

# LOUISIANA HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

## 2012 BASEBALL RULES STUDY QUESTIONS

**LHSAA Study Guide questions:** The LHSAA test questions are TRUE / FALSE and MULTIPLE CHOICE. They will mainly come from the following questions, **Rules Book**, including rule changes, **Points of Emphasis** and the **Case Book**.

**NOTE:** In the following questions, **F** refers to a **fielder** (**F1**, **F2**, etc. refer to the traditional defensive positions.), **B** refers to a **batter** (**B1**, **B2**, etc. refer to the proper batting order.), **R** refers to a **runner** (**R1** is always the lead runner.) and **S** refers to a **substitute**. All situations and acts are legal, and no errors or mistakes are involved unless otherwise stated.

1. At the time of the pitch, all fielders shall be on fair ground except the catcher, who shall be in the catcher's box.
2. To be considered in fair territory, a fielder must have both feet touching the ground in fair territory.
3. Bats that are altered from the manufacturer's original design and production are illegal.
4. Caps and shoes are required equipment.
5. Knee and ankle braces, even if they are unaltered from the manufacturer's original design and production, must be padded with a closed-cell, slow-recovery foam padding no less than ½-inch thick.
6. At the pre-game conference, the plate umpire asks both head coaches if they have listed all their substitutes on the lineup card. The home team's head coach states he has some substitutes but did not have time to list them on his lineup. The plate umpire will:
  - a. Not accept the home team's lineup card until all substitutes are listed. The game cannot begin until the umpire has received lineup cards from both teams.
  - b. Inform the head coach that he cannot occupy a coaching box for the balance of the game.
  - c. Start the game and tell the coach he may add the substitutes as soon as he can get the names to him.
  - d. Inform the home team's head coach that there will be no substitutions allowed for his team in the game.
7. A fielder who catches a ball and whose initial momentum carries him several more yards after which he drops the ball is considered to have made the catch for an out.
8. A player may be listed on the lineup card as both the pitcher and as the **DH**.
9. The ball remains live and in play when the umpire gives the "Do Not Pitch Signal."
10. If a pitcher is ambidextrous, he may change from a left-handed pitcher to a right-handed pitcher numerous times while pitching to one batter.

11. A team playing with **8** players may not return to **9** players.
12. A batted ball is ruled fair when the ball:
  - a. Lands on fair ground after touching a player who was over foul ground.
  - b. First falls on foul ground past **3<sup>rd</sup>** base, but settles on fair ground.
  - c. Touches a bat resting on foul ground and rebounds into fair territory.
  - d. Touches **1<sup>st</sup>** or **3<sup>rd</sup>** base or touches the ground beyond an imaginary line between **1<sup>st</sup>** and **3<sup>rd</sup>** base.
13. The position of the pitcher's feet determines whether he will pitch from the windup or the set position.
14. Unless the umpire-in-chief rules otherwise, the scorebook of the home team shall be the official scorebook.
15. Only the umpire-in-chief may eject a coach for unsportsmanlike conduct.
16. It is permissible for the umpires to review video in certain situations in order to render the best decision and correct call.
17. Pitching regulations begin when the pitcher takes his sign from the catcher.
18. A foul tip is a batted ball that goes directly to the catcher's hands and is legally caught by the catcher or any infielder.
19. Beginning JANUARY 1, 2012, all bats not made of a single piece of wood shall meet the Batted Ball Coefficient of Restitution (BBCOR) performance standard, and such bats shall be labeled with a silkscreen or other permanent certification mark.
20. The LHSAA requires that all balls used in high school competition be stamped with the NFHS Authenticating Mark.
21. As long as he/she promises not to be in the way or otherwise interfere with play, a photographer may select the best position from which to obtain photos.
22. An intentional base on balls must be requested by the defense before the first pitch is made to the batter.
23. Neither a line drive nor an attempted bunt can create an infield-fly situation.
24. Obstruction can only be a physical act; not a verbal one.
25. From the windup position, the pitcher must hold the ball in his gloved hand.
26. If the player for whom the **DH** is batting hits:
  - a. The role of the **DH** is terminated for the game.
  - b. The **DH** may no longer participate in the game.
  - c. The **DH** may re-enter the game to hit for another player.
  - d. The **DH** may return to play on defense for a player in a different batting position.

