

# 2019 NFHS SOFTBALL RULES POWER POINT

National Federation of State High School Associations

700 YEARS

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



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#### **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.





#### **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.





### 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.





- Membership = 50 member state associations and D.C.
- NFHS reaches more than 19,500 high schools and 12 million participants in high school activity programs, including more than 7.9 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.







Lindsey Atkinson Volleyball Girls Lacrosse



Bob Colgate Football and Sports Medicine



Sandy Searcy Softball and Swimming & Diving Water Polo



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

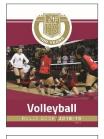




The NFHS writes playing rules for 17 sports for boys and girls at the high school level.

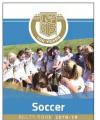
• Publishes 4 million pieces of materials annually.



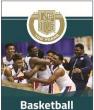


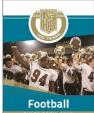


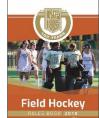


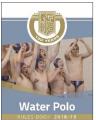


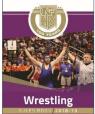






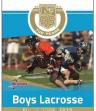


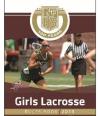


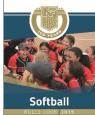


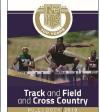
















### **NFHS RULES BOOK AS E-BOOKS**



### E-books features:

- Searchable
- Highlight areas of interest
- Make notes
- Easy navigation
- Adjustable viewing size
- Immediate availability





### **NEW NFHS RULES APP**

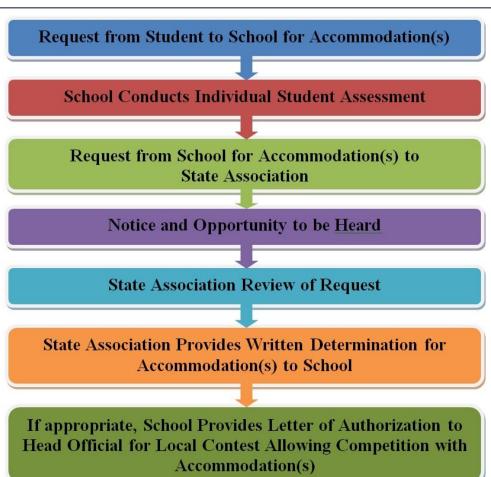


### Rules App features:

- 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











2019 NFHS SOFTBALL RULES CHANGES





### FIELD AND EQUIPMENT RULES 1-1-7, 2-22-4, TABLE 5-1, 5-1-10

Media shall be prohibited from being in live-ball areas. The home team or game management may designate an area for the media in dead-ball territory.

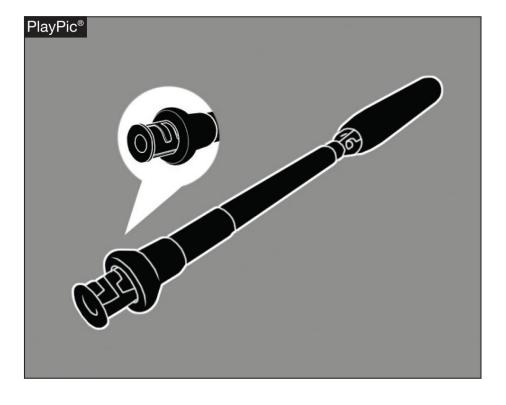






# FIELD AND EQUIPMENT RULE 1-5-2a

A softball bat is permitted to have an adjustable knob, provided the knob is permanently fastened by the manufacturer.







# FIELD AND EQUIPMENT RULE 1-8-4

An eye shield may be worn attached to a defensive player's face/head protection, but it must be constructed of a molded, rigid material that is clear and permits 100 percent (no tint) allowable light transmission.



