

Softball Officials Study Guide 2023-24

NOTE: In the exam situations, F refers to a fielder, B refers to a batter and R refers to a runner. All situations and acts are legal, and no errors or mistakes are involved unless otherwise noted.

#	Question	A	B	C	D	E	Answer
1	Wristbands with a playbook/playcard attached:	Are considered equipment.	Can be worn if a single solid color, other than optic yellow.	Are permissible when worn on a player's wrist or arm	All of the above.		
2	Which of the following is NOT a responsibility of the umpire during pregame?	Verifying the field is properly marked.	Reviewing the lineup cards.	Reviewing the ground rules.	Checking all equipment.		
3	When a pitcher is removed from the pitching position by rule or injury, her replacement who has not yet pitched in the game may have how many warm-up pitches?	No warm-up is permitted.	She is entitled to eight warm-up pitches.	The pitcher determines when she is properly warmed up.	The umpire is authorized to determine how many warm-up pitches are permitted.		
4	Which of the following would be an illegal pitch?	A step backward is taken after the hands have come together but prior to the start of the pitch.	Once the pitch has started, the pitcher takes no more than one step forward.	The hands come together and apart, then together again while standing on the pitching plate.	When the hands are apart and come together off the pitching plate as long as the hands are separated prior to stepping onto the pitcher's plate.		
5	A batter may be awarded first base when:	A fair batted ball strikes the person, attached equipment or clothing of an umpire or a runner.	A pitched ball entirely within the batter's box strikes her clothing.	A pitched ball not entirely in the batter's box, not swung at nor called a strike, hits the batter when she attempts to get out of the way.	All of the above.		
6	In order to call a batter out of the box on contact with a batted ball, an entire foot must be out of the batter's box and in contact with the ground (or in contact with home plate) at the moment of contact. (7-4-8)	True	False				
7	If an improper batter becomes a runner or is put out and the defense appeals to the umpire before the next pitch (legal or illegal), or before the infielders have left the infield and the catcher has left her normal fielding position in that half inning, the correct ruling should be:	The umpire shall declare the batter who should have batted out.	All outs stand and runners who were not declared out must return to the base occupied at the time of the pitch.	If a runner advances because of a stolen base, wild pitch, passed ball or an illegal pitch, while the improper batter is at bat, such advance is legal.	All of the above.		

8	R1 is on first base when B2 hits a ground ball to F4. F4's toss to F6 is wide, but F6 catches the ball in her glove. F6 then dives toward second base and slaps the bag with her bare hand before R1 arrives to the bag. (2-38-2)	R1 is safe at second base.	R1 is out at second base.				
9	Which situation is not an appeal play?	The batter-runner legally overruns first base, attempts to run to second and is legally touched while off base.	An offensive team member, other than another runner, physically assists the runner.	The runner fails to touch home plate.	The runner leaves a base to advance to another base before a fly ball is first touched, provided the ball is returned to the infield and is properly appealed.		
10	In determining when the pitch begins, which of the following is true? (6-1-2a)	The pitch begins when the pitcher brings her hands together.	The pitch begins when the hands are separated once they have been placed together.	The pitch begins as soon as the pitcher begins her motion after receiving a signal.	The pitch begins the moment the pitcher places her pivot foot on the pitcher's plate.		
11	R1 is on first base when B2 hits a ground ball. R1 crashes into F4, in the base path, as she attempts to gain control of a batted ball which is within a step and a reach of the spot of initial contact. The correct call is:	R1 has committed interference.	When F4 fails to gain control of the batted ball, the umpire will give the delayed dead-ball signal and wait to see what happens.	Because F4 was in the runner's base path, F4 is always charged with obstruction.	There is no call since R1 and F4 could not reasonably avoid contact. If judged unintentional the play is allowed to continue.		
12	Starting at first base, R1 overruns second base on a hit by B2. In the ensuing rundown, both runners end up on second base. F6 tags both runners. The correct ruling is:	R1 and B2 are both out.	B2 is out.	R1 is out.	Neither runner is out.		
13	There are two outs and R1 is on second base. B4 strikes out but F2 drops the ball. B4 is able to reach first base while F2 chases down the ball. F2 then overthrows third base as R1 is advancing and the ball bounces over the fence in foul territory. What is the correct procedure for advancement of the runners?	R1 is awarded home and B4 is awarded second base.	R1 is awarded home and B4 is awarded third base.	R1 is awarded third base and B4 is awarded first base.	R1 is awarded third base and B4 is awarded second base.		
14	B1 bunts a ball that bounces off the plate and rolls in front of the plate. As B1 runs toward first base she has one foot partially touching the foul line and the other foot completely in the running lane. F2 fields the ball and her throw to first base contacts B1. The correct call is:	F2 is ejected for unsporting behavior.	B1 is out for interference.	B1 can choose to use either the white or orange base.	This is a legal play. B1 is safe at first base if she reaches the base before being put out.		

