



## Interpretations – Coordinator’s Conference Call

Wed., Feb. 2, 2011

1. Color of glove used by the pitcher: Rule 1-13c, AR 2, p. 23. The pitcher’s glove must be black or brown.

Interpretations:

- a. Tan is a legal color.
- b. Bone is not a legal color. Bone is a shade of white/ivory.
- c. All laces must be of a legal color.
- d. For 2011-2012 seasons, a glove containing black and brown tan) is legal. More often it is referred to as a two-tone glove.

2. Pitch Clock Protocol, p. 141: May a pitcher violate the 20-second rule four consecutive times thus allowing a hitter an “intentional base-on-balls” without throwing a pitch and risking throwing the ball away?

Interpretation: Yes, currently that is legal.

3. Wood Composite Bats: Are these bats required to display the BBCOR stamp or screen?

Interpretation: Yes, the bats BBCOR Certification stamp should be affixed at the factory before the bats are shipped to suppliers or schools.

Rationale: A wood composite does not meet the rule that all wood bats must be of a one-piece solid core.

4. May a team video its own games and from where? Rule 5-2f, p. 54.

Interpretation: Non-uniformed players may video their team’s games from the stands. Videoing is restricted to the area from the outfield cut-out behind first base to the outfield cut-out behind third base. No communication may occur from the players in the stands to the dugout or players on the field. Videoing is confined to one’s own team.

5. May advertising be placed on a foul pole and the attached screen?

Interpretation: Yes, there is no rule in place prohibiting this. A venue must be careful to not allow any advertising to compromise the intended purpose of the foul pole, that is, to assist the umpires in determining if a batted ball was fair or foul.

6. Regarding a bunted foul pop-up with two strikes on the batter: if the ball is caught, may the defense attempt to complete a double play when a runner is caught off base?

Interpretation: Yes. According to Jaksa-Roder, “caught over foul ground is not the same as a foul ball.” Therefore, just because the ball was over foul ground, it is not a foul ball for the purpose of administering “the bunting a ball foul with two strikes on the hitter” rule. A batter is out when his third strike is uncaught because it was bunted foul,” (6.05d, PBR Rules)

P.O. Box 6222

Indianapolis, Indiana 46206

Telephone: 317/917-6222

Shipping/Overnight Address:

1802 Alonzo Watford Sr. Drive

Indianapolis, Indiana 46202

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7. After touching home plate, with the ball still “live” can a following runner, who has successfully touched home plate, grab a preceding runner that missed home plate and get the preceding runner to return to touch home plate.

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Interpretation: Rule 8-6a, AR 3, p. 102. “No runner may return to touch a missed base after a following runner has scored.” However, there is no language in NCAA rules that prevent another player assisting to redirect another teammate. Our rules only prevent a coach from assisting a player. The defense may appeal the lead runner’s missing of home since the runner may not legally return to touch the missed base.

8. From the wind-up position, may a pitcher pause at the top his windup? Rule 8-1a (8) AR 2.

Interpretation: Innocuous as it seems, the pitcher is committed to pitch to be base (plate) that he is facing in the windup or to second base. Should he stop his motion, after he has committed himself to pitch and step or throw to third or first, it would be a balk.

9. May a coach use the wrist band system of calling pitches for his pitcher?

Interpretation: Yes, as long as the wrist band is completely covered by an undershirt and the band is not distracting to the hitter or the umpire. The pitcher must also adhere to the allowed body movements, by rule, when engaging his catcher or the rubber from the wind-up or set positions when using the wrist band system.

10. Inconsistency in Rules 6-4 (b), “when a legal pitch hits a runner trying to score” — **Immediate Dead Ball--Runners Advance:**

Rule 7-11s: With two outs and two strikes on the batter, a legal pitch hits the runner in the strike zone, the umpire will call strike three, the batter is out and no run scores.

“With fewer than two outs, the umpire shall call strike three; the **ball is dead**; the run counts and **all other runners return to the base occupied at the time of the pitch.**”

11. White aluminum bats—Nike

Interpretation: currently there is no rule regarding the color “white” for a bat. Is it a safety issue for the pitcher in that his reaction time may be decreased because he does not readily pick up the ball off the bat?