

IOWA HIGH SCHOOL BASEBALL THOUGHTS & TIPS

by *Ira Blue*

Well fellas the season is two weeks in. Our legs are a bit sore but getting in shape. We've gotten use to that new mask or shin guards. Shockingly we're still using the same hole in our black umpire belt. The test deadline passed on June 6 so our umpire numbers are set. Let's look at that darn test and see which ones stumped us. Three strikes and you're out so we'll peak at the top 3 missed questions.

1) A player in the offensive team's dugout uses an air horn in an attempt to cause the opposing pitcher to balk

ANSWER: it is a delayed dead ball

Only 53% of us got that one right and I'm thinking I'm in the other 47%. I'd have killed the ball and sent the little turd to the bus. 5-1-2d says it's delayed dead, I guess in case the pitcher goes ahead and throws the greatest slider of his life anyway. Delayed dead ball table on page 39 Activity 7 via 3-3-1n does say the dolt goes to the bus though...at least I was half right.

2) With runners on base, the pitcher drops the ball during delivery

ANSWER: If it crosses the foul line it shall be declared a ball

43% of us blew that one. 6-1-4 pretty clear on that. I've seen a lot of dumb pitchers drop a ball in delivery. I ain't never seen one cross a foul line yet.

3) With the bases loaded and one out, B5 hits a line drive to the right-field fence. R3 and R2 both score, but R1 is thrown out at home. B5 safely arrives at third, but missed first base. The defense properly appeals B5's missing first base.

ANSWER: No runs will be scored

Golly fellas only 57% of us got that one right. R1 is out #2 and when we appeal B5 missing first we get 9-1-1 Exception d. which says if the third out by appeal is a force out no runs score. Please do a good pregame on 9-1-1. We just got to know when a run does or does not score.

Bonus question for giggles...guess which one we all got right the most ?

4) Any questions regarding legality of a player's equipment shall be resolved by:

ANSWER: By the umpire-in-chief

Only 2 out of 100 missed that one...because we all know we're the bosses out there gosh darn-it.

Have a good one guys !