



Appendix 3

WBSC SOFTBALL UMPIRE MANUAL FIELD MECHANICS – THREE UMPIRE SYSTEMS – Learning Guide

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Table of Contents

Introduction.	3
Conventions.....	3
Four Essential Elements	4
Pre-Pitch Preparation	4
Two Basic Coverage Principles	4
The Division Principle	4
The Infield/Outfield Principle	4
Plate Umpire Responsibilities and Positions	5
Clearing the Catcher – Passed Ball / Wild Pitch / Foul Fly Ball	5
Base Umpire Starting, Ready Positions and Mechanics	5
Base Umpire Ready Position	5
Base umpire starting positions	6
Mechanic for a Tag Play at First Base in the Three-Umpire System	6
Starting position for U3 at Second Base in the Three-Umpire System	6
Runner on First Base	6
Mechanic at Second Base	6
Mechanic for U3 at Third Base in the Three-Umpire System.....	6
Outfield Coverage Key Points	7
Three Umpire Field Mechanics and Coverage	8

Introduction.

This appendix forms part of the [WBSC Softball Umpire Manual – Foundations](#) and provides the foundational application of mechanics within the Three-Umpire System.

Appendix 3 is designed to support umpires by outlining clear starting positions, movement expectations, and coverage responsibilities for common game situations when working in a three-umpire crew. The mechanics presented here are intentionally structured and consistent, providing reliable reference points that assist umpires in maintaining proper angles, unobstructed views, and effective timing as plays develop.

The positions and movements described in this appendix are based on the foundational mechanics taught in the WBSC Softball Umpire Manual. Umpires are expected to start from these reference positions and then adjust as the play develops, using movement to maintain clear sight of the ball, the runner, the fielder, and the base.

This appendix is intended for umpires who are learning, refining, or reinforcing their understanding of the Three-Umpire System, with an emphasis on consistency, discipline, and sound decision-making.

Conventions

The conventions used to describe the situations in this manual are:

1. The Plate Umpire is referred to as 'Plate' or 'PU' and first base, and third base umpires are 'U1' and 'U3' respectively.
2. The Batter Runner is referred to 'BR'.
3. R1 is the first runner, followed by R2 and R3.
4. Icons used in this manual:

	Plate Umpire	first Base Umpire	third Base Umpire
Starting Position			
Approx position after first movement			
First Movement			
Second Movement			

Runner	Fielder	Ball
		

Four Essential Elements

Good umpiring techniques require umpires to move into positions appropriate for each play. The information referring to positioning and the calling of plays is written for ideal circumstances and for the best possible positioning for the majority of plays. Proper positioning can be achieved if you think in terms of 'keeping the play in front of you'. In order to do this, there are **Four Essential Elements** that you must see an **unobstructed view** of:-

1. The ball.
2. The defensive players.
3. The offensive players.
4. The base or the area of play.

Pre-Pitch Preparation

Umpires should use good Pre-pitch preparation as per the WBSC Umpires Manual. Knowing the following before each pitch will help you anticipate likely plays.

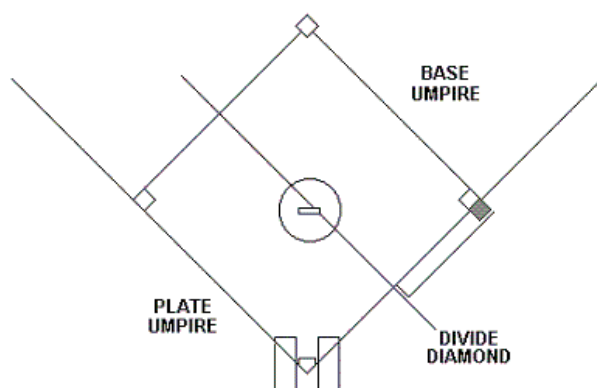
- Number of outs
- Ball-strike count
- Position of runners
- Position of fielders

Two Basic Coverage Principles

The Division Principle

When a Base Umpire goes out on a fly ball the diamond is divided in two.

The Plate Umpire takes all calls at home plate and third base, and the remaining Base Umpire takes all calls at first and second base.



Exceptions

- When the Batter Runner goes to third base, the Base Umpire then takes the Batter Runner to third base.
- If after a caught flyball the remaining umpire comes inside the diamond in **front of the last runner**, they may take this runner into third base and only after communicating with the plate umpire.
- If you must deviate from these rules, communicate this to your partner.

The Infield/Outfield Principle

- When the ball is in the infield, the base umpire moves or stays in the outfield areas beyond the bases.
- When the ball is in the outfield, base umpires not "going out" or 'chasing' as it is sometimes referred as, on a fly ball should rotate inside the diamond.
- When any umpires go out on a fly ball the remaining umpire must rotate inside the diamond.

Plate Umpire Responsibilities and Positions

In all cases, the plate umpire's starting position and actions are as follows:

- Sweeps the home plate and checks that the field is clear and ready for play.
- Should take up a position behind the catcher.
- After each pitch, PU should call ball or strike, give signals as required and then relax, while maintaining good general awareness.
- Responsible for calling all fair and foul balls in the infield and the outfield when either base umpire does not go out.
- One metre (three foot) lane interference. Tag plays halfway way to first base and to be prepared to assist your partners.
- Watch the Batter Runner/Runner(s) touch the base(s).
- Responsible for game tempo and managing the home plate area.

Plate movement following a batted ball will be explained for each case.

After every pitch or batted ball in the area of the plate, the Plate Umpire's first priority is to clear the catcher. Clearing the catcher means taking a small step to the left (PU's left) to move out from behind the catcher. This creates space, opens PU's view of the field, and prevents the catcher or batter-runner from blocking vision.

Clearing the Catcher – Passed Ball / Wild Pitch / Foul Fly Ball

- On a passed ball or wild pitch with runners on base, umpires must clear the catcher immediately to maintain an unobstructed view of the developing play, this includes foul fly balls.
- The Plate Umpire will move decisively to a position that provides a clear angle to the runner, the ball, and the catcher, avoiding remaining directly behind the catcher.
- Base Umpires must be alert to support coverage and anticipate potential plays on advancing runners as the Plate Umpire clears the catcher.
- Clearing the catcher is a foundational movement requirement and must occur before the play develops, not after.
- See the WBSC Umpires Manual for more information.

Base Umpire Starting, Ready Positions and Mechanics

Base Umpire Ready Position

The Base Umpire should assume a ready position by:

- Facing SQUARE TO THE BATTER prior to the pitch, always being able to see both the pitcher and the batter and home plate area.
- As the pitcher assumes the set position (hands together), the umpire should place their feet a comfortable distance apart (at least shoulder width), stay relaxed but still.
- As the pitcher starts the pitch adopt the 'ready' position by unlocking the knees slightly, with your weight resting lightly on the balls of the feet and the hands drawn in close to the belt line in front of the body.
- Remain in this position until the catcher catches the ball or the ball is hit.

Base Umpires are responsible for runner lead off calls.

Once the ball is hit or thrown, the umpire pushes off on the balls of their feet and moves to an observation position for a potential play.

Base Umpire Starting Positions

Base umpire starting positions differ depending on runner positions and are explained in the relevant mechanics diagram sections later in this manual.

Base Umpires must not set up in a position ahead of any infielder, prior to the catcher receiving the pitch or the ball being batted and must be positioned to maintain a clear, unobstructed view of home plate.

Mechanic for a Tag Play at First Base in the Three-Umpire System

On a tag play with a runner at first base during a play back, move to a position approximately 3.5 metres (10 feet) back and approximately 90 degrees to the runner's base path, work to maintain an unobstructed view of the Four Essential Elements.

Note 1: This is often a swipe tag situation.

Note 2: In some cases, this may take you to foul territory to have all Four Essential Elements in front, importantly ensure you are still able to see the leading edge of the base.

Note 3: During a run down play, or when a runner gets a long lead, the play may be a slide back into the base at the leading edge.

Starting position for U3 at Second Base in the Three-Umpire System

Runner on First Base

U3 will take a position approximately 3-4 metres (10-13 feet) back from second base, on an imaginary line extending from third base through second base, with one to two steps toward the second base diagonal angle as required.

This position provides a neutral, balanced starting reference, allowing U3 to maintain an unobstructed view to see home plate, the batter, and the runner, while setting up an unobstructed view of the developing play.

Mechanic at Second Base

On a steal play from first base to second base, the umpire should move to a position approximately 3.5 metres (10-12 feet) away from the play and use dynamic movements to maintain an unobstructed view of all Four Essential Elements, to see into the tag.

Mechanic for U3 at Third Base in the Three-Umpire System

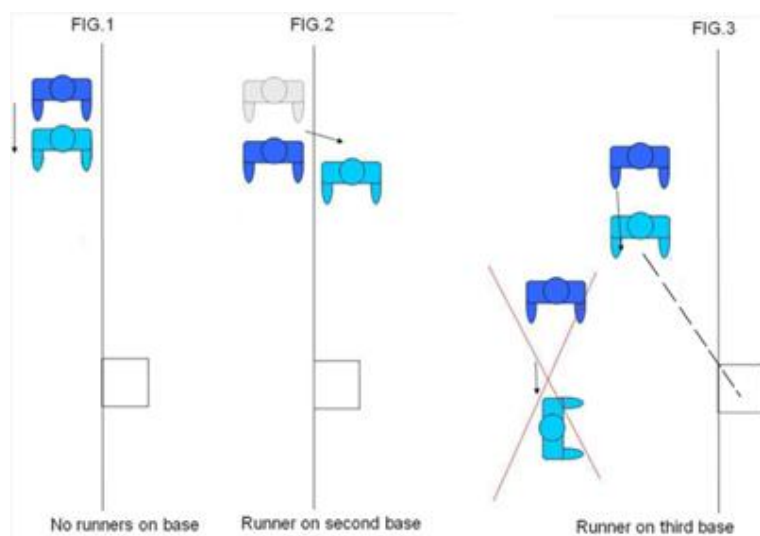
Fig. 1. No Runners on, starting position 5.5 metres (18 feet) from the base with the inner foot 15-30 cm (6-12 inches) off the fair/foul line, in foul territory in the ready position, starting close enough so the umpire can move and rotate inside or to the next position when required without being late to position, this will depend on each umpire's mobility and reaction time.

Fig. 2. With a runner on second base, assume the "ready position" 4.5 metres (12-15 feet) from third base with the inner foot approximately 15-30 cm (6-12 inches) off the fair/foul line, in foul territory.

On a steal or when the runner from second base advances, take a further step forward into fair territory to make the call. Umpires should use the Four Essential Elements while waiting for the play to develop.

Fig. 3. With any runner on third base, U3 should be approximately 4 metres (12 feet) behind third base in foul territory, and up to 2 metres (6 feet) off the foul line to have a unobstructed view of home plate and the batter and not be blocked by the runner leading off and returning to the base so they can make calls on dead ball situations and judgements on check swings, enabling them to assist the plate umpire when requested.

On a pick off (throw back) at third base, U3 should take a step forward from the starting position to a ready/set position, approximately 3-3.5 metres (10-12 feet) back. The umpire should not move down in foul territory beyond a 45-degree line through third base, so that the Four Essential Elements are in front of the umpire to make the call. Umpires can view the swipe tag better from this position, looking into the potential swipe tag.



Outfield Coverage Key Points

- Umpires should use good Pre-Pitch Preparation.
- Umpires should use good timing by watching the flight of the ball and umpire to umpire eye contact as it is essential for good fly ball coverage and ensuring the correct umpire goes out.
- Umpires should watch the flight of the ball to judge where the ball will go based on the outfielders position and if the fly ball could end up being a trapped ball.
- Umpires should then look at each other prior to turning their back and indicating and verbalising “going” to communicate they have taken the fly ball.
- The umpire must hustle (move with purpose) to the outfield running parallel with the flight of the ball and create a good angle between the ball, the fielder, and the ground for any possible trapped balls.
- Umpires must signal the out towards the ball. When signalling umpires must stop, decide, communicate.
- Umpires should signal no catch if the ball is judged a trapped ball. Noting there is no need to signal safe if it is obviously a no catch.
- Once an umpire is in the outfield, they remain in the outfield until all play has ceased but should continue to observe all plays on the infield to be able to assist or in the event of a crew discussion.
- The remaining umpires will revert to the 2-umpire system.
- Home runs will be signalled by the umpire in the outfield, except when no base umpire moves to the outfield. In this case, the plate umpire assumes the responsibility.
- If a base umpire starts on their fair foul line and go out, they have the responsibility for the catch/no catch the fair/foul and home run calls. The only time the plate umpire calls a fair/foul and a catch on an outfield fly ball is when the umpire normally starting on that fair/foul line, starts at second base. In this case, the base umpire at second base does not go to the outfield.
- If a base umpire mistakenly does not go out to a fly ball the plate umpire will make the call.

Three Umpire Field Mechanics and Coverage

Pre-Game Meeting Positioning

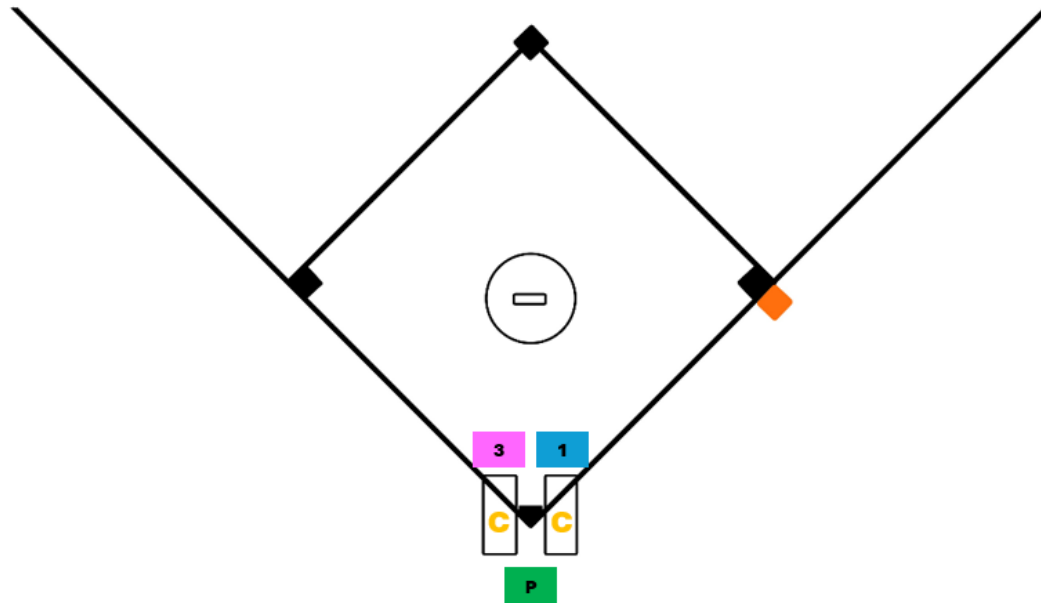


Plate Umpire

- Will assume the position behind the plate between the two batters' boxes looking out to the diamond.
- Introduce the crew, discuss any competition or ground rules and ask if there are any pre-game questions.

U1

- Assumes the position at the infield end of the left-hander's batter's box looking towards the back net.
- U3
- Assumes the position at the infield end of the right-hander's batter's box looking towards the back net.

Immediately after the pre-game meeting the base umpires will move to the between innings positions.

Start of Game & Between Innings Positions

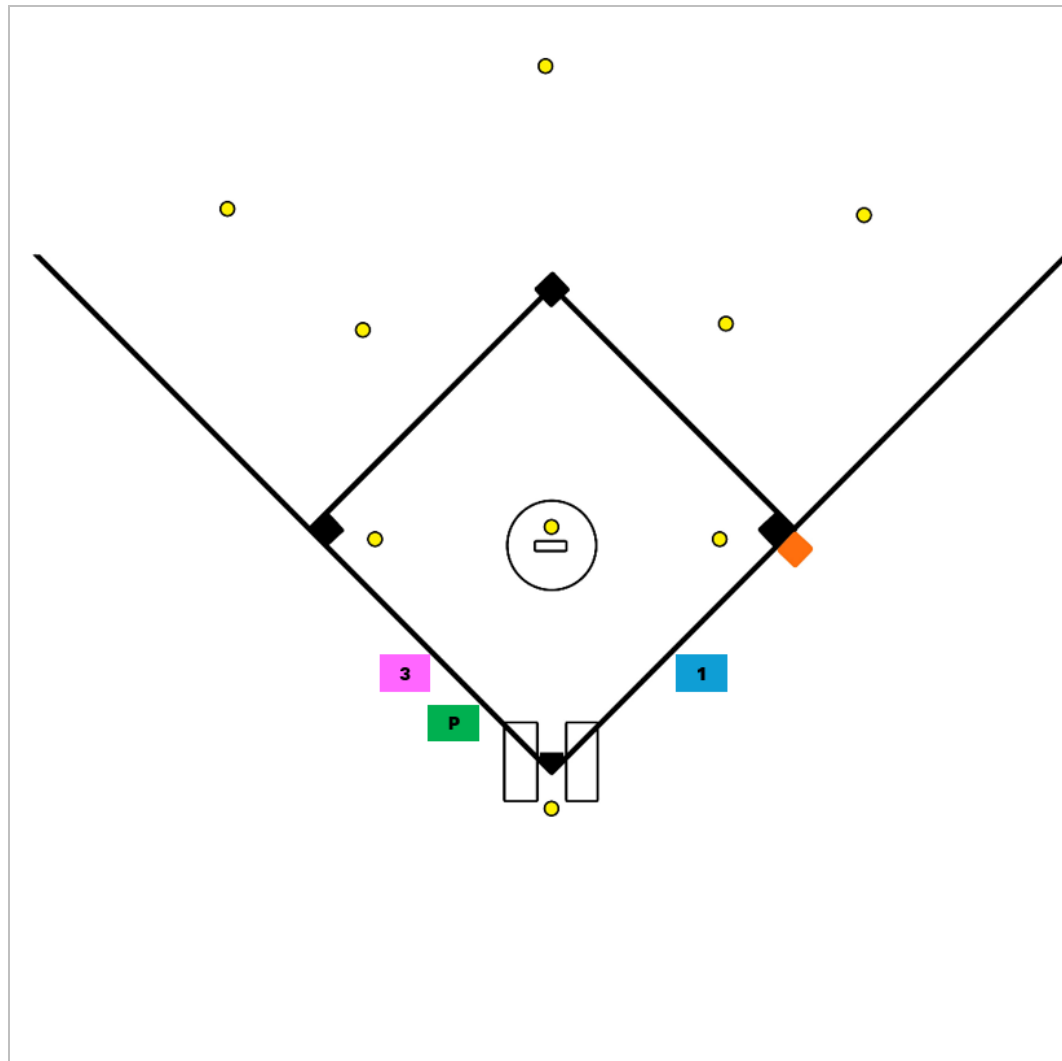


Plate Umpire

- Will take a position on the third base line

U1

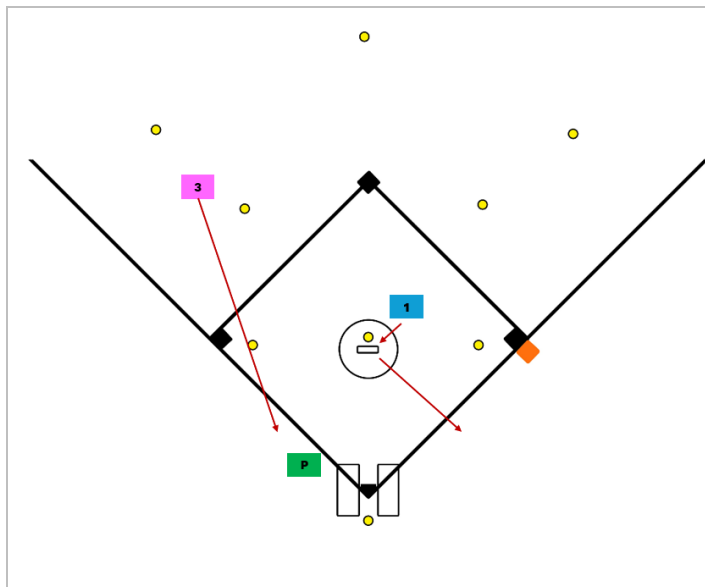
- Will take a position on the first base line

U3

- Will take a position on the third base line

At the start of the game after the last warm up pitch and with the catcher's throw over to second base, the PU will brush home plate whilst the base umpires move into position.

