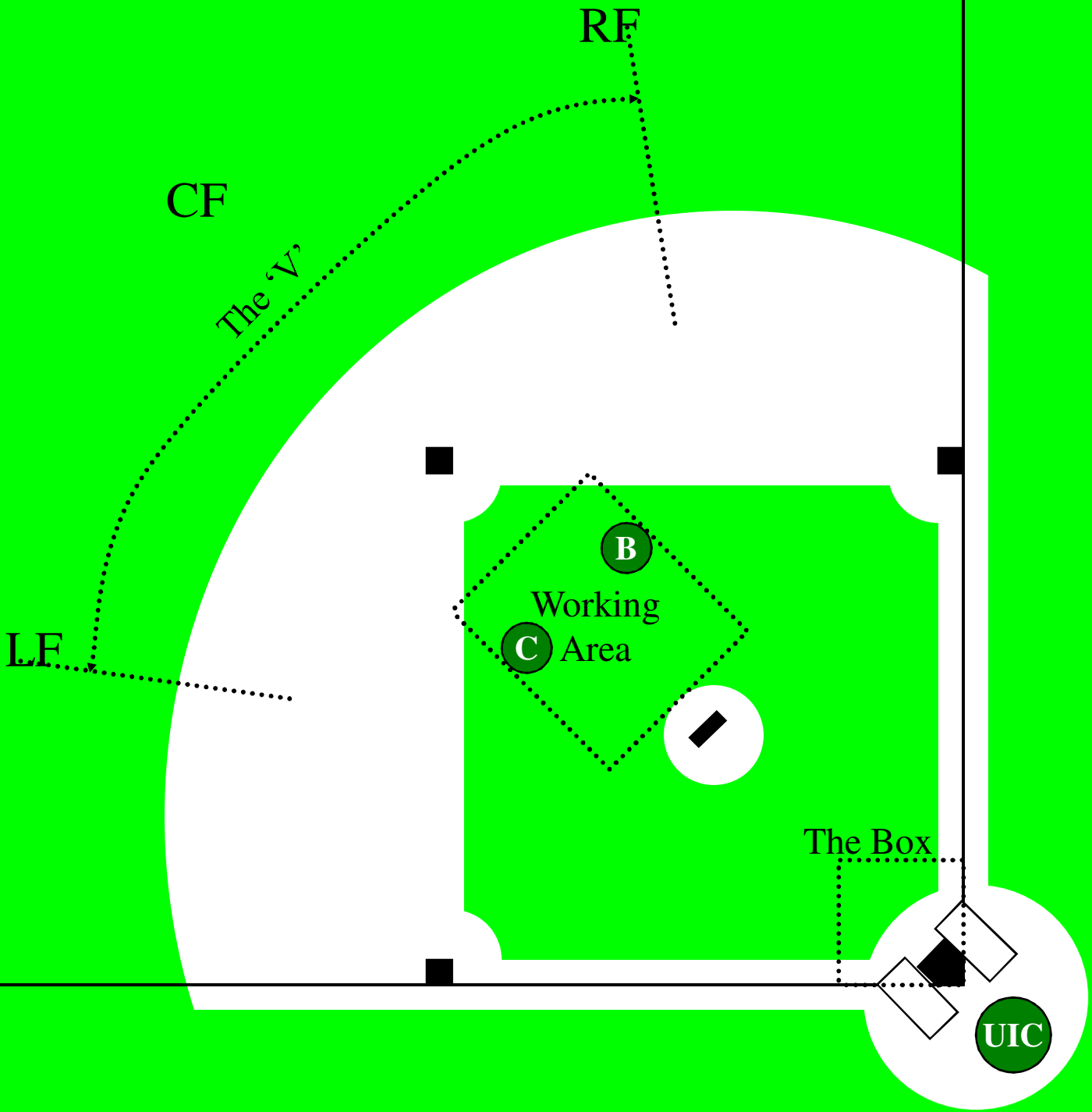


Basic Umpire Positions



Basic Terminologies

Base Umpire Positioning

Position A

No runners on base

Position B

- Runner at first
- Runner at first and third

Position C

- Runner at second
- Runner at first and second
- Runners at second and third
- Bases loaded
- Runner at third (may adjust to B)

