

Iowa High School Baseball Coaches Association

JANUARY NEWSLETTER 1973

VOL 5 NO. 4

1973 GOALS: The Baseball Coaches Association wants to wish each of you a Happy and Winning New Year. Listed are some goals we would like to achieve:

- 1/ The best baseball Clinic around
- 2/ An active Coaches Association
- 3/ More head coach involvement
- 4/ Improvement of baseball in Iowa
- 5/ 350 paid members
- 6/ 100% of the college coaches taking an interest in the High School Program
- 7/ Identifying coaches who have served baseball over the years in Iowa

We need all membership to get involved to achieve these goals.

NEW DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVES: In the December Newsletter you received a ballot to elect your new district representatives. Enclosed you will find the winners in the different districts. Congratulations to the winners. The new directors will take office March 9, 1973 at the Annual General Meeting. They should plan to attend the meeting on March 8, 1973, at 7:30 P.M. and participate in the meeting Friday morning and afternoon with the old members. The alternates should attend also to voice their opinions on topics of discussion. The alternate will have a vote if one of the elected representatives is absent or cannot vote. Each district will have two votes.

OFFICERS ELECTION: The officers will be voted on at the annual meeting of all membership in attendance to be held Friday evening, March 9, 1973. The nomination committee will present a slate of officers for the members to elect. The new officers will take office at this meeting.

HALL OF FAME: The Hall of Fame nominees have been notified and invited to attend the Clinic and banquet on Friday, March 9, 1973. Not only will we honor the Hall of Fame but Coaches who have served over 15 years, College Coaches of Year, High School District Coaches of Year and High School Coach of Year. We hope you all are planning to attend and bring some of your players along to help make it a successful clinic.

CLINIC: In the last newsletter you found times and topics of our clinic. We hope the Clinic will be of some help to you; we all can use new ideas and refresh our old ones.

The Clinic will be open to the public. The charge for anyone who is not a member is \$10.00 to attend the Clinic. The Clinic is free if you are a member of the Association. The cost for the banquet meal on Friday will be \$3.00, and \$1.75 for the noon lunch on Saturday.

The clinic will be open to High School Ball Players. It will cost them \$1.00 per session or a total of \$3.00 for the entire clinic.

In February we will send out a brochure about the clinic. This will go to every coach in Iowa, plus the surrounding states. We have had interest in the clinic from Minnesota, Missouri, and Nebraska so far. This year's clinic should be bigger and better. Make sure you attend and bring a coaching friend or player along.

RESERVATIONS: It is recommended that you get your reservations in early if you plan to stay overnight. I have talked to the Holiday Inn and they gave us special rates once again. These are the places to call:

Holiday Inn, Williams Blvd. S.W. 319-365-9441 \$10.00 Single \$8.50 Double
Howard Johnsons, Highway 30 West, 319-363-8101
Town House Motor Inn, First Ave. East, 319-362-3131
Roosevelt Hotel, Downtown, Cedar Rapids, 319-364-4111
Montrose Hotel, Downtown Cedar Rapids, 319-364-9111
Y.M.C.A., Downtown Cedar Rapids, 319-362-1138

Make your reservations early.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING: The Next Board of Directors meeting will be held at Cedar Rapids Washington, March 8, 1973, starting at 7:30 P.M., Little Theatre. Everyone is welcome to attend these meetings. All old Directors and new Directors are to attend these meetings.

HALL OF FAME MEMBER DOC ZIMMER DIES: Dr. Harry Zimmer, 82, a member of the Iowa High School Baseball Coaches Association Hall of Fame, died Tuesday, December 26. Doc was elected to the Hall of Fame this year. He coached semipro teams and umpired an estimated 1,600 games. He was very active in his community; past president of the Dysart Board of Education, Mayor and Justice of Peace. Many players, coaches, and fans will miss Doc Zimmer at the old ball park.

ALVIN DARK THEORY: Alvin Dark is great believer in believing. Here are some quotes taken from Al Dark 's baseball theories.

