

# Working as a Crew

**USA SOFTBALL™**





**USA SOFTBALL™**



# Close Call



**USA SOFTBALL™**





**USA SOFTBALL™**



# When to Conference

- Umpire judgment differs from umpire to umpire.
- **You must have confidence in your ability as an umpire to make the right call.**
- Do coaches have the right to ask you to go for help on a judgment call?
- Do you have to go for help when a coach ask you to on a judgment call?
- No, it's your choice to ask for help or not on a judgment call.

**USA SOFTBALL™**



# When to Conference

- We should not ask for help on a judgment call just to appease the coach.
- When getting in position to make a call, your goal is?
- To get an unobstructed view of the play.
- If you are in position and all four elements (base, ball, offence and defense) were clearly seen, **have confidence and stand by your call.**
- Explain to the coach that you were in position, you saw the entire play, and it's your call. Let's play ball!!

**USA SOFTBALL™**



# Who Attends

- If you are working two umpire mechanics, it is not fair to go to your partner and ask “Do you have a safe or an out” on a judgment call.
- What happens if you called an out and your partner has a safe?
- Who is right and who is wrong?

**USA SOFTBALL™**



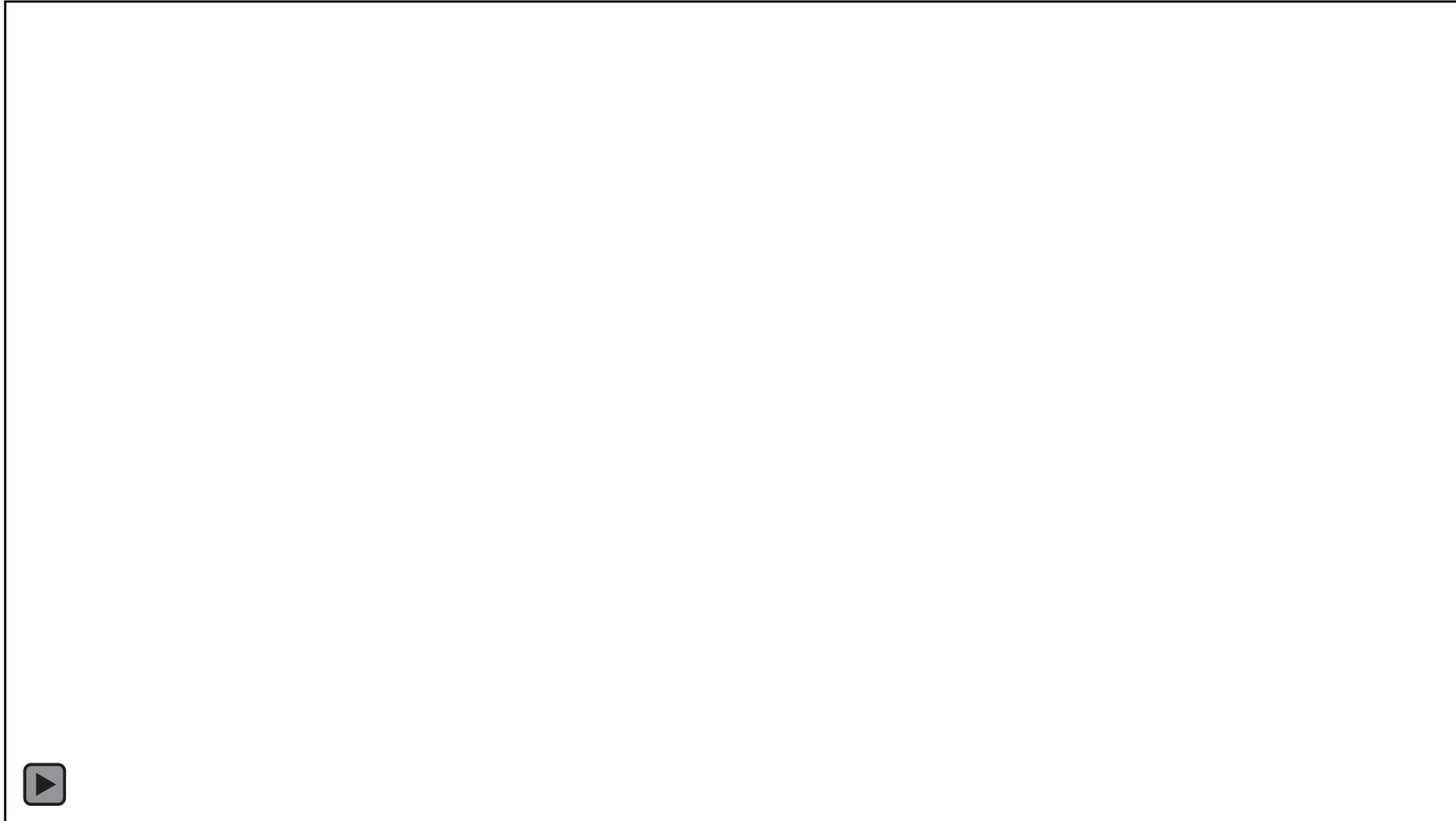
# How Many Is Too Many

- What happens when you go for help on judgment calls?
  1. You interrupt the flow of the game.
  2. You lengthen the game.
  3. You lose all credibility, and now they are going to ask you to go for help on every close play.

