

2024 Annual Rules exam Levels 1 to 3:

SNZ UMPIRES ANNUAL RULES TEST 2024 – Levels 1 to 3 Answers

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

ANSWERS

1. **Refer to picture.**

(2 points)

F2 may take warm up pitches on the diamond wearing the equipment shown.



- True - but only before the plate meeting.
- True - anywhere on or near the field including warm-up areas but not while taking pitches from the pitcher's plate.
- False.

Explanation: 2.4.3a

Any player warming up the pitcher anywhere on or near the field (warm-up areas) must wear a catcher's mask with a throat protector and an approved helmet with ear flaps regardless of the stance of the receiver. The pitcher can throw overhand to an infielder, but cannot throw underhand pitches. If F2 is putting on equipment and the coach wants another fielder to warm the pitcher up, that fielder must wear the required protective gear.

2. Click on the link to watch the video, then make the call. [Video has no sound] (2 points)

<https://youtu.be/IPUq6I0u1zM>

RULING:

- Fair
- Foul

Explanation: 5.1.20 d

3. F2 asks PU for "time" to talk to F1. Their conversation takes place in 1st base (2 points) foul territory.



RULING: The umpire should charge a defensive conference.

- True - time called and the defensive players (F1 and F2) crossed the foul line.
- True - any two defensive team members calling time and suspending play is a defensive conference.
- False - no defensive team member exited (or entered the dugout).

Explanation: 4.1.1 A defensive team member representative must enter the playing field to communicate with any fielder OR a defensive player goes to the dugout to receive instructions. As neither of these actions have occurred, this is not a CHARGED conference

4. **Refer to picture.**

(2 points)

R1 on 1B. B3 hits a line drive towards F4, R1 advancing from 1B collides with F4 on their way towards 2B.



RULING:

- Interference, dead ball, R1 is out, B3 is awarded 1B.
- Live ball, play on.
- Obstruction, delayed dead ball, at the conclusion of the play R1 is awarded 2B, B3 must beat any throw (if made) to be safe at 1B.

Explanation: 5.10.3 c) iii

5. When the ball is in play and overthrown by a fielder beyond the dead ball line, (2 points) or is blocked, all runners are awarded:
- 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 b) ii

6. Refer to the batting line-up shown below. (2 points)

In the top of the 8th tie-break inning #57 Pita Rona is first batter.

#14 Hohepa Monk (last out in the 7th inning) is placed on 2B as the tie-break runner.

If appealed at any time after a pitch has been thrown, while on base, #14 Monk would be called out.

Bat Order	Shirt No.	NAME (First) (Surname)	Pos.
1	30	<i>Kaleb Rona</i>	6
2	14	<i>Hohepa Monk</i>	9
3	29	<i>Eruera Drage</i>	1
4	57	<i>Pita Rona</i>	DP
5	43	<i>Kurtis Tompkins</i>	3

- True - the player scheduled to bat 9th should be the tie-break runner.
- False - the tie-break runner is the last out from the previous (7th) inning.

Explanation: 1.2.4 c

7. B1 has a 1 ball, 2 strike count.

(2 points)

The next pitch is bunted into fair territory. The correct ruling is:



RULING:

- Dead ball, the batter is out for bunting on the 3rd strike.
- Fair ball, play on.
- Live ball, the batter is out for bunting on the 3rd strike, runners may advance at their own risk.

Explanation: 5.1.8 and 5.5.2 b) xv

8. B6 hits the ball safely to the outfield and only touches the foul (orange) portion of 1B as they run to 2B for a double. (2 points)

After calling time, the defence appeal for B6 missing 1B.

RULING:

- Legal appeal, B6 is out for missing a base.
- B6 is safe at 2B.
- The base umpire should call B6 out as soon as they miss 1B.

Explanation: 5.6 a) v

9. R1 on 2B leads off on the first pitch to B4 (a ball) as shown in the picture below. (2 points)



RULING:

- Legal lead off by R1, play on.
- Dead ball, R1 is out for leaving early, B4's count is 1 ball.
- Dead ball, R1 is out for leaving early, the pitch does not count.

Explanation: 5.10.3 b) ii

10. Click on the link to watch the video, then make the call. [The video has no sound] (2 points)

The ball is first touched where you see it last.

<https://youtu.be/QwElk4Nqjx4>

RULING:

- Fair
- Foul

Explanation: 2.1.7 and 5.1.16 a

11. Open diamond. R1 on 2B and R2 on 1B. (2 points)

B3 hits a foul fly ball between home plate and 1B.

F3's feet are inside the dead ball line and their arm stretched into dead ball territory, as they catch the ball..

