

2008 SNZ UMPIRE RULE EXAM

Q#		True/False Yes/ No
1	When a live ball becomes lodged in a defensive player's equipment, the ball is dead and all runners are awarded one base.	
2	A substitute shall be officially in the game when reported to the plate umpire.	
3	Because an infield fly has been declared, the runners may advance but must re-touch and advance even though the ball is not caught.	
4	R1 on 3 rd base and R2 on 1 st base with two outs. B5 grounds to F6 who bobbles the ball. R2 beats the throw to 2 nd base, over slides the base and is tagged out. R1 scores from 3 rd base prior to the tag. The run counts.	
5	When a batter uses an illegal bat and reaches 1 st base safely, and the next batter steps into the batter's box with the same bat which is then found to be illegal prior to the next pitch, both the runner at 1 st base and the present batter are declared out.	
6	A fourth out appeal can only be made on a runner who has scored.	
7	When a live ball becomes lodged in an umpire's equipment or offensive player's clothing, the ball is dead and runners are awarded the base(s) they would have reached in the umpire's judgement.	
8	F1 is wearing a long sleeved undershirt that is optic yellow (the same colour as the ball). No other team-mate is wearing an undershirt. The pitcher's uniform is legal.	
9	B1 at bat with a 0-balls 2-strike count and no outs. The pitch hits the ground before B1 swings. The batted ball goes directly from the bat, no higher than B1's head, to F2's glove and is securely held. This is a foul tip.	
10	B1 squares to bunt. The pitch hits the bat and deflects, hitting B1 in the chest over the plate. At the time of contact B1 had both feet in the batter's box. Ruling: Foul ball	
11	A flare or cone grip attached to a bat is considered an illegal bat.	
12	An appeal play made by the defensive team, may be made by any fielder on the playing field.	
13	A batter becomes a batter-runner after a dropped third strike.	
14	To be ruled legal, a fielder must show complete control of a catch in only their glove hand.	
15	If a fielder drops a caught ball while in the act of throwing it, the catch is valid.	
16	Plate umpire interference and catcher's obstruction cause an immediate dead ball situation.	
17	Every offensive player, whilst at bat, on base, or in the on-deck circle, must wear a helmet with two ear flaps.	

18	R1 on 2 nd base, R2 on 1 st base, one out. B3 hits a line drive that is dropped by F6. F6 recovers the ball and tags R1 going to 3 rd base, steps on 2 nd base and then throws to F3 in time beat B3. The plate umpire does not call nor signal an infield fly. The base umpire rules R1 out on the tag, R2 out on the force play at 2 nd base and B3 out at 1 st base. This is a triple play.	
19	Interference is the act of a defensive player, or team member, that interferes with an offensive player from attempting to run the bases.	
20	Interference may be caused by a defensive player, an umpire or a spectator.	
21	A foul ball is an illegally batted ball which bounds past 1 st or 3 rd base on or over foul territory.	
22	Obstruction is also the act of a defensive player without possession of the ball that interferes with the progress of a runner or batter-runner who is legally running the bases.	
23	A fielder with possession of the ball can not cause obstruction.	
24	The non-pivot foot is the foot with which the pitcher pushes off the pitcher's plate.	
25	Stealing is the act of a runner attempting to advance to the base just prior to a pitch to the batter.	
26	A pitched ball touches the ground on a strike immediately prior to being caught. This is considered a trapped ball.	
27	A thrown ball to any base for a force out which is caught with the glove just under the ball on the ground, is considered a trapped ball.	
28	A player forced to leave the ground due to uncontrolled bleeding is ruled an ineligible player and may be replaced by a replacement player for a defined time period.	
29	The barrel end of a warm-up bat must be in excess of 5.7cm in diameter and marked "warm-up" in 3.2cm letters.	
30	R1 on 3 rd base with none out. B5 hits to F6 who fields the ball and throws to F3 for the force out on B5 at 1 st base, as R1 scores. Before the next pitch, the defence properly appeals that B5 was not the correct batter and that B4 should have batted. Ruling: Return R1 to 3 rd base; declare B4 out and B5 returns to the batter's box to bat in the correct order.	
31	R1 on 3 rd base none out. B2 swings at a wild pitch that goes to the back net. R1 attempts to advance to home. F2 retrieves the ball and throws to F1 who is covering home plate. B2 accidentally hinders F1, preventing F1 from catching the ball, allowing R1 to score. Ruling: The run counts since B2 did not intentionally interfere with F1's opportunity to make the play.	
32	R1 on 2 nd base, one out. B2 hits a line drive to the outfield that is not caught. B2 is obstructed by F3, between 1 st & 2 nd base. Thinking he would not make 2 nd base, returns to and stands on 1 st base. R1 stops at 3 rd base as the throw is cut-off in the infield. B2 now decides to attempt to make 2 nd base and is tagged out by F4. Ruling: Dead Ball. The umpire should award B2 the base he would have made had there been no obstruction.	

