

USA SOFTBALL UMPIRE

2017 USA Umpire Exam
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General Questions

1) With 1 out, R1 on 3B and R2 on 2B, B4 hits a fly ball on the first base side of 2B almost directly at F4. As R2 takes a couple steps toward 3B they make contact with F6 who is moving toward the batted ball.

A) Umpire signals and verbalizes “Dead Ball”; R2 is out for interfering with F6’s opportunity of fielding a batted ball.

B) Umpire signals and verbalizes “Dead Ball”; R2 is out for interfering with F6’s opportunity of making a live ball appeal of R2 leaving early if the fly ball is caught.

C) Umpire makes no call, this is nothing more than a “train wreck” both players were doing what they were supposed to.

D) Umpire signals delayed dead ball and verbalizes “Obstruction.” F6 is guilty of obstructing R2.

Answer: (D) Rule 8, Section 5B; Rule 8, Section 8C



2) On an approved USA softball bat the grip must be a minimum of ____ inches from the knob.

- A) 12
- B) 6
- C) 15
- D) None of the above

Answer: (B) Rule 3, Section 1D



3) If the forced Runner, After touching the next base, retreats for any reason toward the base first occupied, the force is reinstated and the runner may again be put out if the defense tags the runner or the base to which the runner is forced.

A) True

B) False

Answer: (A) Rule 8, Section 7C



4) An obstructed runner can never be called out between the two bases where they were obstructed.

A) True

B) False

Answer: (B) Rule 8, Section 5B1, Exceptions: [A-E]



5)When a coach physically assists a runner the balls becomes dead, the runner closest to home is declared out and all other runners are returned to the last base touched at the time of interference.

A) True

B) False

Answer: (B) Rule 8, Section 7E EFFECT



6) With two outs, R1 on 3B and R2 on 1B, B5 grounds to F6 who bobbles the ball. R2 beats the throw to 2B, but over slides the base and is tagged out. R1 touches home plate from 3B prior to R2 being tagged. In this case the run score.

A) True

B) False

Answer: (A) Rule 1 FORCE OUT, Rule 5, Section 5B



7) With no outs, R1 on 2B and R2 on 1B, B3 hits a line driver to F4, who is unable to make the catch and the ball deflects off their glove. While in the air, the ball strikes R2 who tried to avoid the ball. The ball deflects off R2 and is caught in the air by F3. The umpire should:

- A) Signal and verbalize “Dead Ball”; R2 is out for interfering with F3’s opportunity to make an out.
- B) Rule no catch and signal “Safe”; The ball remains live
- C) Signal and verbalize “Dead Ball”; B3 is out and R1 is returned to 2B and R2 is returned to 1B
- D) Signal and Verbalize “out”; B3 is out on the catch and the ball remains live.

Answer: (B) Rule 1, CATCH/NO CATCH B2; Rule 8 Section 8F



8) When a batter is discovered using an illegal bat:

- A) Batter is called out and ejected from the game.
- B) Batter receives a warning.
- C) Batter is called out.
- D) None of the above.

Answer: (C) Rule 7, Section 6D



9) With no outs and R1 on 1B, B2 hits a ground ball to F5, who makes a wild throw toward the outfield side of 1B,. R1 stops at 2B and makes no attempt to advance further. B2 touched 1B and contacts F3 who is retrieving the overthrown ball. B2 returns safely to 1B. The umpire should:

A) Signal delayed dead ball and verbalizes “Obstruction” when F3 impedes the progress of B2. Once the play is over the umpire should award B2 2B and R1 3B due to the obstruction.

B) Signal and verbalizes “Dead ball”; B2 is out for interfering with F3’s ability to retrieve the thrown ball.

C) Signal delayed dead ball and verbalizes “Obstruction” when F3 impedes the progress of B2. Once B2 safely reached 1B, the base they would have reached had there been no obstruction, there is no additional penalty.

D) Make no call, this is a “train wreck” and neither side should be penalized.

