

SECTION 9 RUNNER ON SECOND BASE ONLY

- 9.1** With a runner on second base only the third base umpire will position himself/herself 6-8 feet behind the third baseman with both feet in foul territory.
- 9.2** The first base umpire will position himself/herself in the infield setting up on the first base side of the infield on the edge of the infield grass, approximately 10-12 feet from second base.
- 9.3** On any ball hit to an infielder, the third base umpire will be responsible for all plays at third base. The infield umpire will be responsible for all plays at second and first.
- 9.4** On fly balls and line drives to the outfield, the responsibility for the catch or no catch belongs to the infield umpire unless the ball is hit down the third base line or to the left fielder coming straight in or going to the foul line. In that case, the responsibility will belong to the third base umpire, who is on the foul line. With an umpire on the third base line and one in the center of the infield, on any ball hit where the right fielder moves any distance toward the foul line, the responsibility for fair/foul and catch/no catch belongs to the home plate umpire.

(Note that with a runner on second base only, some crews prefer to have the third base umpire take responsibility for coverage from the centerfielder straight in all the way to the left field line. In this situation the first base umpire would take the center fielder moving to his/her left all the way to the right fielder coming straight in. The plate umpire would then take the right fielder moving toward his/her left. These are acceptable mechanics.)

- 9.5** With a runner on second base only, if the infield umpire goes out, the third base umpire will come into the center of the infield, and you will revert back to the two-umpire system.
- 9.6** If the third base umpire goes out for any reason, you will again revert back to the two-umpire system.