



2024 NFHS Baseball Exam Part I

1. Lineups become official when:
 - A. The head coaches provide the lineups to the plate umpire.
 - B. The head coaches exchange lineups with each other.
 - C. The plate umpire accepts a lineup card.
 - D. The lineup cards have been exchanged, verified and then accepted by the plate umpire during the pregame conference.

2. A fielder (other than the catcher), to be considered to be in fair ground must:
 - A. Have both feet touching fair ground.
 - B. Have at least one foot touching fair ground.
 - C. Have both feet in foul territory, but reaching over into fair territory.
 - D. Have one foot in the air of fair ground (jumping from foul to fair territory).

3. The pitcher's plate shall be set in the ground so that:
 - A. The distance between the nearer edge of the pitcher's plate and the front of home plate shall be 60 feet, 6 inches.
 - B. The distance between the nearer edge of the pitcher's plate and the rear tip of home plate shall be 60 feet, 6 inches.
 - C. The distance from the middle of the pitcher's plate and the middle of home plate is 60 feet, 6 inches.
 - D. The distance between the back edge of the pitcher's plate and the rear tip of home plate shall be 60 feet, 6 inches.

4. When the dugout area is temporarily extended:
 - A. The home team may extend only its dugout and not the visitor's dugout.
 - B. It may be extended toward home plate if agreed to by both coaches.
 - C. It is never legal to expand a dugout area.
 - D. It shall be extended toward the outfield on a line parallel to the foul line, equally applied for both teams.

5. A legal baseball must have affixed:
 - A. Only the NFHS Authenticating Mark.
 - B. Only the SEI/NOCSAE mark.
 - C. Both the NFHS Authenticating Mark and the SEI/NOCSAE mark.
 - D. No authenticating marks are required.

6. The barrel of a bat shall:
 - A. Be round.
 - B. Cylindrically symmetric.
 - C. Smooth contour.
 - D. All of the above.

7. Gloves/mitts shall conform to height, width and webbing specifications:
 - A. For all players.
 - B. For all players except the catcher.
 - C. For all players except the first baseman.
 - D. Both B and C.

8. The catcher shall wear a body/chest protector that meets the NOCSAE standard at the time of manufacture. The body/chest protector options are:
 - A. Traditional chest protector with a NOCSAE-approved pad attached.
 - B. A compression shirt that has a NOCSAE-approved cardiac cavity protector built into the shirt.
 - C. A newly manufactured traditional chest protector that meets the NOCSAE standard.
 - D. All of the above.

9. The catcher comes to his position wearing a skull cap and an unattached mask. Both pieces of gear are in good shape.
 - A. Unless the opposing team complains, the plate umpire should not have an issue.
 - B. This is legal. Both pieces of equipment are fine.
 - C. This is illegal. The catcher must wear a helmet/mask combination that meets the NOCSAE standard.
 - D. The catcher and the head coach shall be ejected.

10. Concerning player equipment:
 - A. Defective equipment must be repaired or replaced immediately.
 - B. If an umpire judges any player equipment to be unreasonably dangerous, it is illegal.
 - C. Any question concerning legality of a player's equipment shall be resolved by the umpire-in-chief.
 - D. A, B, & C.

11. Team A's pitcher may wear a wristband with defensive instructions/pitch choices on his non-throwing arm if the wristband is not distracting and the color is:
 - A. Red.
 - B. Black.
 - C. White or Gray.
 - D. Both A & B.

12. An umpire discovers Team A's catcher is using a two-way communication device to communicate with the dugout. What is the penalty?
 - A. Team A's catcher is immediately ejected.
 - B. Team A receives a warning. The catcher must remove the two-way communication device. The next offender and the head coach will be ejected.
 - C. Team A's coach is restricted to the dugout.
 - D. B & C.

