

**NEW YORK STATE HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL  
RULES EXAMINATION – 2018**

ALL FIELDS REGULATION - 2 UMPIRE SYSTEM  
GIRLS FAST PITCH RULES UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED

Read the statement EXACTLY as written. IF ANY PART of the statement is false, mark it false.

**ABOUT FREQUENTLY MISSED QUESTIONS:**

1. It is not mandatory that the on-deck circle be occupied by the next batter.
2. It is not an appeal play when a runner is doubled off a base after a caught fly ball.
3. It is not an appeal play when the catcher after missing a tag dives and tags a runner after the runner misses home plate.
4. The player that batted out of turn is declared out if a proper appeal is made before the next pitch.

**MORE ABOUT FREQUENTLY MISSED QUESTIONS:**

5. The plate umpire will rule on all fair/foul decisions unless the base umpire on the foul line goes to the outfield to rule on a possible catch.
6. A student athlete warming up a pitcher is permitted to wear a batter's helmet.
7. A runner cannot be obstructed by a fielder's verbal call.
8. It is not obstruction if a fielder who attempts to avoid hindering a runner's progress delays the runner.

**EVEN MORE ABOUT FREQUENTLY MISSED QUESTIONS:**

9. An infield fly may be called if the ball is bunted high in the air.
10. The ball is alive if an infielder intentionally drops an infield fly.
11. If the DP bats for the pitcher or catcher and reaches base safely, a courtesy runner is not permitted to run for the DP, or their substitute, including the pitcher or catcher.
12. No runs will ever be allowed to score after interference on a runner is declared.

**YET EVEN MORE ABOUT FREQUENTLY MISSED QUESTIONS:**

13. On a routine play at 1<sup>st</sup> base with no runners on base, the base umpire should obtain an angle approximately 90° from the throw.
14. With no runners on base, the batter hits the ball sharply to right field and the right fielder may make a play on BR at 1<sup>st</sup> base. The base umpire should move 15 feet from 1<sup>st</sup> base on a direct line on the 1<sup>st</sup> – 2<sup>nd</sup> base line.
15. When there is a runner on base, the base umpire should be angled toward the lead runner.
16. For force plays to home plate, the plate umpire should be approximately 15-18 feet from home plate on the 1<sup>st</sup> base line extended.

**YET EVEN SOME MORE FREQUENTLY MISSED QUESTIONS:**

17. For on-line throws to home plate, the plate umpire should be approximately 6-8 feet up the 3<sup>rd</sup> base line toward 3<sup>rd</sup> base.
18. BR walks and stops on 1<sup>st</sup> base as F1 receives the ball inside the pitcher's circle. If BR steps off 1<sup>st</sup> base she is not out if she immediately returns non-stop to 1<sup>st</sup> base or advances non-stop to 2<sup>nd</sup> base.

19. In high school play, a student athlete warming up a pitcher is required to wear a chest protector
20. With R2 on 2<sup>nd</sup> base, B3 hits a hard grounder to F5. The plate umpire shall trail the batter-runner.

**FREQUENTLY MISSED PITCHING RULE INTERPRETATIONS:**

21. NYSSO umpires are not required to strictly follow "Ball Rotation Procedure" and rather should use common sense, good judgment and thoughtful reasoning when giving a pitcher a new ball when she requests one.
22. A pitcher who uses an approved drying resin is required to wipe her hand off before contacting the ball.
23. A pitcher who picks up dirt and drops the dirt is required to wipe her hand off before contacting the ball.
24. The umpire crew shall ensure that any possible game ball is sufficiently rubbed up before putting the ball in play.

**ABOUT NEW RULES:**

25. An outfielder may make a dead ball appeal.
26. The head coach is the only coach who may make a dead ball appeal.
27. Any infielder, with or without possession of the ball, may make a dead ball appeal.
28. All equipment that shall be inspected by the umpire is to be placed outside the dugout/bench area prior to the start of the game for pregame inspection

**ABOUT NEW RULES???**

29. A player may not slide head first into a base
30. A player who picks up a ball in the circle and tosses it to the pitcher is required to pitch to at least one batter to start the inning.
31. All substitutes must be listed on the original line-up card to be eligible to play.
32. A base runner may not hurdle over a defensive player waiting to apply a tag.

**ABOUT 3-FOOT LANE INTERFERENCE:**

33. It is *not* interference if F2 withdraws her throw because of B1's position outside the 3-foot running lane.
34. 3-foot lane interference *cannot* occur on a throw to the plate.
35. 3-foot lane interference *cannot* occur on a throw from foul territory.
36. The ball is delayed-dead when 3-foot lane interference occurs.

