106. R1 is on third base. F5 is a) playing in, expecting a squeeze bunt, or b) playing deep, behind the baseline between second and third base. B2 hits a sharp batted ball fairly which strikes R1 while she is still standing on third base, and the ball rolls out of play.

**Ruling -** when a fair batted ball hits a runner (unintentionally) who is in contact with a base, the ball is dead or live depending on whether the **closest fielder is IN FRONT OF THE BASE (LIVE) OR BEHIND THE BASE (DEAD).** In a), LIVE BALL, followed by a DEAD BALL (when the ball rolls out of play) and a TWO BASE AWARD (based on time of pitch) to all runners. In b), DEAD BALL when the fair batted ball contacts the runner, and the BATTER-RUNNER is awarded first base; other runners advance only if forced (8.5.D, p 44; 8.14.C.1, p 44; 8.18.N EXCEPTION, p 52)

107. R1 is on second base with one out. B2 hits a pitched ball for a double; however, R1 misses home plate. The on-deck batter notices the error and a) tells R1 to retouch the plate, or b) pushes R1 back toward home plate.

**Ruling -** in a), LIVE BALL and NO VIOLATION. Verbal advice is not considered assisting a runner. In b), DELAYED DEAD BALL and the runner is declared OUT. A runner is out when **anyone other than another runner** physically assists them while the ball is in play, including a **RETIRED** runner (i.e., one who has been put out or who has scored) (8.18.Y, p 53; 10..2.D, p 57)

108. F2 returns a pitched ball to F5. In a), there are no runners on base, in b), there is a runner on third base.

**Ruling -** in a), DEAD BALL and an additional BALL is awarded to the batter. The catcher must return the ball directly to the pitcher after each pitch, except after a strikeout or a putout made by the catcher, or to play on a base runner. In b), LIVE BALL and NO VIOLATION when a runner is being played on (6.2.B, p 36)

109. F2 catches a foul fly ball in her mask.

**Ruling -** DEAD BALL; FOUL and NO CATCH. A batted ball must be fair, or in the umpire's judgment, might become fair, in order to enforce the detached equipment rule. The plate umpire should rule no catch because it is an illegally caught ball (3.CATCH.B.2, P 19; 3.FOUL BALL.D, p 21; 10.1.D.3, p 57)

110. The on-deck batter approaches the on-deck circle with three bats.

**Ruling -** ILLEGAL; no player may use **more than 2 bats** when warming up in the on-deck circle (2.16, p 16)