USSSA - SLOWPITCH SOFTBALL
2010 UMPIRE TEST

The purpose of this test is not to confuse or trick you, the umpire, but to help you better understand the rules as they are written and interpreted.

Our goal is to now provide a new umpire test each year that will include some different questions in addition to questions on new rules. Some may be repeated; however, we will try to keep the test fresh and interesting. Please feel free to send any of your questions to be reviewed and possibly added to the test in future years. Your comments, whether pro or con, will be greatly appreciated. Please send all correspondence to Rick Robertson, USSSA National Umpire-In-Chief at rick@usssa.com

Good luck and may we all learn from these questions so that we can better administer the rules of the game we umpire.

1. Coach turns a lineup in that has 12 batters in it. He lists an AH in the 5th sport in the lineup and an AH in the 12 spot. Can he do this?

a) No, USSSA only allows 11 people in the lineup.

b) Yes, it is a new rule for 2010.

c) Yes, but they must bat in the 11th and 12th spots in the lineup.

d) Yes, but they can never play defense.

2. When using the safety base, the batter-runner must touch the red or orange potion of the base but not the white. The defense can appeal

a) When the ball is dead

b) The next inning

c) Before the game is over

d) When the ball is live

3. What is the correct measurement from home plate to 2nd base when using 70 foot bases?

a) 140 feet

b) 104 feet

c) 98 feet 11 inches

d) 101 feet 6 inches

4. Runner on 1st base and nobody out. Batter hits a hard line drive that hits the runner standing on 1st base in fair territory and bounces to the second baseman who throws to the shortstop at 2nd base for an out and then on to 1st base for an out. You make the correct call.

a) Runner out at first for being hit with the batted ball in fair territory.

b) Batter awarded 1st base.

c) Double play.

d) Dead ball. Batter out. Runner stays at 1st.

e) None of the above.

5. In a Women's game there is a runner on 3rd base and no outs. Batter has full count with one foul. Batter hits a long foul ball to left field. The catch is made and the runner scores.

a) Run scores and batter is out.

b) Run scores and on appeal the batter hits again

c) No run scores. Runner remains at 3rd base and batter is out.

d) No runs scores as batter and runner are both out.

6. The bases are loaded with one out. The batter hits a fly ball to the outfield for out number two. The runner at first base leaves early and the defense makes a proper appeal.

a) No runs score because it is a force out.

b) One run scores, failure to return

c) Runner is out, all others return

d) 3rd out of the inning, no runs score

7. There are runners on 1st and 2nd bases and no outs and the batter hits a high pop up ruled as an infield fly. However, the ball falls untouched to the ground and starts rolling towards the foul line. The 1st baseman throws his glove at the ball hitting the ball while in fair territory. How many runs score and what are the base awards?

a) 2 runs score. Batter awarded 3rd base.

b) 1 run scores. Runner at 1st awarded 3rd base. Batter awarded 2nd base.

c) 2 runs score. Both runners are awarded home. Batter is out on infield fly.

d) No runs score. Foul ball.

8. R1 is hit with a ground ball that first hits second base and then hits him while off the base. The umpire ruled that he was safe as he did not interfere with the fielder trying to make a play on the ball or intentionally interfere with the ball.

a) Incorrect call. R1 should be out.

b) Correct call.

c) Don't know, therefore revert to previous pitch.

d) Plate umpire should overrule the base umpire.

9. Bases loaded with no outs. The batter hits a lazy fly ball to the left fielder who drops the ball. The frustrated outfielder picks the ball up but turns around and throws it over the fence into dead ball territory. How many runs score and what are the base awards?

a) 4 runs. Award the batter a home run.

b) 3 runs. In the umpire's judgment that is where he would have gotten.

c) 2 runs. Batter and all runners are awarded 2 bases from the time of the throw

d) Manager is given the choice of (a) (b) or (c) above depending on number of runs needed to win the game.

10. Batter hits a ball down the left field line and it hits the foul side of the chalk line. What should the umpire do?

a) Point toward fair territory. Say nothing.

b) Yell "Foul Ball."

c) Yell "Dead Ball." Allow a do over – too close to call.

d) Yell "Fair Ball" and point toward the infield.

