

# 3 Umpire System

The way the game is meant to be called

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# Words You will Hear

- Use Manual Words
  - Standard, rotated, counter rotated
- Action Edge
  - Tag Play Edge of base (plate) Where tag is likely to happen
- Bracket the Lead runner
  - 1 umpire ahead and 1 umpire behind
- Umpire Lazy
  - DO NOT BE A LAZY UMPIRE
    - Do not take 10 steps when 5 will work
    - Start at the distance you want to end
- Movement vs Adjustment
  - Be set, small step to be where you need to be
  - Very different than 2 umpire system
    - Steal of 2B is perfect example

# Square to Home Plate

- We do not need to focus on the pitcher
  - No Balks in Softball
- Body Square, turn your head
  - Naturally face to the front
  - Turn your head to watch P / R
    - Relax your neck will take you to the batter
    - Work in your priorities
      - Pitcher to Runner to Batter

# Get where you need to be

- Do not say “I have ... until you *HAVE* ...”
  - If you are unable to get where you should be, tell Jeremy
    - Be honest with him, yourself and the players.
    - Get to tag distance, and where you are supposed to be.
      - Get to the point of the plate
      - Beat the Runner to your position
        - Adjustment, not Movement
          - We have 45 feet to run in same time as runner has to go 120

# One step fair, not 5

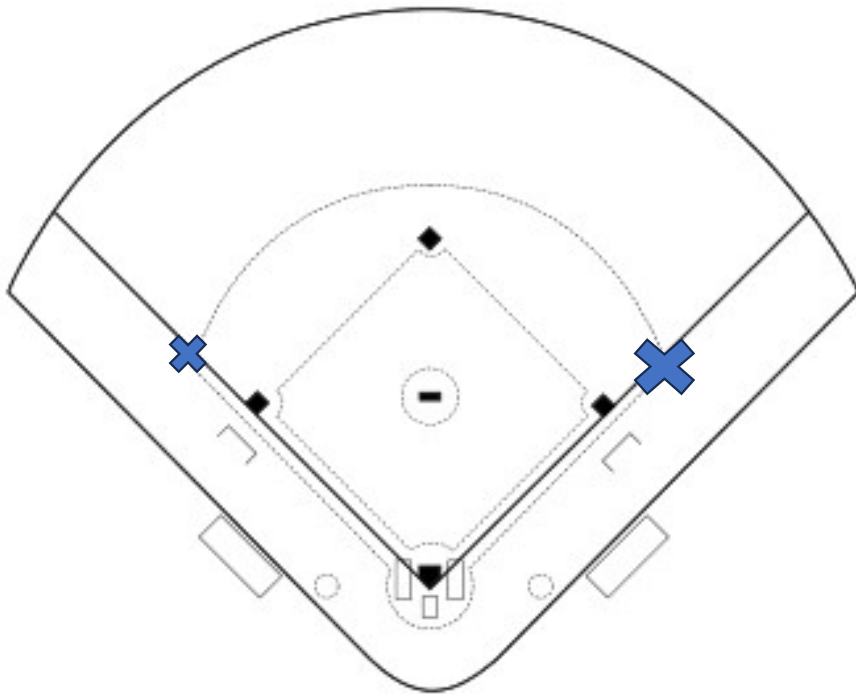
- Come in to your proper angle
- Do not over move
  - Adjustment, not movements

# Standard starting position

- Zero Runners on
- KEYS TO REMEMBER
  - U3- Get to 2B
  - U1- Ready to go Home
- Runners on 3B only
  - Slight change for U3
    - See Counter Rotated Start

# Starting Positions

## Standard



## Distances

- U1
  - 18-20 feet from 1B
  - Not 20-30
  - Ready to move into diamond at force depth
- U3
  - 18-20 feet from 3B
  - Not 20-30

