

NEW YORK STATE HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL RULES EXAMINATION – 2010

ALL FIELDS REGULATION

2 UMPIRE SYSTEM

GIRLS FAST PITCH RULES UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED

Read the statement EXACTLY as written. IF ANY PART of the statement is false, mark it false.

ABOUT FREQUENTLY MISSED QUESTIONS:

1. The Flex may never play offense only.
2. In terms of a hit batter, the batter's hands are considered part of the bat.
3. A batter who "freezes" and gets hit by a pitched ball will not be awarded first base.
4. The DP and Flex positions are completely interchangeable and may be "flip-flopped."

MORE ABOUT FREQUENTLY MISSED QUESTIONS:

5. A runner who remains on her feet and crashes into a fielder who has the ball is out.
6. When a runner who attempts to score misses home and the catcher misses the tag, the plate umpire makes no call at all.
7. On foul balls that either hit fencing or clearly go out of play, the plate umpire shall not verbalize or signal "foul ball" or "dead ball."
8. It is umpire's interference if the umpire runs into a catcher after she has fielded a fair batted ball.

EVEN MORE ABOUT FREQUENTLY MISSED QUESTIONS:

9. When an obstructed runner is tagged between the two bases where the obstruction occurred, the ball is dead immediately.
10. When the circle rule is in effect, B1 walks and stops on first base. B1 steps off first base. B1 is out immediately.
11. Once a batted ball is deflected, a runner cannot be called out for interference unless the runner intentionally interferes.
12. The ball is delayed-dead when a runner interferes with a fielder to give the fielder an opportunity to make another out on the play.

ABOUT NEW RULES:

13. The pitching distance for Varsity play is 43-feet.
14. The pitching distance for Varsity play is 40-feet.
15. The pitching distance for Junior Varsity and Freshmen play is 40-feet.
16. The pitching distance for Modified play shall be a distance between 36-feet to 40-feet.

MORE ABOUT NEW RULES:

17. The portion of the double first base over foul territory may be green in color.
18. The use of the double first base is optional.
19. Shoes with metal cleats are legal.
20. Shoes may have soft or hard rubber cleats.

EVEN MORE ABOUT NEW RULES:

21. It is illegal to freeze softballs.
22. It is legal to use warming sleeves on bats.
23. Cell phones may not be worn or carried onto the field.
24. A traditional baseball style rosin bag must be kept in the pitcher's pocket and may not be placed on the ground behind the pitcher's plate.

ABOUT BASE RUNNING

25. If two runners occupy the same base in a non-force situation, the preceding (lead) runner is *automatically* out.
26. If two runners occupy the same base in a non-force situation, the succeeding (trail) runner is out *when tagged*.
27. If a succeeding (trail) runner pulls alongside a leading runner, the succeeding (trail) runner is out if any part of her body passes the preceding (lead) runner.
28. If a preceding (lead) runner retreats and passes a succeeding (trail) runner, the preceding (lead) runner is out.

ABOUT OBSTRUCTION:

29. A fake tag by a fielder always results in obstruction.
30. A fielder must physically contact a runner for obstruction to occur.
31. A runner cannot be obstructed by a fielder's verbal call.
32. It is not obstruction if a fielder who attempts to avoid a runner's progress delays the runner.

ABOUT INTERFERENCE:

33. A distracting act by a runner with a fielder playing a batted ball may be ruled interference.
34. Verbal distraction by a runner with a fielder playing a batted ball may be ruled interference.
35. Interference occurs when a runner contacts a fielder who is playing a batted ball.
36. No runs will ever be allowed to score after interference on a runner is declared.

ABOUT FIELD LINES:

37. The catcher may position her feet in front of an imaginary line between the rear lines of the batter's box lines.
38. Prior to the pitch, the batter may not have any part of her foot outside the lines of the batter's box.
39. The dead ball line is in dead ball territory.
40. A fielder may not legally catch a foul fly ball if one foot is on the ground completely beyond the dead ball line.

