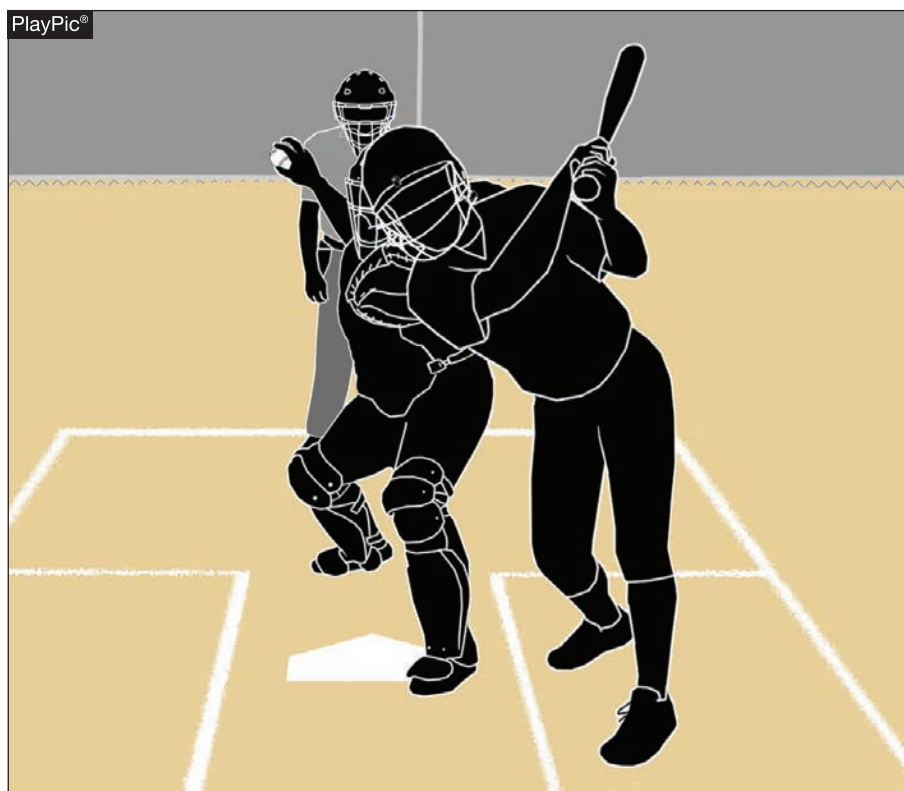


UMPIRES QUIZ 2016

Sponsored by the National Association of Sports Officials and prepared by the editors of *Referee* magazine.



If the batter hinders the catcher's ability to make a play on a runner, who should be called out? The batter or catcher? See question 14 for the possible answers.

In each of the following, you are given a situation and at least two possible answers. You are to decide which answer or answers are correct for ASA, NFHS, NCAA or USSSA rules, which might vary.

(Answers appear on last page)

1. Fast pitch. B1 bats with a two strike count. B1 swings at the next pitch and "nicks" the ball sharply and directly back where it strikes F2's chest protector and deflects above the batter's head where it is ultimately caught by F2.

a. That's a foul tip.

b. That's a caught foul fly ball the same as if a caught batted ball deflected off any other fielder.

c. That's a foul ball.

d. The ball is dead.

2. Fast pitch. B1 hits a ground ball to F6. The throw is low and F3 stops the ball with the palm of her glove facing the ground just before B1 touches first base.

a. B1 is considered safe. The play is considered a trapped ball unless the fielder raises the glove to demonstrate control before B1 reaches first base.

b. B1 is ruled out if she demonstrates

control by turning her glove upward with the ball inside even if she shows control after B1 has passed first base.

c. The base umpire is obligated to get the opinion of the plate umpire before rendering a decision.

3. R2 is on second and R1 on first with two outs. B4 hits an over-the-fence home run. However, R1 from first misses home. After B4 touches home, F2 properly appeals that R1 failed to touch home.

a. R1 is declared out on F2's appeal.

b. No runs score.

c. One run scores.

d. Two runs score.

e. Three runs score.

f. B4's run is nullified.

g. B4 is returned to third.

h. Play resumes with two outs.

i. The half-inning is over.

