

Pre-Game Script: 3-Umpire System

For reference on how to conduct a pre-game, see CCA Manual § 5.7 (pp. 33-34).

Arrival at the Field:

- Contact partners 2-3 days in advance, and again prior to leaving for assignment
- Arrive at field 60-75 minutes prior to game time
- Check in with home coach to confirm start time and when crew will arrive on field for the plate meeting
- Return to vehicles/locker room and begin to change

Pre-Game:

This is conducted by the Crew Chief. It should take about 20 to 25 minutes to go through all of this thoroughly, or 15 to 20 if the crew is familiar with all applicable material.

1. Positioning

- a. Here is a good place to discuss your mobility limits, if you have any.
 - b. No Runners on: fair/foul, going out, pulled foot, swipe tag, runner lane
- i. Splitting up the centerfielder; U1 as quarterback on overlapping trouble balls
- c. R1 Only: Rotation on base hits, flyball coverage, fair/foul, tags and touches; responsibilities on ground balls to the infield.
- i. U1 in modified A position
- ii. U3 in deep B position
- iii. U1 as quarterback: the overlap in outfield coverage and how to handle that.
- iv. "Going out" from the inside; only on boundary calls/trouble towards the fence.
- d. R1 and R2, less than 2 Outs: Rotation on fly balls, touches and tags.
- i. U1 in A Position
- ii. U3 in Normal C Position
- iii. Reverse rotation or "sliding"
- iv. In Field Coverage
- v. Double Tag Rotation

e. Bases loaded

i. In Field Coverage

ii.1 Out Time Play

iii.2 Out Time Play

iv.2 Outs, U1 has BR into 2nd, U3 has R1 into 3rd

f. R2/R3, R2 only, less than 2 outs

i. U1 in Deep B Position

ii. U3 in D Position

iii. U3 is now quarterback for overlapping outfield coverage.

iv.1 Out Time Play with R2 and R3

g. R2/R3, R2 only, 2 outs

i. U1 in A Position

ii. U3 in Normal C Position

iii. U3 has initial play on BR into 2nd, then takes BR into 3rd

iv. U1 Trails BR, has play back into 2nd if BR begins advancing to 3rd

h. R1 and R3

i. U1 in A Position

ii. U3 in Normal C Position

iii.1 Out Time Play

iv. RHP 3rd to 1st move (High School Only)

v.2 Outs, U1 has BR into 2nd, U3 has R1 into 3rd

i. R3 only

i. U1 in A Position

ii. U3 in D Position (fair territory exception and rational)

iii. Less than 2 outs versus 2 outs

iv. PU does not rotate

2. Check swing responsibilities and mechanics, uncaught third strike

- a. U1 on right-handed batters
- b. U3 on left-handed batters
- 3. Run-downs between 1st and 2nd, 2nd and 3rd, 3rd and Home; Rundowns with multiple runners
 - a. With multiple runners, continue to box in the runners; allow R1 to dictate whether U1 enters the infield.

4. Non-Verbal communication (Signs)

- a. Reading Partners
- b. Eye Contact, when to expect signs
- c. R1 Only (U3 in B Position, full rotation)
- d. R1, 3-2 Count w/ 2 Outs (U3 Slides to C Position)
- e. R1 and R2, Less than 2 Outs (Rotate on potential Tag Play, IF)
- f. Bases Loaded No Outs (IF)
- g. Bases Loaded 1 Out (IF)/R2 and R3 1 Out/ R1 and R3 1 Out (1 Out Timing)
- h. 2 Out Time Play (R2)
- i. U1 and U3 Reverse Rotations

i. Bases Loaded

ii. R1 and R3

iii. 2 Outs with R1 and other Runners

- j. R3 Only, less than 2 Outs (Fair/foul change in responsibility)
- k. Giving the Count/Number of Outs
- 5. Handling Appeals and Base Touches (Responsibilities versus exceptions)
- 6. Dugout responsibilities
 - a. U1 Takes the 1st Base Dugout
 - b. U3 Takes the 3rd Base Dugout
 - c. PU Helps when necessary for front end of each
 - d. Rabbit Ears vs important sportsmanship issues
 - e. Bench jockeying

f. Balls and strikes

7. Getting together if flipping a call/how to exit that scenario

8. Discuss points of emphasis/newer rules so that the crew is on the same page

a. Look it up beforehand if unsure. Better to know before than to lodge a protest

9. Hustle and Communication

a. Make sure we look good out there, it never hurts to communicate with your partner.

10. Plate Meeting with Coaches — Conducted by the Crew Chief

a. Lineups

i. Verify positions, numbers, and DH

ii. Verify listed substitutes

b. Equipment

i. Are all players legally and properly equipped

ii. Does all equipment meet NFHS/CIF standards?

c. Ground Rules

i. Head coach if at a home field, CC if at a neutral site (Stadium Game) or during playoffs (Rounds 1, 2, and Quarterfinals)

d. Sportsmanship

i. Keep this short

ii. Especially important for Stadium Games and Playoff Games