UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

TALES FROM THE TAPE

How to scout while watching game film

RACHEL LAWSON

Presentation Objectives

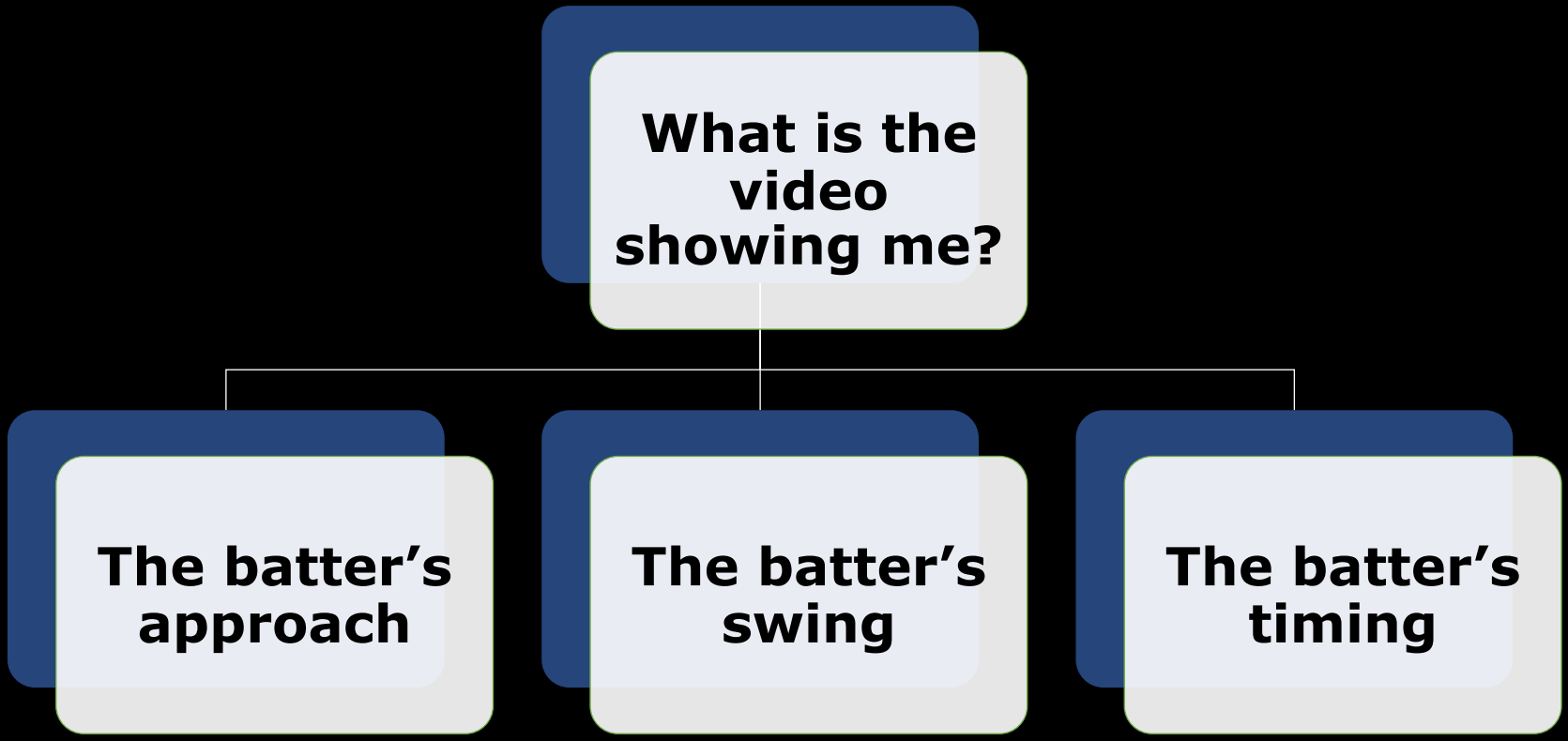
Highlight clues taken from video analysis to develop a batter's profile

Show how pitching charts can be utilized as a tool for decision making

Video examples

Q&A

The Batter's Profile



The Batter's Approach

- What pitch are they hunting?
- Are they a count hitter?
- Are they a situational hitter?
- Do they have a two-strike approach?

