

# 2015 SOFTBALL STUDY GUIDE

1. In two umpire mechanics, with runners on 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> base, the plate umpire has tag-up responsibility at 2<sup>nd</sup> base. (Manual).
2. In two person mechanics, the plate umpire always has tag-up responsibility at 3<sup>rd</sup> base. (Manual)
3. In two person mechanics with a runner on 1<sup>st</sup> base, the base umpire shall position him/herself approximately 3 feet behind the 2<sup>nd</sup> baseman, on the 2<sup>nd</sup> base side. (Manual)
4. A mitt may only be worn by the catcher and/or 1<sup>st</sup> baseman. (1-4-2)
5. All bats shall meet the 2004 ASA Bat Performance Standard and have either the 2000, 2004 or 2013 ASA Certification Mark and not be on the ASA Non-Approved Bat List. (1-5-1d)
6. A bat with the knob covered with grip tape is illegal. (1.5.2a)
7. B1 hits an over the fence homerun. As she touches second base she removes her helmet. The coach of the player's team is issued a warning for the offense. (Case Book 1.6.2 Situation B).
8. A bat with the knob painted with team colors is an altered bat. (2-4-2a)
9. Coaches are allowed to make only one appeal per play. (2-1-8)
10. During the game, it is legal for the team manager video the game from the dugout and give it to the coach to review footage with players in between innings. (1-8-6, Case Book 1.8.6 Situation A)
11. A blocked ball is a live ball that is a batted, pitched or thrown ball that is touched, stopped or handled by a person not engaged in the game, or which touches loose equipment or any object that is not part of the official equipment or playing area. (2-2-3)
12. If a batter attempting to bunt holds the bat in the strike zone but does not offer at a pitch outside the strike zone, a strike shall be called. (2-8-2)

13. B1 hits a ground ball to F6 who throws to F3. F3 juggles the ball and it rolls up F3's arm and is clamped to her body by her forearm prior to B1 reaching first base. B1 is out. (2-9-1, 2, 5a; Case Book 2.9.6 Situation)
14. A charged conference is when the coach or dugout/bench personnel requests and is granted a time out to meet with either offensive or defensive personnel. (2-14)
15. B1 gets a hit with an illegal bat. B2 then steps into the batter's box with the same bat. After the first pitch to B2 the defense appeals to the plate umpire that the bat used by B1 and B2 is illegal. B2 is declared out and both B2 and the coach are ejected. B1 remains on first base. (2-1-4a, 7-4-2)
16. B1 hits a fly ball to the infield that falls to the ground hitting the pitcher's plate. The ball is untouched and continues to roll into foul territory where it is picked up by the pitcher. This is a fair ball. (2-20-1; Case Book 2.20.1)
17. If a forced runner, after touching the next base retreats for any reason toward a prior base, the force play is reinstated. (Rule 2-24-4)
18. B1 hits a roller in front of the plate which catcher fields but does not throw to 1<sup>st</sup> bases because she would have hit batter-runner who was outside three foot running lane. Interference shall be called. (Case Book, 2.32.1 Situation B)
19. Upon covering a play at 3<sup>rd</sup> base, the umpire collides with the fielder causing her to not make the play. This is umpire interference. (Case Book 2.32.2)
20. S1 is discovered in the game three innings after not reporting to the umpire. This is an illegal substitution. S1 and the head coach are restricted to the dugout. (Case Book 2.57.2 Situation B)
21. For obstruction to be ruled, the act must be an intentional act that impedes the runner's attempt to advance to the next base. (2-36)
22. Team personnel are players listed on the team's roster and lineup as submitted to the umpire at the pregame meeting. (2-59)
23. A team may begin the game shorthanded provided an out is called when the vacant position comes to bat. (3-1-1)

