

2011 USSSA Fast Pitch Umpire Test

Subject Num Question – True or False

Playing Field; Definitions

- 1 The pitching distance for Girls 14 and under is 40ft.
- 2 The coach's box is the area to which the two base coaches (one per box) are restricted prior to release of the pitch.
- 3 A crow hop is the replanting of the pivot foot prior to delivery of the pitch.
- 4 A leap is when both feet are airborne
- 5 Fair territory is that part of the playing field within, and not including, the foul lines from home plate to the bottom of the playing field fence and perpendicularly upwards.

The look back rule is in effect

- 6 To be considered in the pitcher's circle, the pitcher must have both feet totally inside the pitcher's circle.
- 7 If the pitcher places the ball in her glove and the glove & ball between her legs to adjust her hair, she is not considered to have possession of the ball
- 8 With a runner on third base and a walk issued to the batter, the look back rule does not go into effect until the batter-runner reaches first base.
- 9 The pitcher must have possession of the ball in the pitcher's circle and be looking at the runner for the runner to be called out on the Look Back Rule.
- 10 A batter-runner who overruns first and delays in her attempt to advance to second is required to return to first base and stop.

R3 is caught in a rundown between third base and home plate. R3 is attempting to return to third with no chance of reaching home when she is obstructed by the third baseman. She is tagged out by the shortstop.

- 11 The ball is immediately dead when the obstruction occurs.
- 12 The umpire would signal and call obstruction immediately without waiting for the play to be completed.
- 13 R3 is awarded third base.
- 14 The umpire is required to issue a warning to the third baseman and notify the coach.
- 15 An obstructed runner is awarded protection even if she is responsible for malicious contact or interference when obstruction has been called.

With a runner on third base only, the batter swings and hits the catcher's mitt. The batter hits a ground ball to the shortstop.

- 16 Catcher's obstruction is a delayed dead ball.
- 17 The coach or captain of the offensive team may take the result of the play or the penalty for the obstruction unless the batter and the runner both reached base safely.
- 18 The runner who is standing on third base is awarded home if the obstruction penalty is enforced.
- 19 The runner is stealing and is thrown out at home. The offense is given the opportunity to take the result of the play or the catcher's obstruction penalty which would score the runner.
- 20 The runner advances and scores. The batter is thrown out attempting to advance to second. The offense is given the opportunity to take the result of the play or the penalty for catcher's obstruction.

Obstruction by Offense/Interference by Umpire

- 21 A fake tag is obstruction.
- 22 When a fielder obstructs a runner, the play is a delayed dead ball.
- 23 It is obstruction if a fielder hinders a runner by moving into her path to get ready to catch a fly ball.
- 24 It is obstruction if a fielder hinders a runner by moving into her path to get ready to catch a thrown ball.
- 25 A dead ball occurs when an umpire interferes with the catcher attempting to throw out a runner stealing.

Interference

- 26 Interference can be a physical or verbal act by the offense.
- 27 When a coach physically assists a runner during playing action, interference occurs and a dead ball occurs
- 28 If in the judgment of the umpire, a runner interferes in any way and prevents a double play anywhere, the runner who interferes and the runner closest to home both will be called out.
- 29 A runner is on first base. A ground ball passes the second baseman untouched. No other infielder can make a play on the ball. The batted ball hits the runner going to second. The runner is out.
- 30 If a runner is thrown out when a batter committed interference with the catcher making a throw, the interference is ignored.

2011 USSSA Fast Pitch Umpire Test

Subject Num Question – True or False

With a runner on second base, the batter hits a fair ground ball.

- 31 A batted ball bounds off the pitcher's glove and goes to the shortstop, standing in the baseline trying to field the deflected ball, and hinders the runner going from second to third. Obstruction has occurred.
- 32 A batted ball bounds off the third baseman's glove and goes to the shortstop, standing in the baseline attempting to field the deflection and hinders the runner going from second to third. Obstruction has occurred.
- 33 A batted ball goes to the shortstop. She fumbles the ball and the ball goes behind her. She takes a step and starts to pick up the ball when she hinders the runner going from second to third. Obstruction has occurred.
- 34 The third baseman turns to watch the ball in left field and obstructs R2 before she gets to third base. Obstruction is called and R2 is thrown out at home plate. The umpire states that the runner could not have made home plate regardless of the obstruction. R2 is returned to third base without an out being recorded.
- 35 The third baseman obstructs R2 after she touches third base and the umpire who called obstruction does not think R2 would have scored regardless of the obstruction. R2 is thrown out at home plate. R2 is returned to third base without an out being recorded.

