

OSAA Softball SRI Bulletin # 2

Fellow Umpires and Administrators,

We are more than half way through the softball season. The weather has been a bit of a challenge this spring. I know we need the rain in parts of Oregon, but we also need some more sun. I hope everyone is getting their scheduled games in or is rescheduling games when necessary.

This year I have received several great questions. I thought I would share some of them in this SRI Bulletin to give everyone the rule answers I provided.

1. Pitching:

Q: Is the pitcher allowed to have her pivot foot heel up to the front of the pitcher's plate prior to starting her delivery?

A: No - Rule 6.1. Art 1. – Prior to starting the delivery, the pitcher shall take a position with the pivot foot on or partially on the top surface of the pitcher's plate and the non-pivot foot in contact with or behind the pitcher's plate.

2. Hit Batter – no swing

Q: Is the batter placed on 1st base if the ball hits her while she has the bat over the plate, but makes no attempt to bunt?

A: Rule 8. 1 Art 2 b & c. There are several rules that govern "hit by pitch" in this rule it has a fair amount of judgement involved. If the batter does or doesn't move or does or doesn't attempt to move may influence the outcome of the pitch hitting her. Please read this section fully to understand all the options.

3. Base running:

Q: Is the baserunner out when she leaves a base without being put out first?

A: Rule 8.3. Art 1 through Art 11 govern a baserunner "after" she has obtained a base or has been past a first base (assumed to have touched) that she has earned the right to occupy. The baserunner may do several things, as long as she does not violate these requirements. The exception is Rule 8.6. Art 19. She abandons the base by entering dead-ball territory.

4. Charged Conferences:

Q: If a pitcher is getting signs from her coach in the dugout and the pitcher calls time because she can't understand the sign and wants clarification from her coach. Is that a charged conference?

A: Yes Rule 3. 7 Art 1. A request for time for a conference may be made by a coach, player, substitute, or bench personnel. This indicates the coach and player do not have to come

together to be charged for a conference. When time is requested to confer with her coach, that constitutes a charged conference.

Here are a few other announcements that are important to the softball schedules.

1. OSAA Sportsmanship nominations. Please submit your sportsmanship nominations at <http://www.osaa.org/officials/sportsmanship>
2. Association of the Year. Please send to Kelly Foster (kellyf@osaa.org).
3. Official of the year in Softball. John Garrett will be sending out a request for nominations of Umpire of the year. Please think about nomination some deserving officials.
4. Championship umpire selections. It is time to select you umpires for championship assignments.
5. OCEP Training May 4, 2019 Keizer, OR 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM. Please dress in uniform and bring plate gear. Lunch provided, no cost.
6. State Championships are in Eugene at Jane Sanders Stadium. I hope to see everyone come and support the umpires working in the state championships.

That's it for now. Have a great rest of the season.

Sincerely,

John Christensen
OSAA Softball SRI