

Obstruction and Interference.... Teaching to Understand





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Discussion Points

- Definitions
- Play Review with Visual Effects
- Games
 - Jeopardy
 - Umpire Feud
- Umpire Discussions
- Real Life Examples
- Video Review
- Flowcharts
- Flipbook
- How to measure awarded bases
- Questions

Definitions-Interference

INTERFERENCE: The act of an offensive player or team member, umpire or spectator that impedes, hinders, or confuses a defensive player attempting to execute a play. Contact is not necessary.

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Definitions-Obstruction

OBSTRUCTION: The act of a defensive team member:

A. Who hinders or impedes a batter from striking at or hitting a pitched ball.

B. Who impedes the progress of a runner or batter-runner who is legally running the bases unless the fielder is;

1 in possession of the ball.

2 in the act of fielding a batted ball.

Note: *Contact is not necessary to impede the progress of the batter-runner or a runner.*

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Play Review with Visual Effects

<u>Play 1</u>	<u>Play 2</u>	<u>Play 3</u>
<u>Play 4</u>	<u>Play 5</u>	<u>Play 6</u>

Play 1

R1 attempts to steal 2B, F4, who is about to receive the throw, blocks the bag impeding R1's progress to 2B. The ball gets away from F4 and goes into the outfield. R1:

- a. Gets up and heads to 3B and is thrown out
- b. Remains at 2B



Play 2

As the B1 advances to 1B, an errant throw pulls F3 into foul territory. B1 and F3 collide prior to F3 having possession of the ball. F1 picks up the ball and throws to F4 covering 1B to retire B1.



Play 3

R1 on 2B and R2 on 1B, B3 gets a base hit to the outfield. R1 advances home, F5 impedes R2 as they round 3B and head for home. R2 is thrown out at home as B3 is between 2B and 3B.



Play 4

R1 on 2B and R2 on 1B. B3 hits a ground ball to F4. R2 collides with F4 as F4 is fielding the batted ball.



Play 5

R1 on 3B, R2 on 1B. B3 fly's out to F8.

R1 has left the base too soon and the 3B coach grabs R1 directing them back to 3B to tag up, R2 has legally tagged up and is between 1B and 2B.



Play 6

B2 takes a pitch for ball 2. R1 has a big lead off 3B, so F2 attempts to make a play on R1. B2 has one foot in the box and one foot out of the box towards 3B as they are looking at their base coach for the sign. F2 throws the ball and hits B2 in the helmet .





Games!

Jeopardy

Interference/Obstruction

Interference	Obstruction	Awarded Bases	Correct/ Incorrect
<u>10</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>10</u>
<u>20</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>20</u>
<u>30</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>30</u>
<u>40</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>40</u>
<u>50</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>50</u>

Interference- 10

- This must occur for an offensive player to be guilty of interference.

Interference— 10

- What is hinder, impede or confuse the defensive player?



Interference- 20

- This is the proper mechanic when a runner interferes with a defensive player.

Interference— 20

- What is dead ball, the runner is out, all other runners must return to the last base touched at the time of the interference?



Interference- 30

- When the ball has passed a fielder (other than the pitcher) for there to be interference another fielder has to be able to _____?

Interference— 30

- What is get an out!



Interference- 40

- These types of interference would result in the runner closest to home being called out.

Interference— 40

- What is interference by a retired runner, interference by an on deck batter, or interference by an offensive player other than a runner?



Interference- 50

- This type of interference is a delayed dead ball.

Interference— 50

- What is interference by the plate umpire?



Obstruction- 10

- The act of a defensive team member who impedes the progress of a runner or batter runner who is legally running the bases unless the fielder is in possession of the ball or in the act of fielding a batted ball.

Obstruction— 10

- What is obstruction?



Obstruction- 20

- When can a fielder block a base without possession of the ball and not be guilty of obstruction?

Obstruction– 20

- What is when the runner is not impeded by the defenders position.



Obstruction- 30

- It is not obstruction when a fielder impedes a runners progress while trying to catch a thrown ball.

Obstruction— 30

- What is not true? If the fielder impedes the progress of a runner without possession of the ball or not in the act of fielding a batted ball, it is obstruction.



Obstruction- 40

- This happens when a runner passes the base which would have been reached had there been no obstruction and is past the two bases where the obstruction occurred and is tagged out.

Obstruction— 40

- What is live ball and the runner is out?



Obstruction- 50

- These are times when a runner can be called out between the two bases where they were obstructed.

Obstruction— 50

- What is when an obstructed runner
 - After the obstruction, safely obtains the base they would have been awarded, in the umpire's judgment, had there been no obstruction and there is a subsequent play on a different runner
 - Causes an act of interference
 - Passes another runner
 - Misses a base (if properly appealed)
 - Leaves a base before a fly ball is touched for the first time. (if properly appealed)



Awarded Bases- 10

This is the minimum number of awarded bases when obstruction occurs.

Awarded Bases— 10

What is zero. All runners effected by the obstruction are awarded the base or bases they would have reached, in the umpires judgment, had there been no obstruction.