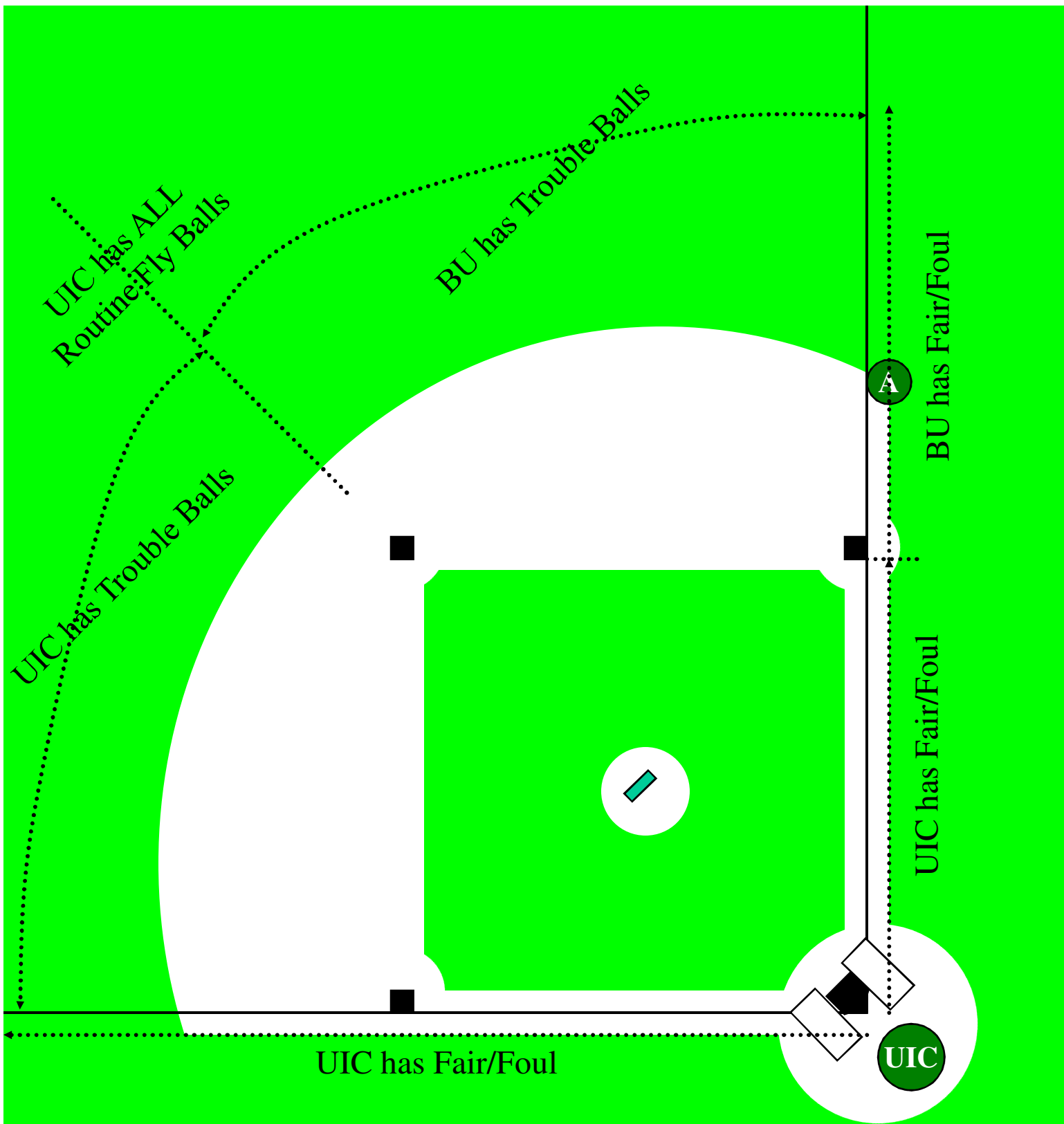
Generalized Umpire Responsibilities

Base Umpire

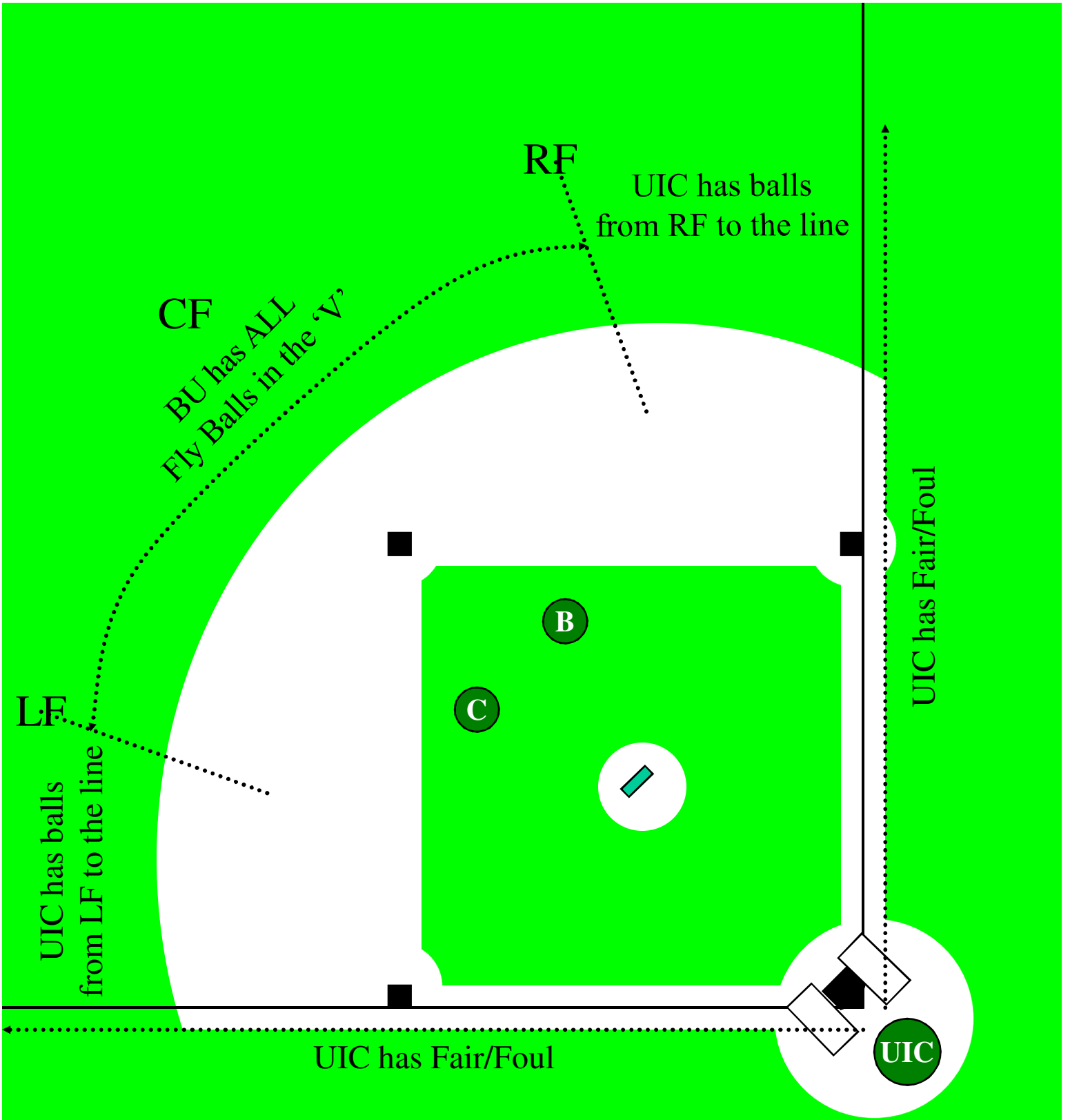
- Exchange signals with the UIC
- Balks
- Assist on Check Swing when asked by UIC
- All attempted pickoffs and steals (except home)
- Fair/Foul and Catch/No-Catch on ball in your area
- Initial play on batted ball on the infield
- All plays on bases except when UIC covers third, or when you 'go out'
- Base Touches and Tag-ups at second base, first base if UIC has the ball, and trailing runners at third base

