

CCSUA Qualification Test 2021

1. As authorized by the institution or conference, uniforms may include a commemorative/memorial patch (e.g., names, mascots, nicknames, logos, and marks intended to celebrate or memorialize persons, events, or other causes).
2. Multiple team members wear a commemorative/memorial patch, but they are not all alike. This is legal.
3. During the pre-game inspection of equipment, the umpires should check bats and helmets.
4. An institution wants to pipe in artificial crowd noise due to restrictions on fan attendance at their games. Artificial noise makers, air horns and electronic amplifiers may not be part of the artificial crowd noise.
5. NCAA rules state that only starters may reenter, first and last names of starting players and substitutes are required unless printed on the roster, in which case only the last name is required in the batting order; and the head coach's name must be on the lineup.
6. The defense is entitled to three conferences per 7 innings.
7. A game using Media Format goes into extra innings. The defensive coach takes a charged conference with the pitcher who starts the inning. That pitcher is removed in this same inning for a new pitcher who has not yet pitched in that inning. The coach is allowed to take an additional charged conference for this relief pitcher.
8. The DP is charged with a substitution when not batting or running in their slot in the lineup. Similarly, the Flex is charged with a substitution when not playing defense.
9. Starting player #5 exhibits signs consistent with a concussion and is replaced by an eligible player #21 who has not yet participated in the game. In the top of the third inning, #5 is cleared to play and reenters the game replacing #21. In the bottom of the fourth inning, substitute #32 enters the game to run for #5. In the top of the fifth inning, #5 reenters the game to play F8. This is legal.
10. Starting player #5 exhibits signs consistent with a concussion and is replaced by an eligible player #21 who has not yet participated in the game. In the top of the third inning, #5 is cleared to play and reenters the game replacing #21. Player #21 is still eligible to enter the game later as a substitute as the temporary replacement player may again participate in the game as a substitute in the same lineup spot only, and provided she was not already a withdrawn substitute.
11. After a routine defensive play by the shortstop, the third and second basemen go over to slap gloves with her. This is allowed if this action is quick, does not delay the game, and does not constitute a meeting at the circle or elsewhere on the field.
12. The fielder is blocking the whole base and is in the act of catching a thrown ball. She impedes the runner during this action. This is not obstruction.
13. The obstruction rule has a phrase "clearly beaten by the throw." This phrase is interpreted to mean that at the time the fielder catches the ball, it could not be reasonably expected for the runner to begin

her slide, or the runner is out by such a significant margin that the fielder must wait for the runner to arrive to apply the tag, or until she gives herself up.

14. A runner is obstructed sliding into a base. She overslides the base, loses contact with it, and is apparently tagged out. She should be called out because oversliding a base is not viewed as part of the runner's action that was obstructed.
15. The runner is obstructed by F5 while rounding 3b. She then flagrantly and deliberately collides with the catcher holding the ball. The runner is declared safe, the ball is dead and the runner is ejected.
16. A previous warning has been issued to #14 for a rounding a base obstruction. Later in the game #14 again obstructs the batter-runner rounding first on a caught fly ball. Since the BR was not hindered from advancing (the ball was caught for an out), this subsequent obstruction is ignored.
17. A warning for obstruction on returning or leading off a base will be issued when the defensive player is not making a play on this runner and is merely in a position that obstructs the runner. If the defensive player is making a play on the runner, she will be charged with obstruction, but not given a warning.
18. It is an illegal pitch if the pitcher takes a signal (looks at her arm band or the catcher) when she is not on the pitcher's plate.
19. While the pitcher takes the signal, her stride (non-pivot) foot must be in contact with the pitcher's plate.
20. Once the pitcher initially sets the toe of her stride (non-pivot) foot, she may not move her foot in any direction.
21. The coach gives visual or verbal pitch signals while the pitcher is not in the pitching position. The pitcher does not look at her signal arm band until she assumes the pitching position. This should be called an illegal pitch.
22. The batter is hit by the pitch which is entirely in the batter's box. The batter does not attempt to avoid the pitch, does not intentionally get hit with the pitch, and does not swing at the pitch. The batter is entitled to first base without liability.
23. The batter interferes with the catcher who is throwing the ball to second base in an attempt to get an out on the stealing runner. This is an immediate dead ball.
24. With less than two out and first base occupied (R1), the batter leaves the batter's box and heads toward first base after a third strike not held by the catcher. The runner feigns stealing second base but returns to first base which draws a pick-off throw by the catcher. The throw ricochets off the retired batter allowing the runner to advance to second base before the ball can be retrieved. The ball is delayed dead and the defense can take the result of the play (R1 remains at 2b), or the option (R1 is also out).
25. With a runner on 1b (R1) and two outs, the batter hits a fly ball which the right fielder drops. R1 advances and stops at second base but then, thinking the fly ball was caught for the third out, she leaves second base and obviously heads toward her dugout. As she crosses the foul line the coach yells at her to get back to second base. The umpires should have called her out by the time the coach yells.

