

2023 SOFTBALL EXAM STUDY GUIDE

1. A bat with the knob covered with grip tape is legal. (Rule 1) - **True**
2. The taper of the bat is defined as having a solid surface. (Rule 1) - **False**
3. B1 hits an over the fence homerun. As she touches second base, she removes her helmet. This is not an infraction. (Rule 1; Case Book). - **True** ►
4. R2 on second base. B2 singles up the middle. As R2 rounds third base, she removes her helmet and tosses toward her dugout and continues to score. This is a dead ball and R2 is called out and ejected. (Rule 1 & Case Book) - **False**
5. In fast pitch all bats must bear either the USA/ASA 2004 or USA Softball All Games (2019) Certification Mark and not be on the USA Softball Non-Approved Bat List. (GHSA Policy) - **True**
6. An appeal on the last play of the game must be made before all infielders leave the field. (Rule 2) - **False**
7. No outs, R2 on 2nd base and R1 on 1st Base. B3 gets an extra base hit. R2 misses 3rd base and scores. R1 also scores. R2 then runs back to 3rd base, touches it and scores. The defense appeals R2 missing 3rd base. R2 is declared safe. (Rule 2) - **False**
8. B1, with a 1-1 count, swings and hits a ball that nicks off the catcher's glove. The ball then strikes F2's helmet deflects into fair territory and is caught in flight by F3. B1 is out. (Rule 2) - **False**
9. B1 doubles to center field but misses first base. As B2 enters the batter's box the defensive coach informs the plate umpire to intentionally walk B2. Prior to the first pitch to B3 the defensive coach appeals B1 missing first base. B1 is out, B2 remains on first base and B3 remains at bat. (Rule 2) - **False**
10. B1 hits a fly to deep center field. F8 catches the ball while standing on the temporary fence which has not completely fallen. This is a catch. (Rule 2) - **True**
11. A bat that is on the USA Softball Non-Approved bat list, altered or damaged is always considered illegal. (Rule & 7) - **True**
12. With runners on 1st and 2nd and no one out B1 hits a pop fly which lands untouched in foul territory between home plate and first base. The ball then rolls into fair territory, and is picked up by F1. This is a foul ball. (Rule 2; Case Book) - **False**
13. B1 hits a roller in front of the plate which F2 fields but does not throw to 1st base because she would have hit B who was outside three-foot running lane. This is offensive interference. (Rule 2; Case Book) - **False**
14. Upon covering a play at 3rd base, the umpire collides with the R1 on her way to 3rd base causing her to be tagged out. This is umpire interference. (Rule 2; Case Book) - **False**
15. B2 hits a pop fly to the infield. R1, who is on 3B, is running with the pitch and touches home plate. R1 then realizes a pop fly has been hit to the infield and starts back to 3B. The pop fly is not caught and R1 is tagged as she attempts to return to 3B. R1 is declared out. (Rule 2; Case Book) - **False**
16. A fielder is considered to be in the act of making an initial play if a batted ground ball deflects off the pitcher (Rule 2) - **True**
17. In the first inning the DP listed fourth in the lineup doubles. S1 runs for the DP. In the fourth inning, S2 bats for S1. With the count 1 ball and 1 strike, the FLEX replaces S2 at bat. This is a legal substitution. (Rule 3, Case Book) - **True**
18. At the pregame meeting, Team A's head coach presents a lineup card with the DP listed fourth in the batting order and the pitcher listed as the Flex. After the lineups have been accepted and exchanged team A's

coach announces the DP is going to pitch. This is a legal substitution and team A now drops to 9 players. (Rule 3) - **True**

19. Team A is wearing black upper undergarments. However, F1 is wearing a red playbook wristband on her non-pitching hand. This is illegal since it is not the same color as the upper undergarments. (Rule 3; Case Book). - **False** When B1 swings and hits the ball the end cap flies off her bat. The umpire removes the bat as damaged. An inning later, B6 comes to bat with the same bat. B6 is called out and the head coach and B6 are restricted to the dugout. (Rule 3; Case Book) - **True**