Answer: (C) Rule 8, Section 5B



10) With no outs, B1 hits a ground ball to F5. B1 is in the running lane on their way to 1B when the throw from F5 is high and drawn F3 in front of the contrasting color position of 1B to catch the ball. F3 catches the ball just before B1 and F3 collide in the running lane and F3 drops the ball. B1 steps around F3 who is reaching for the ball on the ground in foul territory and touched the white portion of 1B. The contact was not flagrant and F3 initiated the contact by moving into the running lane. The umpire should:

- A) Signal and verbalize “Out”; B1 is out for using the white portion of 1B when a play is being made on them.
- B) Signal delayed dead ball and verbalize “Obstruction” When F3 impedes the progress on B1 without possession of the ball. Once B1 safely reached 1B, the base they would have reached had there been no obstruction. There is no additional penalty.
- C) Signal and verbalizes “Dead Ball” When the players collide; B1 is out for interfering with F3 taking the throw at 1B.
- D) There is no penalty, the number is corrected on the line-up and play continues

Answer: (B) Rule 8, Section 2N[5]; Rule 8, Section 2E; Rule 8, Section 5B;
Rule Supplement 1L



11) Davis (#34) is at bat. Davis is incorrectly listed as #33 on the line-up card. The defense protests and the umpire rules:

- A) Davis is out for having an incorrect number listed on the line-up card.
- B) Davis is out and disqualified for having an incorrect number listed on the line-up card.
- C) Davis is out of both Davis and the manager are disqualified for having an incorrect number listed on the line-up card.
- D) There is no penalty, the number is corrected on the line-up and play continues.

Answer: (D) Rule 3, Section 6D; Rule 4, Section 1A [1]



12) With one out, R1 on 2B and R2 on 1B, B4 hits a ground ball to the F6 who starts a double play. R1 does not stop at 3B and continues on to touch home plate. The base umpire rules R2 out at 2B and the batter-runner safe at 1B, ruling F3 was off the base. The defensive coach asks the base umpire to go for help as they felt F3 was on the base. The umpires confer and the base umpire rules the batter-runner out at 1B. The umpire rules that R1's run:

- A) Counts as R1 touched home plate prior to the play at 1B being completed.
- B) Does not count as the batter-runner was put out for the 3rd out of the inning prior to reaching 1B
- C) Counts as the run scored when the batter-runner was initially called safe, and the reversal of the call came after R1 had touched home plate.
- D) None of the Above

Answer: (B) Rule 8, Section 2B; Rule 5, Section 5B[1]



13) With one out, and no runners on base B2 is scheduled to bat, but B3 bats in their place. B3 singles and its on 1B. Before the next pitch, the defense properly appeals the batting out of order infraction.

A) B2 is declared out for failing to bat in their proper place, B3 remains on 1B and B4 is the next proper batter.

B) B3 is declared out for batting out of order and is removed from 1; B4 is the next proper batter.

C) B2 is declared out for failing to bat in their proper place, B3's at bat is nullified and B3 is removed from 1B. B3 is the next proper batter.

D) B2 is declared out for failing to bat in their proper place; in addition, B3 is declared out for batting out of order and is removed from 1B. This results in the third out of the inning.

Answer: (C) Rule 7, Section 2D [2]



14) With no outs, R1 on 3B, R2 on 1B, B3 hits a line drive down the 1B line that hits R2, who is still standing on 1B in fair territory; F3's starting position was behind the base near the 1B. The umpire should:

- A) Signal and verbalizes "Dead Ball"; R2 is out for being struck with a fair untouched batted ball before it passes an infielder. B3 is awarded 1B and R1 is returned to 3B.
- B) Make no call since the umpires judgment F3 could not have made an out if R2 would not have contacted the ball.
- C) Signal and verbalizes "Dead Ball"; R2 was in contact with a base when hit with the ball and did nothing intentional to interfere, R1 returned to 3B, R2 is awarded 2B and B3 is awarded 1B.
- D) Signals and verbalizes "Dead Ball"; R2 is out for intentionally interfering with the batted ball.
- E) Either C or D could be correct based on umpire judgment of R2's actions.

Answer: (E) Rule 8, Section 7K; Rule 8, Section 8M



15) (FP and SP with stealing) With no outs, R1 on 1B, B2 is at bat with a 3-1 count. The next pitch is a strike and B2, believing it was strike three, walks off the field into their dugout prior to B2 reaching dead ball territory R1 steals 2B. The umpire should:

- A) Rule B2 out for entering the team area, R1 remains at 2B.
- B) Rule B2 out for entering the team area, R1 is returned to 1B.
- C) Bring B2 back to finish their turn at bat, R1 is returned to 1B.
- D) Bring B2 back to finish their turn to bat, R1 remains at 2B

Answer: (D) Rule 1, BATTER-RUNNER; Rule 8, Section 2D; Rule 8, Section 1



16) Which is true when a team is playing shorthanded?

