

4 Umpire Mechanics



WORLD
BASEBALL SOFTBALL
CONFEDERATION



4 Umpire Mechanics

Mechanics Concepts

1. The guideline here is based on the play most likely to happen.
2. The crew needs to communicate and work together at all times.
3. WBSC umpires do not work together an entire season. Therefore mechanics are kept simple and consistent all over the world.
4. The practice of rimming is an acceptable practice for WBSC umpires.
5. In many cases umpires have to split the difference and react.
6. Most important is trust your instincts.

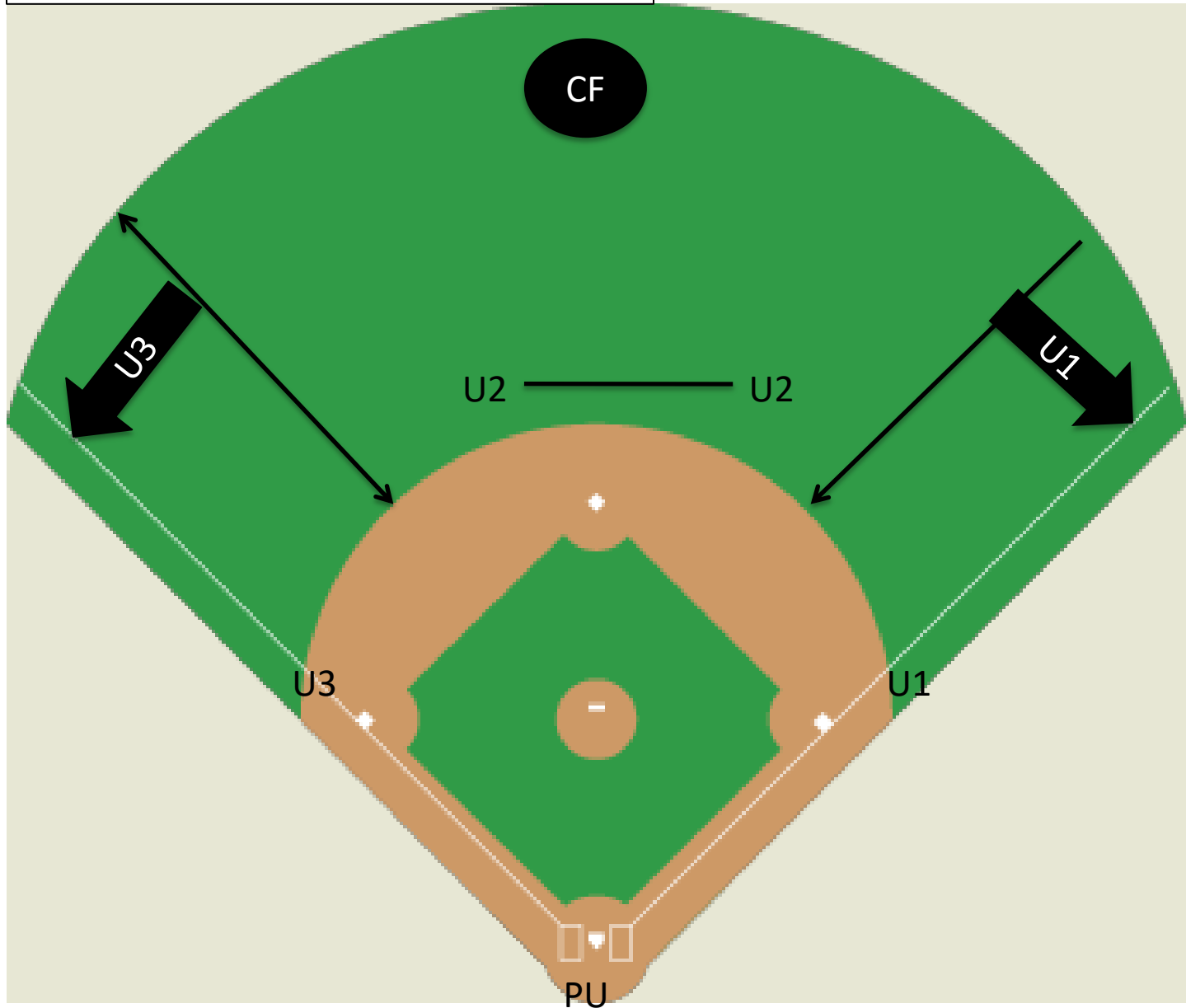
Basic Principles in 4 Umpire Mechanics:

1. Better Outfield Coverage
2. Second base umpire is the key for fly ball coverage
3. Communication is very important
4. Balk Concentration
5. Basic Outfield Coverage
6. Overthrows



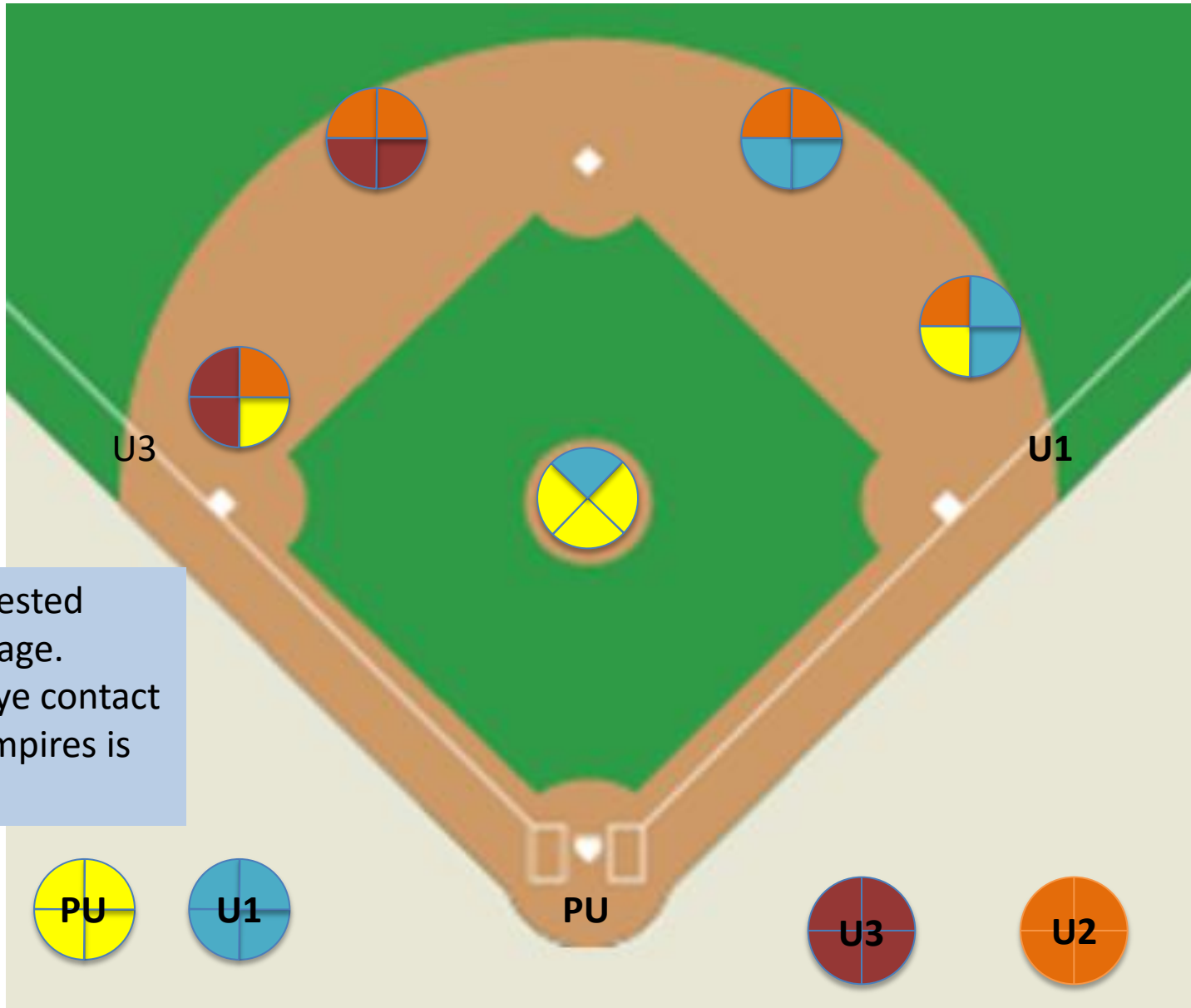
Initial Positions and Outfield Coverage

No Runners on Base



Infield Catch Coverage

No Runners on Base



U3

U1

PU

U1

PU

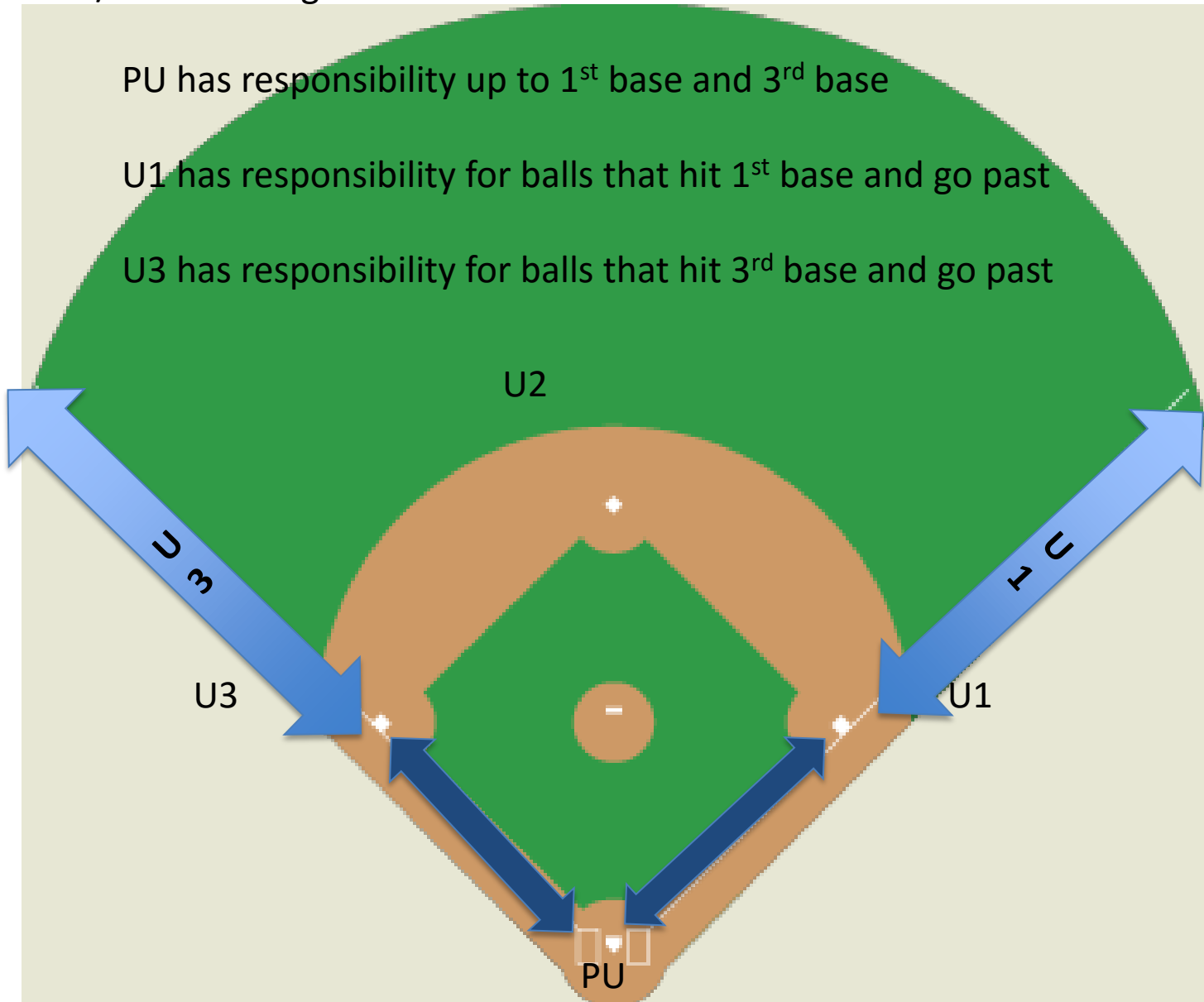
U3

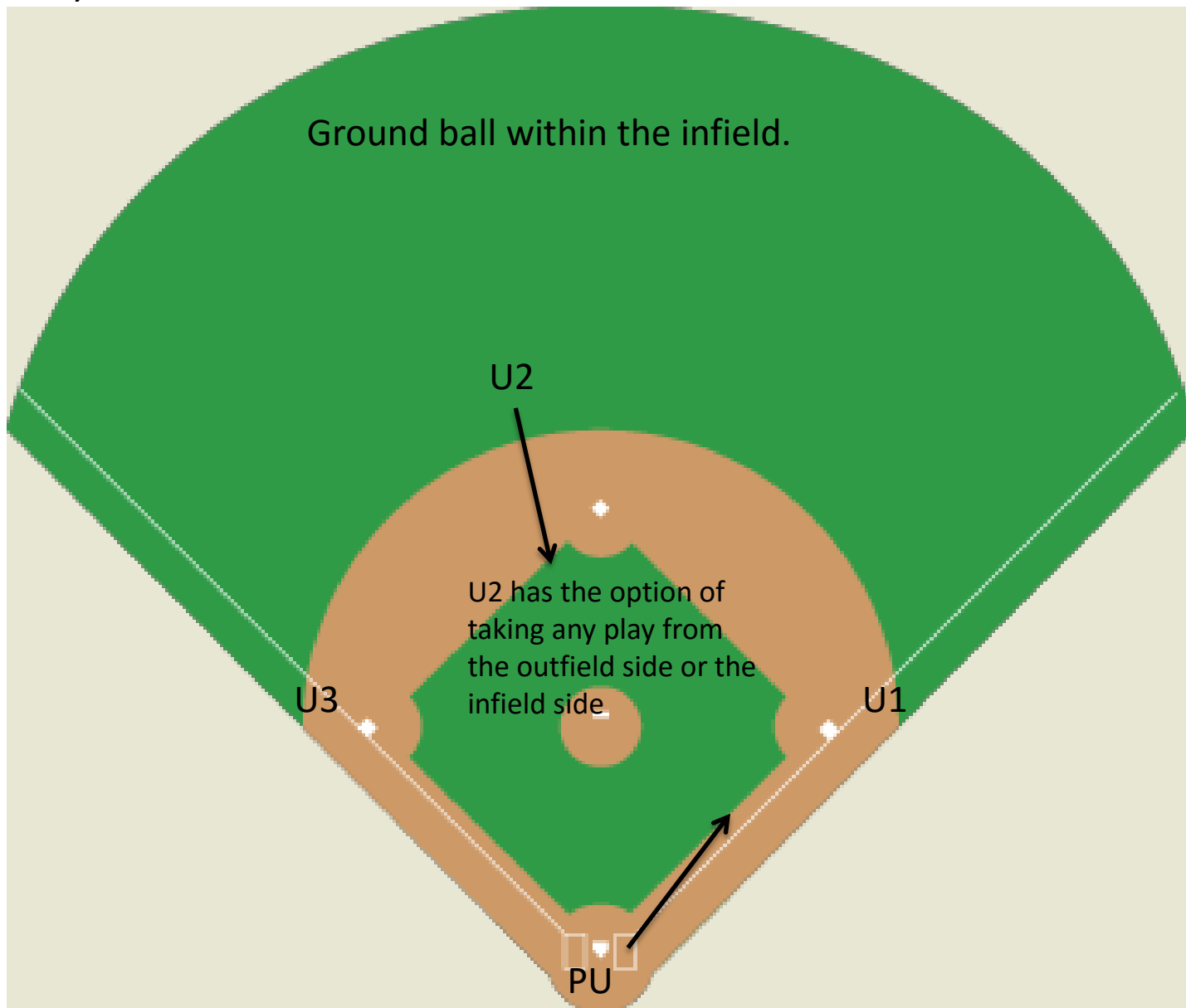
U2

This is suggested catch coverage. However, eye contact between umpires is important.

