



Rule 8 Section 1d 2 Effect and Rule 6 Effect Sections 1-7

Situation/Play:

No outs, Runner on 3rd base. Pitcher makes a pitch, the first base umpire calls “illegal pitch”, the batter swings at the pitch, but is obstructed by the catcher, despite the obstruction the batter hits safely to F9. How does the play stand?

Ruling:

The umpire must enforce the catcher’s obstruction. Rule 8 section 1d 2 Effect.

If the runner from 3rd did not advance, you must give the offensive team manager the option of taking the result of the play or enforcing obstruction and awarding the batter 1B. If the coach wishes to take the result of the play, you would enforce the illegal pitch which again would be the option of either the result of the play or enforcement of the illegal pitch. Rule 6 Effect section 1-7.

If the manager again elects to take the result of the play, the batter-runner stays on 1st base. If the manager takes the enforcement of the illegal pitch, a ball is awarded to the batter and the runner on 3rd is awarded home.

If the runner from 3rd had advanced safely on the hit, then the violations of catcher’s obstruction and the illegal pitch are ignored and the batter-runner stays on first and runner from 3rd score counts.

Rules Cited: Rule 8 Section 1d 2 Effect and Rule 6 Effect Sections 1-7