The act of stretching for the ball causes F3 to stumble into dead ball territory with the ball held securely in their glove.

RULING:

- Legal catch, B3 is out, R1 and R2 advance one base as a result of the ball being unintentionally carried into dead ball territory.
- Foul ball, strike.
- B3 is out, R1 and R2 must stay where they are, 2B and 1B.

Explanation: 5.1.9 c and 5.11 effect a) ii 3

12. **Refer to picture.**

(2 points)

R1 on 2B, R2 on 1B.

A ground ball is fielded by F6 then thrown to F5 in an attempt to force out R1 advancing from 2B as shown below.



RULING:

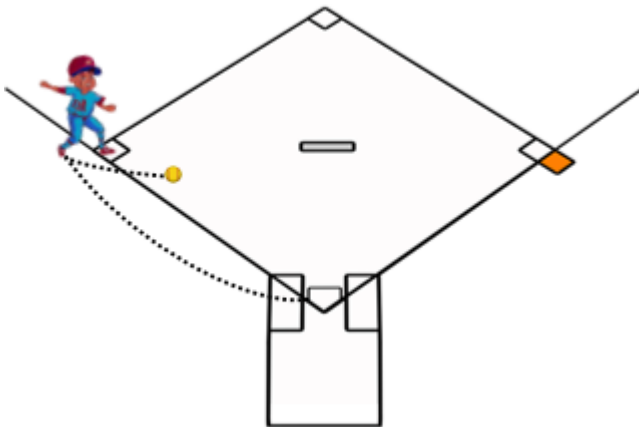
- If F5 catches the ball before R1 touches 3B, R1 would be out.
- Obstruction by F5, dead ball, R1 is awarded 3B at the conclusion of the play.

- Obstruction by F5, delayed dead ball, R1 is awarded 3B at the conclusion of the play.

Explanation: 5.1.32 b) 1

13. **Refer to picture.** R1 on 3B, one foot on the base the other foot in foul territory (2 points)

The batted ball hits R1's foot in foul territory and then rolls into fair territory.



RULING:

- Fair ball, play on.
- Interference, dead ball, R1 is out, the batter is awarded 1B.
- Foul ball.

Explanation: 5.1.20 d

14. **Refer to the line-up card shown below.** (2 points)

Bat Order	Shirt No.	NAME		Pos.
		(First)	(Surname)	
1	30	Kaleb	Rona	6
2	14	Hohepa	Monk	9
3	29	Eruera	Drage	1
4	57	Pita	Rona	DP
5	43	Kurtis	Tompkins	3

Change 1 - In the top of the 3rd inning the coach advises the plate umpire the DP will pitch.

Change 2 - In the top of the 5th inning the coach advises the plate umpire the DP will play 1st base and #29 Drage will return to pitch.

RULING:

- These are both legal changes.
- Change 1 is legal. Change 2 is illegal.
- Change 1 is illegal. Change 2 is legal.

Explanation: 3.2.4 b

15. Click on the link below to watch the video. The video has no sound (2 points)

1 out, R1 on 1B. B5 has a 2-1 count.

B5 swings, the pitch just touches the bat and goes straight into F2's glove.

<https://youtu.be/63hTXf3vBes>

RULING:

- Foul ball, count is 2-2, return R1 to 1B.
- Foul tip, count is 2-2, return R1 to 1B.
- Foul tip, count is 2-2, R1 is safe on 2B.

Explanation: 5.4.4 a) i

16. Open diamond, R1 on 2B. (2 points)

A pitch (not swung at) deflects off F2's glove and rolls over the dead ball line just past the edge of the backstop net.

RULING:

- R1 advances at their own risk.
- R1 is awarded 3B.
- R1 is awarded Home.

Explanation: 5.11 effect a) ii 2

17. One out, R1 on 3B and R2 on 1B. B4 at bat with a 2-2 count. (2 points)

B4 swings at the next pitch, misses and F2 fails to catch it (just wide of their glove).

RULING:

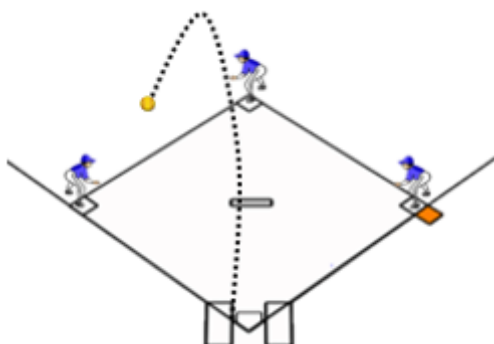
- Strike three, B4 is out. Runners may advance at their own risk.
- Strike three, B4 must be tagged or thrown out at 1B to be out. Runners advance at their own risk.
- Strike, foul. Runners remain at 3B & 1B respectively.