A) A team may start a game with one less than required to start, the vacant position must be listed last in the batting order and an out will be recorded when the vacant position in the batting order is scheduled to bat.

B) A team may finish a game with one less than required to start when a player left the game for any reason, an out will be recorded when the vacant spot in the batting order is scheduled to bat.

C) A team may finish a game with one less than is currently in the batting order when a player leaves the game for any reason other than ejection, an out will be recorded when the vacant spot in the batting order is scheduled to bat.

D) Both A and B are true.

E) Both A and C are true.

Answer: (E) Rule 4, Section 1D; Rule 4, Section 1D 2A



17) When a coach intentionally interferes with a batted or thrown ball or interferes with the defensive team's opportunity to make a play on another runner, the ball is dead and the runner being played is out.

A) True

B) False

Answer: (B) Rule 8, Section 7O Effect Section 7M-P



18) A defensive player intentionally contacts a pitched, thrown and batted ball with their glove that is detached from its proper place. The umpire should:

A) Signal and verbalizes “Dead Ball”; the batter and all runners are awarded three bases on a batted ball, two bases on a thrown ball and one base on a pitched ball.

B) Signal delayed dead ball; the batter and all runners are entitled to three bases on a batted ball, two bases on a thrown ball and one base on a pitched ball. At the end of playing action if they have not advanced the bases they are entitled to, the umpire should award them the appropriate base.

C) Signal and verbalize “Dead Ball”; the batter and all runners are awarded three bases in all cases.

D) Signal delayed dead ball; the batter and all runners are entitled to three bases in all cases. At the end of playing action if they have not advanced the bases they are entitled to, the umpire should award them the appropriate base.

Answer: (B) Rule 8, Section 5F Effect



19) Which of the following is true when a defensive player has the ball and the runner remains upright and crashed into the defensive player?

- A) The defensive coach has the option of that the runner being called out or the runner closest to home plate being called out.
- B) It is delayed dead ball, the runner crashing into the fielder is out, all other runners are liable to be put out. Once the ball is dead the runner is also ejected.
- C) It is a delayed dead ball, the runner closest to home is out, and all other runners must return to the last base touched at the time of the interference. If the contact is flagrant, the offender is ejected.
- D) It is a dead ball, the runner crashing into the fielder is out, and all other runners must return to the last base touched at the time of the interference. If the contact is flagrant, the offender is also ejected.

Answer(D) Rule 8, Section 7Q Effect 1-4



20) Which of the following is true about the runner that interferes with a fielder attempting to field a routing fly ball

- A) The runner is not out if the fly ball was in foul territory when the interference occurred.
- B) If the interference prevented the fielder from catching the ball in fair territory with ordinary effort, the batter as well as the runner is out.
- C) If the interference prevented the fielder from catching the ball in foul territory with ordinary effort, the batter as well as the runner is out.
- D) A, B, and C are correct.

Answer: (D) Rule 8, Section 7J Effect



21) With no outs, R1 at 3B and R2 at 1B and F3 playing in front of the base. B3 hits a ground ball that passes F3 and strikes R2 and no other player has an opportunity to make an out. The umpire should:

- A) Signal and verbalize “Dead Ball”; award R1 home, award R2 2B and award B3 1B.
- B) Allow the ball to remain live as the ball had passes a fielder and no other fielder had an opportunity to make an out, there is no penalty.
- C) Signal and verbalize “Dead Ball”; award R2 2B, award B3 1B, and R1 remains 3B
- D) Signal and verbalize “Out” ad R2 is out for being contacted with a batted ball, the ball remains live.

Answer: (B) Rule 8, Section 7K; Rule 8, Section 8D



22) Which of the following is true about the defensive conferences?

