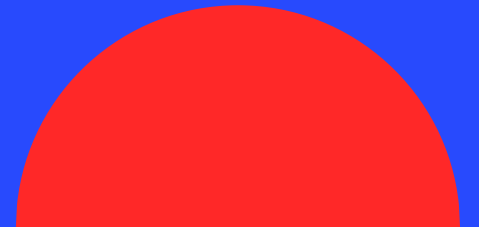
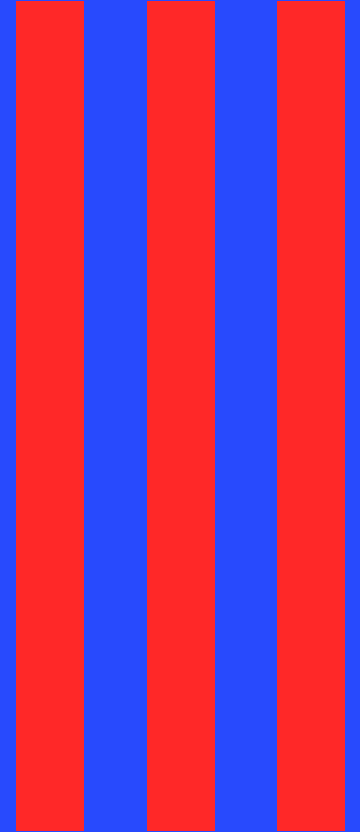


EMBUA

NFHS Baseball Rules

- Communication devices
- Malicious contact
- Points of emphasis

March 4, 2024



Introduction

- ✓ 1-6-1 (NEW) - Clarified that wristbands that are non-electronic shall be worn on the wrist or forearm of a player and certain colors are restricted
- ✓ 1.6-2 (NEW), 3.2-5 (NEW) - Modified that one-way electronic communication devices are permitted from the dugout/bench to the catcher
- ✓ 10.2.3h - Clarified the authority of the umpire as it relates to spectators
- ✓ Malicious contact as point of emphasis

Communication devices

- Worn on the wrist or forearm.
 - A single, solid color. (other than the pitcher don't get hung upon this)
 - For pitchers, it may not contain the colors white, gray or be distracting.
 - It does not have to match the color of the uniform, or the sleeves worn underneath the uniform.
 - Pitchers must wear it on their non-pitching arm
-
- **PENALTY:** The umpire shall issue a **team warning** to coach of the team involved and the next offender(s) of that team will be ejected along with the head coach

COMMUNICATION DEVICES

PREVENTATIVE MEASURES:

- PREGAME MEETING
- TEAM WARNING
- EJECT THE OFFENDER, BUT TRY TO ONLY GET HEAD COACH

- CARD IN BACK POCKET? ALLOWED
- WRITING INSIDE HAT? ALLOWED

COMMUNICATION DEVICES

CASE PLAYS AND EXAMPLES:

- 1.6.1 SITUATION :The pitcher is wearing a wristband on the non-throwing arm with defensive/pitch information attached. In (a), the wristband is a single solid color that is not white/gray, not distracting, and has a white card listing pitch choices. In (b), the wristband is a single solid color that is not white/gray, not distracting, and has a red card listing pitch choices.