20. Two out. S1, who is an illegal substitute, is on 3B. B4 singles. S1 scores and B4 is then thrown out attempting to advance to 2B. As both teams change positions and before the next pitch, the opposing coach informs the umpire that S1 was an illegal substitute. S1 is declared out, the run counts, the out on B4 stands and S1 is restricted to the dugout. (Rule 2 & 3; Case Book) - **False**
21. In the 7th inning it is brought to the plate umpire's attention that R3 on 3B is an unreported sub. This is the team B's second offense. Team B has no substitute to replace R3. R3 is declared out and both R3 and the head coach are restricted to the dugout. (Rule 3; Case Book) - **False**
22. Headwear (caps, visors, headbands, etc.) are legal and may be mixed. However, plastic visors, bandannas and hard beads are prohibited. (Rule 3; Case Book) - **False**
23. B1 hits a foul fly that is caught by F3. At the time of the catch, F3's right foot is completely on the ground in live ball territory and half her left foot is in contact in dead ball territory and the other half over but not in contact with live-ball territory. This is a foul ball; the ball is dead and B1 remains at bat. (Rule 5, Case Book) - **True**
24. Prior to starting the pitch, the pitcher shall take a position with one foot or both feet on or partially on the pitcher's plate with hands separated and the ball in either hand. (Rule 6) - **False**
25. The pitcher must have the ball in the glove, with the hands separated, when taking a position on the pitcher's plate. (Rule 6) - **False**
26. The pitcher may step back off the pitcher's plate after her hands have come together prior to the start of the delivery motion. (Rule 6) - **True**
27. If the pitcher takes a step backward with her non-pivot foot the step backward must start prior to her hands coming together. (Rule 6) - **False**
28. After walking B1, F1 walks out of the 16-foot circle and licks her fingers on the throwing hand. With the ball in the glove, she steps on the pitcher's plate and starts her delivery. This is an illegal pitch and immediate dead ball (Rule 6, Case Book) - **True**
29. R1 on first base. F1, while standing behind the pitching rubber, takes her sign from the coach. She then steps on the rubber and immediately brings her hand together. This is an illegal pitch and a ball is awarded to the batter (Rule 6) - **True**
30. R2 on 2B, no outs. F1 begins her delivery. After separating her hands the ball slips out of her throwing hand and ends up behind her. R2 breaks for third while F1 picks up the ball and throws R2 out. This is a no pitch and R2 is placed back on 2B. (Rule 6; Case Book) - **False**
31. B1 at bat with a 0 - 1 count. F1's pitch is called strike 2. F2, thinking it was strike 3 throws the ball to third base. The count is now 1 - 2. (Rule 6) - **True**
32. B1 at bat. R1 on 1st base. F1 steps onto the pitching plate and then throws to 1st base in an attempt to pick off R1. This is an illegal pitch and immediate dead ball. R1 is awarded 2nd base. (Rule 6) - **False**
33. A). F1 steps onto pitching plate with her hand separated and looks to her coach to get the sign. She then looks at her play card on her wristband. She then brings her hands together and begins her pitch. This is legal. (Rule 6) - **False**

34. B) F1 steps onto pitching plate with her hands separated, after taking or simulating taking a signal she brings her hand together. She then takes a new signal from the catcher. She then starts her pitching motion. This is legal. (Rule 6; Case Book) - **True**
34. R1 on 1st base. B8 erroneously bats out of order in place of B7. With the count 2 balls and 1 strike on B8, R1 steals second. The defensive team appeals B8 is batting out of order. The batter that should have batted, B7, is allowed to take the place of B8 and R1 remains at second. (Rule 7; Case Book) - **True**
35. As F1 starts her pitch, B1 requests time and steps out of the batter's box. F1 legally delivers the pitch as B1 steps back into the batter's box and hits the ball. This is an immediate dead ball and strike on B1. (Rule 2, 5, & 7; Case Book) - **True**
36. R1 on 2nd base attempts to steal 3rd base, B2 swings at and misses the pitch but does not attempt to get out of the way of the catcher attempting to throw to 3rd base. B2 is guilty of batter interference. (Rule 7; Case Book) - **False**
