

### **Strathmore & District Minor Baseball (SMBA) "AA" Evaluation Process**

1. The evaluation committee will select the evaluators and evaluation facilitator. Evaluators and facilitators will not be permitted to have players in the group they are evaluating.
2. A parent meeting will be held at the first evaluation session to explain the process and to communicate the commitment required for AA Baseball.
3. The following evaluation grouping process will occur for each age group:
  - a. Session #1 – All players in the division
  - b. Session #2 – All players in the division
  - c. Session #3 – Select grouping of players for evaluation of the top team in the division. The Top 16 will be used as a guideline however the inclusion of additional players will be at the discretion of the evaluation committee and evaluators.
  - d. If required based on the number of players in the division, an additional evaluation session for those not selected for the Top 16 will be held to determine the roster of the 2<sup>nd</sup> team in the division.
  - e. The number of evaluation sessions may be reduced or increased depending on the amount of players in the division at the discretion of the evaluation committee.
4. Players will be evaluated in the following minimum core areas in the first two sessions. The number of repetitions used for the drills may be adjusted by the evaluation:
  - a. Hitting – Players will bunt the first two pitches, then swing at 5 hittable pitches.
  - b. Fielding – Players will receive 5 ground balls in a row and complete a throw to first base. After completing the ground balls the player will rotate to first base. This may not occur at the mosquito level due to potential safety issues.
  - c. Fielding – Players will receive a minimum of 3 fly balls, either thrown or hit depending on where evaluations are held and make a throw to a player/coach.
  - d. Pitching – Each player will throw 5 pitches at each station. Generally 2 or 3 lines of pitchers will set up (based on number of players) with players rotating through each line.

Other optional evaluation areas including baserunning and catching will be at the discretion of the evaluation committee.

5. The third evaluation session will include items from the above core areas, and may also include other evaluation items such as full infield practice, double plays and other skills at the discretion of the evaluation committee.
6. Following the first two sessions the evaluators will select the Top 9 players who will be considered selected for the top team in the division and will also select the Top 16 for return to the third session.
7. The Head Coach will be selected from the parent group out of the top player group determined by the evaluators after session two. The Head Coach will then be involved in the third evaluation session with the evaluators to finalize the players for the top team roster. Any player in the Top 16 who is not selected for the top AA team, will automatically be placed on the 2<sup>nd</sup> AA team.

8. If the coaching committee selects a non-parent coach for a division, the coach may be involved in all the evaluation sessions.
9. Parents should not be used to execute the evaluation drills if they have players in the division. This will include hitting ground balls or fly balls, and throwing pitches for hitting evaluation. Parents with players in division may coordinate the overall evaluation session, and assist with catching balls, warming up kids, and other items that will not directly influence the evaluation of the players.
10. Players will be notified via posting on the SMBA website if they are to return for the third evaluation session and of their final team placement. In the event that players do not make a AA team these players will be notified by the Division Director via email or phone call prior to the posting of the final rosters on the website.
11. Players that cannot make all of the evaluation sessions due a legitimate conflict or due to injury may be placed on a team based on their past team placement and in discussion with the evaluation committee and previous coaches. This will be handled on a case-by-case basis.
12. A player's attitude, effort level, behavior, and maturity level may be considered by the evaluators and evaluation committee during the evaluation process.
13. Underage players in a division will be handled on a case by case basis by the evaluation committee and division director using the following criteria:
  - Player must evaluate in the Top 5 to make the final roster. If they do not evaluate in the Top 5 they will return to their appropriate age division.
  - If there are two teams in a AA division, and there is room for an underage player on the roster, they may play on the second AA team at the discretion of the evaluation committee.
  - Rookie aged players that do not make the Top 5 in Mosquito AA may be allowed to play Mosquito community ball at the discretion of the evaluation committee and division director.
14. A player must play on the team they are evaluated for. If the player does refuse, that player will forfeit the registration fee for competitive baseball and be asked to play in the House Division.
15. If family has two players playing in the same age division and one player evaluates for the Top AA team, and the other for the second AA team, then the parent can request that the siblings play together on the second AA team only.