27. The ball is dead immediately if a batter hits a pitch that bounced in front of the plate.
28. Even when the ball is dead, awarded bases must be touched in their proper order.
29. A runner may legally return to touch a missed base provided he did not touch or was not beyond a succeeding base after the ball had become dead.
30. With a count of 1-1 and 1 out, the batter interferes with the catcher's throw on an attempted steal of 2<sup>nd</sup> base. RULING: The runner is out if he is not put out and the batter continues with the appropriate count.
31. With **R1** on 1<sup>st</sup> base and a 2-2 count on the batter, the plate umpire calls a balk on **F1** just as he delivers the pitch. The batter hits the ball over the fence for a home run. RULING: The ball is dead immediately, **R1** is awarded 2<sup>nd</sup> base and the batter returns with the same 2-2 count.
32. It is a delayed dead ball when interference is committed by a runner or a retired runner.
33. If a fair batted ball is touched by an illegal glove or mitt, the batter will be awarded the base the umpire judges he would have reached had the ball not been touched.
34. A batted ball is foul when **F3**, while standing in fair territory but reaching into foul territory, touches and then drops the ball from his glove.
35. For a catch to be ruled completed, a fielder must have possession for a minimum of 3 steps before the ball is dropped.
36. It is considered a catch if **F2** catches a foul fly ball with 1 foot in the dugout and 1 foot in foul territory.
37. Before the plate umpire puts any dead ball back in play, he must first ensure that the pitcher is legally holding the ball while touching the pitching rubber, the catcher is in the catcher's box and the batter is in the batter's box.
38. With the bases empty, the pitcher drops the ball during his delivery. The ball rolls to a stop in front of the plate. The plate umpire should properly declare a no-pitch and start again.
39. The following bat component(s) shall be round, cylindrically symmetric and smooth:
  - a. Handle.
  - b. Taper.
  - c. Barrel.
  - d. All of the above.
40. If a thrown ball accidentally touches a base coach in foul territory, the ball becomes dead immediately and interference will be called.
41. A charged conference will occur if an assistant coach is granted a time-out to confer with the first baseman.

42. If an outfielder attempts to make a catch of a fair fly ball, it cannot be ruled an infield fly.
43. It is legal for a team to have one of its players in uniform sitting in the bleachers behind home plate charting pitches as long as he does not have a radar gun.
44. **R1** is on **2<sup>nd</sup>** base. **F2** obstructs the batter who hits the ball and reaches **1<sup>st</sup>** base safely. **R1**, not running on the pitch, comes around attempting to score but is thrown out at the plate. Since the batter and all runners advanced at least **1** base, **F2's** obstruction is ignored. **R1's** advance past **3<sup>rd</sup>** base was at his own risk and his out stands.
45. **B1** gets a base hit to right field and hustles down to **1<sup>st</sup>** base. At the time of **F9's** throw back in which goes into the dugout, **B1** is past **1<sup>st</sup>** base and the base umpire awards him **3<sup>rd</sup>** base. **B1** then simply cuts directly across the infield on his way to **3<sup>rd</sup>** base. Upon proper appeal, the umpire will declare **B1** out for not touching **2<sup>nd</sup>** base.
46. **R1**, running on the pitch, has touched and passed **2<sup>nd</sup>** base before the fair batted ball bounces over the outfield fence. The umpire should send **R1** home on the **2**-base award since **R1** touched **2<sup>nd</sup>** base before the ball cleared the fence.
47. **R1** is on **1<sup>st</sup>** base with no outs when **B2** bunts the ball in the air. Hoping to turn a double play, **F5** intentionally drops the ball. The umpire should immediately kill the play, call **B2** out and return **R1** to **1<sup>st</sup>** base.
48. Runners on **1<sup>st</sup>** and **3<sup>rd</sup>** bases with no outs. **B5** hits a grounder to **F6** who throws to **F4** for the double-play attempt. **1<sup>st</sup>** base runner **R2** slides illegally into **2<sup>nd</sup>** base and interference is called. The umpire should call both the runner from **1<sup>st</sup>** base and the batter-runner out. The **3<sup>rd</sup>** base runner, **R1**, will score if he touches the plate prior to the interference.
49. The score is tied after **7** innings and the game heads into extra innings. The home team has used only **1** of its allotted charged conferences. Going into extra innings, they will now have **3** charged conferences available to them: the **2** from regulation play plus **1** for each extra inning.
50. There are runners on **1<sup>st</sup>** and **2<sup>nd</sup>** bases with no outs and the fielders at normal depth. **B3** hits the ball high in the air just behind **2<sup>nd</sup>** base, but easily catchable. Neither umpire calls the infield fly and the ball falls untouched to the ground. Since neither umpire made the call, the infield-fly rule is not in effect and the runners will be forced to advance.
51. Smith is a courtesy runner for the catcher in the **2<sup>nd</sup>** inning. Later in the game he then courtesy runs for the pitcher in the **6<sup>th</sup>** inning. This is legal.
52. **B1** leads off the inning with a single. **B2** should hit next but **B4** appears at bat and draws a walk. **B5** is at bat with a 2-1 count when the defensive coach claims that **B2** should have batted instead of **B4**. The plate umpire agrees with the coach and proceeds to call **B2** out, remove **B4** from base, return **B1** to **1<sup>st</sup>** base and place **B3** at bat. This is the correct procedure.
53. In the **3<sup>rd</sup>** inning, the coach requests his second time-out of that inning to talk to his pitcher. That player must now be removed as pitcher for the duration of the game since it was the second charged conference of that inning.