Fair/Foul Coverage

No Runners on Base

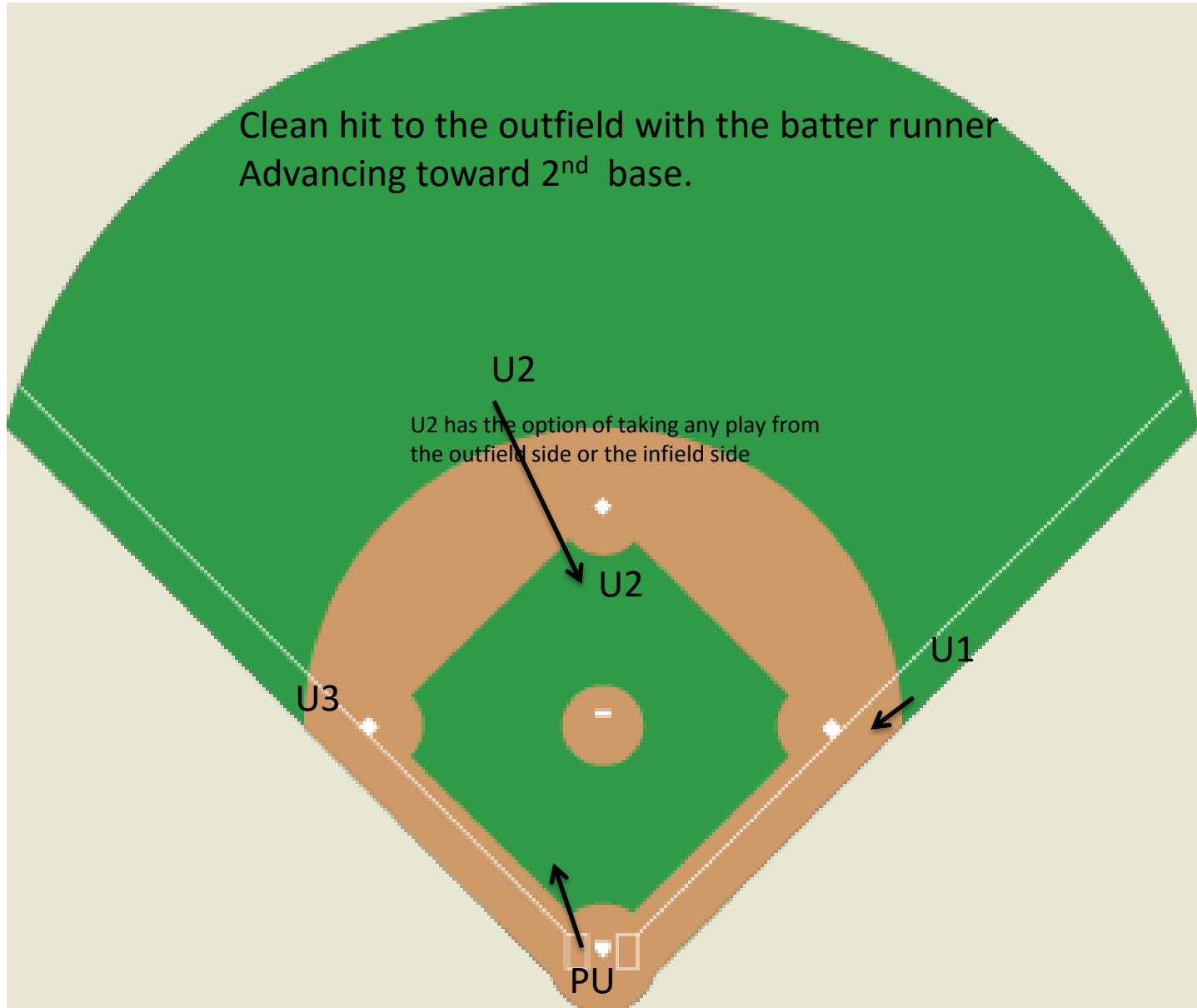




Clean Hit to the Outfield

No Runners on Base

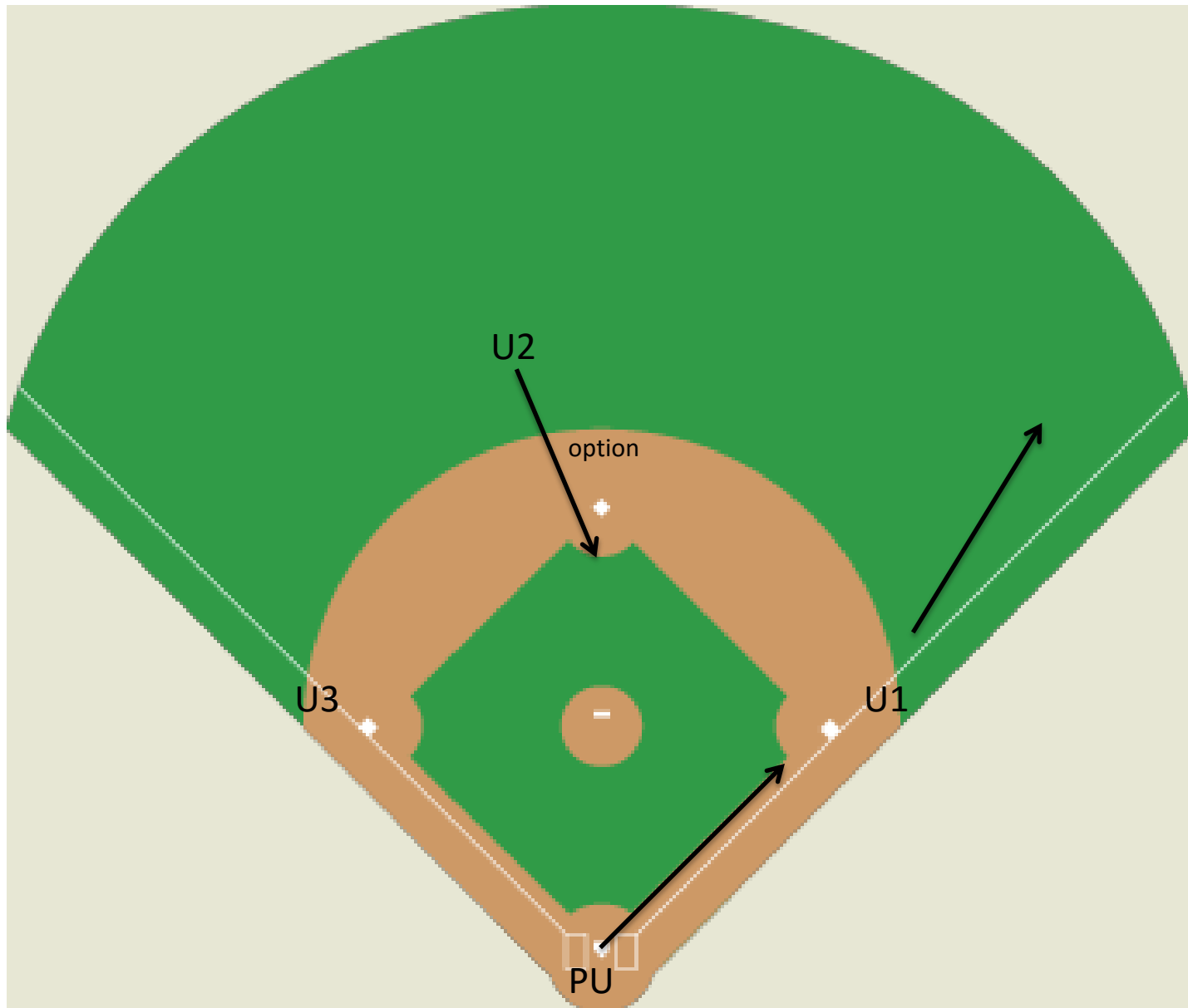
Clean hit to the outfield with the batter runner
Advancing toward 2nd base.





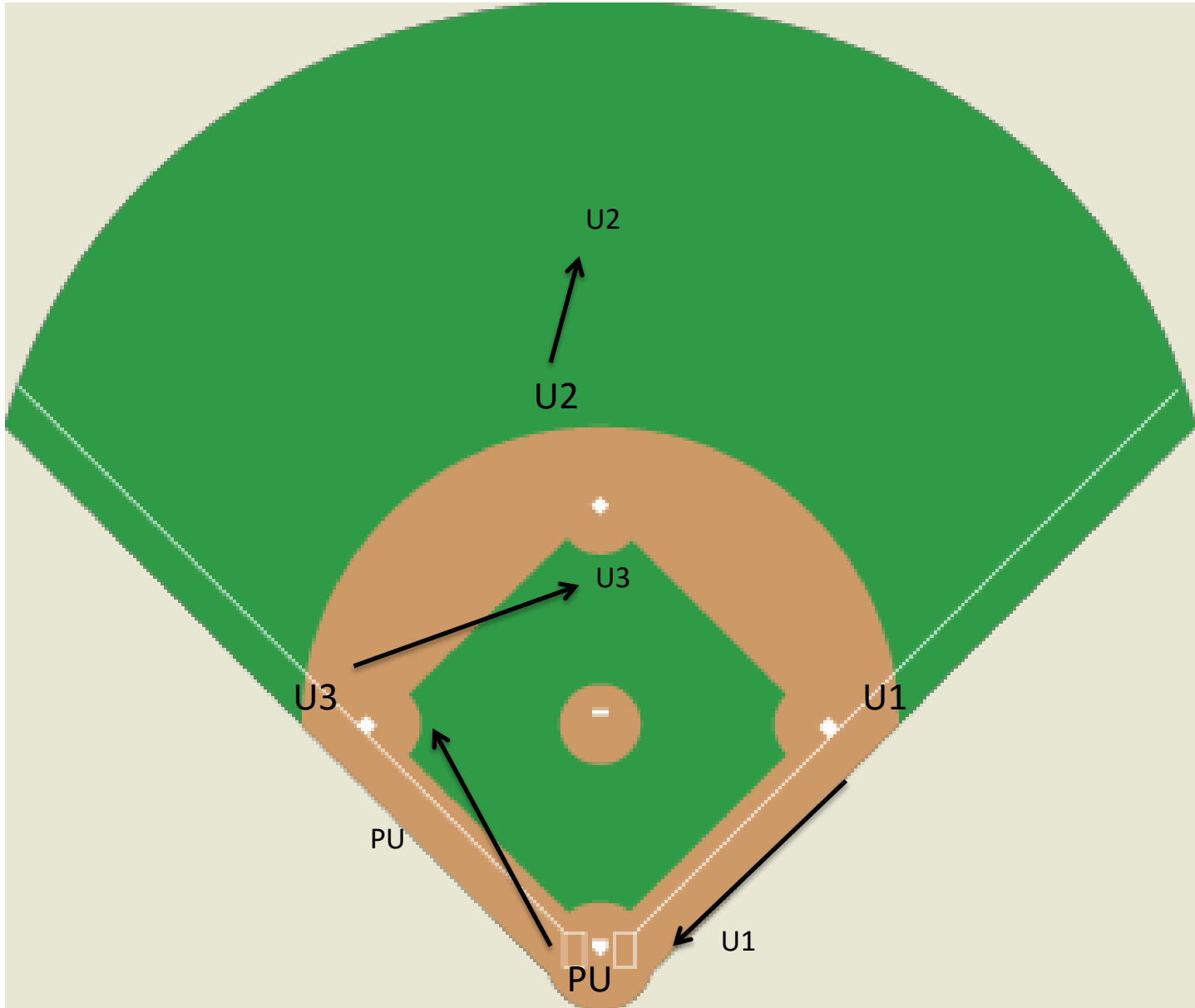
Fly Ball to Right Field – No Catch – U1 Goes Out

No Runners on Base





Fly Ball to Center Field – No Catch – U2 Goes Out No Runners on Base

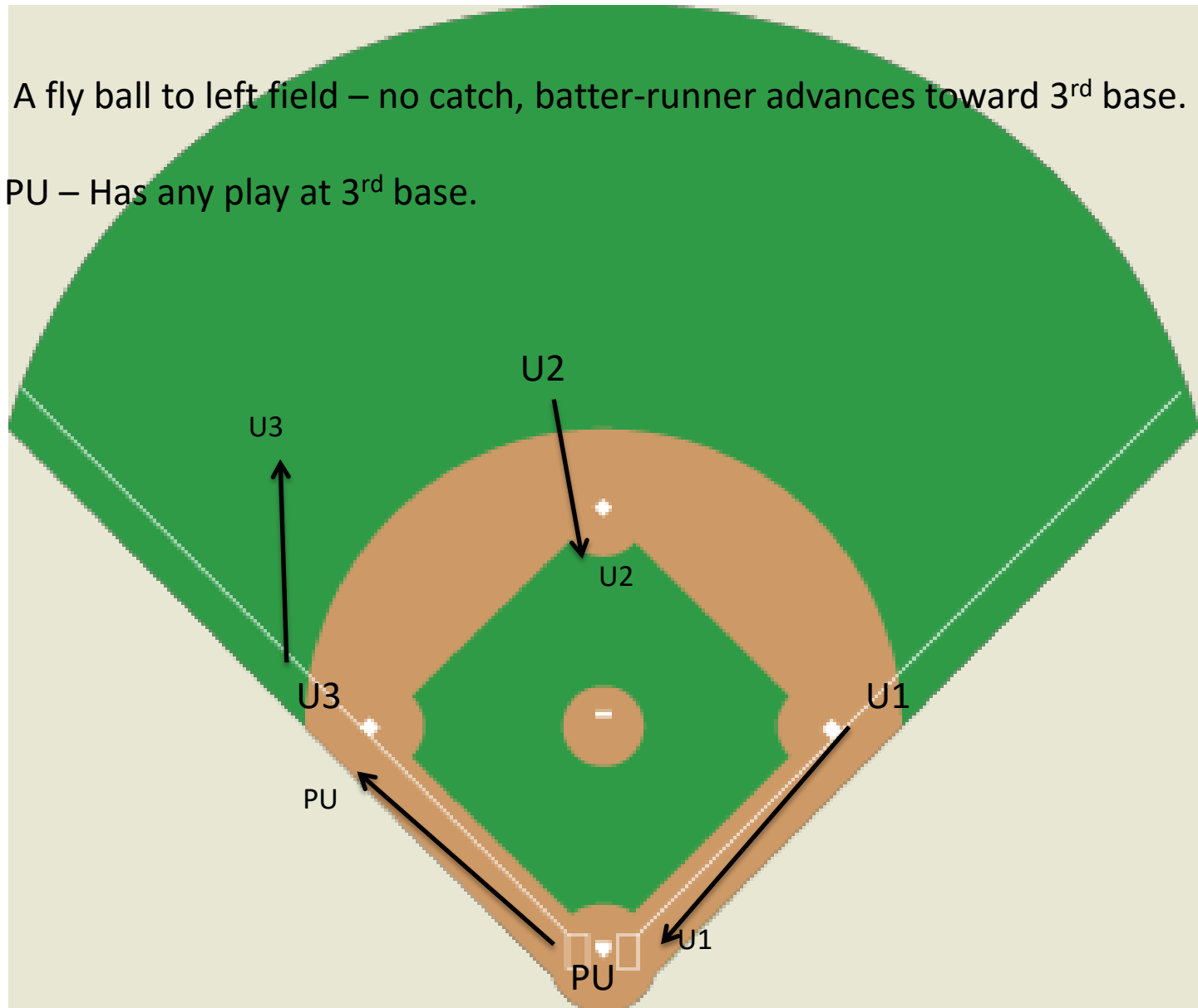


Fly Ball to Left Field – No Catch – U3 Goes Out

No Runners on Base

A fly ball to left field – no catch, batter-runner advances toward 3rd base.

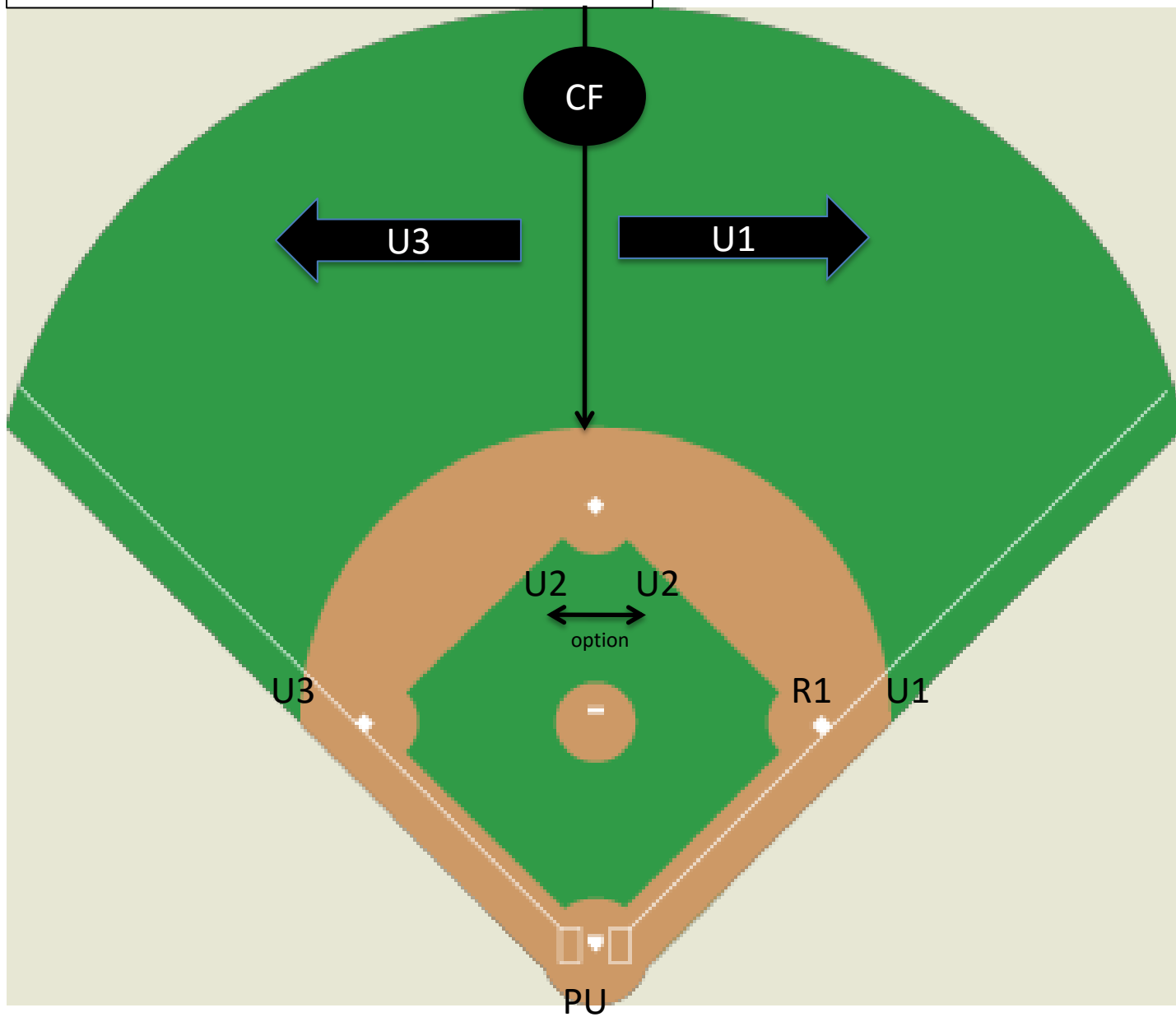
PU – Has any play at 3rd base.





