

"Be The Referee" is a series of one-minute messages designed to help educate people on the rules of different sports, to help them better understand the art of officiating, and to recruit officials. "Be The Referee" features MHSAA Assistant Director Mark Uyl's insights on officiating.

## Slide Rule

Recently there's been a lot of conversation and discussion about Major League Baseball's new slide rule – both at second base, as well as some of the new collision rules that are in effect around home plate.

For many years at the high school level, both baseball and softball playing rules have been ahead of the curve in keeping players safe.

In both high school baseball and softball, when runners do elect to slide, they must slide directly into the base on a force play. On those plays at the plate, runners must do everything they can do to avoid a collision with the catcher; by either making a legal slide, giving themselves up, or moving in a way to make those collisions at home plate a thing of the past.

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