54. Refusal to play because of a contested call shall result in a suspended game.
55. The game officials retain clerical authority over the contest through the completion of any reports, including those imposing disqualification.
56. Umpires no longer will be required to perform pre-game equipment checks.
57. In the bottom of the 4<sup>th</sup> inning, **S1** comes up to pinch hit for **B6**. Upon checking his lineup card, the plate umpire sees that **S1** is not listed as a possible substitute and correctly prohibits **S1** from entering the game.
58. On a deep fly ball that was caught, **R1** misses 2<sup>nd</sup> base on his way to 3<sup>rd</sup> but touches it as he safely returns to 1<sup>st</sup> base. **R1** will be declared out upon proper appeal at 2<sup>nd</sup> base.
59. Prior to the start of the 6<sup>th</sup> inning with the visiting team leading 6-5, rain causes the game to be halted. After waiting 45 minutes, the umpires determine that playing conditions are not safe to continue the game. This is an official game with the visiting team winning 6-5.
60. The home team is using a 9-player line-up. Early in the 1<sup>st</sup> inning, **F1** is struggling with his control. He is due up 3<sup>rd</sup> in the bottom of the 1<sup>st</sup> inning but is, instead, sent to the bullpen to work out the difficulties with pinch hitter **S1** batting for him. The umpire rules:
  - a. This is a legal substitution and **F1** may return to pitch.
  - b. This substitution is illegal and **F1** may not return to pitch.
  - c. **S1** is now the **DH** for the remainder of the game.
61. A charged conference is a meeting which involves the coach or his non-playing representative and any player(s) of that team.
62. The "time of the pitch" occurs when the pitcher, with the ball in his possession, first contacts the pitcher's plate.
63. It is legal for the pitcher to feint or throw to a base without stepping toward the base as long as he is not in contact with the pitcher's plate when he does so.
64. Just after the ball is returned to **F1**, the defensive coach yells from the dugout to have **F6** and **F4** switch positions. This is a charged conference.
65. **R1**, on 2<sup>nd</sup> base, attempts to steal 3<sup>rd</sup> after **F1** has legally paused in the set position, **F1** then steps directly toward 3<sup>rd</sup> base and throws to **F5** who tags the runner out. This is a balk and **R1** will be awarded 3<sup>rd</sup> base.
66. **R1** is on 1<sup>st</sup> base when the plate umpire calls a balk just as **F1** delivers the pitch. **B3** hits the pitch over the outfield fence for a home run. The umpire will give the offensive team the option to ignore the balk and take the result of the play.
67. Once playing action is over, the defensive coach may verbally appeal a missed base.
68. A base runner who successfully steals a base during a foul tip must return to the base he occupied at the time of the pitch.