24. After the lineup card is accepted by the umpire, if a coach must make a change to player/substitute name or number, or if a player/substitute is added the coach shall be restricted to the dugout for the remainder of the game. (Rule 3-1-3 Penalty)
25. B1 of Team A singles. As she rounds first she injures her ankle but returns to the bag safely. B1 cannot continue. Since Team A has no available substitutes, the previous batter not on base is permitted to replace her until she is putout, scores or the half-inning ends. (3-3-8a).
26. Players removed from the game for displaying symptoms of a concussion shall not be permitted to return without authorization from a health care professional. (Rule 3-3-9)
27. In the 4<sup>th</sup> inning, the Flex bats for the DP without reporting. This is an illegal substitution. (3-3-6g, Case Book 3.3.6 Situation D)
28. Players' headwear may be mixed (hats, visors) but if worn must be either white, black, beige or school colors but all players do not have wear the same color. (3-2-5)
29. Batter B1 throws her bat in disgust after she strikes out. The umpire rules B1 is restricted to the dugout for the remainder of the game. (3-6-16 Penalty, Case Book 3.6.16 Situation A)
30. Following a team warning for illegal jewelry, the next player observed wearing jewelry in the game shall be ejected along with the head coach. (Case Book 3.2.12 Situation B, C)
31. When a pitch, enters dead ball territory it is an immediate dead ball and all runners are awarded two bases from time of the pitch. (Rule 5-1-1g, Dead Ball Table #16)
32. Following a dead ball situation, the ball becomes live when the pitcher has the ball within the pitcher's circle. (5-1-4)
33. If a runner intentionally removes her helmet during a live ball, a delayed dead ball is called and the runner is declared out. (5-1-2e, Delayed Dead Ball Table #9)

34. 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. This is a ground rule double. (Case Book 8.4.3 Situation M)
35. With R1 on 1<sup>st</sup> base, B2 hits a ground ball to F6 who overthrows F3 and the ball go into the dugout. At the time the ball entered the dugout, R1 just stepped on 2<sup>nd</sup> base. It is a dead ball and R1 is awarded home and B2 is awarded 2<sup>nd</sup> base. (Dead Ball Table #15, 8-4-3f Penalty)
36. Prior to starting the pitch, the pitcher shall take a position with both feet on or partially on the pitcher's plate with hands separated and the ball in her pitching hand. (6-1-1)
37. If the ball slips from the pitcher's hand during the back swing, it is a dead ball and declared a no pitch. (6-2-6 Effect)
38. The pitcher must have the ball in the glove, with the hands separated, when taking a position on the pitcher's plate. (6-1-1a)
39. Prior to the pitch, all defensive players must be in fair territory. (6-2-9)
40. The pitcher may step back off the pitcher's plate after her hands have come together prior to the start of the delivery motion. (6-1-1f2)
41. The pitcher may take a step backward with her non-pivot foot prior to her hands coming together. (6-1-2b)
42. If a pitcher exceeds the 20 second time limit rule, an illegal pitch is called, the batter is awarded a ball and all base runners are advanced one base. (6-2-3 Penalty)
43. If a pitcher is removed from the pitching position and then returns to the pitching position during the same inning she is not allowed warm up pitches. (Rule 6-2-5 Note 1)
44. The 20 second time frame the pitcher has to release the pitch begins when the pitcher enters the pitching circle. (6-2-3)
45. Following the first complete inning, prior to starting her warm up, the pitcher shall have her choice of what ball she wants to start the inning. (6-5-1,2)

46. The batter must take her position with both feet within or partially within the batter's box within 10 seconds after the ball is returned to the pitcher. (7-3-1)
47. F1 is in the pitching position. B1 disconcerts F1 by stepping out of the box on one side of Home Plate to the box on the other side. A strike is called on B1. (7-4-3)
48. With R1 on 2<sup>nd</sup> base attempts to steal 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 3<sup>rd</sup> base. B2 is guilty of batter interference. (Case Book 7.4.4 Situation A)
49. The batter shall not be called out if after hitting the ball the bat unintentionally rolls into the ball in fair territory. (7-4-13 Penalty, Case Book 7.4.13)
50. Once the pitcher has brought her hands together, prior to the delivery of the pitch, timeout shall not be granted to the offensive team. (7-3-1 Penalty)
51. 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. (7-4-2, Case Book 3.6.1)
52. A batter may be called out even though her batted ball was not initially ruled an infield fly. (8-2-9 Note)
53. A fly ball hits the top of the fence and then is deflected over the fence by the fielder is credited as a home run. (Case Book 8.4.3 Situation R)
54. 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. (8-4-3j Penalty)
55. 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. (Case Book 8.2.8 Situation B)
56. 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. (8-3-8)

