

Know the game!  
**T-Ball** (softbal)

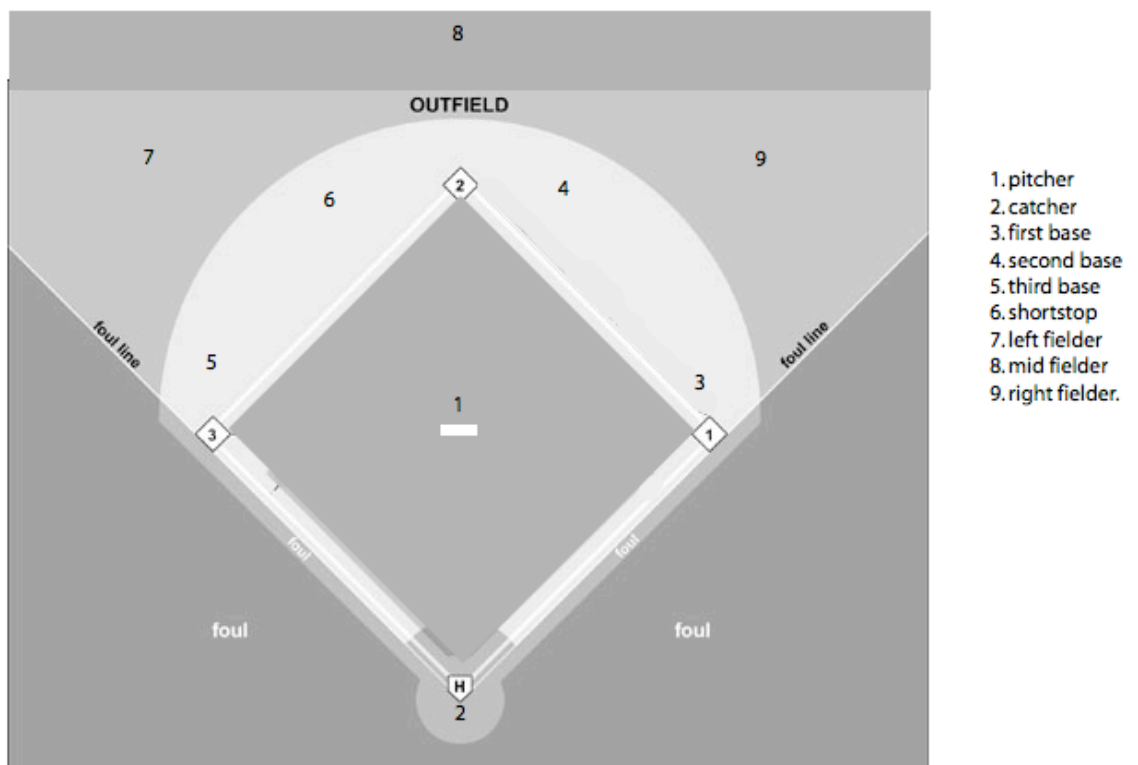


**T-Ball** is played by two teams. Each team consists of 9 players. In turn each team takes the field and the other team bats. An **inning** is played when each team has had a turn in batting and fielding. A match consists of 9 innings.

The batter's objective is to reach base and eventually score. A runner advances at his own risk around the bases. The team scores a point when a player safely touches first, second, third and home base before three **outs** are made.

The fielder's objective is to prevent the runner to reach base. If the fielding team makes 3 outs, they become batting team and can try to reach base and score points.

### ***The field and player positions.***



## The Batter

The batter tries to hit the ball from the **batting tee** into **fair territory** of the field. If he succeeds he tries to reach first base.

What is fair territory?