Plate Umpire

- Exchange signals with the BU
- Put ball in play after all dead balls
- Ball/ Strike call
- Fair/Foul and Catch/No-Catch on ball in your area
- Play at all bases if BU 'goes out'
- Base Touches and Tag-ups at third base, home plate, and first base if ball is hit to BU's outfield
- If no runners, trail batter halfway to first on ball in the infield
- Run scoring on a 'time play'



Bases Empty – Fly Ball Responsibility



Runners On Base – Fly Ball Responsibility

Review: Bases Empty – Umpire in Chief

Priorities

- An illegal pitch.
- The pitch: ball or strike.
- Check-swings and defensive appeals.
- Slow-rolling balls on either base line: fair/foul from home plate to either bag.
- A fair/foul call down the third-base or left-field line, or between home plate and first base.
- A ‘trouble ball’ in your area of the outfield – from center field to the left field foul area.
- All fly balls if the BU doesn’t go out.
- Batter/runner if the BU goes out.

Your first concern is always the pitch: strike or ball.

Fair/Foul: You have batted balls on the third-base side, and balls on the first base side that don’t go beyond the base.

Field coverage: You have all routine batted balls to the outfield, and any ball from center field to the left field foul area.

On the bases: If you cover a fly ball, return to cover a play at the plate; if BU goes out you have the runner all the way (until BU tells you he has the plate).

Review: Bases Empty – Base Umpire

Priorities

- An illegal pitch.
- Help UIC on a half-swing
- Batted ball that travels beyond first base – rule fair or foul at or near the right-field line.
- A ‘Trouble ball’ in your area of the outfield – From center field to the right field foul area.
- A ground ball in the infield: You have the play at first, and any other play that develops.
- A batted or bunted ball with batter, pitcher and first baseman all converging at the base.
- ‘Pressure’ from the second baseman.
- A clean hit, or any batted ball to UIC’s area.

Start in position A. (Adjust by the 1st baseman’s position).

Fair/Foul: You have batted balls on the first-base side that go beyond the base.

Field coverage: You have batted balls from center field to the right field foul area.

On the bases: On a ball hit into the outfield, you will come in and pivot and handle runner at all bases; If you go out on a fly, return in foul ground to cover a play at the plate.

Review:Runner at first base–Umpire in Chief

Priorities

- A balk or illegal pitch.
- The pitch: ball or strike.
- Check-swings and defensive appeals.
- All fair/foul calls down either foul line.
- A ‘trouble ball’ in your area of the outfield – outside the ‘V’.
- Double play – observe and support BU.
- A bunted ball with converging players – interference/obstruction.
- Runner advancing from first to third on any batted ball.

Your first concern is always the pitch: strike or ball.

Fair/Foul: You have all fair/foul decisions.

Field coverage: You have all batted balls to the outfield outside the ‘V’.

On the bases: You have any play at third on the runner from first on a batted ball. (Unless you are held in place by a fair/foul or catch/no-catch call keeps you on the first base line.)

Review: Runner at first base – Base Umpire

Priorities

- A balk or illegal pitch.
- Pick off attempt at first base by the pitcher.
- Help UIC on a half-swing.
- Pick off attempt at first base by the catcher.
- A second base steal attempt.
- A ‘Trouble ball’ in your area of the outfield –
The ‘V’ from the left fielder to the right fielder.
- A ground ball in the infield: You have the first play on the infield, both ends of a double play, and all plays at second base. (The UIC has the lead runner at third and any play at home.)
- A batted or bunted ball with batter, pitcher, first and second basemen all converging at the base.
- A ball hit to the outfield followed by a play on the runner at first or second.
- Batter advancing to second or third on a hit.
- Runner advancing to third on a hit when UIC cannot help.

Start in position B.

Fair/Foul: No responsibility.

Field coverage: You have batted balls in the ‘V’.

On the bases: All plays at first and second, the batter at third, and the runner at third if UIC does not cover.

Review: Runners at first and second base – Umpire in Chief

Priorities

- A balk or illegal pitch.
- The pitch: ball or strike.
- Check-swings and defensive appeals.
- All fair/foul calls down either foul line.
- A ‘trouble ball’ in your area of the outfield – outside the ‘V’.
- All plays at home plate.
- Double –play in the infield – observe and support BU.
- A bunted ball with converging players – interference/obstruction.
- An infield fly.

