



2006 BASEBALL RULES EXAMINATION - PART 2

Instructions: Only the **answer sheet** of this examination will be sent to the grader. **You retain the questions for further study.** Since correction is by machine scanning or perforated key, you must use care in clearly marking correct spaces on the answer sheet according to directions. **Every part** of each question is to be answered. Indicate whether you believe a part is true or false by marking the appropriate blank on the answer sheet.

NOTE: Send answer sheet to your state association office unless otherwise instructed.

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A Catch Will Be Declared When:

1. The shortstop catches a line drive in flight that was deflected off the base umpire.
2. A line drive ricochets off the pitcher's glove and is caught in flight by the second baseman.
3. A fielder, trying to impress his girlfriend, catches a high pop fly with his cap.
4. The left fielder catches a fly ball with one foot in dead-ball territory and his other foot on the dead-ball line.

Substitution:

5. Substitution requirements are in effect after the lineup cards have been exchanged, verified by both teams and accepted by the umpire-in-chief during the pregame conference.
6. If a relief pitcher requires more than eight warm-up pitches, the replaced pitcher cannot return to the game as a pitcher.
7. A player will be declared out when he is discovered to be an unreported substitute.
8. A starting player who hits in the leadoff position but returns to the lineup as the No. 4 hitter is considered to be an illegal substitute.

Obstruction:

9. A player who is called for obstruction more than once shall receive a team warning.
10. If obstruction occurs on the batter-runner and there are no other runners on base, the ball shall be declared dead immediately.
11. A runner who is obstructed returning to a base is awarded only that base.
12. Obstruction is always an act that is physical and intentional.

Field Measurements:

13. The distance from the nearer edge of the pitcher's plate to the rear tip of home plate shall be 60 feet, 6 inches.
14. The distance from the apex of home plate to the back edge of first and third base shall be 90 feet.
15. The inside line of the batter's box shall be 10 inches from home plate.
16. A media area must be a minimum of 5 feet wide by 20 feet long.

Pregame Conference:

17. Both teams shall remain in their dugout (bench) or bullpen area until this meeting has concluded.
18. If the head coach is busy in the bullpen, it is permissible for the assistant coach to represent the team at the pregame conference.
19. The meeting should begin approximately five minutes prior to the game.
20. The purpose of the conference is to exchange and check each team's lineup cards and to discuss ground rules.

Malicious Contact:

21. Malicious contact is penalized only if the act occurs when the ball is live.
22. There is no penalty if a runner makes malicious contact with a fielder who obstructs him.
23. The runner is out and ejected unless he has already scored.
24. There is no penalty if a runner scores and then makes malicious contact with a fielder.

Catcher's Obstruction:

25. When catcher obstruction occurs, the ball becomes dead immediately.
26. If the obstructed batter gets a base hit with the bases empty, and is thrown out trying to advance to second base, the out stands.
27. If a runner is not attempting to advance at the time of the obstruction, he is not entitled to the next base unless he is forced to advance because of the batter being awarded first base.
28. The coach or captain of the team at bat may elect to take the result of the play and decline the obstruction penalty, provided he does so before the next pitch, award of an intentional base on balls, or the infielders leave the diamond.

The Role Of The Designated Hitter (DH) Is Terminated When:

29. An eligible substitute runs for the DH.
30. An eligible substitute hits for the DH.
31. The starting player, or any defensive substitute for whom the DH batted, later pinch-runs.
32. The starting DH goes into pitch.

Umpire Judgment Shall Be Used To Determine Base Awards When:

33. A thrown ball comes into contact with equipment left on the field by the defense.
34. Obstruction occurs.
35. A thrown ball lodges in a runner's uniform.
36. A spectator picks up a live thrown ball.

Charged Conferences:

37. If time has been granted for an injured player, it shall constitute a charged conference.
38. A defensive conference is concluded when the coach leaves the dirt area of the mound.
39. Any unused defensive conferences may be carried over into extra innings.
40. A coach who has been restricted to his bench is not allowed to conduct a charged conference.

A Batter Shall Be Called Out When:

41. A coach, in the coach's box, interferes with a fielder attempting to catch a foul fly ball.
42. He enters the batter's box with an illegal bat.
43. With less than two outs, he interferes with the catcher's attempt to put out a runner stealing home, and the runner is safe.
44. With less than two outs, with a runner on first base and one out, is not caught.

Helmets:

45. Batting helmets shall have extended ear flaps that cover both ears and temples, and also display the NOCSAE stamp and the exterior warning statement.
46. No defensive player, other than the pitcher, may wear face/head protection in the field.
47. As long as the face and throat are adequately protected, it is not mandatory for the catcher's mask-and-helmet combination to have dual ear flaps.
48. Following a team warning, a second violation of a ball/bat shagger not wearing a legal helmet shall result in the individual not being allowed on the field.

