

M.B.U.A. Memo

To: All local boards of the Massachusetts Baseball Umpiring Association

From: Tom Clews, State Rules Interpreter for M.B.U.A

Date: February 21, 2013

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL HAS CHANGED RULE 8.05 (b) TO NOW REQUIRE A PITCHER TO THROW TO THIRD (THE SAME AS TO FIRST) i.e. A PITCHER IS NO LONGER ABLE TO FAKE TO THIRD.

(1). A PITCHER, WHEN IN CONTACT WITH THE PITCHER'S PLATE MAKES A MOVE (i.e. A STEP OR AN INTENT TO THROW) TOWARDS THIRD, MUST NOW COMPLETE THE THROW IN THE SAME CONTINUOUS MOTION SIMILAR TO MAKING THE MOVE TO FIRST. FAILURE TO DO SO WILL RESULT IN A BALK.

(2). AS ALWAYS, IF A PITCHER LEGALLY DISENGAGES THE PITCHER'S PLATE (STEPPING BACKWARDS WITH HIS PIVOT FOOT), HE MAY MAKE ANY MOVEMENT HE DESIRES AS HE IS NO LONGER CONSIDERED A PITCHER.

**RESPECTFULLY,
TOM CLEWS
MBUA RULES INTERPRETER**