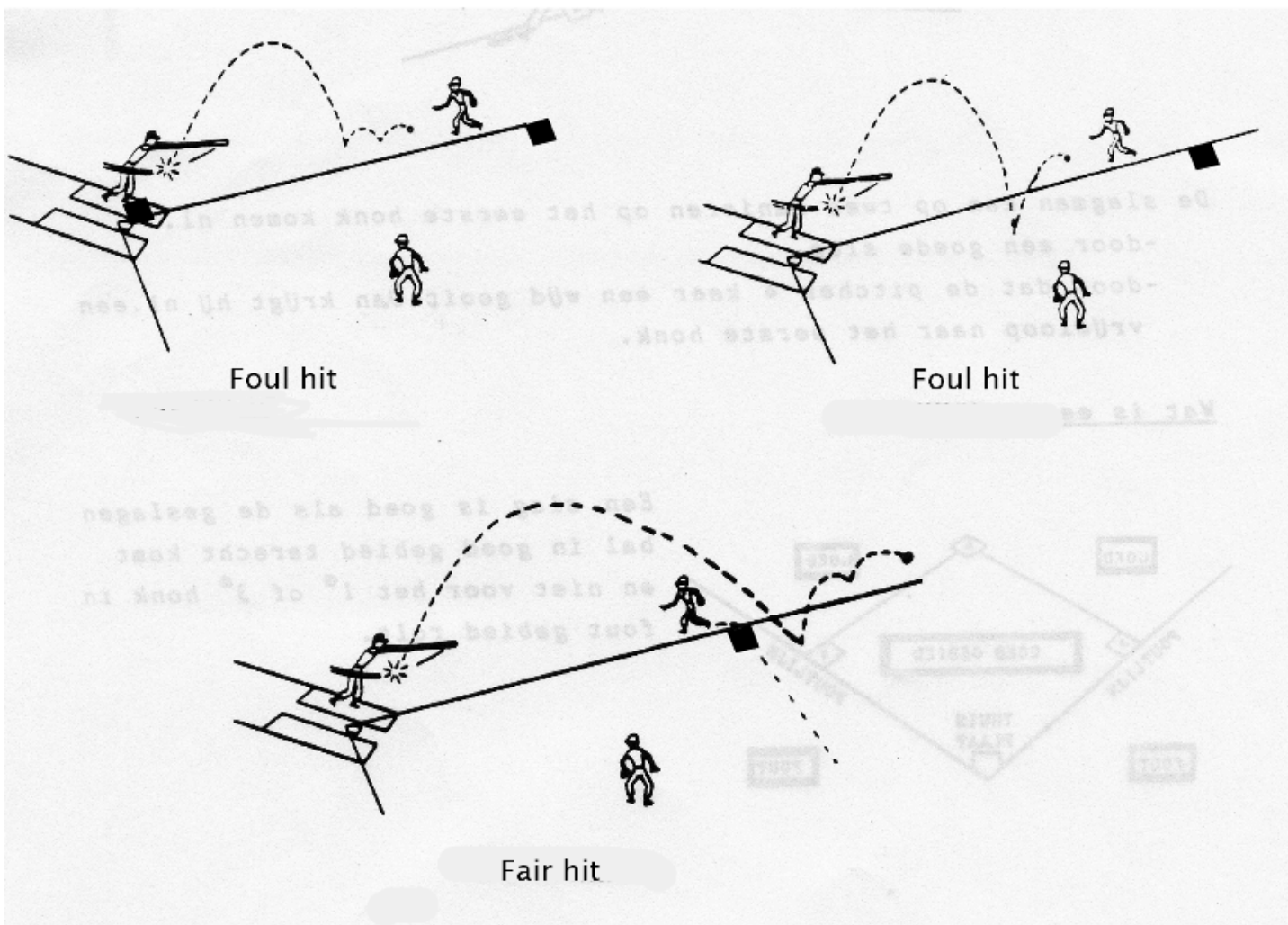
What is a good hit?