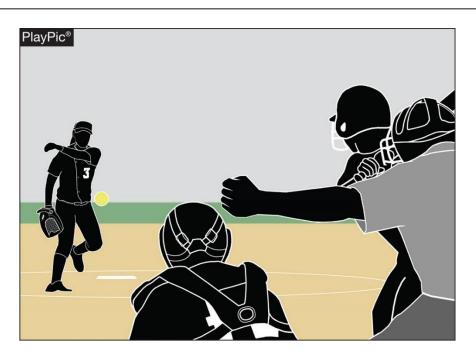


#### Rule Change

### **PITCHING**

# RULES 6-1-1 PENALTY, EXCEPTIONS 3 and 4, 6-1-2,3,4 PENALTIES, 6-2-1 PENALTY, 6-2-7 PENALTY

When an illegal pitch is declared by the umpire, the batter is awarded a ball. Previously, the batter was awarded a ball and all base runners were also awarded one base without liability to be put out.

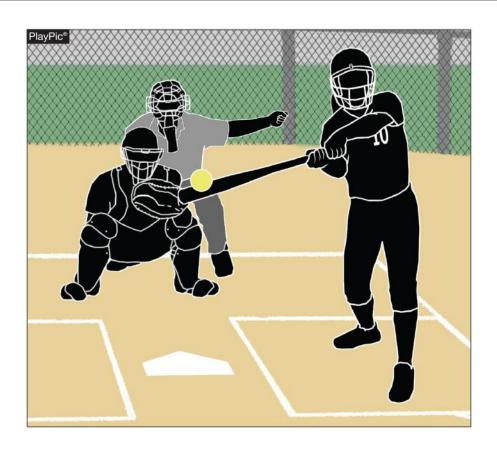






## PITCHING RULE 6-1-1 PENALTY EXCEPTION 1

An illegal pitch remains a delayeddead ball. If there is an illegal pitch and the batter reaches first base safely and each other runner advances at least one base, the illegal pitch is nullified.

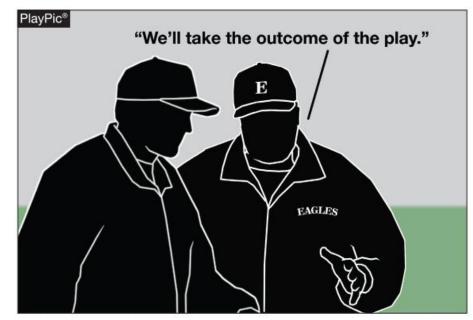






## PITCHING RULES 6-1-1 PENALTY, EXCEPTION 2

 As before under the rules, if the batter does not reach first base safely or any base runner fails to advance at least one base, the coach of the team at bat shall have



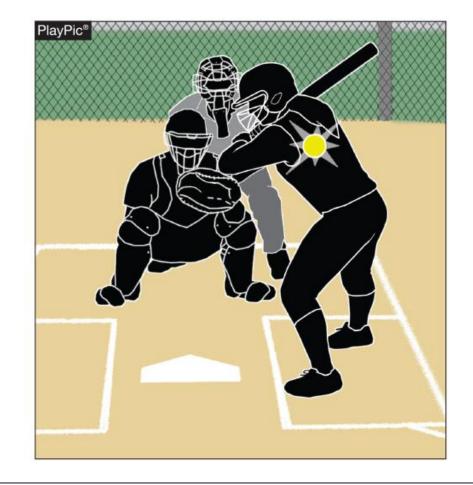
the option of the result of the play or the penalty of the illegal pitch, which is a ball awarded to the batter.





## PITCHING RULES 6-1-1 PENALTY EXCEPTION 3

 If the batter is hit by an illegal pitch outside the strike zone the batter is awarded first base but there is no longer a one-base award to each base runner.







## PITCHING RULES 6-1-1 PENALTY EXCEPTION 4

If ball four is awarded on an illegal pitch, the batter is awarded first base but there is no longer a one-base award to each base runner.