11. Batter hits a pop up along the 1st base foul line. The pitcher dives for the ball but does not touch it. However, he falls into the path of the batter runner knocking him to the ground. The catcher picks up the ball and tags the runner out. What is the proper call?

a) Good play, batter is out.

b) Offensive interference on the batter runner who is called out.

c) Obstruction by the pitcher, award the batter runner 1st base.

d) Interference, batter bats over again.

12. B1 hits a fair untouched fly ball over the fence for a homerun. B1 fails to touch 1st base. Defense makes a proper appeal.

a) B1 is out and run is scored

b) B1 is out and no run is scored but the homerun is charged to his team

c) B1 scores because it is a dead ball

d) B1 is out but no home run is charged to his tea

13. The offensive coach requests time for a charged conference. However the coach has already been charged with a conference earlier in the inning. Can he have a 2nd conference?

a) Yes. Second conferences are allowed but the pitcher must be removed from the pitching position for the remainder of the game.

b) No. Only one offensive conference allowed per inning.

c) Yes. He didn't use one the last inning so he gets two this inning.

d) No. Because the coach is trying to delay the game.

14. F7 is in foul ground when the pitcher delivers the pitch. What should the umpire rule?

a) Play counts, it is up to the pitcher to make sure his team is ready.

b) Umpire declares No Pitch; all players must be in fair territory

c) Batter has his choice to do over or not

d) If they get the batter out the play counts

15. Runner on 1st base, one out. Batter hits a ground ball to the 1st baseman playing even with the base. He catches the ball, steps on 1st base and then tags the runner who is still on the base. What is the call?

a) Double play, three outs.

b) Both batter and base runner are forced out. Call a double play.

c) Base runner is forced out and batter runner is safe.

d) Batter runner is out while the base runner is safe.

16. Batter hits a one-hopper to the pitcher and the ball gets stuck in the glove's webbing. The pitcher throws the glove with the stuck ball to the 1st baseman beating the batter runner.

a) Illegal action, throwing the glove is not allowed. Award the batter runner 1st

b) Illegal action, throwing the glove is not allowed. Award the batter runner 3rd

c) Legal action, batter runner is out.

d) Legal action, batter runner is awarded 2nd.

17. The Pitcher bounces the ball off the rubber and then immediately delivers the pitch to the batter. What is the ruling?

a) This is legal as it is a new technique.

b) Should be ruled a no pitch.

c) Should be ruled an unfairly delivered pitch.

d) The umpire should eject the pitcher.

18. A substitute pitcher enters the game with a glove with the inside (pocket and fingers) painted white. Can this altered glove be used in USSSA competition?

a) Yes. Multi-colored gloves are legal.

b) No. Multi-colored gloves are not legal.

c) No. This is not the way the manufacturer produced the glove and in the umpire's judgment the pitcher is only using it to distract the batter and is considered to be unsportsmanlike conduct.

d) Don't know, therefore should be legal.

19. Runner on 1st base and the batter hits a ball to the shortstop who throws wildly to 2nd base, the ball going out of play. By the time the ball goes out of play, the runner on 1st base has scored and the batter is on 3rd base. What are the base awards and how many runs score?

a) Dead ball. Runner awarded home. Batter awarded 3rd. Run scores

b) Dead ball. Runner awarded 3rd. Batter awarded 2nd. No run.

c) Dead ball. Runner awarded home. Batter awarded 2nd. Run scores.

d) Dead ball. Runner awarded home. Batter awarded home. 2 runs score.

20. Bases are loaded, no outs. Batter number # 7 is due up. However, batter # 8 gets into the batters box. With a count of 2 balls and 1 strike, the error is realized and the proper batter, # 7, assumes his position in the batters box.

a) On appeal by the defensive team, batter is out, the inning is over.

b) Legal move. The correct batter assumes the count of 2 balls and 1 strike.

c) Legal move. The correct batter restarts with a count of 0 and 0.

d) Do not let batter #8 get into the batter's box.

21. The pitcher delivers a pitch from an area 4 feet directly behind the pitching rubber.

a) Illegal pitcher action

b) Legal pitching action

c) No Pitch

d) Call time and warn the pitcher that he must deliver from the rubber.

22. Bases are loaded, no outs. Batter hits an infield fly which is called by the plate umpire. However, the ball falls to the ground in fair territory. The runner on 3rd advances towards the plate where the catcher now has the ball and steps on home to force the runner

a) Base runner from 3rd is out on the called infield fly.

b) Base runner on 3rd is out on the force play at the plate.

c) Dead Ball, no runners may advance.

d) Base runner is safe as he needed to be tagged at the plate.

