



## **Section 7**

# **Mechanics for a Crew of Two Umpires**



## Mechanics for Two Umpires

### 7.1 Basic Principles

1. Angle is primary, distance is secondary. While this mechanics manual does not delve into the specifics of where an umpire should take a play, know this: With only two umpires, you're not going to be able to get as close as you'd like on some plays. Work to get a great angle.
2. The plate umpire (PU) will move. Helping on a pulled foot at first base ... helping on slides at second base ... covering plays at third base ... the PU is responsible for much more than balls and strikes.
3. Studying two-umpire mechanics will help you understand three umpire mechanics. The two-umpire system is the basis for many coverages with multiple umpires.

### 7.2 Balk Concentration

There are some balks that are more obvious from some positions.

**A.** PU should concentrate on:

1. Left-handed pitchers stepping to the plate.
2. Left-handed pitchers coming to a complete stop.
3. Right-handed pitchers coming to a complete stop.
4. Right-handed pitchers gaining ground on the jump turn.
5. Right-handed pitchers closing their front shoulder before the jump turn.
6. Right-handed pitchers breaking their front knee before jump turn.

**B.** U1 should concentrate on:

1. Left-handed pitchers coming to a complete stop.
2. Right-handed pitchers breaking their front knees before the jump turn.
3. Right-handed pitchers gaining ground on the jump turn.

Note: U1 is no longer responsible for left-handed pitchers stepping to the plate.

### **7.3 Basic Outfield Coverage**

- A. Do not go out automatically on all fly balls in your coverage area.
- B. Pause, read and react. Then go hard and get a good angle. Be stopped when the play occurs.
- C. Four conditions that require an umpire to go to the outfield:
  - 1. The outfielder turns and begins to run toward the outfield fence (possible home run).
  - 2. Multiple players converging on a fly ball.
  - 3. A catch being made below the waist.
  - 4. Outfielder moving toward the foul line and possible fair/foul decision.
- D. If in doubt, go out on fly balls in your coverage area.
  - 1. If you are going out, go out hard.
  - 2. Leave no doubt in your partners mind about whether or not you are going out.
  - 3. If you are not going out, hold your arm out to your partner with your palm facing him and continue with your responsibilities.
  - 4. Once you go out, do not return until the play is complete.
    - a. Exception: With no runners on base and U1 goes out, U1 would return to the plate after ruling no catch for any play on the batter-runner there.
  - 5. U1 positioned within the infield should never cross the base path to observe catch/no catch.

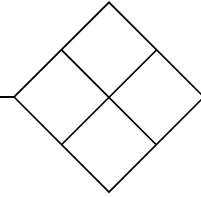
### **7.4 Overthrows**

Overthrow responsibility belongs to the plate umpire with one exception.

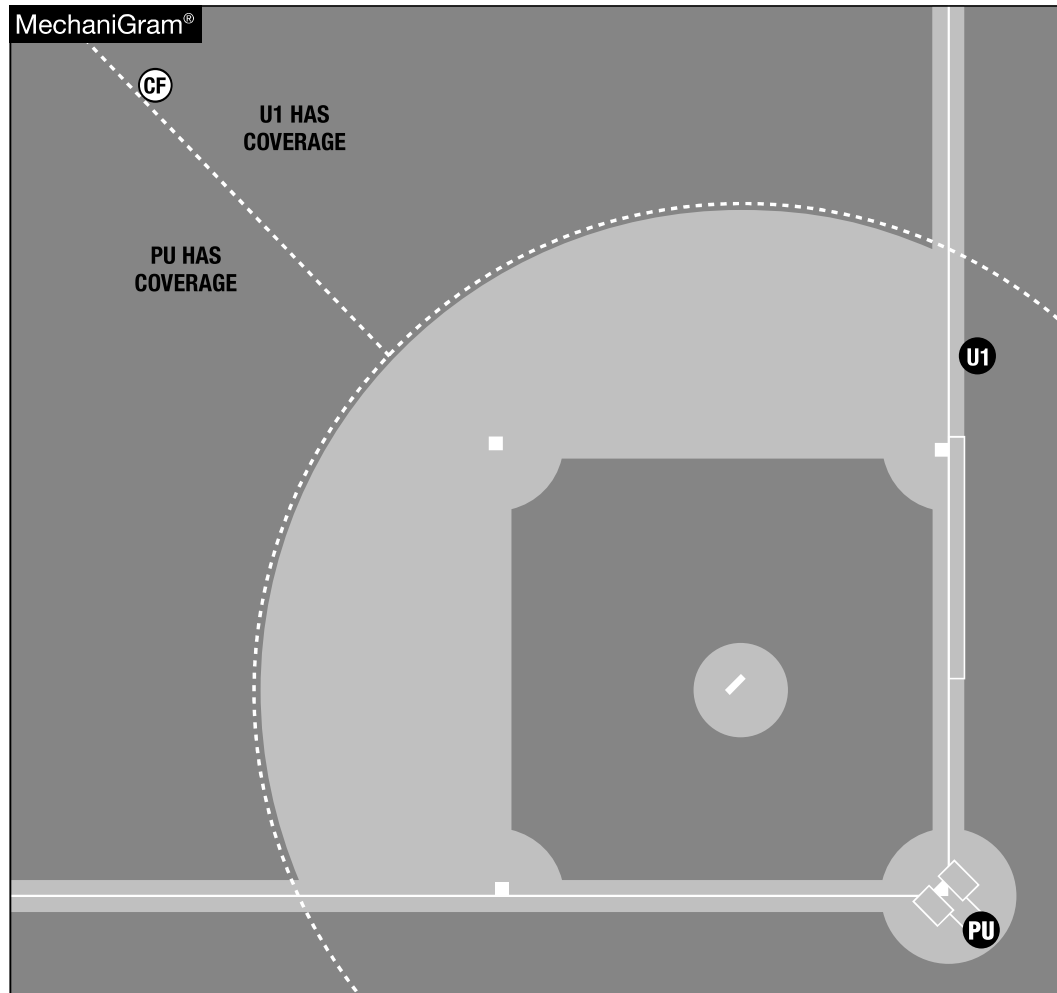
If the base umpire (with no runners on) goes to the outfield and then rotates to home, overthrow responsibility will then belong to the base umpire at the plate on all overthrows, except the plate umpire (rotated to third) will have the overthrow at third base that goes toward the outfield.



## 7.5.1 NO RUNNERS ON



### Initial Positions and Outfield Coverage



**Action on the field:** No action

#### **Umpire responsibilities:**

**PU:** Has center fielder moving toward the left field foul line and any ball hit to the left fielder.

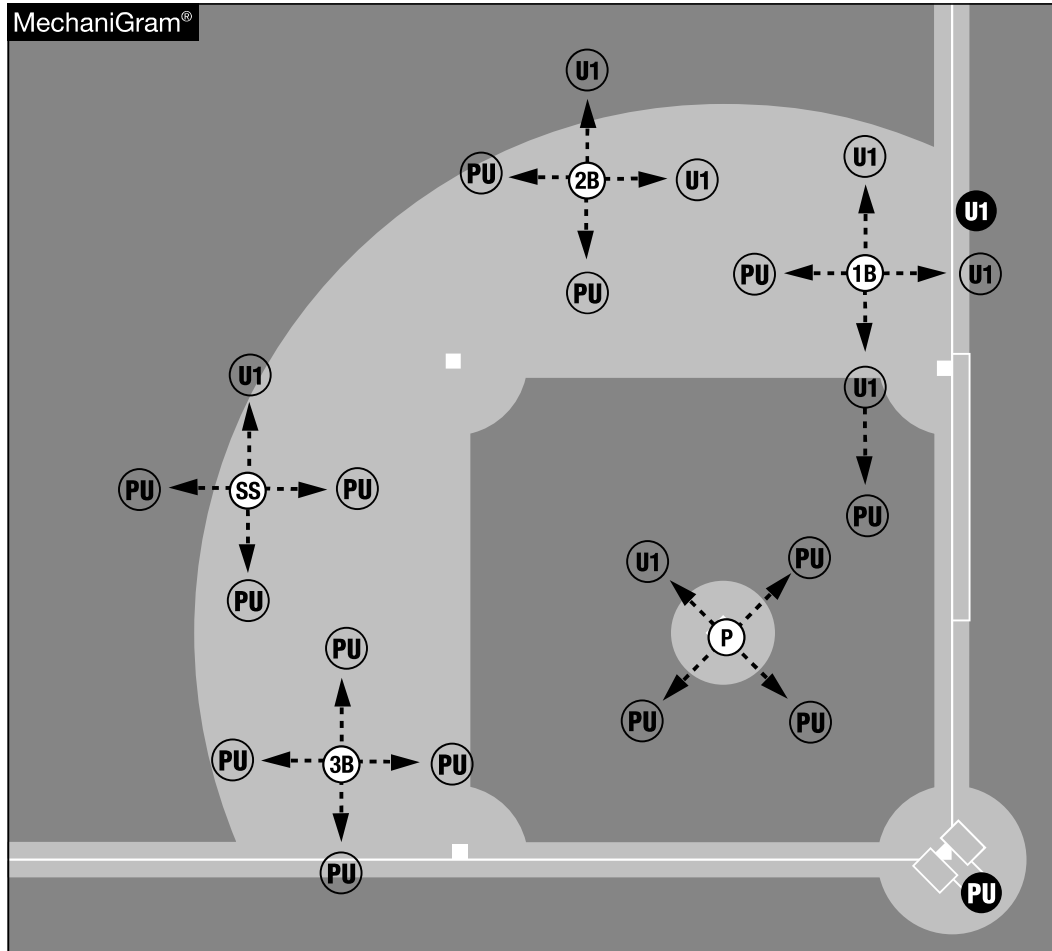
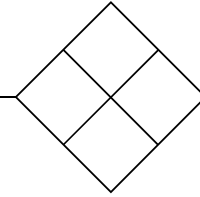
**U1:** Is in the "A" position. U1 dictates outfield coverage and has the center fielder straight in and straight back and any ball hit to the right fielder.





## 7.5.2 NO RUNNERS ON

### Infield Catch Coverage



**Action on the field:** No action

#### Umpire responsibilities:

PU has catches:

1. By the pitcher moving in, left or right.
2. By the first baseman moving significantly in or right.
3. By the third baseman in all directions.
4. By the shortstop moving in, out or toward third base.
5. By the second baseman moving in or toward second base.

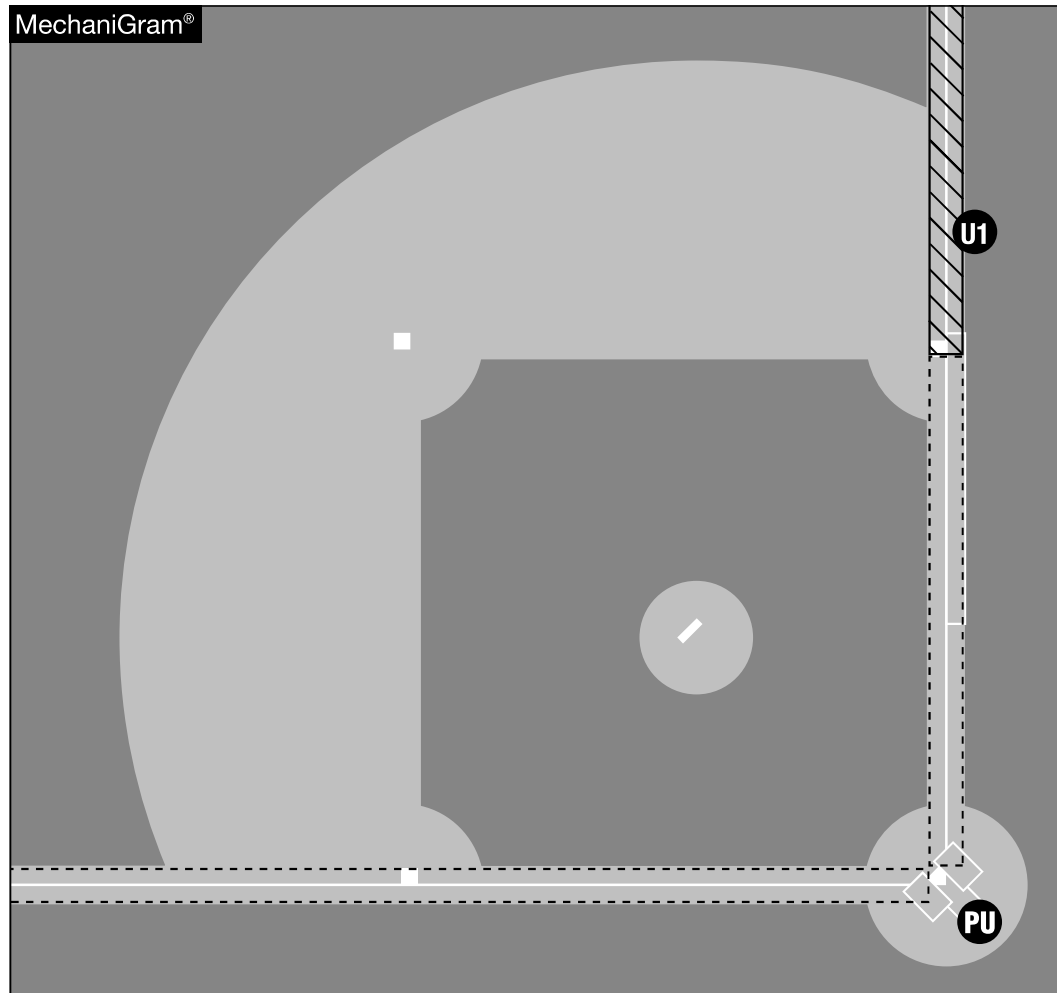
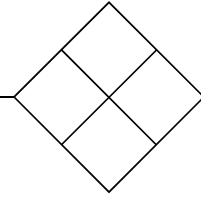
U1 has catches:

1. Immediately in front of the first baseman, out or toward the foul line.
2. By the second baseman moving out or toward first base.
3. By the shortstop moving toward second base.
4. By the pitcher moving back.



## 7.5.3 NO RUNNERS ON

### Fair/Foul Coverage



**Action on the field:** No action

**Umpire responsibilities:**

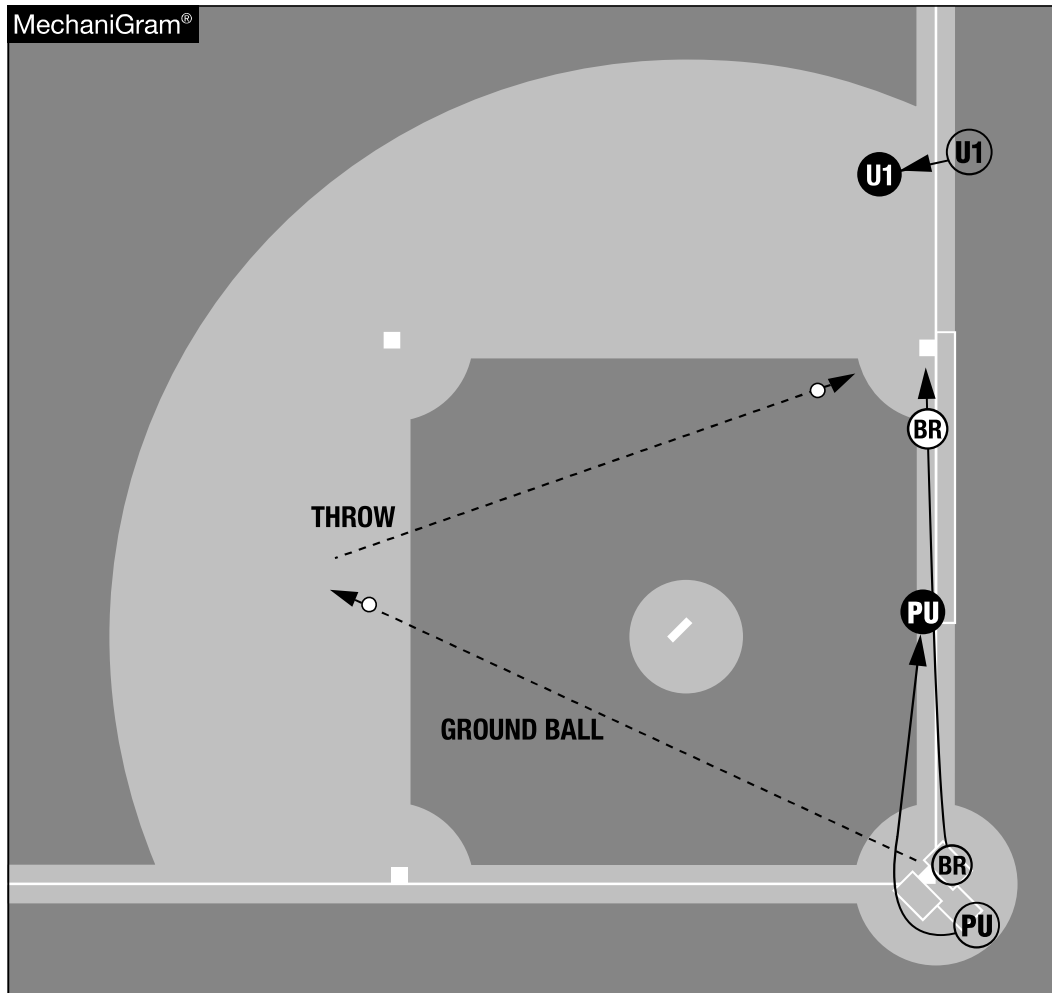
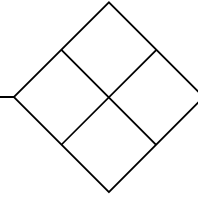
**PU:** Has responsibility for balls up to first base and all balls along the third-base line.

**U1:** Has responsibility for balls that hit first base and/or go beyond.



## 7.5.4 NO RUNNERS ON

### Plays Within the Infield



**Action on the field:** Ground ball to shortstop, throw to first base

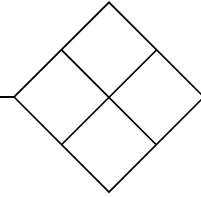
**Umpire responsibilities:**

**PU:** Moves toward first base to assist U1 on swipe tag or pulled foot by the first baseman.

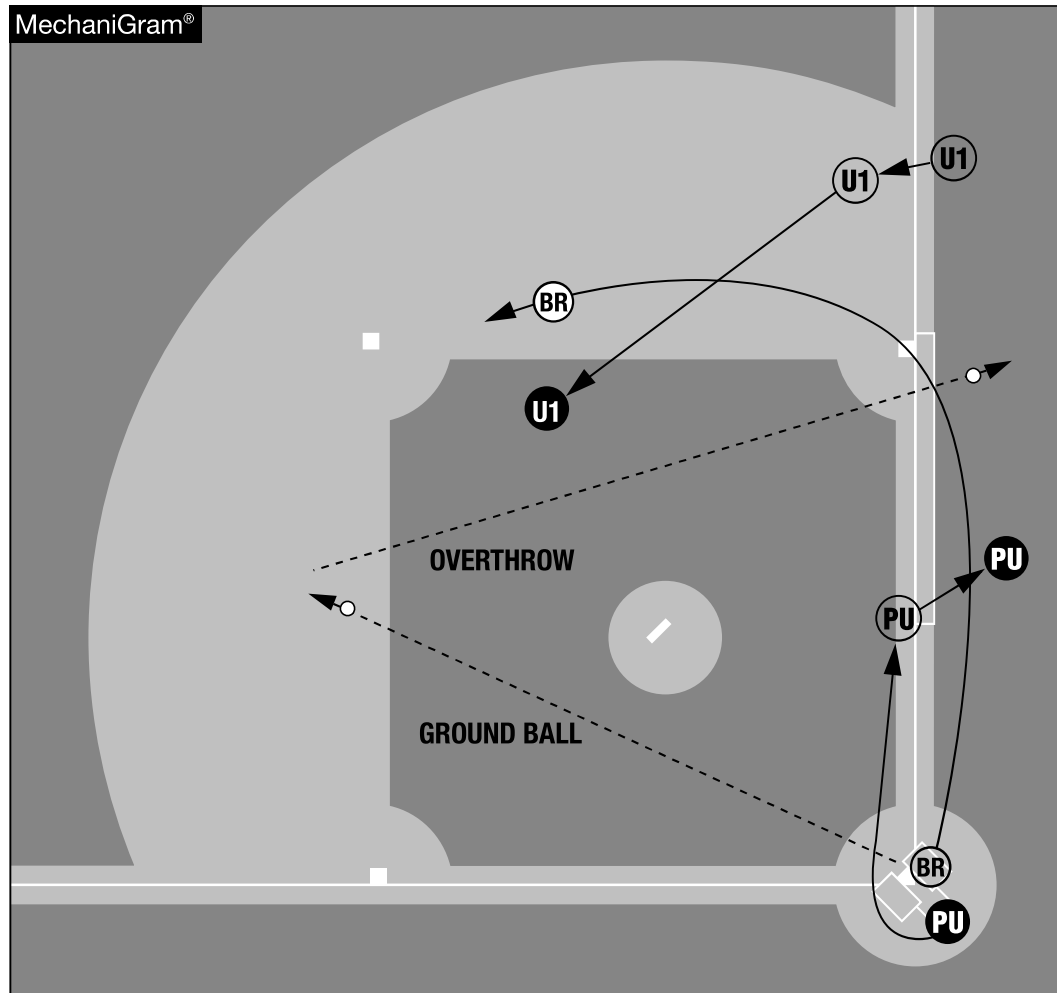
**U1:** Moves into the best position to rule on plays at first base.



7.5.5 NO RUNNERS ON



## Plays Within the Infield: Overthrow



**Action on the field:** Ground ball to shortstop, overthrow to first base

### Umpire responsibilities:

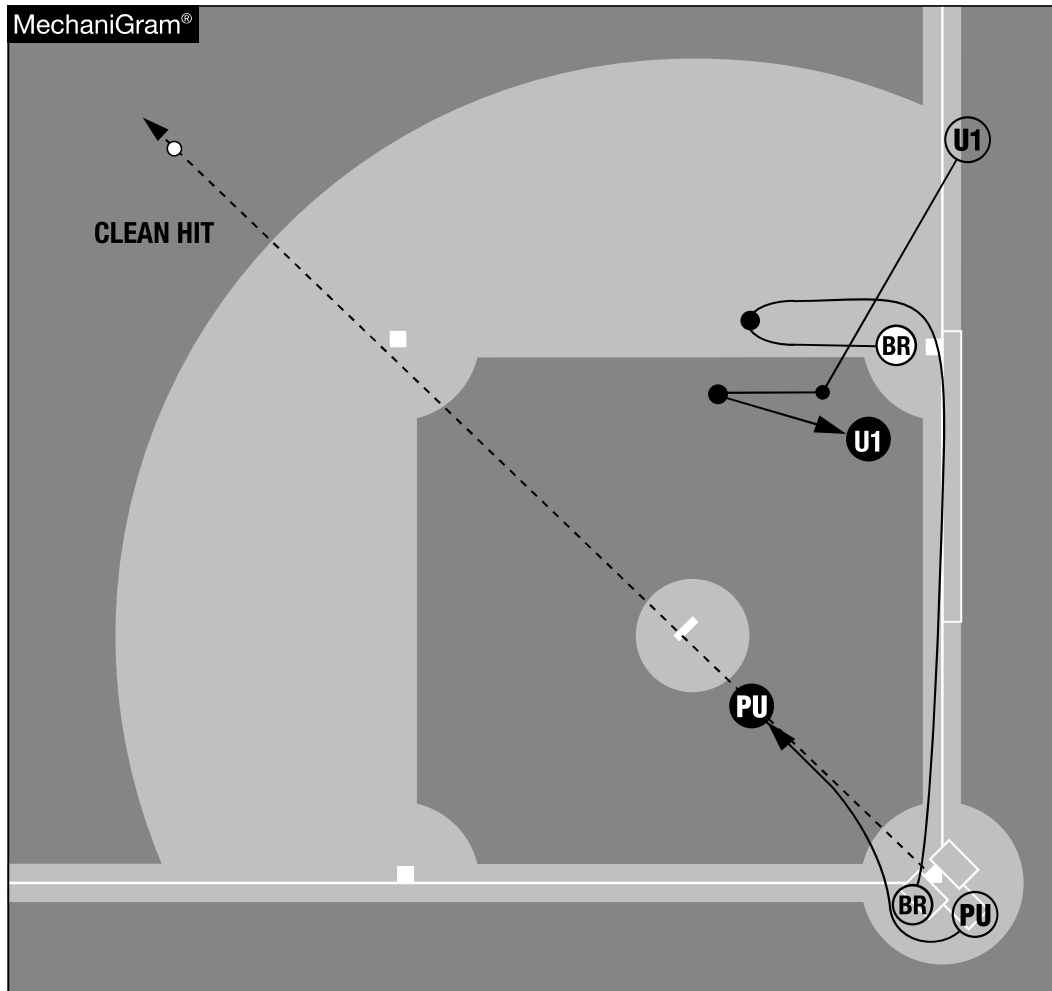
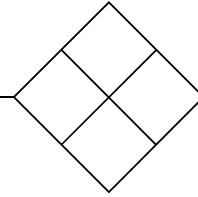
**PU:** Observes the ball and rules if it enters dead-ball territory, moving into foul territory as necessary.

**U1:** Enters the infield and has all plays on the bases. A pivot is not necessary since the ball was overthrown at first base.



## 7.5.6 NO RUNNERS ON

### Clean Hit to the Outfield



**Action on the field:** A clean hit to the outfield

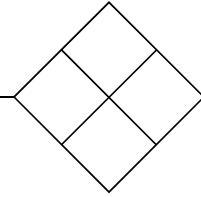
**Umpire responsibilities:**

**PU:** Observes the play.

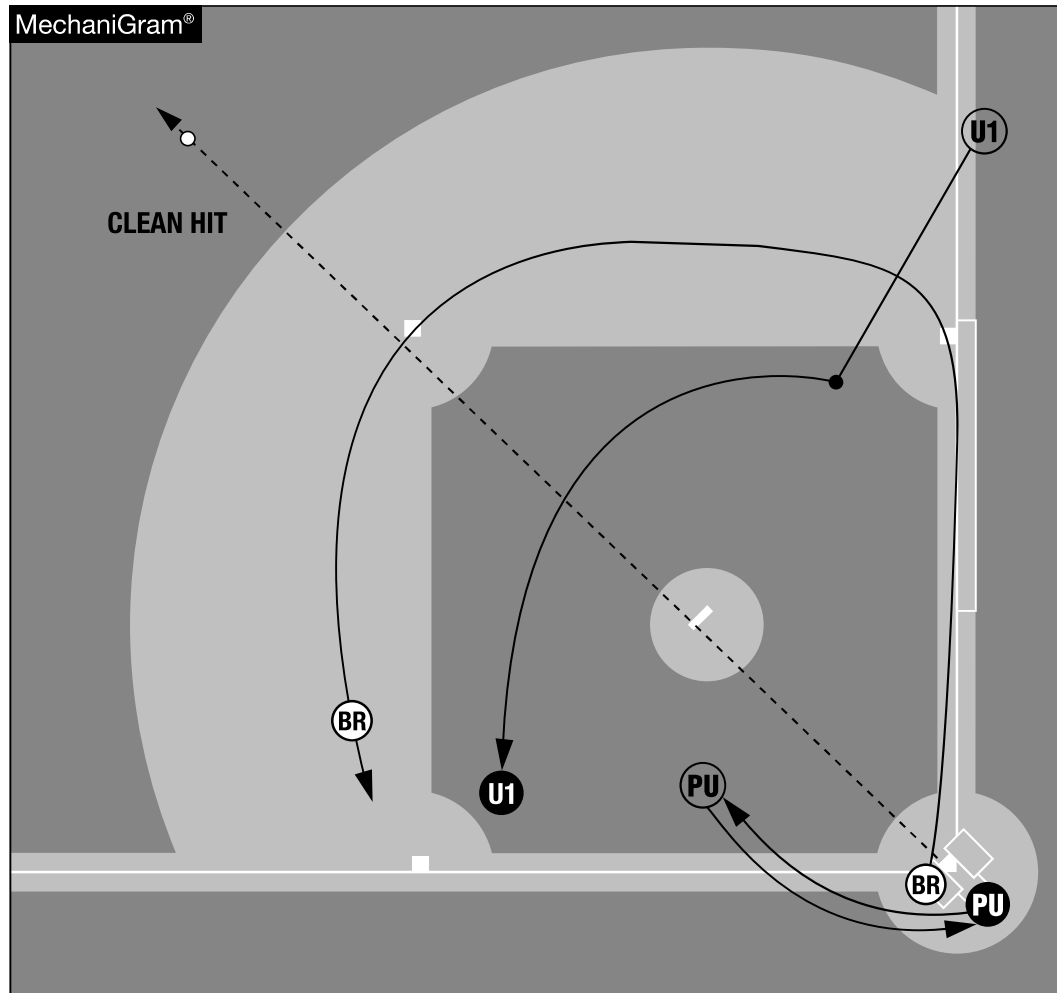
**U1:** Enters the infield with a pivot and prepares for all plays on the batter-runner at first base, second base and third base.



