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Knowledge of Baseball Rules and Game Situations Possessed by Little League Umpires

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KNOWLEDGE OF BASEBALL RULES AND GAME SITUATIONS

POSSESSED BY LITTLE LEAGUE UMPIRES

(TITLE)

BY

James A. Kimball

THESIS

SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS
FOR THE DEGREE OF

Master of Science in Education

IN THE GRADUATE SCHOOL, EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
CHARLESTON, ILLINOIS

1966

YEAR

I HEREBY RECOMMEND THIS THESIS BE ACCEPTED AS FULFILLING
THIS PART OF THE GRADUATE DEGREE CITED ABOVE

8-4-66

DATE

5 August 1966

DATE

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

Preliminary Statement

It is the conviction of the writer that umpiring on the little league level is far from adequate. It is believed that individual communities can solve this problem. If people or sponsors are willing to supply teams with "classy" uniforms and equipment, they should be willing to supply them with adequate officials. Sufficient reimbursement for officials could be one of the methods in obtaining better officials.

Adequate umpires are more essential to the game than are such items as uniforms, presence of spectators, and concession facilities. If little league is to be maintained properly, officials should be more closely screened on such matters as rules interpretation and safety. Better qualified officials would lessen the public criticism concerning dangers involved with little league baseball.

It is believed that officials should be required to pass a test on baseball rules before the season begins. It is hoped this study may influence administrators of little league competition to include such a rules test.

Purpose of Study

The purpose of this study was to determine the knowledge

of little league umpires pertaining to general baseball rules and game situations. The study can be used as a scaling method to determine what areas of the rules are most often misinterpreted. The rules or situations included in the test were those which would probably most often occur in game situations.

Need for Study

It is hoped that results of this study will help improve the rules interpretations of little league umpires. It is the writer's contention that it may be used to serve as a body of knowledge which all little league umpires should know. Umpires are essential to maintain safety and proper play; it is hoped that this study will serve as a guide line for their responsibilities as little league umpires.

Delimitations

The participants used for this study were limited to those baseball umpires not registered by the Illinois High School Association, and those who resided in east central Illinois. The test was given only to those with little league umpire experience and those who intended to umpire little league games during the summer of 1966.

Definitions

1. Little League - little league is an amateur baseball organization comprised of boys who will attain the age of nine years before August 1 and who will not attain the age of 13 years before August 1 of the year in question.

2. Umpires - umpires are those responsible for the proper conduct of a game, usually numbering two. They shall make decisions on points not covered by the rules, inspect equipment, disqualify players if it becomes necessary, call games if conditions become unfit to play, penalize for prescribed infractions.

3. Appeal Play - An appeal play is a rule infraction which the umpire ignores unless his attention is called to it by a player of the offended team before the time of the next pitch.

4. Judgment Play - A judgment play is a decision by the umpire based on his opinion as to whether or not a rule is applicable to the situation involved.

5. Rule Interpretation Play - A rule interpretation play is a decision by the umpire which is specifically defined by the rules.

6. Force Play - A force play is a play in which the runner loses his right to the base he occupies and is forced to advance.¹

¹Little League Baseball Incorporated, Little League Official Rules, Williamsport, Pennsylvania: Privately Printed, 1966.

7. Index of Discrimination - An index of discrimination is the procedure used in differentiating between those well versed in the material being tested and those less informed. It is the difference in proportion of correct responses between the upper and lower groups.

8. Index of Difficulty - An index of difficulty is the procedure used in determining what percent of the subjects answered the questions correctly.

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

In the search for related material, the writer corresponded with the Little League Baseball Incorporation, Williamsport, Pennsylvania; the Illinois High School Association, Chicago, Illinois; and Mr. Hal Schumacher, Adirondack Bats, Inc., Delgeville, New York. The reply from Schumacher¹ was typical of the responses from the others contacted which stated that no recognized tests were available.

The writer researched the library at Eastern Illinois University, Charleston, Illinois and the library at the University of Illinois, Champaign, Illinois in an attempt to gather related material. As a result of the two library reviews, it was found that no studies were available which were directly related to this thesis.

¹Appendix A

CHAPTER III

METHODOLOGY

It was believed by this writer that little league umpires were inadequately prepared in some areas of rules interpretations and game situations. This study was an attempt to illustrate the lack of knowledge possessed by little league which is exemplified by their demonstrated ability of rules interpretations.

Procedure

In an attempt to gather information, letters were written to the Little League Baseball Incorporated, Williamsport, Pennsylvania; the Illinois High School Association, Chicago, Illinois; and Mr. Hal Schumacher, Adirondack Bats Incorporated, Dolgeville, New York. The reply from Schumacher¹ was typical of the responses from the others contacted which stated that no recognized tests were available. With their reply, the Little League Baseball Incorporated included rule books for the 1966 season.

