

Volba v obraně (*fielder's choice*)

Seminář zapisovatelů

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19. února 2024

Česká baseballová asociace
Zapisovatelská komise

Volba v obraně (*fielder's choice*)

3-43 Symboly

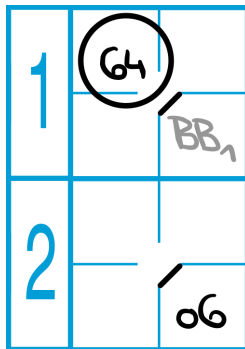
Volba v obraně (*fielder's choice*) – symboly

Obsazený míč

Occupied ball

The abbreviation “O” is usually used to confirm that the **batter-runner's advance to first base** occurred as a result of the fielder's choice to put out a preceding runner. An essential prerequisite is that, during the action, the chosen runner is put out or saved only by an error.

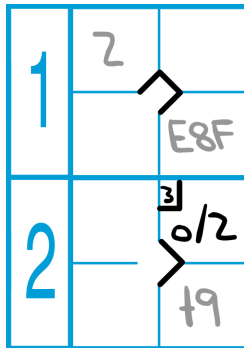
In fact, “occupied ball” always follows a fielding chance, whether the outcome is a putout or an error.



Volba v obraně (*fielder's choice*) – symboly

Obranná lhostejnost *Defensive indifference*

The notation “O/” is used to account for any **advance by a runner** at the choice of the defending team. “O/” is followed by the identifying number of the fielder who made the choice.

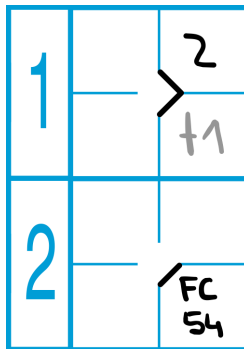


Volba v obraně (*fielder's choice*) – symboly

Volba v obraně *Fielder's choice*

“FC” is also used in the first base square to indicate that the batter-runner’s advance to first was as a result of fielder’s choice. Unlike the occupied ball notation, however, which is always preceded by one or more fielding chances, “FC” is used when the alternative play, despite being correctly executed by the defense, does not result in a putout.

Therefore, fielder’s choice shall not be considered as a fielding chance (defensive opportunity).



Volba v obraně (*fielder's choice*) – symboly

Příhoz

Throw

This is generally used to account for an advance by a runner (including the batter-runner) who, reaching base on a batted ball, takes advantage of a play on a preceding runner to advance.



Obsazený míč (*occupied ball*)

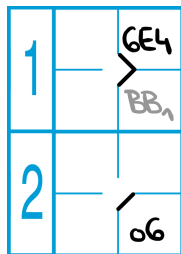
Obsazený míč (*occupied ball*)

3-43 Příklady

Obsazený míč (*occupied ball*) – příklady

Manuál 3-44

The forced runner reaches base safely thanks to a catching error by the second baseman receiving a throw from the shortstop. In both cases the occupied ball notation is used after a fielding chance.



Obsazený míč (*occupied ball*) – příklady

Manuál 3-44

With less than two out and runners on first and third, the third batter hits a fly ball to the center fielder, who muffs an easy catch.

While the lead runner scores, the outfielder recovers the ball and assists the shortstop in putting out the next runner, who is forced to advance by the error.

Since OBR 9.12(d)(4) states that no error is charged when a runner is subsequently forced out, the batter-runner's advance to first base is recorded as an occupied ball.

...



Obsazený míč (*occupied ball*) – příklady

Manuál 3-44

...

The sacrifice fly in the example indicates that the run would have been scored even without the outfielder's error.

This is not the case for the *second example*, where the absence of any notation of the sacrifice fly and the error for the arrival on home base demonstrates clearly that without the error no run would have been scored [OBR 9.12].



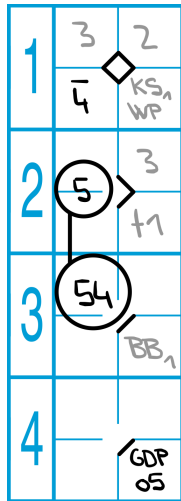
Obsazený míč (*occupied ball*) – příklady

Manuál 3-45

With no men out and bases full, the third baseman recovers the ground ball hit by the fourth batter and, after touching his base, assists the second baseman in closing the double play.

The batter-runner's advance to first base is noted with the "occupied ball" symbol, along with "GDP" for grounded into double play.

The first runner's advance is entirely legal although the run cannot be counted as having been batted in.

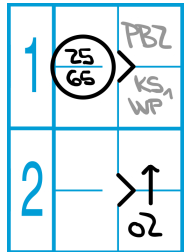


Obsazený míč (*occupied ball*) – příklady

Manuál 3-45

The batter-runner, after having reached first base on fielder's choice, takes advantage of the ongoing rundown play to continue to second.

This additional advance is noted with an arrow.



Obsazený míč (*occupied ball*) – příklady

Manuál 3-45

The first batter reaches base thanks to a bungled catch by an outfielder, and is forced to second when the next batter hits a single.

On a batted ball from the third batter, the shortstop assists the third baseman in putting out the first runner.