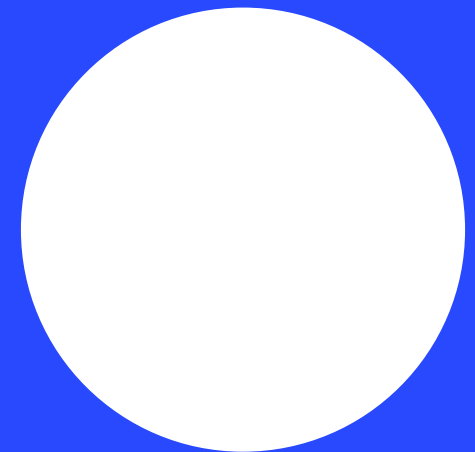
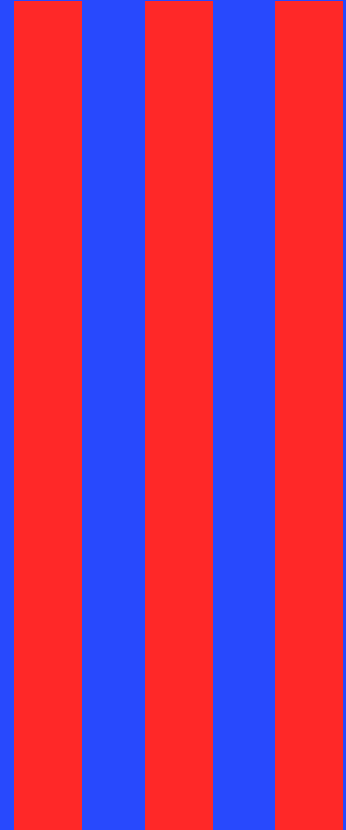
COMMUNICATION DEVICES

RULING: In (a), the equipment is illegal and must be removed unless the white card is covered by a flap that matches the color of the wrist band. In (b), the equipment is legal since the card is not white/gray

COMMUNICATION DEVICES

ART. 2. . . One-way electronic communication devices are permissible from the dugout to the catcher while the team is on defense for the purpose of calling pitches. When using the electronic Communication device, the coach cannot be outside the dugout/bench area.

PENALTY: The umpire shall issue a team warning to coach of the team involved and the next offender(s) of that team will be ejected along with the head coach



COMMUNICATION DEVICES

PREVENTATIVE MEASURES

- Pre-game meeting–Is all equipment legal?
- Issue a team warning. This is not a bench restriction for head coach.
- If they are using two-way communication device:
 - Remove that device
 - Warn the head coach–this is not a bench restriction
 - Try to eject the head coach only

COMMUNICATION DEVICES

1.6.2 SITUATION: Team A's head coach and the pitching coach both want to have access to the electronic communication device to communicate with the team's catcher.

RULING: No, only one communication device is allowed in the dugout/bench area. Either the head coach or the pitching coach is allowed access to the device

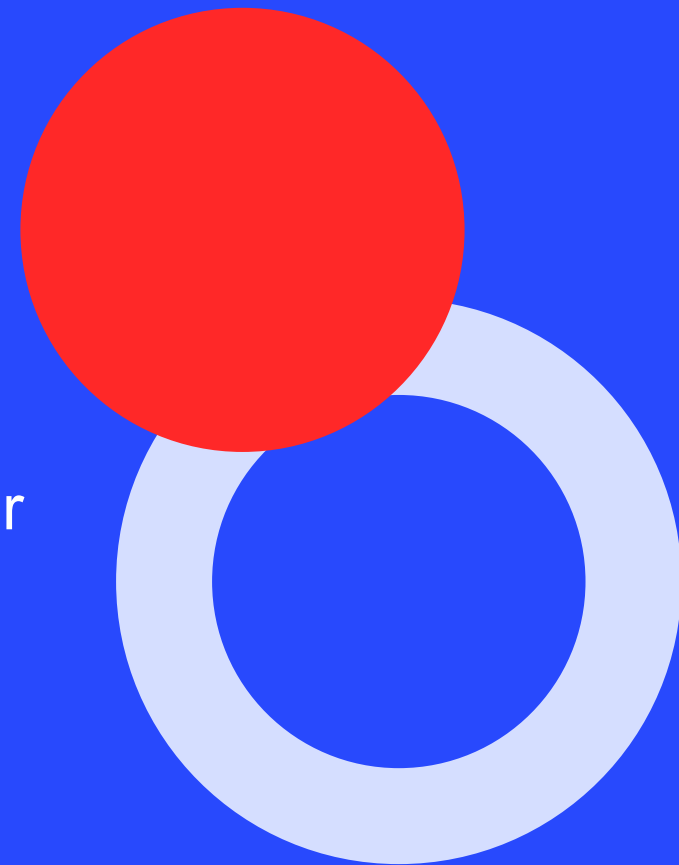
1.6.2 SITUATION: Both teams are using a device to communicate from the dugout to the catcher for the purpose of calling pitches. Team A's device stops working in the second inning. Is Team B allowed to continue using its device?