## 7.5.7 NO RUNNERS ON



### Clean Hit to the Outfield: Extra Bases



**Action on the field:** A clean hit to the outfield results in extra bases

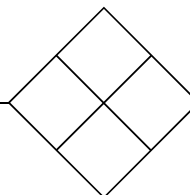
**Umpire responsibilities:**

**PU:** Observes the play and returns to the plate for any play there.

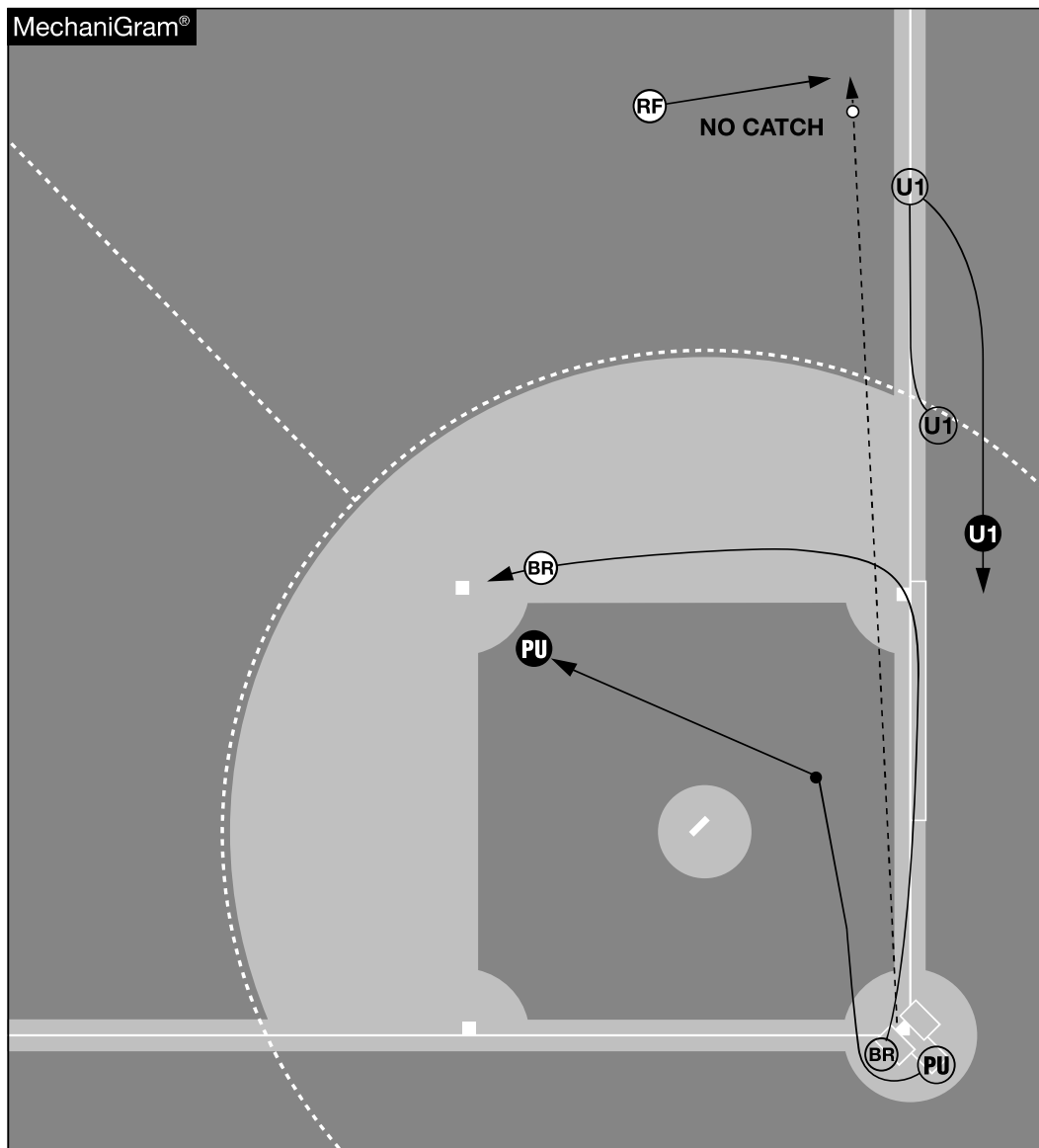
**U1:** Enters the infield with a pivot and prepares for all plays on the batter-runner at first, second and third base.



## 7.5.8 NO RUNNERS ON



### Fly Ball to Right Field: No Catch, U1 Goes Out



**Action on the field:** Fly ball to right field, no catch; U1 goes out; the batter-runner advances toward second base

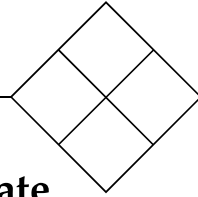
**Umpire responsibilities:**

**PU:** Moves to the infield and has all plays on the batter-runner at first, second and third base.

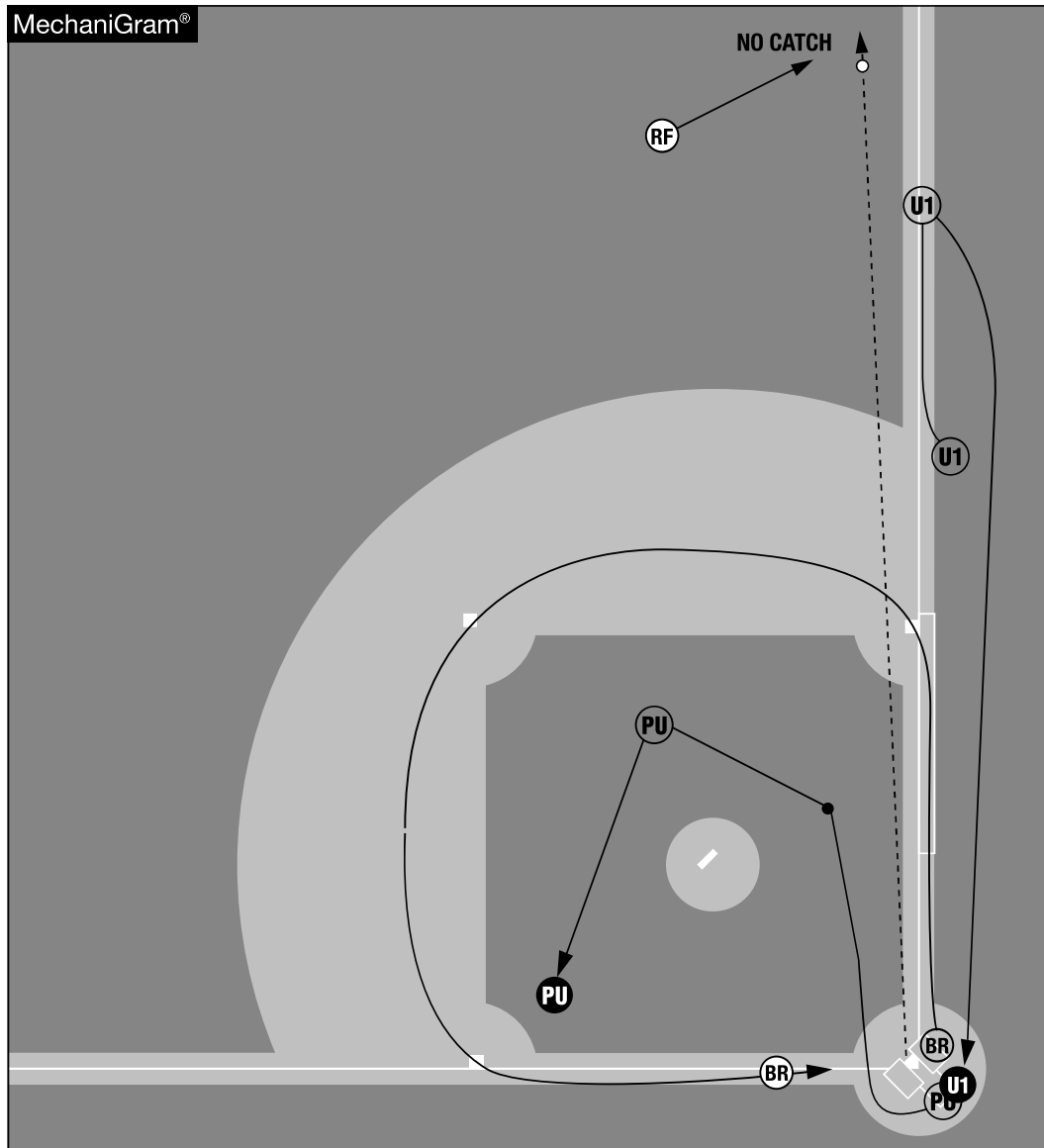
**U1:** Moves into position to best view the catch/no catch.



## 7.5.9 NO RUNNERS ON



### Fly Ball to Right Field: No Catch, U1 Goes Out, Play at Plate



**Action on the field:** A deep fly ball to right field, no catch; U1 goes out; the batter-runner advances toward the plate

**Umpire responsibilities:**

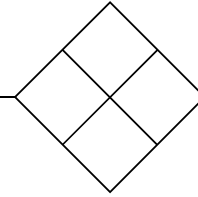
**PU:** Moves to the infield and has all plays on the batter-runner at first, second and third base.

**U1:** Returns to the plate in case a play develops on the batter-runner.

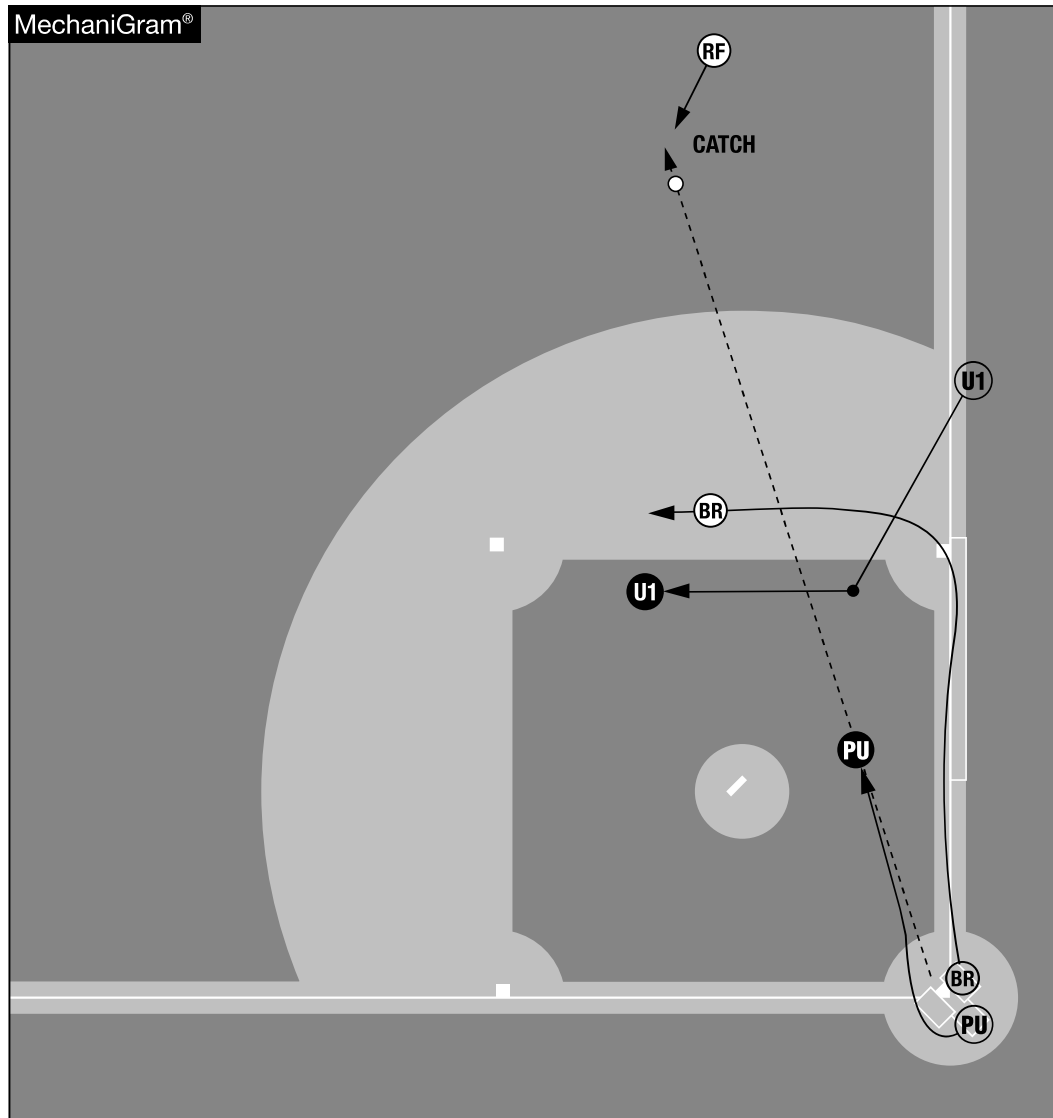




7.5.10 NO RUNNERS ON



## Fly Ball to Right Field: Catch, U1 Does Not Go Out



**Action on the field:** A routine fly ball is hit to right field and U1 does not go out

### Umpire responsibilities:

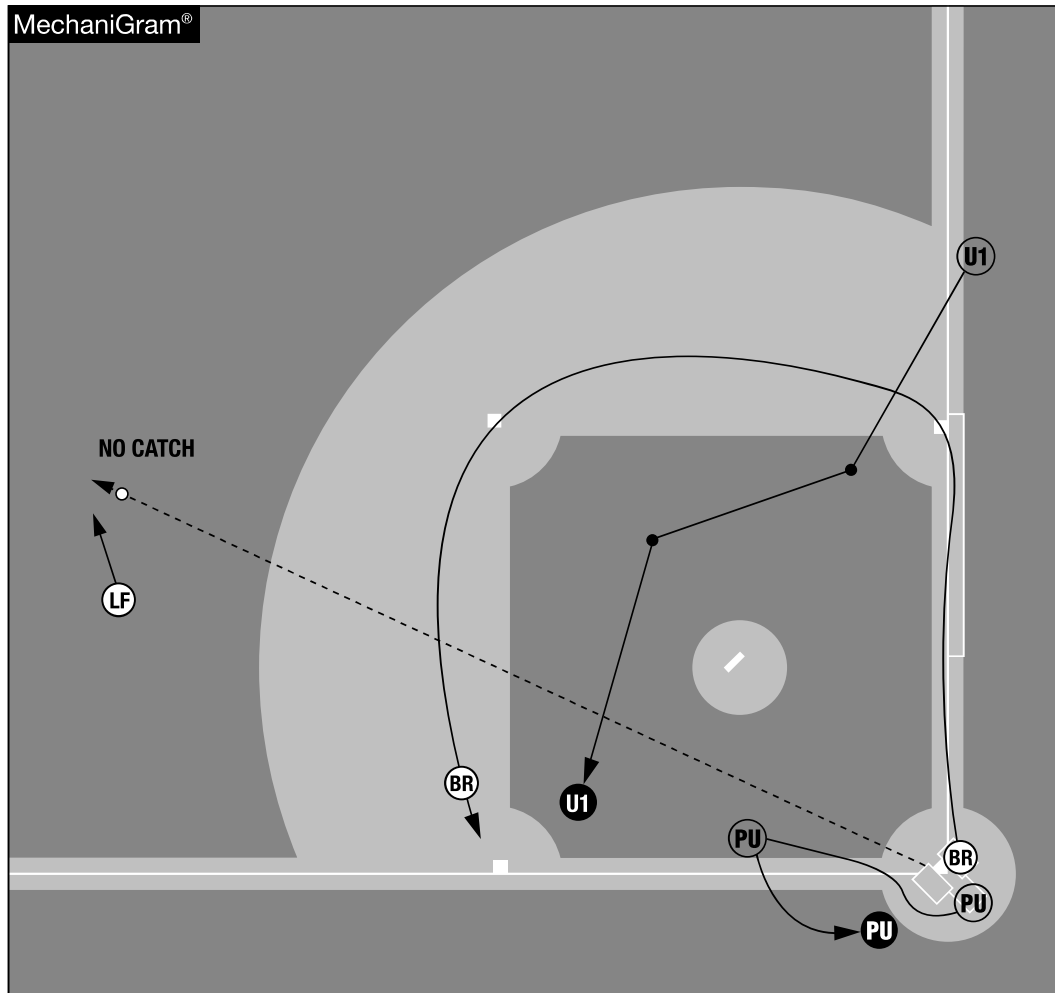
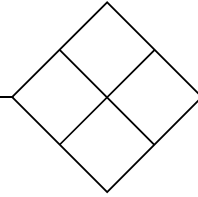
**PU:** Moves to a position to best view the catch/no catch.

**U1:** Enters the infield and has all plays on the batter-runner at first, second and third base.



7.5.11 NO RUNNERS ON

## Fly Ball to Left Field: No Catch



**Action on the field:** A fly ball to left field, no catch; the batter-runner advances to third base

### Umpire responsibilities:

**PU:** Moves to a position to best view the catch/no catch. PU then returns to the plate for all plays there.

**U1:** Enters the infield and prepares for all plays on the batter-runner at first, second and third base.



## SECTION 7.6

### Runner on first

#### Initial Positions and Outfield Coverage

**PU:** Has the left fielder moving toward the left-field foul line and the right fielder moving toward the right-field foul line.

**U1:** Starts in the “B” position. U1 has outfield coverage from the left fielder straight in or straight back to the right fielder straight in or straight back. This area is commonly known as the “V.”

#### Infield Catch Coverage

PU has catches:

1. By the pitcher moving in, left or right.
2. By the third baseman moving back or toward the foul line.
3. By the first baseman moving back or toward the foul line.

U1 has catches:

1. By the pitcher moving back.
2. By the shortstop moving in all directions.
3. By the second baseman moving in all directions.
4. By the third baseman moving in or toward the middle of the field.
5. By the first baseman moving in or toward the middle of the field.

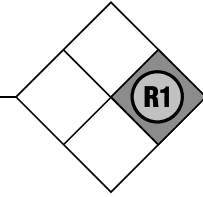
#### Fair/Foul Coverage

**PU:** Has responsibility for all balls on both the first- and third-base lines.

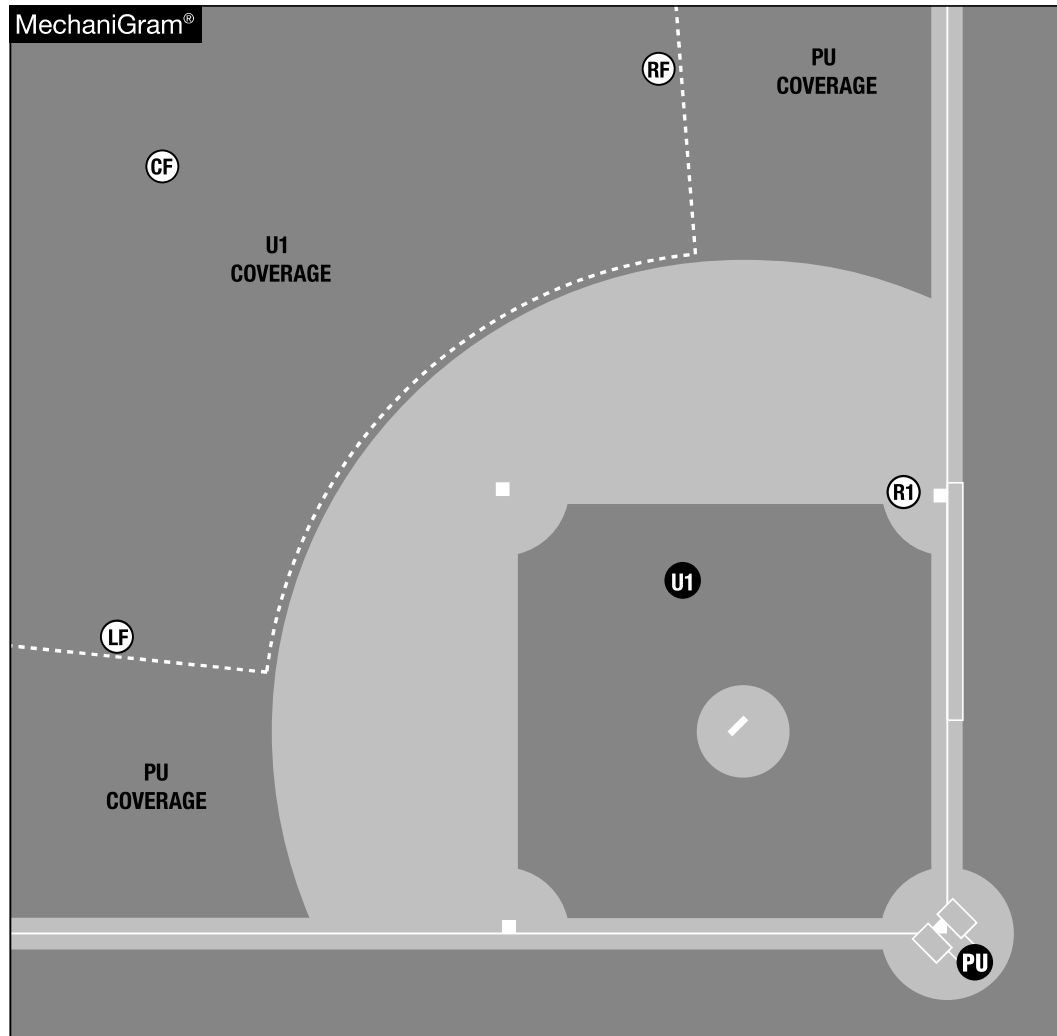
**U1:** Has no fair/foul responsibility.



## 7.6.1 RUNNER ON FIRST



### Initial Positions and Outfield Coverage



**Action on the field:** No action

#### **Umpire responsibilities:**

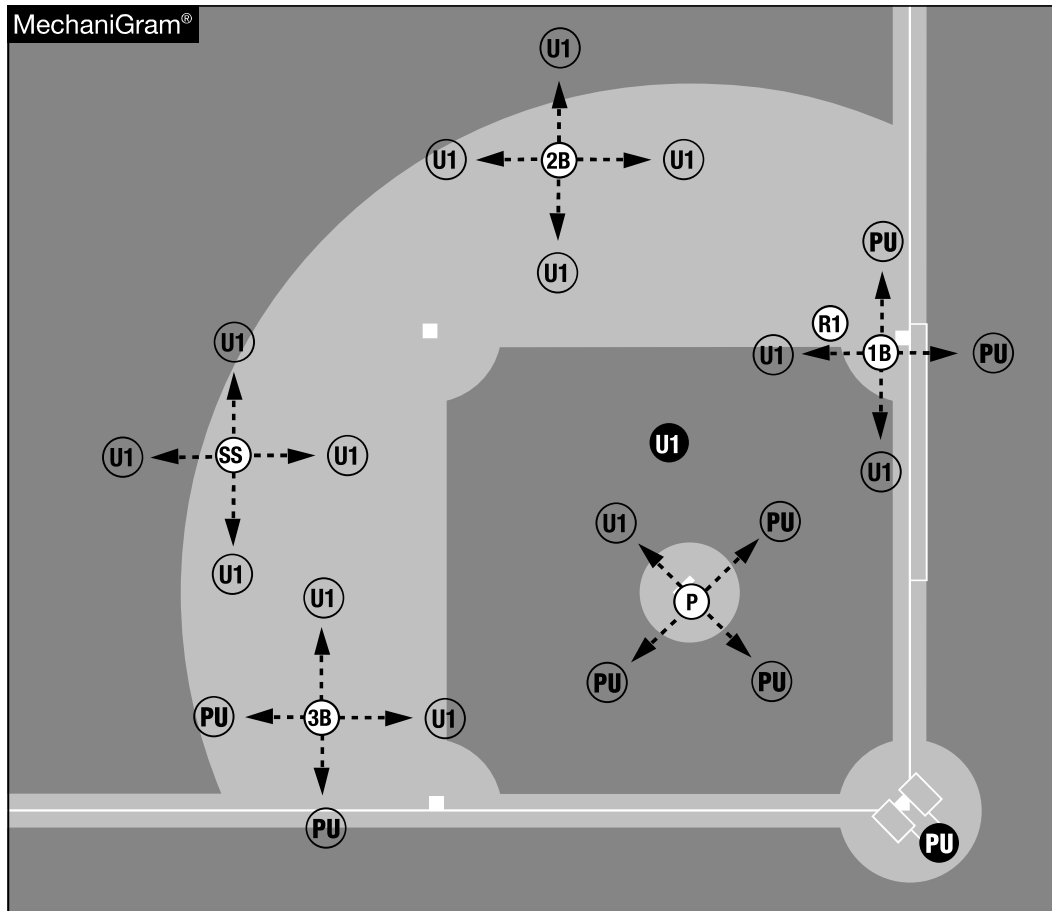
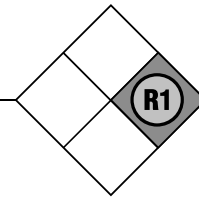
**PU:** Has the left fielder moving toward the left-field foul line and the right fielder moving toward the right-field foul line.

**U1:** Starts in the “B” position. U1 has outfield coverage from the left fielder straight in or straight back to the right fielder straight in or straight back.



## 7.6.2 RUNNER ON FIRST

### Infield Catch Coverage



**Action on the field:** No action

#### Umpire responsibilities:

PU has catches:

1. By the pitcher moving in, left or right.
2. By the third baseman moving back or toward the foul line.
3. By the first baseman moving back or toward the foul line.