15	B1 bunts the ball. The first baseman fields the ball and prepares to tag out B1 as she runs toward first base. B1 stops and steps back toward home plate to avoid the tag. The correct ruling is:	Live ball. This is a legal play.	Dead ball. The batter is out and runners return to the last bases touched at the time of the interference.	Live ball. The batter is out but runners can advance.	Dead ball. The batter is out and runners are awarded the closest base at the time dead ball is called.		
16	B1 hits a dribbler in front of the plate and a few feet down the first-base line. F2 fields the ball and doesn't throw because B1 is outside the running lane and in the way of a potential throw.	The plate umpire calls dead ball and B1 is out for interference.	The plate umpire lets the play stand as there is no interference on B1.	The plate umpire lets the play stand and signals obstruction on F2.	The plate umpire calls dead ball and obstruction on F2.		
17	B3 erroneously bats out of order in place of B2. The error is discovered by the opposing team while B3 is at bat with a 3 ball-2 strike count. The correct ruling is:	B3 is declared out.	B2 replaces B3 and assumes the 3-2 count.	B3 is allowed to finish the at-bat.	B2 replaces B3 and starts with a new count since she hasn't received any pitches.		
18	R1 is on first base. B2 hits a pitch to F6 with one foot touching the ground completely outside the batter's box. F4 obstructs R1 advancing to second base. The correct ruling is:	Delayed dead ball. B2 is out but R1 is awarded second base for F4 obstructing.	Dead ball. B2 is out and R1 must return to first base.	Delayed dead ball. B2 is out and R1 advances at her own risk.	Dead ball. B2 is out. R1 is awarded second base if F4's obstruction occurred before B2 contacted the ball.		
19	R1 is at third base. B2 hits a ground ball to F6 who throws to first base, which is a double first base. B2 touches the white portion and collides with F3 who is standing on the white portion about to receive the ball. The correct ruling is:	B2 is out but R1 will advance on the play.	B2 may run to the white base and is safe if she beats the ball.	Since B2 was running to the white base, F3 must use the colored base.	The ball is dead, B2 is out, and R1 must return to the last base touched at the time of interference.		
20	R1 is on third base and the infielders are playing in for a potential play at the plate. B2 hits a ball sharply down the third-base line that passes F6 before striking R1, while she is standing on third base. The correct call is:	An immediate dead ball for hitting R1. Award B2 first base and leave R1 on third base.	An immediate dead ball for hitting R1. Award B2 first base and call R1 out.	An immediate dead ball for hitting R1. Call both R1 and B2 out.	Make no immediate call because the ball is in play.		
21	The plate umpire notices that B1 steps into the batter's box with an altered bat.	The umpire shall wait for an appeal from the defensive team.	The umpire shall penalize a strike on the batter.	The umpire shall declare B1 out and remove the bat. B1 and the head coach are both ejected.	There is no penalty until B1 hits the ball.		
22	There are criteria that umpires use to judge whether a batter attempted to hit or bunt a pitched ball. Which statement is NOT correct?	Rolling the wrist and swinging through the pitched ball is considered an attempt.	If the bat is drawn back before the pitch gets to the bat, it is not an attempt.	Holding a bat in the strike zone is not a strike nor an attempt to swing.	The batter makes an attempt to hit the pitch.		
23	Which of the following would result in a coach being in violation of bench and field conduct rules?	Entering behind the catcher while the opposing pitcher and catcher are in their positions.	Being outside the dugout while his/her team is on defense.	Having objects other than scorekeeping and stopwatch devices in the coach's box.	All of the above.		

24	A fair batted ball is wedged into the fence. The umpire should:	Call a dead ball and award the batter two bases.	Call a dead ball and award the batter a home run.	Call a dead ball and award the base the umpire judges she would have reached had the ball not become wedged in the fence.	Award the batter the base she was closest to when the ball became wedged in the fence.		
25	The NFHS Authenticating Mark shall be on each softball.	True	False				
26	It is an illegal pitch if the pitcher lands with her stride (non-pivot) foot completely outside the 24-inch periphery of the pitcher's plate while delivering a pitch. (6-1-2b Note)	True	False				
27	A strike is charged to the batter when:	A pitch is swung at and missed.	A pitch contacts the batter while swinging at the ball or the batter is hit by the pitch that is in the strike zone. (dead-ball strike)	A member of the offensive team intentionally removes a line.	All of the above.		
28	With R1 on second base, B2 is at bat with a 2 ball - 1 strike count. The next pitch is completely in the batter's box and barely grazes the jersey of B2 while R1 breaks to steal third base. The catcher throws to third base and R1 is tagged out. What is the correct ruling?	The ball is live, R1 is out and B2 has a 3-1 count.	The ball is dead, B2 is awarded first base. The play at third base stands, R1 is out.	The ball is dead, B2 is awarded first base. R1 returns to second base.	The ball is dead, B2 remains at bat since the umpire judged B2 did not make an attempt to get out of the way of the pitch.		
29	All of the following are true statements regarding the designated player (DP), EXCEPT:	The DP is one of the nine hitters in the batting order.	The DP may be substituted for at any time by a legal substitute.	The DP may play defense only for the FLEX.	The DP has left the game if the FLEX bats.	The DP must remain in the same position in the batting order for the entire game.	
30	The FLEX may be substituted for at any time by:	A legal substitute.	The DP, who may play defense for the FLEX.	Anyone else in the batting order.	A and B only.	A, B and C.	
31	Which statement is correct in regard to the FLEX player?	The FLEX player is listed in the 10th position in the batting order.	A head coach who lists the DP/FLEX on her starting lineup can go from 9 to 10 players as long as she doesn't violate re-entry and substitution rules.	The FLEX can bat or run bases for the DP. Either the head coach or the FLEX player can report the change to the plate umpire. The DP has left the game.	All of the above.		
32	A defensive player takes the field with an eye shield connected to her face/head protection. What material is legal for an eye shield?	Mirror-like material.	Material that is shaded.	Material that is tinted.	Material that is clear and permits 100% allowable light transmission.		

