

BASEBALL TEAM FUNDAMENTAL OF THE MONTH

DEFENSIVE RESPONSIBILITY OF EACH POSITION

PLAY: REGULAR BUNT PLAY

SITUATION: RUNNERS ON 1ST AND 2ND AND NOBODY OUT

Pitcher – After making the pitch to the plate he breaks toward the 3rd base line to cover the bunt attempt to that side.

Catcher – Fields any bunt in front of home plate and he also makes the call to other fielders if they are fielding the bunt on where they should throw the ball since the play is in front of him. The play can be made at either 3rd, 2nd or 1st .

1st baseman - Once he sees the hitter square to bunt he moves in to cover all the bunts from the 1st base line to in between home plate and pitchers mound. He takes an inside out approach from the 1st base line towards the pitchers mound to create momentum in case of a play at third.

2nd baseman - Covers 1st base - In order to get there in time, he shortens up at his position anticipating the bunt in order to make it easier for him to get to 1st base in time to field the throw.

Shortstop - Holds runner close to 2nd base by creeping in behind him and having the runner feel his presence. He then covers 2nd base when the ball is bunted.

3rd baseman - Shortens up and reads the bunt. If he feels the pitcher can't make the play because the bunt is too close to the third base line he calls him off and makes the play at 1st . If he feels the pitcher or 1st baseman can make the play he gets back to 3rd ready to catch the ball and make a force on the base runner. When getting back to 3rd he must open up towards the third base line so that he is in position to put his right foot on the bag for the force.

Left Fielder - Backs up 3rd base in case of a play.

Center Fielder - Backs up 2nd base in case of a play.

Right Fielder - Backs up 1st base in case of a play.

BASEBALL TIP OF THE MONTH: Get that Major League Grip

Many players apply pine tar on the handle of a bat to get a better grip, but pine tar alone might not be enough. If you have ever applied pine tar to your bat handle you might have experienced it being a little slick. The secret to getting a good grip is applying rosin with the pine tar. The next time you're on deck, take your bat, apply some pine tar to the handle, then take your rosin bag and tap a little rosin on the pine tar. Grab your bat and get ready to rip! You will experience that major league grip!