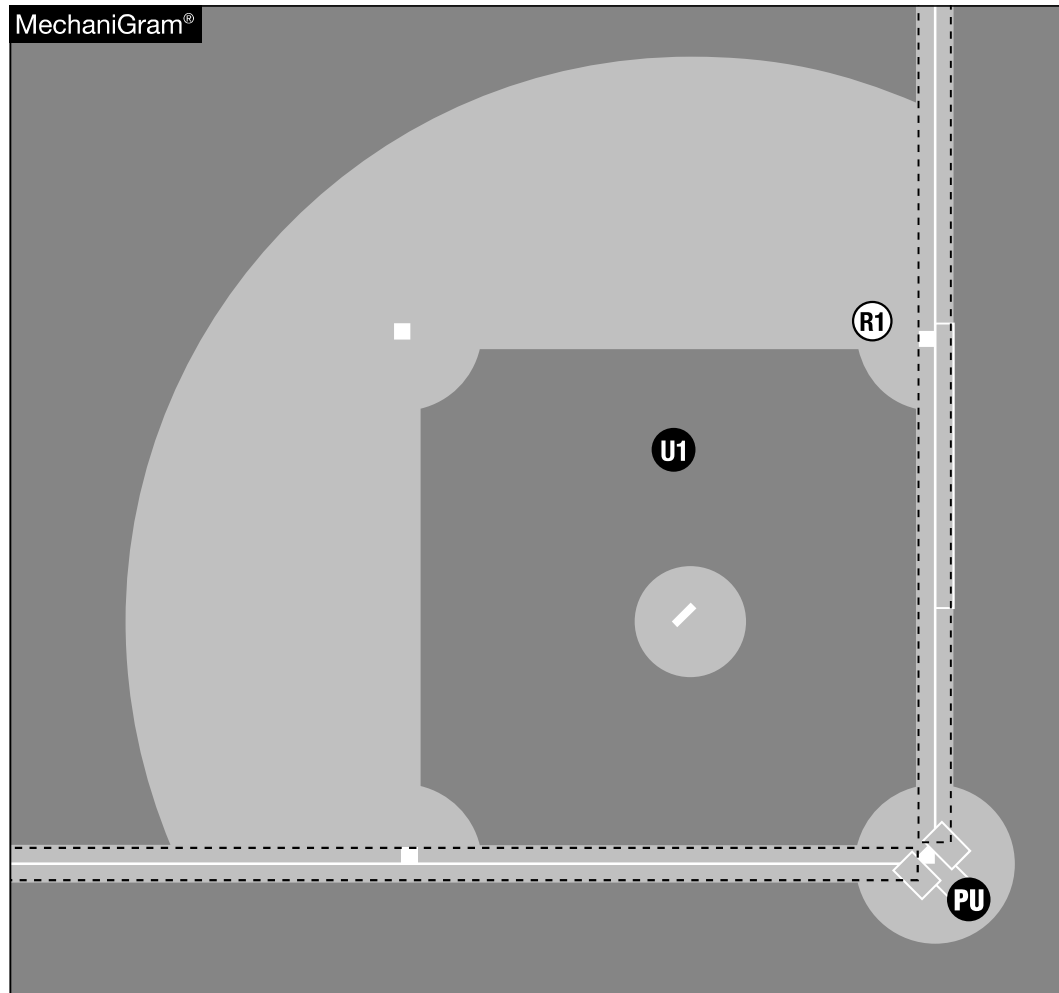
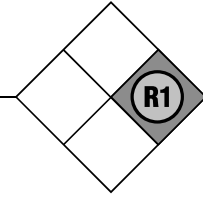
U1 has catches:

1. By the pitcher moving back.
2. By the shortstop moving in all directions.
3. By the second baseman moving in all directions.
4. By the third baseman moving in or toward the middle of the field.
5. By the first baseman moving in or toward the middle of the field.



## 7.6.3 RUNNER ON FIRST

### Fair/Foul Coverage



**Action on the field:** No action

#### **Umpire responsibilities:**

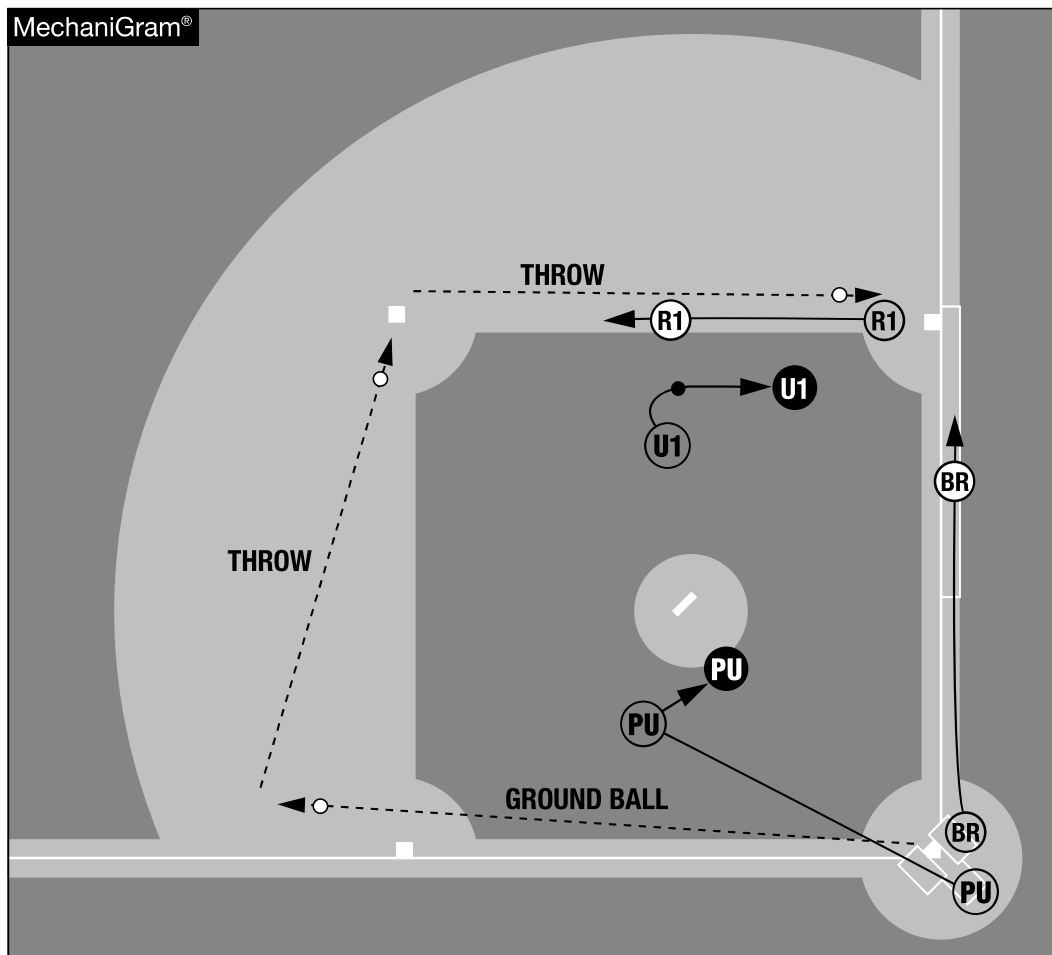
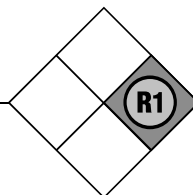
**PU:** Has responsibility for all balls on the first- and third-base lines.

**U1:** Has no fair/foul responsibility.



## 7.6.4 RUNNER ON FIRST

### Plays Within the Infield



**Action on the field:** Double-play ground ball to third base, with a throw to second base followed by a throw to first base.

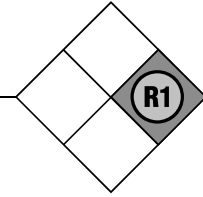
#### **Umpire responsibilities:**

**PU:** Moves toward the third-base side of the pitcher's mound to assist U1 on the slide at second base by R1. If R1 is out, PU stays with the slide to ensure the slide was legal then turns toward first base for secondary responsibility on a swipe tag and/or pulled foot at first base. If R1 is safe and attempts to advance to third, PU has responsibility for play at third if ball and runner come together. PU is responsible for all plays at home.

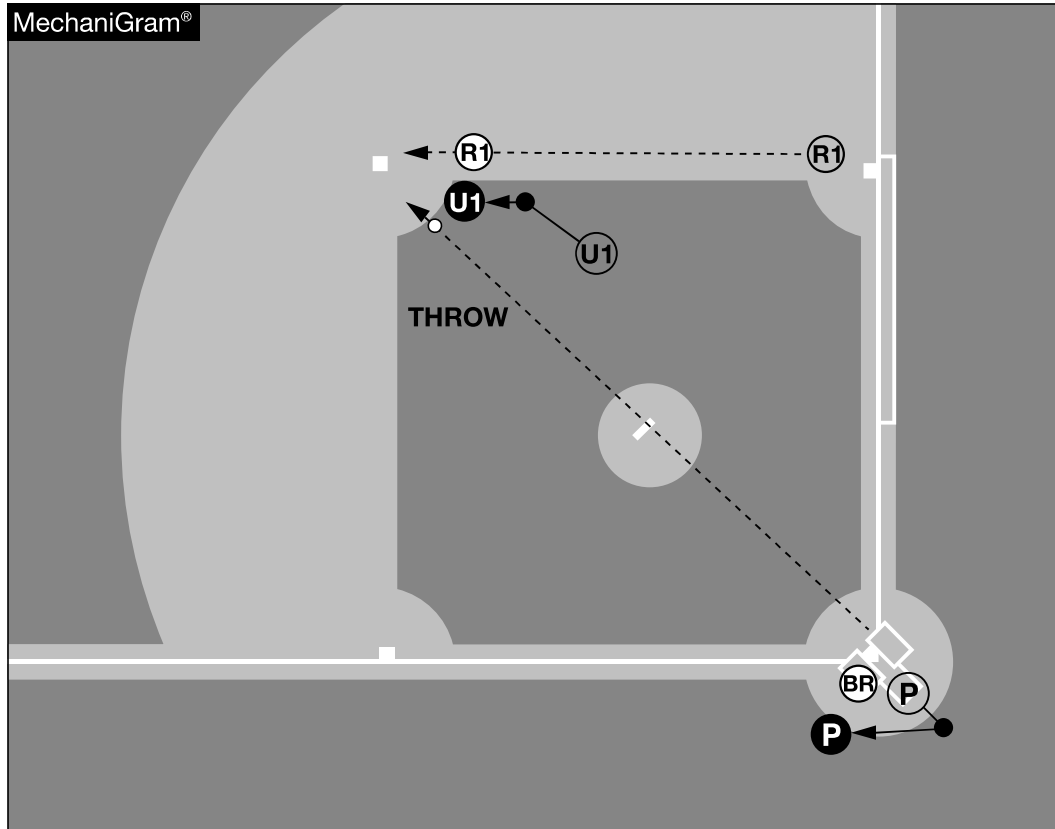
**U1:** Moves into the best position to rule on plays at first or second base, including a drift toward first on the attempted double play. U1 is responsible for the illegal slide until he turns toward first base to rule on the play there.



## 7.6.5 RUNNER ON FIRST



### Steal of Second



**Action on the field:** The batter swings and misses at the pitch as R1 attempts to steal second base.

#### **Umpire responsibilities:**

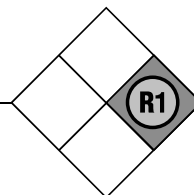
**P:** Signals the swinging strike without taking his focus off the play at hand. Ensures the batter does not interfere with the catcher's throw. Steps out as needed to observe the play.

**U1:** Starting with the 2020 season, umpires are not allowed to start in the infield and then run to a position out in the dirt looking straight down the baseline toward second base during a steal play. All steal plays must be taken between the B and C starting positions. Takes a backward step or two as the throw is released from the catcher. Keeps eye on the ball and turns as the ball passes U1. Comes to a hands-on-knee set to see the play at second base. If the play is a swipe-tag out, ensure the fielder retains possession of the ball before making the out call. If the runner is safe, no delay is necessary.

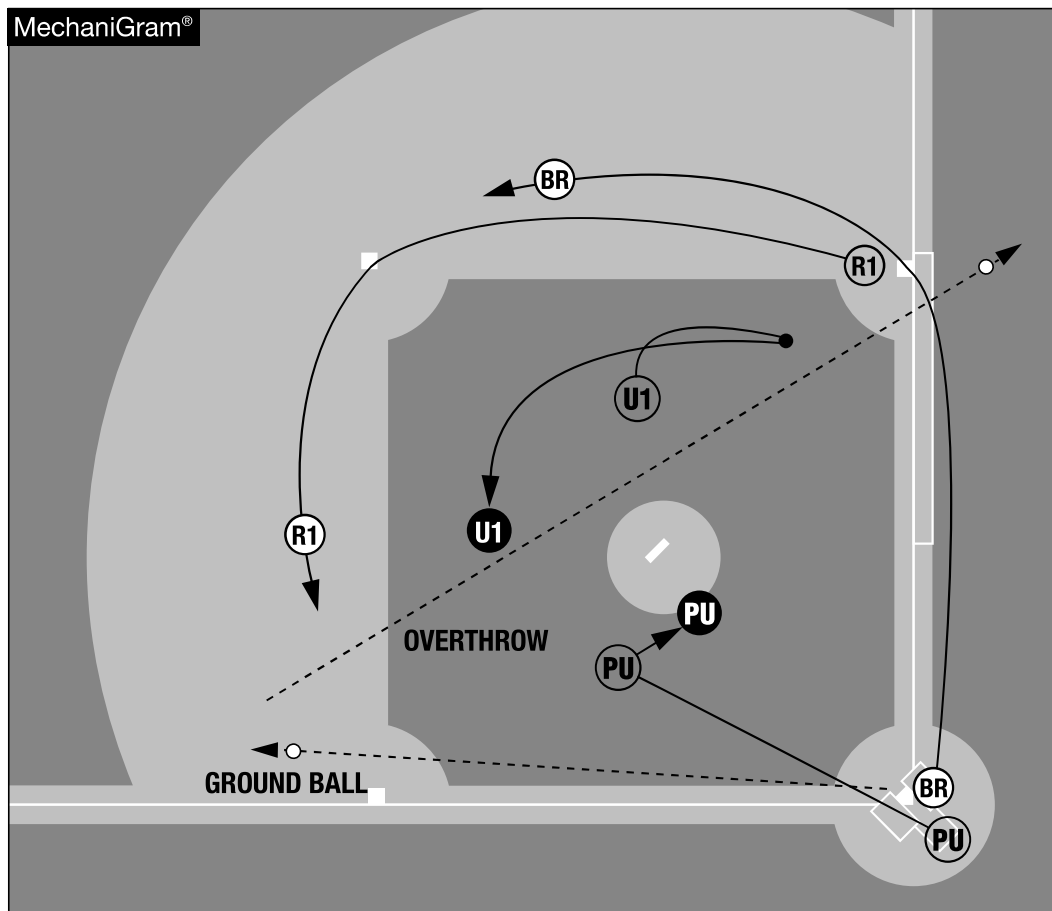




## 7.6.6 RUNNER ON FIRST



### Plays Within the Infield: Overthrow



**Action on the field:** Ground ball to third base with overthrow to first base; R1 advances to third base; BR advances to second base.

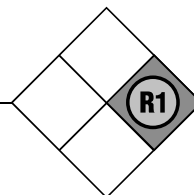
#### **Umpire responsibilities:**

**PU:** Moves toward the third-base side of the pitcher's mound to assist U1 on the slide at second base if the defense attempts a play there. When no play is attempted there and R1 advances toward third, PU is responsible for any play at third base and home.

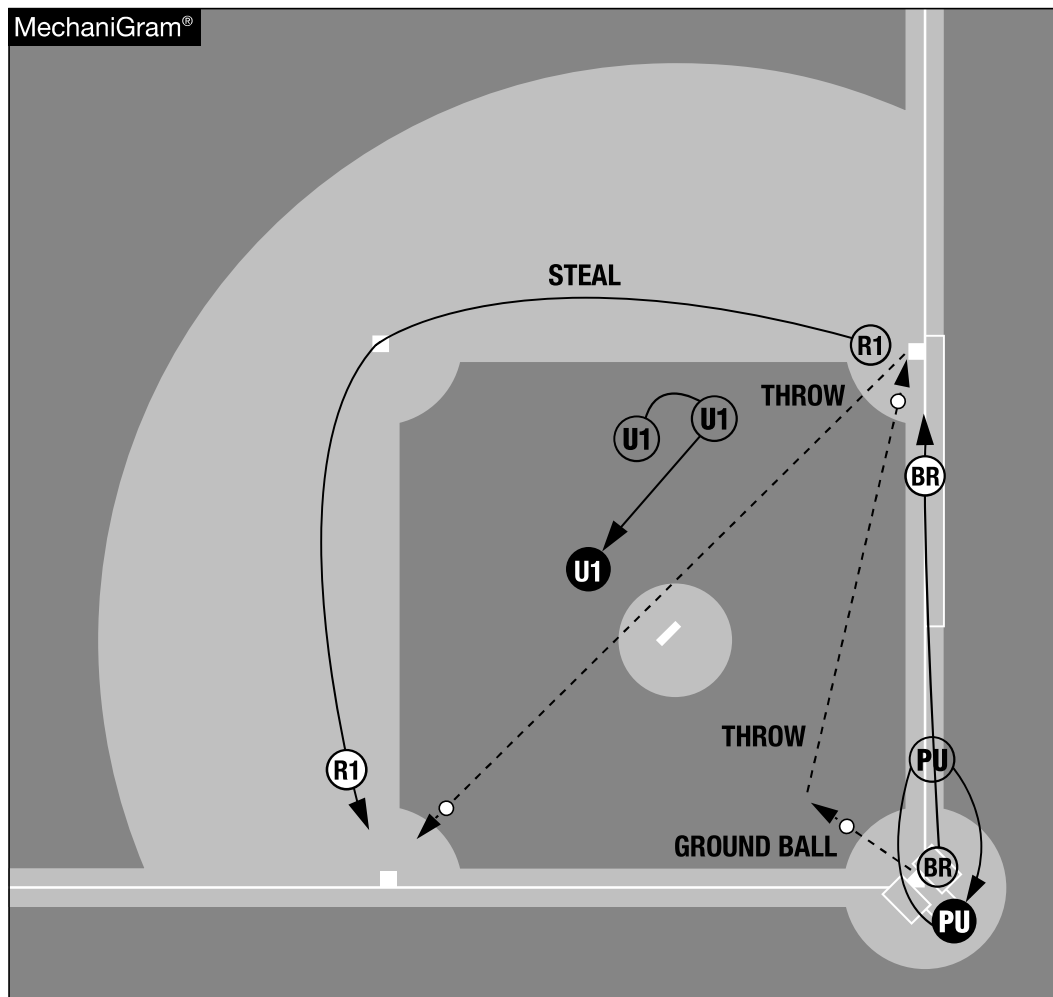
**U1:** Moves into the best position to rule on plays at first or second base, including a drift toward first if there is an attempted double play. U1 has all plays at first and second base and is responsible for taking BR into third. When PU must assume responsibility for R1 (when he is safe at second and advancing toward third), U1 becomes responsible for the overthrow and ball going out of play.



## 7.6.7 RUNNER ON FIRST



### Plays Within the Infield: PU Stays On the Foul Line



**Action on the field:** Ground ball in front of the plate; no play on R1 at second base. When the throw goes toward first, R1 advances toward third base, drawing a throw there.

#### Umpire responsibilities:

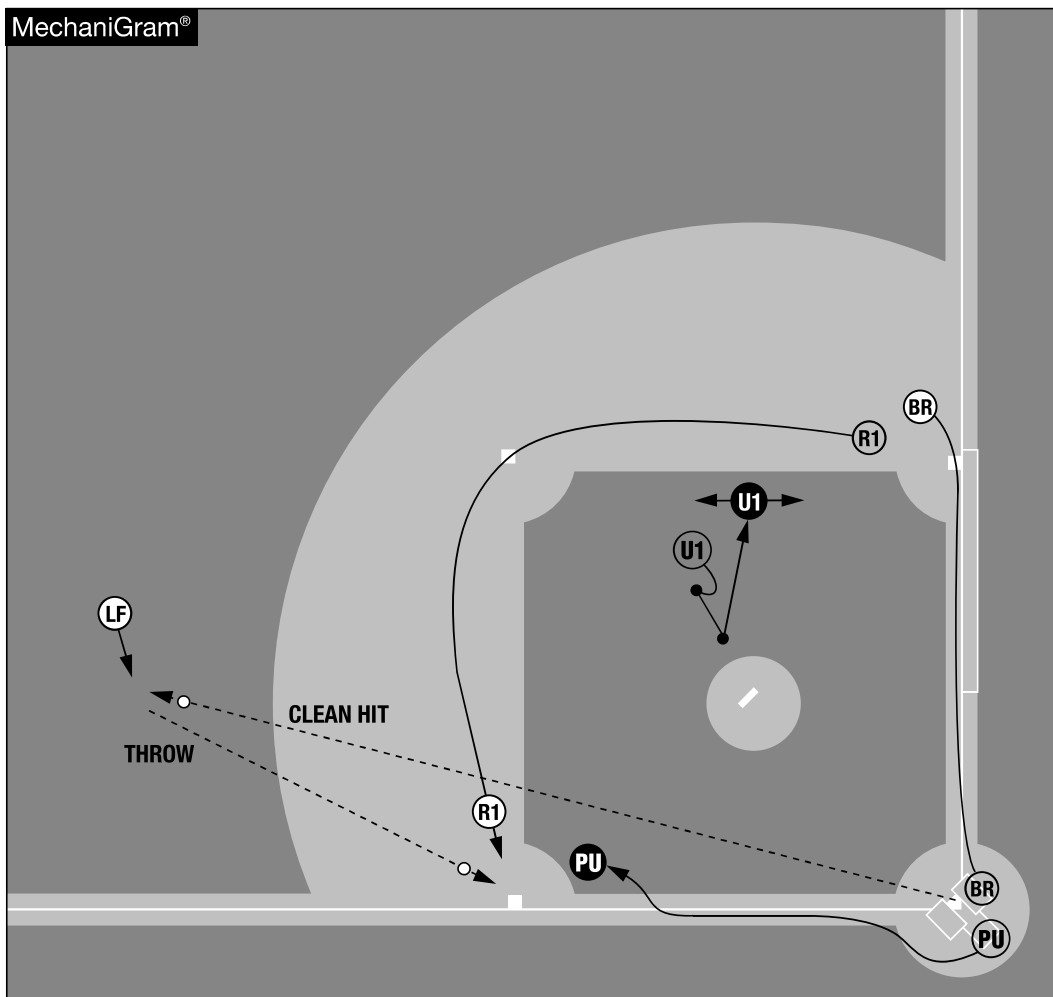
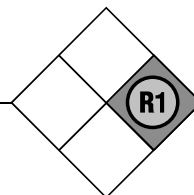
**PU:** Remains in the area of the plate to judge fair/foul and any interference possibilities between BR and the catcher. PU then moves toward the first-base line to observe potential running-lane interference. PU communicates to U1 that he is remaining on the line.

**U1:** Has all plays at first, second or third base



## 7.6.8 RUNNER ON FIRST

### Clean Hit to the Outfield



**Action on the field:** A clean hit to left field, no catch; R1 advances to third base, drawing a throw there

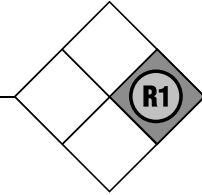
**Umpire responsibilities:**

**PU:** Reads R1 and the ball and moves into a position for any plays at third base on R1.

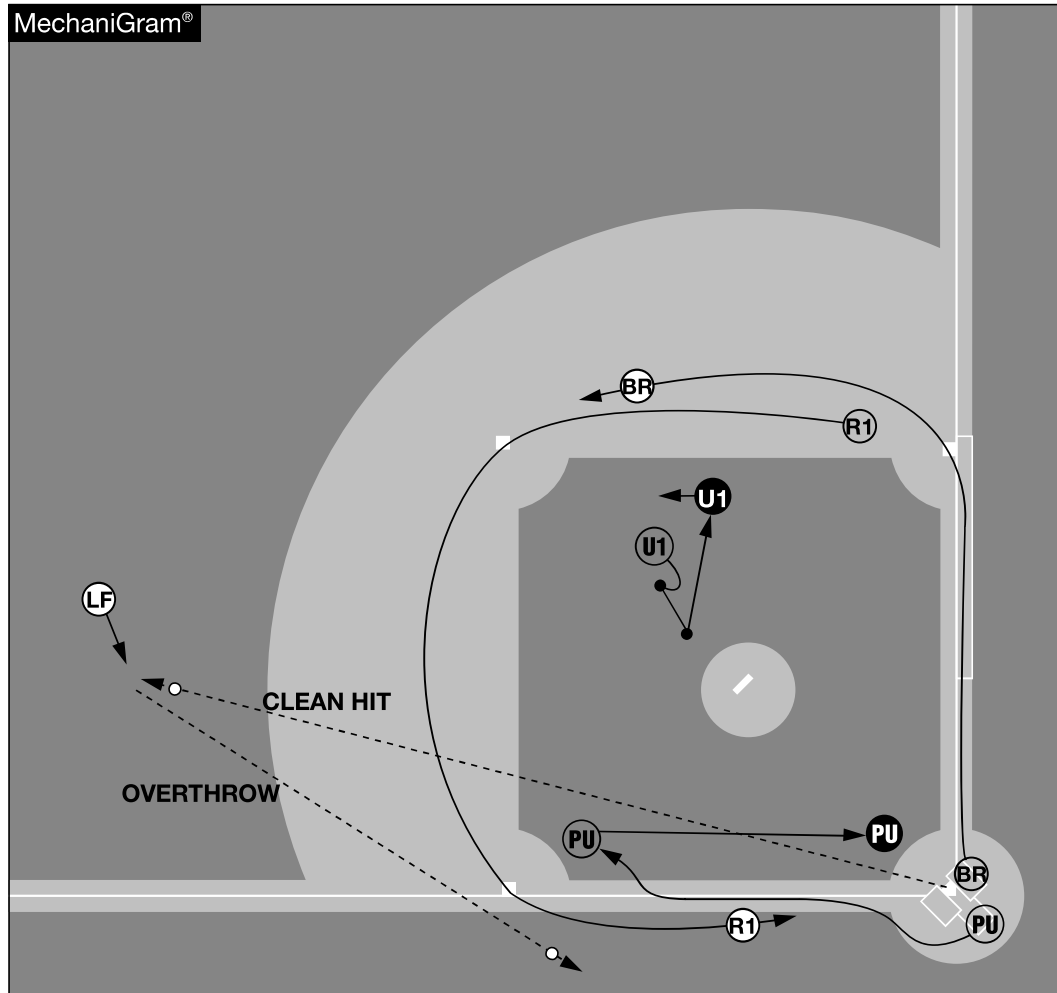
**U1:** Has all plays at first and second base.



## 7.6.9 RUNNER ON FIRST



### Clean Hit to the Outfield: Overthrow



**Action on the field:** A clean hit to left field, no catch; R1 advances toward third base, drawing a throw there; the ball is overthrown and R1 advances toward the plate; the batter-runner rounds first base

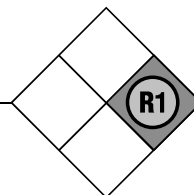
#### Umpire responsibilities:

**PU:** Reads R1 and the ball and moves into a position for any plays at third base on R1. If a play develops at third base and R1 then attempts to advance to the plate on a wild throw, PU must retreat in fair territory for any play at the plate.

