



2020 NFHS SOFTBALL RULES POWER POINT

National Federation of State
High School Associations



Take Part. Get Set For Life.®

Rules Changes
Major Editorial Changes
Points of Emphasis



**TEAM IP IS PROUD TO BE THE
EXCLUSIVE CORPORATE PARTNER FOR NFHS SOFTBALL**



www.teamip.com | Toll Free: 1-877-821-8643



Inc. 500 | 5000



NATIONAL FEDERATION OF STATE HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS (NFHS)





NATIONAL FEDERATION OF STATE HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS

- **VISION**

The National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) is the national leader for education-based high school athletics and activities, which prepare tomorrow's leaders for the next level of life through innovative programs, healthy participation, achievement, and development of positive relationships.





NATIONAL FEDERATION OF STATE HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS

- MISSION

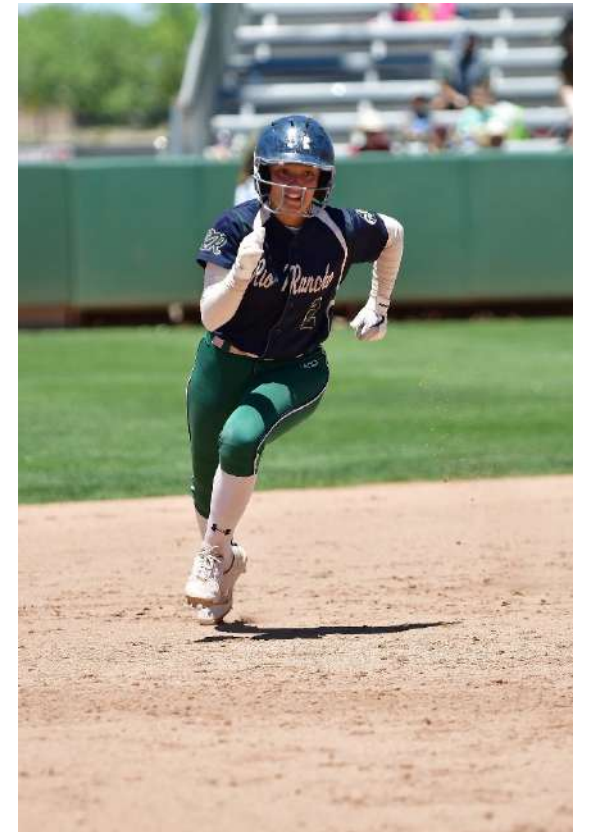
The National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) serves its members by providing leadership for the administration of education-based high school athletics and activities through the writing of playing rules that emphasize health and safety, educational programs that develop leaders, and administrative support to increase participation opportunities and promote sportsmanship.





NATIONAL FEDERATION OF STATE HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS

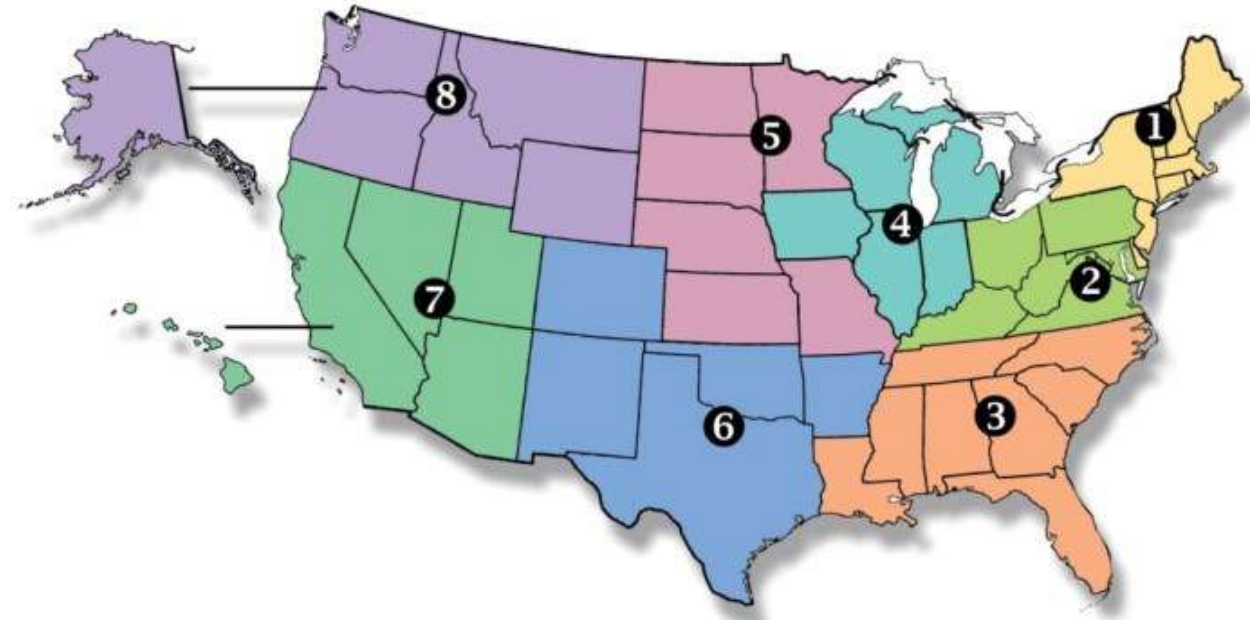
- NFHS (located in Indianapolis, IN – Est. 1920):
 - National leadership organization for high school sports and fine arts activities;
 - National authority on interscholastic activity programs.
 - Conducts national meetings;
 - Sanctions interstate events;
 - Produces national publication for high school administrators;
 - National source for interscholastic coach training and national information center.





NATIONAL FEDERATION OF STATE HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS

- Membership = 50-member state associations and D.C.
- NFHS reaches more than 19,000 high schools and 12 million participants in high school activity programs, including more than 7.8 million in high school sports.





NFHS RULES REVIEW COMMITTEE

- The NFHS Rules Review Committee is chaired by the chief operating officer and composed of all rules editors. After each committee concludes its deliberations and has adopted its recommended changes for the subsequent year, such revisions will be evaluated by the Rules Review Committee.



