

Nine Principles of Umpiring

1. **PAUSE, READ AND REACT**
Read the position of the **fielder** to help determine the play.
2. **PIVOT**
Enables you to get into position on the field.
3. **WATCH THE BALL, GLANCE AT THE RUNNERS**
You must know when to take your eyes off the ball.
4. **CHEST TO THE BALL**
Face the ball, unless you are glancing at runners. You won't miss the "hidden" ball trick if you do this.
5. **ANGLE/DISTANCE**
Get as much distance as the play will allow. Angle over distance.
6. **BE SET: HANDS ON KNEES OR STANDING SET**
You must be set to see the play and make the call. If you are moving, your eyes are moving. Making the call is a mental process.
7. **ADJUST**
Constantly.
8. **OPEN THE GATE**
Know when to do it.
9. **ECHO YOUR PARTNER**
Know responsibilities: Balks, overthrows, Time. Knowing these will lead to much less confusion on the field.