

# 2010

Minnesota  
American Legion  
Baseball  
Rule Book

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The American Legion  
Department of  
Minnesota

## AMERICAN LEGION NATIONAL GRADUATES OF THE YEAR

|  |  |
|--|--|
| 1958 John Sherman Lollar,<br>Chicago White Sox         | 1986 Dale Murphy,<br>Atlanta Braves            |
| 1959 No award was made                                 | 1987 Don Mattingly,<br>New York Yankees        |
| 1960 Theodore Samuel Williams,<br>Boston Red Sox       | 1988 Roger Clemens,<br>Boston Red Sox          |
| 1961 Stanley Frank Musial,<br>St. Louis Cardinals      | 1989 Alan Trammell,<br>Detroit Tigers          |
| 1962 Robert Clinton Richardson,<br>New York Yankees    | 1990 Harold Reynolds,<br>Seattle Mariners      |
| 1963 Warren Edward Spahn,<br>Milwaukee Braves          | 1991 Sid Beam,<br>Atlanta Braves               |
| 1964 Brooks Calbert Robinson,<br>Baltimore Orioles     | 1992 Terry Lee Steinbach,<br>Oakland Athletics |
| 1965 Eddie Gene Fisher,<br>Chicago White Sox           | 1993 Billy Swift,<br>San Francisco Giants      |
| 1966 Frank Robinson,<br>Baltimore Orioles              | 1994 Greg Maddux,<br>Atlanta Braves            |
| 1967 Carl Michael Yastrzemski,<br>Boston Red Sox       | 1995 Bob Tewksbury,<br>Texas Rangers           |
| 1968 Michael Steven (Mickey) Lolich,<br>Detroit Tigers | 1996 Paul Molitor,<br>Minnesota Twins          |
| 1969 Harmon Clayton Killebrew, Jr.<br>Minnesota Twins  | 1997 Mo Vaughn<br>Boston Red Sox               |
| 1970 David Authur McNally,<br>Baltimore Orioles        | 1998 Tony Gwynn<br>San Diego Padres            |
| 1971 Steven Norman Carlton,<br>St. Louis Cardinals     | 1999 Steve Finley<br>San Diego Padres          |
| 1972 Albert William Kaline,<br>Detroit Tigers          | 2000 Chipper Jones<br>Atlanta Braves           |
| 1973 Johnny Lee Bench,<br>Cincinnati Reds              | 2001 Todd Stottlemyre<br>Arizona Diamondbacks  |
| 1974 Wibur Forrester Wood, Jr.,<br>Chicago White Sox   | 2002 Luis Gonzalez<br>Arizona Diamondbacks     |
| 1975 Carlton Ernest Fisk,<br>Boston Red Sox            | 2003 Jeff Bagwell<br>Houston Astros            |
| 1976 Robert (Rick) Monday, Jr.,<br>Chicago Cubs        | 2004 Darrin Erstad<br>Anaheim Angels           |
| 1977 David Mark Winfield,<br>San Diego Padres          | 2005 Scott Rolen<br>St. Louis Cardinals        |
| 1978 Ronald Ames Guidry,<br>New York Yankees           | 2006 Albert Pujols<br>St. Louis Cardinals      |
| 1979 Michael K. Flanagan,<br>Baltimore Orioles         | 2007 Chris Carpenter<br>St. Louis Cardinals    |
| 1980 George Brett,<br>Kansas City Royals               | 2008 Jason Verlander<br>Detroit Tigers         |
| 1981 Gary Edmund Carter,<br>Montreal Expos             | 2009 Lyle Overbay<br>Toronto Blue Jays         |
| 1982 James Sundberg,<br>Texas Rangers                  | 2010 Brandon Inge<br>Detroit Tigers            |
| 1983 Andre Thornton,<br>Cleveland Indians              |  |
| 1984 Ryne Dee Sandberg,<br>Chicago Cubs                |  |
| 1985 Jeff Reardon,<br>Montreal Expos                   |  |

## **2010 Season Notes from the State Baseball Director:**

Thank you for participating in the 2010 American Legion Baseball season. This updated Rulebook will help you with questions you might have about American Legion Rules, particularly those involving play in Minnesota.

Each year, we try to make modifications in the language to make the Rules more clear – or to reflect action taken by the State Baseball Committee. **As a result, it is highly recommended that you review this year's Rulebook thoroughly, cover to cover.** Items of particular significance:

While more detailed instructions will be communicated separately regarding the National American Legion's new electronic registration and fee payment requirements, as of this printing date, it is anticipated that Minnesota State requirements will not significantly change as a result. Teams must still submit printed hardcopies of player forms (Form 2, Form 76, Form 77, etc.) to their District Directors by the deadline dates outlined in this Rulebook (or an earlier date established by their District Directors.) In addition, teams must supply their District Directors with a hardcopy printout of their Player Roster of Eligibility (National Form #1), which they completed electronically on the National registration system. Copies of insurance certificates will no longer need to be submitted to District Directors, however.

