

Souhegan Valley Girls Softball League

Rule Amendment Spring 2022

Section V. 10U - Stealing

Yes. Runners can advance one (1) base per pitch (steal, pass ball, or wild pitch). Runners cannot proceed to the next base on an overthrow on a steal. Runners can advance to home to score a run only twice (2) per inning on offense on any pitch where the ball is not in play (in fair or foul territory) after contact by the batter or being forced in by a base on balls.

**The purpose of this rule is to offensively (a) teach base running, by showing what situations runners can advance safely to home on plays where the ball is not put into play, defensively (b) to help develop catchers by encouraging them to throw to put out stealing base runners, and (c) to not discourage new pitchers/catchers by allowing all five (5) runs in an inning to score on wild pitches/pass balls.*

Situation 1: No runs have been scored in the current half inning. Runner on 3B. Pass ball on ball four to the batter. Ball is live. The batter advances to first with base on balls. Runner scores from 3B on the pass ball.
Result: This is one (1) of (2) runs allowed that half inning on a ball not in play or forced in by base on balls.

Situation 2: No runs have been scored in the current half inning. Runner on 1B and 3B. On release the runner on 1B attempts to steal 2B. The ball is not put in play. The catcher throws down to 2B. Runner on 3B steals and scores during throw down.
Result: This is one (1) of (2) runs allowed that half inning on a ball not in play or forced in by base on balls.

Situation 3: Two runs have been scored by runners from 3B after wild pitches in the current half inning. Runner on 1B and 3B. On release the runner on 1B attempts to steal 2B. The ball is not put in play. The catcher throws down to 2B. Runner on 3B steals and scores during throw down.
Result: The run does not count and the runner is returned to 3B. In the spirit this rule coaches should be mindful of this situation and explain to runners that in higher levels this is allowed.

Situation 4: Two runs have been scored by runners from 3B after wild pitches in the current half inning. Runner on 1B and 3B. On release the runner on 1B attempts to steal 2B. The ball is not put in play. The catcher throws down to 3B. Runner on 3B is caught in run down and eventually scores.

Result: The run does not count and the runner is returned to 3B. If the runner is put out by the defense they are out. In the spirit this rule coaches should be mindful of this situation and should not use this as “play” or distraction to advance the runner from 1B.

Situation 5: No runs have been scored in the current half inning. Runner on 3B. Batter hits a pop fly that is caught in foul territory by RF. Runner on 3B tags up and scores.

Result: This is NOT one (1) of (2) runs that half inning on a ball not in play or forced in by base on balls since the ball was put in play by the batter.