Gloves:

49. Catchers' mitts must conform to the same glove specifications as the gloves worn by other fielders.
50. A multi-colored glove, which does not have gray or white as colors, is legal for use by the pitcher, but it could be deemed to be distracting by the umpire-in-chief.
51. A foul fly caught with an illegal glove would result in a three-base award to the batter-runner and all other runners.
52. A pitcher's glove would be illegal if it included any amount of the colors white and/or gray.

The Ball Becomes Immediately Dead When:

53. A thrown ball becomes lodged in an umpire's, catcher's or offensive player's equipment or uniform.
54. A ball touches an illegal glove or mitt.
55. An umpire inadvertently announces "Foul" on a caught fly ball.
56. A runner on base deliberately removes his helmet while the ball is live and in play.

A Batted Ball Will Be Ruled Fair When:

57. It settles untouched on top of home plate.
58. It lands on fair ground after being declared "Foul" by an umpire.
59. It hits the foul pole in flight above the fence.
60. It touches the jersey of the first baseman while over fair ground.

Coaching:

61. A coach restricted to the dugout may leave the bench/dugout to attend to a player who becomes ill or injured.
62. A coach must be in the uniform of his team to conduct a charged conference on the pitcher's mound.
63. Prior to the start of the game, the head coach must verify to the umpire-in-chief that all his players are equipped in compliance with the rules.
64. A coach may use a bullhorn to re-position his outfielders.

The Ball Stays Live And In Play When:

65. A thrown ball touches an umpire.
66. An intentional base on balls is granted.
67. A thrown ball accidentally touches a coach in fair territory.
68. The on-deck batter yells "Time" as the pitcher is delivering his pitch, in a failed attempt to induce a balk.

A Run Does Not Score If:

69. With two outs and a runner on second, the batter hits a home run. Following a legal defensive appeal, the runner from second is declared out for missing third base.
70. During the play, the third out is made by another runner being forced out.
71. With two outs, the runner on third successfully steals home before the batter-runner is thrown out at first on a dropped third strike.
72. With runners on second and third and two outs, the batter hits a home run, and the defense legally appeals the runner from second missing third base.

Sportsmanship:

73. During the pregame conference, the expectation of good sporting behavior should be shared with both teams and representatives.
74. If the offense is judged to be of a minor nature, the umpire may warn the offender and later eject him if he repeats the offense.
75. It is not a violation if a team, during the opposing team's infield practice, lines up close to the nearest foul line.
76. A coach may not yell to the crowd or throw his arms up in disgust in an attempt to incite the spectators to voice their disapproval on a ruling.

Starting And Ending A Game:

77. Unless prohibited by state association procedures, any remaining play may be shortened or the game terminated by mutual agreement of the opposing coaches and the umpire-in-chief.
78. Before the game starts, the home coach shall decide whether the grounds and other conditions are suitable for starting the game.
79. The game may begin if the visiting coach ensures the umpire that his player batting ninth will be at the field before his team goes on defense.
80. With the game tied 2-2 in the bottom of the seventh, the batter hits a grand slam home run. The final score of the game is 3-2.

Umpiring:

81. Umpire jurisdiction begins when the umpire-in-chief receives the lineup cards at the pregame conference.
82. Any questions regarding legality of a player's equipment shall be resolved by the mutual approval of the umpires and the opposing coach.
83. The umpire-in-chief cannot correct a scorekeeping error when brought to his attention once the game has ended.
84. An umpire's authority extends only to players and coaches, not team attendants.

The Time Of The Pitch:

85. The time of the pitch occurs when the pitcher has committed himself to delivering the pitch to the batter.
86. At the time of the pitch, all fielders shall be in fair ground with both feet touching fair ground, except the catcher who shall be in the catcher's box.
87. From the set position, the time of the pitch occurs when the pitcher has come to a complete and discernible stop.
88. From the windup position with both hands at his side, the time of the pitch starts with any movement with both arms and one or both legs prior to the pitch.

A Balk:

89. A balk is an illegal pitch that occurs with runner(s) on base.
90. It is a balk if the pitcher, with a runner on first only, feints to third and then throws to first base in a pick-off attempt.
91. It is a balk if the pitcher, with runners on base, delivers a pitch while wearing a band-aid on the forefinger of his pitching hand.
92. It is a balk if the pitcher from the set position turns his shoulders to look at the runner on first before he brings his hands together.

Baserunning Appeal:

93. For an appeal of a missed base to be legally made, the ball must first be made live.
94. Only one appeal on any given play may be made.
95. A coach may verbally appeal a baserunning error once the ball is dead and all runners have completed their advancement.
96. An appeal cannot be made following the granting of an intentional base on balls.

A Runner Is Out When:

97. He runs more than three feet from a direct line between bases behind the fielder attempting to field a batted ball.
98. He is accidentally hit by a batted ball that had deflected off the shortstop.
99. With two outs and the runner attempting to touch home, the batter interferes with the play at home.
100. He is tagged out by a fielder when the base is moved because of the contact by the runner when he slid into the base.