

# 3-Umpire Mechanics

## **GENERAL NOTES:**

- See the 2-Umpire Mechanics for additional general notes. Do not review this 3-Umpire Mechanics document until you are proficient with the 2-Umpire Mechanics document.
- The 3-Umpire system works only if the entire crew knows and executes the 2-Umpire system properly. Taking shortcuts or doing things your own way in the 2-Umpire system will will NOT work in the 3-Umpire system. Incorrect 3-Umpire Mechanics can provide worse coverage than 2-Umpires.
- SDUA members do not work many 3-Umpire games. Pregame is essential.
- COMMUNICATE!
- CCA Mechanics do allow Base Umpires positioned in the infield to cross the basepaths to go into the outfield on Trouble Balls. However, since this is an advanced mechanic for umpires who regularly work the 3-Umpire system, the SDUA requests that umpires positioned in the infield always stay in the infield to avoid miscommunication with your partners.

**LEGEND** (See 2-Umpire Mechanics for additional legend infomation)

1st Base Umpire

(U3) = 3rd Base Umpire

## Base Umpire Positions

#### A Position:

- 6-8 feet behind the1st baseman.
- Both feet in foul territory.

#### **B** Position:

- Halfway between the mound and 2nd base. Do not position deeper (closer to 2nd base).
- 1st base side of the mound.

#### **Deep B Position:**

- At the edge of the grass on the 1st base side of 2nd base.
- Do not get too close to 2nd base.

#### C Position:

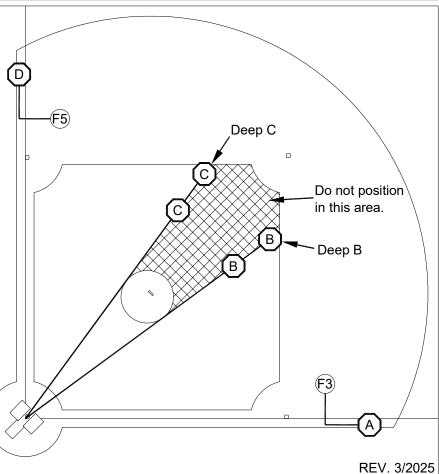
- Halfway between the mound and 2nd base. Do not position deeper (closer to 2nd base).
- 3rd base side of the mound.

