

Rules Committee Opinion 3-2012
(Blocking a Rover Ball)

Question: If a rover ball is blocked from running a wicket or hitting the stake on two consecutive turns, is it allowed to clear itself of deadness on the blocking ball(s) under Rule 9.2b?

Answer: No. Rule 9.2 does not apply to a rover.

Discussion: Rule 9.2b allows a striker ball that has been blocked on two consecutive turns to clear itself of deadness on all blocking balls. Rule 9.2a sets forth the circumstances that must occur for a striker to be blocked from scoring a wicket. Thus, a ball can only be blocked from scoring a wicket. Pursuant to Rule 4.1b, a ball scores a wicket point when “passes through a wicket in proper order and direction”. Since a rover has scored all 12 wickets, it cannot score any more wickets. While Rule 10.3b allows a rover to clear itself of its deadness (except last deadness) by shooting or passing through a wicket in either direction, this is not the same as scoring a wicket in the proper order.