4. R2 is on second and R1 on first with no outs when B3 hits a pop up in the infield that a fielder can catch with ordinary effort. However, as F3 moves toward the ball she stumbles and the untouched ball falls safely to the ground. The ball then bounces and strikes R1 before it passes an infielder.

a. The umpires will invoke the infield fly rule.

b. B3 is out.

c. The ball is live and in play.

d. The ball is delayed-dead.

e. The ball is immediately dead.

f. R1 is out.

g. The runner closest to home is out.

5. R2 is on second with one out when B3 hits a ground ball to F5. The ball deflects off F5's glove and is fielded by F6. With F6 in the baseline, R2 intentionally runs into F6 as she advances toward third base.

- a. F6 has committed obstruction on R2.
- b. R2 is out when she intentionally contacts F6.
- c. The ball is always delayed dead.
- d. The ball is dead.
- e. The umpire will always rule both R2 and B3 out.

6. R3 is on third, R2 on second and R1 on first with two outs when B6 hits a home run over the outfield fence. Exuberant bench personnel contact R1 before she touches home plate. No warnings have been issued to the offensive team prior to the home run.

- a. No violation has occurred.
- b. A warning is issued to the offensive team.
- c. R1 is declared out.
- d. No runs score on the play.
- e. Two runs score on the play.
- f. Three runs score on the play.
- g. Four runs score on the play.

7. A fielder cannot be charged with obstructing a runner:

- a. If her act is accidental.
- b. If she is fielding a batted ball.
- c. If she has possession of the ball.
- d. If she is about to receive a thrown ball.
- e. For simulating fielding a batted ball behind second base.
- f. For faking a tag.
- g. If she is not standing in a direct line between bases.
- h. Unless contact occurs.

8. B1 hits safely to right field. F4 receives a throw from F9 while in a crouched position about ten feet before second base. B1 leaps over F4 to avoid the tag and advances to second base without getting tagged.

- a. The play stands.
- b. B1 is declared out.
- c. B1 is ejected from the game.
- d. B1 is restricted to the bench for the remainder of the game.
- e. B1 is issued a warning.

9. Fast pitch. With R1 on first, B2 bats with no count. F1 delivers a

pitch more than 12 feet above the ground. B2 takes a hard swing and misses the pitch.

- a. That's an illegal pitch.
- b. A ball is awarded the batter.
- c. R1 is awarded second base.
- d. No violation has occurred.
- e. B2 continues to bat with one strike.
- f. If previously warned for delivering such an illegal pitch, F1 is ejected from the game.

10. Two-umpire system. R2 is on second base as F1 pitches to B3 who bats with a 1-1 count. B3 swings and misses and F2 rifles a throw to F4 for a pickoff attempt on R2. Base umpire (U1) declares R2 out. The offensive coach enters the field and requests U1 to confer with the plate umpire (P) about the close play.

- a. U1 must confer with P about the play.
- b. U1 is not mandated to confer with P.
- c. U1 may decide to confer with P.
- d. The offensive coach must make a proper appeal that R2 was safe.

11. Fast pitch. R1 occupies first base with one out and a 1-1 count on B2. Speedy R1 on first base breaks for second as B2 hits a fair ground ball along the first-base line. F3 fields the ball and moves toward B2 to tag her. R1 slides into second and touches second base. B2 then steps back toward home plate to avoid F3's tag.

- a. B2 is out.
- b. The ball is dead.
- c. R1 remains at second base.
- d. R1 is returned to first base.
- e. There is no violation because B2 did not run out of the baseline.

12. Fast pitch. In a game where F1 is batting in the ninth position, F1 does not occupy the on-deck circle as the number-eight batter bats. However, the leadoff batter occupies the on-deck circle. The defensive coach informs the plate umpire of the situation.

a. F1 must replace the leadoff batter in the on-deck circle.

- b. The leadoff batter may legally occupy the on-deck circle.
- c. Only F1 may occupy the on-deck circle, but the box need not be occupied.

