

2019 SOFTBALL STUDY GUIDE

1. If the score is tied after completion of 7 innings, the “tie breaker” process will be used starting in the 9th inning. (GHSA Policy)
2. A mitt may only be worn by F2 and F3. (Rule 1)
3. In fast pitch all bats shall meet the 2004 ASA Bat Performance Standard and have either the 2004 or 2013 ASA Certification Mark and not be on the ASA Non-Approved Bat List. (Rule 1)
4. A bat with the knob covered with grip tape is illegal. (Rule 1)
5. The taper of the bat shall have a solid surface and shall have a conical shape. (Rule 1)
6. 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. (Rule 1; Case Book).
7. In fast pitch all bats must bear either the USA/ASA 2000, 2004 or USA Softball All Games (2019) Certification Mark and not be on the USA Softball Non-Approved Bat List. (Rule 1, GHSA POLICY)
8. There are four types of appeals that can be made. (Rule 2)
9. An appeal on the last play of the game must be made before all infielders leave the field. (Rule 2)
10. A runner may return to touch a missed base after she has reached a base beyond the base missed when the ball is dead. (Rule 2)
11. More than one appeal can be made on a runner. (Rule 2)
12. If the pitcher has possession of the ball and is in contact with the pitching plate when making a verbal appeal an illegal pitch is called. (Rule 2)
13. During the game, it is legal for the team manager to video the game from the dugout and give it to the coach to review footage with players in between innings. (Rule 1; Case Book)
14. 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. (Rule 2)
15. 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 ball shall be called. (Rule 2)
16. 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 safe. (Rule 2; Case Book)

17. B1 hits a fly to deep center field. F8 catches the ball while standing on the temporary fence which has not completely fallen. This is a legal catch. (Rule 2)
18. 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 B1, B2 and the coach are ejected. (Rule 2 & 7)
19. If a forced runner, after touching the next base, except home, retreats for any reason toward a prior base, the force play is reinstated. (Rule 2)
20. B1 with a 1-1 count swings and tips the ball. The ball goes directly to F2's mitt, pops into the air, and is caught by F5. B1 is out. (Rule 2; Case Book)
21. Play card wristbands shall be worn on the non-throwing/pitching arm. (Rule 3)
22. The start of the pitch begins when the hands are separated after having been brought together while the pivot foot is in contact with the pitching plate. (Rule 6)
23. With runners on 1st and 2nd and no one out B1 hits a pop fly which lands untouched in foul territory between home plate and first base. The ball then rolls into fair territory and it picked up by F1. This is a fair ball and the batter is out on infield fly. (Rule 2; Case Book)
24. B1 hits a roller in front of the plate which F2 fields but does not throw to 1st bases because she would have hit B1 who was outside three foot running lane. Interference shall be called. (Rule 2; Case Book)
25. Upon covering a play at 3rd base, the umpire collides with the R1 on her way to 3rd base causing her to be tagged out. This is umpire interference. FALSE (Rule 2; Case Book)
26. Obstruction is a defensive act that impedes the progress of a runner who is legally running the bases unless the fielder is in possession of the ball, about to receive a thrown ball or is fielding a batted ball. (Rule 2)
27. 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. TRUE (Rule 8-3-8)
28. B2 hits a pop fly to the infield. R1, who is on 3B, is running with the pitch and touches home plate. R1 then realizes a pop fly has been hit to the infield and starts back to 3B. The pop fly is not caught and R1 is tagged as she attempts to return to 3B. R1 is declared out. (Rule 2; Case Book)
29. 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. (Rule 2 & 3; Case Book)
30. For obstruction to be ruled, the act must be an intentional act, physical or verbal, that impedes the runner's attempt to advance to the next base. (Rule 2)