After corresponding with the different organizations listed above, a test was constructed which was to be used in evaluating knowledge of umpires.

The Little League Baseball Rule Books and the Illinois High School Association Rule and Case Book were used as guides

¹Appendix A

in constructing the test. A twenty-six question test was then devised.

The test stressed those situations commonly occurring in most little league games. Through the writer's experience as a little league manager, it was determined that these questions are related to the areas most often misinterpreted.

A pilot study was conducted to determine the reliability of each test question. The test was given to sixty subjects consisting of physical education majors, graduate assistants in physical education, faculty members, and other students who had umpiring experience in little league baseball. All of the tests given in the pilot study were proctored. The IBM 1620 computer was used in checking the results of both the pilot study and final tests.

An index of discrimination¹ was applied and all those questions having a negative index were discarded or reworded. Also, an index of difficulty² was applied to each item in an attempt to achieve a fifty per cent level of difficulty for each question. After the reconstruction of the initial test, a final test consisting of twenty-five questions was devised.

The final test was administered to forty subjects who had umpire experience and were planning to umpire during the 1966 season. The subjects were all experienced little league officials active in areas within a seventy-five mile radius of Charleston, Illinois.

¹Edward J. Furst, Constructing Evaluation Instruments (New York, London, and Toronto: Longman, Green Company, 1958), pp. 309-318.

²Ibid.

All of the final tests were proctored. The people proctoring the tests were well qualified, consisting of graduate students, professional teachers, or those in administrative positions in the little league association in their respective areas.

The results from the final test were then processed to determine the general knowledge of little league umpires. Conclusions were then drawn and recommendations for further study were made based on the test results.

CHAPTER IV

ANALYSIS OF TEST RESULTS

After the tests were processed by the IBM 1620 computer, a question analysis of each problem was made. These analyses are presented in this chapter. Table I indicates the answers given for each question. An asterisk indicates the best answer.

TABLE I

QUESTION ANALYSIS OF THE ANSWERS GIVEN BY
FORTY UMPIRES TO THE TWENTY-FIVE
QUESTION TEST

Question Number	Foils					Omissions
	A	B	C	D	E	
1	1	*32	3	4	--	--
2	14	*25	--	1	--	--
3	*17	21	1	1	--	--
4	5	*26	9	--	--	--
5	13	1	1	*25	--	--
6	23	--	*16	1	--	--
7	9	3	*24	4	--	--
8	3	*26	1	4	--	1
9	7	3	5	*25	--	--
10	10	7	*20	3	--	--
11	16	6	--	*18	--	--
12	4	4	3	*29	--	--
13	*20	--	12	3	5	--
14	12	11	8	*9	--	--
15	5	2	*12	20	--	1
16	*7	16	17	--	--	--
17	10	*18	8	4	--	--
18	7	--	*32	1	--	--
19	--	1	*18	21	--	--
20	*11	22	7	--	--	--
21	14	12	5	*9	--	--
22	7	*26	6	1	--	--
23	1	1	26	*11	1	--
24	4	2	4	12	*18	--
25	10	4	*2	8	16	--
Total						
Best						
Answers	4	6	7	7	1	

Question 1.

1. There is a runner on first base and a runner on third base. The pitcher has a one ball and one strike count on the batter when his next pitch goes into the stands. Which of the following statements best describes the correct decision concerning the advancement of base runners?

- A. Each runner is automatically allowed to advance two bases.
- B. Each runner is automatically allowed to advance one base, and the ball is considered "dead".
- C. There is no limit to the number of bases that each runner may advance; however, he proceeds at his own risk.
- D. The runner on third must remain on third and can't score on a pitched ball that goes into the stands; however, the runner on first is automatically allowed to advance to second base.

Thirty-two of the subjects answered the question correctly, while eight answered it incorrectly. The majority answering the question incorrectly chose foil D rather than the correct answer B.

Question 2.

2. A batter hits a ball to deep centerfield. A spectator reaches over the wall before the ball has passed the wall and deflects it back into the playing area. The umpire should make what judgment of the play?

- A. Batter is awarded a home run, because in the umpire's judgment, the ball would have carried into the stands.
- B. Batter is awarded a double.
- C. Batter is awarded a triple.
- D. Batter is allowed to try for any number of bases because the ball is still in play.

Twenty-five of the subjects answered the question correctly, while fifteen answered it incorrectly. The majority answering the question incorrectly chose foil A rather than the correct answer B.