Davis Whitfield
Chief Operating
Officer



Lindsey Atkinson
Girls Lacrosse and
Volleyball



Bob Colgate
Football and Sports
Medicine



Sandy Searcy
Softball and
Swimming & Diving



Elliot Hopkins
Baseball and
Wrestling



Julie Cochran
Cross Country, Gymnastics,
Field Hockey and
Track & Field



James Weaver
Boys Lacrosse and Spirit



Theresia Wynns
Basketball and
Soccer



Dan Schuster
Ice Hockey



NATIONAL FEDERATION OF STATE HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS

- The NFHS writes playing rules for 17 sports for boys and girls at the high school level.
 - Publishes 4 million pieces of materials annually.





NFHS RULES BOOK AS E-BOOKS

National Federation of State High School Associations



GET NFHS RULES ON YOUR MOBILE DEVICE

Have you been without your printed rules book and needed to find an obscure rule quickly, make a note or highlight a rule?

E-books Features:

- Searchable
- Highlight Areas of Interest
- Make Notes
- Easy Navigation
- Adjustable Viewing Size
- Immediate Availability



www.nfhs.org/ebooks

NFHS Rules and Case e-books for \$6.99 each

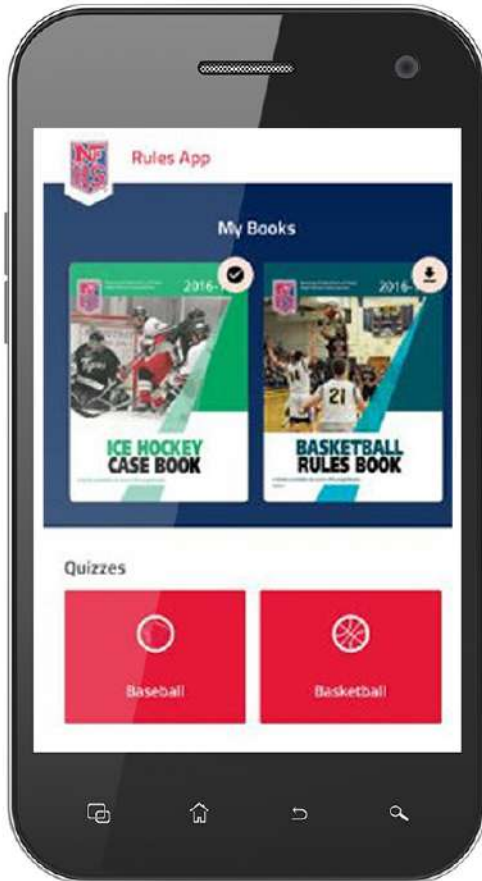
Download from iTunes or Amazon

- E-books features:
 - Searchable
 - Highlight areas of interest
 - Make notes
 - Easy navigation
 - Adjustable viewing size
 - Immediate availability





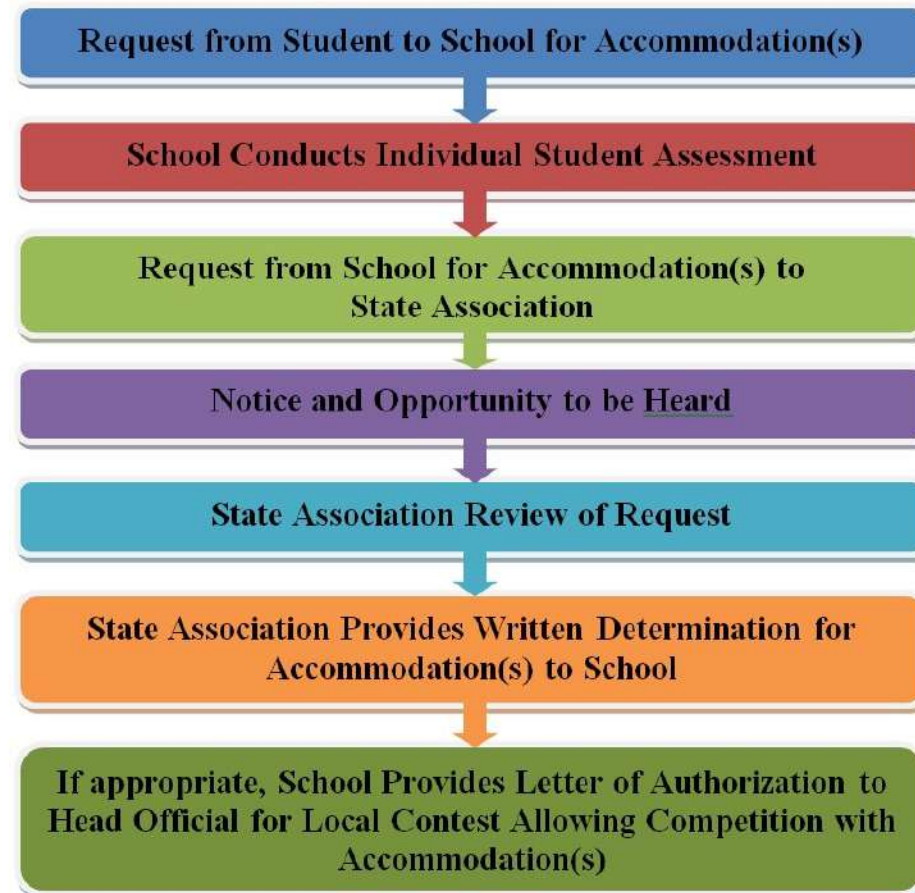
NFHS RULES APP



- Rules App features:
 - Searchable
 - Highlight notes
 - Bookmarks
 - Quizzes for all sports
 - Easy navigation
 - Immediate availability
 - Free to paid members of the NFHS Coaches and Officials Associations
 - www.nfhs.org/erules for more information



