

2023 Umpire Classroom: Quiz 1-Rules Changes

1. B1 comes to the plate wearing a necklace that is hanging outside of his uniform. He is also wearing earrings and a wristband from the Nickelback concert that he attended the previous night. Is this player legally equipped? **Yes**
2. Is a position-player wearing sunglasses on top of his hat legally equipped? **Yes**
3. B1 comes to the plate wearing a silicone bracelet that has a racist/sexist/intimidating remark on it. **This is not legal.** Rule 3.3.1f2 prohibits any items that use profanity, intimidation tactics, remarks reflecting unfavorably upon any other person, or taunting or baiting.
4. A coach/player/bench personnel while on the field and/or in the dugout is wearing a bandana. This is allowed. **False**
5. A right-handed pitcher engages the pitching plate with his pivot foot parallel to the pitcher's plate. His shoulders are squared to the plate, and his free foot is breaking the plane of the front edge of the pitcher's plate. Is this pitcher in the set or wind? **Set**
6. A right-handed pitcher with no runners on base engages the pitching plate with his pivot foot parallel to the pitcher's plate. His shoulders are squared to the plate, and his free foot is breaking the plane of the front edge of the pitcher's plate. He picks up and lowers his free foot twice in his delivery. **This is an illegal pitch, and a ball will be added to the count.**
7. The 2023 rules change adds the "Hybrid stance" as an alternative to the wind-up and stretch. It specifically addresses that it be considered a wind-up. **False-The 2023 change only altered how umpires determine if the stance is a windup or set position. The change does not introduce the term "hybrid" and umpires are discouraged from using that term in explaining their calls.**
8. Umpires shall use the location and angle of the pitcher's pivot foot when determining if the pitcher is in the stretch or windup. **True**
9. Umpires shall use the location and angle of the pitcher's free foot when determining if the pitcher is in the stretch or windup. **False.**
10. The catcher is wearing a legal hockey-style helmet. The player is also wearing sunglasses. This is legal. **True**
11. The catcher is wearing a legal hockey-style helmet that was manufactured with a tinted eye shield. The eye shield is NOCSAE-certified. This is legal. **False-A tinted eye shield is never allowed to be attached to the helmet. At this time, it does not appear any are made with NOCSAE-certification either.**

12. A pitched ball is uncaught by the catcher and gets stuck in/on the backstop padding. Prior to the catcher getting to the backstop, the ball falls to the ground. This is a lodged ball. Case Play 2.4.4 A: When the ball becomes stuck or stops and does not fall or roll, immediately it becomes a lodged ball.

2023 Umpire Classroom: Quiz 2-Points of Emphasis

1. Does a written or verbal warning have to be issued before a coach or player is ejected? **NO**
2. Can a player be restricted to the dugout for sportsmanship related infractions? **YES.** *Rule 3-1-1: Players can only be restricted to the dugout for illegal substitutions.*
3. A remark from a fan of the home team is unsportsmanlike and directed towards a coach or player of the visiting team. The response gets a reaction from the player or coach it was directed at. How should the umpire address this in a high school game? The umpire should stop the game until game administrators have addressed the situation. *Egregious crowd comments are intended to intimidate, humiliate and/or ridicule an opponent. While we may try to ignore the situation at first, if it is enough to draw an emotional response from the coach or player it is directed at, then we must make sure it is addressed so it does not affect on field play any further.*
4. R1. 1 out. B1 hits an infield pop-up. F6 and F5 are both getting into position to catch the ball, when a member of the offensive team yells "I got it!" As a result, neither F5 or F6 catches the ball, thinking that another defensive player had called it. Is this interference? **Yes**
5. While B1 is moving toward second base on a hit to right-center field, F6, who does not have the ball in his possession, fakes a tag on B1 coming into second. The fake tag causes B1 to slide into the bag. This is the first time a fake tag has been made in the game. This is illegal and it is obstruction. The umpire should issue an official warning to the defensive head coach that the next fake tag will result in an ejection of the offender. *Even though this is a first offense and gets a warning for an ejection, it is still obstruction and should be enforced accordingly. Because this is before the Batter-Runner reaches second, the fake tag is obstruction and B1 is awarded second, and potentially more bases if the umpire thinks he would have made those bases had the obstruction not occurred. Failing to enforce penalties associated with fake tags can lead teams to look for retribution. By issuing a warning to the defensive head coach, you are enforcing the rules book and managing the game accordingly. This helps to keep the offense from feeling a need for retribution.*
6. Is this player legally equipped for NFHS Baseball? Picture is of player wearing pearl necklace. **Yes**
7. Is this application of eye black legal for NFHS Baseball? Player's eye black looks like war paint and not just a streak under the eye. **Yes.** *So long as it is not unsportsmanlike or intimidating.*
8. Is this application of eye black legal for NFHS Baseball? Eye black has word inside of it-"Tu Ere Maricon" that translates to a homophobic slur. **NO**
9. Is this application of eye black legal for NFHS Baseball? Eye black has slogan: EPH and 2:8-10. **Yes** *A bible verse is not considered unsportsmanlike or intimidating. The act of writing on eye black is not prohibited by rule, unless the message itself is unsportsmanlike or intimidating.*

