

Basic Responsibilities
2 Umpire System
90-Foot Diamond
NO RUNNERS ON BASE

FAIR/FOUL

Plate Umpire

- The entire third base line.
- First base line up to the first base bag.
- Slow roller up the first base line, up to hitting the bag.
- The entire third base line.

Base Umpire

- First base line, ball hitting or bounding over the bag, except a slow roller.
- Any fly ball that will land near the 1st base foul line beyond the bag, or heading towards the fence near the 1st baseline foul pole.

NOTE – You may need to adjust fair/foul responsibilities to match 60 foot diamond if foul lines are not chalked all the way to the outfield fence.

CATCH/NO CATCH

- Any fly ball to outfield that base umpire does not go out on.
- All fly balls and line drives to infield except to F3 or F4 moving toward first base line.
- If base umpire goes out, plate umpire has all plays on the batter runner to third base and also at home if base umpire doesn't get home.
- Go out on any trouble ball from center fielder moving toward the first base line, all the way to first base line and out of play area.
- Fly balls and line drives to F3 or F4 moving toward first base line.

TOUCHING BASES / PLAY COVERAGE

- Batter/Runner when tagged before reaching the 45-foot running lane.
- Touches of 1st, 2nd, and 3rd and all plays at 1st, 2nd and 3rd when base umpire goes out, and also at home if base umpire isn't there waiting.
- All plays at 1st, 2nd, and 3rd if you don't go out.
- Batter/Runner when tagged after he has reached the 45-foot running lane.
- If you go out and don't need to stay with the ball to rule out of play, bust back home to take plays on batter runner at home. You have this play only if you are there waiting.

90 FOOT - NO RUNNERS ON BASE CONTINUED

45-Foot Running Lane

Plate Umpire

- Responsible for all interference calls related to the 45 foot running lane.
- Help on swipe tag near first, or first baseman pulling foot **ONLY** if asked by base umpire.
- Responsible for tag play before batter runner reaches 45-foot lane.

Base Umpire

- Alert at all times for batter-runner interference. Call **ONLY** if the plate umpire fails to.
- Full responsibility for swipe tag near first, or first baseman pulling foot (ask plate umpire **ONLY** as a last resort).
- Responsible for any tag once batter runner reaches 45-foot lane.

OUT OF PLAY

- On any ball that base umpire doesn't go out on, plate is responsible for all overthrows and out of play situations, including award of bases with assistance from base umpire in determining location of runners at time of throw.
- Responsible for out of play on any ball you go out on. Assist plate umpire with location of runners if asked.
- Echo the plate umpire's call and base award.

Basic Responsibilities 2 Umpire System 90-Foot Diamond RUNNERS ON BASE

FAIR/FOUL

Plate Umpire

- **All** Fair/Foul decisions.
- All fly balls in front of pitcher's mound
- Fly balls straight back to pitcher.
- Fly balls handled by infielders or right and left fielders "close to and going toward" the foul line.

Base Umpire

- No fair/foul decisions from inside the diamond.
- All fly balls to infield except pitcher or infielders "close to and going toward" the foul line.
- All fly balls to outfield except to right and left fielders "close to and going toward" the foul line.
- **NEVER** go out from inside the diamond in a 2 umpire system.

TOUCHING BASES

- All runners touching 3rd, except the batter runner.
- No responsibility for runners touching 1st or 2nd.
- All touches of home.
- All runners touching 1st and 2nd base.
- Batter-runner touching 1st, 2nd, and 3rd.

90 FOOT RUNNERS ON BASE CONTINUED

TAG UPS

PICKOFFS / STEALS

RUNDOWNS

PLAY COVERAGE

45 Foot Lane

Plate Umpire

All tag-ups at 3rd.

- No pick-off responsibility.
- Steal of home only.
- May advance into position to take 1st or 3rd end of rundown, provided no other runners will advance toward home or 3rd during the rundown (*"I've got this end."*).
- With multiple runners on base and a rundown between 3rd and home, base umpire initiates coverage but plate umpire takes over and has entire rundown, releasing base umpire to cover other base runners. (*"I've got it all."*).
- Limited responsibility at 3rd when no play is possible at home in only the following situations:
 1. Runner on 1st only, Plate umpire takes play at 3rd on base hit to outfield. (Note – primary responsibility is fair/foul, so on ball hit down first base line communicate "I'm on the line" to alert partner that you won't be at third)
 2. Runners on 1st and 3rd, Plate umpire takes play on R1 at 3rd on base hit to outfield. Glance to see R3 touch home.
 3. Runners on 1st and 2nd with less than 2 outs, if R2 tags up, plate umpire takes play at 3rd.
- Plate umpire never leaves plate area with possibility of Time Play.
- Same as no runners

Base Umpire

• All tag-ups at 1st and 2nd.

- All pick-offs at 1st, 2nd, and 3rd.
- All steals except steal of home.
- Total responsibility except when Plate umpire assumes one end at either 1st or 3rd.
- With multiple runners on base and a rundown between 3rd and home, base umpire initiates coverage but plate umpire takes over and has entire rundown, releasing the base umpire to cover other base runners. (*"I've got it all."*).
- All plays on the bases, with the following exceptions:
 - Plate Umpire covers 3rd in specified situations.
 - Plate Umpire assists in rundowns, if possible
- Same as no runners

2 Umpire System 90-Foot Diamond

Base Umpire Positioning

No Runners On Base

Base umpire is positioned in foul territory, about 10-12 feet behind the first baseman. This is referred to as Position A.

Runner On 1st base alone, or 1st and 3rd.

Base umpire is midway between the back edge of the mound and the 2nd base cutout, on an imaginary line that extends from the point of home plate through the edge of the mound on the first base side. This is position B.

Runners On 2nd alone, 1st and 2nd, 3rd alone, or bases loaded

Base umpire is midway between the back edge of the mound and the 2nd base cutout, on an imaginary line that extends from the point of home plate through the edge of the mound on the third base side. This is position C.