Completion of Innings



After the third out.

- The closest base umpire to the pitcher's plate will sweep the pitcher's plate on the way to the base lines. If there are no runners on base or they are both the same distance, U3 will take the responsibility.
- The plate umpire will sweep the home plate after the last warm up pitch.
- The base umpires should run to their positions after the last warm up pitch as the catcher throws over to second base.

No Runners on Base-Starting Positions and Outfield Coverage

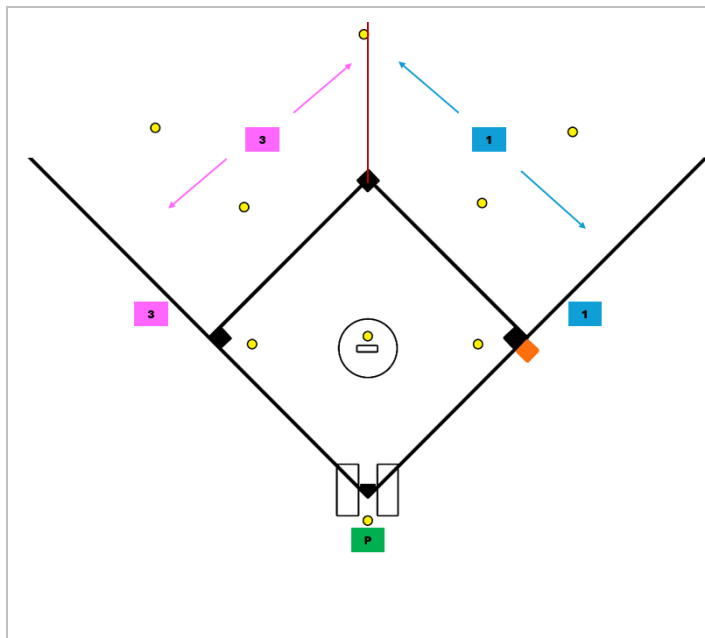


Plate Umpire

Starting position as defined at the start of this module.

U1

U1's preliminary starting position should be 5.5 meters (18 feet) behind the base, approximately 15–30 cm (6–12 inches) off the line in foul territory.

U1 is responsible for any fly balls that go to the centre fielder running towards them and to the dead ball line at right field, including fair foul.

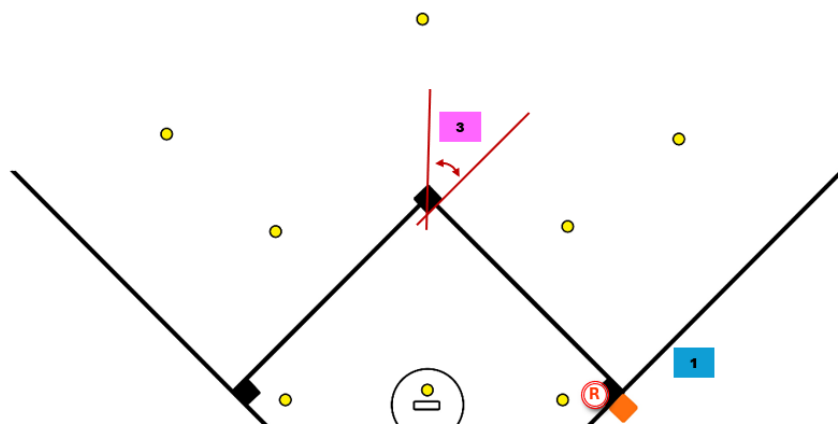
U3

U3's preliminary starting position should be 5.5 meters (18 feet) behind the base, approximately 15–30 cm (6–12 inches) off the line in foul territory.

U3 is responsible for any fly balls that go straight to the centre fielder and to the dead ball line at left field, including fair foul.

Runner on First Base-Starting Positions and Outfield Coverage

Starting position 1 – U3



Outfield coverage

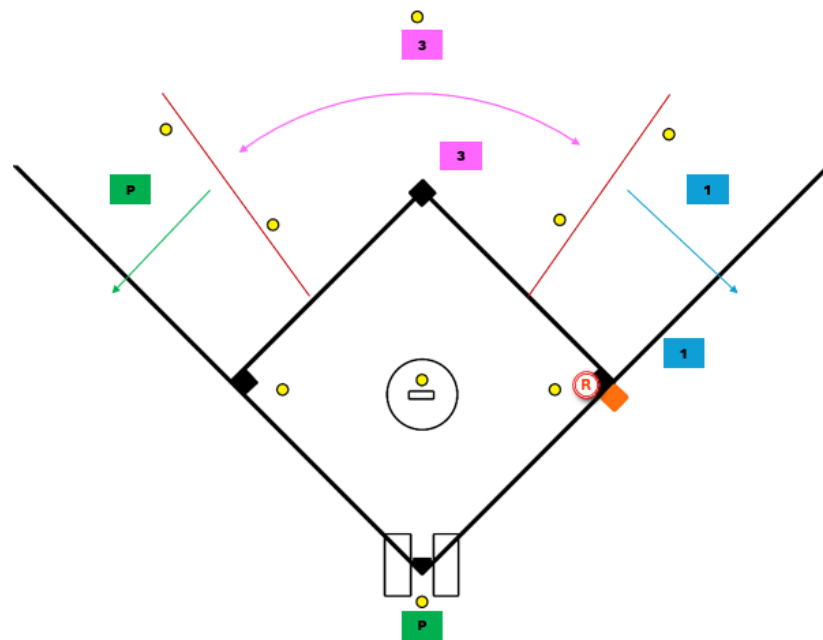


Plate Umpire

- Starting position as defined at the start of this module.
- Is responsible for any fly ball that goes to the left fielder all the way to the dead ball line at left field, including fair foul.

U1

- U1 will take a position in foul territory 4.5 metres (12-15 feet) behind the base, 15-30 cm (6-12 inches) off the line in foul territory.
- U1 is responsible for any fly balls that go straight to the right fielder all the way to the dead ball line at right field, including fair foul.

U3

- U3 will take a position approximately 4-4.5 metres (12-15 feet) back from second base standing on an imaginary line extension from third base through second base, and 1 to 2 steps towards the second base diagonal angle (see graphic top left) to maintain an unobstructed view of home plate, the runner and the batter during the pitch and play.
- U3 is responsible for any fly balls that go to the right fielder moving towards centre field and to the left fielder moving toward the centre field.

Runner on Second Base-Starting Positions and Outfield Coverage

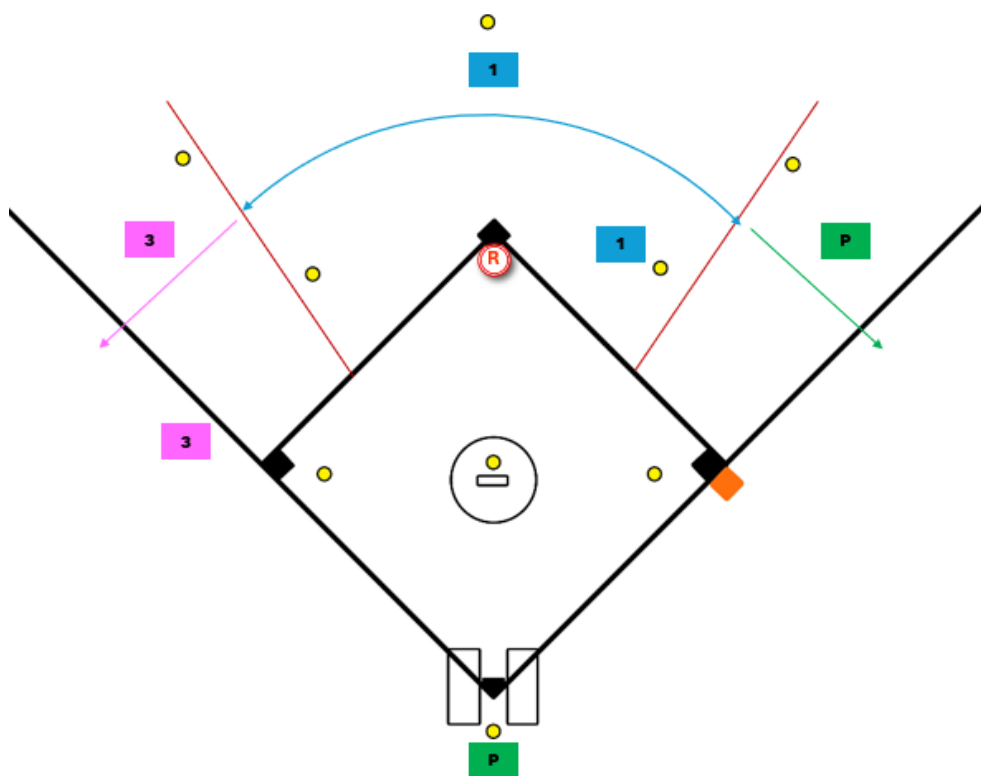


Plate Umpire

- Starting position as defined at the start of this manual.
- Is responsible for any fly ball that goes to the right fielder all the way to the dead ball line at right field, including fair foul.

U1

- The ideal position for U1 is to position themselves 4.5 metres (15 feet) back, no closer than halfway but not more than two-thirds from first base, between first and second bases.
- U1 should adjust their position prior to the pitch dependent on possible play back or steal situations and the infielder's position.
- U1 must not set-up in a position ahead of any infielder and must also be in a position to have a clear vision to home plate.
- U1 is responsible for any fly balls that go to the left fielder moving towards centre field around to the right fielder moving towards centre field.

U3

- U3 will take a position in foul territory 4.5 metres (15 feet) behind the base, 15–30 cm (6-12 inches) off the line.
- U3 is responsible for any fly balls that go to the left fielder moving toward and all the way to the dead ball line at left field, including fair foul.

Runner on Third Base-Starting Positions and Outfield Coverage

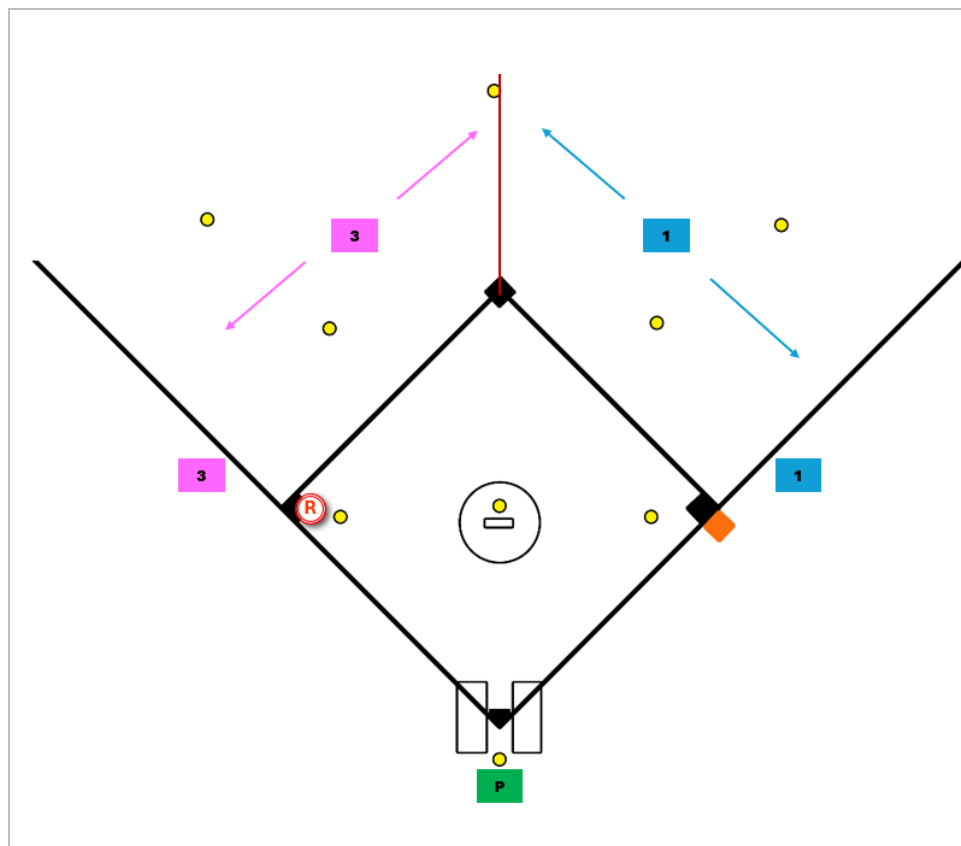


Plate Umpire

- Starting position as defined at the start of this module.

U1

- U1 will take a position in foul territory 4.5 metres (15 feet) behind the base, 15-30 cm (6-12 inches) off the line in foul territory.
- U1 is responsible for any fly balls that go to the centre fielder running towards them to the dead ball line at right field.

U3

- U3 will take a position in foul territory 3.5-4 metres (10-12 feet) behind third base, up to 2 metres (6 feet) off the line to have an unobstructed view of home plate. U3 must not have their vision to home plate blocked by the runner so they are able to make calls on dead ball situations and check swings.
- U3 is responsible for any fly balls that go straight to centre fielder to the dead ball line at left field, including fair foul.

Runners on First and Second Base-Starting Positions and Outfield Coverage

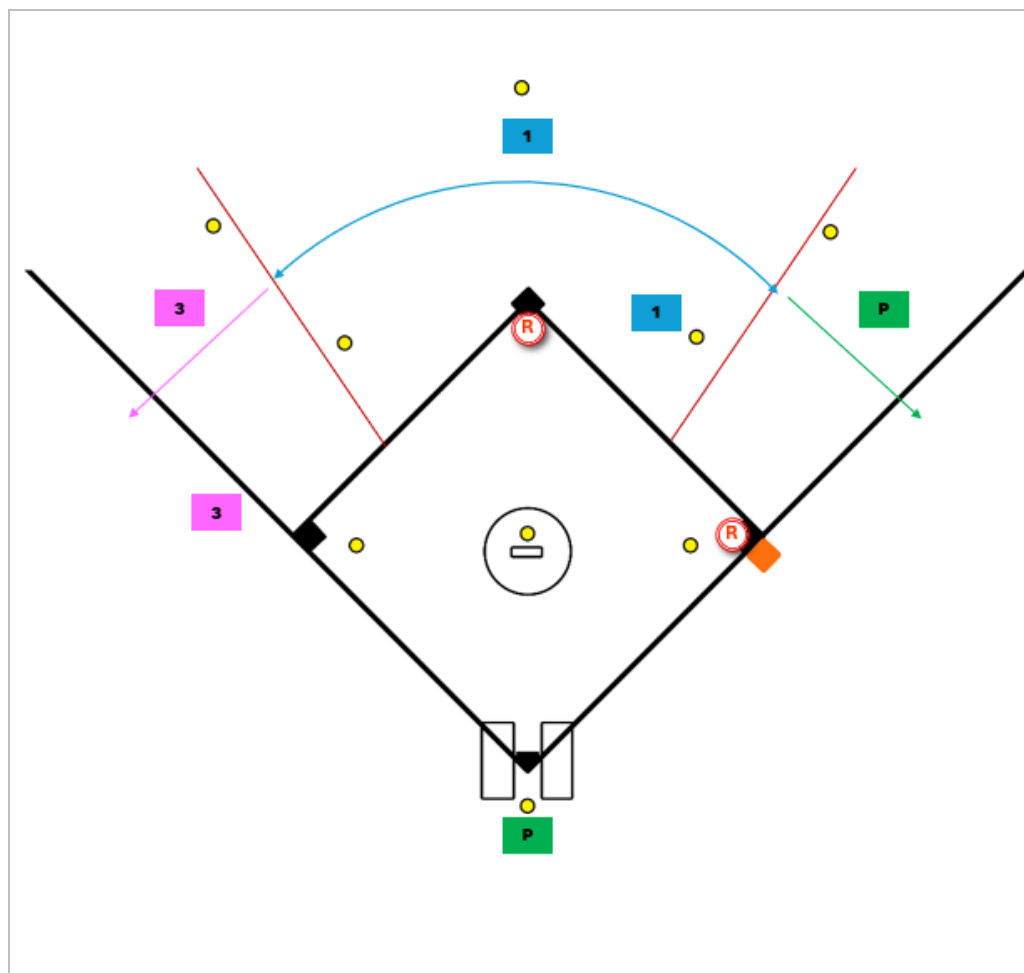


Plate Umpire

- Starting position as defined at the start of this module.
- Is responsible for any fly ball that goes to the right fielder all the way to the dead ball line at right field, including fair foul.

U1

- U1 is positioned position 4.5 metres (15 feet) back no closer than halfway but not more than two-thirds from first base, between first and second bases.
- U1 should adjust their position prior to the pitch dependent on possible play back or steal situations, and the infielder's positions.
- U1 must not set-up in a position ahead of any infielder and must also be in a position to have a clear vision to home plate.
- U1 is responsible for any fly balls that go to the left fielder moving towards centre field around to the right fielder moving towards centre field.

U3

- U3 will take a position in foul territory 4.5 metres (15 feet) behind the base, 15-30 cm (6-12 inches) off the line.
- U3 is responsible for any fly balls that go to the left fielder moving toward and all the way to the dead ball line at left field, including fair foul.

Runners on Second and Third Base-Starting Positions and Outfield Coverage

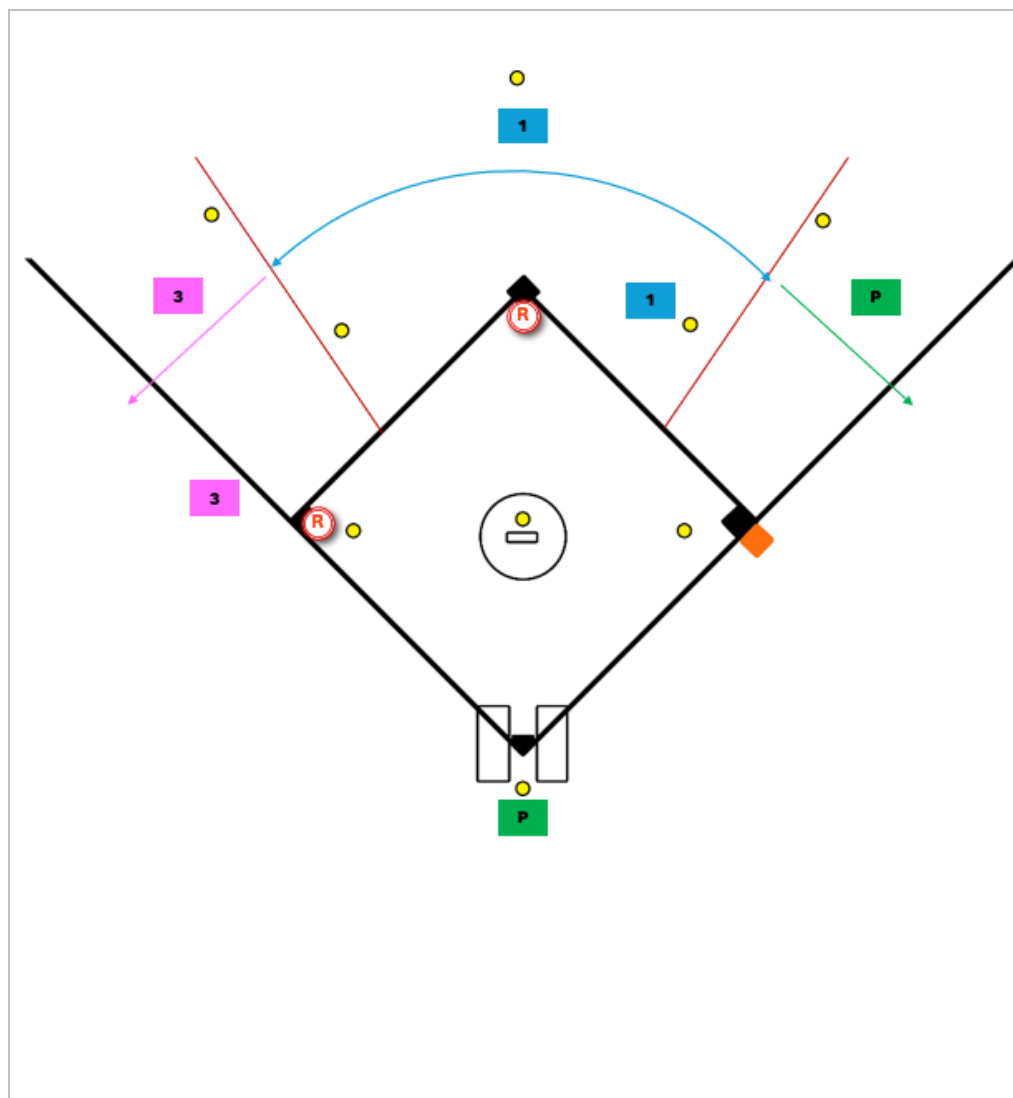


Plate Umpire

- Starting position as defined at the start of this module.
- Is responsible for any fly ball that goes to the right fielder all the way to the dead ball line at right field, including fair foul.