2023 Umpire Classroom: Quiz 3- Pre-Pitch Signals

1. Which verbal mechanic(s) is/are used for putting the ball in play to start the game? "Play"
2. Which umpire(s) can call "Play" to start the game? The Umpire-in-Chief Only
3. Which umpire(s) can call "Play" to resume the game? The Umpire-in-Chief Only
4. Which umpire(s) can call "time" for the purposes of a dead ball?
The Umpire-in-Chief and Base Umpire(s)
5. The pitcher is on the rubber and set to begin his delivery to the plate. The ball is currently in play. The batter is stepping into the box and has not reasonably come set. The umpire-in-chief, seeing the pitcher ready to deliver, wants to ensure the pitcher allows the batter to become set in the box and does not deliver a quick pitch. The umpire holds his right hand in a stop motion towards the pitcher. Is this an official mechanic? Yes
6. R1. 1 out. 0-0 count. The pitcher is on the rubber and set to begin his delivery to the plate. The ball is currently in play. The batter is stepping into the box and has not reasonably come set. The umpire-in-chief, seeing the pitcher ready to deliver, wants to ensure the pitcher allows the batter to become set in the box and does not deliver a quick pitch. The umpire holds his right hand in a stop motion towards the pitcher. The pitcher disobeys the stop sign and delivers the pitch.
This ball is already dead. A quick pitch cannot be penalized as a ball or a balk.
The stop mechanic with one hand from the plate umpire is an official mechanic. We give this signal to the pitcher instead of the two handed "time" mechanic, as the stop sign signals the pitcher that while we are not ready for the pitch, we do not need or want him to disengage the rubber.
7. R1. 1 out. 0-0 count. The pitcher is on the rubber and set to begin his delivery to the plate. The ball is currently in play. The batter is stepping into the box and has not reasonably come set. The umpire-in-chief, seeing the pitcher ready to deliver, wants to ensure the pitcher allows the batter to become set in the box and does not deliver a quick pitch. The umpire holds his right hand in a stop motion towards the pitcher. The pitcher, while waiting for the umpire, drops the ball and the ball stays in the dirt circle of the pitcher's mound.
The ball is already dead and this is not a balk.
8. R1. 1 out. 0-0 count. The pitcher is on the rubber and set to begin his delivery to the plate. The ball is currently in play. The batter is stepping into the box and has not reasonably come set. The umpire-in-chief, seeing the pitcher ready to deliver, wants to ensure the pitcher allows the batter to become set in the box and does not deliver a quick pitch. The umpire holds his right hand in a stop motion towards the pitcher. The pitcher attempts a pick-off at first base.
The ball is dead. *The Do Not Pitch mechanic means the ball is dead. Thus, a pick-off attempt can not occur.*
9. The count is full at 3 balls and 2 strikes. Which signal(s) are correct?
Left hand holds three fingers up. Right hand holds two fingers up.
The only proper mechanic is to hold up 3 fingers on your left hand and 2 on your right hand. Umpires should never give a count with one hand only.

2023 Umpire Classroom: Quiz 4- Mound Visits

1. The visiting team is in the first base dugout. In the bottom of the third inning, with a runner on 2nd base, the visiting team head coach uses a mound visit. **On the third base line** *We want to stand on the opposite side of the coaches dugout. This allows us to watch them all the way from the dugout to the mound and back to the dugout. It also positions us to most likely come up to end the conference opposite the head coach.*
2. The visiting team is in the first base dugout. In the bottom of the third inning, with a runner on 2nd base, the visiting team head coach uses a mound visit. Where should the field umpire stand during the visit? **In the shallow outfield**
3. Which umpire is responsible for counting mound visits/defensive conferences? **Plate Umpire**
4. Which umpire is responsible for ending the conference if the coach is not doing so in a timely manner? **Plate Umpire**
5. By rule, how long is a defensive conference? **Undefined**
6. Must all defensive conferences in a game be given the same amount of time? **NO**

2023 Umpire Classroom: Quiz 5- Appeals

1. The runner from first base misses second base on his way to third. With the ball still live and all playing action over, the defense wishes to appeal. Which of the following actions would result in a legal appeal with the runner being declared out?*

The defense touches the runner standing on third base with the ball.