26. The runner at first base leaves her base prior to release of the pitch. This is an immediate dead ball and the runner is declared out.
27. For the Look-Back rule, the pitcher is considered to have made a play if she raises her throwing arm into throwing position regardless of whether the pitcher's arm moves forward.
28. The term "baseline extended" is used in the NCAA rule book for the batter-runner. If you search the rule book you will not see this term defined. You need to read the article in the Locker Room to see that the definition is: three feet in either direction from the foul line, which equates to a six-foot area extending from three feet into fair ground to three feet into foul ground.
29. The batter hits a ground ball to F6, who throws the ball to F3. U1 rules B1 safe. B1, after passing first base and after F1 gains possession of the ball while in the pitcher's circle, heads back toward first base within the baseline extended. If this batter-runner stays in the baseline extended she may attempt to advance to 2b until she goes outside the baseline extended or touches 1b.
30. Bases loaded, no outs and the batter hits a ground ball back to the pitcher who throws to home plate for the force out. The catcher then attempts a throw to first base. The batter-runner is not in the runner's lane and the throw hits her and the ball bounds into the outfield. The runner out at home plate remains out and the inning continues with runners at first and second bases and two outs.
31. In the first inning the visiting team head coach is given a formal warning for questioning the strike zone. In the second inning the visiting team assistant coach questions umpire judgment on a close play. The assistant coach is ejected.
32. Based on the 2021 CCA Manual college umpires are directed to continue to keep "In Focus" the same items as last year: Strike Zone, Crewness, and Getting the Call Right.
33. When U3 is in the rotated starting position, the initial set-up is 10-18 feet from 2b between the first and third baseline extended toward CF. The exact choice of positioning is determined by a number of probabilities and responsibilities.
34. In both the 2- and 3-umpire systems, the proper starting position for U1 counter rotated is to be set, standing, or taking a step with the pitch.
35. On a force play at the plate the umpire should choose a location between deep point-of-plate and third baseline extended. (Hint, looking at this exact play in Section 9 or Section 10 will not give you the completely correct answer.)
36. There are three new/modified signals listed in the 2021 CCA Manual.
37. With less than 2 outs and a runner at 2B only a fly ball is hit to right field that the base umpires do not cover. The plate umpire has fly ball coverage, U3 has the tag-up appeal play at 2B, while U1 handles all other types of plays at 2B.
38. All umpires have concurrent authority to judge an infield fly and initiate the call; the other umpires should not echo the call.
39. In a three-umpire system with no runners on base or a runner on third base only, the batter hits a ball which will clearly and obviously be a home-run. The umpires must use the standard rotation with U3 going to 2b and U1 rotating home after the batter-runner has touched first base and is advancing to second base.

40. All changes for the 2021 CCA Manual are not shaded as they have been in past years. There is a list of the minor changes and additions but the sections referenced on page 18 are mostly incorrect.
41. In the 3-umpire system and a runner on first base only, U1 should be 6-12 feet from the first base and completely in foul territory.
42. When the plate umpire sets up in the slot, he/she should prioritize an accurate strike zone over exact foot placement.
43. The new signal for spectator interference is a dead ball signal followed by a strong verbal – “that’s a spectator!”
44. In a 3-umpire system when a base umpire starts on the line with no runner responsibility, he/she can start either standing upright or in a set position
45. In a 3-umpire system when a base umpire starts on the line with no runner responsibility, on the pitch he/she may stay in the set position or move forward a maximum of 2 steps ending in a prepared set or stopped position as the pitch reaches the front of the plate.
46. In addition to the change in tag up responsibilities at 2b in the 3-umpire system, there has been a change in the 2-umpire system. Now with runners of 1b and 2b, the base umpire has the tag up at first base and the plate umpire has the runner at 2b.
47. In a 2-umpire system: With a runner on 2B, BU covers on a ball hit to the outfield which is not caught. BU should communicate with the plate umpire and most usually return for a play at 2B when the plate umpire has a play at the plate.
48. In Section 3 of the 2021 CCA Manual there is a heading – Social Media Guidelines – which should be read and followed by all CCSUA umpires.
49. College umpires should do a pregame discussion with partners before every game. There is a list of pregame topics with the crew in the CCA Manual.
50. The URL (what you type to go to the site) for the CCSUA Locker Room training website is:
ccsua.org.
51. The three major sub-categories for this Protocols Corner are: Game Preparation, Professionalism, and Mechanics.
52. There is a Links button on the Locker Room Dashboard page which can be accessed to get links to important documents, for example – On-line Community College and NAIA Removed Bat Report, Order the 2021 CCA Softball Umpires Manual, and Download the NCAA Case Book.
53. In the definitions section of the 2021 CCA Manual, the term “chase” has been replaced by “cover.”
54. With a count on the batter of 2 Balls and 2 Strikes, the runner on first base leaves on the pitch and the batter foul tips the pitch (ball travels sharply and directly to the catcher’s glove/mitt and is legally caught unassisted by the catcher). However, the plate umpire calls it a foul ball. The opposing head coach asks the plate umpire to request help from the crew to change the call to a strike. The plate umpire realizes "foul ball" was called too quickly, and it should have been declared a foul tip for the third strike. This call can be changed.