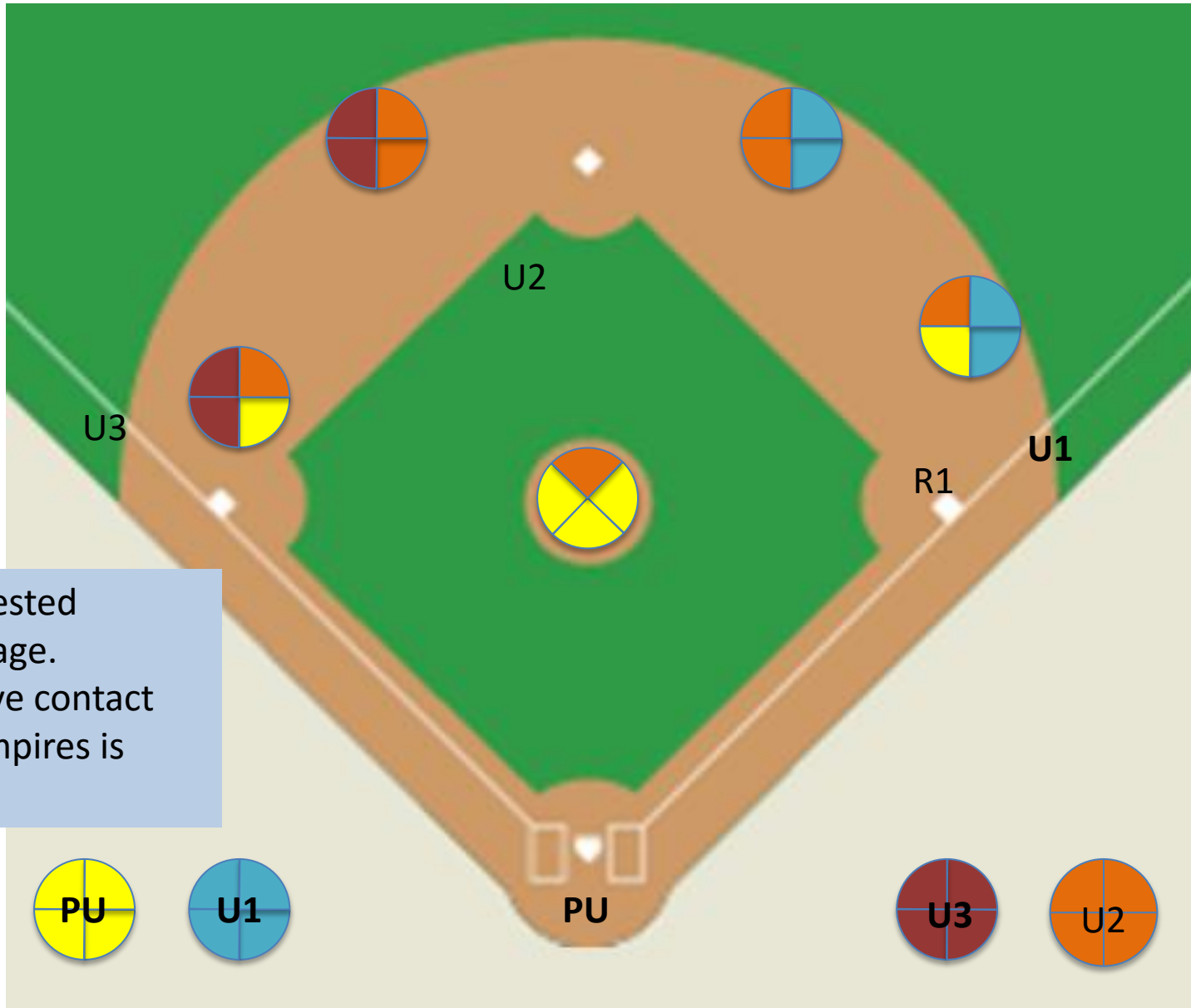
Initial Positions and Outfield Coverage

Runner on 1st



Infield Catch Coverage

Runner on 1st



This is suggested catch coverage. However, eye contact between umpires is important.



PU





Clean Hit to the Outfield

Runner on 1st

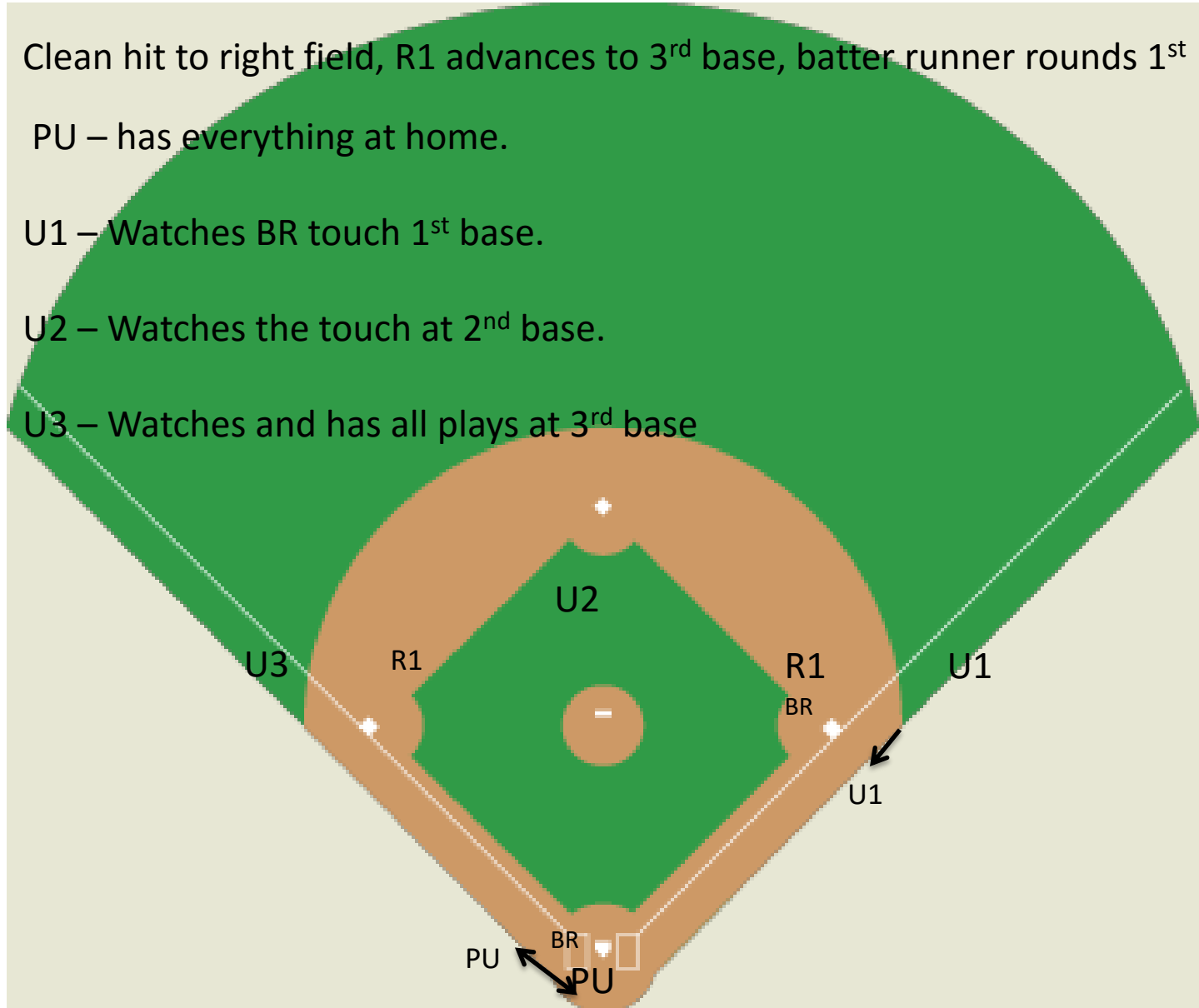
Clean hit to right field, R1 advances to 3rd base, batter runner rounds 1st

PU – has everything at home.

U1 – Watches BR touch 1st base.

U2 – Watches the touch at 2nd base.

U3 – Watches and has all plays at 3rd base





Fly Ball to Left Field – No Catch U3 goes Out

Runner on 1st

Fly ball to left field –no catch, U3 goes out
R1 advances toward 3rd base and batter runner advances
Toward 2nd base.

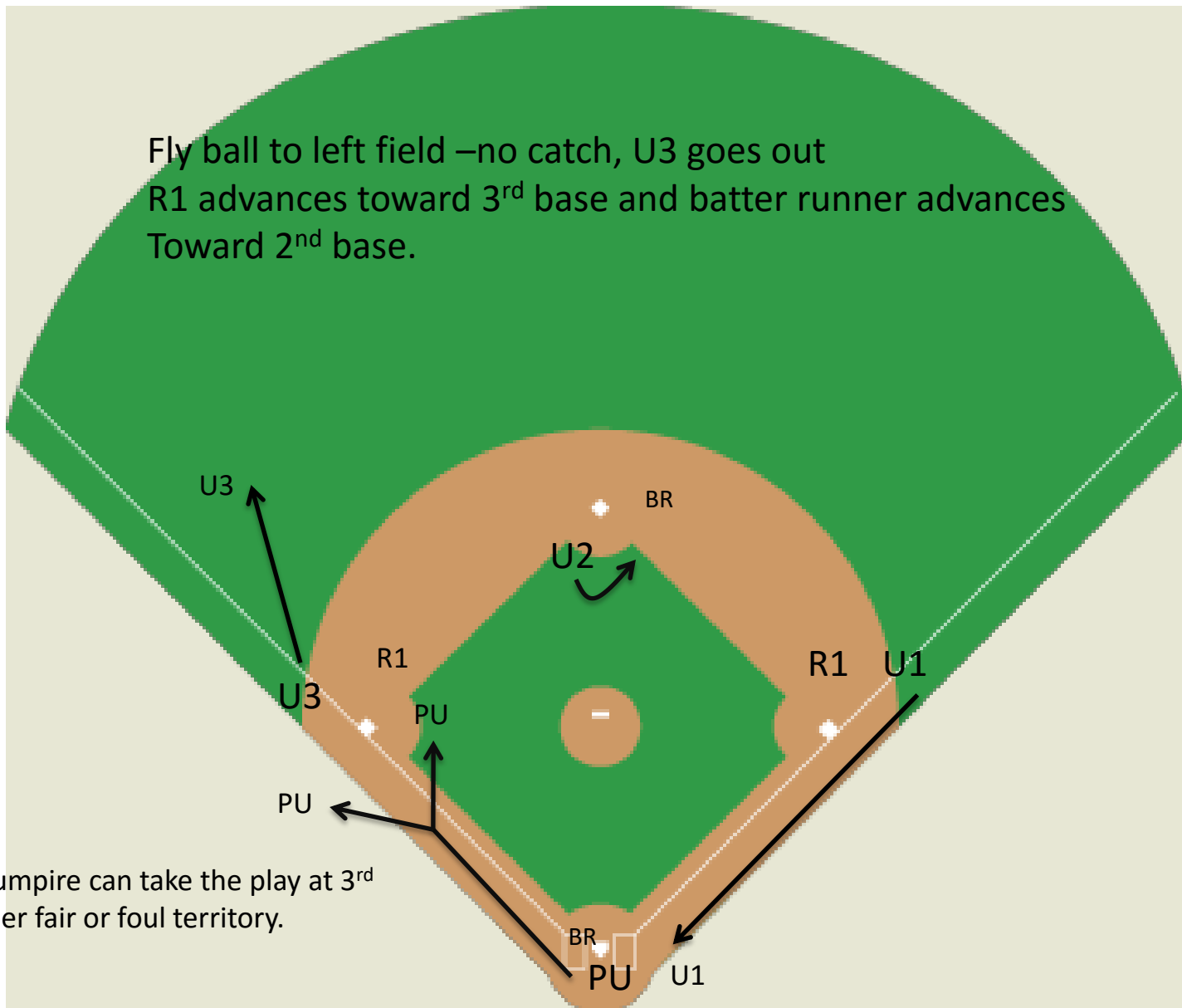


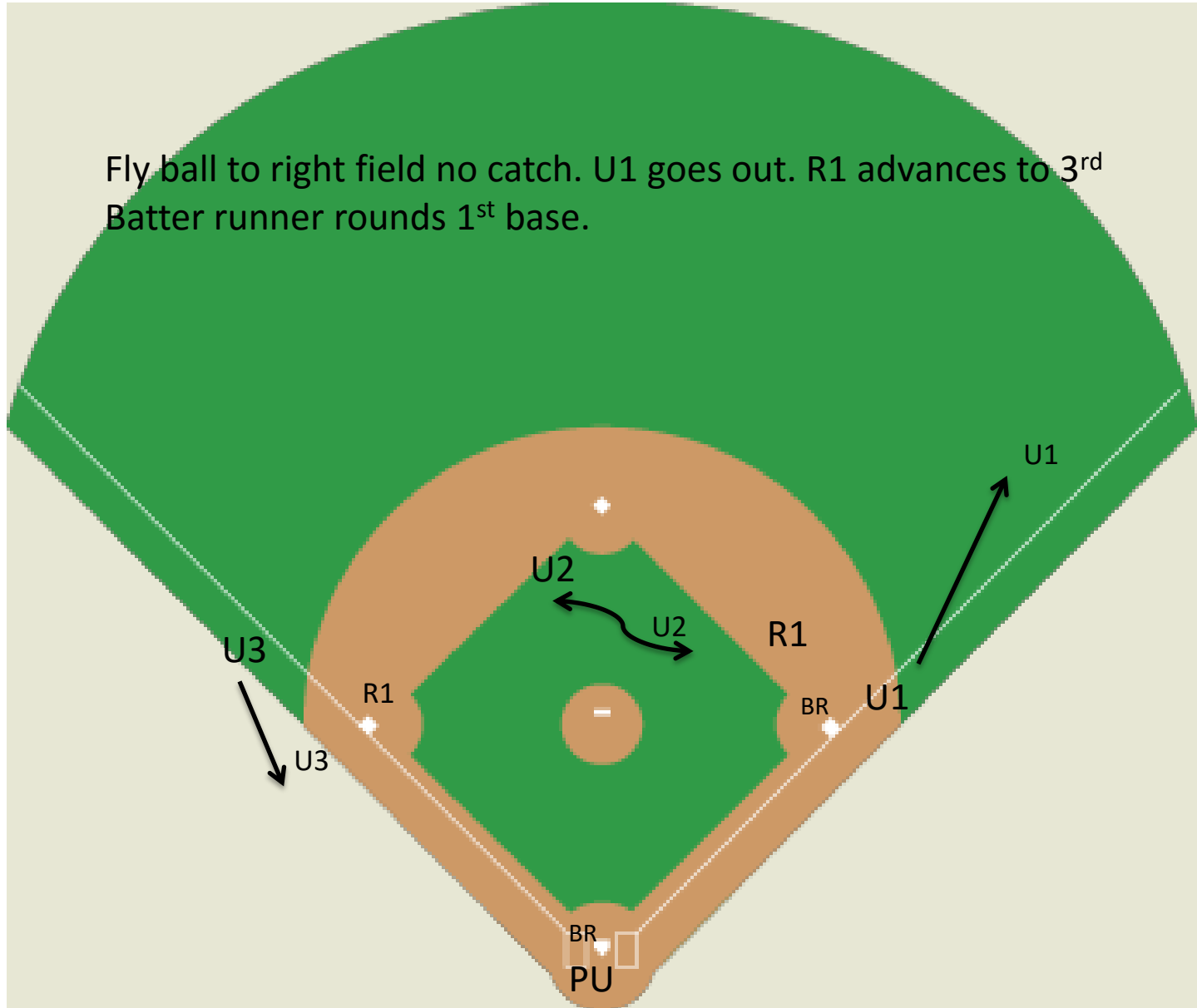
Plate umpire can take the play at 3rd
In either fair or foul territory.



