

2003 Practice Exam

- 1) Two strikes and one out, the runner is stealing second base on the pitch. The batter swings and misses. He swings so hard that on his follow through the bat contacts the catcher's glove before the catcher can secure the ball. In the umpire's judgment the contact was unintentional. The umpire rules that the batter is out on strike three. The ball is dead and the runner is returned to first base.
- 2) Runner on first base. The batter hits a pop-up near third base dugout. The catcher goes over near the edge of the dugout. One of his teammates holds him up to prevent him from falling into the dugout. He makes the catch as he is being supported. This is legal.
- 3) The offensive team's first baseman makes the third out of the inning. He hurt himself as he swung and missed strike three. As the trainer is checking him out in the dugout, a reserve player assumes his position at first to warm up the infielders. The original first baseman is deemed okay to continue and goes back to first prior to play commencing. This is legal.
- 4) It has been one of those days when nobody has agreed with the umpire. Someone in the first base dugout yells in violent disapproval of the ump's latest call and the man in blue approaches the bench. He is unable to detect his latest critic but feels he must take some punitive action. After giving a warning, he clears the bench of all players not currently in the game, but does allow the manager to recall players as needed later for substitution. This is legal.
- 5) Top of the fifth inning. The first batter walks. The next batter doubles to right. The umpire realizes that there has been no left fielder since the inning started. The umpire restarts the inning. This is the proper.
- 6) Two strikes on the batter. He swings at the next pitch and tips the ball. The ball deflects off the catcher's mitt onto his chest. The catcher smothers the ball against his chest. The batter is out.
- 7) The fans near the third base bullpen are really excited when the starting pitcher finishes his warm-ups and then unexpectedly leans over the railing and begins to sign autographs before he heads for the mound to start the game. This is considered good PR.
- 8) Top of the ninth. Home team holds a narrow 4 - 3 lead. With a runner on first, the home team manager decides to switch his left-handed right fielder with his right-handed pitcher. After the outfielder-made-pitcher strikes out the first batter he faces, the manager wants to switch them back. This is allowed.
- 9) The batter draws a walk and is standing on first base. The offensive manager realizes that this player was not the proper batter and calls it to the umpire's attention before the defensive manager can. You allow the batter-runner standing

on first to be replaced with the proper player.

- 10) Runner on first base with a 3-2 count on the batter. The batter checks his swing and the umpire calls ball 4. The catcher asks the umpire to get help. The base umpire reverses the call to strike 3 and declares the batter out. Meanwhile, R1 has started a slow trot to second base and is tagged. R1 is out.
- 11) Runner on second with one out. Batter smashes a line drive into center field. R2 heads home and is called safe on a close play. The catcher argues violently and is ejected from the game. Meanwhile, the batter-runner is advancing to second. The catcher fires to second base for the putout. Does the play stand even though the catcher had been ejected from the game prior to the putout.
- 12) Top of the ninth inning. The defensive manager brings in a right-hander to face the visiting team in it's last at bat. The first scheduled hitter is right-handed, so the offensive manager sends up a left-handed pinch hitter for him. Since a pinch hitter is substituted, the defensive manager wants to bring in another pitcher. This is legal?
- 13) The batter smacks an apparent home run. The right fielder jumps high into the air barely touching the ball with his glove. The ball is deflected over the fence in foul territory. This is a home run.
- 14) No one on base and no outs. The shortstop shifts over to play near second base. As the pitch is on the way to the batter the shortstop starts waving his arms to distract the batter. The batter swings and misses. This is considered a no pitch and the shortstop is warned.
- 15) Top of the ninth with the score tied 4-4. The hefty clean-up hitter leads off with a single. The visiting manager decides to put his DH in to run for the slower slugger and let the pitcher hit in the DH's spot. This is permissible.
- 16) One out with runners on first and second. The batter bunts the ball and drops his bat. The ball rolls into the bat lying on the ground in fair territory. The catcher fields the ball and fires it to third for the put-out. The play stands.
- 17) Runner on first with nobody out. The batter hits a routine grounder to the shortstop. His throw to second pulls the second baseman off the bag. The runner is safe, however, he slides out of the base line to crash into the second baseman hoping to prevent the relay to first. The second baseman is unable to make the throw. R1 is called out for interference and the batter-runner is also called out.
- 18) Runners on second and third with two outs. The pitcher balks, but goes ahead and delivers the pitch. The batter slashes a double into right center, scoring both runners. The batter is declared out when the defensive team appeals that he missed first base. The balk is ignored, BR is called out and two runs score.
- 19) The manager is under suspension for physically bumping an umpire during an argument. Before the game he appears in uniform to throw batting practice to his