- 1/ Make the players believe in themselves.
- 2/ You need talent to win, but that's not the only ingredient. You must believe, too.
- 3/ You must believe in yourself, your teammates, and so many other things.
- 4/ Dark believes you have to push a player--all players.
- 5/ You must be fair.
- 6/ Everything in baseball is built around winning (don't sacrifice morals to win)
- 7/ Baseball teaches, better than any other sport, unselfishness--even though at times you must be selfish.
- 8/ On teaching, "I think a player must be told more than just what to do. He must be told what and why...the reason for doing something.
- 9/ There's nothing that can be done about yesterday, but there's plenty that can be done about tomorrow.
- 10/ I hate to see anyone give up in anything, because when a boy gives up, he won't practice anymore.
- 11/ In baseball, it is just like in life, everyone makes mistakes, and everybody is always learning...or should be.

HELP BY I.H.S.A.A.: The Iowa High School Athletic Association is planning on helping once again on the expenses for the clinic instructional staff. They have contributed over the past years. A real thanks is due the I.H.S.A.A. for their help. We can have a much better clinic with this help.

JERRY LUMPE ON CLINIC STAFF: Jerry Lumpe will be with us this year. Jerry has played pro ball since 1951 with 12 years being in the Major Leagues. Jerry has played in two world series in 1957-58. In 1971 he was the first base coach for the Oakland A's. Jerry has many ideas on the infield play. He will talk about the coordinating of the infielders.

MEMBERSHIP: Our membership now stands at 245. This is 25 more than last year at this time. An all-out effort is necessary for us to reach our goal of 350 by Clinic time. If you see a baseball coach or umpire during the basketball and wrestling season, mention the Coaches Association Clinic to him and encourage him to join our organization. Tell him about the diagram plays, clinic, other benefits, and encourage him to join.

MAP OF FIVE DISTRICTS: A map of the five districts and listing of your new District Representatives are enclosed. Officers are listed at the bottom of the map. If you have something to be brought up at the board meeting in March, contact your district representative.

BANQUET TICKETS: Enclosed you will find a card to return so we can get a count on how many to expect for the Friday banquet and noon lunch on Saturday. Fill it out and mail it back WITH YOUR CHECK COVERING YOUR MEALS. If you plan to eat both Friday and Saturday meals, your check should be for \$4.75. If you plan to eat for only the banquet, it would be \$3.00 and if plans are for only the Saturday lunch it should be \$1.75. REMEMBER, IF YOU ARE NOT A MEMBER OF THE COACHES ASSOCIATION BY MARCH 1, 1973, THE CLINIC WILL COST YOU \$10.00 PLUS THE MEALS. MAKE YOUR CHECK TO Iowa High School Baseball Coaches Association. We will only order as many meals and noon lunches as we have advanced paid reservations.

RECOMMENDED BOOK: Coaches should read the book "PITCHING" The Basic Fundamentals and Mechanics of Successful Pitching, by Bob Shaw, The Viking Press, Dept. JH 625 Madison Avenue, New York, New York 10022. This book sells for \$10.00 each. If you mention that you are a member of the I.H.S.B.C.A. it is to sell for \$8.00. This is a good book with twenty diagrams and over 400 photographs illustrate every phase of proper pitching technique.

CHANGE OF ADDRESSES: If you plan to change your address, please make sure you inform the Executive Secretary of the change.

