

# Positional Responsibilities

*Baseball*



*Softball*

2005 WBSL Coaches Clinic

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# Pitcher Responsibilities

THROW STRIKES! Concentration, Control, Confidence

- On ground balls to the right side, cover first base
- When 3B makes play on bunt, cover 3B
- Back up throws to 3B and Home from Outfield
- Cover home plate on wild pitches with runners on 3B or 2B
- Hold runners on base
- Keep the base runner from advancing on the throw from the catcher

# Catcher Responsibilities

Act the role of the leader you are. You're the 'Quarterback of the diamond

- Control your Pitcher. Work together with him as a unit. Talk about batters between innings and strategize
- Minimize the number of balls that get past you
- QUICKLY retrieve wild pitches and passed balls and get the ball back to home plate
- Throw out base runners attempting to steal
- Come out quickly on bunts and topped balls
- With no one on base, back up the 1<sup>st</sup> baseman on ground balls to the infield
- Let the infield cut-off man know what to do if the throw is coming to him
- Know when to pick off runners leading too far off the base
- Keep runners from advancing on the throw back to the pitcher. Throw the ball back on a line
- Block the line on close plays at the plate. Make him earn the run

# 1B Responsibilities

Scoop 999 out of every 1,000 balls in the dirt. Attack them. Look forward to them!

- Give infielders a good target
- Always be aware of other base runners after the play at first base
- When a throw is off target, move off the bag – if necessary – to catch it
- Charge bunts and topped balls down the 1B line
- Back up second on throws to that base from LF
- Don't commit bag foot until you see the throw – then STRETCH!

# 2B Responsibilities

Be sure and steady – you're a big part of the up-the-middle team

- Turn the double play
- Cover 1B on bunts and topped balls that the 1<sup>st</sup> Baseman charges
- When covering 1B, get there quickly – give the fielder a stationary target
- Cover 2B on ground balls to short or third with a runner on first base – AND on balls hit to left and Left Centerfield
- Cover or back up 2B on steal play
- Go out and be the relay man on balls hit to Right Field
- On throws from the Catcher to Pitcher, make it a ritual to back up the play
- Play positionally sound defense. Study the batter and anticipate hits.

# 3B Responsibilities

At the “Hot Corner” you need guts to play both the bunt and the screamer. You are the cornerstone of a solid infield.

- Cover 3B on balls hit to others
- Always be ready to charge bunts and topped balls
- Take any pop flies toward home plate that you can get
- You must constantly work on long throws to 1B and on charging bunts

# SS Responsibilities

Be sure and steady – you're a big part of the up-the-middle team

- Turn the double play
- Cover 2B on hits to the right side of the infield
- Cover or back up 2B on steal play
- Go out and be the relay man on balls hit to Left and Center Field
- On throws from the Catcher to Pitcher, make sure either you or the 2<sup>nd</sup> baseman backs the throw up
- Play positionally sound defense. Study the batter and anticipate hits.

# OF Responsibilities

You are the goalie of the defense – nothing gets past you. Your job is to catch everything you can and get the ball in quickly to the correct cut man

- Back each other up on ALL balls hit to outfield
- Back up infielders on balls hit to them AND on subsequent throws
- Go for short flies and – if you can reach the ball – call the infielder off and make the catch.
- Throw ahead of the base runners and to (or through) the cutoff man**
- Edge in and back-up bases on attempted steals and on pick-off plays
- Know and tell a fellow outfielder where to throw when he is fielding a ball
- ALWAYS(!!!) throw through the relay man so he can cut it if necessary



# Defense Responsibilities

Work together as a unit. Talk to each other and leave nothing to chance

- Call for all Fly Balls!
- Know and go for sure outs
- Effectively back each other up on all batted and thrown balls
- Have all bases covered on all plays
- Know when to “eat” the ball
- Know where the force-outs are and which ones to take
- Be aware of base runners trying to advance after an out
- On pop flies and line drives, cover bases! You can double up runners
- Throw ahead of base runners
- On balls hit to the outfield, use the cutoff man
- Always think ahead of the play. Know what you’ll do when the ball comes to you
- Always know the count. It affects the way a batter will hit
- Chatter, chatter, chatter!!!