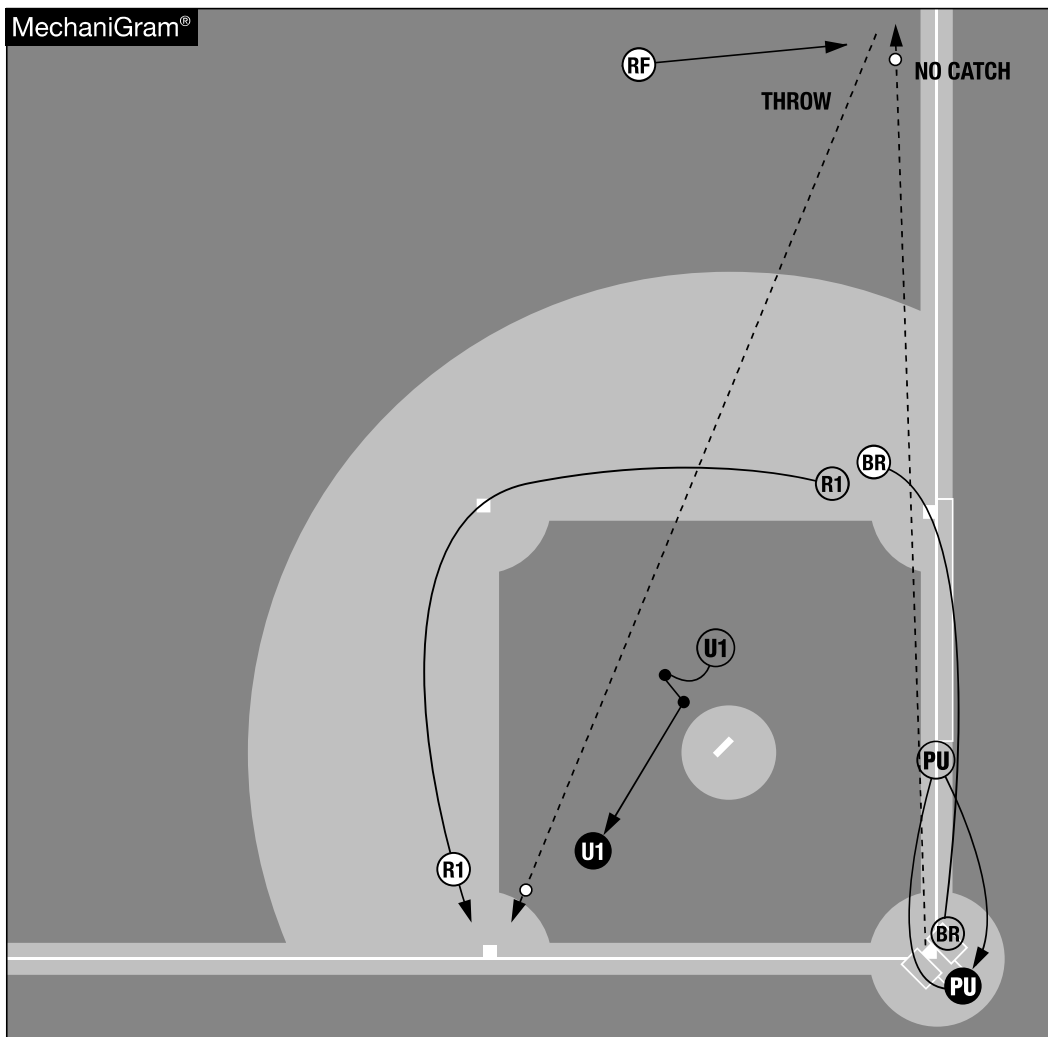
**U1:** Observes the batter-runner touch first base and has all plays at first, second and third base on the batter-runner.



## 7.6.10 RUNNER ON FIRST



### Fly Ball Down the Right-Field Line: No Catch



**Action on the field:** Deep fly ball along the right-field foul line, no catch; PU remains along the foul line; R1 advances toward third base, drawing a throw there; the batter-runner rounds first base

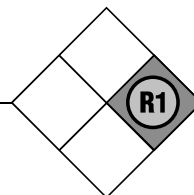
#### Umpire responsibilities:

**PU:** Must remain near the foul line to rule on fair/foul and catch/no catch. PU will communicate to U1 that PU is “on the line” and will not have normal rotation coverage.

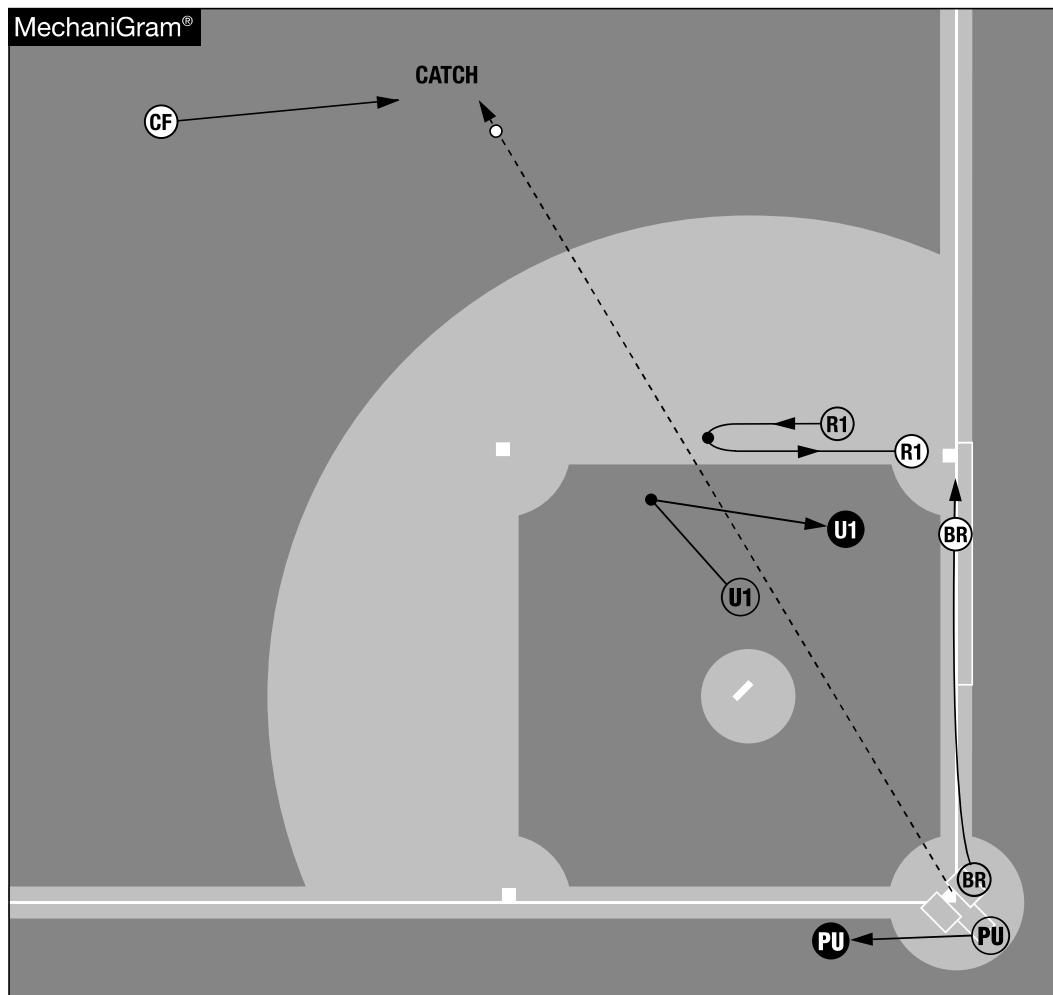
**U1:** Has any plays that develop at first, second and third base.



## 7.6.11 RUNNER ON FIRST



### Fly Ball to Center Field: Catch



**Action on the field:** Fly ball caught by the center fielder, R1 returns to first base

#### **Umpire responsibilities:**

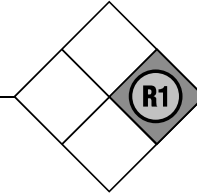
**PU:** Observes the action. If the PU reads that the ball will not be caught, PU rotates to third base for any play on R1 and must communicate his position to U1. If a play develops at third base and R1 then attempts to advance to the plate on a wild throw, PU must retreat in fair territory for any play at the plate.

**U1:** Moves to the best position possible to view the catch/no catch. U1 also is prepared for any throw back on R1 at first base plus any play at second and third base. If the ball is not caught, U1 has any plays involving R1 at first and second base and the batter-runner at any base.

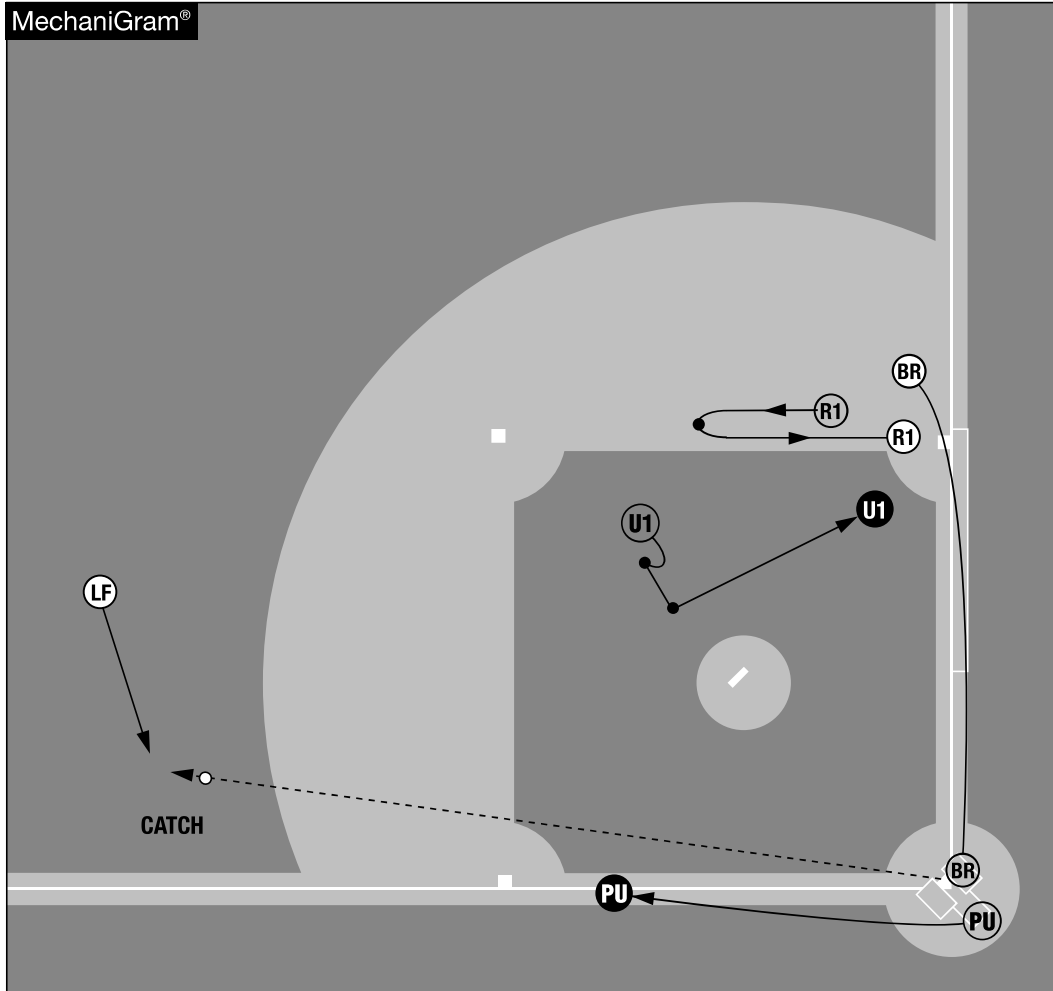




## 7.6.12 RUNNER ON FIRST



### Fly Ball Down the Left-Field Line: Catch



**Action on the field:** Fly ball caught by the left fielder; R1 returns to first base

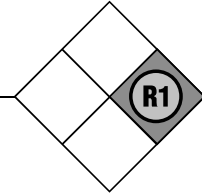
#### **Umpire responsibilities:**

**PU:** Moves to the best possible position to view the catch/no catch. If the ball is not caught, PU continues moving toward third base for any play on R1 there.

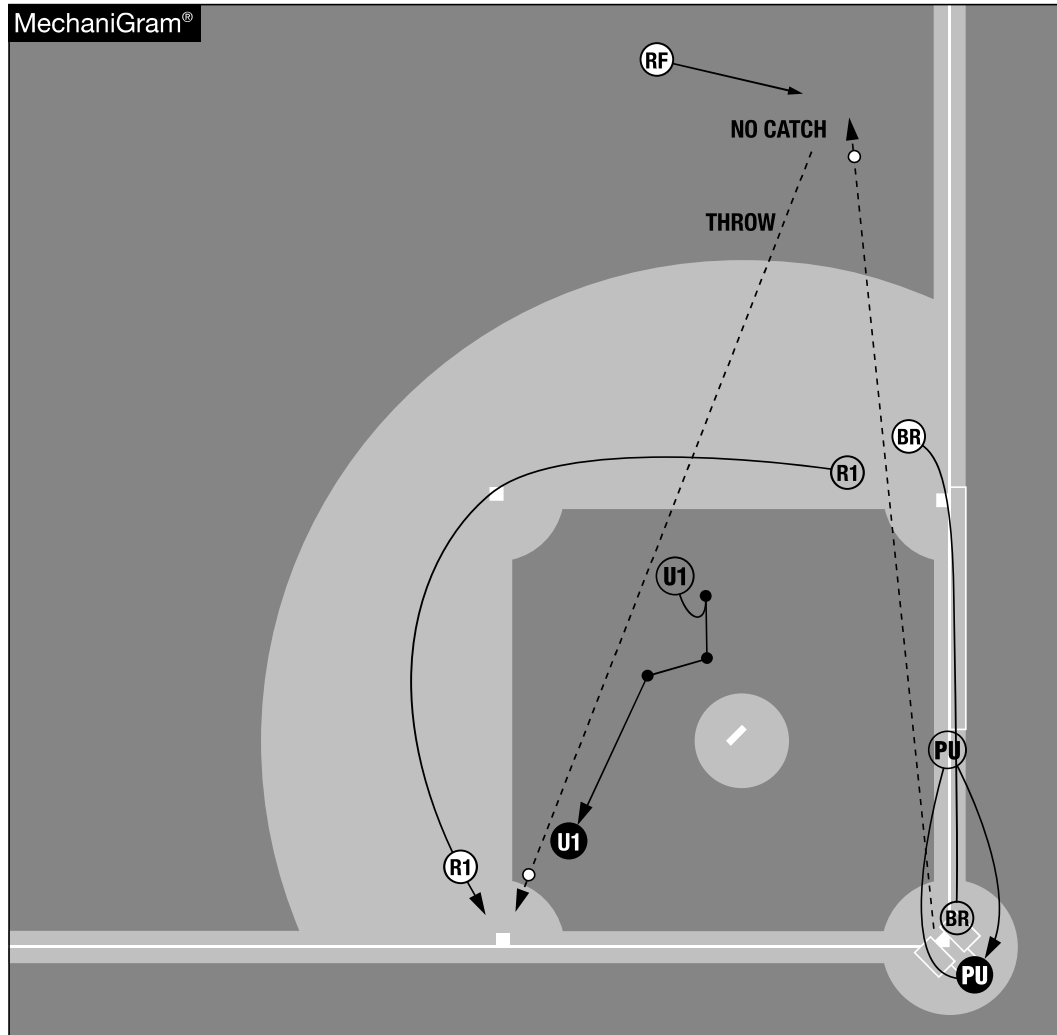
**U1:** Retreats and observes R1 and the batter-runner. U1 has all plays on the bases, except a play on R1 at third if the ball was not caught.



## 7.6.13 RUNNER ON FIRST



### Fly Ball Down the Right-Field Line: No Catch



**Action on the field:** Fly ball to right field, no catch; R1 advances toward third base, drawing a throw there; the batter-runner rounds first base

#### Umpire responsibilities:

**PU:** Moves to the best possible position to view the catch/no catch and communicates to U1 that PU has the line. PU does not rotate to third base, but retreats to home and gets into position for potential plays there.

**U1:** Has all plays on first, second and third bases, including a throwback to first in the event that the ball was caught.





## SECTION 7.7

### Runners on first and second

#### Infield Catch Coverage

The coverage is the same as with a runner on first only (see 7.6.2), with U1 in position C.

PU has catches:

1. By the pitcher moving in, left or right.
2. By the third baseman moving back or toward the foul line.
3. By the first baseman moving back or toward the foul line.

U1 has catches:

1. By the pitcher moving back.
2. By the shortstop moving in all directions.
3. By the second baseman moving in all directions.
4. By the third baseman moving in or toward the middle of the field.
5. By the first baseman moving in or toward the middle of the field.

#### Fair/Foul Coverage

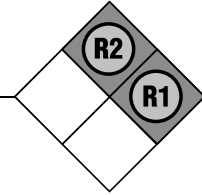
The coverage is the same as with a runner on first only (see 7.6.3), with U1 in position C.

**PU:** Has responsibility for all balls on the third-base and first-base lines.

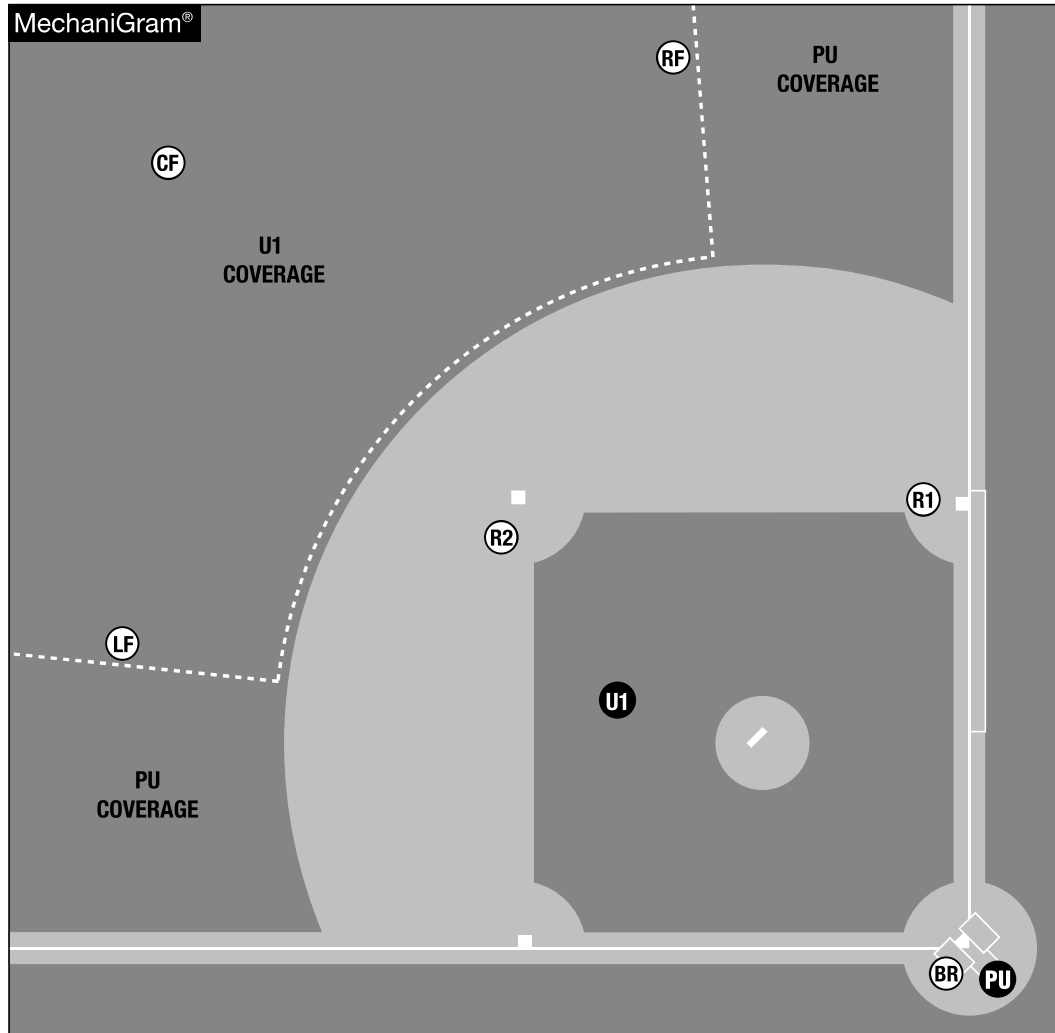
**U1:** Has no fair/foul responsibility.



## 7.7.1 RUNNERS ON FIRST AND SECOND



### Initial Positions and Outfield Coverage



**Action on the field:** No action

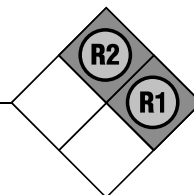
#### **Umpire responsibilities:**

**PU:** Has the left fielder moving toward the left-field foul line and the right fielder moving toward the right-field foul line.

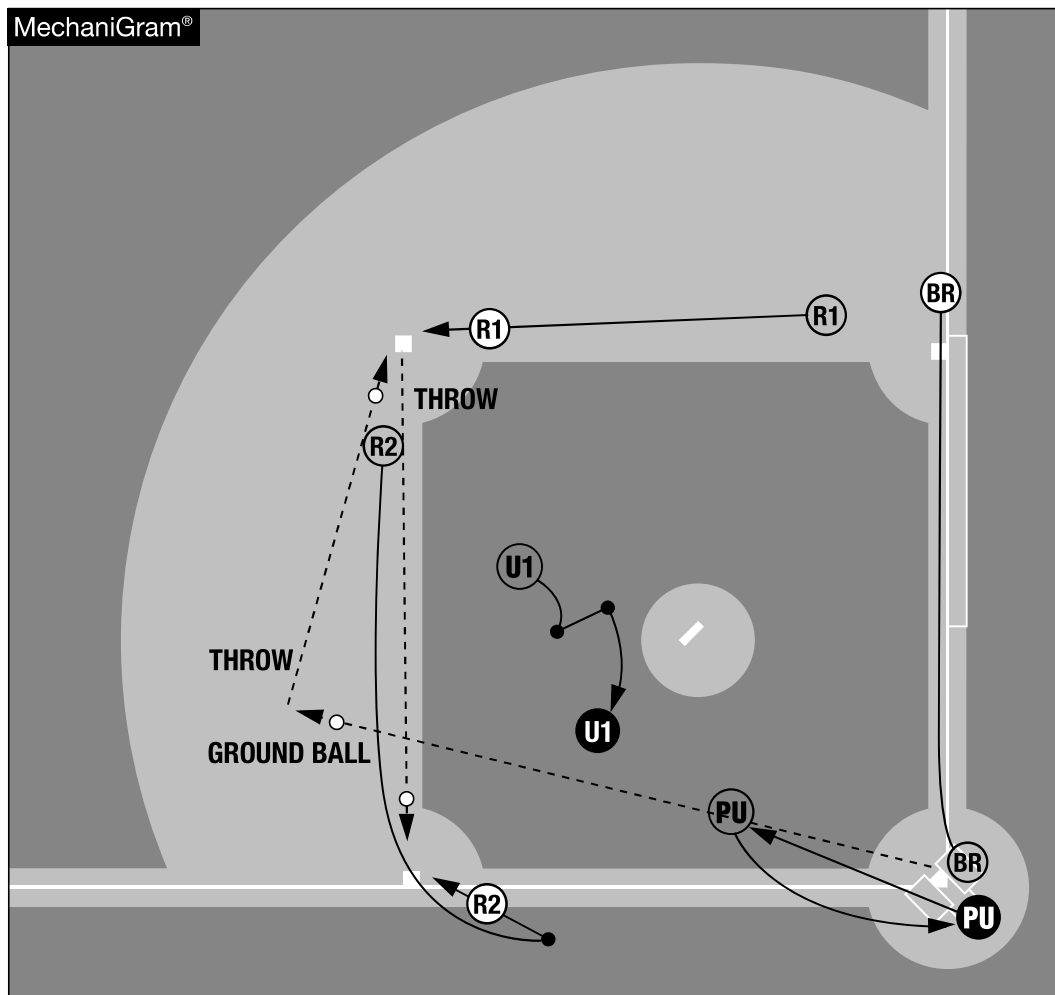
**U1:** Starts in the “C” position and has outfield coverage from the left fielder straight in or straight back to the right fielder straight in or straight back.



## 7.7.2 RUNNERS ON FIRST AND SECOND



### Plays Within the Infield



**Action on the field:** Slowly hit ground ball to the third baseman, who throws to second base to retire R1; R2 rounds third base and draws a throw from the second baseman; the batter-runner advances toward first base

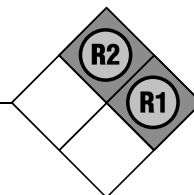
#### Umpire responsibilities:

**PU:** Moves to a position to assist U1 on the slide at second base by R1. PU has secondary responsibility for assisting U1 on swipe tag and pulled foot at first base.

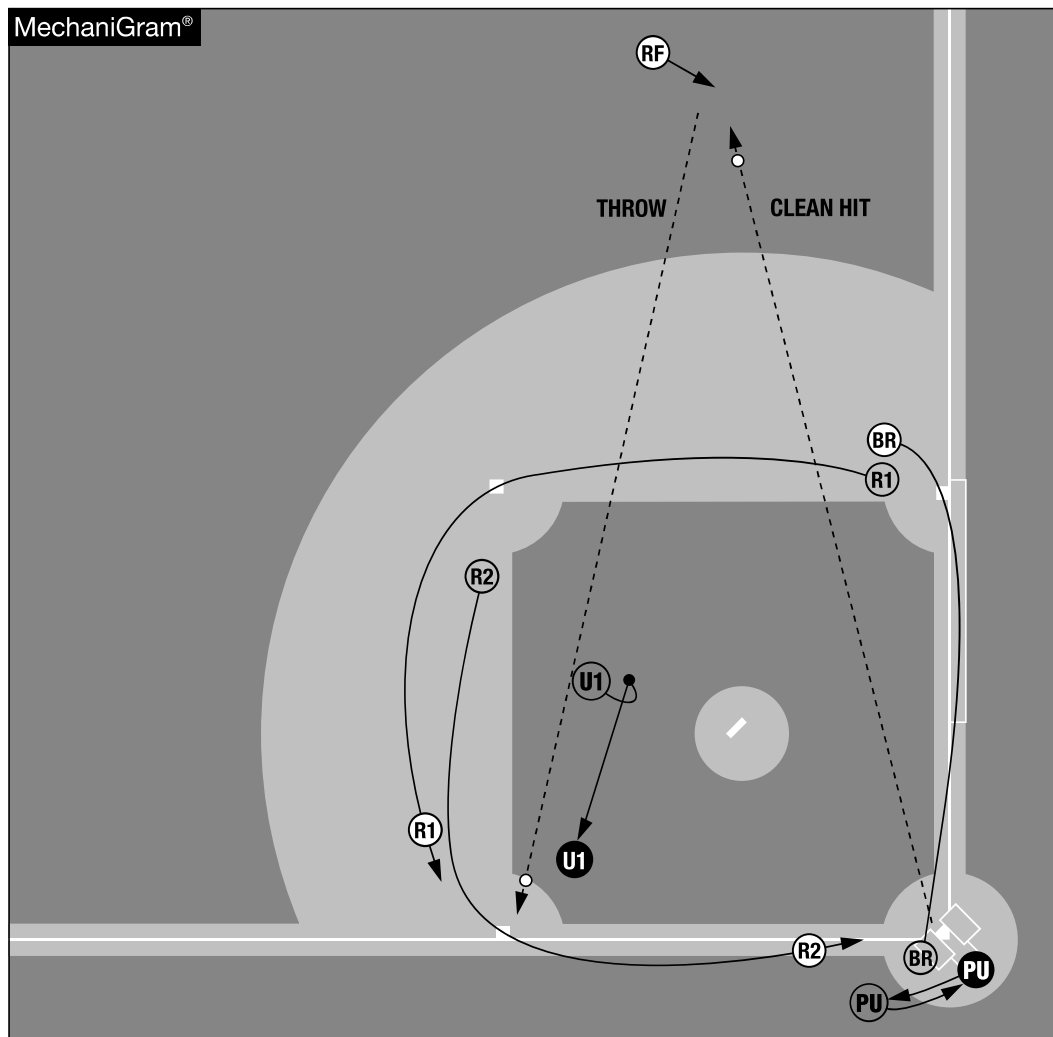
**U1:** Moves into the best position to rule on all plays at first, second or third base, including if there is a play at third base on a snap throwback.



