

## *Alberta NUCP Umpire Exam*

### *2004 Level III*

- 1) With one out and bases loaded the batter pops the ball up towards the dugout. The umpires call "Infield Fly if Fair". The catcher and first baseman converge on the fly, but both back off feeling each other has a routine catch. The ball lands untouched and spins wildly towards the mound. The ball is then fielded by the pitcher clearly in fair territory part way down the 1st base line. The batter is ruled out on an infield fly.

Decision: True. Rule 2.00 (Infield Fly, Fair Ball)

- 2) Runners at second and third with one out. The batter hits a hard one hopper back towards the pitcher. As the pitcher stoops to field the ball, the ball strikes the rubber and rebounds into foul territory between home plate and first base without being touched by a fielder. Both runners score and R1 ends up at second base by the time the ball is recovered. This is a legal play.

Decision: False. This is a foul ball. Rule 2.00 (Foul Ball)

- 3) A wild throw to the plate hits the on-deck batter even though he tried to avoid the throw. This is spectator interference and the ball is dead.

Decision: False. Provided the on-deck batter did not intentionally interfere with the ball. The ball remains alive and in play. Rule 3.15

- 4) The defense may not legally appeal after an illegal pitch.

Decision: True. Rule 7.10

- 5) The 20-second penalty may be enforced only when there are runners on base.

Decision: False. The 20 second rule only applies when there are NO runners on base. Rule 8.04

- 6) When a runner passes a preceding runner, he is out and the ball is dead.

Decision: False. The ball is not dead. The runner doing the passing is out. Rule 7.08(h)

- 7) If the left fielder deflects a fair fly ball over the fence in fair territory, it is a home run.

Decision: True. If a fair fly ball is deflected over the fence in foul territory then it would be a ground rule double. Rule 6.09(h).

- 8) The lines of the batter's box are part of the batter's box.

Decision: True. Rule 6.03

- 9) With two outs, the runner from third attempts to steal home as the batter strikes out. The ball eludes the catcher who has to throw the batter out at first. In the interim, the runner from third has scored. The run counts.

Decision: False. The batter had not reached first base. No run can score if the third out occurs before the batter-runner touches first base. Rule 4.09(a)(1)

- 10) Bases loaded, one out. The squeeze is on, but the batter bunts a pop fly towards the pitcher. The infield fly rule applies.  
Decision: False. An infield fly cannot be called when the batter bunts the ball. Rule 2.00 (Infield Fly)
- 11) A thrown ball accidentally strikes the third base coach while he is within the coaches' box. The ball remains alive and in play.  
Decision: True. Rule 3.15
- 12) About batting out of order. A3 bats when A2 should have and hits a home run. No appeal is made and then A2 comes to bat. A pitch is made to A2. This first pitch to A2 makes A4 the next legal batter.  
Decision: True. Rule 6.07
- 13) With a runner on third base, the pitcher starts his wind-up. The batter then shouts "Five" and steps out of the batter's box. The pitcher stops his delivery. A balk should be called.  
Decision: False. This balk was caused by the batter. Call time and start over. Rule 4.06(a)(3), 6.02(b)
- 14) An outfielder holds a fly ball in his glove for three or four steps and then crashes into the wall and drops the ball. This shall be ruled a catch.  
Decision: False. He must show complete control. Rule 2.00 (Catch)
- 15) With a runner on first base, the batter hits a line drive, which strikes the base umpire (positioned in the infield) on the fly. The ball rebounds off him directly to the shortstop and is caught on the fly. The batter is not out because of the umpire's interference.  
Decision: True. This is a dead ball and the batter-runner is awarded first base. The runner on first is forced to advance to second base. Rule 2.00 (Catch), 5.09(f)
- 16) A batted ball which first strikes the ground behind home plate and then rolls untouched and settles in fair territory is a foul ball.  
Decision: False. This is a fair ball. Rule 2.00 (Fair Ball)
- 17) With a runner on first base, the shortstop intentionally lets a pop fly fall to the ground untouched in an effort to start a double play. The batter is out and the runner may advance at his own risk.  
Decision: False. The fielder did not touch the ball. Therefore the play continues. Rule 6.05(l)
- 18) With a runner on first base, the pitcher legally steps off the rubber and feints a throw to first base without stepping directly towards it. This is legal.  
Decision: True. Once the pitcher legally steps off the rubber he is now an infielder. Rule 8.01(e), 8.05(b)
- 19) Bases loaded, one out. The batter lifts a fly ball to center field. All runners tag up and advance one base after the catch. The defense then appeals that the runner from second base left too early. The umpire agrees and calls him out. The run counts.

Decision: True. When the ball was caught, there were two out. This then became a time play for the third out. An appeal play for failure to tag up is not a force play. Therefore if the runner crosses the plate prior to the appeal then it would score. Rule 4.09

- 20) If an umpire should clear the bench because of consistent unsportsmanlike conduct, the coach can bring back any player he wishes to use as a substitute providing he hasn't been previously removed.

Decision: True. Rule 4.08

- 21) Game pitcher switching from mound to a defensive position, this move does not terminate the DH rule.

Decision: False. Rule 6.10

- 22) A balk can be called on a pitcher while no runners are on base.

Decision: False. You must have at least one runner. Rule 8.05

- 23) When a balk is called on a pitcher, each runner is entitled to advance one base without liability be put out.

Decision: True. Rule 8.05

- 24) A line drive ricochets off the third baseman's glove and is caught in flight by the shortstop. The batter is out.