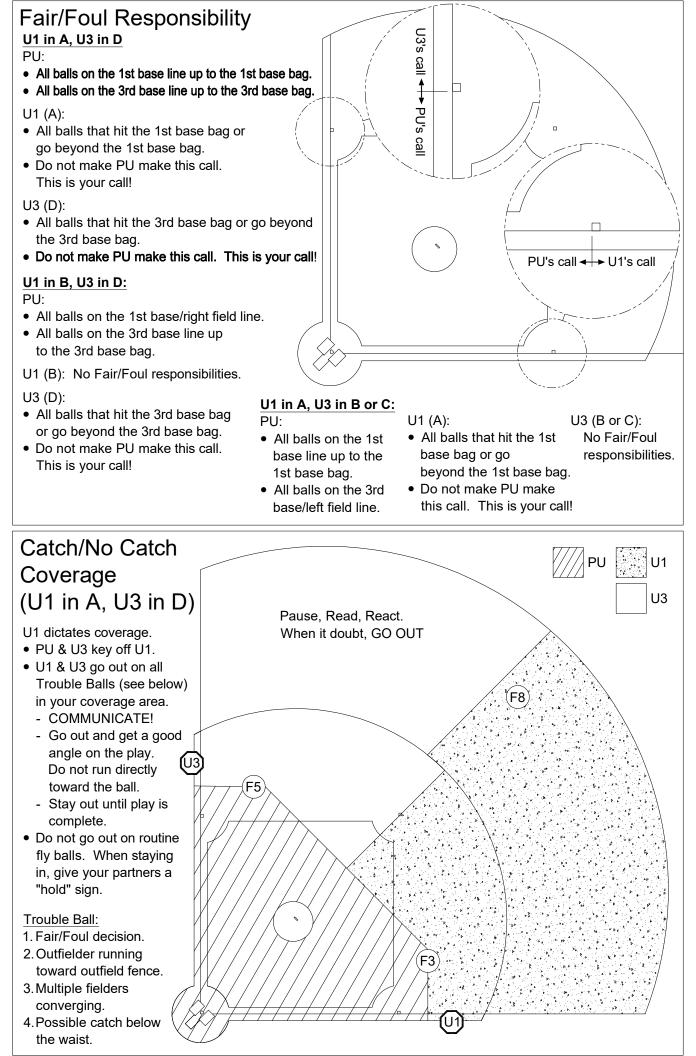
#### **Deep C Position:**

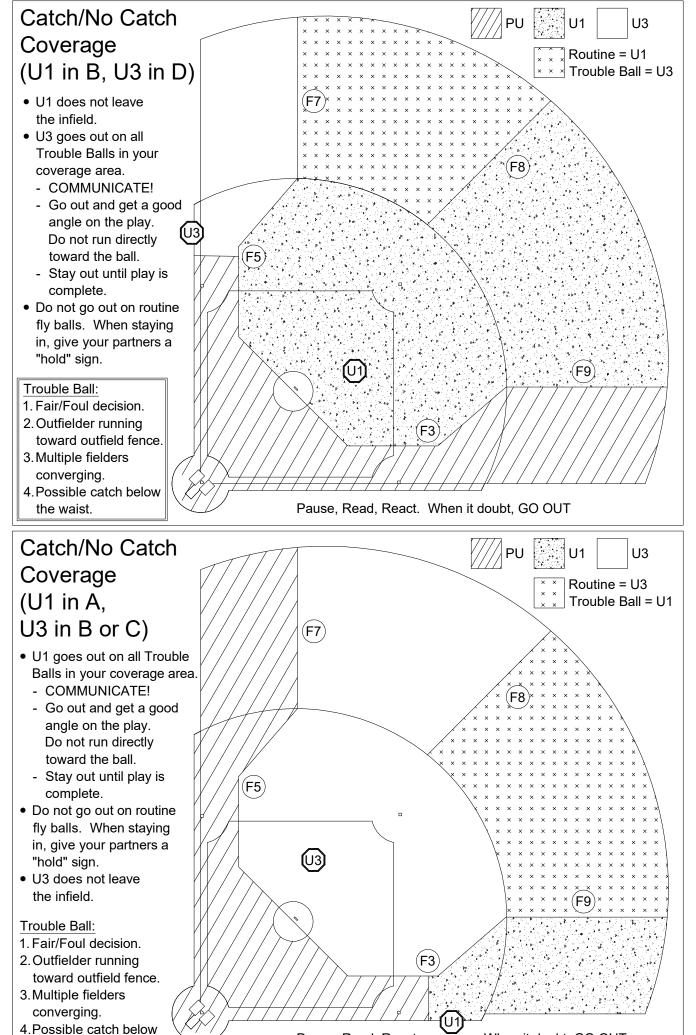
- At the edge of the grass on the 3rd base side of 2nd base.
- Do not get too close to 2nd base.

#### D Position:

- 6-8 feet behind the 3rd baseman.
- Both feet in foul territory.







Pause, Read, React.

the waist.

When it doubt, GO OUT

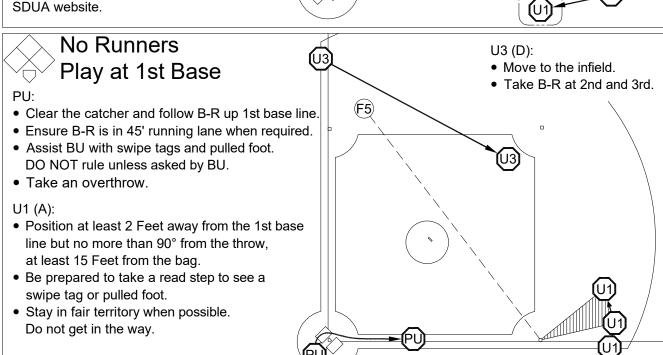
Taking Calls Back to 1st Base and into 3rd Base

When taking calls back to 1st Base, U1 should move into 1st-2nd baseline extended.

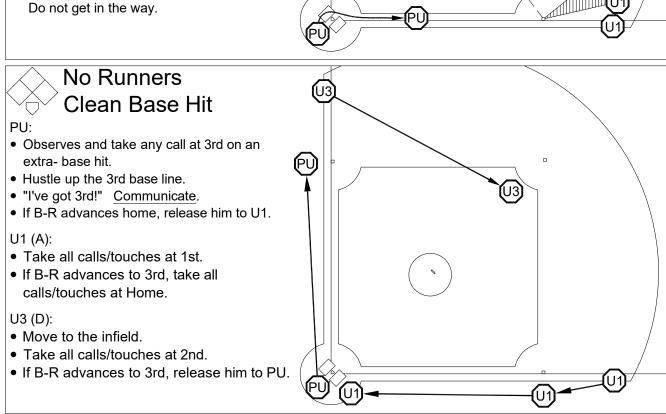
When taking calls into 3rd Base, U3 should move into 2nd-3rd baseline extended.

These positions typically provide the best view of the play as the ball, runner, and fielder's tag are all coming toward you.

PU can also use these positions when taking calls at 1st and 3rd, unless noted otherwise in that specific mechanic.



See the "Track System" document on the





- Move toward 1st.
- Take all calls/touches at 1st.
- Once B-R reaches 2nd, return Home.
- Take all calls/touches at Home.

#### U1 (A):

- Go out and get a good angle on the play. Do not run directly toward the ball.
- Take the catch/no catch.
- Stay out until there is no more trouble.

#### U3 (D):

- Move to the infield.
- Take all calls/touches at 2nd.
- Take all calls/touches at 3rd.



#### PU:

- Clear the catcher and move toward the ball.
- Take B-R at home.

#### U1 (A): Pivot:

- Hustle toward 1st base cutout ahead of B-R while watching the ball and B-R.
- Pivot to face 1st base to take B-R at/near 1st.
- Take all calls/touches at 1st, 2nd, & 3rd.

- Go out and get a good angle on the play.
- Do not run directly toward the ball.
- Take the catch/no catch.
- Stay out until there is no more trouble.

# Runner on 1st Infield Hit

## PU:

- Clear the catcher and follow B-R up
- 1st base line. • Ensure B-R is in 45'

running lane when

- required. Assist U1 with swipe
   Be prepared to take a tags and pulled foot.
- DO NOT rule unless asked by U1. • Take an overthrow.
- Take all calls/touches at

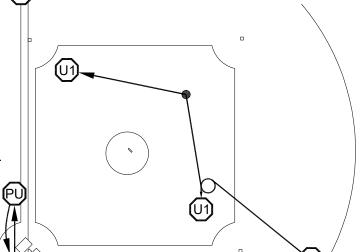
home.

- U1 (A):
- Position at least 2 Feet away from the 1st base line but no more than 90° from the throw, at least
- read step to see a swipe tag or pulled foot.

15 Feet from the 1st

base bag.

