



2010 Umpire Exam

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The examination consists of 50 questions based on Rules 1-10 and the Mechanics section of the ASA Official Rule Book. Three sections questions are offered should the test administrator desire to split the exam. Questions are true or false and multiple choice. Answers should be put on the answer sheet and returned to the grader or test committee. **THE ANSWER SHEET SHOULD NOT BE RETURNED TO THE ASA NATIONAL OFFICE.**

The abbreviations used in the questions follow the following: B (N) = Batter; R1 = runner closest to home; R2 is the succeeding runner; R3 is the runner on first base when the bases are full; S (N) = substitutes; CR (N) = courtesy runner(s); PC (N) = physically challenged player; and F (N) = fielder by number. F1 is pitcher; F2 is catcher; F3 is first baseman; F4 is second baseman; F5 is third baseman; F6 is shortstop; F7 is left fielder; F8 is center fielder; and F9 is right fielder. If F10 is used it would be the extra fielder in the slow pitch game.

This examination may be given to all ASA registered umpires under one of the following methods to be determined by your local state/metro ASA commissioner, local umpires association, local parks and recreation department, or military sports officer:

- 1) Under supervision without the use of the ASA Official Rule Book.
- 2) Under supervision using the ASA Official Rule Book.
- 3) With no supervision and using the ASA Official Rule Book.

Retain the question portion of this examination for further study. Use care in marking your answer sheet. PLEASE COMPLETE THE EXAM BEFORE _____

(Date)

After completing, mail or return the ANSWER SHEET ONLY to:

GRADER _____ STREET _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____



THE NATIONAL GOVERNING BODY
OF SOFTBALL

www.asasoftball.com

2010 ASA UMPIRE NATIONAL EXAMINATION

Part I – True/False

1. A bat with one layer of tape over a cone-shaped soft rubber attachment at the knob end of a bat is illegal.
2. An ejected participant shall leave the grounds and have no contact with the umpires or participants in the game unless the ejected participant is a JO player.
3. The manager of the team on defense comes from the dugout to talk with F6. After speaking with F6 the coach informs the Plate Umpire that there will be a pitching change. The Plate Umpire rules this is not a charged conference.
4. A player is wearing an undershirt with the sleeves frayed all around. The umpire rules the player must remove the undershirt.
5. Team A has not used any defensive conferences in the first seven innings of the game. In the eighth inning Team A is charged with one defensive conference and later that same inning asks for another conference since they have only used one conference in the eight innings. The Plate Umpire denies Team A's request for the second conference in the eighth inning.
6. With one out and R1 on 2B, B3 hits a ground ball to F6. R1 unintentionally hinders F6 who is still able to throw to 1B and retire B3. R1 and B3 are both ruled out.
7. With one out and R1 on 1B, B3 hits a ground ball to F4. F4 tags B3 and immediately throws the ball to F6 who touches 2B prior to R1 getting to the bag. This is a force out on R1 at 2B.
8. (SP Only) In all Adult Slow Pitch games, all bases must be touched on a Four Base Award.
9. (SP Only) In Slow Pitch with stealing, R1 is on 1B. The pitch crosses home plate for a strike. F2 returns the ball back to F1 as R1 remains off 1B while F1 just stands behind the pitcher's plate with the ball in his hand. The Base Umpire waits a few seconds and then calls R1 out for violation of the Look Back Rule.
10. In the third inning substitute Jones comes to bat and before a pitch is thrown starter Smith re-enters and bats. Jones enters in the sixth inning to bat for Smith. This is a legal substitution.
11. (SP Only) In Slow Pitch w/Stealing, a runner may not advance on an illegal pitch.
12. B1 hits a high fly ball that hits the outfield fence then rebounds and hits F8's shoulder and deflects over the outfield fence in fair territory. This is a two base award.
13. The coach who is playing 1B requests time to talk to the pitcher. The Plate Umpire charges the defensive team with a conference.
14. A runner shall be declared out when the batter interferes with the catcher's throw on a pickoff.
15. (SP Only) The batter's box in 16 inch Slow Pitch measures 3 feet by 8 feet.
16. Prior to the pitch the batter must have both feet inside the lines and not touching the lines of the batter's box.
17. B1 shall be declared out when entering the batter's box with an illegal bat, or is discovered having used an illegal bat and the infraction is detected before the next pitch.
18. With no outs and R1 on 1B, B2 hits an inside the park home run. R1 misses 3B while B2 touches them all. R1 is called out on a proper appeal. The Plate Umpire nullifies both runs.