Decision: True. Rule 2.00 (Catch)

- 25) A line drive off the pitcher's glove strikes the runner between 2nd and 3rd and is then caught by the shortstop before touching the ground. This is a catch.

Decision: False. The ball hit a member of the offensive team. Once this happens, the ball cannot be legally caught. Rule 2.00 (Catch)

- 26) On a foul tip the ball is dead.

Decision: False. Rule 2.00 (Foul Tip)

- 27) A pitched ball hits the sleeve of the batter's uniform, but does not hit the batter himself. The umpire should award the batter 1st base.

Decision: True. Rule 2.00 (Person) includes the player's clothing. Therefore this is a case of a hit batter. Rule 6.08(b)

- 28) A pop-up, which lands in foul territory and bounces into fair territory between home and 1st base and settles on fair ground is a fair ball.

Decision: True. Rule 2.00 (Fair Ball)

- 29) A batted ball, which strikes 3rd base and bounces into the dugout is a fair ball.

Decision: True. It is also a ground rule double. Rule 2.00 (Fair Ball), Rule 7.05(f)

- 30) A batted fly ball to the outfield where the fielder has both feet in foul territory and touches and drops the ball when it is over fair ground is a fair ball.

Decision: True. Rule 2.00 (Fair Ball)

- 31) A batted line drive to the outfield, which strikes the foul pole in flight and is deflected over the fence into foul territory is a home run.  
Decision: True. The foul pole is only there to help umpires determine fair/foul decisions. Rule 2.00 (Fair Ball)
- 32) A pitched ball is considered a thrown ball.  
Decision: False. Rule 2.00 (Throw, Pitch)
- 33) The umpire-in-chief is the sole judge as to the fitness of a baseball to be used during a regulation game.  
Decision: False. Rule 3.01(c), 5.10(e)
- 34) If no announcement of a substitution occurs, and a pinch hitter has taken his place in the batter's box he shall be considered as having entered the game.  
Decision: True. 3.08(a)(2)
- 35) At home plate prior to the start of a game, the managers disagree on a ground rule. The umpire-in-chief has jurisdiction over setting the ground rule.  
Decision: True. Rule 3.13
- 36) The umpires are in charge of the playing field the moment the umpire-in-chief receives the home team manager's line-up card.  
Decision: True. Rule 4.01(d)
- 37) It is legal to have 4 outfielders and only 3 infielders in addition to the pitcher and catcher.  
Decision: True. Only the pitcher and the catcher have specific locations they must be in. Rule 4.03(c)
- 38) An ejected player is allowed to sit in the stands if he changes into street clothes.  
Decision: True. He must also be well removed from the player's bench and bullpen. Rule 4.07
- 39) The batter refuses to take his position in the batter's box. The umpire tells the pitcher to pitch. The pitcher throws an obvious ball. It is legal for the umpire to call it a strike knowing it is a ball.  
Decision: True. Rule 6.02(c)
- 40) The batter is in the batter's box if he has one foot in the box and one foot on the line of the box.  
Decision: True. The lines defining the box are within the batter's box. Rule 6.03
- 41) The count is 3-1 on the batter who checks his swing. The umpire calls the pitch a ball. The runner from 1st steals on the pitch and is called out on the catcher's throw to second. The defense appeals the check swing, which is denied. They proceed to tag the runner called out at second as he leaves the field. The offense maintains the walk entitled the runner to second and he left second only when called out by the umpire. The out stands.

Decision: False. This out occurred because of an umpire's mistake and is correctable.  
Rule 9.01(c)

- 42) When a pinch hitter bats for a player in the batting order and then enters the game to pitch, this move terminates the DH rule for the remainder of the game.

Decision: True. Rule 6.10

- 43) The pitcher is entitled to as many pitches as he deems necessary before the start of each inning.

Decision: False. The pitcher may only have one minute or eight preparatory pitches whichever is less. Rule 8.03

- 44) It is legal for the pitcher to take his sign from the catcher while standing astride the rubber.

Decision: False. The pitcher must be on the rubber. Rule 8.01

- 45) A pitcher is summoned into a game in an emergency situation due to the previous pitcher being injured or ejected. The substitute pitcher did not have an opportunity to warm up and is entitled to as many pitches as the umpire deems necessary.

Decision: True. Rule 8.03

- 46) With 1 out and a runner on 1st the pitcher drops the ball while standing astride the rubber. This is a balk and the runner on 1st goes to 2nd.

Decision: False. The pitcher must be on the rubber for a balk to be called in this case.  
Rule 8.05(k)

- 47) A manager is considered to have concluded his visit to the mound when he crosses the first or third base line.

Decision: False. His visit is concluded when he leaves the 18 foot circle. Rule 8.06

- 48) A pitcher who brings his pitching hand in contact with his mouth while standing within the pitching circle is warned by the umpire the first time and ejected from the game the second time.

Decision: False. A ball is awarded to the batter. Repeat offenders may be fined. Rule 8.02(a)(1)

- 49) With a runner on 2nd and 1 out, the pitcher from the rubber, steps toward 2nd base and feints a throw. This is a balk and the runner goes to 3rd.

Decision: False. The pitcher can feint a throw to 2nd or 3rd base. He cannot feint a throw to 1st base. Rule 8.05(b)

- 50) A runner is standing on 3rd base when he is hit on fair ground by a fair batted ball before it touches or passes an infielder. The runner is not out because he is on the base.

Decision: False. A runner is only protected when hit by an infield fly. Rule 7.08(f), 7.09(m)