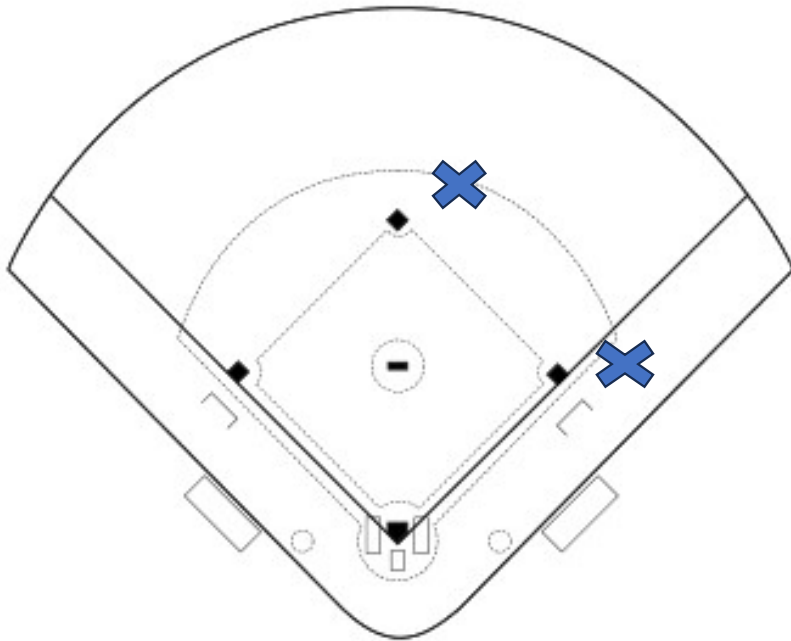
# Rotated

- Runner on 1B only
  - Only time we will be Rotated
- KEYS TO REMEMBER
  - U1 Be ready to get home
  - U3 Set up with Belt buckle at Action Edge
    - Adjust vs move for steal of 2B
    - Adjust for angle on Force Play



# Starting Positions

## Rotated



## Distances

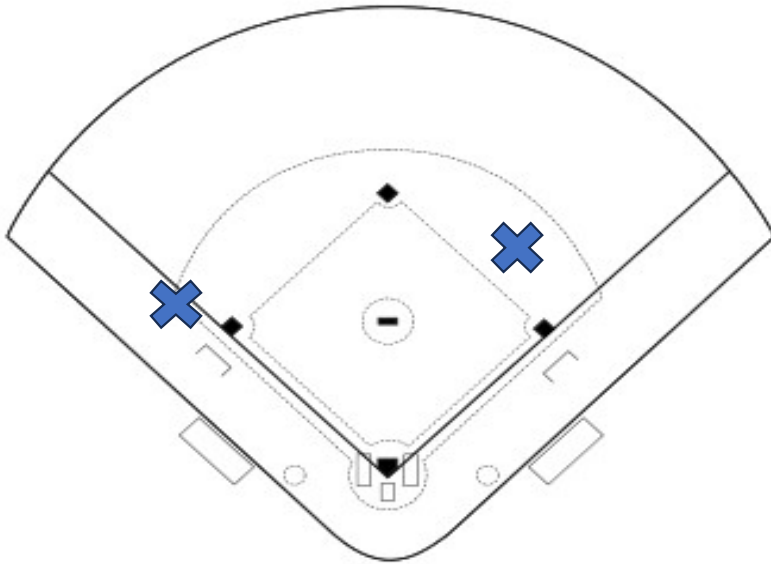
- U1
  - Tag Depth from 1B
  - ***Slightly*** off the line
    - 10-12 feet
- U3
  - Tag depth from 2B
    - 10-12 feet
    - Line up your Belt buckle with Action edge

# Counter Rotated

- Runner on 2B only
- Runner on 1B and 2B
- Runner on 1B and 3B
- Bases Loaded
- Keys to Remember
  - No one going home
  - No one with major movement