ABOUT BAT & BALL CONTACT:

41. If B1 hits a fair ball and her discarded bat strikes the ball in fair territory, the ball is dead and B1 is out.
42. If B1 hits a fair ball and the ball rolls against her stationary bat in fair territory and deflects and settles in foul territory, it is a fair ball.
43. If B1 hits a ball that strikes the plate and the ball again strikes B1's bat in fair territory while B1 is holding the bat in the batter's box, B1 is not out and a foul ball is ruled.
44. If B1 legally hits a ball and the ball then strikes her bat in foul ground while B1 holding the bat has one foot on the ground completely out of the batter's box, it is a foul ball.

ABOUT BASE LINES AND BASE PATHS:

45. A base line is an imaginary line directly between bases.
46. A runner may never run out of the base line.
47. A base path is a line directly between a base and the runner's position at the time a fielder attempts to tag a runner.
48. A runner who runs out of her base path is out and the ball is delayed-dead.

ABOUT INFIELD FLY SITUATIONS:

49. It may be called if the ball is bunted high in the air.
50. The ball is alive if an infielder intentionally drops it.
51. An infield fly may be called if a catcher is able to catch the fly ball with ordinary effort.
52. An infield fly may be called if an outfielder settles under a fly ball in the infield that could have been caught by an infielder with ordinary effort.

ABOUT PITCHING:

53. When a high school pitcher brings her hands together, she need only touch the ball to the outside of her glove to comply with the rule.
54. It is illegal for the pitcher to deliver the ball with her palm facing the ground on her first swing forward past her hip.
55. For a right-handed pitcher, only the right foot may be the pivot foot.
56. The pitcher may not replant her pivot foot in front of the pitching plate and push off again during her delivery.

ABOUT THE PITCHING CIRCLE:

57. The pitcher is not considered in the circle if either foot is completely outside the lines and on the ground.
58. If F1 makes a play on one runner, she is considered to have made a play on all runners.
59. If B1 overruns first base and starts back to the base while F1 is holding the ball in the circle, B1 may attempt to advance to second base.
60. When enforcing the circle rule, two runners may be declared out if both runners violate the rule.

ABOUT MECHANICS:

61. The box (including the "Gerry Davis"), scissor, and one-knee stances are all approved NYSSO plate stances.
62. The plate umpire is responsible for ruling on all fair/foul balls in all situations.
63. With no runners on base, the base umpire will use "rim mechanics" on balls hit to left field.
64. The base umpire will never invoke the infield fly rule.

ABOUT THE DP/FLEX:

65. The DP may play defense, but if she does, the role of the DP is terminated for the remainder of the game.
66. The flex player may legally bat for any player in the batting order.
67. The DP is allowed to become a flex player and have another player assume her batting position.
68. If the flex player bats for the DP, the role of the DP is terminated for the remainder of the game.

FOR EACH OF THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS, SELECT THE BEST ANSWER:**D – DEAD BALL IMMEDIATELY****DD – DELAYED DEAD BALL****L – BALL ALIVE AND IN PLAY**

69. A runner contacts a fielder who does not have a legitimate chance to make a play on a batted ball.
70. A runner accidentally interferes with an infielder attempting to field a batted ball.
71. The batter hits an illegal pitch. At the time of the illegal pitch, the ball is ____.
72. Three-foot lane interference is called.
73. B1 hits a pitched ball with the heel of her foot on the batter's box line and her toe on home plate.
74. R1 intentionally removes her helmet while running the bases during live ball.
75. After hitting a fair ball, the ball rolls against B1's stationary discarded bat in fair territory where the ball is picked up by the fielder.
76. R2 is struck by a declared infield fly while touching second base and the nearest fielder is behind the base.