19. The portion of 1B in foul territory may be any other color except white.
20. When using the Shorthanded Rule, a team may continue to play with one less player than it started the game with, due to injury or illness.

Alternative Questions T/F Fast Pitch

8. (FP Only) In Men's Fast Pitch, the pitcher's non pivot foot is stepping forward but not within the 24 inch length of the pitcher's plate. The Plate Umpire rules this a legal pitch.
9. (FP Only) A pitcher may have an approved manufactured drying agent in their pocket or on their wrist band.
11. (FP Only) F1 tells the Plate Umpire he wants to walk B2 intentionally. The Plate Umpire tells F1 he must pitch to B2.
15. (FP Only) Junior Olympic Girls Fast Pitch 18U Gold is the only classification that pitches from 43 feet.

Part 2 Multiple Choice Questions

21. Which of the following is NOT a foul ball?
 - a) The ball bounds or rolls past 1B or 3B on or over foul ground.
 - b) While the ball is over foul territory, a runner interferes with a defensive player attempting to field a batted ball.
 - c) A ball that goes sharply and directly from the bat to the catcher's glove and is caught by the catcher.
 - d) Hits the pitcher's plate and rolls untouched into foul territory in front of 1B or 3B.
22. (SP Only) The pitching distance for Girls 18U Slow Pitch is:
 - a) 50 feet.
 - b) 46 feet.
 - c) 43 feet.
 - d) None of the above.
23. A blocked ball is:
 - a) A ball that deflects off loose equipment.
 - b) A live ball.
 - c) A batted ball that goes into the dugout.
 - d) All of the above .
24. Jones listed ninth in the batting order is replaced by a substitute after reaching 1B safely. Later in the game, Jones re-enters as a runner for a teammate listed third in the order at 2B.
 - a) This is an illegal re-entry and Jones is disqualified and replaced by a legal substitute.
 - b) This is an illegal re-entry and Jones is called out
 - c) This is an illegal re-entry and Jones is declared out and disqualified.
 - d) This is legal.
25. B1 enters the batter's box with a softball bat that has tape wrapped around the knob making it a cone-shaped handle. The Plate Umpire:
 - a) Calls B1 out for the first out of the inning.
 - b) Has no problem with the bat and the game continues.
 - c) Calls B1 out and ejected B1 from the game for using an altered bat.
 - d) Allows B1 to bat and waits for the offended team to protest the use of an illegal bat.