69. After being asked by the head coach to check a bat prior to the start of the game, the plate umpire rules that it is cracked and not legal for play. In the **2<sup>nd</sup>** inning, **B4** enters the batter's box with that specific bat and is discovered when the count is 1-1. The umpire should declare **B4** out and eject him from the game for entering the batter's box with an illegal bat.
70. When the base coach physically assists a runner during playing action, that runner is out and any other outs made during the play will stand.
71. **R1** is on **1<sup>st</sup>** base and **F1** is in the set position. **F1** stretches and, without stopping, steps and throws to **1<sup>st</sup>** base in an attempt to pick off the runner. This play is legal even though **F1** did not make a 1-second pause before he threw the ball.
72. The ball becomes dead immediately when a batted ball touches or is touched by a spectator.
73. **R1**, on **1<sup>st</sup>** base, advances past **2<sup>nd</sup>** base during a deep fly ball which is caught. He retreats to **1<sup>st</sup>** base and is between **1<sup>st</sup>** and **2<sup>nd</sup>** base when **F8** throws the ball which gets past **F3** and goes directly into the dugout. **R1** will be awarded:
- 2<sup>nd</sup>** base.
  - 1<sup>st</sup>** base.
  - 3<sup>rd</sup>** base.
  - Home plate.
74. Courtesy runners may be used for the pitcher and/or catcher but only after **2** outs.
75. A slide is illegal if the runner uses a rolling or pop-up slide into the fielder.
76. **R1** is on **1<sup>st</sup>** base with **1** out. **B8** swings and misses the pitch for the **3<sup>rd</sup>** strike. The pitch hits the ground and **B8** starts running to **1<sup>st</sup>** base while **R1** heads to **2<sup>nd</sup>**. **F2**, confused, picks up the ball and attempts to throw out **B8** but the ball hits him in the back while he is legally in the running lane and rolls toward the fence in foul territory. The plate umpire should declare **R1** out for **B8**'s interference since **B8** was not entitled to try for **1<sup>st</sup>** base because it was occupied at the time of the pitch.
77. Jewelry is not allowed to be worn by any players. However, a player may wear a religious medal provided it is taped down under his uniform.
78. Prior to the start of the **1<sup>st</sup>** inning, the starting pitcher will be allowed to take **8** warm-up throws within a 1-minute period.
79. If the game goes into extra innings, both teams, while on defense, will be allowed to take **1** charged conference each inning without penalty. For each subsequent conference during the same inning, the pitcher must be removed as pitcher for the duration of the game.
80. Any starting player in the game may be withdrawn and re-entered once, including the **DH**, provided he occupies the same spot in the batting order.
81. An unreported substitute is a legal player.

82. The pitcher may not wear a red glove.
83. **15** minutes after starting time for the game is reached, the visiting coach informs the plate umpire that he has only **7** players at the game site but others, caught in traffic, are on the way. Since the visitors do not have to put **9** players on the field at that point, the plate umpire will allow the game to start and just call outs when those spots in the batting order come up.
84. A pitcher may place tape on the backside of his pitching hand, provided it is not white or gray nor is distracting to the batter.
85. If a runner is returned to a base because of interference and that base is legally occupied, the runner is placed on the next base beyond the occupied base.
86. An improper batter may be discovered by either team, but only the defense may appeal batting out of order.
87. Following a home run by **B2**, **S1** enters the batter's box but does not report. Prior to the ball being made live, the defense recognizes the situation and claims that **B3**, who has left and re-entered the game previously, is now finished for the game. This is correct.
88. It is required that the head coaches attend the pre-game conference and verify to the umpires that all of their players are legally equipped and that all bats, helmets and protective equipment are legal.
89. A batted ball is foul if it strikes home plate and is caught by the catcher over home plate.
90. Non-adult ball/bat shaggers, on-deck batters and all personnel occupying a coaching box are required to wear an approved batting helmet.
91. With **R1** on **3<sup>rd</sup>** base and **1** out, **B3** hits a high fly ball that **F9** catches in foul territory. **R1** legally tags and scores. Before the next pitch, it is determined that **F9**'s glove has been sprayed with a substance that creates a "tacky" condition.
- This is legal, no problem.
  - This is an illegal glove. Award **B3** three bases and score **R1**.
  - This is an illegal glove. Eject **F9** and the head coach.
  - The offense has the option of taking the play or having the catch nullified and treated as a foul ball. **R1** would be returned to **3<sup>rd</sup>** base and **F9** will replace the illegal glove immediately.
92. In order to be legal, a **37**-inch bat should weigh:
- No less than **32** ounces.
  - No less than **34** ounces.
  - No less than **35** ounces.
  - A **37**-inch bat is not a legal bat, no matter what it weighs.
93. **F9**, using a first baseman's mitt, makes a spectacular catch to end the inning. The opposing coach protests that **F9** cannot use the mitt and that the out should be nullified and his batter be awarded **3<sup>rd</sup>** base. The plate umpire correctly tells the coach that there is no restriction on what glove/mitt is used by a fielder as long as it is legal.