 Stay in fair territory when possible. Do not get in the way.



Routine Fly Balls in U1's Coverage Area:

Routine Fly Balls in U3's Coverage Area:

U3 takes catch/no catch.

Use "Clean Base Hit" mechanic.

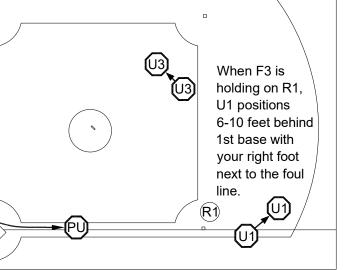
Use "Clean Base Hit" mechanic.

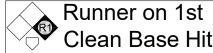
• U1 takes catch/no catch.

U3 (Deep B):

(U3)

- Take all calls/touches at 2nd and 3rd.
- Stay with the play at 2nd (FPSR, etc). Do not peek at 1st.





#### PU:

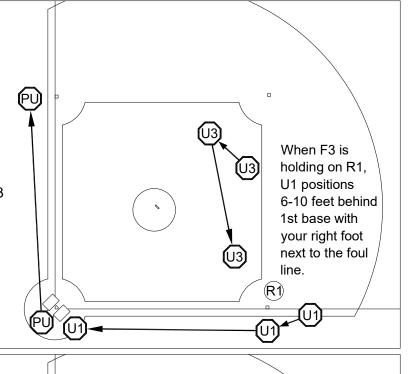
- Hustle up the 3rd base line.
- "I've got 3rd!" Communicate.
- Take all calls/touches at 3rd.
- If R1 advances home, release him to U1.

#### U1 (A):

- Take touch of B-R at 1st.
- If R1 advances to 3rd, release B-R to U3 and take all calls/touches at home.

### U3 (Deep B):

- Take calls of B-R at 1st and all calls/touches of B-R at 2nd.
- Take all calls/touches of R1 at 2nd.





## Runner on 1st Clean Base Hit, Full Count with 2 Outs

#### PU:

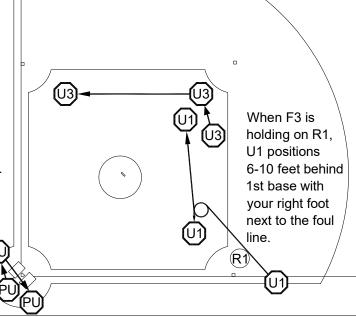
• Take all calls/touches at home.

#### U1 (A):

- Pivot:
  - Hustle toward 1st base cutout ahead of B-R while watching the ball and B-R.
  - Pivot to face 1st base to take B-R at/near 1st.
- Take all calls/touches at 1st.
- Take all calls/touches of B-R at 2nd.

#### U3 (Deep B):

- Take all calls/touches of R1 at 2nd & 3rd.
- Take all calls/touches of B-R at 3rd.





## Runner on 1st Fly Ball & Left Field Trouble Ball

#### PU:

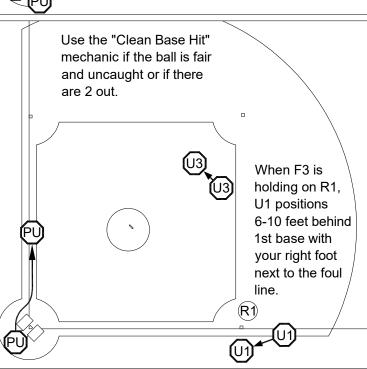
- Take the catch/no catch if in your coverage area.
- Take all calls/touches at home.

#### U1 (A):

Take all calls/touches at 1st.

## U3 (Deep B):

- Take the catch/no catch if in your coverage area.
- Take all calls/touches at 2nd & 3rd.





## Runner on 1st Right Field Trouble Ball (U1 Goes Out)

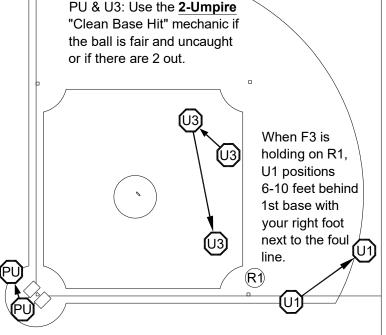
#### PU:

Take all calls/touches at home.

- Go out and get a good angle on the play. Do not run directly toward the ball.
- Take the catch/no catch.
- Stay out until there is no more trouble.

### U3 (Deep B):

• Take all calls/touches at 1st, 2nd, & 3rd.





## Runners on 1st & 2nd Infield Hit

#### PU:

- · Clear the catcher and follow B-R up 1st base line.
- Ensure B-R is in 45' running lane when required.
- tags and pulled foot. DO NOT rule unless
  - asked by U1. Take an overthrow.
- Take all calls/touches at

## U1 (A):

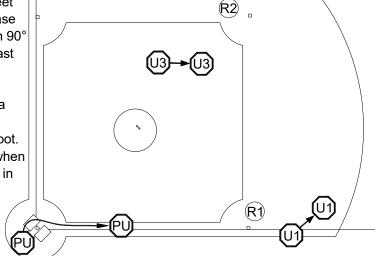
- Position at least 2 Feet away from the 1st base line but no more than 90° from the throw, at least 15 Feet from the 1st
- Assist U1 with swipe
   Be prepared to take a read step to see a swipe tag or pulled foot.

base bag.

 Stay in fair territory when possible. Do not get in the way.

#### U3 (C):

- Take all calls/touches at 2nd and 3rd.
- Stay with the play at 2nd or 3rd (FPSR, etc). Do not peek at 1st.





home.

