

# **SNZ Rules Exam for levels 4 to 7 2021: Warning: Once you press Start, you have 60 mins to complete! Grab a cuppa or a cold one and then get started, good luck!**

## **SNZ UMPIRES ANNUAL RULES TEST 2021 – Levels 4 to 7**

**Note:** If you are a Level 3 umpire being assessed for Level 4 in the coming season you are required to sit the Level 4-7 rules test instead.

**Pre-Amble:** This Annual Rules Test is based on the New Zealand Rule Book 2018-2021 and relates to Fast Pitch only. You may also use the WBSC 2018-2021 rule book.

For the sake of brevity and clarity some questions will use the following symbols:

**For Fielders:** F1 = Pitcher; F2 = Catcher; F3 = 1st Base; F4 = 2nd Base; F5 = 3rd Base; F6 = Shortstop;

F7 = Left Field; F8 = Centre Field; F9 = Right Field.

**For Runners:** R1 is always the lead runner, followed by R2, R3 etc.

**For Batters:** BR is the batter-runner; B1 is the lead-off batter, followed by B2, B3, B4 etc.

**For Substitutes:** S1 is the first substitution player, followed by S2, S3, S4 etc.

**For The Bases:** 1B = 1<sup>st</sup> Base; 2B = 2<sup>nd</sup> base; 3B = 3<sup>rd</sup> base; HP = Home plate

## **INSTRUCTIONS:**

**Welcome to the 2021 SNZ Rules Exam for umpires at Levels 4-7.**

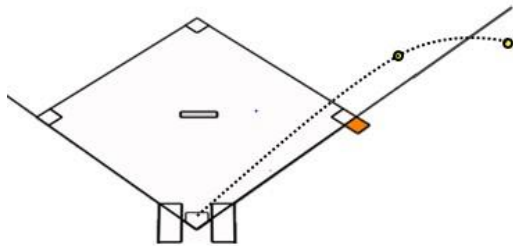
**This exam is designed to assess your rules knowledge ahead of the upcoming season and should be used as a learning tool to uncover areas where you might need more study in the future. That's why we are using a new format this year with fewer questions and a multiple choice exam with 3 possible answers instead of the usual True or False used in the past. Finally, this exam is now only available online and has a time limit of 60 minutes, so once you start you will see the clock timer at the bottom of the screen will be ticking. Good luck!**

1. This Rules Test is an Open Book Test. You may use the 2018-2021 New Zealand Rule Book or WBSC Rule Book to answer the questions. Answer strictly according to the Rule Book and NOT local bylaws and/or ground rules.
2. **This Rules Test is now ONLY offered as an online test and includes 50 questions.** Please provide your answers using the online test link provided, you will receive your score immediately after you press the submit button.

3. All answers have 3 possible options and are worth 2 marks each for a total of 100 marks. Although everyone will get the same version of the exam, question order will be randomized.
4. Please select your answer by clicking on one of the 3 button options. **Once you begin, you will have 60 minutes to complete the exam**, you will see a countdown timer at the bottom of the screen. If time runs out before you submit, all the answers provided will be submitted automatically for you, you won't lose anything!
5. At the end of the test, press **Submit** and you will see your score immediately. You can only take the test once.
6. Completion of this test is to be done individually and **not as a group** to make sure you can assess your own knowledge. After the exam period has closed, we strongly encourage you to review the exam with your fellow umpires within your local association as a training session for the upcoming season.
7. If you have any questions, please email: [debeau12@gmail.com](mailto:debeau12@gmail.com)
8. **The Rules Test will close on Sunday 12 September 2021 at 23:59.** Answers and results will be emailed to each individual and also posted on the SNZ Umpires website shortly after the closing date.

1. A batted ball first touches the outfield in fair territory, then rolls over the line (2 points) into foul territory where it comes to rest.

RULING:



- Fair ball
- Foul ball
- Will be declared Foul only when a fielder will pickup the ball in foul territory

**Explanation:** 5.1.16

2. R1 on 1B. The batter (B2) hits a ground ball to F4. The ball rolls out of F4's (2 points) glove.

F4 is reaching down to pick up the ball when R1 collides with them.

RULING:

- Obstruction by F4, award R1 2B and B2 1B.
- Interference, Dead ball, declare R1 out, award B2 1B.
- Play on, F4 had a go at fielding the batted ball, ball is live, runners may advance at own jeopardy.

