Western Region Umpire School



Little League - Junior League - Senior League - Challenger Division

# District 2 Certification

BASIC Mechanics 2019

**Please answer the questions and write in TRUE or FALSE. Assume its Little League Major Baseball Division, unless otherwise indicated. Please indicate the question’s rule reference in your answer.**

Student \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. The base umpire always calls batter/runner interference.

2. The best starting position for the base umpire, with no runners on base, is 10’ to 12’ behind

the first baseman, with both feet in foul territory.

3. On a pop foul ball, near the plate, the plate umpire should watch the ball during the play.

4. The base umpire should work for the best angle on every play. Angle is more important then

distance.

5. A pitch getting past the catcher should be watched closely for the possibility of the ball going

out of play or lodging in the fence.

6. Making a play on the batter/runner at first base, the base umpire should watch the ball,

letting the throw turn him into the play.

7. In a first to third situation, the plate umpire has the call on the runner from first at third.

8. Usually, the base umpire has the catch/no catch call in the outfield on a 60’ diamond.

9. The base umpire should respond to a check swing request whenever the catcher asks.

10. ~~In the major division, the umpire notices that one of the coaches is wearing a traditional~~

~~uniform similar to his teams’. The coach explains that he has a softball game later that evening. Under the circumstances, the umpire allows him to coach in the uniform.~~

11. With a runner on second base only, with two outs, the umpire can be positioned in the “C”

position left of the short stop, or in the “B” position to the right of the second baseman.

12. With runners on first and second, the batter squares around in an obvious bunt position.

The batter does not pull his bat back out of the way and the pitch comes in, outside the strike zone. The umpire correctly calls a strike since the batter must remove the bat from the strike zone.

13. With no runners on, and the ball is hit in the infield, the plate umpire should come out from

behind the plate and up the first base line watching for batter/runner interference, a swipe tag, or a pulled foot by the first base man.

14. With no runners on base, the batter hits a foul ball to the backstop. The catcher returns the

ball to the pitcher. The umpire should put the ball “in play” to resume the game.

15. For a play at the plate, with the ball coming from the outfield, the plate umpire’s usual

position would be on the first or third base line extended.

16. The spectators are getting increasingly noisier during the game, arguing with the umpire

calls, and harassing some of the ballplayers. The umpire insists that the manager attempt to quiet the crowd so that the game may continue.

17. The ball is alive on an appeal of a half swing.

18. With a runner on first, on a 90’ field, the base umpire should be positioned in the infield on

an imaginary line from home toward second past the right edge of the pitchers mound.

19. If the plate umpire cannot see the batter hit the pitched ball while his feet are out of the

batter’s box, it is the base umpire’s obligation to assist by making the call, because the plate umpire was blocked out.

20. The plate umpire has the responsibility for all runners touching third, except for the

batter/runner.

21. It is not only a good idea, but also imperative that the umpires working the game get

together prior to the game to discuss their mechanics, signals and other items worthy of discussion.

22. When arriving about a half-hour before the game, the umpire notices that one of the

managers is warming up his pitcher in the bullpen. He should ignore this since he does not officially take charge of the game until the lineups are exchanged at home plate.

23. When brushing off home plate, the proper mechanic for the plate umpire is to call time, turn

his back to the pitcher, and then brush off the plate.

24. It is OK to give a 3-2 count using two fists since everyone knows this means full count.

25. Either umpire may call a balk. It is not the sole responsibility of the plate umpire.

26. It is not necessary for the umpire to wear a hat if his hair is short and will not get in his eyes.

27. After the ball is hit, the plate umpire should remove his mask with his left hand and keep it

there until the play is over.

28. A good umpire will call a time out anytime a player, manager or coach requests one.

29. Some of the reasons for the base umpire’s pivot are, to maintain body control while

changing directions, keeping a play between the umpire and the ball, as well as to take a shorter route around the bases, thus staying in front of the runner.

30. It is not a good idea for a plate umpire to use an outside chest proctor. It will make him

appear that he is a rookie and doesn’t know what he is doing, since all good umpires use the inside protector.

31. The safe signal, with the hands outstretched, should never be used in a game unless the

batter or runner is actually safe.

32. With a two-man crew on a sixty-foot diamond, the base umpire, on all balls hit to the outfield,

will move into the infield and complete the umpire’s pivot and make calls on the bases. The plate umpire will take all balls hit to the outfield

33. A good umpire will both call verbally and signal visually a strike each and every time a strike

occurs.

34. In an effort to avert any problems during the game, it’s best to warn both managers that you

will not tolerate any complaining about judgment calls, throwing equipment, illegal substitutions, taunting, or fake tags. You should also explain your strike zone to the managers at this time.

35. On an infield fly situation, the umpires should call and signal, “Infield fly, if fair”, on balls near

the foul line, since in this situation, the batter cannot be called out on a foul ball unless the ball is caught.

36. On a two-man crew, it is not a problem for the base umpire to move into foul territory to

make a call at first base since that’s the only way he can get his ninety-degree angle to the play

37. With no runners on base and a two-man crew, the batter hits a ball into right center field. If

the batter tries to stretch the hit into a triple, the call at third base is the plate umpire’s call.

38. When he feels the catcher is getting too close to the plate, the plate umpire should tell the

catcher to move back so that he will not interfere with the batter or get hit by a swinging bat.

39. The plate umpire must wear a mask, chest protector and shin guards. Male plate umpires

must wear a protective cup.

40. With a runner on second base, the pitcher throws a pitch in the dirt that goes to the

backstop. The plate umpire should move into a position to see the play at third base so he can make the call correctly.

41. On a pitch delivered to the plate, the batter takes a half-swing, resulting in a strike being

called by the plate umpire. The manager requests the plate umpire check with the base umpire. The umpire should comply with the request.

42. Normally the umpire uses his right hand for strike and out signals. Under limited

circumstances, it is permissible to use his left hand, such as when a left-handed batter is at bat.

43. In a major division baseball game, the base umpire should not be inside the infield until the

ball is hit.

44. On a two-man crew and a steal of third, the base umpire should move toward the foul line,

not toward the third base. This will develop a much better angle on the play at third.

45. In an effort to insure each umpire call an infield fly when it occurs, the umpires should alert

each other prior to the pitch with an understandable signal.

46. When a batter receives a base on balls, the plate umpire should verbally state “ball four,

take your base”, and visually signal by pointing to first with his left hand.

47. The umpire in chief must write up any protest explanation for the league president, even

though the base umpire may have been the umpire to make the call.

48. On a rundown between first and second base, and a runner on third, the plate umpire may

move down to help, but should not announce his presence to the base umpire until the rundown is moving away from first base.

49. A ball call made by the plate umpire should be loud enough for the catcher and batter to

hear. The strike call should be loud enough for the entire park to hear.

50. A pitch is delivered to the batter who hits a ground ball to the shortstop. During the swing,

the bat contacted the catcher’s mitt. The umpire should call interference immediately, call the play dead, and award the batter/runner first base.

**“It’s What You Learn After You Know It All That Counts.”**