## Runners on 1st & 2nd Clean Base Hit

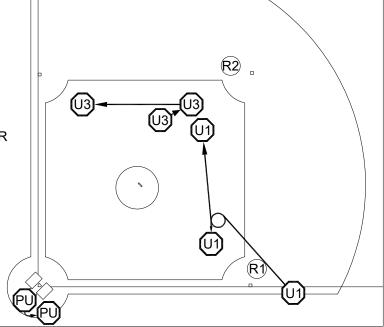
#### PU:

- Clear the catcher.
- Take all calls/touches at home.

#### U1 (A):

- Pivot:
  - Hustle toward 1st base cutout ahead of B-R while watching the ball and B-R.
  - Pivot to face 1st base to take B-R at/near
- Take all calls/touches at 1st.
- Take all calls/touches of B-R at 2nd.

- Take all calls/touches of R1 & R2 at 2nd.
- Take all calls/touches at 3rd.





## Runners on 1st & 2nd Fly Ball & Left Field Trouble Ball

#### PU:

- Hustle up the 3rd base line.
- Take the catch/no catch if in your coverage area.
- "I've got 3rd!" Communicate.
- Take all calls/touches at 3rd.

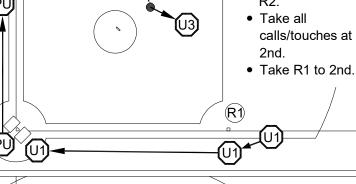
### U1 (A):

- Take touch of B-R at 1st.
- Take tag up of R1.
- If R2 advances to 3rd, release R1 to U3 and take all calls/touches at home.

Use the "Clean Base Hit" mechanic if the ball is fair and uncaught or if there are 2 out.

 Take the catch/no catch if in your coverage area. Take tag up of R2.

U3 (C):





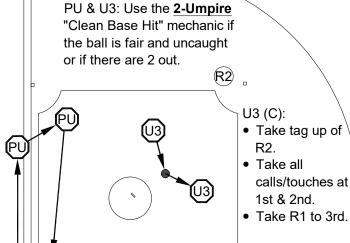
# Runners on 1st & 2nd Right Field Trouble Ball (U1 Goes Out)

#### PU:

- Hustle up the 3rd base line.
- "I've got 3rd!"
- Communicate to U3. If R1 tags and
- advances to 3rd:
  - Move into the 3rd base cutout to make the call.
  - If R1 advances home, hustle home in
- fair territory. • If R1 stays at 2nd, stay in
- foul territory up the 3rd base line.
- Take all calls/touches at home.

## U1 (A):

- Go out and get a good angle
  - on the play. Do not run
- directly toward the ball.
- Take the catch/no catch.
- Stay out until there is no more trouble.





## Bases Loaded Infield Hit

#### PU:

- · Clear the catcher.
- Ensure B-R is in 45' running lane when required.
- Assist U1 with swipe tags and pulled foot. DO NOT rule unless asked by U1.
- Take an overthrow.
- Take all calls/touches at home.

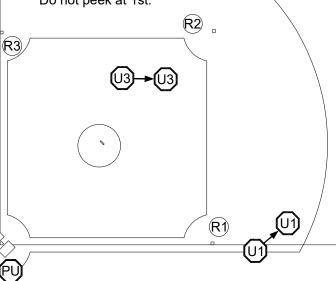
#### U1 (A):

- Position at least 2 Feet away from the 1st base line but no more than 90° from the throw, at least 15 Feet from the 1st base bag.
- Be prepared to take a read step to see a swipe tag or pulled foot.
- Stay in fair territory when possible. Do not get in the way.

#### U3 (C):

- Take all calls/touches at 2nd and 3rd.
- Stay with the play at 2nd or 3rd (FPSR, etc). Do not peek at 1st.

(R1)





## **Bases Loaded** Clean Base Hit

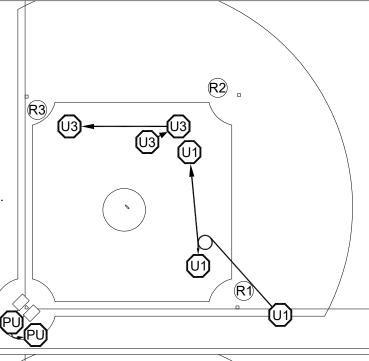
- Take touch of R2 at 3rd.
- Take all calls/touches at home.

#### U1 (A):

- Pivot:
  - Hustle toward 1st base cutout ahead of B-R while watching the ball and B-R.
  - Pivot to face 1st base to take B-R at/near 1st.
- Take all calls/touches at 1st.
- Take all calls/touches of B-R at 2nd.

#### U3 (C):

- Take all calls of R2 at 3rd.
- Take all calls/touches of R1 at 2nd & 3rd.
- Take all calls/touches of B-R at 3rd.



Use the "Clean Base Hit"

mechanic if the ball is fair

or if there are 2 out.

(R3)



## **Bases Loaded** Fly Ball & Left Field Trouble Ball

- · Position for a view of the ball, catch/no catch depending on coverage area, and tag up of R3.
- Take the catch/no catch if in your coverage area.
- Take the tag up of R3.
- Take all calls/touches at home. Get in position!

- Move to the infield, similar to a Pivot.
- Take all calls/touches at 1st.
- Take all calls/touches of R1 at 2nd.

#### U3 (C):

- Take catch/no catch if in your coverage area.
- Take all calls of R2 at 3rd.

Ball in U3's coverage

area.

• Take all calls/touches of R1 at 3rd.