**Explanation:** 5.5.2 b) iii

3. Watch this video of a match situation:

(2 points)

<https://youtu.be/uY11XhEpaJw>

**RULING:**

- No catch as F7 caught the ball over the fence line and fell into dead ball territory, this is a homerun.
- Legal catch and runners on base may tag up and advance at their own risk when the ball is first touched by F7
- Legal catch but the ball is now dead and any runners on base are awarded one extra base from last base touched at the time the fielder left the field of play.

**Explanation:** catch and carry, 5.11 effect a) ii 3)

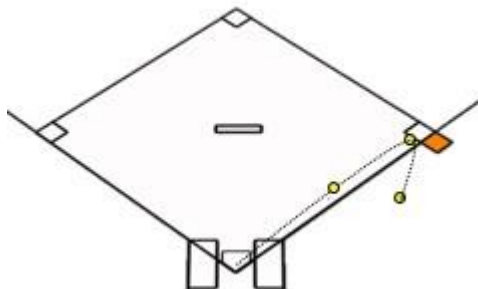
4. If the pitch slips or drops from the pitcher's hand during the delivery, the plate (2 points) umpire shall declare:

- A ball on the batter, the ball remains live and runners may advance at their own risk.
- Illegal pitch, extra ball on the batter, runners advance one base.
- Dead ball, extra ball on the batter's count, runners return to base at time of the pitch.

**Explanation:** 4.6

5. A batted ball hits the fair (white) portion of 1<sup>st</sup> base, rolls and comes to rest in (2 points) foul territory.

**RULING:**



- Fair
- Foul
- Always a Dead ball when it touches any base, home plate or pitching plate

**Explanation:** 5.1.16

6. One out, R1 on 3B. The batter hits the ball to F3 who fields the ball and runs toward the batter. (2 points)

The batter-runner stops and takes one step back towards home plate while F1 attempts a tag.

R1 crosses home plate. **After** R1 has scored the batter-runner is tagged by F3.

RULING:

- Run scores, batter-runner is out on the force and we now have 2 outs.
- Dead ball, batter is out, the run does not count and R1 must return to 3<sup>rd</sup> base.
- Batter is out for avoiding a tag, ball remains live, and R1 scores, we now have 2 outs.

**Explanation:** 5.5.2 b) xii

7. Watch this video of a match situation: (2 points)

<https://youtu.be/3PDCOlmL9-o>

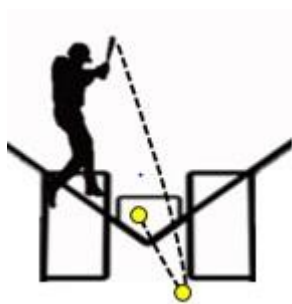
RULING:

- R7 is called safe home, no tag
- R7 ran beyond homeplate so should be called out for running the bases in reverse order.
- Catcher obstructed R7, delayed dead ball, R7 should be called safe on the obstruction.

**Explanation:** 5.10.4 b), R7 did not go outside the 1m base path to avoid a tag.

8. A batted ball first touches the ground in foul territory, spins back and comes to rest on home plate. (2 points)

RULING:



- Foul ball
- Fair ball
- Dead ball

**Explanation:** 5.1.16

9. One out, R1 on 2B, R2 on 1B. B4 hits a fly ball to F4. The umpires call “Infield Fly” (2 points)

F4 misses the catch, quickly picks the ball up from the ground and tags R2 advancing from 1<sup>st</sup> base.

**RULING:**

- Infield fly, batter is out, ball is dead, runners return to base at time of the pitch.
- Both the batter and R2 are out.
- Intentional drop by F4, batter is out on infield fly rule, ball is now dead so runners return to base at time of the pitch.

**Explanation:** 5.5.2 a) v

10. A batted ball is fielded by 3rd base (F5) over the foul line with both their feet inside the diamond (2 points)

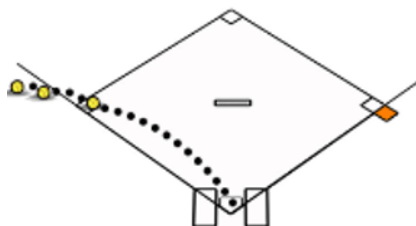


**RULING:**

- Foul ball because the ball is first touched over foul territory.
- Foul ball because F5's hand is touching the ground in foul territory.
- Fair ball because F5's feet are in contact with the ground in fair territory.

