

New Rules for 1915

TO insure a successful baseball season, under the new ideas about the legal angles of the game, it will evidently be necessary to hold a joint meeting of the larger leagues, and to agree upon a code whereby magnates, players, and patrons shall alike receive the protection of the law. Clauses such as these will have to be accepted by all concerned, or the game will go ka-smash, as sure as sunrise:

Batsmen with two strikes called shall not be permitted to ask for an injunction.

Pinch hitters and relief pitchers must be provided with the documentary proof that they are not under injunction or fugitives from justice.

Local laws or city ordinances concerning the caging or chaining of dangerous animals shall not be enforced against lefthanded pitchers.

Peanut butchers may be enjoined, arrested, or executed at any time after the first inning.

No club shall be permitted to carry more than 21 players or 15 lawyers.

No lawyer shall be permitted to address a player or umpire in words of more than two syllables.

Any lawyer who takes the place of a player must serve in the capacity of player only. He may not serve a writ upon the ball, and if he shall stop or attempt to stop the ball by heaving a lawbook at it the batsman shall be given six bases.

If a thrown ball shall strike a lawyer, the runner shall be entitled to two extra bases. If the ball shall strike a judge, it shall be considered a blocked ball, and bases may be run until the ball has been dug out of the judge.

A wild pitch or passed ball striking a judge or lawyer shall be considered in play, and the runner must take his chances if he endeavors to advance.

A batted ball striking a judge or lawyer, and bounding back into the field, shall entitle the batsman to a home run, unless the ball shall strike a judge or lawyer crossing the infield upon legal business, in which event the batsman shall be entitled only to a single and a good cigar.

No judge shall be permitted to officiate as umpire. Inasmuch as it takes a judge 20 days in which to render a decision, the time occupied in playing nine innings might fatigue the crowd.

If judges or lawyers shall crowd so thickly on the playing field as to interfere with the continuance of the game, the umpire shall shout "Pig in the field!" and demand that the field be cleared within five minutes. If the judges or lawyers do not retire within five minutes, the umpire shall report their conduct to the Bar Association.

THIS is an age of progress, advancement, brilliancy. It is an age in which each profession must be manned by experts, keenly conversant with all the latest exigencies which the fast-whirling world may force upon them. Take, for example, the legal profession. It is no longer sufficient for an attorney to be posted in legal lore: in Coke and Blackstone; in torts, writs, quo warrants, and jurisprudence. He must know THE GAME!

Two years from now, no doubt, the examination questions propounded as the finishing test of a law-student's attainments will read very much in this fashion:

Q. 1: When is a baseball contract not a contract?

Q. 2: Is an umpire entitled to the benefits of the Fourteenth Amendment?

Q. 3: What retainer fee makes the reserve rule (a) strictly legal; (b) null and void?

Q. 4: Quote the ancient Babylonian laws governing ground-rules.

Q. 5: Under what circumstances, (aside from managing the Cincinnati Reds) may a man legally sue for a Carnegie medal?

Q. 6: Is mayhem or simple assault the proper charge against a hotelkeeper who knowingly gives sharp table-knives to bush-recruits?

Q. 7: Is it self-defence or justifiable homicide to shoot a bonehead?