Awarded Bases- 20

R1 is on 1B when B2 hits the ball over the outfielders head, hitting the fence. As R1 is advancing, they are tripped by F4 and both players fall to the ground. B2 rounds 1B and seeing the ball is still at the fence starts to advance toward 2B but sees R1 still on the ground trying to get up and returns to 1B. R1 and F4 get untangled and R1 is only able to advance to 2B as the ball is returned to the infield. Once the ball is dead this is what the umpire should do.

Awarded Bases– 20

What is award both R1 and B2 the bases they would have reached had there been no obstruction? Even though B2 was not obstructed, B2 could not advance due to R1 being obstructed so they were effected by the obstruction and would be awarded the base they would have reached had their not been obstruction. In this case R1 would most likely be awarded 3B and B2 2B, or R1 may be awarded home and B2 either 2B or 3B depending on the umpires judgment of where they would have reached had there been no obstruction.



Awarded Bases - 30

- With no outs, R1 is on 3B and R2 on 1B when B3 strikes the glove of F2 and hits the ball to F4. F4 fields the ball and turns the double play. Note: R1 did score on the play.

Awarded Bases— 30

- What is the offensive coach has the option to take the result of the play or R1 is returned to 3B, R2 is placed on 2B, and B3 is awarded 1B with no outs.



Awarded Bases - 40

- With R1 on 3B, the catcher prevents B2 from bunting the ball while R1 is trying to advance home on a squeeze play.

Awarded Bases— 40

- What is the ball is dead, R1 is awarded home, and B3 is awarded 1B.



Awarded Bases - 50

With R1 on 2B and R2 on 1B, B3 hits the ball deep in the outfield. As R1 is advancing F6 collides with them knocking them to the ground. R2 seeing the ball still in the outfield as they round 2B, runs past R1 who is still lying on the ground and obtains 3B. The ball is returned to the infield and F6 tags R1 out as they are limping toward 3B. The correct mechanics for this play are?

Awarded Bases— 50

What is a delayed dead ball signal when R1 is obstructed. Signal an out when R2 passes R1, then when R1, the obstructed runner, is tagged out signal dead ball. All runners effected by the obstruction should be awarded the bases they would have reached in the umpires judgment had there not been obstruction. In this case most likely R1 would be awarded home and R2 3B. The out for R2 passing R1 is nullified as this would not have occurred if R1 was not obstructed.



Correct/Incorrect - 10

- As B1 advances to 1B, an errant throw pulls F3 into foul territory. B1 and F3 collide prior to F3 having possession of the ball. F1 picks up the ball and throws to F4 covering 1B to retire B1. The umpire who had previously signaled delayed dead ball for obstruction now signals and verbalizes “Dead Ball” and awards B1 first base.

Correct/Incorrect - 10

- Correct
- Obstruction – Rule 8 Section 5B[2]
(Effect)



Correct/Incorrect - 20

- R1 on 2B and R2 on 1B. B3 hits a ground ball to F4. R2 collides with F4 as F4 is fielding the batted ball. The umpire signals delayed ball and then calls “Dead Ball” after R2 reaches 2B

Correct/Incorrect - 20

Incorrect

Interference – Rule 8 Section 7J[1]
(Effect) Correct ruling: The umpire should have signaled and verbalized “Dead Ball,” called R2 out and returned all other runners to the last base touched at the time of the interference and awarded B3 first base.



Correct/Incorrect - 30

- B1 hits a long fly ball to the left field fence. The ball strikes the top of the fence and a spectator reaches into fair territory and grabs the ball. The umpire signals 4 base award.

Correct/Incorrect - 30

- Correct
- Interference – Rule 8 Section 5L (Effect)



Correct/Incorrect – 40

- R1 on 3B, R2 on 1B. B3 fly's out to F8. R1 has left the base too soon and the 3B coach grabs R1 directing them back to 3B to tag up, R2 has legally tagged up and is between 1B and 2B. The umpire rules "Dead Ball" and calls R1 out and returns all runners back to the last base touched at the time of the interference.

Correct/Incorrect - 40

- Incorrect
- Interference – Rule 8 Section 7E
(Effect) Correct Ruling: R1 is called out
and the ball remains live.



Correct/Incorrect - 50

- R1 is on 2B and R2 is on 1B when B3 hits a deep fly ball to F9. F4 is in the way of R2 who has tagged up and is on the way to 2B. R2 goes around F4, touches 2B and is headed to 3B. R2 passes R1 who has just tagged up at 2B on the way to 3B. The umpire initially signals delayed deal ball on the obstruction. Once R2 passes R1 the umpire immediately calls R2 out.

Correct/Incorrect - 50

- Correct
- Obstruction – Rule 8 Section 5B[1]
Exception C (Effect A-C)





It's now time to play
Umpire Feud!