**Explanation:** 5.1.16

11. A batted ball hits 3rd base, rolls and comes to rest in outfield foul territory. (2 points)



**RULING:**

- Always a fair ball when it touches any base, including home plate
- Always a Dead ball when it touches any base, excluding home plate or pitching plate
- Foul as it ended up in foul territory

**Explanation:** 5.1.16

12. A batted ball hits the batter standing in the batter's box. (2 points)



**RULING:**

- Foul
- Dead ball.
- Fair ball, play on.

**Explanation:** 5.4.3 d) iv

13. A pitch crosses the plate with the top of the ball at the bottom of the batter's kneecap. (2 points)

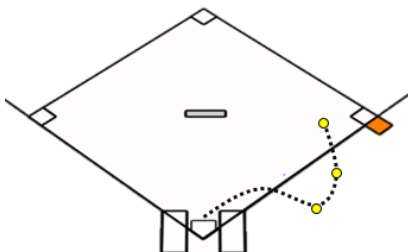


RULING:

- Strike
- Ball
- Dead Ball

**Explanation:** 5.1.41

14. A batted ball hit into foul territory before passing 1st base spins back into the (2 points) infield and comes to rest.



RULING:

- Fair ball
- Foul ball
- Foul because it touched foul territory first

**Explanation:** 5.1.16

15. A team has a designated player (DP) in the 4th slot in their line-up batting for the pitcher (F1). (2 points)

In the 6th innings, the coach notifies the plate umpire that F1 will bat in place of the DP.

**RULING:**

- This is a legal change.
- F1 is listed as the Flex in the original line-up so can only field, not bat.
- This change will be treated as an illegal re-entry if legally appealed by the offense.

**Explanation:** 3.2.3 e)

16. A batted ball is fielded by 3rd base (F5) on the foul line with one foot in foul territory. (2 points)



**RULING:**

- Foul ball
- Fair ball
- Foul ball as one of F5's feet is touching the ground into foul territory

**Explanation:** 5.1.16



17. All fielding players must be standing in fair territory before a pitch is delivered. (2 points)

- True
- True, except the catcher
- There are no restrictions on where the fielding players can be standing as long as they are within the playing field (includes fair or foul territory).

**Explanation:** 4.3.1 a)

18. 1 ball, 2 strike count on the batter. (2 points)

The next pitch is bunted into fair territory.

**RULING:**



- Fair ball
- Batter is out, bunting is illegal with 2 strikes
- Dead ball

**Explanation:** 5.1.8

19. The batter hits a line drive to 3rd base fielder (F5). (2 points)

The ball deflects off F5's glove in flight and is caught by the shortstop (F6).

**RULING:**

- Legal catch, batter is out.
- Fair ball, no catch, ball is live.
- Legal catch and runners on base can tag up only after the catch is secured in F6's glove.

**Explanation:** 5.1.9

20. A batted ball hitting either part of the double base is: (2 points)



- only a fair ball if part of the ball touches the white portion of the bag.
- always a foul ball
- always a dead ball

**Explanation:** 5.6 a i

21. A fielder who is in possession of the ball pushes a runner off a base in an attempt to tag the runner off base. This action is: (2 points)
- considered a form of obstruction and is a delayed dead ball.
  - is legal and the runner is in jeopardy to be put out if they can't stay in contact with the base.
  - considered a form of interference and the ball is dead.

**Explanation:** 5.1.32 b 4

22. Watch this video of a match situation: (2 points)

<https://youtu.be/5TOpgJ4E4lc>

B1 has a 2-1 count, 1 out and R2 on 2B. Next pitch is called a strike as R2 attempts a steal.

RULING:

- Live ball, play on
- Batter out, advance R1 to 3B
- Dead Ball. batter out, return R1 to 2B

**Explanation:** 5.4.4 c) ii, batter in box has to "intentionally" interfere with catcher's throw to be called out.

23. When the ball is in play and overthrown by a fielder beyond the boundary line or is blocked, all runners are awarded: (2 points)

- one base from the time of the throw
- two bases from the time of the throw.
- two bases from the time of the pitch.

**Explanation:** 5.11 Effects b) ii

24. It is considered a legal tag when a fielder touches a runner: (2 points)

- with the hand while the ball is held in the glove.
- with the ball, while held in the bare hand and not the glove.
- with the ball, but ONLY when held in the glove.

