

2005

UMPIRE EXAM

- PLEASE NOTE:**
1. This examination is based on the Australian Rule Book - as revised 2002-2005 - and relates to Fast Pitch only.
 2. Defensive Team = Fielding Team
Offensive Team = Batting Team
 3. For the sake of brevity in some questions the following symbols will be used:

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: B1 is the lead off batter, followed by B2, B3, B4 etc.
For substitutes: S1 is the first replacement player, followed by S2, S3, S4 etc.

- INSTRUCTIONS:**
1. Answer strictly according to ASF Rule Book, NOT local bylaws and/or ground rules.
 2. Only the answer sheet of this examination is to be returned to the National, State or Association Director of Umpiring. You retain the question portion for further study. Your answer sheet, along with your examination mark will be returned to you after it is marked.
 3. There are 100 questions in total.
 4. All answers are either TRUE/FALSE or YES/NO and are worth (1) mark each, giving a total of 100 marks.
 5. Please indicate your answer by filling in the circle

T/Y F/N

or

for the correct answer.

T/Y F/N

e.g. A TRUE or YES answer would be
on the Answer Sheet provided.

- 1 Before commencing the pitch, the pitcher must have his hips in line with first and third bases and both feet must be in contact with the pitcher's plate.
- 2 Are the lines that form the batter's box considered to be within the box?
- 3 It is considered to be an Illegal Bat when a bamboo handle has replaced the wooden handle.
- 4 The Head Coach lists the name of his Assistant Coach on the line-up card, as he does not wish to be ejected if he inadvertently violates the Re-entry rule. Is this permissible?
- 5 R1 on 1st, with B2 in the batter's box. On the next pitch, which is declared illegal by the umpire, B2 hits safely to F7. R1 reaches 3rd but B2 is tagged out attempting to advance to 2nd. RULING: The manager of the offensive team has the option of (a) taking the award for the Illegal Pitch, or (b) taking the result of the play.
- 6 A fair fly ball shall not be judged by the position of the ball and the foul line, but by the position of the fielder who touched the ball.
- 7 R1 is on 2nd with none out. B2 hits the pitched ball for a single and his helmet accidentally falls off as he leaves the batter's box. F9 fields the batted ball and throws it toward F2 in an effort to retire R1 at the plate. The thrown ball makes contact with B2's helmet and R1 scores on the play.
RULING: The ball is declared dead, B2 is out and R1 must return to 3rd.
- 8 The Designated Player may play defence for any player. If he plays defence for other than the DEFO, that player continues to bat, does not play defence and is not considered to have left the game.
- 9 When the ball goes out of play, can a Dead Ball Appeal be made before the umpire places a new ball into the game?
- 10 The pivot foot is that foot with which the pitcher pushes off the pitcher's plate.
- 11 Must a runner return to the base he held at the time of the pitch, when the umpire declares the ball to be illegally batted?
- 12 Is it necessary for the batter-runner to touch the foul portion of the double base when he hits the ball to the outfield and no play is being made at the base?
- 13 There can never be a force out on a caught fly ball.
- 14 The runner is not out, when the defensive team does not request the umpire's decision on an appeal play until after the next legal or illegal pitch, or until after all fielders have clearly vacated their normal fielding positions and have left fair territory on their way to the bench or dugout.
- 15 Is it permissible for a batter to use an angular metal bat that conforms to the correct weight and length of a legal bat?
- 16 A tag is the act of a fielder touching a base with any part of his body while holding the ball securely in his hand(s) or glove and continuing to hold the ball securely during and immediately following the action.
- 17 An offensive player who replaces a Designated Player in the batting line-up must be a player who has not yet been in the game.