The Batter's Swing

- **The batter's set-up**
  - **Positioning in the box**
  - **Stance**
- **Stride direction**
- **Barrel path**
- **Contact point**
- **Posture through contact**

The Batter's Timing

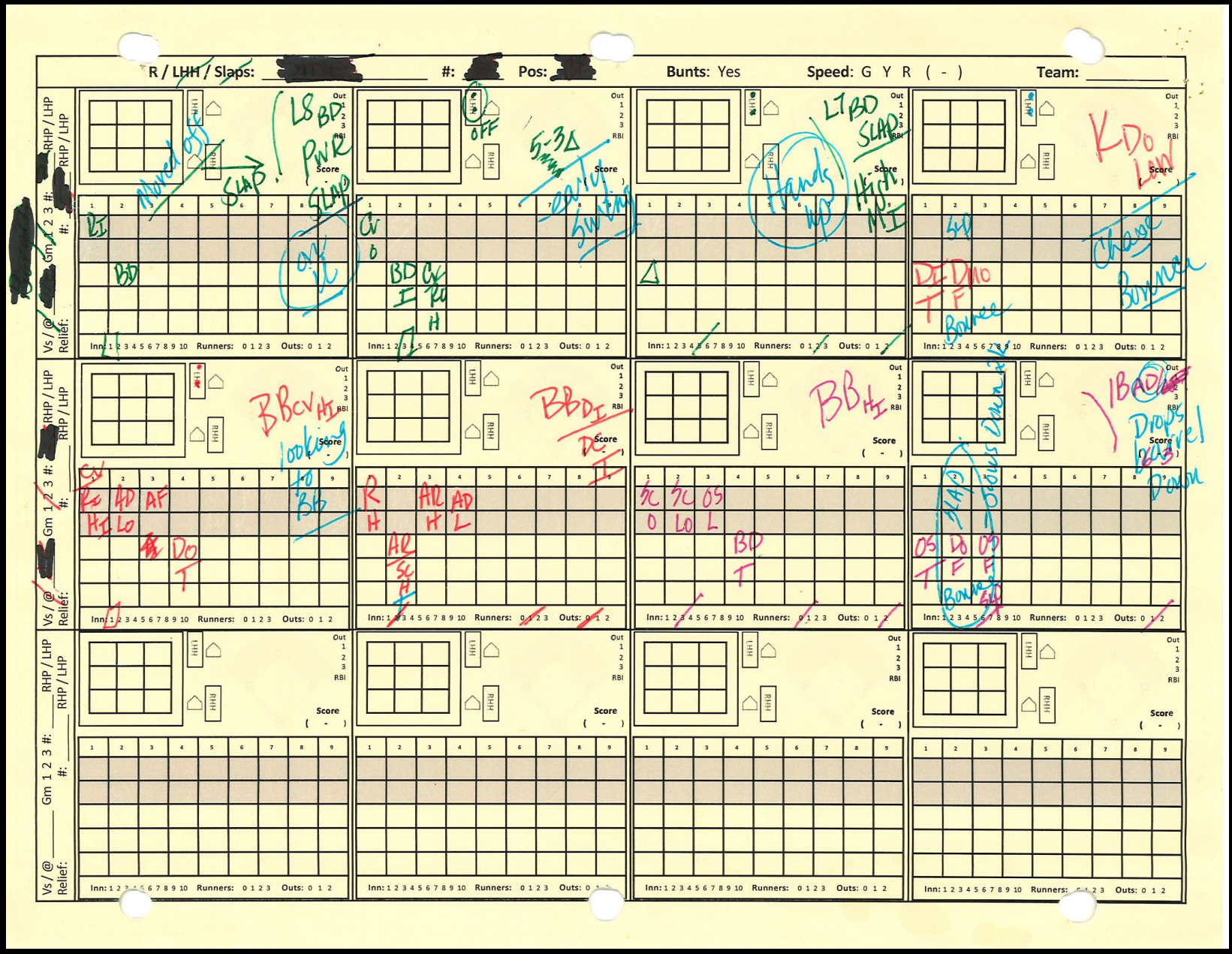
When does the batter start?

