

Alberta NUCP Umpire Exam

2005 Level II

- 1) Runner on first base. The pitcher is on the mound with his pivot foot "off" the rubber. He reaches up and touches his pitching hand to his mouth. This is a balk.
Decision: False. A ball should be called on the batter. Rule 8.02(a1).
- 2) The second baseman has the ball hidden in his glove. The pitcher assumes his position on the rubber without the ball as the runner takes his lead off second base. The sly second sacker darts over and tags out the surprised runner. The runner is out.
Decision: False. In this case the hidden ball trick has backfired. A balk is charged for the pitcher standing on the rubber without the ball. The runner is not out, but instead awarded third base. Rule 8.05(i)
- 3) One ball and one strike. The batter squares around and bunts the next pitch directly toward the pitcher. The ball strikes the ground and spins back through the catcher's legs without being touched and then strikes the umpire who is standing in foul territory behind the plate. This is a foul ball.
Decision: True. Since the ball was not touched over fair territory, it became a foul ball when it touched the umpire. Rule 2.00(Foul, Fair), 6.05(d)
- 4) Outfielder, in making a difficult play, catches a fly ball and falls to the ground and rolls over causing him to drop the ball. This is a catch.
Decision: False. This is not a catch because he fell immediately following the catch which caused him to drop the ball. The batter is not out. Rule 2.00 (Catch)
- 5) Line drive hits the chalk line in right field. This is a fair ball.
Decision: True Rule 2.00 (Fair Ball)
- 6) With less than two outs, the batter foul tips the third strike directly into the catcher's glove as the runner from first steals second base. The ball is dead and the runner must return to first base.
Decision: False. This is a live ball. Any runner on base may advance. Rule 2.00 (Foul Tip)
- 7) Runners on first and third bases, one out. Batter hits a high fly ball to the second baseman. This is an infield fly.
Decision: False. The infield fly rule is not in effect with runners on first and third bases only. Rule 2.00 (Infield Fly)
- 8) Runner on first base, pitched ball is missed by the catcher and strikes the plate umpire. Runner advances to second. This is umpire interference.
Decision: False. This is not considered umpire interference. Rule 2.00 (Interference - Umpire)
- 9) A fielder attempts to field a batted ball and bumps into an umpire, causing the fielder to miss the ball. This is umpire interference.
Decision: False. This is not umpire interference. Rule 2.00 (Interference - Umpire)
- 10) On an attempted steal, the umpire interferes with the catcher's throw that does not retire the runner. This is umpire interference. The ball is dead and the runner returns.
Decision: True. The ball is declared "dead" and the runner is returned to his previous base. Rule 5.09(b), 2.00 (Interference - Umpire)
- 11) Batter hits a home run over the fence with two out and the bases full. The batter misses first base while running the bases. A proper appeal is made to the umpire and the batter-runner is called out. Three runs score.

- Decision:** False. The batter failed to reach first base safely which made this out a force out. Rule 4.09(a)
- 12) Batter with two strikes bunts the third strike foul. The batter is out.
Decision: True. Rule 6.05(d)
- 13) Bunting a pitch, the batter steps on home plate with his foot entirely outside the batter's box. The batter is out.
Decision: True. Batter is out provided the entire foot or feet are outside the lines of the batter's box and on the ground when contact is made with the bat and ball. Rule 6.06(a)
- 14) Able on first, Baker up to bat and Charlie on-deck. With two outs, three balls and two strikes on the batter, the runner on first is picked off by the pitcher and tagged out attempting to steal second. Charlie is the lead off batter in the top of the next inning.
Decision: False. Baker, the batter who was in the batter's box when the runner on first attempted to steal second. The count of balls and strikes shall start over. Rule 6.01(b)
- 15) With runners on second (R2) and third (R3), the runner on second becomes confused and runs to third although not forced to do so, placing two runners on third base at the same time. The second runner (R2) is out when tagged.
Decision: True. Rule 7.03
- 16) Runner going from second to third base on the pitch falls over the shortstop who is standing in the base line not fielding a batted ball. The third base-man jogs over and tags the runner with the ball. This is obstruction.
Decision: True. This is obstruction, the runner is awarded third base. Rule 7.06(a) and 2.00 (Obstruction)
- 17) Runner on third is trapped between home and third base. In the rundown, the base runner collides with defensive player who does not have the ball. This is obstruction and the runner is awarded home.
Decision: True. This is obstruction provided the defensive player has not received the ball. The runner is entitled to home, the base to which he originally started. Rule 7.06 and 2.00 (Obstruction)
- 18) With a runner on first (R1), the batter smashes a line drive to the second baseman who catches the ball and then steps on second base. R1 is out on the force play.
Decision: False. Batter is out but runner on first can remain on first since catching the line drive removed the force play at second base. Rule 2.00 (Force Play)
- 19) Runner on second is running hard from second to third base when he is hit by a fair batted ball. The shortstop was waiting to field the ball. This is offensive interference. The ball is dead, the runner returns to second base and the batter is out.
Decision: False. The ball is dead, the runner is out and the batter is awarded first base. Rule 7.08(f), 2.00 (Interference - Offensive)
- 20) Runner advancing from first to second base accidentally comes in contact with the second baseman who is fielding a batted ball. This is unintentional interference, the ball is dead and the runner is placed on second base. The batter is placed on first base.
Decision: False. Unintentional interference is not considered, the runner is out. Rule 7.09(l)
- 21) Runners on first and second bases. Pitcher commits a balk on a pitch that the batter hits to the outfield. The umpire should permit all runners to advance as far as they choose at their own risk.
Decision: True. The pitch was hit by the batter and as long as all runners including the batter runner advance at least one base the balk is ignored. Runners choosing to advance beyond the base that they would have been awarded do so at their own risk. Rules 8.05(AR), 5.09(c)

