TROSKY / MONGERO

Baseball IQ / Instincts Answer Sheet

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1. Base runner on 1st and 3rd with 0 or 1 outs, the Runner on 3rd should immediately break toward Home on a ground ball hit back to the pitcher because **the pitcher's responsibility and priority is to throw the ball to 2B for a comebacker double play.** *Note: On a swinging bunt where the pitcher or catcher cannot turn the double play, be sure to stay in place at 3B and not to run into an out at home plate.*

2. When an infielder is in the baseline with the ball, the Base-Runner's priority is to **not get tagged (stop and back up)** because **if the base runner continues to run forward, the infielder will have an easy play.** *Note: In this situation, the baserunning rule is to never run into an out when the infielder is making a play in the baseline.*

3. The Secondary Runner's priority before advancing to the next base is to do what before advancing. **The base runner's priority is to look to the right (A.K.A "Eyes Right") before advancing to the next base. Never assume. Always look before advancing.** *Note: It is very important for the secondary runner to know the out priorities as well as the type of baserunner that's in front of them. Questions to ask, "Are they fast or slow? Are they aggressive or conservative?"*

4. A Base runner going into 3B doesn't want to be the **1st** or **3rd** out at 3B because **if the base runner stops at 2B, they're already in scoring position. Taking a gamble going into 3B with 0 outs and or with 2 outs doesn't make a lot sense because with 0 outs the offense has several opportunities to score the run and with 2 outs the base runner will often score from 2B on a base-hit because they're going on contact.** *Note: It's important for base runners to pre-pitch communicate to themselves (self-talk) the out priorities between pitches.*

5. A Base runner going Home doesn't want to be the **1ˢᵗ** out because **taking a gamble going home with 0 outs doesn't make a lot sense because with 0 outs the offense has several opportunities and ways to score the run.** *Note: It's important for base runners to pre-pitch communicate to themselves (self-talk) the out priorities between pitches.*

6. If the primary base runner tags up, the secondary runner should consider **also tagging up** and **reading the outfielder's throw.** *Note: If the primary runner tags up and advances to the next base, the secondary runner's job is to be completely ready to also advance to the next base. When to advance: 1.) The outfielder makes a high or off-line throw that the relay-man won't be able to catch, 2.) There is no relay-man in place, and 3.) It's going to be a close play and the relay-man will focus on getting the lead runner.*

7. Balls hit in foul territory (in the air), the Base-Runner's priority is to **tag-up** and **consider 4 things; 1.) Tag-up and fake, 2.) Tag-up and go to the next base, 3.) Tag-up and read the throw back into the infield, and 4.) Tag-up and observe the defender (sometimes after making a catch, the defender will forget about the baserunner and the baserunner can catch them off guard and advance to the next base.**