MULTIPLE CHOICE – SELECT THE BEST RESPONSE TO EACH OF THE FOLLOWING:

77. The ball is always immediately dead when:
- An illegal pitch occurs;
 - A runner runs into a fielder who does not have the ball;
 - The batter interferes with the catcher;
 - The catcher interferes with the batter.
78. If a game is tied after seven innings:
- The tiebreaker rule takes effect in the eighth inning;
 - The tiebreaker rule takes effect in the ninth inning;
 - The tiebreaker rule takes effect in the tenth inning;
 - The opposing coaches have the option of whether to use the tiebreaker rule.
79. R1 is attempting to steal second base when the batter interferes with the catcher. The following ruling is correct:
- If R1 is put out, the ball remains alive and in play;
 - R1 is out for the batter's interference;
 - The ball is dead and the batter is out;
 - The defense has the option to have either R1 or the batter called out.
80. The legal pitching distance for high school play is:
- 46-feet
 - 43-feet
 - 40-feet
 - 60-feet, 6-inches
81. About the double first base:
- Use of the double first base is optional.
 - A batted ball in flight that strikes the colored portion of the double first base is a fair ball.
 - A batted ball that strikes the white portion of the double first base is a fair ball.
 - On an extra base hit to the outfield, the runner must touch only the colored portion of the base.
82. About bats:
- The knob of the bat may be taped with safety tape.
 - The knob of the bat must be permanently attached to the bat.
 - The bat may not exceed 38 ounces in weight.
 - All of the above are true.
83. More about bats:
- Tape applied to the safety grip must be a continuous spiral.
 - A bat with a flare grip is legal.
 - A bat with a cone grip is legal.
 - All of the above are true.
84. About a legal catch:
- It is a legal catch when a fielder controls the ball in her glove but drops the ball when she contacts the ground.
 - It is a legal catch when a fielder controls the ball in her glove for two seconds but drops the ball when she contacts another fielder.
 - It is a legal catch when a fielder controls the ball in her glove but drops the ball after she contacts the outfield fence.
 - A legal catch occurs when a fielder controls the ball in her glove and holds it long enough to prove control and/or the release of the ball is voluntary.

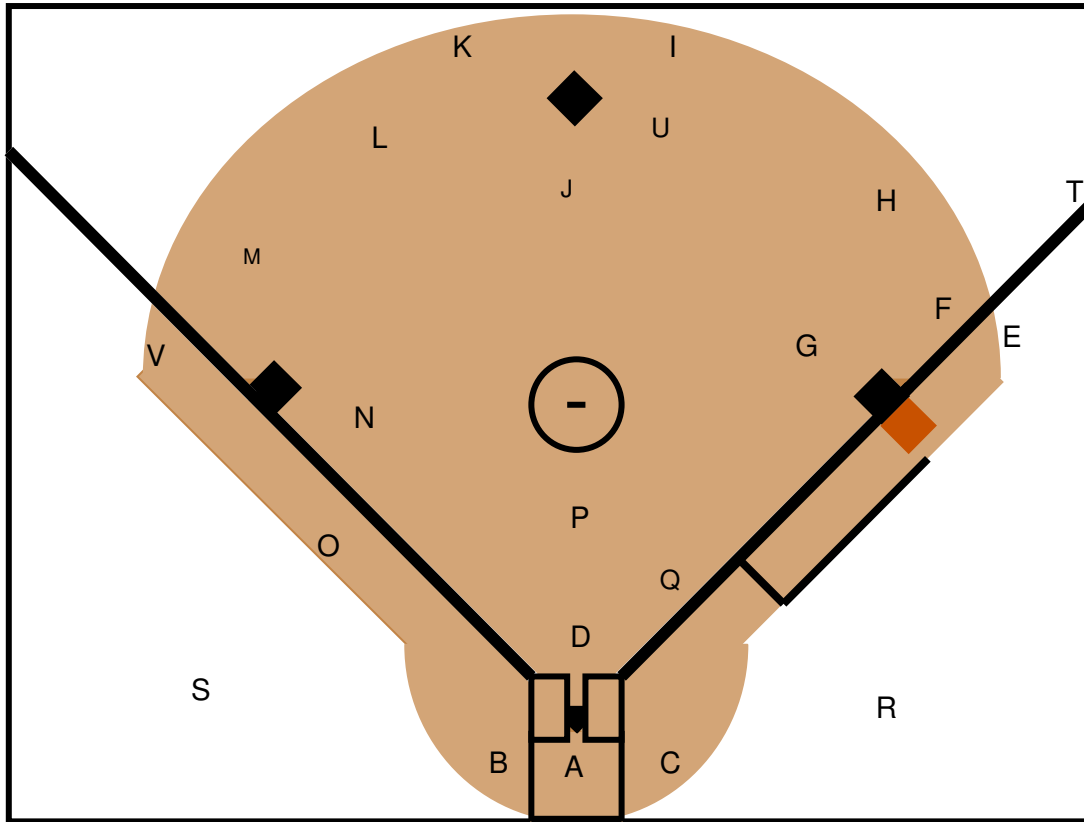
85. About balls thrown out of play:
- On a ball thrown dead on a first throw by an infielder all runners are awarded two bases from their positions at the time of the pitch.
 - On a ball thrown dead by any fielder all runners are awarded two bases from their positions at the time of the throw.
 - On a ball thrown dead by any fielder all runners are awarded two bases from their positions when the ball became dead.
 - On a ball thrown dead when a runner is returning to a base the runner is awarded the base she is returning to plus one additional base.
86. About the batter-runner:
- The batter-runner will be called out when tagged after she overruns first base after a base on balls.
 - The batter-runner will be called out if she stops on her way to first to avoid a tag.
 - The batter-runner will be called out for running out of the base line whenever she leaves the three-foot-lane while running to first base.
 - The batter-runner will be called out if she is struck by her fair batted ball in fair territory.