In this case also, the way the action developed gave the scorer the absolute certainty that the fielder could have put out the runner who was forced to second, rather than the first runner. For this reason, the runner's advance to second base is recorded as a fielder's choice, rather than with the batting order number of the batter.

1	65	2 E8F
2		06 +4
3		06

Obsazený míč (*occupied ball*) – příklady

Manuál 3-45

With runners on second and third, the catcher drops the third strike but recovers it in time to assist the pitcher to put out the runner who has just left third base.

The batter-runner arrives safely on first base, as indicated by “KS₁ O2” (assuming that this is the first strikeout for the current pitcher).

The advance by the runner on second is noted with “O2” as the provision of rule 9.13(b) Comment.

1	2	19
	21	◇
2	02	T75 1
		17
3		KS ₁ 02

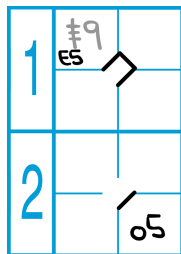
Obsazený míč (*occupied ball*) – příklady

Manuál 3-45

The batter hits a ground ball to the third baseman, who tags the runner on third as he tries to retouch base.

In the encounter, however, the ball is dropped and the umpire calls “Ball on the ground”. The runner on third returns safely to the base and the third baseman is charged with an error. The error is decisive and must be noted in small characters in the third base square.

This type of error will always be encountered on third or second base, and should not be confused with an error that prolongs a time at bat which, although it is recorded in the same manner, is written in the first base square.



Obranná lhostejnost (*defensive indifference*)

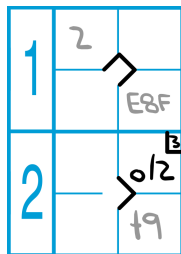
Obranná lhostejnost (*defensive indifference*)

3-47 Příklady

Obranná lhostejnost (*defensive indifference*) – příklady

Manuál 3-48

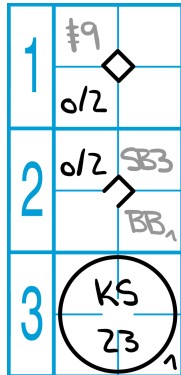
Despite having seen that the runner on first is attempting to steal a base, the catcher makes no attempt to oppose it. The official scorer judges that there is no legitimate strategic motive not to make the throw, so it is a defensive indifference (undefended steal). The runner advances to second and the play is therefore recorded with "O/2".



Obranná lhostejnost (*defensive indifference*) – příklady

Manuál 3-48

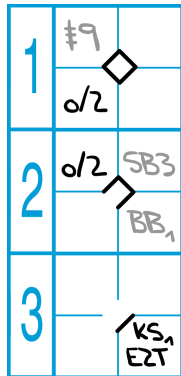
With runners on second and third, the catcher drops the third strike. He succeeds in recovering it and putting out the batter-runner, but the other runners reach base safely. According to rule 9.12(f)(2) this will be scored as a fielder's choice.



Obranná lhostejnost (*defensive indifference*) – příklady

Manuál 3-48

It follows that the fielder's choice would also be used when, in a similar action, the batter-runner reaches base safely on "KS E2T" or "KS 2E3".



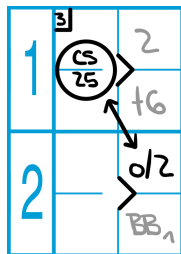
Obranná lhostejnost (*defensive indifference*) – příklady

Manuál 3-49

The attempted steal fails because of the putout on third base. The other runner's advance is therefore annotated with the symbol "O/2".

The same notation would be made even if the putout had failed because of an error.

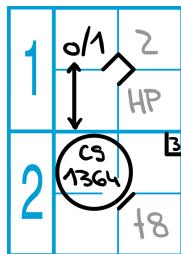
Put an arrow between the attempted steal and the O/2 to show that it happened during the same play.



Obranná lhostejnost (*defensive indifference*) – příklady

Manuál 3-49

The runner on first base is put out in a rundown play following a pickoff. The symbol "O/1" records the other runner's advance to third base.



Obranná lhostejnost (*defensive indifference*) – příklady

Manuál 3-50

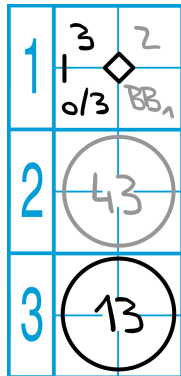
There is one man out and a runner on second base.

The ground ball to the infield by the third man in the line-up is run down and recovered by the pitcher, who quickly assists the first baseman to make a very close putout of the batter-runner.

In the headlong rush the first baseman hits his foot hard against the base and is seriously hurt.

The incident prevents him from stopping the runner from advancing, and the runner subsequently runs home.

...



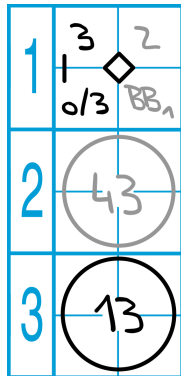
Obranná lhostejnost (*defensive indifference*) – příklady

Manuál 3-50

...

