



# 2007

## Basic Umpire's Examination

There are three ways in which the ASF Basic examination can be used.

1. Four sections of 25 questions each that may assist in lecture style presentation of the rules. Candidates using the paper in this manner are required to achieve an overall pass of 60%.
2. One paper of 100 questions sat by a candidate in one session. Candidates using the paper in this manner are required to achieve an overall pass of 50%.
3. As an open book examination by which umpires can sit the paper in their own homes over a period of time. Candidates using the paper in this manner are required to provide the correct answers and correct rule references to 85% of the questions.

- PLEASE NOTE:**
1. This examination is based on the Australian Rule Book - as revised 2006-2009 and relates to Fast Pitch only.
  2. Defensive Team = Fielding Team  
Offensive Team = Batting Team
  3. For the sake of brevity in some questions the following symbols will be used:

For fielders: F1 = Pitcher. F2 = Catcher. F3 = 1st Base.  
F4 = 2nd Base. F5 = 3rd Base. F6 = Shortstop.  
F7 = Left Field. F8 = Centre Field. F9 = Right Field.

For runners: R1 is always the lead runner, followed by R2, R3 etc.  
For batters: B1 is the lead off batter, followed by B2, B3, B4 etc.  
For substitutes: S1 is the first substitute player, followed by S2, S3, S4 etc.  
Designated player: DP.  
Flex player: FLEX.

- INSTRUCTIONS:**
1. Answer strictly according to ASF Rule Book, NOT local by-laws and/or ground rules.
  2. Only the answer sheet of this examination is to be returned to the National, State or Association Director of Umpiring. You retain the question portion for further study. Your answer sheet, along with your examination mark will be returned to you after it is marked.
  3. All answers are either TRUE/FALSE or YES/NO and are worth (1) mark each, giving a total of 100 marks.
  4. Please indicate your answer by filling in the circle

T/Y F/N  
 or

for the correct answer.

e.g. A TRUE or YES answer would be  T/Y  F/N  
on the Answer Sheet provided.

### AUSTRALIAN SOFTBALL FEDERATION INC.

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## 100 QUESTIONS

1. An appeal play cannot be made after the umpire has called “time”.
2. The base path is the direct line between two bases.
3. The lines of the batter’s box are considered as being within the batter’s box.
4. A thrown ball is not considered to be a blocked ball when the base coach is accidentally hit when out of the coach’s box.
5. An umpire may declare a legal catch if the fielder is standing on the “out of play” line, provided the fielder does not have any part of his body over the line, touching the ground.
6. The designated out of play area for coaches, players, and batboys/girls is called a dugout.
7. A batted ball that hits the batter’s hands a second time while holding the bat within the batter’s box is a foul ball.
8. A ball that hits the pitcher’s plate and rolls untouched to foul territory before reaching first or third base is fair.
9. A helmet worn by a defensive player, other than the catcher, must have two ear flaps.
10. A foul ball that is caught by the catcher in his mask is an illegally caught ball.
11. An infield fly is a fair fly ball that can be caught by an infielder with ordinary effort when first and second base are occupied with less than two out.
12. Interference should not be ruled if an umpire impedes a catcher’s attempt to throw out a runner who is off base.
13. When a player, who has the ball, pushes a runner off a base, the umpire should signal obstruction.
14. The umpire should call “play ball” when the pitcher is outside the pitcher’s circle and this is delaying the game.
15. The pre-game meeting refers to the discussion between umpires before they talk to the coaches.
16. A slap hit is a batted ball that has been struck with a controlled short, chopping motion rather than with a full swing.
17. A legally batted ball that is caught against a fence with the glove or bare hand is a trapped ball.
18. The distance to the home run fence from home plate for adult female play is 67.06m (220ft).
19. The pitching distance for adult men is 14.02m (46ft).
20. The inside lines of the batter’s box shall be 17.7cm (7in) from home plate.
21. When tagging up on a fly ball, the runner can use either portion of first base.
22. On an attempted pick-off play, the runner must return to the fair portion of first base.
23. Gloves with a circle of white, grey or the colour of the ball on the outside, giving the appearance of the ball, are legal for all players except the pitcher.
24. It is compulsory for all male players to wear caps, and they must be worn properly.
25. Players are not allowed to wear jewellery, except for medical alert bracelets or necklaces, which must be taped if worn.
26. Are coaches permitted to have in their possession a scorebook and pencil while standing in the coach’s box?
27. Coaches can receive mobile phone messages from spectators in the stands provided they are in the dugout at the time, and remember to turn the phone off before taking the field.
28. Can a player’s name be written on the line-up card if he is not present at the time?
29. The starting player listed as the DP must remain in the same position in the batting order whenever he is in the game.
30. When the FLEX replaces the DP in the batting line-up, this is not a substitution, and therefore does not need to be notified to the umpire.
31. The DP may only play defence if he replaces the FLEX.

