## 2017 "A" Prairie League Rules

- 1. Players cannot turn 15 before May 1st or 8th grade level.
- 2. No bat barrels larger than 2 5/8, must have USSSA stamp. Boy's bats only. No girls' softball bats allowed. BBCORE and wooden bats can be used.
- 3. No metal cleats are allowed, no exceptions.
- 4. Bases are 75 feet apart; pitchers will pitch from 55 feet.
- 5. There will be no time limit on single games or final scheduled games unless agreed upon prior to game time with both coaches. Otherwise, all games are 6 innings with no new inning starting after 1 hour and 20 minutes (although extra innings can be used in a tied game, time permitting). 4 innings is considered a complete game. At the end of 4 innings, if any team leads by 10 runs, the game will end. Home team must bat before darkness, unless they are leading.
- 6. There may be up to 10 players playing in the field (using four distinct outfielders with 10 players). If you have 8 or 9 players, there is no automatic out for the 9<sup>th</sup> or 10<sup>th</sup> position. Teams must have at least 8 players to start a game; any less is an automatic forfeit of the game.
- 7. Catchers must wear a protective helmet with their facemasks whenever they catch a pitch, including warm up pitches. The batter at the plate and all base runners must wear a batting helmet.
- 8. A pitcher is limited to 4 innings per game; one pitch in an inning constitutes an inning. Once a pitcher is removed from that position, he may reenter as pitcher only once later in the game as long as he has not pitched more than 4 innings.
- 9. Dropped 3<sup>rd</sup> strike and infield fly rule is in effect per Little League Rules.
- 10. If batter squares to bunt, he cannot swing away. Batter will be out if he swings.
- 11. The base runner must slide to avoid contact with opposing players when played upon; otherwise the base runner will be called out. Umpire discretion.
- 12. Runners are allowed to lead off.
- 13. Batter being walked may attempt second base on passed ball.
- 14. Home plate is open. Runner may steal all bases on overthrows and passed balls. The ball is also live when thrown back to the pitcher.
- 15. Umpire's decision on the field is final.
- 16. Free substitution on the field is allowed at any time.
- 17. Complete roster must be batted in order.
- 18. Extra innings will start with 0 outs and the last out placed on second base.