13. Fast pitch. Courtesy runner Jones:

- a. May never be used as a courtesy runner.
- b. May be used for either the pitcher or catcher but not both.
- c. Running for the pitcher, but may not ever run for the catcher.
- d. Running for the catcher, but may not ever run for the pitcher.
- e. May run for both the pitcher and the catcher in the same game but not in the same half inning.

14. Fast pitch. With no outs R2 from second base attempts to steal third, but B1 hinders F2's ability to play on the runner.

- a. The ball is dead.
- b. B1 is out.
- c. R3 is out.

15. Three-foot lane interference can occur on:

- a. A throw to the plate.
- b. A throw to first base.
- c. A play when the fielder does not make a throw because she withholds her attempt.

16. No runs shall score:

- a. When all continuous action double plays result in a third out to end a half inning.
- b. On all third-out force outs.
- c. On any third out that occurs before the batter-runner touches first base.
- d. By all following runners when a preceding runner makes the third out of a half inning.

17. B1, batting with an 0-1 count, hits a line drive that strikes the pitcher's plate and caroms into foul ground where F2 recovers the ball and throws out B1 after she takes a

wide turn at first. The startled plate umpire does not make a call and the base umpire calls B1 out. The offensive coach enters the field to question the call.

- a. The umpire crew must meet away from the coaches and calmly discuss the play.
- b. The out on B1 stands.
- c. The ball is a fair ball since it struck an object in fair territory.
- d. That's a foul ball.
- e. B1 returns to bat with an 0-2 count.
- f. The umpires may view a spectator's video of the play.

18. R1 is on first base when B2 hits a hard one-hopper to F3. R1 returns to first after which F3 steps on first before B2 arrives and then tags R1 while R1 is contacting first base.

- a. R1 and B2 are both out.
- b. Only R1 is out.
- c. Only B2 is out.
- d. The defensive team may select the out of its liking.

19. R3 is on third base and R2 on second with one out. B4 doubles scoring R3 and R2, but R2 misses third base and B4 misses first base. After all playing action is over the defensive team properly appeals that B4 missed first base and then they appeal that R2 missed third base.

- a. No runs score.
- b. One run scores.
- c. Two runs score.

20. Fast pitch. Left-handed F1 stands sideways on the pitcher's plate facing first base with her shoulders in line with second base and the plate. F1's pivot foot is in legal contact and within the 24-inch periphery of the pitcher's plate and her non-pivot foot is directly behind her pivot foot and also in legal contact with the pitcher's plate. F1 raises her non-pivot foot and then steps directly toward the plate to pitch to B1.

- a. That is a legal pitch.
- b. The shoulders need not be in line with first and third bases.
- c. That is an illegal pitch.
- d. The shoulders must be in line with first and third bases.

QUIZ ANSWERS

1 — All — c, d (ASA 1-Foul Tip, 1-Foul Ball; NFHS 2-25-1, 2-25-2; NCAA 11.6, 11.5; USSSA FP 3-Foul Tip, 3-Foul Ball)

2 — ASA, NCAA, USSSA FP — a (ASA 1-Catch; NCAA 9.2.8 Effect; USSSA 3-Catch; NFHS — b (2-9-5f, CB 2.9.5 Situation C))

3 — All — a, c, f, i (ASA 5-5B; NFHS 9-1-1 Except.; NCAA 6.1.3; USSSA FP 4.2B)

4 — All — a, b, e, f (ASA 1-Infield fly, 8-7K Effect; NFHS 2-30, 8-6-11; NCAA 11.17, 12.4.3; USSSA FP 3-Infield Fly, 8.18N; USSSA SP 3-Infield Fly, 8-5C)

5 — All — b, d (ASA 8-7J-4 Effect; NFHS 8-6-10d; NCAA 12.8.5 Note 1 Effect; USSSA FP 8.18H; USSSA SP 8-5B)

6 — ASA, NFHS, USSSA FP, USSSA SP — a, g (No rules provisions); **NCAA — b, g** (9.6.3.1, 9.6.3.35.3)

7 — ASA, NFHS, USSSA FP — b, c, e (ASA 8-5B; NFHS 8-4-3b; USSSA FP 3-Obstruction, 8.13, Casebook pg. 21 Obstruction Sit. B); **NCAA,**