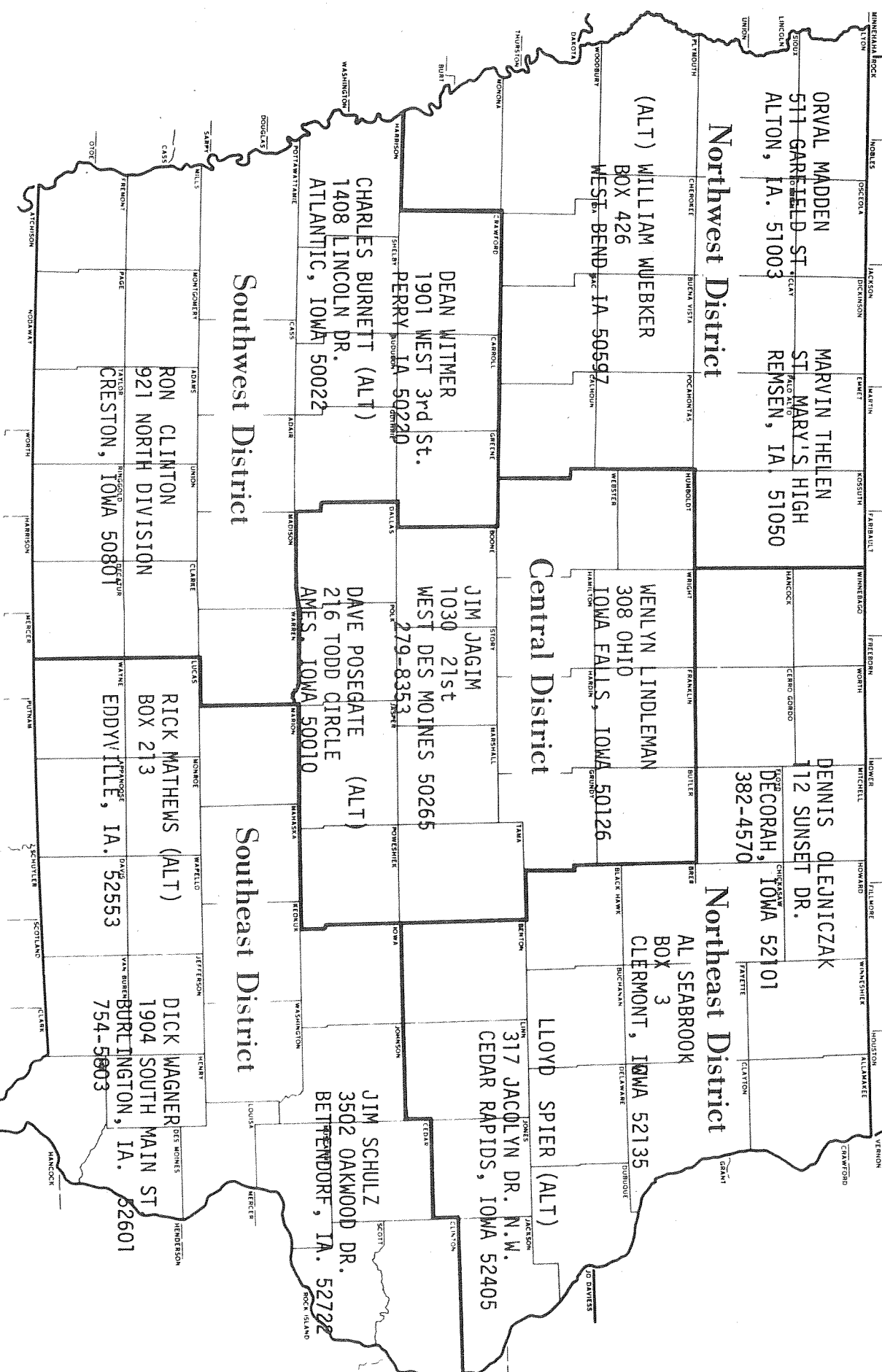
Please send all news items to: Harold "Pinky" Primrose
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Iowa High School Baseball Coaches Association



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DEFENSE

DEFENSIVE CUT-OFF AND RELAY PATTERNS

1. In all play situations, keep each base covered where there is a possibility of making a play.
2. The cut-off man. His importance cannot be stressed too much. He must think quickly and figure out plays instantly, and must decide which runner is most important to cut down or put out. This is especially true in the last inning or two of the game, when the tying or winning runs are involved. He cuts off throws to make possible the sure put-out, especially when the runner put out is the tying or the winning run. That is why all throws toward the cut-off man should be LOW ENOUGH FOR HIM TO HANDLE.
3. Outfielders must help each other on all plays when a ball is hit between them.
4. Infielders should station themselves inside a base while watching the runners tag the base in making the turn. Being inside the base has a tendency to make the runner take a wider turn at the base, thus increasing the distance he travels toward the next base. Caution must be exercised not to interfere with the runner by being too close to the base.
5. On routine fly balls to the outfield with no one on base, the outfielders should get into the habit of making GOOD, LOW, HARD THROWS INTO 2ND BASE. The shortstop should cover when possible on all balls hit to left and to center field, and the 2nd baseman should cover on balls hit to right field.