Fly Ball to Right Field- No Catch U1 goes Out

Runner on 1st

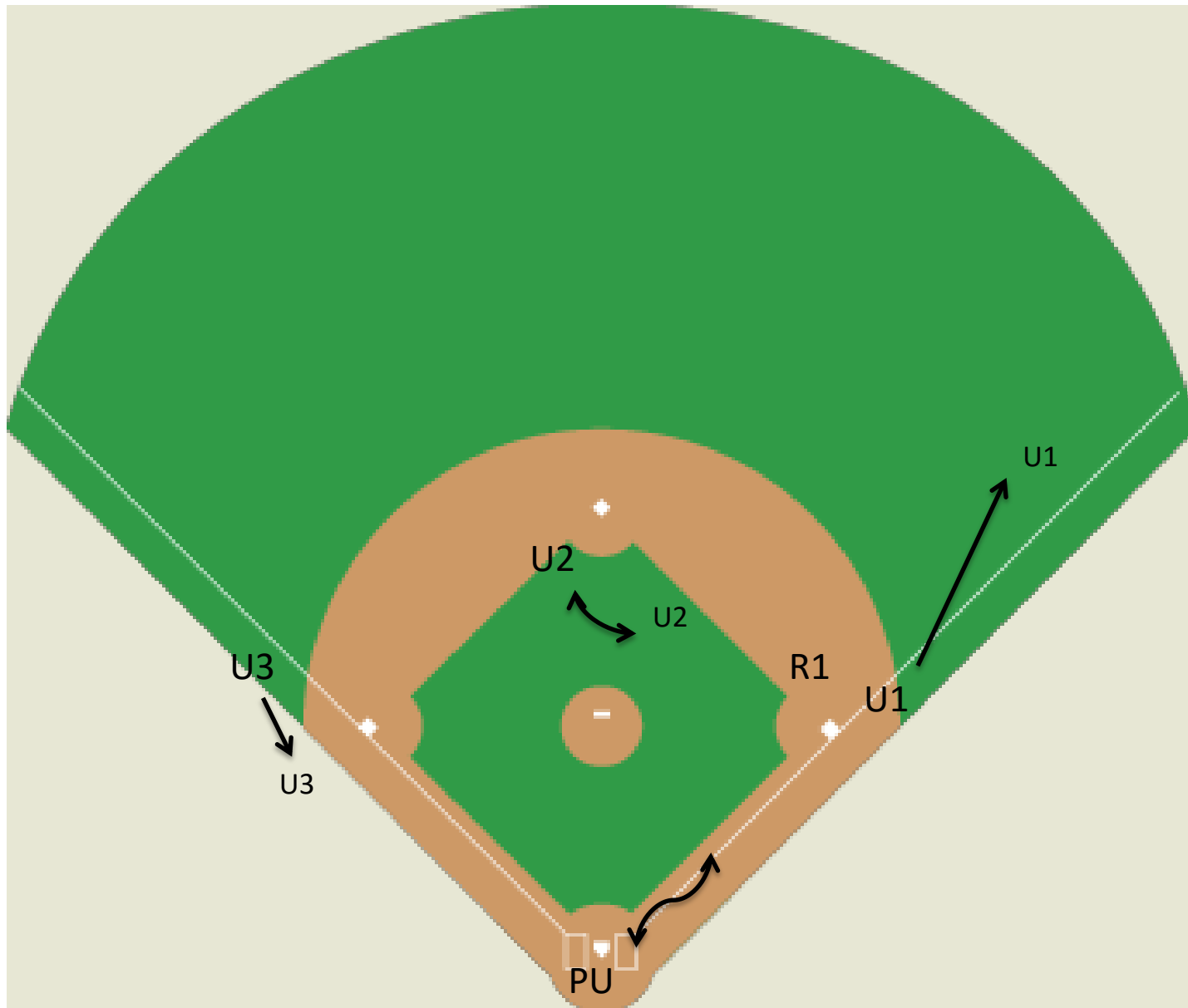
Fly ball to right field no catch. U1 goes out. R1 advances to 3rd
Batter runner rounds 1st base.





Fly Ball to Right Field- Catch U1 goes Out

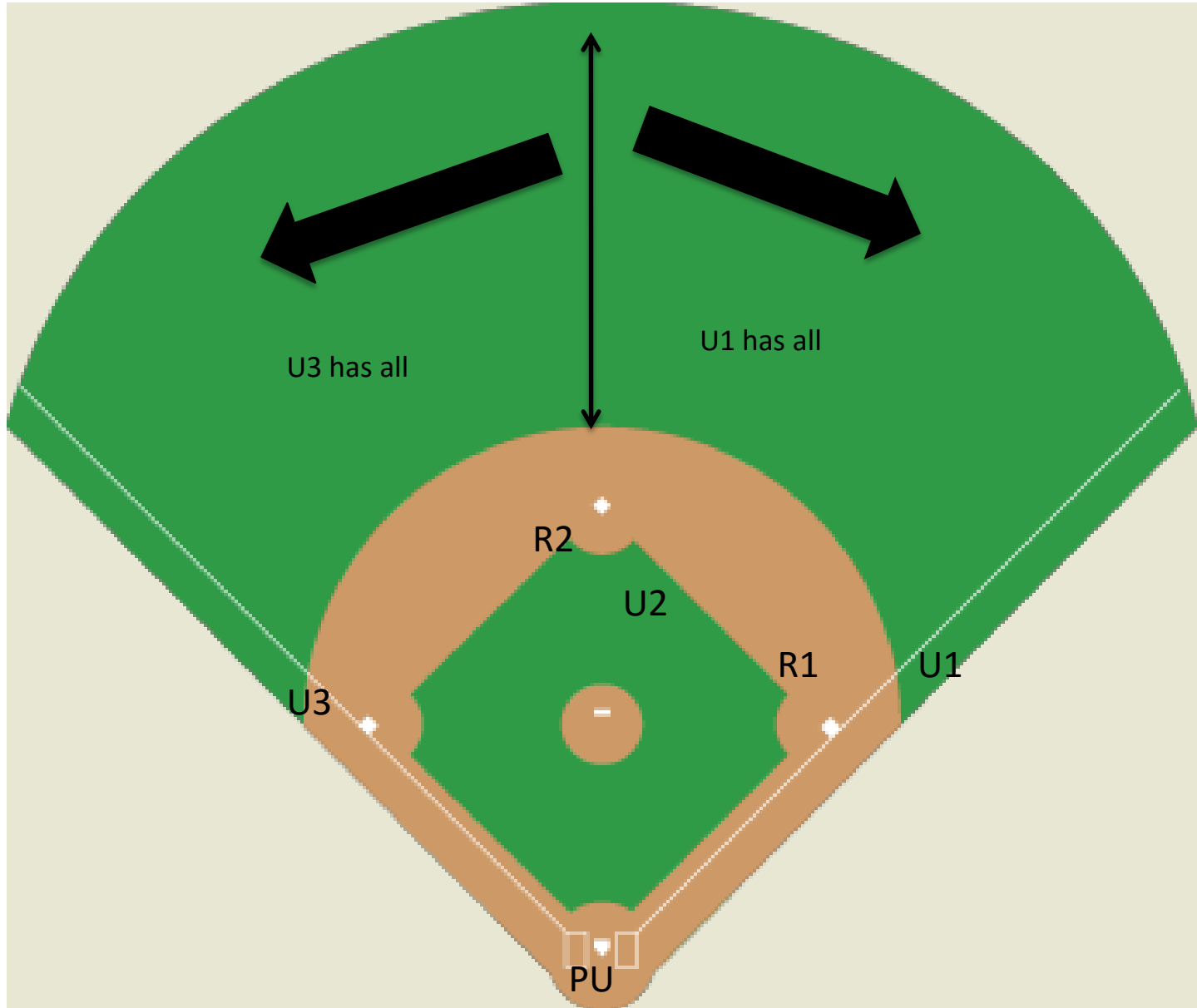
Runner on 1st





Initial Position Outfield Coverage

Runners on 1st & 2nd

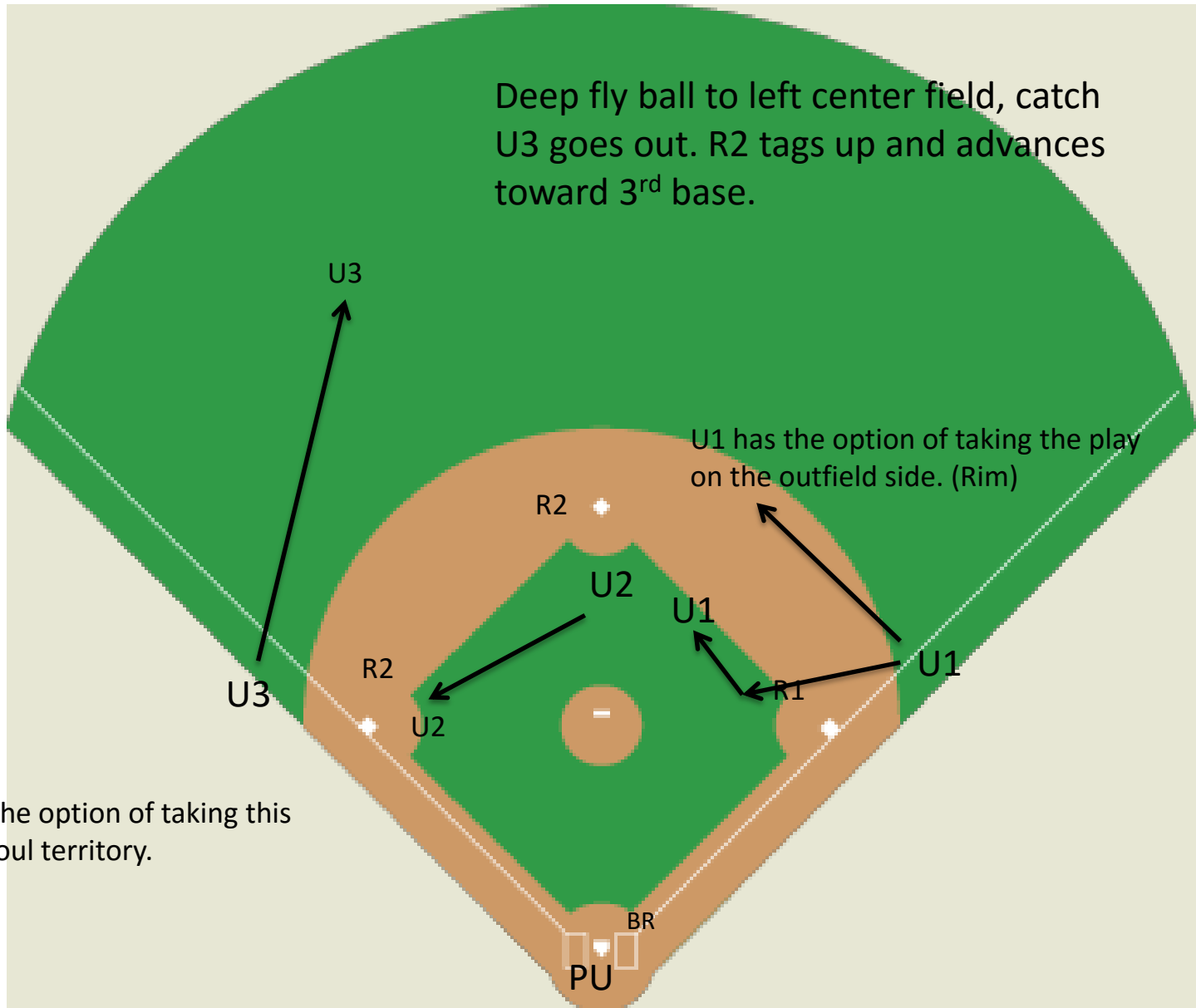




Fly Ball to Left Center Field – Catch U3 Goes Out

Runners on 1st & 2nd

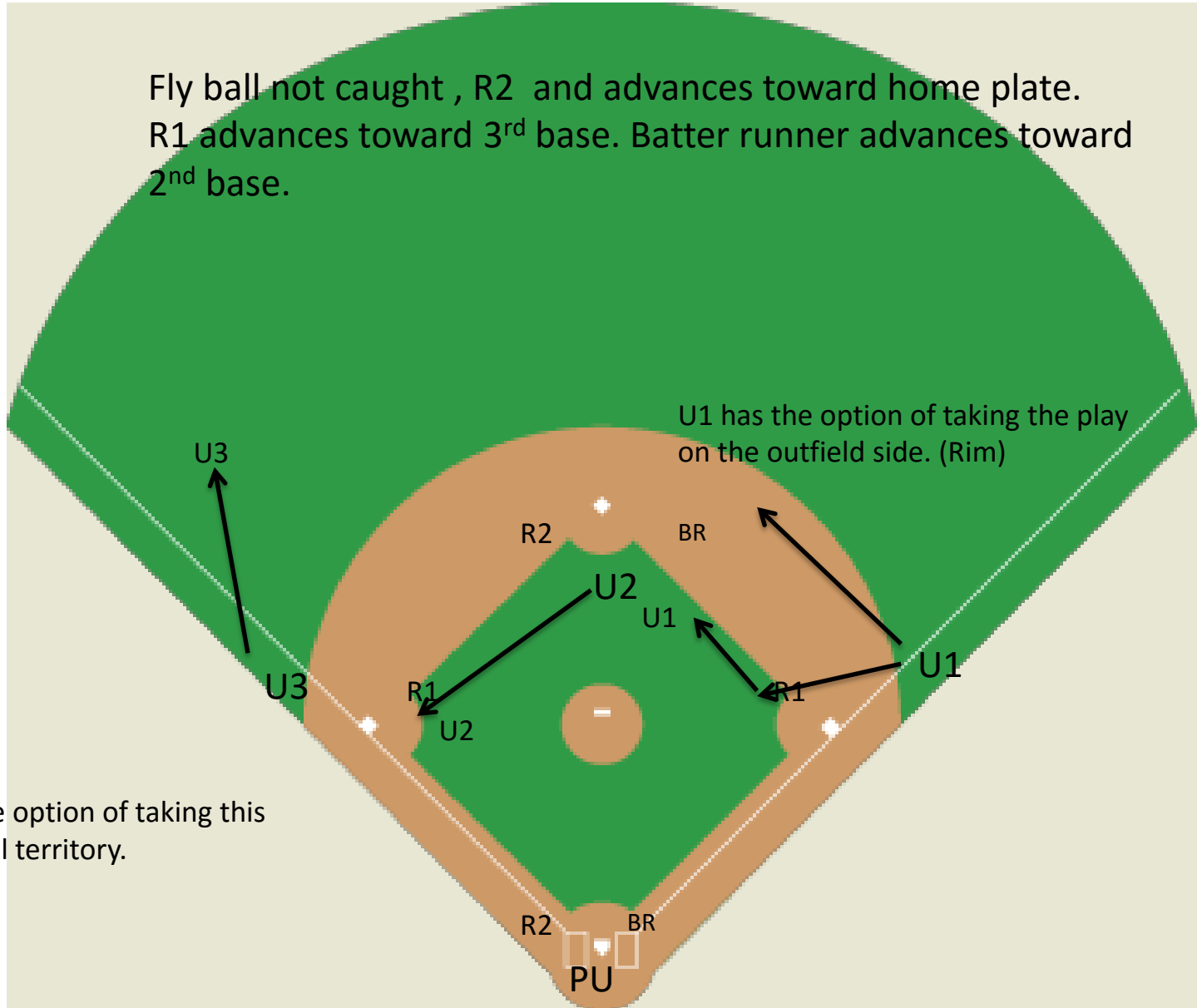
Deep fly ball to left center field, catch U3 goes out. R2 tags up and advances toward 3rd base.





