

# 3 Man Baseball Umpire Mechanics Summary – CCA Manual

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## General Guidelines

- Umpires shall go out on fly balls and line drives to the outfield which has potential for trouble. Trouble is defined as
  - Near fences, dead ball areas
  - Fair/Foul decisions
  - Diving plays/Catches below the waist
  - Converging fielders
- HP, 1B, 2B, 3B – Home Plate, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> bases
- PU – Plate Umpire, U1 – 1<sup>st</sup> Base Umpire, U3 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Base Umpire
- BR – Batter Runner, R1 – Runner at 1<sup>st</sup> base, R2 – Runner at 2<sup>nd</sup> base, R3 – Runner at 3<sup>rd</sup> base
- Umpire Positions (With 2 Outs U1 is Always in A)
  - A – On 1<sup>st</sup> base line, behind F3
  - B – Between 1B and 2B on grass line, square with 3B dugout
  - C – Between 2B and 3B on grass line, square with 1B dugout
  - C (Shallow) – Between 2B and 3B in from grass line 10 – 20 feet, square with HP
  - D – On 3<sup>rd</sup> base line, behind F5
- Rotations (Only when no umpire goes out and ball is batted through the infield):
  - Regular Rotations
    - Triple or Home Run with no runners
    - Base Hit with R1 only
    - Sac Fly with R1, R2, less than 2 outs
  - Reverse Rotations
    - Base Hit with (R1, R2), (R1,R3), or (R1,R2,R3)
    - Base Hit with (R2) or (R2, R3) and 2 outs
- HP at the point of the plate - Position himself on the edge of the dirt circle directly behind the point of HP.
- Umpires going out on balls hit to the outfield should go out as far as possible, but must be stopped when making the call. Generally from A and D, go out straight down the foul line.
- The umpire in the infield may go out on trouble balls when responsible for the ball. Exception when line drives do not allow for time to go out.
- U3 always has force play slide rule at 2B on a double play.
- HP will take all fair/foul decisions up to the front of the base. Base umpires will have the remaining fair/foul decisions if they are on the wing (A/D). Otherwise the plate umpire will have the entire line in the absence of a base umpire on the line.
- Check swings – HP will always go to the umpire on the batter's open side. U1 on Righty and U3 on Lefty.
- PU will take all live ball/dead ball responsibility when neither base umpire goes out. Exception: when a regular rotation takes place, U1 becomes responsible for live ball/dead ball (e.g. overthrows).
- When either umpire goes out on a batted ball, the crew will revert to a two man system. When U1 or U3 goes out they stay out. Exceptions are: R1 and R3, PU stays home, and no runners U1 goes out, PU has plays at 1b.
- Hand signals and verbal communications are a must.
- Credits: Randy Hoback "Northern League Mechanics Manual - 3 Man System", numerous camp instructors and fellow umpires that have educated me along the way.

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## No Runners on Base

(U1 in A, U3 in D)

### Outfield Responsibilities

- PU has no responsibilities on fly balls to the outfield.
- U1 – “Quarterback”, PU and U3 read U1. U1 is responsible for fly balls/line drives hit directly at F8 straight in or straight back and all the way to the dead ball area beyond the right field foul line.
- U3 - Read U1 on balls hit towards F8. U3 is responsible for any fly balls/line drives hit to the right of F8 and all the way to the dead ball area beyond the left field foul line.
- Base umpires that do not go out retain fly ball responsibility from their position.

### No Umpire Goes Out

- PU - move slightly in the direction of the ball staying foul and in the dirt circle. If BR commits to 2B, PU will move into foul territory at 3B in preparation for a play.
- U1 – Routine fly balls for which U1 is responsible, U1 may move in a direction back towards 1B in foul territory. U1 has responsibility for any play back into 1B on the BR. On an obvious extra base hit, U1 remains in the vicinity of 1B until BR commits to 3B, then releases to HP to rule on any play on the BR at HP.
- U3 – Will come across the infield for possible plays on the BR at 2B.

### U1 Goes Out

- PU – come up the 1B line in foul territory and is responsible for the BR touch of 1B and any play back into 1B. On an extra base hit, PU will release back to HP once BR has reached 2B.
- U3 – Move into the infield and take any play on the BR at 2B and 3B.

