

Poughkeepsie / Mid-Hudson Baseball

Take-Home Rules Test March 2009

This test is designed to improve your knowledge of basic rules from reading the rule book. **This is an open-book test. You are encouraged to look up the answers to all questions you don't know how to answer.** But, the answer's should reflect your work, so complete the test yourself. The questions are all true/false. **Complete the test before the March 30 meeting.** You may not receive any game assignments if you do not complete the test. *Read each question carefully* and remember - a good umpire never rushes his call.

The 2009 Babe Ruth Baseball Rules and Regulations is the source for all answers. To help you out, the first word of each question points to a section where info can be found on the answer. But, the **whole** book contains the knowledge you must know.

Important: Bring your rulebook, test, and completed answer sheet to the March 30 meeting. Or, you can mail answers to me at:

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I suggest you markup the questions, and then transfer your answers to the answer sheet.

Questions??? Call me at 463-5827.

This test can be found at: www.pokbaberuth/umpire.htm check it out!

Some terminology used on this test:

BU	Base Umpire	PU	Plate Umpire		
BR	Batter-runner				
R1	Runner who is at 1st base at time of pitch				
R2	Runner who is at 2nd base at time of pitch				
R3	Runner who is at 3rd base at time of pitch				
F1	Pitcher	F2	Catcher		
F3	First Baseman	F4	Second Baseman	F5	Third Baseman
		F6	Shortstop		
F7	Left fielder	F8	Center fielder	F9	Right fielder

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Section 1. Each question is worth 1 point.

1. DEFINITION - A batter swings at a low pitch, nicks the ball, which then goes sharp and directly into the catcher's glove (and is caught). The umpire signals strike.
1. RUNNER - The BR, after overrunning first base, can only turn right into foul territory to return to first base, to not be at risk of a tag out.
1. DEFINITION - A batter squares to bunt, and holds the bat motionless in the strike zone. The pitch is low, and the batter does not move the bat. This pitch is a strike because the batter held his bat in the strike zone.
1. RUNNER - R1, 2 outs: The batter hits a grounder to the pitcher, who overthrows F3 and the ball goes out of play. At the time the ball went out of play, neither runner had reached their next base. R1 should be placed on 3rd and the batter on 2nd base.
1. BATTER - John is at bat with a 3-2 count, when the offense notices Bill should be batting instead of John. As the PU, you should check the batting lineup and if Bill is the proper batter, Bill should take his place at bat with a count of 3-2.
1. RUNNER - R2, no outs: The batter hits a ground ball to F6, who looks R2 back to 2nd base. He makes a poor throw to 1st base, and the throw goes out of play. The correct placement of the runners is the BR gets 2nd and R2 moves to 3rd base.
1. RUNNER - R3, no outs: The runner attempts to score on a past ball, and the batter interferes with the play at the plate. The correct call is batter out, and R3 is returned to 3rd.
1. RUNNER - R1, R3, 1 out: The batter hits a line drive to F7, who catches the ball. Both runners tag-up. F7 throws home, but the ball goes out of play. The correct placement of the runners is R3 scores and R1 moves to 3rd base.
1. RUNNER - While advancing to 2nd on a ball hit to the fence, the BR makes a big turn at 1st base and runs into F3, who is watching the ball. As BU, you call the runner out for obstruction.
1. RUNNER - R1, no outs: On a ball hit to the fence, R1 advances to 3rd base, rounds it and starts for home. He changes his mind midway to home plate, and retreats to 3rd base. Just as he arrives there, so does the BR. The throw from the outfield is gloved by F1, who runs over

to 3rd base and tags both runners, who are touching the base. The umpire calls the R1 out because the BR legally occupies the base.