94. From the set position, the time of the pitch is:
- When the pitcher's non-pivot foot passes behind the back edge of the pitcher's plate.
  - When the pitcher starts any movement prior to delivering the pitch.
  - When the pitcher comes set with the ball in both hands.
  - When the pitcher, after coming to a complete and discernible stop, starts any movement with arm(s) and/or leg(s) that commits him to pitch.
95. The **3<sup>rd</sup>** base coaches' box must be occupied but the **1<sup>st</sup>** base box being occupied is optional.
96. If a runner falls down rounding **3<sup>rd</sup>** base, the coach may help him to his feet, but the coach cannot push him to the next base or pull him back to **3<sup>rd</sup>** base.
97. A coach who is restricted to the bench cannot attend to a player who becomes ill or is injured.
98. The lineup cards become official after they have been exchanged, verified and then accepted by the plate umpire during the pre-game conference.
99. Behind 2-0, the visiting team goes ahead on a grand slam home run in the top of the **7<sup>th</sup>** inning. The home team scores **1** run in the bottom of the **7<sup>th</sup>** inning and there are **2** outs when lightning and rain make continuation of the game impossible. The game is:
- Declared over and the visitors win.
  - Declared over and the home team wins, unless the state association has adopted other game-ending procedures.
  - Declared a suspended game.
  - Postponed and picked up at a later date.
100. **F1** is standing on the mound but not on the pitcher's plate, with the ball in his glove. He puts his fingers to his mouth, wipes them off and then steps on the pitcher's plate. The opposing coach yells that this is a balk. The plate umpire correctly rules that no violation has occurred.
101. **B1** squares to bunt, but simply holds the bat in the strike zone without offering or attempting to contact the ball. The pitch is outside the strike zone. The plate umpire will call the pitch a:
- Ball.
  - Strike.
102. With no substitutes available, **B9** fouls a pitch that hits him in the face. **B9** is injured and cannot continue to play. The plate umpire will:
- Forfeit the game to the opposing team.
  - Allow the last player not on base to finish the at-bat.
  - Call **B9** out and allow the game to continue. An out will be declared each time **B9**'s spot in the line-up comes to bat.
  - Call **B9** out and end the game the next time **B9** is to bat.
103. Upon proper discovery of a batter using an illegal bat, the defense has the option of taking the penalty or the result of the play.

104. **R1** is on **3<sup>rd</sup>** base and **R2** on **1<sup>st</sup>** with **1** out when **B6** hits a fly ball to right field which is caught by **F9**. **R1** tags up and scores but **R2** is running on the pitch and **F9**'s throw beats him back to **1<sup>st</sup>** base for the **3<sup>rd</sup>** out of the inning. Since this is the **3<sup>rd</sup>** out on a force play, the plate umpire correctly cancels **R1**'s run.
105. The ball becomes dead after playing action has stopped when a fair batted ball touches a spectator. The batter and all runners are awarded **2** bases from their positions on base at the time of the pitch.
106. **B1**, wearing #21 on his uniform but listed as #3 on the lineup card, gets a base hit in the **3<sup>rd</sup>** inning. The defensive coach appeals to the umpire that **B1** is batting out of order. Being on top of his game, the plate umpire correctly informs the coach that the batting-out-of-order rule only requires that the name be in the proper order. **B1**'s at-bat is legal.
107. After the head coach has verified to the plate umpire that all his team's equipment is legal, **B9** hits a bases-loaded home run with **2** outs in the **3<sup>rd</sup>** inning. While he is circling the bases, **F2** hands the bat to the plate umpire to examine the barrel. It is discovered that the bat's end cap has been removed and the bat has been stuffed with ping-pong balls. The plate umpire correctly rules the bat illegal, calls **B9** for the **3<sup>rd</sup>** out, cancels all runs scored and, if this is the **1<sup>st</sup>** violation of the rule, restricts the head coach to the bench for the duration of the game.
108. The home coach shall decide whether the field or other conditions are suitable for starting the game. After the game starts, the umpires become the sole judges as to whether conditions are fit for play.
109. Any player who exhibits signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with a concussion (such as loss of consciousness, headache, dizziness, confusion or balance problems) shall be immediately removed from the game and shall not return to play until cleared by an appropriate health-care professional.
110. An appeal must be honored even if the base missed was after an award.
111. A foul tip will be ruled when a batted ball goes directly to the catcher's glove, caroms against his protector and then rebounds into his hand.
112. A runner yelling at the shortstop causing him to drop a fly ball and a runner maliciously contacting a fielder without the ball are acts which constitute offensive interference.
113. It is a legal substitution when a player for whom the **DH** is batting enters the game as a batter in a different position in the batting order.
114. If the starting pitcher does not face **1** batter:
  - a. He may no longer participate in the game.
  - b. He may return later in the game as a pitcher.
  - c. He may play another position, but cannot return to pitch.
  - d. He is ejected from the game, but may occupy a coaching box.
115. When malicious contact occurs, the ball becomes dead at the end of playing action.

