

Oregon School Activities Association

Baseball SRI Bulletin – #4

Finish Strong!

Umpires;

We are heading into the playoffs next week. Many of us will be called upon to work three-person playoff games. I want to utilize my last bulletin to discuss some critical elements of Oregon's approved mechanics.

Please remember these procedures are not negotiable. It is important our crews are on the same page. This consistency will be evident from game to game, and crew to crew. It is imperative we all adhere to these mechanics, as approved by the Oregon Manual/Mechanics committee.

- Check swings are always appealed to the wing. The committee feels the best view is from the wing, and not from the middle, on potential check swings strikes.
- The home plate umpire should never leave the area of home plate in rundown situations. The base umpires should provide assistance to one another on rundown, when practical to do so.
- If the crew decides to get together regarding a call, all three umpires need to be involved in the conversation. The appealing coach must return to his position, or dugout, before the conference begins. The requesting coach will not be permitted to come out and argue again. However, the opposing coach will be entitled to approach the crew if the call is changed. Please reference page 48 of the Oregon Mechanics Manual for the proper procedure relative to conferencing about, and potentially, changing a call on the field. This procedure is important and we want to see consistency from game to game and from crew to crew.
- Remember, U1 is always in "A" position with first base occupied and/or two outs. U1 is also in "A" position with no one on base and runner on third only.
- There are no rotations on batted balls that never leave the diamond or on thrown balls (overthrows).
- An umpire has to "go out" on all trouble balls. Pause-Read-React. Make your determination quickly and decisively if going out from the middle. This mechanic requires the umpire to go out strong and stay out.
- U3 is always responsible for the "C" gap and U1 is always responsible for the "B" gap.

SMILE, HUSTLE , & BE PROFESSIONAL AT ALL TIMES.

HAVE FUN!

Tad Cockerill

OSAA State Baseball Rules Interpreter

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