U1

- U1 is positioned 4.5 metres (15 feet) back no closer than halfway but not more than two-thirds from first base, between first and second bases.
- U1 should adjust their position prior to the pitch dependent on possible play back or steal situations, and the infielder's positions.
- U1 must not set-up in a position ahead of any infielder and must also be in a position to have clear vision to home plate.
- U1 is responsible for any fly balls that go to the left fielder moving towards centre field around to the right fielder moving towards centre field.

U3

- U3 will take a position in foul territory 3.5-4 metres (10-12 feet) behind third base, up to 2 metres (6 feet) off the line to have an unobstructed view of home plate. U3 must not have their vision to home plate blocked by the runner so they are able to make calls on dead ball situations and check swings.
- U3 is responsible for any fly balls that go to the left fielder moving toward and all the way to the dead ball line at left field, including fair foul.

Runners on First and Third Base-Starting Positions and Outfield Coverage

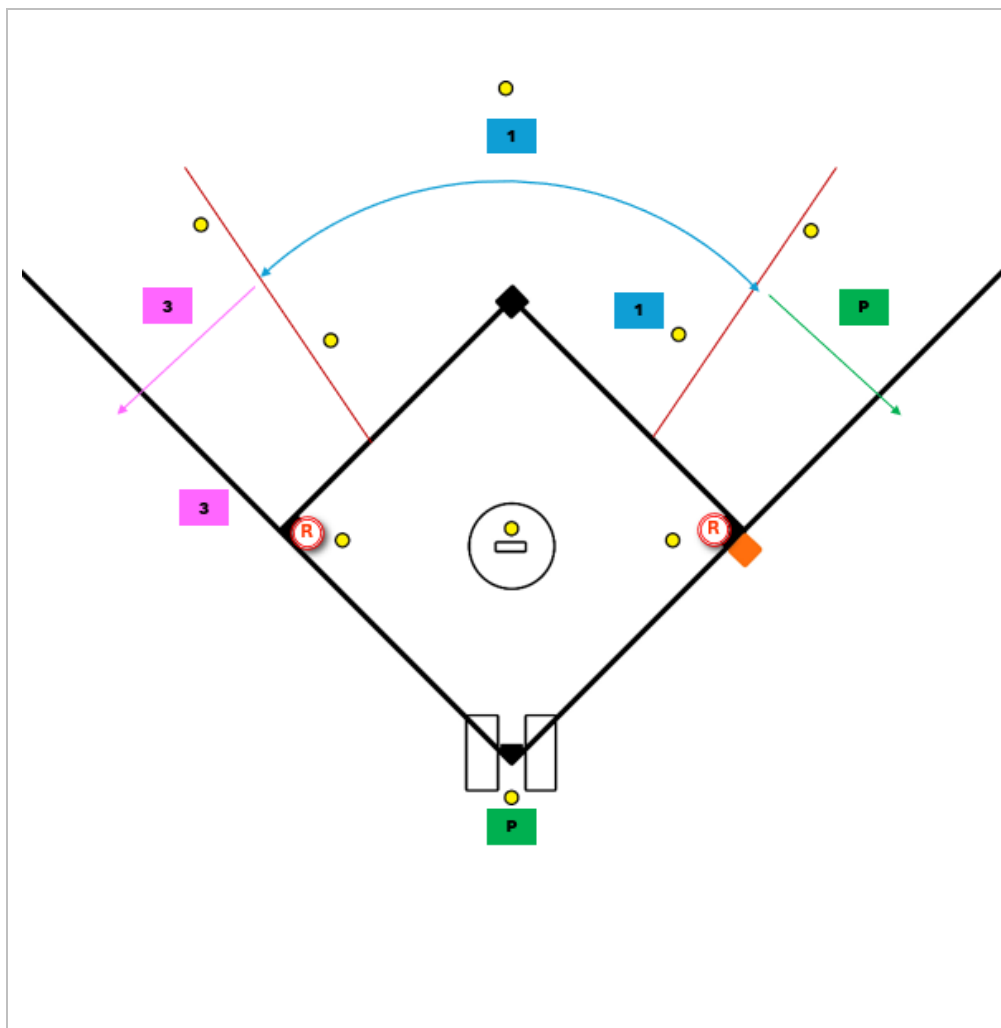


Plate Umpire

- Starting position as defined at the start of this module.
- Is responsible for any fly ball that goes to the right fielder all the way to the dead ball line at right field, including fair foul.

U1

- U1 is positioned 4.5 metres (15 feet) back no closer than halfway but not more than two-thirds from first base, between first and second bases.
- In both these cases, U1 should adjust their position prior to the pitch dependent on possible play back or steal situations, and the infielder's positions.
- U1 must not set-up in a position ahead of any infielder and must also be in a position to have a clear vision to home plate.
- U1 is responsible for any fly balls that go to the left fielder moving towards centre field to the right fielder.

U3

- U3 will take a position in foul territory 3.5-4 metres (10-12 feet) behind third base, up to 2 metres (6 feet) off the line to have an unobstructed view of home plate. U3 must not have their vision to home plate blocked by the runner so they are able to make calls on dead ball situations and check swings.
- U3 is responsible for any fly balls that go to the left fielder moving toward and all the way to the dead ball line at left field, including fair foul.

Runners on First, Second and Third Base-Starting Positions and Outfield Coverage

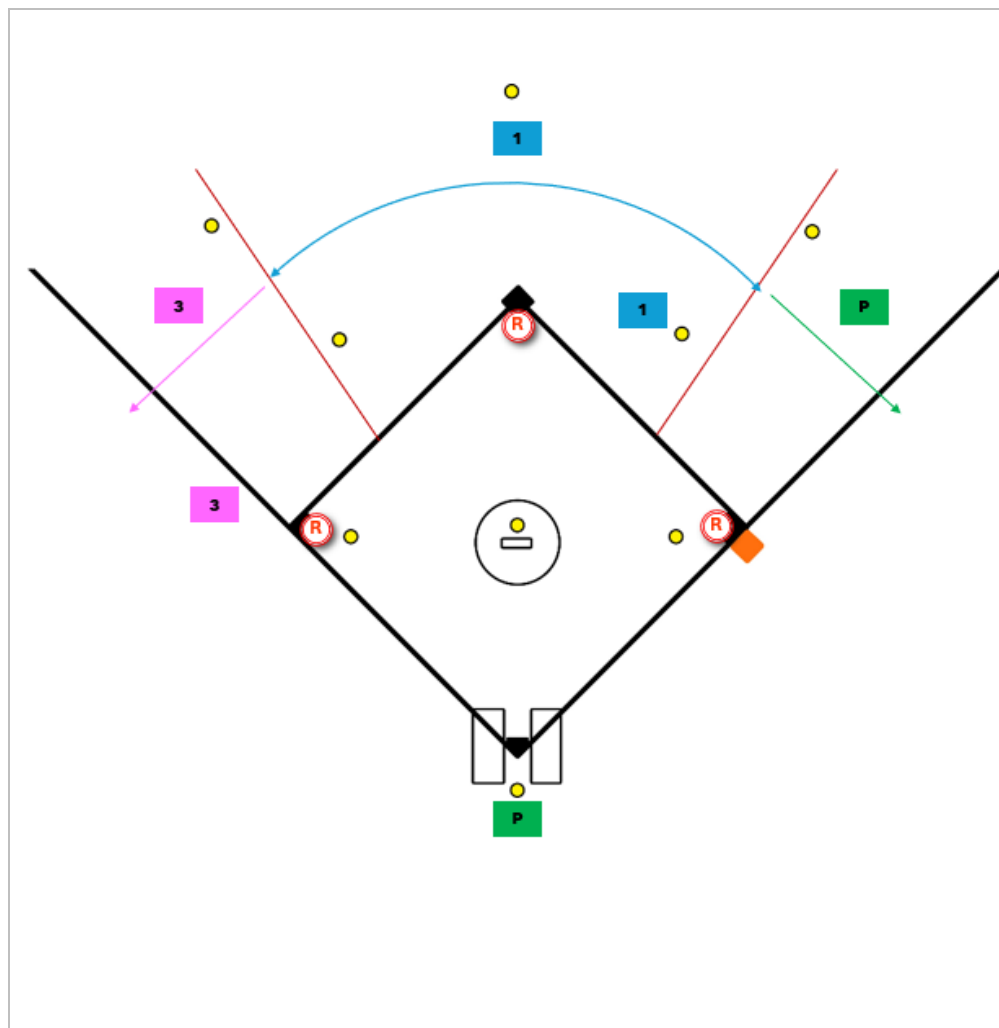


Plate Umpire

- Starting position as defined at the start of this module.
- Is responsible for any fly ball that goes to the right fielder all the way to the dead ball line at right field, including fair foul.

U1

- U1 is positioned 4.5 metres (15 feet) back no closer than halfway but not more than two-thirds from first base, between first and second bases.
- U1 should adjust their position prior to the pitch dependent on possible play back or steal situations, and the infielder's positions.
- U1 must not set-up in a position ahead of any infielder and must also be in a position to have a clear vision to home plate.
- U1 is responsible for any fly balls that go to the left fielder moving towards centre field to the right fielder moving towards centre field.

U3

- U3 will take a position in foul 3.5-4 metres (10-12 feet) behind third base, up to 2 metres (6 feet) off the line to have an unobstructed view of home plate. U3 must not have their vision to home plate blocked by the runner so they are able to make calls on dead ball situations and check swings.
- U3 is responsible for any fly balls that go to the left fielder moving toward and all the way to the dead ball line at left field, including fair foul.

No Runners on Base - Ball Hit to Infield

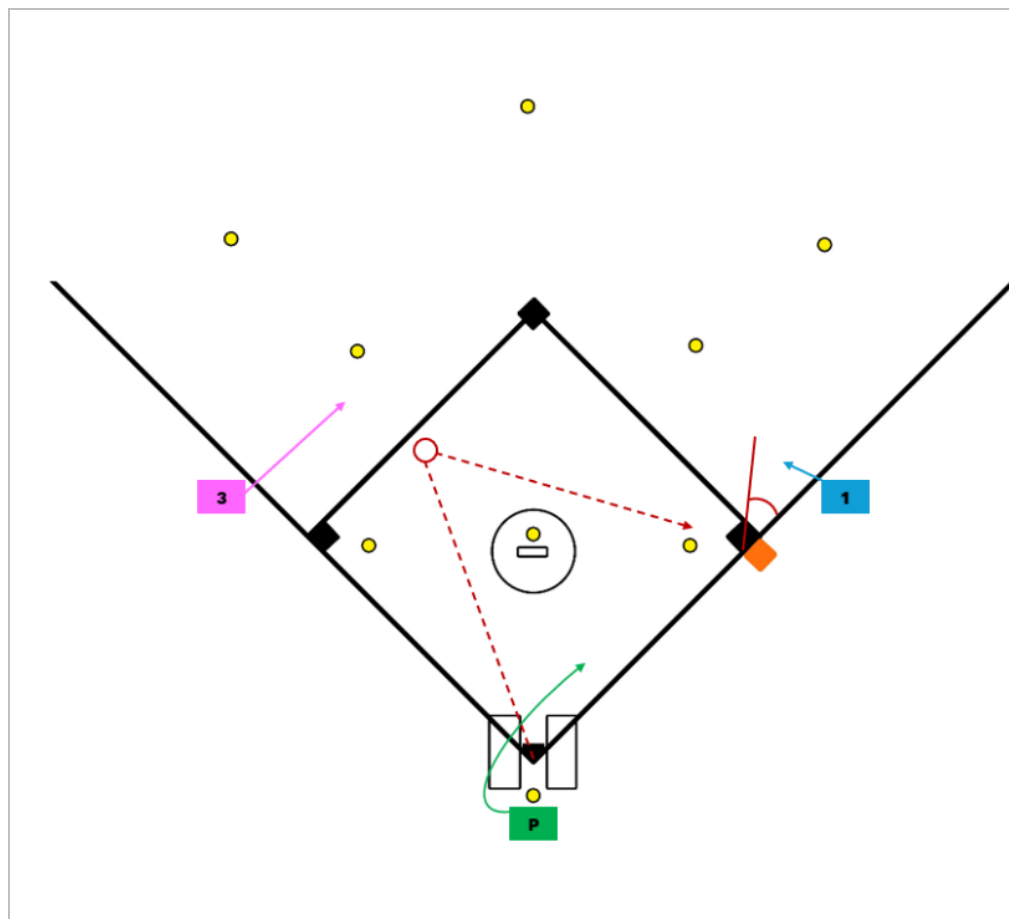


Plate Umpire

- The plate umpire exits their starting position to the left of the catcher and trails the BR approximately one third of the way to 1B down the inside of the base line (and further if required). The plate umpire is there to assist U1 with interference, obstruction, safe/out and pulled foot situations if required. Movement with purpose is required but must remain behind the thrown ball. Exception: ruling on fair/foul balls must take precedence over trailing the BR.

U1

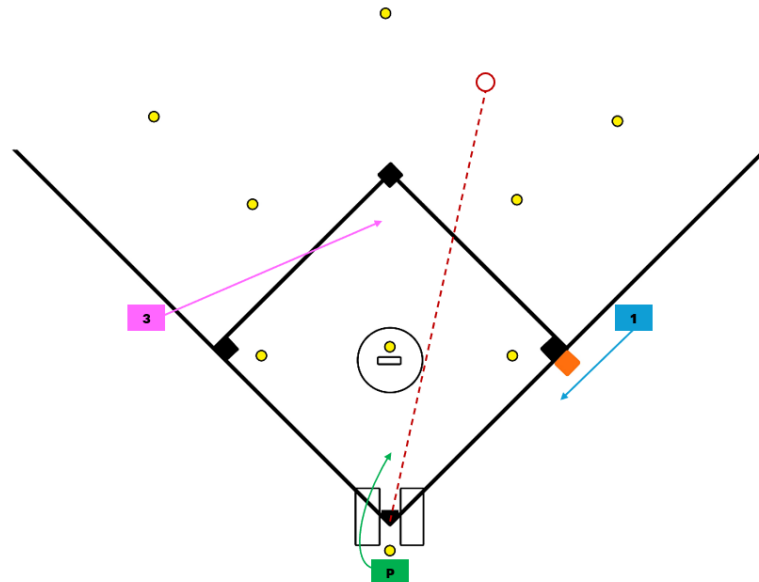
- U1 will move into fair territory approximately 90 degrees to the throw to get a good angle 5-5.5 metres (15 – 18 feet) back (no more than 45 degrees from the base line) on the throw, catch and BR and to avoid the BR.

U3

- U3 will rotate to second base in line with the plate umpire in preparation for a call at second base if the runner is called safe at first base and continues to second base.

No Runners on Base - Ball Hit Through the Infield

First Movement



Second Movement

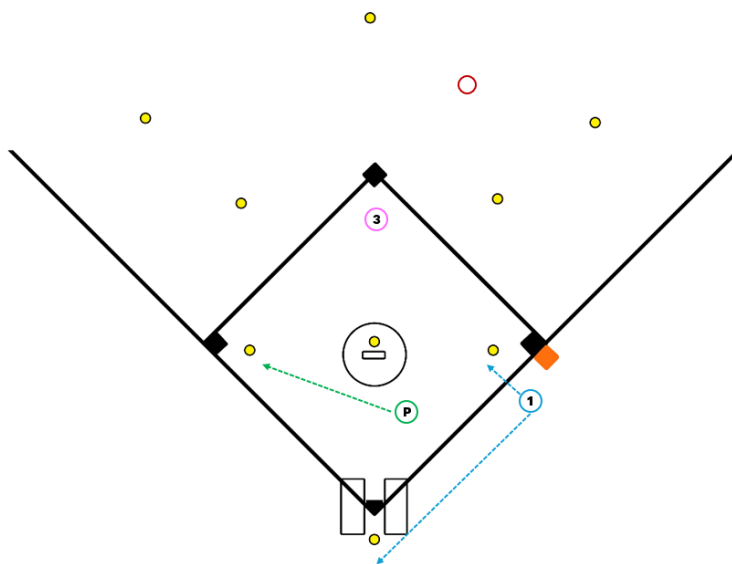


Plate Umpire

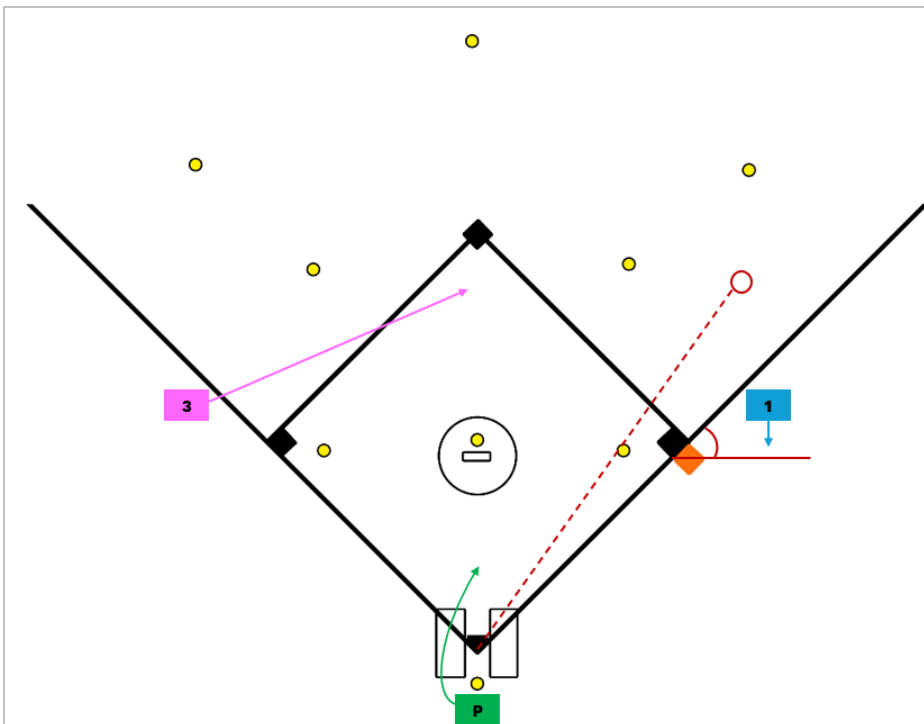
- The plate umpire exits their starting position to the left of the catcher and moves with purpose toward the ball path approximately halfway between home plate and the pitcher's circle.
- Release towards third base if the BR progresses towards second base.
- Glance to home to make sure U1 is there for possible call.

U1

- Come down the outside the diamond, watch BR touch first base.
- Be ready to move inside the diamond for possible playback.
- U1 may button hook if unsure about the outfield ball placement or U3s rotation and exit the diamond into foul territory between home and first base.
- If the BR advance toward third base, release and rotate to home for any calls at home plate.

U3

- Move with purpose towards second base and come inside the diamond for any play at second base.