When is the timing of barrel release?

Scouting Tools

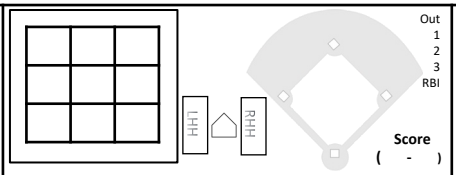
In Game Scouting Chart

3 games *(4 Plate appearances per game)*



R / LHH / Slaps: _____ **#:** _____ **Pos:** _____ **Bunts**: Yes **Speed**: G Y R (-) **Team:** _____

Vs / @ _____ Gm 1 2 3 #: ____ RHP / LHP
Relief: #: ____ RHP / LHP



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

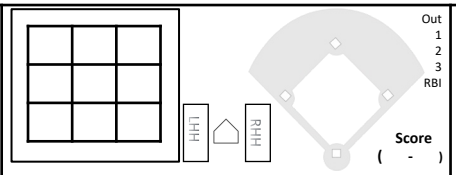
Inn: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 **Runners:** **0** 1 2 3 **Outs**: 0 1 2

Vs / @ _____ Gm 1 2 3 #: ____ RHP / LHP
Relief: #: ____ RHP / LHP

LHH
RHH
Out
1
2
3
RBI
Score
(-)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

Inn: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 **Runners:** **0** 1 2 3 **Outs**: 0 1 2



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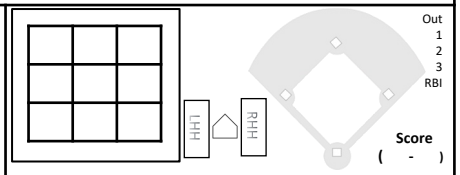

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RHH
Out
1
2
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RBI
Score
(-)

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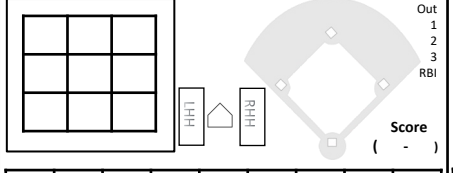

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LHH
RHH
Out
1
2
3
RBI
Score
(-)

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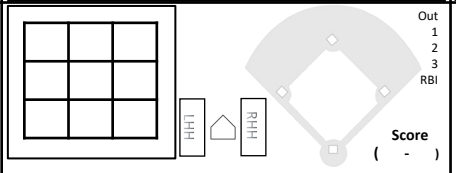