26. (SP Only) The minimum and maximum height of a legal pitch is:
- 6 feet – 12 feet.
 - 3 feet – 12 feet.
 - 6 feet – 10 feet.
 - with a perceptible arc of up to 10 feet.
27. (SP Only) A player hits an over-the-fence home run in excess of their limit, the half inning is over in:
- Men's Class D
 - Class D Coed
 - Class E/Rec
 - All the above
28. Which of the following are not examples of changing the characteristics of approved equipment:
- icing in a cooler
 - rolling
 - shaving
 - heating with a bat sleeve
29. An exception to the statement that "a runner cannot be called out between the bases they are obstructed" is:
- If they passed another runner.
 - If they missed a base and it was properly appealed.
 - If they committed an act of interference.
 - All of the above.
30. (SP Only) It is a "No Pitch:"
- When the pitcher pitches during the suspension of play.
 - When the ball slips from the pitcher's hand during the delivery or during the back swing.
 - When a player, manager or coach calls "time," employs any other word or phrase, or commits an act while the ball is live for the obvious purpose of trying to make the pitcher commit an illegal pitch.
 - All of the above.
31. Metal cleats are not legal in:
- Men's Slow Pitch.
 - Men's Fast Pitch.
 - Women's Fast Pitch.
 - All Junior Olympic Fast Pitch.
32. With one out and R1 on 3B, R2 on 2B, B4 hits a fly ball that is caught by F7. Both R1 and R2 tag up and score. An appeal is made at 3B and the Plate Umpire declares R1 out for leaving early.
- This is the third out but R2 scores because this is a timing play.
 - This is the third out and the defense has the option of making a fourth out appeal to nullify R2's run.
 - This is the third out and no runs score.
 - None of the above.
33. With no outs, R1 on 1B and B2 scheduled to bat, B4 comes to bat instead and grounds into a double play. The defense appeals B4 batting out of order. What is the ruling?
- The double play stands and B4 is out for the third out. B5 is the next batter.
 - The double play stands and B2 is out for the third out. B3 is the next batter.
 - R1 must return to 1B and B4 is out for the second out. B5 is the next batter.
 - R1 must return to 1B and B2 is out for the second out. B3 is the next batter.

34. While fielding a ground ball, the ball becomes entangled in F4's uniform and B1 advances to 3B. What is the call?
- The ball becomes dead and B1 must return to 1B.
 - The ball becomes dead and B1 must return to 2B.
 - The ball becomes dead and B1 is awarded 3B.
 - The ball remains live.
35. B1 has an altered bat that is detected by the Plate Umpire before B1 enters the batter's box. What is the ruling?
- B1 is called out.
 - B1 is disqualified.
 - B1 is ejected.
 - The bat is removed from the game as a preventive measure. No other penalty.
36. (SP Only) When the pitcher makes a pitching motion while in contact with pitcher's plate prior to the pause:
- "Dead ball" should be called, an illegal pitch ruled and a warning issued to the pitcher.
 - An "illegal pitch" is called.
 - "Dead ball" should be called and a warning is issued to the pitcher.
 - This is legal.
37. With a 0-0 Count, B1 swings and misses a pitch but has time to reset and swing again, making contact the second time with the ball for a base hit. What is the call?
- The first swing resulted in a strike. The ball became dead on the second swing and all actions are nullified.
 - The ball remains live and B1 is safe at 1B.
 - The ball is dead and B1 is called out.
 - The ball is dead and B1 is charged with two strikes.
38. With R1 on 2B and R2 on 1B, the coach asks for time to confer with the runners. When play resumes, the runners have switched bases. The defense brings this to the attention of the umpires.
- The umpire has the runners assume their proper base with no penalty.
 - The umpire rules both runners out and ejects the coach for unsportsmanlike behavior.
 - The umpire rules both runners out and ejects them for unsportsmanlike behavior.
 - The umpire has the runners assume their proper base and ejects the coach for unsportsmanlike behavior.
39. A throw from left field draws F2 into the base path of R1. R1 does not slow down or alter their path to home plate. The ball arrives just before R1, causing contact between F2 and R1. F2 drops the ball and R1 scores. The contact was neither intentional nor flagrant.
- R1 is out for not avoiding F2.
 - R1 is safe at home plate.
 - F2 was guilty of obstruction and R1 was protected to home.
 - R1 is out for not avoiding F2 and is ejected.
40. B1 hits a fair ball that ricochets off F3 into foul territory. F3 retrieves the ball and now B1 and F3 are side-by-side running to 1B. F3 reaches the portion of the double base in foul territory before B1 touches the white portion. What is the ruling?
- B1 is safe at 1B.
 - F3 is guilty of obstruction and B1 is protected to 1B.
 - The umpire should rule the batted ball foul.
 - B1 is out at 1B.