**A hit is correct if the ball lands in fair territory, and doesn't roll into foul territory before first or third base.**



**Batting from a batting-tee**

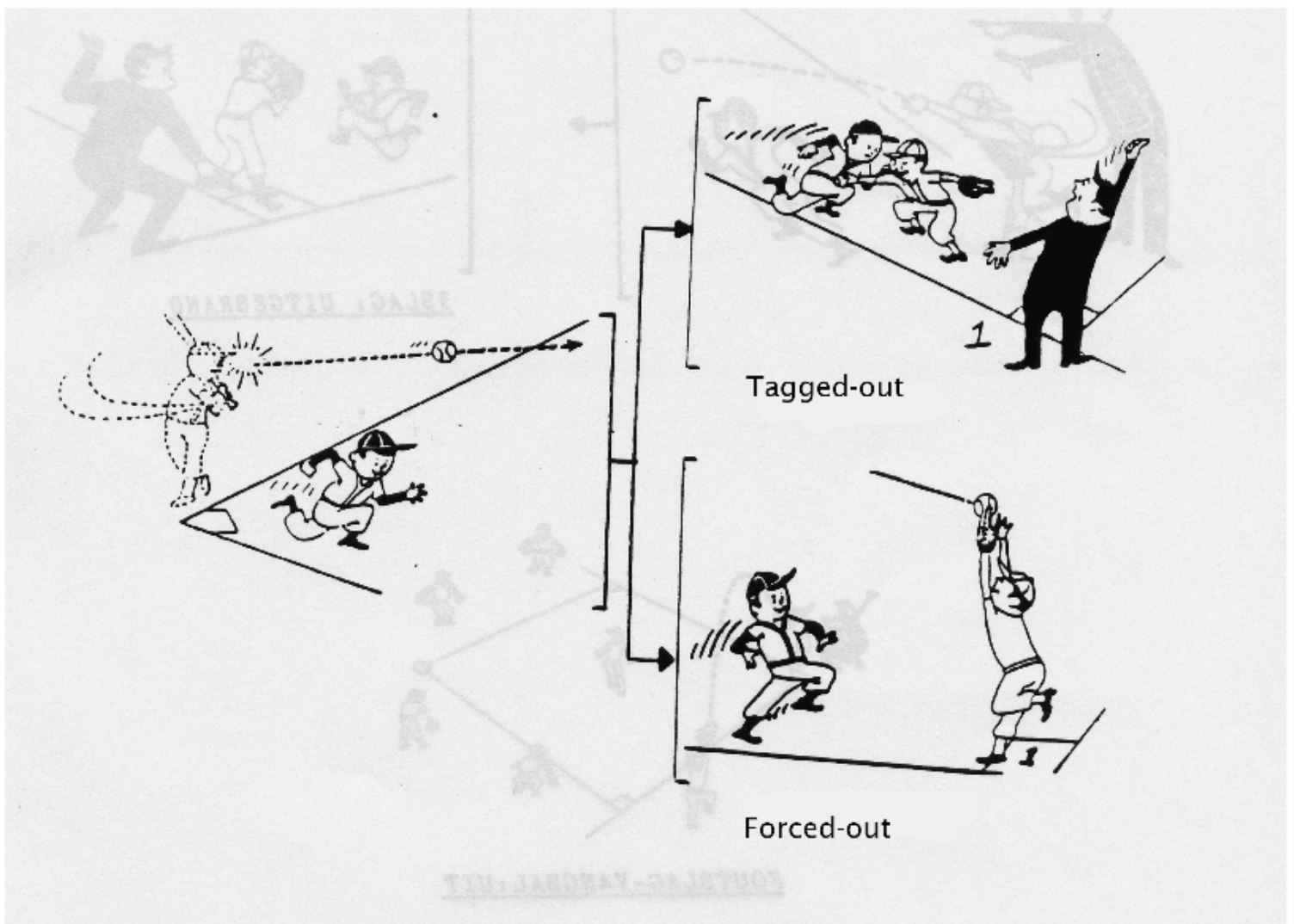
Some examples:

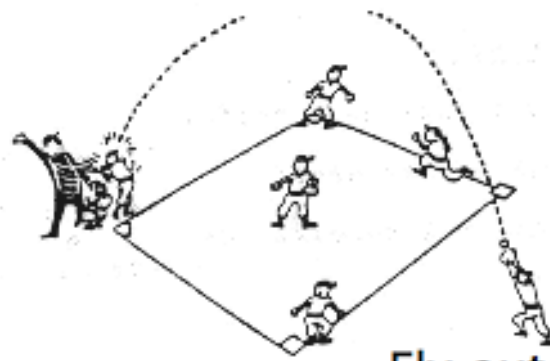


An out can be recorded in 4 different ways:

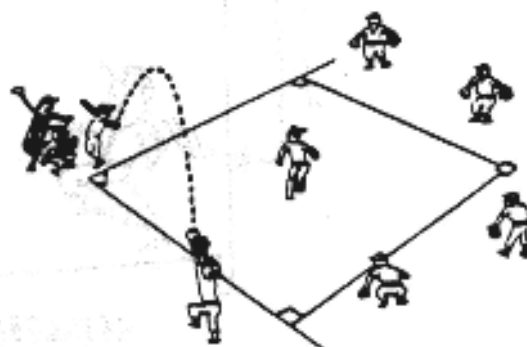
1. **Strikeout**: when the batter misses the ball three times.
  - If the ball is hit into fair territory, but the tee falls over, the hit is considered a foul ball.
  - A foul ball is considered a **strike**.
  - A foul ball can never become a **strikeout**.
2. **Force-out**: when the ball reaches first base before the batter/runner.
3. **Tag-out**: when the batter/runner gets tagged before he reaches first base.
4. **Fly-out**: when the ball gets caught before hitting the ground.
  - If the ball is caught in foul territory the batter is considered Fly-out.

Some examples:





Fly-out/caught-out



Fly-out in foul territory

## ***The base runner***

A batter becomes **base runner** after a hit into fair territory.

There is only one base runner allowed on a base. **It is prohibited to overtake another base runner.**

Because of this you must pay attention to what the batter after you is doing.

If you are a runner on first base and the batter after you hits the ball, he automatically gets rewarded first base. As an effect of this, you are forced to run to second base.

This is called a **forced-run**.

In this situation you can be **forced out**, if the fielding team delivers the ball to second base before you reach it. In every other situation the runner must be **tagged-out**. Of course you can get tagged-out in a forced-run also.

In case of a **fly-out** the base-runner is not allowed to proceed to the next base, he must return to the base he started from.