Top 5 Things That Happen when Interference Occurs

1	5
2	
3	
4	



Top 5 Types of Interference

1	5
2	
3	
4	



Top 5 Things That Happen when Obstruction Occurs

1	5
2	
3	
4	

Umpire Discussions

- Interference Discussion
- Obstruction Discussion
- Conversations with a friend/family member

Real Life Examples

Flat Tires



Supermarket



Travel



Distractions

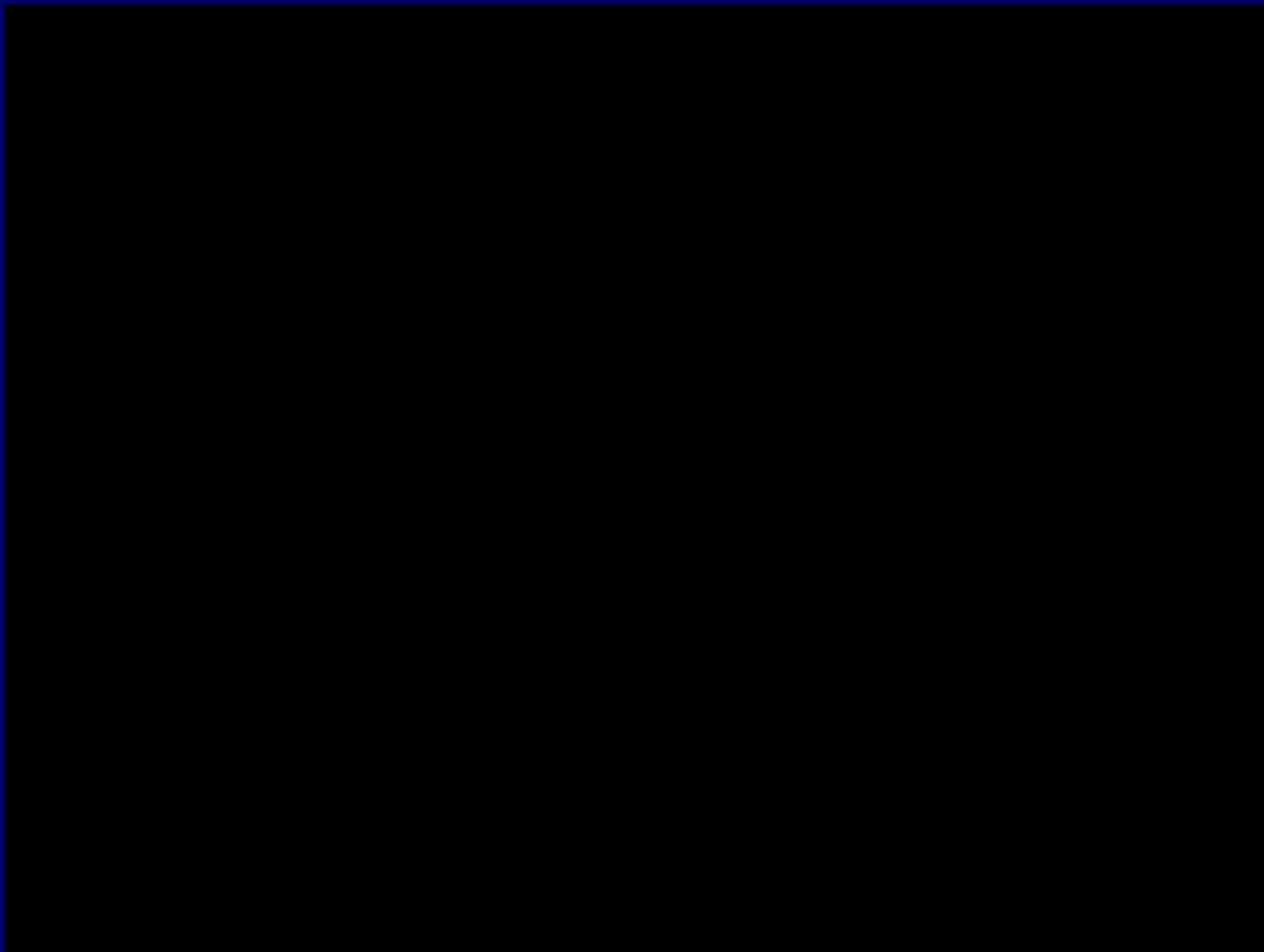




Video Review



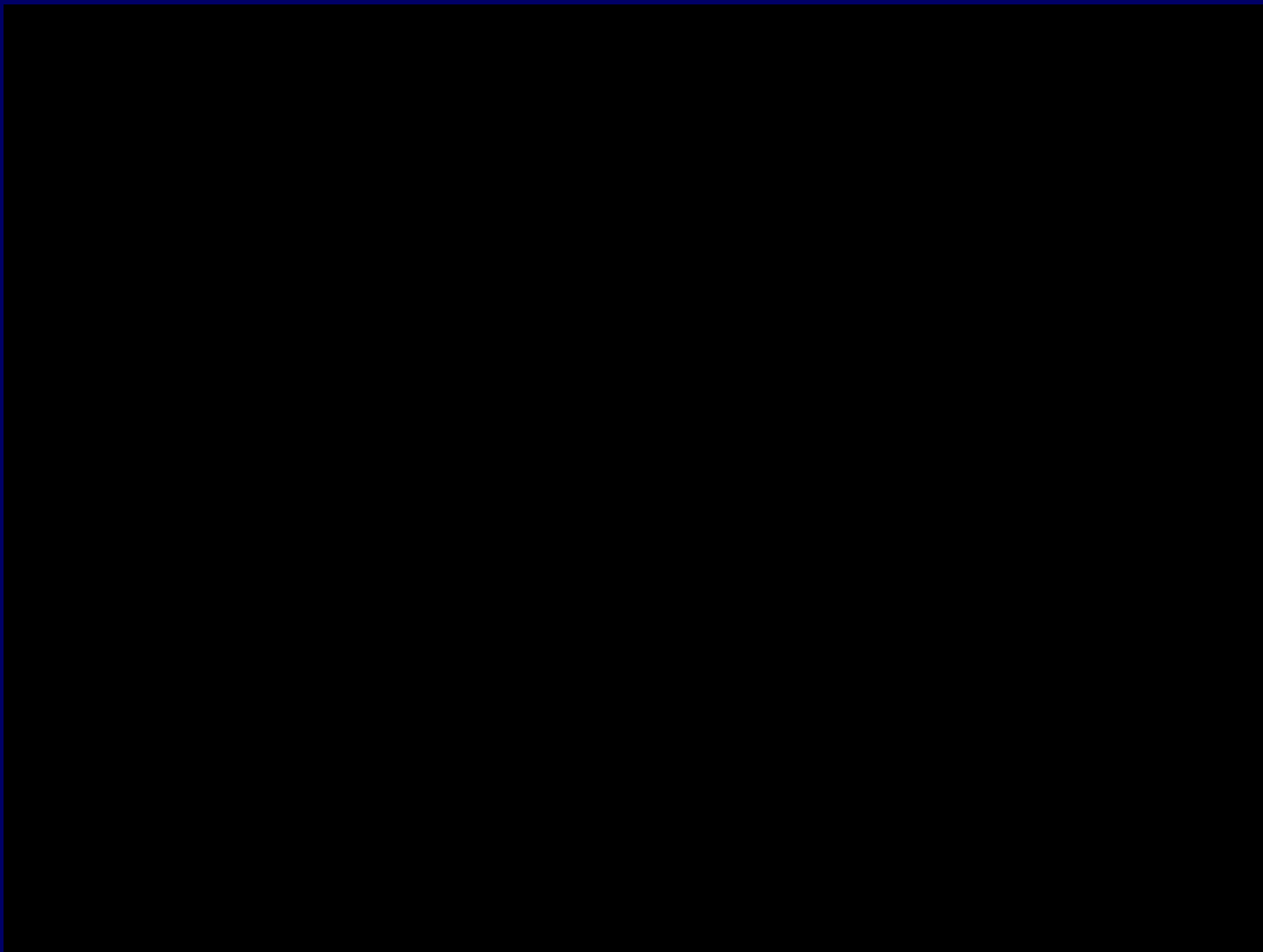
What do you have and when?



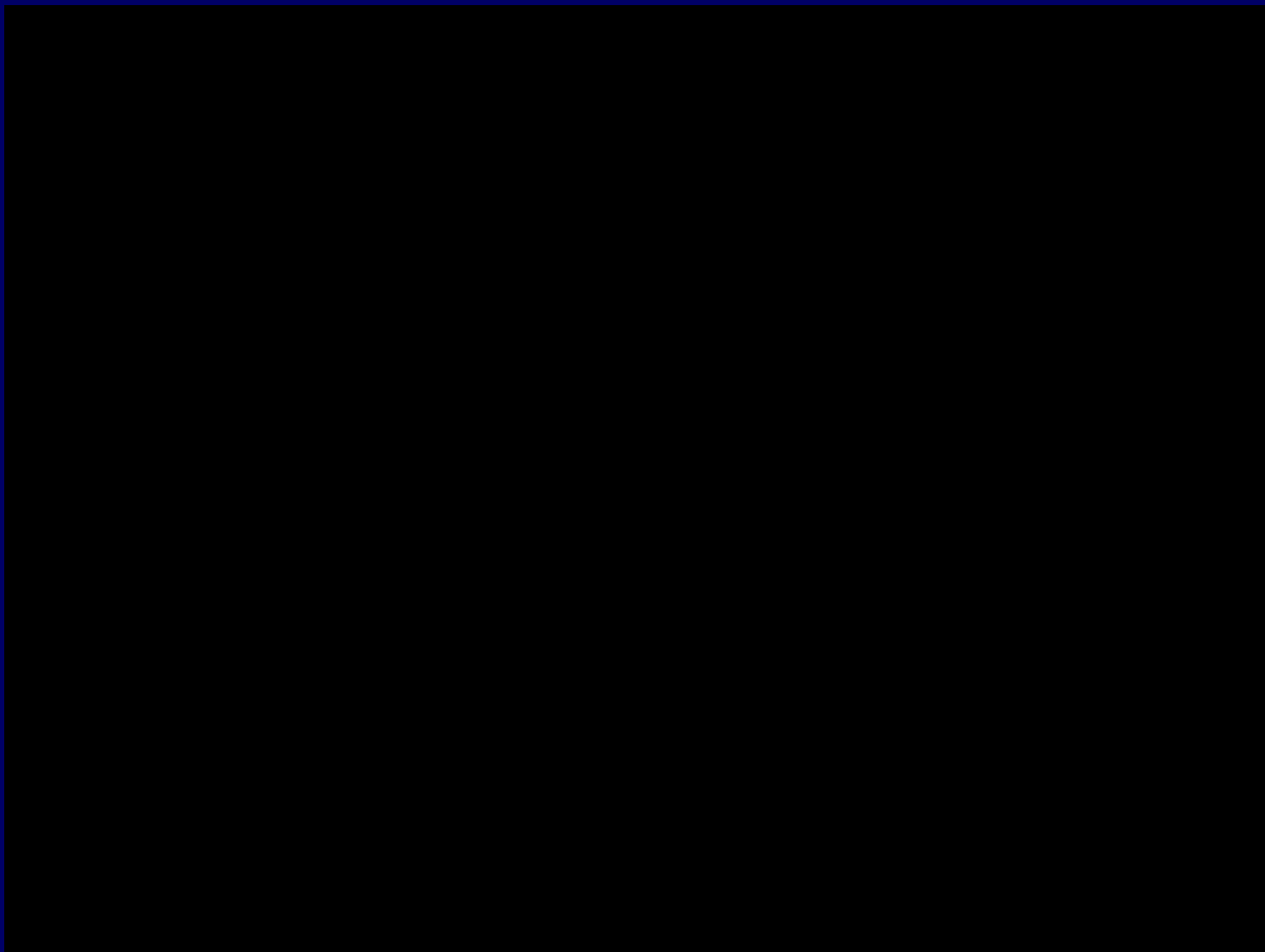
When would you call Obstruction?



