



# 2020 BASEBALL UMPIRES QUIZ

**REFEREE**



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In each of the following, you are given a situation. Decide which answer is correct for NFHS rules. (Answers on last page.)

On a dropped third strike, when does a batter lose the ability to run to first? See question 2.

**1** B1 asks for and receives time to talk to his third-base coach. While they are conferring, the defensive coach motions for the pitcher to meet him at the foul line. As the offensive conference breaks up, the defensive coach returns to his dugout.

a. Only a defensive conference is charged.

b. Only an offensive conference is charged.  
c. Both a defensive conference and an offensive conference are charged.

**2** With no runners on base, B1 takes a called third strike. B1 heads for his dugout not realizing F2

dropped the pitch. F2 then throws the ball wildly toward first. B1 heads for first and makes the base safely.

a. B1 is out only if he reached the dugout before breaking for first.  
b. B1 is out only if he left the dirt circle of the plate area before breaking for first.

c. B1 is out regardless of where he was before breaking for first.

**3** With R2 on second, B1 grounds to F6. F6 fields the ball and chases R2 back toward second. He then swipes at and misses R2, and throws wildly to first into dead-ball territory.

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Before F6 throws, B1 touches first.

- a. B1 is awarded second and R2 is awarded third.
- b. B1 is awarded third and R2 is awarded home.
- c. The bases awarded are a judgment call depending on whether or not the umpire rules that chasing R2 back to second is a play.

**4** Davis starts the game as the player/DH, pitching and occupying the 3rd spot in the batting order. In the second inning, Johnson enters the defensive role as pitcher and Davis shifts solely to the DH spot. In the third inning, Davis returns to the mound. In the fourth inning, Keller bats for Davis. In the next half inning, Davis goes to the mound to pitch.

- a. Legal. Davis still has one-time re-entry rights.
- b. Illegal. Davis has already used his re-entry rights.

**5** With R3 on third and one out, B1 flies to deep left field. The third-base coach grabs R3 and pulls him back to third to tag up. The ball falls in and B1 ends up at second.

- a. R3 is out and B1 remains at second.
- b. R3 is out and B1 is returned to first.
- c. Both R3 and B1 are out.
- d. The ball is dead immediately upon the

coach assisting the runner.

**6** The bases are loaded and one out when B1 hits a pop fly near first base in fair territory. An infield fly is called. R1 is several feet off the bag and tracking the fly ball instead of locating F3, who is about to make the catch. R1 unintentionally runs into F3, who still manages to make the catch in foul territory.

- a. Only B1 is called out.
- b. Only R1 is called out.
- c. B1 and R1 are called out.

**7** With a runner on third, no outs, and a 3-0 count, B2 swings and misses and the ball gets away from F2 as R3 tries to score. B2 stands in the box and unintentionally interferes with the play at the plate.

- a. Award B2 first.
- b. R3 is returned to third.
- c. R3 is out.
- d. B2 is out for interference.
- e. R3 scores.

**8** With the bases loaded and two outs, B1 hits a long fly ball to right. R1 is not sure if the ball will go over the fence, so he goes halfway to second and watches the ball, which falls. Meanwhile B1, running at full speed, passes R1. When that occurs, only R3 has touched the plate.

- a. No runs score.

- b. One run scores.
- c. Three runs score.
- d. Four runs score unless an appeal is made.

**9** The batting order is Abel, Baker, Charlie, Edward, Frank, etc. In the fourth inning, Frank bats in Edward's spot and is hit by a pitch. His coach then recognizes the error and sends Edward to run for Frank.

- a. Legal substitution.
- b. The umpire should immediately declare Frank out.
- c. The umpire should immediately declare Edward out.
- d. If the defense properly appeals, Frank is the next batter.
- e. If the defense properly appeals, George is the next batter.

**10** Which of the following runners are out when hit by a batted ball?

- a. A runner who is on his base and is hit by a fair line drive.
- b. A runner who is on his base and is hit by an infield fly.
- c. A runner who is hit by a ball that previously hit another runner.
- d. A runner who is hit in foul territory by a deflected fair ball.
- e. None of the above.

**11** With R1 on first, the hit-and-run is on. B1 hits a fly ball to the centerfield fence that is caught. R1 touches second on his way to third, but misses it on his return to first. F8's throw to F3 goes into dead-ball territory. The base umpire properly awards third to R1.

- a. Since R1 touched second at least once, it is not considered a missed base.
- b. The award negates any appeal on the missed base.
- c. If R1 touches second while proceeding on the award, an appeal on the missed base cannot be upheld.
- d. R1 will be called out on proper appeal whether or not he touches second while advancing on the award.