### 2019 SOFTBALL MAJOR EDITORIAL CHANGES





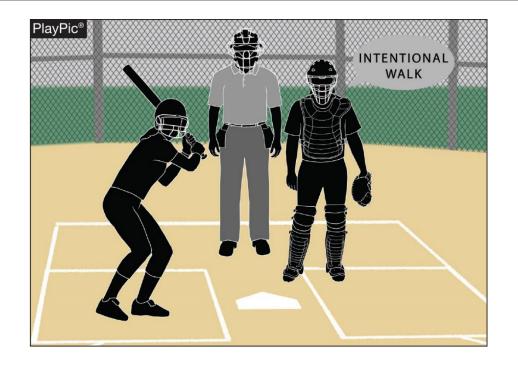
- For the purposes of an appeal:
  - The intentional walk is considered a time at bat and an appeal of the previous play cannot be made following the intentional walk.
  - When an intentional walk is awarded by the umpire, it is considered the same as throwing a pitch.





# **DEFINITIONS 2-65-2**

Clarifies that there can be no appeal of a play that occurred prior to the umpire awarding an intentional walk.

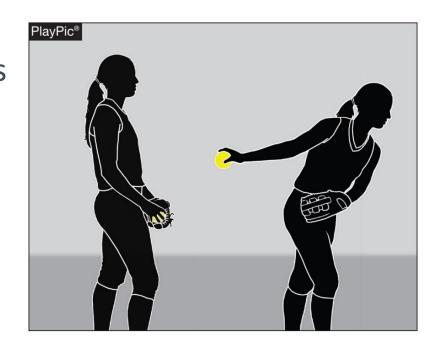






# **PITCHING** 6-1-2b

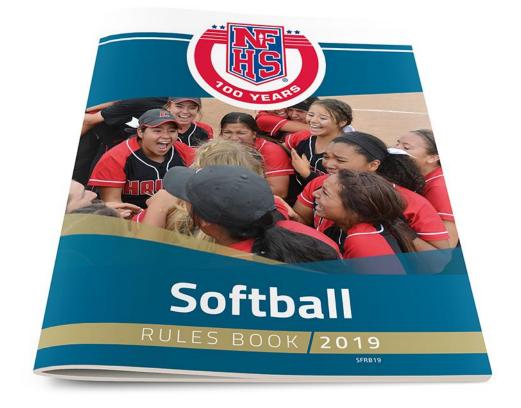
Clarifies that the pitch starts when the pitcher's hands are separated after they have come together while the pivot foot is on or partially on top of the pitcher's plate. Any step back with the non-pivot foot must begin before the start of the pitch.







 A new appendix was created for quick reference regarding the DP/FLEX rule.







# APPENDIX H (NEW) DP/FLEX

#### NFHS Softball - DP/FLEX Simplified REMINDERS:

- 1) The DP can never be on DEFENSE ONLY.
- 2) The FLEX player can never be on OFFENSE ONLY.
- 3) The DP and FLEX player can never be on offense at the same time.
- 4) The STARTER and the SUBSTITUTE cannot be in the game at the same time.
- 5) The starting DP and FLEX player have one re-entry just as any other player.
- 6) Once the game is started with the DP/FLEX positions in the lineup, those positions are available for the entire game.
- 7) The penalty for illegal re-entry of the DP or FLEX player is always restriction to the bench/dugout.
- 8) If the player is on offense, she is called out. If the player is on defense, the team on offense may have the choice of taking the result of the play or accepting the penalty.





2019 NFHS SOFTBALL POINTS OF EMPHASIS





### SIMULATE TAKING A SIGN

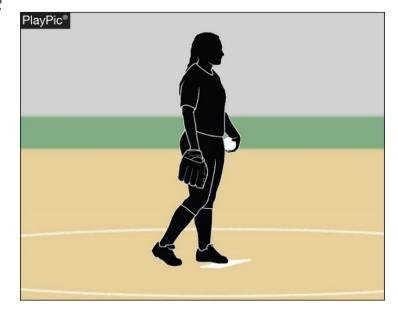
- The actual signal can be taken while on the pitching plate or while standing behind the pitcher's plate.
- It may be taken from the catcher or coach; it may be a hand signal, a verbal call or may be obtained from looking at her wristband.
- However, she must take a position on the pitcher's plate with the hands separated and simulate taking a signal from the catcher.





