



2019



# BASEBALL RULES STUDY QUESTIONS

(Updated: 12/27/18)

**LHSAA Rules Test Questions:** The LHSAA rules questions are TRUE / FALSE and MULTIPLE CHOICE. They come mainly from the **Rules Book**, including rule changes, **Comments on the Rules (COR)**, the **Case Book (CB)** and the **LHSOA Mechanics Manual**.

**NOTE:** In the following questions, **F** refers to a **fielder (F1, F2, etc.** refer to the traditional defensive positions.), **B** refers to a **batter (B1, B2, etc.** refer to the proper batting order.), **R** refers to a **runner (R1 is the runner on 1<sup>st</sup> Base, R2 on 2<sup>nd</sup> & R3 on 3<sup>rd</sup>.)** and **S** refers to a **substitute**. All situations and acts are legal, and no errors or mistakes are involved unless otherwise stated. **IMPORTANT:** Answers to the following questions should be selected based solely on the information stated therein.



1. Any question regarding the legality of a player’s equipment shall be resolved by the umpire-in chief.  
(1-5-10)
2. A player may be listed on the lineup card as both the pitcher and as the DH.  
(3-1-4)
3. In the 5<sup>th</sup> inning, the official scorekeeper informs the plate umpire that the player at bat is an illegal substitute.
  - a. The umpire shall ignore the information until the defense tells him.
  - b. The umpire shall ignore the information until the offense tells him.
  - c. The umpire, now being aware of the infraction, must enforce the penalty.
  - d. The umpire shall consult the official book kept by the home team.
 (3-1-1 Penalty)
4. Any umpire’s decision which involves judgment, such as whether a hit is fair or foul, whether a pitch is a strike or a ball, or whether a runner is safe or out, is final unless there exists a reasonable doubt about a decision being in conflict with the rules.  
(10-1-4)
5. Failure by a player to wear proper equipment after being so ordered by the umpire, shall result in ejection.  
(1-5-4 Penalty)

6. If the 1<sup>st</sup> base coach leaves the vicinity of his coaching box to argue a close call here:
  - a. The umpire shall instruct the coach to return to the coaching box.
  - b. Both the assistant coach and the head coach are immediately ejected.
  - c. The assistant coach and the head coach receive a written warning and shall be restricted to the bench for the remainder of the game.
  - d. Only the assistant coach is restricted to the bench for his action.(3-3-1f6, Penalty)
7. Pitching regulations begin when the batter steps into the batter's box.  
(6-1-1)
8. A runner is never required to slide into a base, but if he elects to do so, it must be a legal slide.  
(2-32-1, 2; 8-4-2b2)
9. In all games an appeal may be made during a live ball by any fielder in possession of the ball touching the base missed or left too soon on a caught fly ball.  
(8-2-6b)
10. There is no infraction if the fielder attempting to field a batted ball is in the runner's proper path and the runner goes behind the fielder trying to avoid interfering with him.  
(8-4-2a1)
11. Each of the two teams must be able to field at least **9** players at the start of the game, one of whom must be designated captain.  
(1-1-1; 4-4-1f)
12. If a coach physically assists a runner during playing action, the runner shall be called out after playing action ends.  
(3-2-2; 8-4-2s)
13. If a runner leaves a base too soon on a caught fly ball and returns in an attempt to retag, this is considered a "time play" and not a force out.  
(8-2-6h)
14. If a thrown ball is touched with an illegal glove or mitt, and is discovered by the umpire, the coach may choose to take the result of the play or the award of:
  - a. One base.
  - b. Two bases.
  - c. Three bases.
  - d. Four bases.(1-5-7; 8-3-3c1)

15. Umpire jurisdiction begins upon their arrival within the confines of the field and ends when they leave the playing field at the conclusion of the game.  
(10-1-2)
16. If there is a medical emergency or if, in the umpire's opinion, further play could jeopardize an injured safety, the umpire can immediately call "Time" and halt play.  
(5-2-1d1)
17. When bases are awarded, runners must legally touch those bases when advancing even though the ball is dead.  
(2-2; 8-2-1; 8-2-9)
18. A defensive charged conference is held at the pitching mound with the head coach and all the infielders. The conference is considered to be concluded when:
  - a. One of the players initially starts to return to his position
  - b. The coach leaves the area of the pitching mound.
  - c. The coach provides instructions to the outfield.
  - d. The coach crosses the foul line.  
(3-4-3)
19. It is a delayed dead-ball if a balk or an illegal pitch is committed.  
(5-1-1k)
20. A run will count when, with **2** outs, **R3** at 3<sup>rd</sup> base steals home before the batter-runner is thrown out at 1<sup>st</sup> base on a dropped 3<sup>rd</sup> strike.  
(9-1-1 Exception a)
21. The defensive player for whom the DH is batting may only pinch hit/run for the player in the DH's slot in the batting order.  
(3-1-4)
22. Bats that are not made of a single piece of wood shall meet the BBCOR performance standard and be so labeled.  
(1-3-2d)
23. Any of the starting players may be withdrawn and re-entered once, including a player who was the designated hitter, providing he occupies the same batting position whenever he is in the lineup.  
(3-1-3)
24. **F1**, in the set position, pitches with the toe of his pivot foot parallel to and touching the pitchers plate and his heel outside a line through the end edge of the plate.  
RULING: Legal.  
(6-1-3)

