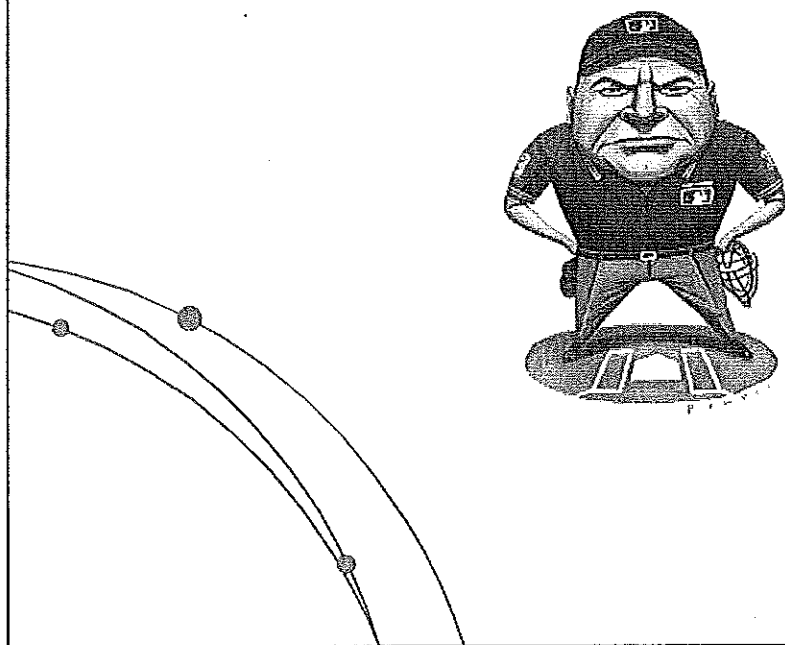


Managing Missed Base Appeal Plays



Missed Base Appeal

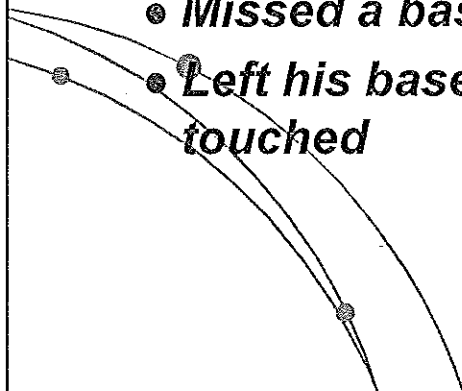
off field 5

- **Rule (8.2): Missed Base Appeals**

- An **"APPEAL"** is an intentional action by a defensive player or coach, aimed at retiring a runner who has:

- ***Missed a base while advancing, or***

- ***Left his base before a caught fly is legally touched***



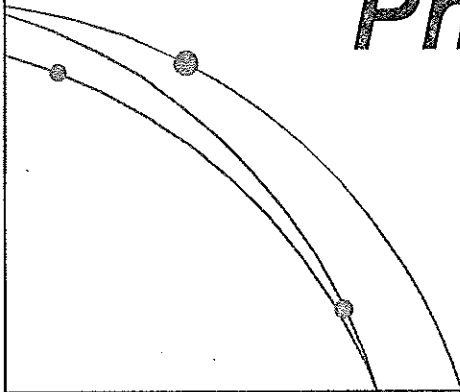
NFHS Appeal Fundamentals

- 1 ● Appeals may be made during **live ball** or **dead ball** situations.
- 2 ● Appeals must be made before the next **PLAY** initiated by the **DEFENSE**. *(If the offense initiates, the defense may still appeal)*
- 3 ● An appeal **IS NOT A PLAY!**
- 4 ● "Players, dead or alive... Coaches, just plain dead!!"

NFHS Appeal Fundamentals (Continued)

- **Live ball appeals** are made by ***INTENTIONALLY*** tagging a missed base or the violating runner.
- **Dead ball appeals** can be made verbally by a coach or player – with or without the ball.
- An appeal on a ***missed base*** ***MIGHT*** be enforced as a ***force play***.
- An appeal for ***“Leaving too soon”*** is ***ALWAYS*** enforced as a ***timing play***.