### SIMULATE TAKING A SIGN

If the pitcher does not pause after stepping onto the pitcher's plate to simulate taking a signal prior to bringing her hands together, an illegal pitch should be called.



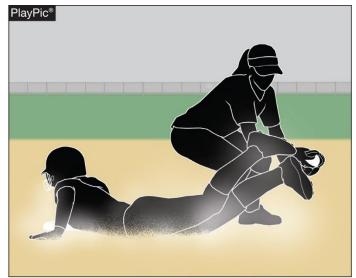




# PROPER TECHNIQUE WHEN SLIDING

 Coaches are responsible for teaching players proper sliding techniques and how to execute legal slides as defined in Rule 2-52. Proper sliding techniques help reduce potential injuries.









# HEAD COACH LISTED ON LINEUP CARD

It is a best practice that the head coach list his or her name on the lineup card submitted at the pregame conference. This will assist both the umpire and the other team if game-related communications are required.

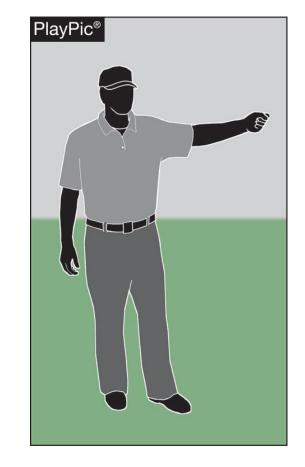






### **ILLEGAL PITCH PENALTY**

- The penalty to allow the advancement of runners when an illegal pitch is called has been removed.
- The intent of an illegal pitch in softball is to deceive the batter, and only the batter should receive an award when an illegal pitch occurs.



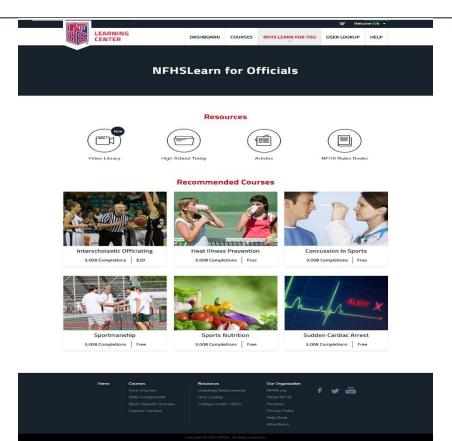




## NFHS OFFICIALS EDUCATION



# SPORTS-SPECIFIC OFFICIATING COURSES WWW.NFHSLEARN.COM



- 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

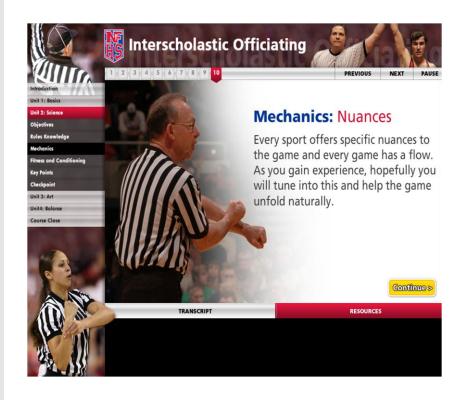
- Officiating Football
- Soccer Fouls and Misconduct
- Swimming and Diving
- Officiating Wrestling
- Officiating Basketball
- Umpiring Softball
- Officiating Volleyball –
   Ball Handling