GUIDELINES FOR SCHOOLS AND STATE ASSOCIATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION OF ACCOMMODATIONS



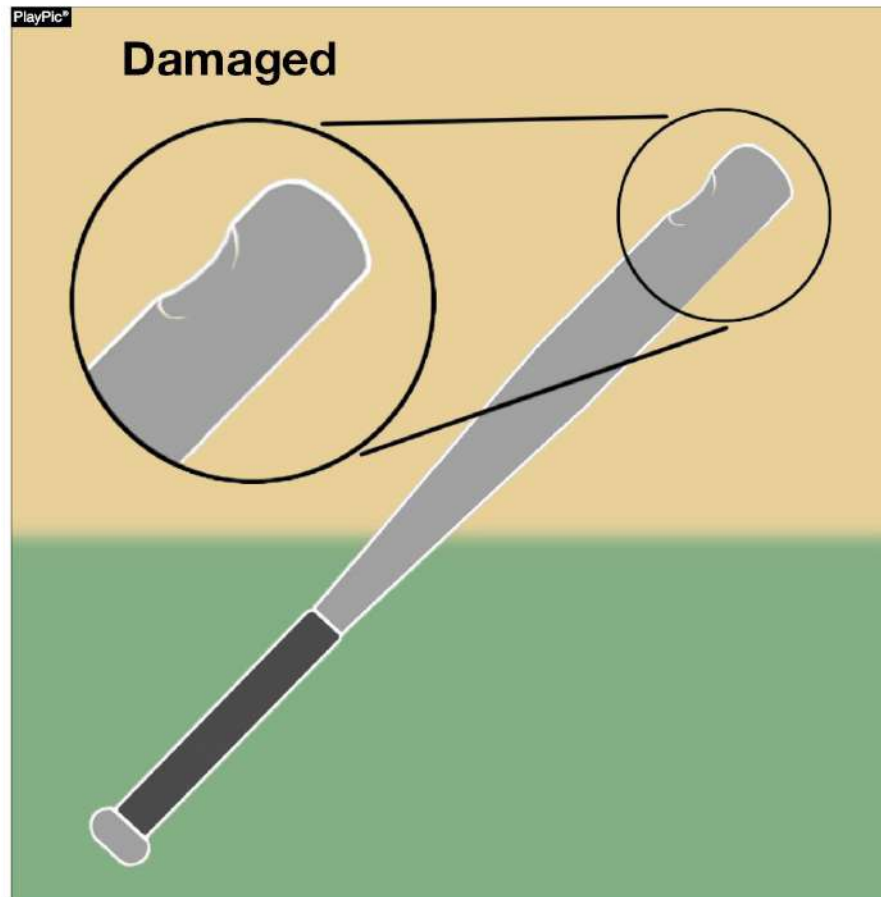


2020 NFHS SOFTBALL RULES CHANGES



BATS

RULES 1-5-1c,d,e, 2-4-3, 7-4-2 PENALTY NOTE



A damaged bat has been defined as a bat that was once legal but is now broken, cracked or dented. A damaged bat shall be removed without penalty. A bat that continually discolors the ball may be removed from the game with no penalty at the discretion of the umpire. Players who attempt to use damaged bats after they have been removed are then subject to the penalties for unsporting behavior.



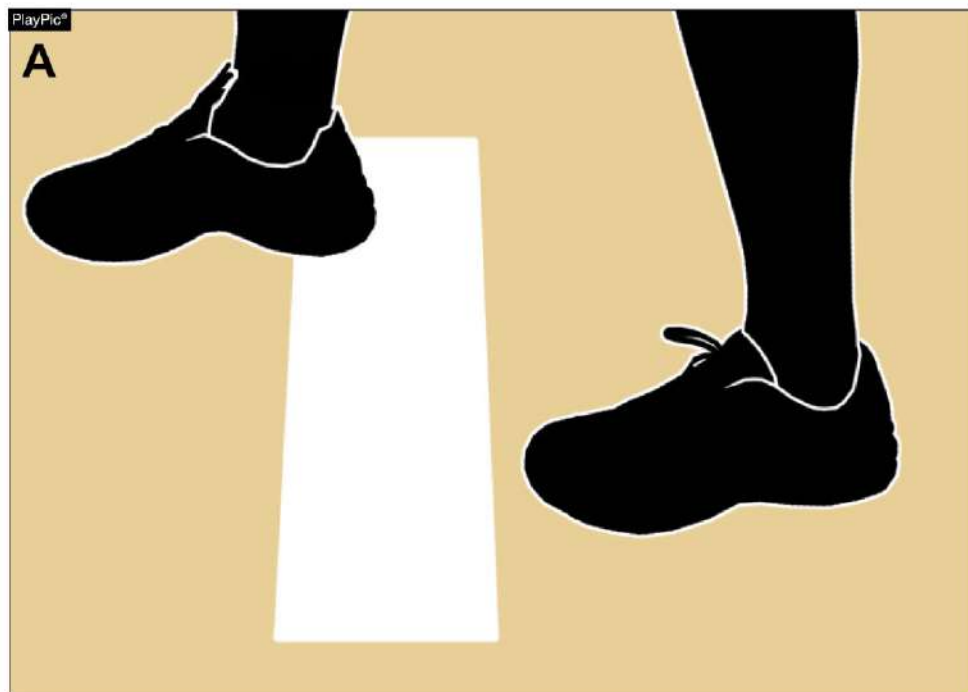
PITCHING REGULATIONS RULES 6-1-1, 6-1-2a



Whether both feet are in contact with the pitching plate (PlayPic A) or only the pivot foot is in contact with the pitching plate (PlayPic B), the pitcher shall take (or simulate taking) a signal from the catcher.



PITCHING REGULATIONS RULES 6-1-1, 6-1-2a



Because the pivot foot in PlayPic (A) and (B) is in contact with the pitcher's plate, this is legal. Previously, it was required that the pivot foot be on top of the pitcher's plate. The rule change allows it to be on top or in contact with the plate.



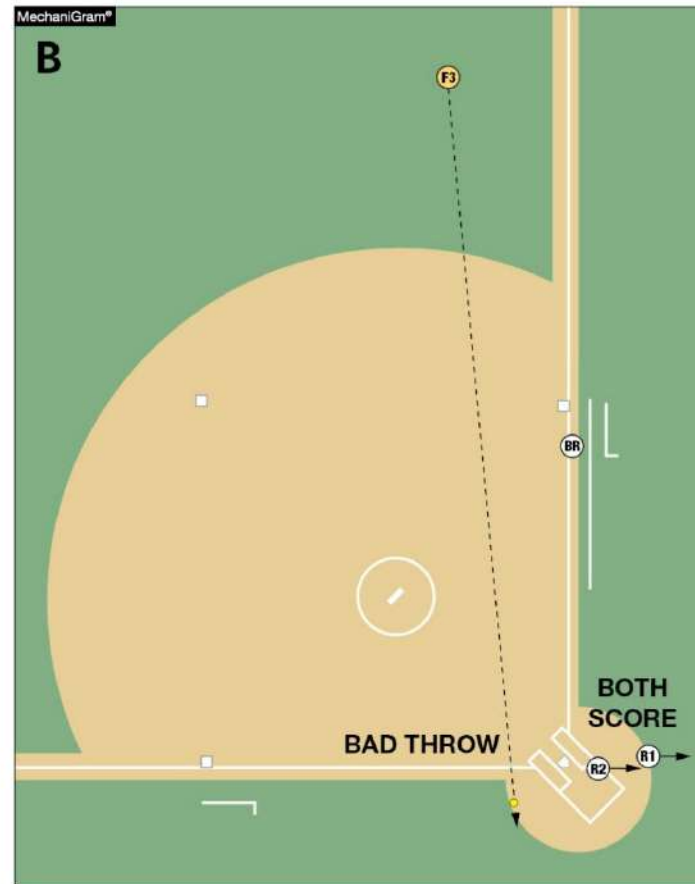
HOW A TEAM SCORES RULE 9-1-1 EXCEPTION C

