



2006 BASEBALL RULES EXAMINATION - PART 1

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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Pitcher's Gloves:

1. A red-and-blue glove is illegal for a pitcher to use.
2. A glove with a small amount of white or gray in the trademark patch would be legal for a pitcher to use during the game.
3. While a bright, multi-colored glove is a legal glove for a pitcher to use, it may be deemed to be distracting to the batter by the umpire-in-chief.
4. A dark glove, uniform in color, with small white lacing is legal for a pitcher to use.

Jewelry:

5. A religious medal cannot be worn, even if it is taped and worn under the uniform.
6. A player sitting on the bench in the dugout cannot wear jewelry.
7. A player at bat, discovered to be wearing a necklace, would be declared out if his team had received a prior warning concerning jewelry.
8. A medical alert must be taped and may be visible.

Umpiring:

9. Both the umpire-in-chief and the field umpire have authority to forfeit a game.
10. Umpire jurisdiction begins when the umpires first arrive at the parking lot.
11. Both the field umpire and the umpire-in-chief have concurrent jurisdiction in calling time, balks, an infield fly, and in ejecting any coach or player.
12. The umpire-in-chief may correct a scorekeeping error if it is brought to his attention before the umpires leave the field at the conclusion of the game.

A Ball Becomes Immediately Dead When:

13. A pitch or any thrown ball becomes lodged in an offensive player's uniform.
14. An umpire erroneously declares "Foul Ball" on a batted ball that falls to the ground in fair territory.
15. A coach physically assists a runner.
16. A balk or an illegal pitch is committed.

Coaching:

17. A coach restricted to the dugout may leave the bench to attend to an ill or injured player.
18. If a coach is accidentally hit by a thrown ball while standing in foul territory, the ball is live and in play.
19. A coach not in the uniform of the team may still go to the pitching mound for a defensive conference.
20. A coach, using a mobility device, cannot occupy a coaching box.

Baserunning:

21. When a foul tip occurs, each base runner must touch his base after the ball has touched the fielder.
22. Any runner who misses a base while advancing may not return to touch it after a following runner has scored.
23. A runner, who missed a base while advancing and is on a succeeding base when the ball becomes dead, may legally return to touch the missed base if he does so prior to a defensive appeal of his baserunning error.
24. A runner need not vacate his base to permit a fielder to catch a fly ball in the infield, but he may not interfere.

Batter Interference:

25. If a whole bat is thrown and interferes with a defensive player attempting to make a play, interference will be called.
26. If, on a third strike, the batter interferes with the catcher's attempt to throw out the runner stealing second base, the batter is out and the runner attempting to steal is also out automatically.
27. The batter must vacate the home plate area when a runner attempts to steal home during the pitch.
28. With two outs and runner attempting to score from third base, the runner is declared out if the batter interferes with the catcher.

A Batted Ball is Declared Foul When:

29. The ball comes to rest untouched on top of home plate.
30. The batted ball hits third base and is deflected into foul ground.
31. It touches the ground after being inadvertently declared foul by an umpire.
32. It hits the foul pole on the fly above the fence.

Regulation Game:

33. If a state association has not adopted game-ending procedures, remaining play may be shortened or the game terminated by mutual agreement of the opposing coaches and the umpire-in-chief.
34. A forfeited game is regulation, regardless of innings played.
35. Two seven-inning games shall constitute a doubleheader.
36. A game is forfeited to the offended team when a team is unable to provide nine players to finish the game.

Bats:

37. All bats, wood and non-wood, shall meet the BESR performance standard.
38. A non-wood bat labeled with a BESR sticker to certify BESR compliance is not permitted.
39. At the thickest part, the diameter of a non-wood bat must be 2 5/8 inches or less, while the diameter of a wood bat must be 2 3/4 inches or less.
40. Bats that are altered or that do not meet the rule specifications are illegal.

A Runner On First Base Will Be Awarded Second Base When:

41. While returning to first base during a rundown, the second baseman throws the ball into dead-ball territory.
42. During a pick-off attempt to first base, the pitcher throws the ball into the dugout.
43. While attempting to advance to second, a thrown ball becomes lodged in the batter-runner's uniform as the batter-runner is sliding into first base on a close play.
44. A pitch by the pitcher becomes lodged in the umpire's ball bag.

The Batter-Runner is Out When:

45. With a count of 1-1, a batted ball contacts the batter in the batter's box.
46. His line drive is intentionally dropped by the second baseman with one out and the bases loaded.
47. He intentionally tosses the bat to prevent a foul batted ball from becoming fair. The plate umpire judges that the ball would have rolled fair.
48. With one out, the runner from first attempting to advance to second violates the force-play slide rule and illegally contacts the second baseman, who is attempting to make the play.

