

2018 Baseball Officials Exam for Postseason Tournament Consideration & Answers

- Bottom of the 2nd inning, no outs, no runners on base with a 2-1 count. B2 hits a line drive directly off the pitcher's rubber, and the ball rebounds to F4 in the air. What is the correct ruling?
 - B2 is out as F4 caught the ball in the air.
 - B2 is not out yet as F4 would need to throw to first base to retire B2 as this would be considered a ground ball.**
 - Foul ball; as soon as the ball strikes the pitcher's rubber, the ball is dead. Return B2 to the plate with a 2-2 count.
- Bottom of the 2nd inning, no outs, no runners on base with a 2-1 count. B2 hits a line drive directly off the pitcher's rubber, and the ball rebounds directly into the first base dugout. What is the correct ruling?
 - Fair ball; a fair ball that goes out of play results in 2-base award. Put B2 on 2nd base.
 - Foul ball; return B2 to bat with a 2-1 count.
 - Dead ball; return B2 to bat with a 2-1 count.
 - Foul ball; return B2 to bat with a 2-2 count.**
- The game has been played in a constant drizzle. During a pitching change in the fourth inning, the plate umpire sees a distant flash of lighting and hears muzzled thunder. The home team administrator immediately approaches the umpire and tells him that the lighting is "at least 20 miles away" according to his weather radar tracking system in the school, and that the game should proceed.
 - The umpires must stop the game for at least 30 minutes. If any there is any further lightning or thunder, the 30 minute clock restarts.**
 - The home administrator is the sole decision maker in the terms of weather once the plate umpire receives line-up cards.
 - The umpires can play for an additional 30 minutes to see if the lighting passes.
 - The umpires should get both head coaches together. If everyone agrees that it is safe, and all promise not to hold the umpires responsible, the game may continue immediately.
- The batter hits a ground ball to the shortstop. As the ball is hit, the end cap of the bat comes loose and flies towards the shortstop. This distracts the shortstop and he is unable to make a play on the seemingly routine ground ball.
 - The ball remains live and in play.**
 - This is interference; umpire shall call the batter out.
 - Time should immediately be called when the bat breaks apart. Return the batter to the box and he will hit again.
 - The coach and player are ejected for illegal equipment
- R3 on third base, two outs, 0-2 count on B7. B7 swings and missed on a curve ball in the dirt that gets away from the catcher to the backstop. B7 is angry at himself, and begins to take three steps toward his dugout when he realizes he can advance to first. As B7 now sprints toward first base, R3 touches home plate. The catcher gets the ball and fires to first base, just retiring B7 on a very close play for the third out. What is the correct ruling on this play?
 - Call B7 out for leaving the baseline when he started toward his dugout.
 - B7 is out at first base for the third out; score R3's run as this is a timing play.
 - B7 is out at first base for the third out; no runs can score on this play.**
- R1 on first, no outs. F1 fails to stop as he delivers to home, and the base umpire correctly calls "balk". B1 attempts to bunt and pops the ball up to F1. F1 then throws wildly to first in an attempt to double off R1. R1 advances to 2nd base on the errant throw.
 - The ball is dead immediately when the balk is called.**
 - The ball is dead when the pop up is caught.
 - The ball remains live since F1 threw the ball away; the runner can advance at his own risk.
 - The offensive coach has the option of taking the play or the balk penalty.
- The offensive team may only replace an improper batter before the first pitch, play or attempted play to the batter.
 - True
 - False**

8. R3 and one out. The count is 3-1. The next pitch bounces in the dirt for ball four and ends up lodged under the catcher's chest protector.

- a. The ball is dead and the batter is awarded first base. R3 remains at third base.
- b. The ball is dead. The batter is awarded first base and R3 is awarded home.**
- c. The ball is dead, the batter is awarded second base and R3 is awarded home.
- d. The ball is dead and the batter remains at the plate. R3 is awarded home.

9. R1. The batter hits a low line drive to the first baseman. The first baseman short hops the ball for no catch. The runner on first, believing the line drive would be caught, returns to first base. The first baseman touches first base before the batter reaches first, then tags the runner, who is now standing on first base.

