

Plays and Tidbits.....

Play: NFHS rules. The batting order for team A reads: Able, Baker, Charles, Daniel, etc. Able leads off the fifth inning and hits a double. Charles erroneously bats in Baker's batting position and hits a fly ball that is caught by F8. Able legally tags up at second, but is thrown out at third on a perfect throw by F8 for the second out. The defensive team calls time and appeals batting out of order. The plate umpire declares Baker, the proper batter out. Is that three outs? **Ruling:** In NFHS and USSSA FP, the out made on the bases at third base by Able stands. The out on Baker, the proper batter called out for failing to bat in proper turn stands but supersedes the out made by improper batter Charles. Therefore, play resumes with two outs and the proper batter is Charles. NFHS Case Book play 7.1.1C-c supports that ruling.

In ASA, it's a triple play. The outs on Able and Charles stand and Baker is called out for failing to bat in turn. Because Charles made an out on the batting-out-of-order play, Charles does not come to bat but is skipped over in the batting order and the proper batter in the last of the sixth inning for team A will be Daniel. In NCAA and USSSA SP, Baker, the proper batter is declared out for failing to bat in order. The outs on Able and Charles are nullified and Able is returned to second base. Play continues with one out, Able at second base and Charles at bat. In NCAA and USSSA SP, a prudent defensive team would not appeal batting out of order. That way, the outs made by Able and Charles during ordinary play would stand. Without a batting-out-of-turn appeal, the first pitch to the next batter of team A would legalize Charles' turn at bat. The proper batter would be Daniel, who hopefully would be batting (ASA 7-2-2; NFHS 7-1-2 Pen 2 Effect, 7.1.1C-c; NCAA 11.11.3 Effect; USSSA FP 9.10; USSSA SP 7-1 Effect 2).

1. R3 is caught in a rundown between third and home. R3 is three steps from reaching third when she runs into F5 who does not have the ball. R3 is then tagged while off base by F2.

- a. Obstruction has occurred.
- b. R3 is declared out for running into F5.
- c. The ball is delayed-dead when the obstruction occurs.
- d. The ball is dead when R3 is tagged.
- e. The ball is dead when R3 runs into F5.
- f. R3 is awarded third base.
- g. R3 is awarded home.

- 2.** Fast pitch. R1 is on first base as B1 bats with a 1-1 count. However, after F1 commits an illegal pitch, B1 hits an over-the-fence home run.
- The ball is dead immediately when an illegal pitch occurs.
 - R1 is awarded second base.
 - B1 remains at bat and a ball is added to her count.
 - The illegal pitch is ignored.
 - The home run stands.
 - F1 is issued a warning for committing an illegal pitch.
- 3.** B1 hits safely to right field and takes a wide turn toward second. F9 throws to F3 who tags B1 on the leg. However the ball is dislodged and rolls into dead ball area.
- B1 is awarded second.
 - B1 is awarded first.
 - B1 is awarded third.
 - The award is measured from the time of the dead ball.
 - The award is measured from the time of the throw.
 - The award is measured from the time of the pitch.
 - The ball is in play.
 - The ball is delayed-dead.
- 4.** There are two outs when B1 bats with a two strike count. As F1 releases a pitch, B1 steps completely out of the batter's box.
- The ball is dead.
 - The umpire will call the pitch a ball or a strike as the case may be.
 - The pitch is an automatic strike.
 - B1 is immediately declared out.
 - B1 is ejected from the game.
 - The ball is live.
 - The ball is delayed-dead.

Answers:

1 — ASA, NFHS, NCAA, USSSA FP – a, c, d, f (ASA 8-5B-4 Effect; NFHS 8-4-3b Pen a; NCAA 9.4.2 Effect; USSSA FP 8-13); **USSSA SP – a, c, d, g** (8-7E Effect)

2 — All – d, e (ASA 6-8E Effect; NFHS 6-2-3 Exc, Note; NCAA 10-8 Effect; USSSA FP 6-1K Effect)

3 — All — a, d (ASA 8-5G Effect, Ex1; NFHS 8-4-3f Pen, Ex1, NCAA 12.7.1.5 Effect; USSSA FP 8.14.D-2; USSSA SP Off. Interp. Salter 6/25/88)

4 — ASA, NCAA, USSSA FP — b, f (ASA 7-3E Effect; NCAA 11.24 Effect; USSSA FP 7.4B Effect); **NFHS, USSSA SP — c, f** (NFHS 7-3-1 Effect 2; USSSA SP 7-3F Effect)