- A) A team is only allowed three defensive conferences in a seven inning game and for every inning beyond seven only one per inning.
- B) The pitcher must be removed from the pitching position if a team has more than one defensive conference in the third inning.
- C) The pitcher must be removed from the pitching position if a team had more than one defensive conference in the eighth inning.
- D) All of the above.
- E) Both A and C

Answer: (E) Rule 5, Section 7B Effect



23) With no outs and no runners on base, B1 hits a bounding ball down the 1B line. The ball hits in fair territory approximately half way to 1B then bounces and hits on the contrasting color portion of 1B and next lands in fair territory past 1B where it is first touched by F4. The umpire should rule:

- A) Fair ball, since the ball was first touched in territory.
- B) Fair ball, the double first base is one big base so since the ball hit the base it is fair.
- C) Foul ball, once the ball touched the contrasting portion of 1B it is foul.

Answer: (C) Rule 8, Section 2N [2]



24) With no outs, R1 on 2B and R2 on 1B, B3 hits a sharp ground ball to F6 who makes a wild throw toward 1B that enters dead ball territory and the umpire awards the runner two bases from the time of the throw. As R1 is ending toward 3B and they stop to tie their shoe and R2 passes R1 arriving at 3B before R1. After R1 ties their shoe they continue on and touch 3B and home plate. The umpire should:

- A) Signal and verbalize “Dead Ball” ; R2 is out for passing R1.
- B) Signal and verbalize “Out”; R2 is out for passing R1 but the ball remains live.
- C) There is no violation since R2 passes R1 during a dead ball and since R1 continues to legally touch the bases their run scores.
- D) R2 is not out for passing R1 since the occurred during a dead ball, however since R2 touched 3B prior to R1, R1’s run would not score since they did not touch the bases in proper order.

Answer: (C) Rule 8, Section 7D; Rule 8, Section 3I



25) All Junior Olympic batting helmets must have double ear flaps and chin straps.

A) True

B) False

Answer: (B) Rule 3, Section 5E



26) With one out and no runners on base, B2 hits the top of the ball resulting in a short hit with a lot of back spinning. B2 drops their bat in fair territory and runs toward 1B. The bat and ball make contact for the second time in fair territory with the ball coming to rest in fair territory . The umpire:

- A) Judges that the bat was stationary and the ball rolled into the bat with no intent to interfere; live ball that will become fair one touched in fair territory.
- B) Judges that the bat was intentionally dropped to interfere and prevent the ball from rolling foul; dead ball, B3 is out, all runners must return to the base occupied at the time of the pitch.
- C) Judges that the bat was rolling toward the ball when the second contact was made; dead ball, B3 is out, all runners must return to the base occupied at the time of the pitch.
- D) Based on umpire judgment on A or B could be true.
- E) Based on umpire judgment A, B, or C could be true.

Answer: (E) Rule 7, Section 6M Exception [2]; Rule Supplement 24



27) (All games except Coed) With one out, R1 on 2B and R2 on 1B the infield shifts and F7 moves in near 3B to cover the area F5 would typically cover. B4 hits a high fly ball in the infield that F7 could catch with ordinary effort. The umpire should:

A) Make no ruling, F7 is not listed on the line up as an infielder so the infield fly rule would not apply in this situation.

B) Signal delayed dead ball, since F7 has positioned themselves in the infield each runner is entitled to advance at least one base. If any runner or the batter-runner is put out prior to advancing at least one base the ball becomes dead and runners are awarded one base.

C) Signal and verbalize “Infield fly batter’s out”; since F7 was positioned to defend the area around 3B they are considered an infielder.

D) Signal and verbalize “Dead Ball” once F7 touches the ball; F7 is incorrectly positioned, the batter-runner is awarded 1B and all runners are advanced only if forced.

Answer: (C) Rule 8, Section 21; Rule 1 INFIELDER; Rule 1 INFIELD FLY, Rule Supplement 28



28) With no outs and R1 on 2B, B2 hits a shallow fly ball to F9 who throws the ball to F5 in an attempt to make a play on R1 at 3B. Throw is offline and F5 cannot field the throw which contacts the 3B coach who is trying to avoid being hit, the ball deflects off the base coach and goes into the dugout. The umpire should:

- A) Signal and verbalize “Dead Ball” once the ball touched the base coach; R1 is out for coach’s interference, batter-runner is returned to 1B.
- B) Signal and verbalize “Dead Ball” once the ball entered dead ball territory; R1 is awarded home and B4 is awarded 2B since they had not yet obtained 1B at the time of the throw.
- C) Signal and verbalize “ Dead Ball” once the ball entered dead territory; since the ball contacted the offensive coach it is a blocked ball and R1 is returned to 2B since they had not yet obtained 3B the time of the throw and the B4 is placed on 1B.
- D) None of the above

Answer: (B) Rule 8, Section 70; Rule 8 Section 5G



29) With no outs, R1 is on 2B and R2 is on 1B, B3 hits a fair batted ball in front of the plate. F2's throw to 1B hits B3 in the back while they are out of the three-foot lane, resulting in the ball entering dead ball territory. The plate umpire calls dead ball and rules interference on B3 calling them out. At the time of the interference they remain at 2B, this would result in R1 being placed on 3B.

