

2022 Annual Rules exam Levels 4 to 7 : Warning: Once you press Start, you have 120 mins to complete, good luck!

SNZ UMPIRES ANNUAL RULES TEST 2022 – 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 2022-2025 and relates to Fast Pitch only. You may also use the WBSC 2022-2025 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 = 1st Base; 2B = 2nd base; 3B = 3rd base; HP = Home plate

INSTRUCTIONS:

Welcome to the 2022 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 format 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 120 minutes, so once you start you will see the clock timer at the bottom of the screen will be ticking. Good luck!

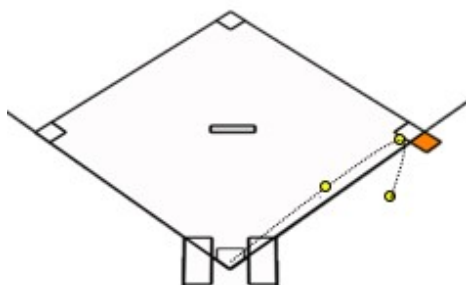
1. This Rules Test is an Open Book Test. You may use the New Zealand Rule Book or WBSC Rule Book to answer the questions. Answer strictly according to the Rule Book and NOT local bylaws and/or ground rules.
2. **This Rules Test is now ONLY offered as an online test and includes 50 questions.** Please 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 120 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
8. **The Rules Test will close on Sunday 4 September 2022 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. The ball is considered to be "outside of the playing field", when it touches: (2 points)
 - the ground, or a person on the ground outside the playing area
 - an object outside the playing area.
 - both those scenarios are considered as "outside of the playing field".
2. If the pitch slips or drops from the pitcher's hand during the delivery, the plate umpire shall declare: (2 points)
 - 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.
3. In the top of the 5th inning, the coach advises the plate umpire that #3 (David Brown) will bat for starting player #80 (Walter Jones). (2 points)
 - illegal substitution
 - only legal if #3 was the FLEX at the start of the game
 - this is allowed by the umpire
4. A pitched ball that is deemed a passed ball: (2 points)
 - is a delayed dead ball.
 - remains alive and the ball is in play.
 - is considered a blocked ball.
5. After completing the top of the 4th inning, the Otago team has 1 run and Hawkes Bay (batting second) has 10 runs. (2 points)
 - Hawkes Bay are declared winners on the run ahead rule and the bottom 4th inning does not need to be played out.
 - Hawkes Bay wins on run ahead rule but still have to play the inning.
 - the game must continue into the bottom of the 4th inning

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

RULING:



- Fair
- Foul
- Always a Dead ball when it touches any base, home plate or pitching plate
7. Click on the link below to watch a video clip of a match situation. (2 points)

Q30: batter in box

A large rectangular box containing the text "Q30: batter in box" at the top left and a large red YouTube play button icon in the center.

<https://youtu.be/clezHTZgouc?list=TLGG1zultqI43DQwOTA5MjAyMg>

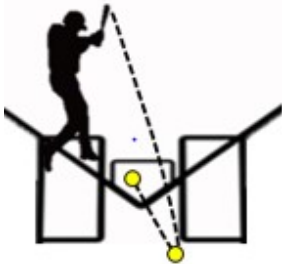
B5 steps behind the back line in the batter's box and returns inside the box before making contact with the ball.

RULING:

- this is NOT a batting out of the box violation because B5 was inside the box when contact was made.

- B5 is called out for batting outside the box but only if the batted ball is in fair territory, not on a foul.
- B5 is called out for batting out of the box if they make contact with the ball, whether it is fair or foul.
8. F1 throws the first two pitches with a legal windmill delivery, and the next pitch is thrown (2 points) with a "slingshot" delivery.
- this is an illegal pitch
- the pitcher cannot change his delivery during a turn at bat, declare a ball on the batter.
- this is a legal delivery.
9. The base distance is found to be incorrect part way through an inning. Can the umpire (2 points) have the distance corrected at that point?
- too late, the game must be completed with the current field setup.
- the distance between the bases should be corrected immediately.
- the base distance can be rectified but only at the top of the next inning
10. A batted ball first touches the ground in foul territory, spins back and comes to rest on (2 points) home plate.

RULING:



- Foul ball
- Fair ball
- Dead ball
11. When a coach intentionally interferes with a thrown ball, while in the coach's box, and (2 points) there are multiple runners on base:
- the ball is dead and the coach is ejected
- the ball is dead and the runner being played on at the base where the interference occurred is called out
- the ball is dead and the runner closest to home is called out

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

diamond.



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.