- 13 . In which of the following situations may a team use a one-way communication device?
- A. A. From the pitcher to the dugout.
 - B. B. From the dugout to offensive players.
 - C. C. From the dugout to the catcher for the purpose of calling pitches and setting defenses.
 - D. D. From the press box to defensive players.
- 14 . A fair ball is a batted ball which:
- A. Touches first, second or third base.
 - B. While on or over fair territory, touches the person of an umpire or player, their clothing or equipment.
 - C. Settles on the third-base foul line between home and third.
 - D. All of the above.
- 15 . A fielder will be considered to have caught a ball in flight when:
- A. He has secured the ball in his cap.
 - B. He has the ball in his glove for two steps before accidentally dropping the ball.
 - C. He has secured possession in foul ground and then steps with both feet into his dugout.
 - D. The batted ball in flight caromed off a runner and was secured by the fielder before touching the ground.
- 16 . During the pregame conference:
- A. The defense may have its pitcher taking his warm-up pitches while on the pitching mound.
 - B. Umpires shall ask the head coaches if their players are legally and properly equipped.
 - C. It is mandatory that all coaches and captains be present.
 - D. Since everyone knows the importance of playing nicely, any mention of expecting good sporting behavior is not needed.
- 17 . A foul tip is a batted ball that:
- A. Goes directly to the catcher's hands and is legally caught by the catcher.
 - B. Counts as a strike and the ball becomes dead.
 - C. Bounces off the catcher and is then caught by the pitcher.
 - D. A, B, and C.
- 18 . An infield fly is a fair fly ball that is hit before there are two outs and at a time when at least first and second bases are occupied and:
- A. Can be a line drive.
 - B. Can be an attempted bunt.
 - C. Can be caught by an infielder with ordinary effort.
 - D. Must be caught over the area of the infield grass.

- 19 . Offensive interference is an act by the team at bat:
- A. That can be either physical or verbal and interferes with, obstructs, impedes, hinders or confuses any fielder attempting to make a play.
 - B. That creates malicious contact with any fielder regardless of whether the fielder had the ball or was in or out of the baseline.
 - C. When a coach physically assists a runner during playing action.
 - D. A and B.
- 20 . When a runner creates malicious contact with any fielder:
- A. It is considered to be offensive interference.
 - B. It is considered to be offensive interference only if the fielder did not have possession of the baseball.
 - C. It is considered to be offensive interference only if the fielder was positioned out of the baseline.
 - D. The ball is still in play until all playing action is complete.
- 21 . Follow-through interference occurs when:
- A. The pitcher's arm motion distracts the batter.
 - B. The catcher's mitt is contacted during the swing.
 - C. The batter contacts the catcher prior to the time of the pitch.
 - D. The bat hits the catcher after the batter has swung at a pitch and hinders action at home plate or the catcher's attempt to play on a runner.
- 22 . An illegal substitute is:
- A. A player who enters the game without reporting.
 - B. A player who re-enters the game in the wrong position in the batting order.
 - C. Any player who re-enters the game; once any player is removed he can never re-enter the game.
 - D. A, B and C.
- 23 . At the beginning of the third inning, the head coach tells the plate umpire that Baker will bat for the fourth batter in the inning, Davis, if the inning lasts that long. Wilson comes to bat instead of Baker and does not tell the plate umpire. With no outs, he hits into a run-scoring double play.
- A. Wilson is an illegal substitute and is restricted to the bench when discovered.
 - B. It is permissible for the plate umpire to record the projected substitution of Baker.
 - C. Wilson is an unreported substitute. Upon discovery, the plate umpire will make the needed changes in the lineup.
 - D. The opposing coach has the option of accepting the results of the play or having Wilson declared out.
- 24 . A starter, batting in the sixth spot in the lineup, is removed and returns later to bat in the fifth spot.
- A. The penalty for both illegal substitution and batting out of order will be enforced.
 - B. Only the penalty for batting out of order will be enforced.
 - C. The penalty for illegal substitution shall supersede the penalty for batting out of order.
 - D. The player who is substituted for by the illegal substitute is restricted to the bench for the balance of the game.