### 7.7.3 RUNNERS ON FIRST AND SECOND



## Clean Hit to the Outfield



**Action on the field:** A clean hit to right field; R2 advances toward the plate; R1 advances toward third base, drawing a throw there; the batter-runner advances toward first base

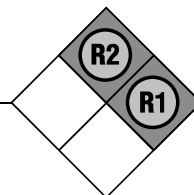
#### **Umpire responsibilities:**

**PU:** Observes R2's touch of the plate and all base touches at third base. PU moves to a position to rule on all plays at the plate.

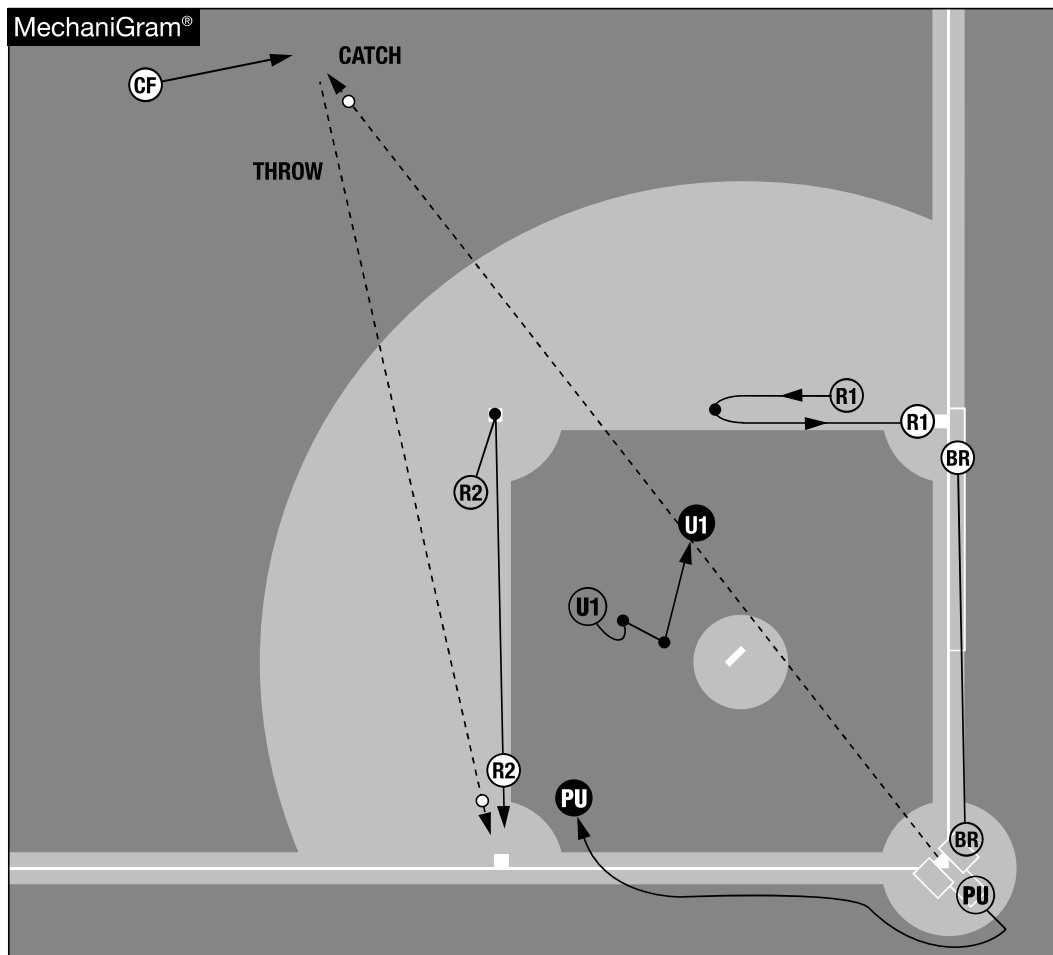
**U1:** Observes base touches at first and second base on all runners. U1 moves to a position to rule on all plays on the bases.



## 7.7.4 RUNNERS ON FIRST AND SECOND



### Fly Ball to Center Field: Catch



**Action on the field:** Fly ball caught by the center fielder; R2 tags at second and draws a throw to third base; R1 returns to first base

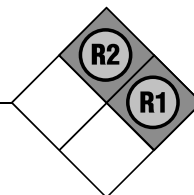
#### Umpire responsibilities:

**PU:** Moves toward third base. If R2 attempts to advance to third base, PU moves into the third-base area for the play there. If a play develops at third base and R2 then attempts to advance to the plate, PU must retreat in fair territory for any play at the plate. If the ball is not caught, PU returns to the plate for all plays there.

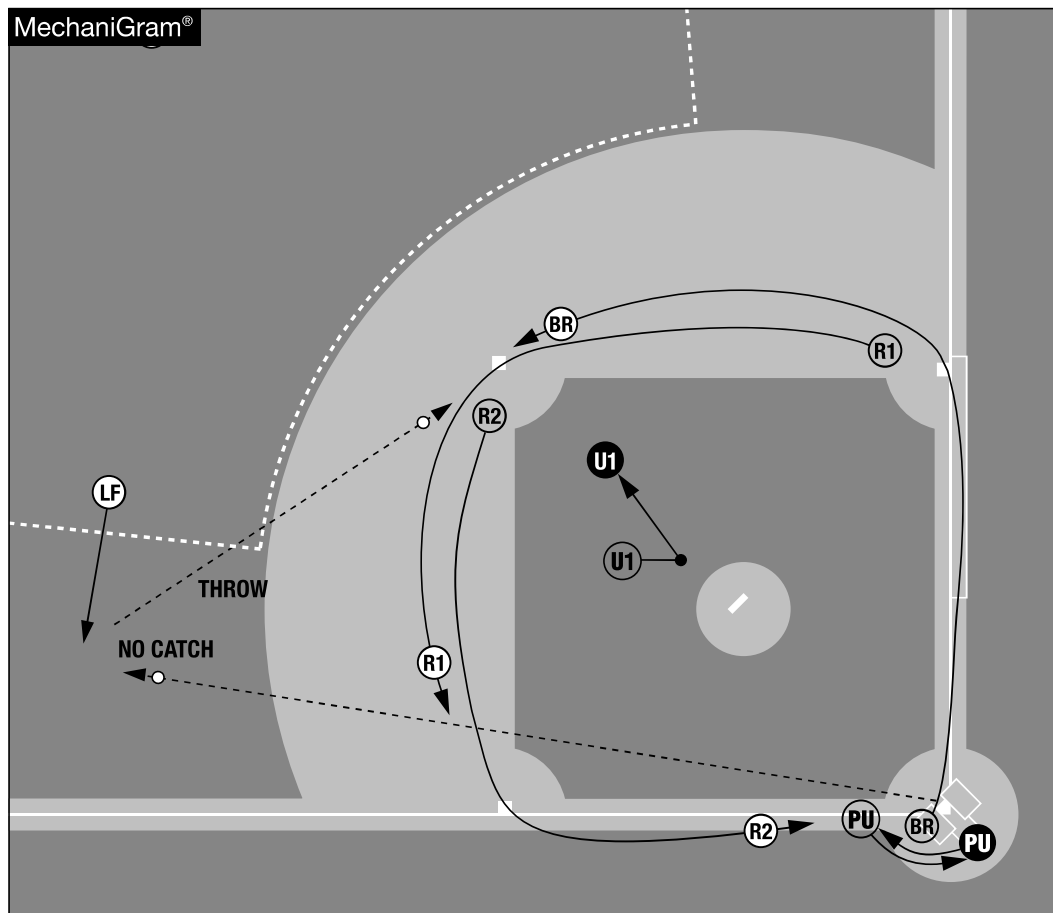
**U1:** Moves to the best position possible to view the catch/no catch. U1 observes both R2's tag up at second base and R1's tag up at first base. U1 reads the runners and moves into a position for any plays at first or second base. If the ball is not caught moves to a position to rule on all plays on the bases.



## 7.7.5 RUNNERS ON FIRST AND SECOND



### Fly Ball Down the Left-Field Line: No Catch



**Action on the field:** Fly ball to left field, no catch; R2 advances toward the plate; R1 advances toward third base; the batter-runner advances toward second base, drawing a throw there

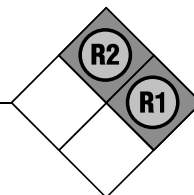
#### Umpire responsibilities:

**PU:** Moves to the best position possible to view the catch/no catch. PU returns to the plate for all plays there. If the ball is caught, PU reads the runners and the ball and moves into a position for any play at third base. If a play develops at third base and R2 then attempts to advance to the plate, PU must retreat in fair territory for any play at the plate.

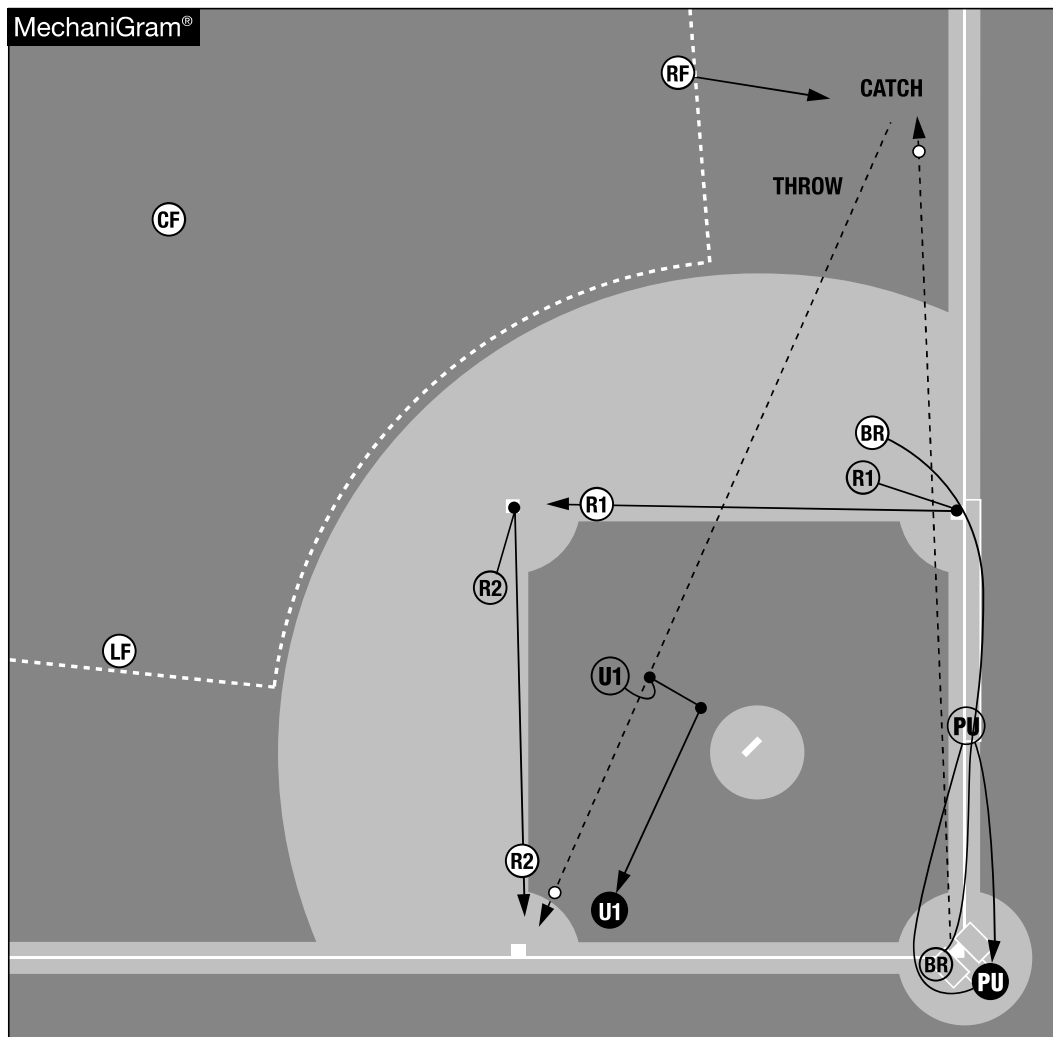
**U1:** Reads the runners and the throw and moves to a position to rule on all plays on the bases. If the ball is caught, U1 retreats and observes R1's and R2's tag ups. U1 moves to a position for all plays at first and second base.



## 7.7.6 RUNNERS ON FIRST AND SECOND



### Fly Ball Down the Right-Field Line: Catch



**Action on the field:** Fly ball caught by the right fielder; R2 tags up at second and draws a throw to third base; R1 also tags up and advances to second base

#### **Umpire responsibilities:**

**PU:** Moves to the best position possible to view the fair/foul and catch/no catch. PU must communicate to U1 that PU is on the line, thus notifying U1 that PU will not be at third base for any play there. PU returns to the plate for any plays there.

**U1:** Retreats and observes R2 and R1 tagging up and moves to a position to cover all plays on the bases.



## SECTION 7.8

### Bases loaded

#### Initial Positions and Outfield Coverage

The coverage is the same as with runners on first and second base (see 7.7.1).

**PU:** Has the left fielder moving toward the left-field foul line and the right fielder moving toward the right-field foul line.

**U1:** Starts in the “C” position and has outfield coverage from the left fielder straight in or straight back to the right fielder straight in or straight back.

#### Infield Catch Coverage

The coverage is the same as with a runners on first (see 7.6.2), with U1 in position C.

PU has catches:

1. By the pitcher moving in, left or right.
2. By the third baseman moving back or toward the foul line.
3. By the first baseman moving back or toward the foul line.

U1 has catches:

1. By the pitcher moving back.
2. By the shortstop moving in all directions.
3. By the second baseman moving in all directions.
4. By the third baseman moving in or toward the middle of the field.
5. By the first baseman moving in or toward the middle of the field.

#### Fair/Foul Coverage

The coverage is the same as with a runner on first base (see 7.6.3), with U1 in position C.

**PU:** Has responsibility for all balls on the third-base line and first-base line.

**U1:** Has no fair/foul responsibility.

#### Plays Within the Infield

The coverage is the same as with a runners on first base (see 7.6.4), with U1 in position C.

**PU:** Moves to a position to assist U1 on the slide at second base by R1. PU has secondary responsibility for assisting U1 on swipe tag and pulled foot at first base.

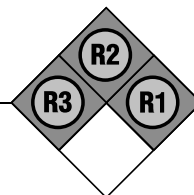
**U1:** Moves into the best position to rule on all plays at first, second or third base.



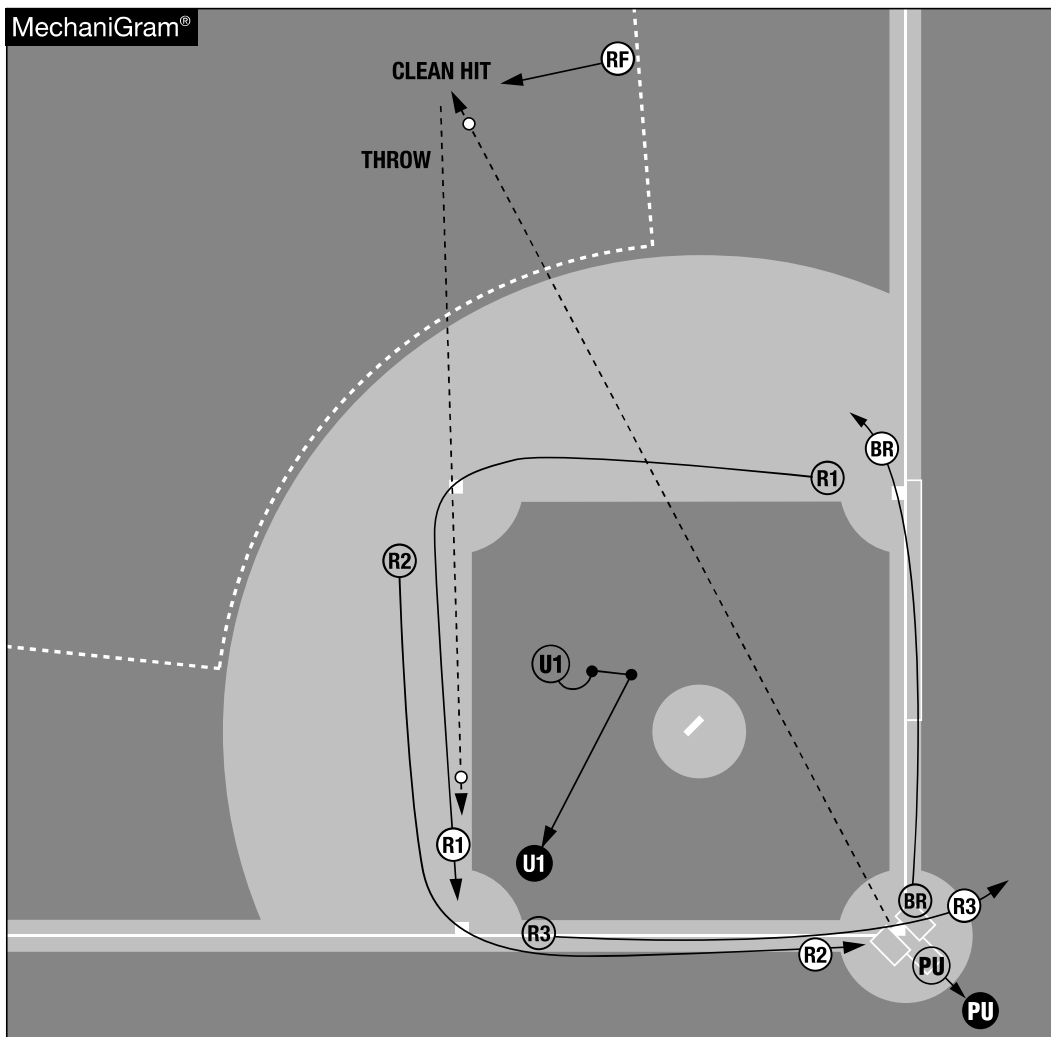




## 7.8.1 BASES LOADED



### Clean Hit to the Outfield



**Action on the field:** A clean hit to right-center field; R3 advances to the plate; R2 advances to the plate; R1 advances toward third base, drawing a throw there; the batter-runner rounds first base

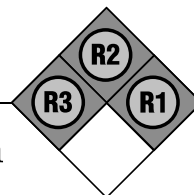
#### Umpire responsibilities:

**PU:** Observes R3's touch of the plate and the third-base touch of R2 (and R1 if applicable). PU moves to a position to rule on all plays at the plate.

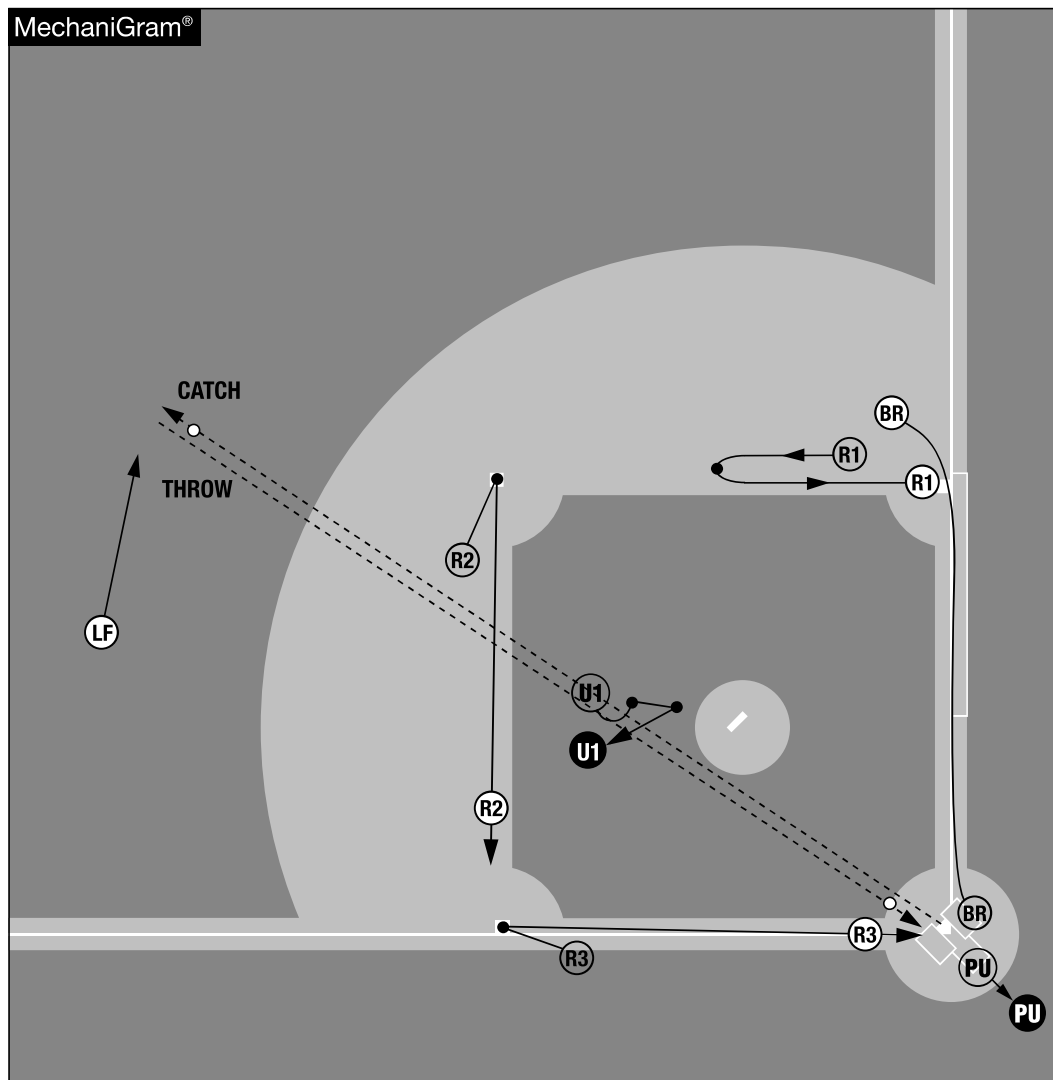
**U1:** Observes base touches at first and second on all runners and third base by the batter-runner. U1 moves to a position to rule on all plays on the bases.



## 7.8.2 BASES LOADED



### Fly Ball to Left-Center Field: Catch



**Action on the field:** Fly ball caught by the center fielder; R3 tags up at third and draws a throw to the plate; R2 tags up at second and advances toward third base; R1 retreats to first base

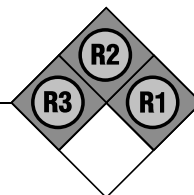
#### Umpire responsibilities:

**PU:** Moves to a position to best view R3's tag up at third base and returns to the plate for all plays there.

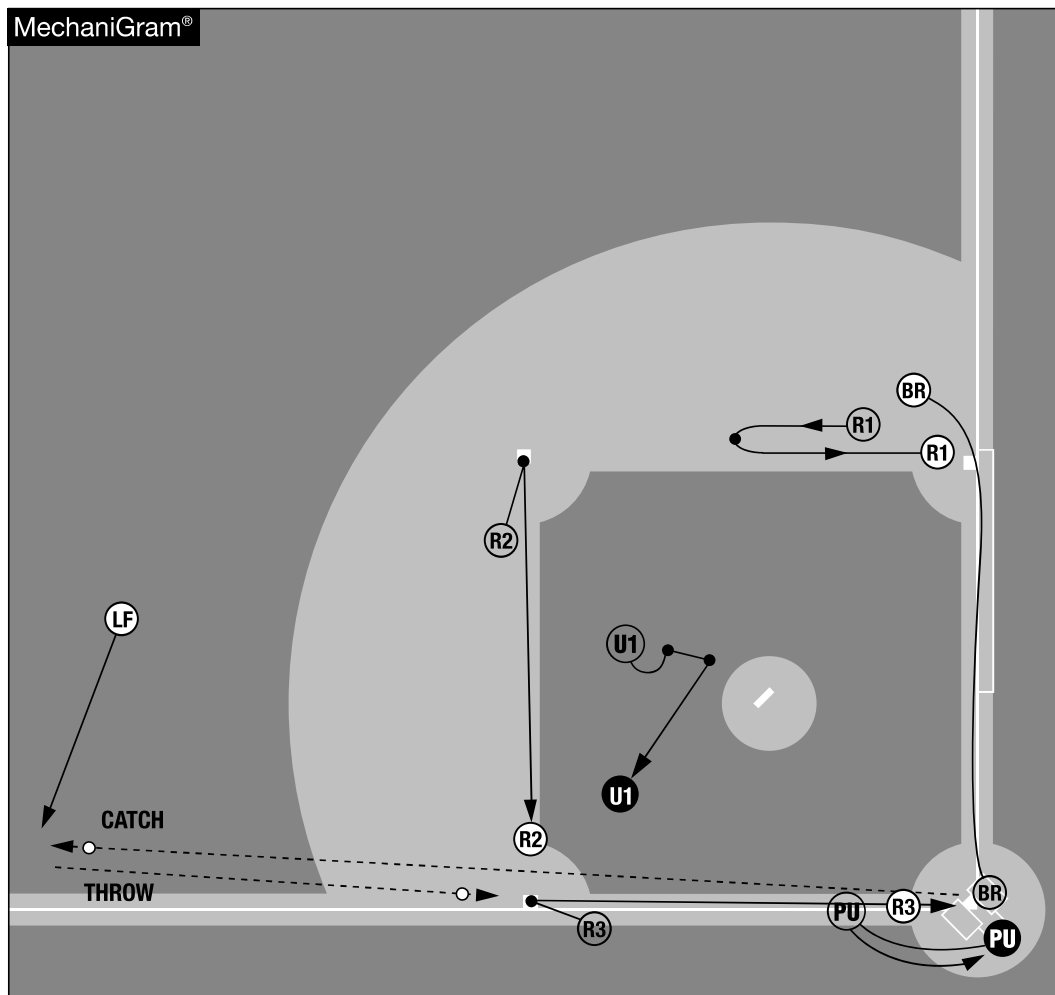
**U1:** Moves to the best position possible to view the catch/no catch. U1 reads the runners and throw and moves to a position to rule on all plays on the bases.



### 7.8.3 BASES LOADED



## Fly Ball Down the Left-Field Line: Catch



**Action on the field:** Fly ball caught by the left fielder near the foul line; R3 tags up and draws a throw to the plate; R2 tags up and advances toward third base; R1 retreats toward first base

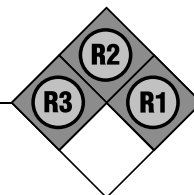
### Umpire responsibilities:

**PU:** Moves to the best position possible to view the fair/foul and catch/no catch. Also observes R3's tag up. PU returns to the plate for all plays.