Question 3.

3. It is the turn for B-8 to bat, but B-9 erroneously bats in his place and has a count of two balls and one strike when discovered by the defensive coach. What is the ruling?

- A. Since B-9 has already assumed the batting position and has established a count, B-8 is declared out.
- B. Since B-9 has already assumed the batting position and has established a count, B-8 will resume his original position but must also assume the established count.
- C. B-8 will replace B-9 in the correct position and will not be credited with a count.
- D. B-9 will remain at bat until his turn is completed, then B-1 will bat to restore the proper batting order.

Seventeen of the subjects answered the question correctly, while twenty-three answered it incorrectly. The majority answering the question incorrectly chose foil B rather than the correct answer A.

Question 4.

4. With a runner on second base, a runner on first attempts and legally steals second, but both runners are now on second base. What is the ruling?

- A. The runner originally on second must advance to third to prevent a force-out.
- B. The runner originally on second is entitled to that base and can not be tagged out.
- C. The runner coming from first is declared out for the infraction of two men being on the base at the same time.
- D. Both runners can be tagged out.

Twenty-six of the subjects answered the question correctly, while fourteen answered it incorrectly. The majority answering the question incorrectly chose foil C rather than the correct answer B.

Question 5.

5. With runners on first and third, a fly ball is hit to left field; after catching the ball, the fielder stumbles onto the bench, dugout, or spectators who are on the field. How many bases are the runners allowed to advance?

- A. All runners may advance one base.
- B. All runners may advance two bases.
- C. All base runners must remain at the base they occupied at the time of the catch.
- D. All base runners may advance at their own risk if the fielder is still on his feet after the catch.

Twenty-five of the subjects answered the question correctly, while fifteen answered it incorrectly. The majority answering the question incorrectly chose foil A rather than the correct answer D.

Question 6.

6. Smith replaces Jones in the last of the fourth inning. What is the most important item a substitute or coach must remember?

- A. A substitute player must bat in the player's position, but may be used in any defensive position.
- B. A player who is removed from the game may not be used as a coacher for the remainder of the game.
- C. Substitutes must report to the Umpire-in-Chief stating his name, shirt number, the name of the player he is replacing in the batting order and the position he will play in the field.
- D. A player may re-enter as many times as the coach desires, but must replace substitute in batting order.

Sixteen of the subjects answered the question correctly, while twenty-four answered it incorrectly. The majority answering the question incorrectly chose foil A rather than the correct answer C.

Question 7.

7. B-1 hits a hard-hit ball which slices toward the right field foul line, the right fielder catches it with one foot in foul territory. Is the ball fair or foul?

- A. With one foot over the foul line, the ball is foul when caught.
- B. If both feet are in foul territory when the ball is caught, the ball is foul.
- C. Foul or fair will be determined by the position of the ball when caught.
- D. Foul or fair will be determined when the fielder regains control over his momentum.

Twenty-four of the subjects answered the question correctly, while sixteen answered it incorrectly. The majority answering the question incorrectly chose foil A rather than the correct answer C.

Question 8.

8. With runners on first and third, the pitcher comes to a stop for one full second with both hands at his waist; he then throws to first with both his pivot and non-pivot foot pointing toward the batter; runner is tagged out before returning to first. What is the ruling?

- A. Runner is out if so judged by the umpire.
- B. Balk is called and all runners are advanced one base.
- C. Runner is out and the ball is "dead" immediately.
- D. Balk is called and the runner on first is awarded second.

Twenty-six of the subjects answered the question correctly, while fourteen answered it incorrectly. The majority answering the question incorrectly chose foil A rather than the correct answer B.

Question 9.

9. With bases loaded, the batter hits a ball to the left fielder. The left fielder throws the ball to third, hitting the coacher, which causes the ball to roll far enough away from the third baseman so that all runners advance home. What should be the ruling?

- A. Each runner is allowed a one-base advancement.
- B. Each runner is allowed a two-base advancement.
- C. Ball is "dead" immediately with runners remaining on base occupied at the time of the throw.
- D. Ball is "alive" and all runners advance at their own risk.

Twenty-five of the subjects answered the question correctly, while fifteen answered it incorrectly. The majority answering the question incorrectly chose foil A rather than the correct answer D.

Question 10.

10. With a runner on first, B-9 (with a count of 3 and 2,) barely touches a ball on a swing which the catcher eventually catches. What is the ruling?

- A. If the ball is caught by the catcher, the batter is out, and the runner must remain on first.
- B. If the ball goes directly from the bat to the catcher's body-protector and rebounds into his glove, the batter is out and the runner may advance at his own risk.
- C. If the ball goes directly from the bat to the catcher's glove and is caught, the batter is out and the runner on first may advance to second.
- D. If the ball is trapped against the body-protector, the batter is out and the base runner may advance at his own risk.