- a. This is a double play as the runner was forced to run.
- b. The batter-runner is the only out because the force was removed when the batter-runner was put out.**
- c. This is interference by R1 and both R1 and the batter-runner are declared out.
- d. None of the answers are correct.

10. R1, R2. Two outs. B5 lofts a long fly ball just inside the left field foul line, fair by inches. F7 reaches to catch the fly ball but his reach comes up just short and the ball deflects off his glove over the fence in foul territory.

- a. Home run; the game is tied.
- b. Foul ball.
- c. The batter is awarded second base.**
- e. The batter is credited with a single; R2 scores and R1 advances to third.

11. The batting order is Able, Baker Charles, Daniels, Edwards. Charles bats instead of Baker and flies out to center field. Baker comes to bat, takes two pitches, and with a 1-1 count, the defense appeals batting out of order

- a. Daniels is declared out and Edwards is the proper batter.
- b. Daniels takes Baker's place at bat with a 1-1 count.**
- c. Baker is out and Charles bats again.
- d. None of the answers are correct.

12. R1, R3, no outs. The right-handed pitcher steps to an occupied 3rd base and fakes a throw, disengages the rubber, then turns and throws to first in an attempt to pick-off R1.

- a. This is a balk.
- b. This is a legal play; National Federation playing rules (HS rules) are different from MLB rules on this play and the fake-to-third, throw-to-first is still a legal play.**

13. Courtesy runner (CR1) runs for R1 and later in that same half-inning runs for R2. What is the ruling?

- a. Illegal substitution, CR1 is declared out.
- b. Illegal substitution. CR1 is declared out and restricted to dugout/bench.**
- c. Illegal substitution, CR1 is declared out and ejected.
- d. Replace CR1 with CR2 who would run for F2 with no penalty.

14. The count is 2-2 and B1 swings at an inside fastball. As he swings at the pitch, the ball hits his hands on the bat and the ball rolls toward the pitcher in fair territory. The correct call is....

- a. Fair ball; the ball remains in play.
- b. Foul ball; the batter remains at bat with a 2-2 count.
- c. Hit by pitch; send the batter to first base.
- d. Dead ball; the batter is charged with a strike, and since the count was 2-2, he is declared out.**

15. R1 on first, two outs. The batter hits a pop fly behind the catcher, which is caught for the third out. As the defense begins to run off the field, the offensive coach appeals to the umpire that the ball was caught with an illegal glove. The catcher was using a first baseman's mitt.

- a. The illegal glove is removed from the game.
- b. The illegal glove is removed from the game, however the out stands.
- c. The glove is legal for first base only.
- d. **The glove is legal and the out stands.**

16. What is a true statement regarding non-wood bats:

- a. Non-wood bats are not permitted by rule.
- b. **In order to be legal, non-wood bats must have the BBCOR certification mark.**
- c. In order to be legal, non-wood bats must have both the BBCOR and BESR certification marks on them.

17. R1 is on 1st with one out. B3 hits a fly ball to deep right field and R1 takes off immediately on contact. The right fielder makes a diving catch for the second out while R1 is now scrambling to get back to first base. The right fielder gets up, and seeing R1 racing back toward first, unleashes a throw that lands over the first base dugout in dead ball territory. At the time of the throw, R1 is roughly 30 feet from first base. Where is R1 placed?

- a. First base.
- b. Second base.
- c. **Third base.**
- d. Home....score the run.

18. With R1 on first, R3 gets an apparent extra-base-hit. As R1 rounds second, he is obstructed by F6 and knocked down. Not seeing R1 down, R3 then passes R1. The offensive coach then directs R3 to return to and stand on second base.

