# Umpire Mechanics

**Small Field** 

### Basic Responsibilities

- Fly Balls to the Outfield Plate Umpires
- Plays at the bases Base Umpires
  - Both Umpires need to allow the play to finish before making a call. This is known as good timing
  - Good Timing is using your eyes properly, do not rush the call.
  - On a ball to the outfield base umpire goes inside to take the play.

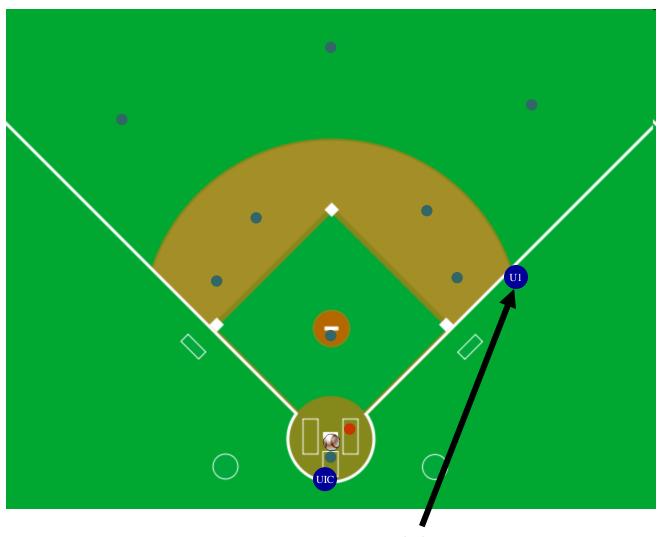
## • • Priorities

- Fair/Foul
- Catch/No Catch
- Your Plays
- Your Responsibilities
- Out/Safe Timing
- Game Management
- Putting Ball in Play after a dead ball
- Handling Situations
- Communicate

#### No Runners



- take one step into fair territory, face the ball, on release of the ball turn, hands on knees set, pull head to glove just ahead of the ball. WAIT (is it caught, is the fielders foot on the bag) call it.



"A" Position

10 - 12 ft behind 1st baseman in foul territory

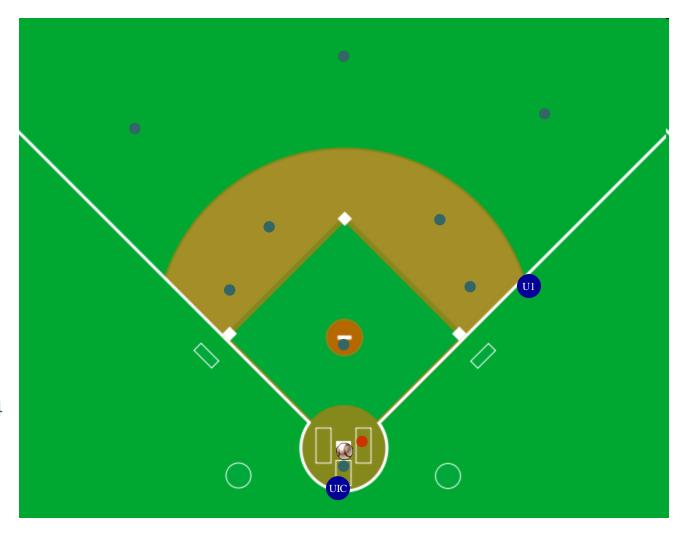
#### No Runners

#### Ball hit to the infield

- take one step into fair territory, face the ball, on release of the ball turn, hands on knees set, pull head to glove just ahead of the ball. WAIT (is it caught, is the fielders foot on the bag) call it.

