



# 2010 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.

## Lineup Cards

1. The lineup card shall include the name, shirt number, position and batting order of each starting player.
2. If a player is not listed as an eligible substitute, he may not participate at any point in the game.
3. Lineups become official after they have been exchanged, verified and then accepted by the umpire during the pregame conference.
4. All substitutions, courtesy runner participation and team warnings are to be recorded on the lineup card by the plate umpire.

## The Field

5. When measuring the distance to first base and third base, measure from the apex of home plate to the back edge of the base.
6. The infield and outfield, including the boundary marks from home plate to first and third and their extended foul lines, are fair ground.
7. When a dugout is temporarily extended, it may be extended in any direction.
8. A game may be started on a non-regulation facility by mutual agreement of the opposing coaches, but could be protested later for this reason.

## Bats

9. Bats used in the 2010 high school season must meet the BBCOR performance standard.
10. A non-wood bat must have a safety grip that extends a minimum of 10 inches, but not more than 18 inches, from the handle end of the bat.
11. Bats that are altered and do not meet the rule specifications are considered to be illegal.
12. A bat that developed a small crack during a batter's at-bat would be considered to be illegal and the batter would be ejected.

## Helmets

13. Helmets worn by on-deck batters, batters, runners, retired runners, players occupying a coach's box and non-adult bat/ball shaggers must meet the NOCSAE standard.
14. Following a warning for a non-adult bat/ball shagger not wearing a legal batting helmet, a subsequent violation will result in the ejection of the coach.
15. A commercially manufactured catcher's head, face and throat protector must be a one-piece helmet.
16. A defensive player is permitted to wear face/head protection provided the helmet meets the NOCSAE standard.

## Base on Balls

17. When a batter is awarded a base on balls, he must go immediately to first base before time-out is called.
18. The ball remains live and in play when the defense is granted an intentional base on balls.
19. Once a pitch has been thrown, the defense cannot request an intentional base on balls.
20. With a count of 3-2, a batter who permitted a pitch that was out of the strike zone to hit him would be awarded first base for the base on balls.

## Catches

21. A catch is allowed if a fielder catches a fly ball and then falls into a dugout.
22. A catch is allowed if a fielder leans over the fence and makes the catch, but drops the ball as he takes the ball out of his glove.
23. A catch is allowed if a fielder secures the ball with his elbow against his chest.
24. A catch is allowed if a fielder catches the ball in his glove and runs more than five steps before the ball drops from his glove.

### **Interference**

25. Interference shall be called when the catcher, after fielding a bunt in front of home plate, is unable to throw to first base because the batter-runner is running outside the three-foot running lane.
26. Interference shall be called when a runner shouts at the shortstop, causing him to drop a fly ball.
27. Interference shall be called when a base coach physically assists a runner during playing action.
28. Interference shall be called when a thrown ball accidentally touches a base coach who is in foul territory, but not in the coach's box.

### **Infield Fly**

29. The infield fly, by rule, is possible when there are less than two outs and at least first base is occupied.
30. A line drive cannot be declared to be an infield fly.
31. The ball is declared dead immediately if an infielder intentionally drops an infield fly.
32. A bunt that is popped up to the pitcher could not be an infield fly.

### **Substitutions**

33. A player, other than the pitcher, may change to a different fielding position at any time.
34. Changes should be reported to the umpire-in-chief and the scorekeeper.
35. A player who re-enters the game in the wrong position in the batting order is considered to be batting out of order.
36. An illegal substitute on defense shall be replaced immediately upon discovery by the umpire or either team.

### **Injured Player**

37. A player who has been rendered unconscious during a game may return to play in the game with written permission from the athletic trainer.
38. The re-entry rule does not apply to a player who had to leave the game due to an injury.
39. If medical care is administered in a reasonable amount of time, the individual would not have to leave the game.
40. If there is an excessive amount of blood on the uniform, it shall be changed before the individual participates again.

### **Assistant Coach**

41. An assistant coach who leaves the vicinity of the coaching box to argue a close call shall immediately be ejected.
42. An assistant coach who charges an umpire over a close play, kicks dirt and throws his hat, shall be ejected and the head coach will be restricted to the dugout.
43. It is the assistant coach and the team captain who are to represent the team in communications with the umpires.
44. If the assistant coach is not in the uniform of the team, he is restricted to the dugout/bench.

### **Charged Conference**

45. A charged conference is concluded when the head coach, having had an offensive conference with the batter, initially starts to return to the coach's box.
46. A charged conference is concluded when the umpire-in-chief determines that the charged conference has been given a reasonable amount of time.
47. A charged conference is concluded when, following a defensive charged conference on the mound, the coach crosses the foul line.
48. A charged conference is concluded when one minute has passed.

### **Starting and Ending a Game**

49. Substitution rules are immediately in effect when the lineup cards are handed to the plate umpire at the pregame conference.
50. The umpires are sole judges as to whether conditions are suitable for starting the second game of a scheduled double-header.
51. Before the game begins, the umpire-in-chief shall receive verification from both head coaches that all participants are properly equipped.
52. Each team's lineup card shall list a minimum of nine players to start the game.