**ABOUT LIABILITY:**

37. It is proper for an umpire to instruct a runner either to slide or not slide.
38. An umpire may give a player advice as to how she should treat an injury.
39. If it is discovered that the pitching distance is improper, the umpires shall have the pitching plate corrected immediately, regardless of the playing situation.
40. It is acceptable for the plate umpire to place his hand on the catcher to measure the distance between the umpire and the catcher.

**ABOUT A TAG:**

41. A legal tag occurs when a fielder tags a runner with the ball while holding the ball securely in her glove.
42. A legal tag occurs when a fielder tags a runner with the ball while holding the ball securely in her throwing hand.
43. A legal tag occurs when a fielder touches a runner with her glove while holding the ball in her throwing hand.
44. A fielder in possession of the ball may legally tag a base with any part of her body.

**A RUN DOES NOT SCORE IF A RUNNER TOUCHES HOME PLATE:**

45. During a play when the third out is made by the batter-runner before touching 1<sup>st</sup> base.
46. If a preceding runner is declared the third out for missing a base.
47. During a play when the third out is made by another runner who is forced out.
48. Before the batter-runner is tagged out at 2<sup>nd</sup> base.

**ABOUT ENDING A GAME:**

49. If a game is called after three innings with no score, it is considered "no game" and will be played over as a new game.
50. The game is forfeited to the offended team when there is a violation of the Designated Player/Flex rule.
51. The game is forfeited to the offended team when a team does not have at least nine players (or ten players if a DP is being used) to continue a game due to injury.
52. To be an official game, 6 ½ or 7 innings must be played for regular season play.

**ABOUT FORCE OUTS:**

53. A tag play can never result in a force out.
54. There cannot be a force out on a play when a fly ball is caught.
55. An appeal play can never result in a force out.
56. If the third out of an inning is a force out, no runs will score.

**ABOUT THE LINE-UP CARD:**

57. The line-up card presented to the plate umpire is the official document listing players and substitutes of a given team.
58. A player whose jersey number is incorrectly provided on the line-up card shall be declared out when reported to the umpire.
59. Substitute players not listed on the line-up card cannot legally play in the game.
60. A player with an incorrect number is not allowed to play in the game.

**ABOUT THE DP/FLEX:**

61. The starting DP and subsequent DP's can leave the batting order any number of times without terminating the role of the DP.
62. The FLEX is not limited in the number of times she may enter the batting order and return to the FLEX position.
63. The FLEX may enter the batting order for any batter who is not currently playing defense.
64. For a violation of the DP/FLEX rule, the offending player is disqualified.

**FLY BALL COVERAGE**

65. With no runners on base, the plate umpire is responsible for catch/no catch on all fly balls unless the base umpire goes out (chases).
66. With a runner(s) on base, the plate umpire is responsible for catch/no catch on all fly balls unless the base umpire goes out (chases).
67. With no runners on base, the base umpire is responsible for catch/no catch on fly balls hit from the center fielder to the right field fence, regardless of whether he/she goes out (chases).
68. With a runner(s) on base, the base umpire is responsible for catch/no catch on fly balls hit from the left fielder to the right fielder, regardless of whether he/she goes out (chases)

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**SELECT THE BEST ANSWER FOR EACH QUESTION****D – DEAD BALL IMMEDIATELY****DD – DELAYED DEAD BALL****L – BALL ALIVE AND IN PLAY**

69. A batted ball strikes a photographer who's assigned to the game.
70. A runner intentionally removes her helmet.
71. A trailing runner physically assists a preceding runner.
72. While retreating, a leading runner passes a trailing runner.
73. At the time a batted ball is touched by a thrown glove.
74. A runner contacts a fielder who does not have a legitimate chance to make a play on a batted ball.
75. An obstructed runner is tagged out between the two bases where the obstruction occurred.
76. At the time plate umpire interference occurs.