- A run is not scored if the runner advances to home plate during action in which the third out is made by a preceding runner who is declared out on an appeal play.
- Previous wording only described a runner failing to touch a base. This new wording makes it clear that if the preceding runner is called out for any appeal play, the following runs would not score.





HOW A TEAM SCORES RULE 9-1-1 EXCEPTION C



In MechaniGram A, the fly ball is caught for the second out. Both runners tag. R1 on third base leaves early and scores, R2 on second base leaves legally to advance to third base. In MechaniGram B, the throw is over the defensive player's head and R2 scores. The defense then appeals that R1 left early. No runs score since R1 is declared out and no runner can score if the preceding runner is called out on appeal for the third out of the inning.

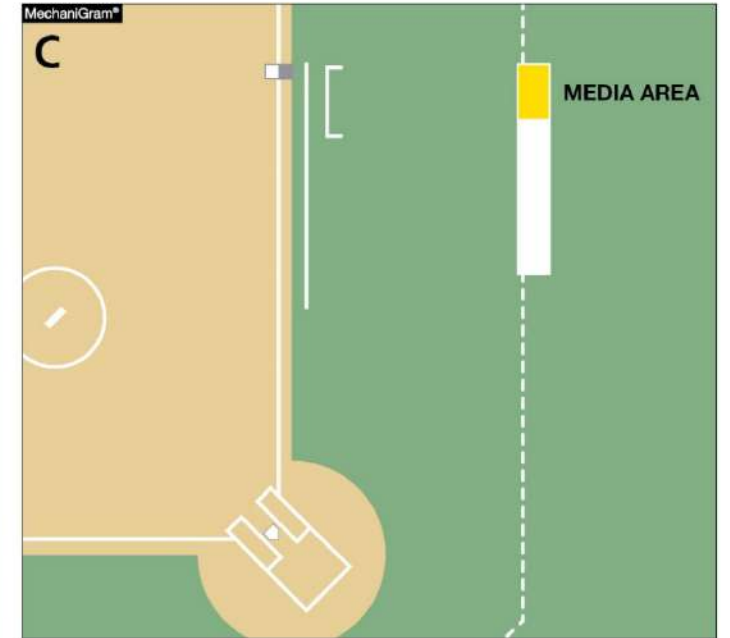
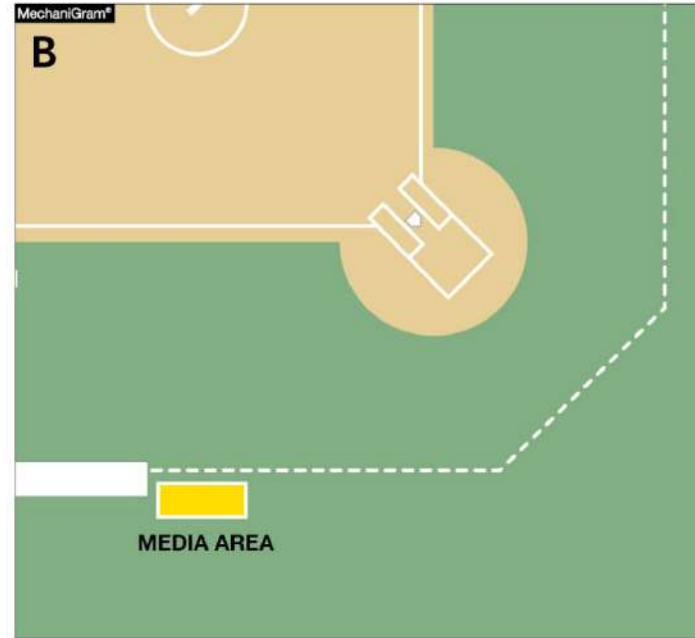
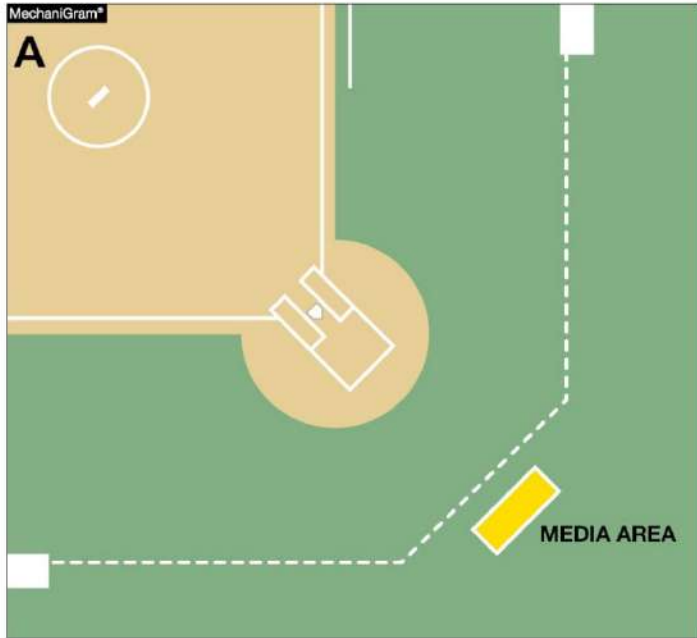


2020 NFHS SOFTBALL MAJOR EDITORIAL CHANGES





THE FIELD RULE 1-1-7



Game management or a state administrator may establish a media area as needed.





