

***D1 PROSPECTS
UTAH HIGH SCHOOL ALL-STATE
INVITATIONAL***

ATHLETE SELECTION PROCESS & METHODOLOGY



Standard Operating Procedure (SOP)

Version 1.0 | 2026

*Official Selection Standards, Evaluation Criteria, and Roster
Construction Methodology*

Purpose

The purpose of this SOP is to establish a transparent, objective, and repeatable athlete evaluation and selection process for the D1 Prospects All-State Games.

This process is designed to:

- Recognize high-level softball athletes across all Utah classifications (1A-6A)
- Promote statewide representation
- Prioritize competitive integrity
- Create balanced and competitive All-State rosters
- Reduce subjective bias through structured statistical evaluation

Scope

This SOP applies to:

- D1 Prospects staff
- Event directors
- Statistical evaluators
- Roster construction personnel

This SOP governs athlete evaluation, leaderboard construction, roster balancing, and final All-State roster

Classification Structure

Athletes are evaluated within their respective UHSAA classifications:

- 1A
- 2A
- 3A
- 4A
- 5A
- 6A

Classification-based evaluation helps ensure:

- Fair statewide representation
- Balanced comparison standards

- Recognition of athletes competing within similar competitive environments
- Smaller-school athlete visibility alongside larger classifications

Statistical Evaluation Categories

D1 Prospects utilizes independently organized statewide statistical leaderboards and internal evaluation dashboards.

Statistical data is collected and organized by classification in the following categories.

Offensive Categories

- Batting Average (BA)
- Hits
- Extra Base Hits (XBH)
- Home Runs
- Additional offensive production metrics

Defensive Categories

- Fielding Percentage (FPCT)
- Defensive opportunities
- Total chances
- Positional defensive impact

Pitching Categories

- ERA
- Strikeouts
- Innings Pitched
- Batters Faced
- Pitching workload and efficiency metrics

Leaderboard Construction

The following athlete pools are utilized during evaluation:

- Top 20 offensive athletes from each classification
- Top 20 defensive athletes from each classification
- Top pitching leaders from each classification
- Multi-category athlete evaluation boards

Athletes appearing across multiple statistical categories receive elevated consideration during the evaluation process.

Multi-Category Athlete Consideration

Multi-category athletes are prioritized because they demonstrate:

- Overall game impact
- Two-way versatility
- Consistent production across multiple phases of the game
- Increased value to team success

Examples include athletes appearing in:

- Offensive + Defensive leaderboards
- Offensive + Pitching leaderboards
- Defensive + Pitching leaderboards
- Multiple offensive production categories
- Multiple pitching categories

While single-category excellence remains highly valued, multi-category athletes receive elevated consideration whenever roster construction and positional balance allow.

Workload Evaluation

Statistical production is evaluated alongside athlete workload and season-long responsibility.

Workload considerations may include:

- Innings pitched
- Batters faced
- Games played
- Defensive opportunities
- Offensive consistency throughout the season

This process helps provide context beyond raw statistical ranking and recognizes athletes who maintain high-level performance while carrying significant team responsibility.

Tier-Based Evaluation System

Athletes are organized into internal evaluation tiers based on:

- Statistical ranking
- Multi-category presence
- Workload
- Positional value
- Overall statewide impact

The tier system is utilized to:

- Assist roster balancing
- Maintain consistency across classifications
- Support objective athlete comparison

Roster Construction Philosophy

The D1 Prospects All-State Games consist of:

- 8 total teams
- 14 athletes per roster
- 112 total roster spots

Roster sizes may expand to 15-16 athletes if necessary for:

- Positional balance
- Pitching depth
- Injury replacement
- Event logistics

Pitching Structure

Roster construction targets:

- Approximately 16 total pitchers across all teams

- At least one 5A or 6A pitcher per roster whenever possible to assist with competitive balance and game flow

Pitchers are evaluated using:

- ERA
- Strikeouts
- Workload metrics
- Efficiency
- Overall season impact

Positional Balance

After identifying top statistical performers and multi-category athletes:

1. Pitchers and catchers are prioritized during initial roster construction
2. Team positional needs are evaluated
3. Defensive balance is reviewed
4. Remaining roster positions are filled using the highest-impact athletes available within the tier system

Transparency & Integrity Standards

D1 Prospects prioritizes:

- Objective evaluation standards
- Statewide athlete representation
- Transparency in selection methodology
- Competitive roster construction
- Consistency across all classifications

While statistical production serves as the primary foundation for selections, additional factors such as roster balance, positional needs, and event logistics may also be considered during final roster decisions.

Glossary of Terms

Batting Average (BA)

A hitter's success rate calculated by dividing hits by at-bats.

Extra Base Hits (XBH)

Combined total of doubles, triples, and home runs.

ERA (Earned Run Average)

Average number of earned runs allowed per seven innings pitched.

Fielding Percentage (FPCT)

A defensive statistic measuring successful defensive opportunities without errors.

Formula:

$(\text{Putouts} + \text{Assists}) \div \text{Total Chances}$

Strikeouts (K)

Number of batters retired by strikeout.

Innings Pitched (IP)

Total innings thrown during the season.

Batters Faced (BF)

Total hitters faced by a pitcher.

Workload

Overall season responsibility and usage of an athlete.

Multi-Category Athlete

An athlete appearing across multiple statistical leaderboards.

Two-Way Player

An athlete who contributes significantly in multiple phases of the game.

Offensive Production

A broad evaluation of an athlete's offensive contribution, including consistency, power, run production, and overall impact at the plate.

Defensive Impact

The overall influence a player has defensively through reliability, positional responsibility, range, and defensive opportunities.

Positional Balance

The process of constructing rosters to ensure teams have appropriate positional coverage.

Positional Value

Consideration given to positions carrying increased responsibility such as pitchers, catchers, shortstops, and middle infielders.

Competitive Balance

The effort to create evenly matched All-State teams through balanced roster construction.

Statewide Representation

Intentional inclusion and evaluation of athletes from all Utah classifications (1A-6A).

Statistical Leaderboard

A ranking system organizing athletes by performance within a specific statistical category.

Efficiency Metrics

Statistics evaluating production relative to workload or opportunity rather than raw totals alone.

Volume Statistics

Raw accumulation statistics that increase with opportunity or workload.

Roster Construction

The overall process of building balanced teams while considering positional needs, pitching depth, versatility, and classification representation.

Athlete Pool

The group of athletes identified through leaderboard evaluations and tier rankings for roster consideration.

Evaluation Tier

An internal grouping system used to organize athletes based on statistical production, versatility, workload, and overall impact.

Objective Evaluation

An evaluation process based primarily on measurable statistical performance and defined criteria.

Subjective Evaluation

Evaluation based on observation, opinion, or personal assessment rather than measurable statistical criteria alone.

Utility Player (UTIL)

An athlete capable of playing multiple defensive positions effectively.

Two-Phase Impact

An athlete demonstrating high-level contribution in both offensive and defensive or pitching categories.

Workhorse Pitcher

A pitcher carrying a significant innings workload and consistently pitching in high-volume situations.

Classification-Based Evaluation

Evaluation process separating athletes by 1A-6A classifications to ensure fair statewide comparison and representation.