### 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

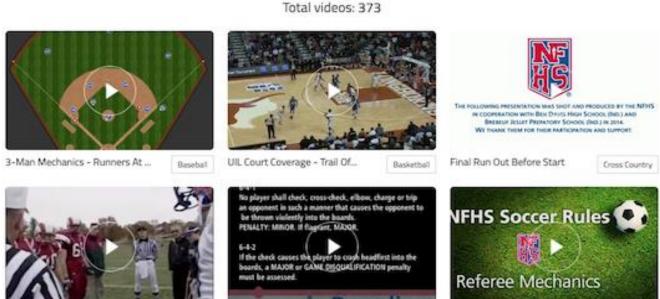


- Introduction to skills and concepts used as an official
- Ideal for new officials or those in first few years of officiating
- 30-45 minutes to complete
- Topics include: basics of becoming and staying an official, science of officiating, art of officiating, how to combine these skills for successful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









NFHS Soccer Rules: Referee Me...

Soccer

Ice Hockey

Ice Hockey Rules Concepts - B ...

Football

Football Mechanics: Coin Toss...

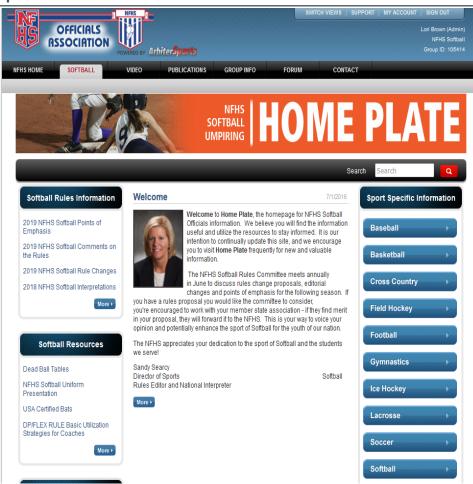


# NFHS OFFICIALS ASSOCIATION CENTRAL HUB

https://nfhs-softball.arbitersports.com/front/105414/Site

#### Contains:

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







# NFHS LEARNING CENTER





# NFHS LEARNING CENTER WWW.NFHSLEARN.COM

### Professional Development For ALL

- Coaches
- Officials
- Administrators
- Parents
- Students
- Performing Arts







### **WWW.NFHSLEARN.COM**

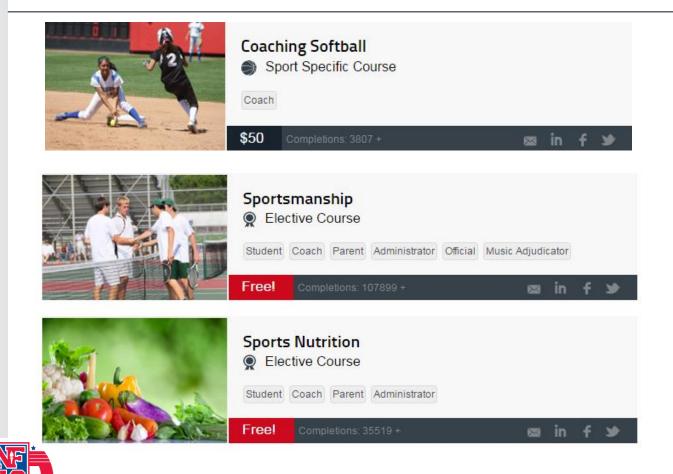
#### FREE courses include:

- Bullying, Hazing and Inappropriate Behaviors
- Understanding Copyright and Compliance
- Hazing Prevention for Students
- Concussion in Sports
- Concussion for Students
- Heat Illness Prevention
- Sudden Cardiac Arrest
- Sportsmanship
- Coaching Unified Sports
- Positive Sport ParentingNCAA Eligibility