25. The ball is dead immediately and the batter is out when:
- He hits the ball fair with a foot touching home plate.
  - He hits the ball foul with his back foot straddling the back line of the batter's box.
  - He bunts the ball fair with his knee touching the ground completely outside the lines of the batter's box.
  - A and C.
- (7-3-2)
26. Bats that are altered from the manufacturer's original design and production are legal if sanctioned by the plate umpire and agreed to by the opposing team.
- (1-3-5)
27. Only wood bats are allowed to exceed 36 inches in length.
- (1-3-2c2; 1-3-3b)
28. A player's uniform shirt may have a number on the front but it is required that there be one on the back.
- (1-4-3)
29. The coaching boxes at 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> bases may be occupied by either a coach or a player, but they are not required to be occupied.
- (3-2-1)
30. The visiting team is using a **DH** for the pitcher, batting in the **4<sup>th</sup>** spot in the batting order. In the 6<sup>th</sup> inning, because of an injury, the coach wants the **DH** to move into the field and play **1<sup>st</sup> base**. The coach does not want to change pitchers. The previous first baseman was batting in the **7<sup>th</sup>** spot in the batting order. RULING:
- Legal substitution.
  - Illegal substitution.
- (2-36-3d; 3-1-4)
31. Obstruction of a batter will be ignored if the batter-runner reaches 1<sup>st</sup> base and all other runners advance at least **1** base.
- (8-1-1e)
32. By LHSAA rules, any baseball game (regular season, play-off or championship) becomes "official" after **4½** (home team ahead) or **5** complete innings have been played and can end at any point after that.
- (4-2-3; LHSAA HANDBOOK 10.5.1-1)
33. A pitcher may use a multi-colored glove provided it does not have any white or gray on the glove and it is not judged to be distracting.
- (1-3-6; CB 1.3.6 SIT. A)

34. In the **8<sup>TH</sup> inning**, the coach comes out and replaces his pitcher. Two **(2)** batters later, he goes to the mound to discuss strategy with his pitcher and catcher. The opposing coach claims that the pitcher must now be replaced. RULING: Since the coach replaced the pitcher on his **1st trip**, he still has his **1** allowed conference remaining and does not have to change pitchers.  
(3-4-1)
35. The pitcher, 2<sup>nd</sup> baseman and shortstop may wear face/head protection even if it has a mirror-like surface.  
(1-5-5)
36. Both of the pitcher's feet must be completely within the 24" confines of the pitcher's plate when he begins his pitching motion.  
(6-2, 3)
37. The LHSAA does **not** require that balls used in high school competition be stamped with the NFHS Authenticating Mark.  
(LHSAA GUIDELINES)
38. If a batter crouches or leans over to make his shoulder line lower, the umpire will determine the height of the strike zone by what would be the batter's normal stance when he swings at the pitch.  
(2-35)
39. With **R2** advancing to 3<sup>rd</sup> base, the batted ball gets by **F5** who was playing in to defend a possible bunt. The ball contacts **R2** just prior to his touching 3<sup>rd</sup> base. **F6** is not in a position to make a play on the ball. RULING:  
a. The ball remains live and in play.  
b. The ball is immediately dead.  
c. It is a delayed dead ball.  
(5-1-1f2)
40. A player may not run as a courtesy runner for the pitcher or the catcher and then be used as a substitute for another player in that half-inning unless an injury, illness or ejection occurs and no other runners are available.  
(Rules Book Pg. 65 Courtesy Runners 5)
41. An infield fly is a fair fly ball that:  
a. Is declared only when there is **1** out and the bases are loaded.  
b. Includes an attempted bunt.  
c. Is caught only by an infielder.  
d. None of the above.  
(2-19)

