



Diamond Notes

The Umpire Newsletter of the Iowa Amateur Softball Association
June 2008

Welcome to the first edition of **Diamond Notes**, the umpire newsletter of the Iowa Amateur Softball Association Umpire Program.

If you have any suggestions for future edition of this newsletter, please email me at emurphy@umpire.com.

Thanks and enjoy.

Ed Murphy, State Umpire-in-Chief
Roger Menke, JO Umpire-in-Chief

Uniforms

ASA Championship game are **mandated and required by code**, to wear ASA approved uniforms. This includes:

Caps – must have the ASA lettering on the cap. **Both** plate and base caps. The plate cap **shall** be either the 4 stitch plate or the 6 stitch combo cap. In either case, **the cap must be worn properly with the bill forward. Plain Caps are unacceptable!**

Shirts – must have the ASA lettering on the shirt. The shirt may be either the powder (light) blue or the navy blue as directed by the tournament umpire-in-chief. Most tournaments, the powder blue shirt is worn. **Plain shirts are unacceptable!**

Contact the Iowa ASA State Office (641-236-5766 to purchase your uniform items. This will assure you that you are purchasing ASA approved umpire items.

Get the respect you deserve by wearing the appropriate uniform and show the participants and fans that you are indeed an **ASA Umpire** by wearing the uniform proudly.

Overthrows/Base Awards

Rule 8-5c On a pitched ball that becomes blocked or goes out of play – one base from the time of the pitch.

Rule 8-5g On an overthrown ball that is blocked or goes out of play – **two** bases from the time of the throw. The bases are governed by the position of the runners when the ball left the hand. The direction the runner was going has no bearing on the award.

There is no wording – the base they were going to plus one.

Play – R1 on 1B, B2 hit a fly ball to F9, R1 was half way to 2B and starting back towards 1B when F9 throws the ball over the head of F3 and into the dugout. Ruling – **R1 is awarded 3B**. They already had 1B and the award is **two bases**.

The same applies to Rule 8-5J Unintentionally carrying a ball into dead ball territory (**one base**) and Rule 8-5K intentionally carrying a ball into dead ball territory (**two bases**).

Interference

Rule 8-7J When a runner interferes with the defensive opportunity to field a batted fair ball or foul fly ball, or with a fielder attempting to throw a ball, or with a thrown ball – **Effect: The ball is dead, the runner is out and any other runners must return to the last base touched at the time of the interference. The batter is awarded 1B unless in the umpire's judgement, the interference is an attempt to prevent a double play, then the batter is also out.**

Play: Bases loaded, R1 on 3B, R2 on 2B and R3 on 1B. B4 hits a ground ball to F6 (shortstop). R2 runs into F6 trying to field the batted ball. **Ruling:**

Ball is dead, R2 is out, R3 returns to 3B, R1 is awarded 2B and B4 is awarded 1B.

Does The Run Count

Play 1. Bases loaded, R1 on 3B, R2 on 2B, and R3 on 1B. Two outs. B4 hits a double.

- R1, R2 & R3 cross the plate but R1 fails to touch the plate.
- R1, R2, & R3 cross the plate but R3 fails to touch the plate.
- R1 & R2 cross the plate, R3 is thrown out at the plate for the third out and B4 misses 1B.
- Same as c (above) but with only one out.

Rulings (assuming proper appeal);

- R1 would be out, the 3rd out of the inning. No runs would score. Rule 5-5B3 No runs would score if the preceding runner is called out on appeal for the 3rd out.**
- Runs scored by R1 & R2 would count as they had scored prior to the 3rd out of the inning.**
- R1 & R2 would score. They cannot appeal B4 missing 1B to prevent runs from scoring. Rule 5-5C No runs shall be scored if the 4th out is the result of a runner that has scored.**
- No runs would count as B4 missed 1B, thus becoming a force out at 1B, the 3rd out of the inning.**

If B4 after hitting the ball falls down, and R3 gets thrown out after R1 & R2 score. B4 going to the dugout had no bearing on the play.