

NEW YORK STATE HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL RULES EXAMINATION – 2009

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. An appeal play must be made before the next play or attempted play.
2. When an obstructed runner is tagged between the two bases where the obstruction occurred, the ball is dead immediately.
3. The Flex may never play offense only.
4. The plate umpire must report all changes, including courtesy runners, to the other team.

MORE ABOUT FREQUENTLY MISSED QUESTIONS:

5. A Courtesy Runner runs for the pitcher in the third inning. The Courtesy Runner is eligible to bat for the pitcher later in the third inning.
6. A Courtesy Runner runs for the pitcher in the third inning. The Courtesy Runner is eligible to bat for a player other than the pitcher later in the third inning.
7. When the look-back rule is in effect, B1 walks and stops on first base. B1 steps off first base. B1 is not out if she immediately returns non-stop to first base or advances non-stop to second base.
8. When the look-back rule is in effect, if B1 overruns first base and starts back to the base, B1 may attempt to advance to second base.

ABOUT NEW RULES:

9. A defensive conference is not charged when, after going to the pitcher's circle, the coach removes the pitcher from the game.
10. The umpire will remove any bat that has burrs, dents and visible cracks from the game.
11. A player who is found wearing metal cleats shall be ejected if she has previously been warned for wearing metal cleats.
12. A clarification states that the pitcher must step on the pitcher's plate with her hands separated and the ball in the glove hand or the pitching hand.

MORE ABOUT NEW RULES:

13. A ball is added to the batter's count if the pitcher fails to pitch in 20 seconds after receiving the ball.
14. The pitcher is charged with an illegal pitch if the pitcher fails to pitch in 20 seconds after receiving the ball.
15. The Gorilla Gold drying agent is approved for use but must be kept in the pitcher's pocket when not being used.
16. The batter and all runners are awarded two bases when a fair batted ball deflects off the fence and strikes and fielder before going over the fence.

ABOUT A TAG:

17. A legal tag occurs when a fielder tags a runner with the ball while holding the ball securely in her glove.

18. A legal tag occurs when a fielder tags a runner with the ball while holding the ball securely in her throwing hand.

19. A legal tag occurs when a fielder touches a runner with her glove while holding the ball in her throwing hand.

20. A fielder in possession of the ball may legally tag a base with any part of her body.

ABOUT APPEAL PLAYS:

21. An appeal play is a play on which an umpire may not make a decision until requested by the manager, coach or player.

22. With one out and with R2 on second and R3 on third base, the batter flies out to F8. R3 properly tags and crosses home plate. R2 does not tag and advances to 3rd. Then, after a live ball appeal, R2 is declared out. R3's run shall count.

23. A coach may appeal that a runner should be out for leaving her base prior to the release of the pitch.

24. A plate umpire may not ask the base umpire for help on a checked swing unless asked to do so by a manager, coach, or player.

ABOUT TEAM CONFERENCES:

25. The offensive team is entitled to only one charged conference per inning.

26. The defensive team is entitled to only one charged conference per inning.

27. If the game goes into extra innings, unused defensive conferences are carried over and may be used in extra innings.

28. The plate umpire shall record all offensive and defensive conferences on his/her line-up card.

ABOUT TOUGH CALLS:

29. In terms of a batted ball, the batter's hands are considered part of the bat.

30. A batter who "freezes" and gets hit by a pitched ball may not be awarded first base.

31. On close tag plays, a runner who does not slide must be called out.

32. On a dropped third strike, a batter-runner is not permitted to take a few steps toward her dugout, and before entering dead ball territory, attempt to advance to first base.

ABOUT TAG-UPS:

33. With R2 as the sole runner, the plate umpire is responsible for appeals on R2's tag-up.

34. With R3 as the sole runner, the plate umpire is responsible for appeals on R3's tag-up.

35. With R1 on first and R2 on second base, the base umpire is responsible for appeals made on both R1 and R2.

36. With bases loaded, the plate umpire is responsible for appeals on both R2 and R3's tag-up.

ABOUT LIABILITY:

37. It is proper for an umpire to instruct a runner either to slide or not slide.
38. An umpire may give a player advice as to how she should treat an injury.
39. If it is discovered that the pitching distance is improper, the umpires shall have the pitching rubber corrected immediately, regardless of the playing situation.
40. It is acceptable for the plate umpire to place his hand on the catcher to measure the distance between the umpire and the catcher.