42. A runner is not required to vacate his base to permit a fielder to catch a fly ball in the infield, but he may not interfere.  
(8-2-8)
43. An “illegal substitute” is:  
a. A player who re-enters the game in the wrong position in the batting order.  
b. A player who enters the game without reporting.  
c. A player who violates the courtesy runner rule.  
d. A and C.  
(2-36-3b, e)
44. A slide is illegal if the runner uses a rolling, cross-body or pop-up slide into the fielder.  
(2-32-2a)
45. A defensive appeal of a runner failing to touch a base or tag up is considered a play.  
(2-29-6)
46. If a runner intentionally interferes with a throw, the runner is out and the ball is dead immediately. Other runners return to the bases occupied at the time of the interference, unless the umpire judged the interference prevented another out.  
(5-1-1e; 8-2-9; 8-4-2g)
47. A batted ball will be declared “fair” when it:  
a. Settles on fair territory between home plate and 1<sup>st</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> base.  
b. Is on or over fair ground when bounding to the outfield past 1<sup>st</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> base.  
c. First falls on fair ground on or beyond 1<sup>st</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> base.  
d. A, B and C.  
(2-5-1a, c, d)
48. The batting helmet must have extended ear flaps that cover both ears and temples and also display the NOCSAE stamp and the exterior warning statement.  
(1-5-1)
49. Runners on **1<sup>st</sup>** and **3<sup>rd</sup>** bases with no outs. **B5** hits a grounder to **F6** who throws to **F4** for the double-play attempt. 1<sup>st</sup> base runner **R1** slides illegally into 2<sup>nd</sup> base and interference is called. RULING: The umpire should call both the runner from 1<sup>st</sup> base and the batter-runner out. 3<sup>rd</sup> base runner **R3** will score if he touches the plate prior to the interference.  
(8-4-1h; 8-4-2b Penalty)
50. Even though the plate umpire is designated as umpire-in-chief, he cannot by rule, overturn a call by the base umpire(s) unless asked for help by the umpire who made the call.  
(10-1-4)

51. With the winning run scoring in the bottom of the 7<sup>th</sup> inning, the umpires attempt to leave the field. While one umpire has stopped for a drink of water at the dugout, the visiting team appeals that the runner who scored missed 3<sup>rd</sup> base. RULING: This is a valid appeal since there is at least 1 umpire still on the field of play.  
(8-2-6j; CB 8.2.2 SIT. J)
52. If a bleeding or injured player leaves the game for appropriate treatment, the re-entry rule is suspended and he may return to the game regardless of any prior substitution made for him.  
(3-1-6; CB 3.1.6 SIT. A)
53. An intentional base on balls may be given by the defensive team prior to pitching to the batter or on any ball and strike count.  
(2-4-3)
54. If a game has not progressed past 4½ or 5 completed innings and is stopped for weather or darkness, it shall be ruled a “suspended game” to be completed at a later date from the point of suspension.  
(2-17-3; LHSAA HANDBOOK 10.5.1-2)
55. A ball is credited to the batter when there is an illegal pitch with no runners on base.  
(7-2-2)
56. A batter may legally leave the batter’s box when:
  - a. The batter swings at a pitch.
  - b. The pitcher or catcher feints or attempts a play at any base.
  - c. The catcher leaves the catcher’s box to adjust his equipment or give defensive signals.
  - d. A, B and C.  
(7-3-1a, d, g)
57. It is the duty of the plate umpire to keep a written record of defensive and offensive team charged conferences for each team and notify the head coach each time a conference is charged to his team.  
(10-2-3j)
58. If a fielder illegally obstructs a runner and is responsible for failure of that runner to reach home plate, the umpire has authority to award home plate to that runner.  
(9-1-1 NOTE 1)
59. If umpires disagree or cannot get a proper angle to see the play, it is permissible for them to use a video replay, if available, in order to render the correct call.  
(10-1-5)

