

Important Field Tips:

- Be sure to have your Pre-game meeting with your umpire crew and know what your duties will be.
- Make sure the entire umpire crew is on the same page as far as hand signals go – this is your main form of communication during the game.
- Always be sure you are in the proper (A, B, or C) position. You should be approximately 10' behind the infielder.
- Always start every pitch in a set position.
- Anticipate plays and get into proper position to make the best call.
- Always know where the ball is.
- Once you are sure that a fielder has thrown to the base you are to make a call at, turn and watch the runner tag the bag while keeping a close eye on the fielder's foot to ensure his foot is in contact with the bag and listen for the sound of the ball as it hits the fielder's glove.
- Pause before rendering your call on a play – you don't want to have to change your call if the ball is dropped!
- Do whatever is necessary to avoid making a call on the run. This will help to keep your eyes on the play and give you a better picture of what is happening.
- Be aware of possible plays and be ready to react.
- Always know the pitch count and outs.
- Keep constant communication with your plate umpire.
- Know when to call infield flies, always reiterate the call if the plate ump calls it.
- Don't forget the bases are your main responsibility; don't ask for help from your fellow crewmembers unless you are truly in need of it. On the other hand, if you are sure that you did not properly see a play don't hesitate to ask for help!
- Do not give anything away if a runner misses the bag. This is strictly an appeal call.
- Never make a call that you did not see!
- **HUSTLE, HUSTLE, HUSTLE!**