

EVALUATION PLATE MECHANICS

REPORT CRITERIA:

1 Pre- & post-game duties	Reference NFHS Umpires Manual and Website	Point Reduction - Scoring Guide	
ARRIVAL - (10)	Page 12	_____ - .00	Late - first 5 minutes.
	Pregame Responsibilities 45 minutes before game time	_____ - .25	Late - for each minute after. (.25 X min. late)
UNIFORM - (10)	NHSUA Uniform Code Equipment: Navy blue cap with NH logo	_____ - 1.00	Not Association approved or soiled.
	Mask w/protector or extended frame	_____ - 1.00	Mask without protector or extended frame.
	Navy undershirt if worn (optional)	_____ - 1.00	Not navy undershirt.
	Powder blue pull over shirt-Optional dark blue if both have one (not in tournament play)	_____ - 1.00	Not powder or optional dark blue and/or soiled or wrinkled
	Association jacket or lined navy pull over w/gray/white trim - Optional: navy blue sweater	_____ - 1.00	Not Association approved and/or soiled or wrinkled
	Black belt (unadorned buckle)	_____ - 1.00	Not black belt or w/adorned buckle.
	One or two ball bags - GRAY only	_____ - 1.00	Not Association approved.
	Heather - medium gray pants	_____ - 1.00	Cuffed or not heather or medium gray and/or soiled or wrinkled.
	Navy blue or black socks	_____ - 1.00	Not navy blue or black.
	Dressed alike	_____ - 1.00	Not wearing identical color combinations.
SHOES - (10)	NHSUA Uniform Code Equipment:	_____ - 2.50	Not solid black.
	Black, hard or soft toe w/black laces	_____ - 2.50	Not polished or dirty.
PRE-GAME CONFERENCE - (10)	Pages 11 - 13	_____ - 0.00	Not done due partners late arrival.
	Umpire to Umpire Communications	_____ -10.00	Not done due to late arrival.
	Date Prior to Game Day		Does not discuss / do a review of:
	Pregame Once at Game Site	_____ - 0.50	1. fly ball coverage.
		_____ - 0.50	2. foul line/dead ball area coverage.
		_____ - 0.50	3. illegal pitch rules & call responsibility.
		_____ - .50	4. tag up responsibility, missed base coverage & appeals procedure.
		_____ - .50	5. check swing mechanics.
		_____ - .50	6. keeping track of counts/outs & warm-up pitches
		_____ - .50	7. partner communication
	_____ - .50	8. field inspection & ground rules.	
	_____ - .50	9. equipment check	
	_____ - .50	10. pregame conference procedure	
FIELD INSPECTION - (10)	Page 12 Pregame Once at Game Site	_____ -10.00	done
EQUIPMENT CHECK - (10)	Page 13	_____ -10.00	Not done.
	Pregame Once at Game Site	_____ - 0.00	Done alone due to partners late arrival.
		_____ - 5.00	Done separately.