Twenty of the subjects answered the question correctly, while twenty answered it incorrectly. The majority answering the question incorrectly chose foil A rather than the correct answer C.

Question 11.

11. B-2 hits a ball past the shortstop. A runner on second base is hit by the ball when attempting to advance to third. What is the ruling?

- A.. The base runner is declared out and B-2 is awarded first base.
- B. The base runner is declared out and B-2 is accredited with a fielder's choice.
- C. The ball is "dead" immediately and each is awarded one base.
- D. The ball is "alive" and all runners may advance at their own risk.

Eighteen of the subjects answered the question correctly, while twenty-two answered it incorrectly. The majority answering the question incorrectly chose foil A rather than the correct answer D.

Question 12.

12. Jones desires to replace Smith who has a count of one ball and two strikes. What is the ruling?

- A. After two strikes, batter can't be replaced except for injury.
- B. Jones may not enter until Smith has completed his turn at bat.
- C. Jones shall give the Umpire-in-Chief his name, number and position.
- D. Jones shall give the Umpire-in-Chief his name, number place in the batting order, and must assume the count established by Smith.

Twenty-nine of the subjects answered the question correctly, while eleven answered it incorrectly. The majority answering the question incorrectly chose foils A and B rather than the correct answer D.

Question 13.

13. With the bases loaded, Jones hits a ball down the third base foul line. The ball hits the bag which is in foul territory. What is the ruling?

- A. Ball is fair and base runners advance at their own risk.
- B. All runners are allowed one-base advancements.
- C. Ball is "dead" immediately and foul ball is called.
- D. Ball is "fair" and runners are advanced two bases on a "ground rule" decision.
- E. Umpire rules "no play", relocates the bag and play resumes as if nothing happened.

Twenty of the subjects answered the question correctly, while twenty answered it incorrectly. The majority answering the question incorrectly chose foil C rather than the correct answer A.

Question 14.

14. There are two outs, men on first and third, when Jones hits a triple. All runners reach home safely. An appeal is made that Jones failed to touch second base. How are the runs scored?

- A. All runs scored and Jones is awarded a double in the score book.
- B. Only the runner from third scores.
- C. All runs are scored if the runner from first base crosses home before the appeal is made.
- D. None of the runs count.

Nine of the subjects answered the question correctly, while thirty-one answered it incorrectly. The majority answering the question incorrectly chose foil A rather than the correct answer D.

Question 15.

15. With runners on first and second and one out, Jones bunts a foul which goes very high and foul down the third base line and one which can be caught easily by an infielder. What is the ruling?

- A. The umpire will shout "Infield Fly," which will allow base runners to run at their own risk.
- B. The umpire will withhold his call to see if the ball is foul or fair.
- C. "Infield Fly" cannot be called because of the attempted bunt by the batter.
- D. "Infield Fly" cannot be called because it was a foul ball.

Twelve of the subjects answered the question correctly, while twenty-eight answered it incorrectly. The majority answering the question incorrectly chose foil D rather than the correct answer C.

Question 16.

16. With bases loaded, Jones hits a fair ball down the left field line. The left fielder throws his glove at the ball and stops it. What is the ruling?

- A. Batter may try for any number of bases up to three, but will be assured of an automatic triple, but may advance home at his own risk and all runs are allowed to score.
- B. An automatic double is awarded to the batter and two runs are allowed to score.
- C. An automatic triple is awarded to the batter and all runs are allowed to score and the ball is "dead".

Seven of the subjects answered the question correctly, while thirty-three answered it incorrectly. The majority answering the question incorrectly chose foil C rather than the correct answer A.

Question 17.

17. During the top half of the 4th inning, the home team is ahead when it starts to rain. What is the ruling?

- A. A game cannot be called until 4 innings have been completed.
- B. A game cannot be called until 4 1/2 innings have been completed.
- C. A game cannot be called until 5 innings have been completed.
- D. Since the home team is ahead, it is a regulation game.

Eighteen of the subjects answered the question correctly, while twenty-two answered it incorrectly. The majority answering the question incorrectly chose foil A rather than the correct answer B.

Question 18.

18. Runners are on 1st and 2nd with one out. The batter hits a ground ball to the second baseman. The second baseman throws to first for the play on the batter. Then the first baseman throws to the shortstop covering second and he steps on second base before the runner arrives. What is the ruling?