# Bases Loaded Right Field Trouble Ball (U1 Goes Out)

#### PU:

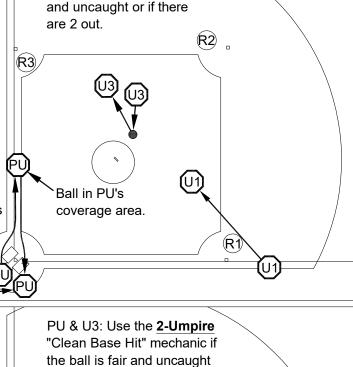
- Position to get a view of the tag up of R3.
- Take the tag up of R3.
- Take all calls/touches at home. Get in position!

#### U1 (A):

- Go out and get a good angle on the play. Do not run directly toward the ball.
- Take the catch/no catch.
- Stay out until there is no more trouble.

#### U3 (C):

- Take all calls/touches at 1st & 2nd.
- Take all calls at 3rd.



(R2)



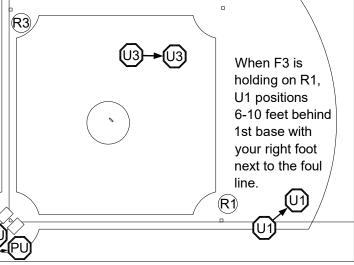
# Runners on 1st & 3rd Infield Hit

#### PU:

- · Clear the catcher.
- Ensure B-R is in 45' running lane when required.
- Assist U1 with swipe tags and pulled foot. DO NOT rule unless asked by U1.
- Take an overthrow.
- Take all calls/touches at home.

- U1 (A):
- Position at least 2 Feet away from the 1st base line but no more than 90° from the throw, at least 15 Feet from the 1st base bag.
- Be prepared to take a read step to see a swipe tag or pulled foot.
- Stay in fair territory when possible. Do not get in the way.

- U3 (C):
- Take all calls/touches at 2nd and 3rd.
- Stay with the play at 2nd or 3rd (FPSR, etc).
   Do not peek at 1st.





# Runners on 1st & 3rd Clean Base Hit

#### PU:

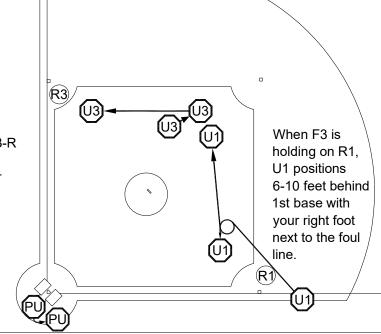
- Clear the catcher.
- Take all calls/touches at home.

#### U1 (A):

- Pivot:
  - Hustle toward 1st base cutout ahead of B-R while watching the ball and B-R.
  - Pivot to face 1st base to take B-R at/near 1st.
- Take all calls/touches at 1st.
- Take all calls/touches of B-R at 2nd.

### U3 (C):

- Take all calls/touches of R1 at 2nd.
- Take all calls/touches at 3rd.



Use the "Clean Base Hit"



# Runners on 1st & 3rd Fly Ball & Left Field Trouble Ball

Ball in U3's

coverage

area.

#### PU:

- Position for a view of the ball, catch/no catch depending on coverage area, and tag up of R3.
- Take the catch/no catch if in your coverage area.
- Take the tag up of R3.
- Take all calls/touches at home. Get in position!

#### U1 (A):

- Move to the infield, similar to a Pivot.
- Take all calls/touches at 1st.
- Take all calls/touches of R1 at 2nd.

### U3 (C):

- Take the catch/no catch if in your coverage area.
- Take all calls of R2 at 3rd.
- Take all calls/touches of R1 at 3rd.

mechanic if the ball is fair and uncaught or if there are 2 out.

When F3 is holding on R1, U1 positions 6-10 feet behind 1st base with your right foot next to the foul line.



Runners on 1st & 3rd Right Field Trouble Ball (U1 Goes Out)

#### PU:

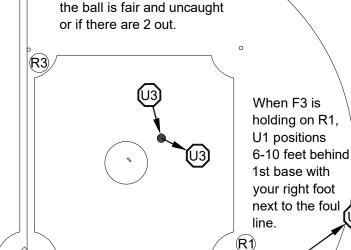
- Position for a view of the tag up of R3.
- Take the tag up of R3.
- Take all calls/touches at home. Get in position!

#### U1 (A):

- Go out and get a good angle on the play.
   Do not run directly toward the ball.
- Take the catch/no catch.
- Stay out until there is no more trouble.

#### U3 (C):

- Take tag up of R2.
- Take all calls/touches at 1st & 2nd.
- Take R1 to 3rd.



PU & U3: Use the 2-Umpire

"Clean Base Hit" mechanic if



## Runner on 2nd -No outs or 1 out Infield Hit

#### PU:

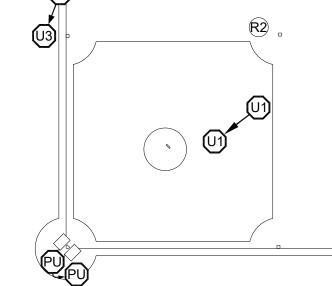
- Clear the catcher.
- Ensure B-R is in 45' running lane when required.
- Assist U1 with swipe tags and pulled foot.
   DO NOT rule unless asked by U1.
- Take an overthrow.
- Take all calls/touches at home.

#### U1 (Deep B):

• Take all calls/touches at 1st & 2nd.

#### U3 (D):

• Take all calls/touches at 3rd.