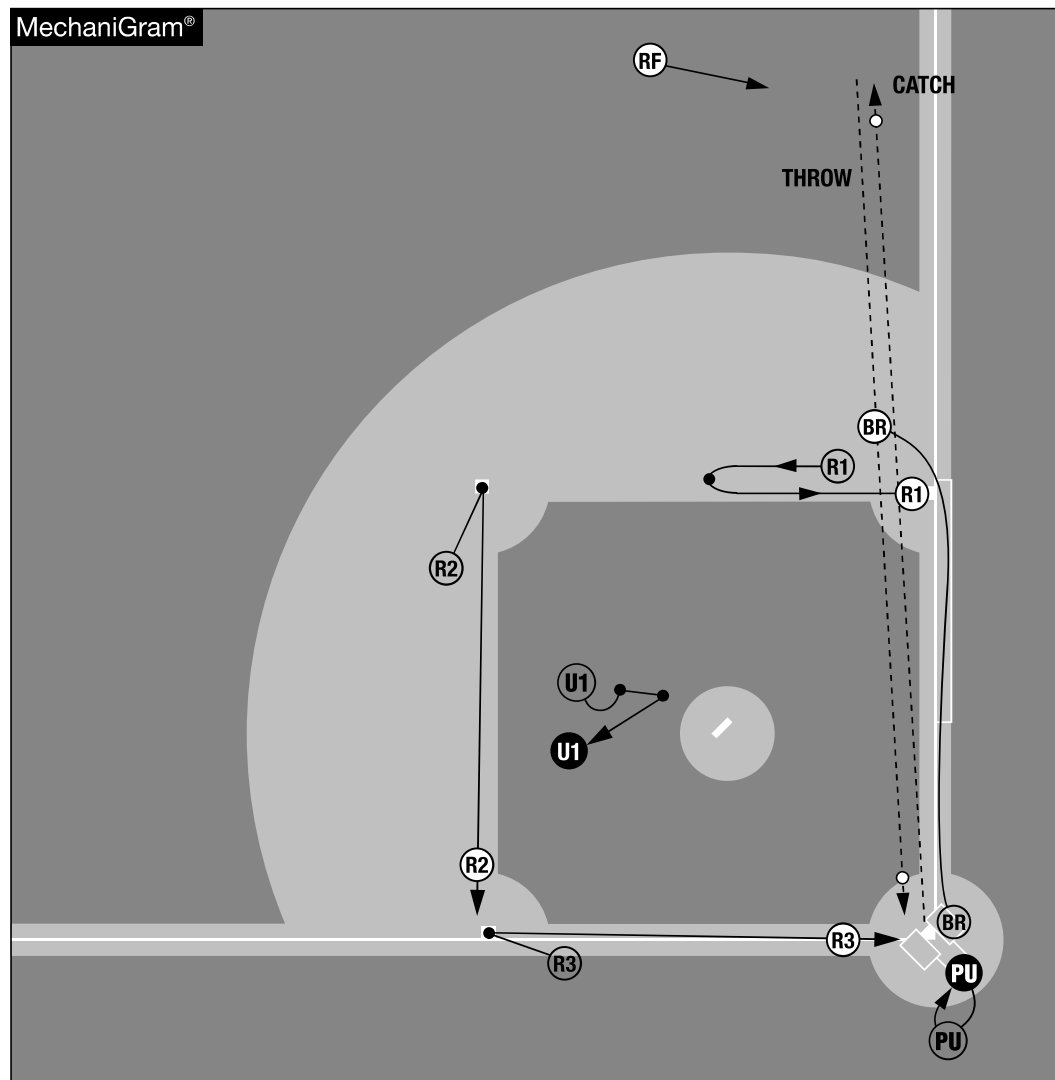
**U1:** Retreats and observes tag ups of R2 and R1. U1 reads the runners and throw and moves to a position to rule on all plays on the bases.



## 7.8.4 BASES LOADED



### Fly Ball Down the Right-Field Line: Catch



**Action on the field:** Fly ball caught by the right fielder near the foul line; R3 tags up and draws a throw to the plate; R2 tags up and advances toward third base; R1 retreats to first base

#### Umpire responsibilities:

**PU:** Moves to the best position possible to view the catch/no catch and then observes R3's tag up (first-base line extended if the ball is in shallow right field). PU returns to the plate for all plays there.

**U1:** Retreats and observes tag ups of R2 and R1. U1 moves to a position to rule on all plays on the bases.



## SECTION 7.9

### Runners on first and third

#### Initial Positions and Outfield Coverage

The coverage is the same as a runner on first only (see 7.6.1).

**PU:** Has the left fielder moving toward the left-field foul line and the right fielder moving toward the right-field foul line.

**U1:** Starts in the “B” position. U1 has outfield coverage from the left fielder straight in or straight back to the right fielder straight in or straight back.

#### Infield Catch Coverage

The coverage is the same as a runner on first only (see 7.6.2).

PU has catches:

1. By the pitcher moving in, left or right.
2. By the third baseman moving back or toward the foul line.
3. By the first baseman moving back or toward the foul line.

U1 has catches:

1. By the pitcher moving back.
2. By the shortstop moving in all directions.
3. By the second baseman moving in all directions.
4. By the third baseman moving in or toward the middle of the field.
5. By the first baseman moving in or toward the middle of the field.

#### Fair/Foul Coverage

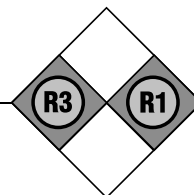
The coverage is the same as a runner on first only (see 7.6.3).

**PU:** Has responsibility for all balls on the third-base line and first-base line.

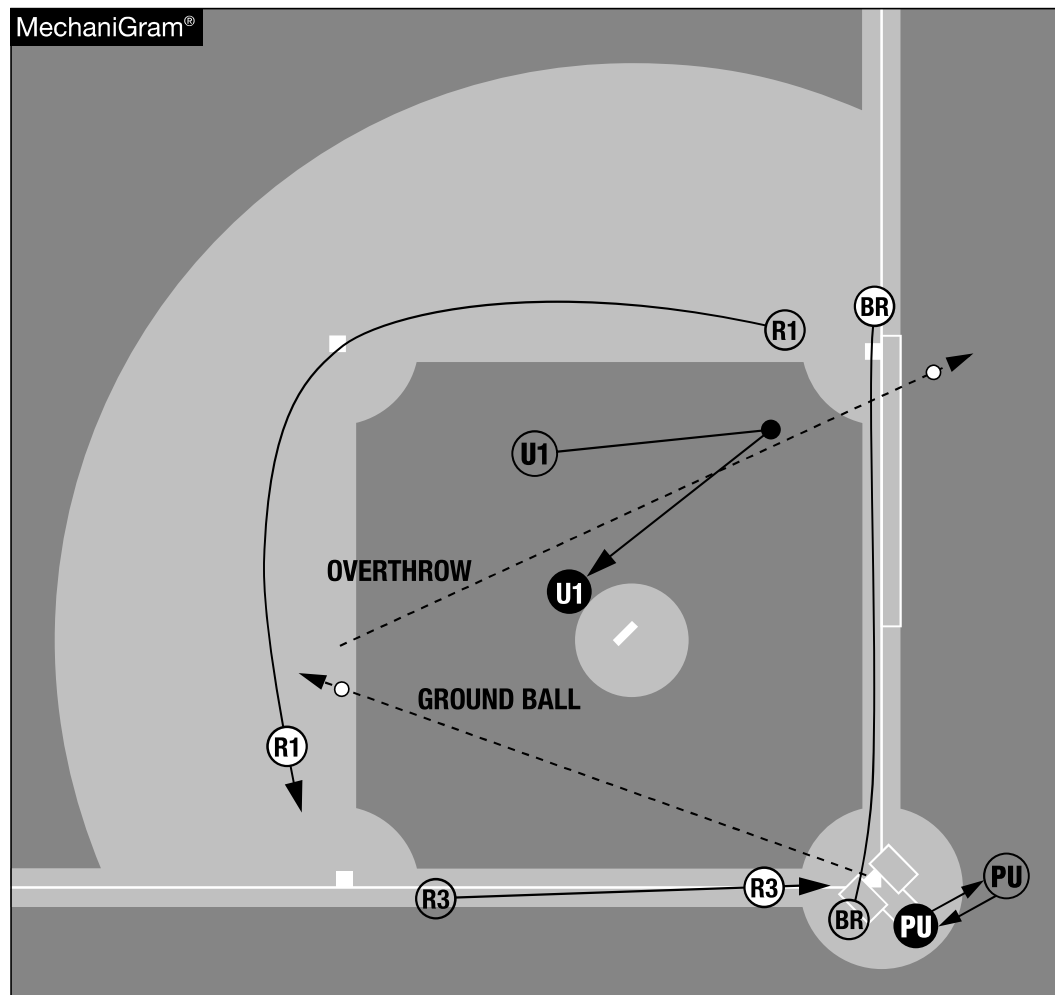
**U1:** Has no fair/foul responsibility.



## 7.9.1 RUNNERS ON FIRST AND THIRD



### Plays Within the Infield



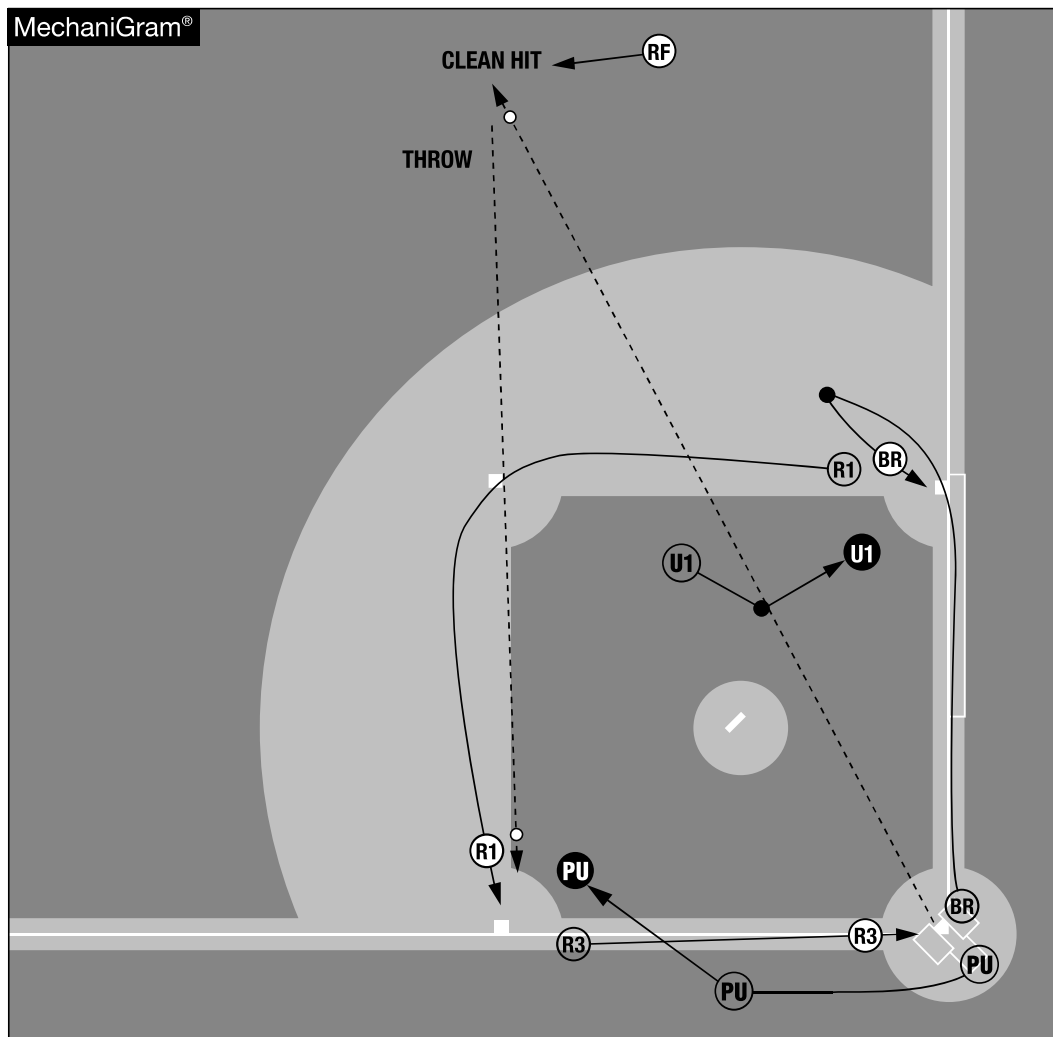
**Action on the field:** Ground ball to shortstop with an overthrow to first base; R3 advances toward the plate; R1 advances toward third base

#### **Umpire responsibilities:**

**PU:** Moves to a position to assist U1 on the slide at second base by R1. PU has secondary responsibility for assisting U1 on swipe tag and pulled foot at first base. PU has all touches and plays at the plate, all overthrow responsibilities at first base and all running-lane interference responsibilities.

**U1:** Moves into the best position to rule on all plays on the bases.

## Clean Hit to Outfield



**Action on the field:** Clean hit to right-center field, no catch; R3 advances toward the plate; R1 advances toward third base and draws a throw there; the batter-runner rounds first and returns there

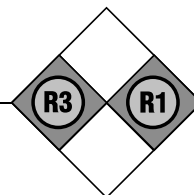
### Umpire responsibilities:

**PU:** Reads R1 and the ball and moves, while observing R3 touch the plate, into position for any plays at third base on R1.

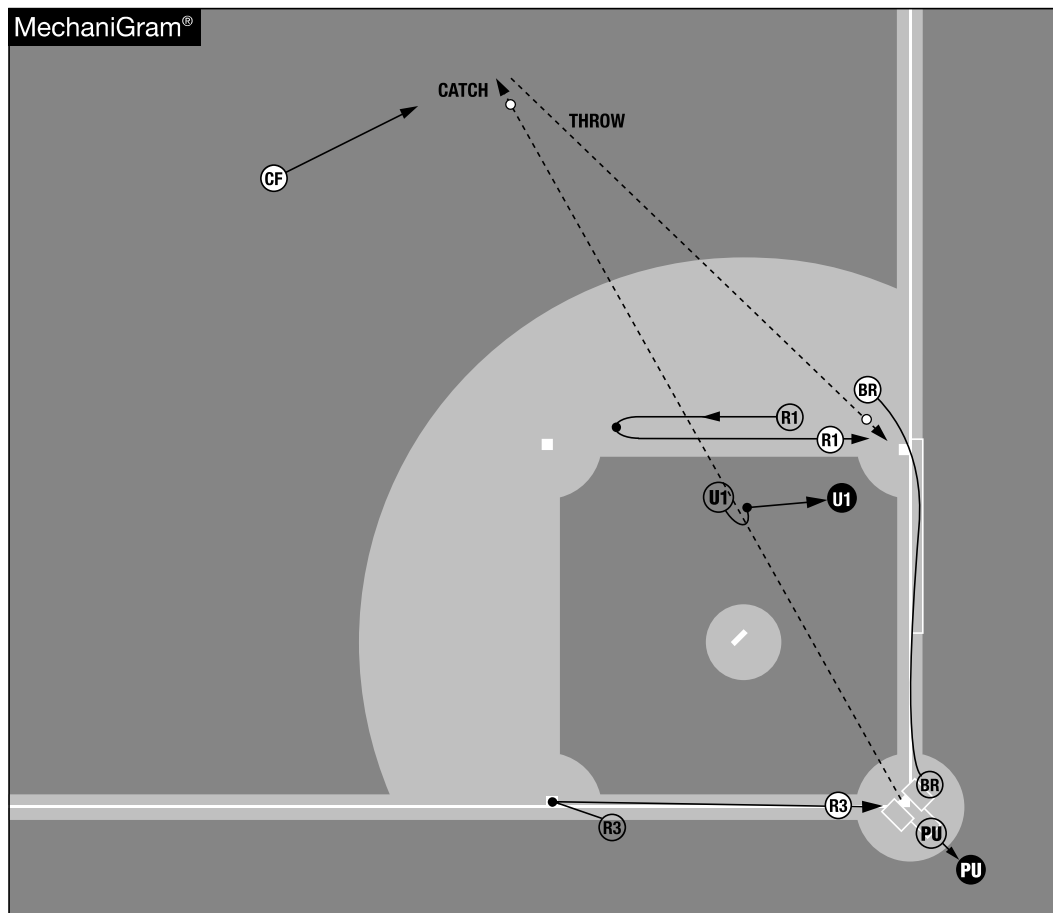
**U1:** Observes base touches at first and second base.



## 7.9.3 RUNNERS ON FIRST AND THIRD



### Fly Ball to Center Field: Catch



**Action on the field:** A fly ball caught by the center fielder; R3 tags at third and advances toward the plate; R1 advances too far toward second base, then scrambles to get back to first base and draws a throw there

#### **Umpire responsibilities:**

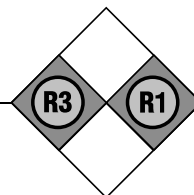
**PU:** Moves to the best position to view R3's tag up. PU returns to the plate for all plays there. If the ball is not caught, PU observes R3's touch of the plate and moves toward third base and has all plays on R1 at third base. If a play develops at third base and R1 then attempts to advance to the plate on a wild throw, PU must retreat in fair territory for any play at the plate.

**U1:** Moves to the best position possible to view the catch/no catch. U1 observes R1's action and has all plays on the bases. If the ball is not caught, U1 moves to a position to rule on all plays at first and second base and the batter-runner at third base.

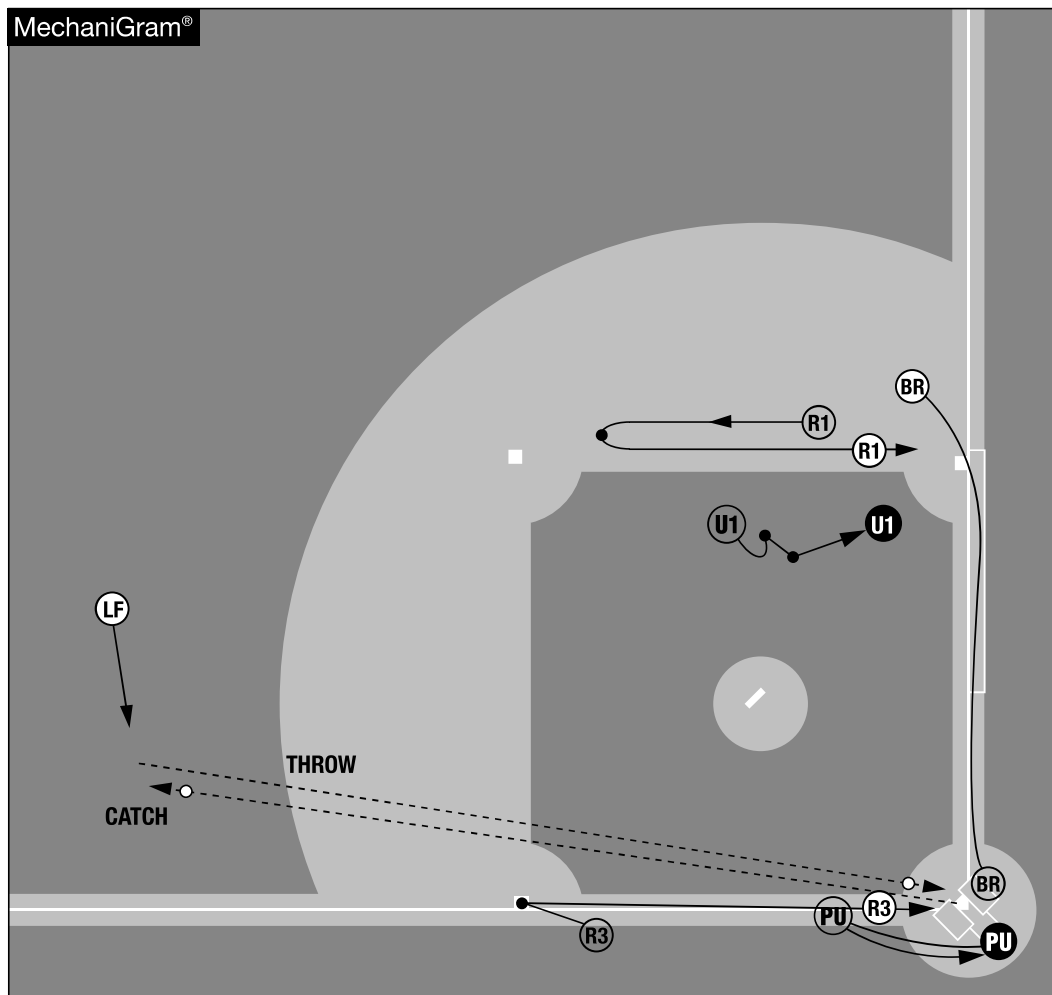




## 7.9.4 RUNNERS ON FIRST AND THIRD



### Fly Ball Down the Left-Field Line: Catch



**Action on the field:** Fly ball caught by the left fielder; R3 tags up and advances toward the plate, drawing a throw there; R1 retreats toward first base

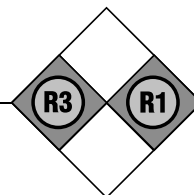
#### Umpire responsibilities:

**PU:** Moves to the best position possible to view the fair/foul, catch/no catch and R3's tag up. PU returns to a position for any play at the plate. If the ball is not caught, PU moves toward third base and has all plays there on R1.

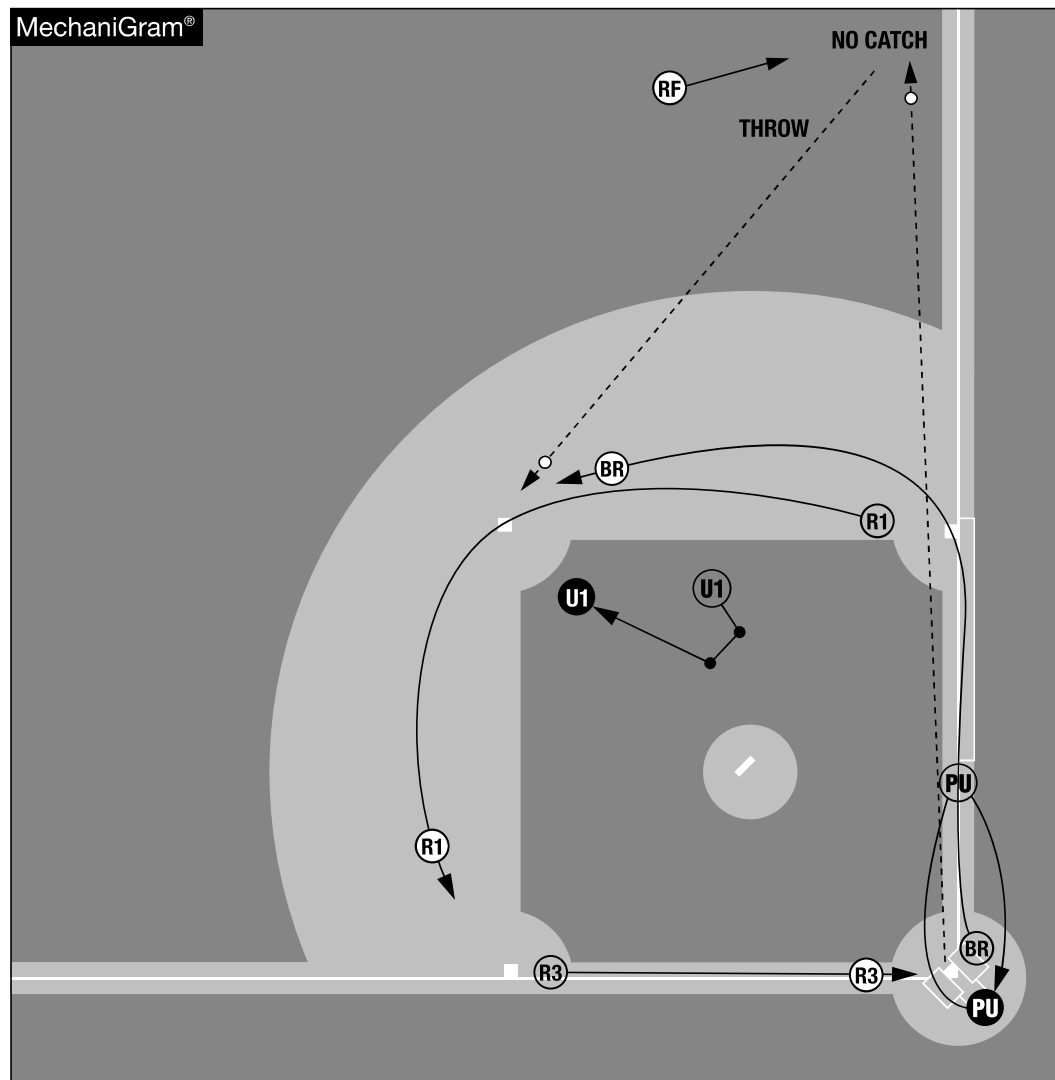
**U1:** Observes R1 and moves to a position to rule on all plays on the bases. If the ball is not caught, U1 moves to a position to rule on R1 and the batter-runner at first and second base.



## 7.9.5 RUNNERS ON FIRST AND THIRD



### Fly Ball Down the Right-Field Line: No Catch



**Action on the field:** Deep fly ball to right field, no catch; R3 advances toward the plate; R1 advances toward third base; the batter-runner advances toward second base and draws a throw there

#### Umpire responsibilities:

**PU:** Moves to the best position possible to view the fair/foul and catch/no catch. PU is responsible for R3's tag up at third base. Since the ball is deep, PU can move toward first base. PU returns to the plate for all plays there.

**U1:** Reads the runners and throw and moves to a position for all plays on the bases.





## SECTION 7.10

### Runner on second

#### Initial Positions and Outfield Coverage

The coverage is the same as with runners on first and second base (see 7.7.1).

**PU:** Has the left fielder moving toward the left-field foul line and the right fielder moving toward the right-field foul line.

**U1:** Starts in the “C” position and has outfield coverage from the left fielder straight in or straight back to the right fielder straight in or straight back.

#### Infield Catch Coverage

The coverage is the same as with a runner on first base only (see 7.6.2), with U1 in position C.

PU has catches:

1. By the pitcher moving in, left or right.
2. By the third baseman moving back or toward the foul line.
3. By the first baseman moving back or toward the foul line.

U1 has catches:

1. By the pitcher moving back.
2. By the shortstop moving in all directions.
3. By the second baseman moving in all directions.
4. By the third baseman moving in or toward the middle of the field.
5. By the first baseman moving in or toward the middle of the field.

#### Fair/Foul Coverage

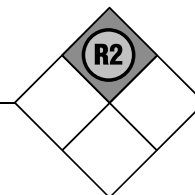
The coverage is the same as with a runner on first base only (see 7.6.3), with U1 in position C.