60. If the pitcher's non-pivot foot is on or behind a line extending through the front edge of the pitcher's plate, he is in the wind-up position.  
(6-1-2)
61. A pitch dropped during delivery and which crosses a foul line shall be called:  
a. A ball.  
b. A strike.  
c. A balk with at least 1 runner on base.  
d. A no-pitch with the bases empty.  
(6-1-4)
62. There are no runners on base when **B1** swings and misses a pitch in the dirt for "strike three". **F2** blocks the ball, which then rolls forward. As he leaves the batter's box, **B1** kicks the ball into foul territory and is safe at **1<sup>st</sup> base**. RULING: If the plate umpire judges the kick to be unintentional, the play stands and **B1** is safe at **1<sup>st</sup> base**.  
(7-4-1b1; 8-4-1a)
63. On a deep fly ball that was caught, **R1** misses **2<sup>nd</sup> base** on his way to **3<sup>rd</sup>** but touches it as he safely returns to **1<sup>st</sup> base**. **R1** will be declared out upon proper appeal at **2<sup>nd</sup> base**.  
(8-2-6l)
64. Before the plate umpire puts any dead ball back in play, he must first ensure that the pitcher is legally holding the ball while touching the pitcher's plate, the catcher is in the catcher's box and the batter is in the batter's box.  
(5-1-4)
65. The defensive team will not be charged a conference if an assistant coach is granted a time-out to confer with the first baseman.  
(3-4-1)
66. When the plate umpire hinders, impedes or prevents the catcher's throw attempting to prevent a stolen base or retire a runner on a pick-off play, if an out is not made at the end of the catcher's initial throw, the ball becomes dead and all runners shall return to the base occupied at the time of the interference.  
(8-3-6)
67. Prior to the start of the 6<sup>TH</sup> inning, the defensive coach tells **F5** and **F9** to switch positions but does not inform the plate umpire before play commences.  
RULING: Legal . . . No penalty.  
(3-1-1)
68. Defective equipment must be repaired or replaced immediately. There is no penalty.  
(1-5-6)

69. A fielder who catches a ball and then runs into a wall or another player and drops the ball is considered to have made a catch if he has taken at least 3 steps with the ball in his possession.  
(2-9-1)
70. It is illegal for a pitcher to use a glove/mitt that includes the colors white or gray or have exposed undershirt sleeves that are white or gray.  
(6-2-1h, i)
71. An obstructed runner returning to a base is awarded:  
a. The base to which he is returning.  
b. A mandatory **2** bases.  
c. A minimum of **1** base beyond his position on base when the obstruction occurred.  
d. There is no award for an obstructed runner returning to a base.  
(8-3-2)
72. Under no circumstances may a home run be hit following a balk by the pitcher.  
(5-1-1k)
73. All fielders may wear any glove/mitt which meets rules specifications.  
(1-3-6)
74. As part of their pre-game duties, umpires should ascertain from game management whether a lightning detector and trained healthcare personnel are available.  
(LHSAA GUIDELINES)
75. While in the windup position, the pitcher may throw to an occupied base as long as he clearly steps toward that base.  
(6-1-2)
76. **R1** is on **1<sup>st</sup>** base with no outs when **B2** bunts the ball in the air. Hoping to turn a double play, **F5** intentionally drops the ball. RULING: The umpire should immediately kill the play, call **B2** out and return **R1** to **1<sup>st</sup>** base.  
(5-1-1j; 8-4-1c)
77. Courtesy runners may be used for the pitcher and/or catcher at any time, regardless of the number of outs.  
(Rules Book Pg. 65 Courtesy Runners 1)
78. In a force situation, if **2** runners are on the same base at the same time and both are tagged, the runner who is forced to advance from that base shall be declared out.  
(8-2-8a)

79. A foul tip will be ruled when a batted ball goes directly to the catcher's glove or hand, caroms against his protector, rebounds and is then caught by the catcher.  
(2-16-2)
80. When hitting the ball, the batter must have both feet completely within the lines of the batter's box.  
(7-3-2)
81. With **2** outs, **R3** is off with the pitch as the batter grounds back to the pitcher. **R3** crosses the plate before the out is recorded at 1<sup>st</sup> base. RULING:  
a. **R3's** run will count.  
b. No run scores.  
(9-1-1 EXCEPTION a)
82. If an injury, illness or ejection occurs to the courtesy runner, another courtesy runner may run.  
(Rules Book Pg. 65 Courtesy Runners 7a)
83. With the base empty, **B1** swings and misses the pitch for **strike 3**. The ball eludes **F2** and lodges behind his chest protector. **B1** advances to 2<sup>nd</sup> base before the ball is discovered. RULING:  
a. **B1** is out.  
b. **B1** is awarded 2<sup>nd</sup> base.  
c. **B1** is awarded only 1<sup>st</sup> base.  
d. The umpire may declare an out or award any base depending on his judgment of the play.  
(Rules Book Pg. 50: Baserunning Awards Table-Batter #7; CB 5.2.1 SIT. B)
84. A special ground rule adopted by the home coach to address unusual field conditions and agreed to by the visiting coach may be used even though it is contrary to the rules book.  
(4-1-2)
85. From the windup position, **F1** begins to bring his hands up, as if to begin his windup, and then steps back off the rubber with his pivot foot and throws to 3<sup>rd</sup> base in an attempt to pick off the runner there. RULING: Balk.  
(6-1-2 Penalty)
86. It is umpire interference when a throw by any fielder to home plate strikes an umpire who is located anywhere in the infield.  
(2-21-2)
87. The ball becomes dead immediately anytime the umpire handles a "live" ball.  
(5-1-1h)

