

2021-22 Baseball Officials Exam for Postseason Tournament Consideration & Answers

1. R1, R2, one out. The batter hits a double, scoring both runners; but during the play, R2 missed third base. After the play has ended, R2 runs back to third base and stands there, at which point the defensive team properly appeals that he missed the base. [8-2-3]
 - A. **R2 is out on appeal. R1's run counts.**
 - B. R2 is out on appeal R1's run does not count.
 - C. R2 is not out because he corrected the violation before it was appealed.
2. If an assistant third base coach comes onto the field to argue a call at second base: [3-3-1f]
 - A. The assistant coach should be restricted to the dugout.
 - B. **The assistant coach should be ejected from the game.**
 - C. The assistant coach should be ejected and the head coach should be restricted to the dugout.
 - D. Both the assistant coach and the head coach should be ejected from the game.
3. This year, all coaches are restricted from coming onto the field to argue or dispute an umpire's call. If a head coach in the third base coaches box begins to come across the field to argue a play at first base: [MHSAA Baseball Rules Meeting]
 - A. He should be ejected immediately.
 - B. He should be restricted to the dugout immediately.
 - C. **He should be warned not to continue and should be ejected if he ignores that warning.**
4. No one on, one out, no count. The batter pops the first pitch over foul line near first base and the first baseman catches the ball in flight. The plate umpire signals the ball fair and begins to signal and call the catch as the base umpire loudly and aggressively calls and signals a foul ball. [5-1-1d]
 - A. The call of foul ball always takes precedence. The batter returns to bat with an 0-1 count.
 - B. **Since the ball was caught, the out will stand.**
 - C. The plate umpire has the better look at fair/foul in this situation. Since the call of "foul" kills the play, the batter is awarded first base.
5. No one on, one out, no count. The batter hits a line drive directly at the base umpire. The ball lands on the foul line; but because he was trying to get out of the way, the base umpire errantly call the ball foul even though the plate umpire is fervently signaling the ball fair. The batter would have easily reached second base on this ball down the line. [5-1-1]
 - A. **The ball becomes dead the moment it was called foul and then touched the ground. The batter returns to bat with an 0-1 count.**
 - B. Because the plate umpire was certain that the ball was fair and the base umpire was not in a position to make an accurate call, the umpires may do whatever would have occurred had the correct call been made initially. The batter-runner is awarded second base.
 - C. When a foul ball is changed to a fair ball, all runners, including the batter-runner are advanced one base. The batter-runner is awarded first.
6. During the third inning, the plate umpire notices that the pitcher has some athletic tape around both the index and middle fingers of his pitching hand. [6-2-1]
 - A. This is illegal equipment. The head coach is restricted to the dugout.
 - B. This is an illegal foreign substance. The pitcher is ejected from the game.
 - C. **This is not legal. The tape must be removed but there is no further penalty.**

7. R1, two outs, no count. While leaned over and looking into the catcher for signs before going into the Set Position, the pitcher shakes the catcher off with his glove hand without making any natural motion associated with the stretch or his delivery: [6-1-3]
- A. This is balk. R1 is awarded second base.
- B. This is legal.**
- C. This is an illegal pitch. A ball is awarded to the batter to make a 1-0 count.
8. R2, one out, 2-2 count. The batter swings and misses the next pitch in the dirt. The ball bounces off of the catcher and rolls up the first base line near the edge of the dirt circle. While running to first base, the batter-runner accidentally kicks the ball into the first base dugout. [8-3-3, 8-4-1]
- A. This is interference. The batter-runner is out and R2 is returned to second base.
- B. This is interference. The batter-runner is out and R2 is out for the interference of his teammate.
- C. There is no violation since it was unintentional. R2 is awarded to score and the batter-runner is awarded second base.**
9. Bases loaded, one out, 1-1 count. In attempt to squeeze, the batter bunts the ball high in the air over the third base line. As the pitcher comes over to field the ball, R3 accidentally runs into him and causes the ball to hit the pitcher in fair territory and ricochet away and all runners advance one base. [8-4-2]
- A. There is no interference because the contact was unintentional. Play stands.
- B. Interference on R3. R3 is out and the batter-runner is awarded first base. R1 and R3 advance because they were forced by the batter's award.
- C. Interference on R3. R3 is out and the batter-runner is also out since the interference prevented a double play.**
10. R1 and R2 and two outs. The batter knocks a base hit in the gap. R2 was off on the hit, but R1 held up to see whether the ball would drop in. Just after R2 crosses the plate, the batter-runner passes R1 between first and second. [8-4-2]
- A. R1 is out for passing. This is a force out for the third out and R2's run cannot score.
- B. The batter-runner is out for passing. This is a time play. R2's run scores.**
11. R2, one out. The batter hits a sharp ground ball that gets past the shortstop. R2 must avoid the shortstop now positioned on his knees in the path of the runner; however, does so by leaping over the fielder. [8-4-2]
- A. The obstruction occurred first and takes precedence. R2 is protected to third base and the ball remains alive.
- B. This is an illegal act by R2 and supersedes or nullifies the obstruction. The ball is dead and R2 is out. The batter-runner is awarded first base.
- C. This is an illegal act by R2 and supersedes the obstruction. R2 is out but the ball is left in play.**
12. R1 and R3, one out. The batter hits a sharp ground ball that hits the base umpire in the middle of the infield just before the second baseman has an opportunity to field the ball. [5-1-1f]
- A. The umpire is treated like part of the field. Play stands.
- B. Umpire interference. All runners are awarded one base.
- C. Umpire interference. A double play is awarded and no runs score.
- D. Umpire interference. The batter is awarded first base, R1 is awarded second base and R3 must return back to third.**
13. It is obstruction when the defense tricks R2 to advance by having the pitcher, middle infielders and centerfielder pretend that a ball was thrown away on a fake pickoff attempt. [2-22-2]
- A. True
- B. False**