Explanation: 5.4.4 a) ii

18. No outs. R1 on 2B, R2 on 1B. (2 points)

B3 hits a fly ball towards F6, the umpire/s call "Infield fly".

F6 is blinded by the sun and does not catch the ball.



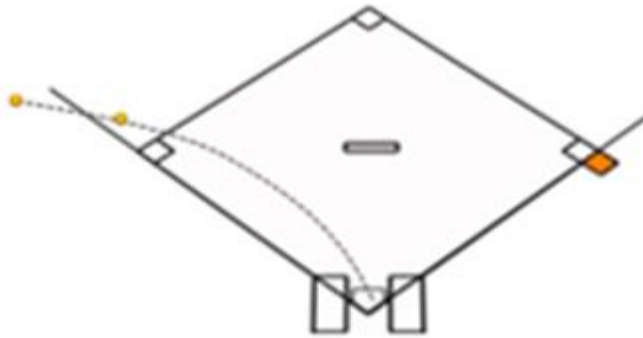
RULING:

- B3 is out, R1 and R2 must stay on 2B and 1B.

- B3 is out, R1 and R2 may advance at their own risk.
- No catch, play on.

Explanation: 5.1.26 and 5.5.2 a) v effect

19. **Refer to picture.** The dotted line represents the ball in flight and the yellow dots represent the ball touching the ground. (2 points)



RULING:

- Fair
- Foul

Explanation: 5.1.16 e

20. **Refer to picture.** A ground ball is hit towards F6. (2 points)

R1 on 3B, attempting to score, gets caught in a run-down and collides with F2.

F2 was about to receive a throw from F5 as shown in the picture below.



RULING:

- Interference, dead ball, R1 is out.
- Obstruction, delayed dead ball, at the conclusion of the play R1 is awarded safe home.
- Obstruction by F2, delayed dead ball, at the conclusion of the play R1 is returned to 3B.

Explanation: 5.1.32 b) 1 and 5.10.2 a and b

21. None out, R1 on 3B.

(2 points)

The batter hits a fly ball into foul territory. F3 attempts to catch, but drops the ball in foul territory.

R1 tagged up and ran home when F3 dropped the ball. The defence appeal for R1 to be put back on 3B. The umpire denies the appeal and the run counts.

- True - The ball is live when a foul fly ball is first touched.
- False - The ball is dead when a fly ball is first touched and not caught in foul territory.

Explanation: 5.1.20 d

22. One out. Loaded bases, R1 on 3B, R2 on 2B, R3 on 1B.

(2 points)

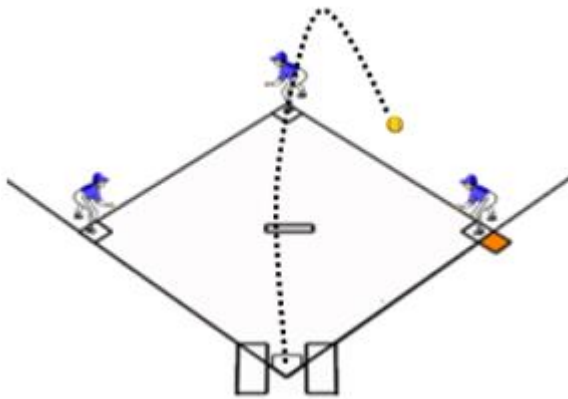
B5 hits a fly ball towards F4.

R1 starts running home on the hit. The umpire/s call “Infield fly”.

F4 stumbles, misses the catch, picks up the ball and throws to F2.

F2 touches home plate and throws the ball back to F1.

R1 continues running and touches home plate.



RULING:

B5 is out, R1 is out on the force play at home.

B5 is out, R1 is safe at home.

No catch, play on.

Explanation: 5.1.26 and 5.4.4 a

23. No runs shall score when the third out of the inning is the result of a runner being forced out.

(2 points)

True

False

Explanation: 1.2.5 c) ii

24. Click on the link below to watch the video.

(2 points)

<https://youtu.be/700IUCgA1YA>

RULING: This is a legal pitching motion.

- True
 False

Explanation: 4.3.3 f

25. **Refer to picture.** A mishit ball comes to rest against home plate as shown below. (2 points)



RULING:

- Fair
 Foul

Explanation: 2.1.7 and 5.1.16 a

26. Please enter your email address to receive your answer results at the closing date. (0 points)

For those participants that chose NOT to complete Q26, we were unable to provide you your results with your answers.