88. With no runners on base and a 3-2 count on the batter, **F1** pitches from the “set position” but does not come to a stop. **B1** swings and misses. RULING:  
a. **F1** has committed a balk.  
b. Ball 4 is awarded to **B1** and he is entitled to 1<sup>st</sup> base.  
c. **B1** has struck out.  
d. The pitch is a “do over.”  
(6-1-3 Penalty; 7-2-2; 8-1-1c)
89. With **2** outs, **B4** bats in place of proper batter **B3**, swings at and misses “**strike 3**” which eludes **F2** and goes to the backstop. **R1**, at 3<sup>rd</sup> base, scores as **B4** is safe at 1<sup>st</sup> base. The defense then appeals the lineup infraction. RULING: **B3** is called out for the batting-out-of-order infraction. Since this is the **3<sup>rd</sup> out** of the inning, **R3’s** run does not count. **B4** will lead off the next inning.  
(7-1-2 Penalty 1, 4; 9-1-1 EXCEPTION a)
90. With **R3** at 3<sup>rd</sup> base and **R1** at 1<sup>st</sup>, **R1** takes several hard steps in what turns out to be a bluff to steal 2<sup>nd</sup> base. In the set position, **F1**, without simulating a pitch, wheels, steps toward and feints a throw to 2<sup>nd</sup> while **R1** is taking his steps to 2<sup>nd</sup> base. RULING: This is a legal move in the given circumstance.  
(6-2-4b)
91. The batting order is **B1, B2, B3, B4**. **B3** erroneously bats for **B1** and reaches 1<sup>st</sup> base on a single. The batting infraction is not detected by anyone before a pitch to the next batter. RULING: The correct batter is now **B4**.  
(7-1-1 Penalty #5)
92. **R1**, running on the pitch, has touched and passed **2<sup>nd</sup> base** before the fair batted ball bounces over the outfield fence. RULING: The umpire should send **R1** home on the 2-base award since **R1** touched 2<sup>nd</sup> base before the ball cleared the fence.  
(8-3-3c; 8-3-5b)
93. In the 5<sup>TH</sup> inning, starting pitcher **F1** is replaced by **S1**. The catcher then indicates to the plate umpire that his team wants to grant an intentional base on balls to the current batter after which, **S1** is replaced by **S2**. RULING: This is legal since **S1** has faced the necessary one batter.  
(3-1-2)
94. **R1** is on 1<sup>st</sup> base when **F1** steps on the mound and brings his pitching hand in contact with his mouth but does not wipe it off prior to touching the ball. RULING: The plate umpire should rule this a balk and award **R1** 2<sup>nd</sup> base.  
(6-2-1e Penalty)
95. Neither a line drive nor an attempted bunt can create an infield-fly situation.  
(2-19)

96. From the set position, the “time of the pitch” is:
- When the pitcher comes set with the ball in both hands.
  - When the pitcher starts any movement prior to delivering the pitch.
  - When the pitcher’s non-pivot foot passes behind the back edge of the pitcher’s plate.
  - When the pitcher, after coming to a complete and discernible stop, starts any movement with arm(s) and/or leg(s) that commits him to pitch.
- (2-28-3)
97. A batter/runner, who reaches 1<sup>st</sup> base safely by hitting the ball or drawing a base on balls, may overrun/overslide the base and immediately return without liability to be put out provided he does not attempt or feint an advance to second.
- (8-2-7)
98. It is legal for players to wear hard and unyielding items such as casts, braces, splints, etc. if they are properly padded.
- (1-5-8)
99. Team **A** has one of its players in uniform sitting in the stands behind home plate using a radar gun to chart his team’s pitchers. RULING: This is not legal and the player must return to his dugout.
- (3-3-1a, i)
100. **R1** is advancing to score when **F7** throws home. **F2** completely blocks home plate with his lower leg/knee while juggling and attempting to secure the ball to tag **R1**. The contact prevents **R1** from touching the plate. **R1** is then tagged by **F2** after he has caught the ball. RULING: Legal defensive play since **F2** had to be in that position in order to make the play.
- (2-22-3)
101. In the bottom of the 6<sup>TH</sup> inning, **B7**, the right fielder, gets a base hit. The coach goes to the plate umpire and tells him **B7** will be his pitcher in the top of the 7<sup>TH</sup> inning and wants to put in a courtesy runner for him so he can begin warming up in the bullpen. RULING: This is a projected substitution. The plate umpire will disallow the courtesy runner for **B7**.
- (3-1-1)
102. The bases are loaded when the batter takes ball **4**. The high outside pitch sails past the catcher and lodges in the backstop fence. RULING: The plate umpire correctly declares the ball dead and advances the batter and all runners **2** bases – **1** base for the base on balls and **1** base for the ball going out of play.
- (5-1-1g3; 8-3-3d; 8-3-5b)

