



1997 Robin Rule

Introduced for 2021

HR Derby's 34th Season

The Reason for The Rule

It was spring training 1997, many current Derbiers weren't even born, when Robin Ventura suffered a gruesome broken ankle sliding in to home plate.

This season ending injury happened very close to the HR Derby post-mark entry deadline causing a lot of regret for Derbiers who had selected him.

Then in 2017 I made the decision to include slugger Ryan Howard on the entry.

This proved to be regrettable as Howard retired prior to the start of the season.

That same season Jung Ho Kang was also on the list but never appeared in a game as visa issues kept him from entering the USA.

Howard was my fault, Kang not so much.

During spring training 2019 it was announced that Kansas City Royals catcher Salvador Perez would miss the entire season due to shoulder surgery.

All of this mattered because it had been impossible to make a change to their entry once it was mailed.

And I very much appreciate people who mail early because it allows me to get a head start on data entry. But it seemed unfair to those earlier submitters when something unexpected happened.

With HR Derby now being online it is a situation that can be rectified but there will be limitations.

Please note:

It is not necessary to pay for expedited shipping (either USPS, UPS or FedEx) if the envelope is post-marked by the official post-mark deadline which starting in 2021 season will always be MLB actual Opening Day

Be sure you understand this new option!

If a player suffers a season threatening injury after your envelope has been mailed but prior to the start of the season it is possible to make a replacement.

There are two ways to do this:

- 1) Mail your replacement request to the HR Derby PMB 135. This envelope is subject to the post-mark deadline.
- 2) Email your request to mail@hr-derby.com including the removed player and replacement, and Entry# if multiple entries are involved

IMPORTANT:

Replacement must be from the same Hitter Group

This rule is meant to inspire early submissions. People who mail early should not be disadvantaged due to an injury.

Please utilize this new option for its intended purpose, to replace a player who suffers a season threatening injury or is sent to the minor leagues. Do not use it simply because a player had a poor spring training!

This transaction will not count against the one time use Pinch Hitter Rule.