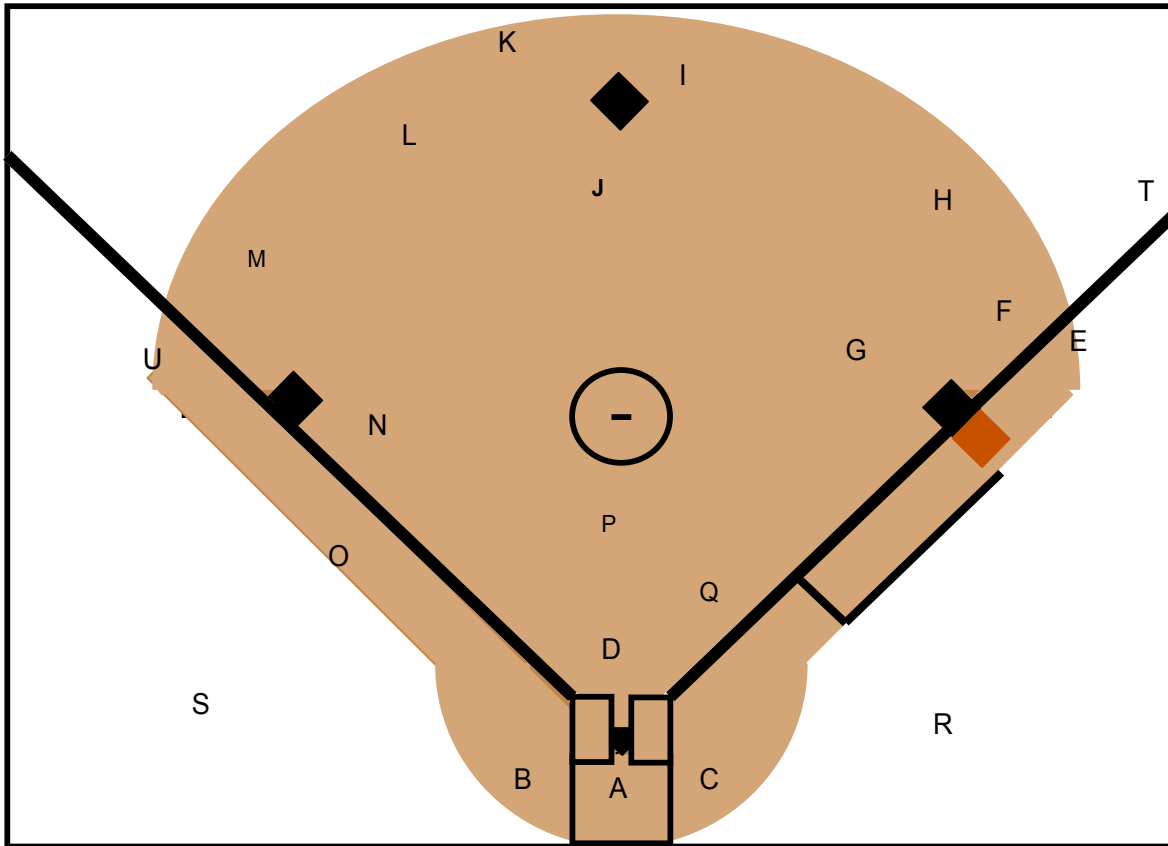
**MULTIPLE CHOICE – SELECT THE BEST RESPONSE TO EACH OF THE FOLLOWING:**

77. When a runner abandons a base and enters the team area or leaves live ball territory:
- The ball is dead;
  - The runner is out;
  - Runners must return to the last base touched at the time of the infraction;
  - All of the above.
78. The batting order is Alice, Betty, Cindy, Dana, etc. It is Alice's turn to bat, but Cindy erroneously bats and hits a double. Next, Alice strikes out. Then, Betty strikes out. It is now Cindy's turn to bat but Cindy is on 2<sup>nd</sup> base:
- Cindy is declared out;
  - Cindy is skipped over but remains on 2<sup>nd</sup> base and Dana becomes the proper batter;
  - Cindy is removed from 2<sup>nd</sup> base and takes her place in the batter's box;
  - Cindy is removed from 2<sup>nd</sup> base and Dana comes to bat.
79. R3 is on 3<sup>rd</sup> base and R1 is on 1<sup>st</sup> base with one out when B1 hits a fly ball to right field. When F9 catches the fly ball, R3 legally tags up and scores before R1 is retired returning to 1<sup>st</sup> base:
- No runs will score on that double play and the inning is over
  - The out on R1 at 1<sup>st</sup> base is a force out
  - The play stands and the inning is over but the run by R3 counts
  - R3's run is nullified because of the force out on R1 at 1<sup>st</sup> base
80. With R3 on 3<sup>rd</sup> base and R1 on 1<sup>st</sup> base with no outs, B1 hits a ground ball to F6. R1 from 1<sup>st</sup> is retired at 2<sup>nd</sup> when F6 throws to F4, but R1 interferes with F4's throw to 1<sup>st</sup>. R3 did not reach home at the time of the interference:
- B1 is declared out only if the umpire judges B1 would have been out had the interference not occurred.
  - Both R1 and B1 are out on the play.
  - The out on R1 stands and R3 is allowed to score if she is more than half way home.
  - Both R3 and R1 are out.
81. R2 is on 2<sup>nd</sup> base when F2 obstructs B1's swing. However, when B1's batted ball is grounded to short, F6 retires R2 off 2<sup>nd</sup> base as B1 safely reaches 1<sup>st</sup> base.
- The out on R2 stands.
  - R2 is automatically awarded 3<sup>rd</sup> base and B1 1<sup>st</sup> base.
  - The play stands because B1 swung at the pitch.
  - Because both R2 and B1 did not advance one base on the play, an option is available to the offensive team. The offensive team may take the award of B1 to 1<sup>st</sup> base with R2 returned to 2<sup>nd</sup> base or the result of the play.
82. R1 is attempting to steal 2<sup>nd</sup> base when the batter actively interferes with the catcher. The following ruling is correct:
- If R1 is put out, the ball remains alive and in play;
  - R1 is out for the batter's interference;
  - The Ball is dead and the batter is out;
  - The defense has the option to have either R1 or the batter called out.
83. If a game is tied after seven innings:
- The tiebreaker rule takes effect in the eighth inning;
  - The tiebreaker rule takes effect in the ninth inning;
  - The tiebreaker rule takes effect in the tenth inning;
  - The opposing coaches have the option of whether to use the tiebreaker rule.
84. The "look back rule" is in effect for all runners when:
- The ball is live;
  - The batter-runner has reached 1<sup>st</sup> base or been declared out (in cases where the batter has become a batter-runner);
  - The pitcher has possession and control of the ball within the pitcher's circle;
  - All of the above.
85. It is legal for:
- The next two batters to occupy the on-deck circle
  - The on-deck batter to loosen up with two legal bats and an approved warm-up bat
  - The on-deck batter to leave the on-deck circle and move near home plate to signal to a base runner attempting to score
  - The on-deck batter to select the music played over the public address system throughout her time at bat
86. In NYSSO Softball, there is shared plate/base umpire coverage for:
- Catch / No Catch
  - Fair / Foul
  - Infield Fly
  - All of the above

**LIST THE PROPER BASE AWARDED AFTER EACH QUESTION:**

**FIRST BASE = 1                      SECOND BASE = 2**  
**THIRD BASE = 3                    HOME = H**

87. R2 on 2<sup>nd</sup> base. F2 commits catcher's obstruction against B3, who misses the pitch. The penalty for catcher's obstruction is enforced. R2 is awarded \_\_\_\_ base.
88. R2 and R1 are both between 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> base when the ball is thrown out of play. R1 is awarded \_\_\_\_.
89. R1 and B2 are both between 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> base when the ball is thrown out of play. B2 is awarded \_\_\_\_.
90. The catcher carries the ball into the dugout to tag a runner who misses home plate. The runner standing on 1<sup>st</sup> base is awarded \_\_\_\_.
91. R1 on 1<sup>st</sup> base is attempting to steal 2<sup>nd</sup> base. F2's careless throw strikes B3's bat and the ball goes out of play. R1 is awarded \_\_\_\_.
92. B1 hits a shot down the right field line. The ball deflects off of the right fielder's glove. The BR has already passed 1<sup>st</sup> base when the ball goes out of play. BR is awarded \_\_\_\_.
93. R1 from first base is attempting to steal second when B1 hits a ground ball to F6. F6 throws to first but the ball enters dead ball territory. At the time of the throw, R1 had already touched second base. R1 is awarded \_\_\_\_.
94. B1 receives a base on balls as the pitched ball goes out of play. B1 is awarded \_\_\_\_.



Using the letters on the diagram above, select the BEST position for the umpire to judge the play. A letter may be used more than once.

**PLATE UMPIRE ONLY**

95. R2 from 2<sup>nd</sup> base attempts to score on B1's hit to right field. F2 catches F9's off-line throw three feet in fair territory and six feet up the 3<sup>rd</sup> base line. Plate umpire calling position is \_\_\_\_.
96. R3 on 3<sup>rd</sup> base. Potential play at the plate. Plate umpire initial position is \_\_\_\_.
97. After moving to "N" for a play at 3<sup>rd</sup>, the ball is overthrown into foul territory. Plate Umpire retreats back to \_\_\_\_ for a play at the plate.

**BASE UMPIRE ONLY**

98. No runners are on base. Bunt in front of home plate. Base umpire moves to \_\_\_\_.
99. No runners on base. Routine play at 1<sup>st</sup> base. Base umpire calling position is \_\_\_\_.
100. No runners are on base. B1 hits a line drive toward left field. The initial aiming point is \_\_\_\_.