AWARDING OF BASES – LIST THE PROPER BASE AWARDED AFTER EACH QUESTION:

**FIRST BASE = 1
THIRD BASE = 3**

**SECOND BASE = 2
HOME = H**

87. A fair ball is hit down the right field line and deflects off the outfielder's glove and goes out of play. The batter-runner had already passed first base when the ball entered the dead ball area. The batter-runner is awarded ____.
88. R1 from first base is attempting to steal second when B1 hits a ground ball to F6. F6 throws to first but the ball enters dead ball territory. At the time of the throw, R1 had already touched second base. R1 is awarded ____.
89. F2's attempted pickoff of R1 at first base deflects off F3's glove and enters dead ball area. R1 is awarded ____.
90. B1 takes a wide turn at first base after she hits safely to the outfield. After B1 returns to first base, F9 throws the ball out of play. B1 is awarded ____.
91. R2 is on second base with one out when B1 hits a foul fly ball near the dead ball line in left field where it is legally caught by F7. R2 tags up at second and is running close to third base when F7's momentum carries her into dead area. R2 is awarded ____.
92. R1 from first running on B1's long hit to the outfield is nearing third base and easily scored when the ball bounces over the outfield fence. R1 is awarded ____.
93. R3 is on third when F1 commits an illegal pitch that strikes B1. R3 is awarded ____.
94. R2 is on second with two outs when B1 hits safely to center field. F6 obstructs R2 as she advances and R2 is thrown out on a close play at home on F8's throw. R2 is awarded ____.



Using the letters on the diagram above, select the BEST position for the umpire to judge the play. A letter may be used more than once.

PLATE UMPIRE ONLY

- 95. R2 from second advances to third after a play at first. No play at third base occurs.
- 96. R2 from second attempts to score on B1's hit to right field. F2 catches F9's off-line throw three feet in fair territory and six feet up the third base line.
- 97. No runners are on base. B1 hits a ground ball to F6 with F6's throw going to first base.

BASE UMPIRE ONLY

- 98. R1 is on first base and R2 is on second base. There is a force out on R1 at second base.
- 99. R1 from first attempts to steal second.
- 100. With no runners on base, B1 hits a line drive toward left field. Initial aiming point is ____.