

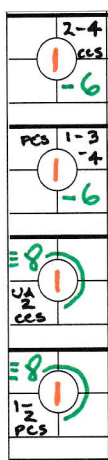
CAUGHT STEALING

A runner shall be charged as “caught stealing” if he is put out, or would have been put out by errorless play, when he:

1. Tries to steal.
2. Is picked off a base and tries to advance (any move towards the next base shall be considered an attempt to advance).
3. Over-slides while stealing.

NOTE: In those instances where a pitched ball eludes the catcher and the runner is put out trying to advance, **no** caught stealing shall be charged [OBR 9.07 (h)].

The notation for “caught stealing” is “CS” followed by the numbers of the players who made the assists and put out. The assist is very often, but not invariably, by the catcher, as can be seen in the following examples:



Example 65: The runner on first is caught stealing by an assist from the catcher to second base.

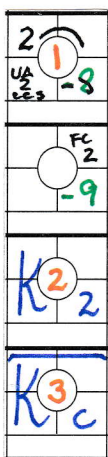
Example 66: The runner on first base is picked off by an accurate throw by the pitcher. He consequently tries to advance, but he is put out by the second baseman on an assist by the first baseman. Assists are credited to the pitcher and the first baseman, and a put out is credited to the second baseman. In this case, no caught stealing is credited to the catcher in the corresponding square of the score card because he did not take part in the action.

ATTENTION: If a runner tries to steal home base and is put out by the catcher, catching a regular pitch by the pitcher, he is **not** credited with an assist.

Example 67: The pitcher, realising the runner’s intention in time, gets down from the plate and throws to the catcher. He is credited with an assist.

The scorer must therefore pay close attention to the behaviour of the pitcher when there is an attempt to steal home base.

There are cases when it is difficult to ascertain at what moment a “caught stealing” happened.



Example 68: One such is an example shown here, where it is not possible to establish whether the caught stealing happened with the first or second pitcher.

It is important to know this because both the outgoing pitcher and his replacement have to be assigned the exact fraction of an inning they played.

This is particularly necessary when, in the case of “CS” with a decisive error, the distinction could give the replacement an additional fielding chance, depending on the number of runs earned.

In these cases, it is advisable to use the notes to indicate exactly when the caught stealing occurred.

Example 69: With a runner on first base, the batter tries for a sacrifice bunt and fails. The runner, who had already begun to run for second base, tries to return but is put out on an assist by the catcher. In this case also, the reasons for the caught stealing should be recorded in the notes.