23. After what completed inning, when the home team is losing by 15 runs in the Men's B, C, D, and E Programs, would the Flip Flop rule come into effect?

a) 2nd

b) 3rd

c) 4th

d) 5th

24. On his way to his position the 2nd baseman throws a warm up pitch from the pitching rubber. What should the umpire do?

a) Make him pitch one pitch to the first batter of the inning.

b) Do nothing. Pretend you didn't see it.

c) Make him pitch to the 1st batter of the inning until his turn at bat is completed.

d) Make him pitch for the remainder of the game.

25. With runners on first and third and one out the shortstop intentionally lets a pop fly fall beside him without touching it before it hits the ground. He then picks the ball up and steps on second and throws to first to complete a double play.

a) Incorrect call. The batter should be called out because the shortstop intentionally let the pop up drop to the ground.

b) Incorrect call. Triple play. Batter out. Runner out at second and runner out at first.

c) Incorrect call. Batter out on infield fly rule. Runners safe.

d) Correct call. In order to be intentionally dropped ball, it must be touched by a fielder.

26. After having been warned by the umpire the pitcher delivers another pitch with excessive speed. What should the umpire do this time?

a) Warn him again not to pitch with excessive speed.

b) Remove the pitcher from the pitching position for the remainder of the game.

c) Eject the pitcher from the game for pitching with excessive speed.

d) Remove the pitcher from the pitching position for the remainder of that inning.

27. There are runners on 1st and 3rd bases and one out, the batter hits a line drive to the left fielder and he catches the ball with a first baseman's mitt. What is the correct call?

a) This is legal. Batter is out.

b) Remove the player and the glove from the game. Award the batter 2 bases

c) Remove the glove. Nullify the out. Award the batter and runners one base.

d) Batter is out. Tell the outfielder to get a different glove before the next inning.

28. A 250 pound runner rounds 3rd heading for home. He lowers his shoulder and deliberately with great force crashes into the 115 pound catcher who is waiting at home with the ball in his glove ready to tag him out. What is the call?

a) Nothing, get out of the way and watch the collision to see if the catcher is able to hold onto the ball.

b) Call the runner out and eject him from the game.

c) Call the runner out and ask him please not to do that again.

d) Call obstruction on the catcher and rule the runner safe

29. If the pitcher releases the ball from his glove, what is the correct call?

a) This is a legal pitch.

b) Throw the pitcher out for unsportsmanlike conduct.

c) Unfairly delivered pitch.

d) Illegal pitcher's action.

30. In the Mixed Program the pitcher pitches an 11 inch softball to a male batter who hits a towering homerun out of the ball park. The defensive team makes a proper appeal that the wrong ball was pitched.

a) Home run counts. It is the pitchers responsibility to know what ball to pitch

b) Should credit the batter with a double.

c) Batter is out. Next batter in the lineup comes to bat.

d) The batter returns to bat with ball and strike count he had prior to HR.

31. After inspection prior to a game, an altered bat is discovered and the player refuses to let the director have his bat to be sent to the Altered Bat Committee.

a) The player who owns the bat is ejected from the park and suspended for a minimum of one year with no appeal.

b) The player is warned with no other penalty.

c) The bat is withdrawn from use with no player ejected.

d) The player may appeal his suspension while he continues to use the bat.

32. Prior to the pitcher beginning his delivery, a batter steps out of the batters box without asking for "time". The pitcher then delivers his pitch.

a) Automatic strike on the batter.

b) The call is determined by the merit of the pitch.

c) Ball is dead, no pitch, as a player does not have to ask for "time" as long as the pitcher has not started his motion.

d) Automatic ball on the batter.