33	The pitching coach asks for time and requests a conference with her pitcher and catcher. While the coach is walking to the pitching circle, the runners on base and the next batter due up confer with their coach at the third-base coaching box. (3-7-3)	Both teams are charged with a conference.	Only the defensive team is charged with a conference, provided the offensive team is ready to resume play when the defensive team concludes its conference.	Since the runners left their bases, only the offense is charged with a conference.			
34	With R3 on third, F1's ball-four pitch to B2 deflects off F2's glove and rolls into dead-ball territory. (8-4-3c Pen.)	B2 is awarded second and R3 is awarded home.	B2 is awarded first and R3 remains at third.	B2 is awarded second and R3 remains at third.	B2 is awarded first and R3 is awarded home		
35	In fast pitch softball, all bats shall meet the ASA/USA Softball Bat Performance Standard and have what certification marks?	2000, 2004 or the USA Softball All Games.	2004.	2000, 2004 or 2013.	None of the above.		
36	All the following are legal apparel except:	All players are wearing a white arm sleeve.	All players are wearing a black knee sleeve.	Some players are wearing camouflage arm sleeves in the school colors.	Some players are wearing gray tights.		
37	An umpire should declare a "no-pitch" on which of the following occurrences?	The pitcher pitches during a suspension of play.	The base runner is called out for leaving the base too soon.	The pitcher pitches before the base runner has returned to the base after a foul ball.	All of the above.		
38	When an illegal pitch is called with a runner on base:	All runners advance one base.	The batter is awarded a ball.	A warning will be issued to the pitcher.	Both a and b.		
39	Who can a pitcher take a signal from while on the pitcher's plate?	The coach.	A play card.	The catcher.	All the above as long as the pitcher pauses and simulates taking a signal from the catcher prior to bringing her hands together.		
40	With R1 on first base and one out, R1 leaves the base prior to the pitcher releasing the ball. B3 proceeds to hit the pitch over the center-field fence. The umpire should:	Wait for the defense to appeal the runner leaving early. If no appeal, both runs score.	Give the delayed dead-ball signal. After all runners touch home plate, call time and rule R1 out for leaving early. Since there were less than two outs, the batter's run counts.	Signal time and declare "no pitch." R1 is out for leaving early and the batter's count is the same as before that pitch.	Do nothing, the play is legal.		
41	A team's lineup card must include all of the following, EXCEPT:	First initial and last names.	Jersey numbers.	Position being played.	Batting order of starting players.	All of the above are required.	

42	After an initial warning to the head coach, any subsequent change to the lineup card for an inaccuracy will result in:	The head coach being restricted to the dugout/bench for the remainder of the game.	The head coach being ejected.	The player/substitute who is being changed/added being restricted to the dugout/bench for the remainder of the game.	A and C only.	B and C only.	
43	The umpire shall immediately remove a player from the game who exhibits the following signs or symptoms of a concussion:	Dizziness.	Confusion.	Headache.	Loss of consciousness.	All of the above.	
44	Umpire jurisdiction begins:	Upon the arrival of one umpire within the confines of the field.	Upon the arrival of two umpires within the confines of the field.	When the pregame conference begins.	Upon the conclusion of the pregame conference.	Upon the arrival of one umpire to the facility/park/school.	
45	Which statement about the concussion rule is correct?	A player exhibiting signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with a concussion is immediately removed from the game.	If an appropriate health-care professional determines that the athlete has not suffered a concussion, the athlete may return to play.	This is a health and safety issue, since an athlete should not return to play or practice on the same day of a concussion.	All of the above are correct.		
46	R1 is on first base when B2 hits a ground ball to F4. F4 is in the baseline between first and second when she misplays the ball. R1 crashes into F4 as she attempts to recover the ball. The correct call is:	If the misplayed ball is within a step and a reach of where F4 initially contacted the ball, R1 has committed interference.	When F4 misplay the ball, the umpire will give the delayed dead-ball signal and wait to see what happens.	Because F4 was in the baseline, F4 is always charged with obstruction.	None of the above.		
47	R1 is on first base with one out. B3 hits a long fly ball to left field. The ball is over foul territory as it is first touched and then dropped by F7. On the fly ball, R1 advanced and touched second base and was moving to third as the ball was dropped. R1 shall:	Retrace the path retouching second base before returning to first base.	Be awarded second base, as it was legally achieved while the ball was over fair territory.	Return to first base with or without retouching bases since it is ruled a foul ball.	Move back to first base before the ball gets to the pitching circle.		
48	Which statement about a catch is correct?	The fielder must have control and the release of the ball must be voluntary.	If a ball strikes anything or anyone other than a defensive player while it is in flight, it shall be ruled a ground ball and not a catch.	If a fielder catches a ball but drops it while transferring it to the throwing hand or in making a throw, the umpire shall still rule it a catch.	All of the above.		

49	Which statement is an incorrect ruling of interference?	If a retired runner impedes a fielder making a play on another runner, the runner closest to home is always declared out.	If a runner has not yet been put out and interference occurs to break up a double play, the immediate succeeding runner is out.	Interference is only awarded in situations where the runner physically contacts a fielder.	B4 hits a fair ground ball but R2 hinders F6 making an initial play. The batter-runner is never called out as a result of this interference. If there are less than two outs she is always awarded first base.		
50	With the bases loaded and less than two outs, F4 is using ordinary effort to catch a pop-up. The correct call is:	Infield fly is called by the umpire and the batter is out.	Runners may not advance at any time.	Only an infielder can catch an infield fly.	If the ball is ruled foul, it still is an infield fly.		
51	B1 enters the batter's box on the right side while the pitcher is in position ready to pitch. B1 disconcerts the pitcher by moving to the left-hand batter's box. The correct ruling is:	Allow the pitcher to reset and continue to play.	Allow the pitcher to reset and warn the head coach the next infraction would result in an out on the batter.	The ball is dead immediately and batter is called out.	An illegal pitch is called on the pitcher.		
52	Which of the following is true in regard to the infield fly rule? (2-30)	The infield fly rule should never be declared when an outfielder settles under the ball.	The infield fly rule should never be declared when an infielder retreats to the outfield to settle under the ball.	Runners may legally tag up and advance on a declared infield fly after the caught fly ball is touched by a fielder.	When an infield fly is declared, if no fielder touches the ball, the infield fly is rescinded and the batter-runner and all runners may advance with liability to be put out.	If an infield fly is declared, the batter is automatically out, even if the ball ends up being an uncaught foul ball.	
53	Any fielder, with or without the ball, may make a dead-ball appeal by verbally stating that the runner missed the base or left too soon.	True	False				
54	A batting helmet is considered legal if it has:	A surface with no dents or cracks.	A non-glare surface.	A mirror-like surface.	Both a and b.		
55	A slide is illegal if:	The runner uses a rolling or cross-body slide into the fielder.	The runner's raised leg is higher than the fielder's knee when the fielder is in a standing position.	The runner slashes or kicks the fielder with either leg.	The runner goes beyond the base and makes contact with or alters the play of the fielder.	All of the above.	
56	In the top of the second inning, the home team coach requests and is granted her first team defensive charged conference to meet with her pitcher. Three batters later, after allowing three straight hitters to reach base safely, the coach request time to have a second conference with her pitcher. (3-7-1)	Legal. A coach may have two defensive conference in an inning without penalty.	Not legal. If the coach chooses to have a second charged defensive conference in an inning, that coach shall be ejected.	Legal, however the pitcher must be removed from the pitching position for a second charged defensive conference in an inning.			

