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The following is the result of the Syracuse University protest of their 12:00 pm and 2:30 pm games against Cornell University on November 2nd, 2013.

Game protested by Syracuse for failure to provide umpires by Cornell.

Requested action - Forfeit games.

Protest:

Syracuse is protesting their 12:00 pm and 2:30 pm, 11/2/13 games against Cornell, requesting two forfeit victories because Cornell failed to provide umpires as per section 14.00.00 of the NCBA Rule Book.

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

14.04.0 It is required that the home team schedules two umpires to officiate each competition. 14.04.1 The game may be played provided that at least one approved umpire is present.

14.05.0 If no umpires have arrived within 15 minutes after the competition is officially scheduled to start, the game is forfeited to the visiting team.

14.06.0 If a second game of double-header is scheduled, the home team has an additional 45 minutes from the time that the first game was declared a forfeit to get NCBA approved umpires to the field or the second game is also forfeited to the visiting team.

Syracuse Club Baseball Representative Brian McKittrick stated, "Syracuse traveled to Cornell today to play an NCBA sanctioned double header. Cornell failed to provide umpires for the two games and as such, I am asking that NCBA rule 14.05 be enforced and Syracuse be awarded the two wins."

Defense:

Cornell Club Baseball President Eamonn Patrick stated, "When no umpires showed up at Hoy Field by [noon], I tried to contact our umpire supervisor but only had his email address. Later that day he sent me [an email] stating that the umpire left after he didn't see anyone at the field at 11:15 [am]. Cornell was hitting in the cages attached to Hoy Field at 11:15 [am] and Syracuse was just arriving." The email communication between the Club President and the Umpire Assignor was included.

Investigation:

Upon reviewing the dialogue between Cornell Club Baseball President Eamonn Patrick and the Umpire Assignor, it is clear that Cornell had requested umpires to be at the field at game-time for the doubleheader against Syracuse. However, this does not change the fact that there were not umpires at Hoy Field for the two games at 12:00 pm and 2:30 pm.



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Ruling: Protest Granted – While the NCBA recognizes Cornell's efforts to secure umpires for the games, the NCBA Rule Book clearly states that the visiting team is awarded forfeit wins if umpires are not present at the field within 15 minutes of the start of the first game or 45 minutes after the first game was declared a forfeit. Syracuse will be awarded two 7-0 forfeit victories over Cornell. It is encouraged that Cornell either obtain cell phone numbers for the umpires that they use before their games are to be played or that they work through a more reliable umpire group to avoid any recurrence.

Mitch Conner
NCBA North Atlantic Regional Director