2-umpire mechanics
Teams Required for a Baseball Game
Playing vs Umpiring

• Playing is a factor of TIME

• Umpiring is a factor of ANGLES
Basic Principles

• There are only TWO of you out there
• Communication
• Responsibilities for Runner/Ball
• Going Out
• Plate Umpire
• “Fill the Hole”
• Stay ahead of the lead runner
• Never abandon a trailing runner
Keep Your Chest to the Ball (“Open the Gate”)

If the ball passes to U2’s right, U2 must turn clockwise to follow the ball and then move toward the appropriate base for the play.

If the ball passes to U2’s left, U2 must turn counter-clockwise to follow the ball and then move toward the appropriate base for the play.
Base Umpire
“Crossing the Dirt”

• U1 does not “go out” to rule on a fly ball when in “B” or “C”

• Certain circumstances may require that he go out to make a proper ruling AFTER a catch/no catch attempt or other play
Stepping into the Pitch

• Only when in Position “A”

• As pitcher starts his motion

• Come SET

• Observe what happens at the plate
Primary Responsibility for Tagups and Touches
NO RUNNERS ON
Fly Ball Coverage
Outfield
RUNNERS ON ANY BASE
Fly Ball Coverage
OUTFIELD
NO RUNNERS ON
Fly Ball Coverage
Infield
NO RUNNERS ON
Fair/Foul Coverage
RUNNER ON ANY BASE
Fair/Foul Coverage
Get in the Right Position (Angle & Distance)
If you can’t get both Always take

(Angle over Distance)
Common Mistakes

• Too Close

• Following the ball to the glove

• Timing

• Not “Reading” the player’s actions

• Not adjusting to the play
Get
Set
Observe It
Call It
Basic Umpire Mechanics

• We work from two primary “set” positions
  – Full set
  – Standing set

• These are used when observing any action that may result in a call
TIMING

• Don’t Anticipate the call
• Make sure ALL playing action that may affect the call is completed
• Pause
• THEN ----- Call it
Proper Position and Timing are the KEYS to making the right call.
Umpire Signals

Purpose of signaling is
Umpire Signals
Types of signals

- Calls and plays
- Among umpires
Umpire Signals
Steps required

• Position
• Stance
• See the COMPLETE play
• Make a decision
• Proper timing
• Proper, crisp signal
• Verbal call
Umpire Signals

• We use a relatively standard set of signals to communicate our calls for plays in the field
  – These are generally accompanied by verbal announcement of the call as well
Umpire Signals

B all  Catch  Foul Tip  Score the run
Strike No Catch Off the base Do NOT score the run
Fair Time Play/Play ball
Foul Infield Fly Do not pitch
Safe Delayed Spectator interference
Out Dead Ball

Spectator interference
Substitution
Giving the Count
Umpire Communications
(Among ourselves)

- We use a relatively standard set of signals to communicate among ourselves to relay information to each other
  - Most are non-verbal
  - Verbal is generally used only during a play
Umpire Communications
(Among ourselves)

- Infield fly situation
- Outs (to your partner)
- Rotating (on a hit)
- Staying at Home
- Timing Play
- My call

