

Oregon School Activities Association

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CASE PLAYS

Are Chinstraps Required? - Play: Fast Pitch. Team B claims that team A's offensive batting helmets are **illegal** because they are not equipped with **chinstraps** to keep the helmet in proper position and keep them from falling off during playing action. Team A's coach states the batting helmets are **legal** and that **chinstraps are not required**. Are chinstraps required on batting helmets? Ruling: In **NFHS**, **chinstraps** are not required on offensive batting helmets. **NFHS 1-6**.

Fielder Simulates Fielding Ball – Play: With R1 on first base, B2 hits safely to center field. F4 simulates fielding a ground ball to deceive the runner that she is about to field a batted ball. **Should obstruction be called?** Ruling: A fielder that simulates fielding a batted ball has **not** committed an infraction nor is considered faking a tag. **NFHS 2-36; 8-4-3b Pen.**

Runner Contacts Catcher – Play: The bases are loaded with no outs. B4 hits a hard smash to F4 whose throw to the plate is low and wide to the first base side of the plate. The throw draws F2 off the base. R1 is safe at the plate but she accidentally contacts F2 as she is recovering the ball and attempts a play on B4 after her wide turn a first base. While R1's contact is accidental, F2 is unable to complete her throw. Ruling: In **NFHS**, the ball is **dead** and R2, the runner **closest** to home, is declared out. **NFHS 8-6-16c**.

Runner Collides with Fielder – Play: R1 is on third base and R2 is on first base with no outs. B3, with a 1-1 count, hits a fair fly ball near the foul line about eight feet on the home plate side of third base. As F5 settles under the ball, R1 bumps F5 causing her to drop the ball. **Which runner(s) are out in this situation?** Ruling: In **NFHS**, R1 is out for interference and the ball is **dead**. B3 is awarded first base and R2 is advanced to second. **Play resumes with 1 out.** **NFHS 8-6-10a Pen.; 8-6-10d.**

Batter Interferes with Catcher – Play: Fast pitch. R1 is on third and R2 is on first with no outs as B3 bats with a 1-2 count, R2 breaks for second as B3 strikes out. However, B3's momentum causes her to move in front of the plate and interfere with F2's throw to second. R1 is off third base by about 20 feet at the time of the throw. **Is B3 out?** Ruling: In **NFHS**, B3 is out, the ball is **dead** and R1 is declared **out** for B3's interference. R2 is returned to first base. **NFHS 7-4-4; 5-1-1e; 8-2-6.**

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