

2021-22 Softball Officials Exam for Postseason Tournament Consideration & Answers

1. With a 3-2 count, B1 swings at a high and inside rise ball. B1 completely misses the pitch that subsequently hits her in the shoulder. (7-2-1g)

a. The ball is dead and B1 is awarded first base for a hit by pitch.

b. The ball is dead, a foul ball is called and B1 remains at bat.

c. The ball is dead and B1 is called out for strike three.

2. When obstruction occurs, the umpire should give the delayed-ball signal, regardless of whether there is a play on the obstructed runner. (8-4-3b Pen.)

a. True

b. False

3. Batter A approaches the batter's box and the defensive team's head coach requests that the batter be "intentionally walked." At that time, the home plate umpire indicates that the batter is awarded first base. The defensive coach now appeals that Batter A has batted out of order. (2-65-2, 7-1-2 PENALTIES)

a. This appeal may not be made until Batter A reaches first base.

b. The appeal may not be made after the home plate umpire awards the intentional walk.

c. The appeal may be made at any time after the home plate umpire awards the intentional walk and before a pitch to the next batter.

d. All of the above.

4. Where are media allowed during a high school softball game? (1-1-7, 2-22-4)

a. In live-ball territory inside the confines of the field.

b. Down the right-field line only, in live-ball territory.

c. In dead-ball territory.

d. Behind the home plate umpire in front of the backstop.

5. All the following are legal apparel except: (3-2-7)

a. All players are wearing a white arm sleeve.

b. All players are wearing a black knee sleeve.

c. Some players are wearing camouflage arm sleeves in the school colors.

d. Some players are wearing gray tights.

6. When an illegal pitch is called with a runner on base: (6-1-1 PENALTY, 6-2-1)

a. All runners advance one base.

b. The batter is awarded a ball.

c. A warning will be issued to the pitcher.

d. Both A and B.

7. Prior to starting the delivery of a pitch, the pitcher must: (6-1-1)

a. Have both feet in contact with the pitcher's plate.

b. Have both feet on the ground within or partially within the 24-inch length of the pitcher's plate.

c. Have both feet on top of the pitcher's plate.

d. Not take a step backward.

8. B1 steps up to the plate and after she hits two balls over the fence in foul territory, F1 requests to intentionally walk B1. (2-65-2, 8-1-1c)

a. The umpire allows B1 to be intentionally walked.

b. The umpire informs F1 that the request for an intentional walk must come from the head coach.

c. The umpire states that although F1, F2 or the defensive coach can request an intentional walk, it must be done prior to any pitches being thrown.

d. The umpire informs F1 that an intentional walk cannot be requested once there are two strikes.

9. With R1 on first base and one out, R1 leaves the base prior to the pitcher releasing the ball. B3 proceeds to hit the pitch over the center-field fence. The umpire should: (6-2-4c, 8-16-18)

- a. Wait for the defense to appeal the runner leaving early. If no appeal, both runs score.
- b. Give the delayed dead-ball signal. After all runners touch home plate, call time and rule R1 out for leaving early. Since there were less than two outs, the batter's run counts.
- c. Signal time and declare "no pitch." R1 is out for leaving early and the batter's count is the same as before that pitch.**
- d. Do nothing, the play is legal.

10. R1 is on first base when B2 hits a ground ball to F4. F4 is in the baseline between first and second when F4 misplays the ball. R1 crashes into F4 while attempting to recover the ball. The correct call is: (2-47-3c, 8-6-10a)

- a. If the misplayed ball is within a step and a reach of where F4 initially contacted the ball, R1 has committed interference.**
- b. When F4 misplays the ball, the umpire will give the delayed dead-ball signal and wait to see what happens.
- c. Because F4 was in the baseline, F4 is always charged with obstruction.
- d. None of the above.

11. B1 enters the batter's box on the right side while the pitcher is in position ready to pitch. B1 disconcerts the pitcher by moving to the left-hand batter's box. The correct ruling is: (7-4-3 PENALTY)

- a. Allow the pitcher to reset and continue to play.
- b. Allow the pitcher to reset and warn the head coach the next infraction would result in an out on the batter.
- c. The ball is dead immediately and batter is called out.**
- d. An illegal pitch is called on the pitcher.