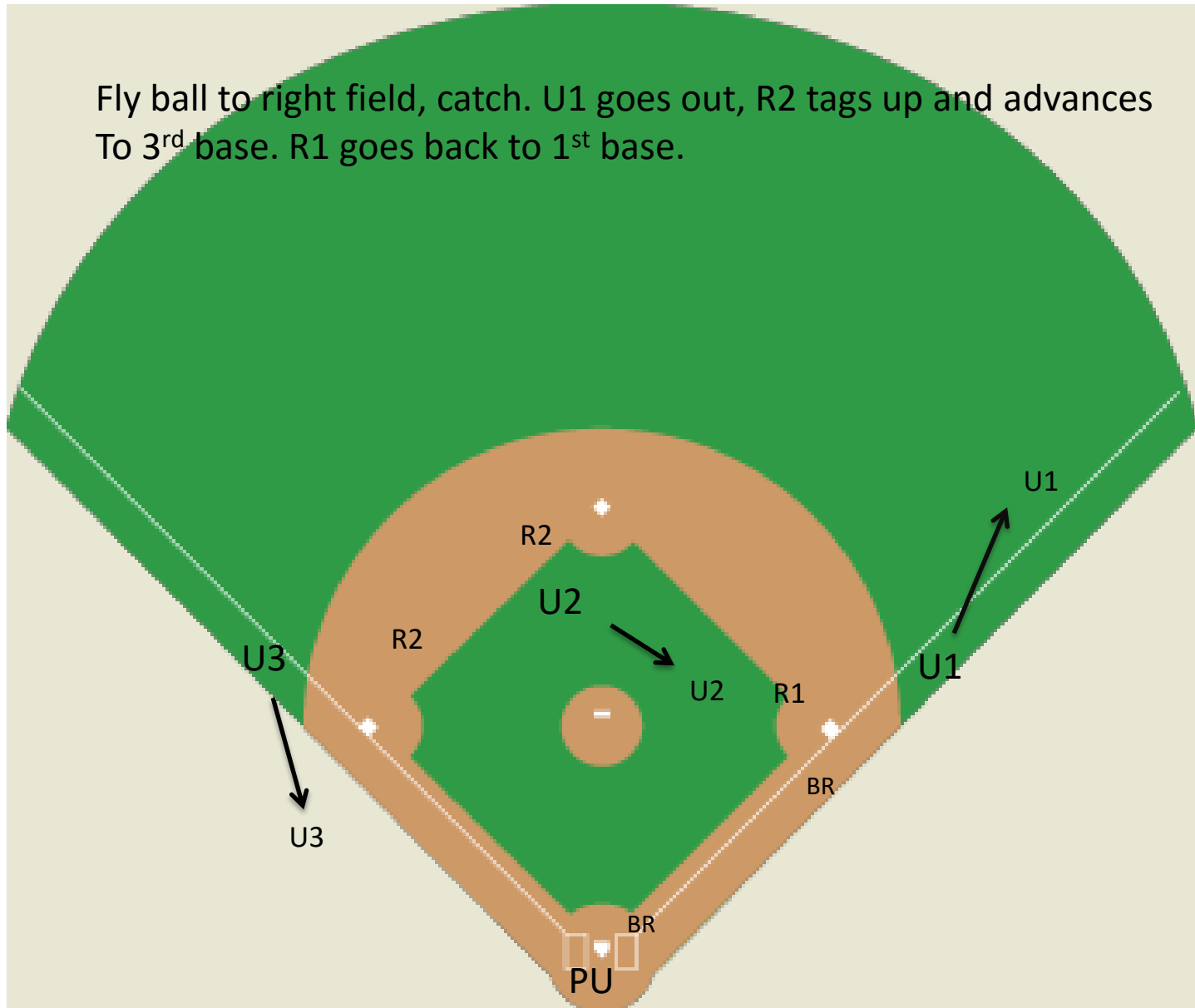
Fly Ball Down Left Field Line – No Catch – U3 Goes Out Runners on 1st & 2nd

Fly ball not caught , R2 and advances toward home plate.
R1 advances toward 3rd base. Batter runner advances toward 2nd base.



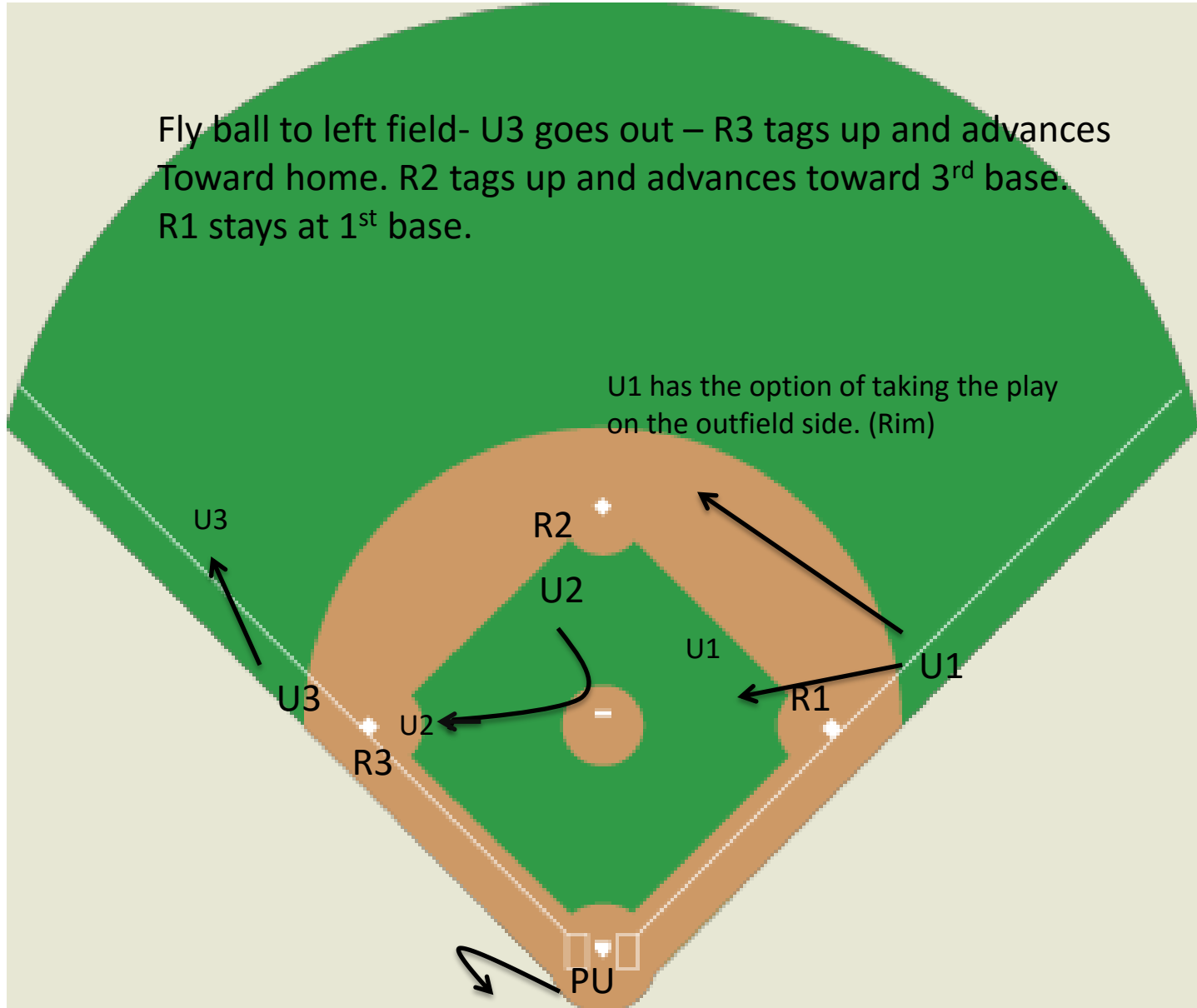
Fly Ball to Right Field – Catch U1 Goes Out

Runners on 1st & 2nd



Fly ball to left field- U3 goes out – R3 tags up and advances toward home. R2 tags up and advances toward 3rd base. R1 stays at 1st base.

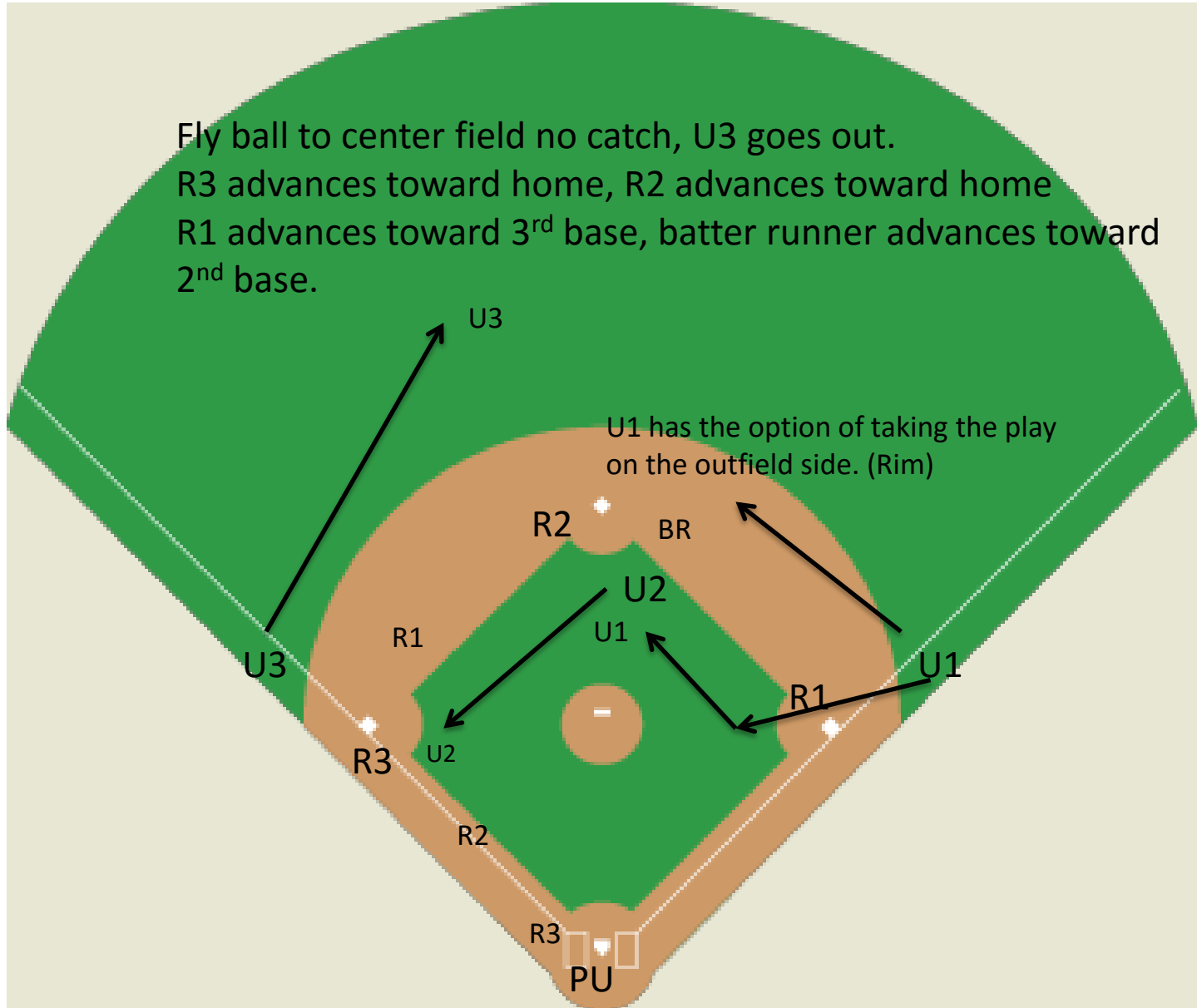
U1 has the option of taking the play on the outfield side. (Rim)





Fly Ball to Left Centerfield- Catch U3 Goes Out Runners on 1st, 2nd & 3rd

Fly ball to center field no catch, U3 goes out.
R3 advances toward home, R2 advances toward home
R1 advances toward 3rd base, batter runner advances toward 2nd base.

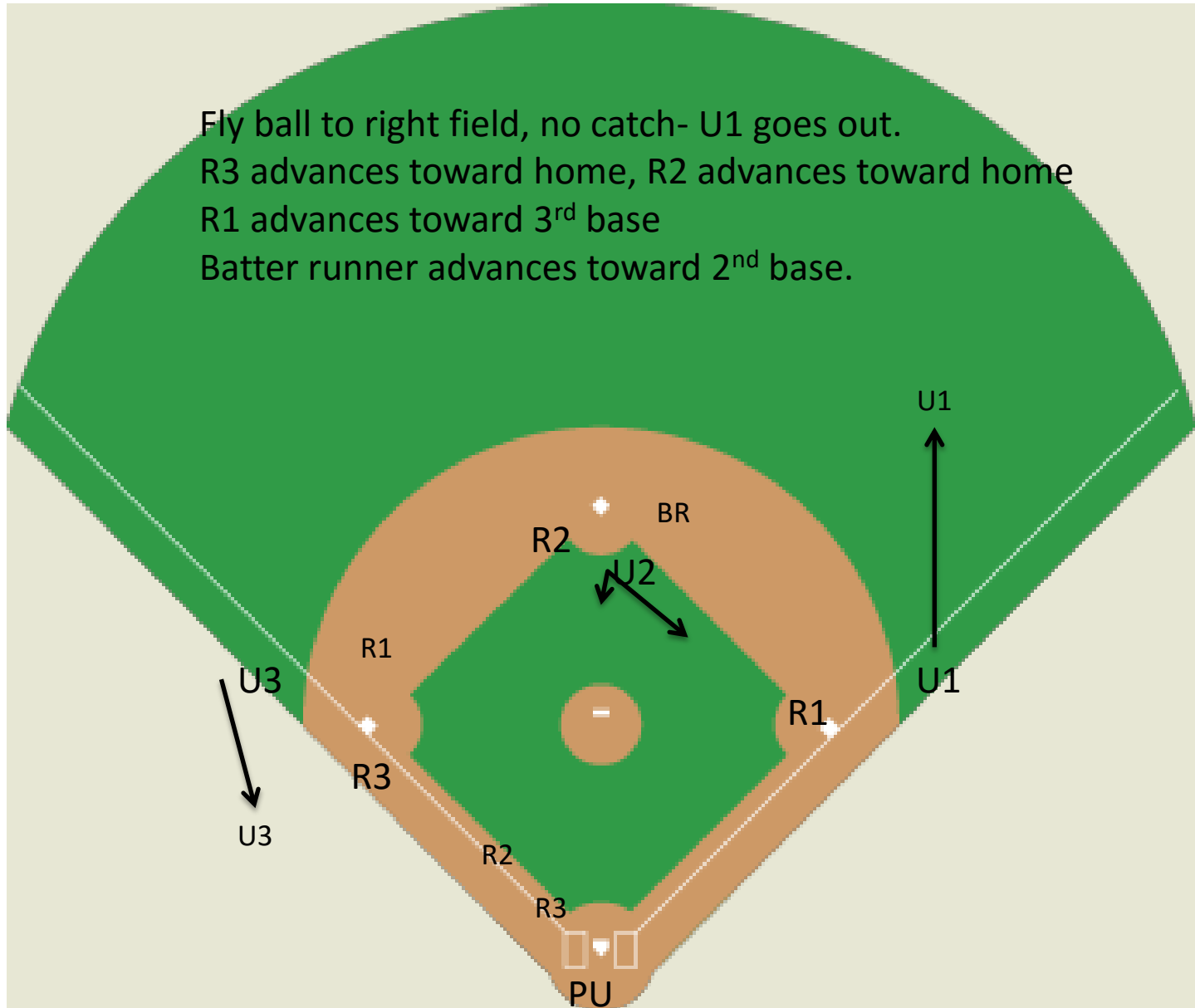




Fly Ball to Right Field – No Catch U1 goes Out

Runners on 1st, 2nd & 3rd

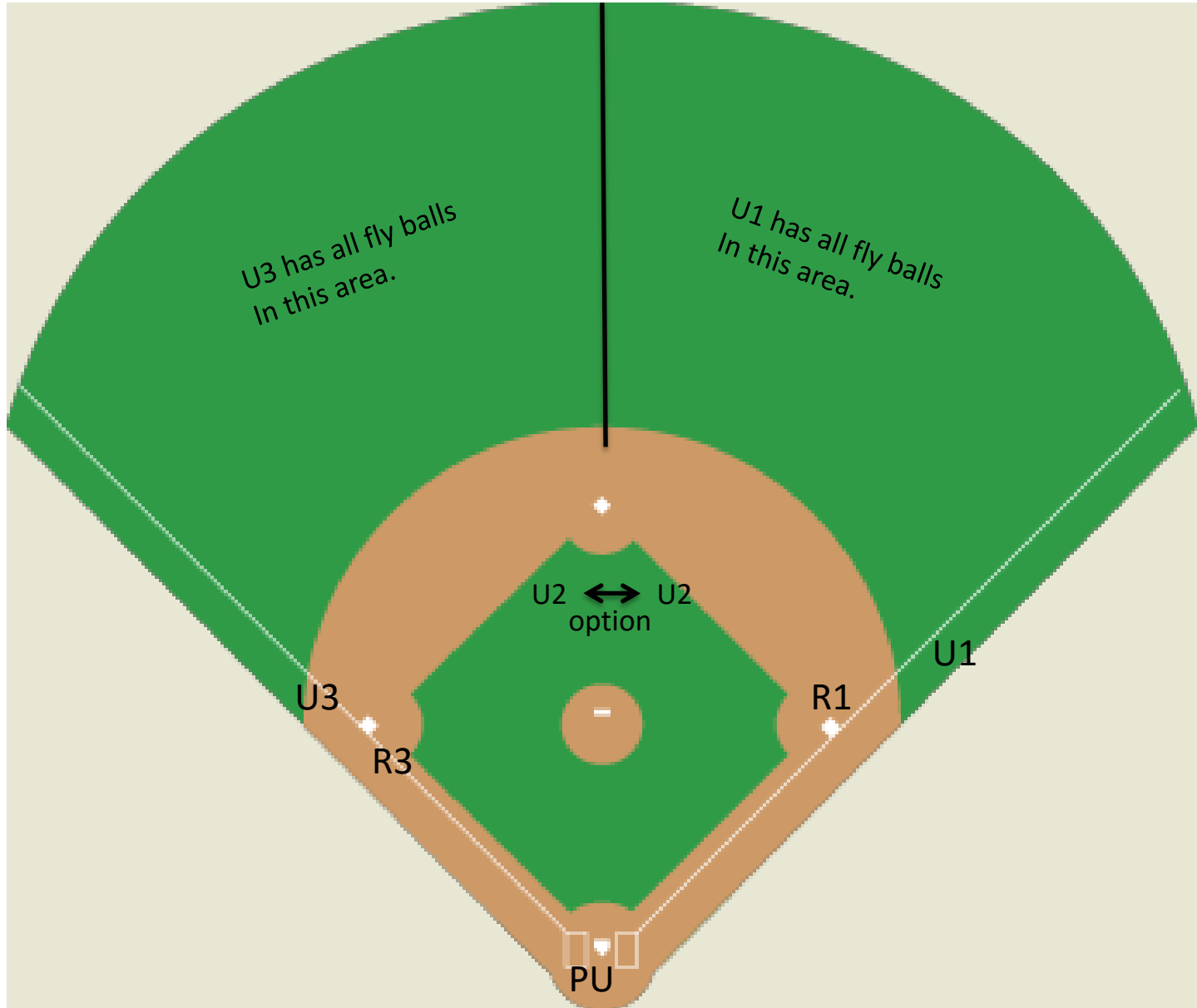
Fly ball to right field, no catch- U1 goes out.
R3 advances toward home, R2 advances toward home
R1 advances toward 3rd base
Batter runner advances toward 2nd base.