**Explanation:** 5.1.42 a

25. The catcher retrieves a dropped third strike dribbling on the first base foul territory side, and throws to F4 covering 1B and touching the foul portion of the double base. The throw contacts batter-runner B1 who is running just inside the fair territory side. (2 points)

RULING:

- B1 is out on interference for running outside the running lane.
- Ball is live, play on.
- Ball is dead, B1 is awarded 1B.

**Explanation:** 5.6 a) ii

26. S1, who has been ruled an Ineligible Player as a result of being an unreported substitute, returns to the game in a later inning as a replacement player on offense. The defense appeals prior to a pitch being thrown. (2 points)

**RULING:**

- the umpire shall declare a forfeit to the team not at fault.
- S1 and the coach are ejected for illegal re-entry
- the offence can notify the umpire of another replacement player to be used without penalty

**Explanation:** 3.2.8 c) and effect 3.2.8 effect f)

27. The batter is out if: (2 points)

- any part of their foot is outside the lines of the batter's box when the pitch is delivered.
- all of their foot is outside the lines of the batter's box when they hit the ball (fair or foul).
- any part of their foot is outside the lines of the batter's box when they hit the ball (fair or foul).

**Explanation:** 5.1.23 a)

28. When an infield fly is declared: (2 points)

- The batter is out, and runners may advance at their own risk
- The batter is out, the ball is dead and runners may not advance.
- The batter is declared out and runners may advance without tagging up whether the ball is caught or not

**Explanation:** 5.5.2 a) v effect

29. A legally batted ball bounds over the fair portion of 1B and hits the base umpire standing in foul territory.

**Ruling:**



- Fair ball
- Foul ball
- Dead ball

**Explanation:** 5.1.16 b) and 5.5.1 e)

30. Who can notify the plate umpire to give a batter an Intentional Base on Balls? (2 points)

- The pitcher, captain or coach
- The pitcher, catcher or coach
- The coach, catcher or captain

**Explanation:** 5.5.1 c) ii

31. When receiving signals from the catcher, the pitcher must be standing: (2 points)

- with at least one foot on the pitcher's plate with his hands together.
- behind the pitcher's plate with hands separated
- with at least one foot on the pitcher's plate with hands separated

**Explanation:** 4.3.1 d)

32. In the top of the third inning, the offensive team coach requests a conference (2 points) with a batter. In the bottom half of the inning, the same coach (now on defense) requests "Time" to talk to F1.
- F1 is now declared ineligible for the pitching position but may be legally used elsewhere on the field
  - the coach is ejected for using 2 conferences in the same inning
  - This is legal if this is one of the 3 allowed defensive conferences in the game

**Explanation:** 4.2.1 b) and 5.1.10

33. No runs shall score when the 3rd out of the inning is: (2 points)
- the result of a non-force tag play after a runner has scored
  - the result of a force play
  - no runs can score on either of the scenarios described above

**Explanation:** 1.2.5c ii

34. Watch this video of a match situation: (2 points)

<https://youtu.be/lRebCw8Xy3Y>

B5 hits a long flyball to goes over the fence for a homerun, watch the video as she is coming towards home.

**RULING:**

- The PU should have called B5 out and nullified the homerun as soon as he saw B5 had missed touching home plate.
- No appeal can be made by the defense now as B5 has gone beyond home plate and is celebrating with her team mates.
- The defense can legally make a dead ball appeal for B5 missing a base once the PU puts a ball back in play.

**Explanation:** 1.2.6 c) exception i)

35. R2 on 3B with none out. B3 bunts the ball to F5 and R2 becomes caught in a (2 points) run down play between home and 3B. B3, who is halfway to 1B, sees that R2 is trapped so, in an attempt to draw a throw, turns around and runs back towards, but does not touch, home plate. R2 is then tagged as B3 turns around again and runs safely to 1B.

RULING:

- B3 is out as soon as he runs backwards, the ball is dead and R2 must return to 3B.
- B3 is out for running the bases in reverse order and R2 must return to 3B.
- B3 is safe on 1B and R2 out on the tag.

**Explanation:** 5.5.2 b) xii, 5.10.4b, 5.10.3a ii

36. R1 is on 2B with two outs. (2 points)  
B4 hits a fly ball which F6 should catch with little effort.  
R1 advancing to 3B collides with F6, who still manages to make the catch.

R1 is the third out on the interference call.

Who will be the first batter in the next inning when they return to bat?