# SOFTBALL COACHES EDUCATION





# **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.























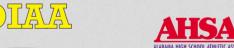




























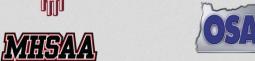














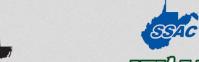


































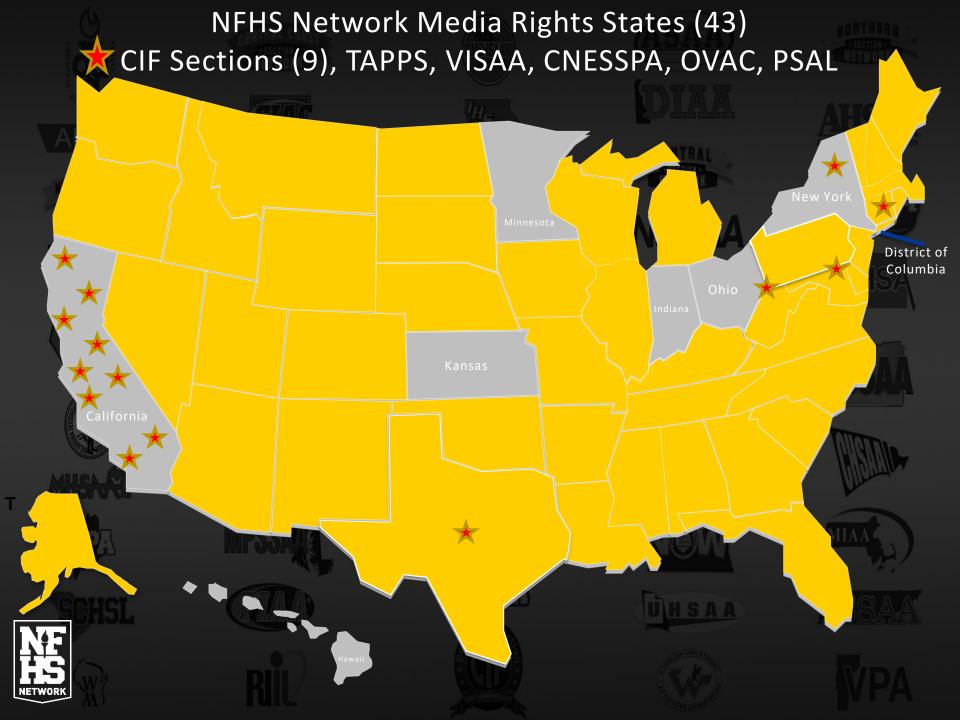








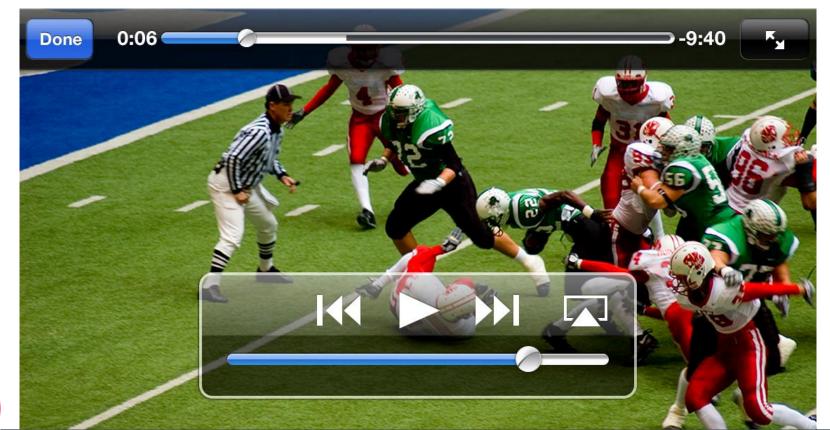






# **NFHS NETWORK**

View from mobile...







# **NFHS SOFTBALL RESOURCES**





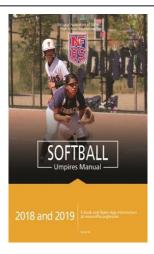
# NFHS SOFTBALL PUBLICATIONS

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

- online at <u>www.nfhs.com</u>
- by calling 1-800-776-3462















### **THANK YOU**

#### **National Federation of State High School Associations**

Sandy Searcy, Director of Sports

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Phone: 317-972-6900 | Fax: 317.822.5700

www.nfhs.org | www.nfhslearn.com