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**100 QUESTIONS**

32. Any of the starting players may re-enter the game once as long as it is into the same offensive position in the line up.
33. Can substitutes that have been in the game, and then withdrawn, later return to the game as a replacement player?
34. If an illegal player is discovered during their turn at bat, does the legal substitute assume the ball and strike count?
35. A player that is bleeding must be withdrawn from the game if the bleeding cannot be stopped within a reasonable time, or if there is blood on the uniform.
36. Are coaches allowed to leave the dugout to take up a position behind the plate umpire to determine their strike zone?
37. Is a player that has been removed from the game permitted to participate further in the game as a base coach?
38. The fitness of the ground for a game shall be decided solely by the plate umpire.
39. At the completion of six innings Red Team 1 and Blue Team 2. Red team does not score in the top of the Seventh innings. The umpire does not allow the Blue team to bat the bottom of the Seventh. Is this ruling correct?
40. A forfeited game is not considered a regulation game.
41. Following a suspension in play, the plate umpire shall declare a forfeit if a side fails to resume play within two minutes after the umpire has called "PLAY BALL".
42. At the completion of four innings Red Team 3 and Blue Team 11. Red team does not score in the top of the fifth innings. The umpire should apply the run ahead rule, with the Blue team winning the game.
43. A tie-breaker must be played from the top of the 7<sup>th</sup> innings and each subsequent innings if the scores are still tied.
44. Is the runner who is placed on 2<sup>nd</sup> base in a tie break innings always the player who was the third out in the previous innings?
45. If an incorrect runner in the line up is placed on base as a tie-break runner, and this is noticed by the opposition coach and brought to the attention of the umpire, there is no penalty.
46. Can a run score if the third out of the inning is due to the batter-runner being put out before legally touching first base?
47. There may only be one charged offensive conference per inning.
48. A pitcher requests time to put on a warm up jacket while on base. Is this considered an offensive conference?
49. The coach shouts instructions from the dugout to the pitcher. This is not considered to be a defensive conference.
50. A defensive conference should not be charged when a coach reports a change to the umpire before crossing the foul line to talk to a defensive player.
51. Before pitching the pitcher must bring his body to a complete stop. This position must be held for not less than two (2) seconds and not more than ten (10) seconds, before starting the pitch.
52. Before pitching it is legal to hold the ball in both hands at the side of the body.
53. The pitch starts after the hands have been placed together and one hand has been taken off the ball.
54. Prior to the pitch it is legal for the pitcher to have both heels in contact with the front of the pitcher's plate.
55. The step taken by the pitcher must remain within the 61cm (24inch) width of the pitcher's plate.
56. After receiving the ball, the pitcher has 20 seconds to release the next pitch. If this time is exceeded, "Illegal Pitch" will be called.

**100 QUESTIONS**

57. In wet weather, the pitcher may apply powdered resin directly to the ball, only if supervised by the plate umpire.
58. The pitcher may wear a sweat band on the glove hand.
59. When taking a signal from the catcher, the pitcher must have both feet in contact with the pitcher's plate and the ball held in both hands in front of the body.
60. R7 steals 2<sup>nd</sup> on the pitch, which is called illegal by the base umpire. R7 rounds 2<sup>nd</sup> and is tagged before sliding into 3<sup>rd</sup>. R7 is out.
61. The catcher must remain within the catcher's box until the pitch is released.
62. With one strike on the batter the pitcher notifies the plate umpire he wants to walk the batter intentionally. The batter is awarded first base.
63. At the top of the 4<sup>th</sup> inning, S1 Smith replaces F1 Jones. Smith, the new pitcher, is allowed three (3) warm-up pitches.
64. B6 has one foot out of the box and is taking a signal from the 3<sup>rd</sup> base coach. F1 pitches before B6 is ready. The umpire should call "Illegal Pitch" and warn F1.
65. The on-deck batter may leave the on-deck circle to direct a runner to slide into home plate.
66. The defence appeal for batting out of order while the incorrect batter is still at bat. The incorrect batter is out.
67. B1, lead off batter, deliberately erases the front line of the batter's box before a pitch is thrown. The umpire should call a strike. A pitch does not have to be thrown.
68. During the pre-game meeting the coach of the batting team deliberately erases the lines of the batter's box while he is inspecting the line-up card. The umpire should warn the coach.
69. After hitting a foul ball the batter may take a signal from the base coach with both feet outside the batter's box, without penalty.
70. A batted ball bounces off home plate and contacts B9's bat a second time while he is still in the batter's box. B9 is out of interference.
71. B5 mishits a pitch which goes directly from the bat to the catcher's mask. The ball is then caught by F5, in fair territory, before it touches the ground. This is a foul ball.
72. A line drive from B2 hits third base then rolls into foul territory where it is picked up by F5. This is a foul ball.
73. A Foul Tip is a batted ball that goes directly from the bat, no higher than the batter's head, to the catcher's hands and is legally caught by the catcher.
74. Two strikes on B5 who is crowding the plate. B5 does not swing at the next pitch which hits him on the elbow while his arms are in the strike zone. B5 is awarded 1<sup>st</sup> base.
75. B6 bunts, then drops the bat in fair territory. The ball contacts the stationary bat in fair territory and is then fielded by the catcher in foul territory. This is a foul ball.
76. B2 hits deep to centre field where the ball is picked up by a spectator and given to F8. B2 should always be awarded 2<sup>nd</sup> base.
77. B6 hits a high pop fly to F5. R4, leading off 3<sup>rd</sup> base, contacts F5 causing him to drop the catch. B6 is out and R4 returns to 3<sup>rd</sup>.
78. R2 is obstructed at 2<sup>nd</sup> base, preventing him from touching the base. He continues to 3<sup>rd</sup>. If appealed, R2 is out for missing 2<sup>nd</sup> base.
79. An obstructed runner may never be called out between the two bases where he was obstructed.
80. F9 throws his glove and contacts a fair batted ball hit over his head. The ball is dead and the batter is awarded two bases from the time of the contact.
81. When the ball is thrown out of play, over the outfield fence, the award is two bases from the time the ball went dead.