33	<p>F1 is replaced by a substitute. At the same time the Plate umpire is also required to record several other changes, so the pitcher uses the extra time to throw four additional warm-up pitches.</p> <p>Ruling: The plate umpire should declare this legal, no penalty is applied.</p>	
34	<p>B1 hits a drive to right field that is not caught. F9 throws the ball to F3 covering 1st base, in an attempt to retire B1. B1 beats the throw, but touches only the white portion of the double base. F3 notices this and appeals "B1 did not touch the orange portion of the base," before B1 returns to the base.</p> <p>Ruling: B1 is safe because the throw was from the outfield.</p>	
35	<p>B1 hits a line drive into the outfield between F7 & F8. Seeing no way of keeping the ball from going over the outfield fence, F7 throws their glove at, and hits the ball in flight.</p> <p>Ruling: B1 is awarded three bases.</p>	
36	<p>When the score is tied after seven completed innings, the game will continue using the tie-breaker rule by placing the player scheduled to bat last, on 2nd base.</p>	
37	<p>The batter-runner is out when, with two outs or less than two outs, and 1st base unoccupied at the time of the pitch; the catcher drops the third strike and the batter-runner is legally put out before reaching 1st base.</p>	
38	<p>B1 hits a single and rounds 1st base. On seeing F9 field the ball, he returns to, and stands on 1st base. F9 throws the ball to F3, who walks the ball into the 8 foot circle. While F3 still has possession of the ball, B1 leaves 1st base and advances to 2nd base.</p> <p>Ruling: "Time" should be declared and B1 declared out for leaving the base while the ball is in the pitcher's circle.</p>	
39	<p>A ball that goes sharply and directly from the bat to the catcher's mitt/glove and is caught by the catcher is not a foul ball.</p>	
40	<p>An appeal on a runner missing home plate after the next runner has scored, is not allowed as a fourth out appeal.</p>	
41	<p>R1 on 3rd base and R2 on 1st base. B3 is substituted for by S1, but does not report to the plate umpire. S1 gets a base hit, scoring R1 from 3rd base, but R2 is tagged out at 3rd base. On the next pitch to B4, S1 safely steals to 2nd. The defense informs the umpire of the unreported substitute.</p> <p>Ruling: S1 is declared ineligible and replaced by a substitute, at the base occupied at the time of the pitch.</p>	
42	<p>On a pitched ball that gets away from the catcher, there is no penalty if the runners are not advancing.</p>	
43	<p>The umpire notices that the batter in the on-deck circle is swinging a warm-up bat with no tape on the grip.</p> <p>Ruling: The umpire should rule the warm-up bat illegal and have it fixed or removed from the game.</p>	