- 25 . Moore, the starting pitcher, is removed as pitcher in the third inning.
- A. Provided he has re-entry eligibility, he may return to another defensive position, but he cannot return as a pitcher.
 - B. He may return to pitch if he has re-entry eligibility and his removal was not because of a violation of the charged conference rule.
 - C. He may return to pitch if he has re-entry eligibility and his replacement did not require more than eight warm-up throws.
 - D. Both B and C.
- 26 . Jones, the starting designated hitter (DH) (when the team is using a 10th starter), is pinch-hit for by Smith, a legal substitute.
- A. The role of the designated hitter is now terminated.
 - B. Jones cannot return to the game even if it is the first time he has been a pinch-hitter or pinch-runner.
 - C. The DH is locked into the position of the DH and can never be replaced.
 - D. Smith is now the designated hitter.
- 27 . Prior to the start of the game, Carter is listed as the P/DH for the game. The coach wants to replace Jones as the pitcher but leave Carter in the DH role. This is:
- A. Permissible.
 - B. Not allowed.
 - C. Permissible if the opposing team agrees.
 - D. A warning on the coach for illegal substitution.
- 28 . Sullivan is the SS/DH. In the fourth inning, Drake comes in to play shortstop. In the fifth inning, the coach wants Drake to pinch hit. What is the ruling?
- A. This is legal. Sullivan may re-enter later as a defensive player batting for himself.
 - B. Legal.
 - C. The role of the DH is ended.
 - D. All of the above.
- 29 . The home team is utilizing Smith as the P/DH. In the second inning, Smith hits a double. The home team coach now comes to the plate umpire and tells the umpire that No. 45, Russell will be a courtesy runner for Smith.
- A. The home plate umpire shall mark the use of No. 45, Russell as a courtesy runner and inform the visiting team.
 - B. The home plate umpire shall tell the coach he will have to get agreement from the opposing coach.
 - C. The use of the DH will be ended for the game.
 - D. The home plate umpire will deny the use of No. 45, Russell as a courtesy runner for Smith. When Smith comes to bat, he bats as a DH and not a pitcher. Courtesy runners are not allowed for a DH.
- 30 . An assistant coach leaves his dugout to loudly argue a call by the umpire on a play at the plate.
- A. The assistant coach and the head coach shall be immediately ejected.
 - B. The assistant coach and the head coach shall receive written warnings, and both will be restricted to the dugout for the duration of the game.
 - C. If the assistant's actions are severe, he may be ejected, and the head coach is still restricted for the balance of the game.
 - D. Both B and C.

- 31 . Provided a ground rule does not supersede a rules book rule, it becomes in force when:
- A. Both coaches agree to the proposed ground rule.
 - B. The umpires formulate the ground rules if the teams cannot agree.
 - C. Both A and B.
 - D. Neither A nor B.
- 32 . The visiting team travels to the game in several cars. One of the starting player's car breaks down and there are only eight players present at game time. An assistant coach leaves to pick them up and will be back quickly.
- A. The game may begin provided the coach places the missing player in the No. 9 position in the lineup.
 - B. The game may begin, but the coach is restricted to the bench.
 - C. The game may begin if the home team's coach approves.
 - D. The game may not start until the visiting team has nine players present.
- 33 . During the second inning of the game, the lead-off batter enters the box with an illegal bat. There has been no previous issue with an illegal bat.
- A. There is no problem. The batter shall secure a legal bat.
 - B. The batter is declared out and his head coach is ejected.
 - C. The batter is declared out and his head coach is restricted to the bench.
 - D. The player and the coach are warned and a subsequent violation will result in an ejection of the coach and the player.
- 34 . When a batter enters the batter's box with an illegal bat:
- A. The ball remains live and in play.
 - B. The ball becomes dead immediately.
 - C. The batter calls time to swap out the illegal bat.
 - D. It is a delayed dead ball.
- 35 . The base umpire declares "Foul" on a fly ball that is caught by the right fielder in fair ground and is then thrown to second to double up the runner who left the base too soon.
- A. It is a foul ball and the ball is immediately dead.
 - B. The ball stays live and in play, and the catch is recorded along with the out at second base.
 - C. It is a fair ball and the catch stands, but the ball is immediately dead.
 - D. The offensive team coach gets to decide which out will stand.
- 36 . With a runner on first base and less than two outs, the ball is immediately dead when:
- A. An infielder intentionally drops a fair bunt.
 - B. An infielder intentionally drops a fair fly.
 - C. Both A and B.
 - D. A runner on base deliberately removes his helmet with a play being made as he slides home.