Lineup

- 36 A team may have as many as twelve players in their starting lineup.
- 37 For the DP/FLEX to be in the game, they must be in the starting lineup approved by the Umpire.
- 38 A team may begin the game with eight players.
- 39 A player shows up late and is not listed as a starter or substitute on the line-up card. She is ineligible to play in that game.
- 40 Pam comes to bat in the top of the first inning in the third position in the batting order and is wearing #8. The official line-up has Pam batting in the third position in the batting order but wearing #17. Number can be corrected with no warning or penalty.

Additional Player, DP/FLEX

- 41 An additional player can be listed anywhere in the starting line-up.
- 42 An additional player can play any defensive position but must keep the same position in the batting order.
- 43 The primary role of the DP is to play offense (bats/runs) for the FLEX. The DP may play defense at any position.
- 44 The primary role of the FLEX is to play defense only which can be at any defensive position. The FLEX may remain in the last position (non-batting) in the lineup for the entire game, or may assume the DP's position in the batting order and play offense (bat/run).
- 45 The DP's name can be listed anywhere as one of the batters in the batting order.
- 46 Both the DP and FLEX can leave their positions in the lineup and re-enter one time.
- 47 The DP can be on defense only.
- 48 The FLEX can remain in the last lineup position and be on offense only.
- 49 The DP can play defense for any of the other players in the lineup. So both the DP and the FLEX can be on defense at the same time.
- 50 The FLEX can play offense for any of the other players in the lineup. So both the DP and the FLEX can be on offense at the same time.

2011 USSSA Fast Pitch Umpire Test

Subject	Num	Question – True or False
Courtesy Runner	51	The team at bat may use a courtesy runner for the pitcher and/or catcher any time after they reach base other than by substitution. The same runner may be used for both positions in the same inning. Neither the pitcher nor the catcher will be required to leave under such circumstances.
	52	Pam pinch hits for the shortstop and gets a base hit. Karen subs for Pam as a pinch runner. Later in the inning the pitcher gets on base. Pam can now be a courtesy runner for the pitcher.
	53	Pam is one of five substitutes who have not participated at all in the game. Pam courtesy runs for the pitcher in the sixth inning and scores. In the same inning, Pam is allowed to pinch run for the shortstop but can no longer be used as a courtesy runner for the remainder of the game.
	54	Pam is the only substitute. Pam is used as a courtesy runner. Karen bats Pam home but is injured sliding safely into second and cannot continue. Pam must substitute immediately for Karen.
	55	The leadoff hitter, Amy, strikes out. The next batter, Betty, is knocked unconscious by a wild pitch. Since the team has no eligible substitutions, Amy can replace Karen during this at bat.
Two Bases are Awarded	56	If a fair-batted ball becomes dead because of bouncing over or, when passing through a fence, becomes blocked.
	57	If a live thrown ball, including a pitch, is touched by an illegal glove/mitt or detached player equipment which is thrown, held, tossed or kicked by a fielder.
	58	If a live thrown ball (not by a pitcher from the pitcher's plate) goes into a stand for spectators, or a players' bench, or over or through or lodges in a fence.
	59	With no outs, Fran is stealing second when the batter lines out to the shortstop. Fran is returning to first as the shortstop throws to the first baseman. The throw goes out of play. Fran is awarded second base.
	60	With Fran on First, Beth hits a ground ball to the outfield. Fran has not reached second and Beth has past first when the right fielder throws the ball. The throw goes out of play. Beth is awarded third base moving Fran Home.
The game is being played with a double first base. The white base is in fair territory and the orange base is in foul territory	61	If a play is being made on the batter-runner at first base and the batter-runner touches only the white portion of the base, the runner is out.
	62	A ground ball bounds off the first baseman into foul territory. The first baseman picks up the ball, dives and touches the orange base with the ball in her throwing hand, beating the runner. The runner is out.
	63	An uncaught 3 rd strike goes to first base side fence. The first baseman catches the throw from the catcher touching only the orange base before the batter runner reaches first. The batter runner is out.
	64	The shortstop fields a ground ball and throws directly to first base. The first baseman catches the throw touching only the orange base before the batter runner reaches first. The batter runner is out.
	65	The runner on first is stealing second. After catching a line drive, the shortstop throws directly to first base. The first baseman catches the throw touching only the orange base before the runner returns to first. The runner is out.
Pitching	66	A pitcher may use tape for protection of an injury on the fingers, hands, wrist, forearm, or elbow provided such tape is neutral in color.
	67	A pitcher may wear a first baseman's mitt when pitching.
	68	The pitcher must start with both feet on the pitching rubber.
	69	A step backward in the pitching motion is legal if it begins before the hands come together.
	70	Preliminary to pitching, the pitcher must take a position with the ball in the glove or pitching hand, and the hands separated.
Illegal Pitch	71	If a pitcher does not release the pitch within 20 seconds from the time of receiving the ball, an illegal pitch is called.
	72	An illegal pitch is a dead ball and the penalty invoked.
	73	If all runners advance one base, and the batter-runner reaches first base, the illegal pitch is canceled.
	74	The penalty for an illegal pitch is a ball on the batter and runners advance only when forced by a trailing runner.
	75	The umpire who called the Illegal Pitch shall explain the violation to the pitcher.

