

**6:** Dolan is listed as the P/ DH for the visiting team. In the fifth inning, Dolan was substituted for by another pitcher but legally returned in the sixth inning. In the bottom of the sixth, Dolan (as the DH) hits a double and the coach wants to pinch-run for Dolan. The umpire correctly tells the coach this is permissible, but using a pinch-runner will not only eliminate the role of the DH for the remainder of the game, but will end Dolan's role as pitcher in the game since a starting player cannot re-enter back to the game twice. What can the coach do that will allow a runner and keep Dolan as a pitcher?

**RULING:** As a player/DH, Dolan has two roles: the pitcher when the team is on defense and as the DH when the team is on offense. The coach may tell the plate umpire that Dolan, who is on second base, is no longer there as a DH but as the pitcher who is also a hitter, thus ending the role of the DH for the game. This is legal. Then, Dolan, on base as the pitcher, may have a courtesy runner run with no impact on the substitution. (3-1-3, 3-1-4, CR1, CR3)

**7:** In the third inning, Sanders, who is listed fourth in the batting order as the P/DH, is hit by a pitch and is replaced by Coleman, who will run for Sanders. Coleman bats in the fourth inning and strikes out. In the sixth inning, Sanders re-enters the game to (a) pinch-hit for Coleman or (b) play defense for Abel at first base with Coleman continuing to pitch.

**RULING:** Legal in (a). While the role of the DH is done for the game, Sanders may re-enter and is a defensive player, who is also a hitter. Illegal in (b). Sanders and Coleman are "locked" into the same lineup spot and cannot be in the game on defense at the same time. (3-1-4)

**8:** Following a home run, the offensive team gathers around home plate with mock up "tiki" torches and a plastic long spear. As the runners touch all the bases, the team engages in a Polynesian style dance. As the batter- runner touches home plate, the entire team jumps high in the air, shouts "boom" as they all fall in a circle.

**RULING:** While it is important for a team to celebrate exciting events in the game, it cannot be done in a manner that disrespects and humiliates the opposing team. Excessive and orchestrated celebrations that taunt and/or intimidate are not part of a high school game and are not to be allowed. The coach of the team involved may be warned, restricted to the bench or even ejected depending upon the circumstances. (3-3-1f1, 3; 2022 Points of Emphasis)

**9:** With two hours elapsed, the game is in the top of the third inning with a score of 24-0 for the home team. Both coaches agree that continuing the game is not in the best interest of either team and wish to end the game officially.

**RULING:** At any point in a game, by mutual agreement of both coaches and the umpire-in-chief, a game may be shortened or terminated. (4-2-4)

**10:** After eight complete innings with the score still tied, the umpires suspend the game due to darkness. Due to pitch-count regulations, A1, the starting home team pitcher has a mandatory rest day on the day the game is scheduled to resume. The home team replaces A1 with A2 and claims that A2 is now considered to be the starting pitcher and has re-entry ability the same as if A2 had started the original game.

**RULING:** When a suspended game is resumed, the game continues as if the game had not been interrupted. Accordingly, the starting pitcher cannot be “replaced” by another starting pitcher. If the starting pitcher cannot continue to pitch, the substitute pitcher is a substitute and will not be considered the starting pitcher. The substitute pitcher has no re-entry ability. In a suspended game, substitutes who were not at the original game can be added to the substitution list. (4-2-4, 3-1-3, 6-1-6)