116. The ball is dead immediately and the batter is out when he hits the ball fair or foul while either foot is touching the ground completely outside the lines of the batter's box.
117. Catcher's obstruction of a batter is never ignored and the penalty must be enforced.
118. If a runner misses a base and is on or beyond a succeeding base when the ball becomes dead:
- He may legally return to touch the missed base provided he does so immediately.
  - The defense must wait until the ball is made live to appeal.
  - He cannot return to the missed base and is subject to being declared out upon proper and successful appeal.
  - He will be declared out immediately by the umpire.
119. On ball **4**, the pitch gets by the catcher, who throws his helmet and hits the ball in an effort to stop the ball from rolling into the dugout.
- All runners are awarded **3** bases.
  - The runners are awarded **2** bases and the batter/runner is awarded **1<sup>st</sup>**.
  - All runners and the batter/runner are awarded **2** bases.
  - The award is made from where the runners were at the time of the pitch.
120. **R1** is attempting to score when the catcher, without the ball, is blocking home plate allowing **R1** no access to score. **R1** runs over the catcher and the plate umpire correctly calls malicious contact. The plate umpire will:
- Declare **R1** out and eject him.
  - Score **R1** on the obstruction and then eject him.
  - Return **R1** to **3<sup>rd</sup>** base.
  - Eject the catcher for obstructing **R1**.
121. With the bases loaded and **1** out, **B5** hits a line drive to the right-field fence. **R1** and **R2** both score, but **R3** is thrown out at home. **B5** safely arrives at **3<sup>rd</sup>** but missed **1<sup>st</sup>** base. The defense properly appeals **B5**'s missing **1<sup>st</sup>** base.
- 2** runs score.
  - 1** run scores.
  - No runs score.
122. Umpire jurisdiction begins when the umpires arrive in the parking lot prior to the game.
123. If a successful appeal of a runner leaving a base too soon is the **3<sup>rd</sup>** out of an inning, all runs scored by runners in advance of the appealed runner and scored before the appeal will count.
124. If **2** runners are on the same base at the same time on a force situation and both are tagged, the runner who is forced to advance shall be declared out.
125. Umpire jurisdiction ends:
- When the last out of the game has been declared.
  - When **1** umpire leaves the field at the end of the game.
  - When all umpires have left the playing field at the conclusion of the game.
  - When the scorekeeper announces there are no issues with the official scorebook.