44	<p>R1 on 2nd base, B2 hits a triple scoring R1, who missed 3rd base. A pitch is thrown that the plate umpire rules illegal. The defense appeal R1 missed 3rd base. Ruling: R1 is out because the defense appealed prior to a legal pitch.</p>	
45	<p>R1 on 3rd base, B2 is at bat with a full count. B2 swings at and misses the next pitch which touches the ground before reaching F2. F2 misplays the ball and it rolls forward towards home plate. B2, attempting to advance to 1st base, unintentionally kicks the ball and F1 is unable to make a play. Ruling: The ball is dead and B2 out for interference. R1 is also out because of the interference by an offensive player already put out.</p>	
46	<p>R1 on 1st base and B2 scheduled to bat. B3 grounds into a double play. Prior to the next pitch, the defense appeals B3 batted out of order. Ruling: This is a triple play</p>	
47	<p>R1 on 2nd base, R2 on 1st base and B3 scheduled to bat. B4 grounds into a double play. Prior to the next pitch, the defense appeals B4 batted out of order. Ruling: B3 is declared out also and B5 bats first in the next inning.</p>	
48	<p>R1 is on 3rd base and R2 on 2nd base with two outs. B5 hits a triple scoring both R1 & R2, but R2 misses 3rd base. B6 enters the batter's box and without a pitch being delivered, the defense appeals R2 missed 3rd base. Ruling: R2 is out and no runs score</p>	
49	<p>In Women's Fast Pitch both pitchers are using a glove that is multi-coloured. Team A's pitcher's glove is white and brown. Team B's pitcher is using a brown and yellow glove. Ruling: Team B's pitcher's glove is illegal.</p>	
50	<p>Youth age players who coach in the 1st base coaches box are not required to wear a helmet.</p>	
51	<p>R1 on 2nd base B2 at bat. R1 attempts to steal to 3rd base. As F2 attempts a pick-off, the throw accidentally hits B2's bat (still in his hands), and the ball rebounds towards the dugout allowing R1 to advance home and score. Ruling: No interference and the play stands.</p>	
52	<p>With no outs and R1 on 3rd base, B2 hits a fly ball to F7. While the ball in flight, the 3rd base coach pushes R1 back toward 3rd base. 7 makes the catch. Ruling: B2 is out on the catch and R1 is out for being aided by the coach. The ball is live.</p>	
53	<p>A fielder carries a live ball into the dugout to tag a player, is considered to have intentionally carried it there, and all runners are entitled to two bases from the time the ball went dead.</p>	
54	<p>B1 at bat with 0-2 count, swings wildly at the next pitch. He manages to tip the ball no higher than his head directly back into F2's mask where it rebounds into play and is caught by a quick thinking, diving F5. Ruling: Foul ball</p>	
55	<p>The plate umpire should always exit left of the catcher and trail the batter-runner unless the play takes the umpire elsewhere.</p>	

56	<p>In the beginning of the eighth inning, the wrong runner is placed at 2nd base. The runner steals to 3rd safely.</p> <p>The umpire is then notified of the incorrect runner on 3rd base.</p> <p>Ruling: Declare the runner ineligible, and put the correct runner on 3rd base.</p>	
57	<p>Brown, the starting DP reaches 1st base and is replaced by Smith (substitute).</p> <p>Later in the game Brown re-enters as a batter and hits a double.</p> <p>Stone (substitute) replaces Brown on 2nd base.</p> <p>During extra innings, Brown is at bat with 1-ball 2-strike count when the defense appeal for Brown being in the game illegally.</p> <p>Ruling: Declare Brown ineligible and replace him with Harris (the Flex).</p>	
58	<p>R1 at 2nd base and R2 at 1st base, none out.</p> <p>B3 hits a fly ball to F5 who intentionally drops the ball.</p> <p>The plate umpire rules B3 out on the infield fly, ignores the intentionally dropped ball and leaves the ball in play with the runners at 1st and 2nd in jeopardy to be put out.</p>	
59	<p>When appealed by the defense, any player who fails to bat will be called out by the plate umpire.</p>	
60	<p>One out. B2 hits a single. B5 bats and hits an automatic home run.</p> <p>The base umpire calls an illegal pitch on B6.</p> <p>The defense appeals the offense has batted out of order.</p> <p>Ruling: B3 is out for missing his turn at bat, B4 just misses his turn at bat, the two runs count and a ball is awarded to B6 on the illegal pitch.</p>	
61	<p>R1 on 3rd base, R2 on 1st base and one out.</p> <p>4 hits a long fly-ball to deep right field.</p> <p>R1 legally tags up on the catch before advancing to and touching home.</p> <p>However, the on-deck batter thinking R1 did not tag-up correctly yells at him to re-touch 3rd base.</p> <p>He then re-touches home before running back to third, and is tagged attempting to re-touch home.</p> <p>Ruling: The run counts. R2 the runner closest to home is out.</p>	
62	<p>The player coach of the home side playing in right field has a cast on her left wrist. To prevent any injury to anyone else she has the cast covered by a soft material, taped and approved by the umpire.</p>	
63	<p>B1 hits a high fly ball that hits the branch of an over-hanging tree in fair territory, and is easily caught by F7.</p> <p>Ruling: No Catch.</p>	
64	<p>R1 on 2nd base. B3 hits a long fly-ball to F8. F8 throws the ball to F5 for a tag on R1 advancing; however the ball tips off F5's glove and hits the coach who is out of the coach's box.</p> <p>Ruling: This is a blocked ball.</p>	
65	<p>The un-notified return of the DP to the batting line-up for the FLEX is an appeal play and must be made whilst the player is still in the game.</p>	
66	<p>S1 hits a stand-up triple. B3 enters the batter's box. Knowing the reputation of B3, the pitcher elects to intentionally walk B3. B4 enters the batter's box, but prior to receiving a pitch, the defense appeal for S1 being an unannounced substitute.</p> <p>Ruling: S1 is out. B3 returns to the batter's box with a 0-0 count.</p>	

