

**California Softball Officials Association**  
**2016 Certification - Test "A"**

**True/False**

*Indicate whether the statement is true or false.*

1. A one-piece rubber bat grip and knob combination on a bat is legal.
  - a. True
  - b. False
2. With R1 on first, B2 bunts a ball to F5 and both R1 and B2 advance safely. The defense protests the batter before the next pitch because B2 batted with a Reebok Vector that has holes in the taper part of the bat. B2 is declared out and R1 is put back on first base.
  - a. True
  - b. False
3. All fast pitch-batting helmets must be equipped with a NOCSAE-approved face protector.
  - a. True
  - b. False
4. An appeal is a play or rule violation that requires a ruling from the umpire immediately after it happens.
  - a. True
  - b. False
5. In establishing the validity of a catch, the fielder must only hold the ball long enough to prove she has control and that her release of the ball is voluntary and intentional.
  - a. True
  - b. False
6. A team's warm-up area could legally be behind the bleachers out of the umpire's view.
  - a. True
  - b. False
7. A fair ball is a batted ball that first falls or is first touched on or over fair territory beyond first, second or third base.
  - a. True
  - b. False
8. Faking a tag is always considered obstruction.
  - a. True
  - b. False
9. A foul tip is a batted ball that goes sharply and directly from the bat to the catcher's mitt or hand and is legally caught by any defensive player.
  - a. True
  - b. False
10. Interference is an act, physical or verbal, by a member of the offensive team that illegally impeded, hinders or confuses any fielder.
  - a. True
  - b. False
11. A leap is when both feet of the pitcher are airborne prior to delivering the pitch.
  - a. True
  - b. False
12. The pitcher's pivot foot is that foot with which the pitcher steps toward home plate.
  - a. True
  - b. False
13. An appeal must be made on the last play of the game before all infielders leave the field.

- a. True
  - b. False
14. Any defensive fielder may make a live-ball appeal with the ball in her possession by tagging the runner or touching the base that was missed or left too early.
    - a. True
    - b. False
  15. When the ball goes out of play, runners must be given the opportunity to complete their baserunning responsibilities before a dead-ball appeal is made.
    - a. True
    - b. False
  16. A catch is not credited if the ball strikes anything other than a defensive player while it is in flight.
    - a. True
    - b. False
  17. A substitute is any player who enters or re-enters the game.
    - a. True
    - b. False
  18. The strike zone is the space over any part of home plate that is between the batter's highest shoulder and the knees when the batter assumes a natural batting stance.
    - a. True
    - b. False
  19. A run is scored when an offensive player legally advances to and touches home plate.
    - a. True
    - b. False
  20. An illegal substitute is a player who is in the game but has entered without reporting.
    - a. True
    - b. False
  21. Obstruction is a defensive act that impedes the progress of a runner who is legally running the bases unless the fielder is in possession of the ball, about to receive a thrown ball or is fielding a batted ball.
    - a. True
    - b. False
  22. At the pregame meeting, the head coach must list all team members on the team's roster.
    - a. True
    - b. False
  23. The defense may appeal either during a live or dead ball, but it must occur before the next pitch (legal or illegal).
    - a. True
    - b. False
  24. The fielder is still considered to be making an initial play if she does not gain control of a batted ground ball but is still within a "step and reach" from the spot of the initial contact.
    - a. True
    - b. False
  25. A timing play occurs when the last out of an inning is not the result of a force out and the time of the out may or may not allow a run to score.
    - a. True
    - b. False
  26. The 3-foot running lane is a space defined by a line drawn 3 feet from and parallel to the first-base foul line starting halfway between home and first base and extending to first base in foul territory.
    - a. True
    - b. False

27. Batting out of order can be a live- or dead-ball appeal.
  - a. True
  - b. False
  
28. Exposed undergarments are considered part of the official uniform and shall be black, white, gray or a solid school color.
  - a. True
  - b. False
  
29. Any equipment judged to be potentially dangerous by the umpire is illegal.
  - a. True
  - b. False
  
30. A substitution may be reported by the substitute or the coach.
  - a. True
  - b. False
  
31. A coach is not permitted to project a substitution.
  - a. True
  - b. False
  
32. The use of the DP/FLEX is required.
  - a. True
  - b. False
  
33. A team may use the DP/FLEX option provided it is made known at the pre-game conference.
  - a. True
  - b. False
  
34. The DP starts as one of the nine hitters in the batting order.
  - a. True
  - b. False
  
35. Any adult coach may attend the pregame conference with the umpire(s) and verify that the team is in compliance with all NFHS rules.
  - a. True
  - b. False
  