PLATE CONFERENCE - (10)	<p>Pages 13 - 14 & 28</p> <p>Pregame Conference with Head Coaches & Ground Rules</p> <p>Discussion is handled by the Plate Umpire</p> <p>Position - behind plate facing outfield</p> <p>Head Coaches on each side of plate</p> <p>Introduce self & partner</p> <p>Have Coaches/Players introduce themselves</p> <p>Check lineups from each team</p> <p>Ask Coaches to verify players are properly equipped</p> <p>Remind Coaches about sportsmanship</p> <p>Request home Coach review ground rules</p> <p>Ask if there are any questions on rules</p> <p>Remind Coaches if any questions on calls request time before approaching umpire responsible for making the call</p> <p>Remind Coaches to report all changes to Plate umpire</p> <p>Wish teams best of luck</p>	<p>_____ - .50</p> <p>_____ - .50</p> <p>_____ - .50</p> <p>_____ - .50</p> <p>_____ - .50</p> <p>_____ - .50</p> <p>_____ - .50</p> <p>_____ - 3.00</p> <p>_____ - .50</p> <p>_____ - .50</p> <p>_____ - .50</p> <p>_____ - 1.00</p> <p>_____ - 1.00</p>	<p>Asks partner if anything to add.</p> <p>Takes position other than behind home plate.</p> <p>Coach not in position next to plate umpire.</p> <p>Does not do it.</p> <p>Does not do it.</p> <p>Does not accept from Home team first.</p> <p>After checking, does not return to Coach requesting verification of written lineup.</p> <p>Does not ask for verification.</p> <p>Does not do it. Ensures all coaches are listed on the line up card.</p> <p>Does not advise procedure for lodged or balls that go under or through a fence.</p> <p>Does not ask.</p> <p>Does not do it.</p> <p>Does not do it.</p>
LEAVING FIELD & POST GAME CONFERENCE - (10)	<p>Page 14 & 15</p> <p>End of Game Procedure</p>	<p>_____ - 2.50</p> <p>_____ - 2.50</p> <p>_____ - 5.00</p>	<p>Not leaving with partner(s)</p> <p>Responding to Coaches, players, fans comments when leaving the field.</p> <p>No review of possible rule infractions, incorrect mechanics / coverage's</p>
2 Plate Mechanics			
LINEUP CARDS - (10) <p>Records</p> <p>DP/Flex, changes, courtesy runners</p> <p>Off / Def Conferences</p> <p>Verbalizes and signals #</p> <p>Storage</p>	<p>Page 13</p> <p>Pregame Once at Site</p> <p>Pages 28 - 29</p> <p>Lineup Card Management</p> <p>Pages 28 - 29</p> <p>Conferences</p> <p>Offensive / Defensive'</p>	<p>_____ - 1.00</p> <p>_____ - 2.00</p> <p>_____ - 2.00</p> <p>_____ - 2.00</p> <p>_____ - 1.00</p> <p>_____ - 1.00</p> <p>_____ - 1.00</p>	<p>Does not have pen or pencil.</p> <p>Verifies DP/Flex position in batting order.</p> <p>Does not record changes/courtesy runners.</p> <p>Accepts projected substitution.</p> <p>Does not record.</p> <p>Does not verbalize & signal # to Coach.</p> <p>Exposed when stored.</p>
BRUSHING HOME PLATE - (10) <p>Declares "Time"</p> <p>Position</p> <p>Clears Away from Batter</p>	<p>Page 27</p> <p>Cleaning Home Plate (If Needed)</p>	<p>_____ - 2.50</p> <p>_____ - 2.50</p> <p>_____ - 2.50</p> <p>_____ - 2.50</p>	<p>Does not have a brush or cleaning device or exposed brush</p> <p>Does not call time.</p> <p>Takes position other than facing backstop.</p> <p>Steps in front of batter.</p>

PLAY SIGN - (10) At start of game Partner Ready Check After Dead Ball or time out	Pages 21 & 66 The Pitch Official NFHS Softball Signals Play Ball	____ - 2.50 ____ - 2.00 ____ - 2.00 ____ - 2.50 ____ - 1.00	Does not do it. Does it from behind catcher. Does not show it at shoulder level. Does not signal after Dead Ball/Time out. With L/R batter, uses wrong hand to indicate
PROPER STANCE - (10) Stance Head height Works Slot	Pages 19 - 21 Calling the Pitch in Fast Pitch Stance Set Position (Figure 03A & 03B)	____ - 1.00 ____ - 1.00 ____ - 1.50 ____ - 1.50 ____ - 1.50 ____ - 1.50 ____ - 2.00	Does not set one foot first behind catcher, square shoulders to outside corner of plate, the other closest to batter to achieve heel to toe alignment. Brings feet together when rising to signal strike. Does not bend at knees, bends at waist, i.e. leans in. Too close to or touches catcher. Does not set eyes at top of strike zone. Head not above catchers helmet. Hides behind catcher.
RECORDS BALLS / STRIKES / OUTS - (10) Uses an Indicator Count Verbal Signals Request for	Pages 11 & 16 & 21 - 22 & 66 Umpire to Umpire Communications Uniform - Equipment Official NFHS Softball Signals Count Page 66 Outs	____ - 4.00 ____ - .50 ____ - 1.00 ____ - 1.00 ____ - .50 ____ - 1.00 ____ - 1.00 ____ - 1.00	Did not use one. When shown, does not verbalize. Does not give from behind catcher Does not signal balls & strikes w/both arms raised above head. Does not rotate hands. Does not show at shoulder level Does not step out from behind catcher to initiate request verbally. Uses cap to initiate request.
PITCH / BALL CALL - (10) Called Ball Verbal Signal Ball 4 Verbal Signal Stays down on call /timing	Page 21 The Pitch	____ - 2.00 ____ - 1.00 ____ - 1.00 ____ - 2.00 ____ - 2.00 ____ - 2.00	Does not verbalize. Verbalizes location. Signals location. Does not verbalize "BALL 4" with strong voice. Signals with point to base. Verbalizes/rises up simultaneously and/or to quickly.

