



2007 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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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.

A Runner is Out When:

1. He dives over a fielder.
2. He does not slide on a force play, even though he moves away from the fielder to avoid the play.
3. He does not retouch his base following a foul tip.
4. With one out, he attempts to advance to home plate when the batter interferes with the play at home.

It is a Delayed Dead Ball When:

5. A balk occurs.
6. A batter enters the batter's box with an illegal bat.
7. The second baseman obstructs a runner during a rundown.
8. A ball touches an illegal glove/mitt.

Legal Baseballs

9. A minimum of three umpire-approved baseballs shall be provided to start a game.
10. No less than two baseballs shall be used to complete a game.
11. The baseball shall weigh 5 to 5¼ ounces.
12. The Coefficient of Restitution (COR) of baseballs shall not exceed .700.

A Batted Ball Will Be Ruled Fair When:

13. A bunted ball settles on the foul line between home and third base.
14. It strikes first base and bounces into the dugout.
15. The ball comes to rest untouched on top of home plate.
16. It hits the foul pole on the fly above the fence.

Pregame Conferences

17. If the conference is held at an on-deck circle, it is permissible for the home team to be on the field warming up for the game.
18. Because the head coach is in the bullpen with the pitcher, the assistant coach may represent the team at the pregame conference.
19. The game cannot start until both head coaches verify to the umpire-in-chief that their players are legally and properly equipped.
20. Activities at the pregame conference include a discussion of ground rules and the expectation of good sporting behavior on the part of both teams.

Offensive-charged Conferences

21. An offensive-charged conference is concluded when the batter turns to return to the batter's box.
22. A team is allowed a maximum of three offensive-charged conferences during a seven-inning game.
23. A coach, having been restricted to the bench, loses his right to conduct an offensive team conference.
24. The umpire-in-chief does not need to keep a record of offensive-charged conferences, only defensive conferences.

The Role of the Designated Hitter (DH)

25. A player may be both the pitcher and the DH on the lineup card.
26. If the DH has a substitute who has not previously been in the game to pinch-run for him, the role of the DH is terminated for the rest of the game.
27. The player who was the starting DH may re-enter as the DH under the re-entry rule.
28. A hitter may be designated for any one starting player (not just pitchers) and all subsequent substitutes for that player in the game.

A Slide is Illegal If:

29. The runner's slide goes beyond the base but he makes no contact with a fielder and does not alter any fielder's play.
30. The runner slashes or attempts to kick a fielder.
31. The runner uses a pop-up slide into a fielder.
32. The runner contacts a fielder above the knee when the fielder is kneeling on the ground.

Umpire Jurisdiction

33. Umpire jurisdiction of a game begins at the start of the pregame conference.
34. The umpires assume jurisdiction of a game when the umpires arrive at the field (within the confines of the field).
35. Umpire jurisdiction ends when the umpires leave the playing field at the conclusion of the game.
36. Umpire jurisdiction ends when the third out of the last half-inning in the game is declared.

Malicious Contact

37. If defensive malicious contact occurs, it is a delayed dead ball.
38. If an offensive player commits malicious contact, he is ejected and always declared out.
39. When a defensive player commits malicious contact with an offensive player, the defensive player is ejected, the umpire shall rule safe or out on the play and award runner(s) the appropriate base(s) he judges would have obtained had the malicious contact not occurred.
40. Malicious contact can only occur by or with a fielder who does not have the ball.

Patches

41. If approved by the state association, the memorial patch should be uniformly placed on players' jerseys.
42. The commemorative patch is not to exceed 4 square inches.
43. One American flag 2 inches by 3 inches may be worn on each item of uniform apparel.
44. The commemorative or memorial patch should be worn in an appropriate and dignified manner without compromising the integrity of the uniform.

A Foul Tip

45. A batted ball that goes directly to the catcher's hands and is legally caught by the pitcher is a foul tip.
46. When there is a foul tip, the ball is immediately dead.
47. A foul tip on strike three does not result in the batter being out.
48. A base runner who successfully steals a base during a foul tip may remain at that base.

Pitching

49. A pitcher may assume the windup position with his hands together in front of his body.
50. A pitcher may attempt a legal pick-off from both the windup and the set position.
51. A ball shall be called whenever a pitcher brings the pitching hand in contact with the mouth without distinctly wiping the pitching hand before it touches the ball.
52. A pitcher may use a multi-colored glove provided it does not have any white or gray on the glove and it is not judged to be distracting.