**USA SOFTBALL™**



# Off The Base



**USA SOFTBALL™**



# Rule Interpretation

- Always base the call on the information you have and then go for help if needed due to a missing element of the play.
- Most of the time a coach is going to ask you to go for help on a bobbled ball, a pulled foot or missed tag.
- Do not ask your partner “what do you have”
- Ask your partners the exact question that the coach asked you.
- Always go to your partners when needed about a rule. Such as awarding bases, how many bases and any other rule interpretation.

**USA SOFTBALL™**



# No Ball



# Who Attends

- It doesn't matter if you are working a two, three or four umpire system. Any time there is a conference, all crew members need to attend.
- You need to get everyone's perspective because everyone has a different view of the play.
- Anytime you have a conference, the umpire that is asking for help is the one that leads the conference and always ask the same question the coach asked you.

**USA SOFTBALL™**



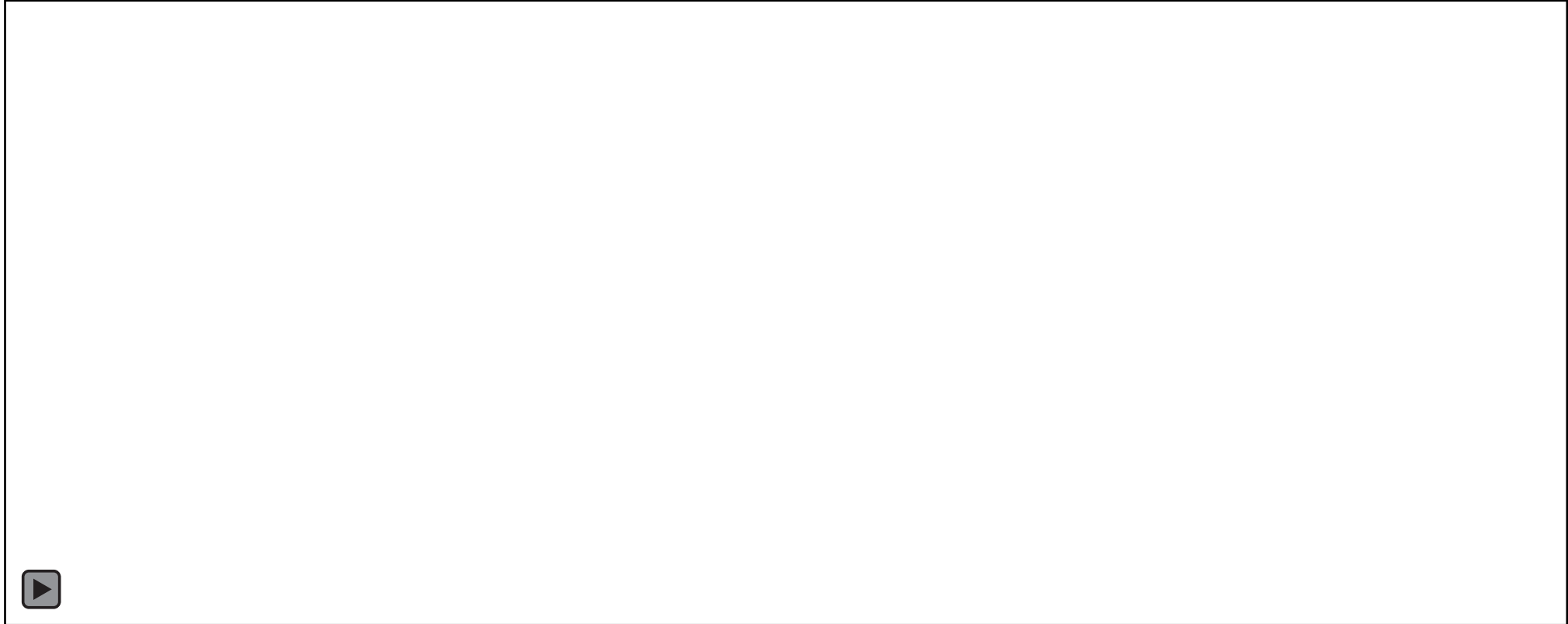
# Leaving a Conference

- When you are finished with your conference and you have decided to stand by your call or change it, the umpire that made the call gives the signal.
- If you change the call, make sure you can explain your decision because the coach deserves an explanation as to why you changed the call.

**USA SOFTBALL™**



# Leaving a Conference



**USA SOFTBALL™**

