

Ray,

Just going through my notes and your talking points from last Monday prior to the meeting with the coaches on Weds., I wanted to confirm my understanding of the pitcher going to his mouth.

1. Situation – No runners on; pitcher goes to mouth, wipes off and then engages the pitchers plate – NO Violation
2. Situation – No runners on; pitcher goes to mouth, doesn't wipe off and then engages the pitchers plate – Violation – BALL is charged
3. Situation – R1 – pitcher off plate goes to mouth, doesn't wipe off and then engages the pitchers plate – Violation – Ball is charged
4. Situation – R1 – pitcher on plate goes to mouth – A balk is called regardless of whether he wipes off before touching ball or not.
5. Situation – No runners ; pitcher in windup on pitchers plate goes to mouth; regardless of whether he wipes off or not before touching ball – Violation – A Ball is charged.

Ray, please confirm if I am correct in the rule interpretations above.

Thanks,
Bill

From: Tatelman [mailto:tatelman@cox.net]
Sent: Sunday, March 09, 2008 8:21 AM
To: 'Ray Faustich'
Subject: RE: Misc.

Thanks Ray.

Bill

From: Ray Faustich [mailto:rayf@dei-cp.com]
Sent: Sunday, March 09, 2008 12:09 AM
To: 'Tatelman'
Subject: RE: Misc.

1. As soon as the umpire recognizes the fact that the pitcher does not have his pitching hand behind his back or at his side.
A "symptom" of this would be the instant that he makes any movement with the pitching hand that simulates the beginning of his stretch.
2. In NFHS rules obstruction is always a delayed dead ball (including obstruction on the batter/runner). Whether a play is being made on the runner is immaterial.
As soon as the obstruction occur the delayed dead ball signal (left fist and arm extended) and a vocal indication ("that's obstruction") is given. When all action has come to a conclusion awards are made.

From: Tatelman [mailto:tatelman@cox.net]
Sent: Saturday, March 08, 2008 4:11 PM
To: 'Ray Faustich'
Subject: RE: Misc.

Ray,

A quick clarification on the “gorilla arm” with the pitcher in the set position. When does the umpire call time and rule a balk? As soon as he sees the pitcher swinging his pitching arm? If not, when?

Also, mechanics question – when there is obstruction on a runner that a play is being made on, do you recommend verbally saying, “that’s obstruction and pointing” until the play is over and then calling time for determining base awards? I can see using the left arm straight out with fist when a runner not being played on is obstructed. What do you recommend?

Thanks,
Bill

From: Ray Faustich [mailto:rayf@dei-cp.com]

Sent: Thursday, March 06, 2008 9:17 PM

To: 'Tatelman'

Subject: RE: Misc.

Hi Bill,

I have not found anything to back up my claim that the ball becomes dead and I checked with the NFHS Rules Chairman and he said the same, the ball remains live (a delayed dead ball) I must have been thinking of the Pro Ball Rule.

Sorry about the confusion. I will blame it on the late hour and my rapidly approaching dementia.

Best wishes on your Hartford Board presentation.

Ray

From: Tatelman [mailto:tatelman@cox.net]

Sent: Thursday, March 06, 2008 6:26 PM

To: RayF@dei-cp.com

Subject: Misc.

Ray,

Thanks for presenting the material on Monday. Knowing some of the umpires on our Board, I can't wait for their numerous “what ifs” on the defensive player “denying access” to the base. Were you able to locate anything in the High School rules to indicate that obstruction on the BR before he reaches 1B being a dead ball? I was unable to find anything other than a delayed dead ball.

I'll let you know how our meeting goes on the 17th. I will be meeting with the coaches next Weds.

Regards,
Bill