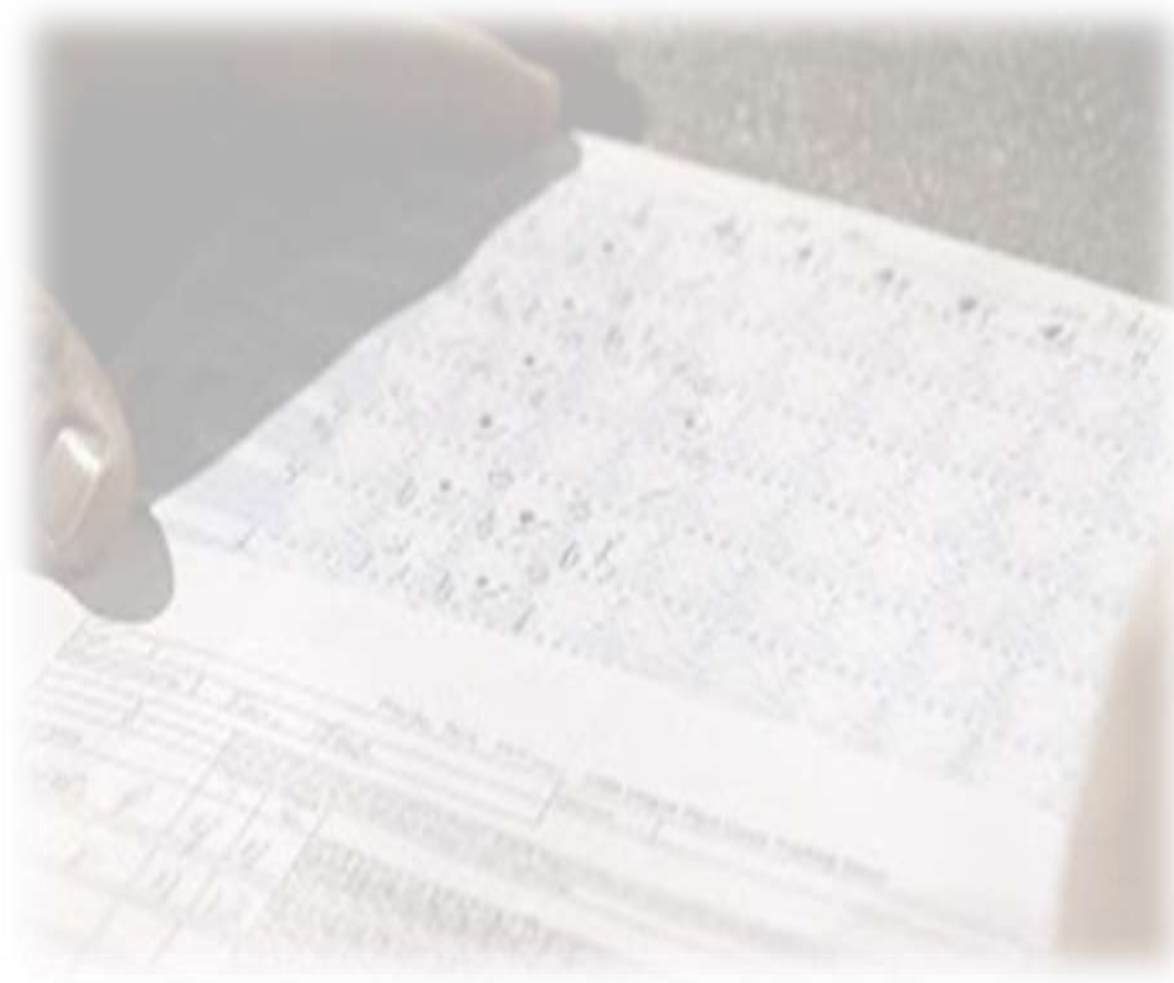




2024 CAPS SCOREKEEPING WORKSHOP





PREREQUISITES

- Download and print sample scoresheet ([Link](#))
- Download scorekeeping workbook ([Link](#))



INTRODUCTION

- Instructors:
 - Debbie Gregory: Kraken (formerly Mavericks) Coach
 - Sebastian Gregory: Player, Umpire.
- Scope of class
 - To learn how to generally score a softball game.
 - While there are many ways and levels of scorekeeping, we are going to keep it simple.
 - Adjusted batting average will be covered in depth in a separate class, but this presentation will include notes and information coaches need to calculate modified batting average for reference.



