

Training Meeting # 2, January 23, 2025
Location: West Valley HS, Room 1101

AGENDA

1. Two Umpire Crew System Mechanics/Working the Bases Part 1

- a. Umpire Classroom Video: The “A” position (13:15)
- b. Umpire Classroom Video: Pre-Pitch Communications (10:23)

2. Rules

- a. **Obstruction Rule 2-22-1:** Obstruction is an act (intentional or unintentional, as well as physical or verbal) by a fielder, any member of the defensive team or its team personnel that hinders a runner or changes the pattern of play, or when a catcher or fielder hinders a batter (e.g., catcher’s interference). When obstruction occurs, the ball becomes dead at the end of the playing action and the umpire has the authority to determine which base or bases shall be awarded the runners according to the rule violated.
- b. Obstruction Rule 2-22-2: A fake tag is an act by a defensive player without the ball that simulates a tag. A fake tag is considered obstruction
- c. Obstruction Rule 2-22-3: The fielder without possession of the ball denies access to the base the runner is attempting to achieve.
- d. Obstruction Umpire Classroom Video:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b6VndrqTLXo> (19:30)
- e. **Interference Rule 2-21-1:** Offensive interference is an act (physical or verbal) by the team at bat:
 - i. Which interferes (intentionally, or unintentionally) with, obstructs, impedes, hinders, or confuses any fielder attempting to make a play; or
 - ii. When a runner creates malicious contact with any fielder, with or without the ball, in or out of the baseline.
- f. Interference (General)-Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7OPInlIQ3Cc> (3:57)
- g. **What is a catch? Rule 2-9-1:** A catch is the act of a fielder in getting secure possession in the hand or glove of a live ball in flight.....The catch of a fly ball by a fielder is not completed until the continuing action of the catch is completed.
Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=13t_oHspoA4 (4:30)

3. New Umpires Check-In

OBSTRUCTION

2.22.1 SITUATION A: R1 attempts to steal second. F2, upon receiving the pitch, throws a pop-up to F6. F5 yells "get back, get back." R1 thinks B2 has hit a pop-up and starts back to first where the runner is tagged out. **RULING:** This is verbal obstruction and R1 shall be awarded second base.

2.22.1 SITUATION B: B1 hits the ball into the gap. B1 rounds first and heads to second base. F6 blocks the base (a) while the outfielder still has the ball, (b) after F6 catches the ball, or (c) the ball is in motion from the outfield and F6 will probably make a play on B1. **RULING:** Obstruction in (a); legal in (b); obstruction in (c) if F6 denies access to the base without possession of the ball.

2.22.1 SITUATION C: A runner is advancing to score when F7 throws home. F2 completely blocks home plate with the lower leg/knee while (a) in possession of the ball or (b) while juggling and attempting to secure the ball or (c) before the ball has reached F2. **RULING:** Legal in (a); obstruction in (b) and (c) if the catcher denied access to home plate prior to securely possessing the ball.

INTERFERENCE

2.21.1 SITUATION A: With R2 on second base, B2 hits a grounder to F6. Just as F6 starts to throw to first base, R2 on the way to third base, yells at F6, which startles F6, causing the defensive player to throw the ball over F3's head into dead-ball territory. **RULING:** R2 is called out immediately for verbal interference, and if in the judgment of the umpire the interference prevented a possible double play, B2 also would be called out.

2.21.1 SITUATION B: R3 is on third and R2 on second. B4 hits down the left-field line. R3 scores, but R2 maliciously runs over F5 after R3 touches home plate. **RULING:** Interference because of malicious contact. The ball is dead immediately. R3's run counts because R3 scored before the interference. R2 is called out and ejected because of malicious contact. The batter-runner shall be returned to the base last legally touched before interference occurred.

2.21.1 SITUATION C: With two outs, B3 strikes out, but F2 drops the ball, which rebounds into B3's base path. As B3 begins running to first, B3 accidentally kicks ball. **RULING:** B3 is not guilty of interference and the ball remains live, unless in the umpire's judgment B3 intentionally kicked the ball. (8-4-1a)

2.21.2 SITUATION: With R2 on second base, the umpire inadvertently interferes with catcher's throw back to F1 and R2 advances to third base. **RULING:** If, in the umpire's judgment, umpire interference permitted R2 to reach third base safely, the umpire shall send R2 back to second base. (5-1-2c)

Training Session # 2 Quiz: The “A” position

Where does the base umpire start when there are no runners on base?