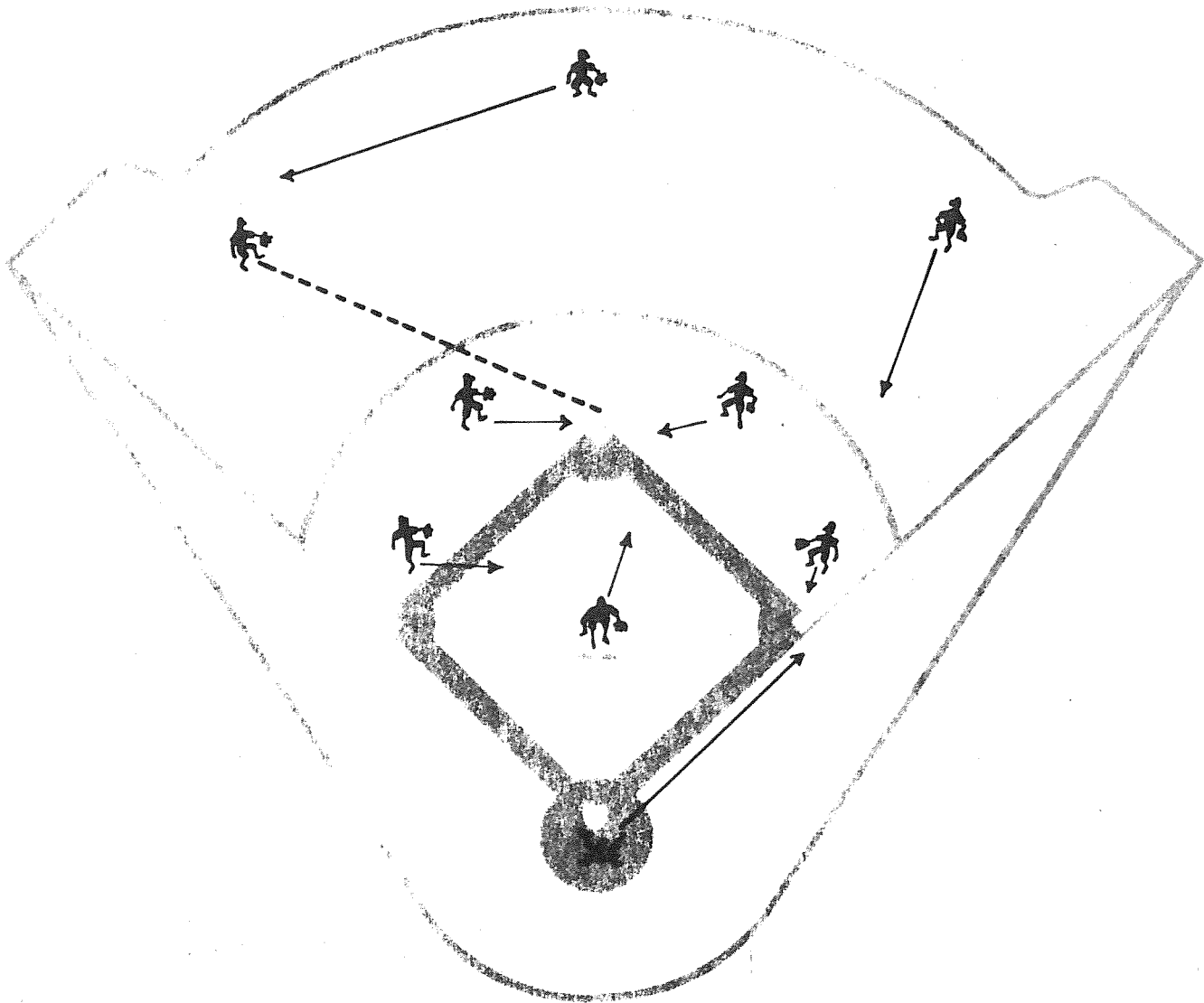
This will get the outfielders into the habit of making this throw, so that when it counts, making the GOOD, LOW, HARD THROW will be automatic.

6. It is important that all players PRACTICE TO OVERCOME THEIR WEAKNESSES.
7. In our cut-off plays, the standard rule means: The position where each man should be on the routine cut-off plays.

WORD SIGNS USED BY CUT-OFF MEN

1. Let it go. Let this throw go on through.
2. Cut. Cut this throw and be ready to throw.
3. Relay. Cut the throw, and relay the ball to the man calling "relay."

SITUATION #1
Single to LEFT Field
No one on base.



Pitcher:

Move to a position half way between mound and 2nd.

2nd Baseman:

Back up the left fielder's throw to the shortstop.

Catcher:

Follow runner down to 1st base.

3rd Baseman:

Protect 3rd base area.

1st Baseman:

Make sure the runner tags the base in making the turn, then cover 1st base.

