• Hope everyone is having a great season. The weather has been very iffy both with temperature and rain. One day short sleeves the next winter jacket.

• I continue to get calls about the C-flap from coaches, umpires and even parents. Please pass this information on to all umpires. This will be the 4th communication on this ruling! **During the pregame we ask the coach if all his equipment is legal. Once he responds that it is, then it is now the coach’s responsibility to guarantee that the helmets are legal.** We do not check to see if the proper NOCSAE stamp is on the C-flap. We assume that the coach has checked with the manufacturer of the helmet and that it meets their standards.

• We have one month to go to the pre-tournament clinic covering the three and four-umpire system, as well as other topics, on Saturday, May 18 at Grove City High School. This free clinic is intended for umpires working the three and four umpire system in postseason play but is open to all OHSAA umpires. If you plan on attending, please send an email to dan.mcginnis@hotmail.com to let me know your will be coming. The four-person mechanics will be from 10-11 am followed by the three person from 11-12PM. Lunch will be from 12-12:30 followed by live scrimmages working both three and four-person mechanics. Please come prepared in proper OHSAA uniform and bring both you base and plate gear. It is our hope as many crews will get to work and inning or two followed by observations during the game. We should conclude around 3pm. Please no walk ins. I need a firm number.

• Prior to the start of an inning or during a pitching change, we are having some coaches direct the players on their bench to go out in front of their respective dugout and swing bats as the opposing pitcher is warming up. According to rule 3-3-1-i, the only players/personnel allowed out of the dugout are "be outside the designated dugout (bench) or bullpen area if not a batter, runner, on-deck batter, in the coach’s box or one of the nine players on defense." Please make sure they stay in the dugout. Make sure that the offensive players are in the vicinity of the on-deck circle. No near the plate timing up the pitcher.

• I want to thank all those who have filed a report for sportsmanship on myOHSAA. The vast majority have been for good sportsmanship but we have had a few fans that have been reported to the AD’s as saying things that are not appropriate or threatening to the officials.
Questions from the online test. I will continue to put the questions that were missed the most in the newsletters during the season.

39. It is umpire interference

A) When he inadvertently moves so as to hinder a catcher’s attempt to throw
B) Whenever a batted ball contacts him in fair territory
C) Whenever a thrown ball contacts him
D) A, B and C

Rule 2-21-2, Rule book page 20

5. Pitcher throws a 58’ curve ball. The batter checks his swing as the pitch bounces in front of the plate. The ball bounces and barely clips the bat and slightly rises into the air and then comes back down. The catcher sticks out his glove and catches the ball and returns it to the pitcher.

A) Since the ball bounced before being hit, the ball cannot be legally caught by the catcher.
B) This is a foul tip. A strike is called on the batter.
C) This is a catch. The batter is out.
D) This is a foul ball.

7-2-3, rule book page 44- This is a foul ball not a foul tip.

14. The bases are loaded when B1 hits a Texas Leaguer into short left field. F7 picks up the ball and throw wildly toward the plate into the stands. When F7 released the ball, all runners had advanced to the next base, but B1 had not yet reached first.

A) One run scores
B) Two runs score
C) Three runs score
D) B1 is awarded first

8-3-5 rule book page 52- Two bases from time of throw from outfield.

16. With the bases loaded, and the score tied in the bottom of the last inning, B1 receives a two-out walk. B1 runs down to first as R3 scores, but R1 goes off to celebrate.

A) The run counts
B) The run counts unless an appeal is made on R1
C) The run does not count

9-1-1 rule book page 56
19. Team A’s DH, B10, is batting for the pitcher. In the third inning, the coach decides to have the pitcher bat for himself. In the fifth inning, the coach decides to have the original DH bat for the pitcher.

A) B10 is a legal batter
B) B10 is not a legal batter

3-1-3 rule book page 27

20. R1 is on first base with no outs. R1 is stealing on the pitch. F1 pitches wild, and the ball rolls near a dugout. The ball rolls to a stop as R1 touches second. The catcher inadvertently kicks the ball into the dugout.

A) R1 remains on second
B) R1 is awarded third
C) R1 is awarded home

8-3-3-k Case book page 77- the runner had obtained second prior to the catcher kicking the ball out of play. The ball had stopped so it was no longer a pitch thus two bases from time of kick.

21. With R2 on second, B1 grounding to short. F6 chases R2 back toward second, swipes at him and misses. F6 then makes an errant throw to first that goes into the dugout. At F6’s release, B1 had already touched first.

A) B1 is awarded second
B) B1 is awarded third
C) R2 is awarded third

8-3-5 rule book page 52. 8-3-5 situation J in case book

48. Runners on first and third and no outs. Pitcher steps toward third, does not disengage the pitcher’s plate and then feints to first.

A) Legal move, the third to first move is legal by NFHS rules.
B) Legal since he stepped toward third and then first.
C) Illegal since the pitcher did not disengage with the pitcher’s plate.

6-2-4-a rule book page 42