NCAA Baseball

2017
Super Regional Instant Replay
The instant replay rule limits reviewable plays to the following:

1. Deciding if a batted ball is fair or foul. The ball must first touch the ground or a fielder beyond the initial position of the first or third baseman.

2. Deciding if a batted ball is either a ground rule double or a home run.

3. Any catch or no catch in the outfield or foul territory.

4. A call of “no catch” can be changed to “catch” within the infield only if it results in a third out with any runners on base, or any time with a batter runner only.

5. Spectator interference.

6. Deciding scoring plays at home plate inclusive of collisions (illegal and/or malicious slides) or time plays.
Here is some further clarification regarding reviewable item #3 #3.

**Catch or no catch in the outfield or foul territory.**

Any ball that is deemed to be in the *outfield* or in *foul territory* can be reviewed at any time to determine if the ball was caught or not. Based on the result of instant replay, the rule book has a predetermined formula on the placement of any runners. Remember, if a foul ball is not caught, it is simply a foul ball.

**Summary:** Any catch no catch can be reviewed in the outfield or in foul territory.
For purposes of applying the changing of a call of “catch” to “no catch” or “no catch” to “catch”, a fair batted ball shall be considered “hit into the outfield” when it is hit into the outfield area beyond the nearest infielder. A line drive hit directly toward an infielder shall not meet the requirement for a potential change of the initial call.
Catch No Catch in the Infield - Not in the infield unless it results in a third out

The only type of catch no catch that can be reviewed is the changing of a no catch to a catch and with a runner on base, this can only be done if the final result is a third out (catch).

The most common application of this is with **two outs and a runner on base**, an umpire rules that a ball was not caught. Instant replay can change this to a catch and the inning will be over. The rationale is that with two outs, changing of the play to a catch ends the inning and most importantly the placement of runners is predetermined.

With runners on base and the ball in the infield, the only thing you can change is a no catch to a catch if the outcome results in a third out (catch). You cannot change a no catch to a catch with less than two outs and you can never change a catch to a no catch.

**Summary:** If one or more runners are on base. Only a call of no catch can be changed to a catch if it results in the third out of the inning.
; or a catch at any time with a batter only.
If no runners are on base, instant replay can always change a no catch to a catch, because the batter will be called out. With a batter only, you cannot change a catch to a no catch.

**Summary**: With no one on base, only a no catch can be changed to a catch with any number of outs.
1. Instant replay is a video process which falls within the NCAA Baseball Rules in Appendix E: Getting the Call Right. It can be used to either let stand a ruling on the field by the game officials or to change or reverse that ruling.

2. The instant replay process operates under the fundamental assumption that the ruling on the field is correct. Only if there is indisputable video evidence to remove all doubt that a ruling was incorrect will a call be changed. Absent that evidence, the original call will stand.

3. Any instant replay must occur before the next pitch or play. If it occurs after a game ending play it must be called for before all umpires leave the field of play.
4. The crew chief makes the determination to use instant replay.
5. There is not a formal challenge opportunity. Coaches already have the ability to request a conference among umpires under the “Getting the Call Right” provisions in Appendix E of the Baseball Rules Book.
6. If instant replay is used, the crew chief, the calling umpire and other members of the crew as deemed necessary, will go to the designated video replay area with at least one official remaining on the field. The Crew Chief and the umpire he designates will wear the headsets.
7. The video review area is a secure environment completely clear of all other persons except the on-field technician (instant replay facilitator) assisting the crew and possible security personnel.

8. During a video review the defensive team shall maintain their positions on the field and may practice throw if desired. Offensive base runners and the on-deck hitter shall maintain their positions. Other personnel shall remain in the dugout. Any defensive or offensive conferences will be charged as during any other part of the game. *Umpire Crew will use the headsets and step away (clear themselves) from all dugout personnel.*

9. While there is no time limit for the video review, lengthy reviews (more than 2-3 minutes) are discouraged and are possible evidence that there will be no indisputable video evidence to change a call.
10. All equipment should be tested by appropriate personnel before each game and a test connection should be made to the Turner Broadcasting Studio.

11. The crew chief may confer and discuss the replay during the review with other members of the umpiring crew but the ultimate final decision is with the centralized replay official. This final decision may not be argued by either head coach.

12. If the reversing of a call results in the need for decisions on the placement of base runners, the centralized replay official will use his best judgment to determine their locations as if the call had been made correctly. These decisions are also not to be questioned by the head coach. Some situations are predetermined by the NCAA baseball playing rules.

13. If a call has been changed, the crew chief, upon returning to the field, would notify both head coaches.
Instant Replay Technology Support:

1. Turner shall provide a direct and private communication link between the centralized replay official and the on-field umpire crew.
2. Turner shall keep private any and all communication/discussions that occur during a replay review.
3. Centralized replay official will request available camera angles needed during a replay and may review multiple repetitions of the involved play, such as slow-motion, highlighter, reversing and stop action.
4. As the replay angles are being taken from the game broadcast, all angles that are shown on the broadcast will be available for review. No replay camera shots shall be shown on the broadcast that have not been part of the replay review.
5. If the umpires are having a conference to discuss a play that is reviewable under the instant replay process, Turner and the instant replay official(s) shall begin to attempt to identify and have ready all relevant camera shots in the event that instant replay will be used.

6. Turner shall test all instant replay related equipment prior to each game to confirm operational status.
PA and Video Board

1. When the umpires conference and then determine that the play will be reviewed by instant replay, the PA announcer will announce “The play is under further review”.

2. Prior to review, the stadium video board is permitted to replay the play in question only one time at regular speed.

3. During the review, the stadium video board is permitted to replay the play in question only one additional time at regular speed.

4. After a review the Crew Chief will:
   a. Give the home run signal or fair ball signal;
   b. Point to the bases to be occupied by runners;
   c. Give the foul ball signal;
   d. “Signal Catch or No Catch”
A. Two individuals will serve as the off-site instant replay crew at the centralized location and will be determined by the NCAA Baseball Umpire Program (*Names will not be publicized*).

B. The two individuals will be the most familiar with the NCAA playing rules, umpire mechanics and the protocol procedure.

C. The two individuals will review all relevant angles provided by Turner and quickly render a decision.

D. The two individuals will work under the assumption that the on-field decision is correct unless there is indisputable video evidence that shows otherwise.

E. If the two individuals cannot agree on the outcome, the on-field decision will stand.
F. One replay official will be responsible for the direct communication between the centralized location and the on-field crew chief.
G. The second individual will be responsible to ensure that the call is reviewable and that all aspects of the review policy and NCAA playing rules are adhered to.
H. Replay Crew has three options: Confirmed; Stands; Overturned.