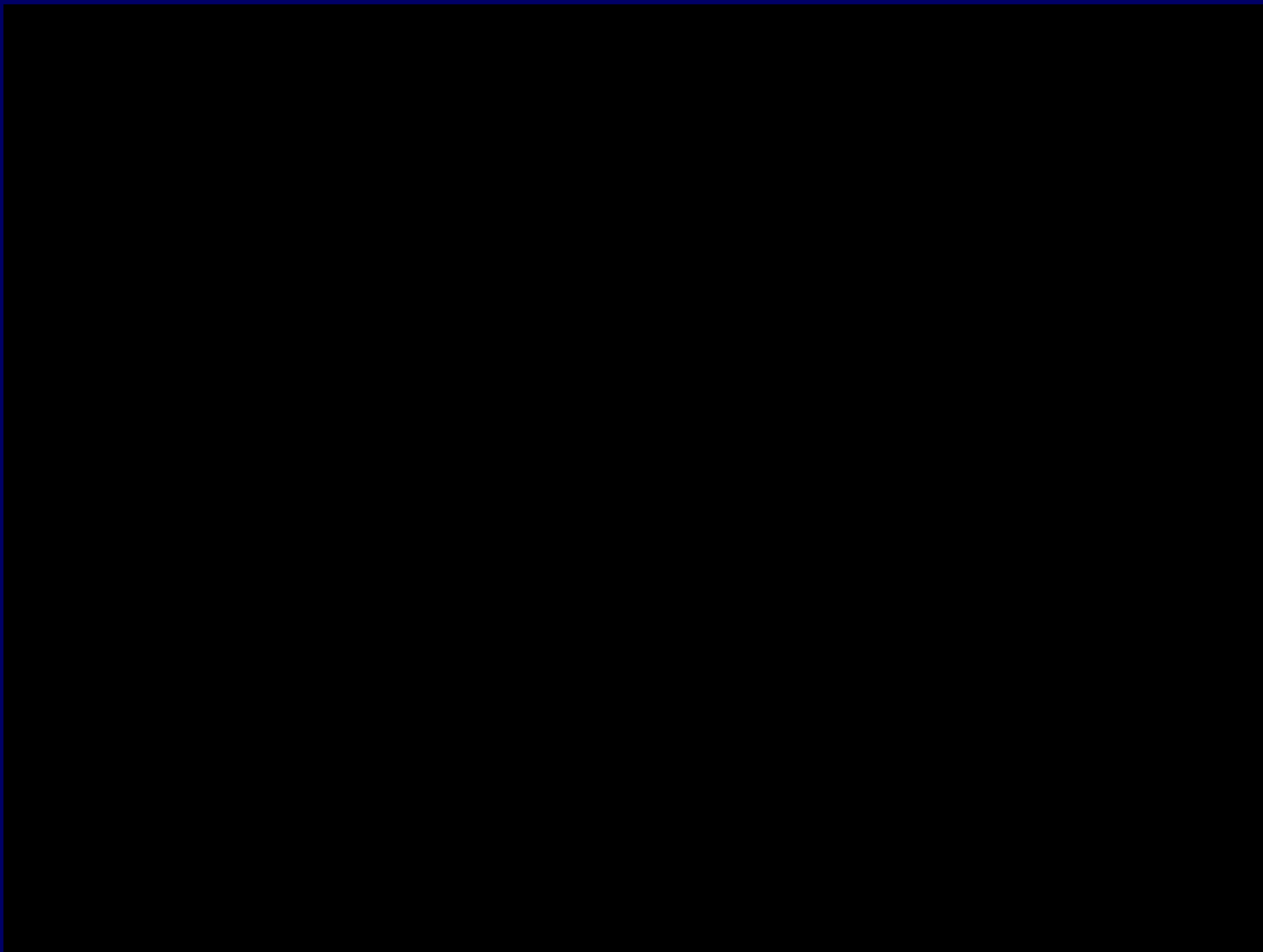
What do you have?