57	F1 steps onto the pitcher's plate and, after legally bringing her hands together, steps backward to start her motion to pitch. After stepping backward, she separates her hands and steps forward to deliver the pitch.	This is an illegal pitch. Any step backward must begin prior to the hands being brought together.	This is legal, provided the step backward begins prior to the start of the pitch.	A ball is awarded to the batter and all runners are advanced one base without liability to be put out.	Both A and C are correct.		
58	B1 steps up to the plate and after she hits two balls over the fence in foul territory, F1 requests to intentionally walk B1.	The umpire allows B1 to be intentionally walked.	The umpire informs F1 that the request for an intentional walk must come from the head coach.	The umpire states that although F1, F2 or the defensive coach can request an intentional walk, it must be done prior to any pitches being thrown.	The umpire informs F1 that an intentional walk cannot be requested once there are two strikes.		
59	B1 hits a ground ball that goes past F3. No other fielder had a chance to make an out, but the ball strikes the umpire. The correct call is:	The umpire will watch and judge if the defense was disadvantaged before calling dead ball.	The ball is dead and the batter is awarded one base only.	The ball remains live and B1 can advance as many bases as possible with the liability to be put out.	The ball remains live. Even if F3 grabs the ball and touches first base before B1, B1 is safe because of umpire interference.		
60	B1 attempts to hit a pitched ball completely in the batter's box. She misses the pitch but the ball barely contacts her on the jersey. What is the umpire's call?	Dead ball. Award a ball to the batter because the pitched ball was out of the strike zone.	Dead ball. Charge the batter with a strike because she swung at the pitch. Do not award first base for hit by pitch.	Dead ball. Award B1 first base for a hit by pitch because the ball was completely in the batter's box.	Live ball. Award a strike and any advancement of base runners is allowed.		
61	All of the following statements about sliding are true EXCEPT:	If a runner slides, it may be feet first or head first.	In order to complete a legal slide, a runner must be able to touch the base with either her hand or foot.	In order for a runner to avoid unnecessary contact, she is required to slide if a fielder has possession of the ball and is waiting to make a tag.	On an overslide, a runner may be tagged out if she does not remain in contact with the base.		
62	Bases are loaded with no outs, with a one- ball, one-strike count. B4 hits a ground ball. As F4 is fielding the ball, R3 collides with her. What is the correct ruling?	The ball is dead and R3 is out. All other runners return to their bases and B4 returns to bat with the same count.	R3 is out. If the interference prevented an obvious double play, the succeeding runner (B4) is also out. R1 and R2 advance at their own risk.	Since R3 was in the baseline there is no interference, and all runners advance at their own risk.	The ball is dead and R3 is out. If the interference prevented an obvious double play the succeeding runner (B4) is also out. If not, B4 is awarded first base. R1 and R2 return to the last base touched at the time of interference.		

63	R1 is on first base; B2 is at bat with an 0 Ball - 2 Strike count and no outs. B2 swings at the pitch and the foul tip is caught by the catcher. B2 runs toward first base. As R1 is diving back to first base, B2 collides with F3 who is attempting to catch the thrown ball from F2 to tag R1.	B2 is awarded second base; R1 is awarded third base.	B2 is declared out for interference; R1 remains at first base.	B2 has struck out and is charged with interference; R1 is declared out as the runner closest to home.	B2 has struck out; R1 remains at first base.	B2 is declared out for interference; R1 is awarded second base.	
64	Umpire jurisdiction ends at the conclusion of the game when:	The umpires leave the field of play.	The umpires leave the visual confines of the facility.	The umpires are in the parking lot or school building.	The third out is declared in the final half-inning.	The umpires are sure no final appeal will be made.	
65	Which of the following statements about bats qualifies as an altered bat?	Bats should be free of rattles, dents, burrs, cracks and sharp edges.	Materials inside the bat or treatment/devices used to alter bat specifications and/or enhance performances are prohibited.	There is a minor nick or paint chip in the bat from metal cleats.	None of the above.		
66	What is the proper penalty for a softball player who utilizes a damaged bat?	The batter is out.	The batter is out and restricted to the dugout.	The batter is out and ejected.	The bat is removed from play without penalty.		
67	A batter attempts to use a bat that is not on the USA Softball's Non-Approved Bats with Certification Marks list but does not bear the 2000, 2004 or the USA Softball All Games Certification Mark. What is the proper penalty?	Coach is restricted to the dugout.	The ball is dead and the batter is out.	Both the coach and the batter are restricted to the dugout.	The ball is dead immediately. All runners must return to the base occupied at the time of the pitch. Both the batter and the coach are ejected.		
68	A penalty shall be assessed when the pitcher:	Exceeds five warm-up pitches between innings.	Deliberately drops, rolls, bounces, etc. the ball while in pitching position preventing the batter from striking it.	Throws to a base while still in contact with the pitching plate.	All of the above.		
69	Prior to starting the delivery of a pitch, the pitcher must:	Stand with her shoulders facing any direction.	Have her hands together while stepping on the pitcher's plate.	Make no contact with the top of the pitcher's plate.	Take a position with the pivot foot in contact with the pitcher's plate.		
70	Prior to starting the delivery of a pitch, the pitcher must:	Have both feet in contact with the pitcher's plate.	Have both feet on the ground within or partially within the 24-inch length of the pitcher's plate.	Have both feet on top of the pitcher's plate.	Not take a step backward.		
71	It is a dead ball immediately when:	An illegal pitch is delivered.	The catcher obstructs the batter.	The plate umpire interferes with the catcher with R1 stealing second base.	B3 swings at strike three and she is hit by the pitch.		