# Runner on 2nd No outs or 1 out Clean Base Hit

## PU:

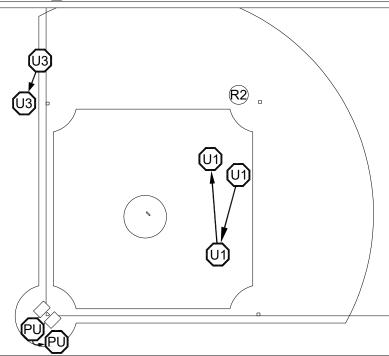
• Take all calls/touches at home.

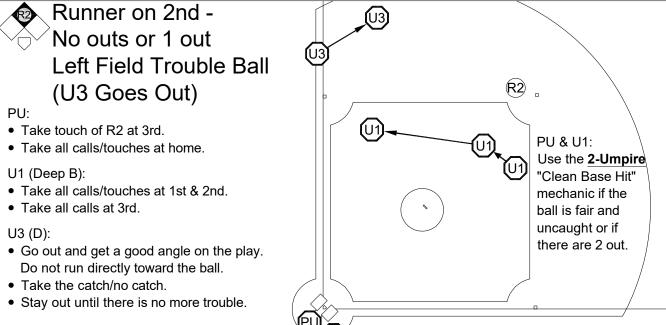
#### U1 (Deep B):

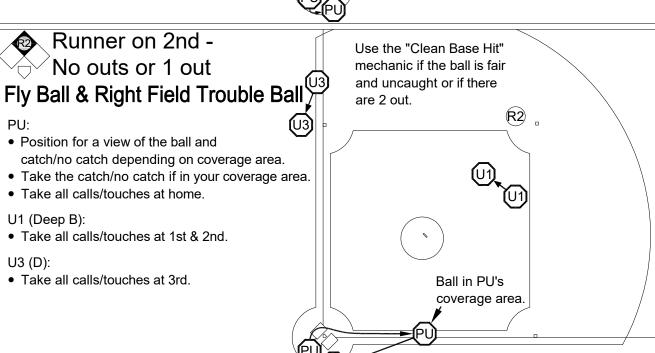
• Take all calls/touches at 1st & 2nd.

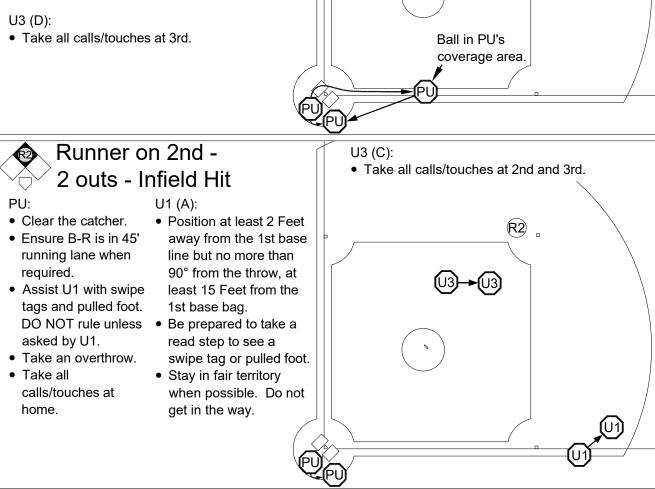
#### U3 (D):

Take all calls/touches at 3rd.











## Runner on 2nd -2 outs - Clean Base Hit

#### PU:

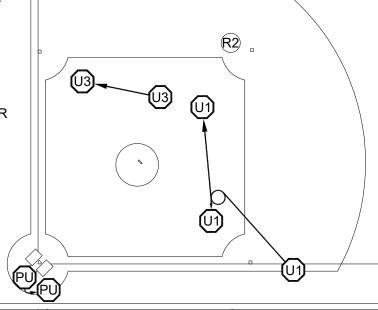
- Clear the catcher.
- Take all calls/touches at home.

#### U1 (A):

- Pivot:
  - Hustle toward 1st base cutout ahead of B-R while watching the ball and B-R.
  - Pivot to face 1st base to take B-R at/near 1st.
- Take all calls/touches at 1st.
- Take all calls/touches of B-R at 2nd.

#### U3 (C):

- Take all calls/touches of R2 at 2nd.
- Take all calls/touches at 3rd.



Take all calls/touches at 2nd and 3rd.

U3 (C):



## Runner on 2nd -2 outs - Fly Ball & Left Field Trouble Ball

#### PU:

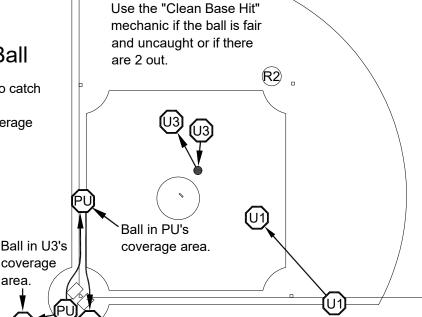
- Position for a view of the ball, catch/no catch depending on coverage area.
- Take the catch/no catch if in your coverage
- Take all calls/touches at home.

#### U1 (A):

- Move to the infield, similar to a Pivot.
- Take all calls/touches at 1st.
- Take all calls/touches of B-R at 2nd.

#### U3 (C):

- Take all calls/touches of R2 at 2nd.
- Take all calls/touches at 3rd.





## Runner on 2nd -2 outs - Right Field Trouble Ball (U1 Goes Out)

area.

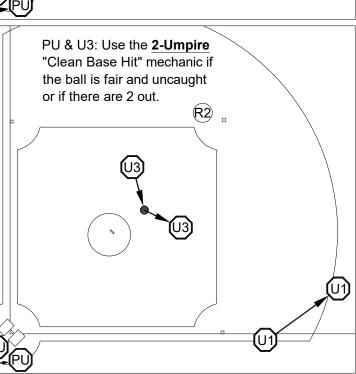
#### PU:

• Take all calls/touches at home.