PITCH / STRIKE CALL - (10) Called Strike Signal Verbal Rises up properly / timing Rip Out Dropped 3rd strike	Page 21 The Pitch	____ - 2.00 ____ - 2.00 ____ - 2.00 ____ - 2.00 ____ - 2.00	Does not close fist & give hammer like motion to indicate Verbalizes something other than "STRIKE" Verbalizes/rises up simultaneously and/or to quickly Does something other than body, eyes & head facing plate/stepping back with right foot Does not signal "SAFE" or "OUT"
PITCH / SWING - (10) Silent strike Signal Check swing Partner check Signal/Verbal Missed bunt attempt Signal/Verbal Foul tip Signal	Pages 19 & 21 The Pitch - Figures 02 & 04 Page 11 Umpire to Umpire Communications Page 21 & 66 The Pitch (# 8) Official NFHS Softball Signals Foul Tip	____ - 2.25 ____ - 1.25 ____ - 2.00 ____ - 1.25 ____ - 2.00 ____ - 1.25	Gives other than hand high/hammer like signal Does "RIP OUT" on swinging strike (3) and/or "VERBALIZES" swinging strike Does not remove mask, step away from catcher, points w/wrong hand to ask partner If judged it was a swing, does not point at batter with left hand, does not verbalize "YOU WENT or OFFERED", does not signal strike. If judged it was an attempt, does not point at batter with left hand, does not verbalize "YOU WENT or OFFERED" ,does not signal strike Does not indicate with arms extended at chest level, a swipe touch of back of right hand fingers, followed by strike signal
PITCH / HIT BY - (10) Signal Verbal	Page 25 Hit by Pitch	____ - 5.00 ____ - 5.00	Following verbal call, does not indicate hit by pitch with point to 1st with LEFT hand Does not verbalize "DEAD BALL"
PITCH / ILLEGAL - (10) When Called Signal Verbal Awards	Pages 25 & 66 Fast Pitch Illegal Pitches Official NFHS Softball Signals Delayed Dead Ball	____ - 2.00 ____ - 2.00 ____ - 2.00 ____ - 2.00 ____ - 2.00	Not signaled Signaled with wrong arm Not verbalized Not advancing base runners Not giving overriding option
FAIR / FOUL BALL - 10 Fair ball Signal Verbal	NFHS Umpires Manual Page 23 Movement (# 10)	____ - 2.00 ____ - 2.00 ____ - 2.00	Does not remove mask Uses wrong arm to indicate Verbalizes "Fair Ball"

Foul ball Signal		_____ - 2.00	Does not raise both arms overhead
Verbal		_____ - 2.00	Does not verbalize the close ones
MASK - (10)		_____ - 2.00	Hangs on fence or places it on the ground prior to start of & during game.
Removal		_____ - 4.00	Needs practice to insure hat remains on head
Replacement		_____ - 4.00	Replaced behind catcher, vs. on back line of batters box opposite the batter
MOVES / CLEARS CATCHER - (10)	Page 22 - 23 Movement		
On every hit ball		_____ - 2.00	Clears on wrong side of catcher
		_____ - 2.00	Does not remove mask
On passed balls or wild pitches		_____ - 1.00	Takes eyes off ball
On foul pop-ups in catchers area.		_____ - 1.00	Looks for ball instead of eyeing catcher
		_____ - 1.00	Does not follow catcher on balls close to fence or backstop
Follows B/R to 1st		_____ - 2.00	When required, including base on balls, does not follow BR far enough up foul line
Batter / Catcher requested "Time"		_____ - 1.00	With Pitcher in ready to pitch position, if "TIME" is requested by batter or catcher, does not step out from behind catcher, opposite batter, to call it.
FLY BALL - (10)	Page 22 - 23 Movement		
Position		_____ - 2.50	Does not leave plate area
Catch/No catch Routine Signal		_____ - 1.00	Does not indicate with "OUT" signal
Routine Verbal		_____ - 2.25	Does not verbalize "OUT" or "BATTERS OUT" Verbalizes with word "CATCH"
Difficult Signal		_____ - 2.00	If ball is caught does not give "OUT" signal
Difficult Verbal		_____ - 2.25	If ball is not caught, verbalizes "NO CATCH" instead of "ON THE GROUND"
COVERS 3RD BASE - (10)	Page 23 Movement to Third Base		
		_____ - 6.00	Does not
		_____ - 4.00	Does not do it properly
PLAYS AT HOME - (10)	Pages 23 - 24 Plays at Home		
		_____ - 4.00	Not in proper position
		_____ - 3.00	Not returning to home plate
		_____ - 2.00	Does not see scoring runners touch plate.
		_____ - 1.00	Timing play not signaled or verbalized
INFIELD FLY - (10)	Pages 27 & 66 Infield Fly Situation Official NFHS Softball Signals		
To partner On Signal		_____ - 2.00	Fails to recognize need to give it
		_____ - 1.50	Uses wrong hand to chest
		_____ - 2.00	Does it from behind catcher
Off Signal		_____ - .50	Does not remove or uses improper signal

