Ohio High School Athletic Association

3 Umpire Mechanics
2019-2020
General Mechanics

• If you go out on a fly ball, stay out till the play is over.
• Even if you come into the infield when there is a fly ball to your outfield coverage, it is still your call.
• Assume your partner is not there unless you hear from him.
• Communicate rotations when the circumstances change.
• First base umpire is the trigger.
• Runner on 3rd only. If U3 goes out on a fly ball, U1 has to break hard into the working area behind the mound, watch for a throw back to 3rd and also has touches by BR.
• Runners on 1st and 2nd or bases loaded, if no one goes out we have a push (S17). U1 comes in and pivots and takes the batter runner to 2nd if he goes. U3 has all other base runners at 2nd and third. Vocalize “Push” if U1 comes in.
• No rotations if the ball stays in the infield.
NO RUNNERS ON BASE

U3: Position D
- Both feet in foul territory 10 feet behind the 3rd baseman;
- Has check swings on left handed batters;
- Foul/fair responsibility for all balls past the front edge of the 3rd base bag.

U1: Position A
- Both feet in foul territory 10 feet behind the 1st baseman;
- Has check swings on right handed batters;
- Has foul/fair responsibility for all balls past the front edge of the 1st base bag.

P: Fair/foul calls up to the front edge of 1st and 3rd base.
FLY BALL/LINE DRIVE COVERAGES

P:
• F1 and F2.

U1:
• F8 going back, coming in, and going to his left;
• F9 all the way to the line;
• F3 and F4.

U3:
• F8 going to his right;
• F7 all the way to the line;
• F5 and F6.
FLY BALL
U1 HAS THE CATCH/NO CATCH

U3:
- Move into the infield to observe touches and make calls at 2nd and 3rd.

U1:
- Move out on the fly ball getting the best possible angle for the call;
- Stop before making the call;
- DO NOT return to the infield;

**Move out on the batted ball to fill in behind U1;**
- Observe the BR’s touch of 1st and take him back into 1st;
- Return to the plate when BR touches 2nd.
GROUND BALL TO THE INFIELD

**U3:**
- Move toward second base cut-out.
- Responsible for all calls at 2nd and 3rd base.
- If the ball is hit to the left side of the infield, pause to let the infielder field and throw the ball;

**U1:**
- Move in to make the call at 1st.

**P:**
- Move up to the 45' line trailing the runner;
- Be ready to rule on F3 pulling his foot, swipe tag or runner's lane interference;
- On an overthrow observe the ball and determine if it goes out of play.
FLY BALL TO LEFT
U3 HAS THE CATCH/NO CATCH

U3:
- Move into the outfield to make the call
- **DO NOT** retreat to 3rd

P:
- Move out on the batted ball;
- Watch the play and be prepared to take a play at the plate.

U1:
- Move into the infield and pivot observing the BR’s touch of 1st and be prepared to take BR into 2nd and 3rd.
BASE HIT

**U3:**
- Move into the infield to observe all touches and make all calls at 2nd;
- **DO NOT** retreat to 3rd, Plate has the runner advancing.

**U1:**
- Move into the infield and pivot observing the BR's touch of 1st and be prepared to take BR into 2nd if U3 misses the rotation;
- Once you have seen that U3 is in position to take the runner into 2nd remain at 1st;
- When BR reaches 2nd, retreat to home to cover for P, telling him, “I've got the plate.”

**P:**
- Move out on the batted ball;
- Be prepared to take the runner into 3rd.

**Communication:**
P- tell U3 your at 3rd if he comes.
RUNNER ON 1st

U1:
- When the runner is being held, move 10 feet beyond bag;
- Watch for the balk on a pickoff move;
- No movement on pickoff;
- Be hands on knees set, adjacent to the foul line and square to the bag.

U3:
- A few steps back from the basic B position or deep C if you choose.
FLY BALL/LINE DRIVE COVERAGE

Communication:
Standard Rotation (S14)

U3:
- The “modified” V;
- F8 going to his right;
- F5, F6, and F4 toward the center of the infield.