31. Local association must maintain a minimum level of (20) members to retain "active status". (GHSA Policy)
32. A fielder is considered to be making an initial play if a batted ground ball deflects off the pitcher. (Rule 2)
33. 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)
34. 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 can be used to replace the injured B1. (Rule 3).
35. In the 4th inning, the Flex bats for the DP without reporting. This is an illegal substitution. (Rule 3; Case Book)
36. When the DP/FLEX is used the lineup may be reduced to nine and then returned to 10 any number of times. (Rule 3)
37. In the first inning the DP listed fourth in the lineup doubles. S1 runs for the DP. In the fourth inning, S2 bats for S1. With the count 1 ball and 1 strike, the FLEX replaces S2 at bat. This is an illegal substitute. (Rule 3, Case Book)
38. Umpires may not work more than (4) times, home or away, for any individual school. (GHSA Policy)
39. Players' headwear may be mixed (hats, visors) but if worn must be either white, black, beige or school colors and all players must match. (Rule 3)
40. 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. (Rule 3; Case Book)
41. A base coach may use a stopwatch while coaching first or third base. (Rule 3)
42. Following a team warning for illegal jewelry, the next player observed wearing jewelry in the game shall be ejected along with the head coach. (Rule 3; Case Book)
43. Exposed lower undergarments and exposed upper undergarments must be a single solid color either black, white, gray or a school color. However, the color of the lower undergarment and upper undergarment do not have to match. (Rule 3)
44. The host school is required to have the current year "non-approved" bat list in both dugouts during GHSA contests. (GHSA Policy)
45. Team A is wearing black upper undergarments. However, F1 is wearing a red playbook wristband on her non-pitching hand. This is illegal since it is not the same color as the upper undergarments. (Rule 3; Case Book)
46. Following a dead ball situation, the ball becomes live when the pitcher has the ball within the pitcher's circle. (Rule 5)

47. Contest officials and officials associations are classified as "independent contractors" and are not employees of the GHSA. (GHSA Policy)
48. If a runner intentionally removes her helmet during a live ball, a delayed dead ball is called and the runner is declared out. (Rule 5)
49. 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 going over the fence. R1 and B2 are awarded three bases from time of the pitch. (Rule 8; Case Book)
50. With R1 on 1st 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 2nd base. It is a dead ball and R1 is awarded 3rd base and B2 is awarded 2nd base. (Dead Ball Table, Rule 8)
51. Prior to starting the pitch, the pitcher shall take a position with one foot or both feet on or partially on the pitcher's plate with hands separated and the ball in her pitching hand. (Rule 6)
52. If the ball slips from the pitcher's hand during the back swing, it is an illegal pitch. (Rule 6)
53. The host school is required to provide a secure dressing area/room for game officials, and umpires shall not dress for the game in the spectator parking lot/area. (GHSA Policy)
54. The pitcher must have the ball in the glove, with the hands separated, when taking a position on the pitcher's plate. (Rule 6)
55. Prior to the pitch, all defensive players must be in fair territory. (Rule 6)
56. The pitcher may step back off the pitcher's plate after her hands have come together prior to the start of the delivery motion. (Rule 6)
57. If the pitcher takes a step backward with her non-pivot foot the step backward must start prior to her hands coming together. (Rule 6)
58. 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. (Rule 6)
59. If a pitcher is removed from the pitching position and then returns to the pitching position during the same inning she is allowed five warm up pitches. (Rule 6)
60. The 20-second time frame the pitcher has to release the pitch begins when the pitcher enters the pitching circle. (Rule 6)
61. R1 on first base. F1, while standing behind the pitching rubber, takes her sign from the coach. She then steps on the rubber and immediately brings her hand together. This is an illegal pitch. A ball is awarded to the batter and R1 is awarded 2nd base. (Rule 6)