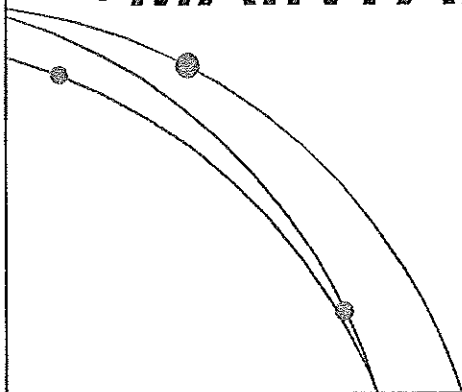
***Enforcement:
Responsibilities and
Philosophy***



Coverage (Basic 2 man System)

- **Plate Umpire:** Touches of third and home.
- **Field Umpire:** Touches of first, second, and batter / runner to third.

● ***MAINTAIN PRIORITIES!***



Coverage (Continued)

Responsibilities Don't Change!

- 1) Fair /Foul 2) Catch/No Catch 3) Live ball/Dead ball
4) Base touches

- **When your partner has primary ball responsibility, help with base touches as best you can.**
- **In a two man game, in multiple runner situations, it is frequently impossible to observe every runner as he passes each base. Rule only on a runner you observe. It's better to admit that you didn't have eyes on the guy rounding third, than to say you saw him touch the base, when he could have - in fact - missed it.**

Try to make sure you have the lead runner touching.

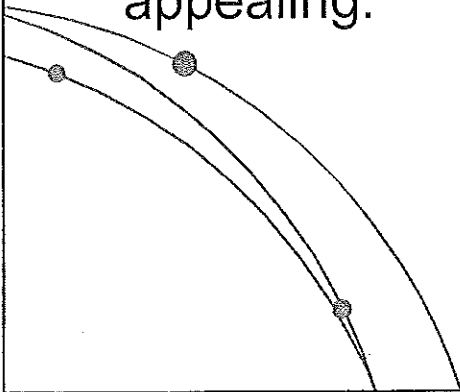
2011

Philosophy - 2010 Rules Book: Rule 8.2p.p. ~~48-51~~ 46-48**2010 Case Book: p.p. 66 - 69**

- Keep the spirit of the rule in mind. When upholding an appeal, the reason should be that you are... "**Certain of the MISS, not uncertain of the TOUCH.**"
- In deciding whether or not to recognize an appeal, use common sense. The rulebook sites plays that "...by their very nature are imminent and obvious to the offense, defense, and the umpires..." as needing no verbal component to the appeal. (eg, runner attempting to return to the missed base; line drive to an infielder, who steps on a base left too soon.)
- In cases when more than one runner passes the base appealed, it is reasonable to ask, "Which runner?" before ruling. Keep in mind that multiple appeals may be made at a base (or bases), as long as they do not make a travesty of the game. If you remain calm and work your way through the appeal, the play will usually sort itself out.

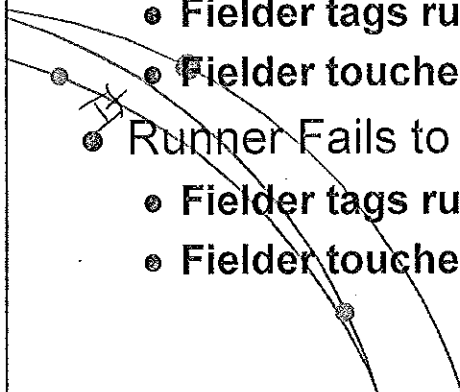
Live Ball Appeals

- Must be made by a player in possession of the ball.
- Must tag the offending runner or touch the base in question, with the intent of appealing.



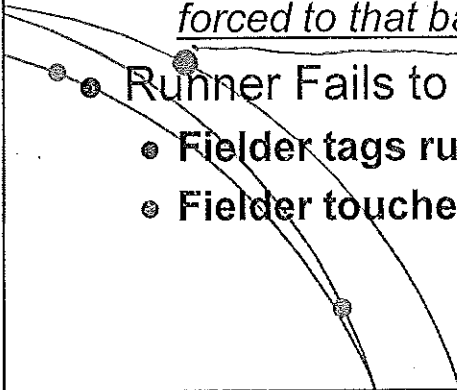
Live Ball Appeal Scenario #1

- Action:
 - **Before** runner attempts return to missed base or base Left too soon (LTS), or while in contact with following base.
- Runner Missed Base While Advancing:
 - **Fielder tags runner:** Runner out
 - **Fielder touches base:** Runner out
- Runner Fails to Touch on Caught Fly:
 - **Fielder tags runner:** Runner out
 - **Fielder touches base:** Runner out



