

Baseball coach hand gestures



[Cluessgirl](#) 1 posts since

Feb 19, 2009

Hi there -- I googled this everywhere and can't seem to find an answer. In baseball, when the coach pounds one of his fists on top of the other one - what does that mean? Please help!! Thanks!!



[MyTwoSons](#) 97 posts since

May 30, 2007 1. **Re: Baseball coach hand gestures** Feb 19, 2009 9:36 AM

It often means hit away if the batter has 2 strikes on him or her. If there are less than 2 strikes on the batter, it means what ever the coach wants it to mean, including it means nothing at all and is only a fake sign.



[Billiken on the Run](#) 101 posts since

Nov 28, 2007 2. **Re: Baseball coach hand gestures** Feb 19, 2009 9:55 AM

Like the previous post mentions, coaches' signs in baseball can mean anything. For a batter - bunt, take a pitch, hit-and-run, nothing, etc. They also frequently change (not so much in little league, though). It's like a code system that is generally only decoded internally because if opponents knew your team's signals, this would give them a big advantage. Hope this helps.

Joe



[Viejo Little League](#) 2 posts since

Baseball coach hand gestures

Oct 14, 2007 3. Re: **Baseball coach hand gestures** Mar 2, 2009 2:28 PM

Hello,


Im sure this information is late in getting to you, but I noticed the two other responses did not deliver the correct information. As a player, and a coach the most common meaning of a coach pounding/tapping two fists together is to indicate that the count to the current batter is a full count as in 3 balls and two strikes. Lots of things happen on a full count depending on how many outs and where the runners are.

This is the most common use of that sign.



[MyTwoSons](#) 97 posts since

May 30, 2007 4. Re: **Baseball coach hand gestures** Mar 2, 2009 5:57 PM

 in response to: [Viejo Little League](#)


Sorry have seen it used by high school and travel ball coaches in circumstances other than that which you describe. I've seen more than one high school coach use it on 0-2 counts after watching his batter fail to lay the ball down on a bunt. I have also seen them use it to signal hit away with no ball or strikes. I have also seen a couple of those coaches call for the bunt with 2 strikes to prove a point in which case he doesn't pound his hands on top of each other.

Baseball coach hand gestures



Viejo Little League 2 posts since

Oct 14, 2007 5. Re: **Baseball coach hand gestures** Mar 2, 2009 6:14 PM

 in response to: [MyTwoSons](#)

No need to be sorry.

You may have seen coaches use it for OTHER things, but the most COMMON usage is to note full count. While I appreciate what other coaches use it for, have an ask around and give the sign to somebody without prompting them i.e. walk up to a baseball guy or gal and do the sign and ask them what it means when a coach or umpire does it in a baseball game. My bet is that you would get an overwhelming response of people saying 'Full count' or 3 and 2... it indeed is the exception that make the rule (not that this is a rule just a COMMON usage of it in Baseball and Softball)

In my playing Career thru High School, College, and in the Minor Leagues we did all kinds of crazy things to confuse the other team, and as a Short Stop we would commonly do things to confuse runners and batters. One of my favorites would be to call out how many outs we had... saying TWO OUTS, but holding up the right number of outs... My teammates knew to read my hands and not my words, but most runners tend to listen to my words, this causing many runners to get caught in a position they did not want to be in because they thought it was two outs when in reality it was no outs or one out...

Signs are a fun part of baseball and some really good coaches are fun to watch when they are giving signs. I think most people would be surprised at how many signs are givine and by who in any game situation during a baseball game. Situations aside I am sure you have seen it used for many different things, but most common usage is to note a full count.

Baseball coach hand gestures



[tumblebug](#) 4 posts since

May 25, 2007 6. **Re: Baseball coach hand gestures** Aug 26, 2009 3:31 PM

↑ in response to: [Viejo Little League](#)

I have to go with MyTwo Sons on this one. the only time this is always as you say is when it is done by the plate umpire. There is no such intrinsic meaning for a basecoach. We sometimes used it to "wipe" the bunt sign and to swing away or to finish the signs but more often than not it meant nothing in particular.



[bayoue](#) 1 posts since

Jun 8, 2009 7. **Re: Baseball coach hand gestures** Oct 17, 2009 9:40 PM

↑ in response to: [tumblebug](#) I used to use it to close the signs to let the batter know I was finished. Batter then touched his helmet confirming that he got the sign.