36. A coach may be in possession of electronic communication devices in the coaching box, provided they are being used for coaching purposes.
  - a. True
  - b. False
  
37. Deliberately throwing a bat or helmet always results in the offender being ejected.
  - a. True
  - b. False
  
38. Each team, when on defense, may be granted not more than three charged conferences without penalty during a seven-inning game.
  - a. True
  - b. False
  
39. Time granted for an incapacitated player shall constitute a charged conference for the offense or defense.
  - a. True
  - b. False
  
40. During a defensive charged conference, the offensive team may meet provided the non-charged conference concludes when the charged conference ends or doesn't delay the game.
  - a. True

- b. False
- 41. A strike is called on the batter who deliberately removes a chalk line of the batter's box.
  - a. True
  - b. False
- 42. Initiating malicious contact is a serious offense and results in the offender being ejected.
  - a. True
  - b. False
- 43. While in the coach's box, coaches may not wear any type of jeans or "cut-offs."
  - a. True
  - b. False
- 44. It is possible for the DP and the FLEX to both play defense at the same time.
  - a. True
  - b. False
- 45. A team's lineup card must include each starting player's first initial and last name, jersey number, position and batting order.
  - a. True
  - b. False
- 46. When the DP/FLEX option is used, the lineup may be reduced to nine and then returned to 10 any number of times.
  - a. True
  - b. False
- 47. Religious and medical-alert medals are considered jewelry and are prohibited.
  - a. True
  - b. False
- 48. A substitute who is withdrawn may re-enter once per game provided she does so in the same batting position.
  - a. True
  - b. False
- 49. A base coach may use a stopwatch while coaching at first or third base.
  - a. True
  - b. False
- 50. If the DP plays defense for the FLEX, the FLEX has left the game.
  - a. True
  - b. False
- 51. A player is designated in the scorebook by name, jersey number and by fielding position.
  - a. True
  - b. False
- 52. It is legal for S1 to substitute for the starting pitcher F1 in the third inning, and then re-enter the original pitcher in the fifth inning in the same position in the batting order.
  - a. True
  - b. False
- 53. A state association may determine game-ending procedures.
  - a. True
  - b. False
- 54. A team may finish the game with fewer than eight players.
  - a. True
  - b. False
- 55. After the game starts, the umpires are sole judges as to whether conditions, including grounds, are fit for play.

- a. True
  - b. False
56. The score of a forfeited game is 7-0 unless the offending team is behind; then the score remains as recorded.
- a. True
  - b. False
57. It is a delayed-dead ball situation when an illegal pitch occurs, but no pitch has been delivered to the batter.
- a. True
  - b. False
58. The ball becomes dead immediately when a fielder leaves the field of play with one foot after catching a fair or foul-batted ball.
- a. True
  - b. False
59. A delayed dead-ball situation occurs when the batter enters the batter's box with an illegal bat.
- a. True
  - b. False
60. When the pitcher fails to deliver the pitch within the required timeframe, a ball is called on the batter and runners are advanced one base.
- a. True
  - b. False
61. "No pitch" shall be declared if a runner is called out for leaving the base too soon.
- a. True
  - b. False
62. The pitcher has her choice of balls at the start of each half-inning unless both balls do not get put into play in the first half of the first inning.
- a. True
  - b. False
63. Once the ball has been returned to the pitcher, she has 10 seconds to release the next pitch.
- a. True
  - b. False
64. If B1 steps out of the batter's box after F1 has brought her hands together, B1 runs the risk of having a strike called for being out of position.
- a. True
  - b. False
65. Following batter's interference with the catcher, each runner must return to the last base touched at the time of the interference.
- a. True
  - b. False
66. The batter must keep one foot in the batter's box between pitches.
- a. True
  - b. False
67. A pitch that hits the plate shall be called a ball, provided the batter does not strike at it.
- a. True
  - b. False
68. Awarded bases must be run legally.
- a. True
  - b. False
69. The same courtesy runner may run for the pitcher and the catcher.