Outfielders:

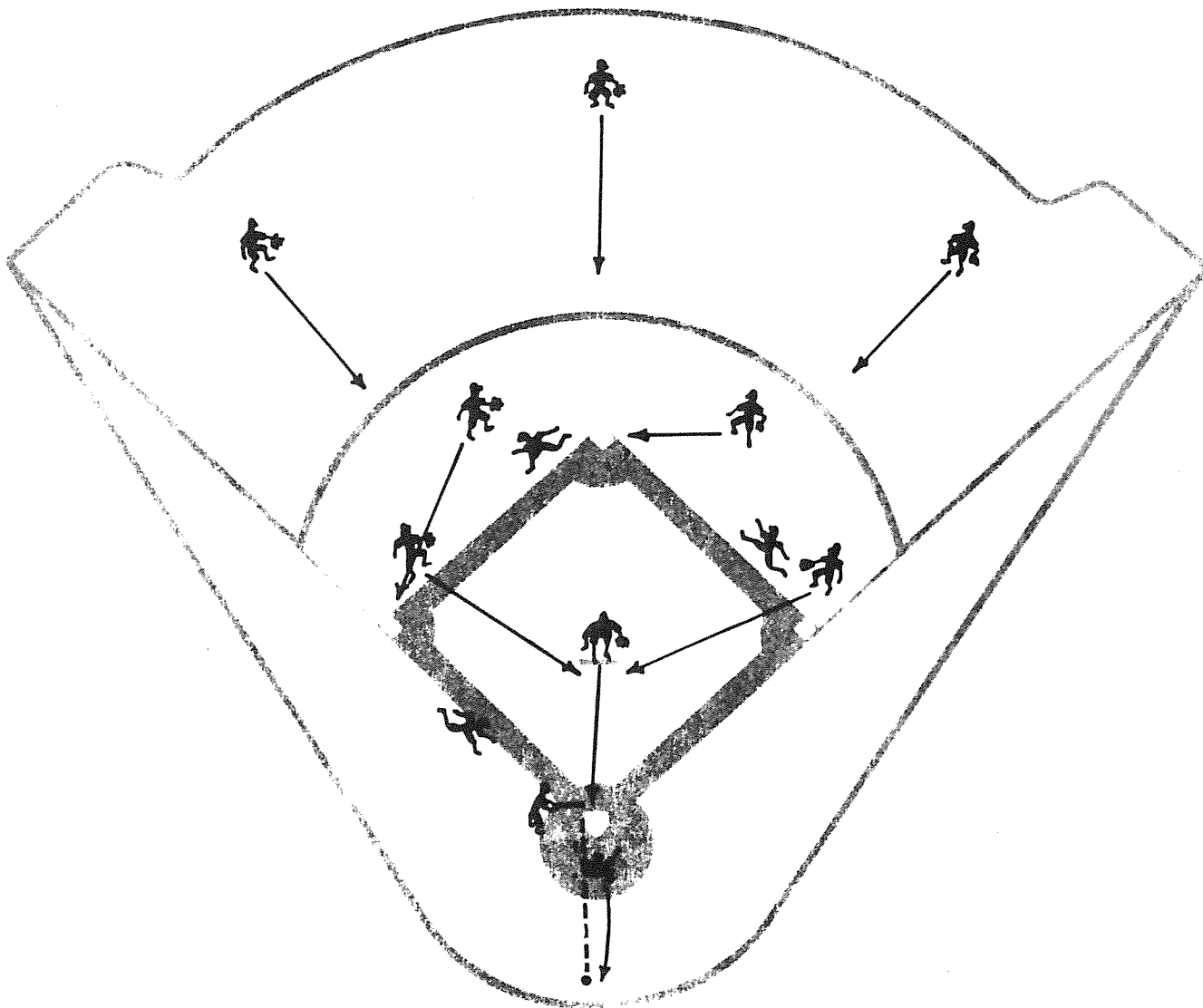
Center fielder - back up left fielder. Right fielder - move in toward 1st base area.

Shortstop:

Cover 2nd to take throw from left fielder when possible.

DEFENSIVE ASSIGNMENTS FOR WILD PITCHES AND PASS BALLS

SITUATION #1



Runner on 3rd, or
Runners on 1st and 3rd, or
On 1st, 2nd and 3rd.

Pitcher:
Cover Home plate.

Catcher:
Retrieve the ball.

1st Baseman:
Back up the plate.