#### Ball hit to outfield

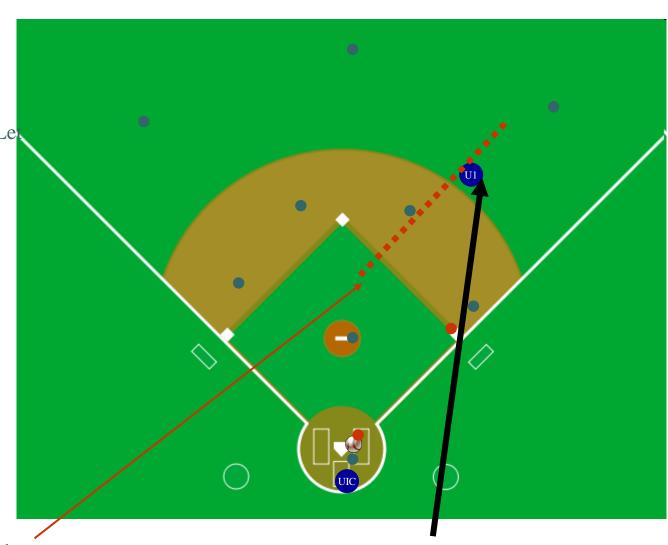
- break to inside of the diamond, pivot about 12 to 14 feet from first base. If runner goes to second go with him if not stay with him, about 20 feet ahead of him.



#### Runner on first base

Ball hit to the infield

- Watch tag up & leave early. Let the ball take you to the play



Be on the 1<sup>st</sup> base side of the 2<sup>nd</sup> baseman

"B" Position

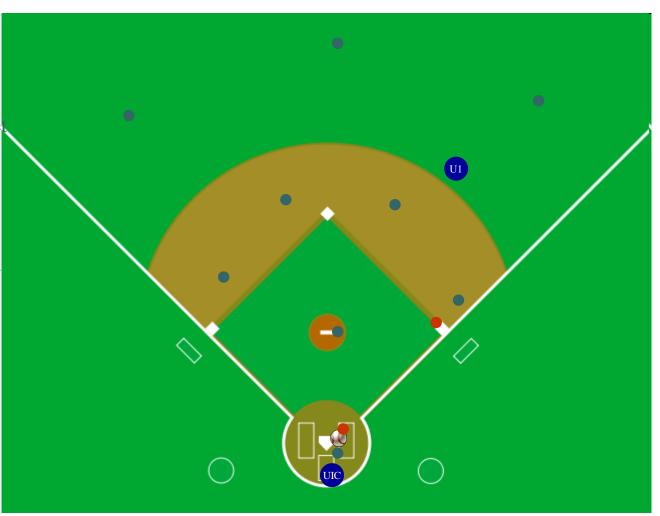
15 ft behind 2nd baseman (edge of the grass)

#### Runner on first base



 Watch tag up & leave early. Let the ball take you to the play

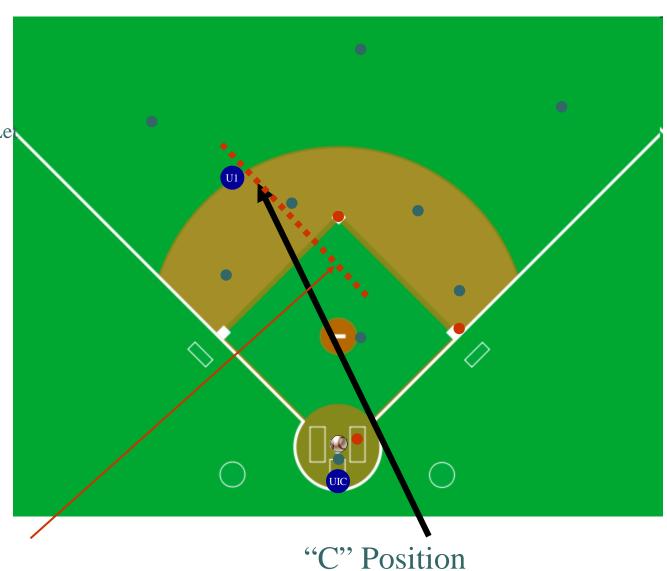
- -break to inside, turn and face the ball. U1 has plays at first or second base. U1 has tagups
- UIC has R-1 "going to third". (Rotation)
- If ball hit on Right field line UIC says "I'm on the line" then U-1 has all plays on bases.