### U3 Goes Out

- PU – Revert to two man system. Remain at the point of the plate for plays at HP.
- U1 – Come inside, pivot and take all plays on BR at 1B, 2B and 3B.

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## Runner on 1B Only

### U1 in A, U3 in B or C (C is mandatory if BR is a lefty)

#### Outfield Responsibilities

- PU – Responsible for fly ball which causes F7 to go towards the left field foul line.
- U1 – Responsible for all fly balls hit to F9 moving towards the foul line, for trouble balls hit to F9, trouble balls hit to F8 straight in and straight back and trouble balls hit to F8 moving towards F9.
- U3 – Responsible for all routine catches in the “V” and any trouble balls hit to F7 straight in and straight back, trouble balls hit to F7 moving towards F8 and trouble balls hit to F8 moving towards F7.

#### No Umpire Goes Out

- PU – Rotate to 3B in foul territory ready for any play at 3B. PU will remain at 3B until all action has completed.
- U1 – Fly balls for which U3 is responsible, U1 will move into foul territory for any play back into 1B on R1. On a base hit, move into foul territory and once R1 commits to 3B, U1 will rotate to HP. Has tag of R1 at 1B. Touch of 1B by BR.
- U3 – Take all plays on R1 at 2B. Once R1 commits to 3B, U3 will slide over and pick up any play on BR at 1B and 2B. Has touch at 2B by R1 and BR.

#### U1 Goes Out

- PU and U3 revert to the two man system.

#### U3 Goes Out

- PU and U1 revert to the two man system.

# 3 Man Baseball Umpire Mechanics Summary – CCA Manual

## Runner on 2B Only – Less than 2 outs

**(U1 in B, U3 in D)**

### Outfield Responsibilities

- PU – Responsible for fly ball which causes F9 to go towards the right field foul line.
- U1 – Responsible for all routine catches in the “V” and any trouble balls hit to F9 straight in and straight back, trouble balls hit to F8 straight in and straight back, trouble balls hit to F9 moving towards F8 and trouble balls hit to F8 moving towards F9.
- U3 – Responsible for all fly balls hit to F7 moving towards the foul line, for trouble balls hit to F7, trouble balls hit to F7 moving towards F8 and trouble balls hit to F8 moving towards F7.

### No Umpire Goes Out

- PU – If responsible for fly ball or fair/foul, PU will move out in the direction of the ball, gaining as much ground as possible, then returning to point of HP. If not responsible for the ball, PU remains at the point of HP. PU has all plays on all runners at HP. Has touches at 3B and HP.
- U1 – Has plays back into 2B on R2, all plays on BR at 1B and 2B. Has touch at 1B and 2B by BR.
- U3 – Has all plays at 3B. Has touch/tag at 2B by R2.

### U1 Goes Out

- PU and U3 revert to the two man system.

### U3 Goes Out

- PU and U1 revert to the two man system.

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## Runner on 2B Only –2 outs

(U1 in A, U3 in C)

### Outfield Responsibilities

- PU – Responsible for fly ball which causes F7 to go towards the left field foul line.
- U1 – Responsible for all fly balls hit to F9 moving towards the foul line, for trouble balls hit to F9, trouble balls hit to F8 straight in and straight back and trouble balls hit to F8 moving towards F9.
- U3 – Responsible for all routine catches in the “V” and any trouble balls hit to F7 straight in and straight back, trouble balls hit to F7 moving towards F8 and trouble balls hit to F8 moving towards F7.

### No Umpire Goes Out

- PU – If responsible for fly ball or fair/foul, PU will move out in the direction of the ball, gaining as much ground as possible, then returning to HP. If not responsible for the ball, PU remains at the point of HP. PU has all plays on all runners at HP. Has touches at 3B and HP.
- U1 –All plays on BR at 1B and 2B. Has touch at 1B by BR and touch of 2B by BR.
- U3 – Has all plays on R2 at 2B and all plays at 3B.

### U1 Goes Out

- PU and U3 revert to the two man system.

### U3 Goes Out

- PU and U1 revert to the two man system.

# 3 Man Baseball Umpire Mechanics Summary – CCA Manual

## Runner on 1B and 2B

(U1 in A, U3 in C)

### Outfield Responsibilities

- PU – Responsible for fly ball which causes F7 to go towards the left field foul line.
- U1 – Responsible for all fly balls hit to F9 moving towards the foul line, for trouble balls hit to F9, trouble balls hit to F8 straight in and straight back and trouble balls hit to F8 moving towards F9.
- U3 – Responsible for all routine catches in the “V” and any trouble balls hit to F7 straight in and straight back, trouble balls hit to F7 moving towards F8 and trouble balls hit to F8 moving towards F7.