1. PITCHER - A pitcher must wait until the batter is ready before beginning his windup.
1. RUNNER – If a runner intentionally removes his helmet during live ball, he is out.
1. DEFINITION - Any time a batted ball (fly ball or grounder) hits a base before being touched, it is always a fair ball.
1. DEFINITION - On an obstruction or infield fly call, the ball is immediately dead.
1. DEFINITION - A batter swings and the ball goes straight down, hits the plate, and rolls forward. The umpire signals foul ball.
1. DEFINITION - A fielder races in to catch a fly ball. He catches the ball, falls forward, and loses control of the ball as he is rolling. This is a legal catch and the batter is out.
1. BATTER - A batter's request for time should be ignored if the pitcher has legally started his windup or begun his pitching motion.
1. BATTER - The batter swings at a pitch while one foot is entirely on home plate, and hits the ball. He is called out even if the ball is foul.
1. OBJECTIVES - R2, no outs: On the pitch, the runner attempts to steal 3rd base. His slide into 3rd knocks the base loose, and it moves away from him. F5 gloves the throw, and tags the runner as he is crawling to reach the base. As BU, you rule the runner out.
1. UMPIRE - If a manager says, "I protest the call", the umpires should get together and get the call right before resuming the game.
1. BATTER - A batter hits a double while having his front foot partially over the line marking the batter's box. The umpire was correct in declaring the batter out for illegal action.
1. DEFINITION - A batter squares to bunt, but the pitch is thrown in the dirt. The ball bounces and strikes the batter in the leg. The umpire was correct in sending the batter to 1st base.
1. RUNNER - If a batter receives 4 balls, and advances to and touches 1st base, he cannot be legally tagged out until after the next pitch.
1. DEFINITION - R1, no outs: The batter has two strikes, but attempts a bunt on the pitch. The batter bunts as the runner steals. The ball goes foul, and the runner easily steals 2nd base. The batter should be declared out and the runner left at 2nd base.

1. BATTER - R3, 2 outs. The count is 1-1 when R3 scores on a wild pitch. The defense appeals that the player currently at bat is the wrong batter, and that he should be declared out. Because he was an improper batter at the time the run scored and he is the 3rd out, the run does not count.
1. RUNNER - On any play at a base where a tag play is likely, the runner must slide or avoid contact with the fielder, otherwise he is out.
1. RUNNER - R2: The ball is hit to RF. On his way around 3rd base, the runner trips and falls. The coach helps him up. The runner remains at 3rd and there was no play on him. R2 should be called out for coach interference.
1. DEFINITION - A grounder hits 3rd base and bounces left into the fence. The umpire signals foul ball.
1. RUNNER - A runner makes his own base path, and usually does not have to run in a straight line between bases.
1. DEFINITION - R1 and R2, 1 out. The batter hits a high fly ball to the shortstop. This is an obvious infield fly situation, and the batter should be declared out.
1. RUNNER - Following a legal pitch, base runners shall not leave their bases until the ball has been delivered and has reached the plate.
1. DEFINITION - In order for the infield fly to take place, there must be less than two outs and 1st and 2nd base must be occupied.
1. DEFINITION - A fly ball goes to F7, who momentarily juggles the ball, and finally holds it securely in his glove. R3 was tagging and left the base right after F7 touched it, but before it was securely caught. There was no throw to the plate, but instead the defense throws to 3rd. The correct call is batter out, R3 safe.
1. RUNNER - For an appeal to be correctly done, the ball must start with the pitcher on the mound.
1. RUNNER - R1, R2, no outs: The batter hits a ground ball which strikes R1 as he is advancing to second. As umpire, you rule dead ball, R1 out, BR gets 1st base, and R2 returns to 2nd base.
1. RUNNER – R1, no outs: once the pitch reaches the plate, R1 steals 2nd and slides in headfirst ahead of the tag; the umpire signals safe.
1. DEFINITION - As the runner is sliding into home plate, F2 gloves the ball and applies the tag to the runner's foot and leg. A cloud of dust envelopes the play, and after a second or two, the ball can be seen lying on the ground. The umpire should signal out.