- 37 . It is a delayed dead ball when:
- A. Backswing interference occurs.
 - B. An umpire handles a live ball.
 - C. The umpire interferes with the catcher who is attempting to throw.
 - D. A thrown ball touches anything that is partially in the designated media area.
- 38 . The ball becomes dead when time is taken to:
- A. Make an award when a runner is obstructed by a fielder.
 - B. When an intentional base on balls is to be awarded.
 - C. When baserunning penalties are imposed.
 - D. All of the above.
- 39 . A pitcher may turn the shoulders to check runners while in contact with the pitcher's plate while in the:
- A. Set position.
 - B. Windup position.
 - C. Both A and B.
 - D. Neither A nor B; it is always illegal for a pitcher to turn the shoulders to check a runner.
- 40 . A pitcher may assume the wind-up position when:
- A. Hands are together in front of the body.
 - B. Hands are at the side.
 - C. Either hand is in front of the body and the other hand is at the side of the body.
 - D. All of the above.
- 41 . With runners on base, the pitcher drops the ball during delivery:
- A. It is an immediate balk.
 - B. It is declared immediately to be a "no-pitch".
 - C. If the ball crosses the foul line it shall be declared a ball.
 - D. If the ball comes to rest on the plate it shall be declared to be a strike.
- 42 . The ball is dead immediately and the batter is out when:
- A. The batter hits the ball fair with a foot touching home plate.
 - B. The batter hits the ball foul with a foot on the ground completely outside the lines of the batter's box.
 - C. The batter bunts the ball fair with his knee touching the ground completely outside the lines of the batter's box.
 - D. A, B and C.
- 43 . A dead-ball appeal:
- A. Is not legal.
 - B. Can be made by the coach or defensive player verbally after all runners have completed their advancement.
 - C. Can be made only by a defensive player with the baseball.
 - D. May be made immediately when the ball becomes dead.

- 44 . The runner and the batter-runner are both between first and second bases when the left fielder throws the ball into third base. The ball gets past the third baseman and rolls into the dugout.
- A. Both runners are awarded third base. Since they cannot both occupy third, the lead runner is awarded home.
 - B. The lead runner is awarded second and the batter-runner must remain at first.
 - C. Both the runner and the batter-runner are awarded home.
 - D. The lead runner is awarded third and the batter-runner is awarded second.
- 45 . With the bases loaded and one out, B5 hits a line drive to the right-field fence. R3 and R2 both score, but R1 is thrown out at home. B5 safely arrives at third, but missed first base. The defense properly appeals B5's missing first base.
- A. Two runs score.
 - B. One run will count.
 - C. No runs will be scored.
- 46 . The batter hits an over the fence home run and removes his helmet prior to touching home plate.
- A. Immediately declare the batter-runner out when the helmet is removed and warn the team.
 - B. The umpire should ignore the action since the ball is dead because of the home run.
 - C. Allow the run but eject the batter-runner when home plate is touched.
 - D. If this were the third out, no runs would score.
- 47 . A coach takes an iPad into the third bas coaching box. Ruling?
- A. Yes, provided the device does not take pictures or transmit data.
 - B. Yes, all electronic devices are allowed.
 - C. Yes, provided it has scorebook software installed.
 - D. No, an I-Pad is not allowed in the coaching box.
- 48 . Does a pitch striking the baserunning glove in the batters back pocket constitute a batter being hit?
- A. No, the baserunning glove is not a piece of equipment.
 - B. The baserunning glove is part of the batter's clothing.
 - C. The baserunning glove is part of the batter's person (similar to batting gloves sticking out of the pants pockets).
 - D. B and C.
- 49 . Upon noticing the batter wearing a necklace, the umpire should:
- A. Have the necklace removed and issue a team warning.
 - B. If the team had been warned previously, eject the batter.
 - C. The necklace is legal and is permitted as long as it is not unreasonably dangerous. (Rules 1-5-12 and 3-3-1d no longer reference jewelry)
 - D. Pretend the jewelry was not seen.

- 50 . After a conference on the mound, the coach walks halfway to the foul line and then returns to the pitching mound. Is this a second conference?
- A. Yes, it is. The first conference ended when the coach left the dirt area of the mound.
 - B. No, the conference is not ended until the coach crosses the foul line or the umpire declares it over.