- B4 will bat again since R1 was the 3rd out in the previous inning
- B5
- B5 but only if the defense appeal for a fourth out before their players leave the field at the end of the inning

**Explanation:** 5.4.1b

37. B5 hits the ball safely to the outfield and only touches the foul (orange) portion of the 1B bag as they run all the way to 3B for a stand-up triple. (2 points)

After calling time, the defense appeal for the batter missing 1<sup>st</sup> base.

RULING:

- The umpire denies the appeal as this can only be done as a live ball appeal.
- Legal appeal, B5 is out for missing a base.
- The batter is safe on 3B as they may touch either part of the base.

**Explanation:** 5.6 a) v

38. R1 on 2B. B9 has a 2 ball, 2 strike count. On the next pitch, the base umpire calls R1 out for leaving their base too early. The plate umpire calls the pitch a strike. (2 points)

RULING:

- Dead ball, R1 is out for leaving early and B9 is also out on the called 3rd strike.
- Dead ball, R1 is out for leaving early but the batter's count remains at 2-2.
- Dead ball, the batter is out on the called 3rd strike but R1 must return to 2B, there can only be 1 out on this play.

**Explanation:** 4.5 c) no pitch

39. R1 is on 3B and R2 on 1B with one out. (2 points)

B4 hits a long fly ball to F7 who is an unreported substitute.

F7 drops the ball, recovers the ball and throws to F6, who then throws to 3B in time to get R2 out.

B4 advances to 2B, and R1 scores.

The offense appeals that F7 is unreported, and should be ruled ineligible.

RULING:

- The results of the play stand but the coach and F7 are ejected from the game for illegal substitution
- The offensive manager is given the option to have the batter bat again assuming the original ball and strike count, or take the result of the play.
- The results of the play stand as the appeal cannot be lodged after a pitch is made.

**Explanation:** 3.1.10, 3.2.8 effect e)



40. R1 on 3B and R2 on 1B with two outs. (2 points)

B4 hits a ground ball to F4.

The defensive player chases R2 back to 1B as R1 scores.

R2 is tagged while standing on 1B.

**RULING:**

- Timing play: R2 is out on the tag but the run scores as he touched home before the tag.
- R2 is out on the tag and the run does not score.
- Run scores and R2 is safe as he cannot be tagged while standing safely on 1B.

**Explanation:** 1.2.5 c) ii

41. R1 on 3B and R2 on 1B with B3 at bat with a 2-1 count. (2 points)

An “Illegal Pitch” is called as B3 hits a slow roller to F5.

F5 fakes, holding R1, but the throw to F3 is too late to retire B3, and R2 advances to 2B.

- Since all runners and the batter-runner are safe on the play, the delayed dead ball is nullified and the result of the play stands.
- Since R1 did not advance a base, the coach is given the option of taking the result of the play, or have the batter resume batting with a 3 balls, 1 strike count.
- The ball is declared dead as soon as the batted ball is fielded by F5 and it becomes an option play.

**Explanation:** 4.3.1 Effect b ; 4.3.1 Effect d (if result of play not taken)

42. Watch this video of a match situation: (2 points)

<https://youtu.be/AVPSxDFQsSQ>

**RULING:**

- R3 rounding 3B can carry on and attempt to score.
- Coach physically assists R3 as she rounds 3B, dead ball, this is coach interference, runner closest to home is called out.
- Coach physically assists R3 as she rounds 3B, this is coach interference, R3 is called out and the ball remains live.

**Explanation:** 5.10.3 a) v. Any physical assistance by anyone other than another runner, runner is out

43. R1 on 1B, when B2 hits a ground ball to F4.

(2 points)

The ball contacts R1 (before it reaches F4) and deflects straight to F4, who touches 2B and then throws to 1B for a double-play. RULING:



- Delayed dead ball, wait for outcome of the play before declaring interference or play on.
- The umpire should ignore the interference by R1 as the defense turned a double play.
- Dead ball, declare R1 out on interference, B2 is awarded 1B.

**Explanation:** 5.10.3 ci

44. R1 on 2B. On a deflected ball that comes to rest in line with 3rd base on the 1B side. R1 advances toward 3B. (2 points)

F2 retrieves the ball and throws to 3B.

The ball strikes the batter still standing in the batter's box.

RULING:

- Obstruction, delayed dead ball, wait for outcome of the play to make a ruling.
- Batter interference, batter is out, R1 returns to 2B.
- Ball is live, play on.