1. DEFINITION - R1, no outs: The pitch is a fastball, which the batter tips on his swing and is immediately caught by F2. R1 breaks for 2nd and steals the base. The umpire was correct in allowing R2 to advance to 2nd base on the strike.
1. RUNNER - R1, no outs: The batter hits a ground ball to F4. As he is moving forward to field the ball, R1 accidentally runs into him, and the ball bounces away. This is interference and the BU should immediately declare R1 out.
1. DEFINITION - A fielder should not block the base path or a base without having the ball.
1. BATTER - On the first pitch to this batter, the batter attempts to avoid the ball, but it strikes him on the hand while holding the bat. You call "time!", and send the batter to 1st base. The defensive coach wants to argue the call. He tells you: "The hands are part of the bat." You should correct your mistake and bring the player back to bat with a count of 1 ball."
1. RUNNER - R2 attempts to steal 3rd base and goes in standing up. F5 is standing on 3rd base. He gloves the ball a moment after bumping R2, as R2 arrived at the base. The BU signals out because R2 is legally required to slide.
1. RUNNER - For the defense to properly appeal that a runner missed a base, the ball must always be live.
1. DEFINITION - A fly ball lands on the foul line 10 feet **behind** 1st base and bounces right into the fence. The umpire signals foul.
1. RUNNER - R3, 2 outs: The runner leaves the base early and on the pitch, the batter hits a clean single to right field. R3 scores on the play. After the ball is returned to the pitcher, by rule the runner is returned to 3rd base and the BR is left at 1st base.
1. DEFINITION - A batter stands deep in the box. He swings and the ball goes straight down **behind** the plate, bounces and then rolls forward; it settles on directly on the foul line. The umpire points fair.
1. RUNNER - R2, no outs. On a double, R2 runs by but does not touch 3rd base - he continues on and scores. The umpires should declare him out as soon as they notice the runner's mistake.
1. BATTER - Whenever the batter is touched by a batted ball, its a foul ball.
1. RUNNER - R3, 2 outs: After hitting a home run, the BR rounds 3rd base and stops to shake the coach's hand. If appealed by the defense, the umpire must declare the BR out for coach's interference.
1. UMPIRE - Only the PU may eject a player, manager, or coach from the game.

Section 2. Each question is worth 2 points.

2. RUNNER - R2, no outs: The batter hits a line drive, which goes straight up the middle and strikes R2 as he is standing on 2nd base. F4 scoops up the deflected ball and throws to 1st base in time. As umpire, you rule dead ball, R2 out, and the BR gets 1st base.
- 3.
4. RUNNER - While in a rundown between 2nd and 3rd, the runner is reverses direction and is retreating to 2nd base when he collides with F6, who had just finished throwing the ball to F5 at 3rd base. As BU, the correct call is to immediately stop the play, rule obstruction, and send the runner to 3rd base.
- 5.
6. BATTER - R1, 2 outs: The pitcher throws a fastball, and as the batter is swinging, his bat nicks the catcher's glove. The ball was not hit. R1 attempts to steal and is thrown out at 2nd base. The umpire should rule interference on the catcher, cancel the out and place R1 at 2nd base, and the batter gets 1st base.
- 7.
8. BATTER - R3, 1 out: The pitcher begins his wind-up, but the batter steps out of the box. F1 stops his wind-up and does not pitch. The umpire was correct in calling this an illegal action on both the batter and F1, and not penalizing either side.
- 9.
10. RUNNER - R3 & R1, no outs: R1 leaves the base early to steal, but R3 does not. The batter hits a fly ball to right field which is caught. R3 tags up and scores. R1 also tags up, but does not advance to 2nd. Because R1 left early on the pitch, the BU should return R3 to 3rd base and keep R1 at 1st base.
- 11.
12. PITCHER - R1, no outs: The pitcher begins his wind-up, but when the batter squares to bunt, F1 stops his wind-up and then starts it again. The umpire was correct in declaring this an illegal pitch and allowing the pitcher to continue. However, if F1 does not pitch, the umpire declares this illegal action counts as a ball.
- 13.
14. RUNNER - Running more than 3 ft out of the base path is a legal way for a runner to attempt to get around a fielder who has the ball and is waiting to make the tag.
- 15.
16. DEFINITION - F3 is able to block a hard hit grounder with his chest, and the ball bounds to his right. He grabs the ball with his right hand, turns and lunges for the base, touching the base with his glove just before the BR arrives. The umpire signals out.
- 17.
18. RUNNER - R1 and no outs: R1 leaves early on a steal attempt. The batter hits a ground ball to F5, who throws **not** in time to 2nd base in a force attempt. The BU should call R1 out for leaving early, and leave the BR at 1st base.
- 19.
20. RUNNER - R1 and no outs: R1 starts for 2nd base as the batted ball is fielded by the pitcher, who throws to 1st. But, R1 turns and runs back to 1st as the defense throws to 2nd. The umpire should call R1 out for running the bases in reverse.