# Starting Position

## Counter Rotated



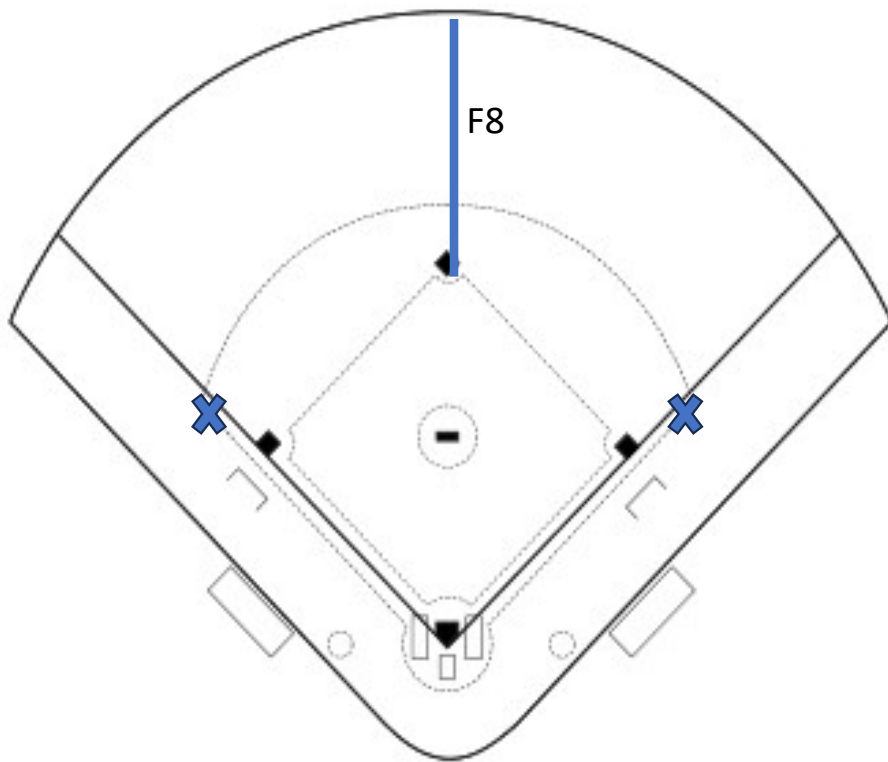
## Distances

- U1
  - Split 1B and 2B
  - Behind F4
  - Still Responsible for play at 1B
  - Biggest issue on 3U crews in 2024
    - Way too far toward 2B
    - Middle 30 feet is key
- U3
  - 10-12 feet behind 3B in Foul
    - Step in for play of 2B-3B
    - Step down for P/O at 3B
      - Think about the action edge

# Going out on Fly Balls

- Things to Remember These are the KEYS!
  - When the ball is in your area – GO Get it
    - 3 Umpire system breaks down most often when there are 3 umpires in the infield
    - Go out- Stay Out
      - When you go, let the ball take your eyes back into the infield
- Run Parallel to the ball, not at the player
  - May spook the player
  - Can see ball at a better angle and adjust
- COMMUNICATE!
  - Could be said for every play and rotation
  - Say something!
    - **EVERYONE**
      - **Plate- Tell the crew what has happened**

# Areas Of Responsibility



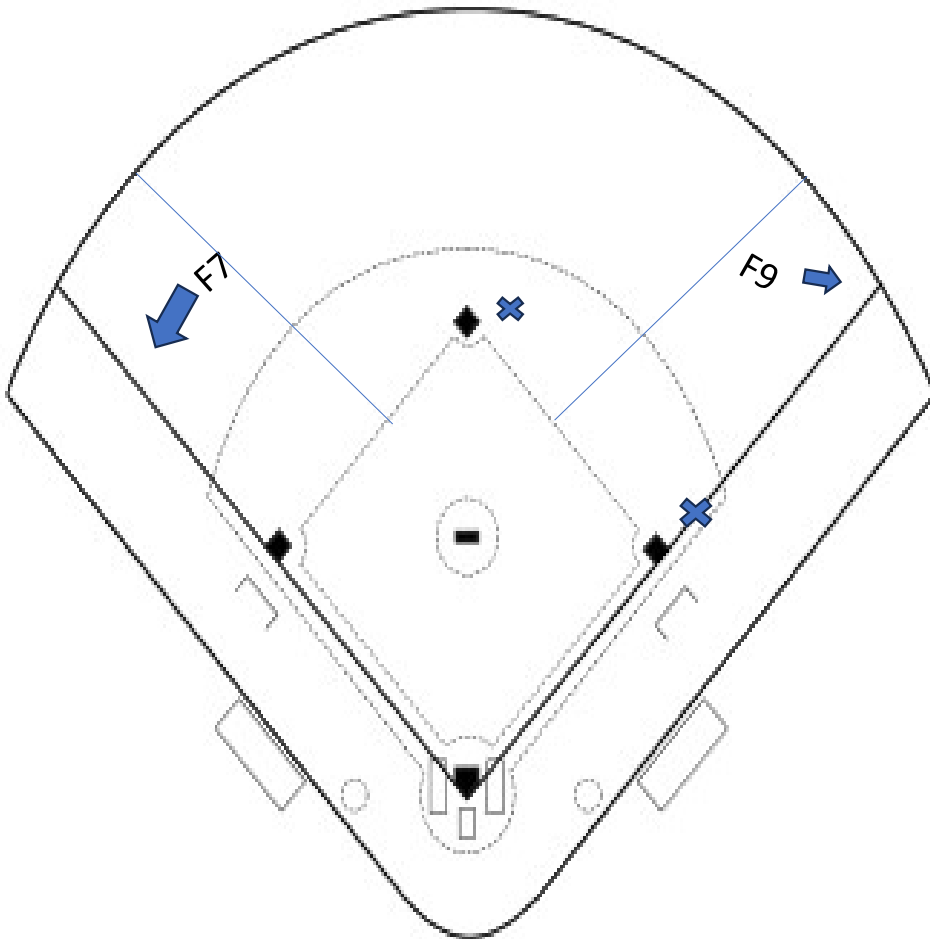
- Standard
- PU
  - Fair Foul Up to the Bags
  - Fly balls in the infield
    - If Fielder goes past the Base U's, they have it
- U1
  - From F8 to RF Fence
- U3
  - From F8 to LF Fence