- A. The runner going to second is out if the ball is there before he reaches the bag.
- B. If the runner going to first is tagged, the runner going to second may be forced out.
- C. The runner going to second must be tagged out.
- D. If the first baseman fails to touch first, the runner going to second cannot be forced out.

Eighteen of the subjects answered the question correctly, while twenty-two answered it incorrectly. The majority answering the question incorrectly chose foil D rather than the correct answer C.

QUESTIONS 19-25 WILL BE DIRECTED SPECIFICALLY TO LITTLE LEAGUE RULES.

Question 19.

19. With two outs in the last inning, the manager wishes to replace his pitcher. He has already used four pitchers. What is the ruling?

- A. Not more than three pitchers shall be used in one game.
- B. Not more than four pitchers shall be used in one game.
- C. Not more than five pitchers shall be used in one game.
- D. Any number of pitchers can be used in one game.

Eighteen of the subjects answered the question correctly, while twenty-two answered it incorrectly. The majority answering the question incorrectly chose foil D rather than the correct answer C.

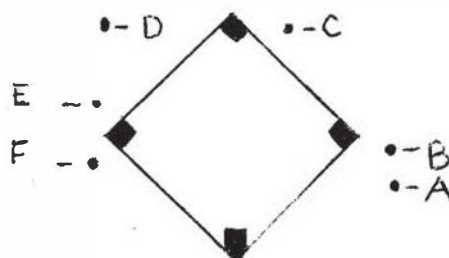
Question 20.

Jones is at bat with a count of 1 ball and 2 strikes when it is discovered that he is batting without a batting helmet. What is the ruling?

- A. If discovered by the team at bat, the batter is required to get a helmet before he resumes batting.
- B. If discovered by the umpire, the batter is told he must get a helmet if he is to continue batting.
- C. If discovered by the defensive team, the batter must obtain a helmet with the possibility of an out being called for delay of the game.
- D. If discovered by the batter, he may elect to bat without the helmet without the possibility of a penalty being assessed.

Eleven of the subjects answered the question correctly, while twenty-nine answered it incorrectly. The majority answering the question incorrectly chose foil B rather than the correct answer A.

SEE FIGURE 1 FOR INFORMATION RELATING TO QUESTIONS 21-25.



Question 21.

21. With one base umpire and runners on second and third, the umpire should stand at which location?

- | | |
|---------------|---------------|
| A. Position C | C. Position E |
| B. Position D | D. Position F |

Nine of the subjects answered the question correctly, while thirty-one answered it incorrectly. The majority of those answering the question incorrectly chose foil A rather than the correct answer D.

Question 22.

22. With one base umpire and the bases empty, the umpire should stand at which position?

- | | |
|---------------|---------------|
| A. Position A | D. Position D |
| B. Position B | E. Position E |
| C. Position C | |

Twenty-six of the subjects answered the question correctly, while fourteen answered it incorrectly. The majority of those answering the question incorrectly chose foil A rather than the correct answer B.

Question 23.

23. With one base umpire and a runner on second, the umpire should stand at which position?

- | | |
|---------------|---------------|
| A. Position A | D. Position D |
| B. Position B | E. Position E |
| C. Position C | |

Question 23 (cont.)

Eleven of the subjects answered the question correctly, while twenty-nine answered it incorrectly. The majority of those answering the question incorrectly chose foil C rather than the correct answer D.

Question 24.

24. With two base umpires and a runner on first base, the umpires should stand in what positions?

- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| A. Positions A-C | D. Positions B-C |
| B. Positions A-F | E. Positions B-D |
| C. Positions A-E | |

Eighteen of the subjects answered the question correctly, while twenty-two answered it incorrectly. The majority of those answering the question incorrectly chose foil D rather than the correct answer E.

Question 25.

25. With two base umpires, and a runner on second base, the umpires should stand in what positions?

- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| A. Positions A-D | D. Positions F-C |
| B. Positions B-C | E. Positions C-E |
| C. Positions D-E | |

Two of the subjects answered the question correctly, while thirty-eight answered it incorrectly. The majority of those answering it incorrectly chose foil E rather than the correct answer C.