### No Umpire Goes Out – Base Hit

- PU – If responsible for fly ball or fair/foul, PU will move out in the direction of the ball, gaining as much ground as possible, then returning to HP. If not responsible for the ball, PU remains at the point of HP. PU has all plays on all runners at HP. Has touches at 3B and HP.
- U1 – All plays on BR at 1B and 2B and plays on R1 back into 1B. Has tag/touch at 1B.
- U3 – Has all plays on R2 back into 2B, R1 at 2B and all plays at 3B. Has tag/touch at 2B of R2 and R1.

### No Umpire Goes Out – Catchable Fly Ball (Less than 2 outs)

- PU – If responsible for fly ball or fair/foul, PU will move out in the direction of the ball, rule on catch/fair-foul, then rotates to 3B in foul territory for play of R2 to 3B. Has touch at 3B.
- U1 – Has tag up at 1B, then rotates to HP when R2 commits to 3B. Has touch at HP.
- U3 – Has tag up at 2B, when R2 commits to 3B, U3 picks up R1 and has all plays on R1 at 1B and 2B. Has touch at 2B by R1.

### U1 Goes Out

- PU moves to point of plate and U3 has all runners at 1B, 2B and 3B.

### U3 Goes Out

- PU moves to point of plate and U1 has all runners at 1B, 2B and 3B.

# 3 Man Baseball Umpire Mechanics Summary – CCA Manual

## Runner on 1B, 2B and 3B

(U1 in A, U3 in C)

### Outfield Responsibilities

- PU – Responsible for fly ball which causes F7 to go towards the left field foul line.
- U1 – Responsible for all fly balls hit to F9 moving towards the foul line, for trouble balls hit to F9, trouble balls hit to F8 straight in and straight back and trouble balls hit to F8 moving towards F9.
- U3 – Responsible for all routine catches in the “V” and any trouble balls hit to F7 straight in and straight back, trouble balls hit to F7 moving towards F8 and trouble balls hit to F8 moving towards F7.

### No Umpire Goes Out – Base Hit

- PU – If responsible for fly ball or fair/foul, PU will move out in the direction of the ball, gaining as much ground as possible, then returning to point of HP. If not responsible for the ball, PU moves to the point of HP. PU has all plays on all runners at HP. Has touch at 3B and HP.
- U1 – All plays at 1B and plays on BR into 2B. Has touch at 1B and 2B by BR.
- U3 – Has all plays on R1 and R2 at 2B and all plays at 3B. Has touch at 2B by R1.

### No Umpire Goes Out – Catchable Fly Ball (Less than 2 outs)

- PU – If responsible for fly ball or fair/foul, PU will move out in the direction of the ball, gaining as much ground as possible, then returning to point of HP. If not responsible for the ball, PU moves to the point of HP. PU has all plays on all runners at HP. Has tag/touch at 3B and touch at HP.
- U1 – All plays at 1B and plays on R1 into 2B. Has tag/touch at 1B.
- U3 – Has plays on R2 at 2B and all plays at 3B. Has tag/touch at 2B.

### U1 Goes Out

- PU and U3 revert to the two man system.

### U3 Goes Out

- PU and U1 revert to the two man system.



# 3 Man Baseball Umpire Mechanics Summary – CCA Manual

## Runner on 3B Only

(U1 in A, U3 in D)

### Outfield Responsibilities

- PU has no responsibilities on fly balls to the outfield.
- U1 - Responsible for fly balls/line drives hit directly at F8 straight in or straight back and all the way to the dead ball area beyond the right field foul line.
- U3 - Read U1 on balls hit towards F8. Responsible for any fly balls/line drives hit to the right of F8 and all the way to the dead ball area beyond the left field foul line.
- Base umpires that do not go out retain fly ball responsibility from their position.

### No Umpire Goes Out

- PU – Moves to the point of HP. Has all plays at HP. Has tag/touch at 3B and HP.
- U1 – All plays at 1B. Has touch at 1B.
- U3 – Has all plays on R3 back into 3B and all plays at 2B and 3B. Has touch at 2B.