**12** B1 bunts down the first-base line. The ball rolls into foul territory and, as he's running toward first, B1, in disgust, intentionally kicks the ball toward the dugout. The umpire is certain the ball has no chance to roll fair.

- a. B1 is warned that he could be called out for such actions.
- b. B1 is ejected for unsportsmanlike behavior.
- c. B1 is called out.
- d. The play stands; foul ball.

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**13** With R1 on first, left-handed B3 attempts to drag bunt. He foul tips the ball into the mitt of F2, who is attempting to throw behind R1. F2's throw hits B3, who has exited the box on the drag bunt attempt and has both feet clearly out of the batter's box.

- a. Legal.
- b. B3 is out for interference.
- c. Foul ball.

**14** B1 hits a single to center field. The base umpire notices F8 fielded the ball with a first baseman's glove.

- a. The play stands, but the glove must be removed.
- b. The offense can have the pitch replayed.
- c. B1 will be awarded three bases.
- d. Any fielder may use a first baseman's glove.

**15** The bases are loaded and there is one out when B1 hits a pop fly near first base in fair territory. An infield fly is called. R1, who is several feet off the bag, is tracking the fly ball instead of locating F3, who is about to make the catch. R1 unintentionally runs into the first baseman, who makes the catch in fair territory.

- a. Only B1 is called out.
- b. Only R1 is called out.
- c. Both B1 and R1 are called out.

**16** With a runner on first base, F1 accidentally delivers a pitch off the side of his leg. The ball rolls 20 feet from the mound and crosses the foul line before it stops.

- a. Balk.
- b. A ball is called.
- c. No pitch.

**17** B1 hits a fair ball down the right-field line. A spectator, believing it is a foul ball, picks it up.

- a. Spectator interference is a prescribed one-base award.
- b. Spectator interference is a prescribed two-base award.
- c. Spectator interference is a base award as the umpire sees fit to nullify the act of interference.

**18** With an 0-2 count and two outs, B3 swings and contacts the ball on a pitch that is thrown in the dirt and bounces into the air. The tipped ball goes directly into F2's glove and is caught.

- a. Strike three, B3 is out and may not attempt to advance.
- b. Strike three, B3 becomes a runner and may attempt to advance.
- c. Foul ball.

**19** With a runner on second and a 3-2 count, B1 swings and misses. The ball hits F2's glove and then becomes trapped inside the umpire's plate coat.

- a. B1 is out.
- b. B1 is awarded first.
- c. R2 is awarded third only if he was attempting to advance.

**20** R1 is breaking on the pitch. F1 delivers a wild pitch and the ball rolls near the dugout. The ball comes to a stop as R1 touches and rounds second base. F2 then inadvertently kicks the ball into the dugout.

- a. R1 remains on second.
- b. R1 is awarded third.
- c. R1 is awarded home.



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A word of caution, though. Remember that some schools teach umpire mechanics, interpretations and philosophies that generally apply to professional baseball. That is OK, just be sure you have a good idea of what you can and cannot apply to whatever level you are working. Also, professional schools are the ones for a reason. Candidates there are given hundreds of repetitions on how to take a good at first base, etc. They are also allowed countless hours of time calling pitches in the batting cage. When you attend a weeklong or weekend camp, you aren't going to get that kind of training. What you will get is the correct way to do various things. It's up to you to get the extra repetitions on your own.

# 2020 BASEBALL UMPIRES QUIZ

# ANSWERS

**1**

**NFHS - b**  
(3-4-2, 3-4-5)

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**2**

**NFHS - a**  
(8-4-1i)

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**3**

**NFHS - b**  
(8-3-5)

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**4**

**NFHS - b**  
(3-1-4)

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**5**

**NFHS - a**  
(8-4-2s)

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**6**

**NFHS - b**  
(2-19, 8-4-2g)

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**7**

**NFHS - c**  
(8-4-2l)

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**8**

**NFHS - b**  
(8-4-2m)

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**9**

**NFHS - d**  
(7-1-2 Pen.)

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**10**

**NFHS - a**  
(8-4-2k)

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**11**

**NFHS - c**  
(8-2-6l)

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**12**

**NFHS - d**  
(8-4-1d1)

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**13**

**NFHS - b**  
(7-3-5b)

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**14**

**NFHS - d**  
(1-3-6)

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**15**

**NFHS - c**  
(2-19, 8-4-1j, 8-4-2g)

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**16**

**NFHS - b**  
(6-1-4)

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**17**

**NFHS - c**  
(5-1-1g1, 8-3-3e)

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**18**

**NFHS - a**  
(2-16-2)

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**19**

**NFHS - b**  
(8-3-3d)

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**20**

**NFHS - c**  
(8.3.3K (a) & (c))

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