67	A batter is defensive player who has not yet become a batter-runner.	
68	A player with the intention of aiding his team to score runs, with one foot on the lines of the batter's box and the other foot entirely within the lines is considered to be in the batter's box.	
69	An offensive player who has finished his turn at bat and not yet been put out, and is between 1 st and 2 nd bases is considered to be a batter-runner.	
70	A coach cannot be held responsible for his team's actions whilst on the field.	
71	R1 on 1 st base, none out. B2 has a 3-ball 2-strike count. He swings at the next pitch but does not connect. F2 throws to F4 to tag the stealing R1. Ruling: This is a double play	
72	Friends and family of a visiting team are permitted to be in the dugout provided they do not smoke there.	
73	Any ball batted into the air shall be considered a fly-ball.	
74	There can never be a force-out situation if the batter-runner is put out before reaching 1 st base.	
75	Anticipating the batter is only able to hit a short ball, F9 and F7 are stationed just behind the base lines (almost in line with F4 & F6 respectively). They are now considered an infielder for the purposes of an infield fly.	
76	A new inning begins immediately after the final out of the previous inning, unless there is insufficient time to complete the inning in the allotted time frame.	
77	R3 is injured sliding into 2 nd base and is required to leave the game to have a bleeding injury attended to. The FLEX may run as the replacement player for the completion of this inning and all of the next inning.	
78	The outfield is the portion of the field not normally covered by an infielder and within the foul lines beyond 1 st and 3 rd bases to the boundaries of the grounds.	
79	A protest is the action of an offensive or defensive team objecting to an umpire ruling. No protest may be made after a pitch has been thrown (legal or illegal) or the defensive team has left the field.	
80	A team is deemed to have left the field once all players have left fair territory.	
81	B1 attempted to bunt the ball. The ball bounces awkwardly, and deflects into foul territory still in the air. F3 with both feet entirely in fair territory deflects the ball back to F1 whom fields the ball and tags B1 attempting to make 1 st base. Ruling: Fair ball	
82	B5 chops the ball high into the infield. In attempting to field the ball, F1 deflects the ball and it rolls untouched into foul territory between home and 1 st base. F2 retrieves the ball and throws to F4 covering 2 nd base in an attempt to prevent B5 advancing. Ruling: Fair ball	