Alternative Fast Pitch Multiple Choice Questions

22. (FP Only) The pitching distance for Girls 18U Gold, 18U A/B and 16U A/B is:
- 40 feet
 - 42 feet
 - 43 feet
 - 46 feet
26. (FP Only) In Junior Olympic Fast Pitch at the beginning of each half inning or when a pitcher relieves another, not more than one minute may be used to deliver not more than:
- 3 pitches
 - 5 pitches
 - 1 pitches
 - 7 pitches
27. (FP Only) F1 batting in the fourth position in the line-up gets on base. The manager properly puts F5, who is currently batting second, in to courtesy run for F1. This is permissible in which of the following Championships?
- 18 U Gold Fast Pitch
 - The Men's B Fast Pitch
 - Men's 50 and Over Fast Pitch
 - None of the above
30. (FP Only) The Designated Player is listed properly in the fourth spot in the batting order and the FLEX is properly listed in the tenth spot. In the third inning it is reported to the Plate Umpire that the DP will now play defense for the FLEX. Which is a true statement?
- This is a legal change and the FLEX is considered to have left the game.
 - This is not legal and cannot be done.
 - This is a legal change, but can only be done one time per game.
 - This is not a legal change because the DP is not allowed to play offense and defense at the same time.
36. (FP Only) With one out and R1 and 3B, R2 on 2B, B4 hits a ground ball to F6 who is bumped by R2 while advancing to 3B. R1 has not reached home plate at the time of the collision. The umpire should:
- Call a "Delayed Dead Ball" and see how the play develops and apply the penalty after viewing the play.
 - Call a "Dead Ball" and rule the B4 out and send R1 and R2 back to 2B and 3B.
 - Call a "Dead Ball," rule R2 out, put B4 on 1B and return R1 to 3B.
 - Call a "Dead Ball," rule R2 out, put B4 on 1B and award R1 Home.

Mechanics Questions True/False

41. (SP Only) The Plate Umpire may position themselves in front of the catcher when necessary while calling balls and strikes.
42. In the 2 Umpire System, when the Plate Umpire covers 3B, the Base Umpire should rotate in and cover the plate.
43. As a Plate Umpire, we watch the ball from the pitcher's hand to the catcher's glove or ground. This is "Tracking" the ball.
44. In the Two Umpire System the Base Umpire is responsible for the lead runner's tag-up when there are multiple runners on base.
45. On a batted ball the plate umpire should always exit to the right of the catcher when trailing the batter-runner.

Mechanics Questions Multiple Choice

46. If a pitcher has started the pitch and the batter holds up a hand requesting "time" the umpire should:
- Grant time and call a "no pitch."
 - Grant time and call the pitch a "ball" or "strike" depending on the location of the pitch.
 - Grant time, come around the catcher and clean off home plate to allow the batter time to get re-set.
 - Not grant time and allow the batter to swing and take the result of that swing.
47. The starting position for the Base Umpire in a Two Umpire System with no runners on base in SP and FP is:
- In SP is off the Second Baseman, on the 1B side of the Second Baseman and in FP is on the foul line, 18-21 feet behind 1B.
 - Is on the foul line, 18-21 feet behind 1B.
 - Is off the Second Baseman on the 1B side of the Second Baseman.
 - Is off the Second Baseman on the 2B side of the Second Baseman.
48. When a batted ball hits the batter's foot while the batter is in the box the umpire should:
- Raise both hands above the head and call "dead ball."
 - Raise both hands above the head and call "dead ball" to stop the action and verbalize "Foul Ball."
 - Raise both hands above the head and call "dead ball" to stop the action and verbalize "batter is out."
 - Allow play to continue.
49. Positioning for a tag play. The proper position for a tag play is:
- At a 90 degree angle from the base LINE, 10-12 feet from the play.
 - At a 90 degree angle from the base PATH, 18 feet from the play.
 - At a 90 degree angle from the base PATH, 10-12 feet from the play.
 - At a 90 degree angle to the path of the runner, just short of the base they are trying to reach at a depth of 10-12 feet.
50. The Inside/Outside Theory involves these simple concepts:
- If the ball is hit inside the diamond, stay outside the diamond.
 - If the ball is hit outside the infield, move inside the infield.
 - Keep all four elements in front of you.
 - All of the above.