**Explanation:** R5.4.2 e v

45. B4 bunts the ball just in front of home plate. He then runs toward 1B in fair territory, heading toward the 0.91m (3 ft) running lane. While in fair territory, and before reaching the start of the running lane, he is hit in the back by the throw from F2. (2 points)

RULING:

- B4 is out for running outside the running lane.
- Although B4 is running in fair territory, he is not out, ball remains live.
- B4 is out for running in fair territory instead of foul territory.

**Explanation:** Appendix 1.B – note the commencement of the “one metre running line”. Note R5.5.2b ii is NOT in effect here as the BR has not yet reached the commencement of the running lane.

46. R1 on 2B, R2 on 1B with none out. B3 has a 2-2 count. On the next pitch, both R1 & R2 attempt to steal. R2 is obstructed by F3, yet still beats the throw from F2 to F6. R1 however thinking she won't make 3rd, returns to 2B. With both R1 & R2 on 2B, F6 tags R1, then R2. (2 points)



RULING:

- R1 Safe, R2 out
- R1 Out, R2 Safe
- R1 safe, Dead Ball, R2 awarded 2B on obstruction & advance R1 to 3B

**Explanation:** 5.10.2.c. R1 is entitled to 2B 5.9.d R1 is entitled to hold the base until they legally touch next base or are forced to vacate it for a succeeding runner. When R2 is tagged – obstruction is enforced. Runners are advanced to base would have obtained if no obstruction.

47. R3 on 1B. B4 hits a ground ball to F6, who fields and throws the ball to F3. F3 misses the throw and the ball rolls towards the dead ball line but does not go dead. At this stage, R3 has rounded 2nd and B4 has rounded 1st. (2 points)

As F3 picks up the ball, he puts one foot over the dead ball line into dead ball territory.

RULING:

- Dead Ball, Award R3 Home, Award B4 3B
- Dead Ball, Award R3 3B, Award B4 2B
- F3 has only one foot over the dead ball line, so it is a Live ball – play on

**Explanation:** 5.11 Effect a ii 3

48. Smeekes, a listed substitute, legally replaces Thompson in the top of the 2nd inning. Thompson re-enters the game in the bottom of the 2nd inning, replacing Smeekes. In the top of the 4th inning, Sadgrove slides into a base and opens an old injury on his leg that begins to bleed. Smeekes now enters the game again as a "Replacement Player" for Sadgrove. Sadgrove is due to return to the game at the top of the sixth inning, but is unable to do so, as he has been taken to the hospital for treatment. (2 points)

RULING:

- Request the coach replace Smeekes with a legal substitute
- Declare a forfeit as Sadgrove is not available to return
- Do nothing – this is an appeal and the opposition needs to appeal at the correct time.

**Explanation:** Rule 3.1.10 f, 3.2.8 effect b), 3.3a 3.1.10 f

49. B1 hits a long fair fly ball that touches F8's glove, as he is running back attempting a catch. The ball deflects from the glove and goes over the home run fence at a distance of 53.34m (175 ft) from home plate. (This part of the fence is clearly and visibly marked as being 53.34m). (2 points)

RULING:

- Homerun
- B1 becomes a batter-runner, the ball is declared dead and B1 is awarded 2 bases from time of the pitch.
- The hit is declared invalid and the batter is returned to bat again with the same count

**Explanation:** 5.11 Effect b) i 1) and 5.5.1 g) iv 1)

50. Watch this video of a match situation:

(2 points)

<https://youtu.be/ecEjNaIr-ec>

B4 has a 1-1 count, 1 out, R1 on 3B, R2 on 2B and R3 on 1B. PU calls "infield fly".

RULING:

- B4 is out on the infield fly, ball remains live, play on.
- B4 interferes with F3 fielding a batted ball, dead ball, the infield fly is nullified as B4 declared out and runners return to the last base touched at time of the pitch.
- B4 is declared out on the infield fly, is no longer a batter-runner and interferes with F3 fielding a batted ball so the runner closest to home R1 is also declared out.

**Explanation:** B4 is already out on the IF, interferes with F3 fielding a batted ball, runner closest to home declared out. 5.5.2 b) iii and 5.10.3 c) v

51. please enter your email address to receive your answer results at the closing date.

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52. Provide the region where you are based as an umpire (i.e Auckland, Canterbury etc)

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