- Getting help
  - Check Swing
  - On the bases
- What’s the count?
- Verbal Communication
- Acknowledging verbal communication
MECHANICS for TWO UMPIRES
NO RUNNERS ON
Umpire Positioning
NO RUNNERS ON
Fly Ball – Left Field
NO RUNNERS ON
Fly to Right Field
Possible foul
Or
“trouble” ball
NO RUNNERS ON
Fly to Right Field
“Can of Corn”
NO RUNNERS ON
Base Hit to the Outfield
Pivot
NO RUNNERS ON
Base Hit to the Outfield
No Pivot
NO RUNNERS ON
Hit to the Infield
NO RUNNERS ON
Hit to the Infield
Overthrow
NO RUNNERS ON
Hit to the Infield
Near First Base
NO RUNNERS ON
Hit to the Infield
Near First Base
NO RUNNERS ON
Foul Popup
Beyond First Base
NO RUNNERS ON
Popup
Behind First Base
Fair/Foul ??
NO RUNNERS ON
   Popup
Immediately Behind
   First Base
Fair/Foul ??
RUNNER ON FIRST
Umpire Positions
Pickoff Play
At First
RUNNER ON FIRST
Fly Ball to LEFT field
NO CATCH
RUNNER ON FIRST
Fly Ball to LEFT field
CATCH - Return
RUNNER ON FIRST
Fly Ball to LEFT field
CATCH - Run
RUNNER ON FIRST
Fly Ball to RIGHT field
NO CATCH
RUNNER ON FIRST
Fly Ball to RIGHT field
CATCH
RUNNER ON FIRST
Fly Ball to CENTER field
CATCH
RUNNER ON FIRST
Fly Ball to CENTER field
NO CATCH
RUNNER ON FIRST
Base Hit to Outfield
RUNNER ON FIRST
Double to Outfield
RUNNER ON FIRST
Hit to Infield
Possible Double Play
RUNNER ON FIRST
Steal of Second
RUNNER ON SECOND
Umpire Positions
RUNNER ON SECOND
Fly Ball LEFT Field
RUNNER ON SECOND
Fly Ball RIGHT Field
RUNNER ON SECOND
Fly Ball CENTER Field
RUNNER ON SECOND
Base Hit to Outfield
RUNNER ON SECOND
Hit to the Infield
RUNNER ON SECOND
Pickoff Play
RUNNER ON SECOND
Steal of Third
RUNNER ON THIRD
Umpire Positions
RUNNER ON THIRD
Fly Ball LEFT Field
RUNNER ON THIRD
Fly Ball RIGHT Field
RUNNER ON THIRD
Fly Ball CENTER Field
RUNNER ON THIRD
Base Hit to Outfield
RUNNER ON THIRD
Hit to Infield
RUNNER ON THIRD
Pickoff Play
RUNNER ON THIRD
Steal of Home
“Squeeze Play”
RUNNERS ON FIRST and SECOND 
Fly Ball to LEFT field
RUNNERS ON FIRST and SECOND Fly Ball to RIGHT Field
RUNNERS ON FIRST and SECOND Fly Ball – CENTER Field
RUNNERS ON FIRST and SECOND
Infield Fly
RUNNERS ON FIRST and SECOND
Base Hit
RUNNERS ON FIRST and SECOND
Infield Hit – Double Play
RUNNERS ON FIRST and SECOND
Pickoff at First
RUNNERS ON FIRST and SECOND
Pickoff at 2nd
RUNNERS ON FIRST and SECOND
Steal of Third
RUNNERS ON FIRST and SECOND

Double Steal
RUNNERS ON FIRST and THIRD Umpire Positions
RUNNERS ON FIRST and THIRD
Fly Ball  LEFT Field
RUNNERS ON FIRST and THIRD
Fly Ball RIGHT Field
RUNNERS ON FIRST and THIRD
Fly Ball CENTER Field
RUNNERS ON FIRST and THIRD
Base Hit to Outfield
RUNNERS ON FIRST and THIRD
Hit to Infield – Double Play
RUNNERS ON FIRST and THIRD
Steal of Second
RUNNERS ON FIRST and THIRD
Double Steal
RUNNERS ON SECOND and THIRD
Umpire Positions
RUNNERS ON SECOND and THIRD
Fly Ball LEFT Field
RUNNERS ON SECOND and THIRD
Fly Ball RIGHT Field
RUNNERS ON SECOND and THIRD
Fly Ball CENTER field
RUNNERS ON SECOND and THIRD
Base Hit to Outfield
RUNNERS ON SECOND and THIRD
Hit to Infield
RUNNERS ON ALL BASES
Umpire Positions
RUNNERS ON ALL BASES
Fly Ball LEFT Field
RUNNERS ON ALL BASES
Fly Ball RIGHT Field
RUNNERS ON ALL BASES
Fly Ball CENTER Field
RUNNERS ON ALL BASES
Base Hit - Outfield
RUNNERS ON ALL BASES

Infield Hit – Double Play
RUNNERS ON ALL BASES
Steal of Home
Handling Rundowns
Single Runner
Rundown Between
FIRST and SECOND
Single Runner Rundown Between SECOND and THIRD
Single Runner Rundown Between THIRD and HOME
Runners on FIRST and SECOND

Rundown Between FIRST and SECOND
Runners on FIRST and SECOND

Rundown Between SECOND and THIRD
Runners on SECOND and THIRD

Rundown Between SECOND and THIRD
Runners on SECOND and THIRD

Rundown Between THIRD and HOME
Runners on FIRST and THIRD

Rundown Between FIRST and SECOND
Runners on FIRST and THIRD

Rundown Between THIRD and HOME
REMEMBER
Pause - Read - React
Get in the Proper POSITION
Get Set - Observe It - Call It
Use Proper TIMING