**100 QUESTIONS**

82. When a fielder unintentionally carries a live ball into dead ball territory, runners are awarded two bases from the last base touched when the fielder entered dead ball territory.
83. The ball remains alive when a wild pitch hits the plate umpire.
84. Before calling a runner out for missing a base, umpires must wait for the defensive team to appeal.
85. Additional appeals may be made after the third out to remove a run or reinstate the correct batting order.
86. The bat boy accidentally interferes with F2's attempt to pick off R7 stealing 2<sup>nd</sup> base. The runner closest to home is out.
87. R7, attempting to steal home, will be an obvious out at home plate. B8 bumps F2, preventing him from tagging R7. Ruling: B8 is out and R7 returns to 3<sup>rd</sup> base.
88. A runner is out unless he runs in a direct line to a base.
89. The ball is always dead when a fair batted ball strikes a runner off base.
90. The ball remains alive when a batter deliberately erases the lines of the batter's box.
91. The ball is dead when the plate umpire calls a strike on a batter because he stepped out of the batter's box to take practice swings.
92. The plate umpire cannot call "Play ball", unless the pitcher has the ball and is standing in the pitching position.
93. The plate umpire calls, "Infield Fly, Out!" The ball is dead.
94. The ball is dead when a runner overtakes a preceding runner.
95. When a thrown ball accidentally strikes a coach, in the coach's box, the ball remains alive.
96. B9 bunts the ball down the first base line and accidentally kicks the ball which is in foul territory, rolling parallel to the line. Ruling: This is a foul ball and the ball is dead.
97. During the pitcher's wind up, the ball slips from his hand and rolls toward F8. The ball is dead.
98. The ball is dead when a runner gets a running start from a base on a fly ball.
99. A live ball becomes stuck in the catcher's chest protector. The umpire should call dead ball.
100. When catcher's obstruction occurs, the ball remains alive until the play is finished.

## ANSWER SHEET 100 QUESTIONS

**FILL IN CIRCLE FOR THE CORRECT ANSWER**

**CANDIDATE No.....**

	T/Y	F/N		T/Y	F/N		T/Y	F/N		T/Y	F/N
1.	O	O	26.	O	O	51.	O	O	76.	O	O
2.	O	O	27.	O	O	52.	O	O	77.	O	O
3.	O	O	28.	O	O	53.	O	O	78.	O	O
4.	O	O	29.	O	O	54.	O	O	79.	O	O
5.	O	O	30.	O	O	55.	O	O	80.	O	O
6.	O	O	31.	O	O	56.	O	O	81.	O	O
7.	O	O	32.	O	O	57.	O	O	82.	O	O
8.	O	O	33.	O	O	58.	O	O	83.	O	O
9.	O	O	34.	O	O	59.	O	O	84.	O	O
10.	O	O	35.	O	O	60.	O	O	85.	O	O
11.	O	O	36.	O	O	61.	O	O	86.	O	O
12.	O	O	37.	O	O	62.	O	O	87.	O	O
13.	O	O	38.	O	O	63.	O	O	88.	O	O
14.	O	O	39.	O	O	64.	O	O	89.	O	O
15.	O	O	40.	O	O	65.	O	O	90.	O	O
16.	O	O	41.	O	O	66.	O	O	91.	O	O
17.	O	O	42.	O	O	67.	O	O	92.	O	O
18.	O	O	43.	O	O	68.	O	O	93.	O	O
19.	O	O	44.	O	O	69.	O	O	94.	O	O
20.	O	O	45.	O	O	70.	O	O	95.	O	O
21.	O	O	46.	O	O	71.	O	O	96.	O	O
22.	O	O	47.	O	O	72.	O	O	97.	O	O
23.	O	O	48.	O	O	73.	O	O	98.	O	O
24.	O	O	49.	O	O	74.	O	O	99.	O	O
25.	O	O	50.	O	O	75.	O	O	100.	O	O

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