

SECTION 3

RUNNER ON SECOND BASE ONLY

- 3.1** The first base umpire will be positioned midway between the second baseman and the 2nd base bag approximately halfway (30 to 40 feet) between 1st and 2nd base and on the outside of the infield. The third base umpire will be 10-12 feet behind the third baseman with both feet in foul territory.
- 3.2** On all ground balls, fly balls and line drives to the infield the first base umpire will take a drop step to open up his/her field of vision and then step and turn with the ball facing the fielder as the ball is being fielded. The first base umpire will let the ball take him/her to the play and by only taking a step or two in any direction will be in a good position for any play(s) that may develop at second or first base. The first base umpire will be responsible for any play or tag up at second on the runner on second and for the batter-runner touching first; for any play at first on the batter-runner; and for any play that may develop at second on the batter-runner if the ball is not caught. The third base umpire will come into fair territory, staying to the outside of the infield, and will be responsible for any play at or touch of third on the runner advancing from second. The third base umpire will also be responsible for any play or touch of third on the batter-runner advancing to third should the fly ball or line drive not be caught or an overthrow occur. The home plate umpire will be responsible for the catch/no catch of all fly balls and line drives and will come out into fair territory in front of the pitcher's mound and move into a position where he/she has the best view of the ball to make the call. If the ball is not caught the home plate umpire will return to a position behind the point of home plate and be responsible for any touch of and/or play that may develop at home plate. On ground balls the home plate umpire will move out to a position, in foul territory, on the first base line extended to observe the play at first base. The home plate umpire will be in a good position to see the whole field and to be able to offer any assistance that may be needed by either umpire. The home plate umpire will also be responsible for the touch of home or any play that may develop at home plate.
- 3.3** On all fly balls and line drives to the outfield (with the exception of "trouble" balls), the responsibility for the catch/no catch will belong to the home plate umpire. The first base umpire will pivot into the working area and be responsible for the tag up of the runner on second and for any play that may develop at second on the runner. The first base umpire is also responsible for the batter-runner touching first base; any play back into first on the batter-runner; and for any play that may develop on the batter-runner at second, including the touch of second, if the ball is not caught. The third base umpire will pivot into the infield and be responsible for any play at or touch of third base by the runner advancing from second. The third base umpire will also be responsible for any play at or touch of third base by the batter-runner should the fly ball or line drive not be caught. The home plate umpire will come out into fair territory in front of the pitcher's mound

and move into a position where he/she has the best angle/view of the play/ball to make the call. If the ball is not caught the home plate umpire will return to a position behind the point of home plate and be responsible for the touch of home and for any play that may develop at home plate.

- 3.4** On base hits to the outfield the first base umpire will pivot into the working area and be responsible for the batter-runner touching first; for any play that may develop on the batter-runner continuing on to second or returning to first; and for any play back into second on the runner on second. The third base umpire will pivot into the infield and be responsible for any play at or touch of third by the runner advancing from second. The third base umpire will also be responsible for any play at or touch of third by the batter-runner. The home plate umpire will come out from behind home plate going a few feet down the third base line to observe the play and to be ready to offer any assistance that may be needed and will also be responsible for any touch of home or any play that may develop at home plate.
- 3.5** 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 any touch or play that may develop on the batter-runner at second or third should the ball not be caught. He/she will also be responsible for any play back into second on the runner on second. 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 communicate with his/her partner “I’ve got third if he/she comes” to alert him/her that should a play develop there that it is covered. The home plate umpire will be responsible for the tag up of the runner on second and for any play or touch at third on the runner from second. The home plate umpire will also be responsible for the touch or any play that may develop at home plate.
- 3.6** If the third base umpire goes out on a “trouble” ball the first base umpire will pivot into the working area and be responsible for any play back into second on the runner on second. The first base umpire will also be responsible for the batter-runner touching first; any play back into first on the batter-runner; and for any play at or touch of second or third by the batter-runner should the ball not be caught. The home plate umpire will come out from behind home plate and move down the third base line in foul territory and communicate with his partner “I’ve got third if he/she comes”. This will alert his/her partner to the possibility of a play at third and that he/she has it covered. The home plate umpire will be responsible for the tag up at second and any play at or touch of third by the runner from second. The home plate umpire will also be responsible for any touch of and/or play that may develop at home plate if the ball is not caught. Once an umpire goes out, he/she will stay out until the play has ended. The umpire should wait until all action has ceased before returning to his/her position.