

**CSOA Rule 8**  
**Discussion Questions 2009**

1. As R1 slides into 2nd base on a stolen base attempt, the base becomes dislodged. R1 is at the spot where the base should be, but she is no longer touching the base. What's your call?
2. R1 is on 3rd base and R2 is on 1st base with no outs as B3 bats with two strikes. R2 breaks for 2nd when B3 swings and misses for strike three. B3's momentum carries her into F2 and prevents F2 from completing her throw to 2nd base. What's your call?
3. What are some of the guidelines for an umpire to follow to determine when a runner leaves her base too soon on a pitch?
4. Prior to the pitch, B1's bat and F2's glove make inadvertent contact during the loosening up swings. What's your call?
5. R2 is on 2nd base with two outs. B4 hits a ground ball to F6 who is positioned behind the baseline. While advancing to 3rd, R2 has to jump over the batted ball to avoid being struck. Subsequently, F6 misplays the ball. Is that interference?
6. Speedy R1 is on 3rd base as B2 bats with no outs. B2 hits a fair, bouncing ball up the first-base line to F3. When F3 moves to tag B2 about six feet from 1st base, B2 steps back toward home to avoid F3's tag. When B2 steps back, R3 has reached and touched home plate. What's your call?
7. R1 is on 3rd base with one out when B3, with a 1-1 count hits a foul fly ball near 3rd base. When F5 settles comfortably under the ball, R1 bumps F5 causing her to drop the ball. What's your call?
8. R1 is on 2nd base and R2 is on 1st base with one out when B4 hits a declared infield fly between 1st and 2nd base. The runners are off base when the ball drops untouched in front of F4 and both runners advance one base without tagging up. F4 recovers the ball and throws to F3 standing on 1st base to appeal R2. What's your call?

**CSOA Rule 8**  
**Discussion Questions 2009**  
**Answer Section**

1. 8-4-2h exception  
R1 is safe.  
If, in the umpires judgment, R1 slid away from the spot where the base should have been, then she could be called out if tagged.
  
2. 8-2-6; Casebook 7.4.4 situation C  
B3 is out on strikes and then interfered with F2's attempt to play on R3 at 2nd base. The ball is dead and R1, the runner closest to home is also out because of interference by a retired runner. Play continues with two outs and R3 returned to 1st base.
  
3. 8-6-21  
As we know, the runner may not leave her base before the pitcher releases the ball. The umpire will take a set position square to home plate while focusing on the runner's foot that will last leave the base. The umpire will peripherally watch the arm swing of the pitcher. Consider that the pitcher releases the ball when her arm is in line with her body with her hand at her hip.  
Many runners have developed legal "rock starts" that may appear to be violations. Give any benefit of doubt to the runner. Never guess an out.
  
4. 8-1-1d  
The plate umpire should immediately extend both arms overhead, call time and begin the play anew after B1 and F2 reset.
  
5. 8-6-10a  
Providing R2's advance was normal, reasonably expected base running and not designed to illegally complicate F6's play, interference has not occurred.  
Had R2 made an attempt to "time" her arrival at the location of the ball as F6 was about to field it, interference could be called.  
The umpire must determine if R2 illegally interfered with a fielder in the act of fielding a batted ball.
  
6. 8-2-8 penalty  
The ball is dead immediately the instant B2 steps back toward home to delay or avoid a tag by a fielder. R1's run counts because the runner is entitled to the base reached at the time of the infraction.
  
7. 8-6-14 penalty  
Casebook 8.6.10E  
R1 is declared out and B3 is charged with a foul ball and remains at bat with a 1-2 count. Play resumes with two outs.
  
8. 8-2-9; 2-30  
B3 is out on the infield fly and the advances by R1 and R2 are legal. When a declared infield fly is not caught, runners may attempt to advance without tagging up the same as they would on any other fly.