FIELD AND EQUIPMENT RULE 1-5-1d

- Updates to add the new USA Softball All Games certification mark.
- This new mark is very similar to the 2004 ASA Softball Logo just with USA Softball wording.
- This new mark will begin to be seen in 2020 and beyond.

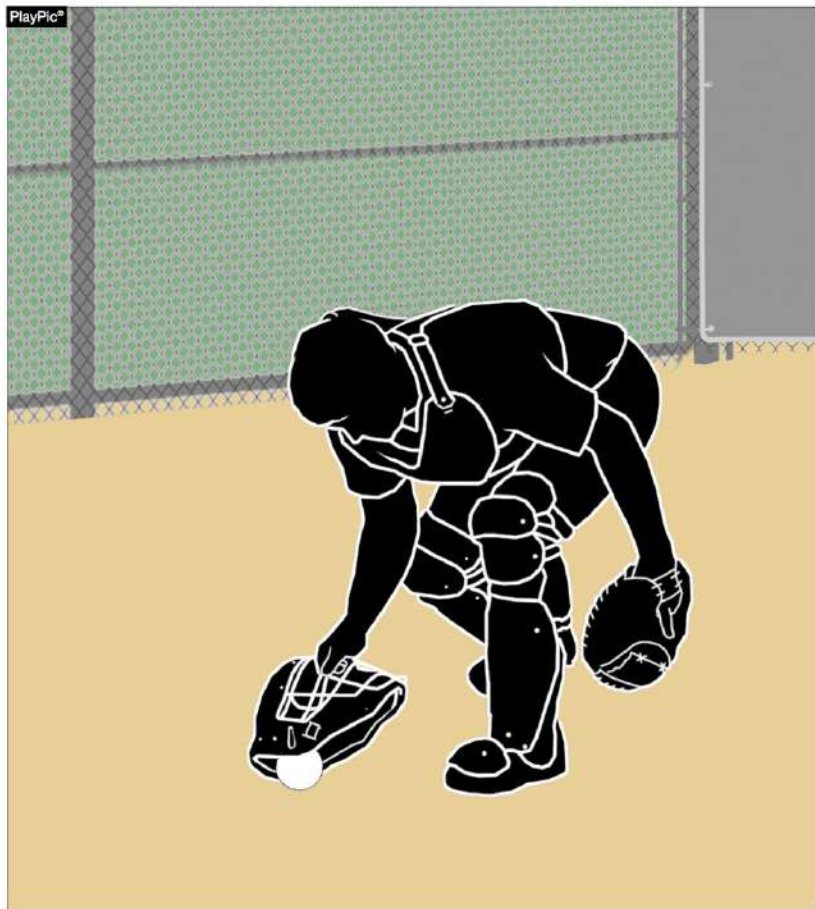


All Games





RUNNERS ENTITLED TO ADVANCE RULE 8-4-3d PENALTY



Language was clarified to indicate that when F2 stops a wild pitch or passed ball with detached equipment, the batter is not awarded bases. But if that pitch completed the batter's turn at bat, the batter-runner is awarded first base.



2020 NFHS SOFTBALL POINTS OF EMPHASIS





DAMAGED BAT VS. ILLEGAL BAT



Bats must bear either the 2000, 2004, or the USA Softball All Games certification mark. Additionally, the bat must not appear on USA Softball's Non-Approved Bats With Certification Marks list (www.usasoftball.com). Bat barrels made entirely of wood are permitted and need not bear a certification mark but shall not exceed 2-1/4 inches in diameter.



DAMAGED BAT VS. ILLEGAL BAT



Clarification was needed to delineate the difference between a player using a bat that is damaged versus a bat that is illegal for high school play. By definition, a bat that is damaged (Rule 2-4-3c) is removed from the game without penalty (7-4-2 NOTE). An illegal bat that is non-approved or altered will continue to result in the head coach and the batter being ejected.

CONTACT WITH THE PITCHER'S PLATE



Due to the varying levels of play and accompanying variation in pitching skills while pitchers develop, prior to the start of the pitch, NFHS rules allows the pitcher to choose her foot placement. The pitcher may choose to take a position with the pivot foot in contact with the plate and the non-pivot foot behind the pitcher's plate or both feet in contact with the pitcher's plate. Prior to the start of the delivery, both feet must be on the ground within or partially within the 24-inch length of the pitcher's plate. This allows for personal preference and developing pitchers to work through levels of progression.



INSPECTION OF EQUIPMENT



It is the head coach's responsibility to make certain all players are legally and properly equipped, which includes checking bats, helmets and catcher's gear prior to every contest. Umpires may inspect equipment but are not required to do so. It is critical that coaches remain vigilant in inspecting equipment before every contest to ensure no damage has occurred or new noncompliant equipment has been purchased since their last inspection.



NFHS OFFICIALS EDUCATION



SPORTS-SPECIFIC OFFICIATING COURSES

WWW.NFHSLEARN.COM

The screenshot shows the NFHS Learn for Officials website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the NFHS Learning Center logo and links for Dashboard, Courses, NFHS Learn for You, User Lookup, and Help. Below the navigation bar, the main heading reads "NFHS Learn for Officials". Underneath, there is a "Resources" section with four icons: Video Library, High School Today, Articles, and NFHS Rules Books. Below that is a "Recommended Courses" section featuring six course cards. Each card includes a thumbnail image, the course title, the number of completions, and the cost. The courses are: Interscholastic Officiating (3,008 Completions, \$20), Heat Illness Prevention (3,008 Completions, Free), Concussion In Sports (3,008 Completions, Free), Sportmanship (3,008 Completions, Free), Sports Nutrition (3,008 Completions, Free), and Sudden Cardiac Arrest (3,008 Completions, Free). At the bottom of the page, there is a footer with links for Home, Courses, Resources, and Our Organization, along with social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube.

