

Play of the Week #1

R1 of Team B is called out while attempting to steal home on a close play at the plate. After Team B's head coach consults with an assistant coach near the dugout, footage from a tablet on the close play at the plate is shared with the umpire. As the coach is showing the video to the umpire, it is evident to the umpire that the camera angle of the video is from behind home plate.

What's your call?

Answer to follow...

Answer:

Currently, the rules state that recording and using the footage for coaching purposes during the game is only permitted within the team's dugout/bench area.

Although an umpire should not examine dugouts to determine how a team is utilizing electronic equipment, in this situation, the coach brought the video to the umpire's attention and, therefore, the umpire must enforce the rule.

Therefore, the umpire ejects the coach for violating the rule prohibiting the use of electronic equipment outside of the dugout.

In addition to the improper use of electronic equipment, use of video to review a play with an umpire is not permissible in NFHS Softball.

(1-8-6, 3-6-11, 10-1-4)