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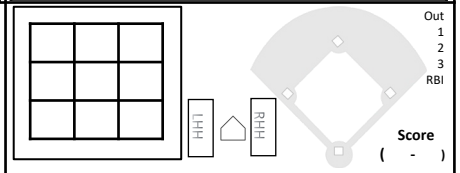
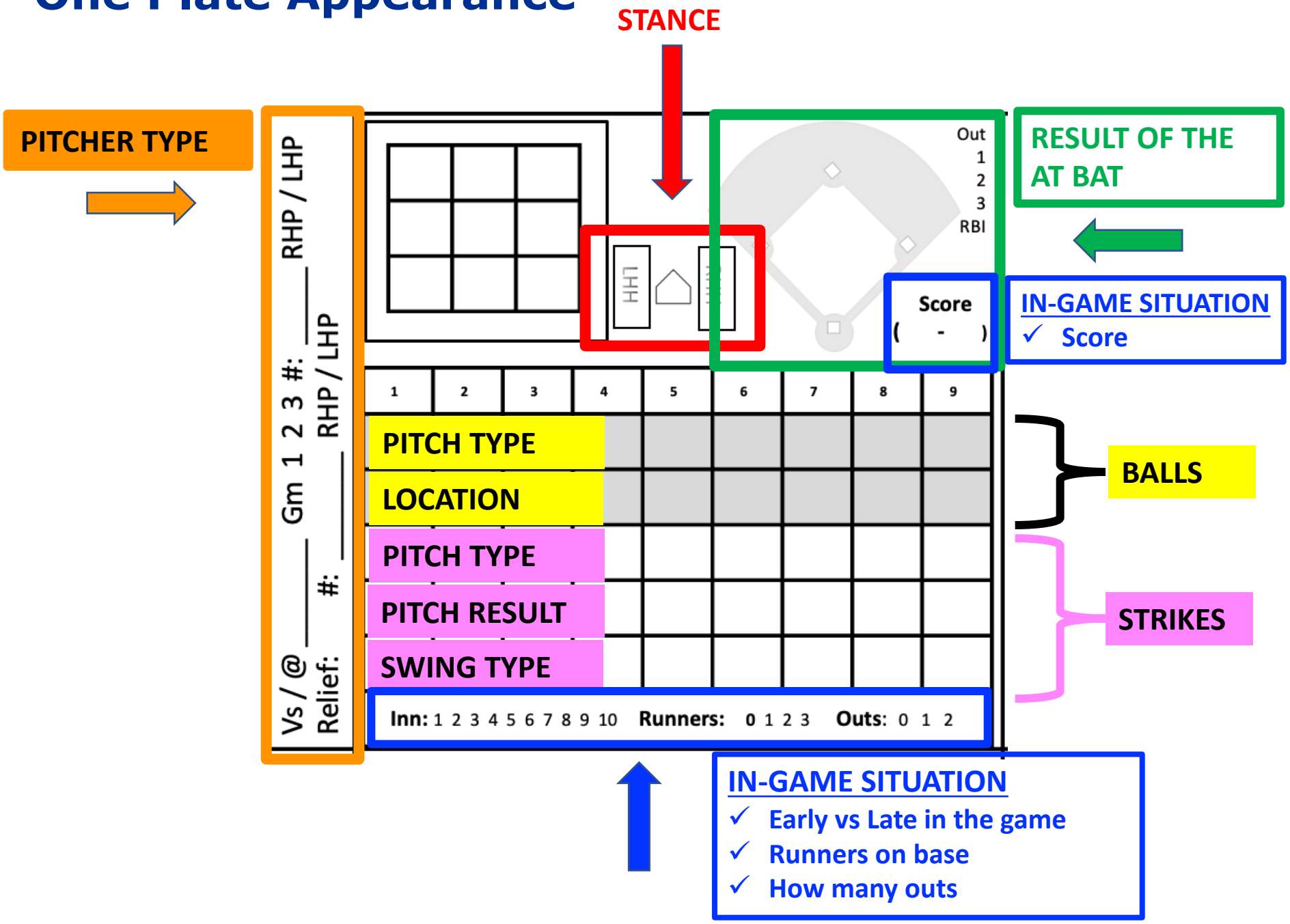
Inn: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 **Runners:** **0** 1 2 3 **Outs**: 0 1 2



1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

Inn: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 **Runners:** **0** 1 2 3 **Outs**: 0 1 2

