

NBGSL Base Umpire Training Manual

Rev 1.0 - 3/2025

Intent:

- The intent of this document is to provide instruction and information for NBGSL base umpires.
- Provide information on what is expected from a NBGSL umpire.
- Provide a reference to positioning A, B and C and when to be in those situations.

Dress Code:

- Umpires will be provided with a NBGSL Umpire Shirt that they will keep for the season and keep clean and wear to the games. This shirt will be returned to the league after the season.
- Umpires must wear pants, either black pants or leggings or jeans are acceptable. Please no shorts.
- The NBGSL umpire shirt must be worn on the outer layer. If it is going to be cold, wear long sleeves or a sweatshirt underneath your NBGSL shirt.
- Please wear closed toe shoes. You need to be able to move quickly and any kind of sandals or slip on shoes are not allowed.

Games:

- Please arrive 15 minutes before your scheduled game time.
- In each shed there is a NBGSL Binder with a copy of the rules and there should be a clicker in there if you want one.
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Base Umpire Positioning:

- **A Position:**
 - **When:** No runners are on base.
 - **Where:** 10-15 ft behind first base just in foul territory. See Diagram 1.
 - [Position A Video](#)
- **B Position:**
 - **When:** Runner on first base only.
 - **Where:** 10-12ft behind the baseline, behind the 2nd baseman. See Diagram 1
 - [Position B Video](#)
- **C Position:**
 - **When:** All other runner combinations
 - **Where:** 10-12ft behind the baseline, behind the Short Stop (SS). See Diagram 1
 - [Position C Video](#)

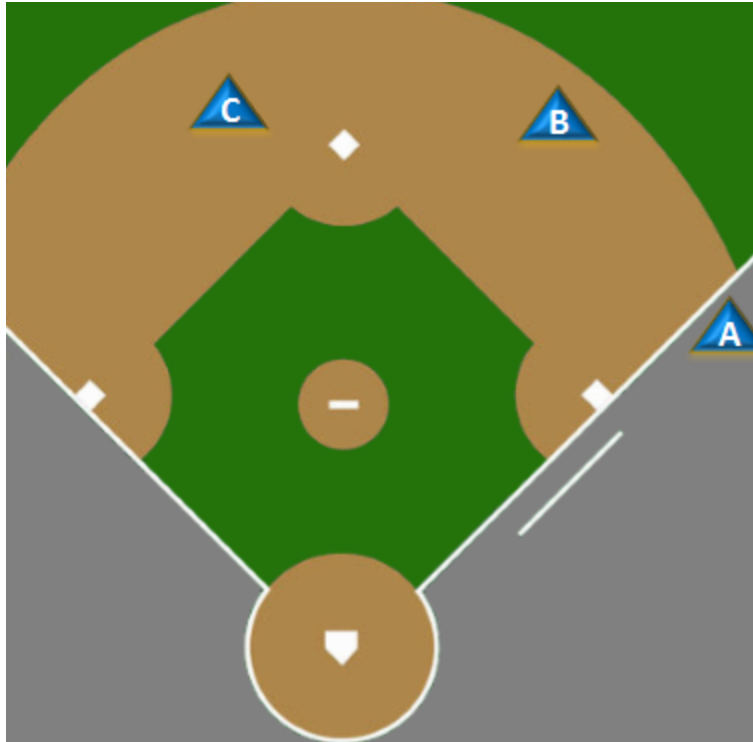


Diagram 1

Base Umpire Responsibilities:

- All plays at 1st and 2nd base
- First play in the infield by an infielder at 1st, 2nd, 3rd base.
- The batter runner at 3rd base
- Make sure to know whether it is a force play or a tag play.

Video References:

These are some good video references on where to be and different plays. Please review these.

- [NFHS Learning Center](#) - Choose Softball and review what you want to get more information on.
- Base Mechanics - [Plays at First Base](#)
- Base Mechanics - [Runners on First and Second](#)
- Base Mechanics - [Runners on Second and Third Hit to Outfield](#)
- Base Mechanics - [Bases Loaded - Hit to the Outfield](#)
- Base Mechanics - [No Runners On Base Extra Base Hit](#)
- Full Video on Positioning for Base Umpires. Quite Long but good information. Link: [NC SSOA](#)

References:

- [USA Softball Umpire Manual](#) - This is the full version of the USA softball umpire manual with details on all aspects of umpiring.

- [USA Softball Official Rule Book](#) - This is the official rule book for USA softball. Any rule questions please refer to this manual for guidance.
- [NBGSL Information](#) - The bottom of this page contains all the latest NBGSL rules and regulations.