Do you have anything?



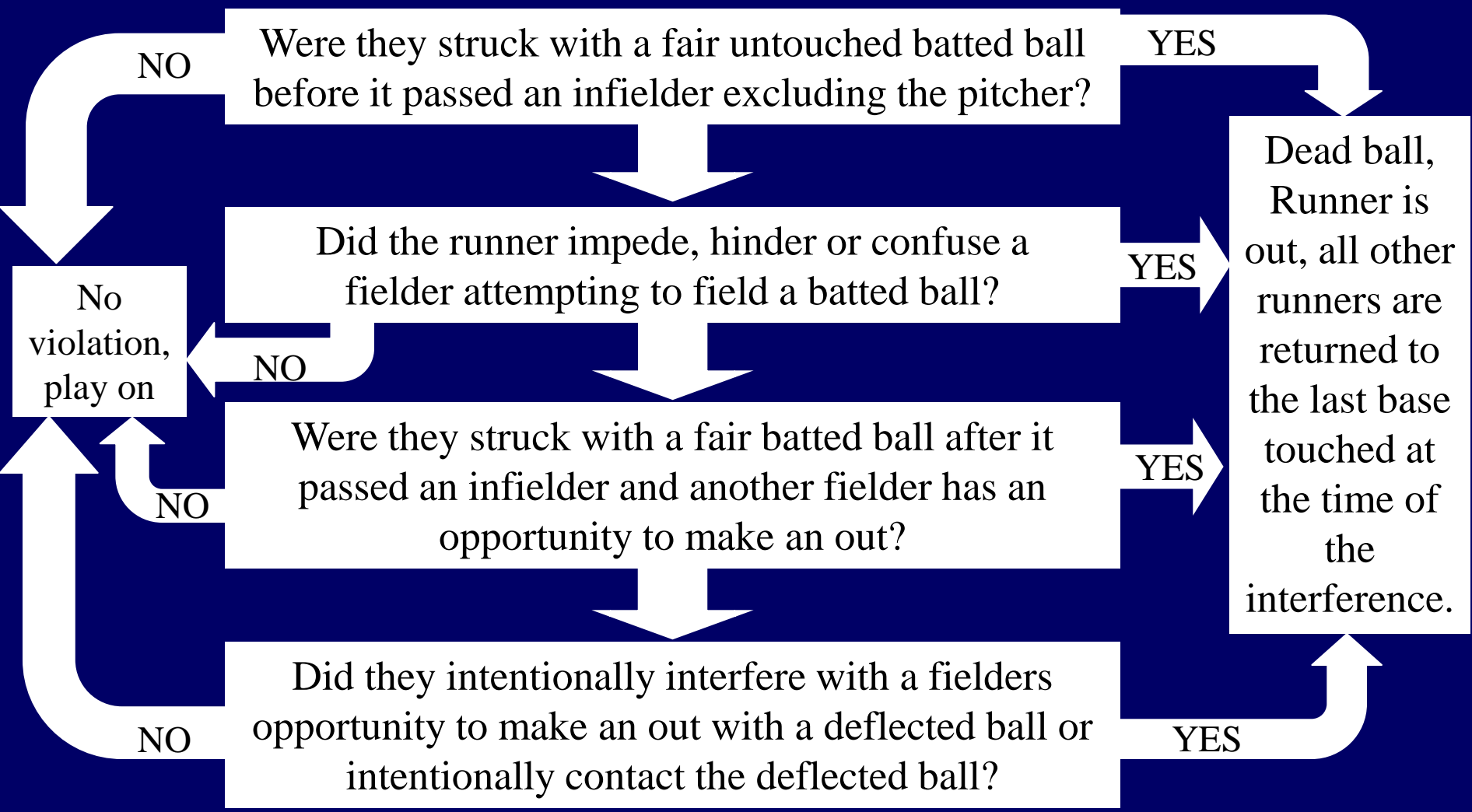
Do you have anything?