Initial Positions and Outfield Coverage

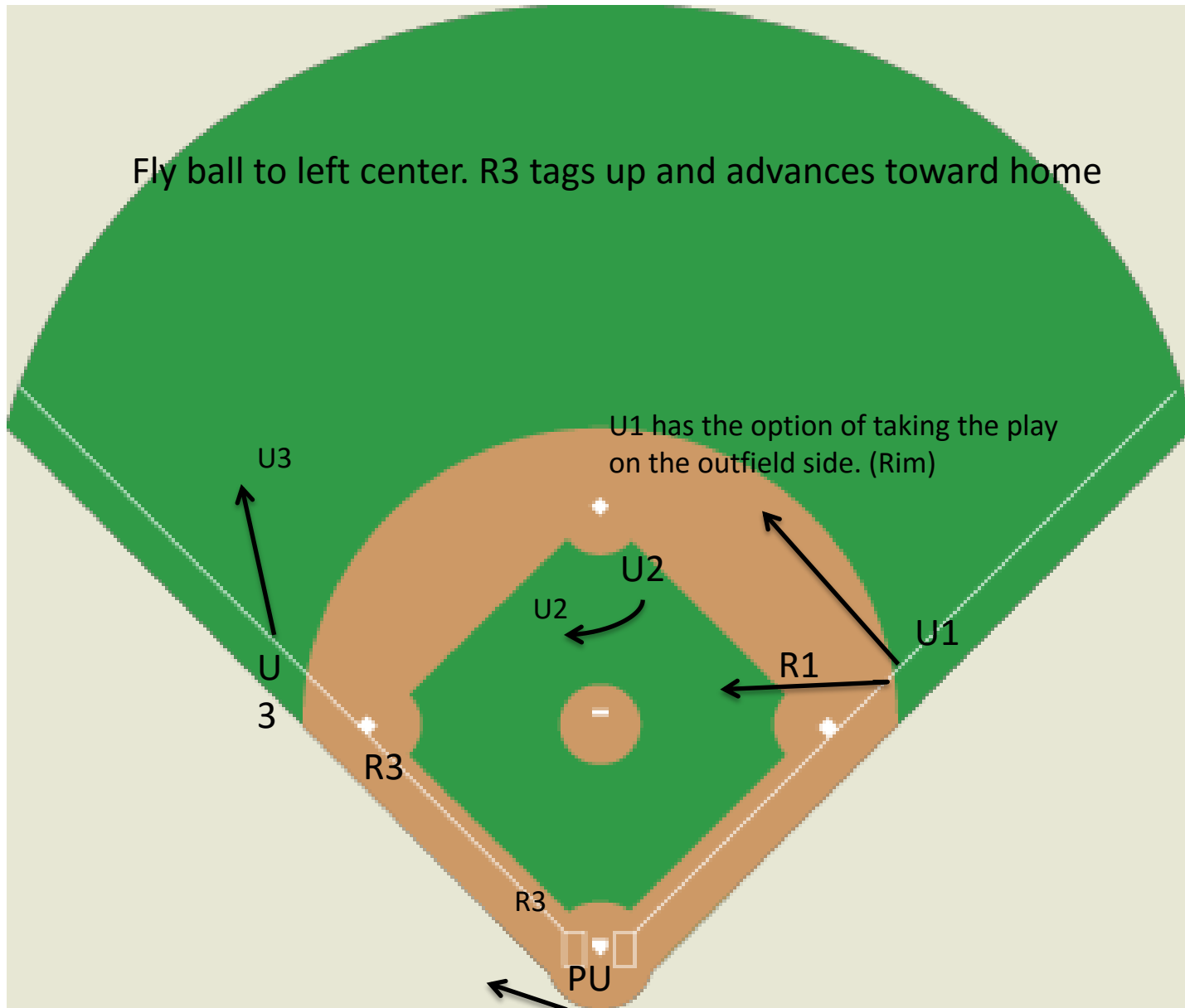
Runners on 1st and 3rd





Fly Ball to Left Center Field – Catch – U3 Goes Out Runners on 1st & 3rd

Fly ball to left center. R3 tags up and advances toward home



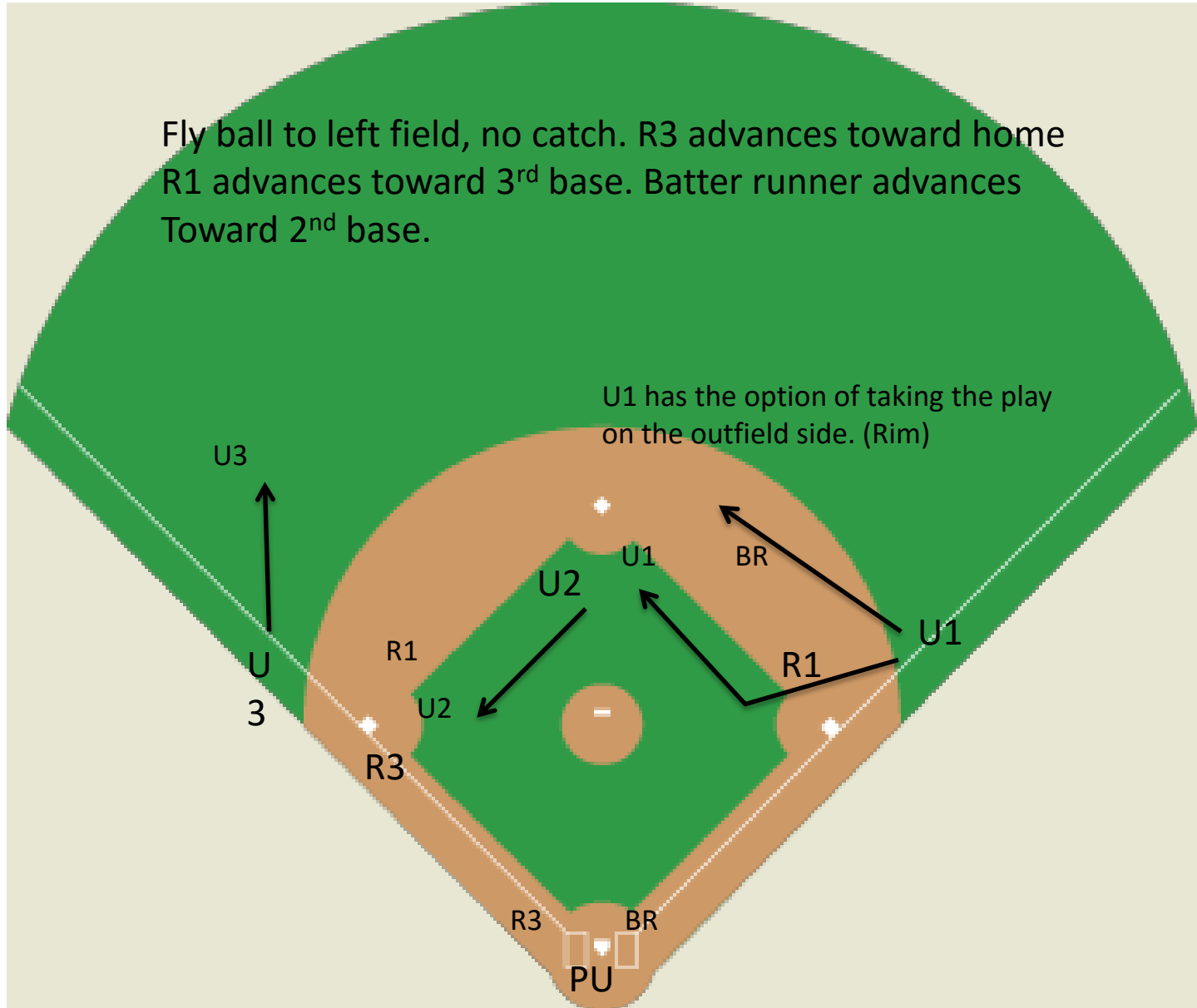


Fly Ball to Left Field – No Catch- U3 Goes Out

Runners on 1st & 3rd

Fly ball to left field, no catch. R3 advances toward home
R1 advances toward 3rd base. Batter runner advances
Toward 2nd base.

U1 has the option of taking the play on the outfield side. (Rim)

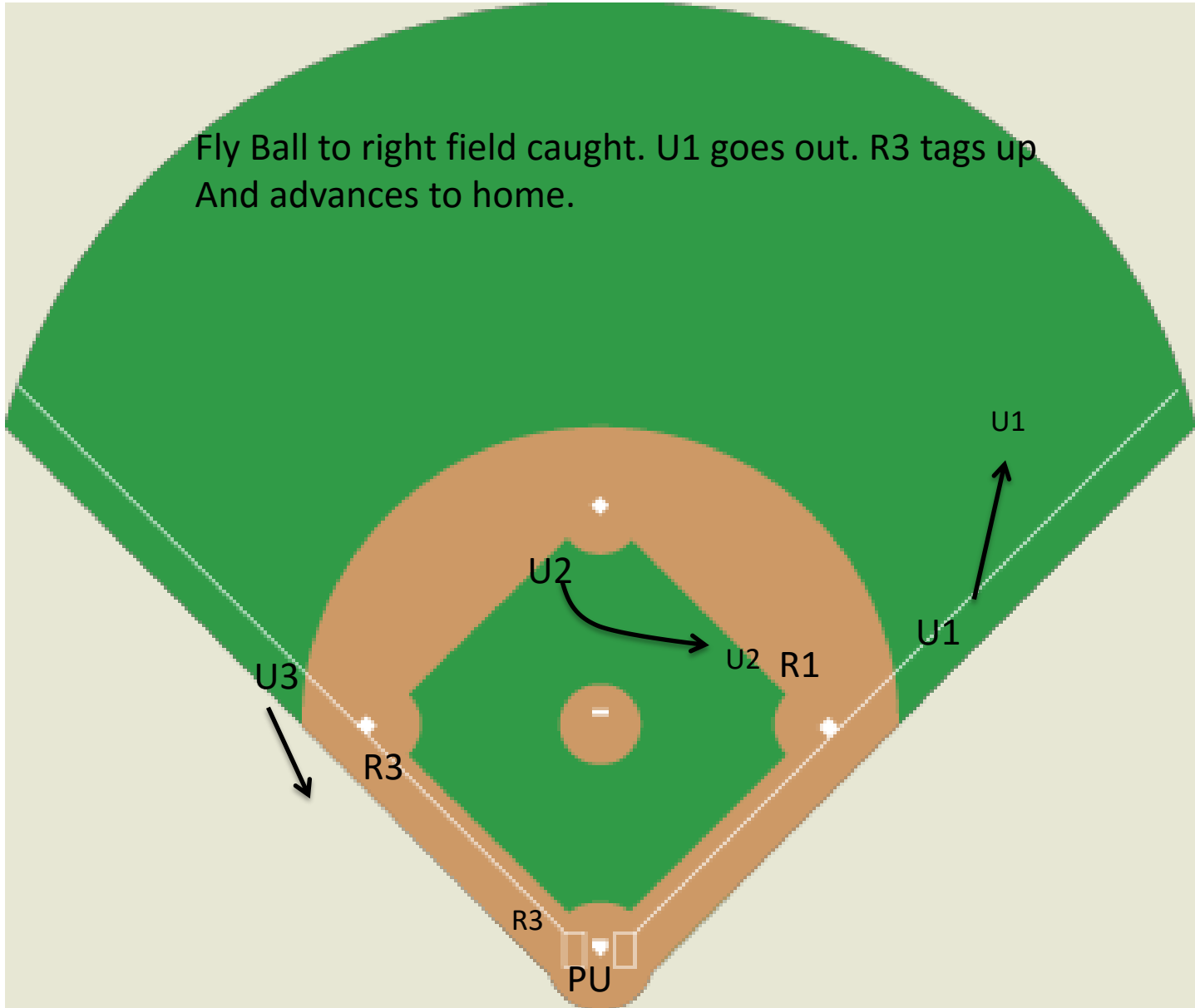




Fly Ball to Right Field – Catch- U1 Goes Out

Runners on 1st & 3rd

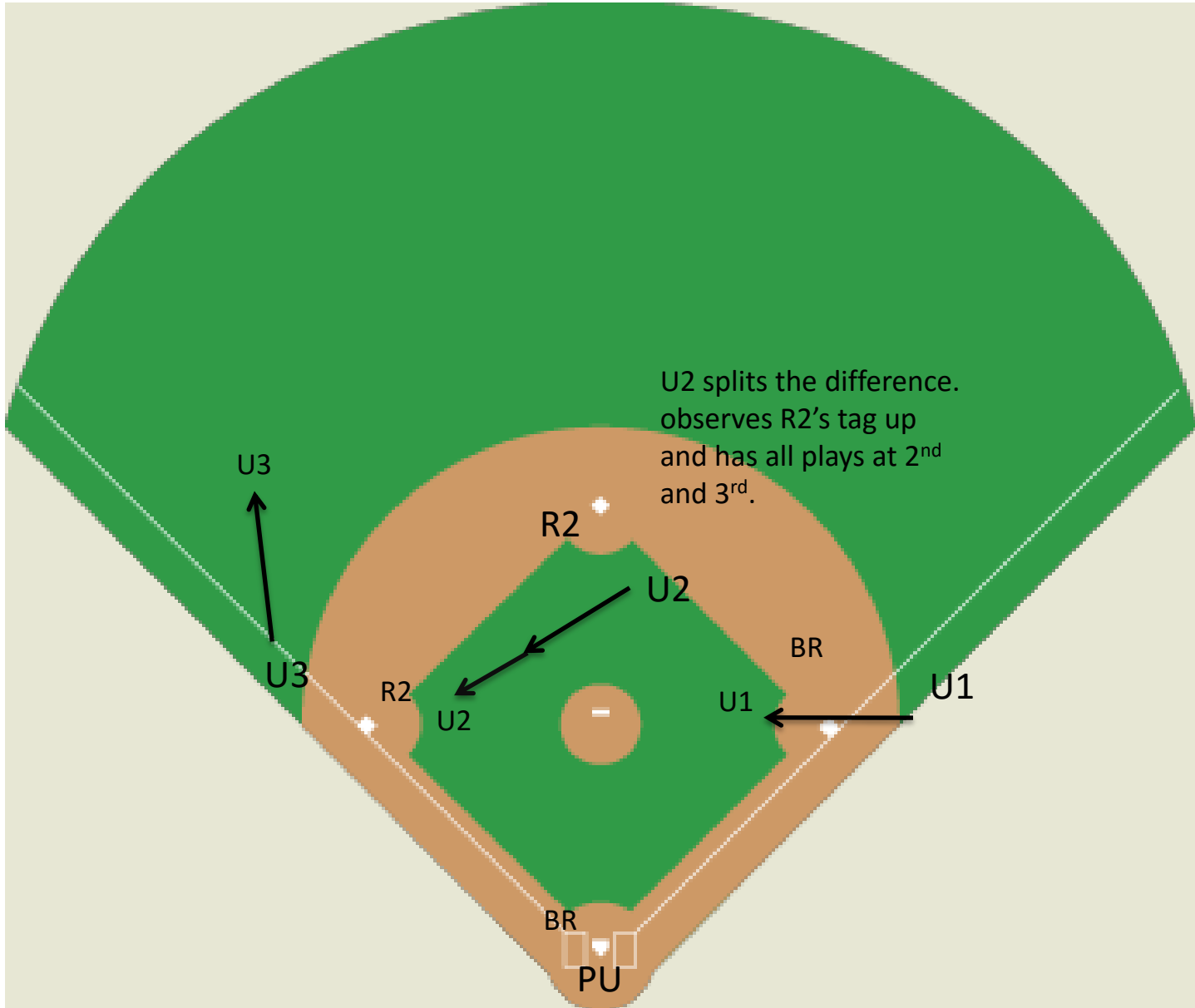
Fly Ball to right field caught. U1 goes out. R3 tags up
And advances to home.