- Go out and get a good angle on the play. Do not run directly toward the ball.
- Take the catch/no catch.
- Stay out until there is no more trouble.

#### U3 (C):

- Take tag up of R2.
- Take all calls/touches at 1st & 2nd.





## Runners on 2nd & 3rd No outs or 1 out Infield Hit

#### PU

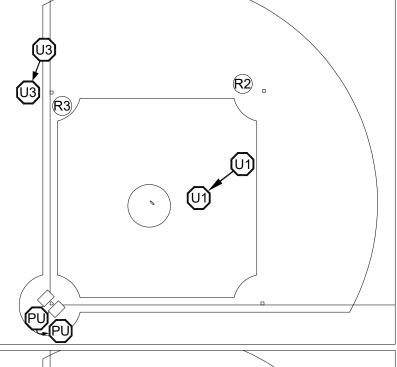
- · Clear the catcher.
- Ensure B-R is in 45' running lane when required.
- Assist U1 with swipe tags and pulled foot.
  - DO NOT rule unless asked by U1.
- Take an overthrow.
- Take all calls/touches at home.

#### U1 (Deep B):

• Take all calls/touches at 1st & 2nd.

#### U3 (D):

• Take all calls/touches at 3rd.





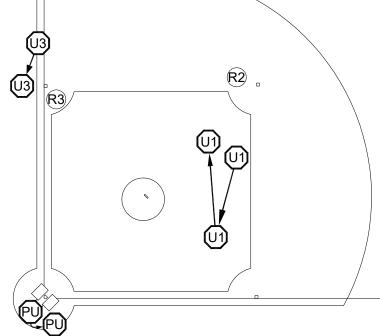
## Runners on 2nd & 3rd No outs or 1 out Clean Base Hit

#### PU:

- Take all calls/touches at home.
- U1 (Deep B):
- Take all calls/touches at 1st & 2nd.

#### U3 (D):

• Take all calls/touches at 3rd.





# Runners on 2nd & 3rd No outs or 1 out Fly Ball & Right Field Trouble Ball

#### PU:

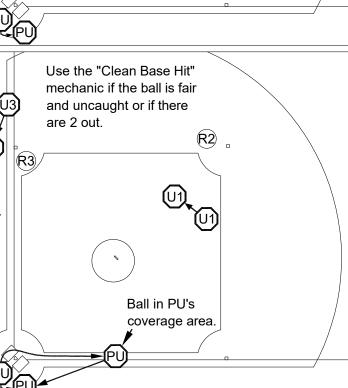
- Position for a view of the ball and catch/no catch depending on coverage area.
- Take the catch/no catch if in your coverage area.
- Take all calls/touches at home.

#### U1 (Deep B):

• Take all calls/touches at 1st & 2nd.

#### U3 (D):

Take all calls/touches at 3rd.





Runners on 2nd & 3rd No outs or 1 out Left Field Trouble Ball (U3 Goes Out)

#### PU:

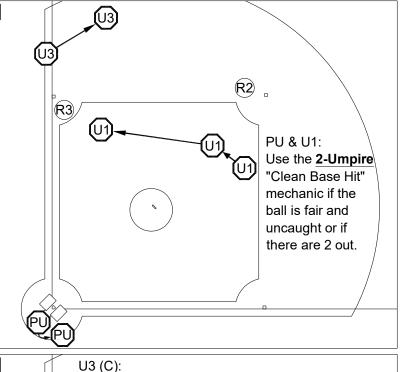
- Take touch of R2 at 3rd.
- Take tag up or R3.
- Take all calls/touches at home.

#### U1 (Deep B):

- Take all calls/touches at 1st & 2nd.
- Take all calls at 3rd.

#### U3 (D):

- Go out and get a good angle on the play. Do not run directly toward the ball.
- Take the catch/no catch.
- Stay out until there is no more trouble.





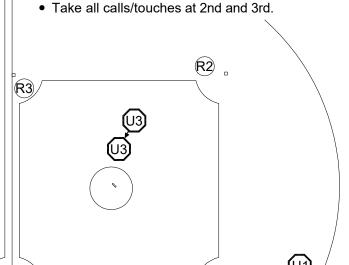
## Runners on 2nd & 3rd 2 outs - Infield Hit

#### PU:

- · Clear the catcher.
- Ensure B-R is in 45' running lane when required.
- Assist U1 with swipe tags and pulled foot. DO NOT rule unless • Be prepared to take a
- asked by U1.
- Take an overthrow. Take all
- calls/touches at home.

#### U1 (A):

- Position at least 2 Feet away from the 1st base
  - line but no more than 90° from the throw, at
  - least 15 Feet from the 1st base bag.
- read step to see a swipe tag or pulled foot.
- Stay in fair territory when possible. Do not get in the way.





## Runners on 2nd & 3rd 2 outs - Clean Base Hit

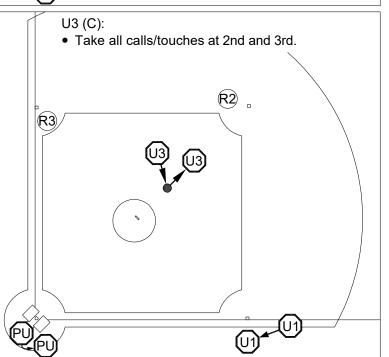
#### PU:

- · Clear the catcher.
- Take all calls/touches at home.