13. 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 F3 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 3rd base.
- Batter is out for avoiding a tag, ball remains live, and R1 scores, we now have 2 outs.

14. 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 1st 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.

15. Watch this video of a match situation:

(2 points)



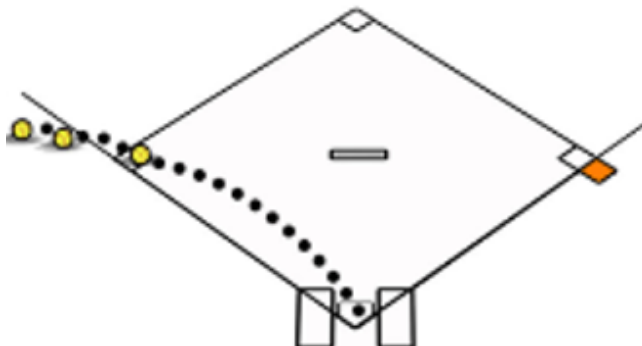
<https://youtu.be/uY11XhEpaJw?list=TLGGI0LwJkTaP9gwOTA5MjAyMg>

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.

16. 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, excluding 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

17.



(2 points)

A batted ball hits the batter standing in the batter's box.

RULING:

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

18. 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.

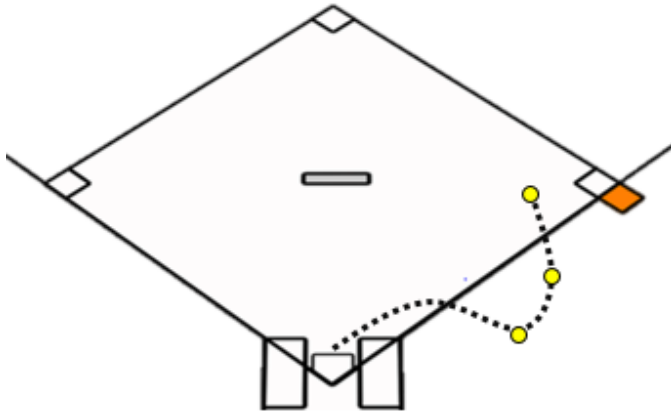
RULING:

- 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.

19. 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).

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

**RULING:**

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

21. 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 outfielder (F7).

RULING:

- Legal catch, batter is out.
- Fair ball, no catch, ball is live.
- Legal catch and runners on base can tag up but only after the catch is secured in F7's glove.

22. 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.

23. Once the umpire calls "play ball", the pitcher: (2 points)



- has 10 seconds to release the next pitch.
 has 20 seconds to release the next pitch.
 can release the next pitch anytime without a time limit
24. 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.
25. 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.
26. With 2 outs, B4, the pitcher draws a walk. The coach asks for B4 to be replaced by the DR. After a pitch is thrown the coach asks for the DR to be replaced by B3 who would have been the TR (2 points)
- Allow the change the DR is running for the pitcher so a TR is available
 Allow the change but only after the pitcher is "re-entered"
 Do not allow the change. The DR is not the pitcher of record so cannot be given a TR
27. R1 on 1B. The batter (B2) hits a ground ball to F4. The ball rolls out of F4's glove. (2 points)

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.

28. F4 tags out R1 and is discovered using an illegal glove. What happens next? (2 points)

- F4 is ejected from the game.
- The manager of the offended team has the option of (a) having the entire play nullified, or (b) taking the result of the play.
- R1 is called safe and is awarded the base he would have made according to the umpire's judgment.

29. The catcher retrieves a dropped third strike dribbling on the first base foul territory side, (2 points) 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.

RULING:

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

30. With two outs, the pitcher B3 hits a double in left field. B4 the catcher, hits a single advancing B3 to 3B. The offensive coach firstly exercises the option to put B1 in as the TR for the pitcher, then exercises the option to put B9 in as the TR for the catcher. B5 hits a home run and all runners score. The defence now appeal that the incorrect TR was used for B4. (2 points)

- The appeal is denied and all 3 runs score.
- The appeal is upheld, this is the 3rd out and no runs score.
- B9 is the incorrect runner (it should have been B2) so only that run does not count.