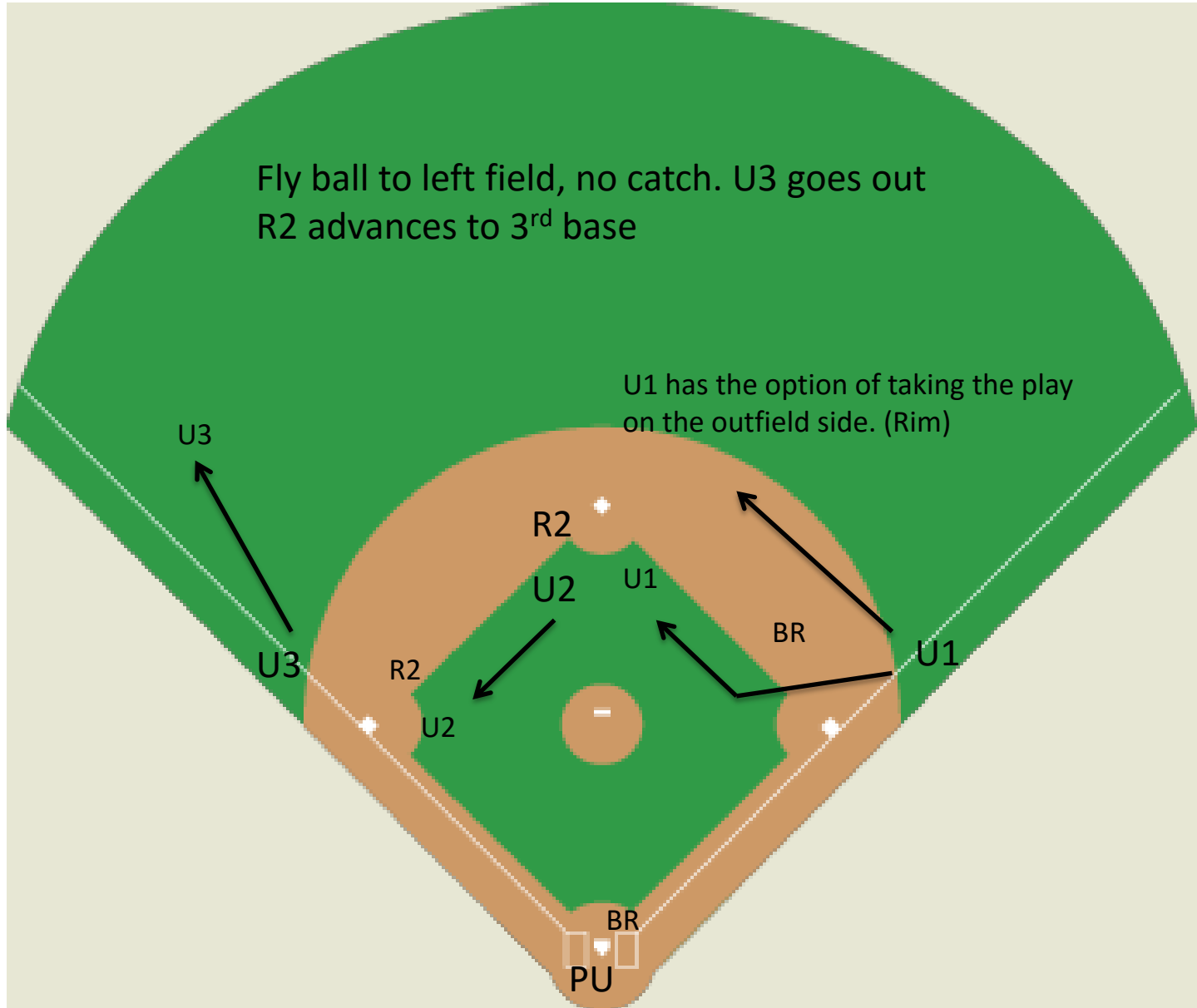




Fly Ball to Left Field – Catch- U3 Goes Out

Runner on 2nd

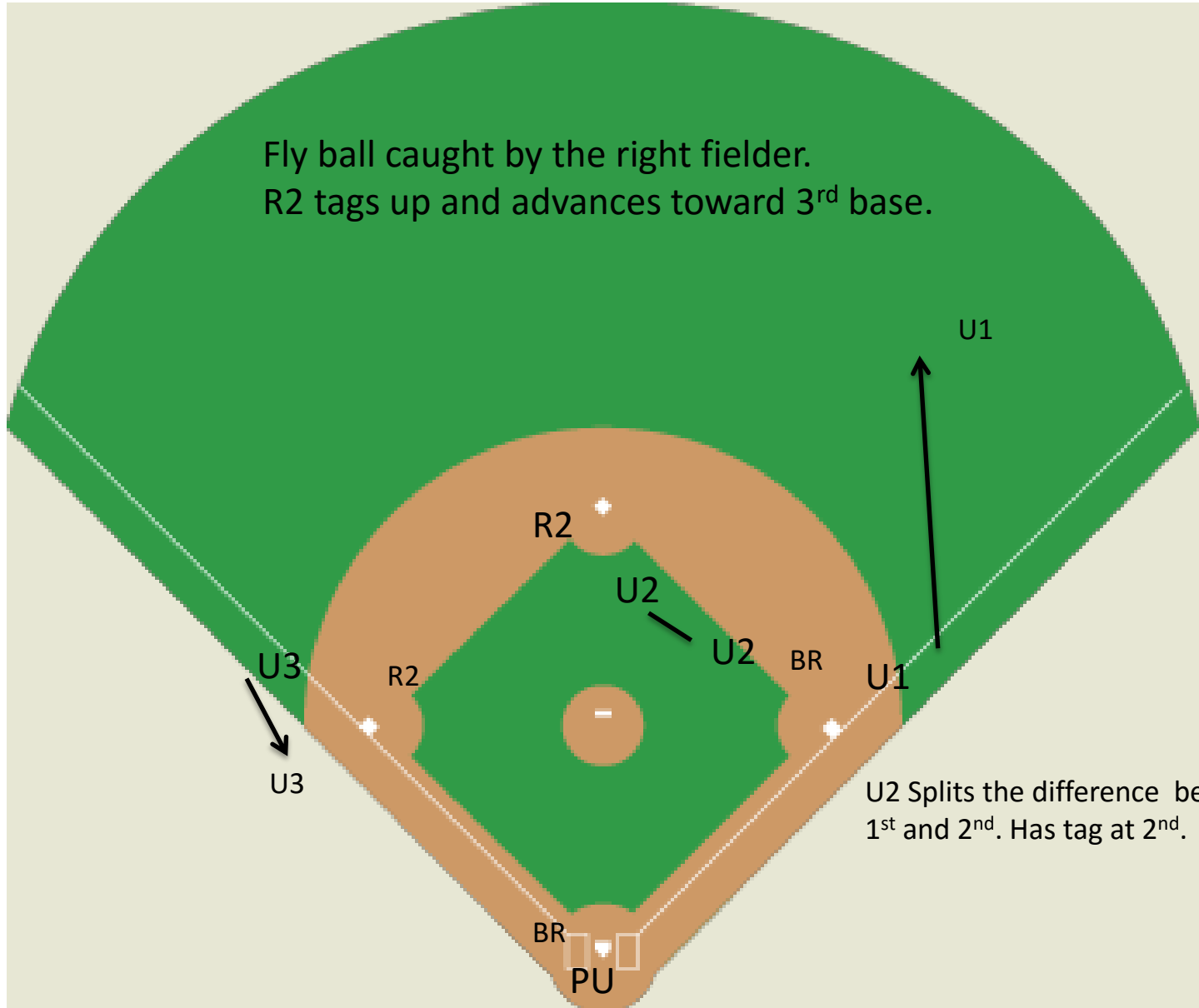




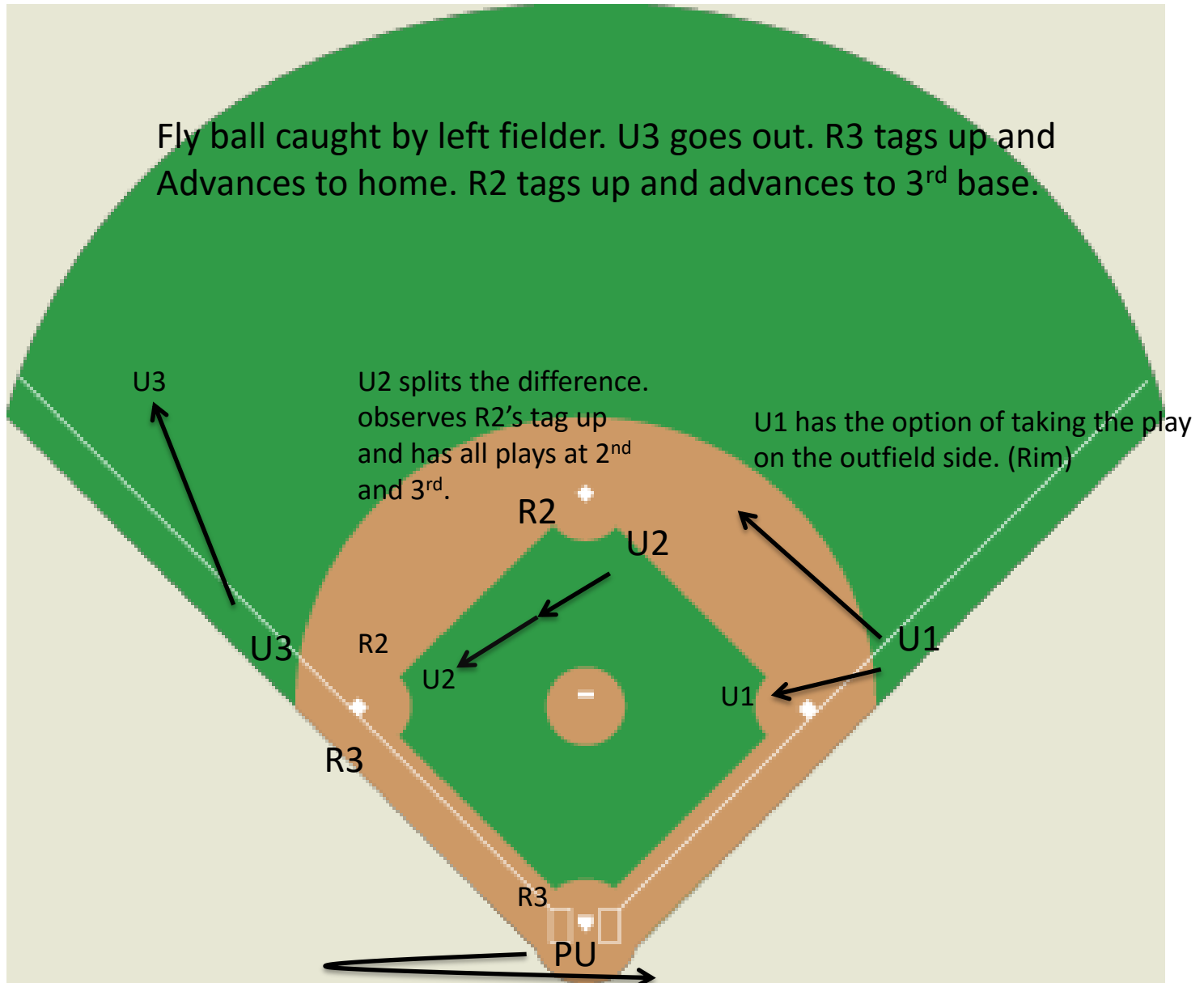


Fly Ball to Right –Center Field – Catch – U1 Goes Out

Runner on 2nd

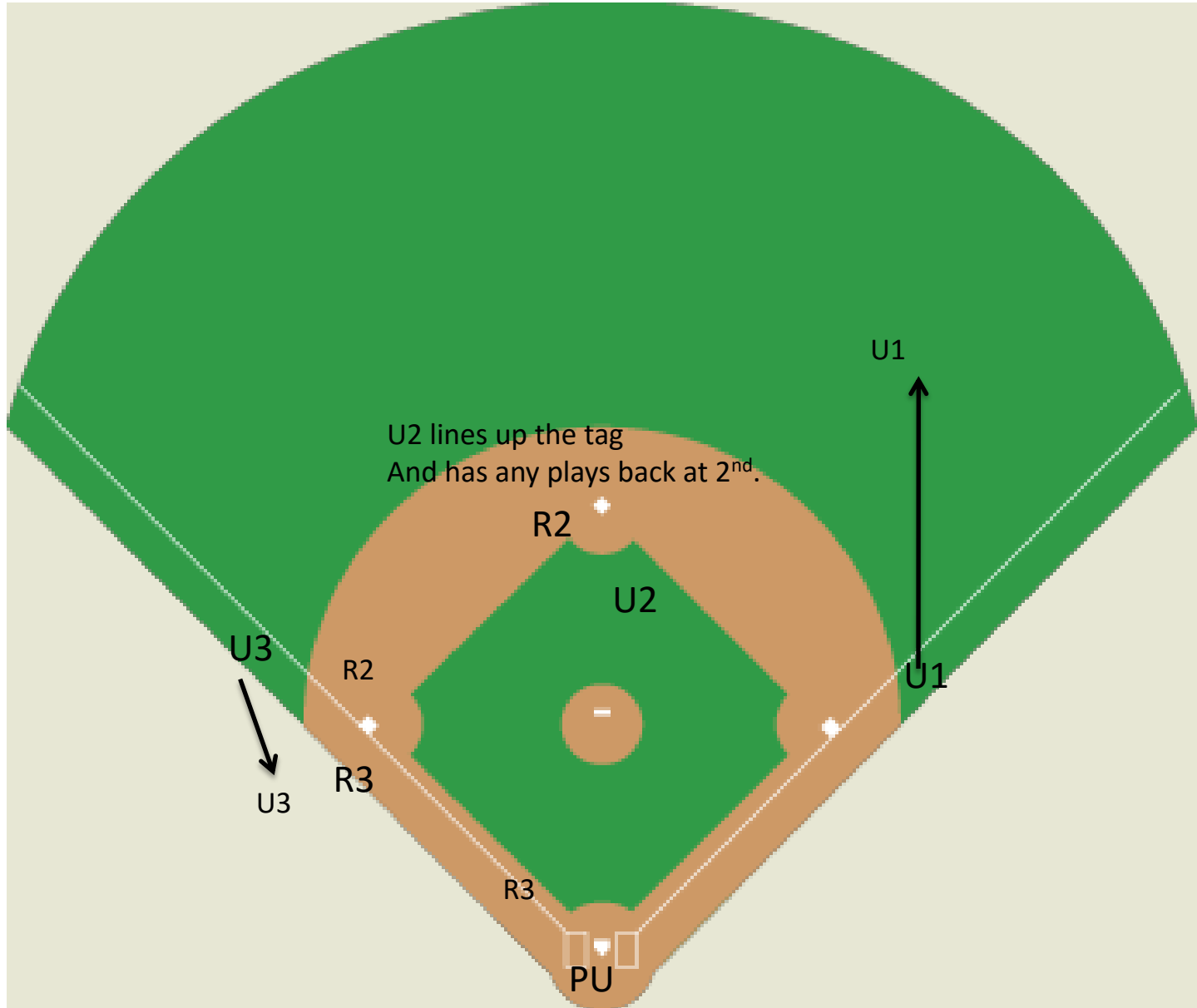


Fly ball caught by left fielder. U3 goes out. R3 tags up and Advances to home. R2 tags up and advances to 3rd base.