USSSA SP — b, c, d, e (NCAA 9.5.2.1; USSSA FP 3-Obstruction A, 8-7E)

8 — ASA, NCAA, USSSA SP — a (ASA 8-7J, 8-7Q; NCAA 12.13.2; USSSA SP 8-5B, 8-5V); **NFHS, USSSA FP — b** (NFHS 8-6-10 Note; USSSA FP 8.18C Note)

9 — All — d, e (ASA 6-3; NFHS 6-1-2; NCAA 10.6; USSSA FP 8.2F, 8.2G)

10 — ASA, NFHS, USSSA FP, USSSA SP — b, c (ASA no rules provisions; NFHS no rules provisions; USSSA FP no rules provisions; USSSA SP no rules provisions); **NCAA — a** (15.4.3)

11 — ASA, NFHS, USSSA FP — a, b, c (ASA 8-2H Effect; NFHS 8-2-8 Pen.; USSSA FP 8.17); **NCAA — a, b, d** (12.2.11 Effect)

12 — ASA — a (Rule 1-On-Deck Batter, 7-1A; NFHS, NCAA, USSSA FP — b (NFHS 1-1-6, 2-37; NCAA 1.38, 11.1.1, Off. Interp. (1-2-07); USSSA FP — c (7.1A))

13 — ASA, NFHS — b, c, d (ASA 8-10A-3; NFHS 8-9-1); **NCAA — a** (No rules provisions);

USSSA — e (Off. Interp.)

14 — ASA, NFHS, USSSA FP — a, b (ASA 7-6U Effect; NFHS 7-4-4 Pen., Section 4; USSSA FP 7.12; **NCAA — a, c** (11.21.2 Effect, Except. 1))

15 — All — b (ASA 8-2E Effect; NFHS 8-2F Pen.; NCAA 12.2.8 Effect; USSSA FP 8.17E; USSSA SP 8-4I)

16 — All — b, c, d (ASA 5-5B, NFHS 9-1-1 Except.; NCAA 6.13; USSSA FP 4.2B; USSSA SP 4-6)

17 — All — a, d, e (ASA 1-Foul Ball; NFHS 2-25-1; NCAA 11.5; USSSA FP 3-Foul Ball; USSSA SP 3-Foul Ball)

18 — All — c (ASA 1-Force Out, 8-2-B Effect; NFHS 2-24, 8-2-1 Effect; NCAA 12.2.1 Effect; 14.2.12; USSSA FP 3-Force Play; USSSA SP 3-Force Out; 4-6A)

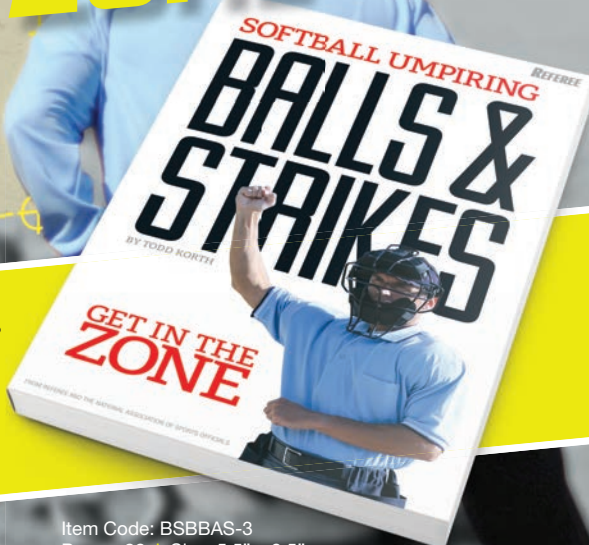
19 — All — b (ASA 5-5B; NFHS 9-1-1 Ex; NCAA 6.1.3; USSSA FP 4.2B; USSSA SP 4-6)

20 — ASA, NFHS, USSSA FP — c, d (ASA 6-1C; NFHS 6-1-1a; USSSA FP 6.1B); **NCAA — a, b** (10.2)

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