- a. True
  - b. False
70. A legal substitute may replace a courtesy runner on a base, but the substitute is actually replacing the pitcher/catcher in the lineup for whom the courtesy runner is running and the pitcher/catcher has left the game.
- a. True
  - b. False
71. When a courtesy runner is injured, the replacement must either be a legal substitute or the pitcher/catcher for whom she is running.
- a. True
  - b. False
72. The ball must physically be in one of the pitcher's hands for the look-back rule to be in effect.
- a. True
  - b. False
73. B1, the pitcher, hits a single and advances to second on the next play. Her coach may replace her with a courtesy runner at this time.
- a. True
  - b. False
74. Players currently in the game are eligible to serve as courtesy runners.
- a. True
  - b. False
75. A runner may leap or hurdle a defensive player who is lying on the ground.
- a. True
  - b. False
76. While the pitcher has the ball within the 16-foot circle, a batter-runner who rounds first base toward second base may stop, but then must immediately return to first or attempt to advance non-stop to second base.
- a. True
  - b. False
77. While the pitcher has the ball within the 16-foot circle, a batter-runner who overruns first base toward right field, turns left and immediately stops, must then return to first or attempt to advance to second base.
- a. True
  - b. False
78. A batter-runner is considered to be in the 3-foot running lane when she has one foot touching inside the lane and one foot touching on the line.
- a. True
  - b. False
79. Obstruction is called on F2 when she is about to receive the ball while blocking home plate, and comes in contact with the runner sliding into home.
- a. True
  - b. False
80. The plate umpire is responsible for ensuring that a team's bats and helmets are inspected.
- a. True
  - b. False
81. An umpire's decision involving fair/foul call or a safe/out call may be appealed by requesting assistance from another umpire.
- a. True
  - b. False
82. State associations may determine the official umpiring uniform.
- a. True

- b. False
- 83. The field umpire shall make all decisions on the bases except for those reserved for the plate umpire.
  - a. True
  - b. False
- 84. Prior to starting the delivery, the pitcher must take a position with both feet on or partially on the top surface of the pitcher's plate.
  - a. True
  - b. False
- 85. Prior to pitching, the pitcher must take a position with the shoulders in line with first and third bases with the ball in the glove or pitching hand and with the hands separated.
  - a. True
  - b. False
- 86. While in the pitching position, the pitcher must take (or simulate taking) a signal from the catcher.
  - a. True
  - b. False
- 87. The pitcher is not considered in the pitching position until the catcher is within the catcher's box and in position to receive the pitch.
  - a. True
  - b. False
- 88. The pitcher may legally remove herself from the pitcher's plate before or after the hands come together by stepping back from the plate with both feet.
  - a. True
  - b. False
- 89. Once the pitcher's hands are brought together and are in motion, she may take one step, which must be forward.
  - a. True
  - b. False
- 90. The pivot foot may remain in contact with or may push off and drag away from the pitcher's plate prior to the front foot touching the ground.
  - a. True
  - b. False
- 91. If an illegal pitch is called and the batter does not reach first base safely or if any base runner fails to advance at least one base, the coach of the team at bat shall have the option of the result of the play or the penalty of the illegal pitch.
  - a. True
  - b. False
- 92. The pitcher shall not take the pitching position on or near the pitcher's plate without having possession of the ball.
  - a. True
  - b. False
- 93. The pitch starts when one hand is taken off the ball or the pitcher makes any motion that is part of the windup after the hands have been brought together.
  - a. True
  - b. False
- 94. An illegal pitch call always results in the batter being awarded a ball and all runners are awarded one base without liability to be put out.
  - a. True
  - b. False
- 95. A batter is out on a proper appeal if she fails to bat in her proper turn and another batter completes a time at bat in her place.
  - a. True

b. False

96. Only the defensive team or coach may appeal batting out of order after the batter has completed her time at bat.
- True
  - False
97. With a runner on first base and less than two outs, F2 must catch the third strike in flight for the batter to be out.
- True
  - False
98. The batter is out when she throws her bat and interferes with a defensive player attempting a play.
- True
  - False
99. A batter shall not hit the ball fair or foul while either foot is touching the ground completely outside the lines of the batter's box or while touching home plate.
- True
  - False
100. A batter is called out for disconcerting the pitcher by stepping out of the box on one side of home plate to the box on the other side while the pitcher is in the pitching position.
- True
  - False