- ☐ In foul territory with both feet on the foul line
- ☐ In fair territory behind first base
- ☐ In the middle of the infield
- ☐ In foul territory with the right foot next to the foul line

How does a base umpire signal a foul ball on a bounding ball that goes beyond the front edge of the bag in foul territory?

- ☐ With the “safe” mechanic
- ☐ By only pointing the ball foul with no voice mechanic
- ☐ By giving a dead ball mechanic followed by pointing the ball foul with a loud voice mechanic
- ☐ With the “out” mechanic

What should the base umpire do after the ball is ruled fair?

- ☐ Celebrate
- ☐ immediately move towards second base
- ☐ Loudly announce the ball fair
- ☐ Stay put

When should the base umpire come into the infield during a pop-up in the infield?

- ☐ Only if the ball is caught: Pop-out means pivot
- ☐ Always: pop up means pivot
- ☐ Only if the ball drops: Drop it means pivot
- ☐ Never

What is a “trouble ball?”

- ☐ A ball that might require a judgement decision from the umpire
- ☐ A ball hit to the outfield
- ☐ A pop-fly to the infield
- ☐ A routine ground ball

Specifically for the base umpire in A, which area on the field would create a trouble ball when covering fly balls?

- ☐ The infield
- ☐ Center outfield
- ☐ The area taking the right fielder towards the foul line
- ☐ The area taking the left fielder towards the foul line

How should the umpire communicate their intention to go out on a fly ball?

- ☐ By immediately moving towards the ball
- ☐ The plate umpire will signal for the base umpire to go out
- ☐ By holding their arms wide out to the side

By physically signaling and yelling "I'm going out."

Where should a base umpire try to position themselves for a play at first?

- ☐ 90° from the throw, in fair territory if possible
- ☐ 180° from the throw, in fair territory if possible
- ☐ 90° from the throw, in foul territory
- ☐ Anywhere, as long as it is out of the way

The Toughest Fair / Foul Quiz in the World!

Before taking the quiz, you might want to print a copy of the "field." Flip down a couple of pages and you will find a diagram of a playing field showing the twelve "points" of reference you must see for the quiz. It would be easiest of you print the *Playing Field Page* then return to this page to take the quiz.

Of course you may print the quiz page (this page), as well, if you choose. Finally, when you have completed the quiz, you will find the answer key at the bottom of the page.

The ruling to each item is either: **Fair or Foul.**

This quiz was developed by Richard Siegel.

Keep the following thoughts in mind:

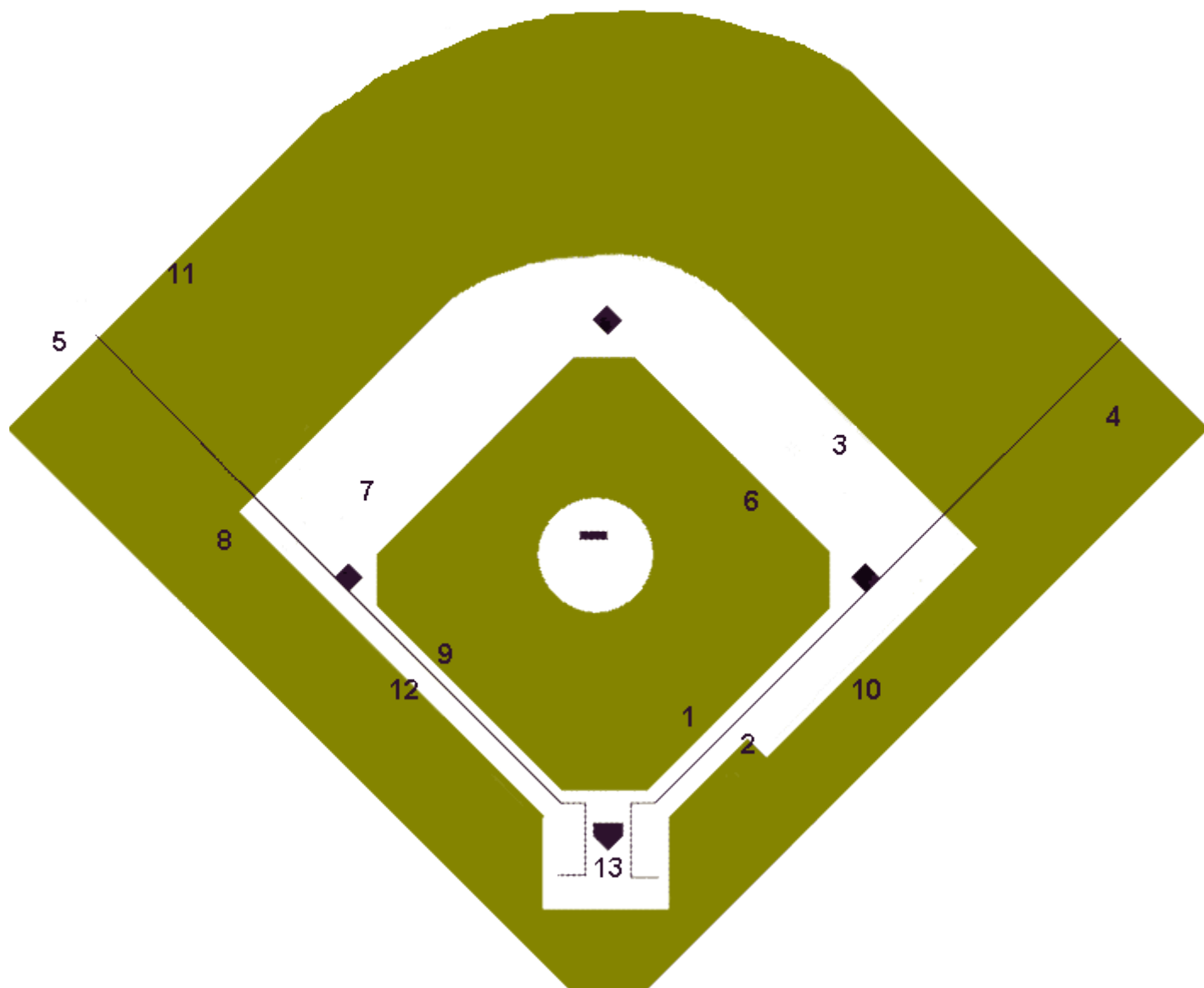
- Do not "read" any more into the situation than what is described.
 - Any ball described as traveling from one "point" to the another "point" travels in a *direct and straight* line, unless stated otherwise.
 - Any player described as touching or catching a ball at a "point" on the field does so completely on the spot where the point is located, unless stated otherwise.
 - All rulings should be made under "pro" rules.
-

1. The batted ball is lined, without touching the ground, off the pitcher's kneecap and lands at point 2 and settles at point 10.
2. The batted ball is a line drive that strikes the pitching rubber and lands untouched by any player at point 2 and settles at point 10.
3. The batted ball is lined, without touching the ground, hits the third base bag, touches the ground at point 8 and settles at point 5.
4. The batted ball is lined, without touching the ground, hits the third base bag, touches the ground at point 8 and settles at point 11.
5. The batted ball is a fly ball that lands untouched by any player at point 3, it rolls and settles at point 4.
6. The batted ball is a fly ball that lands untouched by any player at point 1, it rolls and settles at point 2.
7. The batted ball is a fly ball that lands untouched by any player at point 3, it rolls directly to and settles at point 2.
8. The batted ball is a fly ball that lands untouched by any player at point 6, it rolls directly to and settles at point 4.
9. The batted ball is a fly ball that lands untouched by any player at point 6, it rolls directly to and settles at point 2.
10. The batted ball is a fly ball that lands untouched by any player at point 2, it rolls directly to and settles at point 3.
11. The batted ball is a bunted fly ball that lands untouched by any player at point 1, it rolls directly to and settles directly on top of home plate.