- 18 With R1 on 2nd, B2 hits a long fly ball that is caught by F7, who then falls over the fence. At no stage does F7 lose control of the ball. The umpire rules B2 out on the catch and declares the ball dead, and because F7 did not deliberately leave the playing field, R1 must remain at 2nd. Was the umpire's decision correct?
- 19 Shoes with detachable cleats, which screw onto the shoe, are considered legal.
- 20 An Illegally Batted Ball occurs when the batter steps with his entire foot out of the batter's box, and returns to contact the ball while inside the batter's box.
- 21 R1 on 3rd and R2 on 1st, with none out. B3 has a Strike 2 count, when he swings at and misses the next pitch, as R2 steals 2nd. In stepping out of the batter's box on his way to the 1st base dugout, B3 pauses in front of F2, thereby denying him the opportunity to make a throw to 2nd. RULING: B3 is out on the interference. R1 and R2 return to 3rd and 1st respectively.
- 22 A mask that has an extended wire protection formed as part of the mask cannot be used, unless it has a throat protector attached.
- 23 A legally batted ball that bounds past first or third base, on or over fair territory, is a Foul Ball.
- 24 May a base coach leave his coach's box to signal a runner to slide?
- 25 When any person, other than a team member, enters the playing field and interferes with a fair-batted ground ball, the batter-runner shall be awarded the base or bases he would have made, in the umpire's judgement, had the interference not occurred.
- 26 A Designated Player may not leave the game and subsequently return to the game, unless required to enter the game as a Replacement Player.
- 27 For a Foul Tip to be declared the ball can only be caught by the catcher.
- 28 Provided the umpire considers there was no intention to interfere with the course of the ball, does the ball remain alive when the batter drops the bat and the ball rolls against the stationary bat in fair territory?
- 29 Does the ball become dead, when a runner is called out for positioning himself behind, and not in contact with, a base in order to get a running start on a fly ball?
- 30 When the DEFO re-enters a game in the DP's position in the batting order he will bat but not play on defence.
- 31 A Trapped Ball can be a pitched ball that touches the ground on a strike, prior to the catcher catching it.
- 32 It is the bottom of the 4th inning, R1 on 3rd, R2 on 2nd and R3 on 1st, with none out. B4 hits a long fly to F7, who makes a great catch. R1 and R2 both score but R3 is thrown out trying for 3rd. Now it is discovered that F7 is an illegal re-entry. RULING: The umpire should eject both F7 and the defensive team coach. R1 returns to 3rd, R2 to 2nd and R3 to 1st. B4 bats again, assuming the count prior to the discovery of the illegal fielder.
- 33 When the ball is returned to the pitcher, who is completely within the circle, all runners must immediately return to the base previously held at the time of the pitch.
- 34 B1 hits a long fly ball over the head of F7, who throws his glove at the ball as it is heading toward the home run fence. The glove contacts the ball, knocking it to the ground. F7 recovers

the ball and returns it to F5, who holds B1 at 3rd. The ball would have gone over the fence had contact not been made.

RULING: The umpire should take no further action, as B1 has made the three bases he is entitled to on the illegal contact.