- 22) A fielder catches a ball in flight on the dead run. After running three steps while off balance, he collides with another fielder and as a result of the collision drops the ball. This is not a catch.
Decision: True. Rule 2.00 (Catch)
- 23) Bases are loaded with nobody out. The third baseman fields a hard hit ground ball, tags third for one out and fires the ball to the catcher in time for him to touch home plate before the runner from third arrives. R3 is not tagged. Two out, double play.
Decision: False. The catcher must tag R3 because the force on R3 was removed when the third baseman stepped on third. 2.00 (Force Play), 7.08(e)
- 24) Bases loaded, one out. The squeeze is on, but the batter bunts a pop fly towards the pitcher. This is an infield fly.
Decision: False. An infield fly cannot be called when the batter bunts the ball. Rule 2.00 (Infield Fly)
- 25) 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
- 26) A pop-up, which lands in foul territory and bounces into fair territory untouched between home and 1st base and settles on fair ground is a fair ball.
Decision: True. Rule 2.00 (Fair Ball)
- 27) 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)
- 28) 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
- 29) The lines of the batter's box are part of the batter's box.
Decision: True. Rule 6.03
- 30) A balk can be called on a pitcher while no runners are on base.
Decision: False. There must be at least one runner on base. Rule 8.05, 2.00 (Balk)
- 31) Appeals on a half swing may be made on either a ball or strike and the plate umpire must refer to the base umpire for his judgement.
Decision: False. They can only be made on a called ball. Rule 9.02(c) (comments - second paragraph)
- 32) Players who have been substituted for may remain on the bench or warm up pitchers.
Decision: True. Rule 3.06, Rule 2.00 (Bench)
- 33) The umpire must declare the ball dead by calling time if he wishes to examine the ball.
Decision: True. Rule 5.10(e)
- 34) Each runner including the batter-runner shall be awarded two bases from the time of pitch when a batted ball goes under the outfield fence.
Decision: True. Rule 6.09(f)
- 35) One out, Jones on third, Smith on first, and Brown flies out to right field. Two outs. Jones tags up and scores after the catch. Smith attempted to return to first but the right fielder's throw beat him to the base. Three outs. But Jones scored before the throw to catch Smith reached first base, hence Jones' run counts. It was not a force play.
Decision: True. Rule 4.09 - Last approved ruling.
- 36) A batted ball which first bounces on home plate is a foul ball.
Decision: False. Rule 2.00 (Foul Ball), 2.00 (Fair Ball)

- 37) A fielder has made a catch and drops the ball in the act of making a throw. Umpire rules the ball caught.
Decision: True. Rule 2.00 (Catch)
- 38) After the umpire declares a foul ball, all runners must tag up.
Decision: True. The umpire should not put the ball into play until all runners had retouched their bases. Rule 5.09(e)
- 39) An improper batter is at bat with a 2-2 count. The manager from the offensive team notices the error and replaces the wrong batter with the correct batter. This is legal.
Decision: True. The proper batter can take their place in the batter's box any time up until the improper batter has completed their time at bat. The proper batter would assume the improper batter's count. Rule 6.07
- 40) Bases loaded with nobody out. Batter hits an infield fly which is dropped by the second baseman. The runners must still tag-up.
Decision: False. Runners only need to tag up if the ball is caught. Rule 7.10(a)
- 41) If a thrown ball accidentally strikes an umpire, the ball is alive and in play.
Decision: True. Rule 5.08
- 42) A batted ball that bounces toward first or third will be fair if it strikes either base.
Decision: True. Rule 2.00 (Fair Ball)
- 43) Either umpire may call time.
Decision: True. Rule 9.04(b)(2)
- 44) A pitch bounces in the dirt and then strikes the batter on the leg. The batter should be awarded first base because he was hit with the ball.
Decision: True. Rule 6.08(b)
- 45) Mosquito Baseball and Little League Major League. Two are out with runner at first base. Strike three is not caught by the catcher. The batter may run to first base.
Decision: False. At this level of ball, the third strike does not have to be caught. Rule 6.09(b) (Canadian Content), 6.05(b) (Little League)
- 46) The batter is hit on the sleeve by a pitch. The ball is dead.
Decision: True. The ball is dead. Rule 5.09(a), 2.00 (Person)
- 47) At the Mosquito and Major Little League level shoes with metal cleats or "spikes" are prohibited. Rubber moulded cleats or running shoes are permitted.
Decision: True. Rule 1.11 (Canadian Content)
- 48) The pitcher balks and does not throw the ball or deliver a pitch. The ball is dead.
Decision: True. Rule 5.09(c)
- 49) Runner on first base. The pitcher starts to deliver the ball but accidentally falls. This is NOT a balk. This is a do-over.
Decision: False. This is a balk. Once a pitcher starts his motion to deliver the ball, he is committed to deliver the pitch without interruption. Rule 8.05(a)
- 50) With 1 out and a runner on 1st the pitcher accidentally drops the ball while standing on the rubber. This is a balk, the ball is dead and the runner on 1st is awarded 2nd.
Decision: True. Rule 8.05(k)