14. R1, one out, 2-2 count. A balk is called on the pitcher for not coming stopped in the Set Position as he delivers the pitch. The batter swings and hits the ball over the fence for a home run. [5-1-1]
- A. **Balks are dead immediately. R1 is awarded second base and the batter returns to bat with a 2-2 count.**
 - B. The ball remains in play when a pitch follows a balk. The home run counts and two runs score.
15. In the top of the 6th inning with the home team leading 4-3, the game is called due to rain with runners on second and third. [4-2-3, 4-3-1, *Officials Guidebook*]
- A. Since the inning was not completed, the game is suspended to be completed on another date.
 - B. The game is over unless both teams agree to suspend the game and resume it on another date.
 - C. **The game is over, and the home team wins. There is no option for the teams to suspend the game.**
16. It is a legal substitution when: [2-36-2, 2-36-3b, d]
- A. A player for whom the DH is batting enters the game on offense in another position than the DH occupied.
 - B. **A player eligible to enter or re-enter the game does so without it being reported to the plate umpire.**
 - C. A player re-enters the game in the incorrect position in the batting order.
 - D. None of the above.
17. Who has the authority to request an intentional walk? [2-4-3]
- A. The catcher.
 - B. The head coach.
 - C. The pitcher.
 - D. **A and B.**
18. Which offense(s) is/are ejectable upon the first offense? [3-3-1p]
- A. An on-deck hitter begins taking practice swings in the opposing team's on-deck circle.
 - B. **A player leaves the dugout for the purpose of a participating in a physical altercation.**
 - C. A coach uses video replay for coaching purposes during the game.
 - D. All of the above.
19. When the starting pitcher fails to face at least one batter: [3-1-1]
- A. He may later return to pitch.
 - B. He may not return to the game in any capacity.
 - C. **He may move to another position but may not return to pitch.**
 - D. He must face one batter, even if it is to issue an intentional walk.
20. The ball becomes dead immediately when fielded with an illegal glove: [5-1-2f]
- A. True
 - B. **False**
21. The pitcher cannot pitch, but may attempt a pickoff, when the plate umpire is giving the "do not pitch" signal. [5-1-1h]
- A. True
 - B. **False**
22. A pitcher may turn his shoulders to check a runner while in contact with the pitcher's plate and in the: [6-1-1]
- A. Windup Position.
 - B. **Set Position.**
 - C. Both A & B.
 - D. Neither A or B.

23. The pitcher takes his position in an illegal "hybrid" position on the pitcher's plate with a runner on first base. [6-1-1, 6-1-2, 6-1-3]
- A. A balk shall be called as soon as the pitcher assumes this illegal position.
 - B. A balk shall be called as soon if the pitcher attempts a pick-off or starts to deliver a pitch.
 - C. The umpire may call time and correct the pitcher.
 - D. Both B and C.**
24. The pitcher is permitted to take signs from his coach in the dugout, assume his position on the pitcher's plate and immediately go into his delivery. [6-1-1]
- A. True
 - B. False**
25. With a 3-2 count, the batter leans into a pitch outside of the strike zone. [7-3-4, 8-1-1c]
- A. The batter is out.
 - B. The batter is awarded first base on the hit by pitch.
 - C. The batter is awarded first base on ball four.**
 - D. The batter remains at bat with a 3-2 count.
26. R3 stealing home, one out, no count. Following the pitch for a ball, the batter interferes with the catcher as he attempts to tag out the runner. [7-3-5]
- A. The runner is out.**
 - B. The batter is out.
 - C. Both the batter and runner are out.
27. Regarding appeals when the ball is dead: [8-2-5]
- A. The coach may make a dead-ball appeal.
 - B. Any defensive player (with or without the ball) may make a dead-ball appeal.
 - C. A dead-ball appeal is not possible.
 - D. Both A & B.**
28. If the batter-runner misses first base and is between second and third when the ball is thrown out of play: [8-2-5]
- A. He may go back and legally touch first base if he does so before advancing to third while the ball is dead.
 - B. He may physically go back, but he cannot legally return to touch first base and is subject to being called out if the defense properly appeals.**
 - C. He should be called out immediately by the umpire if he attempts to go back and touch first base.
29. If two runners are touching the same base when neither is forced to advance, if both are tagged: [8-2-8a]
- A. Only the preceding runner is out.
 - B. Only the following runner is out.**
 - C. Both are out if the following runner is tagged first, then the preceding runner.
30. The home team has Jones listed as the P/DH. After Jones hits a double in the 2nd inning, his head coach approaches the plate umpire and asks to insert Smith as a courtesy runner for Jones. [3-1-4, Suggested Speed-Up Rules – Courtesy Runner]
- A. Smith may enter as a courtesy runner since Jones is the pitcher on defense.
 - B. Jones may not have a courtesy runner used in his place because he is the DH on offense.
 - C. Smith may enter the game for Jones, but only as a pinch runner (and would become the new pitcher).
 - D. Both B & C.**