33. R1 is on 3rd base and there is 1 out. Batter hits a pop up in foul territory where the 1st base coach is standing completely inside the coach's box. F4 drops the ball when he contacts the coach.

a) The batter is out. The coach must move and give him room to catch the ball

b) It is a foul ball. The coach has a right to be there.

c) The batter bats again.

d) It is just a foul ball and the coach is removed

34. With runner R1 on 1st base the batter gets a hit in the gap in right center field. The batter runner passes R1 between 1st and 2nd base. What is the call?

a) There is no call, the batter runner needs to wait until R1 passes him back

b) Dead ball, batter out R1 returns to 1st base

c) Ball remains live, batter runner called out for passing R1

d) R1 out for being too slow

35. How many players can a Mixed team start with?

a) 9 or 10 only

b) 9, 10, 11 or 12

c) 9,10 or 12

d) 10 only

36. During an inning the umpire notices that the on-deck batter is using a lead pipe as a warm-up device. What is the correct call?

a) Remove both the lead pipe and the batter from the game.

b) Pretend he didn't see it.

c) Remove the lead pipe because it is not a USSSA approved warm up device

d) Do nothing until it is protested by the defensive team.

37. With a runner on third and two outs, the batter-runner when after hitting a fair ball and while the ball is still live, carries his bat to, and touches 1st base, or runs beyond 1st base while carrying his bat, …

a) Legal play

b) Batter-Base Runner is declared out and run scores.

c) Batter-Base Runner is declared out and no run scores.

d) Call the tournament or park director and write him up for disbarment.

38. Runner on 1st base with one out and the batter hits a towering pop up to the infield. The ball is lost in the sun and falls in fair territory. The batter thinks that he has hit a routine out, goes and sits in the dugout area. The 1st baseman picks up the fair ball, now near the foul line, and goes into the dugout area to tag out the batter. How many out(s) and what bases are awarded if any?

a) 1 out. Runner awarded 3rd. Batter is awarded 2nd.

b) 2 outs. Runner awarded 3rd. Batter out for entering dead ball area.

c) 2 outs. Runner remains on 1st. Batter out for entering dead ball area.

d) 2 outs. Runner remains on 1st. Batter out on infield fly

39. The “Flip-Flop” Rule is used in…

a) All Programs

b) Men’s Major Program only

c) All Youth Programs

d) Synchronized swimming

40. What is the run rule for the Youth Program?

a) 20 after 3, 15 after 4, 10 after 5

b) 15 after 3, 10 after 4, 5 after 5

c) 15 after 3, 12 after 4, 10 after 5

d) There is no run rule in the Youth Program

41. The USSSA Bat Performance Factor (BPF) which needs to be visible on each bat, is

a) 1.00

b) 1.10

c) 1.20

d) 1.25

42. The pitcher delivers an overhand fast ball right down the middle after having been previously warned about delivering with excessive speed.

a) Umpire should call the pitch a strike.

b) Umpire should rule the pitch an unfairly delivered pitch as it was overhand.

c) Umpire should rule the pitch an unfairly delivered pitch because it was delivered with excessive speed.

d) b & c both apply.

43. Bases loaded and no outs. The batter hits a long fly ball to the fence where the outfielder leaps high in the air catching the ball, but falls over the fence into dead ball area. The outfielder then throws the ball back into the infield where the confused runners are forced out at both 2nd and 1st bases ending the inning. What is the correct call?

a) Double play.

b) Triple play.

c) Batter is out. All runners are awarded one base.

d) Home run

44. With a runner on 2nd base the batter hits a single to center field. The fielder picks the ball up and throws home. As the runner rounds 3rd base, the base coach reaches out and grabs the runner stopping him from advancing towards home. What is the correct call?

a) Award the runner home. Coach's interference.

b) No call. Warn the coach not to touch the runners again.

c) Eject the coach because he should have known better than to touch him

d) Runner is out for coach assisting runner.

45. The pitcher delivers the ball while facing 2nd base.

a) Illegal pitcher's action

b) Legal pitcher's action

c) No pitch

d) Unfairly delivered pitch

46. The baseline distance except in Men's Major and A Division Programs is

a) 60 feet

b) 65 or 70 feet

c) 80 feet

d) 90 feet

47. The batter hits a line drive down the left field line. The left fielder dives for the ball while it is in foul territory. He drops the ball but his feet are inside the playing field. What is the call?

a) Ball in play, batter runner proceeds at his own risk

b) Foul ball on the batter

c) Ball is dead and award the batter runner 2nd base

d) No call revert to previous pitch

48. There is one out with a runner on 2nd base and the batter hits an inside the park home run and misses 1st base and 2nd base on the way around the bases. The defensive team appeals to the umpire that the batter runner missed 3rd base and the umpire rules the batter runner safe as he touched 3rd base. The defensive team then appeals that the batter runner missed 2nd base. What should the umpire rule?

a) The batter runner is out on the 2nd appeal.

b) The batter runner is safe and awarded 2nd base. No run scores.

c) The batter runner is awarded 3rd and 1 run scores.

d) The batter runner is declared safe as there is only one appeal per runner. Batter Runner and runner on 2nd base both score.