U1:
- F9 and F8 coming in, going back, and going to his left;
- F3 and F4 toward 1st base.

U1:
- F9 toward the line;
- F1, F2, and F5 toward 3rd base.
**FLY BALL**
**U3 HAS THE CATCH/NO CATCH**

**U3:**
- Move into position to get the best possible angle for the catch/no catch;
- Give a visual/audible signal of the catch/no catch if needed;
- Be prepared to take all touches and plays at 2nd and at 1st if U1 covers the plate, let the ball take you to the play.

**U1:**
- Line up R1’s tag getting the best angle possible;
- Be prepared to take R1 back into 1st or the BR into 1st;
- Release to home when/if R1 commits to third.

**P:**
- Move up the 3rd baseline to take the runner into 3rd.
U1 HAS THE CATCH/NO CATCH

U3:
- Fall back into working area and watch the play develop.
- Be prepared to take all touches and plays at 2nd and at 1st

P:
- Move up the line and watch the BR touch 1st.
- Watch for a quick throw back if the ball is caught.
- Move to 3rd and be prepared to make a call on R1 at third and home.

U1:
- Move into position to get the best possible angle for the catch/no catch;
- Give a visual/audible signal of the catch/no catch if needed;
- Stay out
U3:
- Move into position to for play at second base;
- Have SLOW timing at play on second, watching for pulled foot, dropped ball, and interference.

U1:
- Get into position for play a first;
- You will have to increase your distance from first, because your starting position is closer to the bag than with nobody on.

P:
- Move up the first base line to help with pulled foot and overthrow.
RUNNER ON $2^{nd}$

U3:
- D position, a step or two behind the 3$^{rd}$ baseman, never closer than 10 feet from the bag.

U1:
- Deep B, acceptable to be square toward the third baseline.
FLY BALL COVERAGE

Communication:
Stay Home (S16)
With two outs-Timing Play (S13)

U3:
- F7 and F8 coming in, going back, and going to his right;
- F5 and F6;
- Goes out on all catchable balls in coverage area.

P:
- F9 toward the line;
- F1, F2, and F3 toward 1st base.
- Does not rotate on batted balls

U1:
- The “modified” V;
- F8 going to toward right field;
- F9 going straight in, straight back, or to his right;
- Takes all catch/no catch from the infield;
- F3, F4, and F6 toward the middle of the infield;
- If U3 goes out, revert back to two-man.
GROUND BALL TO THE INFIELD OR BASE HIT

U3:
- Moves into position to make call at 3rd.

U1:
- Same movement as two man.
- If ball gets through infield, has all plays at 1st and 2nd.

P:
- Stays home
FLY BALL TO LEFT
U3 HAS THE CATCH/NO CATCH

U3:
• Move out on the ball getting the best possible angle for the catch/no catch;
• Stop before making the call;
• Give a visual/verbal signal of the catch/no catch, if needed;
• **DO NOT** return to the infield.

P:
• Stays home

U1:
• Be prepared to take all touches and plays at 1ST, 2nd and all plays at 3rd.
• Fall back to working area and let the ball take you to the play.
• Watch runners touch the bases
RUNNER ON 3rd

U3:
- D position, a step or two behind the 3rd baseman, never closer than 10 feet from the bag.
- Has check swings on left handed batters;
- Has foul/fair responsibility for all balls past the front edge of the 3rd base bag.

U1:
- Position A
- Both feet in foul territory 10 feet behind the 1st baseman;
- Has check swings on right handed batters;
- Has foul/fair responsibility for all balls past the front edge of the 1st base bag.
FLY BALL COVERAGE

Communication:
Stay Home (S16)

U3:
- F8 going to his right
- F7 all the way to the line;
- F5 and F6.

P:
- F9 toward the line;
- F1, F2, and F3 toward 1st base.