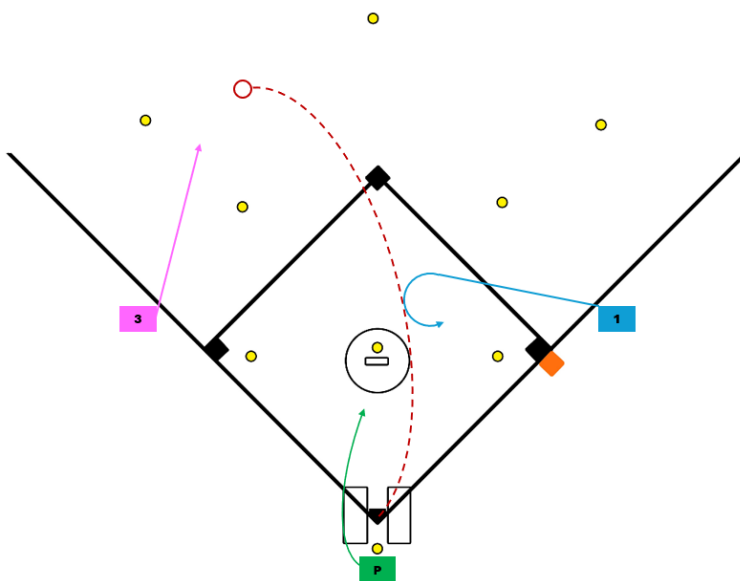
NOTE: 9-3 play-U1 Positioning

On a hit to right field, where the defence can make a play on the BR (force out at first base)

U1 will move in foul territory approximately 90 degrees to the throw to get a good angle (no more than 45 degrees from the base line) on the throw, catch and BR and to avoid the BR.

No Runners on Base-Umpire 3 Goes Out

First Movement



Second Movement

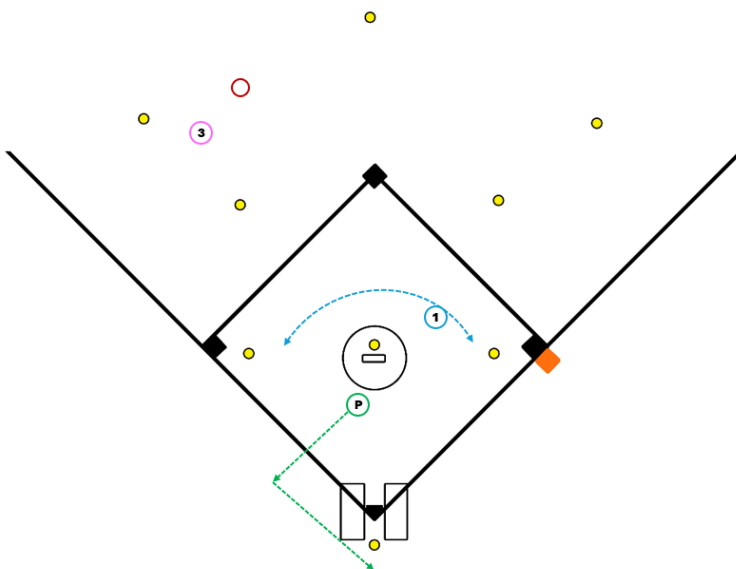


Plate Umpire

- The plate umpire will exit to the left of the catcher and rotate toward the pitcher's circle in the direction of the ball, approximately halfway.
- If the BR progresses to second base, back away from inside the diamond and move into foul territory approximately halfway between third and home.
- Once the runner commits to third base move back to home plate to put yourself in the best possible position to make a call at the plate.

U1

- U1 moves with purpose inside the diamond, button-hooking (via the left shoulder) the first/second base line, making sure to watch the BR touch first base.
- U1 will take BR into second base and around to third base if the ball isn't caught.
- Be prepared to make a call at either first, second or third base with no runners on.

U3

- U3 goes out on the flyball parallel with the ball towards the outfield creating a good angle between themselves, the ball and the fielder.
- Do not overrun the ball.
- Remain in the outfield. Do not return until all play has ceased.

Runner on First Base - Ball Hit to Infield - Potential Double Play

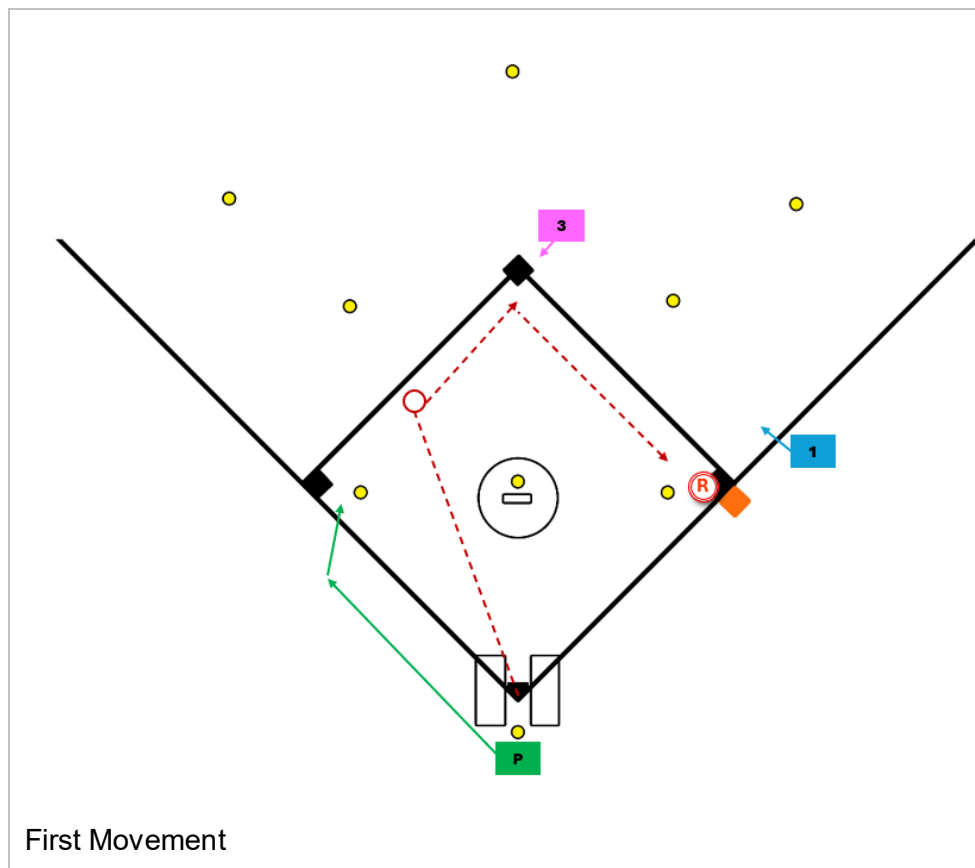


Plate Umpire

- The plate umpire will exit to the left of the catcher and parallel R1 to the holding position between home and third base. The plate umpire will move to the secondary position as shown, should the runner continue from second to third base.

U1

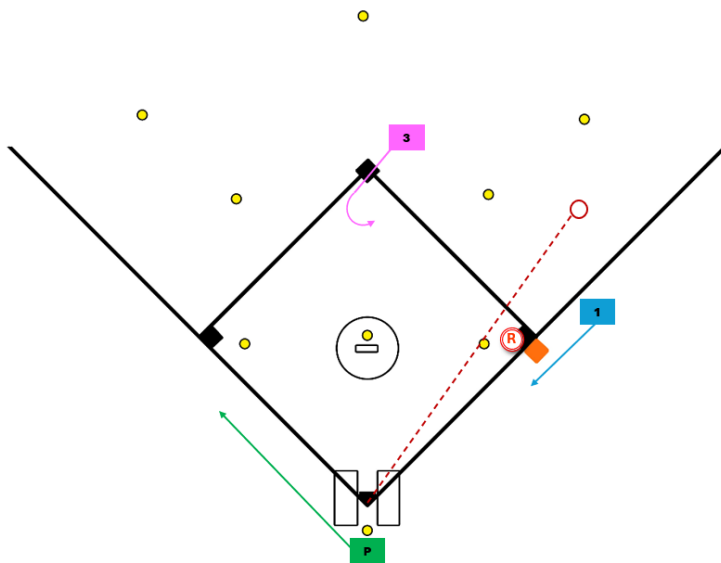
- U1 will move into fair territory, 90 degrees to the throw for the subsequent play, to get a good angle (no more than 45 degrees) from the base line on the throw, catch and BR and to avoid the BR.

U3

- U3 will usually step forward towards second base and be ready for the throw to second base. U3 should move to a position that provides the best angle.

Runner on First Base - Ball Hit Through the Infield

First Movement



Second Movement

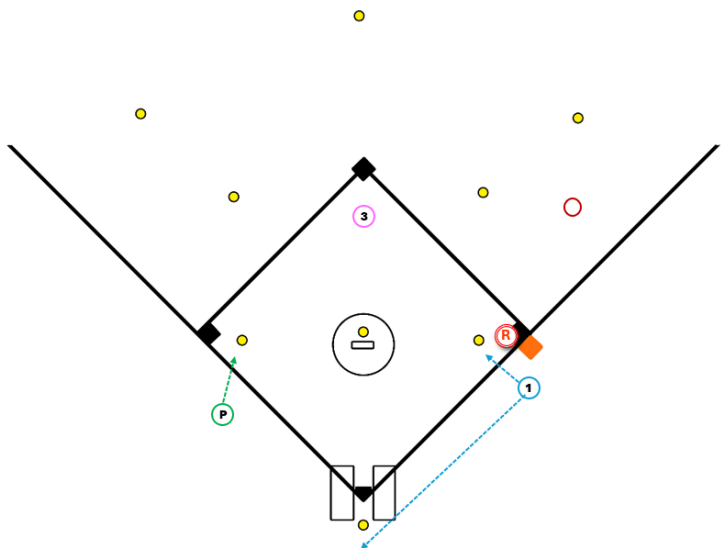


Plate Umpire

- As R1 progresses to second base, rotate to third base for possible call. Glance to home to confirm U1 is there for call.

U1

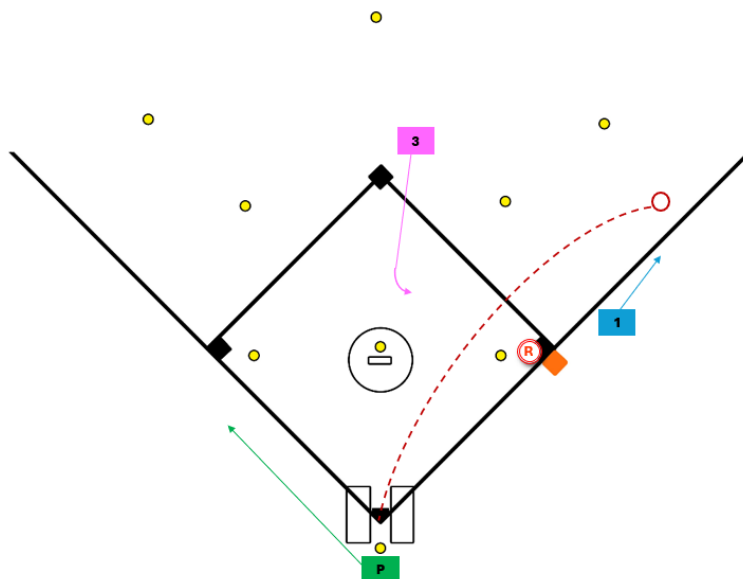
- Move down outside the diamond, watch BR touch first base. Bounce inside only if there is a possible playback. If BR advances to second base & then third base, release and rotate to home (as runner advances to third base), for any calls at home plate.

U3

- Moves with purpose inside the diamond for any play at second base.
- Be alert for any possible calls at first base if R1 advances to third base and U1 goes home.

Runner on First Base-Umpire 1 Goes Out

First Movement



Second Movement

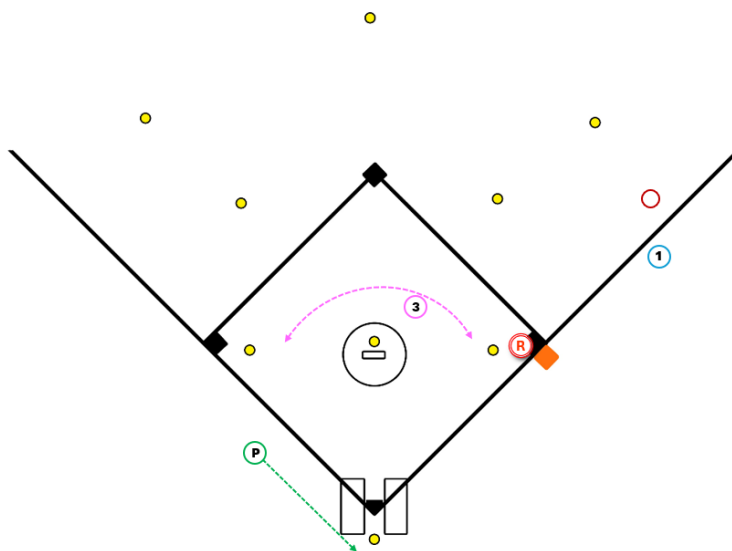


Plate Umpire

- The plate umpire will exit to the left of the catcher and parallel R1 to the holding position between home and third base.
- If there is a play at third base on R1 then the plate umpire will move to the leading edge of third base.
- The plate umpire also needs to be prepared to make a call at home plate.

U1

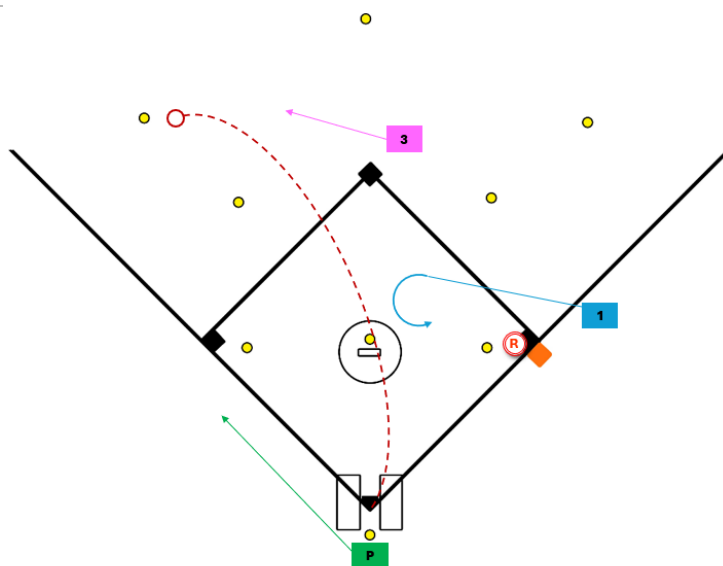
- U1 goes out on the flyball towards the outfield creating a good angle between themselves, the ball and the fielder.
- Do not overrun the ball.
- Remain in the outfield. Do not return until all play has ceased.

U3

- U3 moves with purpose into the diamond to a position at the top of the pitcher's circle to watch the tag up of R1 and watch BR touch first base.
- U3 is responsible for all calls on R1 at first and second base and to take the BR round to third base if the ball isn't caught.

Runner on First Base-Umpire 3 Goes Out

First Movement



Second Movement

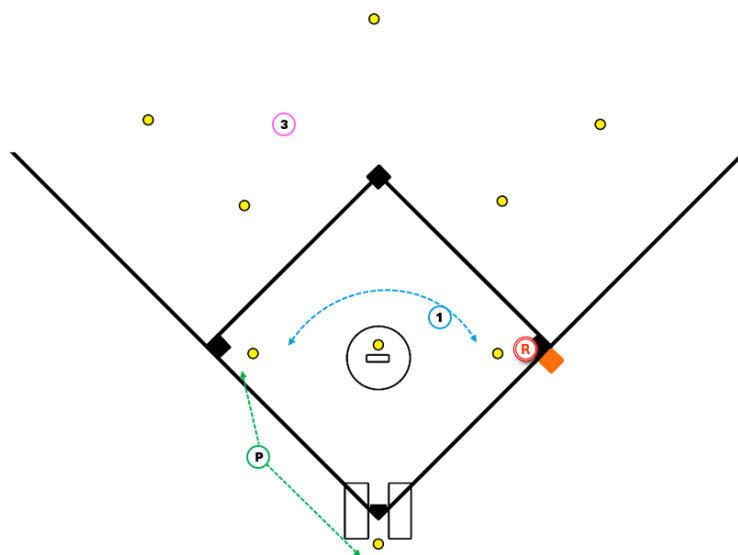


Plate Umpire

- The plate umpire will exit to the left of the catcher and parallel R1 to the holding zone between home and third base.
- If there is a play at third base on R1 then the plate umpire will move into the leading edge of third base.
- The plate umpire also needs to be prepared to make a call at home plate.

U1

- U1 moves with purpose inside the diamond, button-hooking (via the left shoulder) the first/second base line, making sure to watch the tag up of R1 and watch the BR touch first base.
- U1 is responsible for all calls on R1 at first and second base and to take the BR round to third base if the ball isn't caught.

U3

- U3 goes out on the flyball towards the outfield creating a good angle between themselves, the ball and the fielder.
- Do not overrun the ball.
- Remain in the outfield. Do not return until all play has ceased.

NOTE:

- If the ball is to or taking the left fielder towards the third base fair/foul line, it is the responsibility of the plate umpire to call the fair/foul and the catch.
- U3 will remain inside the diamond, and the rotation will remain an infield 3-umpire rotation.
- See Runner on first Base - Ball hit through the infield

Runner on Second Base - Ball Hit to Infield

First Movement

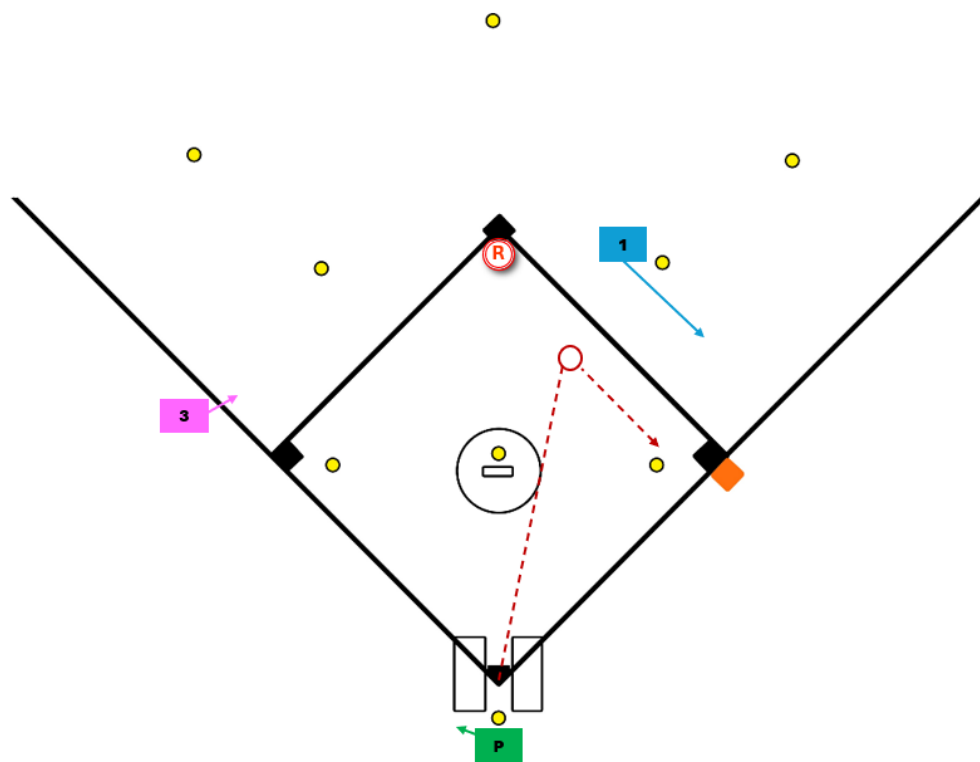


Plate Umpire

- The plate umpire moves to the left of home plate, approximately 2-4 metres (6-12 feet) back from home plate, being aware of obstructions, interferences etc. and be ready to make a call.