12. The batted ball is a bunted fly ball that lands untouched by any player at point 1, it rolls directly to and settles directly on top of the foul line nearby.
13. The batted ball is a fly ball that lands untouched by any player at point 8, it rolls directly to and settles at point 11.
14. The batted ball is a fly ball that lands untouched by any player at point 7, it rolls directly to and settles at point 8.
15. The batted ball is a fly ball that strikes the left foul pole, in flight, after passing over the homerun fence and settles at point 5.
16. The batted ball is a line drive that lands untouched by any player at point 7, bounces and strikes the left foul pole after passing over the top of the homerun fence and settles at point 5.
17. The batted ball is a bunted fly ball that is touched by the first baseman, but not caught, at point 1, it rolls directly to and settles at point 2.
18. The batted ball is a bunted fly ball that is touched by the first baseman, but not caught, at point 2, it rolls directly to and settles at point 1.
19. The batted ball is a line drive that strikes the runner who is leading off of third base at point 12 and settles at point 9.
20. A runner is standing on the third base bag with both feet. He bends over to avoid being hit a the batted ball. His upper body is extended out over the foul side of the line when the ball hits him on the helmet over foul territory.
21. The batted ball immediately strikes home plate, bounces up and hits the batter's arm while still in the batter's box, the ball rolls and settles at point 1.
22. The batted ball immediately strikes the overhang of the backstop directly above home plate, bounces off and strikes the ground at point 2 and settles at point 3.
23. The batted ball is a bunted fly ball that is touched by the third baseman, but not caught, standing at point 9, but the balls fall to the ground and settles right on top of the foul line nearby.
24. The batted ball is a bunted fly ball that is touched by the third baseman, but not caught, standing at point 12, but the balls fall to the ground and settles right on top of the foul line nearby.
25. The batted ball is a bunted fly ball that is touched by the third baseman, but not caught, standing at point 9, but the ball touched his glove as he reached for it over point 12, the balls fall to the ground and settles at point 12.
26. The batted ball is a bunted fly ball that is touched by the third baseman, but not caught, standing at point 12, but the ball touched his glove as he reached for it over point 9, the balls fall to the ground and settles at point 9.
27. The batter bunts a fly ball that is touched by the third baseman, but not caught, standing at point 9. The ball touches his glove as he reaches for it over point 12. Then the balls fall to the ground at point 12 and rolls back and settles at point 9.
28. The batter bunts a fly ball that is touched by the third baseman, but not caught, standing at point 12. The ball touched his glove as he reached for it over point 9. Then the ball falls to the ground at point 9 and rolls back and settles at point 12.

29. The batted ball is a bunted fly ball that is popped straight up and is touched by the catcher, but not caught, standing at point 13. The ball touched his mitt extended out over home plate. Then the ball falls to the ground on home plate and rolls to, and settles at point 1.
30. The batted ball immediately strikes home plate, bounces up, is touched by the catcher standing at point 13 and settles at point 1.
31. The batted ball immediately strikes the ground behind home plate at point 13, the ball then rolls to and settles at point 1.
32. The batted ball immediately strikes the ground behind home plate at point 13, the ball then rolls to and is touched by the first baseman at point 1, he boots it and it settles at point 2.
33. The bunted ball is slowly rolling up the third base line on a smooth artificial turf infield with crisply painted foul lines. The infielders allow the ball to roll to a stop. The ball stops, untouched, with about one third of the ball over the white foul line, and the rest of the ball over the green turf on the foul side of the line.
34. The batted ball immediately strikes the ground at point 12, bounces and hits the third base bag then the ball then rolls directly to and settles at point 8.
35. The batted ball immediately strikes the ground at point 9, bounces and passes directly over the top of, but does not touch, the third base bag, the ball then rolls directly to and settles at point 8.
36. The batted ball strikes the ground at point 12, rolls slowly rolls over to and settles in contact with the third base bag. It come to rest touching the side of the base facing foul territory.
37. A fly ball is declared an Infield Fly. The ball is allowed to land untouched by any fielder at point 1. Then the ball rolls directly to and settles at point 2.
38. A batted ball strikes the batter's foot while still in the batter's box. Then it rolls to and settles at point 1.
39. A fly ball is declared an Infield Fly. The ball is touched by a fielder at point 2, but is not caught. Then the ball rolls directly to and settles at point 1.
40. A low line drive is not touched by the pitcher. It strikes the second base bag and rolls to, untouched by any fielder, and settles at point 10.

The Toughest Fair / Foul Quiz in the World!
Playing Field



The Toughest Fair / Foul Quiz in the World!

Answer Key

1. FAIR
2. *foul*
3. FAIR
4. FAIR
5. FAIR
6. *foul*
7. FAIR
8. FAIR
9. *foul*
10. FAIR

11. FAIR
12. FAIR
13. *foul*
14. FAIR
15. FAIR
16. FAIR
17. FAIR
18. *foul*
19. *foul*
20. *foul*

21. *foul*
22. *foul*
23. FAIR
24. *foul*
25. *foul*
26. FAIR
27. *foul*
28. FAIR
29. FAIR
30. *foul*

31. FAIR
32. FAIR
33. FAIR
34. FAIR
35. FAIR
36. FAIR
37. *foul*
38. *foul*
39. *foul*
40. FAIR