

BABE RUTH LEAGUE, INC.

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2002 BABE RUTH BASEBALL NATIONAL UMPIRES ASSOCIATION EXAMINATION

1. Two bases are always given to the batter-runner and all base runners when any ball hops over the fence after hitting the ground or the ball goes through a fence or lodges in a fence or a fair ball is deflected over the fence in foul territory in the air by an outfielder.
2. When a batter strikes out and the catcher missed the ball, the batter always has the option of running to first base even though he has entered the dugout or reached the bench area.
3. The batter is awarded second base if the batter becomes a runner on ball four which is wild and goes into a dead area.
4. When a wild throw that enters dead area is made by an outfielder on a base hit, the umpire, in awarding two bases, shall be governed by the position of the runners at the time the wild throw was made.
5. If the manager or coaches goes to the catcher or an infielder and that player goes to the mound and speaks to the pitcher after one pitch, it is considered the same as the manager or coach going to the mound.
6. A quick return pitch is one made with obvious intent to catch a batter off balance. It is an illegal pitch.
7. After several rain delays previously in the game, the Umpire-in-Chief suspends play in the seventh inning. After waiting for twenty minutes, the plate umpire calls the game because of continued rain and wet grounds. This was the proper procedure as it was evident that the game could not have been continued.
8. A pitcher must take the sign from the catcher while standing on the rubber. However, he may disengage the rubber after taking the sign.
9. A suspended game must have the following characteristics: The visiting team must have scored one or more runs to tie the score, or the visiting team has scored one or more runs to take the lead and the home team has not tied the score or retaken the lead in an uncompleted inning.
10. The Umpire-in-Chief may overrule a base umpire's decision on a play if he feels that he has missed the play.
11. The pitcher, standing on the rubber, is getting his sign from the catcher when the runner on third breaks for the plate. The pitcher runs forward off the mound and tags the runner out before he reaches home. This is considered legal.
12. When a pitcher drops the ball while astride the rubber, it is a balk if there are runners on base.
13. With runners on second and third, the runner on third attempts to steal home. The catcher, in his anxiety to get the runner coming home, moves forward and interferes with the batter's swing and is successful in making the out. The umpire returns all runners to their original bases and orders the batter to take first base. The umpire was correct in his ruling.
14. A balk is nullified when the batter as well as all runners, advance one base.
15. In making the "hidden ball play", the pitcher is permitted to stand astride the rubber without having the ball in his possession.
16. Umpire's interference occurs (1) when an umpire hinders, impedes or prevents a catcher's throw attempting to prevent a stolen base, or (2) when a fair ball touches an umpire on fair territory before passing a fielder.
17. There is nothing in the rules which states how high an infield fly must go. It is strictly an umpire's judgment.
18. An outfielder can legally catch an infield fly.
19. A balk should not be called unless there is at least one runner on base.
20. There are six words that players are not supposed to or allowed to call out during certain stages of the game. They are as follows: Ball or Strike, Fair or Foul, and Safe or Out.
21. When a base runner or fielder collides with an umpire, this does not constitute obstruction or interference and the ball remains in play.
22. When a batted ball strikes an umpire in fair territory before touching a fielder, including the pitcher, or before passing a fielder other than the pitcher, the ball is in play.
23. When a thrown or pitched ball strikes an umpire, it remains in play.