- Introduction to mechanics and techniques used in each sport
- Ideal for new officials or those in first few years of officiating
- 30-45 minutes to complete
- Topics vary based on the needs of the officials in the sport
- NFHS Officials Association members cost is \$10
- Non-members - course is \$20
- API available to state associations to collect results





NFHS OFFICIALS EDUCATION SPORT-SPECIFIC COURSES

▪ Courses Available

- Officiating Football
- Soccer – Fouls and Misconduct
- Swimming and Diving
- Officiating Wrestling
- Officiating Basketball
- Umpiring Softball
- Officiating Volleyball – Ball Handling

▪ Future Courses

- Officiating Baseball
- Basketball – Three-Person Mechanics
- Field Hockey
- Track and Field
- Volleyball – Overlapping
- Softball – Mechanics
- Communication Among Officials and Coaches
- Soccer - Offside



INTERSCHOLASTIC OFFICIATING

WWW.NFHSLEARN.COM

Interscholastic Officiating

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 PREVIOUS NEXT PAUSE

Introduction
Unit 1: Basics
Unit 2: Science
Objectives
Rules Knowledge
Mechanics
Fitness and Conditioning
Key Points
Checkpoint
Unit 2: Art
Unit 4: Balance
Course Close

Mechanics: Nuances

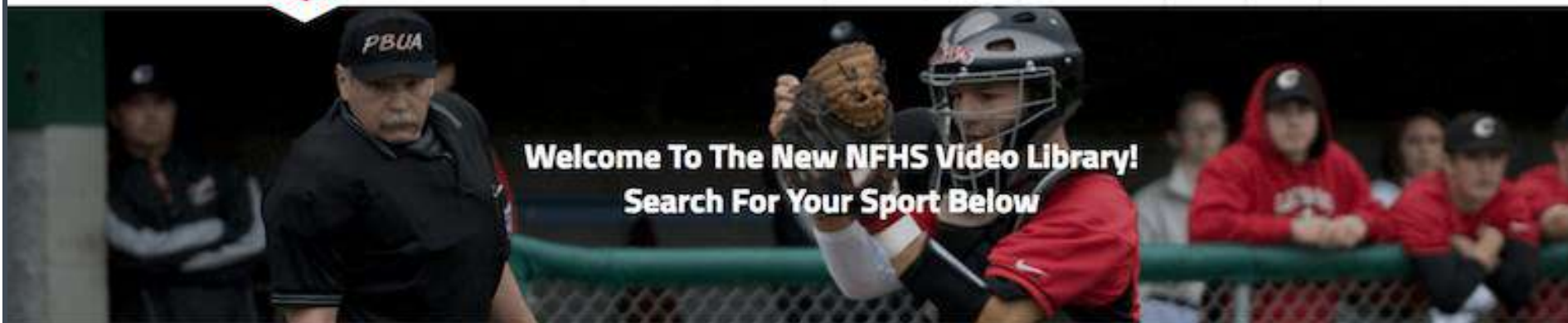
Every sport offers specific nuances to the game and every game has a flow. As you gain experience, hopefully you will tune into this and help the game unfold naturally.

Continue >

TRANSCRIPT RESOURCES

- Introduction to skills and concepts used as an official
- Ideal for new officials or those in first few years of officiating
- 30-45 minutes to complete
- Topics include: basics of becoming and staying an official, science of officiating, art of officiating, how to combine these skills for successful officiating
- Course is **FREE** to any **NFHS Officials Association member**
- Non-members course is \$20
- API available to state associations to collect results





Welcome To The New NFHS Video Library! Search For Your Sport Below

Video Filters

Sort By ▼ Select Categories ▼ Select Sports ▼ Search our videos...

Total videos: 373



3-Man Mechanics - Runners At...

Baseball



UIL Court Coverage - Trail Of...

Basketball



THE FOLLOWING PRESENTATION WAS SHOT AND PRODUCED BY THE NFHS IN COOPERATION WITH BEN DAVIS HIGH SCHOOL (IND.) AND BEEBEUR DELIST PREPARATORY SCHOOL (IND.) IN 2014. WE THANK THEM FOR THEIR PARTICIPATION AND SUPPORT.

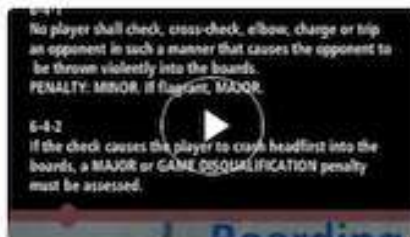
Final Run Out Before Start

Cross Country



Football Mechanics: Coin Toss...

Football



Ice Hockey Rules Concepts - B...

Ice Hockey



NFHS Soccer Rules: Referee Me...

Soccer

NFHS OFFICIALS ASSOCIATION CENTRAL HUB

- Contains:
 - Sport information
 - Rules information
 - Rules library
 - Searchable rules book
 - Video content on officiating sport, competition situations and interpretations

The screenshot displays the NFHS Officials Association Central Hub website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for 'NFHS HOME', 'SOFTBALL', 'VIDEO', 'PUBLICATIONS', 'GROUP INFO', 'FORUM', and 'CONTACT'. A search bar is located below the navigation bar. The main content area features a 'Welcome' message from Sandy Searcy, Director of Sports, Rules Editor and National Interpreter, dated 7/1/2015. To the left, there are sections for 'Softball Rules Information' and 'Softball Resources'. To the right, there is a 'Sport Specific Information' sidebar with buttons for various sports: Baseball, Basketball, Cross Country, Field Hockey, Football, Gymnastics, Ice Hockey, Lacrosse, Soccer, and Softball.





Umpiring Softball

Unit 1: Game Management

Unit 2: Obstruction

Unit 3: Interference



NFHS LEARNING CENTER





NFHS LEARNING CENTER WWW.NFHSLEARN.COM

- Professional Development For ALL
 - Coaches
 - Officials
 - Administrators
 - Parents
 - Students
 - Performing Arts





