



Dear Coordinators:

With many of you having umpires working fall baseball, I thought it was important to get this memo out to everyone involving our new half-swing mechanics for 2012.

It is important that each of our coordinators, regional advisors and NCAA staff notify their conference offices, coaches, sports information directors and media that the NCAA has decided to change the previous practice of the home plate umpire going for help on a "half-swing" to the base umpire on the "open" side of the batter.

In the past, if a right handed batter tried to check his swing, the HP would go for help to the first base umpire in a 3-man system and would always go for help to the third base umpire for a left-handed batter.

Effective with the 2012 season, if the HP umpire goes for help on a half-swing with runners on base, he will always appeal to the base umpire that is standing on the foul line and will not seek help from a base umpire who is positioned within the middle of the infield. There will be no change with no runners on base.

I would appreciate each of you taking the time to forward this email to your conference staff, coaches and media/sports information directors. Additionally, it might also be a good idea to forward this email to those folks that will be assigning NCAA Fall/Winter baseball scrimmages as well as instructors that will be conducting clinics that involve NCAA umpires. It is very important that not only the umpires are aware of this change, but also the media and administrators as well.

If you have any further questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me directly regarding this change of mechanics for the 2012 season.

Regards,

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