

## **SECTION 4**

### **RUNNER ON THIRD BASE ONLY**

- 4.1** The first base umpire will be positioned 10-12 feet behind the first baseman with both feet in foul territory. The third base umpire will be 10-12 feet behind the third baseman with both feet in foul territory.
- 4.2** On all ground balls, fly balls and line drives to the infield the first base umpire will come into fair territory, staying to the outside of the infield and set up in a position to render a decision at first if necessary. The first base umpire will be responsible for the batter-runner touching first and for any play that may develop at first on the batter-runner. He/she will also be responsible for the touch of second and for taking the batter-runner into second should a play develop there. The third base umpire, depending on the location of the ball, will move a few feet either into foul or fair territory and set up in a position to have a good look at the play/ball. The third base umpire will be responsible for any tag up at third on the runner; and for any play that may develop at third on the runner. The third base umpire will also be responsible for any touch of and/or play at third on the batter-runner should the ball not be caught or an overthrow occur. The home plate umpire will move out to a position in foul territory on the first base line extended to get the best view of the field, ball and play. The home plate umpire will be responsible for the catch/no catch of all fly balls and line drives and for any touch of and/or play at home plate by the runner at third or the batter-runner if the ball should not be caught or an overthrow occur. The home plate umpire will also be in a good position to see clearly down the first base line and to be able to offer any assistance, if requested.
- 4.3** On all fly balls, line drives (with the exception of “trouble” balls) and base hits to the outfield the responsibility of the catch/no catch of the ball will belong to the home plate umpire. The first base umpire will pivot into the infield and will be responsible for the batter-runner touching first and for any play back into first on the batter-runner should the ball not be caught. He/she will also be responsible for the touch of second and for taking the batter-runner into second should a play develop there. The third base umpire will pivot into the infield and will be responsible for the tag up of the runner on third and for any play back into third on the runner. He/she will also be responsible for the touch of third and any play on the batter-runner at third should the ball not be caught. The home plate umpire will come out a few feet into foul territory and move into a position that will give him/her the best angle/view of the field, ball and play while still getting back to home plate for any possible play. The home plate umpire will be responsible for the catch/no catch of the ball and for any touch of and/or play that may develop at home plate on the runner from third or the batter-runner continuing to advance if the ball is not caught.
- 4.4** If the first base umpire goes out on a “trouble” ball, the third base umpire will pivot into the working area and be responsible for the batter-runner touching first; any play

back into first on the batter-runner and for the touch or any play that may develop on the batter-runner at second or third base should the ball not be caught. The home plate umpire will come out from behind home plate going a few feet into foul territory and a few feet down the third base line and will be responsible for the tag up of the runner on third and for any play back into third on the runner. He/she will also be responsible for any touch or play that may develop at home plate.

- 4.5** If the third base umpire goes out on a “trouble” ball the first base umpire will pivot into the infield and be responsible for the batter-runner touching first; for any play back into first on the batter-runner and for any touch of or play at second or third on the batter-runner should the ball not be caught. The home plate umpire will come out into foul territory a few feet towards third to be in a good position to line up the ball/play and the base. The home plate umpire will be responsible for the tag up and any play back into third on the runner on third and for the touch of or any play that may develop at home plate.