One Plate Appearance



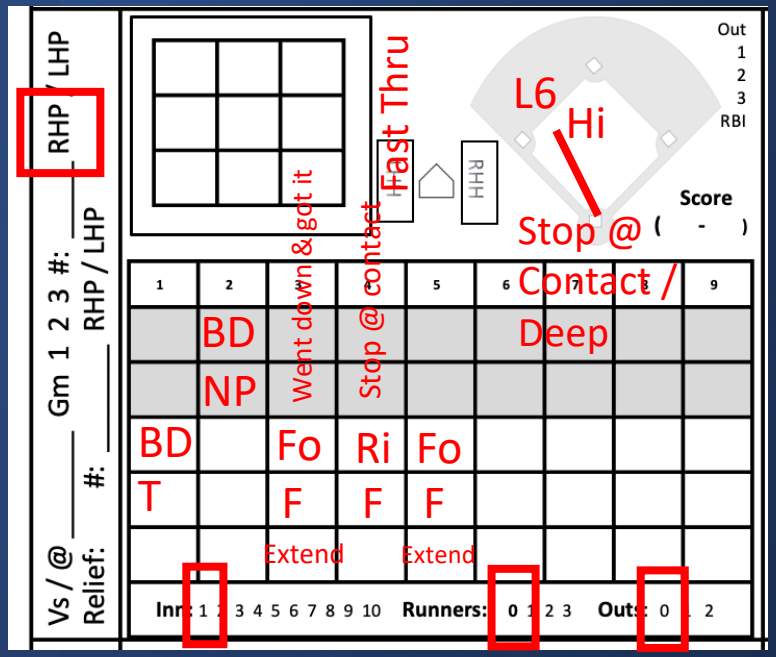
Lawson's Shorthand for Swing Types

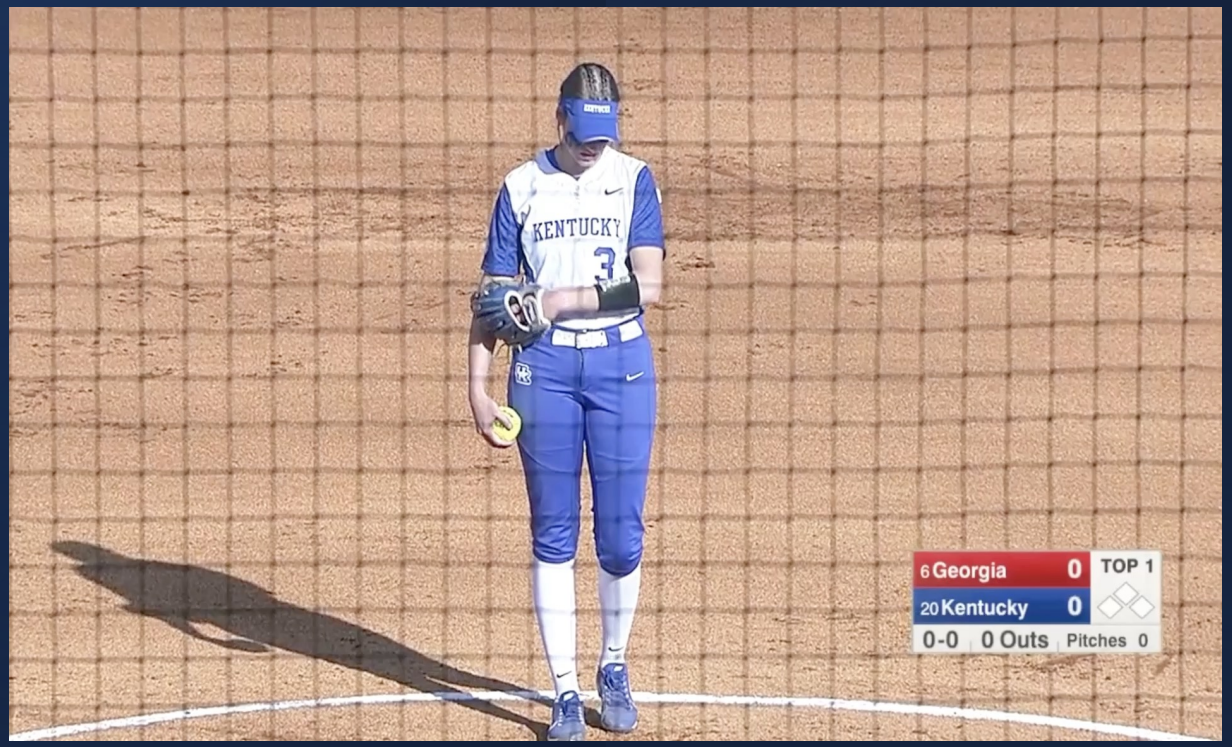
Shorthand	Batter's Swing Type
2K	2-strike approach
Battle	Tough out with 2K's
Belly	Rotates & leaves barrel behind
Bounce	Approach is to hit ball on the ground
Closed	Closed stride
Deep	Deep contact point
Dive	Posture dives toward the plate
Early	Starts their stride early
Fast thru	Slapper is fast thru the box
Flat	Flat bat path
Hack	Took a hack
Hands up	Hits high pitch
Inside out	Inside out swing
J	Jam