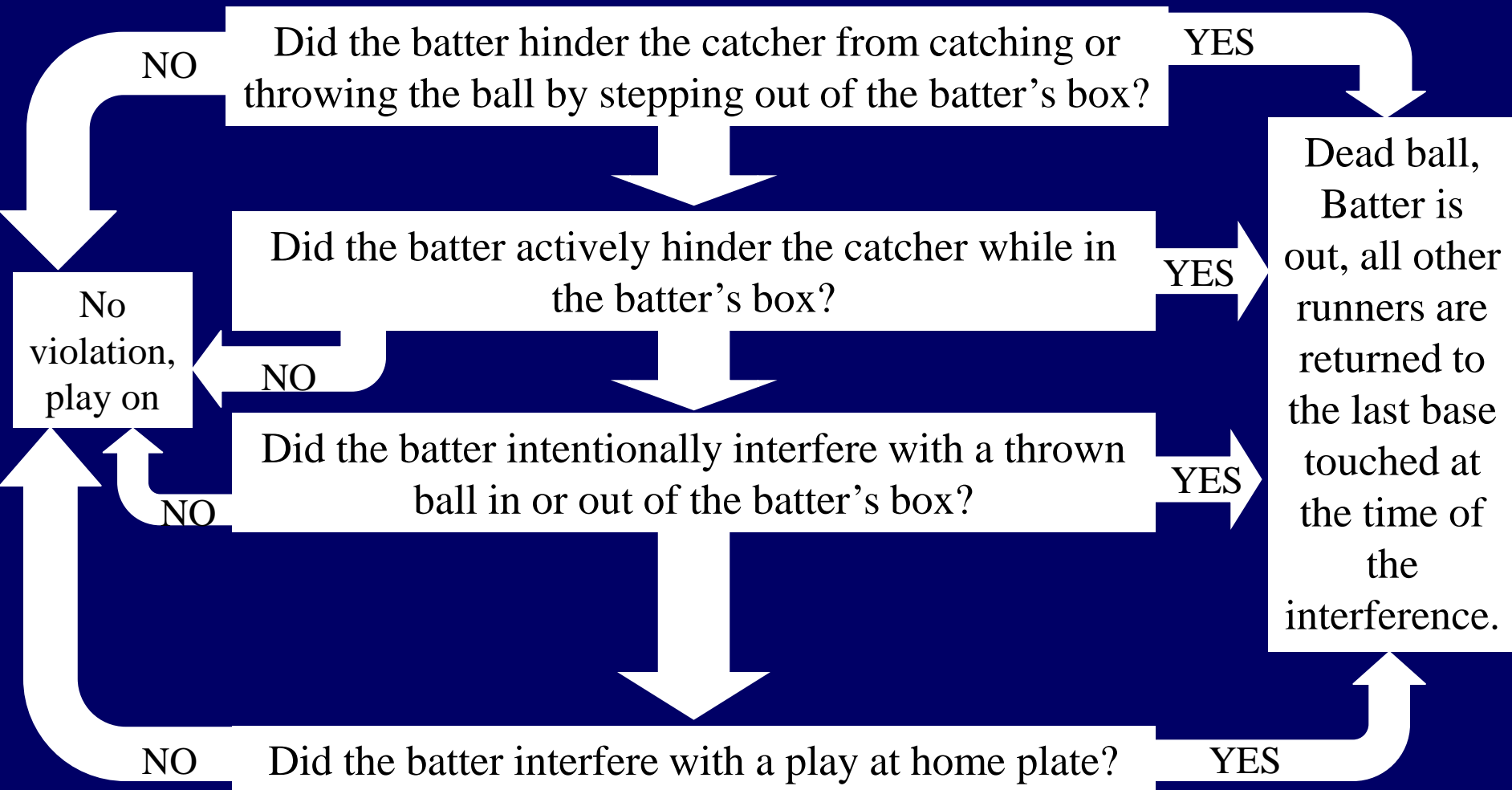
Flowcharts and Flipcharts



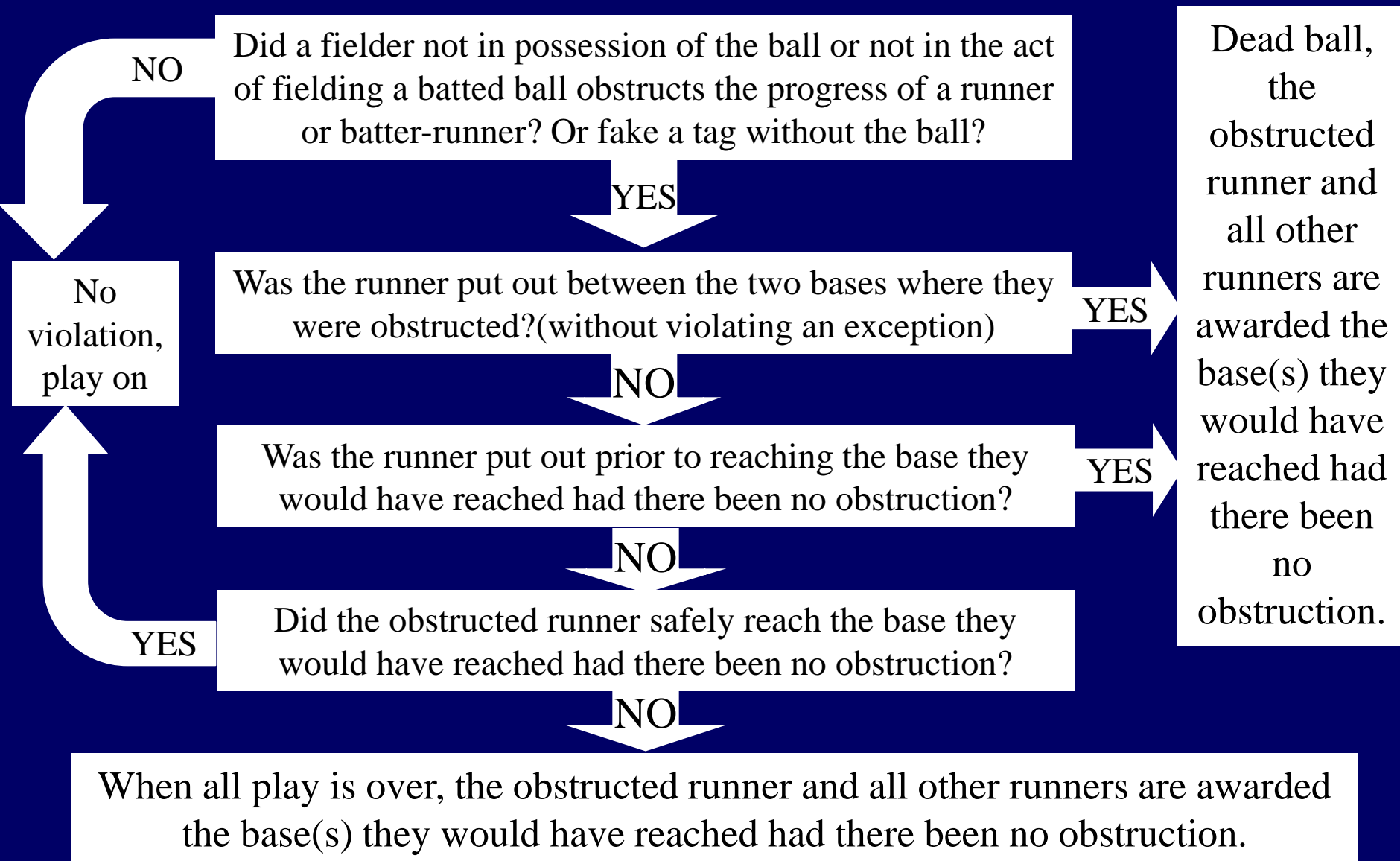
Runner Interference on a Batted Ball Flowchart