U1

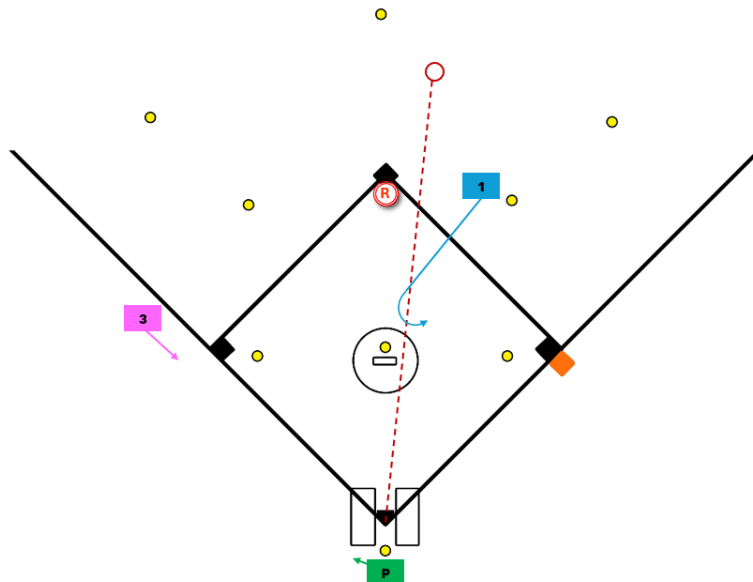
- U1 will move toward the base where the initial play will be made (in most cases first base). Calls at both first and second base are the responsibility of U1.

U3

- U3 will move into fair territory about one step in anticipation for a play on R1 progressing from second base.

Runner on Second Base - Ball Hit Through the Infield

First Movement



Second Movement

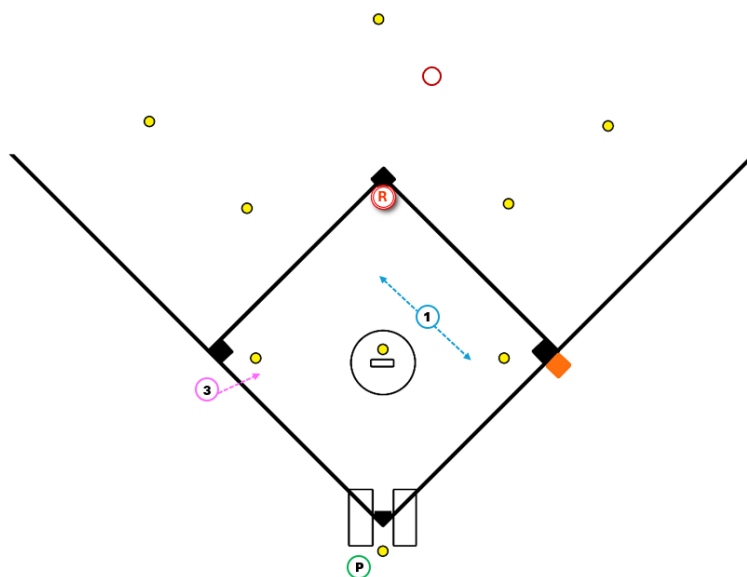


Plate Umpire

- As no umpires are going out and U3 is at third base the plate umpire moves back and to the left of home plate, approximately 2-4 metres (6-12 feet) back from home plate near the line imaginary line the extension from first base and observe the play, being aware of obstructions, interferences etc. and be ready to make a call.

U1

- Moves inside the diamond and positions themselves between 1st and 2nd base in anticipation of a play at 1st or 2nd base.

U3

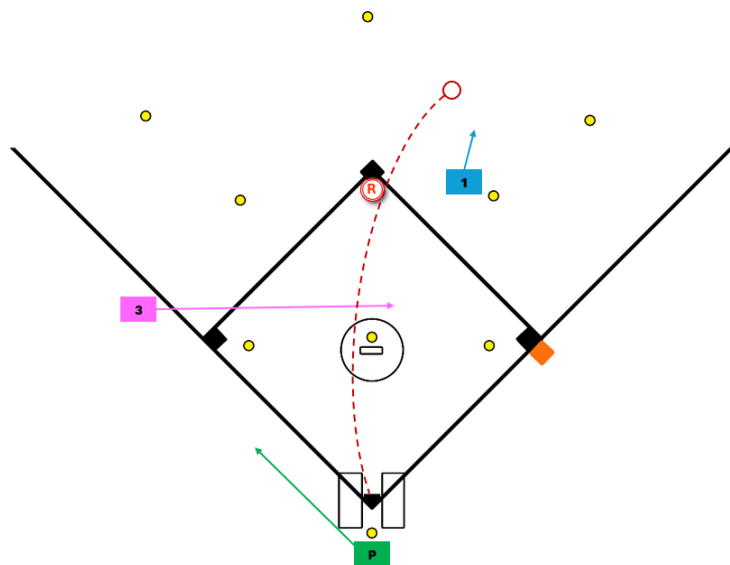
- Moves inside the diamond and positions themselves in an unobstructed view of the Four Essential Elements at the leading edge.

NOTE

- On hits to right field or right centre field, U3, if not rotating to second base, may come down the line in foul territory, to a point even with the base and allow the Four Essential Elements dictate whether U3 should rotate inside or go back out beyond the base line. If there is a possibility of a play at third base on the throwback rotate inside. If the throw is to home with no immediate play at third base, move back out beyond the base line in fair territory.

Runner on Second Base-Umpire 1 Goes Out

First Movement



Second Movement

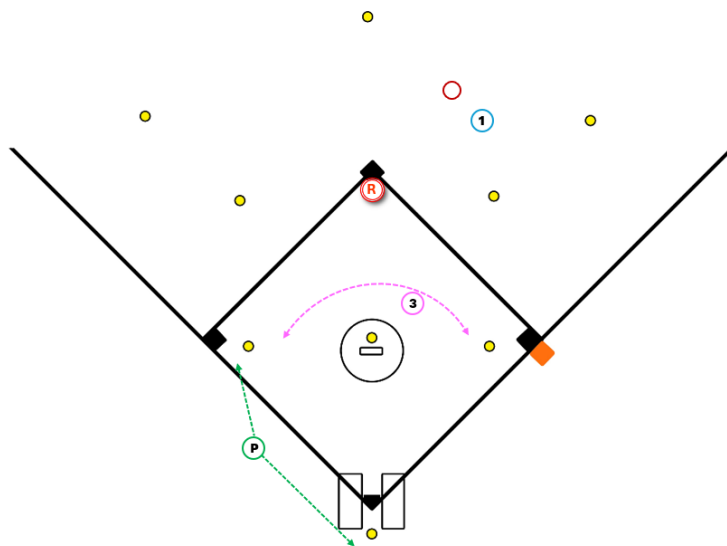


Plate Umpire

- The plate umpire will exit to the left of the catcher and move to the holding zone between home and third base.
- If there is a play at third base on R1 then the plate umpire will move inside to the leading edge of third base.
- The plate umpire also needs to be prepared to make a call at home plate.

U1

- U1 goes out on the flyball towards the outfield parallel with the ball creating a good angle between themselves, the ball and the fielder.
- Do not overrun the ball.
- Remain in the outfield. Do not return until all play has ceased.

U3

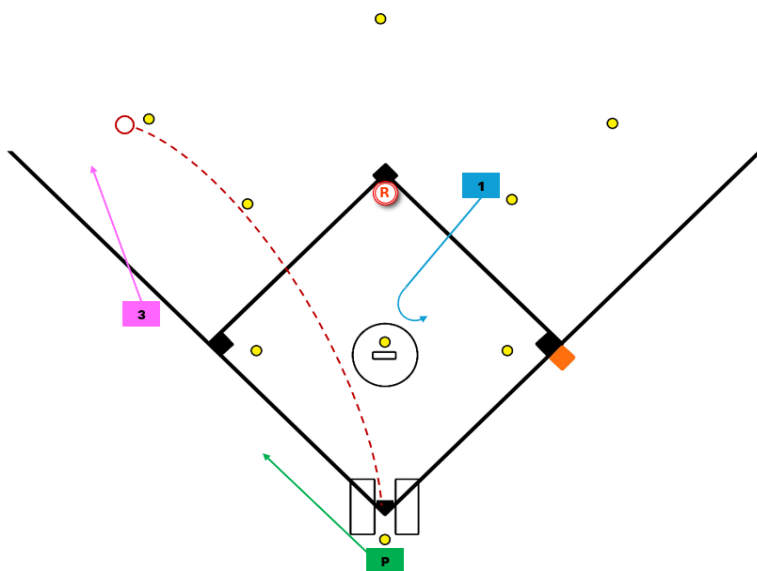
- U3 moves with purpose into the diamond to a position at the top right of the pitcher's circle to watch the tag up at second base and BR touching first base.
- U3 will take the BR around to third base if the ball isn't caught.
- Be prepared to make a call at first, second or third base.

NOTE:

- If the ball is going to or taking the right fielder towards the first base fair/foul line, it is the responsibility of the plate umpire to call the fair/foul and the catch.
- U1 will move with purpose inside the diamond, and the rotation will remain an infield 3-umpire rotation.
- U3 will move down the line in foul territory to a point even with third base and allow the Four Essential Elements to dictate whether to rotate inside or go back out beyond the base line.
- See Runner on second Base - Ball hit through the infield

Runner on Second Base-Umpire 3 Goes Out

First Movement



Second Movement

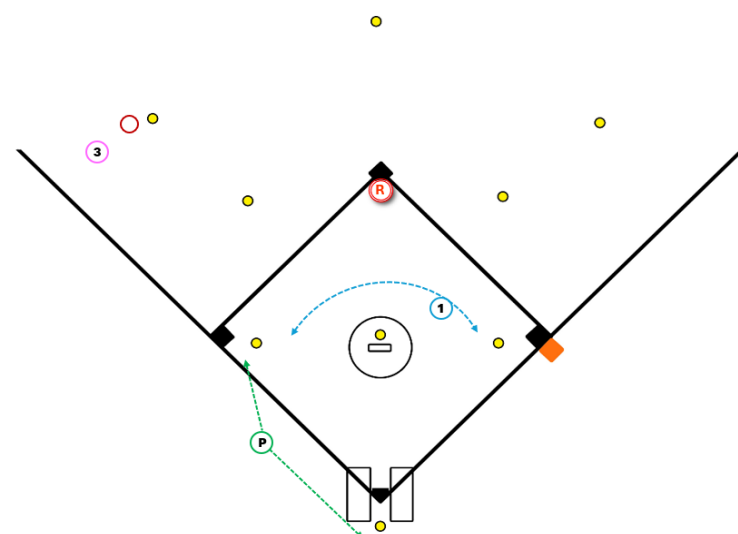


Plate Umpire

- The plate umpire will exit to the left of the catcher and move to the holding zone between home and third base.
- If there is a play at third base on the lead runner then the plate umpire will move inside to the leading edge of third base.
- The plate umpire also needs to be prepared to make a call at home plate.

U1

- U1 moves with purpose inside the diamond to a position to watch the tag up at second base and watch BR touch first base.
- U1 will take the BR around to third base if the ball isn't caught.
- Be prepared to make a call at first, second or third base.

U3

- U3 goes out on the flyball parallel with the ball towards the outfield creating a good angle between themselves, the ball and the fielder.
- Do not overrun the ball.
- Remain in the outfield. Do not return until all play has ceased.

Runner on Third Base - Ball Hit to Infield

First Movement

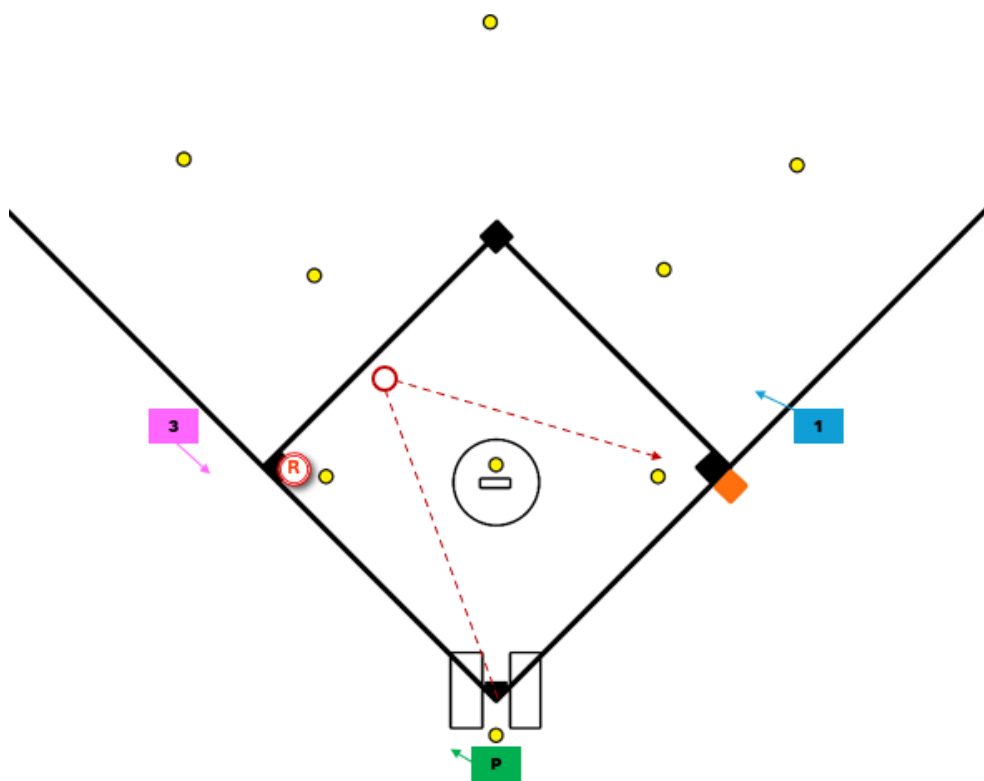


Plate Umpire

- As no umpires are going out and U3 is at third base the plate umpire moves back and to the left of home plate, approximately 2-4 metres (6-12 feet) back from home plate near the line imaginary line the extension from first base and observe the play, being aware of obstructions, interferences etc. and be ready to make a call.

U1

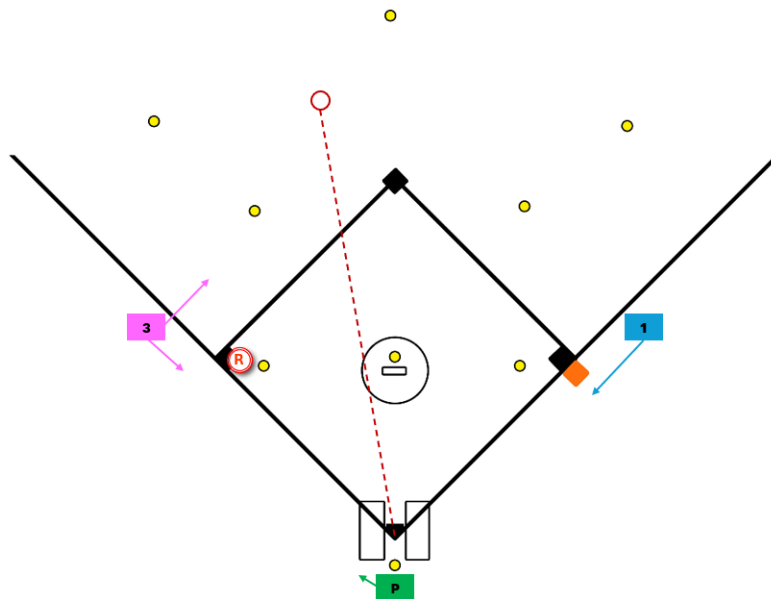
- U1 will move into fair territory approximately 90 degrees to the throw to get a good angle (no more than 45 degrees from the base line) on the throw, catch and BR and to avoid the BR. If U3 is unable to release R1 at third base (i.e. they don't proceed to home), U1 may be required to take the BR to second base and make a call if required.

U3

- U3 will move forward slightly and be in position approximately 3 metres (10 feet) back and on a 45-degree line through third base in foul territory, so that the ball, base, defensive player and returning runner are in front of the umpire to make the call.

Runner on Third Base - Ball Hit Through the Infield

First Movement



Second Movement – R1 goes on hit

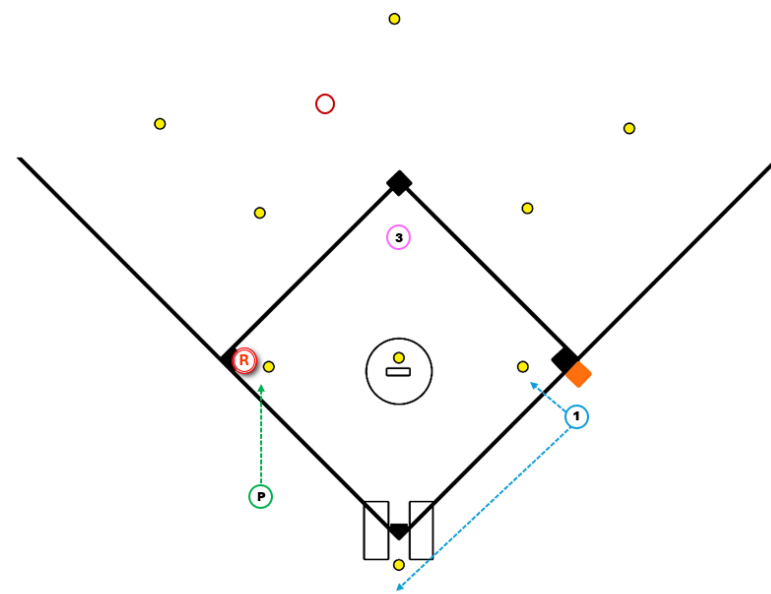


Plate Umpire

- The plate umpire will exit to the left of the catcher, watch R1 touch home plate then rotate to third base if the BR progresses to second base.
- The plate umpire will prepare for a call at third if the BR continues from second to third base.

U1

- Move down outside the diamond, watch BR touch first base and bounce inside for possible playback, or if the BR advances toward third base, release and rotate to home for any calls at home plate. Alternatively, button hook inside.
- U1 may button hook if unsure about the outfield ball placement or U3s rotation and either move to second base or exit the diamond into foul territory between home and first base.

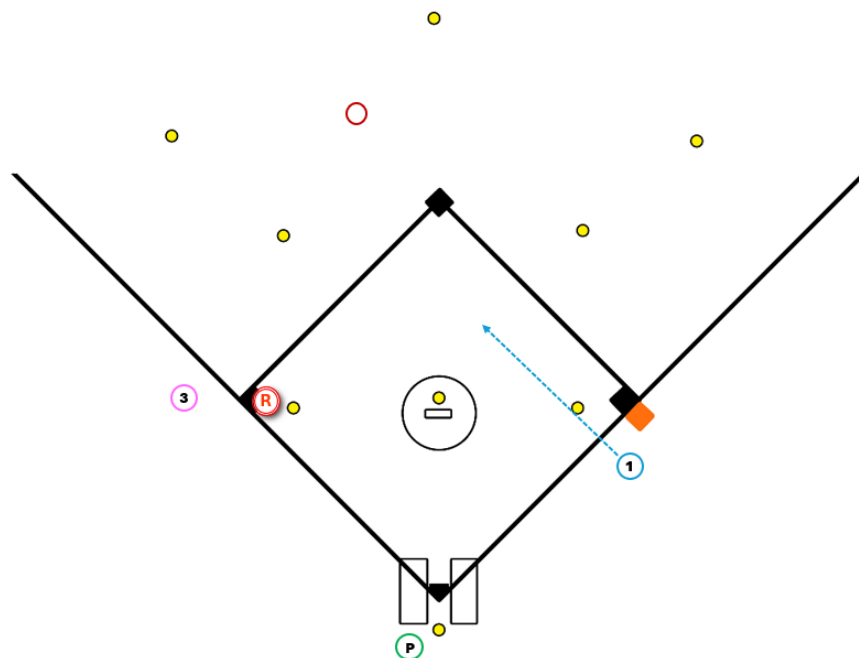
NOTE:

- If U3 does not release third base immediately, U1 will need to buttonhook inside the diamond.
- If R1 does not progress to home, be aware of other umpires and possible coverage at second base.

