

Oregon School Activities Association

Softball SRI Bulletin / February 24, 2015

2015 – NFHS RULE CHANGES

1-6-1 – The batting helmet shall have a non-glare (*not mirror-like*) surface.

1-7-1 – The catcher’s helmet shall have a non-glare (*not mirror-like*) surface.

During equipment check, the umpires notice a batting helmet(s) and/or catcher’s helmet with a glare (*mirror-like surface*). **RULING:** Inform the head coach the helmets are illegal and cannot be used in the game.

2015 – NFHS POINTS OF EMPHASIS

ELECTRONIC DEVICES – An electronic device is defined as any device that accomplishes its purpose electronically. **Rule 1-8-6** allows for team personnel to utilize technology to transmit or record information pertaining **ONLY** to their players or team’s performance within their *dugout or bench* area. The information from an electronic device may be used for coaching purposes during the game, but **only** in the *team’s dugout or bench* area. **DURING THE GAME, NO ELECTRONIC DEVICES ARE ALLOWED ON THE FIELD TO VIDEO RECORD.** **Rule 3-6-10** allows for stopwatches and electronic scorekeeping devices in the coaching box. **Rule 3-6-11 prohibits** the use of any information obtained from an electronic device to *review a decision made by an umpire.* *Any video recording solely targeting the actions of the opponent is prohibited.*

INTERFERENCE (offense) – Interference is defined as an act (*physical or verbal*) by a member of the team at bat that *illegally impedes, hinders or confuses* any fielder, or when a runner creates malicious contact with any fielder with or without the ball, on or out of the baseline.

OBSTRUCTION (defense) – Obstruction is defined as the act of a *defensive team members that hinders or impedes* the progress of a batter’s attempt to make contact with a pitched ball or that *impedes* the progress of a runner or batter-runner who is legally running the bases, unless the fielder is in *POSSESSION* of the ball or is make the *INTIAL PLAY* on a batted ball. *The act may be intentional or unintentional, physical or verbal.*

Larry Harwood, OSAA State Rules Interpreter
larryharwood@comcast.net
541-463-1760