- 21.
22. RUNNER - R1, R2: An umpire, standing in the 'B' position, is struck by a ground ball. The ball caroms off his leg to F4, who tags R1. The umpire was correct in allowing the out to stand.
- 23.
24. RUNNER - R2, no outs: A fly ball is hit to CF, and R2 prepares to tag up. However, the ball is dropped and R2 sprints for 3rd. He rounds 3rd and heads for home. The throw from F8 goes to F6, the cutoff man. F6 notices R2 attempting to score and throws home. The ball strikes the runner's helmet, and goes out of play. The umpires should score R2 and put the batter-runner on 2nd, because the ball went out of play on a throw which was the first play by an infielder.
- 25.
26. BATTER - The batter hits a ground ball to F6, and runs entirely in fair territory to 1st base, veering to the outside of the base only at the last instant. The batter and F3 do not touch, and F3 beats the throw to the base. The umpire was correct in calling the batter out for running outside the 3ft running lane.
- 27.
28. BATTER - The batter order this inning is Charlie, Dan, Evan, Frank. But Dan bats and is walked. Next, Charlie comes up. The defense then notices Dan is not batting, he's on first. The right thing to do is let Charlie bat since Dan skipped him, and then resume the correct order with Evan.
- 29.
30. UMPIRE - If there is a disagreement over the rules, the umpire who made the call has ultimate authority at the field to make the final decision. He may consult with the other umpires, but no umpire may overrule his decision.
- 31.
32. RUNNER - R3, no outs: The pitch is low and gets away from F2. R3 sees this and tries to advance. The batter remains motionless in the box, and R3 is able to use him as a screen, preventing the catcher from tagging the sliding runner in time. As PU, you call the batter out for interference.
- 33.
34. BATTER - R1, 1 out. On the pitch, which is inside for a ball, R1 attempts to steal. The batter makes no movement, and F2 throws to 2nd base to play on the runner. The throw was not a good one, and F2 tells the umpire that the batter was in his way. The umpire was correct in calling the batter out for interference, and moving the runner back to 1st base.
- 35.
36. RUNNER - R1 & R3, no outs: R1 leaves the base early to steal. The batter hits a ground ball which goes through F6 and F7, scoring both R3 and R1, while BR ends up at 3rd base. After the ball is returned to the pitcher, by rule R1 is returned to 2nd base and the BR is returned to 1st base.
- 37.
38. RUNNER - R3, no outs: The batter hits a ground ball to F6. He fields it, looks R3 back to 3rd, and throws to 1st base. However, the throw is poor and F3 must come off the base towards home plate to catch the throw. Just as he is about to catch the ball, he and the BR

make contact, and F3 does not catch the throw. R3 advances to home on the missed catch. As BU, you rule the BR safe, as this play does not violate any rules.

39.

40. DEFINITION - Base loaded, no outs. The batter hits a high fly ball to F2. This is an obvious infield fly situation, and the batter should be declared out.

41.

42. RUNNER - Any time a runner is struck by a fair batted ball before touching a fielder, the umpire shall declare the runner out for interference.

43.

44. BATTER - You are BU and see the following occur. R1 with no outs, on an inside pitch the batter swings at the ball. He misses and is hit by the ball. The PU calls "time!", and sends the batter to 1st base. Because this is a possible strike appeal, you should not say anything unless asked by the PU, and only then would you rule "Yes, he went", and send the player back to resume batting.

45.

46. RUNNER - Base loaded - two outs: The batter hits a ground ball to F6, who tags R2 as he is attempting to advance. This tag out occurred after R3 had touched the plate. The run does not score because the 3rd out is a force out.

47.

48. RUNNER - R1, R3, 1 out: On a fly ball to right field, R1 goes half way. R3 stays at the base and tags-up after F9 catches the fly ball. R1 sees the ball is caught, and retreats to 1st base. R3 scores just **before** the ball is caught at 1st base by F3. R1 is declared out by the BU, and the run does not count because the 3rd out was made on a force play.

49.

50. RUNNER - A runner is entitled to the base path, but he must always avoid hindering a fielder who is fielding a batted ball.