

2010 USSSA Fast Pitch Umpire Test

Subject Num Question – True or False

B1 hits a double and is standing on 2nd base. The ball is returned to the pitcher in the pitcher's circle. Without asking for time, the pitcher places her glove with the ball in it under her chin to adjust her hair. B1 immediately breaks for 3rd base and makes it safely.

- 1 B1 is out.
- 2 The ball is dead.
- 3 B1's advance is legal.
- 4 The ball remains alive and in play.
- 5 The umpire will call time and return the runner to second base.

The look back rule is in effect

- 6 To be considered in the pitcher's circle for the look back rule to be in effect, the pitcher must have both feet totally inside the pitcher's circle.
- 7 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.
- 8 A fake throw by the pitcher while in the pitcher's circle releases the runners from the look back rule.
- 9 If the pitcher has possession of the ball in the pitcher's circle, the runner may not stand motionless, or, after returning to the base, may not move off the base even though the pitcher is standing off of the pitcher's plate.
- 10 A batter-runner who overruns first and does not without delay 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. As R3 is attempting to return to third, she is obstructed by the third baseman and subsequently 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 not obstruction if a defender is about to receive a throw and the runner alters her path without contacting the defensive player. The defender has the right to be in the baseline in this situation.
- 24 A dead ball occurs when an umpire interferes with the catcher attempting to throw out a runner stealing.
- 25 When an umpire interferes with the catcher throwing the ball in a steal situation, the runner is returned to the last base attained before the umpire interference.

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

- 26 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.
- 27 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.
- 28 A batted ball goes to the shortstop. The shortstop fumbles the ball and the ball goes behind the defender. She takes a step and starts to pick up the ball when she hinders the runner going from second to third. Obstruction has occurred.
- 29 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.
- 30 The third baseman obstructs R2 after she touches third base and the umpire who called obstruction does not think R2 would not have scored regardless of the obstruction. R2 is thrown out at home plate. R2 is returned to third base without an out being recorded.

Interference

- 31 Interference can be a physical or verbal act by the offense.
- 32 When a coach physically assists a runner during playing action, interference occurs and a dead ball occurs
- 33 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.
- 34 A runner is on first base and hit by a ground ball that passes the second baseman, who did not touch the ball. There is no defensive player behind the second baseman who can make a play on the batted ball. The ball hits the runner going to second. The runner is out.
- 35 If a runner is thrown out when a batter committed interference with the catcher making a throw, the interference is ignored.

Lineup

- 36 A team may have as many as twelve starting players in their starting lineup.
- 37 A team is allowed to list a player as a starter when they know they are on the way to the park.
- 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. Pam is out.

Additional Player, Designated Hitter

- 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 A designated hitter (DH) can hit for the pitcher only.
- 44 The name of the defensive player for whom the DH is batting should be listed after the DH in the same line-up spot.
- 45 A team starts with 10 players (a DH but no APs). Debbie is the DH batting for Pam. Pam runs for Debbie. Debbie can re-enter and the team plays with 10 players.

Substitutions

- 46 The first time a team uses an unreported substitute an out should be recorded.
- 47 The second time an unreported substitute is detected results in the head coach being ejected.
- 48 An illegal substitution results in the immediate ejection of the illegal player and the head coach.
- 49 Both starters and substitutes are allowed to re-enter the game one time.
- 50 A player leaves the game under the blood rule which forces her team to play short. For safety purposes, the player is not allowed to re-enter the game.

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Courtesy Runner

- 51 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.
- 52 Pam courtesy runs for the pitcher in the second inning. Pam now is able to courtesy run for the catcher in the third inning.
- 53 Pam is used as a courtesy runner for the pitcher in the sixth inning and scores. With the game tied in the same inning, Pam is allowed to pinch hit and remain in the game losing her courtesy runner status 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.

Jewelry

- 56 Jewelry can be worn as long as it is taped for safety purposes.
- 57 Medical alert bracelets and necklaces are not to be considered jewelry but are required to be taped to the body.
- 58 Jewelry must be removed by the end of the half inning a warning was given.
- 59 Unadorned devices with no sharp edges or points such as bobby pins, barrettes, and hair clips no longer than two inches in length, worn to control a player's hair are legal.
- 60 The second offense for wearing jewelry by a team results in the violator restricted to the bench for the remainder of the game and the head coach ejected.

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 3rd 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 pitcher may use no more than two revolutions when using the windmill delivery.
- 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 As in catcher's obstruction, the coach is not given an option of taking the result of the play or the penalty, if all runners advance one base, and the batter-runner reaches first base when an illegal pitch is called.
- 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.

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From USSSA 2-Umpire Mechanics Manual (MM)

- 76 Umpire should arrive at the field at least 30 minutes before the game time.
- 77 The Official Umpire Uniform Standard for sanctioned play includes APPROVED and LICENSED products.
- 78 The Base Umpire always has the first play at first, second and third.
- 79 Each umpire has equal authority to call leaving a base too soon on the pitch.
- 80 The Plate Umpire will move out and up the foul line to make calls on balls hit fair and/or foul.

The Base Umpire initial position

- 81 No runners on base, base umpire should be position 12-15 feet beyond 1st base in foul territory
- 82 Runner on first base only, base umpire should be half way between first base and second base
- 83 Runner on second base, base umpire takes a position inside the diamond between the pitching rubber and second base.
- 84 Runner on second and third base, starting position is behind the second basemen to the left?
- 85 Runner on first and third base, base umpire takes position behind and to the right of the shortstop (between the shortstop and third base)?

The team at bat has a runner on second base only.

- 86 If the first play is at first base and there is a throw to third base the Plate Umpire has the call at third base
If the first play on a ground ball is at first, the base umpire moves to get an angle for the call the first play and the plate umpire covers third.
- 87 The base umpire is responsible for the runner tagging at second base on a fly ball.
- 88 Fly ball to left field plate umpire moves to the center of field
- 89 Base umpire takes the batter runner to third base
- 90 If the runner steals third, the proper mechanic for the base umpire is to move up in the baseline to get closer to third to make the call.

There are runners at second and third with one out. A fly ball is hit to the center fielder and she makes the catch. Both runners tag up to advance but the runner at second leaves before the caught ball is touched. Both runners safely advance to home plate and to third base.

- 91 Plate umpire has the tag up at third?
- 92 When the ball is delivered, the base umpire should be positioned a few steps to the left of the third baseman (between the third baseman and the shortstop).
- 93 The Plate Umpire should stay stationary behind Home for a possible play at the plate.
- 94 After the base umpire buttonhooks to get an angle on the tag at second, they take the runner from to second to third for a possible play.
- 95 After a legal appeal, the base umpire calls the runner who started on second out for leaving early. The run scored by the runner from third does not count since there are now three outs.

Bases Loaded

- 96 Plate umpire makes all call from behind the plate?
- 97 On fly balls base umpire get inside the infield and has all the tags?
- 98 On a base hit plate umpire moves towards third base in foul territory, has the play at home and third base.
- 99 On a ball hit to the infield base umpire has first throw unless it is to home
- 100 On a ground ball to the pitcher, she throws to catcher who throws to third baseman. The plate umpire has both force out calls