TABLE 2

PERCENT OF CORRECT ANSWERS GIVEN TO EACH
QUESTION BY THE FORTY UMPIRES ON
THE TWENTY-FIVE QUESTION TEST

Question	Percent										
	100	90	80	70	60	50	40	30	20	10	5
1. Overthrow			X								
2. Spectator interference						X					
3. Batting order								X			
4. Base running					X						
5. Base running					X						
6. Substituting							X				
7. Fair/foul ball					X						
8. Pitcher irregularity						X					
9. Coaches interference						X					
10. Foul tip						X					
11. Runner interference								X			
12. Substitution					X						
13. Fair/foul ball						X					
14. Base running										X	
15. "Infield Fly"								X			
16. Detached equipment										X	
17. Regulation game								X			
18. Force play			X								
19. Number of pitchers								X			
20. Helmet regulation										X	
21. Umpire location									X		
22. Umpire location					X						
23. Umpire location								X			
24. Umpire location							X				
25. Umpire location											X

Summary of Analysis

The correct responses to the questions on the test ranged from a low of 5 percent in response to question number 25 to a high of 80 percent in response to questions number 1 and 18. Question number 25, which is concerned with umpire location, was answered correctly by two subjects. Questions number 1 and 18 concerned with over throw and force play respectively were answered correctly by 32 of the subjects. The remainder of the scores were well distributed between the high and low scores.

The results of the first eighteen questions which were concerned with general baseball rules accumulated an average of 53.1 percent correct answers. The last seven questions relating to little league baseball rules specifically, accumulated an average of 34.1 percent correct answers. An over all average for correct answers on the entire test was 47.8 percent.

CHAPTER V

SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS, AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Summary

The study was undertaken in an effort to illustrate the knowledge of baseball rules and game situations possessed by little league umpires. A twenty-six question test was first devised and given to sixty pilot subjects. After checking the index of discrimination and the index of difficulty for each question, a final test of twenty-five questions was constructed. The final test was then given to forty subjects. The subjects used in the final test were experienced little league umpires and those who intended to umpire during the 1966 season. None of the subjects used in the final test were registered in baseball by the Illinois High School Association. The final test was then processed by the IBM 1620 computer.

The results of the first eighteen questions, which consisted of general baseball rules, had a correct answer percentage of 53.1. The last seven questions, which consisted of little league rules specifically had a correct answer percentage of 34.1. The over all average of correct answers for the entire test totaled 47.8.

Conclusions

The results of the study indicate that little league umpires included in this study are inadequate in their knowledge of rules interpretation. It is realized that questions relating to specific areas of little league were probably more difficult than those relating to general baseball rules; however, this is the area in which they should be well versed.

Recommendations

1. Each community should present a series of rules interpretations meetings prior to the season. Attendance at such meetings should be required of all umpires.

2. Little League Baseball Incorporated should require that all umpires working within their organization, pass a rules test each year which would enhance the program with better rules interpretations and better knowledge of safety involved within the game of baseball.

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National Federation of State High School Athletic Associations, Baseball Case Book. Chicago: Privately printed, 1966.

APPENDIX

ADIRONDACK BATS, INC.

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January 17, 1966

*Mr. James A. Kimball
Physical Education Dept.
Northern Illinois University
DeKalb, Illinois 60150*

Dear Mr. Kimball:

I regret to advise that we do not have any tests sponsored by our company in connection with the thesis you have chosen "The General Knowledge of Little League Umpires."

I know of no one who has ever chosen a topic of this type so your results certainly should prove interesting.

*Sincerely yours,
Adirondack Bats, Inc.*

*Hal Schumacher
Executive Vice President*

S:V

BASEBALL RULES TEST

Directions: Mark your answers only on the answer sheet provided. There is only one answer to each question. Questions 1-19 are general baseball rules.

1. There is a runner on first base and a runner on third base. The pitcher has a one ball and one strike count on the batter when his next pitch goes into the stands. Which of the following statements best describes the correct decision concerning the advancement of base runners?
 - A. Each runner is automatically allowed to advance two bases.
 - B. Each runner is automatically allowed to advance one base, and the ball is considered "dead".
 - C. There is no limit to the number of bases that each runner may advance; however, he proceeds at his own risk.
 - D. The runner on third must remain on third and can't score on a pitched ball that goes into the stands; however, the runner on first is automatically allowed to advance to second base.
2. A batter hits a ball to deep centerfield. A spectator reaches over the wall before the ball has passed the wall and deflects it back into the playing area. The umpire should make what judgment of the play?
 - A. Batter is awarded a home run, because in the umpire's judgment, the ball would have carried into the stands.
 - B. Batter is awarded a double.
 - C. Batter is awarded a triple.
 - D. Batter is allowed to try for any number of bases because the ball is still in play.
3. It is the turn for B-8 to bat, but B-9 erroneously bats in his place and has a count of two balls and one strike when discovered by the defensive coach. What is the ruling?
 - A. Since B-9 has already assumed the batting position and has established a count, B-8 is declared out.
 - B. Since B-9 has already assumed the batting position and has established a count, B-8 will resume his original position but must also assume the established count.
 - C. B-8 will replace B-9 in the correct position and will not be credited with a count.
 - D. B-9 will remain at bat until his turn is completed, then B-1 will bat to restore the proper batting order.