It should be noted that the umpire, after having called out the batter-runner, did not feel it necessary to suspend the game, not having noticed any reason to blame any particular player.

The example clearly shows the runners' advances according to the various phases of the game from which they originated: the advance to third on a hit and the continuation to home base due to the fielder's indifference (in this case he was not in a position to check the advance, and it was certainly not through his own technical failings or errors).



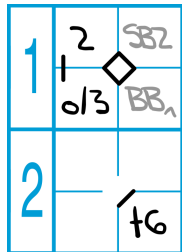
Obranná lhostejnost (*defensive indifference*) – příklady

Manuál 3-50

With no men out and second base occupied, the pitcher deflects the ground ball hit by the batter, forcing the shortstop who was running up to intervene, off course.

The shortstop nevertheless recovers the ball and throws to first base, where the batter-runner arrives safely.

The first baseman, considering the decision unfair, strenuously contests the umpire's decision, ignoring the fact that the lead runner takes the opportunity to run home. This advance, which is entirely legal, is recorded with "O/3" as it was determined by the first baseman's indifference.



Volba v obraně (*fielder's choice*)

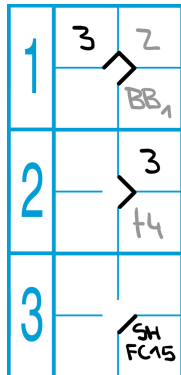
Volba v obraně (*fielder's choice*)

3-51 Příklady

Volba v obraně (*fielder's choice*) – příklady

Manuál 3-52

With first and second bases occupied, on a bunt by the ninth batter the pitcher tries unsuccessfully to put out the forced runner on third, thus giving the batter-runner the opportunity to reach first base.

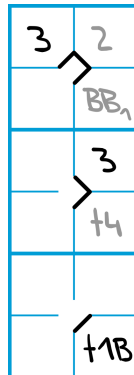
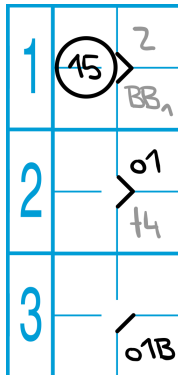


Volba v obraně (*fielder's choice*) – příklady

Manuál 3-53

If, in the action described above, the lead runner had been put out (or had reached base safely on an error by one of the two fielders who took part in the action), the batter-runner's arrival on first base would have been recorded as an "occupied ball".

The *right example* shows what happens when there is no opportunity to retire any of the runners.

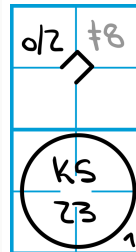
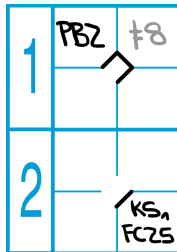


Volba v obraně (*fielder's choice*) – příklady

Manuál 3-53

The second batter swings at the third strike, which is missed by the catcher. Despite recovering the ball in time to make the putout on first, the catcher tries to make the putout on first, the catcher tries to put out the runner who left his base on the passed ball. The runner reaches base safely.

...



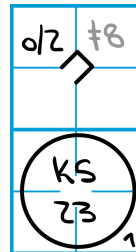
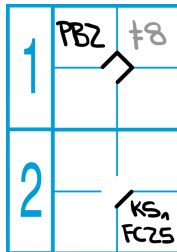
Volba v obraně (*fielder's choice*) – příklady

Manuál 3-53

...

The advance to third occurs on a passed ball, while the batter-runner's advance to first is recorded as "FC", preceded by the strike and the cumulative strikeout number, and followed by the number of the catcher who made the throw and the number of the base to which the alternative play was made.

The *right example* shows the effects of a successful play for first base. No passed ball is charged to the catcher, because of the out.



Příhoz (*throw*)

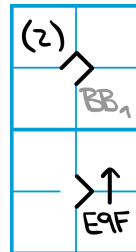
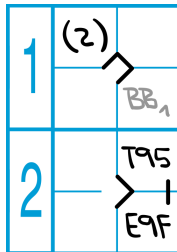
Příhoz (*throw*)

3-54 Příklady

Příhoz (*throw*) – příklady

Manuál 3-55

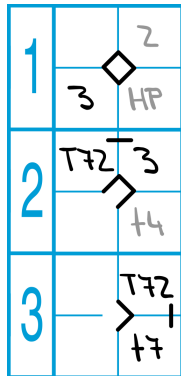
In the example the batter-runner takes advantage of a throw by the outfielder to advance to second, while in the *right example* the same advance is a direct consequence of an error.



Příhoz (*throw*) – příklady




Manuál 3-55

On the hit the lead runner scores, while the other runner and the batter-runner both reach an extra base when the outfielder throws to home base in the dubious attempt to prevent a run from being scored.



Otázky?

1		
2		
3		
4		

-  **Kulhánek, David:** *Oficiální pravidla baseballu.*
ČBA, Česko, 2023.
-  **Paini, Anna Maria:** *WBSC Scorers' manual.*
WBSC, Itálie, 2016.
-  **Steijger, Linda:** *CEB Scoring clinic: Fielder's choice.*
CEB, Nizozemsko, 2016.