103. In the top of the 3<sup>RD</sup> inning, the offensive coach requests a time-out in order to confer with his batter. The defensive coach immediately hustles to the mound for a quick word with his pitcher. Upon seeing this, the offensive coach claims that a defensive conference should be charged. RULING: The plate umpire correctly disagrees, stating that as long as the defensive coach does not delay the game after the original time-out ends, no conference will be charged.  
(3-4-5)
104. An ejected coach:
- May remain in the dugout area but cannot coach any player.
  - May continue to coach from the bench if he is the only coach for the team at the game.
  - Shall leave the vicinity of the playing area immediately and cannot have further direct or indirect contact with the team.
  - May be re-instated as a coach of the team if he is truly contrite for his actions.
- (3-3-2)
105. After **3** charged conferences in a **7-inning game**, or for any charged conference in excess of **1** in each extra inning, the pitcher shall be removed as pitcher for the duration of the game.  
(3-4-1 Penalty)
106. If a thrown ball is touched with an illegal glove/mitt, and is discovered by the umpire, the coach of the offensive team may choose to take the result of the play or the award of **2** bases.  
(1-5-7; 8-3-3c1)
107. **B1's** legally batted ball strikes the ground and bounces up to accidentally make contact with the barrel of **B1's** bat while the bat is over fair ground. **B1**, at the time, is in the batter's box holding his bat. RULING: Foul ball.  
(2-16-1g)
108. The head coach must attend the pre-game conference, if available. He will be restricted to the dugout for the remainder of the game if he refuses to attend.  
(3-2-4, Penalty)
109. With **R2** on 2<sup>nd</sup> base, **B3** swings and misses the pitch for strike 2. His follow-through hits **F2** while he is attempting to throw out **R2**, who successfully steals 3<sup>rd</sup> base. RULING: This is follow-through interference. **B3** is declared out and **R2** is returned to 2<sup>nd</sup> base.
110. A team forfeits the use of a designated hitter (**DH**) if it fails to declare one prior to the start of game.  
(3-1-4)

111. While in a coach's box, a coach may only have a stopwatch, hard copy of the rules book and a scorebook.  
(3-3-1h)
112. If the pitcher is replaced as a pitcher and his substitute requires more warm-up throws than are permitted:  
a. He may not return to the game even if he is eligible to do so.  
b. He may return to the game if he is eligible to do so, but not to pitch.  
c. He may still return to the game if he is eligible to do so and pitch.  
(3-1-2; 6-2-2 EXCEPTION)
113. A dead ball becomes immediately live when the pitcher engages the pitcher's plate holding the ball.  
(5-1-4)
114. The plate umpire raises one hand in the air indicating "Do not pitch." **F1** successfully attempts a pick-off of **R1** at 1<sup>st</sup> base. RULING: Since the plate umpire did not verbally announce his signal, the ball remains live and **R1** is out.  
(5-1-1h)
115. As **F4** sets up to catch a high pop fly, **R1** makes contact with him. RULING: This is offensive interference and the ball is immediately dead.  
(2-21-1a; 5-1-1e)
116. The bases are loaded when **F1** fields a ground ball and throws to **F2** attempting to retire **R3** from 3<sup>rd</sup> base. **R3** slides directly into and past home plate, contacting **F2** in the baseline extended, who is throwing to another base. RULING: Because **R3** slid directly into home plate in the baseline extended and the contact was not malicious, this is not a violation and no interference should be called.  
(2-32-2c; 8-4-2b; CB 2.32.2 SIT. C)
117. **B1** hits a soft liner to **F6** who juggles the ball which eventually falls inside his jersey as **B1** stops at 1<sup>st</sup> base. RULING: **B1** is awarded 2<sup>nd</sup> base.  
(2-9-1; 8-3-3c)
118. **B1** hits a screaming line drive to deep center field. **F8** makes a gallant effort, but the ball deflects off his glove and goes over the fence in fair territory. RULING: The umpire will award **B1** a ground-rule double.  
(8-3-3a)
119. If a coach or player commits an unsportsmanlike act, the umpire may issue a verbal or written warning or eject them from the game depending on the severity of the act.  
(3-3-1f Penalty)