37. The batter enters the batter's box with a cracked bat. This is an illegal bat and the batter is called out and ejected from the game. (Rule 7) - **False**
38. Before the first pitch to B1, B1 is discovered using a damaged bat that was previously removed from the game. This is an immediate dead ball, B1 is declared out and. S1 and the head coach are restricted to the dugout. (Rule 7) - **True**
39. With 2 outs and 2 strikes on B1, F1's pitch lands 3 feet short of the plate. B1 swings and nicks the ball, which goes directly and sharply into the catcher's glove. This is a caught foul tip for strike three and B3 is declared out (Rule 2 & 7) - **True**
40. With two out, R1 on 1st base and 3-1 count on B4 the pitcher steps on the pitcher's plate with her hands together and the plate umpire signals illegal pitch. F1 starts her windup and R1 leaves 1st base early. The base umpire calls dead ball and calls R1 out. B4 would lead off next inning. (Rule 2, 6, 7, & 8; Case Book) - **False**
41. R1 on first base, no outs. B2 is due up but B3 bats. With count 1-0 R1 steals 2nd base. B3 walks. Before the next pitch, the defensive coach appeals B3 batted out of order. B2 you should have batted is called out, B3 is removed from first base, R1 is returned to first base and B3 is now the batter. (Rule 7) - **False**
42. With 3 balls and no strikes on B2 and R1 on base the next pitch is ball four and goes into the stands. Since it was ball four B2 awarded 1st base because she walked and then awarded 2nd base because the pitched ball went into the stands. (Rule 8; Case Book). - **False**
43. No outs, R1 on first. B1 at bat with 3 ball, 2 strike count. R1 attempts to steal second. B2 lines a ball that strikes F1 in flight, pops up into air. F3 catches the deflected ball and throws to first base ahead of B2's arrival. R1 stop at second. B2 is out and R1 remains at second. (Rule 2 & 8) - **False**
44. R1 is on second base. B2 hits a ball to center field. The center fielder throws her glove at the ball and prevents it from bouncing over the fence. R1 and B2 are awarded three bases from time of the pitch. (Rule 8; Case Book) - **True**
45. If an umpire judges that a fielder intentionally carries a live ball into dead ball territory, it is an immediate dead ball and all runners are awarded one base. (Rule 8) - **False**

46. R3 on 3rd and one out, B3 hits a ball down the first base line. As she is about to be tagged by F3, she stops and take a couple of steps back toward home plate. R3 had crossed home plate prior to B3 stepping back. This is a immediate dead ball, B3 is out and the run counts. (Rule 8) - **False**
47. With R1 on second base and R2 on first base, B3 hits a ground ball to F5. R1 starts to third but then retreats to second. This is a dead ball and R1 is out for reversing directions. (Rule 8; Case Book) - **False**
48. R2 on second. B2 singles to center. As R2 rounds 3rd base the coach leaves the coach's box in foul territory toward home to signal R2 to attempt to score. F8's throw strikes the third base coach in foul territory outside the coach's box. The coach did not intentionally get hit by the ball. This is a dead ball, coach's interference and R2 is out. (Rule 8) - **True**
49. No run can score on the third out of an inning when the preceding runner is called out on appeal for failing to touch a base. (Rule 8) - **True**
50. R1 on 2nd base, B2 hits a ground ball that is deflected by the pitcher towards F6. R1 collides with F6 while F6 is making an attempt to field the ball. This is interference on R1. (Rule 8; Case Book) - **True**
51. R1 on 1st base. B1 singles to right. F9 throws to F5 as R1 attempts to go to 3rd base. F5 catches the throw and tags R1 before she touches 3rd base. However, F5 loses possession of the ball which rolls into the third base dugout after R1 touches 3rd base and B1 rounds 1st base. This is a dead ball and R1 is awarded home and B1 is awarded 3rd base. (Rule 8) - **False**
52. R1 on second, B2 hits a fly ball. R1 leaves early for third and is obstructed by F6 on her way to third base. FE makes the catch and R1 attempts to return to second and is tagged out. Since obstruction was called R1 is given second base. (Rule 2 & 8; Case Book) - **False**