U1:
- F8 going back, coming in, and going to his left
- F8 going to his left;
- F9 all the way to the line;
- F3 and F4 The “modified” V;

INITIAL MOVEMENT
SECONDARY MOVEMENT
BALL FLIGHT
FLY BALL
U3 HAS THE CATCH/NO CATCH

U3:
- Move out on the ball getting the best possible angle for the catch/no catch;
- Stop before making the call;
- Give a visual/verbal signal of the catch/no catch, if needed;
- DO NOT return to the infield.

P:
- Moves to observe R3’s tag;
- Move back into position for a possible play at the plate.

U1:
- Immediately run into the infield;
- Watch BR touch 1st;
- Get into the working area, being in a position to make a call at any base;
- Be prepared for a throw back into 3rd on R3. This can happen quickly, and therefore quick instincts and maximum hustle are necessary.
U3:

- Quickly move into the working area, realizing that U3 now has all plays and touches at every base.

U1:

- Move out on the fly ball getting the best possible angle for the call;
- Stop before making the call;
- DO NOT return to the infield;

P:

- Move to open up view to observe the tag of R3 at third;
- Has all plays at the plate.
U3:
- Move into the infield to observe all touches and make all calls at 2nd;
- Has all calls at 3rd base if BR attempts to advance to 3rd.

P:
- Remains home and observes the play.

U1:
- Move into the infield and pivot observing the BR's touch of 1st and prepared to take BR into 2nd if U3 misses the rotation.
- Once you have seen that U3 is in position to take the runner into 2nd remain at 1st;
U3:
- Initially take a few steps toward the coach’s box, anticipating a play at 3rd;
- Remain alert for any plays at third on R3, including a possible rundown between 3rd and home;
- If and when it becomes apparent that R3 will reach home safely, without a play, then move into the middle of the infield to be in position for all plays at 2nd and 3rd.

P:
- Remain home and observe the play;
- Be alert for quick plays at the plate.

U1:
- Take normal position for plays at 1st base.
- Be aware that if U3 is required to stay at 3rd, then it is necessary to move into the infield and stay ahead of the BR.
RUNNERS ON 1ST AND 2ND

U3:
- Standard C position
- Hands on knees set

U1:
- When the runner is being held, move 10 feet beyond bag; otherwise be a step or two behind the first baseman, still aware of possible pickoffs.
**FLY BALL/LINE DRIVE COVERAGE**

**Communication:**
Less than two out - Infield Fly Plate covers 3rd on caught fly ball to outfield (S15)
With two out add - Timing Play (S13) and P staying home (S16)
Clean base hit no one goes out - Push (S17)

**U3:**
- The "modified" V;
- F8 going to his right;
- F5 straight in and to his left, F6, and F4 toward the center of the infield.

**P:**
- F9 toward the line;
- F1, F2, and F5 toward 3rd base.

**U1:**
- F9 and F8 coming in, going back, and going to his left;
- F3 and F4 toward 1st base.
FLY BALL TO RIGHT FIELD
U1 GOES OUT (TROUBLE BALL)

U3:
• Revert to two-man mechanics;
• Moves to working area and has tag-ups of both runners;
• Has plays at all bases, except for play at 3rd if R2 tags and goes to 3rd.

U1:
• Pause, read, and react;
• If the ball is a trouble ball, go out and be set for the catch/no catch;
• Move up the third base line in foul territory;
• If R2 tags and a play develops at 3rd, move into the cutout for the play;
• Retreats home if R2 advances to 3rd without a play.

P
• Move up the third base line in foul territory;
• If R2 tags and a play develops at 3rd, move into the cutout for the play;
• Retreats home if R2 advances to 3rd without a play.
**FLY BALL TO RIGHT FIELD**

**U1 DOES NOT GO OUT**

**U3:**
- Moves to working area and has tag-up of R2;
- If ball is caught, has plays at 2nd, and at 1st once U1 rotates home;
- If ball is not caught, takes R2 into 3rd.