12. Who can detect a batter who enters the batter box with an illegal bat or is discovered having used an illegal bat? (7-4-2)

- a. Only the offensive team can report it.
- b. A fan.
- c. Only the umpire or the defense can detect it.**
- d. Only the offensive coach can self-report.

13. R1 is caught in a rundown between third base and home. As R1 is attempting to return to third base, R1 is obstructed by F5 and subsequently tagged while off the base by F6. The correct call is: (2-36)

- a. The call is always an immediate dead ball when a runner is obstructed.
- b. When a fielder obstructs a runner, the initial call is always a delayed dead ball. Once the obstructed runner is put out, it becomes a dead ball and the umpires shall award R1 the base that would have been reached had there been no obstruction.**
- c. R1 is awarded home.
- d. The umpire will issue a warning to F5 and notify F5's coach.

14. After the lineup cards have been submitted to and verified by the plate umpire, the opposing coach has a player arrive late and wants to add that player to the lineup. (3-1-3 PENALTY)

- a. This is not permitted.
- b. Players can be added to the lineup without penalty.
- c. The umpire will add the player to the lineup and shall issue a team warning to the head coach of the team involved.**
- d. The umpire will add the player to the lineup and restrict the coach to the dugout/bench area for an incorrect lineup card.

15. A1 is Team A's pitcher in the fourth inning. A11 is brought in as a relief pitcher in that inning. Team A's coach wants to re-enter A1 in the fourth inning as the pitcher. The correct call is: (3-3-2 NOTE, 6-2-5, 6-4-10 NOTE)

- a. This is a legal substitution with no warm-up pitches allowed.**
- b. This is legal and the pitcher can have five warm-up pitches.
- c. This is not a legal substitution.
- d. Team A can substitute A1 as pitcher as many times as it wants in the inning.

16. With one out, R1 on third base and R2 on first base, B3 hits an over-the-fence home run. R2 misses third base and the third base coach grabs R2 and pulls the runner back to touch third base. What is the proper ruling? (8-6-5, 8-3-11, 9-1-1)

- a. **R2 is out for being physically assisted; R1 and B3's (as long as they legally score) runs would count.**
- b. Since the ball is in dead-ball territory, there is no violation, and all three runs would score on the play.
- c. All three runs would score, but the third base coach should be warned to not physically assist runners.
- d. R2 is out for being physically assisted and the play is dead. R1's run would score, but B3 would not be allowed to score.

17. B1 bunts the ball down the third base line, F5 throws the ball toward first base hitting B1 in the back as B1 is running to first base. B1 is running with the right foot in the 3-foot lane and the left foot in fair territory (past the line). When B1 is hit with the ball, the left foot is in the air. B1 is still guilty of interference and should be ruled out. (8-6-5, 8-3-11, 9-1-1)

- a. **True**
- b. False

18. Which of the following requires state association approval prior to being allowed to be worn in a contest? (3-2-5bm 3-2-5b)

- a. **Any head covering being worn for medical reasons.**
- b. Any religious head covering.
- c. Any hard items braided into the players hair.
- d. A defensive players face shield.

19. The umpire notices that several players on Team A have adornments in their hair. Which of the following are prohibited from being worn? (3-2-5b, 3-2-5c)

- a. F5 has a religious head covering without prior state association approval.
- b. **F3 has a bandanna as a hair covering, F4 is wearing a plastic visor.**
- c. F6 has beads braided into the hair.
- d. F8 has 3-inch bobby pins being used for hair control.

20. With no outs, B1 hits a deep line drive. Sliding into second base safely, B1 dislodges the base from its proper position. F4 tags B1 who is no longer in contact with the dislodged base. What is the proper ruling? (1-2-1, 8-8-14)

- a. B1 is out and ejected for dislodging the base.
- b. B1 is out since B1 was legally tagged while not in contact with the base.
- c. **B1 is not out; a runner is not required to follow a base that has become dislodged.**
- d. B1 is out for interference as dislodging the base confused the defensive player.