62. B1 at bat. R1 on 1st base. F1 steps onto the pitching plate and then throws to 1st base in an attempt to pick off R1. This is an illegal pitch and immediate dead ball. R1 is awarded 2nd base. (Rule 6)
63. B3 erroneously bats out of order in place of B2. With the count 3 balls and 2 strikes on B3 the defensive team appeals B3 is batting out of order. The batter that should have batted, B2, is declared out. (Rule 7)
64. The batter must take her position with both feet completely or partially within the batter's box within 10 seconds after the ball is returned to the pitcher. (Rule 7)
65. 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. B1 is declared out. (Rule 7)
66. R1 on 2nd base attempts to steal 3rd 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 3rd base. B2 is guilty of batter interference. (Rule 7; Case Book)
67. 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. (Rule 7-4-2, Case Book)
68. The batter must keep one foot in the batter's box between pitches. (Rule 7)
69. A batter may be called out even though her batted ball was not initially ruled an infield fly. (Rule 8)
70. A fly ball that hits the top of the fence and then is deflected over the fence by the fielder is credited as a home run. (Rule 8; Case Book)
71. If an umpire judges that a fielder unintentionally carries a live ball into dead ball territory, it is an immediate dead ball and all runners are awarded two bases. (Rule 8)
72. 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
73. When a fielder intentionally contacts or catches a fair batted ball with any part of the uniform or equipment that is detached from its proper place it is a delayed dead ball and the batter and all runners are awarded three bases from the time of the pitch. (Rule 8 & 5)
74. R1 on 2nd base, B2 hits a ground ball that is deflected by the pitcher towards F6. R1 collides with F6 while F6 is making an attempt to field the ball. This is interference on R1. (Rule 8; Case Book)
75. An obstructed runner is no longer protected if the defensive team makes a subsequent play on a different runner. (Rule 8)

76. R1 on 1st base. B1 singles to right. R9 throws to F5 as R1 attempts to go to 3rd base. F5 catches the throw and tags R1 before she touches 3rd base. However F5 loses possession of the ball which rolls into the third base dugout after R1 touches 3rd base and B1 rounds 1st base. This is a dead ball and R1 is awarded home and B1 is awarded 3rd base. (Rule 8)
77. R1 on second, B2 hits a fly ball. R1 leaves early for third. F8 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. (Rule 2; Case Book)
78. R1 on 1st 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, it is an immediate dead ball. The batter and all runners are awarded two bases from the time of the pitch. (Rule 8; Case Book)
79. When a fielder intentionally contacts or catches a thrown ball with any part of the uniform or equipment that is detached it is a delayed dead ball and the batter and all runners are awarded two bases from the time of the throw. (Rule 8)
80. R1 on 1st base, a pitched ball gets away from catcher and rolls away. Catcher scoops ball up with her mask. R1 makes no attempt to go to 2nd. This is a delayed dead ball. R1 is awarded 2nd base. (Rule 8)
81. After scoring, R2 unintentionally contacts F2 who is attempting to make a play on another runner. R2 is called out for interference and the run does not count. FALSE (Rule 8; Case Book)
82. During a dead ball, the pitcher has possession of the ball in the circle with R1 on second base. R1 dances off second base. R1 is out under the look-back rule. (Rule 8)
83. B1 is safe at 1st base on a dropped third strike. She rounds 1st base, stops and seeing no one covering 2nd base she runs to 2nd base and is safe. The pitcher had the ball in the circle at the time B1 reached 1st base. B1 is out on the look back rule. (Rule 8)
84. B1 at bat. R1 on second base and R2 in first base. Both runners legally leave their base on the pitch. F2 returns the ball to F1 in the circle. Both R1 and R2 continue to dance of their base. Both R1 and R2 are out under the look back rule. (Rule 8)
85. R3 on 3rd base. B1 hits a one-hopper to the pitcher, who catches the ball and holds it motionless in the pitcher's circle while B1 continues to run toward 1st base. R3 continues to dance 5 feet off 3rd base. R3 is out on the look back rule. (Rule 8; Case Book)
86. 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. (Rule 8)
87. When a legal substitute replaces a courtesy runner, the courtesy runner has been removed from the game and can no longer be a courtesy runner. (Rule 8)