24. An obstructed runner is always awarded at least one base beyond the base he last legally touched.
25. No part of the uniform shall include a pattern that imitates or suggests the shape of a baseball.
26. No pitcher shall attach to his glove any foreign material of a color different from the glove.
27. On an obstruction play, the umpire should place the runners, after time is called, on the proper bases to which they would have made had there been no obstruction.
28. If the pitcher makes an illegal pitch with the bases unoccupied, it shall be called a ball, unless the batter reaches first base on a hit, an error, a base on balls, a hit batter or otherwise.
29. When two or more fielders attempt to field a batted ball, only one is entitled to the benefit of the interference rule. The judgment of which fielder had the best chance of fielding the ball is strictly that of the umpire.
30. A runner tries to steal second with none out. On the pitch, the batter misses it for a third strike and steps across the plate, interfering with the catcher's throw. The umpire ruled the runner, as well as the batter, out. The batter was out on strikes and the runner was out because of the interference.
31. Whenever a runner tries to steal home, regardless of the number of outs, the runner from third is always out when there is interference by the batter.
32. When a batter's intentional interference on a batted ball breaks up a potential double play, the runner who has advanced closest to home, regardless of where the double play would have been possible, is out. Also, the batter is out.
33. With a left-handed hitter at the plate, the batter strikes the catcher with his bat as he throws to second base in an effort to catch a base stealer. The ball is dead and the batter is penalized for interference.
34. There are men on first and second and a double steal is attempted. The batter accidentally interferes with the catcher's throw to second. Despite the interference, the catcher's throw retires the runner going to second, while the front runner is safe at third. The umpire ignores the interference but returns the front runner to second. This is correct.
35. If a base runner is struck by a batted ball in foul territory, he is not out.
36. With a runner on first, batter hits a ground ball to the shortstop who throws to second for the first out of an apparent double play. The runner on first deviates from his regular course by several feet and crashes the second baseman, who throws wild to first. The runner has a right to do this.
37. If a thrown ball accidentally touches a base coach or a pitched or thrown ball touches an umpire, the ball is alive and in play.
38. In making an appeal, the pitcher balks. The balk eliminates a chance to make another appeal.
39. When there is spectator interference with any thrown or batted ball, the ball shall be dead at the moment of interference.
40. No runs can ever be scored when the third out is a force play.
41. If a defensive player names the wrong runner who missed a base, he can always make another choice.
42. A batter is out when he attempts to hit a third strike and the ball touches him.
43. It is a fair ball, if a declared "infield-fly - if fair" falls untouched in front of third base and rolls foul.
44. When a foul ball is not caught, the umpire shall not put the ball in play until all runners have retouched their bases.
45. The Umpire-in-Chief of the first game shall be the sole judge as to whether the second game of a double-header shall not be started because of unsuitable weather conditions or the unfit condition of the playing field.
46. The pitcher's glove cannot be white or gray in color.
47. As long as one infielder is still on the field in fair territory, a team may still make an appeal on play. The pitcher is considered an infielder for this rule.
48. When the ball is put in play, at the start of, or during a game, all fielders other than the catcher shall be on fair territory.
49. A running start is illegal on a tag-up play. However, the defense must tag the bag and appeal to the umpire in order to retire the runner.
50. A runner who helps a teammate on the base paths, provided the following runner does not pass the preceding runner may not be called out by the umpire for this act.

51. If a fielder steps, rather than falls, into a dugout or bench area after making a catch, the ball remains in play.
52. On a hard ground smash, the pitcher fields the ball but has trouble getting the ball out of his glove. To save time, the pitcher tosses the glove with the ball still in it to the first baseman who steps on the base ahead of the runner. This is illegal and the runner is safe.
53. After catching the ball, a fielder must keep secure possession while making an out at a base. If simultaneously a collision follows the catch and the fielder drops the ball, the runner is safe.
54. When an infielder intentionally drops a fair fly ball or line drive with first, first and second, first and third, or first, second and third base occupied before two are out, the ball is dead, the batter is out and all runners return to their original base or bases.
55. The batter hits a long drive to left-center and the left and center fielder who are nearest are in hot pursuit. The left fielder catches the ball but, after running several steps, runs into the center fielder and drops the ball. This is a legal catch and the batter should be declared out.
56. There are two outs and a three and one count on the batter when the runner on third tries to steal home. The pitch is low and inside, and he is tagged out. The first batter in the next inning is the player who follows the player who had been at bat during the out.
57. The base runner who overruns first base may turn either way in returning to first base, however, any movement or action which, in the umpire's judgment, which indicates he was attempting to go on to second base eliminates his immunity of being put out.
58. When a moving bat strikes a fair batted ball, the batter is out for hitting the ball a second time. This is also true when the ball rolls against an idle bat, even though there was no intent by the batter to interfere.
59. A pitched ball hits the ground in front of the plate and the umpire calls out "ball". However, the batter hits the ball to right for a single. The umpire must recall the runner on first to return at bat as he is not allowed to hit a ball which first strikes the ground.
60. A good-hitting pitcher bats for the shortstop. When his team takes the field, the pitcher goes to the mound and a new shortstop enters the game. The new shortstop must now bat in the old shortstop's spot in the batting order.
61. The rule requiring a relief pitcher to finish pitching to at least one batter or to retire the side takes precedence over any rule on visits to the mound by the manager.
62. When an improper batter makes the last out in the inning, the defensive team must appeal before a pitch is made to its first batter of the following half-inning. If this is not done, the actions of the improper batter are legalized.
63. If a thrown glove strikes a fair, batted ball, the ball does not become dead immediately.
64. The home team has a choice of batting either first or last.
65. With a runner on third and one out, the batter interferes with the catcher who is attempting to make a play on the runner trying to streak home. The batter is out and the runner returns to third base.
66. In an effort to distract the batter, the second baseman stands behind the pitcher waving his arms on each pitch. The umpire should immediately eject this player for unsportsmanlike conduct.
67. The runner on third attempts to steal home. The batter tries to bunt but misses the pitch and the ball strikes him. The ball is dead and a strike is called on the batter. However, the runner from third is allowed to score.
68. With the bases empty, the pitcher makes an illegal pitch. The batter, with a two ball, two strike count, flies out to left field. The batter is recalled to the plate with the count now three balls and two strikes, and the play is nullified.
69. The runner on second base attempts to steal third. The catcher interferes with the batter. The runner is allowed third and the batter first.
70. With a runner on second base, the base umpire notices a ball in the outfield and calls time. The plate umpire does not hear time called. The pitcher delivers the ball, and the batter hits a home run. The time out takes precedence, and the play is nullified.
71. Runner on first base, one out, batter hits home run and passes the lead runner between second and third base. The runner who passed is not out and the home run counts.
72. The batter hits a home run into the center field stands. The umpire now discovers that the defensive team has only eight players on the playing field. The play stands and the run counts.
73. The batter hits a line drive that strikes the pitcher's rubber. The ball rebounds in the air into foul territory behind the plate where the catcher catches it. Batter is out.