4. With a runner on second base, a runner on first attempts and legally steals second, but both runners are now on second base. What is the ruling?

- A. The runner originally on second must advance to third to prevent a force-out.
- B. The runner originally on second is entitled to that base and can not be tagged out.
- C. The runner coming from first is declared out for the infraction of two men being on the base at the same time.
- D. Both runners can be tagged out.

5. With runners on first and third, a fly ball is hit to left field; after catching the ball, the fielder stumbles onto the bench, dugout, or spectators who are on the field. How many bases are the runners allowed to advance?

- A. All runners may advance one base.
- B. All runners may advance two bases.
- C. All base runners must remain at the base they occupied at the time of the catch.
- D. All base runners may advance at their own risk if the fielder is still on his feet after the catch.

6. Smith replaces Jones in the last of the fourth inning. What is the most important item a substitute or coach must remember?

- A. A substitute player must bat in the player's position, but may be used in any defensive position.
- B. A player who is removed from the game may not be used as a coacher for the remainder of the game.
- C. Substitutes must report to the Umpire-in-Chief stating his name, shirt number, the name of the player he is replacing in the batting order and the position he will play in the field.
- D. A player may re-enter as many times as the coach desires, but must replace substitute in batting order.

7. B-1 hits a hard-hit ball which slices toward the right field foul line, the right fielder catches it with one foot in foul territory. Is the ball fair or foul?

- A. With one foot over the foul line, the ball is foul when caught.
- B. If both feet are in foul territory when the ball is caught, the ball is foul.
- C. Foul or fair will be determined by the position of the ball when caught.
- D. Foul or fair will be determined when the fielder regains control over his momentum.

8. With runners on first and third, the pitcher comes to a stop for one full second with both hands at his waist; he then throws to first with both his pivot and non-pivot foot pointing toward the batter; runner is tagged out before returning to first. What is the ruling?

- A. Runner is out if so judged by the umpire.
- B. Balk is call and all runners are advanced one base.
- C. Runner is out and the ball is "dead" immediately.
- D. Balk is called and the runner on first is awarded second.

9. With bases loaded, the batter hits a ball to the left fielder. The left fielder throws the ball to third, hitting the coacher, which causes the ball to roll far enough away from the third baseman so that all runners advance home. What should be the ruling?

- A. Each runner is allowed a one-base advancement.
- B. Each runner is allowed a two-base advancement.
- C. Ball is "dead" immediately with runners remaining on base occupied at the time of the throw.
- D. Ball is "alive" and all runners advance at their own risk.

10. With a runner on first, B-9 (with a count of 3 and 2,) barely touches a ball on a swing which the catcher eventually catches. What is the ruling?

- A. If the ball is caught by the catcher, the batter is out, and the runner must remain on first.
- B. If the ball goes directly from the bat to the catcher's body-protector and rebounds into his glove, the batter is out and the runner may advance at his own risk.
- C. If the ball goes directly from the bat to the catcher's glove and is caught, the batter is out and the runner on first may advance to second.
- D. If the ball is trapped against the body-protector, the batter is out and the base runner may advance at his own risk.

11. B-2 hits a ball past the shortstop. A runner on second base is hit by the ball when attempting to advance to third. What is the ruling?

- A. The base runner is declared out and B-2 is awarded first base.
- B. The base runner is declared out and B-2 is accredited with a fielder's choice.
- C. The ball is "dead" immediately and each is awarded one base.
- D. The ball is "alive" and all runners may advance at their own risk.

12. Jones desires to replace Smith who has a count of one ball and two strikes. What is the ruling?

- A. After two strikes, batter can't be replaced except for injury.
- B. Jones may not enter until Smith has completed his turn at bat.
- C. Jones shall give the Umpire-in-Chief his name, number and position.
- D. Jones shall give the Umpire-in-Chief his name, number and place in the batting order, and must assume the count established by Smith.

13. With the bases loaded, Jones hits a ball down the third base foul line. The ball hits the bag which is in foul territory. What is the ruling?

- A. Ball is fair and base runners advance at their own risk.
- B. All runners are allowed one-base advancements.
- C. Ball is "dead" immediately and foul ball is called.
- D. Ball is "fair" and runners are advanced two bases on a "ground rule" decision.
- E. Umpire rules "no play", relocates the bag and play resumes as if nothing happened.

14. There are two outs, men on first and third, when Jones hits a triple. All runners reach home safely. An appeal is made that Jones failed to touch second base. How are the runs scored?