- 35 The offensive team leaves loose equipment lying on the playing field. A thrown ball subsequently contacts the equipment and causes interference with a play on a runner.
RULING: A blocked ball is declared and the runner being played on is out, provided the runner has not scored prior to the blocked ball declaration.
- 36 R2 on 2nd with none out, when B3 hits a ground ball into the gap between F5 and F6. F5 cuts in front of F6 and, just as F5 grabs the ball, F6 knocks over R2, who is advancing to 3rd. F5 proceeds to tag R2, who is still lying on the ground.
If the umpire considers F6 was not entitled to field the ball, should R2 be declared out?
- 37 It is considered to be an Illegal Re-Entry when a starting player returns to the game, but not in his original position in the offensive line-up.
- 38 R1 on 3rd, S2, an unannounced substitute, on 2nd and R3 on 1st. B4 hits a double scoring all three runners. Before the next pitch, the defence informs the umpire that S2 was an unannounced substitute.
RULING: The umpire should rule all play legal without declaring S2 as an Ineligible Player, as the appeal was not made at the correct time.
- 39 After 6 completed innings, the score is Red 0 Blue 2. In the seventh inning Red, batting first, score 3 runs. Blue score 1 run and have none out with bases loaded, when a violent rainstorm causes the game to be abandoned.
RULING: The game is tied and has to be replayed.
- 40 Should the umpire declare the immediate succeeding runner out if, in his judgement, a runner interferes with a fielder attempting to field a fair-batted ball, in an obvious attempt to prevent a double play?
- 41 Team 'A' is using a Designated Player. In the 4th inning the coach advises the umpire that the DP will be playing defence for the DEFO, who will be remaining in the #10 position in the line-up, with no other positional changes. Is this move legal?
- 42 R1 on 3rd, R2 on 2nd and R3 on 1st with none out. B4 hits a soft ground ball to F1, who fields and throws to F2, forcing R1 out at the plate.
F2 then throws to F3 in an attempt at a double play. However, the throw strikes B4, who is running inside the diamond and only one stride from 1st.
The ball deflects away from F3. By the time F3 recovers the ball, R2 has scored, R3 is on 2nd and B4 is on 1st.
RULING: B4 is out for interfering with the take at first and the ball is dead. R1 returns to 3rd, R2 returns to 2nd and R3 returns to 1st.
- 43 An Illegal Pitcher is a player legally in the game but one who may not pitch, after having been removed from the pitching position, by the umpire or manager, as a result of the defensive charged conference limit being exceeded.
- 44 Smith, the starting pitcher, pitches to one batter. The coach (from the bench) requests, and is granted, "Time". He advises the umpire that he is moving Smith to right field, with Brown coming in from right field to pitch, then returns to the bench.
Brown pitches to 2 batters before the coach again requests, and is granted, "Time". He then enters the diamond and speaks with Brown.
RULING: This is a 2nd charged defensive conference for the innings.
- 45 A Crow Hop is defined as the act of a pitcher who leaps off the pitcher's plate.

- 46 F1 decides to intentionally walk B1. Can he just advise the umpire, who will then send B1 to 1st base without a pitch being thrown?
- 47 The runner is out when one or more members of the offensive team stand at, or collect around a base to which a runner is advancing, thereby confusing the fielders and adding to the difficulty of making the play.
- 48 After assuming the set position, F1 wishes to remove himself from the pitching position. He may legally do so, by stepping backwards from the pitcher's plate, after separating his hands.
- 49 R1 on 3rd and R2 on 1st with two out. B5 hits a ground ball to F4, who chases R2 back toward 1st and tags him (a) before R1 scores, or (b) after R1 scores.
RULING: The run does not count in (a) but does count in (b).
- 50 Is it necessary for the umpire to be advised when a withdrawn player returns to the game after receiving treatment for an injury that caused bleeding?
- 51 B1 is obviously taking a signal from the 3rd base coach, as he has his back foot in the box and his front foot out of the box. F1 is not on the pitcher's plate but F2 is in position to receive the pitch.
F1 then steps on the plate and pitches, while B1's foot is still out of the box. The pitch is wide of the plate.
RULING: The umpire should call the pitch a ball.
- 52 The only time the on-deck batter may leave the on-deck circle is when it is his turn to bat and he is about to enter the batter's box.
- 53 A runner is not given sufficient time to return to his base after a pitch not hit and he is still off base when the pitcher delivers the next pitch. May the runner then advance as though he left the base legally?
- 54 Red Team, batting first, leads Blue Team 22-2 after 2 complete innings. Neither team scores in the 3rd inning.
RULING: The umpire should enforce the Mercy Rule and declare Red Team the winner.
- 55 Must a male player wear a cap if he is wearing an approved helmet while playing defence?
- 56 During the pitcher's wind-up, there may be a stop or reversal of the forward motion.
- 57 A team has used 2 of its 3-conference limit when the coach announces a substitution in the 4th inning. The coach then insists on being allowed 2 more defensive conferences in the 5th inning, as he claims he is entitled to an additional 3 conferences whenever a new player enters the game. Is the coach correct?
- 58 B1 hits a fair line drive that is touched in flight by F4, after which it strikes an umpire standing behind F4. The ball is then caught by F9, before it touches the ground.
RULING: B1 is not out and the ball remains alive.
- 59 When an unannounced substitute is in a game, there is no violation if the manager, or player in violation, informs the umpire prior to the opposing team's appeal, regardless of how long the player has been in the game.
- 60 After the umpire calls Play Ball, the batter has 10 seconds to enter the batter's box. If the batter fails to comply, the umpire will rule the ball dead and call a strike on the batter. The pitcher does not have to pitch the ball.
- 61 The pitching distance for a men's game shall be 15.24m (50 ft).