#### Runner on first and or second base

#### Ball hit to the infield

- Watch tag up & leave early. Let the ball take you to the play



Be on the 3rd base side of the SS

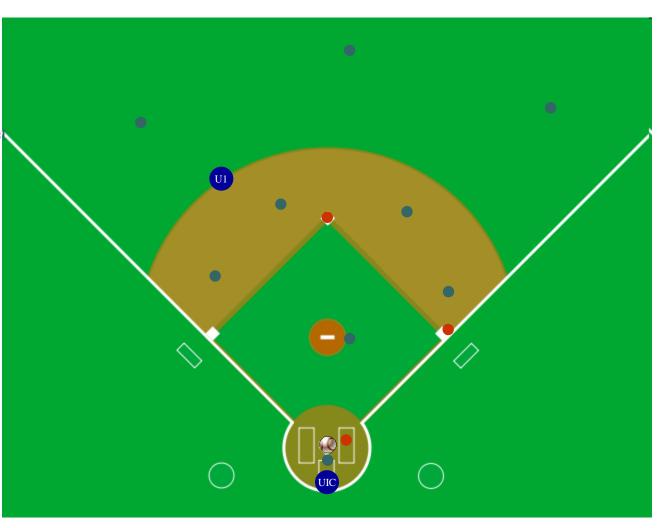
15 ft behind the SS (edge of the grass)

#### Runner on first and or second base

#### Ball hit to the infield

- Watch tag up & leave early. Let the ball take you to the play

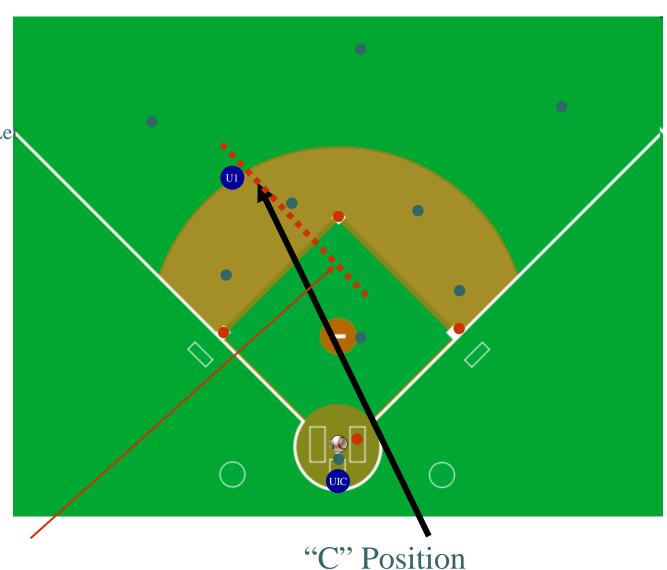
- Break to inside, turn and face the ball. Be ready to move for second play. **Base Umpire has** all plays on the bases.
- Infield fly possibility (1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> with less than two outs)
- UIC timing play possibility "if not a force out, did the run cross the plate before the out occurs?"



#### Runners on first, second, and third base

Ball hit to the infield

- Watch tag up & leave early. Let the ball take you to the play



Be on the 3rd base side of the SS

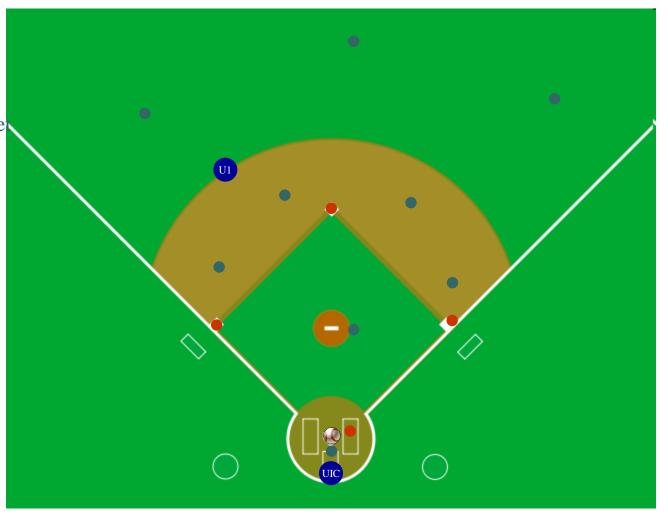
15 ft behind the SS (edge of the grass)