The defense touches second base while holding the baseball.

The defense requests and is granted time and then states the runner missed second base.

2. Having missed second base, the runner is standing on third. The pitcher, before any pitch, legally attempts to pick off the runner standing on first. The coach then requests time and verbally states that the runner on third missed second base. Is this a legal appeal? **NO**.
3. R2. 2 outs. B1 hits a base hit to the outfield. R2 scores on the play but misses 3rd base. B1 is thrown out trying to get to second base and after R2 crosses the plate. After the defense leaves the field, the head coach becomes aware that the run for R2 was counted. He asks the umpire for a verbal appeal of R2 missing third base since the ball became dead with the third out. **This is not allowed. R2 scores on the play and it cannot be appealed.**
4. Using NFHS rules and after the video has ended, can the defense still appeal that the first runner (Yuli Gurriel) left third base early? **YES. Rule 8-2-5: Penalty. If the offense initiates a play before the next pitch, the defense does not lose the right to appeal.**
5. Review the following play (video). Note there is one out and runners at second and third base. Using NFHS Rules, what is the result of the play above? **The batter is out. R2 is out on appeal for not having retouched 2nd base. R3 scores. The inning is over.**

2023 Umpire Classroom: Quiz 6- Player Positioning

1. With R1 on first, F9 cuts in behind R1 for a throw from F1, who is in contact with the pitcher's plate, and receives a pickoff throw with both feet in foul territory. **This is legal.** (Rule 1.1.4)
2. With R1 on first, F3 has one foot in foul territory and one foot in fair territory when he receives a pickoff throw from F1. **This is legal.**
3. With no runner on base, F1 delivers a pitch while F3 is standing with both feet in foul territory. **This is an illegal pitch.**
4. With no runner on base, F1 delivers a pitch while F3 is standing with one foot in foul territory. **This is legal.**
5. With no runners on base, F1 delivers a pitch. The catcher is positioned behind home plate with one foot in the catcher's box, and one foot entirely outside of the box. **This is legal.**
6. With no runners on base, F1 delivers a pitch. The catcher is positioned behind home plate with both feet outside of the catcher's box when the pitch is released. **This is an illegal pitch.**

2023 Umpire Classroom: Quiz 7- Infield Fly

1. In what situations can an infield fly occur?
1 out. R1, R2 2 outs. R1, R2 1 out. R1, R3 **1 out. R1, R2, R3** 2 outs. R1, R2, R3 0 outs. R2, R3
2. Can an infielder catch an infield in the outfield? **YES**
3. Can an outfielder catch an infield fly? **YES**
4. Can a bunt be an infield fly? **NO**
5. An infield fly is a/an..
 - a. Immediate Dead Ball
 - b. Delayed Dead Ball
 - c. Live Ball**
6. In an infield fly situation, the umpire calls "infield fly" but the ball curves into foul territory and lands foul. **This is a foul ball.**
7. With a runner on 3rd base, and two outs, B1 hits a fly ball in the infield that should be caught by F4 with ordinary effort. U1 incorrectly calls out "infield fly" and the batter-runner does not attempt to advance to first. The ball is then unintentionally not caught by F4, but he picks the ball up and throws the ball to first base.
The batter-runner is out on a force-out at first base.
8. With R2 on second and R1 on first and no outs, B3 hits an infield fly (or what by rule is an infield fly), but neither umpire calls "infield fly" due to poor judgment, forgetting the situation, etc. The defense then lets the ball drop without touching it, and throws the ball to third and second base while the runners do not try to advance. The play ends with R2 on second, and R1 and the batter-runner on first.
Batter is out. R2 and R1 remain at second and first respectively.
9. Which will tell you if a ball is an infield fly? **The fielders**
10. With less than two outs and runners on 1st and 2nd, an infield fly is hit to F4 and is catchable with ordinary effort. The plate umpire sees his partner is not properly identifying the ball as an infield fly. Can the plate umpire initiate this call? **YES**