**P**
- Move up the third base line in foul territory;
- If ball is caught, moves all the way to 3rd for any possible play;
- Retreats home if ball is not caught.

**U1:**
- Pause, read, and react.
- If the ball is not a trouble ball, remain in the area behind first base, lining up a possible tag;
- Still responsible for catch/no catch;
- If ball is caught, rotates home if R2 commits to 3rd.
- If ball is not caught, remain at 1st base.

**Communication:**
P- if rotate to 3rd for a call, vocalize that you’re there.
FLY BALL TO LEFT FIELD

Communication:
P - if rotate to 3rd for a call, vocalize that you're there.

U3
- Moves to working area and has tag-up of R2;
- If ball is caught, has plays at 2nd, and at 1st once U1 rotates home;
- If ball is not caught, takes R2 into 3rd. (Same mechanics as next page)

P
- Move up the third base line in foul territory;
- If ball is caught, moves all the way to 3rd for any possible play;
- Retreats home if ball is not caught.

U1:
- Moves into the infield.
- If ball is caught, rotates home if R2 commits to 3rd.
- If ball is not caught, (push) stays ahead of the BR and takes the BR into 2nd. (Same mechanics as next page)
U3:
- Step up and open up to the ball;
- Responsible for plays on R2 at 3rd, and R1 at 2nd or 3rd;
- Stay ahead of R1 and move into 3rd base cut-out if R1 commits to 3rd.

U1:
- Come in and pivot, watching the BR touch 1st base;
- Stay ahead of the BR, (push) and move into the 2nd base cutout if the BR commits to 2nd.

P:
- Remains at home and observes the play;
- Be ready for a possible play at the plate.
POSITIONS WITH RUNNERS ON 1ST AND 3RD

U1:
- When the runner is being held, move 10 feet beyond bag;
- Watch for the balk on a pickoff move;
- No movement on pickoff;
- Be hands on knees set, adjacent to the foul line and square to the bag.

U3:
- Standard C position;
- Hands on knees set.
FLY BALL/LINE DRIVE COVERAGE

Communication:
Stay Home (S16)

U3:
• The “modified” V;
• F8 going to his right;
• F5 straight in and to his left, F6, and F4 toward the center of the infield.

U1:
• F9 and F8 coming in, going back, and going to his left.
• F3 and F4 toward 1st base.

P:
• F9 toward the line;
• F1, F2, and F5 toward 3rd base.
**FLY BALL**

**U3 HAS THE CATCH/NO CATCH**

**U3:**
- Move into position to get the best possible angle for the catch/no catch;
- Give a visual/audible signal of the catch/no catch if needed;
- Has play on R1 at 2nd and all plays at 3rd.

**P:**
- Will line up the tag of R3 at 3rd base;
- Get into position for any plays at the plate.

**U1:**
- Move into the infield.
- Be prepared to take R1 back into 1st or the BR into 1st or 2nd (push) if the ball is dropped.
U3:
- Be prepared to take all touches and plays at 2nd and all plays at 3rd.
- If U1 goes out, also take all plays at first as well as the tag-up of R1.
- Line up R3 tag of 3rd.
- Return home, there are no rotations.

U1:
- Pause, read, and react.
- If the ball is a trouble ball, go out. DO NOT RETURN TO INFIELD.
- If the ball is not a trouble ball, move toward the coach's box to line up R1's possible tag and take all plays at 1st.

FLY BALL
U1 HAS THE CATCH/NO CATCH
U3:
- Step up and open up to the ball;
- Responsible for plays on R1 at 2nd or 3rd;
- Stay ahead of R1 and move into 3rd base cut-out if R1 commits to 3rd.

U1:
- Come in and pivot, watching the BR touch 1st base;
- Stay ahead of the BR (push) and move into the 2nd base cutout if the BR commits to 2nd.

