

Batting Order	1	2	3	4	5	5 (cont)	6	7
1 Adam	hit		dp, out-2		hit	hit		
2 Bob	out-1		hit (out-3)		out-1	dp, out-3		
3 Chris	hit		fc		hit		out-1	
4 Dave	out-2			hit (out-2)	hit		out-2	
5 Eddie	hit			out-1	hit		out-3	
6 Frank	out-3			hit	hit			out-1
7 Greg		hit (out-1)		fc	hit			out-2
8 Henry		fc (out-2)		out-3	hit			out-3
9 Ian		dp, out-3			hit	hit		
10 Jim			hit (out-1)		hit	hit		

Question #1

In the first inning, Adam leads off by reaching base and asks for a courtesy runner. Which player(s) are available to be the courtesy runner?

Answer #1

Because the team has not yet recorded an out, no one in the current batting order is available to be the courtesy runner for Adam. However, if the team has any bench players who are not in the current batting order, any bench player can be the courtesy runner for Adam.

Question #2

The first inning continues. A courtesy runner was not used for Adam. Bob makes the first out. Chris reaches base and asks for a courtesy runner. Which player(s) are available to be the courtesy runner?

Answer #2

Working backwards from Chris's spot in the batting order, the next closest player to record an out was Bob. Therefore, Bob is available to be the courtesy runner. Any bench player not in the current batting order would also be available.

Question #3

The first inning continues. A courtesy runner was used for Chris. Dave makes the second out. Eddie reaches base and asks for a courtesy runner. Which player(s) are available to be the courtesy runner?

Answer #3

Because a courtesy runner was already used this inning for Chris, no one can be a courtesy runner for Eddie.

Question #4

The first inning continues. Frank ends the inning with a flyout.

Greg begins the second inning by reaching base and asks for a courtesy runner. Which player(s) are available to be the courtesy runner?

Answer #4

Working backwards from Greg's spot in the batting order, the next closest player to record an out was Frank. Therefore, Frank is available to be the courtesy runner. Any bench player not in the current batting order would also be available. Unlike the start of the game, it does not matter that the team has not yet recorded an out in the second inning.

Question #5

The second inning continues. A courtesy runner was not used for Greg. Henry reaches base on a fielder's choice. Greg is forced out at second base for the first out. Henry asks for a courtesy runner. Which player(s) are available to be the courtesy runner?

Answer #5

Working backwards from Henry's spot in the batting order, the next closest player to record an out was Greg. (Note that Greg's out was recorded while on the base path, not at-bat.) Therefore, Greg is available to be the courtesy runner. Any bench player not in the current batting order would also be available.

Question #6

The second inning continues. A courtesy runner was not used for Henry. Ian ends the second inning by grounding into a double-play, Henry is forced out at second base.

Jim begins the third inning by reaching base and asks for a courtesy runner. Which player(s) are available to be the courtesy runner?

Answer #6

Working backwards from Jim's spot in the batting order, the next closest player to record an out was Ian. Therefore, Ian is available to be the courtesy runner. Any bench player not in the current batting order would also be available.

Question #7 (tricky)

The third inning continues. A courtesy runner was not used for Jim. Adam grounds into a double-play. Jim is forced out at second base. With two outs, Bob reaches base. Chris ends the third inning by grounding into a fielder's choice, Bob is forced out at second base for the third out.

Dave begins the fourth inning by reaching base and asks for a courtesy runner. Which player(s) are available to be the courtesy runner?

Answer #7

Working backwards from Dave's spot in the batting order, the next closest player to record an out was Bob. Pay special attention to Chris's third inning at-bat. Chris grounded into a fielder's choice, causing Bob to get forced out and end the inning. If that out had not ended the inning, Chris would be on base. Bob made the out, not Chris. Therefore, Bob is available to be the courtesy runner. Any bench player not in the current batting order would also be available.

Question #8 (tricky)

The fourth inning continues. A courtesy runner was not used for Dave. Eddie makes the first out. Frank reaches first base, advancing Dave to second base. Greg grounds into a fielder's choice, Dave is forced out at third for the second out, Frank advances to second base, Greg is safe at first base. Greg asks for a for a courtesy runner. Which player(s) are available to be the courtesy runner?

Answer #8

Working backwards from Greg's spot in the batting order, the next closest player to record an out was Eddie. Note that while Eddie made the first out and Dave made the second out, the chronological order of the outs does not matter. The courtesy runner is determined by working backwards through the batting order to find the closest player to record an out. From Greg's spot, that is Eddie, not Dave. Therefore, Eddie is available to be the courtesy runner. Any bench player not in the current batting order would also be available.

Question #9 (New for 2019)

The fourth inning continues. Henry ends the inning with a flyout.

Ian begins the fifth inning by reaching base and asks for a courtesy runner. Henry is used as the courtesy runner for Ian. The team then has a big inning and bats around. Every batter reaches base safely, except Bob who makes the first out. It is Ian's turn to bat again in the fifth inning and he reaches base. Can Ian have a courtesy runner? If so, which player(s) are available to be the courtesy runner?

Answer #9

Beginning with the 2019 season, Ian is the only batter in the order that can have a courtesy runner multiple times in the same inning. Working backwards from Ian's spot in the batting order, the next closest player to record an out was Bob. (Note that Henry was the courtesy runner in Ian's first at-bat. For Ian's second at-bat, the courtesy runner is re-determined by working backwards through the batting order to find the closest player to record an out. Therefore, Henry is not locked in as Ian's courtesy runner for the duration of the inning.)

Question #10 (tricky)

The fifth inning continues. Jim and Adam both reach base. There is still only one out in the inning. Bob (running for Ian) is on third, Jim is on second, Adam is on first. It is now Bob's turn to bat, but he is on base. What happens?

Answer #10

Bob comes in to bat. A replacement courtesy runner takes Bob's spot on the base path. This is Ian's original spot. Working backwards from Ian's spot in the batting order, the next closest player to record an out (skipping Bob's out) was Henry (the final out of the fourth inning).

End of the Game

Bob grounds into a double-play to end the fifth inning. The team is retired 1-2-3 in the sixth and seventh innings.