT OCCURS WITH LESS THAN 2 OUTS**
- **THE BATTER - RUNNER IS OUT**
- **CAN BE CAUGHT BY ANY FIELDER**

- **THE BASE PROTECTS THE RUNNER IF HE IS HIT BY THE INFIELD FLY (BALL IS DEAD)**
- **FORCE PLAY IS ELIMINATED**
- **IT IS THE SAME AS ANY OTHER FLY BALL, IN RESPECT TO THE RUNNERS**
- **INFIELD FLY, IF FAIR**

Comment: On the infield fly rule the umpire is to rule whether the ball could ordinarily have been handled by an infielder-not by some arbitrary limitation such as the grass, or the base lines. The umpire must rule also that a ball is an infield fly, even if handled by an outfielder, if, in the umpire's judgment, the ball could have been easily handled by an infielder. The infield fly is in no sense to be considered an appeal play. The umpire's judgment must govern, and the decision should be immediately.

When an infield fly rule is called, the runners may advance at their own risk. If on an infield fly rule, the infielder intentionally drops a fair ball, the ball remains in play despite the provisions of Rule 5.09(a)(12) (Rule 6.05(l)). The infield fly rule takes precedence.

If interference is called during an Infield Fly, the ball remains alive until it is determined whether the ball is fair or foul. If fair, both the runner who interfered with the fielder and the batter are out. If foul, even if caught, the runner is out and the batter returns to bat.