THE BATTER IS OUT WHEN:

41. She hits a fair ball with the bat a second time in fair territory and she is still in the batter's box and contact is made while the bat is in her hands.
42. She hits a fair batted ball and again hits the ball in fair territory while she has at least one foot completely on the ground out of the batter's box.
43. She drops the bat and the ball rolls against the bat in fair territory, and, in the umpire's judgment, there was no intent to interfere with the ball.
44. She makes contact with the ball on the follow through after missing the pitch on the initial swing.

ABOUT THE DESIGNATED PLAYER (DP) RULE:

45. The designated player is the player who is initially on the line-up card on the team's batting order but not in the defensive line-up.
46. The player who is listed in the tenth position in the line-up is defined as the Flex.
47. The DP and Flex positions are completely interchangeable and may be "flip-flopped."
48. If the Flex bats for the DP, the role of the DP is terminated for the remainder of the game.

ABOUT THIRD STRIKE RULE:

49. If the batter-runner runs in violation of the third strike rule and draws a throw from the catcher the ball is immediately dead.
50. The batter is automatically out after three strikes when first base is occupied with less than two out.
51. The batter-runner can legally touch either the colored or white portion of the base when a fielder makes a play from foul ground.
52. Any time the batter swings and misses for strike three, the umpire should bellow, "Strike three, the batter is out!"

ABOUT COLLISIONS:

53. A runner who remains on her feet and crashes into a fielder who has the ball is out.
54. The collision rule applies to a fielder who is about to receive a thrown ball.
55. A runner is always automatically ejected if she remains on her feet and crashes into a fielder.

56. The batter-runner is ejected if she crashes into the first baseman who is reaching for an errant throw in the baseline.

PLATE MECHANICS:

57. When a runner who attempts to score misses home and the catcher misses the tag, the plate umpire makes no call.
58. The plate umpire is responsible for ruling on the status of all fly balls.
59. With no runners on base, the plate umpire has fair/foul responsibility up to the front edge of first base.
60. 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."

ABOUT INTERFERENCE:

61. Once a batted ball is deflected, a runner cannot be called out for interference unless the runner intentionally interferes.
62. When a runner prevents an infielder from catching a routine fair fly ball with ordinary effort, both the runner and batter are out.
63. It is umpire's interference if the umpire runs into a catcher after she has fielded a fair batted ball.
64. 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 RE-ENTRY:

65. Any player may leave the game and re-enter the game once.
66. Players who re-enter the game must occupy their original positions in the line-up.
67. A starting player and her substitute may not be in the line-up at the same time.
68. Once removed from the game, a starting pitcher may never return to the pitching position.

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 bumps into a fielder who does not have a legitimate chance to make a play on a batted ball.
70. With one out and a runner on third base, an infielder intentionally drops a fair line drive.
71. With one out and runners on first and second base, an infielder intentionally drops a routine fair fly ball.
72. A runner accidentally interferes with an infielder attempting to field a fair batted ball.
73. The batter foul-tips a pitched ball.
74. The batter hits an illegal pitch. At the time of the illegal pitch, the ball is ____.
75. Three foot lane interference is called.
76. A batted ball settles on home plate.

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

77. The Home Team's coach enters the field to confer with F1 in the pitcher's circle:
- The Home Team is charged with a defensive charged conference;
 - The Home Team's coach must inform the umpire if she is removing F1 from the game before she crosses the foul line;
 - If the Home Team Coach's visit to the circle is her second to the same pitcher that inning, F1 must be removed from the game;
 - The Home Team's coach may confer with F1 before making a decision about removing her from the pitching position.
78. The Official Softball Bat:
- May not have a crooked, angular handle;
 - Must have only a round handle;
 - Shall be of one piece construction, multi-piece permanently assembled or two piece interchangeable construction;
 - Must have a safety grip on the handle not more than 18 inches from the small end of the bat.
79. A player detected wearing metal cleats:
- Is always immediately ejected from the game;
 - Is immediately restricted to her bench for the remainder of the game;
 - Is issued a warning for a first offense;
 - Is declared out if she slides feed first into a base.
80. If the pitcher fails to deliver a pitch within 20-seconds after receiving the ball:
- An illegal pitch should be called;
 - She has committed a violation when there are runners on base;
 - A ball is added to the batter's count;
 - A warning is issued to the head coach and any subsequent violation will result in the pitcher being immediately restricted to the bench for the remainder of the game.
81. No pitch is declared:
- When the pitcher stops her delivery motion during a pitch;
 - When the pitcher attempts a quick return pitch;
 - When the pitcher drops the ball during her delivery;
 - When the batter steps out of the batter's box and the pitcher delivers the ball.
82. 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.
83. 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.
84. 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.