Lawson's Shorthand for Swing Types

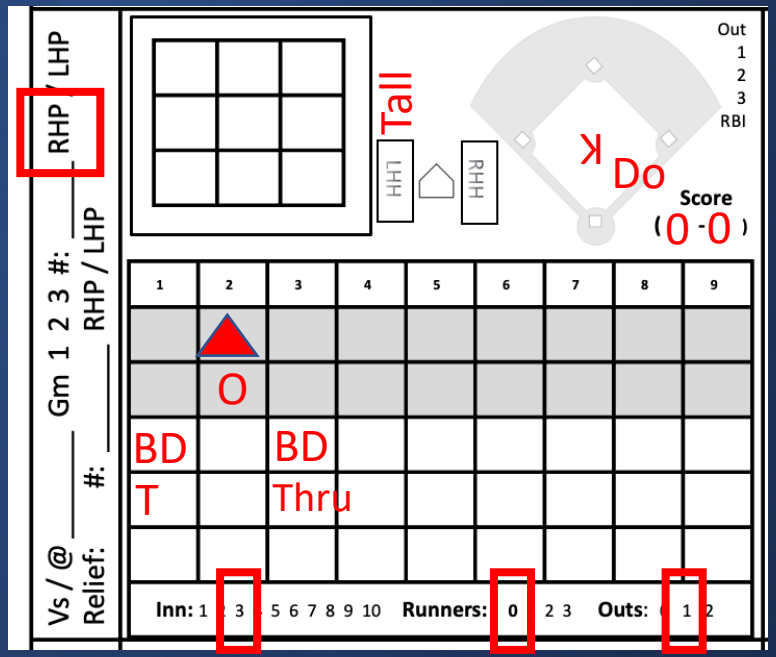
Shorthand	Batter's Swing Type
Late	Starts their stride late
Lateral	Lateral posture
Learns	Adjusts to pitch calling from AB to AB
Low ball	Adjusted with legs to hit low pitch
Open	Stride is open at toe touch
Out front	Contact point is out front
Pulls	Dominant bottom hand to contact
Sees	The batter has recognition of the pitch
Sits	Majority of weight is on back side
T	Automatic take
Tall	Tall posture
Thru	Batter swings thru the pitch (early barrel release)
Tuck	Extreme elbow in front of body
Wave	Weak bottom hand pull to outside pitch

At Bat #1


RHP / LHP
Gm 1 2 3 #: ____
RHP / LHP
Vs / @ ____ #: ____
Relief: ____
Fast Thru
Went down & got it
Stop @ contact
L6
Hi
Stop @ Contact / Deep
Out
1
2
3
RBI
Score (-)
RHH
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
BD
NP
BD
T
Fo
Ri
Fo
F
F
F
Extend
Extend
Inn: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Runners: 0 1 2 3
Outs: 0 1 2