A) Since R2 had reached 2B at the time of the interference they remain at 2B, this would result in R1 being placed on 3B.

B) Since the batter-runner was called out for interference prior to reaching 1B, the runners are returned to the last base occupied at the time of the pitch, R1 at 2B and R2 at 1B.

C) Since 2B was the last base R1 had touched at the time of the interference they must return to 2B, which would place R2 back on 1B.

D) Since the ball entered dead ball territory and R2 had touched 2B, both R1 and R2 are awarded home.

Answer: (C) Rule 8, Section 2E; Rule 8, Section 3E Effect [1]



30) With no outs and R1 on 3B, B2 hits a high fly ball over foul territory near the 3B line, F5 is standing runner the ball waiting to catch it when R1 who was moving toward home on the hit runs into F5 on their way back to 3B causing them to drop the ball. The umpire should:

- A) Signal and verbalize “Dead Ball”; R1 is returned to 3B, a strike is added to B2’s count.
- B) Signal and verbalize “Dead Ball”; R1 is declared out. B2 is also declared out.
- C) Signal and verbalize “Dead Ball”; R1 is declared out, a strike is added to B2’s count.
- D) Signal delayed dead ball and verbalizes “Obstruction”; F5 is guilty of obstruction, R1 is awarded 3B and a strike is added to B2’s count.

Answer: (B) Rule 8, Section 7J [1] Effect [F]



31) With no outs, R1 on 2B and R2 on B, B3 hits a deep fly ball that hits the outfield fence untouched. As R1 is advancing toward 3B, F6 collides with them knocking them to the ground, R2 from 1B passes R1 who is lying on the ground, the ball is returned to the infield where F6 tags R1 who is still lying on the ground holding their ankle, when this happens R2 is standing on 3B and the B3 is at 2B. The umpire should:

A) Signal delayed dead ball and verbalize “Obstruction”; F6 is guilty of obstructing R1. Since R1 was obstructed, R2 passing them is ignored. Once R1 is tagged out signal and verbalize “Dead Ball”; R1 should be awarded the base they would have reached had there been no obstruction, in this case the umpire rules home is the proper award.

B) Signal delayed dead ball and verbalize “Obstruction” F6 is guilty of obstruction R1. Once R2 passes R1 signal and verbalize “Dead Ball”; R2 is out for passing R1. Since R1 was obstructed they should be awarded the base they would have reached had there been no obstruction, in this case the umpire rules 3B. R1 remains out and B3 remains at 1B, the base they would have reached at the time the ball was dead.

C) Signal delayed dead ball and verbalizes “Obstruction”; F6 is guilty of obstructing R1. Once R2 passes R1 signal and verbalize “Out”; R2 is out for passing R1. Once R1 is tagged out signal and verbalize “Dead Ball”; R1 and all other runners affected by the obstruction should be awarded the base(s) they would have reached had there been no obstruction, in this case the umpire rules R1 awarded home and R2 is awarded 3B, and B3 remains at 2B.

D) Signal and verbalize “Dead Ball”; R1 is guilty of interfering with F6 and is called out. B3 is awarded 1B on a fielder’s choice and R2 is placed on 2B since they were forced to advance due to B3 being awarded 1B.

Answer: (C) Rule 8, Section 5B [2]



32) With no outs, R1 on 1B, B2 hits a ground ball to F3 who tries to field the ball but it deflects off her glove and contacts R1 who tries to avoid the contact with the ball. F4 was also moving to field the batted ball and had an opportunity to make an out with the deflected ball. The umpire should:

- A) Signal and verbalize “Dead Ball”; R1 is guilty of interference since F4 has an opportunity to make an out with the deflected ball.
- B) Signal and verbalize “Dead Ball”; R1 is guilty of interference since they were contacted by a batted ball.
- C) Make no call, since R1 did not intentionally interfere with the deflected ball there is no penalty.
- D) Signal delayed dead ball and verbalize “Obstruction”; once R1 is contacted with the deflected ball F3 is guilty of obstruction.
- E) Give a “safe” signal to indicate there was no interference on the play.