72	Which answer is NOT a type of appeal that may be made?	Missing a base.	Judgment calls.	Leaving early on a caught fly ball.	Batting out of order.		
73	A catch is not credited if the ball strikes anything other than a defensive player while it is in flight.	True	False				
74	With no runners on base, F1 takes the pitching signal while on the pitcher's plate. Before she brings her hands together, the ball accidentally falls out of her glove and rolls outside the pitching circle. (6-1-2a)	Award a ball to the batter's count.	No penalty.				
75	The proper batting order for the visiting team is Abby, Beth, Cindy, Dolly, Elaine, Felicia. The team bats Abby, Cindy, Dolly and then Elaine. All four players reach base safely. After Elaine completes her turn at the bat, Felicia enters the batter's box. The home team coach appeals to the plate umpire Beth was skipped and the visiting team batted out of order. (7-1-2 Pen.)	Beth is ruled out for not batting, all other play stands.	Cindy, Dolly and Elaine are all ruled out for batting out of order. The half-inning is over and Beth will be the next batter when the visiting team bats again.	It is too late to appeal. All play stands and Felicia is the correct next batter.	It is too late to appeal. All play stands and Beth is the correct next batter.		
76	R1 is on third base and R2 is on first base with one out. B4 hits a fly ball in foul territory near the first-base line. R2 interferes with F3 attempting to catch the fly ball. The correct call is:	If the fly ball is caught by F3, both R2 and B4 are out.	B4 is out and R2 is returned to first base.	The ball is dead immediately, R2 is out and B4 is charged with a foul ball.	If the fly ball is caught, B4 is out and the interference by R2 is ignored.		
77	The ball always becomes immediately dead when:	While running to first, the batter-runner stops to delay being tagged.	A batter strikes at a pitch that touches her.	A runner passes another runner.	A batter-runner is obstructed before she touches first base.		
78	The ball becomes dead in all of the following situations, EXCEPT:	There is interference by a runner or retired runner.	The batter enters the batter's box with an illegal bat.	An infielder intentionally drops a fair fly ball with first base occupied and less than two outs.	An illegal pitch is delivered.	The batter-runner steps backward toward home plate to avoid being tagged. out.	
79	With one out, R1 on first and R2 on second, B4 hits a pop up down the third-base line. The plate umpire declares it an infield fly. F5 loses the ball in the sun and the ball drops first in fair territory in front of third base and then rolls into foul territory and rests there, untouched.	Since the ball landed in fair territory first, the infield fly stays in effect and B4 is ruled out. The ball is ruled dead when it hits foul territory and R1 and R2 are placed back on first and second, respectively.	The ball becomes foul once it rests in foul territory untouched. A strike is added to B4's count and the infield fly is nullified.	The infield fly stays in effect, B4 is ruled out and R1 and R2 may advance at their own risk.			
80	In the second inning, the pitcher for the home team develops a blister on her throwing hand. The home coach asks if the pitcher can put tape over the blister.	Tape is never allowed on the pitcher's hand.	The pitcher may use tape, provided it is a neutral color.	The pitcher may use tape, provided the umpire deems it is not distracting.			

81	In the first inning, team A has a right-handed batter up to bat. The on-deck batter chooses to go to team B's on-deck circle to warm up in order to not be on the batter's open side.	Legal	Not legal				
82	With R2 on second base and one out, B3 hits a ball to left field. On the swing, B3 makes contact with F2's mitt. R2 scores on the play as B3 is thrown out at second base.	Immediate dead ball, F2 is guilty of obstruction, B3 is awarded first base and R2 is awarded third.	Delayed dead ball, F2 is guilty of obstruction and the offensive coach has the option of taking the result of the play or taking the penalty for obstruction.	Delayed dead ball, the result of the play stands and the obstruction by F2 is ignored.	Immediate dead ball, F2 is guilty of obstruction, B3 is awarded first and R2 stays at second.		
83	R1 is on first base and off on the pitch. B2 hits a ground ball to short. F6 field the ball and throws it to F4 at second base. R1 is ruled safe at second base. F4 then throws the ball to first and the ball sails over F3's head and out of play.	R1 is awarded third and B2 is awarded second.	R1 is awarded home and B2 is awarded third.	R1 is awarded home and B2 is awarded second.			
84	Prior to starting the delivery, F1 takes a position on the pitcher's plate with her pivot foot behind the pitcher's plate.	Legal	Not legal				
85	B1 bunts the ball in front of home plate. She throws the bat down and the bat comes to rest in front of the plate in fair territory. The ball has a lot of spin on it. It rolls back, hits the bat and comes to rest in fair territory. What is the ruling?	B1 has committed interference and is ruled out.	The ball is immediately dead.	The ball remains live and is fair.			
86	Which statement is true?	Only starters have re-entry rights.	Both starters and substitutes have re-entry rights.				
87	Which statement is true?	The DP/Flex may go in and out for each other unlimited times.	A starting pitcher, once removed, may not go back to the pitching position.	A team must have the DP/Flex listed on the lineup card at the beginning of the game in order to use that option.			
88	The home team coach hands her lineup card to the plate umpire and has no eligible substitutes. In the fourth inning, No. 26 Adams arrives late and the home coach wants to add her to her eligible substitute list.	This is illegal as all eligible substitutes must be listed on the original lineup submitted at the plate meeting.	This is legal, but a team warning shall be issued to the home coach.	This is legal and there is not penalty.			
89	With no outs, R2 on second and R1 on first, B3 hits a ball into the gap in right field. Both R2 and R1 score. However, R2 misses third base. After both runners cross the plate, R2 runs back to touch third base and then eventually comes back to touch the plate.	Legal play, both runs score.	If the defense properly appeals at third base, R2 is ruled out and only R1's run counts.	If the defense properly appeals at third base, R2 is ruled out for missing the base and R1 is ruled out for passing R2.			