### **Delayed Dead Ball**

53. It is a delayed dead ball when the batter enters the batter's box with an illegal bat.
54. It is a delayed dead ball when a thrown ball is touched by a spectator.
55. It is a delayed dead ball when a coach physically assists a runner.
56. It is a delayed dead ball when an umpire interferes with the catcher who is attempting to throw.

### **Immediate Dead Ball**

57. It is an immediate dead ball when a thrown ball touches a tripod that is partially in the designated media area.
58. It is an immediate dead ball when a ball touches an illegal glove.
59. It is an immediate dead ball when defensive malicious contact occurs.
60. It is an immediate dead ball when a runner who is required to wear a batting helmet deliberately removes his helmet while the ball is live and in live-ball territory.

### **The Set Position**

61. A change of direction meets the requirement of a complete and discernible stop.
62. While in the set position, the pitcher shall stand with his entire non-pivot foot in front of a line extending through the front edge of the pitcher's plate and with his entire pivot foot in contact with or directly in front of the pitcher's plate.
63. Once a pitcher has stretched and become set, he may no longer attempt to pick off a runner.
64. Natural preliminary motions such as only one stretch may be made.

### **Warm-Up Pitches**

65. The starting pitcher is limited to eight warm-up throws that must be completed in one minute, timed from the first throw.
66. The umpire-in-chief may authorize more warm-up throws because of an injury or inclement weather, but when he does, the replaced pitcher may not return to pitch.
67. At the beginning of each subsequent inning, the pitcher may warm up by using not more than five throws, completed in one minute timed from the third out of the previous half-inning.
68. Players loosening up to bat shall remain in the area of their team's on-deck circle while the opposing pitcher is taking his warm-up pitches.

### **Balks**

69. With runners on base, a balk will be declared when the pitcher turns his shoulders after bringing his hands together during the stretch.
70. With runners on base, a balk will be declared anytime a pitcher feints or throws to an unoccupied base.
71. With runners on base, a balk will be declared when a pitcher drops the ball while legally on the pitcher's plate and the ball crosses a foul line.
72. With runners on base, a balk will be declared when the pitcher stops in his delivery because the batter held up his hand to request "Time."

### **Batter**

73. A batter is out when a runner interferes with a fielder attempting to field a foul fly ball.
74. A batter is out when he bunts the ball while his knee is touching home plate.
75. A batter is out when, with one out and first base occupied, a third strike is dropped by the catcher.
76. A batter is out when a spectator prevents a foul fly from being caught by reaching into the playing area.

### **Batting Out of Order**

77. An improper batter is considered to be at bat as soon as he is in the batter's box and the ball is live.
78. When an improper batter becomes a proper batter because no appeal is properly made, the next batter shall be the player whose name follows the batter who should have batted but did not.
79. Only the defensive team may appeal batting out of order after the batter has completed his time at bat.
80. Several players have batted out of order without the defense discovering it, and a player's time at bat occurs while he is a runner at second base. The plate umpire will declare him out.

### **Appeal of a Missed Base**

81. Runners must be given the opportunity to complete their base-running responsibilities before a dead-ball appeal can be made.
82. For a defensive player to make a dead-ball appeal, he must have the ball and either touch the respective player or the base involved in the appeal.
83. An appeal must be honored even if the base missed was before or after an award.
84. Runners may advance during a live-ball appeal play.

### **Base Awards**

85. Bases awarded for the use of detached player equipment are from the base occupied at the time of the infraction.
86. When a throw by an outfielder becomes dead, the award is two bases from the base occupied at the time the ball became dead.
87. If a runner was attempting to advance at the time a ball became dead from being lodged in an offensive player's uniform, he will be awarded one base beyond the last legally acquired base.
88. When two runners are between the same bases on an overthrow into a dead ball area, the lead runner receives two bases and the following runner is awarded one.

### **Batter-Runner**

89. The batter-runner is out when his fair line drive in flight is intentionally dropped by an infielder with one out and bases loaded.
90. The batter-runner is out when, with the bases empty, he takes his batting helmet off on a dropped third strike.
91. The batter-runner is out when, with the bases loaded, the shortstop intentionally allows his line drive to drop untouched to the ground.
92. The batter-runner is out when he is running outside the three-foot running lane in fair territory on a bunt in front of the plate and the catcher throws the ball into right field.

### **Scoring Runs**

93. In a tied game, if a bases loaded over-the-fence home run is hit to win the game, all runs score before the game is terminated.
94. A run will score if, with two outs, the runner on third scores before the batter-runner is thrown out at first on a dropped third strike.
95. When there is more than one out declared that terminates the half-inning, the defense must take the out that was first announced by the umpire.
96. A run will not be scored if the third out is declared during a play resulting from a valid defensive appeal that results in a force out.

### **Umpiring**

97. Only the plate umpire has jurisdiction over a pitcher defacing a baseball.
98. Umpire jurisdiction begins upon the umpires arriving within the confines of the field.
99. Provided they do so discretely, umpires may use smokeless tobacco during a game.
100. The home team has a new state-of-the art digital camera. In the bottom of the seventh inning, the potential winning run attempts to slide at home, but dust gets in the eyes of the plate umpire and he does not see the play. If both coaches agree, he may use the pictures taken from the high-speed camera to render a decision.