



# 11U COMPETITIVE TEAMS TRYOUT/EVALUATION POLICY

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## **FMMBA Competitive Program**

The competitive program is the highest level of play in the Fort McMurray Minor Baseball Association and within our competitive program there are different levels of competition from “A” ball to “AA” ball.

The competitive teams players can expect more experienced coaches (there are coaching requirements in place), team manager and fundraising activities to cover additional team related costs.

The competitive teams participate in the Baseball Alberta League, as well as possible tournaments, therefore there is travel throughout Alberta.

The competitive teams typically practice three to four times a week during the season, with home/away games during the weekends.

The competitive teams season will conclude approximately in the beginning of August.

Dedication to the competitive teams will prove beneficial to the player as a valuable learning experience. Failure to fulfill the commitments by the player or parent is denying another player a position on the team and will result in a review of the player's competitive privileges.

Registration fees for competitive teams are significantly higher than for the house league program due to increased operational costs (additional diamond time, tournaments, higher quality uniforms, association fees, etc.). You must register with the FMMBA and then an additional competitive fee will be required.

## Tryout/Evaluation Registration

- All players must register with the FMMBA either online or in-person prior to the first scheduled session.
- Players are encouraged to arrive approximately 30 minutes prior to the first tryout/evaluation to facilitate the sign-in process and be fully warmed up by the tryout start time.

## Tryout/Evaluation Process for 11U and Player Selection Details

- The “AA” coach of the first team selected based on evaluations has the first selection right to choose a player looking for a spot on a competitive team.
  - **All Players must tryout for the highest level of play “AA” to be considered for additional teams in lower levels of “AA” or “A”**
  - All players not selected for “AA” will be eligible to try out for the “A” team.
  - Players who decline a spot on the “AA” team will be asked to provide reasons to the Competitive Director.
  - Players will not be permitted to accept a spot on the “AA” team, and then withdraw in order to play on the “A” team.
- Evaluations are based upon the player's age category, direct observation of demonstrated skill, development potential, perceived dedication to the program/coaches and various other factors.
  - This way the players are placed at the skill level that is most appropriate for them.
  - All coaches/evaluators are respected members of FMMBA and are equipped to assess skill performance.
  - A standard evaluation process is used across all divisions for consistency and fairness in the player selection process, recognizing that it may vary at the 18U vs. 11U levels.
- Players must attend a minimum of one (1) evaluation.
  - If circumstances do not allow for this, please ensure you speak with the Competitive Director.
  - Coaches may release players to a lower level after they have attended one (1) of the scheduled evaluations or after open sessions have concluded.
  - Before the 1st Evaluation Period: the FMMBA President and Competitive Director will discuss the Competitive Program with all Parents of children being evaluated.

- Evaluation #1 – All players being evaluated for the age group are expected to attend. Evaluators may release players after the first session.
- Evaluation #2 – Players being evaluated for the age group not released after the 1st evaluation session are expected to attend unless they do not want to participate in the competitive program. Evaluators will select players by invite only to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Evaluation. All other players not invited to Evaluation #3 will be released and invited to Evaluation #4 to continue their tryout for the additional teams in the “AA” or “A” level.
- Evaluation #3 – Following this session, coaches/evaluators will offer their final selections for the Highest “AA” team. These players are to respond to the offer within a 24 hour period. All players not selected for the highest “AA” team will be released and invited to evaluation #4.
- Evaluation #4 – Following this session coaches/evaluators will assess skill level to determine if there are enough players to form additional teams and at which level they should compete. The decision will be communicated to the players.
- In cases where players are injured and unable to participate in the tryouts, every effort should be made to attend the tryouts and assist in any way possible.
- Playing up – Players will be assigned to teams at their appropriate age level unless coach and evaluators determine that the player can be an \*\*impact player at the next level.
  - \*\* definition of impact player – determined to be the best player available at his/her primary position in all aspects of the game in the division he/she wishes to move up to.

**Any questions or concerns should be emailed to [inquiries@fmmba.ca](mailto:inquiries@fmmba.ca), Attention to Competitive Director – Joey Iannetti.**