

2012 Softball Officials Pool Questions

Number	Question	Answer1	Answer2	Answer3	Answer4	Answer5
1	B1, identified on the lineup card as the pitcher, reaches base in the top of the first inning and a courtesy runner is used. As B1 goes to take the pitcher's plate in the bottom of the first inning, she is injured and unable to pitch to the first batter. The result is:	The team must play with only eight players.	The courtesy runner becomes B1's substitute retroactively and B1 has left the game.	B1 may move to a different defensive position.	B1 is ejected for unsporting conduct.	
2	A legal substitute may replace a courtesy runner on a base, but the substitute is actually replacing the pitcher/catcher in the lineup for whom the courtesy runner is running and the pitcher/catcher has left the game.	True	False			
3	A player who violates the courtesy-runner rule is an illegal substitute.	True	False			
4	If a courtesy runner is injured, the replacement must either be a legal substitute or the pitcher/catcher for whom she is running.	True	False			
5	If the courtesy runner is injured, the pitcher or catcher for whom she is running may return to run the bases.	True	False			
6	In the top of the first inning, the pitcher and catcher are identified as those players listed in the lineup as playing those positions, but may actually play another defensive position to begin the bottom of the first inning.	True	False			
7	The courtesy runner may run for the Designated Player (DP) if the DP is only batting for the pitcher or catcher.	True	False			
8	All of the following are true regarding a legal softball field, EXCEPT:	The field shall be free of obstructions between the foul lines.	The field shall contain an infield diamond.	The field shall contain an outfield area enclosed by a fence.	The bases are 60 feet apart when a 12-inch ball is used.	The pitching distance is 43 feet for female fast-pitch games.

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9	Bases shall be 60 feet apart for games using a 12-inch ball.	True	False			
10	A circle of what size shall be drawn around the pitcher's plate?	8 feet in diameter.	12 feet in diameter.	14 feet in diameter.	16 feet in diameter.	None of the above.
11	If space allows, the on-deck circles should be 30 feet from home plate.	True	False			
12	Which of the following is true regarding foul lines?	Foul lines extend beyond the bases.	Foul lines extend to the outfield fence.	Foul lines extend to a minimum of 185 feet when an outfield fence is not present.	Foul lines should be 2 1/2 inches wide.	All of the above.
13	A coaches' box should be 15 feet in length and 8 feet from the foul line.	True	False			
14	An on-deck batter may warm up in either on-deck circle.	True	False			
15	All lines on the field shall be marked with what color material?	Green.	White.	Yellow.	Pink.	All of the above colors are permitted.
16	Once a game has started, if it is discovered that the pitching distance is incorrect, the correction shall be made after both teams have pitched an equal number of innings.	True	False			
17	A double first base may be a single 15 x 30 unit or two 15 x 15 units that are flush with one another.	True	False			
18	The softballs used for a contest may be white or optic yellow, but the same color shall be used throughout the contest.	True	False			
19	Gloves/mitts may be a maximum of two colors unless judged to be distracting by the umpire.	True	False			
20	Materials inside the bat or treatments/devices used to alter the bat specifications and/or enhance performance are prohibited and render the bat illegal.	True	False			

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21	A bat that has holes in the taper is permitted.	True	False			
22	The required exterior warning label on the batting helmet may be on either side of the bill.	True	False			
23	Defensive players may wear face/head protection, but it must have a non-glare outer surface.	True	False			
24	Players may wear plastic visors provided they are in school colors.	True	False			
25	Caps, visors and headbands may be mixed but must be the same color for each team member.	True	False			
26	Players must wear their uniforms properly and as designed by the manufacturer.	True	False			
27	Metal cleats on shoes shall not exceed 3/4 inch from the sole.	True	False			
28	Flat items used to control the hair, such as bobby pins, barrettes and hair clips, may be worn provided they do not exceed one inch.	True	False			
29	Knee and ankle braces that are unaltered from the manufacturer's original design/production are permitted if all exposed hinges are padded or covered.	True	False			
30	Any equipment judged to be potentially dangerous by the umpire is illegal.	True	False			
31	If worn, headwear (caps, visors, headband, ribbons, etc.) must be which of the following:	All the same color.	White, black, beige or school colors.	The same color for all team members.	The same style for all team members.	
32	A bat that was once legal, but has been structurally changed by shaving, rolling or warming the barrel is, by definition:	A non-approved bat.	A legal bat.	A warm-up bat.	An altered bat.	A prohibited bat.