- A. All runs scored and Jones is awarded a double in the score book.
- B. Only the runner from third scores.
- C. All runs are scored if the runner from first base crosses home before the appeal is made.
- D. None of the runs count.

15. With runners on first and second and one out, Jones bunts a foul which goes very high and foul down the third base line and one which can be caught easily by an infielder. What is the ruling?

- A. The umpire will shout "Infield Fly," which will allow base runners to run at their own risk.
- B. The umpire will withhold his call to see if the ball is foul or fair.
- C. "Infield Fly" cannot be called because of the attempted bunt by the batter.
- D. "Infield Fly" cannot be called because it was a foul ball.

16. With bases loaded, Jones hits a fair ball down the left field line. The left fielder throws his glove at the ball and stops it. What is the ruling?

- A. Batter may try for any number of bases up to three, but will be assured of an automatic triple, but may advance home at his own risk and all runs are allowed to score.
- B. An automatic double is awarded to the batter and two runs are allowed to score.
- C. An automatic triple is awarded to the batter and all runs are allowed to score and the ball is "dead".

17. During the top half of the 4th inning, the home team is ahead when it starts to rain. What is the ruling?

- A. A game cannot be called until 4 innings have been completed.
- B. A game cannot be called until 4 1/2 innings have been completed.
- C. A game cannot be called until 5 innings have been completed.
- D. Since the home team is ahead, it is a regulation game.

18. Runners are on 1st and 2nd with one out. The batter hits a ground ball to the second baseman. The second baseman throws to first for the play on the batter. Then the first baseman throws to the shortstop covering second and he steps on second base before the runner arrives. What is the ruling?

- A. The runner going to second is out if the ball is there before he reaches the bag.
- B. If the runner going to first is tagged, the runner going to second may be forced out.
- C. The runner going to second must be tagged out.
- D. If the first baseman fails to touch first, the runner going to second cannot be forced out.

QUESTIONS 19-25 WILL BE DIRECTED SPECIFICALLY TO LITTLE LEAGUE RULES.

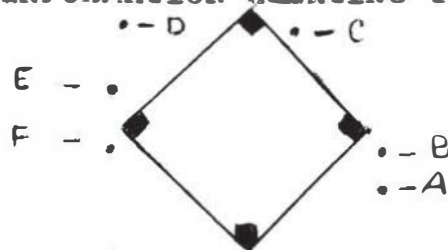
19. With two outs in the last inning, the manager wishes to replace his pitcher. He has already used four pitchers. What is the ruling?

- A. Not more than three pitchers shall be used in one game.
- B. Not more than four pitchers shall be used in one game.
- C. Not more than five pitchers shall be used in one game.
- D. Any number of pitchers can be used in one game.

20. Jones is at bat with a count of 1 ball and 2 strikes when it is discovered that he is batting without a batting helmet. What is the ruling?

- A. If discovered by the team at bat, the batter is required to get a helmet before he resumes batting.
- B. If discovered by the umpire, the batter is told he must get a helmet if he is to continue batting.
- C. If discovered by the defensive team, the batter must obtain a helmet with the possibility of an out being called for delay of the game.
- D. If discovered by the batter, he may elect to bat without the helmet without the possibility of a penalty being assessed.

SEE FIGURE 1 FOR INFORMATION RELATING TO QUESTIONS 21-25.



21. With one base umpire and runners on second and third, the umpire should stand at which location?

- A. Position C
- B. Position D
- C. Position E
- D. Position F

22. With one base umpire and the bases empty, the umpire should stand at which position?

- A. Position A
- B. Position B
- C. Position C
- D. Position D
- E. Position E

23. With one base umpire and a runner on second, the umpire should stand at which position?

- A. Position A
- B. Position B
- C. Position C
- D. Position D
- E. Position E

24. With two base umpires and a runner on first base, the umpires should stand in what positions?

- A. Positions A-C
- B. Positions A-F
- C. Positions A-E
- D. Positions B-C
- E. Positions B-D

25. With two base umpires, and a runner on second base, the umpires should stand in what positions?

- A. Positions A-D
- B. Positions B-C
- C. Positions D-E
- D. Positions F-C
- E. Positions C-E

VITA

James A. Kimball was born on August 13, 1941 in Mansfield, Ohio. His family then moved to Westfield, Illinois where he attended elementary and senior high school. Upon graduation, he enrolled at Eastern Illinois University, Charleston, Illinois and received his Bachelor of Science in Education Degree in August, 1965. After having served as a graduate assistant, he received his Master of Science in Education Degree in August, 1966. Upon graduation, he accepted a teaching and coaching position at Charleston Community High School, Charleston, Illinois.