2024 AA Division Ground Rules

- A. Nine (9) players on the field in regular baseball positions.
- B. Continuous batting order, all players bat. Players should rotate through the line-up batting. The first batter in the next game should begin from where the previous game left-off. This allows each player to play the same amount of innings throughout the season.
- C. If there is no umpire available, <u>FIELDING</u> team's Coach will act as umpire and call balls and strikes from behind pitcher along with the calls at the bases and home plate. BATTING team's Base Coaches will determine foul balls. Coach may advise pitcher as long as game is not delayed.
- D. Three (3) strikes is a strikeout. There are no walks. After ball four (4), Batter's coach will deliver overhand pitches. Batter will proceed with strike count until they strike out or hit a ball in play.
- E. Batters may NOT bunt. No slap hitting by pulling a bunt back and swinging. (This is a safety issue.)
- F. Base runners may steal any base after pitched ball passes home plate or while any fielder is holding the ball, other than the pitcher holding the ball on the mound. No stealing while pitcher has the ball and is on mound.
- G. Base running stops once the pitcher has possession of the ball. If a runner has already passed a base and is advancing, they may continue to the next base (in this case the ball is still considered to be live and the pitcher may make a play).
- H. Base runners may not steal home.
- I. Base runners may advance one base on an overthrow.
- J. If base runners must slide into the bases / plate, they must slide feet first when the fielder has the ball and is waiting to make the tag. Fielders / Catcher cannot block plate until in possession of the ball. Sliding is expected on close plays.
- K. Five (5) runs per inning mercy rule.
- L. No inning should start after one hour 45 minutes from the scheduled start time. Game ends after two hours from the <u>scheduled start time</u>.
- M. Pitch counts should be maintained by official book. Verify age and pitch counts from prior game, prior to start of game.
- N. This is developmental league. Teams should try to develop more than two pitchers. Pitch counts apply, but Pitchers may not pitch in more than 2 innings, even if they haven't reached their pitch count. Rotate players and substitutions. Players should

rotate through the line-up sitting out innings. The players sitting out in the next game should begin from where the previous game left-off. This allows each player to play the same amount of innings throughout the season. All players should play both infield and outfield positions.