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33	All of the following are true regarding the catcher's box, EXCEPT:	The catcher must be in the catcher's box from the time the pitcher steps on the pitcher's plate until she releases the pitch.	The catcher's box is a rectangle.	The catcher's box is 8 feet, 5 inches wide.	The catcher's box is 10 feet deep.	The catcher's box includes the area directly behind home plate, between the batter's boxes.
34	A team's warm-up area could legally be behind the bleachers out of the umpire's view.	True	False			
35	Faking a tag is always considered obstruction.	True	False			
36	It is a blocked ball when a live pitched, batted or thrown ball is touched, stopped or handled by a person not engaged in the game.	True	False			
37	A foul tip is a batted ball that goes sharply and directly from the bat to the catcher's mitt or hand and is legally caught by the catcher.	True	False			
38	A ball in flight is any batted, thrown or pitched ball that has not touched the ground, an object or a person other than a player.	True	False			
39	Interference is an act, physical or verbal, by a member of the offensive team that illegally impedes, hinders or confuses any fielder.	True	False			
40	A leap is when both feet of the pitcher are airborne prior to delivering the pitch.	True	False			
41	All of the following are true regarding the knob of the bat, EXCEPT:	It may be molded, lathed, welded or permanently fastened.	Devices, attachments or wrappings are permitted that do not cause the knob to become flush with the handle.	It must protrude at a 90-degree angle from the handle.	A one-piece rubber knob and bat grip combination is illegal.	

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42	A pitcher may not wear any item on the pitching hand, wrist, arm or thighs which may, in the umpire's judgment, be distracting to the batter.	True	False			
43	Prior to starting the delivery, the pitcher need only have one foot on the ground within or partially within the 24-inch length of the pitcher's plate.	True	False			
44	Prior to starting the delivery, the pitcher must take a position with both feet on or partially on the top surface of the pitcher's plate.	True	False			
45	The plate umpire's pregame duties include which of the following:	Inspect batting and catching helmets.	Inspect bats.	Inspect the condition of the field.	Define the dugout/bench areas.	All of the above.
46	The penalty for using an altered bat includes all of the following, EXCEPT:	Coach ejected.	Batter ejected.	The batter is out.	Coach restricted to the dugout/bench for the remainder of the game.	All runners returned to the base occupied at the time of the pitch.
47	B1 bunts the ball and drops her bat. The bat is lying stationary in fair territory and the ball rolls against it. The ball remains live.	True	False			
48	An intentional base on balls may be requested by the defensive coach or catcher to award the batter first base without any pitches being thrown.	True	False			
49	A batter is out on proper appeal if she fails to bat in her proper turn and another batter completes a time at bat in her place.	True	False			
50	When an improper batter becomes a runner and a pitch (legal or illegal) has been delivered to the next batter, the proper batter is declared out.	True	False			
51	Only the defensive team or coach may appeal batting out of order after the batter has completed her time at bat.	True	False			

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52	A strike is called on the batter when a pitched ball, in the umpire's judgment, is prevented from entering the strike zone by any action of the batter.	True	False			
53	If B1 steps out of the batter's box after F1 has brought her hands together, B1 runs the risk of having a strike called for being out of position.	True	False			
54	The batter is declared out if the offensive team's coach interferes with F5's attempt to field a foul fly ball.	True	False			
55	The batter is out when the bat hits the ball a second time while the ball is on or over fair territory.	True	False			
56	It is a delayed dead ball when the batter interferes with the catcher.	True	False			
57	It is interference when a runner slides into the glove of a fielder and knocks the ball out of the glove.	True	False			
58	A runner is out for interference if she accidentally contacts a fielder attempting to throw the ball.	True	False			
59	Fair batted balls, prevented by detached player equipment from going over the fence in flight, are four-base awards.	True	False			
60	When obstruction occurs, the umpire should give the delayed dead-ball signal, regardless of whether there is a play on the obstructed runner.	True	False			
61	The ball is live and a runner may attempt to advance if she is hit by a fair batted ball that has been touched by a fielder.	True	False			
62	A runner who misses a base while advancing may not return to touch the missed base after a following runner has scored.	True	False			
63	When an uncaught foul ball causes the ball to become dead, a runner need not touch bases in reverse order.	True	False			