74. When an injury or other emergency necessitates bringing in a new pitcher, the Umpire-in-Chief is obligated to allow the pitcher as many warm-up throws as are necessary for him to get ready.
75. On a foul tip, if the ball rebounds from the catcher's chest protector into his mitt, the ball is in play.
76. With runners on first and second, the umpire should call "infield fly" on a bunted ball that goes high in the air.
77. The positions of umpires may be changed during a game if both managers request it.
78. A bunt can never be called an infield fly.
79. A long fly ball hits the center field fence and then rebounds, striking the center fielder on the head. The ball rebounds again and goes over the fence in the air. This is a two-base hit.
80. With a runner standing on third, the batter hits a fair line drive which strikes the runner while standing on the base. The umpire was correct in declaring the runner out.
81. The pitcher may at any time apply rosin to his uniform, glove or the ball.
82. In filling out the line-up cards, the home manager mistakenly puts the name of the shortstop in both the second and the sixth positions. In the first inning, the shortstop comes to bat and is retired. In the second inning, the catcher comes to bat in the sixth spot and hits a double. The visiting manager points out the error to the umpires. All other players were listed in the rest of the batting spots. In this case, the catcher was legally entitled to bat in the sixth position and his hit became legal.
83. If an improper batsman does not complete his turn at bat, he may not be called out.
84. As the umpires approach home plate to start a game, a light rain is falling. After the managers hand in their line-up cards, the rain becomes heavier. The Umpire-in-Chief has the authority to declare the game postponed.
85. The Umpire-in-Chief decides whether the second game of a double-header shall start in case of wet grounds or inclement weather.
86. The home manager has the right to decide whether a game shall be started in case of bad weather or wet grounds before the umpire is handed the official line-ups.
87. When an umpire clears a team's bench of all players for showing disapproval of a disputed play, such players may return to the playing field for substitution purposes if needed later in the game.
88. If a manager or player is ejected from the playing field during the first game of a double-header, he may not return in the second game.
89. Players already in the game may change positions without informing the umpires, although it is standard policy to do so.
90. A runner is on first base when the batter singles to left. As the runner rounds second, he is hit on the head by the throw and is knocked unconscious. The batter-runner asks for time. No time was called until the fallen runner had been tagged out and no further play was possible. No time can be called until no further play is possible.
91. The batter is out if a fielder, after touching a fly ball which then hits a member of the offensive team or an umpire before striking the ground is then caught by him or another offensive player.
92. A fielder may reach over a fence, railing, rope or other line or demarcation to catch a fly ball. It is also legal for a fielder to jump on top of a railing or canvas tarpaulin to make a catch of a fly ball.
93. It is legal, with runners on first and third, for a pitcher, after taking his stance, to step toward third base faking a throw while coming off the rubber, and throwing to first base.
94. Any umpire, plate or base, may eject a player, manager or coach from the game.
95. The home team manager shall be the sole judge as to whether and when play shall be suspended during a game because of unsuitable weather conditions or the unfit condition of the playing field.
96. The home manager has the right to make any special ground rule he thinks is necessary in case of an overflow crowd upon the playing field.
97. The pitcher's glove must be uniform in color, including all stitching and webbing, and may be white.
98. Although the length of undershirt sleeves may vary for each player, it is necessary for the undershirt sleeves to be the same length on an individual player.
99. The right fielder, using a first baseman's mitt, catches a fly ball. The umpire was correct in ruling the batter out.
100. It is mandatory for a team to have a coach in each coaching box while on offense.