53. No out and nobody on base. B1 swings and misses for strike 3. F2 misses the ball and it lodges in her chest protector. The ball does not hit the ground and she retrieves the ball as B1 reaches 2nd base. B1 is declared out on a strike out. (Rule 8; Case Book) - **True**
54. Two outs, R1 on 1st base. B2 strikes out F2 loses the ball and it rolls up the first base line. B2 is rounding 2nd base by time F1 chases the ball down. F1 then throws to 3rd base attempting to throw out R1. The ball goes into the stands. Both R1 and B2 are awarded home plate. (Rule 5 & 8; Case Book) - **True**
55. One out. R1 on third base. B2 hits roller to F6 who throws home attempting to get R1. R1 is safe but after scoring R1 maliciously contacts F2 who is attempting to make a play on B2. R1 ejected and the run does not count (Rule 8; Case Book) - **False**
56. R3 on third base with 2 outs. F1 throws a wild pitch that goes to the backstop and is retrieved by F2. F2 throws the ball to F1 covering the plate but the throw hits the plate umpire. This is considered umpire interference and R3 must return to 3rd base. (Rule 8) - **False**
57. During a dead ball, the pitcher has possession of the ball in the circle with R1 on second base. R1 dances off second base. R1 is out under the look-back rule. (Rule 8) - **False**
58. B1 is safe at 1st base on a dropped third strike. She rounds 1st base, stops and seeing no one covering 2nd base she runs to 2nd base and is safe. The pitcher had the ball in the circle at the time B1 reached 1st base. B1 is out on the look back rule. (Rule 8) - **False**
59. B1 at bat. R1 on second base and R2 on first base. Both runners legally leave their base on the pitch. F2 returns the ball to F1 in the circle. Both R1 and R2 continue to dance off their base. Both R1 and R2 are out under the look back rule. (Rule 8) - **False**
60. R3 on 3rd base. B1 hits a one-hopper to the pitcher, who catches the ball and holds it motionless in the pitcher's circle while B1 continues to run toward 1st base. R3 continues to dance 5 feet off 3rd base. R3 is out on the look back rule. (Rule 8; Case Book) - **False**

61. R1 on 1B. B3 hits a high hopper down the 3rd baseline which is fair. The ball continues to bounce into foul territory when a fan reaches over and touches it. This is fan interference, an immediate dead ball and R1 and B3 are awarded 2 bases from time of the pitch. (Rule 8; Case Book) - **False**
62. R1 on 1B and R2 on 2B, F1 is within the 16-foot circle during a live ball. With the ball in her glove, she places the glove between her knees to adjust her hair. R2 dances off 2B. R2 is out by the look back. (Rule 8; Case Book) - **True**
63. F1 is listed as Team A's pitcher. In the top of the first she gets on base and S1 enters as a courtesy runner for F1. F1 cannot face the first batter in the bottom of the first due to sickness. S1 is now considered a substitute for F1 and can no longer be a courtesy runner. (Rule 8) - **True**
64. When a legal substitute replaces a courtesy runner, the courtesy runner has been removed from the game and can no longer be a courtesy runner. (Rule 8; Case Book) - **False**
65. The "look-back" rule is in effect when the batter/runner touches first base, and the pitcher has the ball in the circle. (Rule 8) - **True**
66. A runner at third base is not subject to the look-back rule, following ball four on the batter, until the batter has reached 1B and the pitcher is in possession of the ball in the circle. (Rule 8) - **True**
67. Jones, a courtesy runner for pitcher is on first base. B1 singles and after reaching first base injures her leg and cannot continue. The team has no substitutes. Jones becomes the substitute for B1 and the pitcher must now return and run in place of Jones. (Rule 8) - **True**
68. R1 on 1B. B2 hits a pitch with one foot completely outside the batter's box. F6 fields the ball but F4 obstructs R1 advancing to second base. B2 is out for contacting the ball with one foot outside the batter's box and R1 is awarded 2B as a result of the obstruction. (Rule 7; Case Book). - **False**