Playing With Eight Players

53. As long as the player arrives before his turn at bat, the visiting team may start the game with eight players.
54. Once a team is forced to play with eight players, it may return to nine players if a substitute becomes available.
55. If a player injures himself while safely sliding into a base and cannot continue, and there is no available substitute, the most recent batter not on base is allowed to run for that player.
56. When a substitute or the injured player becomes available for play, the coach must immediately put that player in the game so that the team is playing with nine players.

The Umpire-in-chief

57. If requested by the defense, the umpire-in-chief must ask for aid on a check-swing from the base umpire.
58. He has sole authority for ejecting the head coach.
59. Questions regarding legality of a player's equipment shall be resolved by the umpire-in-chief.
60. The umpire-in-chief, when behind the plate, shall wear proper safety equipment, including chest protector, face mask, throat guard, plate shoes, shinguards and protective cup (if male).

Coaching

61. It is mandatory for a team to have both coaches' boxes occupied while on offense.
62. If requested by a coach, both teams are required to have their respective occupants of a coach's box remain in the box from the time the batter enters the batter's box until the pitcher releases the ball.
63. A coach who is not in the uniform of the team may occupy a coach's box.
64. Once the request has been made and the requirement for personnel to remain in the coaches' boxes is in place, any subsequent violation shall result in the ejection of the violator.

Players Loosening Up

65. The player who is positioned to protect teammates who are warming up within the confines of the field in an area not protected by a fence or other structure must have a glove and be positioned between the players and the batter.
66. It is permissible for a player loosening up to bat to use either his team's or the opposing team's on-deck circle while the opposing pitcher is warming up.
67. A player standing up to warm up a pitcher is not required to wear a head protector, a mask with a throat protector and a protective cup (male only).
68. Only bats and devices designed to remain part of the bat, such as weighted bats, batting donuts and wind-resistant devices are legal at any location.

Thrown Ball Lodging in an Offensive Player's Uniform

69. A runner will be declared out for interference when a ball becomes lodged in his uniform.
70. If a ball becomes lodged during a play when the batter-runner was attempting to reach first base, the batter-runner will be awarded first base.
71. The ball becomes immediately dead when it becomes lodged in an offensive player's uniform.
72. A runner, who is the only one on base at the time and is attempting to return to second base when the ball becomes lodged in the batter-runner's jersey, will be awarded third base.

Batting Out Of Order

73. Either team may appeal batting out of order after the batter has completed his time at bat.
74. When no appeal has been made on an improper batter, the next batter shall be the batter whose name follows that of the proper batter who should have been at bat.
75. While an improper batter is at bat, if a runner advances because of a wild pitch or passed ball, that advance is illegal.
76. When several players bat out of order before discovery, so that a player's time at bat occurs while he is a runner, such player remains on base, but he is not out as a batter.

An Infield Fly

77. The declaration of an infield fly would be nullified if an outfielder attempts to catch the ball.
78. With two outs, an infield fly is possible with only first base occupied.
79. An infield fly would not be declared if the batted ball was the result of an attempted bunt or a line drive.
80. An infield fly is still possible in the outfield, as long as the fly ball can be caught by an infielder with ordinary effort.

A Catch is Declared When:

81. A batted ball is deflected off the pitcher's glove and is secured in flight immediately by the shortstop.
82. An outfielder secures the ball in flight using his baseball cap.
83. The shortstop, on an attempted double play, drops the ball while removing the ball from his glove.
84. A fielder secures a foul fly ball and then falls into dugout.

A Team Warning Shall Be Issued When:

85. A player fakes a tag without the ball.
86. A player on the bench is observed using tobacco.
87. A coach charges an umpire.
88. Players leave the dugout for the first time during a live ball when a teammate scores on a close play at home.

Umpire Judgment Shall Be Used To Determine Base Awards When:

89. Defensive malicious contact occurs.
90. A spectator picks up a live batted ball.
91. Loose equipment interferes with play.
92. On the second play in the infield, the second baseman throws the ball into the stands.

A Run Will Score When:

93. With the bases loaded and two outs, the batter hits a home run. The runner from second fails to touch third and the defense properly appeals the mistake.
94. With one out, the runner at third legally touches home before another runner is successfully appealed for the third out for leaving a base too soon on a caught fly ball.
95. With two outs, the runner from third steals home on a passed third strike and the batter-runner is later thrown out at first base.
96. With two outs and a runner on third only, the batter hits a home run, but misses second base and the defense properly appeals the baserunning error.

It is Umpire Interference When:

97. A base umpire collides with a base runner.
98. The plate umpire accidentally hits the throwing arm of the catcher as the catcher attempts to pick off the runner at first base.
99. A batted ball hits the base umpire after being deflected off the pitcher.
100. A pitch lodges in the plate umpire's chest protector.