21. R1 is on first base; B2 is at bat with an 0 ball - 2 strike count and no outs. B2 swings at the pitch and the foul tip is caught by the catcher. B2 runs toward first base. As R1 is diving back to first base, B2 collides with F3 who is attempting to catch the thrown ball from F2 to tag R1. (2-32-1, 8-6-16c)

- a. B2 is awarded second base; R1 is awarded third base.
- b. B2 is declared out for interference; R1 remains at first base.
- c. **B2 has struck out and is charged with interference; R1 is declared out as the runner closest to home.**
- d. B2 has struck out; R1 remains at first base.
- e. B2 is declared out for interference; R1 is awarded second base.

22. With the bases loaded and less than two outs, F4 is using ordinary effort to catch a pop-up. The correct call is: (2-30, 8-2-9)

- a. **Infield fly if fair is called by the umpire, and if the ball remains fair the batter is out.**
- b. Runners may not advance at any time.
- c. Only an infielder can catch an infield fly.
- d. If the ball is ruled foul, it still is an infield fly.

23. The DP may be substituted for at any time by: (3-3-6d)

- a. A legal substitute.
- b. The FLEX playing offense.
- c. Anyone else in the batting order.
- d. A & B only.**
- e. A, B and C.

24. R1 is on first base and attempts to steal second base. In the catcher's attempt to throw out R1, the throwing arm contacts the plate umpire. The throw is late and R1 reaches second base safely. The correct call is: (8-5-6)

- a. This is a delayed dead ball. Since R1 reached second base safely, R1 is permitted to stay at second base.
- b. This is an immediate dead ball. Because there was umpire interference, R1 must return to first base.
- c. This is a delayed dead ball. Because there was umpire interference and R1 reached second base safely, R1 must return to first base.**
- d. There is no such thing as umpire interference. Therefore, R1 stays at second base.

25. B1 hits a high fly ball down the line to right field. F9, with both feet clearly in fair territory, reaches across the foul line in an attempt to catch the ball. While the ball is still in the air, completely over foul ground, the ball deflects off of F9's glove and lands in fair territory. The correct call is: (2-20-2)

- a. Foul ball since the ball was over foul territory when first touched.**
- b. Fair ball since both feet were clearly in fair territory when F9 touched the ball.
- c. Fair ball because after F9 touched the ball it landed in fair territory.
- d. Fair ball. Any ball touched by a fielder is automatically fair.

26. B1 bunts the ball in front of home plate. As B1 is running to first base, B1 is hit with the throw from F2. Which of the following is used in determining if the runner is out for interference? (8-6-5, 8-3-11, 9-1-1)

- a. If either foot last contacted the ground completely outside of the 3-foot lane.**
- b. If the batter-runner's left foot is outside the 3-foot lane but is in the air at the moment the batter-runner is hit with the throw.
- c. If the batter-runner was hit in fair territory.
- d. If the batter-runner has both feet on the ground when hit with the throw.

27. R1 is on third base and R2 is on first base with one out. B4 hits a fly ball in foul territory near the first-base line. R2 interferes with F3 attempting to catch the fly ball. The correct call is: (8-6-10)

- a. If the fly ball is caught by F3, both R2 and B4 are out.
- b. B4 is out and R2 is returned to first base.
- c. The ball is dead immediately, R2 is out and B4 is charged with a foul ball.**
- d. If the fly ball is caught, B4 is out and the interference by R2 is ignored.

28. Umpires working the plate are required to wear a mask and throat protector. (10-4-1)

- a. True**
- b. False

29. Any fielder, with or without the ball, may make a dead-ball appeal by verbally stating that the runner missed the base or left too soon. (2-1-3b(1))

- a. True**
- b. False

30. F1 is wearing a sweatband on the pitching wrist that the umpire judges distracting. This would result in an illegal pitch. (3-2-9)

- a. True
- b. False**