Answer: (C) Rule 8, Section 7J [4]; Rule 8, Section 7L; Rule 8, Section 8F



33) An umpire shall not call time while and play is in progress, including when a thrown ball hits an umpire. This is true even when a player becomes injured and requires immediate attention, the umpire should wait until the play ends before calling time.

A) True

B) False

Answer: (B) Rule 10, Section 4E Exception; Rule 4, Section 10



34) The umpire notices blood on the B7's elbow. The umpire should:

- A) Stop the game and allow the wounded to be treated if this can be done in a reasonable length of time.
- B) If the wound cannot be treated in a reasonable amount of time, apply substitution, short-handed and re-entry rules necessary.
- C) Ignore this since it is a minor wound.
- D) Allow the batter to put dirt on the wound.
- E) Both A and B are correct.

Answer: (E) Rule 4, Section 9



35) After coming to bat with no out and hitting a triple that scored R1 from 3B and R2 from 2B, S1 is on 3B and B4 is coming to bat. The defensive team realizes the S1 never reported and informs the umpire prior to the next pitch that S1 is an unreported substitute. The umpire should:

- A) Eject S1 for being unreported substitute, the play stands and the original B3 will take S1's place on 3B.
- B) S1 is called out and disqualified, R1 is placed back on 3B and R2 back on 2B then B4 would come to bat with 1 out.
- C) S1 is officially in the game and called out, R1 is placed back on 3B and R2 back on 2B then B4 would come out to bat with 1 out.
- D) S1 is officially in the game and called out, R1 and R2's runs would score, and B4 comes out to bat with no runners on base and 1 out.

Answer: (C) Rule 4, Section 6C [3] Effect pg 53



36) Which of the following should be considered when a defensive player and offensive player collide:

- A) Did the offensive player alter their direction in a way to draw contact with the defensive player in an attempt to draw an obstruction call?
- B) Did the defensive player alter their attempt to field the ball in an attempt to draw and interference call?
- C) Could the defensive player actually make the play?
- D) All of the above.

Answer: (D) Umpire Manual Chapter 5 Base Mechanics/ E. Collision

Slow Pitch Questions

37) (Slow Pitch Only) The cater may leave the batter's box once the pitched ball is released.

A) True

B) False

Answer: (B) Rule 6C, Section 6A



38) (Men's Super-Slow Pitch Championship play) The correct fence and base distance is:

- A) 85 foot bases; four hundred seventy-five foot fence.
- B) 70 foot bases; three hundred fifteen foot fence.
- C) 98 foot bases; four hundred twenty-five foot fence.
- D) Set by the Executive Director of USA Softball.

Answer: (D) Rule 2, Section 1, Note



39) (Coed Slow Pitch Only) The offensive coach requests the 12 inch ball for a female batter B2. When the umpire informs the coach they must use 11 inch ball the coach replies “our females always hit the big ball blue.” What is the correct ruling?

A) The umpire allows B2 to use the 12 inch ball.

B) The umpire does not allow B2 to use the 12 inch ball and requires them to use the 11 inch ball.

Answer: (B) Rule 3, Section 3F [2] the 11 inch ball



40) (Slow Pitch Without Stealing) A runner must return to their base after each pitch.

A) True

B) False

Answer: (A) Rule 8, Section 6G Effect



41) (All Adult Solow Pitch Except Seniors) Which of the following is true about courtesy runners?

- A) Any eligible player on the official line-up including available substitutes may be used as a courtesy runner.
- B) A courtesy runner may be used only once per inning.
- C) In Coed there can be one male and one female courtesy runner per inning.
- D) Both A and B are correct.
- E) A, B, and C are all correct.

Answer: (D) Rule 8, Section 9B [2]



42) (Slow Pitch Only) The pitch starts when:

- A) The hands are separated once they have been placed together.
- B) The pitcher makes any motion with the ball after the required stop. While on the pitcher's plate prior to the required stop, any motion may be used.