PURPOSE OF SCOREKEEPING

- Reflect current on-field activity
- Keep track of runs/outs
- Provide data for batting average analysis
- Home team's book is usually the official book
- Guiding your team on opponent hitting history





OVERVIEW

#	Line Up	Pos	1	2	3	4

- **Scoresheet**– use sample downloaded prior to workshop or use one you like
- The **lineup section** is where you put the players’ names and jersey numbers. This is also the section where you can put the player position (optional). There are a few lines so that if you need to substitute in a player, you can put the new player’s name/jersey number on the next line.
- **The inning** is indicated by the **number** at the top of the column. (e.g., 1, 2, 3). Visiting team bats at the top of the inning; home team bats at the bottom of the inning. The boxes on each line have a diamond that represents the field of play.



SCORING/SOFTBALL TERMS

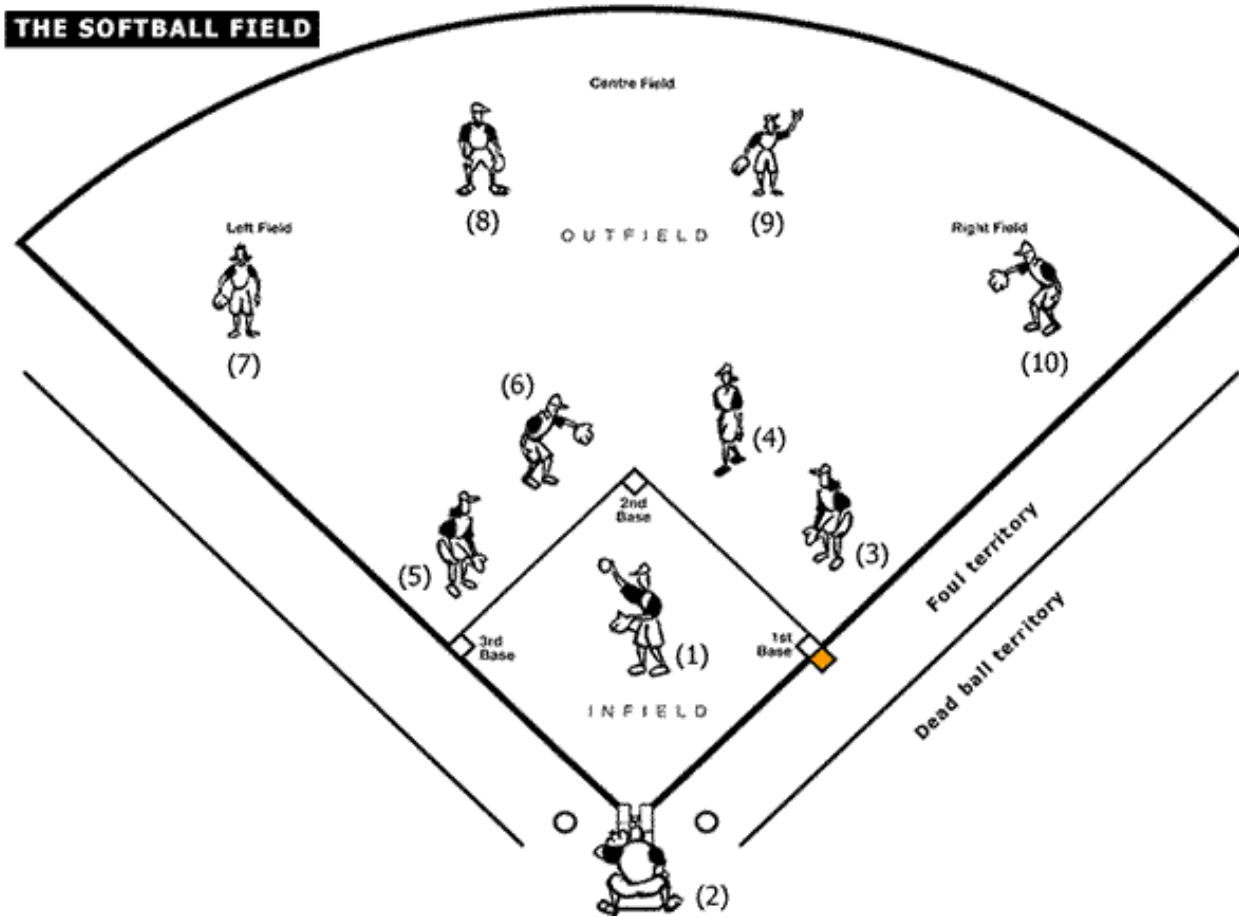
#	Term	Definition
1	1B	Single
2	2B	Double
3	3B	Triple
4	HR	Home Run
5	Run Scored	A runner is safe at home
6	RBI	Run batted in (Indicate how many RBI's if more than one)
7	BB	Walk (base on balls) (Does not count as an at-bat)
8	FC	Fielder's choice (Doesn't count as a hit)
9	①, ②, ③	Out
10	SF or SAC	Sacrifice Fly (Does not count as an at-bat)
11	K	Strike Out: K (swinging) or X (looking)
12	IF	Infield Fly - An infield fly occurs with less than two outs with runners either at 1 st and 2 nd or bases loaded. The batter is out automatically when the umpire believes an infielder can catch a popup with ordinary effort.
13	F+ Outfielder's position number	Fly Out (e.g., F7 – means the left fielder caught the ball for an out)
14	P+ Infielder's position number	Pop Up (e.g., P5 – means third base fielder caught the pop up)
15	Fielder's number + U	Unassisted Out – Fielder's number + U (e.g., 3U means the first base fielder made the out unassisted)
16	Fielder's number + Fielder's number	Ground Out – Fielder's number + Fielder's number. The first number is who fielded the ball, the second is who caught the ball. (Ex.: 6-4 – means the shortstop threw to the second base fielder.)
17	E + the fielder's position number	Error = E + the fielder's number (e.g., E6 – means shortstop made an error on the play)
18	DP	Double play (e.g., 6-4-3 – means the shortstop got the ball threw it to second who made an out then threw to first for the second out)
19	TP	Triple play (e.g., TP6-4-3 – means the shortstop caught the fly ball, threw it to second where the second base fielder made an out then threw to first for the third out.)
20	• or * (or other mark)	Indicates where the batter hit the ball.



