



## INFIELD TIDBITS

1. The “golden rule” is to catch the ball before throwing the ball.
2. When in the rest position be aware of the surroundings and the situation...wind, score, inning, outs, speed, base runners, outfielder's arms, etc.
3. B—B—B —Ball, Base, Back-up
4. The infielder should be ready to move in six directions: Up, Down, Front, Back, Left, Right.
5. One of the main keys to fielding is wanting the ball hit to you and being aggressive.
6. Some good analogies for fielding ground balls is to compare the glove to a garbage can, the bare hand as the lid and the ball as the garbage...and you're going to clean up the garbage.
7. Infielders should not pump the ball into their gloves after fielding the ball. The baserunner is RUNNING as you do this.
8. If a ground ball is mishandled it should be picked up with the throwing hand and not with the glove, which will allow a better chance to get a good grip on the baseball.
9. Middle infielders should communicate with each other on who will be taking second base on a steal.
10. Infielders should take the opportunity to groom the infield between pitches/innings.
11. Take the time to know your infield, potential bad hops, etc.
12. When the ball is slow-moving, grab it with your bare hands. Push the hand into the ball into the dirt—this will give you a firm grip and allow for a quicker throw.

### DRILLS to PRACTICE at HOME

- Grounders, turning two, covering base.
- Practice covering base from different positions. Work on accurate low throws to first.
- Practice grounders to your right side and making the throw to 1st. Practice forehand and backhand short-hop catches
- Fielding fly balls in all directions. Covering 2B. Field it LOW, stay low to throw, NOSE to leather