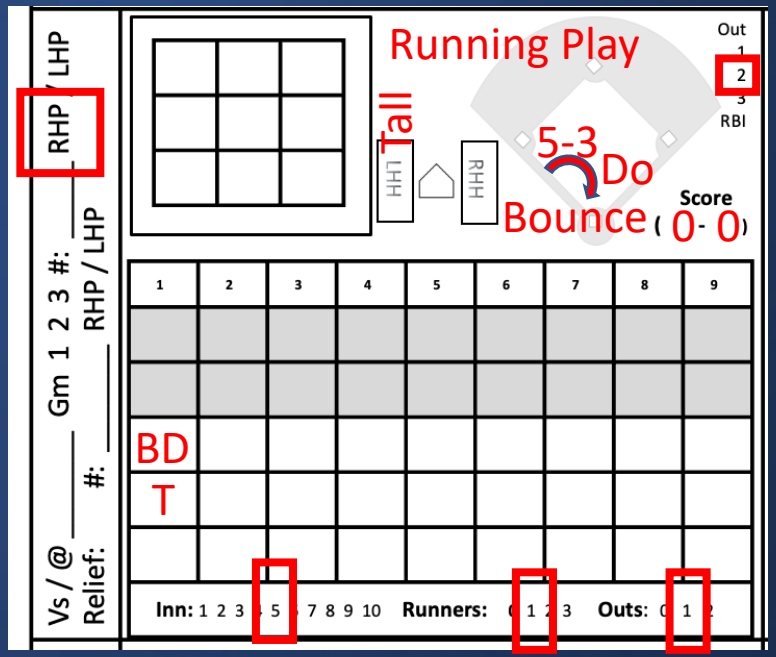

KENTUCKY
6 Georgia 0
20 Kentucky 0
TOP 1
0-0 0 Outs Pitches 0

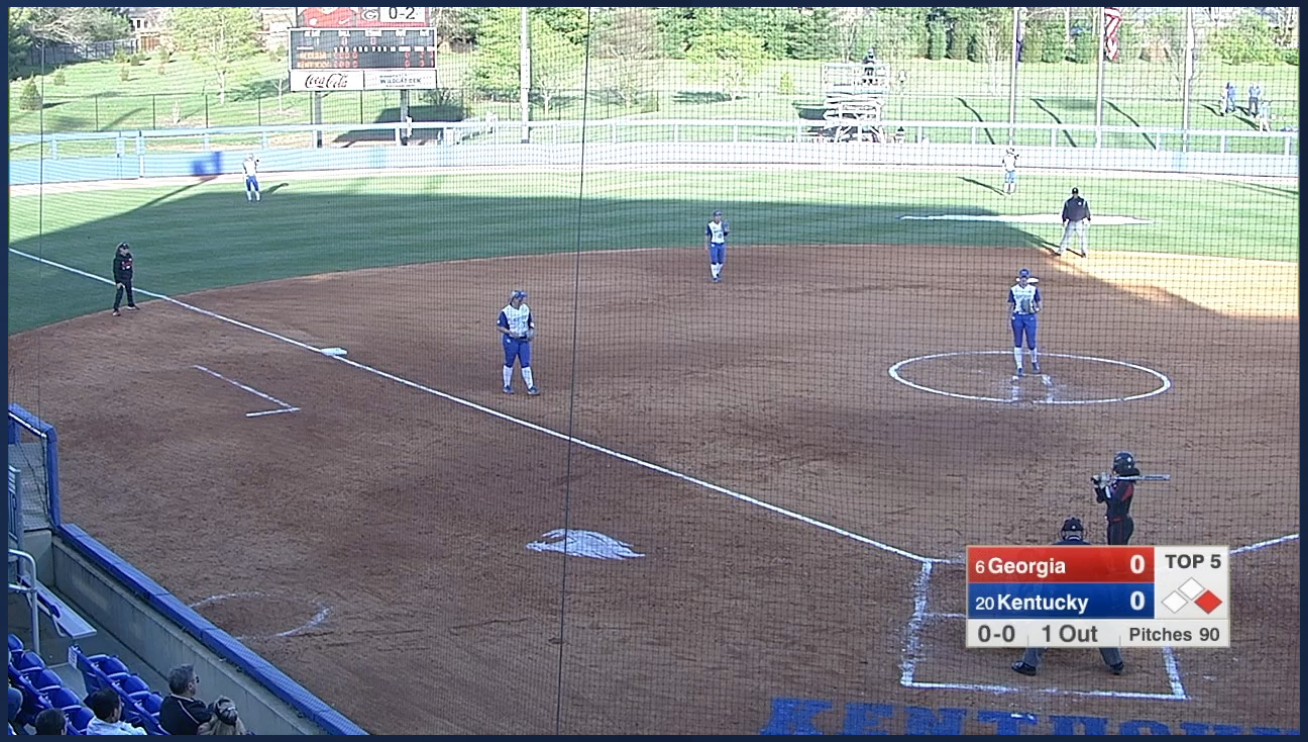
At Bat #2

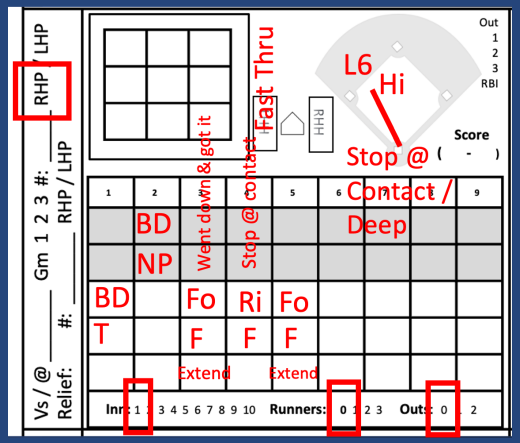

RHP / LHP
Gm 1 2 3 #: ____
RHP / LHP
Vs / @ ____
#: ____
Relief: ____
Tall
LHH
RHH
Out
1
2
3
RBI
Do
Score
(0 - 0)
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
O
BD
T
BD
Thru
Inn: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
Runners: 0 1 2 3
Outs: 0 1 2

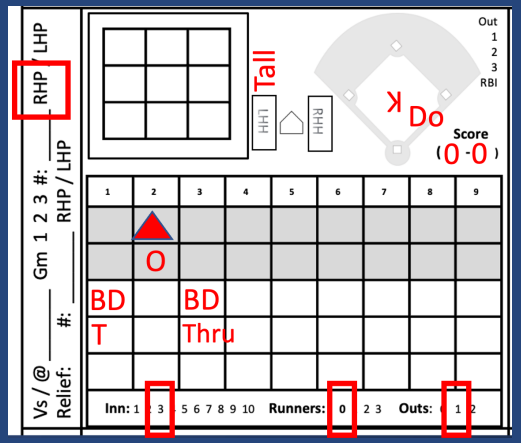
6 Georgia 0
TOP 3
20 Kentucky 0
3-2 0 Outs Pitches 53

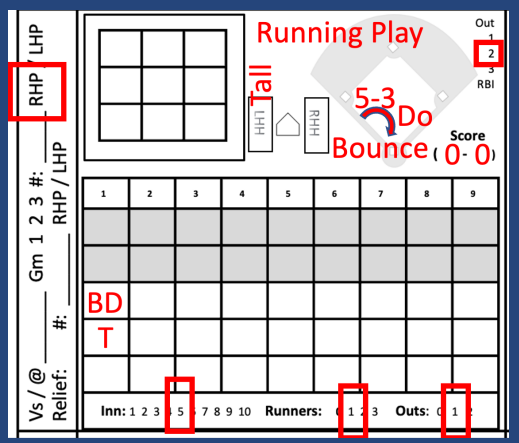
At Bat #3


Running Play
Tall
5-3
Do
Bounce
Out
1
2
3
RBI
Score
(0- 0)
LHH
RHH
RHP / LHP
Gm 1 2 3 #: ____
RHP / LHP
Vs / @ ____
#: ____
Relief:
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
BD
T
Inn: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Runners: 0 1 2 3 Outs: 0 1 2


0-2
6 Georgia 0
20 Kentucky 0
TOP 5
0-0 1 Out Pitches 90







Approach

- Takes the first pitch
- Might take the second pitch if the first pitch is a strike?
- Does not like to go deep in the count
- Might be a good situational hitter???

Swing

- Better with 12/6 spin & screw spin than lateral spin
- Stays inside the inside pitch

Timing

- Fast timing thru the box
- Early barrel release on the outside

Batter Profile (game 1)

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How to scout while watching game film

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