When it happens Signal		_____ - 2.50	Do not raise arm up over head
Verbal		_____ - 2.50	Does not verbalize
OUT / SAFE - (10)	Pages 31-32 Figures 06 - 07 - 08		
Out Signal		_____ - 2.50	Does not give proper signal
Verbal		_____ - 2.50	Does not verbalize
Safe Signal		_____ - 2.50	Does not give proper signal
Verbal		_____ - 2.50	Does not verbalize
OUT / SAFE POSITION & TIMING - (10)	Pages 5 - 7		
		_____ - 2.50	Does not stop when making a call
		_____ - 2.50	Gets too close and/or too far from call
		_____ - 2.50	Too quick with call
		_____ - 2.50	Does not make a strong call
INTER / OBSTR - (10) When Called	NFHS - Umpires Manual Page 35 & 56 Interference / Obstruction Official NFHS Softball Signals Dead Ball - Delayed Dead Ball		
Interference Signal		_____ - 2.00	Does not step forward & give "DEAD BALL" signal
		_____ - 2.00	Does not point to action, then give "OUT" signal
Verbal		_____ - 1.00	Does not verbalize
Obstruction Signal		_____ - 2.00	Does not give "DELAYED DEAD BALL" signal w/extend left arm
Verbal		_____ - 1.00	Does not verbalize word "OBSTRUCTION"
Awards		_____ - 2.00	Does not make proper base award
REST - (10)			
Between pitches	Page 22 The Pitch	_____ - 4.00	Does not step back after calls
Between innings	NFHS Umpires Manual Page 51 Between Inning Mechanics (Figure 22)	_____ - 6.00	Does not stand in designated area
3 Game Management, Professionalism, Rules Knowledge			
ATTITUDE - (10)	Page 8 Keep a Dignified Attitude		
		_____ - 5.00	Does not have positive attitude for game.
		_____ - 5.00	Does not display appreciation for the evaluation.

COMMUNICATION WITH COACHES / PLAYERS - (10)	Page 8 Code of Ethics for Umpires - Item 7	____ - 2.50 ____ - 2.50 ____ - 2.50 ____ - 2.50	Overbearing. Rude. Proceeds incorrectly on Coach's request to appeal a call. Does not enforce "Proper Coaching Attire" in accordance with NHFS Rule -5-3
COMMUNICATION WITH PARTNER - (10)	Pages 11 & 33 Umpire to Umpire Communications Swipe tag/Pulled Foot	____ - 5.00 ____ - 5.00	When partner is in "C: position does not assist on Swipe Tag or Pulled Foot. Releases to return to plate position before partner has reached his position (B or C)
GAME CONTROL - (10)	Page 4 Prerequisites for Good Umpiring	____ - 2.00 ____ - 2.00 ____ - 2.00 ____ - 2.00 ____ - 2.00	Bad body language Not courteous to Coaches/Players Is dictatorial Does not cooperate with partner Does not show take charge manner
ENCOURAGES HUSTLE, HUSTLE/BODY LANGUAGE - (10)	Pages 4 & 7 & 15 Prerequisites for Good Umpiring Keep the Game Moving Helpful Hints for Umpires (Do's (#1)	____ - 5.00 ____ - 5.00	Does not keep team players moving. Does not jog to all positions.
MAINTAINS SAFETY - (10)	As instructed at NHSUA Clinics and in Apprentice Program	____ - 3.50 ____ - 3.50 ____ - 3.00	During a live ball situation, does not see scoring runners remove helmet prior to entering dead ball area. At start of inning, allows batter to take position on opponents side of batters box Allows more than one (1) on deck batter
Minimizes Delays - (10)	Helpful hints For Umpires	____ - 5.00 ____ - 5.00	Does not provide a replacement ball when there are wild warm-up pitches. For between innings changes does not request Coach or scorer provide changes to other scorer.
General Knowledge - (10)	Page 15 Helpful hints for Umpires Do's & Don'ts	____ - 4.50 ____ - 1.00 ____ - .50 ____ - 4.00	Misinterprets / applies incorrectly NFHS, NHIAA and/or NHSUA rules Informs new pitcher of status/situation Run Down - incorrectly applied call responsibility Inconsistent strike zone

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