90	F6 fakes a tag as R1 approaches second base. R1 decides to continue on to third base where she is thrown out. RULING: F6 is guilty of obstruction. Faking a tag is obstruction. If in the judgment of the umpire R1 would have reached third base had she not been obstructed, she would be awarded her base. Otherwise she is out.	True	False				
91	With R1 on third base and one out, B3 hits safely. R1, while watching the ball, misses home plate. F2 calls for the ball, steps on home for the appeal to retire R1 and throws to third base to get B3 sliding. RULING: Legal. A runner may be put out by the defense for missing a base during a live-ball appeal.	True	False				
92	With R2 on second and one out, B3 takes a called third strike. R2 is stealing on the pitch and F2's throw to third base hits B3 in the helmet and ricochets out of play. B3 had one foot in the batter's box and one foot over the plate as she was heading to her dugout after striking out when she was struck by the ball.	B3 is protected since she had one foot in the batter's box. R2 is awarded home once the ball rolls out of play.	B3 is protected since she had one foot in the batter's box. R2 is awarded third base once the ball rolls out of play.	B3 is guilty of interference, R2 is ruled out and the half-inning is over.			
93	With R1 on first base and no outs, B2 hits a sharp one-hopper to F3. R1 returns to first base, after which F3 steps on first before B2 arrives. F3 then tags R1 while she is still in contact with first base.	Both R1 and B2 are out.	B2 is out on the force out and R1 remains at first.	R1 is out for returning to the base and B2 remains at first.	The defense may choose which runner is out.		
94	With one out and R1 on first, B3 hits a ground ball up the middle. F6 dives and secures the ball and throws to first base to try to get B3 on the force out. The ball sails over the first baseman's glove and into the dugout. At the time of release, R1 was on second base and B3 was about five feet from first base.	R1 is awarded third base and B3 is awarded second base.	R1 is awarded home and B3 is awarded second base.	R1 is awarded second base and B3 is awarded first base.	R1 is awarded home and B3 is awarded third base.		
95	With an 0-2 count, B1 has her feet completely inside the batter's box when she makes contact with a pitch. The ball goes almost straight down, comes back up and makes contact with B1 while one foot is completely within the batter's box and the other foot is half in the batters box and half out.	The ball is dead and ruled foul.	The ball remains live.	The ball is dead and the batter is ruled out for interference.			
96	With R1 on first and one out, B3 bunts the ball down the first-base line. F3 fields the ball and as she rises to tag B3, B3 raises her arms and deliberately and flagrantly runs over F3. F3 drops the ball. (8-6-14 Pen.)	The ball is live and runners may advance with liability to be put out.	B3 is out and the ball remains live.	The ball is immediately dead, B3 is ruled out and ejected and R1 must return to the last base touched at the time of the collision.			

97	A team starts the game with nine eligible players. In the top of the fifth inning, one of those players is injured sliding at home plate and is unable to continue playing. (4-3-1g, 7-4-1)	The team may continue the game with eight players and take an out each time the injured player's turn comes up in the batting order.	The game is considered a forfeit and the opposing team is credited with the win.				
98	A1 comes to bat and the plate umpire notices A1 wearing stud earrings. RULING: Legal. A1 is permitted to wear jewelry that does not present a safety hazard.	True	False				
99	In the top of the first inning, the plate umpire notices the pitcher has a glove that is red, white, and blue. RULING: Illegal glove. The glove may only contain a maximum of two colors.	True	False				
100	At the beginning of each half inning or when a pitcher relieves another, no more than two minutes may be used to deliver no more than seven pitches to the catcher or other teammate. The time limit begins from the third out of the previous half inning.	True	False				
101	R1 is caught in a rundown between third base and home. As R1 is attempting to return to third base, R1 is obstructed by F5 and subsequently tagged while off the base by F6. The correct call is: (2-35, 8-4-3b)	Always an immediate dead ball when a runner is obstructed.	When a fielder obstructs a runner, the initial call is always a delayed dead ball. Once the obstructed runner is put out, it becomes a dead ball and the umpires shall award R1 the base that would have been reached had there been no obstruction.	R1 is awarded home.	The umpire will issue a warning to F5 and notify F5's coach.		
102	A1 is Team A's pitcher in the fourth inning. A11 is brought in as a relief pitcher in that inning. Team A's coach wants to re-enter A1 in the fourth inning as the pitcher. The correct call is: (3-3-2, 6-2-5, 6-4-10)	This is a legal substitution with no warm-up pitches allowed.	This is legal and the pitcher can have five warm-up pitches.	This is not a legal substitution.	Team A can substitute A1 as pitcher as many times as it wants in the inning.		
103	The DP may be substituted for at any time by: (3-3-6d)	A legal substitute.	The FLEX playing offense.	Anyone else in the batting order.	A and B only.		
104	A delayed dead-ball situation occurs when the umpire interferes with the catcher who is attempting to throw a non-batted ball. (5-1-2c)	True.	False.				
105	It is an illegal pitch if: (6-1-1b)	F1 is behind the pitcher's plate, takes the signal, steps on the pitcher's plate and immediately brings the hands together.	F1 is on the pitcher's plate, looks to the coach for a signal and then looks to F2 and simulates taking a signal before bringing the hands together.	F1 stands behind the pitcher's plate, takes a signal from the coach, steps on the pitcher's plate and simulates taking a signal from F2 before bringing the hands together.	F1's shoulders are in line with first base and third base, the ball is in the glove or hand and the hands are separated.		