49. In a Women's Slow Pitch game, a batter enters the batter's box using a bat labeled "Fast Pitch"

a) Illegal, only Slow Pitch bats can be used in slow pitch games

b) Illegal, illegal bat, remove and call State Director.

c) Legal as long as it is on the licensed and approved bat list

d) Not sure, remove the bat and ask later.

50. In a Men's E Slow Pitch game batter 3 and 5 hit home runs in the 2nd inning. In the 5th inning they are due to bat 3rd and 5th in the inning. After retiring the 1st batter of the inning, the pitcher says he wants to walk the next batter and the 4th batter in the inning.

a) Request denied as you cannot walk to get to the out.

b) Request granted for only walking the 1st batter as you can only walk one per inning

c) Request granted for only walking the 2nd batter as you cannot walk the 1st batter for an out but only the 2nd batter in an inning

d) Request granted as the defensive team may walk the preceding batter or multiple batters to get to the position or positions in the lineup that is an out due to hitting a home run.

51. Team A starts a game with 10 players and in the bottom of the 4th inning the catcher is ejected for arguing balls and strikes. They do not have a substitute.

a) Team A has to forfeit the game for not having a substitute

b) Team A is allowed to pick up one player from Team B to continue

c) Team A is allowed to continue the game with an out in the catcher's spot in the batting order.

d) Team A can pick up an umpire to play until someone shows up.

52. A player on Team A has two of her children in the dugout because she has no baby sitter available.

a) Do not allow them in the dugout as they are not players, coaches or managers.

b) Do not allow them in the dugout as it is not a safe haven for children.

c) Request the park director handle the situation and do not continue the game until they have been moved to a safe location outside of the dugout and playing area.

d) A, B and C apply.

53. Base umpire is standing behind the pitcher when the batter hits a line drive that strikes the umpire.

a) If the pitcher had no chance of catching the ball, the ball is dead and the batter is awarded 2nd base.

b) If the pitcher had a reasonable chance of catching the ball, the ball remains alive and all base runners are in jeopardy.

c) After an umpire deliberation, a “do-over” is declared.

d) Dead ball. Umpire obstruction. Batter and all runners awarded one base.

54. The batter hits a line drive down the foul line and while he is heading for 2nd base, he collides with the umpire between bases, falls down, and is tagged out. The offensive team claims umpire interference. What is the correct call?

a) No interference. Runner is out.

b) Interference. Runner awarded 2nd base.

c) Interference. Runner awarded 1st base.

d) Umpire should apologize and let the batter bat over

55. A late arriving player is wearing his loafers while playing 3rd base.

a) Legal play

b) Illegal play

c) Illegal play unless he cannot find appropriate footwear. If not allow him to play

d) Make him play with no shoes.

56. R2 slides into 3rd base and gets up with blood dripping from a strawberry on his leg. What should the umpire do?

a) Remove the player from the game until he gets the bleeding stopped and changes any bloody clothing.

b) Nothing, let the game resume

c) Remove the player and not allow him back in the game.

d) Tell him to rub dirt in it and get tough.

57. As the pitch is delivered, the pitcher runs toward the batter yelling and waving his arms. The batter appears to be confused and swings and misses, striking out. The offensive team claims this action is illegal. What is the correct call?

a) Legal. No penalty.

b) Defensive interference on the pitcher. Batter awarded 1st.

c) Obstruction. Batter awarded 1st. Warn the pitcher not to repeat this action.

d) Illegal. Remove the pitcher from the pitching position. Batter awarded 1st.

58. Runner on 2nd base. Batter runner hits a one hop shot to the shortstop that is bobbled. After batter runner has touched 1st base, the shortstop throws the ball out of play over the fence. What bases are the runners awarded?

a) Runner remains at 2nd base and batter runner awarded 1st base.

b) Runner on 2nd base awarded home and batter runner awarded 3rd base.

c) Runner on 2nd base awarded home and batter runner awarded 2nd base.

d) Runner and batter have choice of batter hitting again.