team. When the game starts, he changes to street clothes and sits in the pressbox to watch the game. This is legal.

- 20) None out, runners on first and second, the batter hits an "infield fly". The pitcher, who is fielding the ball, intentionally lets the ball drop. He then picks it up and throws to third base where the third baseman tags the runner moving from second to third. The ball is then thrown to second where the runner advancing from first is also tagged. The batter and both runners are out.
- 21) Runner on first base, batter singles into right field, runner has touched second and is heading for third. Throw from fielder hits runner on the head, knocking him out before he reaches third, ball bounding into the stands. Runner has to be carried from the field and cannot continue in the game. A substitute enters the game and stays at third.
- 22) With runner on first and two strikes on the batter. Batter swings and misses the next pitch which hits him. The runner on first steals second. Batter is out and R1 stays at second.
- 23) Batter bats out of turn reaching first base. Before a pitch is made to the next batter, a balk is called sending the runner on first to second. An appeal is made to the umpire regarding the illegal batter. The umpire should declare the illegal batter out for batting out of turn.
- 24) Umpire orders pitcher to pitch when the batter is not in the batters box. On the third strike, the catcher drops the ball and the batter takes off for first base arriving there safely. This is legal.
- 25) In a rundown between second and third bases runner makes a sudden break for second base bumping into the shortstop who did not have the ball. This slowed the runner enough so that the second baseman could tag him before he got back to second. The umpire should award the runner second base.
- 26) Runner on second and batter hits ball towards the shortstop. R2 runs in front of shortstop and waves his arms and jumps back and forth in order to make it difficult for the shortstop to field the ball. This is legal.
- 27) Runner on second, one out. Batter hits a high fly ball which strikes the runner while he is standing on the bag. Runner is safe.
- 28) Runner on third base with one out. On the return throw from the catcher to the pitcher, the runner on third attempts to score. Batter protects the runner by remaining in the batter's box. Catcher is un-able to tag the runner because of the batter's position. The batter is out for interference.
- 29) Runner on first base, two out. Batter hits a home run over the fence. R1 is slow and batter-runner passes the preceding runner between third and home but allows R1 to repass him before they cross home plate. BR is out and R1 is allowed to score.

- 30) Runner on second base. Batter hits ball through the pitcher's box which the pitcher deflects towards left field, hitting the runner who was going from second to third, runner continuing on home to score. Ball is dead and R2 sent back to second. BR is awarded 1st base.
- 31) Batter hits to third baseman who throws wild to first in attempt to retire the batter, ball hitting the base coach and bounding into right field foul territory. Runner goes all the way to third. This is legal.
- 32) A pinch-runner replaces the runner at 1st base. The manager does not tell the umpire, and the umpire does not see the pinch-runner enter the game. After one pitch to the batter, the pinch-runner steals second base. The defensive manager wants the runner declared out for being an illegal substitute. As umpire you rule legal substitution.
- 33) The visiting team jumps into a 6 run lead in the first inning. The manager decides to save his named starting pitcher for the next game and sends another pitcher out to the mound. You make the change on your line-up card and with the scorekeeper.
- 34) One out, runners on 1st and 3rd. The pitcher assumes a set position. From this position, the pitcher steps toward 3rd base and feints a throw. With his pivot foot still on the rubber, he wheels around and picks the runner off 1st base. This is a balk.
- 35) Runner on second base, two out. Batter hits a line drive that strikes the umpire while working in the infield. R2 was more than half way to 3rd when the umpire was hit. The ball deflected to the 1st baseman who tagged 1st base ahead of the batter-runner. a) Is the ball alive or dead. _____ b) Place all runners. R2 _____ BR _____ c) Indicate who if anyone is called out (R2, BR).
- 36) Runner at 2nd base, one out. Batter bunts the ball and is hit with the catcher's throw while running outside the three foot lane. R2 was stealing on the play and was standing on 3rd when the batter-runner was hit. a) Is the ball alive or dead. _____ b) Place all runners. R2 _____ BR _____ c) Indicate who if anyone is called out. R2 BR
- 37) At home plate prior to the start of the game, the managers disagree on a ground rule. Who has jurisdiction over setting the rules? _____
- 38) Runners on 2nd and 3rd. The batter squares to bunt in an attempted squeeze play. The catcher seeing this jumps in front of home plate to catch the pitch, not giving the batter any opportunity to bunt the ball. The umpire shall: a) Call time. Allow the runner from 3rd to score and the runner from 2nd to go to 3rd and add 1 ball to the batter. b) Shall call a balk on the pitcher, and award the batter 1st base on the interference. c) Rule no pitch. Allow the runners to advance one base and warn the catcher that further similar action will result in his ejection. d) Since there was no contact with the batter, rule the ball is alive and all plays would be legal.