• Take all calls/touches at 1st.

#### U3 (C):

• Take all calls/touches at 2nd & 3rd.





## Runners on 2nd & 3rd 2 outs - Fly Ball & Left Field Trouble Ball

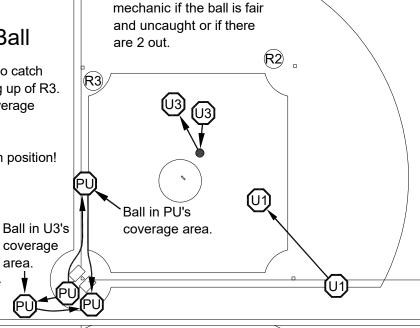
- Position for a view of the ball, catch/no catch depending on coverage area, and tag up of R3.
- Take the catch/no catch if in your coverage
- Take the tag up of R3.
- Take all calls/touches at home. Get in position!

### U1 (A):

- Move to the infield, similar to a Pivot.
- Take all calls/touches at 1st.
- Take all calls/touches of B-R at 2nd.

#### U3 (C):

- Take all calls/touches of R2 at 2nd.
- Take all calls/touches at 3rd.



Use the "Clean Base Hit"



## Runners on 2nd & 3rd 2 outs - Right Field Trouble Ball (U1 Goes Out)

area.

#### PU:

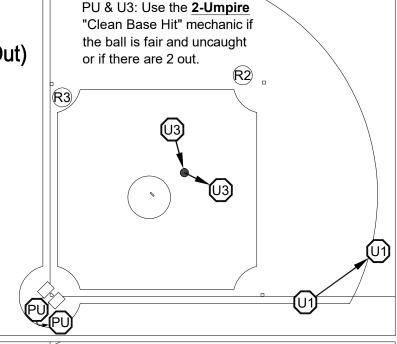
- Take the tag up of R3.
- Take all calls/touches at home.

#### U1 (A):

- Go out and get a good angle on the play. Do not run directly toward the ball.
- Take the catch/no catch.
- Stay out until there is no more trouble.

#### U3 (C):

- Take tag up of R2.
- Take all calls/touches at 1st, 2nd, & 3rd.





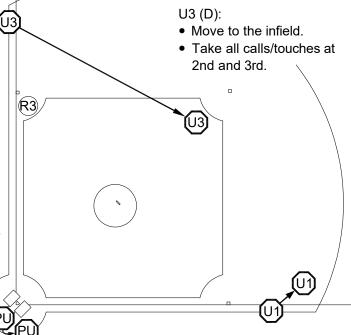
## Runner on 3rd Infield Hit

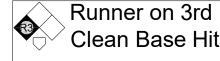
#### PU:

- Clear the catcher.
- Ensure B-R is in 45' running lane when required.
- Assist U1 with swipe tags and pulled foot. DO NOT rule unless asked by U1.
- Take an overthrow.
- Take all calls/touches at home.

#### U1 (A):

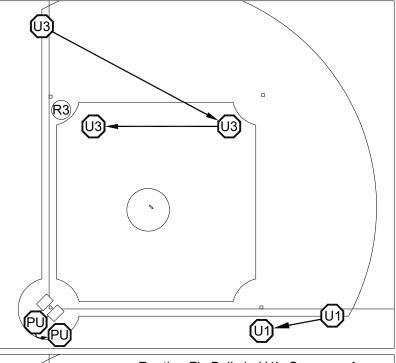
- Position at least 2 Feet away from the 1st base line but no more than 90° from the throw, at least 15 Feet from the 1st base bag.
- Be prepared to take a read step to see a swipe tag or pulled foot.
- Stay in fair territory when possible. Do not get in the way.





#### PU:

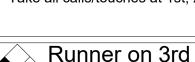
- Take all calls/touches at home.
- U1 (A):
- Take all calls/touches at 1st.
- U3 (D):
- Move to the infield.
- Take all calls/touches at 2nd & 3rd.





## Runner on 3rd Fly Ball & Trouble Ball (U1 Goes Out)

- PU:
- Position for a view of the ball and tag up of R3.
- Take the tag up of R3.
- Take all calls/touches at home.
- U1 (A):
- Go out and get a good angle on the play.
   Do not run directly toward the ball.
- Take the catch/no catch.
- Stay out until there is no more trouble.
- U3 (D):
- Move to the infield. HUSTLE!!
- Take all calls/touches at 1st, 2nd & 3rd.



# Fly Ball & Trouble Ball (U3 Goes Out)

#### PU:

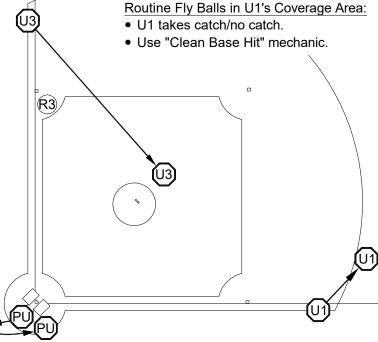
- Clear the catcher and move toward the ball.
- Take all calls/touches at home.

## U1 (A):

- Pivot:
  - Hustle toward 1st base cutout ahead of B-R while watching the ball and B-R.
  - Pivot to face 1st base to take B-R at/near 1st.
- Take all calls/touches at 1st, 2nd, & 3rd.

#### U3 (D):

- Go out and get a good angle on the play.
   Do not run directly toward the ball.
- Take the catch/no catch.
- Stay out until there is no more trouble.



Routine Fly Balls in U3's Coverage Area:

Use "Clean Base Hit" mechanic.

U3 takes catch/no catch.

(U3)