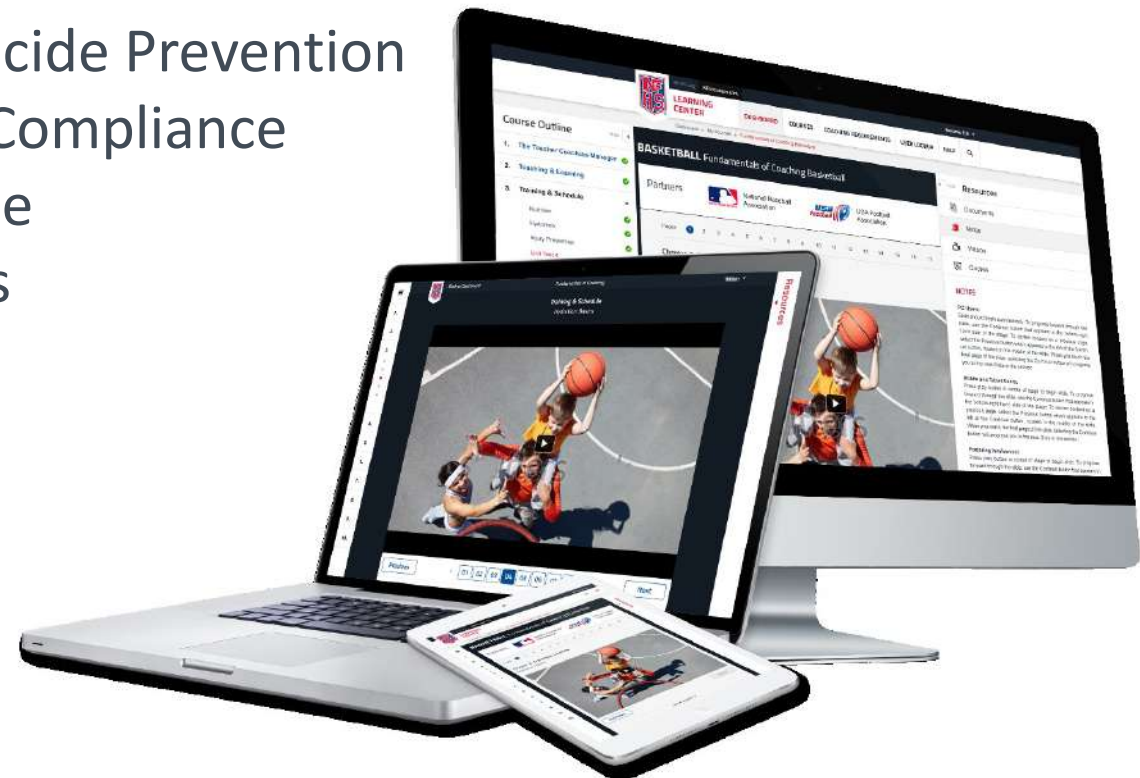
NFHS LEARNING CENTER WWW.NFHSLEARN.COM

- Over 1.6 Million courses delivered in 2018
- Over 8.2 Million courses since 2007 launch
- Over 70 courses available
- Over 35 at No Cost!



WWW.NFHSLEARN.COM

- FREE courses include:
 - Bullying, Hazing and Inappropriate Behaviors
 - Student Mental Health and Suicide Prevention
 - Understanding Copyright and Compliance
 - Protecting Students from Abuse
 - Hazing Prevention for Students
 - Coaching Unified Sports
 - ACL Injury Prevention
 - Sportsmanship
 - And many more





SOFTBALL COACHES EDUCATION



Coaching Softball

Sport Specific Course

Coach

\$50 Completions: 3807 +



Sportsmanship

Elective Course

Student Coach Parent Administrator Official Music Adjudicator

Free! Completions: 107899 +



Sports Nutrition

Elective Course

Student Coach Parent Administrator

Free! Completions: 35519 +





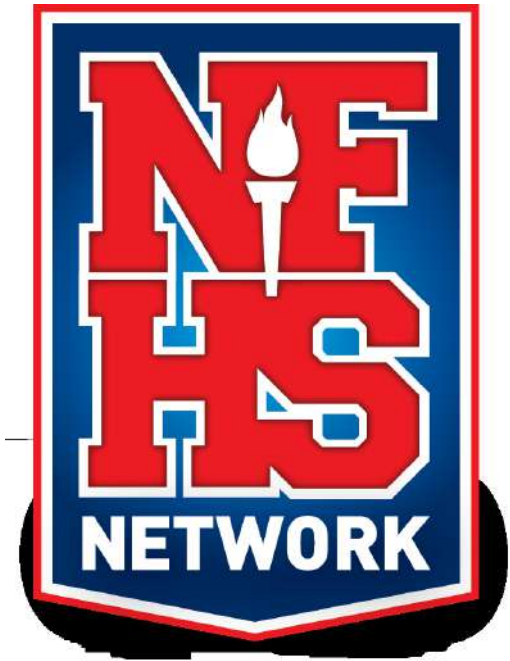
NFHS NETWORK





NFHS NETWORK

- By 2020, every high school sporting event in America will be streamed live.
- The NFHS Network will be THE DESTINATION for fans to view these broadcasts.