31. Click on the link below to watch a video clip of a match situation. (2 points)

<https://youtu.be/rurKQRQP3zQ?list=TLGGm-Ot92jq9qgwOTA5MjAyMg>



- this is an illegal pitch delivery as F1 must have the hands together before they take the signal and step on the pitching bar.
 - this is an illegal pitch as F1's hands must come together and pause for between 2 and 5 seconds before the pitch is delivered.
 - this is a legal pitch delivery.
32. S1, who has been ruled an Ineligible Player as a result of being an unreported substitute, (2 points) returns to the game in a later inning as a replacement player on offense. The defense appeals prior to a pitch being thrown.
- 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
33. Who can notify the plate umpire to give a batter an Intentional Base on Balls? (2 points)
- The pitcher, captain or head coach
 - The pitcher, catcher or head coach
 - The head coach, catcher or captain
34. In the top of the third inning, the offensive team coach requests a conference with a batter. In the bottom half of the inning, the same coach (now on defense) requests "Time" to talk to F1. (2 points)
- 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

35. 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

36. R2 on 3B with none out. B3 bunts the ball to F5 and R2 becomes caught in a 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. (2 points)

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.
37. Click on the link below to watch a video clip of a match situation. (2 points)

<https://youtu.be/pKtvaFbM3sM?list=TLGGv4NkiKpAfgEwOTA5MjAyMg>



- This is a good example of a Collision. Ball and Runner arrive at the same time, play on and umpire makes the call as they see it.
- This should not be called Obstruction as the runner made no deviation in the original running path.
- This should be called as Obstruction. Fielder set up in base path prior to the runner and ball arriving at the same time.

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.

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

40. 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 they won't make 3B, returns to 2B. With both R1 & R2 on 2B, F6 tags (2 points)



R1, then R2.

RULING:

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

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.

42. R2 is caught in a rundown between 1B and 2B. R2 is obstructed by F3 and U1 signals "obstruction". (2 points)

- When U2 signals obstruction, the ball is dead immediately and R2 returns to the last base touched at time of the pitch.
- When U2 calls dead ball, the runner will be called safe and always placed on the base they were last running towards.
- Delayed dead ball, if R2 gets tagged, the ball becomes dead and it will be up to the umpire's judgment to decide which base will be awarded to R2 after time is called.

43. R1 on 2B. A pitched ball deflects off the catcher's leg guards and 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.

44. R1 on 2B, 1 out. (2 points)

B2 hits a ground ball towards F6.

Watch the video to see what happens next.

Runner play at 2b



<https://youtu.be/lv1Do7srV5s?list=TLGGe8dWmv9rzz0wOTA5MjAyMg>

RULING:

- Dead ball, R1 is out for interference, now 2 outs and B2 is safe on 1st base.
- F6 obstructs R1 going to 3B, delayed dead ball, place R1 on 3B and B2 is safe on 1B.
- There is no intentional interference or obstruction here so it is just a collision, play on.

45. Right-hander B4 bunts the ball just in front of home plate. They then run 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, they are 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, they are not out, ball remains live.
- B4 is out for running in fair territory instead of foul territory.

46. 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, they put 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

47. The batting order is ABCDEFGHI. C is the catcher. There are 2 outs with B on 3rd. C gets a walk, so A could now be the temporary runner (TR) for C. A is a slow runner so the coach decides to not make the switch. The next pitch is a wild pitch and B scores. Now B becomes the next available TR. The coach now asks for TIME and wants to put B in for C as the temporary runner. (2 points)
- The PU should use preventive umpiring and not allow this change to take place.
 - The PU can accept the change as it is a legal change.
 - The PU must accept the change but the defensive will be able to appeal for using an incorrect TR after a pitch is thrown.
48. With two outs B3 the pitcher gets on base and the coach has B2 run for them. With the next at bat. B4 the catcher gets on base and the coach wants B2 to run for B4 and B1 for B3. Is that legal? (2 points)
- Yes. When both the pitcher and catcher are on base the coach can choose which TR runs for them.
 - No. At the time the coach takes the option for the second TR (for B4) B2 is already on base and therefore cannot be the TR anymore.
 - No. At no time can the coach choose which TR can run for the pitcher and catcher when both are on base with two outs.
49. Click on the link below to watch a video clip of a match situation. (2 points)



<https://youtu.be/1oWHFJmXsPM?list=TLGGYtzvpgaD4ScwOTA5MjAyMg>

Bases loaded, 1 out. Now observe the pitcher's delivery. RULING:

- Legal delivery by F1, play on.
- F1 is not allowed to bring the hands together on her side, should in front of the body, PU issues a warning to F1.

- F1 must bring her hands together and pause between 2 and 5 seconds before delivering the ball. Illegal pitch, ball on B4 and all runners advance one base from time of the pitch.

50. The on-deck batter leaves the on-deck circle to coach at home plate for an advancing runner from 3B. (2 points)

- they cannot leave the on-deck circle until it is their turn at bat.
- they can only do so if there is no close play at home.
- legal as long as they do not interfere with a play being made on the runner at home.

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

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