120. If a runner leaves a base too soon on a caught fly ball and returns in an attempt to re-tag, this is considered a “time play” and not a force-out situation.  
(8-2-6h)
121. The batting order is Abel, Baker, Charles, Daniel, etc. Abel is the proper batter but Charles bats instead and hits a double. Abel then comes to bat and strikes out. Baker follows and also strikes out. Charles is now the proper batter but he is on **2<sup>nd</sup> base**. RULING: Charles is left on base and is skipped over in the batting order to Daniel, now the proper batter.  
(7-1-2 Penalty #5 Note)
122. Prior to the start of the game, each head coach shall verify to the umpire-in-chief that his players are properly equipped in accordance with NFHS rules and are using only legal equipment.  
(4-1-3b)
123. In the bottom of the 7<sup>th</sup> inning, if an over-the-fence home run is hit, only the number of runs required to win the game will count.  
(4-2-2a)
124. The designated hitter (**DH**):
- May not play defense during the game.
  - May hit in different spots in the batting order.
  - May only hit for the pitcher.
  - None of the above.
- (3-1-4)
125. Compression sleeves that are solid black or solid dark colored shall be the only colors allowed to be worn by the pitcher below his elbow.  
(1-4-2)
126. At game time, the visiting team has only **8** players present at the field. The coach assures the plate umpire that more players are on the way and will arrive before they go through the line-up or have to take the field. RULING: The plate umpire shall allow the game to begin, stipulating that if they do not arrive in time, the game will be forfeited at that point.  
(1-1-1; 4-4-1f)
127. Substitute Brown enters the game to pinch hit for Green but no one reports this to the umpire. After Brown singles, the defensive coach complains that he was an illegal sub and should be ejected. RULING: Brown's unannounced substitution and hit are legal.  
(3-1-1)

128. The LHSAA does not allow protests of any contest official's decision made officiating and applying the playing rules of any sport.  
(LHSAA HANDBOOK 8.11 – Contest Officiating Pg. 8.9)
129. **R1** steals 2<sup>nd</sup> base while **B2** enters the batter's box with a bat that has been altered. RULING: No penalty may be imposed until or unless the defense appeals the illegal bat.  
(7-4-1a)
130. With **2** outs, **R3** is at 3<sup>rd</sup> base and **R1** is at 1<sup>st</sup> base. The batter hits an inside-the-park home run. **R1** misses 3<sup>rd</sup> base. **R1's** infraction is properly appealed by the defense. The team at bat will score:  
a. 1 run.  
b. 2 runs.  
c. 3 runs.  
d. No runs.  
(8-2-1 Penalty; 8-2-6k)
131. It is always illegal for a pitcher to turn his shoulders to check a runner.  
(6-1-1)
132. After **F1** has started his delivery, **B2** requests but is not granted time-out and steps out of the batter's box. RULING: The ball remains live and the pitch is ruled a strike regardless of its location.  
(6-2-4d1)
133. **R3** is on 3<sup>rd</sup> base when **F1**, pitching from the wind-up position, pauses for a couple of seconds with both hands together above his head. RULING: This is a balk. Award **R3** home plate.  
(6-1-2; 8-3-1a)
134. **R1**, on 1<sup>st</sup> base with no outs, is stealing on the pitch. **F1's** pitch to right-handed **B2** is inside, but **B2** doesn't move. **F2** moves inside to catch the pitch and, because **B2** is still in place in the batter's box, is unable to throw to 2<sup>nd</sup> base. RULING: **B2** did nothing illegal . . . No "batter's interference."  
(7-3-5; CB 7.3.5 SIT. E)
135. A player may be removed as pitcher and returned as pitcher only **1** time during an inning.  
(3-1-2)
136. It is an immediate dead ball when any fielder catches then intentionally drops a fly ball with runners on base.  
(5-1-1j)