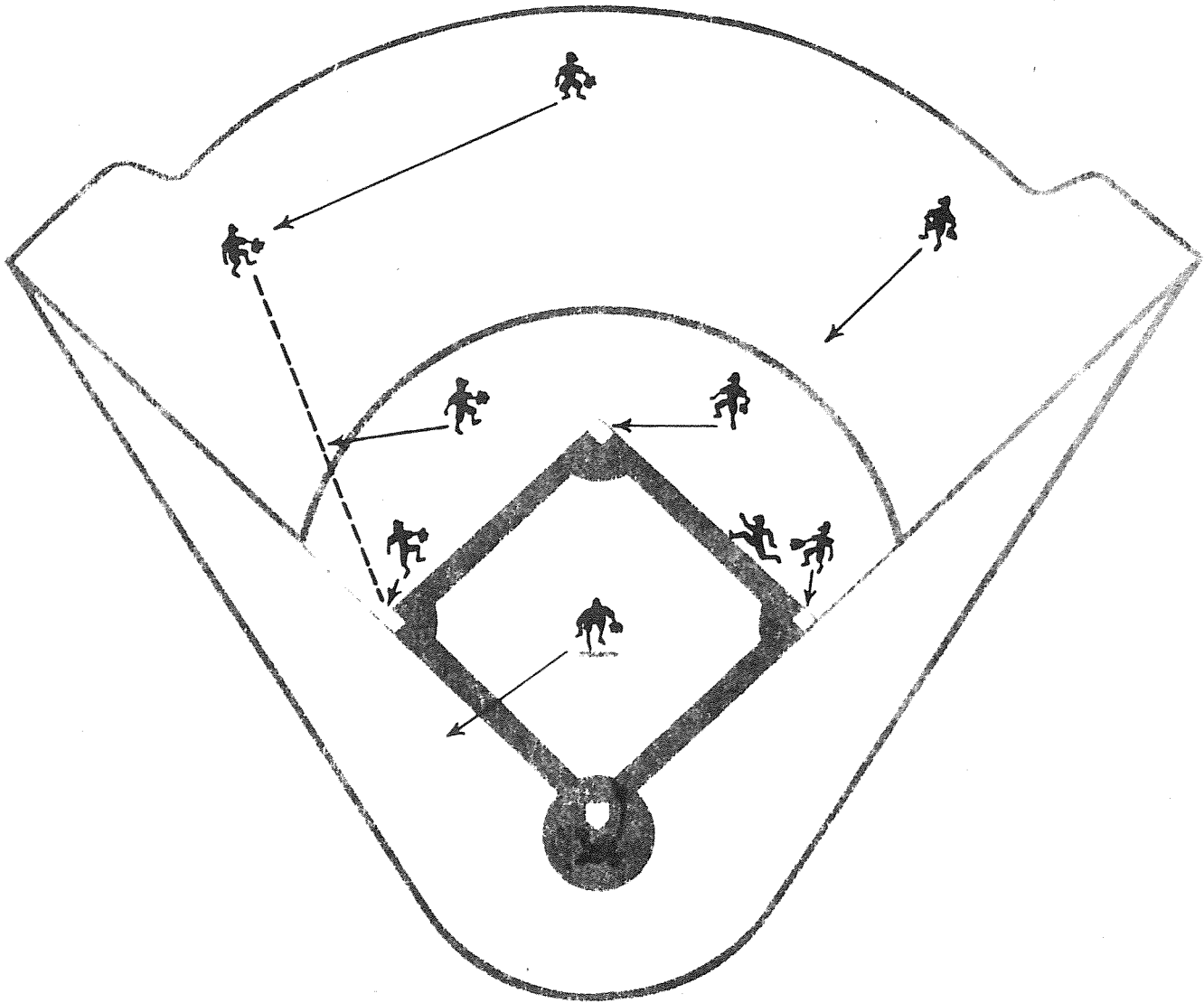
2nd Baseman:
Cover 2nd base.

Shortstop:
Cover 3rd base.

3rd Baseman:
Back up plate at the mound.

All outfielders move toward the
infield area to help where needed.

SITUATION #2
Single to Left Field



Man on 1st.

Pitcher:
Back up 3rd base.

Catcher:
Protect Home plate area.

1st Baseman:
Cover 1st base.

2nd Baseman:
Cover 2nd base.

Shortstop:
Move into a position to
be the cut-off man on the
throw to 3rd base.

3rd Baseman:
Cover 3rd base.

Center Fielder:
Back up left fielder.

Right Fielder:
Move in toward infield
area.