

May 5, 2025 – Softball Announcements

Seeding Date

3A and 2-1A will seed May 14. Games played on May 13 will count towards the regional record. 6A, 5A and 4A will seed on May 17. Games played on May 16 will count towards the regional record.

NFHS Softball Questionnaire

Coaches were emailed the link to fill out the NFHS Questionnaire. Please have this done by May 13.

When May a Runner Leave the Base on a Tag Up

Let's look at Rule 8-4-1e: Runners may advance with liability to be put out when: a legally caught fly ball is first touched by any defensive player.

So, a runner taking up legally could be released to advance without penalty when it is first touched by the fielder.

Other Situations

Situation: Team A is at bat with R1 on second base and no outs. B2 hits a long fly ball that hits the fence in fair territory. As R1 is rounding third base, F2 is setup blocking home plate. As R1 nears home plate F2 moves in front of the plate to catch the incoming throw. After possessing the ball F2 moves back to a position where they are blocking home plate and tags R1 out as they are sliding into home plate. The umpire rules R1 out. Team A's coach claims obstruction should have been called and R1 awarded home plate as F2 had been blocking the plate without possession of the ball. The umpire rules that R1 was not impeded by F2's actions prior to them having possession of the ball and therefore there was no obstruction. **RULING:** Correct ruling by the umpire. (2-35, 8-4-3b)

Situation: Team A is at bat with R1 on second base and no outs. B2 drives a base hit up the middle that F8 fields cleanly. As R1 is rounding third base they are obstructed between third base and home plate, the umpire signals obstruction. R1 continues on toward home where they are tagged out easily by F2. The umpire rules a dead ball when R1 is tagged out between third base and home, announces the obstruction and places R1 back on third base, the base they would have reached in the umpire's judgement had there been no obstruction. Team B's coach believes that R1 was going to be obviously out and the obstruction should be cancelled and the runner remain out at the plate. **RULING:** Correct ruling by the umpire. (2-35, 8-4-3b)