

4 UMPIRE CREW MECHANICS

Basic Principles

- COMMUNICATE, COMMUNICATE, COMMUNICATE
- **NEVER** have 2 umpires at the same base.
- Go out on **ALL** fly balls in your area of responsibility.
- When you go out – stay out.
- U1 and U3-maintain a distance to be able to see a line drive hit at the feet of the fielder.
- Read your partners.

Plate Umpire (PU)

- Responsible for all plays at home plate (unless rotating to third).
- Fair/Foul up to the front of 1st and 3rd bases.
- For plays that stay within the infield-move toward 1st base to assist U1 with a swipe tag or a pulled foot (ex. w/R3).
- All overthrows towards the plate.
- If U1 goes out & no runners on base–responsible for all plays at first base.
- If U3 goes out & no runners on base or R1 only–responsible for all plays at third base (rotation).
- Do not rotate if runners are in scoring position.
- Responsible for tag ups at 3rd base.

First Base Umpire (U1)

- Always start in A.
- Responsible for all plays at first base (unless going out).
- Fair/Foul-for balls that hit 1st base or go beyond.
- All overthrows on the first base side towards the outfield.
- No runners on base-Catch/No-Catch on routine and trouble balls/home runs-RF to the fence.
- U2 in B – Catch/No-Catch on routine, trouble balls/home runs to the CF, straight in/ straight back, to the right field fence.
- No runners on base or R1 only-U2 or U3 goes out and PU rotates to 3rd base-responsible for plays at home plate.
- If U3 goes out with runners in scoring position, this is a slide/reverse rotation, pivot and take all plays at 1st and 2nd base.

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Second Base Umpire (U2)

- Always start in outfield with no runners on base (B or C extended on the inside shoulder of the fielder). Depends on pressure from 2B or SS.
- No runners on base-Responsible for routine and trouble balls/home runs-Catch/No-Catch from the RF to the LF straight in and straight back.
- **Take all plays at second on the inside of the base.**
- Always start in “Deep B” with runners on base (except R3 only).
- When in “Deep B”–Never go out.
- With runners on base-Responsible for routine Catch/No Catch in the V. Unless U1 or U3 goes out.
- If U3 goes out with runners in scoring position, this is a slide/reverse rotation- take all plays at 3rd base.
- With R3 only-start in “Deep C” on the left side of the shortstop.
 - If R3 goes out, take BR into 3rd base.
 - If U1 goes out, take all plays on the BR at 1st and 2nd base.

Third Base Umpire (U3)

- Always start in D.
- Responsible for all plays at third base (Unless going out).
- Fair/Foul for balls that hit 3rd base or go beyond.
- All overthrows on the third base side towards the outfield.
- No runners on base-Catch/No-Catch on routine and trouble balls/home runs-LF to the fence.
- No runners on and U2 goes out – responsible for all plays at second base.
- U2 in B – Catch/No-Catch on routine, trouble balls/home runs-CF going left to the left field fence.
- With R3 only, start in foul territory or fair territory – do not straddle the line.

Signals

- R1 only-Straight Rotation (PU and U1 only)
- R1 & R2 or Bases Loaded, less than 2 outs-Infield Fly
- Runners in scoring position (R2, R3, R1 & R2 or Bases Loaded)-Slide/Reverse rotation (U1 and U2 only)