



Infield Defense

Hands, footwork, range, double-play turns, and pre-pitch positioning. Built for 1B, 2B, SS, and 3B development tracking.

PLAYER: _____ AGE / LEVEL: _____ COACH: _____ DATE: _____

LEVEL	MASTERY CRITERIA	MARK
ROOKIE BALL	Athletic ready position before the pitch Fields slow rollers cleanly with two hands Knows where to throw on a force play	☐
LOW-A	Charges the ball under control Fields one-hop ground balls in front of feet Makes accurate throw from short distance (40 ft)	☐
HIGH-A	Reads hop and stays in athletic position through release Backhand & forehand reads on routine balls Knows situations: where to throw with runners on	☐
DOUBLE-A	Average to plus range at position Turns routine 6-4-3 / 4-6-3 with footwork < 1.0 sec Charges slow rollers, throws on the run	☐
TRIPLE-A	Plus range to glove and arm side Fields backhand on the run, makes throw on a line Communicates rotations & bunt coverage clearly	☐
MAJOR LEAGUE	Top-tier defender at position (varsity SS / 3B level) Makes the spectacular play look routine Holds runners with strong arm + quick release	☐
ALL-STAR	Recruitable defender — elite range, hands, arm Plus instincts: positions self pre-pitch correctly Defines the team's defensive identity	☐

HOW TO USE THIS RUBRIC

Evaluate the player against every level's criteria, lowest first.
Assign the highest level where they meet ALL criteria.
The next level's criteria become this season's focus.
Re-evaluate at mid-season & end-of-season checkpoints.

TYPICAL LEVEL BY AGE

4-6 (T-Ball)	Single-A → Double-A
7-8 (Coach Pitch)	Double-A → Triple-A
9-10 (Kid Pitch)	Triple-A → Major League
11-12 (Little League)	Low-A → Double-A
13-14 (Travel)	Double-A → Triple-A
15-16 (JV)	Triple-A → Major League
17-18 (Varsity)	Major League → All-Star
College / Elite	All-Star