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64	A runner is considered to be in the three-foot running lane when she has one foot touching inside the lane and one foot touching on the line.	True	False			
65	The penalty for interference on a batted ball is the same whether it is by an on-deck batter or a blocked ball is caused by offensive team equipment.	True	False			
66	Umpire jurisdiction ends when the final out is recorded and the defensive team leaves the field.	True	False			
67	Umpire jurisdiction begins upon the arrival of one umpire within the confines of the field.	True	False			
68	If only one umpire is used, the proper starting position is behind the pitcher.	True	False			
69	An umpire's decision involving judgment is final.	True	False			
70	The plate umpire and the field umpire have joint authority regarding the decision to forfeit a game.	True	False			
71	The plate umpire may rectify any situation in which an umpire's decision that was reversed has placed either team in jeopardy.	True	False			
72	Either the plate umpire or the field umpire may call an illegal pitch.	True	False			
73	Deliberately removing the batting helmet when it is required to be worn results in a team warning.	True	False			
74	A second offense for illegal equipment results in the offender and the head coach being restricted to the dugout/bench for the remainder of the game.	True	False			
75	Illegal equipment must be removed or made legal.	True	False			
76	A second offense for removal of a boundary line results in a ball/strike called on the batter, and the offender and the head coach being restricted to the dugout/bench area.	True	False			

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77	When a fielder tags a runner with malicious, excessive and unnecessary force, the ball is dead immediately and the fielder is ejected.	True	False			
78	A player who is restricted or ejected shall remain in the dugout/bench area.	True	False			
79	All of the following team personnel are permitted outside the designated dugout/bench, EXCEPT:	The batter.	Runners on base.	The on-deck batter.	Defensive players.	The coach giving defensive signals.
80	Bench personnel are permitted to engage in throwing and running activities during the one minute designated for the pitcher to throw warm-up pitches.	True	False			
81	While in the pitching position, the pitcher must take (or simulate taking) a signal from the catcher.	True	False			
82	The pitcher is not considered in the pitching position until the catcher is within the catcher's box and in position to receive the pitch.	True	False			
83	Once the pitcher's hands are brought together and are in motion, she may take one step, which must be forward.	True	False			
84	The pivot foot may remain in contact with or may push off and drag away from the pitcher's plate prior to the front foot touching the ground.	True	False			

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85	All of the following result in an illegal pitch being declared, EXCEPT:	The pitcher deliberately dropping, rolling or bouncing the ball while in the pitching position in order to prevent the batter from striking it.	The catcher being outside the lines of the catcher's box when the pitch is released.	The pitcher exceeding the 20-second timeframe to release the pitch.	The pitcher making more than 1 1/2 clockwise revolutions of the arm in the windmill motion.	The pitcher stepping completely outside the 24-inch plate when delivering the pitch.
86	A pitcher may not exceed 1 1/2 revolutions of the arm in the windmill motion.	True	False			
87	Once the ball has been returned to the pitcher, she has 40 seconds to release the next pitch.	True	False			
88	It is a dead ball when the ball slips from the pitcher's hand during the backward motion of her delivery.	True	False			
89	All of the following are true regarding the ball rotation, EXCEPT:	A pitcher has a choice of balls at the start of each half-inning if both balls have been in play.	The unused ball must be put into play in the bottom of the first inning if it is not used in the top of the first inning.	The ball in play should be returned to the 16-foot circle after every half-inning.	The pitcher may possess both balls and choose the one she wants to start that half-inning.	All of the above.
90	A bleeding player may be treated and remain in the game provided the medical treatment can be administered in a reasonable amount of time.	True	False			
91	A substitution may be reported by the substitute or the coach.	True	False			
92	F1 and F5 switch defensive positions after one out in the third inning. Later in the third inning, the same two players may switch positions again.	True	False			

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93	A coach is not permitted to project a substitution.	True	False			
94	In the fifth inning, F8 is injured. Team A has no eligible substitutes remaining. In the sixth inning, an eligible substitute arrives at the ball park. She may enter the game in the vacated batting position.	True	False			
95	When a second unreported substitution occurs, only the offending player is restricted to the dugout/bench.	True	False			
96	The umpire(s) shall decide whether the grounds and other conditions are suitable for starting the game.	True	False			
97	Substitution rules are in effect after the umpire-in-chief accepts the lineup cards from both coaches before the game.	True	False			
98	The game begins when the umpire calls "Play Ball."	True	False			
99	A state association may determine game-ending procedures.	True	False			
100	A team may finish the game with fewer than eight players.	True	False			