137. With **R3** on 3<sup>rd</sup> base and **1** out, **B5** hits a high fly ball that **F9** catches in foul territory. **R3** legally tags and scores. Before the next pitch, it is determined that **F9's** glove has been sprayed with a substance that creates a "tacky" condition. RULING:
- a. This is legal, no problem.
  - b. The offense has the option of taking the play or having the catch nullified and treated as a foul ball. **R1** would be returned to 3<sup>rd</sup> base and **F9** must replace the illegal glove immediately.
  - c. This is an illegal glove. Award **B5** three bases and score **R3**.
  - d. This is an illegal glove. Eject **F9** and the head coach.
- (1-3-6; 1-5-7)
138. With no outs and **R1** at 1<sup>st</sup> base, **B4** hits a triple. Both **R1** and **B4** miss 2<sup>nd</sup> base. The ball is returned to **F4** who stands on 2<sup>nd</sup> base, telling the base umpire that he wants to appeal. RULING: If **F4** properly appeals both runners individually, both should be called out.
- (8-2-1; PENALTY; 8-2-6b)
139. The pitcher, with both arms at his side in the wind-up position, first moves his glove hand to a position in front of his chest, stops, and then brings his pitching hand into the glove. RULING: Legal move.
- (6-1-2; CB 6.1.2 SIT. H)
140. Any umpire has the authority to eject players and coaches and to forfeit the game.
- (10-2-2; 10-3-1)
141. **R3** is on 3<sup>rd</sup> base and **R1** is on 1<sup>st</sup> base with **1** out when **R1** tries to steal 2<sup>nd</sup> base. As **F2** starts to throw to 2<sup>nd</sup> base, **B5** interferes. The throw is in time to nail **R1**, but **R3** scores. RULING: **R1** is out on the throw and **R3's** run counts. **B5** remains at bat with **2** outs and the bases empty.
- (5-1-2a; 7-3-5)
142. The batter will be declared out when the 3<sup>rd</sup> base coach interferes with the 3<sup>rd</sup> baseman attempting to catch a foul fly ball.
- (7-4-1f)
143. The batter enters the batter's box wearing a helmet that meets all NOCSAE requirements but has a mirror-like finish. RULING: The batter shall be called out immediately and the coach restricted to the dugout for the remainder of the game.
- (1-5-1)
144. A "charged conference" is a meeting which involves the coach or his non-playing representative and any player(s) of that team.
- (2-10-1)

145. An infield fly is a fair fly ball that is hit before there are 2 outs and at a time when at least 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> bases are occupied and can be caught by an infielder with ordinary effort.
146. A run is not scored if the runner advances to home plate during action in which the **3<sup>rd</sup> out** is made by a following runner who is declared out upon appeal because he failed to touch one of the bases.  
(9-1-1 Exception c)
147. With no runners on base and no outs, **F1's** first pitch to **B1** hits the dirt in front of the plate and then hits **B1** in the shin. RULING: The ball is dead when it hits **B1** . . . he gets 1<sup>st</sup> base.  
(8-1-1d)
148. It is a balk if the pitcher, after having his entire non-pivot foot pass behind the perpendicular plane of the back edge of the pitcher's plate, attempts to pick off the runner at **1<sup>st</sup> base**.  
(6-2-4f)
149. When the proper batter is called out because he failed to bat in turn, the next batter shall be:
- The batter who batted improperly.
  - The batter whose name follows the proper batter thus called out.
  - The proper batter who should have batted.
  - The batter the opposing team chooses.
- (7-1-2, Penalty 4)
150. When the plate umpire halts play for inclement weather, he must wait at least 30 minutes before he suspends or ends the game.  
(5-2-1b1)
151. If a pitcher is ambidextrous, he can change to either hand at any time while facing a batter.  
(6-1-1)
152. It is a delayed dead ball when a catcher or any fielder obstructs a batter or runner.  
(5-1-2b)
153. The role of the designated hitter is terminated for the remainder of the game when the designated hitter or any previous designated hitter assumes a defensive position.  
(3-4-1b)
154. Ejections which are made during playing action do not take effect until all playing action has ceased.  
(10-1-6)

155. If an illegal player on defense is involved in a play, the team on offense has the option to let the play stand or to allow the batter to bat again, provided the infraction is discovered:
- Prior to the first pitch to the next batter of either team.
  - Before the 3<sup>rd</sup> out of the half inning is declared.
  - Before all infielders cross the foul lines.
  - Immediately when the play is made.
- (3-1-1)
156. In the bottom of the 5<sup>TH</sup> inning the home team is leading 9-0. **B5** comes to bat with the bases loaded and hits a grand slam home run. RULING: The game ends with the home team winning 13-0.
- (4-2-2a)
157. The base umpires declares “Foul” on a fly ball that is caught by **F9** in fair ground and thrown to 2<sup>nd</sup> base to double up the runner who left too soon. RULING:
- It is a foul ball and is immediately dead.
  - It is a fair ball and the catch stands, but the ball is immediately dead.
  - The ball stays live and in play, and the catch is recorded along with the out at 2<sup>nd</sup> base.
  - The offensive team coach gets to decide which out will stand.
- (5-1-1h)
158. From the wind-up position, the pitcher may deliver a pitch or legally step backward off the pitcher’s plate.
- (6-1-2)
159. A strike will be charged to the batter when a pitch is struck at and missed, but the ball hits the batter on the wrist.
- (7-2-1, 2)
160. In the 3<sup>RD</sup> inning, the defensive coach is granted his 2<sup>nd</sup> timeout of that inning to talk to his pitcher. RULING: Since it was the 2<sup>nd</sup> charged conference of that inning, the player must now be removed as pitcher for the duration of the game.
- (3-4-1 Penalty)