- 39) Runner at 3rd, one out. Batter hits fly ball to the outfield on which the runner scores, but catcher's interference was called. The umpire should: _____ a) Award the batter 1st base and return the runner to 3rd. b) Have called time immediately and award batter 1st, totally disregarding the fly ball. c) Call the batter out and allow the batter to score. d) Put the batter at 1st base, return the runner to 3rd base, but advise the manager of the offensive team that he may elect to accept the run and the batter called out.
- 40) One out. Runners are at 2nd and 3rd. 2-2 count on the batter. Batter swings and misses for strike three and the ball lodges in the umpire's mask. The umpire shall: a) Do nothing. The ball is alive and in play. b) Call time. Award the batter 1st base and advance all runners one base. c) Call time. Award the batter 1st base and leave other runners at 2nd and 3rd base. d) Call time. Allow runners to advance one base, but because it is strike three call the batter out.
- 41) Bases loaded. The catcher after legally catching a batted ball, steps into the dugout with both feet. The ball is dead and the umpire should rule the batter out and all runners advance one base without liability to be put out.
- 42) A new pitcher is warming up in the top of the 3rd inning and the manager advises the umpire that he wanted a different pitcher than the one that is warming up. Since the wrong pitcher has not thrown a pitch to a batter, he can be removed for another pitcher.
- 43) Appeal on checked swings may be made only on the call of a ball and when appealed the plate umpire should call time and refer to the base umpire for his judgment.
- 44) With one out and a runner on 2nd base, the runner attempts to steal 3rd base. In attempting to make a play at 3rd base, the catcher interferes with the batter who swings at a third strike and misses. The umpire should award 1st base to the batter and allow the runner to remain at 3rd base.
- 45) With no outs and runners on 1st (R1) and 3rd (R3), the batter has an 0-2 count. R3 attempts to steal home on the next pitch and gets hit with the pitch, which is in the strike zone when it touches him. Ball is dead, the batter is out and R1 returns to first base.
- 46) R2 attempts to score on a base hit. The throw is in plenty of time. R2 maliciously collides with the catcher and the catcher drops the ball. R2 is ejected and the run scores.
- 47) With respect to the DH. When on offense, the pitcher can only hit for the DH, however, when on defense the pitcher can replace any defensive player in the lineup.
- 48) Question: When the proper batter is on base, he is passed over, and the following batter becomes the proper batter.

- 49) 0-2 count on the batter and one out. The runner is stealing second base on the pitch. The batter swings and misses. The batter then interferes with the catcher trying to retire R1 stealing 2nd base. The umpire rules that the batter is out on strike three. The ball is dead and the runner is returned to first base.
- 50) Runner on first. R1 takes off for second base. The pitcher balks on his throw to first base which is caught. The umpires should let the rundown finish because the runner may be able to advance to third base in the event of an overthrow by the defense.