U3

- If R1 advances to home, release the runner and rotate to second base for a possible call on the BR if they advance to second base. Verbally communicate to U1 if they button hooked inside that you have rotated inside,
- If R1 does not advance home, remain at third base for all possible calls at third base.

Second Movement – R1 **doesn't** go on hit



U1

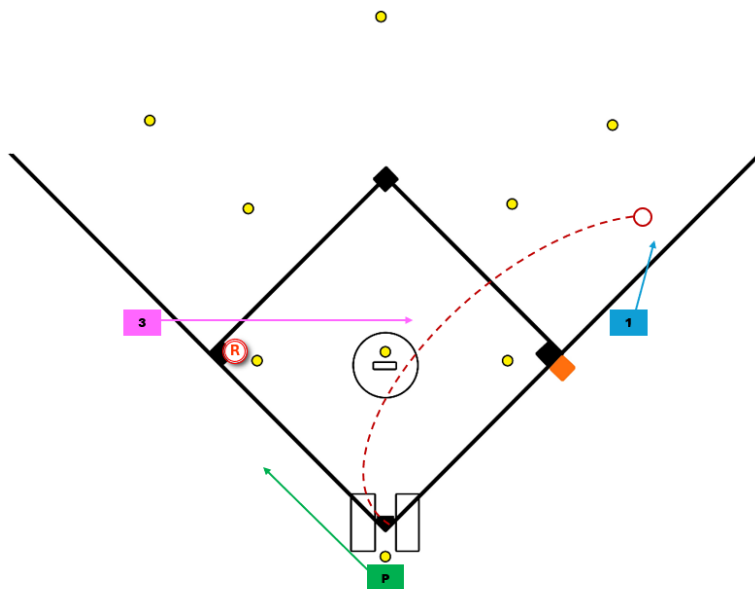
- As R1 does not progress to home, stay inside the diamond, if the BR advances to second base be aware of other umpires and possible coverage at first or second base.

U3

- If the R1 does not advance home, remain at third base for all possible calls at third base keeping all essential elements in front.

Runner on Third Base-Umpire 1 Goes Out

First Movement



Second Movement

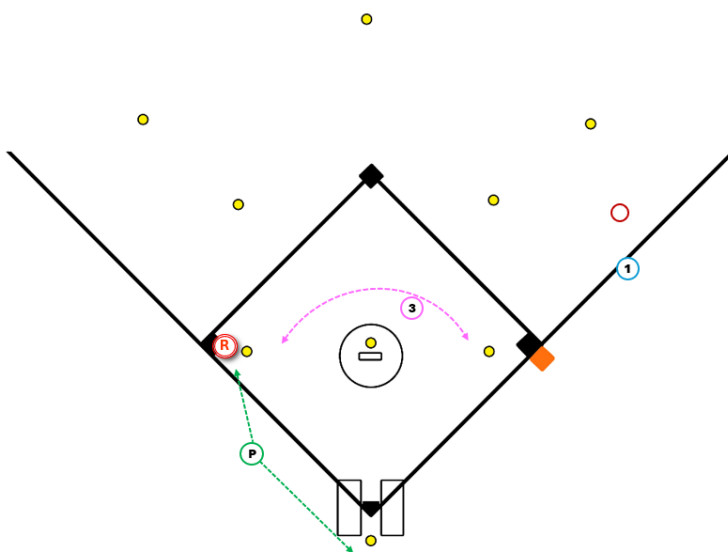


Plate Umpire

- The plate umpire will exit to the left of the catcher and move to the holding zone between home and third base to watch the tag up of R1
- If there is a play at third base on R1 then the plate umpire will move into third base.
- The plate umpire also needs to be prepared to make a call at home plate on R1

U1

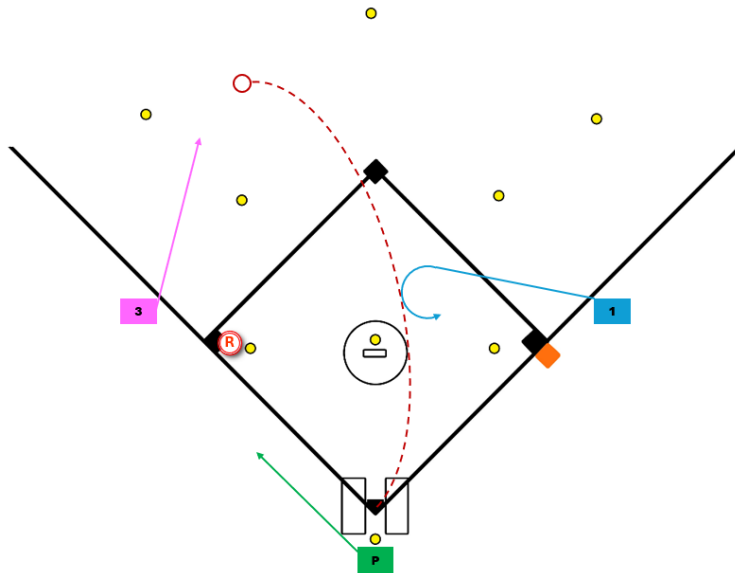
- U1 goes out on the flyball parallel with the ball towards the outfield creating a good angle between themselves, the ball and the fielder.
- Do not overrun the ball.
- Remain in the outfield. Do not return until all play has ceased.

U3

- U3 moves with purpose into the diamond to a position at the top right of the pitcher's circle to watch the BR touch first base.
- U3 will take the BR around to third base if the ball isn't caught.
- Be prepared to make a call at first, second or third base.

Runner on Third Base-Umpire 3 Goes Out

First Movement



Second Movement

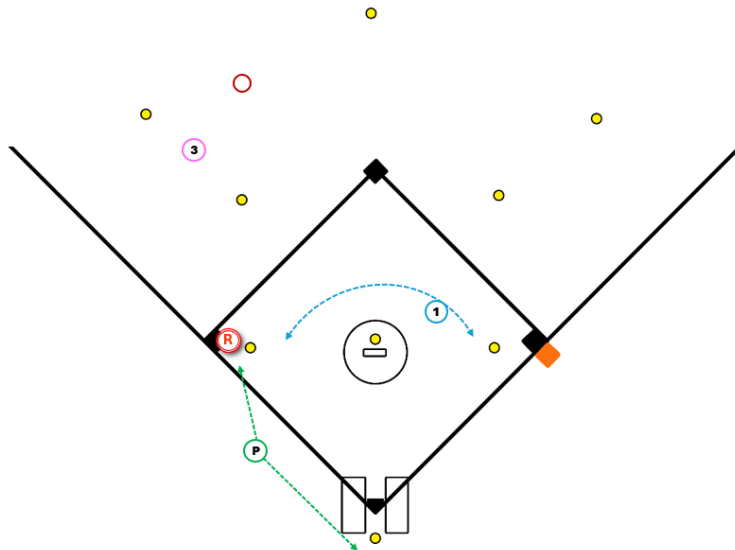


Plate Umpire

- The plate umpire will exit to the left of the catcher and move to the holding zone between home and third base to watch the tag up of the runner at third base.
- If there is a play at third base on R1 then the plate umpire will move inside in the leading edge at third base.
- The plate umpire also needs to be prepared to make a call at home plate by moving with the play of R1.

U1

- U1 moves with purpose inside the diamond, button-hooking the first/second base line, making sure to watch the BR touch first base.
- U1 will take BR around to third base if the ball isn't caught.
- Be prepared to make a call at first, second or third base

U3

- U3 goes out on the flyball parallel with the ball towards the outfield creating a good angle between themselves, the ball and the fielder.
- Do not overrun the ball.
- Remain in the outfield. Do not return until all play has ceased.

Runner on First and Second Base - Ball Hit to the infield (potential double play)

First Movement

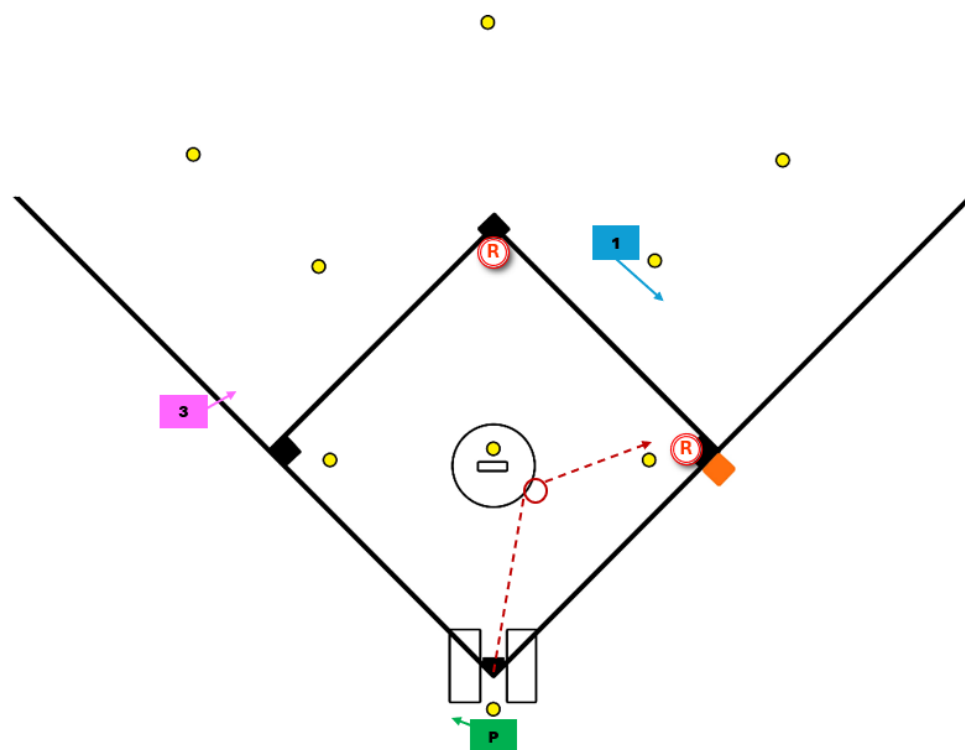


Plate Umpire

- As no umpires are going out and U3 is at third base the plate umpire moves back and to the left of home plate, approximately 2-4 metres (6-12 feet) back from home plate near the line imaginary line the extension from first base and observe the play, being aware of obstructions, interferences etc. and be ready to make a call.

U1

- U1 will move toward the base where the initial play will be made (in most cases second and first base). Calls at both first and second base are the responsibility of U1.

U3

- U3 will move into fair territory about one step in anticipation for a play on R1 progressing from second base.

Runner on First and Second Base - Ball Hit Through the infield

First Movement

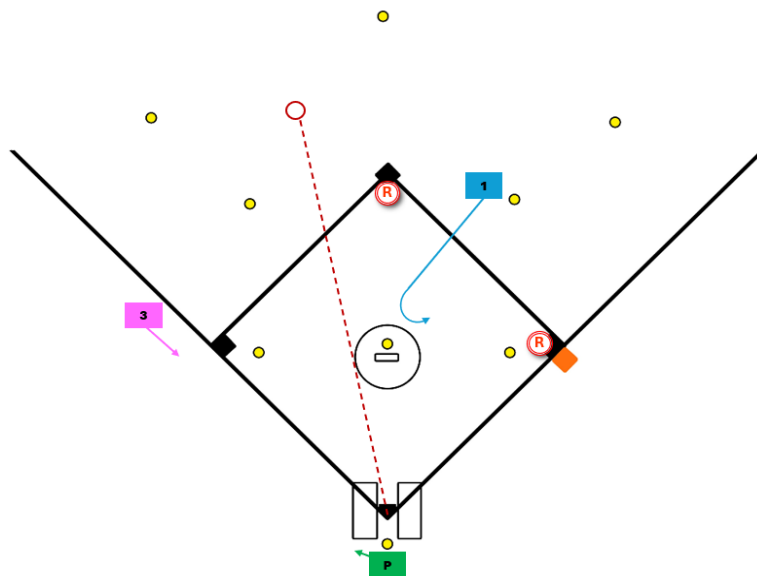


Plate Umpire

- As no umpires are going out and U3 is at third base the plate umpire moves back and to the left of home plate, approximately 2-4 metres (6-12 feet) back from home plate near the line imaginary line the extension from first base and observe the play, being aware of obstructions, interferences etc. and be ready to make a call.

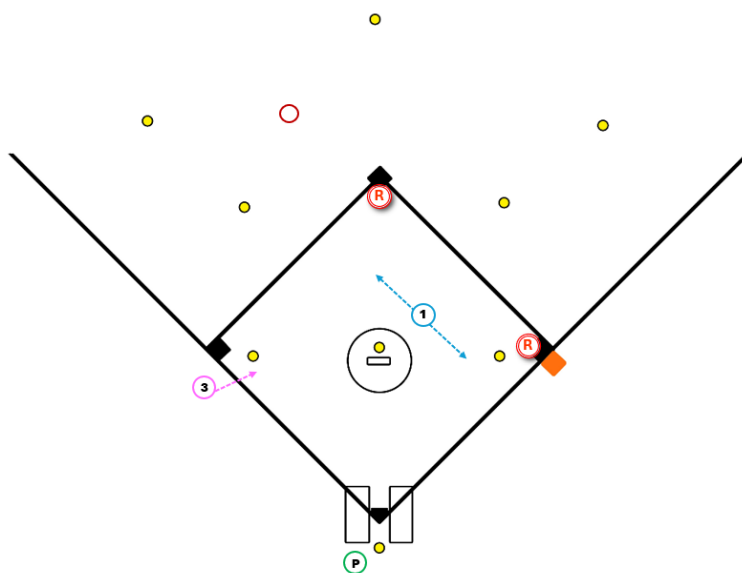
U1

- Move inside and be prepared for plays at first and second base.

U3

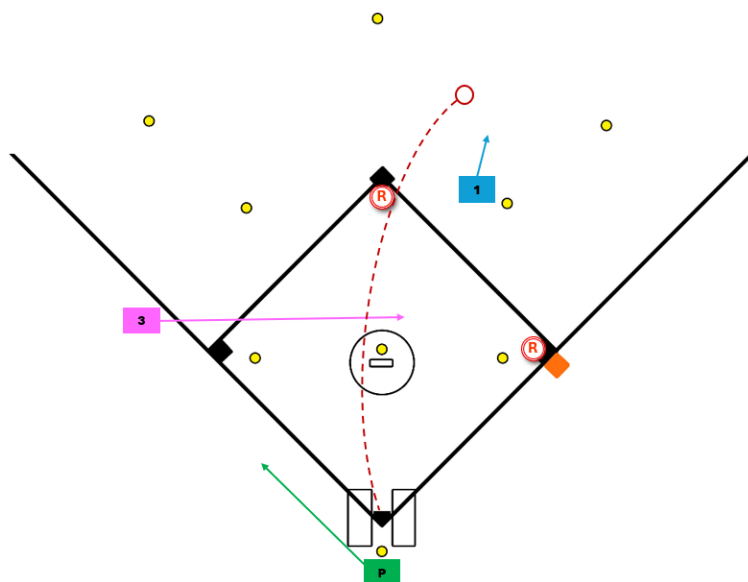
- From the starting position move down the line and be ready to come inside the diamond if there is going to be a play at third base.

Second Movement



Runner on First and Second Base-Umpire 1 Goes Out

First Movement



Second Movement

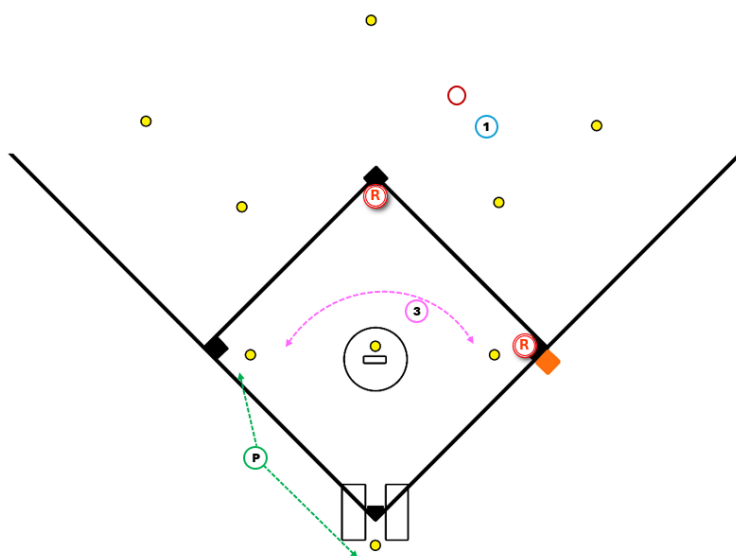


Plate Umpire

- The plate umpire will exit to the left of the catcher and move to the holding zone between home and third base and watch the tag up at second base.
- If there is a play at third base on R1 then the plate umpire will move into the leading edge of third base.
- The plate umpire also needs to be prepared to make a call at home plate.

U1

- U1 goes out on the flyball towards the outfield creating a good angle between themselves, the ball and the fielder.
- Do not overrun the ball.
- Remain in the outfield. Do not return until all play has ceased.

U3

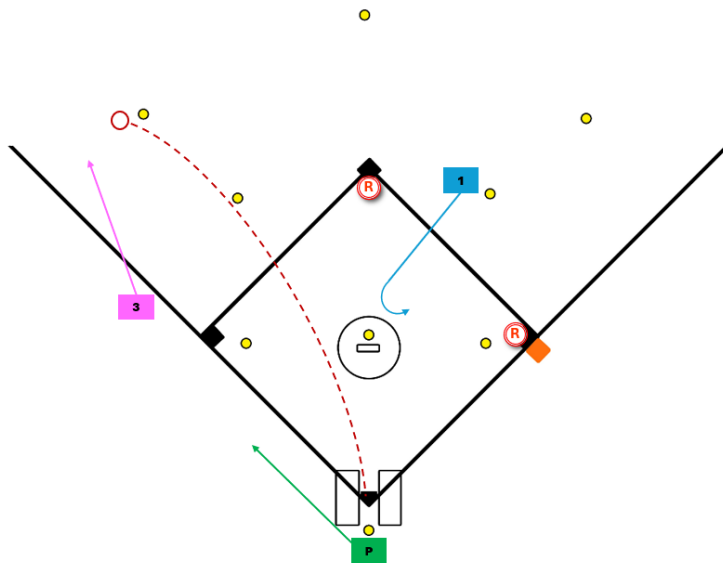
- U3 moves with purpose into the diamond to a position at the top right of the pitcher's circle to watch the tag up at first base and BR touching first base.
- U3 will take the BR around to third base if the ball isn't caught.
- Be prepared to make a call at first, second or third base.

NOTE:

- If the ball is taking the right fielder towards the first base fair/foul line, it is the responsibility of the plate umpire to call the fair/foul and the catch.
- U1 will remain inside the diamond, and the rotation will remain an infield 3-umpire rotation.
- U3 will move down the line in foul territory to a position roughly in line with third base and allow the Four Essential Elements to dictate whether to rotate inside or go back out beyond the base line.
- See Runner on first and second Base - Ball hit through the infield

Runner on First and Second Base-Umpire 3 Goes Out

First Movement



Second Movement

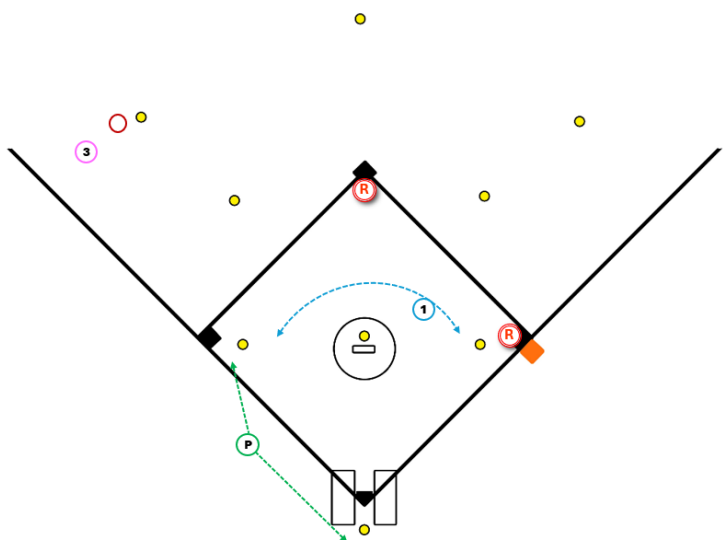


Plate Umpire

- The plate umpire will exit to the left of the catcher and move to the holding zone between home and third base and watch the tag up at second base.
- If there is a play at third base on R1 then the plate umpire will move into the leading edge of third base.
- The plate umpire also needs to be prepared to make a call at home plate.

