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The following is the result of the University of Southern California of their 8:15 pm game against Cal State University – Fullerton on April 13th, 2014 AND Cal State Fullerton's protest of the same game.

Game protested by USC for the scheduling of umpires not qualified to officiate NCBA Sanctioned Baseball Games.

Game protested by CSUF because of an in-game known roster violation.

Requested action – Both teams have requested the game be forfeited.

Protest:

USC is protesting their 8:15 pm, 4/13/14 game against CSUF, requesting a forfeit victory because CSUF secured umpires that were not at least High School Certified as per section 14.03.0 of the NCBA Rule Book.

14.01.0 During **NCBA Sanctioned Baseball Games**, the home team is responsible for providing umpires for each competition.

14.03.0 The umpires **MUST** be of High School certified or higher.

14.03.3 Legion certified umpires are acceptable.

CSUF is protesting their 8:15 pm, 4/13/14 game against USC, requesting a forfeit victory because USC used a player not on the current official roster per section 6.02.1 of the NCBA Rule Book.

6.02.1 Any team found playing a player (in an **NCBA Sanctioned Baseball Game**) not on the current official roster will be issued a forfeit for all games that the above-mentioned player has competed in.

USC Primary Rep Stephen Siegel Stated, "CAL STATE FULLERTON PROVIDED UMPIRES THAT COULD NOT VERIFY THAT THEY WERE AT LEAST CERTIFIED AT THE HIGH SCHOOL OR LEGION LEVEL. WE PLAYED A 9-INNING GAME ON SATURDAY NIGHT AND A DOUBLEHEADER ON SUNDAY STARTING AT 5:30PM. IN BETWEEN DOUBLE HEADER GAMES WE ASKED THE UMPIRES TO SHOW US AT LEAST HIGH SCHOOL OR LEGION CERTIFICATION CERTIFICATE, AND THEY REFUSED. ADDITIONALLY, THE UMPIRES SHOULD NOT HAVE CALLED THE GAME A FORFEIT AFTER THE FIRST PITCH HAD ALREADY BEEN THROWN. INSTEAD, CSU FULLERTON SHOULD HAVE FINISHED OUT THE GAME UNDER PROTEST. GAME SCORE: THE GAME WAS CALLED WITH TWO OUTS IN THE TOP OF THE 1ST INNING, CSU FULLERTON 0, USC 1."

CSUF Primary Rep Bryan Malhiot Stated, "I ANNOUNCED INFRACTION TO USC'S MANAGER ANDREW STINY AND TO AARON AND VICTOR OUR UMPIRES FOR THE GAME. I ANNOUNCED THIS AFTER #23 CJ ANGLE WAS THROWN HIS FIRST PITCH OF HIS FIRST AT BAT. AT THIS POINT WE STOPPED THE GAME AND HAD OUR PUPLIC ADDRESS ANNOUNCER ANOUNCE THE OFFICIAL STOPPAGE OF THE GAME DUE TO USC'S FORFEITURE."

Defense:



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USC Primary Rep Stephen Siegel Stated, “Angle, Hanley, and Zisk were all in the lineup for this game. Angle was the only one to enter the field of play before the umpires ruled the game over. He had an at-bat in the top of the 1st inning; following his at-bat Fullerton protested his roster eligibility and the umpires ended the game.”

CSUF Primary Rep Bryan Malhiot Stated, “I wasn't aware they were protesting game 3 for umpire qualifications. USC didn't notify me after game 3. Thank you; I'll notify my team's president and VP.”

Investigation:

The NCBA interviewed the base umpire (V. Chavez) who worked the game in question. He stated that he hasn't worked high school games for a number of years and that Plate Umpire A. Flores assigned him to work the game with him. After checking with L. Hare of the CBUA (California Baseball Umpire Association) he confirmed to the NCBA that V. Chavez is in fact NOT a currently certified High School Umpire. The NCBA interviewed the plate umpire (A. Flores) who stated he was High School Certified and provided a photograph of his CBUA patch on his umpire shirt. D. McClellan of the CBUA was unable to produce any record of A. Flores being a High School Certified Umpire.

Ruling: Both Protest Denied – The NCBA agrees that both teams violated specific NCBA Rules during this game and neither infraction is considered worse than the other. Thus the NCBA has declared this game “Exhibition” and the originally scheduled game will go as unplayed due to the regular season now being over in the SOPAC.

Notes: The NCBA would like to formally warn CSUF that walking off a perfectly safe baseball field and refusing to play baseball even if the game is being played under protest is not just disrespectful to your opponent but is insulting to the NCBA as a whole. This organization was founded to provide and enhance the opportunity for ball players to continue to compete while in college. By coldly turning your back on an opportunity to play ball, you've spit in the eye of every NCBA staff member past and present who has poured their blood, sweat, and tears into growing the NCBA into what it is today and where it will go in the future.

**Sandy Sanderson
NCBA President**