106	Which of the following is an infraction by the catcher: (6-3-1)	A catcher assumes a position outside the catcher's box before a pitch is released.	The catcher stands up to give signals to the pitcher.	The catcher throws the ball directly back to the pitcher after the pitch is delivered.	The catcher throws the ball around the infield after a strikeout.		
107	As F1 starts the pitch, B1 requests time by stepping out of the box. The pitcher legally delivers the ball. What is the correct ruling? (7-3-1)	The umpire declares no pitch.	The batter is granted time and awaits the next pitch.	The pitch is called either a ball or strike depending upon the location of the pitch.	The umpire shall call a strike on the batter regardless of the location of the pitch.		
108	A run does not score if a preceding runner is declared the fourth out for missing a base, and the defensive team selects that out to its advantage. (9-1-1)	True.	False.				
109	B1 hits a high fly ball down the line to right field. F9, with both feet clearly in fair territory, reaches across the foul line in an attempt to catch the ball. While the ball is still in the air, completely over foul ground, the ball deflects off F9's glove and lands in fair territory. The correct call is: 2-19-2, 2-24-1d	Foul ball since the ball was over foul territory when first touched.	Fair ball since both feet were clearly in fair territory when F9 touched the ball.	Fair ball because after F9 touched the ball it landed in fair territory.	Fair ball. Any ball touched by a fielder is automatically fair.		
110	A coach will be restricted to dugout/bench for the remainder of the game for a second violation of the following: (3-1-3, 3-6-1, 3-6-7)	Player or substitutes entering the game unreported.	A lineup correction.	Team personnel using illegal equipment.	All of the above.		
111	Team A's players are wearing red exposed upper-body undergarments but solid black playcards. F1 is wearing a playcard on the non-pitching arm. F3, who is the team's backup pitcher, is wearing a playcard on the non-glove arm. Which statement is correct? (3-2-7c)	This is illegal. All playcards must be the same color as the exposed undergarments.	This is legal, provided the playcards are a solid color and not optic yellow.	This is legal. Only F1 has the restriction on placement of the playcard on the non-pitching arm. If F3 were to become the pitcher then F3 would be required to move the playcard to the non-pitching arm.	Both B and C are correct.		
112	With no outs, B1 hits a deep line drive. Sliding into second base safely, B1 dislodges the base from its proper position. F4 tags B1 who is no longer in contact with the dislodged base. What is the proper ruling? (1-2-1, 8-8-14)	B1 is out and ejected for dislodging the base.	B1 is out since B1 was legally tagged while not in contact with the base.	B1 is not out; a runner is not required to follow a base that has become dislodged.	B1 is out for interference as dislodging the base confused the defensive player.		
113	The umpire notices that several players on Team A have adornments in their hair. Which of the following are prohibited from being worn? (3-2-5)	F5 has a religious head covering without prior state association approval.	F3 has a bandanna as a hair covering, F4 is wearing a plastic visor.	F6 has beads braided into the hair.	F8 has 3-inch bobby pins being used for hair control.		
114	Which of the following requires state association approval prior to being allowed to be worn in a contest? (1-8-4, 3-2-5)	Any head covering being worn for medical reasons.	Any religious head covering.	Any hard items braided into the player's hair.	A defensive player's face shield.		
115	Which of the following attire is not allowed to be worn in live-ball areas by coaches? (3-5-3)	A school uniform or jersey/coaching shirt.	Shorts that are school colors.	Cut-offs or any type of jeans.	Leg coverings including yoga pants/leggings that are khaki, black, white, gray or school colors.		

116	Which of the following is true about a damaged bat? (2-4-3, 3-6-21, 7-4-15)	A damaged bat is removed from the game without penalty when initially detected.	If a batter is discovered using a damaged bat that was previously removed from the game by an umpire, that batter is called out.	In addition to being called out for using a damaged bat that was previously removed from the game by an umpire, the offender and head coach are restricted to the dugout for the remainder of the game.	All of the above.		
117	F1 is wearing an item on the pitching wrist that the umpire judges distracting. What is the proper penalty? (3-2-9, 6-2-2)	An illegal pitch is ruled; a ball is awarded to the batter.	An illegal pitch is ruled; a ball is awarded to the batter and all runners are advanced one base.	The pitcher is required to remove the distracting item in order to continue to pitch.	The pitcher is restricted to the dugout for the remainder of the contest.		
118	B1 bunts the ball in front of home plate. As B1 is running to first base, B1 is hit with the throw from F2. Which of the following is used in determining if the runner is out for interference? (8-2-6)	If either foot last contacted the ground completely outside of the 3-foot lane.	If the batter-runner's left foot is outside the 3-foot lane but is in the air at the moment the batter-runner is hit with the throw.	If the batter-runner was hit in fair territory.	If the batter-runner has both feet on the ground when hit with the throw.		
119	The umpire notices F6 is wearing a smartwatch on the playing field. Which of the following is true? (3-2, 3-6-11, 1-8-6)	Smartwatches are allowed as long as they are not used to communicate outside of the dugout.	Smartwatches are allowed to be worn even if they are used to communicate while outside of the dugout.	Smartwatches are not allowed to be worn.	No jewelry, including smartwatches, is allowed to be worn on the playing field.		
120	It is interference and the batter-runner shall be called out if the batter-runner: (8-2-7)	Interferes with a fielder attempting to make an initial play on a fair batted ball.	Interferes with a fielder attempting to field a fly ball over foul territory.	Makes contact with a fair batted ball before reaching first base.	All of the above constitute interference.		
121	With one out, R1 on third base and R2 on first base, B4 hits an over-the-fence home run. R2 misses third base and the third-base coach grabs R2 and pulls the runner back to touch third base. What is the proper ruling? (8-3-11, 8-6-5, 9-1-1)	R2 is out for being physically assisted; R1 and B4's (as long as they legally score) runs would count.	Since the ball is in dead-ball territory, there is no violation and all three runs would score on the play.	All three runs would score, but the third-base coach should be warned to not physically assist runners.	R2 is out for being physically assisted and the play is dead. R1's run would score, but B4 would not be allowed to score.		
122	Which of the following shall be labeled on all softballs? (1-3-4)	COR.	Compression.	Both COR and Compression.	None of the above.		
123	Which of the following is true when a non-adult is warming up a pitcher? (1-7-3)	The non-adult catcher shall wear all of the catcher's gear, including shinguards, chest protector and an approved catcher's helmet/mask combination with a throat protector.	The non-adult catcher will be a player who is a legal substitute and has not yet entered the game.	The non-adult catcher must wear an approved helmet/mask combination with a throat protector. A batting helmet does not qualify as an approved catcher's helmet/mask combination with a throat protector.	None of the above.		
124	Where is it permissible to obtain information from that is reviewed in the dugout for coaching purposes during the game? (1-8-6)	In the dugout.	From a spectator in the stands.	Camera mounted on the catcher's helmet.	All of the above.		
125	R1 is standing on third base when the pitcher receives the ball in the circle with feet partially outside the line of the circle. R1 takes two steps toward home plate and stops. R1 is: (2-44, 8-7-3)	Safe.	Out.	Runner can stop and then continue home.	Runner can return to third.		
126	Team A's school colors are purple and gold. What color ribbons may the players wear? (3-2-5)	Players may wear gold ribbons.	Players may wear gold or purple ribbons.	Players may wear any color ribbons.	Players may wear ribbons only with state association approval.		