RULING: Yes. Since one-way electronic communication devices are not required, either or both teams are allowed to use them to communicate with the catcher for the purpose of calling pitches

COMMUNICATION DEVICES

1.6.2 SITUATION: Team A's catcher is wearing a one-way electronic communication device on the wrist. In the sixth inning, the catcher notices it is not working. (a) The catcher goes to the bench and quickly exchanges the faulty wristband for one that works correctly; (b) Team A's coach requests a time-out and visits with the catcher near home plate as they attempt to fix the electronic equipment.

RULING: Legal in (a). The team is charged with a defensive conference in (b).



UMPIRE IN CHIEF

Umpires have jurisdiction over the confines of the field, players, coaches and team/bench personnel. If there are issues with spectators, it is the responsibility of game management to deal with spectators and to ensure that the facility is safe for all involved.

PREVENTATIVE MEASURES:

- Pre-game meeting: Who is the game site administrator?
- Have the game site administrator handle the issue.
- You can't tell them how to resolve.
- If the game site administrator can't resolve the issue,
Suspend the game

MALICIOUS CONTACT

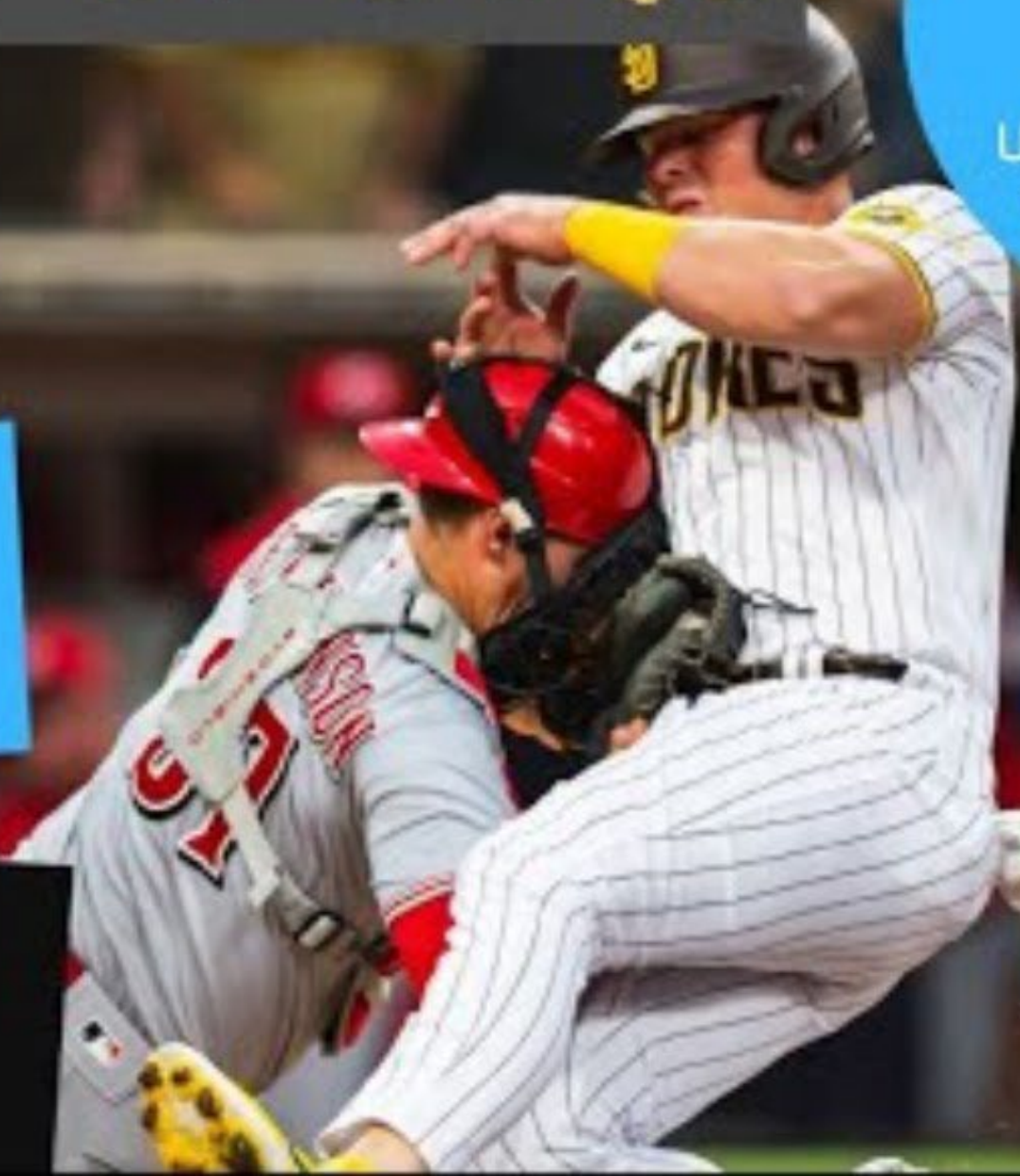
- Can be either offensive or defensive
- Contact is considered malicious if excessive force and/or intent to injure
- If neither of these conditions exist you most likely don't have an ejection
- Contact or a collision is considered to be malicious if (1) the contact is the result of intentional excessive force. and/or (2) there is intent to Injure.