U1

- U1 moves with purpose inside the diamond to a position to watch the tag up at first base and watch BR touch first base.
- U1 will take the BR around to third base if the ball isn't caught.
- Be prepared to make a call at first, second or third base.

U3

- U3 goes out on the flyball parallel with the ball towards the outfield creating a good angle between themselves, the ball and the fielder.
- Do not over run the ball.
- Remain in the outfield. Do not return until all play has ceased.

Runners on Second and third Base - Ball Hit to the Infield

First Movement

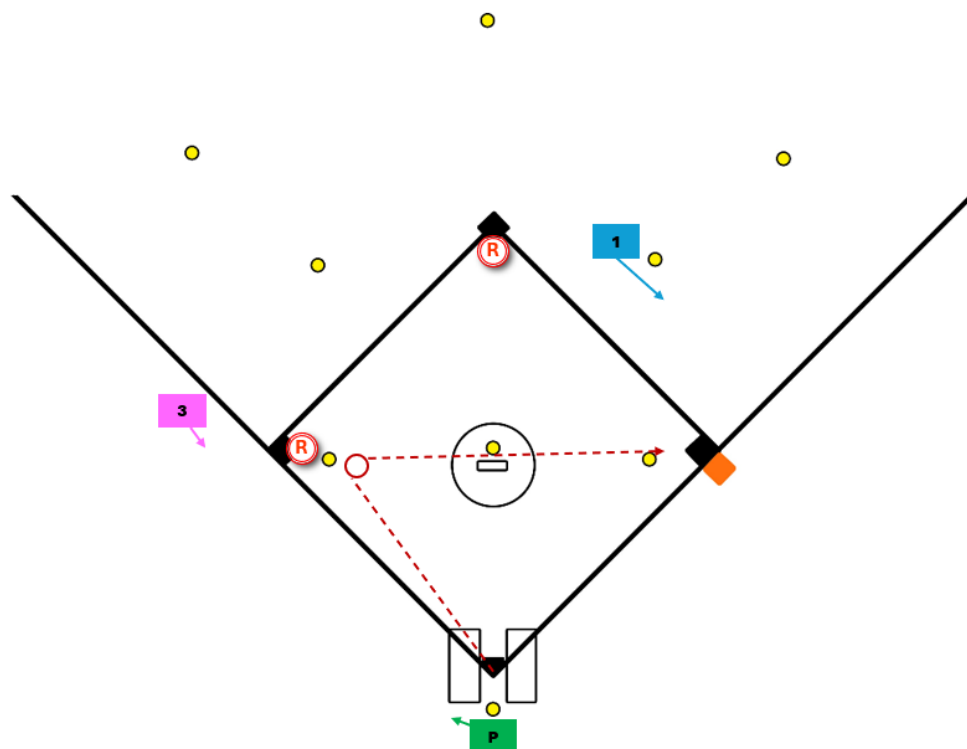


Plate Umpire

- As no umpires are going out and U3 is at third base the plate umpire moves back and to the left of home plate, approximately 2-4 metres (6-12 feet) back from home plate near the line imaginary line the extension from first base and observe the play, being aware of obstructions, interferences etc. and be ready to make a call.

U1

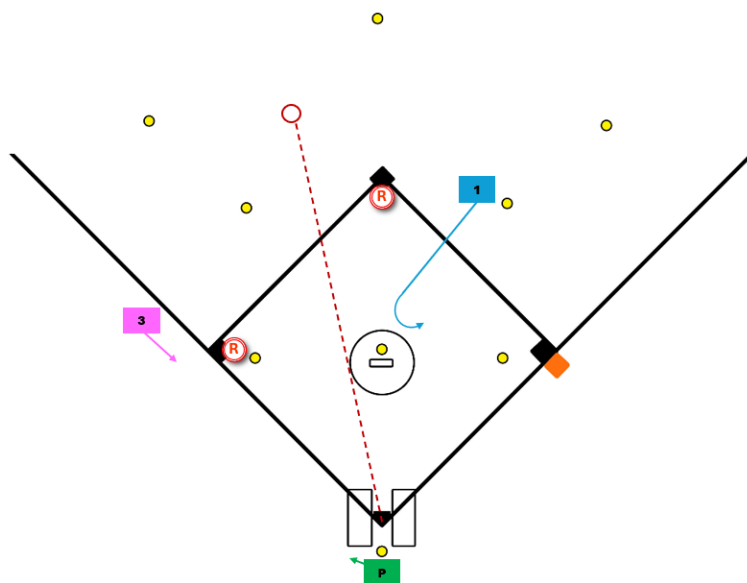
- U1 will move toward the base where the initial play will be made (in most cases first base). Calls at both first and second base are the responsibility of U1.

U3

- If R1 advances to home, U3 will move into fair territory about one step in anticipation for a play on R2 progressing from second base.
- If R1 does not advance home, remain at third base for and all possible calls at third base.

Runners on Second and third Base - Ball Hit Through the Infield

First Movement



Second Movement

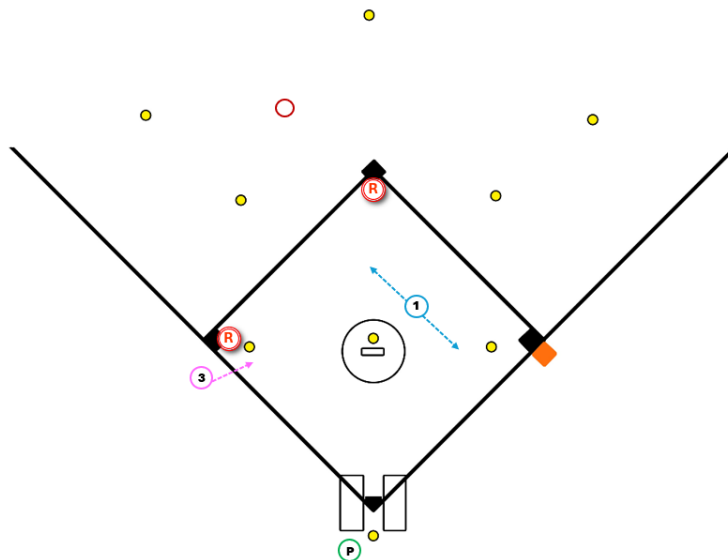


Plate Umpire

- As no umpires are going out and U3 is at third base the plate umpire moves back and to the left of home plate, approximately 2-4 metres (6-12 feet) back from home plate near the line imaginary line the extension from first base and observe the play, being aware of obstructions, interferences etc. and be ready to make a call.

U1

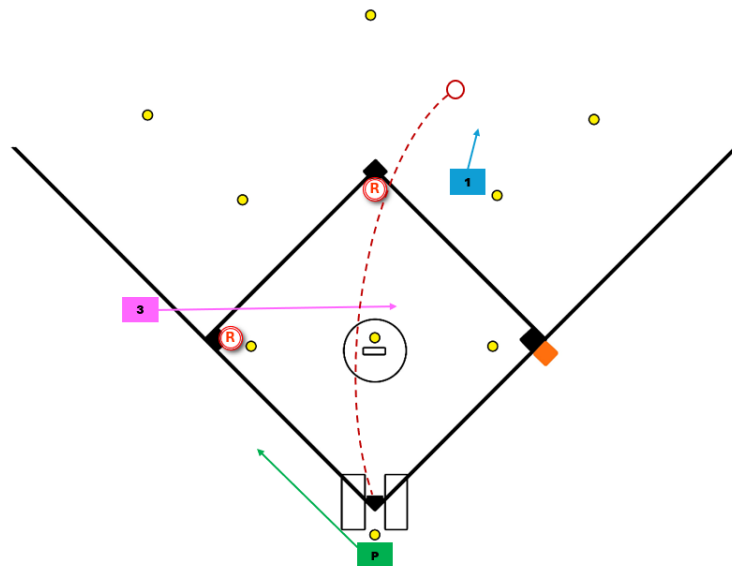
- Move inside and be prepared for plays at first and second base.

U3

- U3 will move down the line to a position that allows you to see the Four Essential Elements and depending on the progress and direction of R1, so that the ball, base, defensive player and returning runner are in front of the umpire to make the call.
- Be ready to come inside the diamond if there is going to be a play on R2 coming from second base.

Runners on Second and third Base-Umpire 1 Goes Out

First Movement



Second Movement

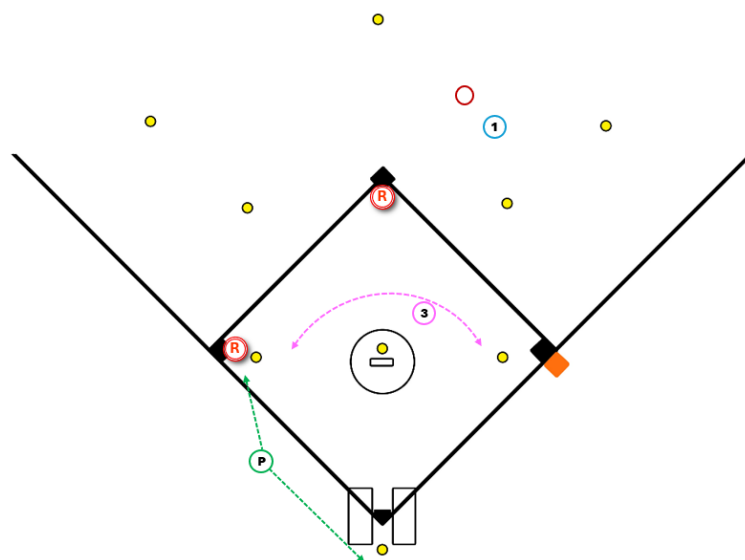


Plate Umpire

- The plate umpire will exit to the left of the catcher and move to the holding zone between home and third base and watch the tag up at third base.
- If there is a play at third base on R1 then the plate umpire will move into the leading edge of third base.
- The plate umpire also needs to be prepared to make a call at home plate and watch all runners touch home plate

U1

- U1 goes out on the flyball towards the outfield creating a good angle between themselves, the ball and the fielder.
- Do not overrun the ball.
- Remain in the outfield.

U3

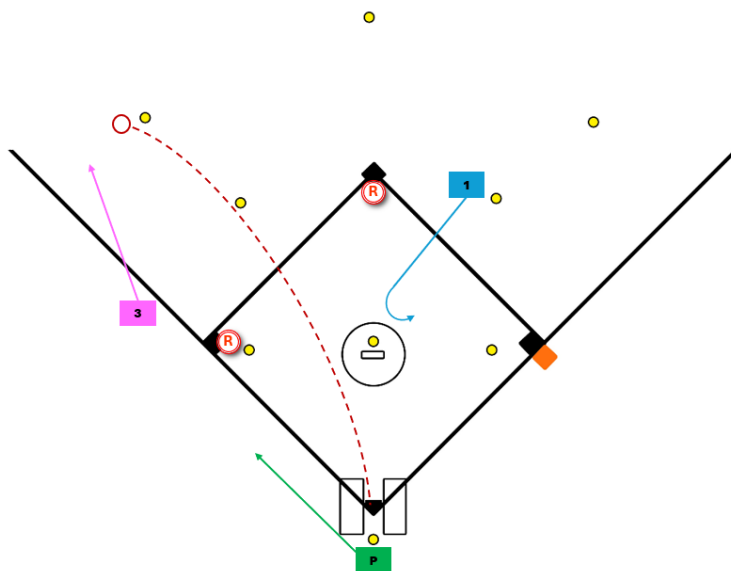
- U3 moves with purpose into the diamond to a position at the top right of the circle to watch the tag up at second base and BR touching first base.
- U3 will take the BR around to third base if the ball isn't caught.
- Be prepared to make a call at first, second or third base.

NOTE:

- If the ball is taking the right fielder towards the first base fair/foul line, it is the responsibility of the plate umpire to call the fair/foul and the catch.
- U1 will remain inside the diamond, and the rotation will revert to an infield 3-umpire rotation.
- U3 will move down the line in foul territory to a position roughly in line with third base and allow the Four Essential Elements to dictate whether to rotate inside or go back out beyond the base line.
- See Runners on second and third Base - Ball hit through the infield.

Runners on Second and third Base-Umpire 3 Goes Out

First Movement



Second Movement

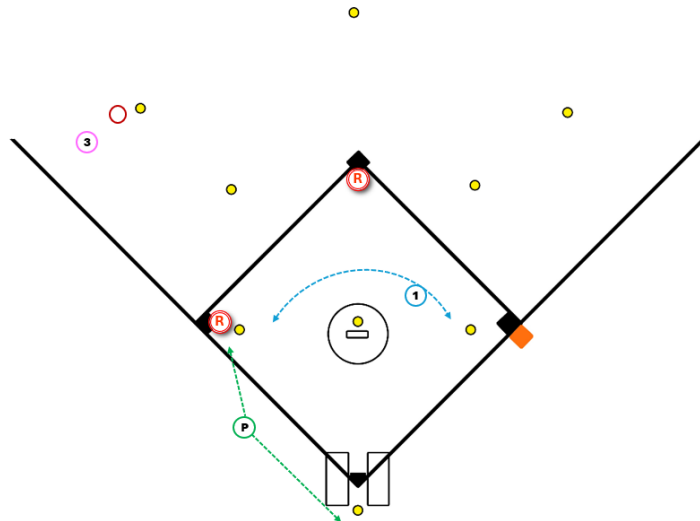


Plate Umpire

- The plate umpire will exit to the left of the catcher and move to the holding zone between home and third base and watch the tag up at third base.
- If there is a play at third base on R1 then the plate umpire will move into the leading edge of third base.
- The plate umpire also needs to be prepared to make a call at home plate and to watch all runners touch home plate.

U1

- U1 moves with purpose inside the diamond to a position to watch the tag up at second base and watch BR touch first base.
- U1 will take the BR around to third base if the ball isn't caught.
- Be prepared to make a call at first, second or third base.

U3

- U3 goes out on the flyball towards the outfield creating a good angle between themselves, the ball and the fielder.
- Do not overrun the ball.
- Remain in the outfield. Do not return until all play has ceased.

Runners on First and third Base - Ball Hit to Infield

First Movement

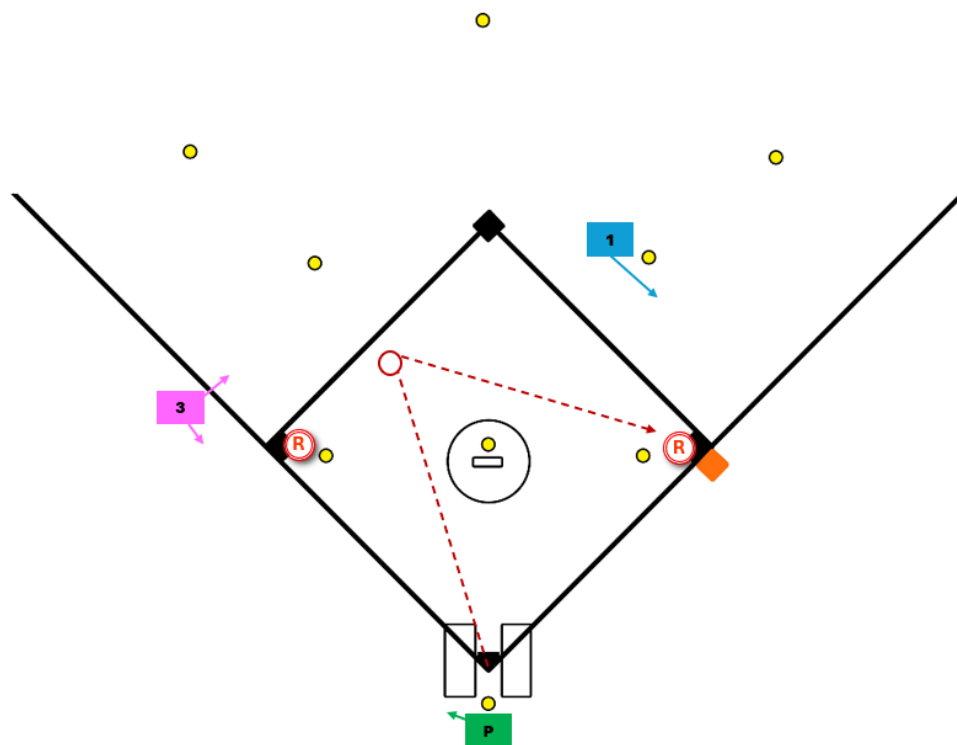


Plate Umpire

- As no umpires are going out and U3 is at third base the plate umpire moves back and to the left of home plate, approximately 2-4 metres (6-12 feet) back from home plate near the line imaginary line the extension from first base and observe the play, being aware of obstructions, interferences etc. and be ready to make a call.

U1

- U1 will move toward the base where the initial play will be made (in most cases first base). Calls at both first and second base are the responsibility of U1.

U3

- U3 will move to a position approximately 3 metres (10 feet) back and on a 45-degree line through third base in foul territory, so that the ball, base, defensive player and returning runner are in front of the umpire to make the call.

Runners on First and third Base - Ball Hit Through the Infield

First Movement

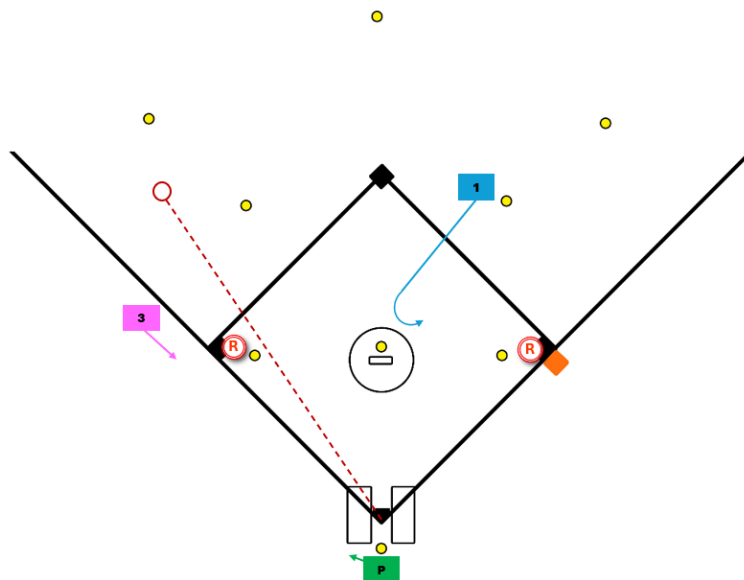


Plate Umpire

- As no umpires are going out and U3 is at third base the plate umpire moves back and to the left of home plate, approximately 2-4 metres (6-12 feet) back from home plate near the line imaginary line the extension from first base and observe the play, being aware of obstructions, interferences etc. and be ready to make a call.

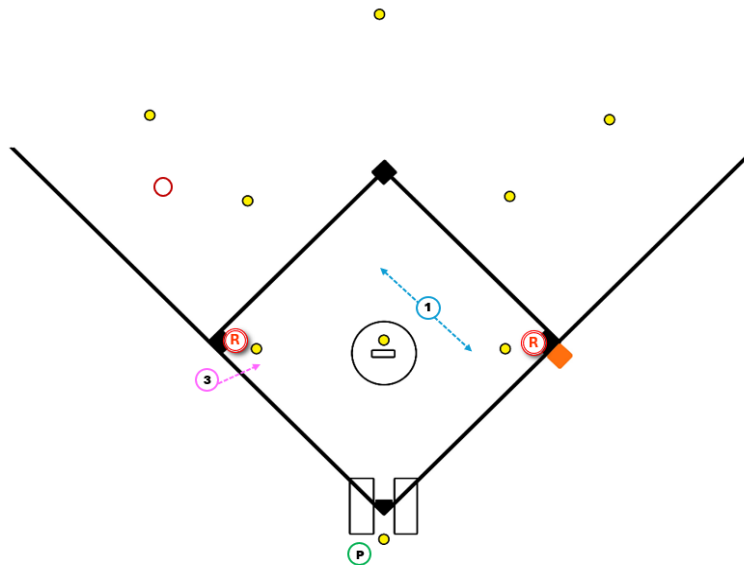
U1

- Move inside and be prepared for plays at first and second base.

