

BASIC POSITIONS

1. Principle:

- ✓ Always follow ball with eyes.
- ✓ Always keep chest 90 degrees to the ball.
- ✓ Always take best possible angle. **Angle has priority over distance.**
- ✓ Make every effort possible to get as close to 90 degrees to the ball on a force play and 90 degrees to the slide on a tag play.
- ✓ Without any runners on base, the base umpire must come to a set as the pitcher is preparing to deliver the ball to the batter.
- ✓ With a runner(s) on base, the base umpire must come to a set as soon as the pitcher stands on the rubber.
- ✓ The **Infield Working Area** is that area behind the mound which in many situations the base umpire moves into as his first movement.

2. Set position...

...must be taken by the base umpire with each delivery from the pitcher and before making most calls. This position consists of placing the hands on the knees and locking-in the elbows with the feet shoulder-width apart. The umpire will strive to settle into this position naturally, smoothly, and athletically.

3. Field Positions:

- PU @ 1 – Always behind plate.
- UI @ 2 – with no runners on base.
- UI @ 3 – with a runner on 1st base only.
- UI @ 4 – with runner(s) on 2nd and / or 3rd base.

NOTE: The plate umpire has overthrows and base awards in each situation except when noted.