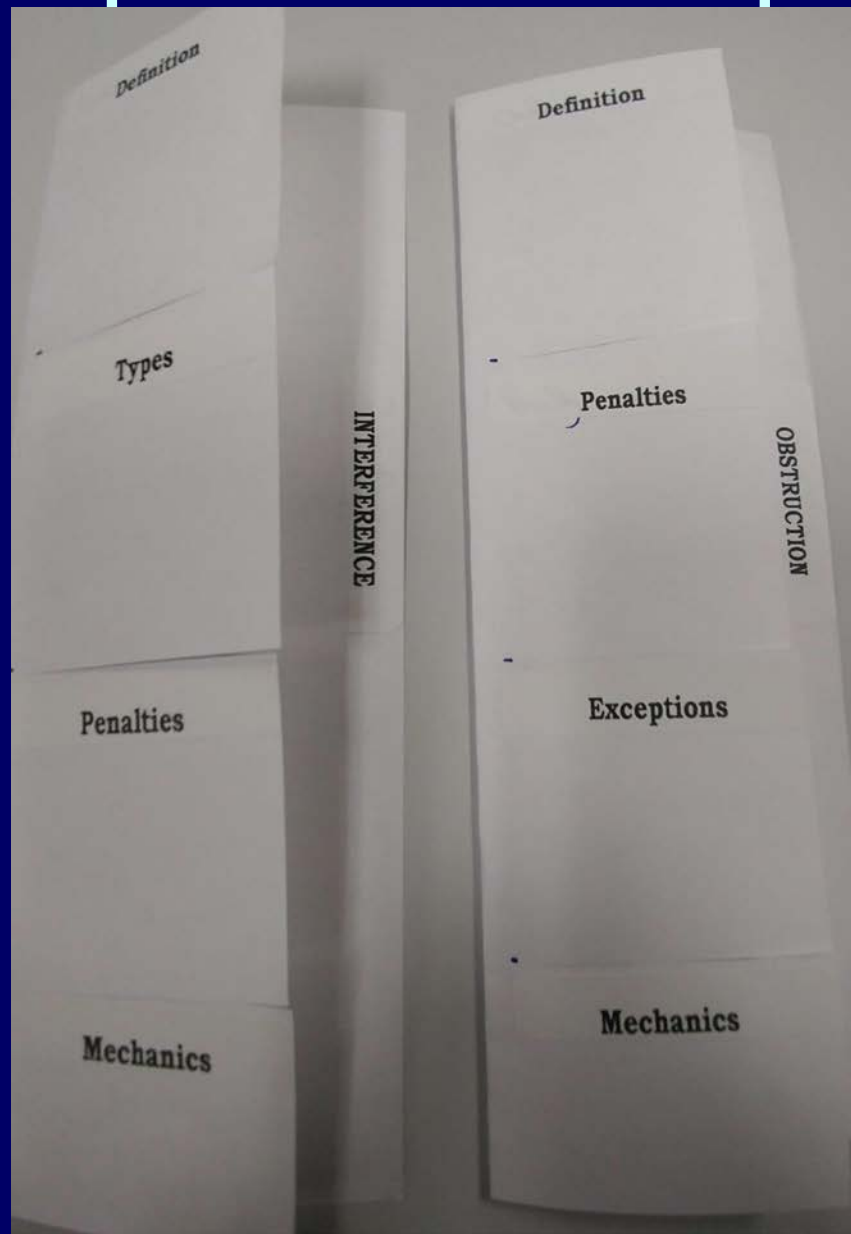
Batter Interference Flowchart



Obstruction of a Runner Flowchart



Flipbook Example



How do you measure awarded bases?



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- How to measure awarded bases

Questions?

