

Baseball 2-Person Pregame Outline

MHSAA · Officials Department

1 Review New Rules and POE

2 Pregame Meeting

- a. Positions
- b. Verbally ask if helmets and bat are legal

3 Checked Swing / Pulled Foot / Swipe Tag Mechanics

4 Fair / Foul Responsibilities

- a. Plate umpire has up to the bag...base umpire has bag and beyond.
- b. If no base umpire on the line, plate umpire has the entire line.
- c. Entire crew should get eyes on any ball threatening the wall / foul pole.

5 Outfield Coverage

- a. No runners on base — plate umpire has all fly balls unless base umpire goes out.
- b. Runners on base — base umpire has the “V” between LF and RF; plate umpire takes corner outfielder going to the line.
- c. If base umpire goes out with no runners on, plate umpire covers batter-runner to 3rd. Base umpire works back toward home.
- d. Base umpire will never go out from the middle.

6 Rotation Situations

- a. Runner on 1st...base hit — plate umpire to 3rd base.
- b. Runners on 1st and 3rd...base hit — plate umpire to 3rd base.
- c. Runners on 1st and 2nd...fly ball tag-up — plate umpire to 3rd base.
- d. Only rotate when a batted ball reaches the outfielder.
- e. All other situations leave the plate umpire at home.

7 Base Touches, Tag Ups and Overthrow Coverage

- a. Signal if appeal is coming...who has the call?
- b. Who has what overthrow coverage?
- c. Rundowns...how will we cover run-downs?

8 Balks

- a. See a balk, get it.
- b. RHP...knee buckle.
- c. If you call the balk first, be ready for discussion with coach if others echo.
- d. If a coach heads for the mound, get hands up to call time.

9**Signals — give them quickly and discretely**

- a. Infield Fly
- b. Rotation / Staying Home
- c. Going Out
- d. Time play
- e. Trap / catch by the catcher on 3rd strike or foul tip

10**Arguments & Situations**

- a. Balls & Strikes
- b. 1 on 1 vs. more than that
- c. Assistant coaches
- d. Bench jockeying
- e. How to handle ejection aftermath?

11**Getting the Call Right Guidelines**

- a. Will only confer as a crew if we have one of the following (no appeasing):
 - HR fair or foul.
 - Batted ball leaves the field for a HR or GRD.
 - Foul tip dropped or caught by the catcher.
 - Foul fly ball caught or not caught.
 - Ball dropped or juggled after tag or force play.
 - Spectator interference plays.
 - Balk calls with the pitcher's foot off the rubber.
- b. Additionally...don't let anyone screw up a rule!

12**Infield Catch Coverage****13****Closing**

- a. Rules or mechanics questions?
- b. Hustle all the time!
- c. Slow timing! Get set for everything!
- d. Have fun!