126. When a fair batted ball touches an umpire, it is always a delayed dead ball.
127. During the pre-game meeting with the coaches, both teams shall remain in their dugouts or bullpen areas until this meeting is ended.
128. An illegal pitch is an illegal act committed by the pitcher with no runner on base which results in a ball being awarded the batter and a balk if there are runners on base.
129. If a coach is ejected, he must leave the vicinity of the playing area immediately and is not to have any contact with his team for the remainder of the game.
130. When on offense, a team will be allowed **2** charged conferences each inning for the coach to confer with his batter and/or base runner(s).
131. An appeal may be made after the **3<sup>rd</sup>** out as long as it is made properly and the resulting appeal is an apparent **4<sup>th</sup>** out.
132. In the top of the **3<sup>rd</sup>** inning, the offensive coach requests a time-out in order to confer with his batter. The defensive coach immediately hustles to the mound for a quick word with his pitcher. Upon seeing this, the offensive coach claims that a defensive conference should be charged. The plate umpire correctly disagrees, stating that as long as the defensive coach does not delay the game after the original time-out ends, no conference will be charged.
133. **S1**, an unreported substitute, bats for **B2** instead of **B3**. While **S1** is at bat, his coach realizes **S1** is not batting for the correct player. **S1** became a legal substitute for **B2** when he entered the batter's box and the ball became live.
134. It is legal for the same player to courtesy run for both the pitcher and the catcher.
135. With **2** outs in the **5<sup>th</sup>** inning, the **DH** hits a double. In order to gain more speed on the base paths, the coach replaces him with the defensive player for whom the **DH** was batting. This substitution terminates the **DH** position for the remainder of the game.
136. In the bottom of the **6<sup>th</sup>** inning, **B7**, the right fielder, gets a base hit. The coach goes to the plate umpire and tells him **B7** will be his pitcher in the top of the **7<sup>th</sup>** inning and wants to put in a courtesy runner for him so he can begin warming up in the bullpen. Since **B7** will be the new pitcher, the plate umpire will allow the courtesy runner for **B7**.
137. Whenever the coach goes to the mound and changes pitchers, even after conferring with other fielders, a defensive conference is not charged.
138. Malicious contact always:
- Results in the runners being returned to their original bases.
  - Requires the head coach to be restricted to the dugout.
  - Supersedes obstruction.
139. **R1** scores on **B2**'s double. While the ball is still live, players from the offensive team rush out to congratulate **R1**. The plate umpire shall issue a warning to the coach and the next offender from that team will be ejected.

140. A pitch dropped during delivery with the bases empty will be a ball if it crosses a foul line or declared a no-pitch if it fails to cross a foul line.
141. It is an immediate dead ball if the plate umpire interferes with the catcher who is attempting to throw out a runner and that runner must return to his original base.
142. When a pitcher is replaced during an inning, the relief pitcher may use not more than **8** throws unless authorized by the plate umpire for more throws due to injury or inclement weather.
143. **B2** should be up at bat but **B3**, an improper batter, is up instead with a count of 1-2:
  - a. Only the defense may appeal or discover the infraction.
  - b. The improper batter will be declared out and the proper batter will then come to bat.
  - c. The proper batter may replace the improper batter and assume the count of 1-2.
  - d. The improper batter should be declared out and restricted to the bench for the duration of the game.
144. The batting order is **B1, B2, B3, B4**, etc. **B2** is at bat when **B1**, now a runner, is caught stealing for the **3<sup>rd</sup>** out. When the team returns to offense in the next inning, the **1<sup>st</sup>** batter will be:
  - a. **B1**.
  - b. **B2**.
  - c. **B3**.
  - d. **B4**.
145. When the proper batter is called out because he failed to bat in turn, the next batter shall be:
  - a. The proper batter who should have batted.
  - b. The batter who batted improperly.
  - c. The batter whose name follows the proper batter thus called out.
  - d. The batter the opposing team chooses.
146. With a count of 3-2, the batter permits a pitched ball outside the strike zone to touch him. The plate umpire will declare the ball dead and the batter will remain at bat with a count of 3-2.
147. A defensive conference, held in fair territory, is concluded when the coach crosses the foul line.
148. The game begins when all infielders, pitcher, catcher and the batter are in position and the plate umpire calls "play."
149. After the pitcher legally contacts the pitcher's plate, he may turn his shoulders to check runners from either the windup or set positions.
150. Failure of a team to list a designated hitter on the lineup card prior to the start of the game precludes the use of a **DH** for that game.
151. After the game begins, bench personnel can hit balls to fielders between innings.