- 62 When the tiebreaker commences, the runner at 2nd is always the last player out in the previous inning, (or a substitute for the last player out).
- 63 It is the bottom of 7th inning, with R1 on 3rd. The score is Red 6 Blue 6. The next Blue batter has already hit 2 home runs, so F1, in an attempt to prevent the batter hitting the pitch, rolls the ball along the ground.
RULING: This is an Illegal Pitch. Blue wins the game 7-6.
- 64 A player makes insulting remarks about a spectator. The penalty for this violation is either prompt removal, or ejection, of the offender from the game.
- 65 B1 swings at and misses a pitched ball that hits him on the fingers.
RULING: The umpire should rule a strike on B1 and the ball is dead.
- 66 R1 on 3rd and R2 on 2nd with none out, when B3 hits a sharp ground ball to left field. F7 makes a quick throw home in an attempt to retire R1, who slides and collides with F2 (not a deliberate crash). As a result of the collision, F2 misses the tag and the ball goes astray. However, R1 does not touch home plate. Before R1 can make his way back to touch the plate, R2, who was right on his heels, also touches the plate to score. F2, now with the ball, sees what has happened, so touches home plate and R1. He then appeals that R1 has not touched home plate properly.
RULING: The umpire should call R1 out.
- 67 F5, who has the ball in his possession, takes his cap off and runs his hand through his well-greased hair. Prior to throwing the ball to F1, he proceeds to rub the ball in his hand.
RULING: Once F1 has possession of the ball with foreign substance on it and he is near the pitcher's plate, an Illegal Pitch should be declared, even though no pitch has been delivered.
- 68 B2 enters the left hand batter's box and the umpire signals F1 to pitch. F1 is on the pitcher's plate but legally steps off. B2 then steps out and crosses over to the right hand batter's box.
RULING: B2 should be declared out for changing batter's box.
- 69 A batted ball hits the foul line pole on the fly, above the outfield fence level, and rebounds into an out-of-play area in foul territory. This is a foul ball.
- 70 R3 on 3rd, one out and Strike 1 on B4. R3 attempts to steal home on F2's return throw to F1. B4 interferes with F2's attempt to tag R3 at the plate.
RULING: Both B4 and R3 are out.
- 71 A play is made at 1st base on any batted ball and the batter-runner touches only the fair portion of the double base, before the ball reaches the fielder.
RULING: In order for the runner to be called out the defence must make a legal appeal, before the runner returns to the fair portion of the base.
- 72 None out, no runners on base and B1 in the box with a Strike 2 count. F1 pitches the ball, which bounces on the ground before reaching the plate. However, B1 swings at and misses the pitch and F2 cleanly takes it in the glove.
RULING: This is considered a dropped third strike and B1 becomes a batter-runner.
- 73 S1, who has been ruled an Ineligible Player as a result of being an unannounced substitute, returns to the game in a later inning. Should the umpire declare a forfeit to the team not at fault?
- 74 With the scores tied, the umpire decides there is insufficient light to continue play, so declares a regulation tied game. Both coaches consider the light good enough to continue playing, so lodge a protest. Will this protest be considered?