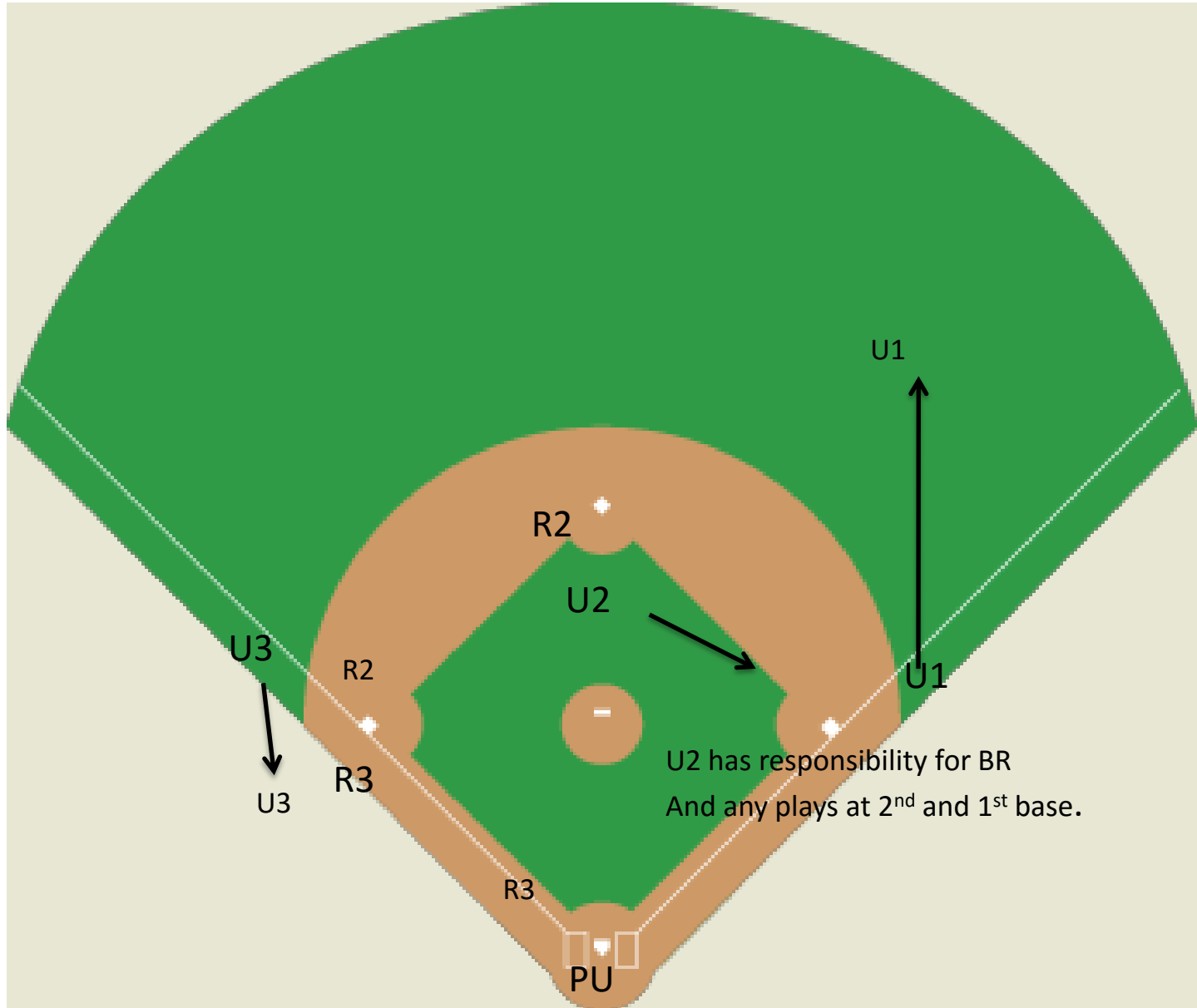


Fly Ball to Right Center Field – Catch – U1 Goes Out Runners on 2nd & 3rd

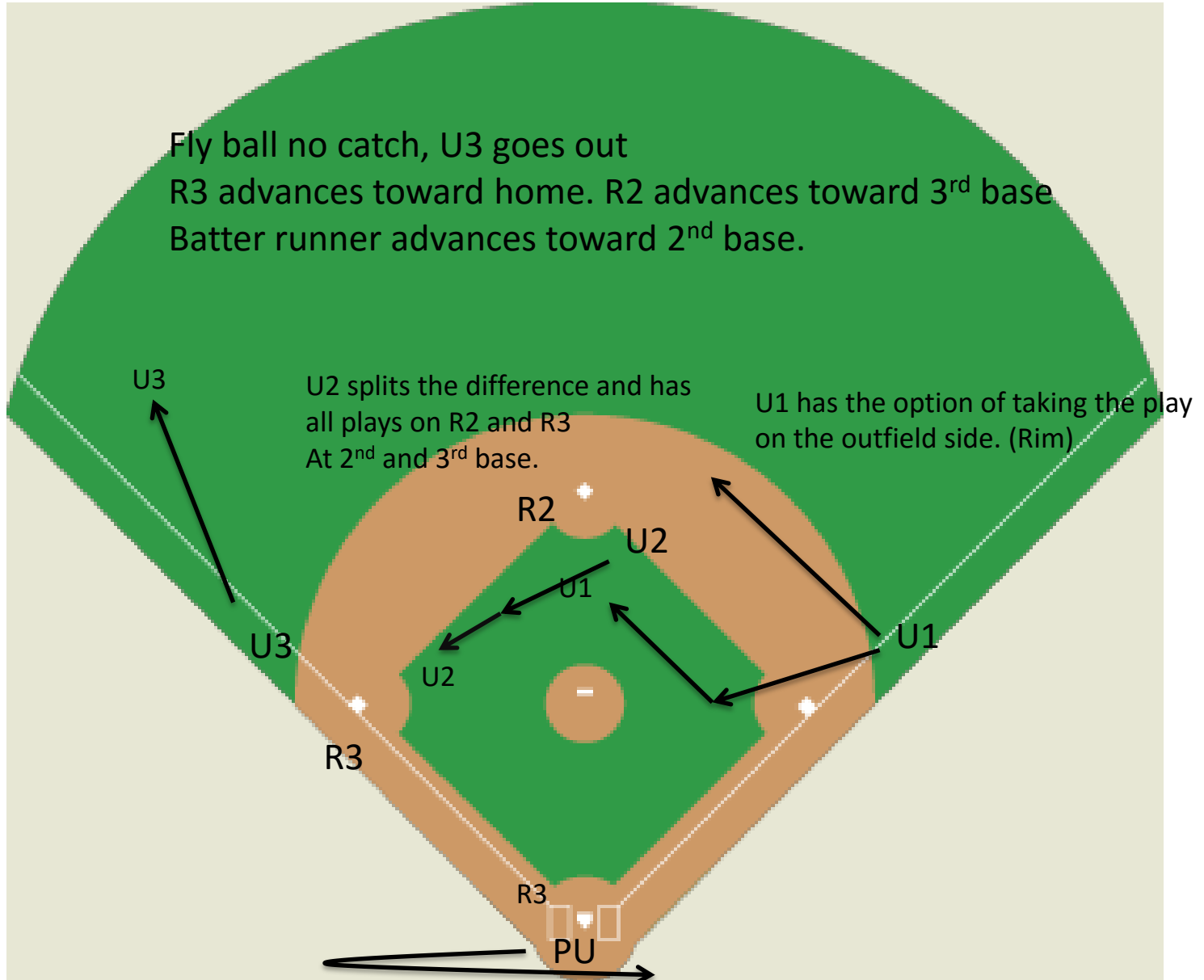




Fly Ball to Right Center Field – No Catch – U1 Goes Out Runners on 2nd & 3rd

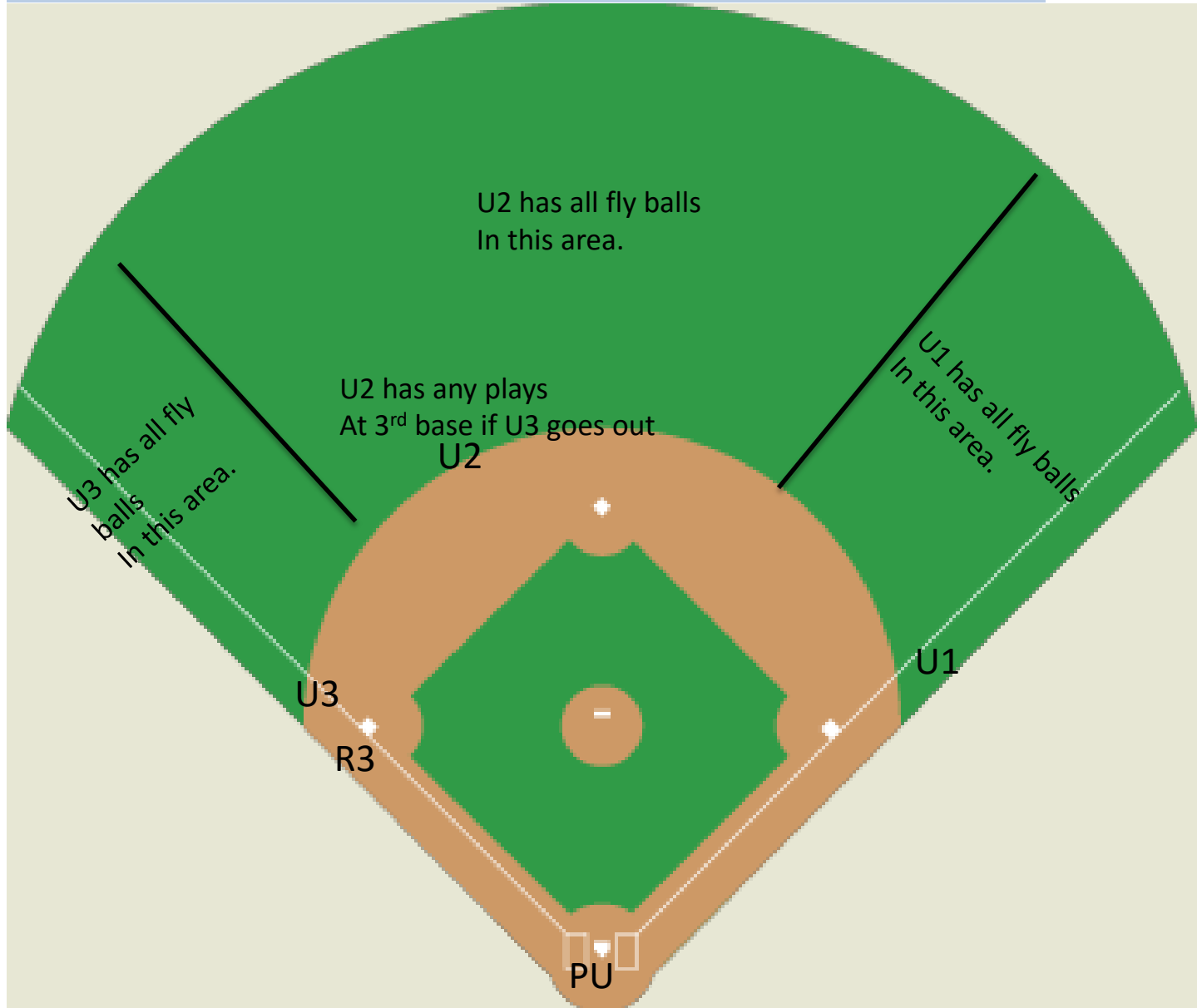


Fly ball no catch, U3 goes out
R3 advances toward home. R2 advances toward 3rd base
Batter runner advances toward 2nd base.



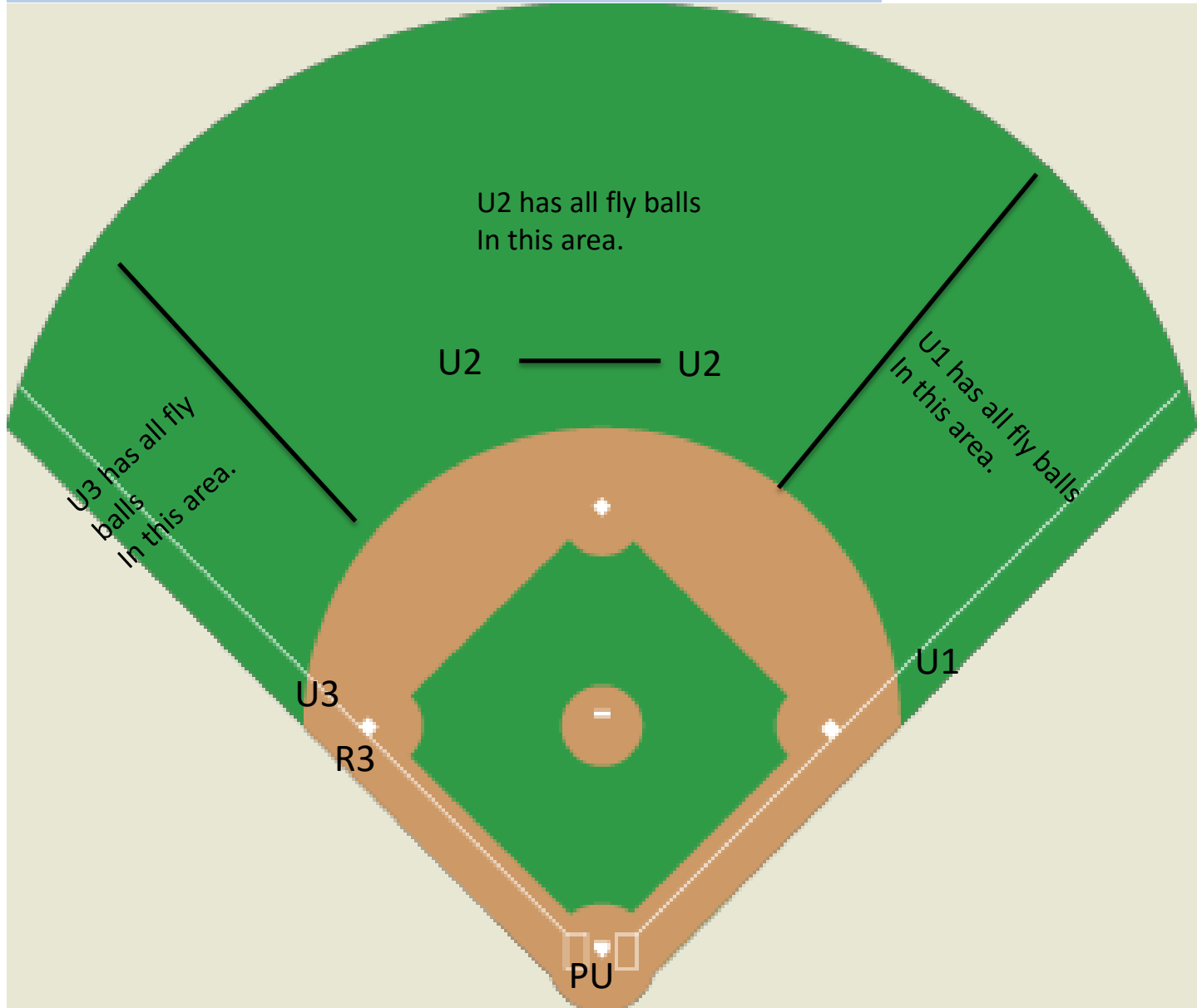
Initial Positions and Outfield Coverage with LESS than 2 outs

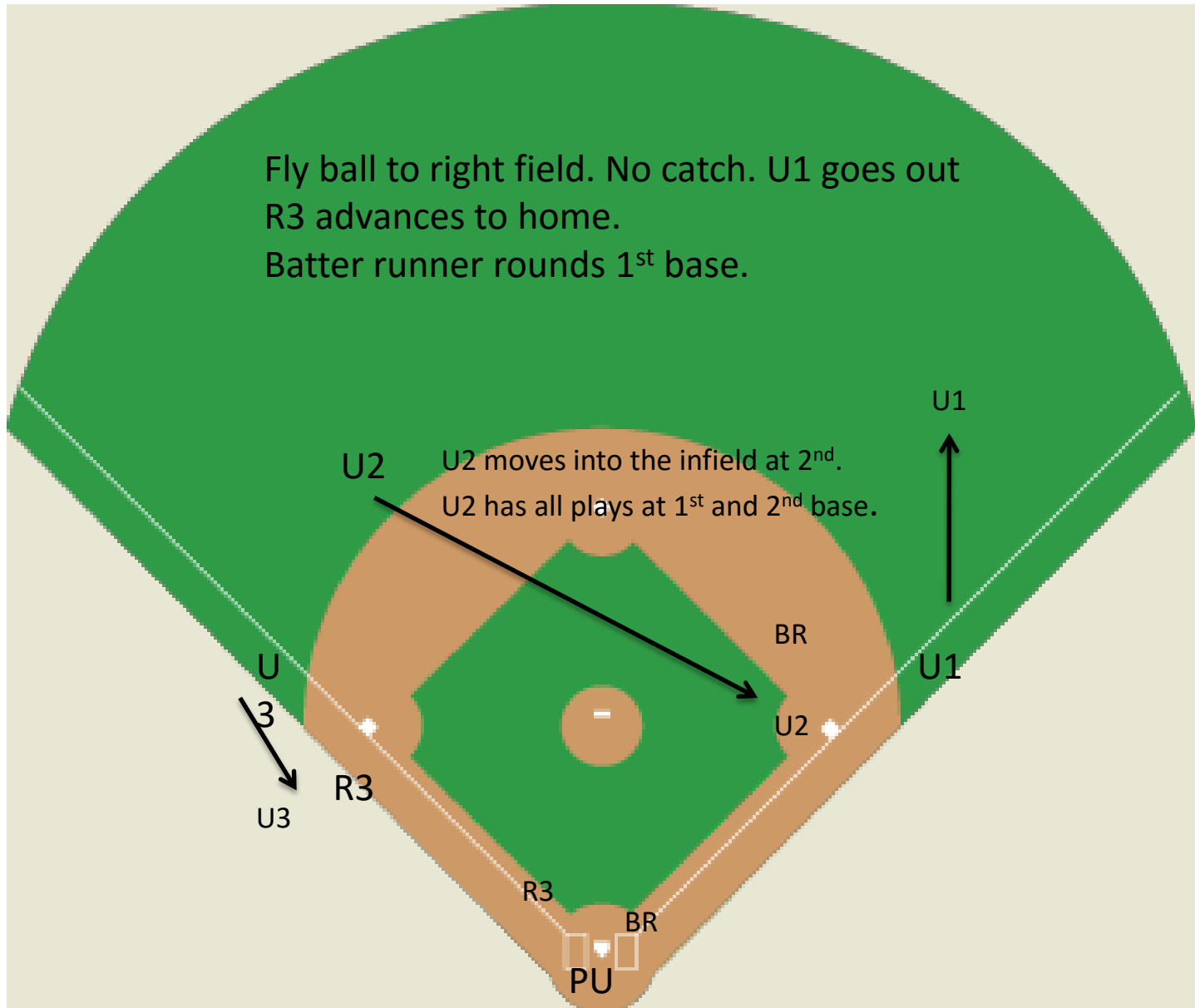
Runner 3rd



Initial Positions and Outfield Coverage with 2 Outs

Runner 3rd





Fly ball to center field. No catch. U2 goes out.
R3 advances to home. Batter runner tries for 3rd.

U2



U2

U1 takes the BR to 2nd base.
Option of taking play inside or outside.

U3



R3

U1



U3 has responsibility for possible tag at 3rd base.

PU