POSITION NUMBERS

THE SOFTBALL FIELD

- 1 – Pitcher
- 2 – Catcher
- 3 – 1st Base
- 4 – 2nd Base
- 5 – 3rd Base
- 6 – Shortstop
- 7 – Left Field
- 8 – Left Center
- 9 – Right Center
- 10 – Right Field

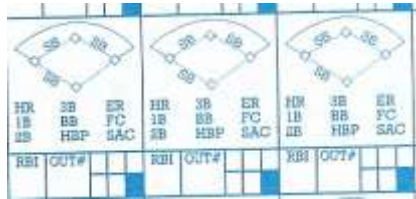




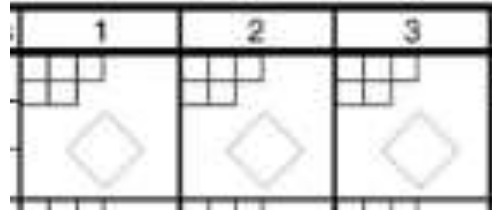
SETTING UP THE BOOK BEFORE THE GAME

- Examples of various types of scorebooks

- Complex:



- Simple:



- Opponent team roster (what do you need?)

- Line Up

- Player Name, Jersey Number
- If no numbers, descriptions: Example: Batter #3 is “RedTop GiantsHat”

- Which team is Home or Away?

- Notation for setting up book



WALK THROUGH


- THE BASICS:
 1. HITS – Record the type: 1B, 2B, 3B, HR
 2. RUNS – Record when a runner scores
 3. WALKS – Important for adjusted batting average (not an at-bat)
 4. OUTS – Note the number of the out and how it was made
 5. FIELDER'S CHOICE – Important for adjusted batting average (not a hit)
 6. SACRIFICE FLY – Important for adjusted batting average (not an at-bat)



SINGLE

The batter hits a line drive that clears the infield and lands in front of the left fielder. The batter-runner advances safely to first base.

- (click anywhere on screen for answer)



#	Line Up	Pos	1						
23	M. VanBuren	LF	<table border="1"><tr><td>X</td><td>X</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>X</td><td>X</td><td></td></tr></table> 	X	X		X	X	
X	X								
X	X								



DOUBLE

The batter hits a fly ball that lands in the gap between the outfielders. The batter-runner rounds first base and runs toward second. The throw from the outfield is late. The batter-runner is safe.

- (click anywhere on screen for answer)

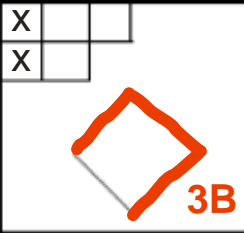
#	Line Up	Pos	1
23	M. VanBuren	LF	
			



TRIPLE

The batter hits a deep fly ball to right center field. It rolls to the fence. By the time it is thrown back into the infield, the player is safe at third.