2023 Umpire Classroom: Quiz 8-Batter's Box

1. B1 takes his stance in the batter's box with his back foot entirely within the chalk of the batter's box, and his front foot entirely on and inside of the chalk of the batter's box. **LEGAL**
2. B1 takes his stance in the batter's box with his back foot entirely within the chalk of the batter's box, and his front foot partially on and partially outside of the chalk of the batter's box. **This is ILLEGAL, instruct the batter to take a legal position in the box before the pitcher delivers.**
3. B1 starts with a legal stance in the batter's box. When the pitch is delivered, the batter strides forward and his foot lands outside of the batter's box when the pitch passes him. He does not swing. **LEGAL**
4. B1 starts with a legal stance in the batter's box. When the pitch is delivered, the batter strides forward and his foot lands outside of the batter's box when the pitch passes him. He swings and misses. **LEGAL**
5. B1 starts with a legal stance in the batter's box. When the pitch is delivered, the batter strides forward and his foot lands outside of the batter's box when the pitch passes him. He swings and misses. **LEGAL**
6. B1 starts with a legal stance in the batter's box. When the pitch is delivered, the batter's foot is entirely outside of the batter's box but has not yet touched the ground when he swings and fouls off the ball. **LEGAL**
7. B1 starts with a legal stance in the batter's box. When the pitch is delivered, the batter foot is entirely outside of the batter's box and in contact with the ground when he swings and fouls off the ball. **This is illegal, the batter is out.**
8. With R1 on first base, B2 illegally hits a pitch that goes toward F6 and F4 obstructs R1 advancing to second base. **The ball became dead immediately at the time of B2's violation.**
9. After bunting the ball, B1's bat, which is still in B1's hand, unintentionally strikes the ball a second time in fair territory while B1 is still in the batter's box. **This is a foul ball.**
10. B1 squares to bunt and hits the pitch. The batted ball bounces off the plate and hits B1's bat a second time while B1 is holding the bat in the batter's box. **This is a foul ball.**

2023 Umpire Classroom: Quiz 9-Catcher Obstruction

1. R2 is on second. F2 obstructs B2 but he hits and reaches first safely. R2, who was not moving on the pitch, is thrown out at home plate. **The result of the play stands.**
2. R2 is on second base and does not attempt to advance on the pitch. After B2 takes his position in the batter's box, F2 clearly reaches out over home plate after F1 has made a movement that has committed him to pitch. The batter does not swing. **This is catcher's obstruction. R2 stays at second. B2 is awarded first base.**
3. R2 is on second base and stealing on the pitch. F2 sees the stealing runner and reaches out over home plate to receive the pitch and attempt to throw out R2 at third. The batter does not swing. **This is catcher's obstruction. R2 is awarded third. B2 is awarded first base.**
4. R2 is on second with one out. F2 obstructs B3, but he hits a ground ball to F4 who throws him out. F3 overthrows third in attempt to retire R2 who scores on overthrow. **This is a delayed dead ball.**
5. R2 is on second with one out. F2 obstructs B3, but he hits a ground ball to F4 who throws him out. F3 overthrows third in attempt to retire R2 who scores on overthrow. After the playing action ends and time is called, the umpires should: **Award the batter runner first, and place R2 back at second. Then give coach opportunity to take result of play.**
6. With the bases loaded and the infield-fly rule in effect, F2 obstructs the batter's swing which results in a high fly ball. Umpires invoke the infield-fly rule. The ball is caught. **The batter is awarded first base, each runner will be awarded one base because of the force situation.**
7. R3 is on third base and R2 on second base, with one out. F2 obstructs B4 who hits a ground ball to F4. R2 was attempting to steal third, even though third was occupied. B4 is thrown out at first on the play. R3 scores and R2 reaches third. After play ends and "time" is called: **Award B4 first. Score R3 and award R2 third base. The offensive coach may request to take the results of the play.**
8. With R2 on second and R1 on first and one out, B4 hits a pop fly to the second baseman that is declared a legal infield fly. During B's swing, F2 obstructed the swing with his mitt. The defense does not catch the ball, and R2 scores with R1 advancing to third base. B4 ends up on second base. After play ends and "time" is called: **Enforce the obstruction penalty. Award B1 first, R2 is forced to third and R1 is advanced to second. The offensive coach may take the results of the play.**