

SECTION 2

RUNNER ON FIRST BASE ONLY

- 2.1** The first base umpire will be positioned 10-12 feet behind the first baseman with both feet in foul territory. The third base umpire will be positioned between the second baseman and the second base bag approximately 20 to 30 feet from second base on the outside of the infield.
- 2.2** On all ground balls, line drives and fly balls to the infield, the first base umpire will come into fair territory staying to the outside (outfield) of the infield and set up in a position to render a decision at first base, if necessary. The first base umpire will have the responsibility of the batter-runner touching first; any play at first on the batter-runner; the batter-runner passing the runner on first; the tag up of the runner on first; and any play back into first on the runner on first. The third base umpire will take a drop step to open up his/her field of vision and step and turn with the ball facing the fielder as the ball is being fielded. The third base umpire will let the ball take him/her to the play and by only taking a step or two in any direction will be in a good, initial position for any play(s) that may develop at second. The third base umpire will be responsible for any play at second on the runner from first. The third base umpire will also be responsible for the touch of second by the runner on first. He/she will also be responsible for the touch of and any play that may develop at second or third by the batter-runner should an overthrow occur and he/she continues to advance. The home plate umpire will be responsible for the catch/no catch of all fly balls and line drives and will come out from behind home plate into fair territory in front of the pitcher's mound and move into a position where he/she has the best angle/view of the play/ball to make the call. On ground balls the home plate umpire will come out from behind home plate going a few feet into foul territory down the third base line to observe the play. If the initial play is an out at second, the home plate umpire will move toward the first base line and take a position to be able to observe the play at first and offer any assistance that may be needed. If the play is at first base only or the runner is safe at second, the home plate umpire will come out from behind home plate and move down the third base line in foul territory and communicate with his/her partners "I've got third if he/she comes". This will alert his/her partners to the possibility of a play at third and that he/she has it covered. The home plate umpire will be responsible for the touch or any play at third on the runner from first and also for any touch of home plate or any play that may develop at home plate. .
- 2.3** On all fly balls and line drives to the outfield (with the exception of "trouble" balls), the responsibility for the catch/no catch will belong to the home plate umpire. The first base umpire will pivot into the infield and be responsible for the tag up of the runner on first; the batter-runner touching first; any play that may develop at or back into first by either runner and for any play at second on the batter-runner if the ball is

not caught. The third base umpire will pivot into the infield and be responsible for the runner from first touching second if the ball is not caught and for any play at second on the runner advancing from first. The third base umpire will also be responsible for any play at or touch of third by the runner from first or the batter-runner. The home plate umpire will come into fair territory in front of the pitcher's mound and move into a position where he/she has the best angle/view of the play/ball. The home plate umpire will have the responsibility for the catch/no catch on the fly ball or line drive; to be able to offer any assistance if needed and to be responsible for any touch of home and any play that may develop at home plate.

2.4 On base hits to the outfield the first base umpire will pivot into the infield and be responsible for the batter-runner touching first; and for any plays that may develop on the batter-runner continuing on to second or returning to first. The third base umpire will pivot into the infield and will be responsible for any plays that may develop on the runner from first base touching second; continuing on to third or returning to second; and for any touch or play at third on the batter-runner. The home plate umpire will come out from behind home plate going a few feet into foul territory and a few feet down the third base line to observe the play and to be ready to offer any assistance that may be needed. The home plate umpire will be responsible for any touch of home and any play that may develop at home plate.

2.5 If the first base umpire goes out on a "trouble" ball, the umpires will revert to the two man system. The third base umpire will pivot into the working area and will be responsible for the tag up of the runner on first; any play back into first on the runner and for the touch or any play that may develop at second on the runner from first. He/she will also be responsible for the batter-runner touching first; any play back into first on the batter-runner and for the touch or any play that may develop at second or third on the batter-runner should the ball not be caught. The home plate umpire will come out from behind home plate going a few feet into foul territory and a few feet down the third base line and communicate with his/her partner "I've got third if he/she comes" to alert him/her that should a play develop there that it is covered. The home plate umpire will be responsible for the touch and any play that may develop at third on the runner from first. He/she will also be responsible for the touch or any play that may develop at home plate. The umpires should let the ball take them to the play and to be careful to not over commit to any base.

2.6 If the third base umpire goes out on a "trouble" ball the first base umpire will pivot into the working area. The first base umpire will be responsible for the runner at first tagging up properly; for the touch at second by the runner from first if the ball is not caught and for any play at second on the runner from first. The first base umpire is also responsible for the batter-runner touching first and for any plays that may develop on the batter-runner at first, second or third. The first base umpire must let the ball take him/her to the play and not over commit to either base. The home plate umpire will come out from behind home plate and move down the third base line in foul territory and communicate with his partner "I've got third if he/she comes".

This will alert his/her partner that should a play at third develop it is covered. The home plate umpire will be responsible for the touch of third by the runner from first; for any possible plays that may develop at third on the runner from first and for any touch of and/or play that may develop at home plate. Once an umpire has gone out, he/she will stay out until the play has ended. The umpire should wait until all action has ceased before returning to his/her position.