ALTERNATIVE FAST PITCH ANSWER

41. (FP Only) In a Two Umpire System with a runner on 2B only, the Base Umpire should start behind and off the 2B side of the short stop.

Benefits of an ASA Umpire



1 **\$5,000,000 per occurrence of LIABILITY INSURANCE**— This policy covers you in the event you are sued, and adjudged by a court of law for bodily injury, personal injury or property damage to others while officiating at ASA sanctioned activities, games, leagues and tournaments involving ASA registered teams. Coverage is also provided for defense costs to include legal fees, court costs and investigative costs.

2 **EXCESS ACCIDENT MEDICAL EXPENSE INSURANCE**— Accidental injury arising out of the amateur softball activities of the umpire is covered. These include ASA sanctioned activities, games, leagues and tournaments involving ASA registered teams, practices, clinics, including direct and uninterrupted travel to and from the site of the activity. The medical expense coverage is provided on an excess basis. This means that this insurance comes into play only after other group or individual medical insurance or any other health plan has paid out its benefits. Payments are limited to the usual and customary charges for reasonable and necessary medical services. The policy contains a surgical schedule which sets forth dollar maximums for specific surgical procedures. Thus, some medical expenses may not be covered in full.

Excess Medical Expense Benefit	
Deductible	Maximum Benefit
\$100	\$100,000
Accidental Death & Dismemberment	
Accidental Death Benefit	Accidental Dismemberment Benefit
\$2,000	\$4,000

3 **INSURANCE COVERAGE WHILE OFFICIATING OTHER SPORTS**
ASA umpire associations, ASA Commissioners, or UIC's can now purchase accident and liability coverage, as well as game fee reimbursement as a result of injury, for their umpires who officiate other sports. Game Fee Reimbursement would also apply to ASA softball games. Coverage is only \$22, but must be purchased with a minimum of 10 umpires. (Premium is \$220 minimum).

4 As part of the registration fee, each umpire receives insurance coverage, The Official Rules of Softball Umpire Edition and quarterly issue of *Balls and Strikes Online*.

5 Because an umpire is registered with the ASA, they can obtain rule interpretations, attend ASA rule clinics and the regular and advanced National Umpire Schools.

6 An umpire uniform and leisure wear program is available to each registered umpire. Included are clothing, souvenirs and publications. Request the new catalog today.

7 Only ASA registered umpires are selected to officiate in metro, state, regional and national championships. There are now more than 100 ASA national championships.

8 Only ASA registered umpires are eligible to apply for ISF (International Softball Federation) certification which offers the opportunity to umpire in World Championships, Pan American Games and other international events.

9 ASA Umpires can qualify to umpire in ISF Events held at beautiful ISF Headquarters in Plant City, FL.

10 ASA Umpires are eligible to apply for the medals program available in blue (3 yrs.), bronze (5 yrs.), silver (15 yrs.) and gold (20 yrs.), just for being a registered ASA Umpire. A complete line of leisure wear styles is available, along with trophies, plaques, watches, etc.

11 ASA Umpires are eligible to apply for the National Indicator Fraternity and be recognized for their umpiring experience in a registry in the ASA Hall of Fame and Umpire Manual.

12 Qualified ASA Umpires can apply for Elite Umpire status within the ASA. Those qualified individuals will receive a lapel pin, a navy ASA/USA "Elite" cap, membership card, framed certificate and their name listed in a registry in the ASA Hall of Fame.

13 Only through the ASA program are training aides available for umpires and umpire organizations. These aides include an animated mechanics DVD, Clinic guide, Power Point presentations, instructional video cassettes, the umpire examination, meeting quizzes and the case book on CD.