Live Ball Appeal Scenario #2

- Action:
 - **While** runner is attempting return to missed base:
- Runner Missed Base While Advancing:
 - **Fielder tags runner:** Runner out
 - **Fielder touches base:** Runner out, only if originally forced to that base.
- Runner Fails to Touch on Caught Fly:
 - **Fielder tags runner:** Runner out
 - **Fielder touches base:** Runner out



Live Ball Appeal Scenario #3

- Action:
 - Legal appeal resulting in last out of inning.
- Runner Missed Base While Advancing:
 - **At a base to which runner was forced:** Treated as a force out – No runs may score **At any other Base:** Timing play on preceding runners no following runners may score
- Runner Fails to Touch on Caught Fly:
 - Timing play on preceding runners
 - No following runners may score

Live Ball Appeal Scenario #4

- Action:
 - Ground ball, batter/runner has clearly passed first base when throw arrives to first baseman.
- Runner Missed Base While Advancing:
 - **Safe call**, following action of first baseman determines final ruling.
 - **Returns ball to pitcher:** no further call
 - **Actions indicating appeal of missed base:** Rule runner out on appeal
- Runner Fails to Touch on Caught Fly:
 - LTS not applicable

Live Ball Appeal Scenario #5

● Action:

- Runner slides past and misses home. Catcher receives ball and:
 - A) Tags runner before he touches home.
 - B) Touches plate as runner goes toward dugout.
 - C) Touches plate as runner attempts to return.
 - D) With ball in hand, accidentally steps on plate while making throw to third.

● Runner Missed Base While Advancing:

● No call on first play:

- A) Runner out
- B) Runner out
- C) Runner safe, **unless he was forced home (See plays B and D)*
- D) No call. Appeal must be an intentional act by fielder in possession of ball.

● Runner Fails to Touch on Caught Fly:

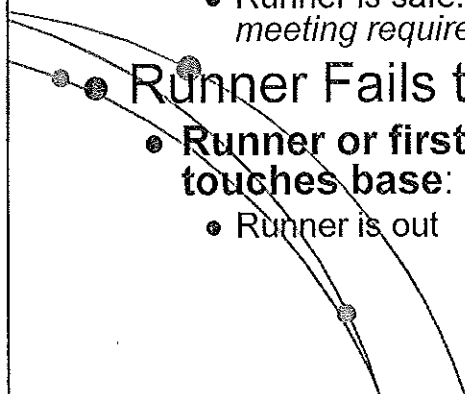
- LTS not applicable

Live Ball Appeal Scenario #6

- Action:
 - R-1 from third misses home, then:
 - A) Enters Dugout area
 - B) R-2 from second scores before R-1 returns to touch home
- Runner Missed Base While Advancing:
 - In both "A and B," runner may not return to legally touch home. Regardless of his further action, he would be ruled out on proper appeal.
- Runner Fails to Touch on Caught Fly:
 - LTS not applicable

Live Ball Appeal Scenario #7

- Action:
 - Runner on first (LTS), misses second on long fly ball. Ball caught, he touches second before returning to first.
- Runner Missed Base While Advancing:
 - **Appeal made at second:**
 - Runner is safe. (*"Last time by" principle regards touch as meeting requirement of both advance and return*)
 - **Runner Fails to Touch on Caught Fly:**
 - **Runner or first base touched before runner touches base:**
 - Runner is out

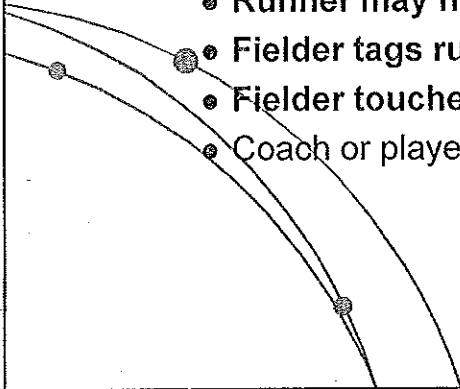


Dead Ball Appeals

- May occur when all play action ceases and “Time” is granted
- After a live ball leaves field of play, and all bases are awarded
- May be made by a coach or a player, with or without possession of the ball..
(Apply imminent and obvious principle, when appropriate.)

Dead Ball Appeal Scenario #1

- Action:
 - All action ceases, and runner who missed base or LTS has advanced to following base. Defense calls time out, which is granted.
- Outcome:
 - Runner may not attempt return once "Time" is granted.
 - Fielder tags runner: Runner out
 - Fielder touches base: Runner out
 - Coach or player makes proper verbal appeal: Runner out



Dead Ball Appeal Scenario #2

- **Action:**

- Runner who missed base or LTS has advanced to or beyond following base, when thrown ball goes out of play.