2011 USSSA Fast Pitch Umpire Test

The following questions are based on the USSSA Fast Pitch Mechanics Manual

Subject Num Question – True or False

USSSA Umpire's uniform

- 76 If a t-shirt is to be worn under the Umpire shirt, it shall plain, short or long sleeve.
- 77 The t-shirt, when worn, shall be white, black, or match the pullover shirt in color.
- 78 Exposed sleeves of the t-shirt shall be white.
- 79 The plate umpire is allowed to wear a black cap with no markings on it.

Base Umpire's initial position with no runners on base

- 80 Base Umpire should be 18-21 feet beyond first base straddling the foul line.
- 81 The Base Umpire is responsible for taking the batter/runner to second and allowing the Home Plate Umpire to make the call at third base.
- 82 On a fly ball, turn, watch the catch, signal the out, and let the plate umpire watch the batter/runner touch first base.

Fly ball tag-up responsibilities in Two Umpire System

- 83 The Plate Umpire has all runners at third base.
- 84 The Base Umpire always has tags at second base.
- 85 The Base Umpire has all tags at first base.
- 86 The Plate Umpire has all tags at second base.

Base Umpire Initial Position

- 87 The Base Umpire should be two or three steps behind and to the right of the shortstop when there is a runner at second only.
- 88 The Base umpire should take a position down the third base line when there is a runner at third only.
- 89 The Base Umpire should be two or three steps behind and to the right of the shortstop when there are runners at second and third base.
- 90 The Base Umpire should be two or three steps behind and to the right of the shortstop when there are runners at first and third base.
- 91 The Base Umpire should be two or three steps behind and to the right of the second baseman with runners at first and second.
- 92 The Base Umpire should be two or three steps behind and to the right of the shortstop when the bases are loaded.

Plate Mechanics

- 93 With No Runners On and a ground ball to the infield, come out to the left of the catcher and move toward the pitcher's plate to help your partner.
- 94 With a runner on second base only, if the first play is at first base, and there is a throw to third, the Plate Umpire has the call at third.
- 95 With runners on first and second base on a base hit, you are responsible for the lead runner at third base and at home. Move toward third base in foul ground. If the lead runner comes home and there is no play made on her, drift toward third base but watch the runner touch the plate.
- 96 On a base hit with runners at first and third base move toward third base. If the lead runner comes home and there is no play made on her, drift toward third but watch the runner touch home plate. If there is a play at home, move back to a position in the rear and left side of the right-handed batter's box.
- 97 When the bases are loaded and a play at first base, watch the lead runner touch home plate, then go to third for a possible play on the second runner.
- 98 Plate always gives a signal of two fists above the head and a verbal "full count" when there are three balls and two strikes.
- 99 A Plate Umpire should always give the count at least every other pitch.
- 100 A Plate Umpire should change balls whenever requested by the pitcher to keep her happy and not cause a confrontation.