- a. Call time out immediately when R1 was obstructed. B6 is not penalized for passing R1. When play has ceased, the umpires will award whatever bases they believe R1 and B6 would have gained without the obstruction.
- b. Call time immediately when R1 was obstructed. B6 is out for passing R1 but you would award R1 bases based on the obstruction.
- c. The ball remains live and in play given the incidental contact.
- d. **Because R1 was obstructed, R3 is not penalized for passing R1. When play has ceased, the umpires will award whatever bases they believe R1 and R3 would have gained without the obstruction. R1 must be awarded a minimum of one base.**

19. R3, one out. R3 is attempting to score on a passed ball. B4 is still standing in the batter's box, even though there is time for him to move out of the pitcher's way. As the play develops, B4 unintentionally hinders the catcher's throw to the pitcher who is covering the plate.

- a. B4 is out and R3 scores.
- b. **R3 is out and B4 remains at the plate.**
- c. B4 has a right to remain stationary in the batter's box after the pitch has been caught.

20. R1, not stealing. The batter swings at an inside pitch and the ball hits his hands during the swing. The ball rolls toward the pitcher in fair ground. The pitcher throws the BR out at first base.

- a. This is a strike and the ball is dead but any runner could advance if they were stealing on the pitch.
- b. This play is ruled a fair ball and the results stand.
- c. **This is a strike, the ball is dead immediately and all runners must return to the base they had attained at the time of the pitch.**
- d. This is considered a swing, strike three, the catcher did not catch the pitch but the batter is out because the pitcher was able to throw out the BR before he could reach first base.
- e. This is considered a foul ball and the batter would continue to bat.

21. R1 on first, R3 on third and two outs. The batter hits a home run. R1 misses second base and this infraction is properly appealed by the defense. How many runs score?

- a. Three
- b. Two
- c. One
- d. **None**

22. R1 on first, R3 on third with no outs. A ground ball is hit to the shortstop and the defense begins to turn the double play. R1 slides illegally at second base, sliding beyond second base and creating a great deal of contact with the second baseman. What's the correct ruling on this play?
- Play on; this is a legal play.
 - Interference on R1 because of the force play slide rule. R1 is called out, batter-runner is called out, and R3 scores.
 - Interference on R1 because of the force play slide rule. R1 is called out, batter-runner is returned to bat, and R3 goes back to third.
 - Interference on R1 because of the force play slide rule. R1 is called out, batter-runner is called out, and R3 goes back to third.**
23. What is the MHSAA policy on umpire attire?
- Umpires can wear any color combination as long as the crew of umpires match.
 - Umpires can wear blue only; navy or power blue, and the crew of umpires must match.**
 - Umpires can wear blue, black or red, only. The crew of umpires must match.
24. Base coaches are required to wear helmets while occupying a coaching box under NFHS rules.
- True
 - False**
25. For a coach to come onto the field for a defensive conference or occupy a coaching box, that coach must be in a full baseball uniform, defined as baseball pants and some type of school or team issued top (jersey, jacket, pullover, sweatshirt, t-shirt).
- True**
 - False
26. For a catcher's helmet-mask combination to be legal, it must meet the following requirements:
- The mask must be a hockey-style helmet design that is one combination piece.
 - The mask-helmet must be a two-piece design with a mask and helmet that covers most of the catcher's head.
 - The mask-helmet can be either the one-piece or two-piece design but in either case, the helmet must cover the ears of the catcher.**
 - None of these answers are correct.
27. A baseball team only needs eight players to legally start a game?
- True
 - False**
28. Bottom of the 7th inning, tied game, R3 on third with 2 outs and a 1-1 count on the batter. The pitcher's curve ball is in the dirt, hits off the catcher's shoulder and rebounds directly up in the air, coming down in the umpire's ball bag. What's the correct call?
- Umpires should not end the game this way. The ball is dead, the count is 2-1 and R3 stays at third base.
 - This is a lodged ball. Because the lodged ball was a pitch, award all runners one base. Score R3 and the game is over.**
 - This is a lodged ball but it was accidental. Leave R3 at third base and the hitter remains at bat with a 1-1 count.
29. How many times may a starting player re-enter the game under NFHS rules?
- Zero
 - Once**
 - Twice
 - Unlimited times

30. How many times may a reserve player (not listed as a starting player on the original line up) re-enter the game under NFHS rules?

- a. **Zero**
- b. Once
- c. Twice
- d. Unlimited times