88. If a courtesy runner fails to report she is considered an illegal substitute. (Rule 8)
89. 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. (Rule 8)
90. The "look-back" rule is in effect when the batter/runner touches first base, and the pitcher has the ball in the circle. (Rule 8)
91. A runner at third base is not subject to the look-back 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. (Rule 8)
92. Jones, a courtesy runner for pitcher is on first base. B1 singles and after reaching first base injures her leg and cannot continue. The team has no substitutes. As a result, B1 is declared out since there is no one to replace her. (Rule 8)
93. 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. (Rule 7; Case Book).
94. R1 on 1st base. B2 has 0-2 count. B2 swings at next pitch and the foul tip is caught by catcher. B2 runs toward 1st base and collides with F3 attempting to catch the thrown ball by catcher. This is interference on B2. R1 is declared out. (Rule 2 & 8)
95. R1 on first. She attempts to steal second and while attempting to throw, F2's arm contacts the plate umpire. R1 is safe at 2nd base. This is umpire interference and R1 must return to first. (Rule 8)
96. B1 hits a ground ball past F3. No other fielder has a chance to make a play but the ball strikes the umpire. This is an immediate dead ball and B1 is awarded first base. (Rule 8)
97. R2 on 2nd base, one out. B3 singles to left. R2 rounds 3rd and attempts to score. F7 fields the ball and throws to F2 who is in a crouched position 5 feet up the 3rd base line fielding the throw. R2 hurdles F2 and lands on the plate before she is tagged by F2. This is a legal play and R2 scores. (Rule 8)
98. B1 bunts a ball that bounces off the plate and rolls in front of the plate. As B1 runs to 1st base she has one foot partially touching the foul line and one foot completely in the running lane. F2 fields the ball and her throw to first base hits B1. B1 is out for interference. (Rule 8)
99. The courtesy runner for the catcher is injured while on base. She may be replaced either by the catcher or another courtesy runner. (Rule 8)
100. Bases loaded, 2 out. B2 hits a home run. After B2 touches the plate, the defense appeals B2 missing 2nd base. The umpire declares B2 out. Three runs score. (Rule 9)

101. One out, R3 on 3rd base and R2 on 2nd base. B4 doubles. R2 and R3 score, but R2 missed 3rd base and B4 misses 1st base. After playing action is over, defense appeals B4 missing 1st base and then appeals R2 missing 3rd base. Umpires declare both R2 and B4 out. No runs score. (Rule 9)
102. R1 on 3rd base, R2 on 2nd base. B3 hits a deep fly ball to F8. R1 tags but leaves early. R2 tags legally. F8s throw to 3rd base is wild and R2 also scores. The defense appeals R1 leaving early. One run scores. (Rule 2 & 9; Case Book)
103. With 2 outs and R1 on 3rd base, R2 on 2nd base and R3 on 1st base, B6 walks. R3 touches 2nd base and is then tagged off base for the third out before R1 reached home plate. R1's run does not count. TRUE (Rules 2, 8, & 9; Case Book)
104. In all circumstances, the scorebook of the home team is the official scorebook. (Rule 9)
105. Umpire jurisdiction begins with the arrival of one of the umpires within the confines of the field. (Rule 10).
106. In two person crews, either umpire may forfeit a game for just cause. (Rule 10)
107. The use of a double first base is recommended at all GHSA games. (GHSA Policy).
108. All varsity games must have a winner/loser outcome and cannot end in a tie. (GHSA Policy)
109. Teammates of a player who has hit a homerun must remain behind the batter's box lines nearest their dugout. (GHSA Policy)
110. Eye black shall only be used for glare reduction and not as an individual or team expression/adornment. It may be any color but the same color must be used under each eye. (GHSA Policy)
111. Cancer Awareness month is September to recognize Breast, Childhood, and Prostrate cancer. (GHSA Policy)
112. The GHSA Officials Card/Pass only allows the legal bearer (individual named on pass) admission to GHSA events. (GHSA Policy)
113. The "tie-breaker" procedure shall be used for only varsity level games, and is initiated in the top of the 10th inning. (GHSA Policy)