www.NFHSnetwork.com



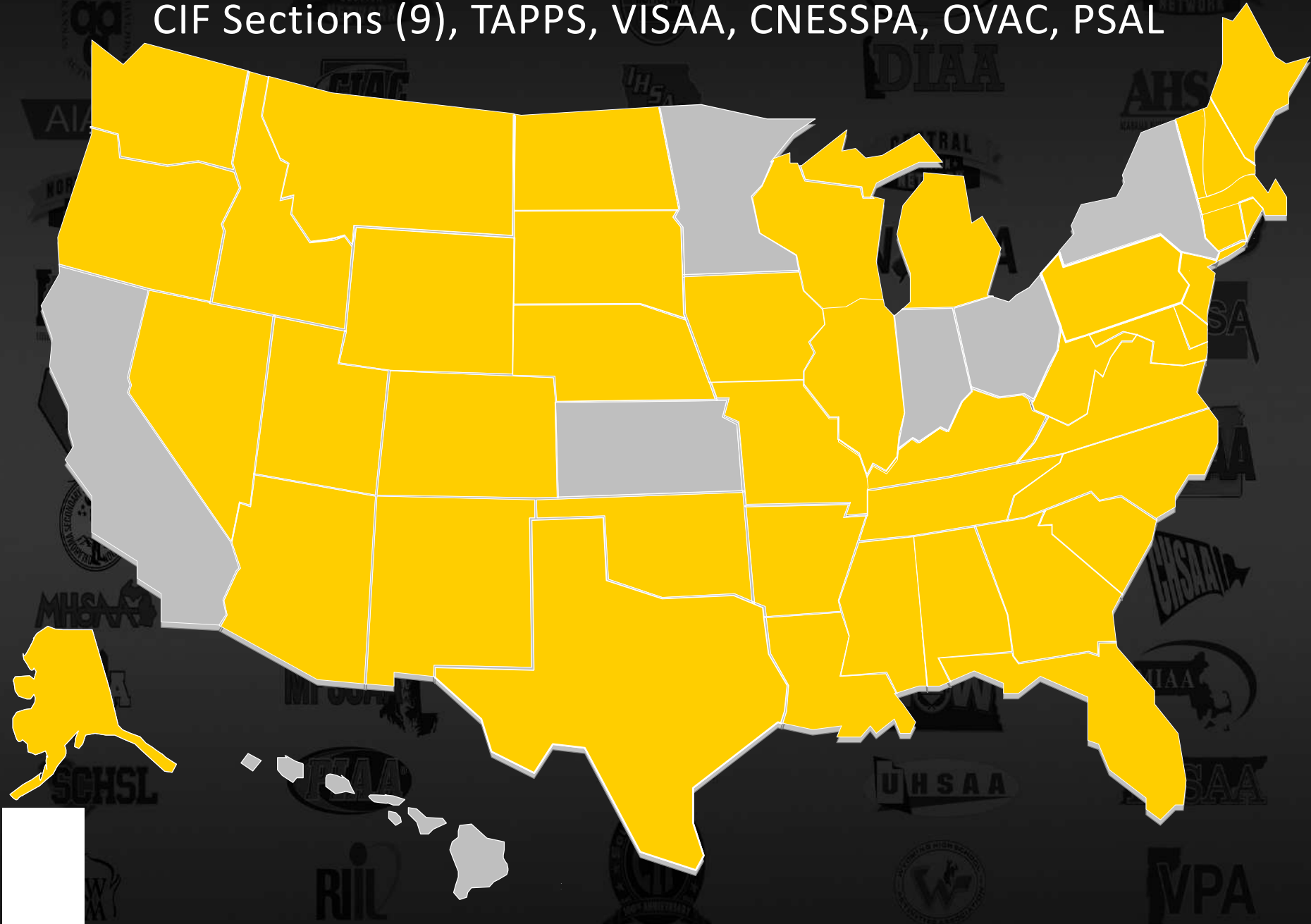
27 DIFFERENT SPORTS AND ACTIVITIES





NFHS Network Media Rights States (43)

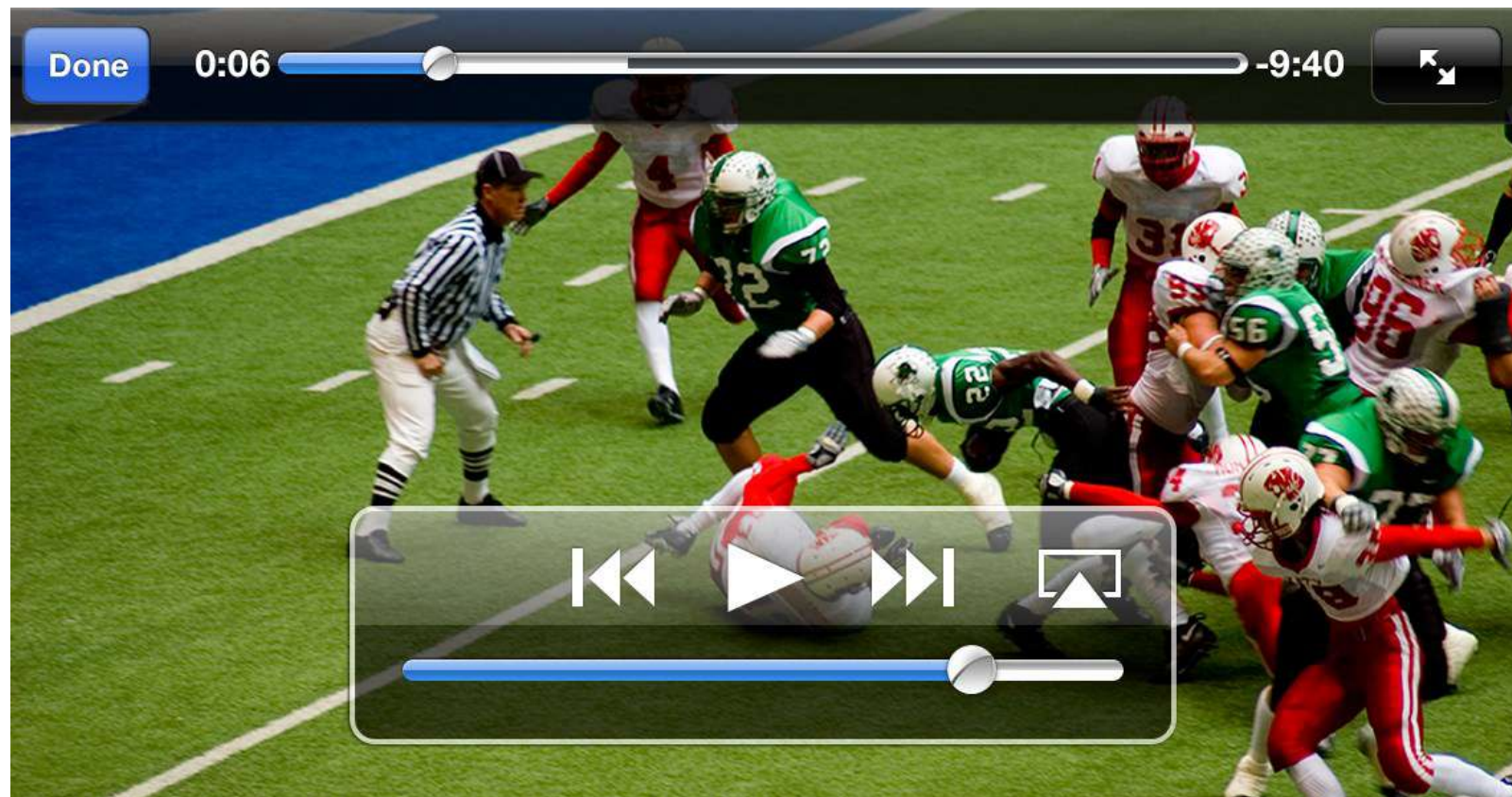
CIF Sections (9), TAPPS, VISAA, CNESSPA, OVAC, PSAL





NFHS NETWORK

- View from mobile...





NFHS SOFTBALL RESOURCES



NFHS SOFTBALL PUBLICATIONS

- NFHS Rules Books, Case Books and other softball resources can be ordered:

- online at www.nfhs.com
- by calling 1-800-776-3462





THANK YOU

National Federation of State High School Associations

PO Box 690 | Indianapolis, IN 46206

Phone: 317-972-6900 | Fax: 317.822.5700

www.nfhs.org | www.nfhslearn.com

