

POINTS OF EMPHASIS

2010 SEASON

- 1.) **Safety**- Safety is always a big concern for us. Injuries happen and we try to do everything we can to minimize the risk through education and rules. We do have the ability to offer CPR, AED, and First Aid classes that will make you certified by the American Red Cross. If you are interested in doing this, please let me know ASAP. Remember that all injuries that cause a player to miss playing time should be reported to me through email explaining the injury, and how the injury was caused. We are continually striving to make the game as safe as it can be, but we cannot be truly effective without you letting us know what's going on out there on the field.
- 2.) **Obstruction and Interference, they are different**- There are 3 different kinds of **interference**, Offensive, Umpires, and Spectators.
 - a. Offensive interference is an act (physical or verbal) by the team at bat:
 - i. Which interferes with, obstructs, impedes, hinders or confuses any fielder attempting to make a play; or
 - ii. when a runner creates malicious contact with any fielder, with or without the ball, in or out of the baseline; or
 - iii. A coach physically assists a runner during playing action.
 - b. It is Umpires interference when he inadvertently moves so as to hinder a catcher's attempt to throw, or when a fair ball touches an umpire, or a thrown ball.
 - c. Spectator interference is an act by a spectator which impedes progress of the game.

Obstruction is an act (intentional or unintentional, as well as physical and verbal) by a fielder, any member of the defensive team or its team personnel that hinders a runner or changes the patten of play, or when a catcher or fielder hinders a batter. When obstruction occurs, the ball becomes dead at the end of playing action (Delayed dead ball) and the umpire has the authority to determine which base or bases shall be awarded the runners according to the rule violated.

Questions on rules and rule interpretations should be directed to me through email so I am able to document what the most common questions and can consider revising those rules that are hard to understand.

- 3.) **Treatment of Umpires**- Most people have no problem showing the proper respect and being respectful to game officials, unfortunately there are problems that arise with some players, coaches, or spectators. Under **NO** circumstances shall anyone be disrespectful, rude, or aggressive in any manner toward any game official. Umpires will not tolerate it and you will be ejected. In the SCBA we are fortunate enough to have an abundance of kids who want to learn the profession of umpiring and are taking classes and getting experience working for the SCBA. Unfortunately some people think just because they are not adults that they are allowed to be more critical, and disrespectful to the Jr. Umpires. I expect those Jr. Umpires to be treated

with the same if not more respect than you would an adult umpire. Situations involving coaches and spectators arguing or being disrespectful and rude to Jr. Umpires will be treated with harsher penalties than if the same situation happened with an adult official. Arguing, making a scene, being disrespectful, and just downright rudeness is embarrassing for the SCBA, your team, your parents, and yourself. If there is ever a problem with any official, please wait until after the game, and then report your issues to your coordinator, they will be able to address it from there. I am confident that we will be able to get through this year just fine and I am confident everyone will be positive influences for their players.

Thank you all for participating this season and we are confident we will have a great season. Have a FUN and SAFE season!

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