152. A runner is never required to slide into a base, but if he elects to do so, it must be a legal slide.
153. If a balk is called, a ball will be credited to the batter.
154. The pitcher, with both arms at his side in the wind-up position, first moves his glove hand to a position in front of his chest, stops and then brings his pitching hand into the glove. This is a legal move.
155. If a player who has been in the game returns as a courtesy runner, he shall be called out upon discovery and restricted to the bench for the duration of the game.
156. Even though the plate umpire is designated as umpire-in-chief, he cannot, by rule, overturn a call by the base umpire(s) unless asked for help by the umpire who made the call.
157. Either umpire has the authority to forfeit the game.
158. A player may not run as a courtesy runner for the pitcher or the catcher and then be used as a substitute for another player in that half-inning unless an injury, illness or ejection occurs and no other runners are available.
159. **R1** is returning to **1<sup>st</sup>** base when he is obstructed and tagged out. He will be awarded:  
a. **1<sup>st</sup>** base.  
b. **2<sup>nd</sup>** base.  
c. **3<sup>rd</sup>** base.
160. When a runner dives over a fielder, unless interference occurs, the ball remains in play and the runner is only out if he was tagged.
161. **R1**, running with the pitch on a deep fly ball to left field, touches **2<sup>nd</sup>** base and nears **3<sup>rd</sup>** when the ball is caught. **R1** returns to **1<sup>st</sup>**, missing **2<sup>nd</sup>** base but touching **1<sup>st</sup>**. The throw from the left fielder gets by the first baseman and goes into the dugout. **R1** is awarded **3<sup>rd</sup>** base and touches **2<sup>nd</sup>** and **3<sup>rd</sup>**. The defense appeals his miss of **2<sup>nd</sup>** when he was returning to **1<sup>st</sup>** base.  
a. **R1** is declared out.  
b. The appeal on **R1** is denied, as his touching of **2<sup>nd</sup>** base while advancing to **3<sup>rd</sup>** on the award corrected the previous infraction.
162. With **R1** at **3<sup>rd</sup>** base and **R3** at **1<sup>st</sup>**, **R1** takes several hard steps in what turns out to be a bluff to steal **2<sup>nd</sup>** base. In the set position, **F1**, without simulating a pitch, wheels, steps toward and feints a throw to **2<sup>nd</sup>** while **R3** is taking his steps to **2<sup>nd</sup>** base. The plate umpire will correctly call:  
a. A legal move in the given circumstance.  
b. A balk, both runners are awarded **1** base.  
c. A balk, as **F1** did not step back legally from the pitching plate before he made the feint.  
d. The move is legal only if **R3** actually attempted to steal **2<sup>nd</sup>** base.

163. While in the windup position, a pitcher may throw to an occupied base provided he first steps toward that base.
164. With a runner on **2<sup>nd</sup>** base and the second baseman holding the ball, it is legal for the pitcher to be on the dirt part of the mound as long as he is not touching the pitcher's plate.
165. **R1**, at **3<sup>rd</sup>** base with **2** out, is running on the pitch. With a 2-2 count, **B6** swings at and misses the low pitch which gets past the catcher. **R1** crosses the plate well before **B6** is thrown out at **1<sup>st</sup>** base. This is a time play and **R1**'s run will count since he scored before the **3<sup>rd</sup>** out was called.
166. When a force-play slide interference occurs, the runner is out and the batter could be called out if the umpire judges a double play could have been made.
167. If a runner intentionally interferes with a throw, the runner is out and the ball is dead immediately. Other runners return to the base occupied at the time of the interference, unless the umpire judged the interference prevented another out.
168. The bases are loaded when the batter takes ball **4**. The high outside pitch sails past the catcher and lodges in the backstop fence. The plate umpire correctly declares the ball dead and advances the batter and all runners **2** bases – **1** base for the base on balls and **1** base for the ball going out of play.
169. With the game tied in the bottom of the **7<sup>th</sup>** inning and no outs, **B1** draws a walk. **B2**, attempting to move **R1** to **2<sup>nd</sup>** base, lays down a bunt that is rolling down the **1<sup>st</sup>**-base line in foul territory. The ball hits a rock and is deflected toward the foul line, and if not stopped, it will cross the line and be fair. **F2**, seeing this happen, and knowing he would have no play on either runner, stops the ball while it is in foul territory with his mask that is held in his throwing hand. The plate umpire's correct ruling is:
- Foul ball, return **R1** to **1<sup>st</sup>** base.
  - Foul ball, but **R1** gets **2<sup>nd</sup>** base since he was there when the ball became foul.
  - Award **R1** **3<sup>rd</sup>** base and **B2** **2<sup>nd</sup>** base.
  - Award **R1** home and **B2** **3<sup>rd</sup>** base; the game is over.
170. Under LHSAA rules, all games must go **7** innings in order to be official, including Play-Off and Championship games.