127	Which of the following locations can a pitcher wear a wristband with a playbook/playcard? (3-2-7c)	Pitching arm.	Non-pitching arm.	Belt.	All of the above.		
128	At the end of the sixth inning, the home team is leading 8-5. In the top of the seventh inning, the visiting team scores four runs. During the bottom half of the seventh inning, after two batters reach base but no runs have been scored, the game is halted because of rain. (4-2-2b)	The visiting team wins by a score of 9-8.	The home team wins by a score of 8-5.	Since the seventh inning has not been completed, it is not a regulation game and will be called a "no game."	The game is suspended.		
129	During the act of pitching, which movement is not legal? (2-32, 2-47, 6-1-1f, 6-1-2)	The pitcher drags the pivot foot away from the pitcher's plate maintaining contact with the ground.	The pitcher steps back off the pitcher's plate keeping both hands together and makes the first step back with either foot. Once completely off the pitcher's plate, the pitcher separates the hands.	The pitcher replants the pivot foot before the act of delivering the pitch.	While the pitcher is pushing off from the pitching plate, both feet disengage from the ground.		
130	A pitcher touches a towel containing an approved drying agent in a back pocket then goes directly to the ball. What is the proper ruling? (6-2-2c)	Illegal pitch, must wipe hand before going to the ball.	Ball should be removed from play and pitcher is warned.	Legal, approved drying agents do not have to be removed from hands.	Illegal, no drying agents can be used in NFHS softball.		
131	An on-deck batter may not warm up with more than:	One bat.	Two bats.	Three bats.	NFHS rules do not address this issue.		
132	R1 is on second base. The batter has a count of two balls and one strike. The pitcher pitches a ball not in the batter's box and the batter intentionally strikes the ball with their elbow. What is the call? (8-1-2)	Dead ball, award batter first base.	Dead ball, award batter first base and R1 third base.	Dead ball, batter remains in the batter's box and the count is three balls and one strike.	None of the above.		
133	In the first inning, the umpire notices that the pitcher has a glove with an optic marking on the inside of the glove that gives the appearance of a softball. (1-4-1b)	The pitcher shall be restricted to the bench for using illegal equipment.	The pitcher will be allowed to finish the inning before replacing the glove.	The pitcher can switch the glove with a teammate already playing defense.	The glove shall be replaced immediately or may use the glove if the optic marking is modified to no longer give the appearance of the ball.		
134	In fast pitch softball, all bats shall meet the ASA/USA Softball Bat Performance Standard and have what certification marks? (1-5-1d)	2000, 2004 or the USA Softball All Games.	2004.	2000, 2004 or 2013.	None of the above.		
135	With the bases loaded and less than two outs, F4 is using ordinary effort to catch a pop-up. The correct call is: (2-29, 8-2-9)	"Infield fly if fair" is called by the umpire and if the ball remains fair the batter is out.	Runners may not advance at any time.	Only an infielder can catch an infield fly.	If the ball is ruled foul, it still is an infield fly.		
136	Which statement about a catch is correct? (2-9)	The fielder must have control and release of the ball must be voluntary.	If a ball strikes anything or anyone other than a defensive player while it is in flight, it shall be ruled a ground ball and not a catch.	If a fielder catches a ball but drops it while transferring to the throwing hand or in making a throw, the umpire shall still rule it a catch.	All of the above.		

137	With R1 on third base, R2 on second base and one out, B4 hits a deep fly ball to F9 that is caught. R1 leaves the base before F9 first touches the ball, but R2 legally tags. Both R1 and R2 score as F9's throw is off target. Before the next pitch, the opposing team appeals that R1 left early. What is the correct ruling? (2-1-12, 9-1-1)	R1 is declared out for the third out and R1's run is negated, but R2's run counts since R2 scored prior to the appeal.	Since F9's throw was off target, both R1 and R2 would have scored easily so both runs count.	R1 is declared out for the third out and R1's run is negated. R2's run counts since the only appeal that would negate a run is missing a base.	R1 is declared out for the third out of the inning. Since the third out was an appeal of the lead runner, neither run scores.		
138	A fair batted ball is wedged into the fence. The umpire should: (5-1-1f(4), 8-4-3g)	Call a dead ball and award the batter two bases.	Call a dead ball and award the batter a home run.	Call a dead ball and award the base the umpire judges would have reached had the ball not become wedged in the fence.	Award the batter the base the batter was closest to when the ball became wedged in the fence.		
139	Which action is not legal for a courtesy runner? (8-9-4)	The courtesy runner has not participated in the game.	The courtesy runner runs for the pitcher only.	The courtesy runner runs for the catcher only.	The courtesy runner becomes a substitute in the same half-inning they were a courtesy runner.		
140	B1 enters the batter's box on the right side while the pitcher is in position ready to pitch. B1 disconcerts the pitcher by moving to the left-hand batter's box. The correct ruling is: (7-4-3)	Allow the pitcher to reset and continue to play.	Allow the pitcher to reset and warn the head coach the next infraction would result in an out on the batter.	The ball is dead immediately and batter is called out.	An illegal pitch is called on the pitcher.		