U3

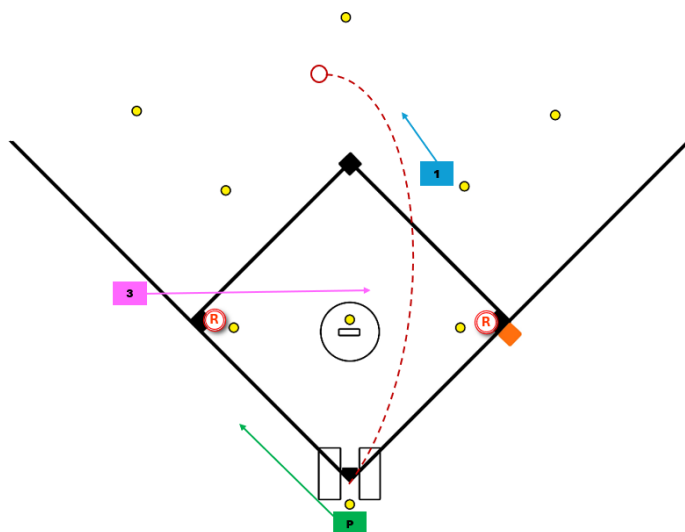
- U3 will move to a position that allows them to see the Four Essential Elements and depending on the progress and direction of R1, so that the ball, base, defensive player and returning runner are in front of the umpire to make the call.

Second Movement



Runner on First and third Base-Umpire 1 Goes Out

First Movement



Second Movement

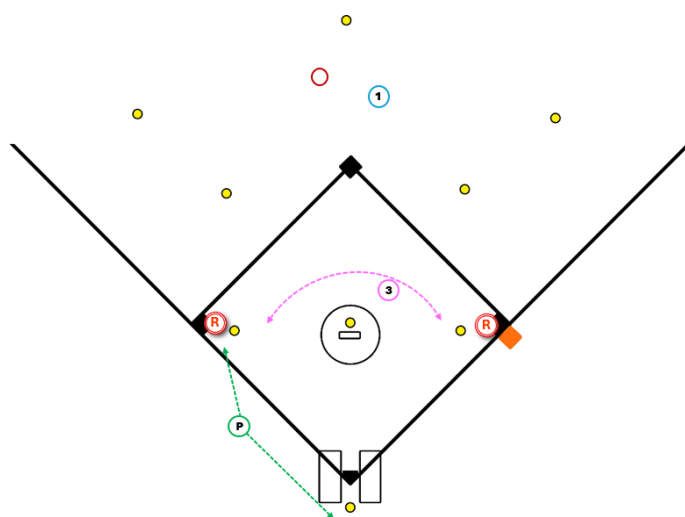


Plate Umpire

- The plate umpire will exit to the left of the catcher and move to the holding zone between home and third base and watch the tag up at third base.
- If there is a play at third base on R1 then the plate umpire will move into the leading edge of third base.
- The plate umpire also needs to be prepared to make a call at home plate and watch all runners touch home plate.

U1

- U1 goes out on the flyball towards the outfield creating a good angle between themselves, the ball and the fielder.
- Do not overrun the ball.
- Remain in the outfield. Do not return until all play has ceased.

U3

- U3 moves with purpose into the diamond to a position at the top right of the pitcher's circle to watch the tag up at first base and BR touching first base.
- U3 will take the BR around to third base if the ball isn't caught.
- Be prepared to make a call at first, second or third base.

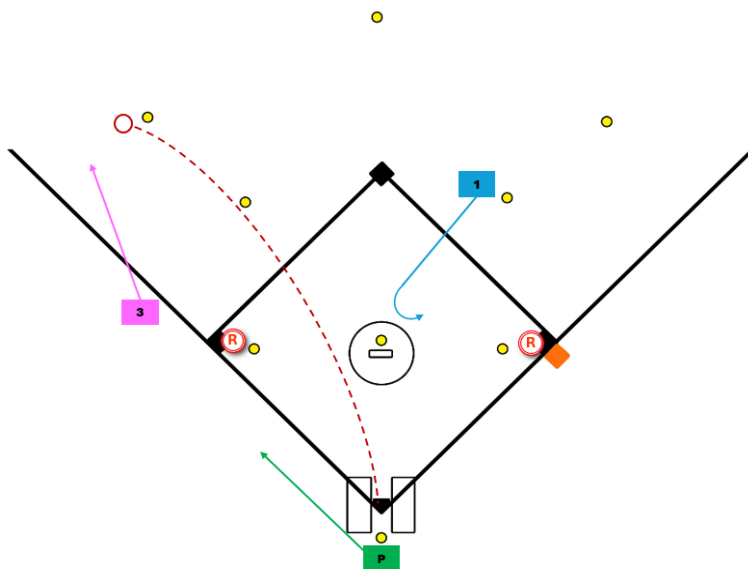
NOTE:

- If the ball is to the right fielder and towards the first base fair/foul line, it is the responsibility of the plate umpire to call the fair/foul and the catch.
- U1 will remain inside the diamond, and the rotation will remain an infield 3-umpire rotation.
- U3 will move down the line in foul territory to a point even with third base and allow the Four Essential Elements to dictate whether to rotate inside or go back out beyond the base line.

*See Runners on first and third Base - Ball hit through the infield

Runner on First and third Base-Umpire 3 Goes Out

First Movement



Second Movement

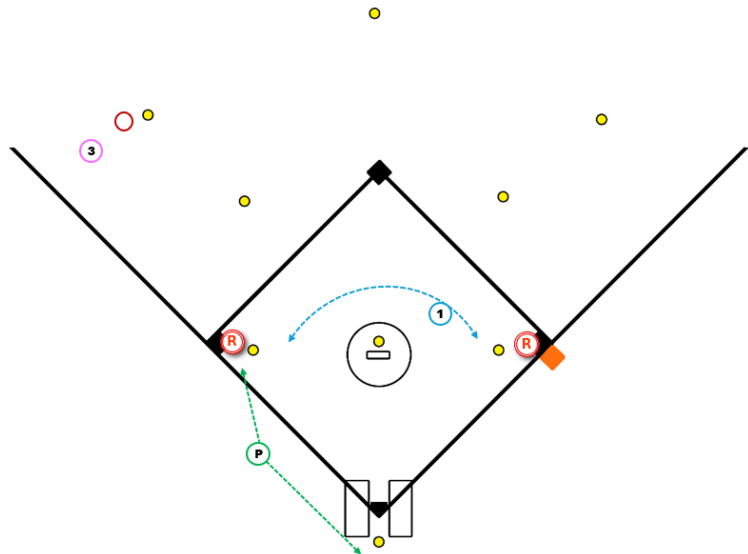


Plate Umpire

- The plate umpire will exit to the left of the catcher and move to the holding zone between home and third base and watch the tag up at third base.
- If there is a play at third base on R1 then the plate umpire will move into the leading edge of third base.
- The plate umpire also needs to be prepared to make a call at home plate.
- Watch all runners touch home plate.

U1

- U1 moves with purpose inside the diamond to a position to watch the tag up at first base and watch BR touch first base.
- U1 will take the BR around to third base if the ball isn't caught.
- Be prepared to make a call at first, second or third base.

U3

- U3 goes out on the flyball towards the outfield creating a good angle between themselves, the ball and the fielder.
- Do not overrun the ball.
- Remain in the outfield.
- Do not return until all play has ceased.

Runners on First, Second and third Base - Ball Hit to Infield

First Movement

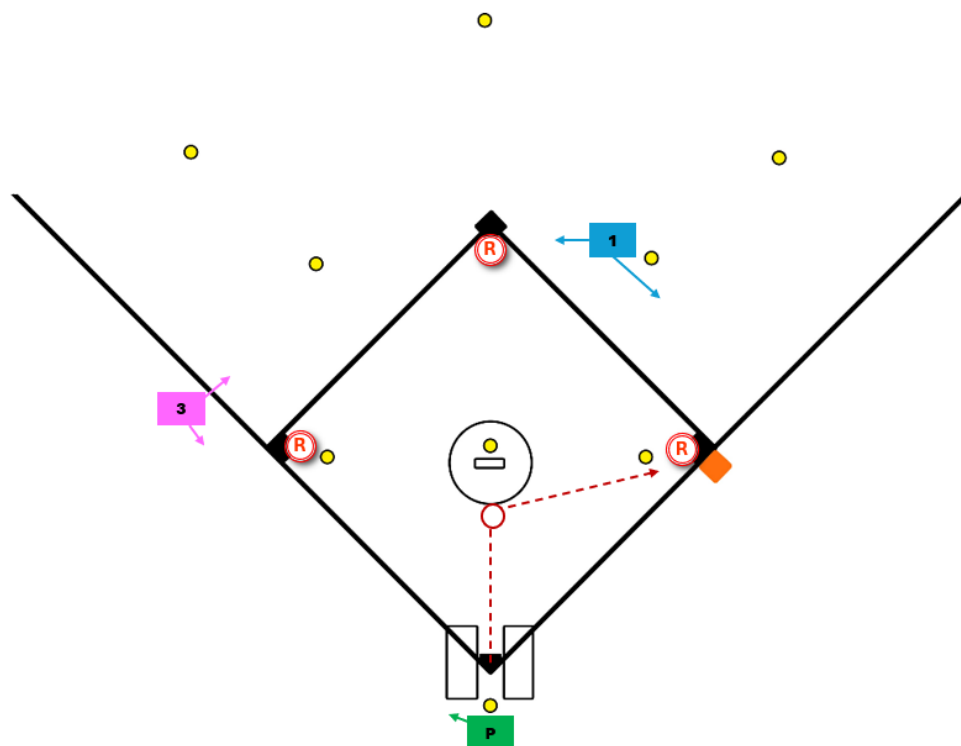


Plate Umpire

- As no umpires are going out and U3 is at third base the plate umpire moves back and to the left of home plate, approximately 2-4 metres (6-12 feet) back from home plate near the line imaginary line the extension from first base and observe the play, being aware of obstructions, interferences etc. and be ready to make a call.

U1

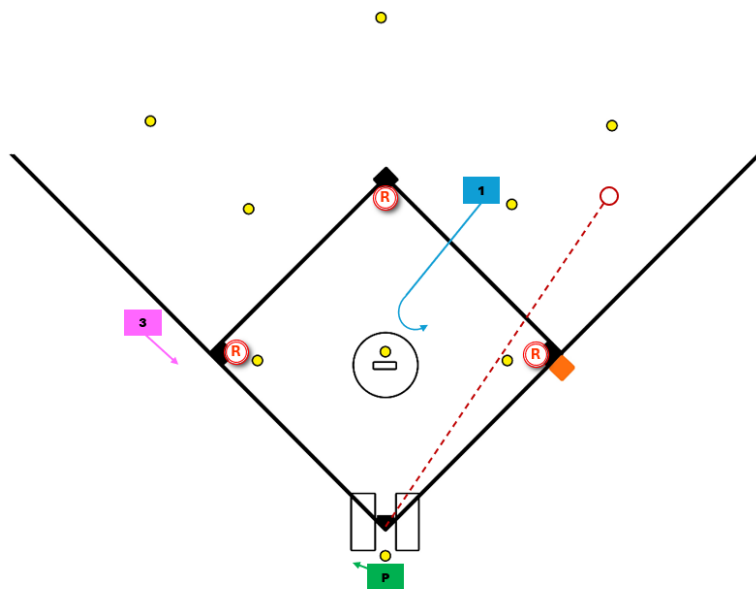
- U1 will move toward the base where the initial play will be made. Calls at both first and second base are the responsibility of U1.

U3

- U3 will move forward slightly and be in a position approximately 3 metres (10 feet) back and on a 45-degree line through third base in foul territory, so that the ball, base, defensive player and returning runner are in front of the umpire to make the call.

Runner on First, Second and third Base - Ball Hit Through the Infield

First Movement



Second Movement

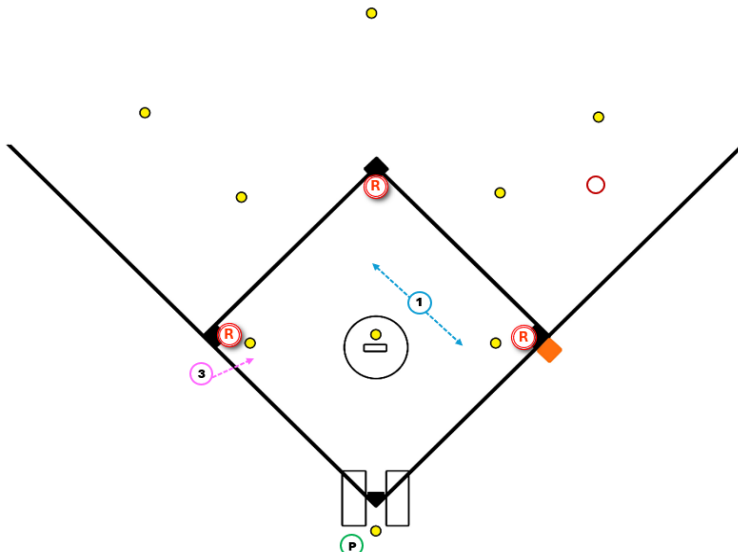


Plate Umpire

- As no umpires are going out and U3 is at third base the plate umpire moves back and to the left of home plate, approximately 2-4 metres (6-12 feet) back from home plate near the line imaginary line the extension from first base and observe the play, being aware of obstructions, interferences etc. and be ready to make a call.

U1

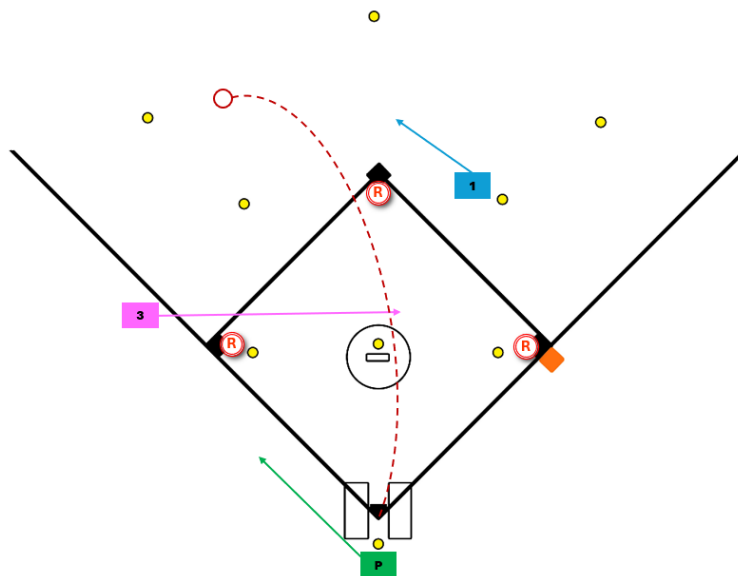
- Move inside and be prepared for plays at first and second base.

U3

- U3 will move to a position that allows you to see the Four Essential Elements and depending on the progress and direction of R1, so that the ball, base, defensive player and returning runner are in front of the umpire to make the call.

Runner on First, Second and third Base-Umpire 1 Goes Out

First Movement



Second Movement

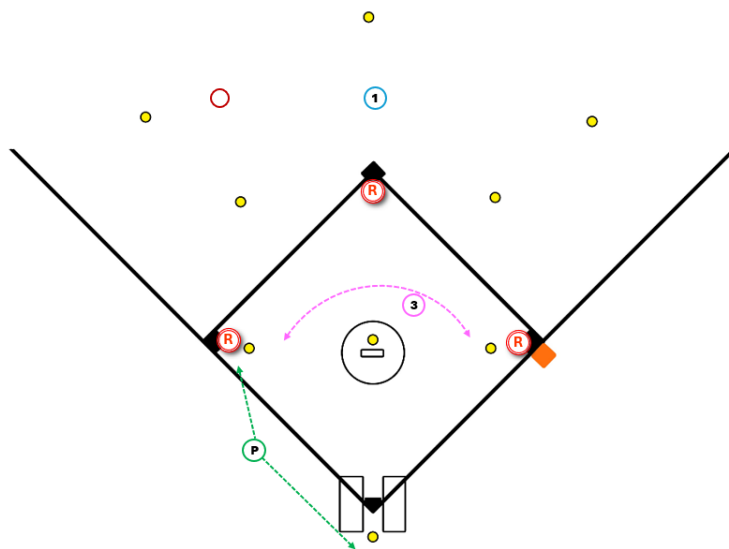


Plate Umpire

- The plate umpire will exit to the left of the catcher and move to the holding zone between home and third base and watch the tag up at third base.
- If there is a play at third base on R1 then the plate umpire will move into the leading edge of third base.
- The plate umpire also needs to be prepared to make a call at home plate and watch all runners touch home plate.

U1

- U1 goes out on the flyball towards the outfield creating a good angle between themselves, the ball and the fielder.
- Do not overrun the ball.
- Remain in the outfield. Do not return until all play has ceased.

U3

- U3 moves with purpose into the diamond to a position at the top right of the pitcher's circle to watch the tag up at first and second base and BR touching first base.
- U3 will take the BR around to third base if the ball isn't caught.
- Be prepared to make a call at first, second or third base.

NOTE:

- If the ball is taking the right fielder towards the first base fair/foul line, it is the responsibility of the Plate umpire to call the fair/foul and the catch.
- U1 will remain inside the diamond, and the rotation will remain an infield 3-umpire rotation.
- U3 will move down the line in foul territory to a point even with third base and allow the Four Essential Elements to dictate whether to rotate inside or go back out beyond the base line.

*See Runners on first, second and third Base - Ball hit through the infield

Runner on First, Second and third Base-Umpire 3 Goes Out

First Movement

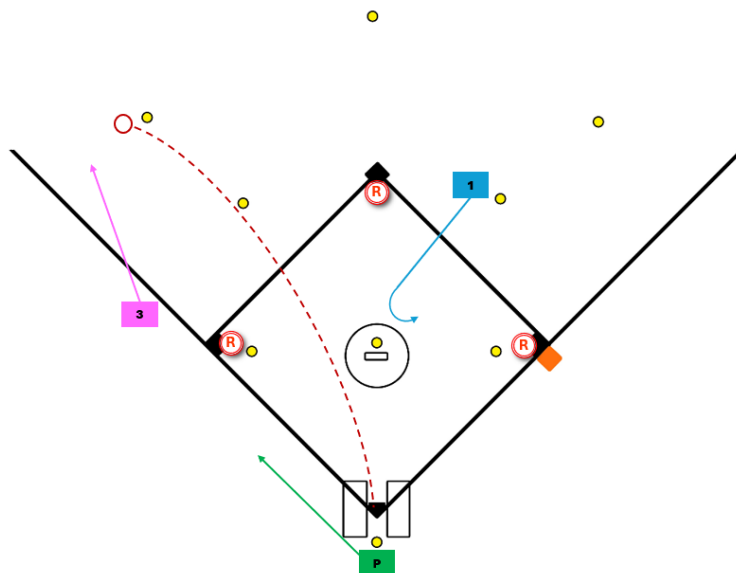


Plate Umpire

- The plate umpire will exit to the left of the catcher and move to the holding zone between home and third base and watch the tag up at third base.
- If there is a play at third base on R1 then the plate umpire will move into the leading edge of third base.
- The plate umpire also needs to be prepared to make a call at home plate.
- Watch all runners touch home plate.

U1

- U1 moves with purpose inside the diamond to a position to watch the tag up at first and second base and watch BR touch first base.
- U1 will take the BR around to third base if the ball isn't caught.
- Be prepared to make a call at first, second or third base.

U3

- U3 goes out on the flyball towards the outfield creating a good angle between themselves, the ball and the fielder.
- Do not overrun the ball.
- Remain in the outfield. Do not return until all play has ceased.

Second Movement