### U1 Goes Out

- PU - Moves to the point of HP. Has all plays on all runners at HP.
- U3 – Must “crash” to 1B for any plays at 1B, then has all plays on BR at 2B and 3B.

### U3 Goes Out

- PU – Moves to the point of HP. Has all plays on all runners at HP.
- U1 – Must “crash” to 3B for any plays back into 3B, then has all plays on BR at 1B, 2B and 3B.

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## Runner on 2B and 3B (Less than 2 Outs)

(U1 in B, U3 in D)

### Outfield Responsibilities

- PU – Responsible for fly ball which causes F9 to go towards the right field foul line.
- U1 – Responsible for all routine catches in the “V” and any trouble balls hit to F9 straight in and straight back, trouble balls hit to F8 straight in and straight back, trouble balls hit to F9 moving towards F8 and trouble balls hit to F8 moving towards F9.
- U3 – Responsible for all fly balls hit to F7 moving towards the foul line, for trouble balls hit to F7, trouble balls hit to F7 moving towards F8 and trouble balls hit to F8 moving towards F7.

### No Umpire Goes Out

- PU – If responsible for fly ball or fair/foul, PU will move out in the direction of the ball, gaining as much ground as possible, then returning to point of HP. If not responsible for the ball, PU moves to the point of HP. Has all plays on all runners at HP. Has tag/touch at 3B and HP.
- U1 – All plays on BR at 1B and 2B and plays on R2 back into 2B. Has touch by BR at 1B and 2B.
- U3 – Has all plays at 3B. Has tag at 2B by R2.

### U1 Goes Out

- PU and U3 revert to the two man system.

### U3 Goes Out

- PU and U1 revert to the two man system.

## 3 Man Baseball Umpire Mechanics Summary – CCA Manual

### Runner on 2B and 3B (2 Outs)

(U1 in A, U3 in C)

#### Outfield Responsibilities

- PU – Responsible for fly ball which causes F7 to go towards the left field foul line.
- U1 – Responsible for all fly balls hit to F9 moving towards the foul line, for trouble balls hit to F9, trouble balls hit to F8 straight in and straight back and trouble balls hit to F8 moving towards F9.
- U3 – Responsible for all routine catches in the “V” and any trouble balls hit to F7 straight in and straight back, trouble balls hit to F7 moving towards F8 and trouble balls hit to F8 moving towards F7.

#### No Umpire Goes Out

- PU – If responsible for fly ball or fair/foul, PU will move out in the direction of the ball, gaining as much ground as possible, then returning to the point of HP. If not responsible for the ball, PU moves to the point of HP. Has all plays on all runners at HP. Has touch at 3B and HP.
- U1 – All plays on BR at 1B and 2B. Has touch by BR at 1B and 2B.
- U3 – Has all plays at 3B and R2 back into 2B.

#### U1 Goes Out

- PU and U3 revert to the two man system.

#### U3 Goes Out

- PU and U1 revert to two man system.

# 3 Man Baseball Umpire Mechanics Summary – CCA Manual

## Runner on 1B and 3B

(U1 in A, U3 in C)

### Outfield Responsibilities

- PU – Responsible for fly ball which causes F7 to go towards the left field foul line.
- U1 – Responsible for all fly balls hit to F9 moving towards the foul line, for trouble balls hit to F9, trouble balls hit to F8 straight in and straight back and trouble balls hit to F8 moving towards F9.
- U3 – Responsible for all routine catches in the “V” and any trouble balls hit to F7 straight in and straight back, trouble balls hit to F7 moving towards F8 and trouble balls hit to F8 moving towards F7.

### No Umpire Goes Out

- PU – If responsible for fly ball or fair/foul, PU will move out in the direction of the ball, gaining as much ground as possible, then returning to the point of HP. If not responsible for the ball, PU moves to the point of HP. Has all plays on all runners at HP. Has touch at 3B and HP.
- U1 – All plays on BR at 1B and 2B. Has touch by BR at 1B and 2B.
- U3 – Has all plays at 3B and R1 at 2B. Has touch at 2B by R1.

### U1 Goes Out

- PU moves to the point of HP and U3 has all runners at 1B, 2B and 3B.

### U3 Goes Out

- PU moves to the point of HP and U1 has all runners at 1B, 2B and 3B.