#### Runners on first, second, and third base

#### Ball hit to the infield

- Watch tag up & leave early. Let the ball take you to the play

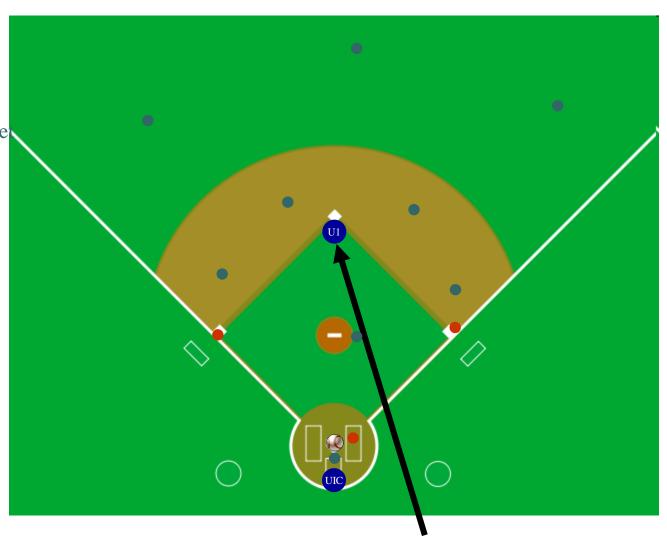
- Break to inside, turn and face the ball. Be ready to move for second play. **Base Umpire has** all plays on the bases.
- Infield fly possibility (1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> with less than two outs)
- UIC has tag at third even if the fly-ball is on the right field line.



#### Runners on first and third base

#### Ball hit to the infield

- Watch tag up & leave early. Let the ball take you to the play



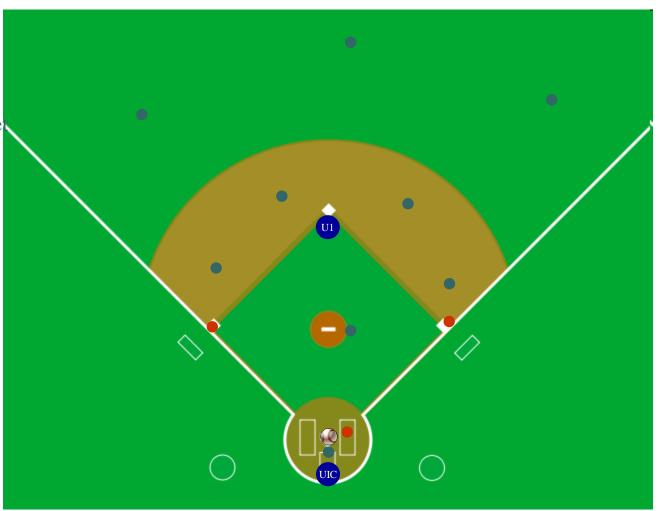
"D" Position
In front of 2<sup>nd</sup> base

#### Runners on first third base

#### Ball hit to the infield

- Watch tag up & leave early. Let the ball take you to the play

- Break to inside, turn and face the ball, move to play be ready to move for second play.
- Base Umpire has all plays at first and second base
- -UIC rotates to third if R-1 goes to third unless there is fly-ball is on the right field line. "I have the line"



# Sometimes Usually Most of the Time

- Chest to the ball
- Watch the ball glance at runners
- If you see obstruction decide how far you are going to protect the runner.
- Always, Always, Always HAVE FUN
- Remember the coaches know little about the rules and spectators know less than that.