- 75 The batter-runner is out when a fielder intentionally drops a foul fly ball with less than two out and a runner on 1st.
- 76 The home plate is a five-sided figure that is 45.6cm (18 in) wide.
- 77 When a runner dislodges a base from its proper position, is he, or any succeeding runners in the same series of plays, compelled to follow a base out of position?
- 78 B4 leads off the inning and picks a walk. B7 hits a safe single, advancing B4 to 2nd. B5 strikes out. B8 comes to bat, bunts and is thrown out at 1st, with both runners advancing one base. An appeal is now made for B8 batting out of order.
RULING: B6, the batter who should have batted, is out. The out of B8 also stands; with B4 & B7 returning to the bases they held prior to B8 hitting the ball. B9 is the next batter, as B7, who should be the next batter, cannot be removed from 1st to bat and B8 cannot bat again as he has already been called out.
- 79 A player may be designated as a coach in the event the coach is absent, or that player is a playing coach.
- 80 Prior to the commencement of a game, while F1 is taking his warm-up pitches, several of the offensive team members stand near both batter's boxes and take practice swings at the warm-up pitches. Should the umpire permit this to happen?
- 81 All awarded bases must be touched in legal order, even when the ball is dead.
- 82 A batter, who fails to wear a helmet when ordered to do so by the umpire, shall be ejected.
- 83 If Red Team leads Blue Team 12-0 after 3 innings and the umpire declares a forfeit in favour of Red Team, can Red Team retain this score?
- 84 R1 on 1st, running on the pitch. B2 hits a low line drive to F6, who catches the ball. F6 then 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 but is obstructed by F4. The ball 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 team coach then insists that the out should be overturned, claiming that no runner can be called out between the bases where he was obstructed.
RULING: The umpire should ignore the obstruction and declare R1 out for leaving his base before the fly ball was first touched.
- 85 An Option Play is a play in which the defensive team coach is given the choice of taking the enforcement of an illegal action by the offence, or the result of the play.
- 86 R1 and B2 are both between first and second base when F9 throws the ball out-of-play. B2 is awarded second base.
- 87 Can the offensive team execute a squeeze play with the only runner being on second base?
- 88 Is the force play re-instated, when a forced runner, after touching the next base, retreats for any reason toward the base he last occupied?
- 89 Removal (from the game) is the act of the umpire declaring a coach, manager, or team official ineligible for further participation in the game, as a result of an infraction of the rules.
- 90 Can a base umpire declare a forfeit if he is physically attacked by a player?

- 91 Runners on 1st and 2nd. A coach intentionally interferes with a thrown ball, while in the coach's box. Should the umpire declare the runner closest to home, at the time of the interference, out?
- 92 The offensive team may make an appeal, after an Illegal Pitch has been thrown.
- 93 Should a runner be declared out if, in order to prevent interfering with a fielder attempting to field a batted ball in the base path, he runs in front of the fielder?
- 94 R1 on 1st with one out, when B3 hits a line drive to centre field. F8 dives for the catch but misses the ball. R1 touches 2nd and is on his way to 3rd when the third base coach waves at R1, telling him to 'go back'. (The coach thought the ball was caught.) B3 has touched 1st and is nearly to 2nd, when R1 passes him while heading back to 1st. B3 continues to 2nd and remains there, while R1 returns to 1st.
RULING: B3 is out, R1 remains on 1st and the ball is alive.
- 95 Does the ball become dead, when a live ball strikes a policeman who has been assigned to the game?
- 96 If, on a passed ball or a wild pitch, a thrown ball from the catcher hits the umpire, it is not umpire interference, the ball remains alive and runners may advance.
- 97 R1 on 3rd and R2 on 2nd with one out. B4 mishits a slow ground ball along the 1st base line and all runners advance. F3 fields the ball and runs toward B4, who stops about one metre (3 ft) in front of F3. R1 crosses the plate. B4 then steps back toward home plate, as R2 rounds 3rd and continues on toward home. On seeing this, F3 ignores B4 and throws to F2, who tags R2 sliding to the plate.
RULING: B4 is out, R1 scores and R2 is returned to 3rd.
- 98 The ball is alive, when it slips from the pitcher's hand during the wind-up or back swing.
- 99 When a batter is discovered using an illegal bat, he is called out, but can remain in the game.
- 100 R7 on 2nd, none out and both F4 and F6 fielding deep. R7 leads off with the pitch but returns to his base, because B8 hits a high fly ball in the infield. R7 is back on 2nd when the descending ball accidentally contacts his body, preventing both F4 and F6 from catching the ball.
RULING: As the ball hit R7 while in contact with a base he is not out.