



2011 Softball Australia Basic Rules Examination



There are a number of ways in which the ASF Basic rules examination can be used.

For all participants in the game of Softball to test their rule knowledge

To obtain a theory mark required for Level 1 accreditation

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 open book examination sat in their own homes over a period of time. Candidates using the paper in this manner are required to provide the correct answers and a rule reference to 80% of the questions.

To obtain a theory mark required for Level 2 candidature (Reference: Tech Bulletin TB2008-2)

1. 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 70%.
2. As open book examination sat in their own homes over a period of time. Candidates using the paper in this manner are required to provide the correct answers and a rule references to 85% of the questions.

NOTE: 1. This examination is based on the Australian Rule Book - as revised 2010-2013 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 SAL 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 for the correct answer

e.g. A TRUE or YES answer would be
on the Answer Sheet provided.

T/Y F/N

- **Please use Black Pen where possible. If you make a mistake you may use correction tape on your incorrect answer.**

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100 QUESTIONS

1. When the physical structure of a legal bat has been changed is the bat considered to be altered?
2. Are the lines of the catcher's box considered to be within the catcher's box?
3. A fair ball is a legally batted ball that hits the foul line pole on the fly.
4. A legally batted ball that first touches on foul territory beyond first or third base is a foul ball.
5. An illegally caught ball occurs when a fielder catches a batted, thrown, or pitched ball with his dislodged cap.
6. Does the infield fly situation apply with 2 out and 1st and 2nd base occupied?
7. An Offensive Player Only (OPO) is a player in the batting order, for whom the DP is playing defence.
8. A slap hit is a batted ball that has been struck with a controlled short, chopping motion rather than with a full swing.
9. A squeeze play is a play in which the offensive team, with a runner on second base, attempts to score that runner by means of the batter contacting the ball.
10. The strike zone is that space over any part of home plate, between the batter's armpits and the top of his knees, when he assumes his natural batting stance.
11. Is it considered to be a trapped ball if a pitched ball touches the ground on a strike prior to the catcher catching it?
12. The distance between home plate and first/third bases shall be 18.29m (60ft).
13. Home plate shall be a five-sided figure 43.2cm (17 inches) wide across the edge facing the pitcher.
14. The pitcher's plate can be made out of any material.
15. The pitching distance for men's fastpitch shall be 14.04m (46ft).
16. Can an official softball bat be made out of fibreglass?
17. Should an umpire allow a metal bat with a wooden handle to be used in a game?
18. Can a team member playing at third base use a mitt?
19. Is it permissible for a player to wear shoes with detachable cleats that screw onto the shoe?
20. Must all catchers wear a mask, throat protector and helmet?
21. Can a member of the defensive team, other than the catcher, wear an approved plastic face mask/guard?
22. Adult and junior catchers do not have to wear shin guards that will offer protection to the kneecap.
23. Are helmets that are cracked, broken, dented or altered allowed to remain in the game?

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24. Is it acceptable for only one team member to wear an undershirt, provided its colour is consistent with the team uniform?
25. Should an umpire allow a player to wear a taped medical alert bracelet or necklace?
26. It is the assistant coach's responsibility to sign the line-up card before the commencement of the game.
27. An offensive coach shall not leave the coach's box to signal a runner to slide, advance or return to a base.
28. Are coaches on the diamond allowed to use communication equipment to speak to the dugout?
29. A player who is not present in the team area may still be listed on the starting line-up.
30. Can a DP be added as a starting player, after the official line-up has been approved at the pre-game meeting?
31. Red team is using a Designated Player (DP), so they must place the name of the defensive player for whom the DP is batting, known as the FLEX player, in position 10 of the starting line-up.
32. It is acceptable for any of the starting players to be substituted and re-enter twice, provided such players occupy the same batting position whenever they are in the line-up.
33. The penalty for an Illegal Re-entry is the ejection of both the head coach (whose name appears on the line-up), and the Illegal Substitute.
34. A substitute is not technically considered to be officially in the game until a pitch has been thrown, or a play made.
35. All substitutions must be announced to the plate umpire at the time the substitute enters the game.
36. It is permissible for a player who has been substituted in, and out, of the game to return to the game as a Replacement Player.
37. Should an ineligible player return to the game, it is declared a forfeit to the team not at fault.
38. A team warning should be issued if any team member disputes a judgement call made by the umpire.
39. Is smoking permitted in the designated dugout area?
40. A coach who makes disparaging and insulting remarks towards an opposition team member after being warned for such conduct, shall be ejected.
41. A player removed from the game may participate in the game as a coach.
42. The plate umpire has sole responsibility for determining the fitness of the ground for a game.
43. Is a forfeited game considered a regulation game?
44. Can the plate umpire forfeit the game in favour of the team not at fault if after a suspension of play; one team refuses to take the diamond within two minutes, after the umpire calls "Play Ball"?

