

# Oregon School Activities Association

Softball SRI Bulletin / March 20, 2018

## One Rule, One Mechanic, One Interpretation

Welcome to the 2018 softball season. The season has started and we are currently making our way through the rain and snow that seems to be hanging around this spring. Please be sure to complete your registration and testing processes so you assigner can get you into the opening weeks of the seasons schedule.

Reminders for a successful season ahead:

1. Check your protective gear and uniforms. When you get those first few game assignments, you're ready to start the season prepared for the game.
2. Study the rules and remember the new rules for the 2018 season. **(See below)**
3. Review the DP/Flex rule so you're confident in your knowledge when it is being used in the game.
4. Know the interrupted contest procedure just in case of weather, darkness, or any other circumstance that might happen while calling a contest.
5. Keep yourself in good physical condition for calling High School softball games.

OSAA is currently providing four OCEP certification clinics in the following locations. This is a requirement for post-season assignments and championship play at the end of the season.

**Pendleton – March 11<sup>th</sup>** – Very successful clinic was well attended with 16 umpires at Pendleton High School.

Thank you, Rick Jaggars, for organizing the event.

**Bend – March 17<sup>th</sup>** – Made it through the snow on the passes and trained/certified 12 umpires at Bend High School. Thank you, Bob Reichert and John Proud, for organizing the event.

**Springfield – April 7<sup>th</sup>** – Going to be at the Woodworkers Union Hall 1116 South A Street, Springfield. Thank you, Dale Shrum and David Blake, for organizing the event.

**Portland – April 28<sup>th</sup>** at Century High School. Thank you, Jim Miles and Dennis Erickson, for organizing the event.

### **New Rules include:**

**Intentional Walk - 2-65-2, 8-1-1c, 8-4-3a, 9-6-2:** The coach, pitcher or catcher of the defensive team may request an intentional walk either before or during the pitch count.

**Wristband/Playbook 3-2-7c:** Language was added to address the use and placement of the wristband playbook/play card and defines this item as a piece of equipment. It also addresses restrictions on color.

**Umpires and no inspection of Equipment - 3-2-15, 10-2-3a:** This change removes the responsibility of the umpires to inspect equipment prior to the start of the game. Rule 4-1-2d already requires head coaches to verify that their players are legally and properly equipped.

**Additional Warm-up Pitches - 3-7-1 NOTE, 6-2-5 NOTE 2:** Added language provides umpires with the authority to allow a reasonable number of warm-up pitches to an incoming pitcher due to circumstances that require a pitcher to be removed by rule.

**Pitcher step back - 6-1-2b:** The pitcher may now step back with the non-pivot foot at any time prior to the start of the pitch.

**Restricted Alcohol/Tobacco use 3-6-12, 10-1-6:** Language provides clarity and consistency for restriction of alcohol and tobacco use by participants and officials.

**Attempt to avoid being hit by pitch - 8-1-2:** This change requires the batter to make an attempt to avoid being hit by a pitched ball in the area between the plate and the batter's box. This portion of the rule had been inadvertently omitted.

Have a great season!

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