**PU:** Has responsibility for all balls on the third-base line and first-base line.

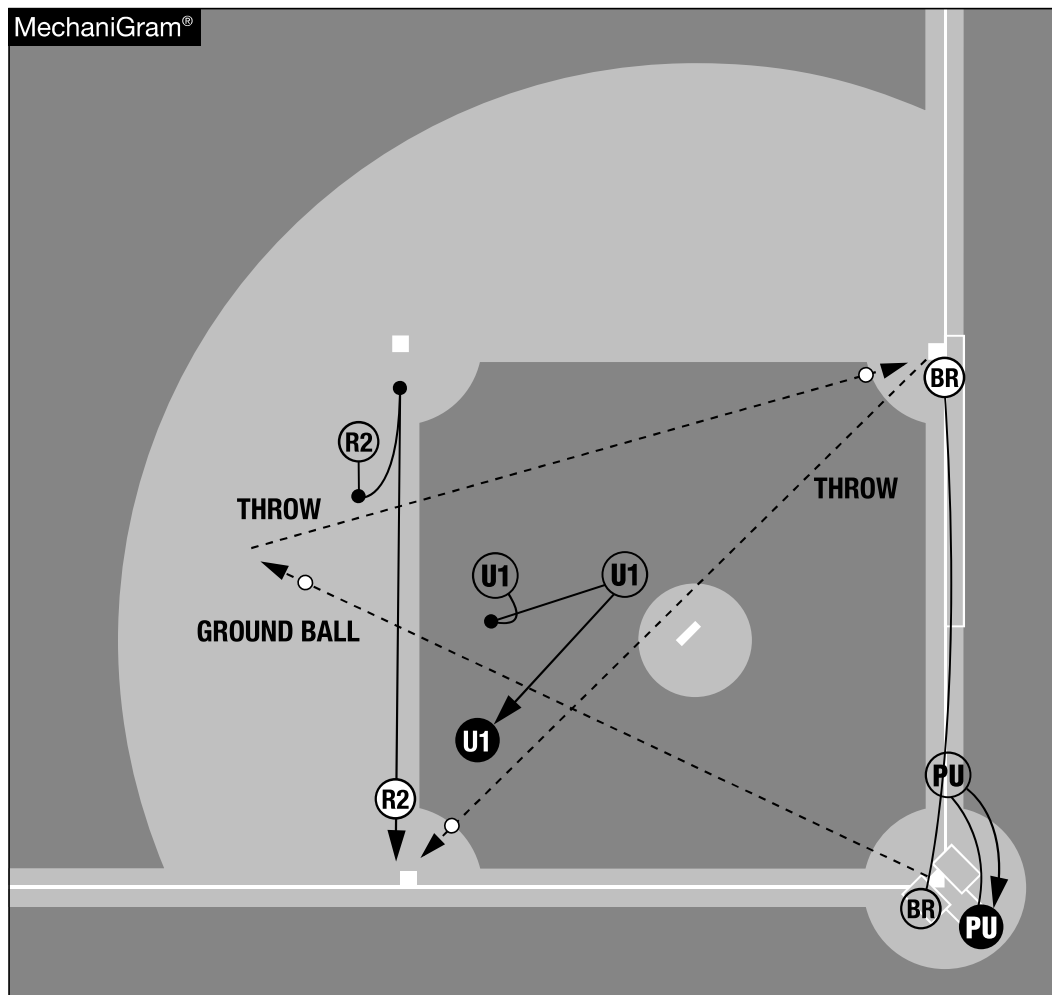
**U1:** Has no fair/foul responsibility.



## 7.10.1 RUNNER ON SECOND



### Plays Within the Infield



**Action on the field:** Ground ball to shortstop with a throw to first base; R2 advances toward third base on the throw and draws a throw to third base

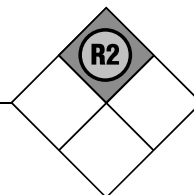
**Umpire responsibilities:**

**PU:** Observes the action at first base to assist on swipe tag or pulled foot by the first baseman and then returns to the plate for any play there.

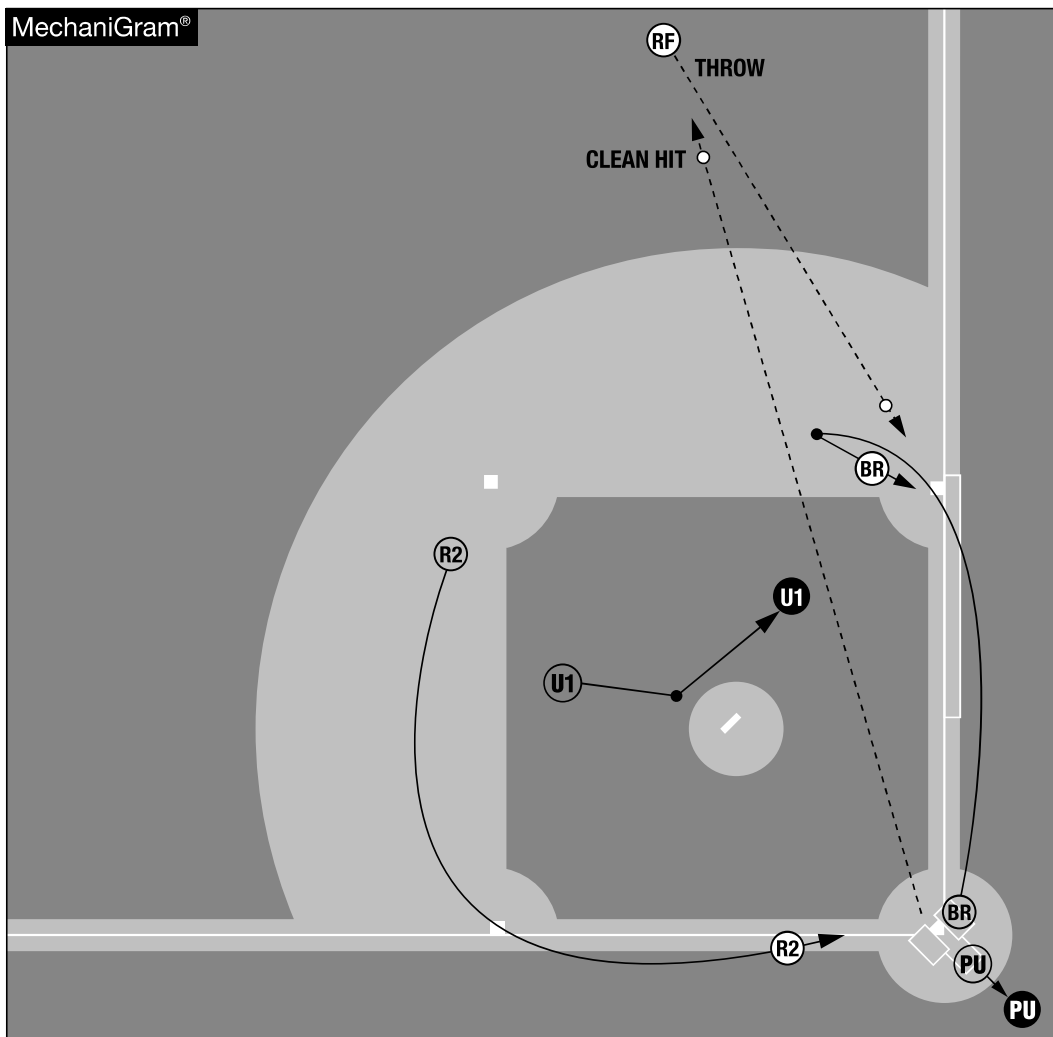
**U1:** Moves into the best position to rule on all plays at first, second or third base.



## 7.10.2 RUNNER ON SECOND



### Clean Hit to Outfield



**Action on the field:** Clean hit to right field, no catch; R2 advances toward the plate; the batter-runner rounds first and draws a throw back to first base

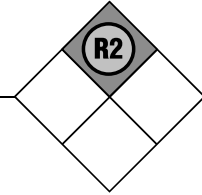
#### Umpire responsibilities:

**PU:** Observes R2's base touch at third and has all plays at the plate.

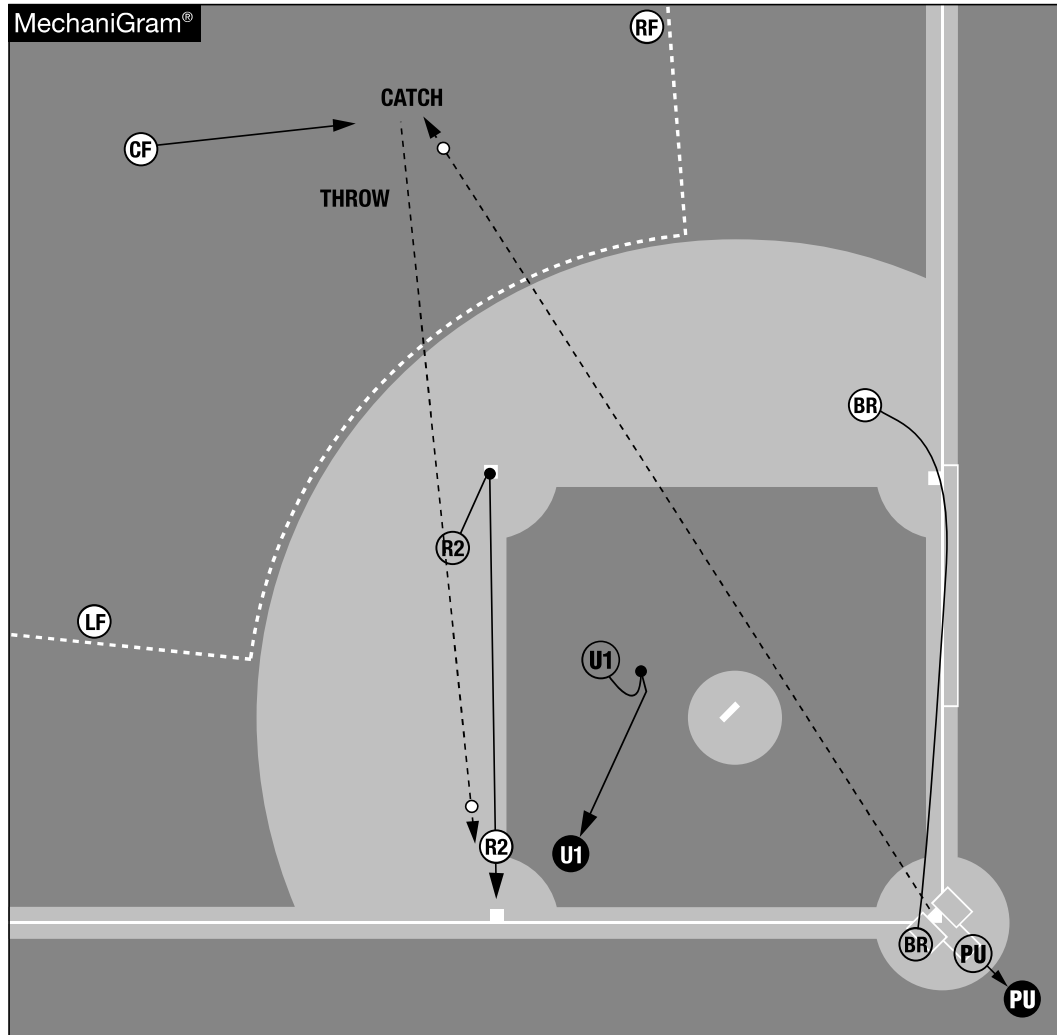
**U1:** Observes all base touches at first and second base and moves to a position to rule on all plays on the bases.



### 7.10.3 RUNNER ON SECOND



## Fly Ball to Center Field: Catch



**Action on the field:** Fly ball caught by the center fielder; R2 tags up and advances toward third, drawing a throw there

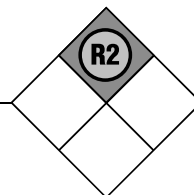
#### Umpire responsibilities:

**PU:** Moves toward third base and observes the action. PU returns to the plate for all plays there.

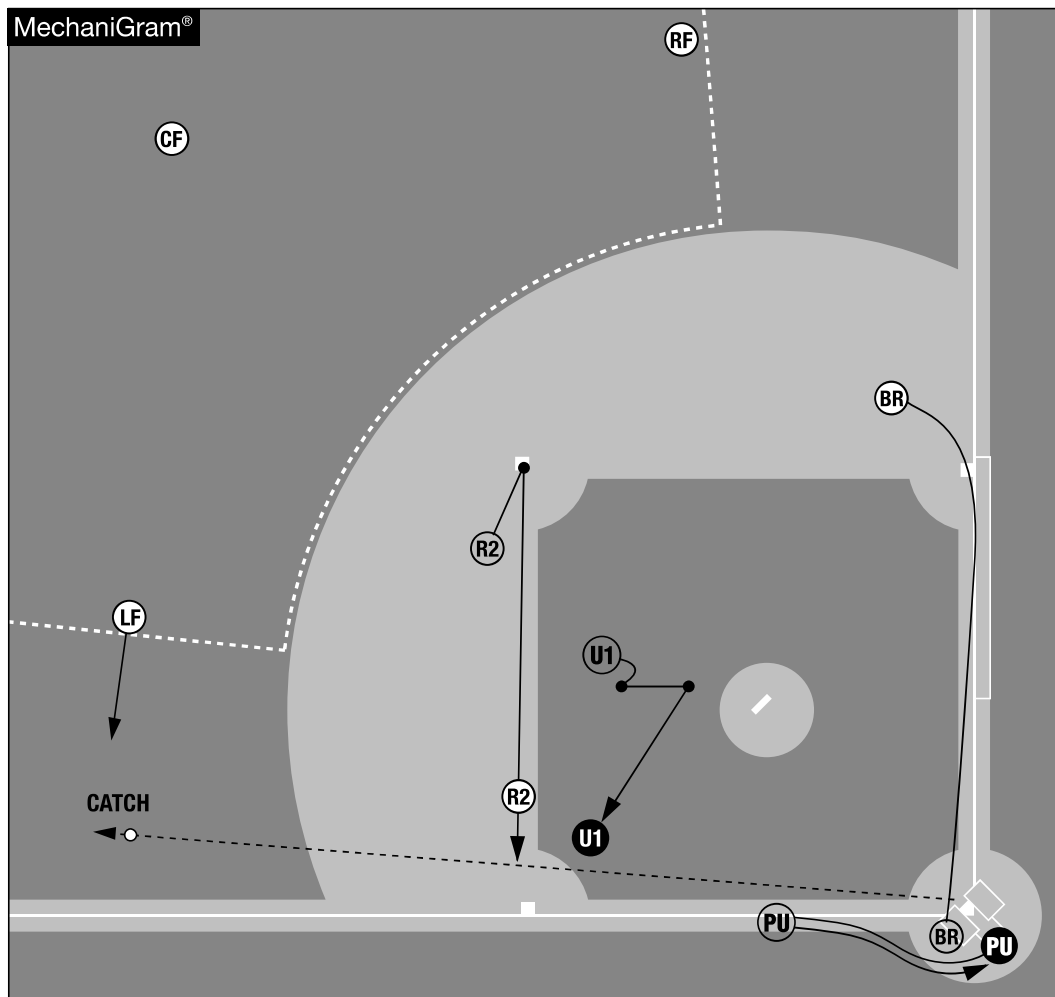
**U1:** Moves to the best position possible to view the catch/no catch. U1 observes R2's tag up. U1 moves to a position to rule on all plays on the bases.



## 7.10.4 RUNNER ON SECOND



### Fly Ball Down the Left-Field Line: Catch



**Action on the field:** Fly ball caught by the left fielder; R2 tags up and advances toward third base

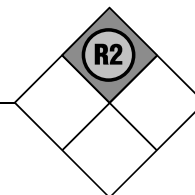
#### Umpire responsibilities:

**PU:** Moves to the best position possible to view the fair/foul and catch/no catch. PU returns to the plate for all plays there. PU is responsible for R2's touch of third base if the ball is not caught.

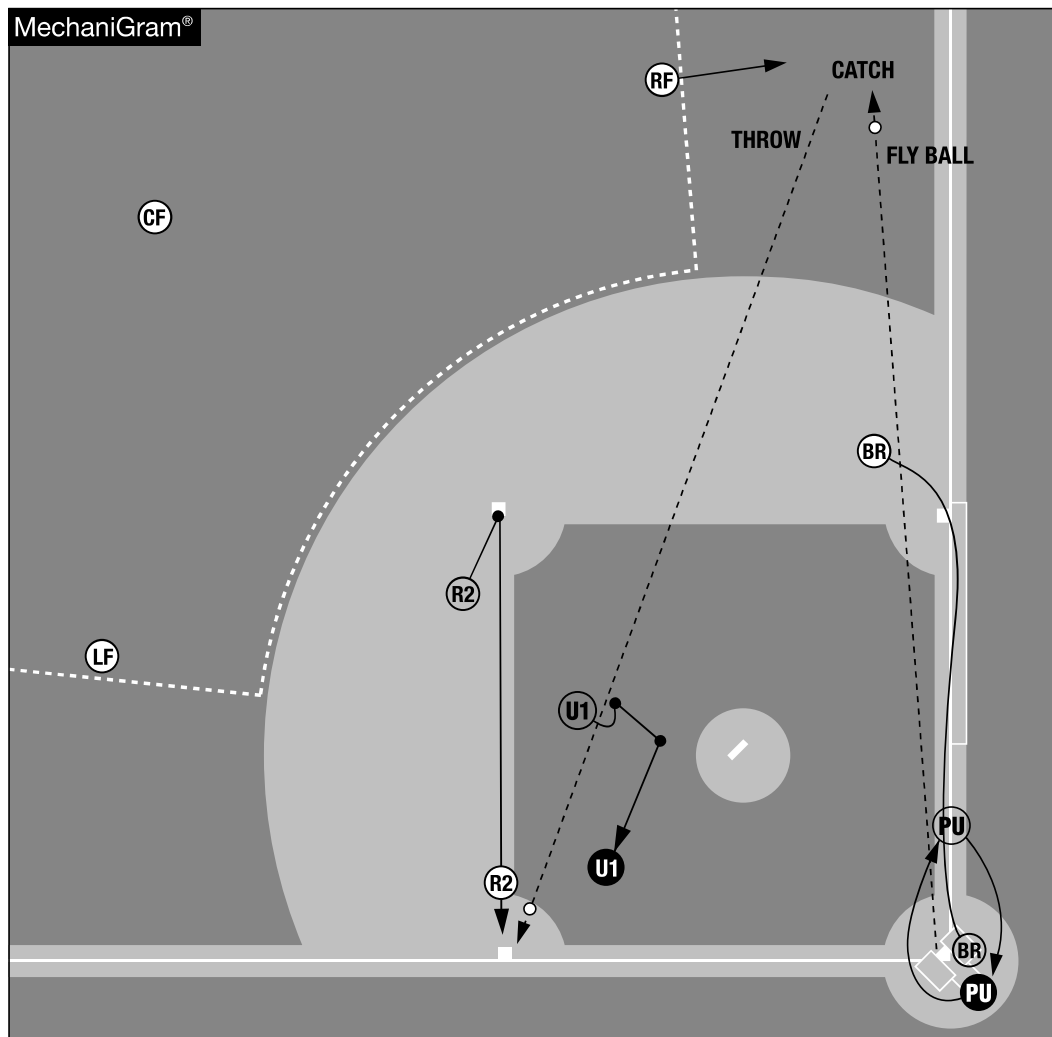
**U1:** Observes R2's tag up at second base. U1 moves to a position to rule on all plays on the bases. U1 has all touches at first and second and the batter-runners touch at third base.



## 7.10.5 RUNNER ON SECOND



### Fly Ball Down the Right-Field Line: Catch



**Action on the field:** Fly ball caught by the right fielder; R2 tags up, advances toward third base, drawing a throw there

#### **Umpire responsibilities:**

**PU:** Moves to the best position possible to view the catch/no catch. PU returns to the plate for all plays there. PU is responsible for R2's touch of third base if the ball is not caught.

**U1:** Observes R2's tag up at second base. U1 moves to a position to rule on all plays on the bases. U1 has all touches at first and second and the batter-runners touch at third base.





## SECTION 7.11

### Runners on second and third

#### Initial Positions and Outfield Coverage

The coverage is the same as with runners on first and second base (see 7.7.1).

**PU:** Has the left fielder moving toward the left-field foul line and the right fielder moving toward the right-field foul line.

**U1:** Starts in the “C” position and has outfield coverage from the left fielder straight in or straight back to the right fielder straight in or straight back.

#### Infield Catch Coverage

The coverage is the same as with a runner on first base only (see 7.6.2), with U1 in position C.

PU has catches:

1. By the pitcher moving in, left or right.
2. By the third baseman moving back or toward the foul line.
3. By the first baseman moving back or toward the foul line.

U1 has catches:

1. By the pitcher moving back.
2. By the shortstop moving in all directions.
3. By the second baseman moving in all directions.
4. By the third baseman moving in or toward the middle of the field.
5. By the first baseman moving in or toward the middle of the field.

#### Fair/Foul Coverage

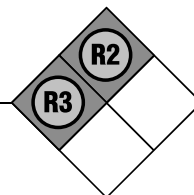
The coverage is the same as with a runner on first base only (see 7.6.3), with U1 in position C.

**PU:** Has responsibility for all balls on the third-base line and first-base line.

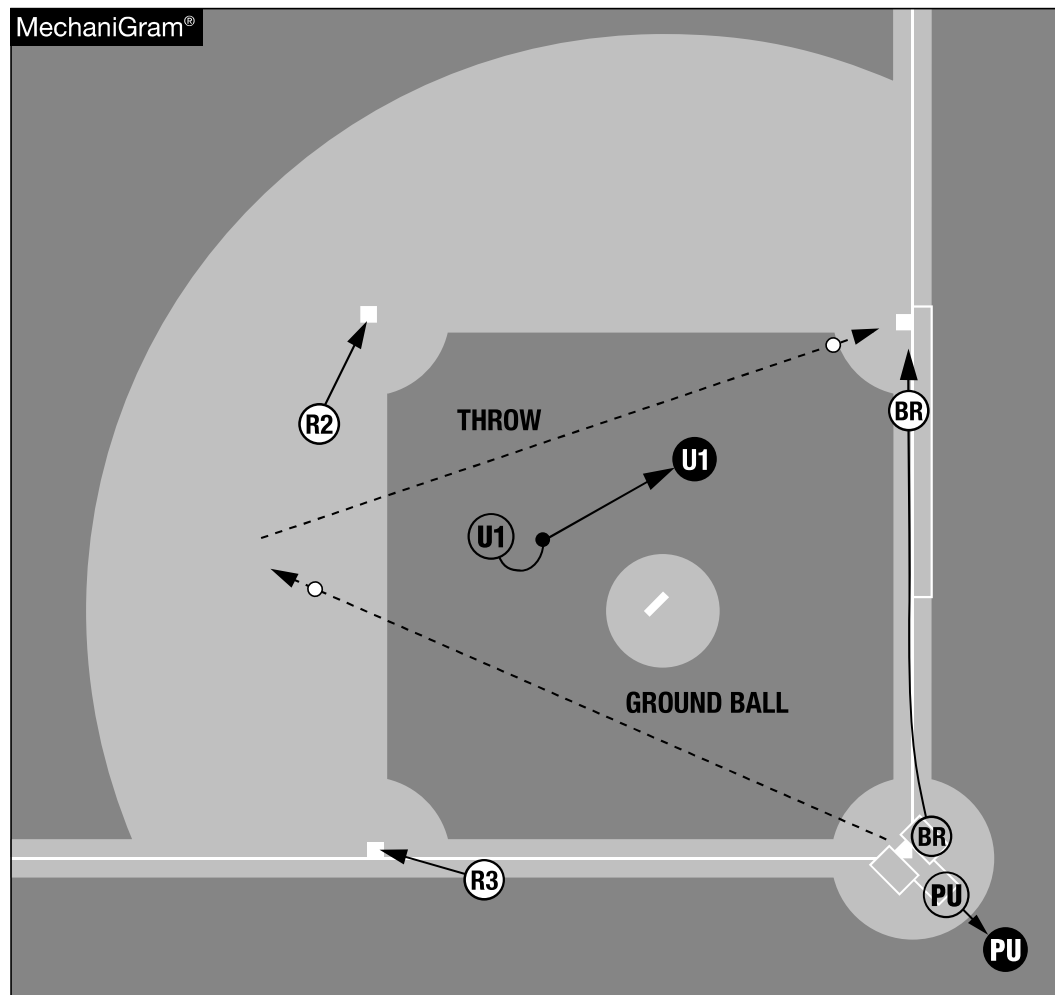
**U1:** Has no fair/foul responsibility.



## 7.11.1 RUNNERS ON SECOND AND THIRD



### Plays Within the Infield



**Action on the field:** Ground ball to third base with a throw to first base; R3 retreats to third base; R2 retreats to second base

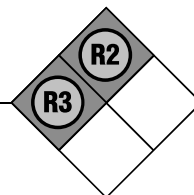
#### Umpire responsibilities:

**PU:** Has secondary responsibility for assisting U1 on swipe tag and pulled foot at first base. PU has all touches and plays at the plate, all overthrow responsibilities at first base and all running-lane interference responsibilities.

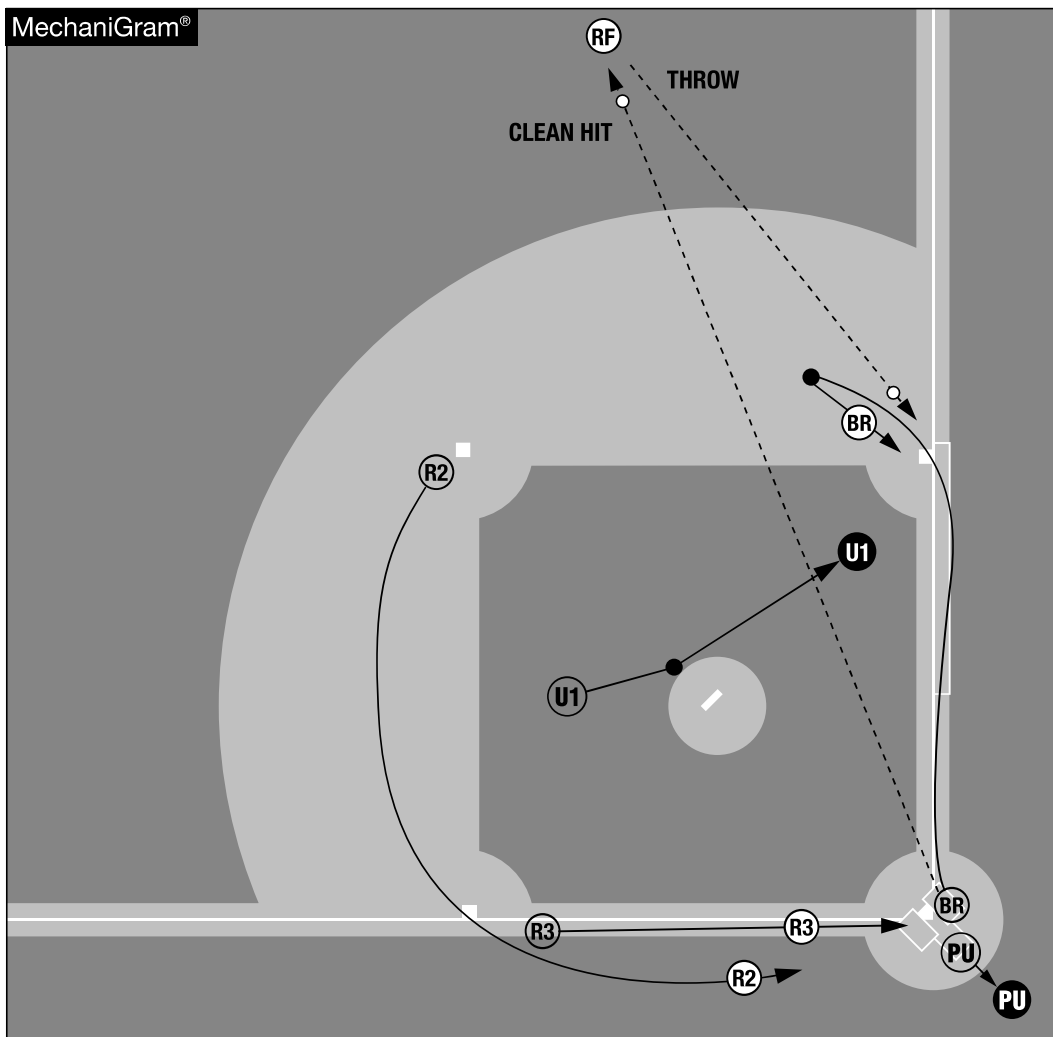
**U1:** Moves into the best position to rule on all plays at first, second or third base.