- (click anywhere on screen for answer)

#	Line Up	Pos	1
23	M. VanBuren	LF	



HOME RUN, RUN SCORED, AND RBI


There are two kinds of home runs (over-the-fence and inside-the-park) but they are both scored the same way. Some divisions don't allow over-the-fence home runs or limit the number per game.

The batter hits a ball that either goes over the fence in fair territory...

OR the batter hits a ball deep into the outfield and before the ball can be thrown back into the infield, the player touches all three bases and home plate with no defensive errors.

Three things are scored in the book: the home run (HR), the run scored (colored in box), and the run batted in (RBI).

#	Line Up	Pos	1
23	M. VanBuren	LF	X X


RBI 1  HR



BASE-ON-BALLS (WALK)

The player is walked and takes 1st base.

- Note: for purposes of computing batting average, this is NOT an at-bat.

#	Line Up	Pos	1
23	M. VanBuren	LF	X X 



RECORD AN OUT

Number of Outs

- Keeping track of the number of outs per inning is important as players and coaches and even umpires forget.
- There are other, more obscure ways of making outs.

Common ways of Making An Out


- Fly Out
- Pop Out
- Unassisted Ground Out
- Ground Out
- Force Out
- Infield Fly
- Double Play
- Triple Play
- Strike Out
- Fielder's Choice
- Sacrifice Fly
- Appeal Play



FLY OUT

The ball is hit to right center. The player playing right center catches the ball, and the batter is called out. It is the first out of the half-inning.

#	Line Up	Pos	1
23	M. VanBuren	LF	X
			X


F9




POP OUT

The ball is hit high in the air but stays in the infield. The fielder at 2nd catches the ball. It is the 2nd out of the half-inning.

#	Line Up	Pos	1
23	M. VanBuren	LF	X
			X


P4




UNASSISTED GROUND OUT

The batter hits a ball up the first base line. The player fielding 1st base stops the ground ball and steps on the 1st base bag. The batter-runner is called out. It is the 1st out of the inning.

#	Line Up	Pos	1
23	M. VanBuren	LF	X
			X






GROUND OUT

The batter hits a ground ball to shortstop, who fields it and throws to 1st. The catch is made and the batter-runner is called out for the 2nd out of the half-inning.

- **Advanced Scorekeeping:** The shortstop is credited with an assist and the fielder at 1st is credited with the put-out.

#	Line Up	Pos	1
23	M. VanBuren	LF	X X 



FORCE OUT

Force outs can happen at every base. This example shows how to notate what happened to the baserunner, NOT the batter; that will be covered when we discuss Fielder's Choice.

With a runner at first base and one out, the batter puts the ball in play. Second baseman (4) stops the grounder and flips the ball to the shortstop (6) covering second base. The runner from first is forced out for the second out of the inning.

#	Line Up	Pos	1
23	M. VanBuren	LF	X X



INFIELD FLY

With less than 2 outs and runners at 1st and 2nd (or bases loaded), the batter hits an infield pop-up that can be caught with normal effort. The umpire declares “Infield fly! Batter is out!” The ball is still live, and the baserunners can advance at their own risk until time is called.

#	Line Up	Pos	1						
23	M. VanBuren	LF	<table border="1"><tr><td>X</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>X</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> 	X			X		
X									
X									
#		Pos							
6	J. Tyler	SS	<table border="1"><tr><td>X</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>X</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> 	X			X		
X									
X									
#		Pos							
16	W. H. Harrison	RF	<table border="1"><tr><td>X</td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>X</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> 	X			X		
X									
X									



DOUBLE PLAY

- With a runner at first, batter hits a ground ball to shortstop. Shortstop throws to 2nd base. The runner from 1st is forced out at 2nd.
- 2nd throws to 1st and the batter-runner is out at 1st.
- **Advanced scorekeeping: Who gets credit for the assist and the put-out on this play?**
 - Shortstop gets an assist. 2nd gets a put-out and an assist. 1st gets a put-out.

#	Line Up	Pos	1		
23	M. VanBuren	LF	X		
			X		
					DP 6-4
					① 1B
#		Pos			
6	J. Tyler	SS	X		
			X		
					DP 4-3
					②



TRIPLE PLAY

Though rare, this does happen! There have to be no outs.