P:
- Remains at home and observes the play;
- Be ready for a possible play at the plate.
RUNNERS ON 2\textsuperscript{nd} AND 3\textsuperscript{rd}

**U3:**
- D position, a step or two behind the 3\textsuperscript{rd} baseman, never closer than 10 feet from the bag.

**U1:**
- Deep B, acceptable to be square toward the third baseline.
FLY BALL COVERAGE

**U3:**
- F7 and F8 coming in, going back, and going to his right;
- F5 and F6
- Goes out on all catchable balls in coverage area.

**P:**
- F9 toward the line;
- F1, F2, and F3 toward 1st base.
- Does not rotate on batted balls

**U1:**
- The “modified” V;
- F8 going to toward right field;
- F9 going straight in, straight back, or to his right
- Takes all catch/no catch from the infield
- F3 straight in and to his right, F4, and F6 toward the middle of the infield.
- If U3 goes out, revert back to two-man.

**Communication:**
Stay Home (S16)
With two out add Timing Play (S13)
FLY BALL TO THE OUTFIELD

U3:
- Pause, read, react;
- If trouble, go out and STAY OUT;
- If not trouble, move into position to line up the tag of R3 at 3\textsuperscript{rd}, while still maintaining responsibility for the catch/no catch.

P:
- If U3 goes out, get into position to line up the tag of R3;
- If U3 does not go out, be aware of U3 failing to line up the tag and watch to see if R3 leaves early.

U1:
- Has all plays at 1\textsuperscript{st} and 2\textsuperscript{nd};
- If U3 goes out, also has all plays at 3\textsuperscript{rd}.
GROUND BALL TO THE INFIELD OR BASE HIT

**U3:**
- Moves into position to make call at 3rd.

**P:**
- Immediately gets into position for a possible play at the plate.

**U1:**
- Same movement as two-man;
- If ball gets through infield, has all plays at 1st and 2nd.
U3:
- Standard C position
- Hands on knees set

U1:
- When the runner is being held, move 10 feet beyond bag; otherwise be a step or two behind the first baseman, still aware of possible pickoffs.
FLY BALL/LINE DRIVE COVERAGE

Communication:
Stay Home (S16)
Less than two out- Infield Fly (S11)
With two out add- Timing Play (S13)
Clean base hit no one goes out- Push (S17)

U3:
• The “modified” V;
• F8 going to his right;
• F5 straight in and to his left, F6, and F4 toward the center of the infield.

U1:
• F9 and F8 coming in, going back, and going to his left;
• F3 and F4 toward 1st base.

P
• F9 toward the line;
• F1, F2, and F5 toward 3rd base.
U3:

- Move into position to get the best possible angle for the catch/no catch;
- Also responsible for the tag-up for R2;
- Give a visual/audible signal of the catch/no catch if needed;
- Has plays on R2 and R1 at 2nd and all plays at 3rd.

P:

- Will line up the tag of R3 at 3rd base;
- Get into position for any plays at the plate.

U1:

- Move into the infield;
- Responsible for the tag-up of R1;
- Be prepared to take R1 back into 1st or the BR into 1st or 2nd if the ball is dropped.
U3:
- Be prepared to take all touches and plays at 2nd and all plays at 3rd;
- If U1 goes out, also take all plays at first, as well as the tag-up of R2 and R1

U1:
- Pause, read, and react;
- If the ball is a trouble ball, go out. DO NOT RETURN TO INFIELD;
- If the ball is not a trouble ball, move toward the coach’s box to line up R1’s possible tag and take all plays at 1st.

P:
- Line up R3 tag of 3rd;
- Get into position for a possible play at the plate.
U3:
- Observe touches at 2nd and make all calls on plays on R2 and R1 at 2nd;
- Move into position to make all calls on plays at 3rd;
- Stay ahead of R1 and when R1 commits to 3rd, move into the 3rd base cut-out.

P
- Observe the touch of 3rd by R2;
- Get into position for a possible play at the plate.

U1:
- Move into the infield and pivot observing the BR’s touch of 1st;
- Be prepared to take the runner back into 1st;
- Stay ahead of the BR (push) and move into the 2nd base cut-out if the BR commits to 2nd.