57. When a fielder intentionally contacts or catches a fair ball with any part of the uniform or equipment that is detached from its proper place it is an immediate dead ball and the batter and all runners are awarded three bases from the time of the pitch. (8-4-3e Penalty)
58. B1 at bat. R1 on third base and R2 on first base. Pitcher double touches. Before release of pitch, R2 leaves first base. R2 is called out for leaving early and a ball awarded to B1 and home awarded to R1 for the illegal pitch. (Case Book 8-6-21)
59. An obstructed runner is no longer protected if the defensive team makes a subsequent play on a different runner. (8-4a Exception 1)
60. R1 on second, B2 hits a fly ball. R1 leaves early for third. F8 the makes the catch and R1 is obstructed attempting to return to second and is tagged out. Since obstruction was called R1 is given second base. (Case Book 8.4.3 Situation H)
61. R1 on 1<sup>st</sup> base, B2 hits a fair ball down the line which rolls into foul territory and is picked up by a fan. This is spectator interference, the ball is dead, the batter and all runners are awarded the bases in the umpire's judgment they would have reached had the interference not occurred. (8-4-3k Penalty, Case Book 8.4.3 Situation U)
62. When a fielder intentionally contacts or catches a fair thrown ball with any part of the uniform or equipment that is detached it is a dead ball and the batter and all runners are awarded three bases from the time of the throw. (8-4-3e Penalty)
63. After scoring, R2 unintentionally contacts F2 who is attempting to make a play on another. R2 is called out for interference and the run does not count. (8-6-18 Penalty)
64. 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. (8-9-2 Exception)
65. The courtesy runner can be any player who has been replaced in the lineup by a substitute. (8-9-3)

66. When a runner must return to a previous base while the ball is in play or dead she must always touch them in reverse order. (8-3-2 Exception)
67. The “look-back” rule is in effect when the batter/runner touches first base, and the pitcher has the ball either in or out of the circle. (8-7-1)
68. A runner at third base is not subject to the look 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. (8-7-1)
69. 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. (Case Book 8-4-3 Situation B; Rule 7-4-8).
70. R1 on second, B2 hits a ground ball to F6 who is playing deep. The ball is touched by F6 and then hits R1. This is a dead ball and R1 is out. (Case book 8.1.2 Situation C)
71. Umpire jurisdiction begins with the arrival of both of the umpires within the confines of the field. (Rule 10-1-2).
72. In two person crews, either umpire may forfeit a game for just cause. (Rule 10-2-2)
73. A school staff photographer is allowed in the dugout during the game. (GHSA Policy)
74. The DP and the FLEX can be on the field on defense at the same time. (Rule 3-3-6)
75. At the Elite Eight in Columbus all bats will be inspected upon arrival for team check-in, and the umpiring crew will not be required to conduct a bat check prior to each game. (GHSA Policy)
76. All registered GHSA umpires are required to be certified through E-Verify and have a current year background check. (GHSA Policy)
77. During invitational tournaments the host school may set a mutually agreed upon time limit on varsity level games. (GHSA Policy)

78. During non-region contests schools may agree to end a game with a tie score. (GHSA Policy)
79. It is the responsibility of each respective local association to maintain records of the background check status of its membership. (GHSA Policy)
80. Incidents of ejections, field conditions, P/A announcers, spectator issues, and/or incidents after the end of the game shall be submitted electronically on a "GAME Report" within (24) hours of the game. (GHSA Policy)