



2021 NCAA Postseason Protocols

- 1. 4 Person Mechanic for fly balls with runners on base.** A reminder that umpires will not automatically go out on all fly balls. Umpires will read the ball and only go out on troubled catch/no catch situations. This may not be the BEST solution for catch/no catch, but these situations are reviewable and having the extra umpire in the infield gives us maximum coverage for everything else that can happen, of which many are not reviewable.
- 2. The 3rd Base Umpire** will be the umpire responsible for timing between innings and pitches (*unless a visible clock is provided that is administered by game administration*). It is required that with 30 seconds remaining between innings that his arm is extended vertically above his head. Arm will lower to a straight out-horizontal position with 15 seconds remaining and the 3rd base umpire will point to the plate umpire when time has expired. Additionally, the 3B umpire will visibly, with either hand, push the handheld clock in a manner similar to a routine "out mechanic" to indicate the moment that the time between innings has started.
- 3. Keeping track of conferences/visits.** All umpires (except the 3rd base umpire) will keep track of all charged trips to the mound and defensive conferences. There may be times when an infielder will ask the 3rd base umpire if he has a visit remaining. In these situations, (*since the umpire would probably have to look at his card first anyway*), he can just quickly ask either U1 or U2 if a visit is remaining.
- 4. It is the responsibility of the HP** umpire to clearly point the ball in play to start any inning dead ball situation. This is critical and this will be the primary visible indicator to the timer when to start the 20 second clock.
- 5. Indicting Charged Conference.** It is required that any time a conference is charged (offensive or defensive) that the appropriate umpire will notify that team's head coach. (*Special emphasis should be discussed during this postseason regarding officials managing and clearly communicating those situations where an offensive team tries to huddle during a charged conference to the mound*).
6. It is imperative that, unless automatic, that an umpire first warn any individual before being ejected with a visible stop sign. It is required that the warning includes this exact verbiage: **"THIS IS YOUR WARNING, IF YOU CONTINUE, YOU WILL BE EJECTED"**. If there is an ejection, the ejecting umpire will IMMEDIATELY walk away and refrain from any further dialogue with that individual. The crew chief or appropriate partner will handle all matters of the situation once the individual is ejected. If a prolonged or failure to leave in a timely manner suspension is issued, it shall be issued by another member of the crew and not the ejecting official.
7. During any video review, the calling official and the crew chief will go to the headsets. If the crew chief is the calling official, he will designate which official will join him at the headsets. Both review officials are to remain on the playing field and in clear sight of both teams and are not to leave the playing field during a review.

If any umpire or crew chief has any questions regarding NCAA postseason protocol, please contact me immediately.

Tom Hiler

NCAA Director of Umpire Training
208-598-5558
TomasHiler@gmail.com