83	<p>B3 hits a bounding ball toward 3rd base in fair territory. In the judgement of the plate umpire, the ball bounds over 3rd base before first touching in the outfield in foul territory.</p> <p>Ruling: Fair ball</p>	
84	<p>B2 hits a short fly-ball over the head of F3 that first touches the foul line in foul territory beyond 1st base, before rolling into fair territory where it is fielded by F9, and thrown to F3 in time to retire B2.</p> <p>Ruling: B2 is out, this is a fair ball.</p>	
85	<p>B6 bunts the ball toward 1st base in an attempt to score R4 from 3rd base. The ball spins back and hits the batter's discarded bat lying in foul territory, before coming to rest in fair territory.</p> <p>Ruling: Foul ball</p>	
86	<p>R5 on 3rd base, one out. R5 attempts to score on B6's bunt. However it becomes apparent that the ball will become foul, so B6 throws his bat so as to prevent the ball from rolling foul. R5 scores, and B6 caught in a run-down between 1st and 2nd base is subsequently tagged out.</p> <p>Ruling: Dead ball, B6 is out and R5 returns to 3rd base.</p>	
87	<p>Runners can legally advance with liability to be put out when a thrown ball hits an umpire.</p>	
88	<p>B1 has a 3-2 count. The next pitch gets away from the catcher whom elects to use his mask to retrieve the ball. On seeing this, B1 attempts to advance to 2nd base but is caught in a run-down and subsequently tagged. The offensive coach then appeals that his runner is entitled to 1st base on the misuse of equipment rule.</p> <p>Ruling: B1 is out.</p>	
89	<p>B7 hits a long fly ball that just hits the top of the outfield fence and is deflected back toward F8. Unfortunately, F8 did not expect the ball and it is subsequently knocked over the outfield fence.</p> <p>Ruling: Home run</p>	
90	<p>R1 on 1st base, running on the pitch. B2 hits a low line drive to F6, who catches the ball. F6 throws to F3, attempting to catch R1 off base before he can return to tag-up after the catch. R1 attempts to return to 1st base but is obstructed by F4. The throw reaches F3, who touches 1st and legally appeals before R1 can recover and return to the base. The umpire considers R1 would not have returned in time, even had the obstruction not occurred, so calls R1 out. The offensive coach then insists that the out should be overturned, claiming no runner can be called out between the bases where he was obstructed.</p> <p>Ruling: The umpire should ignore the obstruction and declare R1 out for leaving his base before the fly ball was first touched.</p>	
91	<p>Awarded bases must be touched in legal order.</p>	
92	<p>When a fielder in possession of the ball pushes a runner off the base in the act of tagging him, the runner shall be declared out.</p>	

93	An option play is a play in which the coach of the team not at fault is given the choice of taking the enforcement of the illegal action or the result of the play.
94	When the pitching distance is found to be incorrect, the umpire should correct the error immediately and continue playing the game.
95	The batter's on-deck circle can be drawn at either end of the dugout area.
96	B1 hits a low drive to F4, who dives to retrieve the ball before throwing the ball very high to F3. F3 seeing the ball will go over the fence, throws his glove at the ball, deflecting it away but still in live ball territory. B1, approaching 1 st base at the time of the deflection, continues to run and is tagged out sliding into 3 rd base. Ruling: The umpire should return B1 to 2 nd base.
97	When two runners are between 1 st & 2 nd bases, and a fielder deliberately throws a ball out of play, the lead runner shall be awarded home as the trail runner is entitled to 3 rd base.
98	A runner must return to his base, but need not touch any intervening bases when any part of the batter's person is touched by a pitched ball swung at and missed.
99	In the two umpire system, with a runner on 2 nd base, a fly ball is hit to F8 that is caught. Which umpire has tag-up responsibilities and who has the runner if he attempts to advance to 3 rd base? A. Plate umpire has the tag-up and the runner to 3 rd base. B. Base umpire has the tag-up and the runner to 3 rd base. C. Base umpire has the tag-up and the plate umpire has the runner at 3 rd base. D. Plate umpire has the tag-up and the base umpire has the runner at 3 rd base.
100	In the two umpire system, with a runner on 1 st base, the base umpire has rotated to the 2nd base side of F4. A ground ball is hit within the infield and the throw to 1 st base arrives before the batter-runner, however the umpire is unable to tell if the throw pulled F3 off the base. The base umpire should: A. Call the runner out and do not ask for help as the plate umpire may have gone to 3 rd base. B. Make no call and ask for help right away. C. Call the runner out and ask for help only if requested by the offense. D. None of the above.

Please check your answers and forward your answer sheet only

via email to nzumpire@ihug.co.nz or fax 03 960 5705

2008 SNZ Umpires Refresher / Exam

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