

# GUIDE TO SCORING BASEBALL – SECOND INNING

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16-APR-2005

## TOP OF THE SECOND

As we rejoin the action in the second inning, the score stands at 2-0 Chicago. The first inning was exciting, with 3 hits by the Cubs, and an infield hit that Delino Deshields beat out, only to get picked off at first by Steve Trachsel on the next pitch.

As you remember, Mickey Morandini made the last out for the Cubs in the first inning, so we start scoring the second inning in the second column and the eighth row. You can see the diagonal line on the left of the box above Scott Servais' box in the image on the right. His is also the box where the scoring is colored red. You will notice that the inning actually starts on the second box up from the bottom in the image – I've just combined all the action for this half inning into one image (with six boxes removed in between Lance Johnson and Scott Servais).

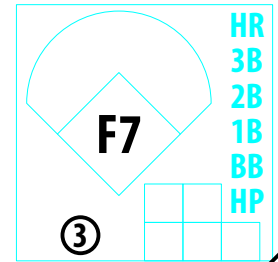
Mercker throws Servais a strike, a ball, and then Servais hits one to center field. Ray Lankford camps out under it and makes the catch to retire the first Cub in this inning. We have already recorded the strike and the ball in the appropriate boxes. For the play we indicate the out as **F8** for fly out by the center fielder, and put a **1** with a circle around it to indicate the first out.

In the next box down, the batter is the Cubs pitcher Steve Trachsel. Remember that we're discussing the bottom box in the image. Mercker throws Trachsel a ball, and then trades balls and strikes until a count of 2 – 2. Mercker's fifth pitch to Trachsel is fouled off. The sixth pitch is hit to Ray Lankford for the second out. We have recorded the balls and strikes in their boxes, added a plus for the foul ball in the lower left corner, and then record the out as **F8**. The second out of the Cubs inning is written as a **2** with a circle around it.

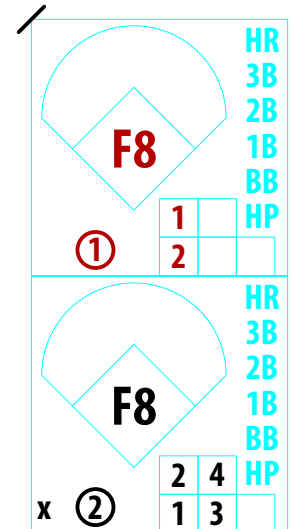
If you are filling out your scorecard as we proceed through the guide you will notice that now there are no players left in the lineup, so we move to the top of the lineup (and the first row on the scorecard) and Lance Johnson. His at-bat in the second inning is right next to his at-bat in the first. On the image on the right, you'll see Johnson's at-bat at the top of the image. As the card gets filled up sequentially like this you will see the importance of the diagonal line that indicates the end of each half inning.

Lance swings at the first pitch from Mercker and drives it to the left fielder, Ron Gant who makes the catch and retires the side. We record the play as **F7**, put a **3** with a circle around it to indicate the third out, and draw a diagonal line in the lower right corner of Johnson's box to lead us to the correct box for the next inning.

As the teams exchange positions on the field, we can re-cap the scoring and other statistics. There were **0** runs scored, **0** hits, **0** errors by the Cardinals, and **0** men left on base. Counting up the pitches, we see that Mercker threw **7** strikes in **10** pitches—a much better inning than his previous effort in the first inning.



(6 empty boxes)



*cubs second inning*