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45. Has Team Red won the game if they lead Team Blue 16-1 after three (3) innings have been played?
46. During a tie break, an incorrect runner is placed at 2nd base and is discovered, is there any penalty?
47. Shall a run score if the third and/or last out of the inning is the result of the batter-runner being put out before legally touching first base?
48. There may be two charged offensive conferences in an inning.
49. A defensive conference should not be charged if a defensive player leaves their position to return to the dugout for instructions.
50. Following the fourth charged defensive conference in a seven innings game the listed pitcher at the time of the violation shall be declared an Illegal Pitcher and may not pitch for the remainder of the game.
51. The pitcher may not assume the pitching position on or near the pitcher's plate without the ball.
52. The pitcher only needs to come to a complete stop for one second before starting the pitch.
53. The pitch starts when the ball leaves the pitcher's hand.
54. The pitcher is allowed to make a stop at the top of his wind-up.
55. The pitcher's pivot foot must remain in contact with the pitcher's plate at all times before the forward drag, leap or hop.
56. The pitcher may roll the ball along the ground to stop a batter from hitting it
57. The pitcher has 20 seconds to release the next pitch after receiving the ball.
58. The catcher must remain within the catcher's box until the pitch is released.
59. Only the coach can notify the plate umpire of an intentional base on balls.
60. A defensive team must advise the umpire of the intentional base on balls prior to a pitch being thrown to the batter.
61. At the start of the game and when a new pitcher relieves another he is allowed one minute to deliver five warm up pitches.
62. The umpire should declare "No Pitch" if a pitcher pitches during a suspension of play.
63. If the ball slips from the pitcher's hand during the delivery a ball is declared on the batter.
64. If an illegal pitcher returns to the game and throws a pitch the game is forfeited.
65. The on-deck batter may position himself in either on-deck circle.
66. The first batter in each inning shall be the batter whose names follows that of the last player who completed his turn at bat in the preceding innings.
67. The batter must take his position in the batter's box within five seconds after the umpire has declared "Play Ball".
68. The coach may erase the lines of the batting box without penalty.

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69. It is a strike if the pitched ball bounces on home plate.
70. If the ball hits the foul line pole on the fly above the fence level it shall be a home run.
71. A Foul Tip is a batted ball that goes directly from the bat, not higher than the batter's head, to the catcher's hands and is legally caught by the catcher.
72. The batter is out when he swings and misses the third strike and the ball touches any part of his body.
73. The batter is out when he enters the batter's box with, or is discovered using, an illegal bat.
74. The batter is not out if he bunts foul after the second strike.
75. The batter is out if he intentionally interferes with a thrown ball while in or out of the box.
76. A batter becomes a batter-runner when he legally hits a fair ball.
77. The batter-runner is out when an infield fly is declared.
78. When the batter-runner throws the bat after contacting the ball in such a manner as to cause interference with the fielder's opportunity to make an out, the umpire should call the batter-runner out.
79. The batter-runner is not out when a fielder makes a play on the batter-runner while using an illegal glove.
80. A runner does not have to touch a base when he is obstructed from doing so.
81. Runners are entitled to advance with liability to be put out when a thrown ball hits an umpire.
82. A runner must return to his base when a batted ball is declared foul.
83. The runner must return to his base when a pitched ball hits a batter.
84. The runner is out when he is physically assisted by the third base coach.
85. The runner is out when he leaves his base to advance prior to a caught fly ball being touched and is legally appealed.
86. The runner may touch the bases in any order, without penalty, when a home run is hit.
87. The runner is not out when he slides into a base and dislodges it from its proper position. The base is considered to have followed the runner.
88. Does the ball remain in play when a "No pitch" is declared?
89. The batter is hit by a pitched ball. Ruling: The ball is alive.
90. The ball is alive when the umpire calls time
91. The ball is alive when the runner runs the bases in reverse order to confuse the fielders or to make a travesty of the game.
92. The ball is dead when a runner fails to keep in contact with the base prior to a pitched ball being released
93. The ball remains alive when the pitcher issues an Intentional Walk to a batter.

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94. The ball is dead when an offensive team member deliberately erases the lines of the batter's box.
95. The ball remains alive when the Infield Fly rule is enforced.
96. The ball is alive when a thrown ball goes past a fielder and remains in playable territory.
97. The ball is alive when a runner is called out for passing a preceding runner.
98. When a runner is tagged or forced out the ball remains alive.
99. The ball is alive and in play when a fly ball has been legally caught.
100. The ball is dead when a foul tip is legally caught.

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