Answer: (B) Rule 6C, Section 2, STARTING THE PITCH



43) (Slow Pitch Only) The pitcher is not allowed to have which of the following on their pitching hand/arm?

- A) Tape on their fingers or a band aid.
- B) A batting glove.
- C) A sweat band on the wrist or forearm of their pitching hand.

Answer: (B) Rule 6C SP, Section 5, Foreign Substance



44) Two Base Award Signal: This signal is also approved as a tool when covering fly balls to communicate that the crew is in a two umpire system.

A) True

B) False

Answer: (B) Umpire Manual Chapter 2 Communications and Signals



45) Which of the following is not part of proper mechanics for Live Ball Running Violations?

- A) For running out of the base path to avoid a tag; Point at the runner with your left hand and strongly verbalize “Out of the base path.... Out.”
- B) For passing a runner: Point at the runner who passed their teammate with your left hand and strongly verbalize “Out.”
- C) Let the play continue in both A and B.
- D) Verbalize “Dead Ball” and return runners to the last base touched at the time of the infraction in both A and B.

Answer: (D) Umpire Manual Chapter 5 Base Mechanics



46) When obstruction occurs the umpire should give a delayed dead ball signal regardless of whether or not a play is made on the obstructed runner.

A) True

B) False

Answer: (A) Umpire Manual Chapter 5



47) In a Three Umpire System with no outs and a runner on 1B only, B1 hits a base hit to the outfield that no umpire chases. U1 should:

A) Pick up the ball and glance at the runner as you move inside the diamond to button hook at a minimum depth of 10-12 feet. After R1 touched 2B, rotate home in foul ground to the farthest back corner of the right hand batter's box 10-12 feet from home plate.

B) Pick up the ball and glance at the runner as you move inside the diamond to button hook a minimum depth 10-12 feet. As R1 approaches 2B, rotate home in foul ground to the farthest back corner of the right handed batter's box 10-12 feet from home plate.

C) Pick up the ball and glance at the runner as you move inside the diamond to button hook at a minimum depth of 10-12 feet. After R1 has taken 1 or 2 steps past 2B, rotate home in a foul ground to the furthest back corner of the right handed batter's box 10-12 feet from home plate.

D) Pick up the ball and glance at the runner as you move inside the diamond to button hook at a minimum depth of 10-12 feet. Move with the batter-runner toward 2B, is responsible for any play at 1B or 2B.

Answer: (B) Umpire Manual Chapter 6 Three Umpire System



48) With R1 on 1B and a base hit to the outfield when should the plate umpire release from trailing the batter-runner and start their rotation toward the holding zone or to the calling position at 3B?

- A) After R1 touched 2B.
- B) As R1 approaches 2B.
- C) After R1 has taken 1 or 2 steps past 2B.
- D) As batter-runner touches 1B.

Answer: (B) Umpire Manual Chapter 6 Three Umpire Mechanics



49) In a Two Umpire System with bases loaded and a base hit to the outfield. What is the proper coverage for this play?

A) The base umpire picks up the ball and glances at the runner as they move inside the diamond to button hook and takes fail/foul if the ball is near the line and the plate umpire takes the play at 3B and any play at the plate.

B) The base umpire pick up the ball and glances at the runner as they move inside the diamond to button hook and takes the touch at 1B and 2B and the plate umpire takes fail/foul, the last runner to 3B and any play at the plate.

C) The base umpire picks up the ball ad glances at the runner as they move inside the diamond to button hook at a minimum depth of 10-12 feet. Continues to alternate between the ball and the runner keeping all four elements in front of you. Be prepared to move parallel to the baseline staying ahead of the runner as you are, responsible for any play at 1B, 2B and the last runner to 3B. The Plate Umpire moves out from behind the plate to the holding zone in foul ground about half way to 3B to an area where you have an unobstructed view of all four elements. Responsible for any play on the lead runner at 3B and any play at the plate.

D) The base umpire takes the touch at 1B, 2B and 3B, and any play at 1B, 2B, or 3B.

Answer: (C) Umpire Manual Chapter 6 Two Umpire System



50) In a Two Umpire System with R1 on 1B, a fly ball is hit to F9 and is not caught. What is the proper coverage for this play?

A) The base umpire takes all plays at 1B, 2B and 3B and the plate umpire takes the play at home.

