

Alberta NUCP Umpire Exam

2004 Level II

- 1) On a 1-1 pitch with one out, the runner on 1st attempts to steal 2nd. The batter swings and misses but interferes with the catcher whose throw to 2nd is too late to retire the runner. The umpire is correct in declaring the batter out and returning the runner to 1st base.

Decision: True. Rule 6.06(c)

- 2) The pitcher, while in his wind-up with no runners on base, drops the ball in the act of pitching. The ball rolls off the mound and stays in fair territory. Add one ball to the count on the batter.

Decision: False. With no runners on base this is a no-pitch. With runners on base this is a balk. Rule 8.01(d), 8.05(k)

- 3) Pitchers may disengage the rubber after taking their signs from the catcher but may not step quickly back onto the rubber and pitch.

Decision: True. Rule 8.01, 2.00 (Quick Return Pitch)

- 4) A batter or runner may advance three bases, if a fielder deliberately throws his glove at and touches a fair ball. The ball is in play and the batter may advance to home base at his peril.

Decision: True. The runner is awarded three bases from time of pitch. (Baseball Canada Interpretation) Any advance beyond the awarded base, the batter-runner does so at his own risk. Rule 7.05(c)

- 5) A pitcher who swings his free foot past the back edge of the pitcher's rubber is required to pitch to the batter except to throw to 2nd base in a pick off play.

Decision: True. Rule 8.05(a)

- 6) One out. Runners on 1st and 3rd. Batter flies out to left field. Two out and the runner on 3rd tags up and scores. The caught fly ball is relayed to 1st and the runner does not get back in time and is called out. Runner at 3rd had crossed home plate before the put-out at 1st. Run does not count. It was a force out.

Decision: False. This is an appeal play. Rule 4.09 (Last approved ruling), 7.10(a)

- 7) Bases loaded. The pitcher, while "off" the rubber, throws the ball to 3rd base and ball goes into the dugout. All runners advance one base.

Decision: False. The pitcher is considered an infielder. Therefore you award two bases from time of throw. Rule 8.01(e), 7.05(g)

- 8) With a runner on 3rd base, the base umpire, who is positioned in the infield, is hit with a fair ball before it passes or touches an infielder. The batter is awarded 1st base and the runner on 3rd base is allowed to score.

Decision: False. The ball is dead and runner(s) return to the base they were at time of pitch. Batter is awarded first base. Rule 5.09(f), 2.00 (Interference(c)), 6.08(d), 6.09(c), 7.04(b)

- 9) A batter is out for illegal action when he swings at and "misses" a pitch with one or both feet on the ground entirely outside the batter's box

Decision: False. He must make contact with the ball. Also, his foot must be on the ground.
Rule 6.06(a)

- 10) Runner on first base. Runner breaks for second base. The pitcher, from the rubber, throws directly to second base to make a play on the runner. The umpire correctly calls a balk for throwing to an unoccupied base.

Decision: False. He is attempting to retire a runner. In this situation it is legal to throw to an unoccupied base. Rule 8.05(d)

- 11) A coach must vacate his coach's box when the area is needed by a fielder who is attempting to field a batted or thrown ball.

Decision: True. Rule 7.11

- 12) A batted ball which first bounces on home plate is a foul ball.

Decision: False. Rule 2.00 (Foul Ball), 2.00 (Fair Ball)

- 13) 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)

- 14) A batter is out when, after hitting or bunting a foul ball, he "intentionally" deflects the course of the ball in any manner while running to first base. The ball is dead and no runners may advance

Decision: True. 6.05(i)

- 15) Bases loaded. Two out. Batter hits a home run. On appeal the batter is declared out for missing 1st base. No runs count.

Decision: True. Rule 4.09(a)(1), 7.10(b)

- 16) A declared infield fly that could easily be caught by an infielder, falls untouched to the ground in foul territory half way to 1st base. The ball then bounces over the 1st base line and settles in fair territory. The umpire calls this a fair ball and an infield fly.

Decision: True. This is a fair ball because it crossed into fair territory before it had passed first base. Rule 2.00 (Fair Ball), 2.00 (Infield Fly)

- 17) It is a legal catch if the 3rd baseman touches a fly ball which then is deflected off an umpire and is then caught by the shortstop while the ball is still in the air.

Decision: False. Once a batted ball has touched an umpire or a member of the offensive team it cannot be caught. Rule 2.00 (Catch)

- 18) A fair ground ball strikes a runner advancing from second to third. The shortstop had a play on the ball. The base umpire declared the runner out for interference and the ball is dead.

Decision: True. Rule 5.09(f)

- 19) The plate umpire interferes with the catcher's throw on an attempted steal by a runner from 1st base. The catcher's throw retires the runner. The delayed interference call is then disregarded.