Your first concern is always the pitch: strike or ball.

Fair/Foul: You have all fair/foul decisions.

Field coverage: You have all batted balls to the outfield outside the ‘V’.

On the bases: You have all plays at home plate, you may also have a play with the runner advancing from second to third after tagging up on a fly ball. (Unless you are held in place by a fair/foul or catch/no-catch call that keeps you on the first base line.)

Review: Runners at first and second base – Base Umpire

Priorities

- A balk or illegal pitch.
- Pick off attempt at second or first base by the pitcher.
- Help UIC on a half-swing.
- A third base steal attempt (glance).
- A double steal with possible first play at second base.
- Pick off attempt at first or second base by the catcher.
- A ‘Trouble ball’ in your area of the outfield –
 The ‘V’ from the left fielder to the right fielder.
- A ground ball in the infield: You have all plays on the infield.
- A batted or bunted ball with batter, pitcher, first and second basemen all converging at the base.
- A ball hit to the outfield followed by a play on any runner at any base.
- An infield fly.

Start in position C.

Fair/Foul: No responsibility.

Field coverage: You have batted balls in the ‘V’ (and responsibility for runner tag-ups).

On the bases: All plays at first, second, and third (unless UIC has called out that he has third after a catch).

Review: Bases Loaded - Umpire in Chief

Priorities

- A balk or illegal pitch.
- The pitch; ball or strike.
- Check-swings and defensive appeals.
- All fair/foul calls down either foul line.
- A ‘trouble ball’ in your area of the outfield – outside the ‘V’.
- A fly ball in the outfield; observe tag at third and developing play at the plate.
- All plays at home plate.
- A bunted ball with converging players – Interference/obstruction.
- An infield fly.

Your first concern is always the pitch: strike or ball.

Fair/Foul: You have all fair/foul decisions.

Field Coverage: You have all batted balls to the outfield outside the ‘V’.

On the bases: You have all plays at home plate; You also have R3 tagging up at third.

Review: Bases Loaded - Base Umpire

Priorities

- A balk or illegal pitch.
- Pick of attempt at any base by the pitcher.
- Help UIC on a half-swing.
- Pickoff at any base by the catcher.
- A ‘trouble ball’ in your area of the outfield –
In the ‘V’ from the left fielder to the right fielder.
- A ground ball in the infield: You have all plays at 1st, 2nd, and 3rd; UIC will ‘stay home’ and will cover all plays at the plate.
- A bunted ball with converging players at first.
- A ball hit to the outfield followed by a play at any base.
- An infield fly.

Start in position C.

Adjust based on game situation (stretch/windup, etc.).

Fair/Foul: No responsibility (echo UIC Foul call).

Field Coverage: You have all batted balls to the outfield inside the ‘V’.

On the bases: You have all plays at 1st, 2nd, and 3rd; (Except; UIC will have R3 tagging up and advancing to home.).

Umpire Signals - Communication

Signals can be initiated by either umpire.

Signals are always returned in kind (not with a nod)

- Infield Fly Situation (Finger pointed up across bill of cap)
- Infield Fly Called (Arm extended up and finger pointed up)
- Rotation Situation (Thumb and small finger extended, and rotated)
- UIC Staying at home (UIC points to plate)
- Timed Play (Point to wrist, as if at umpires watch)
- Remove Previous Signal (Swipe open palm across chest)
- Umpire Conference after the inning (Arms crossed at the waist)
- I have the call (Tap chest with open palm)
- Ball/Strike Count Request (Twirled index fingers)
- Good Call (Tap closed fists together, vertically)
- Bad Call (Never Happens)

Verbal Communication

- BU going out on ball to right field “I’M GOING OUT”
- BU return to infield position “I’VE GOT THE RUNNER”
- UIC rotating to third with a play “I’VE GOT THIRD”
- UIC at third if play continues “ I’M GOING HOME”
- UIC not rotating as planned “I’M ON THE LINE”
- When free umpire comes to help on a rundown “I’VE GOT THIS HALF”