B) The base umpire decides whether to go to the outfield to make the call or pick up the ball and glance at the runner as you hustle inside the diamond and buttonhook. Responsible for the tag-up at 1B, any play at 1B or 2B and the last runner at 3B. The plate umpire moves out from behind the plate to get the best angle and distance possible. Responsible for fail/foul, catch or no catch, any play on the lead runner at 3B and any play at the plate.

C) The base umpire takes any play at 1B and the plate umpire takes any play at 2B, 3B and home.

D) None of the above.

Answer: (B) Umpire Manual Chapter 6 Two Umpire System

Alternative Fast Pitch Questions

51) (Fast Pitch Only): The pitcher cannot do which of the following.

- A) The delivery shall be an underhand motion with the hand below the hip and the wrist not farther from the body than the elbow.
- B) The pitcher's pivot foot slides across the pitcher's plate and toward the batter, but remains in contact with the pitcher's plate.
- C) The pitcher's pivot foot turn or slides in order to push off the pitcher's plate while remaining in contact with the plate.
- D) The pitcher raises their foot of the pitcher's plate, and then returns it to the plate creating a rocking motion prior to delivering the pitch.

Answer: (D) Rule 6A, Section 2E, H, and I



52) (FP Only) Which of these statements about the pitcher taking a signal is not true?

- A) The signal can only come from the catcher.
- B) The ball can be in the hand or the glove/mitt while taking the signal.
- C) The ball held in one hand may be in front of or behind the body.
- D) The pitcher can receive the signal from the coach behind the pitcher's plate as long as they appear to take a signal from the catcher on the pitcher's plate with their hands still separated.

Answer: (A) Rule 6A, Section 1D, RS 40 Pitching, B Signal



53) (JO Girls Fast Pitch) In all JO Girls Fast Pitch Pool Play Only, when a team elects to bat more than nine batters the game will continue as long as the team has at least eight players still batting, with the skipped batter(s) being recorded as an out whenever a player leaves the game for any reason.

- A) True
- B) False

Answer: (B) rule 4, Section 1D [2A] Exception



54) (Women's and JO Girls Fast Pitch) In the eighth inning with a score 2-2 and the Tie Breaker Rule in effect, B1 is the lead-off batter. Who should be placed at 2B to start the half inning?

- A) The next EP even though it's Bracket Play.
- B) The player who made the last out of the previous inning.
- C) An unreported courtesy runner for the player who is scheduled to bat last that inning.
- D) The player who is scheduled to bat last in that half inning, in this case B9.

Answer: (D) Rule 5, Section 11A



55) (Fast Pitch Only) when a pitched ball, not swung at nor called a strike, touches any part of the batter's person including the hands or clothes. The batter's hands are not part of the bat. The batter is awarded 1B, unless no attempt is made to avoid being hit.

A) True

B) False

Answer: (A) Rule 8, Section 1F EFFECT, EXCEPTION



56) (Fast Pitch Only) No outs, no runners on base and two strikes. The pitch is swung at and missed; It skips off the plate and is caught on the bounce by F2. F2 makes no throw to 1B as the batter-runner advances to 1B safely. Defensive coach contends that the pitch was not dropped as his catcher caught it on the bounce, so the Dropped Third Strike Rule does not apply. Plate umpire rules the batter-runner is safe at 1B.

- A) True
- B) False

Answer: (A) Rule 8, Section 1B pg 92; Rule 8, Section 2A



57) (Fast Pitch Only) With no outs, R1 on 2B and R2 on 1B, B3 bunts the ball high in the air near 3B. F5 knocks the ball down the back of their glove, picks the ball up, steps on 3B and throws to 2B for the double play. The umpire should:

- A) Signal and verbalize “Infield Fly Batter’s Out”, since B3 is out, the runners are not out because they are not required to advance on an infield fly.
- B) Signal and verbalize “Dead Ball”; B3 is out because this is an intentionally dropped ball and R1 and R2 must return to the bases they occupied at the time of the pitch.
- C) Signal and verbalize “Out” when the play is made at 3B and 2B; This is not an infield Fly since it was a bunt attempt. F5 merely guided the ball to the ground they did not intentionally drop it; R1 and R2 are both out.
- D) None of the above.

Answer: (C) Rule 1, Infield Fly; Rule 8, Section 2K; Rule Supplement 30