- With runners at 2nd and 1st, the batter hits a ground ball to 3rd base.
- 3rd fields the ground ball and steps on 3rd base, forcing out the runner from 2nd, then throws to 2nd base.
- The runner from 1st is forced out at 2nd. The fielder at 2nd then throws to 1st base.
- The batter-runner is called out.
- **Advanced Question: Which fielder gets credit for what?**
 - 3rd gets a put-out and an assist; 2nd gets a put-out and an assist; 1st gets a put-out

#	Line Up	Pos	1								
23	M. VanBuren	LF	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>X</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>X</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>TP U5</p> <p>1B</p>	X				X			
X											
X											
#		Pos									
6	J. Tyler	SS	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>X</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>X</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>TP 5-4</p> <p>1B</p>	X				X			
X											
X											
#		Pos									
16	W. H. Harrison	RF	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>X</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>X</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>TP 4-3</p> <p>3</p>	X				X			
X											
X											



STRIKE OUT – SWINGING, LOOKING AND FOUL OUT

- Batter strikes out swinging.
- Batter strikes out looking.
- Batter strikes out because with 2 strikes and no courtesy foul, batter hits a foul ball.

#	Line Up	Pos	1
23	M. VanBuren	LF	X X K - FO
			②



FIELDER'S CHOICE



- With a runner at 1st, the batter hits the ball to shortstop. In the scorekeeper's judgement, the shortstop could throw to 1st or 2nd for the force out; if the **shortstop throws to 2nd** and the **batter is safe at 1st** that is scored as a Fielder's Choice (FC).
- It is **NOT** credited as a hit.
- But it **IS** credited as an at-bat.

#	Line Up	Pos	1
23	M. VanBuren	LF	
#		Pos	
6	J. Tyler	SS	



SACRIFICE FLY




- With a runner at 3rd (and less than 2 outs), the batter hits a deep fly ball to left center, which is caught by the left center fielder for the out. The runner tags 3rd after the ball is first touched by the left center fielder and runs home to score.
- This is not considered an at-bat
- Advanced Note: the batter is credited with an RBI.

#	Line Up	Pos	1						
23	M. VanBuren	LF	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>X</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>X</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table> 	X			X		
X									
X									
#		Pos							
6	J. Tyler	SS	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>X</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>X</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table> 	X			X		
X									
X									



END OF THE HALF-INNING

- After the third out of the half-inning is made, draw a diagonal line in the bottom of the last batter's box indicating the end of the half-inning.

#	Line Up	Pos	1						
23	M. VanBuren	LF	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>X</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> 2-4 	X			X	X	
X									
X	X								
#		Pos							
6	J. Tyler	SS	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>X</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>X</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table> U5 	X			X		
X									
X									
#		Pos							
16	W. H. Harrison	RF	<table border="1"> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table> F10 						





IF YOU BAT AROUND IN ONE INNING

- If every batter in the line-up bats in one inning and the line up starts over, move to the top of the next column. Scratch out the inning number and write in the number of the current inning. Continue renumbering as needed.

#	Line Up	Pos	1	1	2	3
	Mordo					
			2B	1B		
	Beth					
			1B			
	Oscar					
			HR		1B	
	Rog					



KNOWLEDGE CHECK

Play 3

Write the answers on the downloaded/printed score sheet or just draw the diamond on a blank sheet of paper and fill it in.

- Play 1: With two strikes and a ball, batter hits the ball between left and left center. Rounds 1st and is called safe at 2nd base.
- Play 2: With a runner at 2nd, batter hits a line drive to 3rd base; 3rd catches the ball and throws to 2nd base. The runner is off the bag and forced out at 2nd base.
- Play 3: With a runner on 3rd, the batter hits a fly ball deep to left field; left fielder catches the ball. Runner tags 3rd after the left fielder first touched the ball and runs home. Left fielder throws to catcher, who tags the runner out.

#	Line Up	Pos	1						
23	M. VanBuren	LF	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>X</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>X</td> <td>X</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>DP 7-2</p> <p>3B</p>	X			X	X	
X									
X	X								
#									
23									
#		Pos							
6	J. Tyler	SS	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>X</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>X</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p>DP F7</p> <p>1</p>	X			X		
X									
X									



POP QUIZ!

1. Is a fielder's choice (with no error) considered a hit? Is it an at-bat?

1. A fielder's choice is **NOT** scored as a hit.

2. But it **IS** an at-bat.

2. What do you do if you notice the other team is not batting in the correct order?

Notify the coach of the questionable at-bat; they will decide when to appeal to the umpire. After the at-bat is completed, it's an out. Before the at-bat is completed, the correct batter is switched out with no penalty.

What are the six most important things to be recorded in the scorebook?

Runs, hits, walks, outs, fielder's choice, and sacrifice fly.



PRACTICE SCOREKEEPING

- Alabama vs. UCLA (2021 NCAA Women's World Series):
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s8qxYGWVs6g>
- JMU vs. Oklahoma (2021 NCAA Women's World Series):
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IN68WRY09uA>



Questions?