

Our newly acquired catcher, f06c9fdf (“Frank”), has strengths in pitch receiving with pitches outside of the strike zone and below the strike zone. Frank’s weaknesses stem from his receiving at the top of the zone, where he loses some strikes and struggles to extend the zone.

Findings

Figure 1 is the distribution of strikes and balls for Frank for all balls received. Figure 1 also helps to show the strengths and weaknesses of our new catcher.

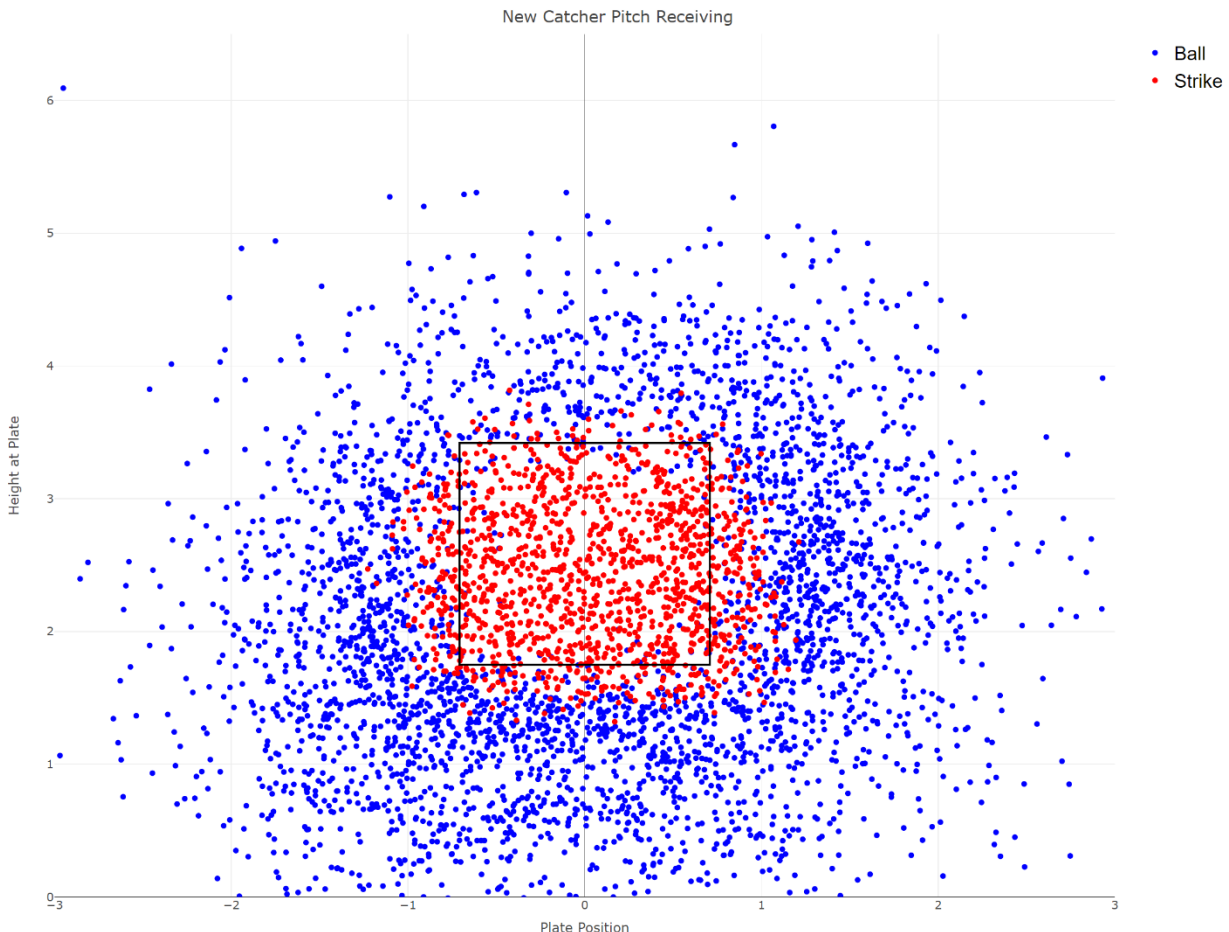


Figure 1: Frank’s Pitch Receiving with Strike Zone Overlay

- Strengths
 - Low and off the plate pitches are framed well for additional strikes
 - Would have success catching sinker, curve, and slider dominant pitchers
- Weaknesses
 - Struggles to get high pitch consistently called a strike and shortens zone
 - Will have trouble aiding pitchers who attack with a fastball up

Frank’s ability below and on the outer portions of the plate suggest his pre-pitch setup could hinder his ability to frame a pitch up. This could result from Frank being too low in his crouch or struggling to show and frame the pitch up in the zone to the umpire, possibly even overselling the pitch.

Comparison

	Percent of Balls in the Strike Zone Called Balls	Percent of Pitches Outside the Strike Zone Called Strikes	Percent of All Strikes Called Outside the Strike Zone	Percent of All Balls Called that are in the Strike Zone
Average All Catchers	4.7%	14.5%	36.7%	1.5%
New Catcher (f06c9fdf)	6.2%	12.0%	33.5%	1.8%

Figure 2: Frank's Pitch Receiving versus the Average of All Other Catchers

In Figure 2, we see how Frank fares against the league and within the organization in receiving.

- Frank is below average in all categories
- We will need to spend time focusing on his receiving for him to be an average receiver
- His strengths outside and below the strike zone give plenty of reason for optimism and growth
- If we improve his receiving in the upper portion of the zone, he should become a better than league average pitch receiver!