Decision: True. Rule 5.09(b)

- 20) A pitched ball "lodging" in the catcher's mask, protector or uniform is a live ball and is in play.
Decision: False. The ball is dead. If runner(s) are on base, then they are awarded one base.
- 21) A runner on 1st base is advancing to 2nd base on a ground ball hit to the 2nd baseman. The runner yells and waves his arms as the 2nd baseman bobbles the ball and does not make a play. The runner does not come into contact with the 2nd baseman but is called out for interference.
Decision: True. Rule 2.00 (Interference(a))
- 22) If a fair ball touches an umpire working in the infield after it has bounded past the pitcher, it is a dead ball.
Decision: True. Rule 5.09(f)
- 23) If a pitched ball touches the ground and hits the batter, it is a dead ball and add one ball to the count on the batter.
Decision: False. This is a hit batsman. The ball is dead and the batter is awarded first base. All other runners return unless forced. Rule 6.08(b)
- 24) It is a legal catch if a pitch touches the bat then glances off the catcher's mitt or free hand and hits him on the chest and is then caught by the catcher.
Decision: True. Rule 2.00 (Foul Tip), 6.05(b)
- 25) If a batted fair ball bounces over the fence runners are awarded two bases from where they are when the ball leaves the playing field.
Decision: False. This is a ground rule double. All runners including the batter runner are awarded two bases from time of pitch. Rule 7.05(f)
- 26) 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)
- 27) One out. Runners on 1st and 3rd bases. The 2nd baseman intentionally drops a fair fly ball for an easy double play. The ball is dead, the batter-runner is declared out and all other runners shall return to their original bases.
Decision: True. Rule 6.05(1)
- 28) A fly ball which is first touched when over fair territory by a fielder who has both feet in foul territory is a fair ball.
Decision: True. Rule 2.00 (Fair Ball)
- 29) With runners on base, a pitcher has started his delivery. The batter steps out of the batter's box. The pitcher stops his delivery. A balk is called.
Decision: False. This balk was caused by the batter. The ball is dead and the pitch Rule 6.02(b), 4.06(a)(3)
- 30) A pitcher in his wind-up position releases the ball accidentally and it rolls over the foul line between 3rd and home. With runners on base a balk is called and a ball is added to the count on the batter.

Decision: False. This is a ball because it crossed the foul line. (Baseball Canada Interpretation. Rule 8.01(d))

- 31) The pitcher may take his sign from the catcher while straddling the pitching rubber.

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

- 32) A fly ball hits the left field foul pole above the fence. The batter is awarded two bases.

Decision: False. This is a home run. The foul pole is an extension of the foul line and is there to help umpires make their fair/foul decisions. It is not part of the outfield fence. Rule 2.00 (Fair Territory)

- 33) A runner is hit by an infield fly when he is not touching his base. The runner is out and the ball is dead.

Decision: True. The runner is only base protected on an infield fly when he is touching a base. Rule 7.08(f)

- 34) The left fielder runs into foul territory for a fly ball. At the last second the wind carries the ball over fair territory. Standing in foul territory he reaches into fair territory and touches the ball which then falls to the ground. The ball is declared a foul ball.

Decision: False. This is a fair ball. It is the position of the ball relative to fair/foul territory when touched that determines whether the ball is fair or foul. Rule 2.00 (Fair Ball)

- 35) Runner on first base is trying to steal second base. The batter interferes with the catcher. The runner is called safe by the base umpire. The plate umpire declares the runner out due to the batter's interference.

Decision: False. The batter is out and the runner is returned to first base. Rule 6.06(c), 7.09(d)

- 36) 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

- 37) Bases loaded with nobody out. Batter hits an infield fly which is dropped by the second baseman. The runner's must still tag-up.

Decision: False. Runners only need to tag up if the ball is caught. Rule 7.10(a)

- 38) Appeal on a checked swing may be made only on the call of a "ball" and when "appealed" the plate umpire must refer to a base umpire for his judgment on the call.

Decision: True. Rule 9.02(c)

- 39) A player has been put into the game through substitution and it was not officially announced. This player singles. The opposing manager objects and claims that this player is batting out of turn.

Decision: False. An unannounced batter becomes legal the moment they step into the batter's box. Rule 3.08(a)(2)

- 40) If the catcher is fielding a batted ball and the pitcher obstructs the batter-runner, obstruction is called and the batter-runner is awarded 1st base.

Decision: True. Also, the ball is dead. Rule 7.06(a)

- 41) The pitcher delivers ball four which is a wild pitch that goes into dead ball territory. The batter is entitled to 1st base only.

Decision: True. Rule 7.05(i)

- 42) The 3rd baseman, standing in fair territory, reaches into foul territory and touches a line drive which is over foul ground. A fair ball is declared.

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

- 43) Two runners occupy second base. Nobody is on first base. The lead runner is out when tagged.

Decision: False. Except when the lead runner is forced off the base by reason of the batter becoming a runner. Rule 7.02

- 44) A batter running the last half of the distance from home to 1st base may run inside fair territory to the left of the foul line to avoid the 1st baseman attempting to field a batted ball.

Decision: True. Rule 6.05(k)

- 45) The fielder throws his glove at a thrown ball, but misses. The batter and all runners are awarded two bases.

Decision: False. The glove must touch the ball before the bases can be awarded. Rule 7.05(e)

- 46) If a thrown ball accidentally strikes an umpire, the ball is alive and in play.

Decision: True. Rule 5.08

- 47) The catcher interferes with the batter as the batter swings and hits a fly ball which is caught. The offensive manager has the option to take the award or accept the play.

Decision: True. Rule 6.08(c)

- 48) The batter becomes a runner on ball four which is a wild pitch that leaves the playing field. The batter-runner is entitled to 2nd base.

Decision: False. Rule 7.05(h)

- 49) A pitched ball passes the catcher and lodges behind the umpire's protector. The ball is dead and the runners advance one base.

Decision: True. Rule 5.09(g)

- 50) With one out and two strikes on the batter, a runner on 3rd base attempts to steal home on a legal pitch. The runner is hit by the pitch in the strike zone. The umpire calls strike three, the batter is out and the runner is sent back to 3rd base.

Decision: False. The batter is out on strikes. However all runners are awarded one base. R3 scores. Rule 6.05(n), 5.09(h)