Avg. Score of 67%



Malicious Contact

Rules And Case Plays!





POINTS OF EMPHASIS

PROFANITY

- **No excuse for foul language.**
- **Verbal warning, Written warning, Ejection**
- **In all of these, go to the coach and ask “Are you going to address it?”**
- **If the response isn’t there, do what the situation dictates**
- **If you are about to eject the player, try and get the coach to remove the player from the game.**



POINTS OF EMPHASIS

PACE OF PLAY

- **Pay attention - keep focus on the job at hand**
- **20 second time limit between pitches**
- **Nudge the catcher**
- **Address with the coach**
- **If no improvement after these efforts, you can apply the penalty**
- **Time between innings - 1 minute, then 20 seconds for first pitch.**



POINTS OF EMPHASIS

DH

- **10-man DH allows for pinch hitters, runners to become DH**
- **9-man DH no other person can be DH, no courtesy runner**

Courtesy Runner

- **Any eligible substitute, cannot be the same for pitcher/catcher, used at any time.**



POINTS OF EMPHASIS



Conferences

- **Three defensive conferences per game (one each extra inning) not charged if pitcher removed.**
- **One offensive conference per inning others permitted: if either team has a conference, the opposing team may also conference (not charged)**

Courtesy Runner

- **Any eligible substitute, cannot be the same for pitcher/catcher, used at any time.**

POINTS OF EMPHASIS



Reentry

- **All starters (including 10-man DH) can reenter once/pitcher may return as a pitcher as long as eligible**

Ten run rule

- **Legal game, equal number of at bats or mutual consent**

Eight player rule

- **Must start with nine can continue with eight/missing player ruled out when his turn at bat**

POINTS OF EMPHASIS

Appeals

- **Runner can correct base running mistake**
- **Dead ball appeal needs only to be verbal**
- **Play initiated by offense does not negate appeal**



NEXT MEETING

- **Monday 5/11**
- **Please be sure to have your dues paid**
- **This will be the meeting with the NFHS test, so anyone working HS in 2024 needs to be in attendance.**
- **The scholarship forms are due at this time as well**