## 7.11.2 RUNNERS ON SECOND AND THIRD



### Clean Hit to Outfield



**Action on the field:** Clean hit to right field, no catch; R3 advances toward the plate; R2 advances toward the plate; the batter-runner rounds first base and draws a throw back to first base

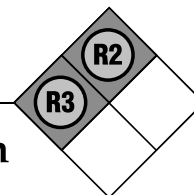
#### Umpire responsibilities:

**PU:** Observes R2's touch of third base and all touches at the plate. PU moves into position to rule on all plays at the plate.

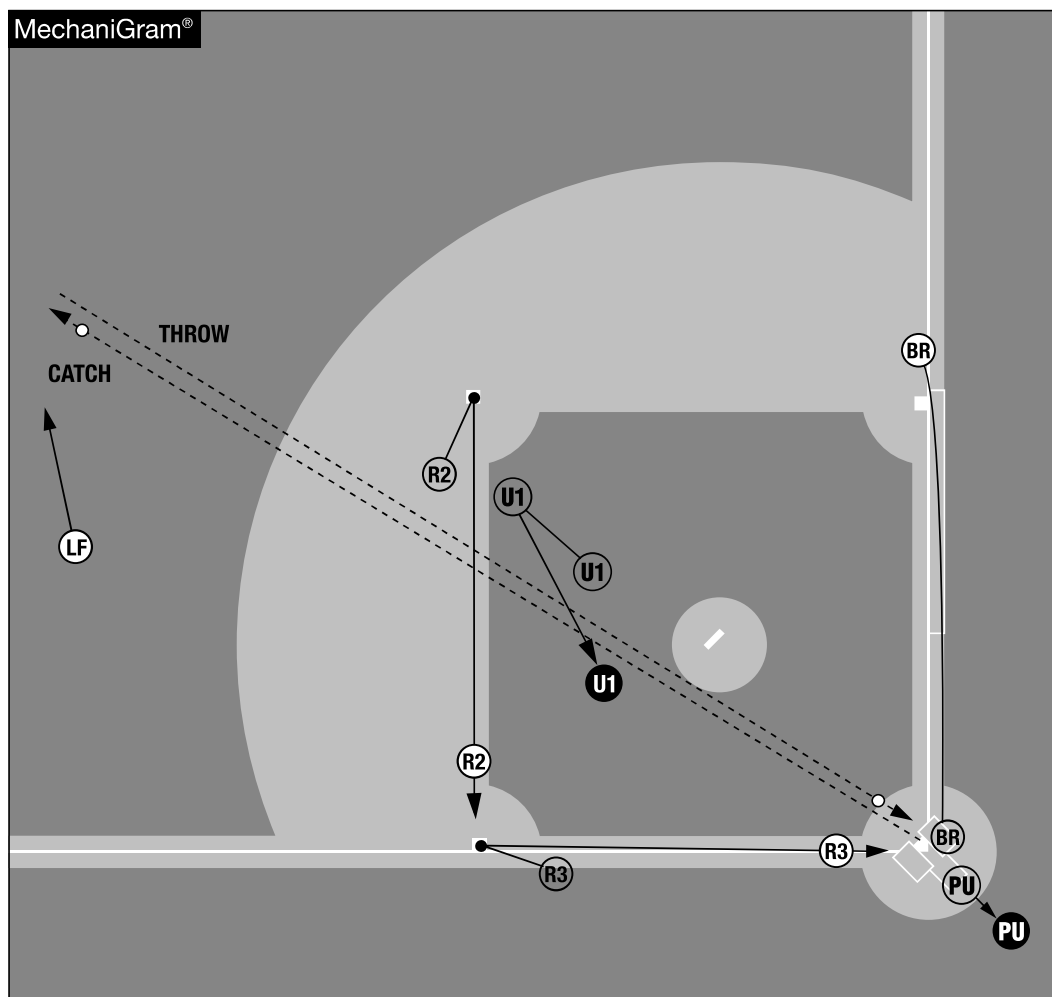
**U1:** Observes all base touches of the batter-runner. U1 moves into position to rule on all plays on the bases.



## 7.11.3 RUNNERS ON SECOND AND THIRD



### Fly Ball to Left-Center Field: Catch



**Action on the field:** Fly ball caught by the left fielder; R3 tags up and advances toward the plate, drawing a throw there; R2 tags up and advances toward third base

#### Umpire responsibilities:

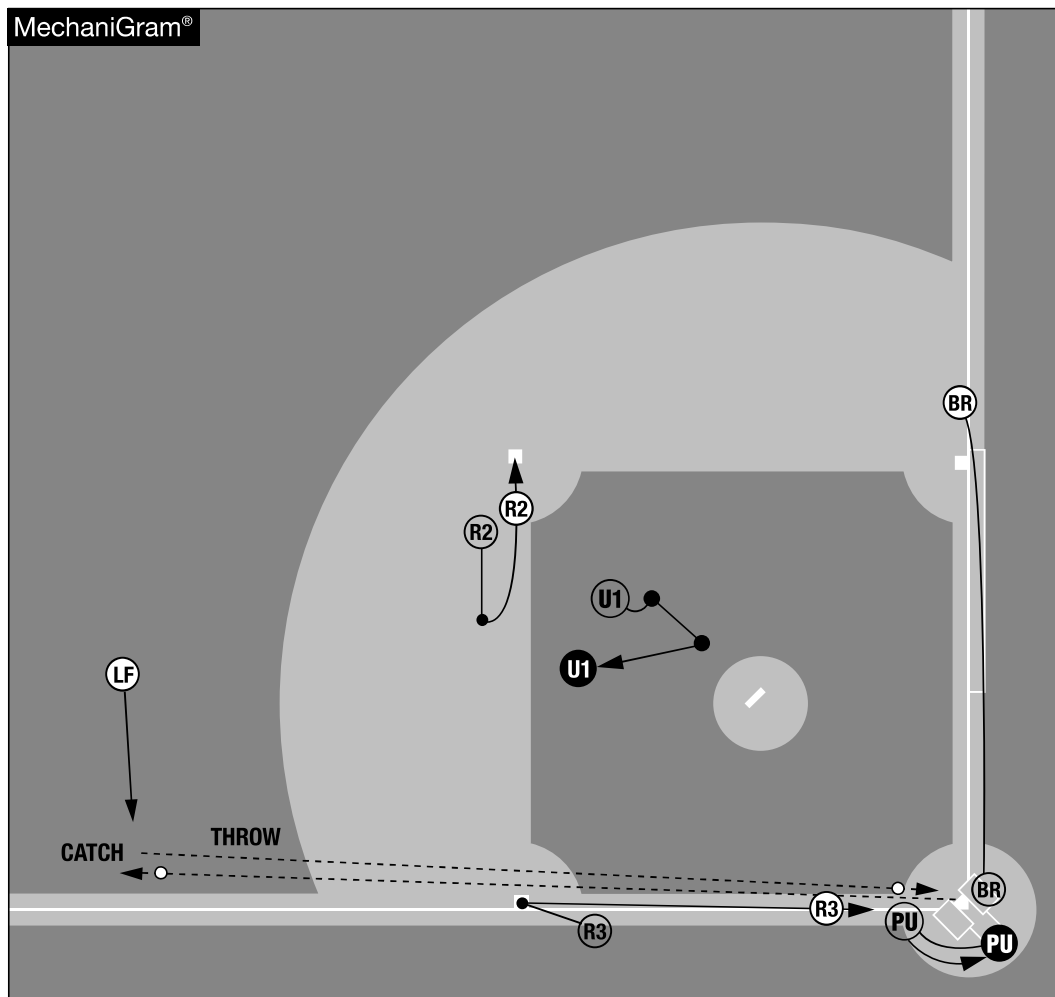
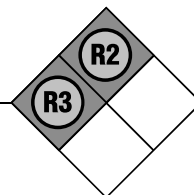
**PU:** Moves to the best position possible to observe R3's tag up. PU returns to the plate for all plays there.

**U1:** Moves to the best position possible to view the catch/no catch. U1 observes R2 tagging up. U1 moves into position for all plays on the bases.



## 7.11.4 RUNNERS ON SECOND AND THIRD

### Fly Ball Down the Left-Field Line: Catch



**Action on the field:** Fly ball caught by the left fielder; R3 tags up and advances toward the plate, drawing a throw there; R2 retreats toward second base

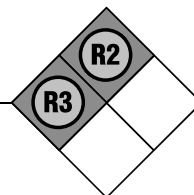
#### Umpire responsibilities:

**PU:** Moves to the best position possible to view the fair/foul, catch/no catch and R3's tag up. PU returns to the plate for all plays there.

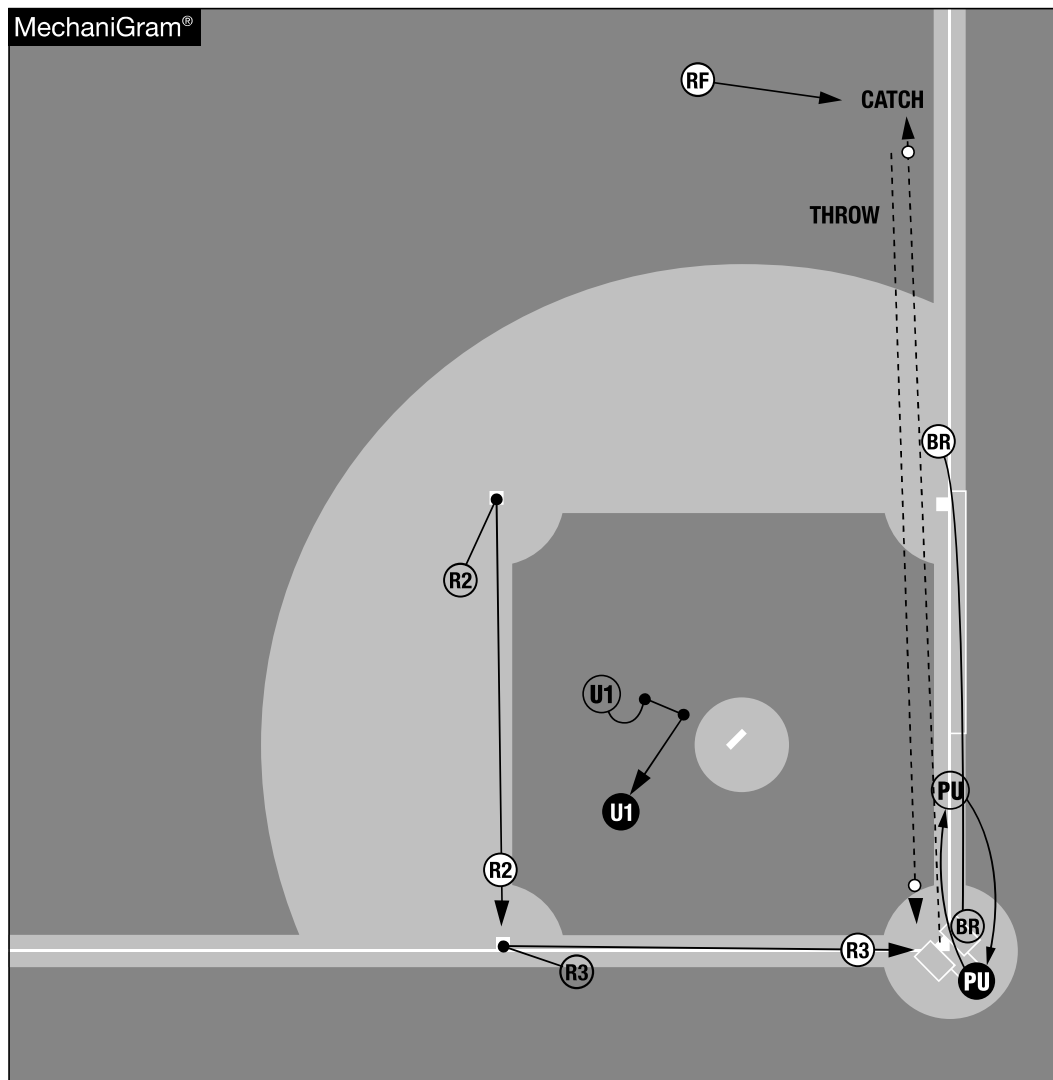
**U1:** Moves to the best position to observe R2's tag up. U1 has all plays on the bases.



## 7.11.5 RUNNERS ON SECOND AND THIRD



### Fly Ball Down the Right-Field Line: Catch



**Action on the field:** Fly ball caught by the right fielder; R3 tags up and advances toward the plate, drawing a throw there; R2 tags up and advances toward third base

#### Umpire responsibilities:

**PU:** Moves to the best position possible to view the fair/foul, catch/no catch and then R3's tag up (first-base line extended since the ball is in shallow right field). PU returns to the plate for all plays there.

**U1:** Moves to the best position to observe R2's tag up. U1 has all plays on the bases.



## SECTION 7.12

### Runner on third

#### Initial Positions and Outfield Coverage

The coverage is the same as runners on first and second (see 7.7.1).

**PU:** Has the left fielder moving toward the left-field foul line and the right fielder moving toward the right-field foul line.

**U1:** Starts in the “C” position and has outfield coverage from the left fielder straight in or straight back to the right fielder straight in or straight back.

#### Infield Catch Coverage

The coverage is the same as with a runner on first base only (see 7.6.2), with U1 in the “C” position.

PU has catches:

1. By the pitcher moving in, left or right.
2. By the third baseman moving back or toward the foul line.
3. By the first baseman moving back or toward the foul line.

U1 has catches:

1. By the pitcher moving back.
2. By the shortstop moving in all directions.
3. By the second baseman moving in all directions.
4. By the third baseman moving in or toward the middle of the field.
5. By the first baseman moving in or toward the middle of the field.

#### Fair/Foul Coverage

The coverage is the same as with a runner on first base only (see 7.6.3), with U1 in the “C” position.

**PU:** Has responsibility for all balls on the third-base line and first-base line.

**U1:** Has no fair/foul responsibility.

#### Plays Within the Infield

The coverage is the same as with runners on second and third (see 7.11.1), with U1 in the “C” position.

**PU:** Has secondary responsibility for assisting U1 on swipe tag and pulled foot at first base. PU has all touches and plays at the plate, all

overthrow responsibilities at first base and all running-lane interference responsibilities.

**U1:** Moves into the best position to rule on all plays on all bases.

### **Clean Hit to Outfield**

The coverage is the same as with runners on second and third (see 7.11.2), with U1 in the “C” position.

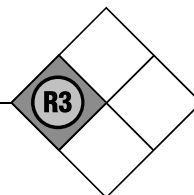
**PU:** Moves into position to rule on all plays and touches at the plate.

**U1:** Observes all base touches involving the batter-runner. U1 moves into position to rule on all plays on the bases.

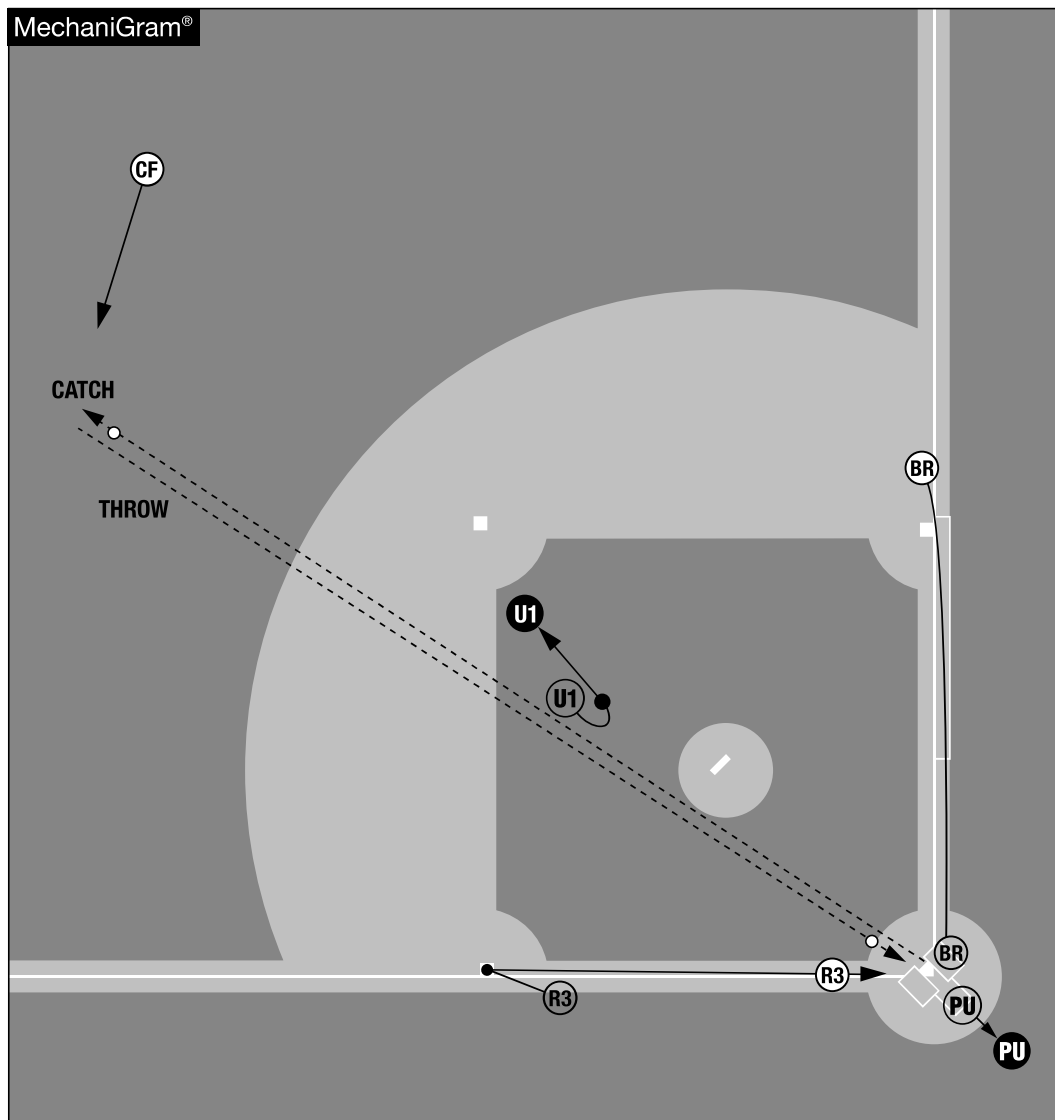




## 7.12.1 RUNNER ON THIRD



### Fly Ball to Center Field: Catch



**Action on the field:** Fly ball caught by the center fielder; R3 tags up and advances toward the plate, drawing a throw there

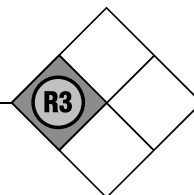
#### Umpire responsibilities:

**PU:** Moves to the best position to observe R3's tag up at third base. PU returns to the plate for all plays there.

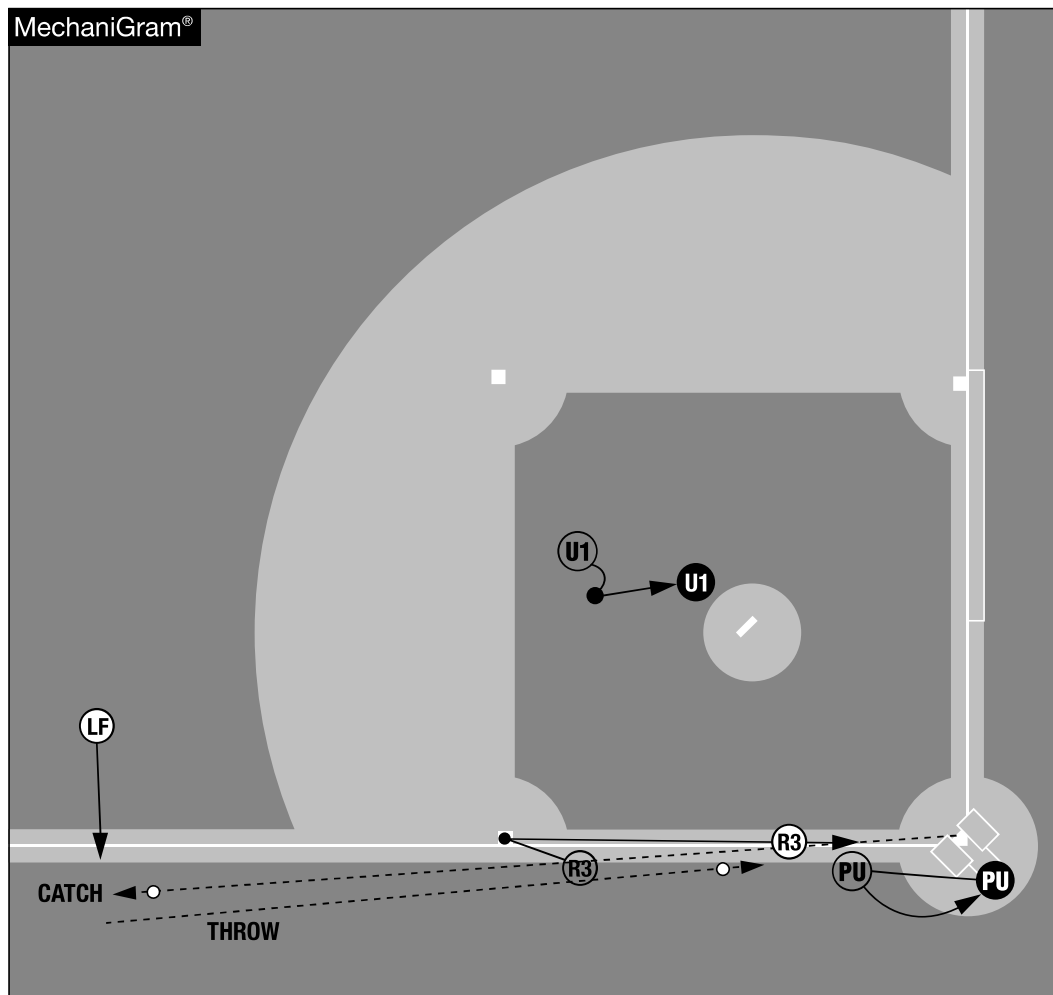
**U1:** Moves to the best position possible to view the catch/no catch. U1 moves into the best position to rule on all plays on all bases, including any play back at third base.



## 7.12.2 RUNNER ON THIRD



### Fly Ball Down the Left-Field Line: Catch



**Action on the field:** Foul-fly ball caught by the left fielder; R3 tags up and advances toward the plate, drawing a throw there

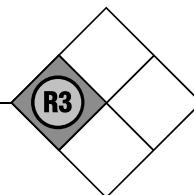
#### Umpire responsibilities:

**PU:** Moves to the best position possible to view the fair/foul, catch/no catch and R3's tag up. PU returns to the plate for all plays there.

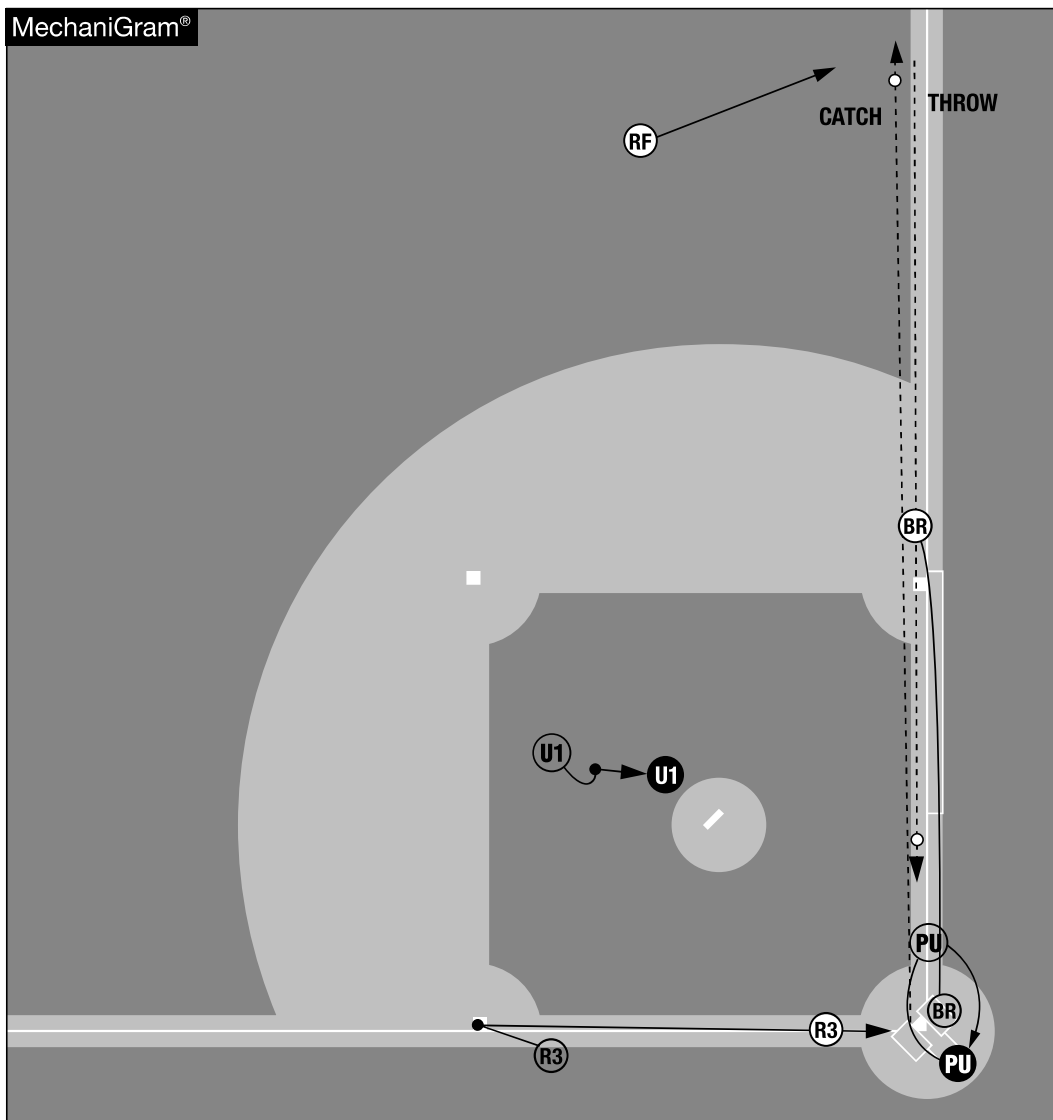
**U1:** Observes the action and has all plays on the bases, including any play back at third base.



### 7.12.3 RUNNER ON THIRD



## Fly Ball Down the Right-Field Line: Catch



**Action on the field:** Deep fly ball caught by the right fielder; R3 tags up and advances toward the plate, drawing a throw there

#### **Umpire responsibilities:**

**PU:** Moves to the best position possible to view the fair/foul, catch/no catch and R3's tag up. PU returns to the plate for all plays there.

**U1:** Observes the action and has all plays on the bases, including any play back at third.