The Playing Field:

49. Any wall, fence, barricade, marked or imaginary line is considered a part of the playing field.
50. When measuring the distance to first base, one should measure from the apex of home plate to the back edge of the base.
51. The infield and outfield, including the boundary marks from home plate to first and third and their extended foul lines, are fair ground.
52. If a dugout is extended, it is recommended it is extended toward the outfield on a line parallel to the foul line.

Pregame Conferences:

53. It is permissible for the assistant coach, because the head coach is in the bullpen with the pitcher, to represent the team at the pregame conference.
54. The game cannot start until both head coaches verify to the umpire-in-chief that their players are legally and properly equipped.
55. The expectation of good sporting behavior should be shared with both teams and representatives.
56. The conference should begin approximately 10 minutes prior to the game.

Helmets:

57. It is mandatory for players/students in the coaches boxes and non-adult bat/ball shaggers to wear a batting helmet that meets the NOCSAE standard.
58. A skull-type helmet, one without earflaps, is permissible for use by the catcher.
59. Defensive players are permitted to wear face/head protection in the field as long as its outer covering is a non-glare surface.
60. The face/head protector worn by a pitcher must meet the NOCSAE standard.

A Runner is Out When:

61. He jumps over a fielder lying prone on the ground.
62. He initiates malicious contact, even after being obstructed.
63. He is hit by an infield fly while still in contact with his base.
64. He deliberately knocks the ball from a fielder's hand.

With Runners On Base, it is a Balk When:

65. The pitcher accidentally drops the ball while on the pitching plate and the ball does not cross the foul line.
66. The pitcher delivers a pitch while wearing a glove that includes the colors white or gray.
67. The pitcher, while on the pitcher's plate in the set position, turns his shoulders to look at the runner on first base prior to bringing his hands together.
68. The pitcher in the wind-up position attempts a pick-off move to an occupied third base.

Substitution:

69. For discovery of an illegal substitute on offense, that player shall be called out and restricted to the bench for the duration of the game.
70. If a relief pitcher requires more than eight warm-up pitches, the replaced starting pitcher cannot later return to the game as a pitcher.
71. The starting designated hitter, when first withdrawn, has no re-entry eligibility.
72. A player will be declared out upon discovery of being an unreported substitute.

Charged Conferences:

73. During the fourth defensive conference, the coach replaces the starting pitcher. Before the relief pitcher throws a pitch to the batter, he picks off the runner on first for the second out. The umpire-in-chief will now allow the coach to have another conference and replace the relief pitcher.
74. Each team, when on offense, may be granted not more than one charged conference per inning.
75. A defensive charged conference is considered to be concluded when the coach turns to leave the pitching mound.
76. Any unused defensive conferences may be carried over and used in extra innings.

Obstruction:

77. For obstruction to be called, it must be an intentional, physical act that hindered an offensive player.
78. If obstruction occurs during a rundown, the ball is immediately dead.
79. A runner, obstructed while returning to first base, would be awarded second base.
80. A fielder without the ball who fakes a tag has committed an act of obstruction.

Players Leaving the Dugout:

81. Players may leave the dugout to congratulate teammates following a home run.
82. It is legal for the on-deck batter to position himself, without interfering with the play, near home to signal a runner attempting to score to slide.
83. A coach would be warned and the next offender on the team ejected if players leave the dugout to celebrate with a runner who has scored while the ball is still live and in play.
84. Both teams shall remain in their dugout or bullpen area until the pregame conference has concluded.

A Team Warning will be Issued and the Next Offender on the Team Ejected When:

85. Players loosen up to bat in the opposing team's on-deck circle.
86. A player uses tobacco within the confines of the field.
87. A coach uses a bullhorn for coaching purposes during the course of the game.
88. A player fakes a tag without the ball.

A Thrown Ball Lodging in an Offensive Player's Uniform:

89. 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.
90. If a runner on third was attempting to score when the ball became lodged in an offensive player's uniform, he would be awarded home.
91. A solo runner on second base, who was returning to second base when the ball became lodged in the batter-runner's uniform, would be awarded third base.
92. A runner will be declared out for interference when a ball becomes lodged in his uniform.

Strikes and the Strike Zone:

93. A strike will be charged to the batter when a pitch is struck and missed, even if the pitch touches the batter.
94. A strike will be charged to the batter if, during an illegal pitch, he fouls it off.
95. The strike zone is the space over home plate, the top of which is halfway between the batter's shoulders and the waistline, and the bottom being the knees, when the batter assumes his natural batting stance.
96. If a batter crouches to make his strike zone smaller, the umpire will determine the zone by what would be his normal batting stance.

Sliding:

97. A legal slide can be either feet-first or head-first.
98. During a force-play slide, a runner may slide in a direction away from the fielder to avoid making contact.
99. If a runner slides feet-first, both legs shall be on the ground.
100. It is an illegal slide if the runner goes beyond the back edge of the base and makes contact with the fielder.