59. Bases are loaded with one out. Batter gets a base hit down the left field line. Batter runner has rounded 1st base and all other runners are between bases when the umpire mistakenly calls time. What should the umpire do now?

a) Allow all runners to score because of umpire interference.

b) Put all runners back to the last base occupied and have the batter bat again.

c) Runner on 3rd scores, runner on 2nd base moves to 3rd base, runner on 1st moves to 2nd base and batter runner is on 1st base

d) Batter and all runners awarded two bases from the pitch.

60. A long fly ball hit down the left field line hits the left fielder's glove in fair territory and bounces over the outfield fence in foul territory. What is the correct call?

a) 4 base award.

b) Foul ball.

c) 2 base award.

d) Don't know. Batter re-hits.

61. What are the three types of interference?

a) Offensive, spectator and umpire.

b) Defensive, spectator and umpire

c) Defensive, catcher and spectator.

d) Catcher, spectator and umpire.

62. In the Men's Class "E" program, any batter hitting an untouched fly ball over the fence in fair territory will be…

a) Declared "out".

b) Declared “out” every subsequent time at bat.

c) Ejected from the game

d) Declared “out” each subsequent time that position in the lineup is due to bat the batter shall automatically be declared out. The player shall remain in the game for defensive purposes only. This applies to any substitute in that batting position.

63. There are runners at 1st and 2nd base with 2 outs and the batter singles to left field when he throws home to try and get the runner from 2nd base he throws wild and it hits the offensive team’s bats that are lined up on the outside of the dugout. What should the umpire rule?

a) Do nothing, ball remains live

b) Ball is declared dead and the runner closest to home is called out.

c) Ball remains live and batter-runner is out.

d) Call time and ask the team to please get in the dugout. All runners safe.

64. The batter hits a ground ball to the shortstop who makes a great diving catch and throws a bit wide to 1st base causing the 1st baseman to pull his foot off the base. The base umpire calls the batter-runner out. Which one of the following is correct?

a) The plate umpire should run down and overrule the base umpire.

b) The coach should go to the plate umpire and demand he overrule the base umpire.

c) The base umpire should change his call to a tie as all ties go to the runner

d) The coach should ask the base umpire if he would ask for help.

65. There are runners at 1st and 2nd base with no outs. Batter hits a line shot down the 3rd base line. The 3rd baseman makes an incredible short-hop stop on the ball and while on the ground touches 3rd base for the force out and throws the ball to 2nd base hitting the runner who was on 2nd base in the ankle. runners end up on 1st and 2nd base. You make the correct call.

a) The base umpire declares dead ball and that the interference on the runner who got hit in the ankle was not intentional so 2 outs and runner on 1st.

b) The base umpire calls the runner out at 3rd base on the play and having declared the ball dead there would be 1out and runners on 1st and 2nd.

c) The base umpire calls obstruction on the runner who got hit. 2 outs runner on 1st.

d) The base umpire says there was no interference on the play and that the runner going to 3rd base is out and runners at 1st and 2nd base.

66. Team B while batting has eight of their players outside of the dugout at the same time warming up.

a) Do not allow and ask them to all get in the dugout or outside the fence except the on deck batter.

b) Ignore them and play on.

c) Only allow four them outside the dugout.

d) They can all stay outside the dugout if they behave.

67. Runners on 1st and 2nd and a long fly ball down the left field line. The left fielder runs over to catch it right before the foul pole. The ball hits in his glove and then bounces out of his glove out of play in fair territory.

a) Two base award. Runner on 2nd scores. Runners on 1st and 3rd.

b) Four base award. All runners score. Do not charge the team with a homerun.

c) Four base award. All runners score. Charge the team a home run.

d) Rule a catch and award all runners one base.

68. What determines the validity of a catch?

a) Did the player control the ball long enough in your judgment?

b) Did the player have the ball securely in his possession?

c) Was the release voluntary and intentional?

d) A, B and C all apply.

69. In the Men's "E" Program any untouched hit ball over the fence for a home run will do what?

a) Nothing

b) Will add at least one run to the team's total

c) Will be an inning ending out along with an offensive ejection and an out each time that spot in the lineup is due to bat.

d) End the next two innings immediately

70. What is the least amount of players needed to start a game in the Men's "B", "C ", "D" or "E" Programs

a) 8

b) 10

c) 11 or 12

d) 9