# Special Consideration

## Center Fielder coming in and going out straight

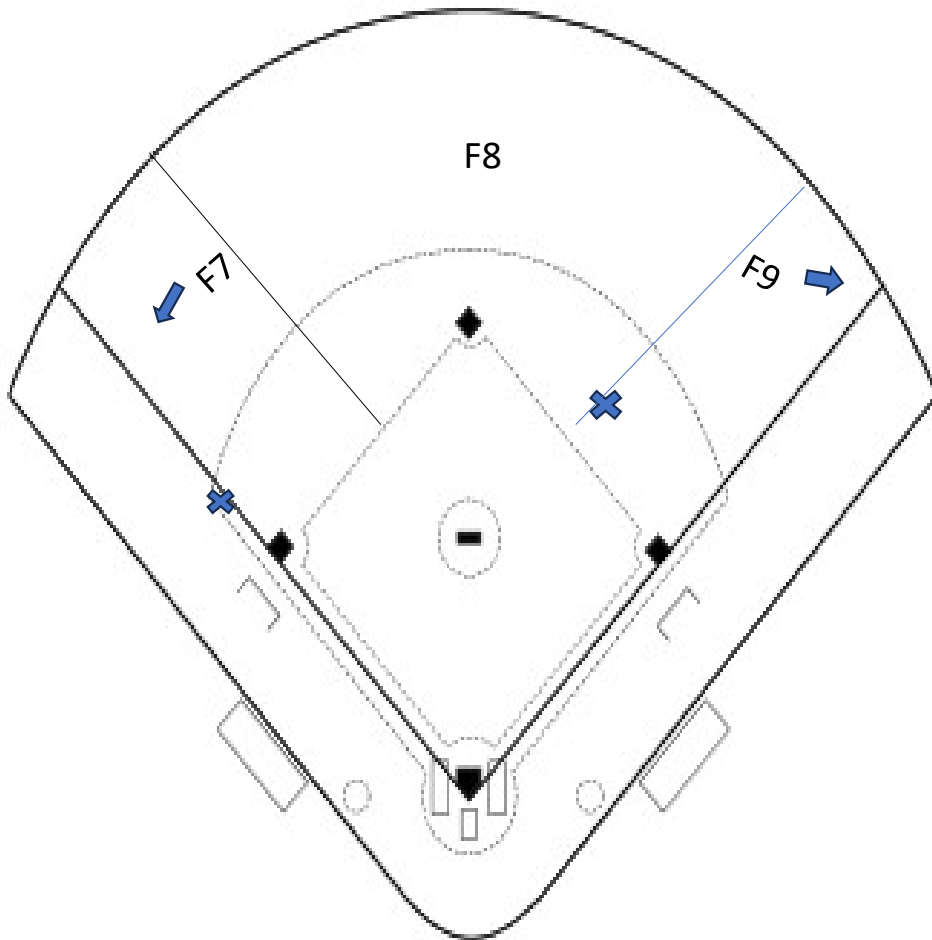
- Option #1
  - Look at Center Fielder
    - If her Glove opens in your direction you take the F8 going straight in
      - If her Glove opens in opposite direction you take her going straight out
- Option #2
  - U3 has right of 1<sup>st</sup> refusal
    - Center Fielder going straight in or straight our means U3 goes.

# Rotated Fly Ball Coverage



- Plate Umpire
  - F7 to LF Fence
  - All Fair/Foul on 3B line
  - Fair/Foul up to 1B, Nothing past the bag
- U1
  - F9 To RF Fence
  - Fair/Foul- All Beyond the 1B Bag
- U3
  - F7 to F9

# Counter Rotated Fly Ball Coverage



- Plate Umpire
  - F9 to RF Fence
  - All Fair/Foul on 1B line
  - Fair/Foul up to 3B, Nothing past the bag
- U1
  - F9 To F7
- U3
  - F7 To LF Fence
  - Fair/Foul- All Beyond the 3B Bag



# Keys to Success

- Pre's are the key
  - Game
    - Everyone needs to be involved
    - Plate umpire leads the show
      - Base umpires Keys to 'Cover'
        - Fly Ball Commo
        - Pre pitch Commo
        - Base and pitching brushing
          - Last and LEAST Important thing
  - Pitch
    - Check your responsibility in the order it will happen
      - Runner
      - Pitcher
      - Plate
      - Fly Ball Area of Coverage

# Questions

- Remember:
- What ifs are for the bar