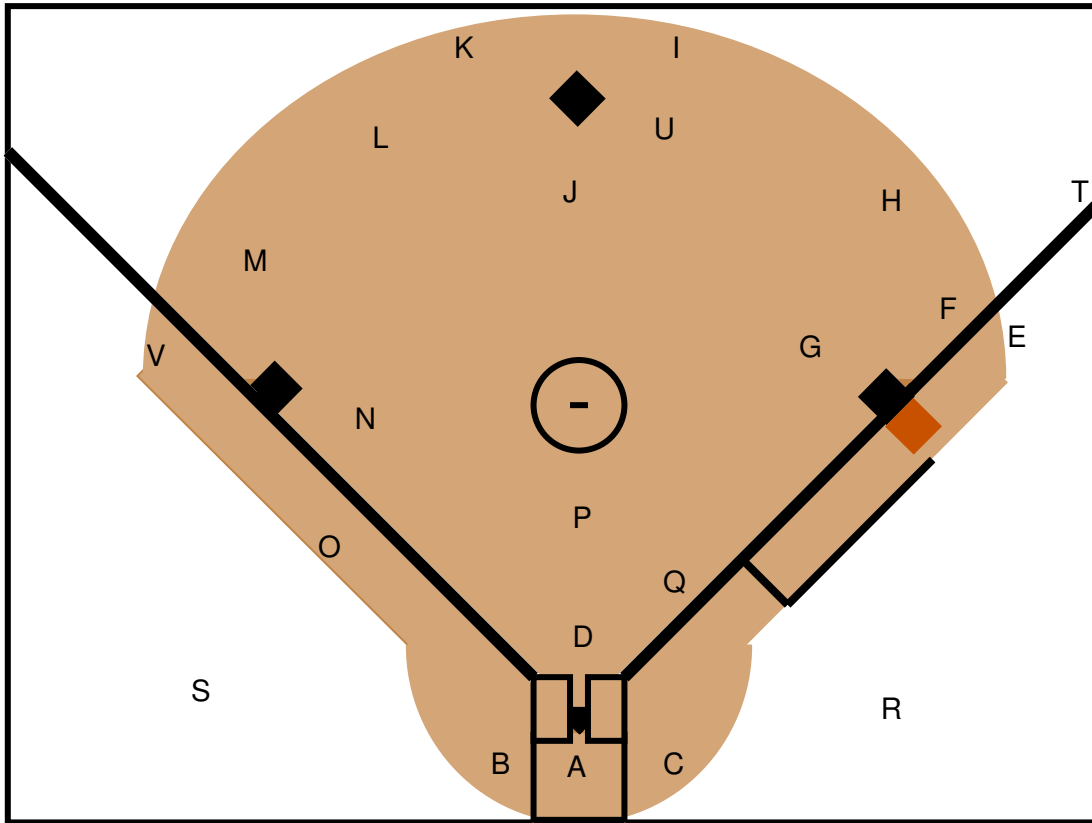
85. When a runner's interference prevents a fielder from catching a routine fly ball with ordinary effort:
- Only the batter is out;
 - Only the runner is out;
 - Only a strike is charged to the batter if the ball is foul;
 - Both the runner and batter are out.
86. R1 is on first base. A batted ball deflects off F3's glove and hits R1 who is three steps behind F3 advancing to second base. F4 is in position to field the ball:
- Batter is out;
 - Runner is out;
 - Ball is alive;
 - Ball is delayed-dead

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. B1 hits a ground ball to the shortstop who throws high to first base. The first baseman throws her glove and stops the thrown ball. B1 who is two steps before first base shall be awarded ____.
89. R2 and R1 are both between second and third when the ball is thrown out of play. R1 is awarded ____.
90. R2 is on second base when B1 is struck by a declared illegal pitch. R2 is awarded ____.
91. 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 ____.
92. F2's attempted pickoff of R1 at first base deflects off F3's glove and enters dead ball area. R1 is awarded ____.
93. R2 is on second base with one out, when B1 hits a foul fly ball down the right field line. F9 catches the ball in foul territory, but her momentum carries her completely into dead ball territory. R2 is awarded ____.
94. A fair batted ball deflects off the fence and strikes a fielder before going over the fence. The batter is award ____.



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. R1 is on first base. The ball is hit to right field. The play is on R1 at third base. There is a short overthrow into foul ground. The play is at the plate. What is the best calling position?
96. R1 is on first base. A fly ball is hit to center field.
97. No runners are on base. A fly foul ball is hit near the first base dugout.

BASE UMPIRE ONLY

98. No runners are on base. The batter hits a sinking drive between the right fielder and the right field line.
99. There is a bunt in front of home plate.
100. R1 is on first base and R2 is on second base. There is a force out on R1 at second base.