- **Outcome:**

- Call "Time," award bases according to where runners were at time of errant throw.
- If "*on or beyond*" next base, runner may not legally return to touch missed base.
- If he attempts to do so before advancing, **DO NOT** stop him. It is up to the defense to know the touch is not legal, and make the appeal.

Dead Ball Appeal Scenario #3

- Action:
 - Runner who missed base has advanced to or beyond following base, when fair batted ball goes out of play.
- Runner Missed Base While Advancing:
 - Call "time," make proper base awards. Administer the appeal play the same as in Action #2.
- Runner Fails to Touch on Caught Fly:
 - LTS not applicable

Dead Ball Appeal Scenario #4

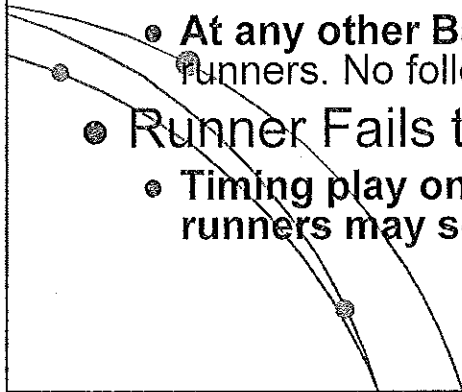
- Action:
 - Runner who has missed base has not advanced to or beyond the next base, when a batted or thrown ball goes out of play:
 - A) He returns to touch missed base before advancing
 - B) He advances to awarded base without touching missed base
- Runner Missed Base While Advancing:
 - A) Legal action. Violating runner not advancing to or beyond next base may legally return to touch missed base
 - B) As soon as he touches following base, he may not return, and is subject to proper appeal
- Runner Fails to Touch on Caught Fly:
 - LTS not applicable

Dead Ball Appeal Special Notes (Scenarios 2, 3 and 4)

- Dead ball base awards are determined without reference to missed bases
- Batted balls: *Runner location at time of pitch*
- Thrown balls: *Runner location at time of throw, or 1st play by infielder principle.*
- Whether a runner who misses a base may return to touch after a dead ball is determined by his position at the time the ball becomes dead.

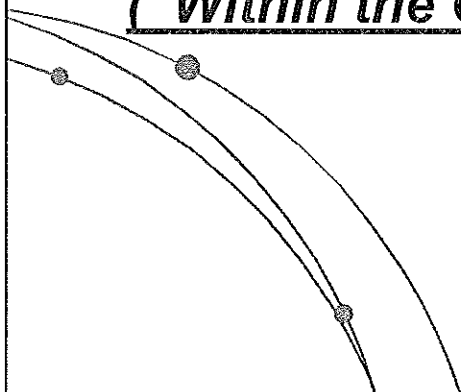
Dead Ball Appeal Scenario #5

- Action:
 - Legal appeal resulting in Last out(s) of inning.
 - **Must be made before pitcher and all infielders exit field of play. ("Between the Lines!")*
- Runner Missed Base While Advancing:
 - **At a base to which runner was forced:** Treated as a force out – No runs may score
 - **At any other Base:** Timing play on preceding runners. No following runners may score.
- Runner Fails to Touch on Caught Fly:
 - Timing play on preceding runners no following runners may score.



Dead Ball Appeal Special Note (Scenario 5)

- ● May also recognize “extra outs” in an inning.
- If a game ending situation, appeal must be made to an umpire remaining on the field.
 (“Within the Confines!”)



Appeal Play "SNAFU's"

- Because of the differences in pro and NFHS rules regarding appeals, these plays are more likely than any other situations to implode in a mass of confusion. Because appeal plays are fairly infrequent, coaches and players are seldom aware of the differences.
- Following a play resulting in the ball becoming dead, pro rules call for the ball to be put back in play before appeals can be made. High School coaches frequently have their players adhere to the pro rule procedure. Being the person responsible for finally sorting things out, here are few of the most common booby traps you should recognize.
- Apply the *Appeal Play Fundamentals* - with particular attention to articles 1, 2, and 3 - to the following situations. Make your ruling, and support each with appropriate fundamental and a brief explanation.
- In the following situations, the batter/runner doubles but misses first. The defensive coach calls time for a conference. When the plate umpire signals "Play," the following actions ensue.