69. R2 on 2nd base, one out. B3 hits a ball to left field but contacts the catcher's mitt on the swing. R2 scores and B3 is thrown out at 2nd base. This is catcher's obstruction, and a delayed dead ball. The run counts and B3 is out at 2nd base. (Rule 8). - **True** One out. R1 on 1st base. B2 has 0-2 count. B2 swings at next pitch and the foul tip is caught by catcher. B2 run toward 1st base and collides with F3 attempting to catch the thrown ball by catcher. This is not interference on B because she is already out. (Rule 2 & 8) - **False**
70. R1 on first. She attempts to steal second and while attempting to throw, F2's arm contacts the plate umpire. R1 is safe at 2nd base. This is umpire interference and R1 must return to first. (Rule 8). - **True**
71. B1 hits a ground ball past F3. No other fielder has a chance to make a play but the ball strikes the umpire. The ball remains live and in play. (Rule 8). - **True**
72. R1 on first base. B2 hits a hard line drive up the middle to the right of F4. F4 dives and misses the ball. R coming from first base leaps over F4 who is still lying on the ground in the base path. This is an immediate dead ball and R1 is out for hurdling over F4. (Rule 8; Case Book) - **False**
73. No outs, no one on base. B-1's third strike is dropped and ball rolls into foul territory toward first base. F3 sets up in foul territory to receive throw from F2 while B1 runs in fair territory. F2's throw draws F3 into fair territory. This causes B1 to slow down. The throw hits B1 in the back. This is obstruction on F3. (Rule 8; Case Book). - **True**
74. R3 on third and R2 on second. B3 bunts down the first base line. F3 fields the ball and throws toward home. While running to first base, B3 leans a shoulder into the throw and is hit by the throw. R3 would have been if B3 had not been hit by the throw. This is an immediate dead ball, B3 is out, R3 is returned to 3rd base and R2 is returned to second. (Rule 8). - **True**

75. B1 bunts a ball that bounces off the plate and rolls in front of the plate. As B1 runs to 1st base she has one foot partially touching the foul line and one foot completely in the running lane. F2 fields the ball and her throw to first base hits B1. B1 is out for interference. (Rule 8) - **False**
76. Bases loaded, 2 out. B2 hits a home run. After B2 touches the plate, the defense appeals B2 missing 2nd base. The umpire declares B2 out. Three runs score. (Rule 9).- **True**
77. R1 on 3rd base, R2 on 2nd base and one out. B3 hits a deep fly ball to F8. R1 tags but leaves early. R2 tags legally. F8's throw to 3rd base is wild and R2 also scores. The defense appeals R1 leaving early. R1 is declared out for the third out. One run scores. (Rule 2 & 9; Case Book) - **False**
78. With 2 outs and R1 on 3rd base, R2 on 2nd base and R3 on 1st base, B6 walks. R3 touches 2nd base and is then tagged off base for the third out before R1 reached home plate. R1's run does not count. (Rule 2, 8, & 9; Case Book).- **True**
79. R1 on 1st base and R3 on 3rd base. No outs. B1 hits a ground ball to F6 who fields the ball and tosses it to F4 to force out R1. R1 interferes with F4 attempting to throw to first base and put out B1. R3 had not yet touched home plate at the time of the interference. This is an immediate dead ball and B1 is declared out and R3 is placed back on 3rd base (Rule 8)).- **False**
80. No outs, R1 on 2nd base. 2 Ball, 1 strike on B2. R1 attempts to steal third. The pitch is completely within the batter's box and contacts B2's jersey. The catcher throws R1 out at third. The ball is dead, B2 is awarded first base and R1 is awarded 3rd base. (Rule 5 & 8) - **False**
81. Umpire jurisdiction begins with the arrival of both of the umpires within the confines of the field. (Rule 10). - **False**
82. In two person crews, either umpire may forfeit a game for just cause. (Rule 10) - **False**
83. Teammates of a player who has hit a homerun must remain behind the batter's box lines nearest their dugout (GHSA Policy)- **True**
84. Eye black shall only be used for glare reduction and not as an individual or team expression/adornment. It may be any color but the same color must be used under each eye. (GHSA Policy)- **True**
85. The NFHS Membership card/pass allows the legal bearer (individual named on pass) admission to GHSA events (GHSA Policy) - **False**
86. All Gorilla Gold Towels are legal in Georgia. (GHSA Policy) - **False**