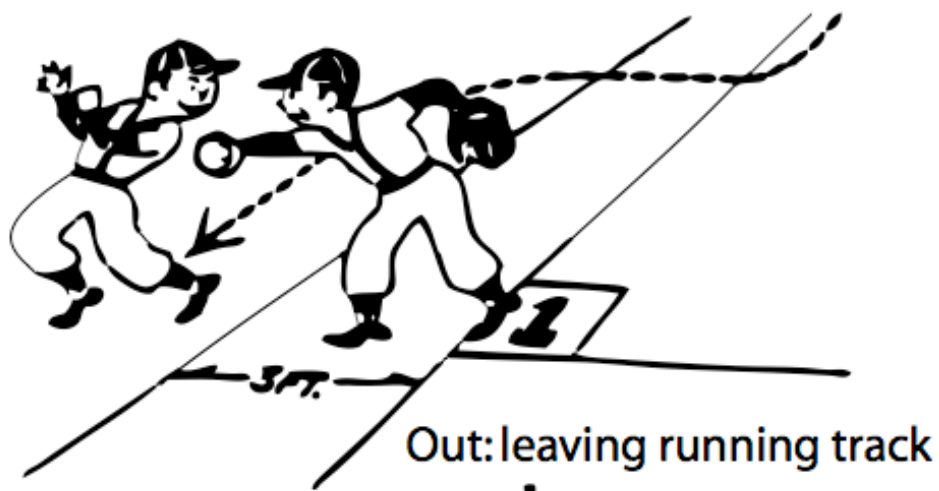
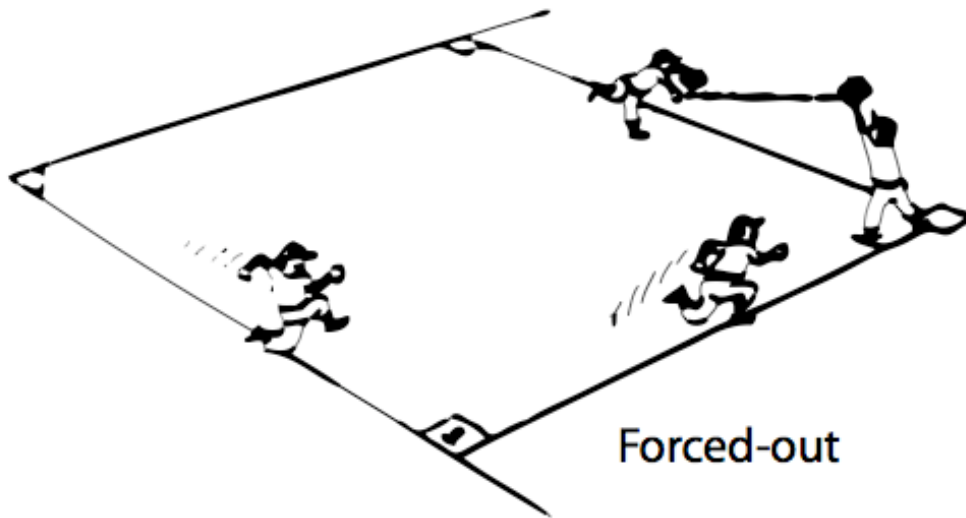
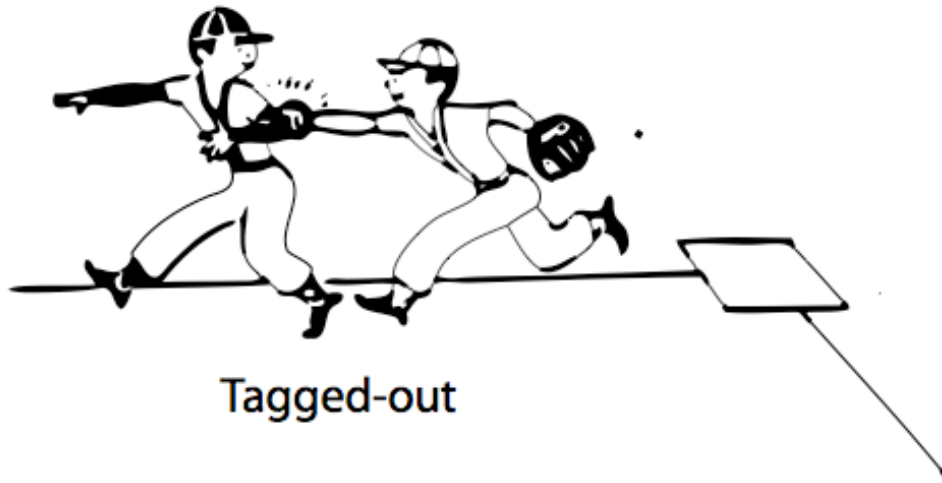
In case of a **foul-hit** the base-runner must also return to the base he started from.

### **When is the base-runner considered an out?**

1. If he gets **tagged** when not touching a base. Exception is first base, you are allowed to run past it in a straight line, and make a u-turn to the right, and return to first base. If you turn left you are considered to try to reach second base and therefore can be tagged out.
2. If he gets **forced-out** during a **forced-run**.
3. If he **leaves his running track** in an attempt to avoid being tagged-out.

Some examples,





**Score points.**

To score a point the base-runner must successively reach first-, second-, third- and home-base. If he succeeds without being tagged, or forced-out, he has scored a point. It can occur that a **point isn't awarded**, that is if at the same time the **third out** is being made.