As in the past, Outside Sponsors of Minnesota American Legion teams must be reapproved annually. A form for doing so is available from your District Director.

The format of Rule 4, Player Selection and Rostering, was completely reworded, with definitions outlined at the beginning, in an effort to add clarity to complex Plan B Rules.

A separate section (Rule 15) was added for our Junior Legion Program (17 and under), which has been growing, and we hope it will continue to do so.

As was the case for last season, 2009-2010 enrollment figures for high schools in Minnesota will be obtained from the Minnesota Department of Education by the State Baseball Committee, and this information will be made available to teams in March.

As always, your District Directors and State Committee are available to provide any assistance that you might need. We hope you have a great season, and we appreciate your ongoing participation in Minnesota American Legion Baseball.

Darwin Berg  
Minnesota State Baseball Director

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## **2010 MINNESOTA DEADLINES** **& IMPORTANT DATES**

Note: These deadlines apply uniformly to all American Legion teams – Senior (Division I and Division II) and Junior teams — unless noted or communicated otherwise. Hardcopies of the forms listed below must be submitted through each District Director – therefore, they will need to be submitted by an earlier date than that shown below.

**April 15:** Forms seeking approval of Outside Sponsorship must have been submitted to the State office for review and approval by the Rules Committee. (Newly forming teams must have also submitted information by this date to indicate their intent to form a team, including sponsor, team name, base school, primary team contact person, etc. If existing teams have a change in sponsorship, base school, or other critical information, it should also have been submitted by this date, so it can be approved.)

**June 1:** Insurance must have been purchased by this date from the designated carrier (S.A. Van Dyk). Teams without valid insurance after June 1 will be ineligible to compete in American Legion Baseball. Minnesota Baseball kits will not be sent to teams/Posts until the State Baseball Director has confirmation from National that team insurance has been purchased. June 1 is also the deadline date for District Directors to file District Rules with the State Director.

**June 10:** All Transfers/Releases (Form #76), Declarations (Form #77), as well as any unique exemptions, declarations or requests (that do not otherwise have a specified deadline date) must have been submitted by this date to the State Director, through the team's respective District Director.

**June 20:** A hardcopy printout of the Player Roster (National Form #1), generated through the on-line registration process, as well as fully-completed and signed Form #2's for all team players and personnel, must be in the possession of the respective District Directors.

**June 27:** District Directors' final deadline to submit Player Rosters (Form #1's) and Form #2's to State Director.

**July 26:** Deadline for each District to declare its champion(s) for State Tournament participation.

### **Junior Legion:**

**July 26 – Aug 1:** Annual Junior Legion State Tournament in Eagan, Minnesota.

**Aug 4 – 8:** Mid-State Regional, Fargo, North Dakota.

**Aug 4 – 8:** West Regional, Rapid City, South Dakota.

### **Senior Legion, Division II:**

**July 29:** Reporting date for participating teams.

**July 30 – Aug 1:** 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Division II State Tournament in Dilworth, Minnesota.

**Aug 5 – 9:** Central Plains Region, LeSueur, Minnesota.

### **Senior Legion, Division I:**

**July 28:** Reporting date for participating teams.

**July 29 – Aug 1:** 84<sup>th</sup> Annual State Division I Tournament in Hibbing, Minnesota.

**Aug 5 – 9:** Central Plains Region 6 National Playoff Tournament, Blue Springs, Missouri.

**Aug 5 – 9:** Great Lakes Region 5 National Playoff Tournament, Mattoon, Illinois.

**Aug 13 – 17:** 85<sup>th</sup> American Legion Baseball National World Series, Spokane, Washington.

## **2010 MINNESOTA BASEBALL OFFICERS**

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**Note:** *Direct all correspondence to  
Al Zdon, Baseball Secretary.*

**Minnesota website:** [www.mnlegion.org](http://www.mnlegion.org)

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## 2010 DISTRICT BASEBALL DIRECTORS

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American Legion Baseball Competition shall be played under Rules set forth and adopted by the National Americanism Commission, The American Legion, National Headquarters, 700 North Pennsylvania Street, Indianapolis, Indiana 46206. Policies not covered in the Rulebook may be found in the Department of Minnesota Baseball Policy Manual. Any variation between the information contained in this Rulebook and the Baseball Policy Manual or the intent of the Minnesota Department Baseball Committee (hereinafter "State Baseball Committee"), whether it be due to typographical error, accidental misstatement, omission or inclusion, or user misinterpretations of language, does not alter or change the intent of any such Rule or policy, as originally adopted by the State Baseball Committee. In such situations, the Minnesota Department Baseball Director (hereinafter "State Director") has full and final authority with respect to clarifying or correcting any information contained herein. Policies or issues not covered in writing at all will be considered by the State Director, who has full authority for issuing a final decision.

## **RULE 1 PLAYING REGULATIONS**

Competition shall only be between teams that have properly registered, completed and filed National Forms #1 and #2, as well as all other required forms, notices and declarations, paid any and all required State and National registration fees, and provided proof of team insurance to the State Baseball Committee, per stated deadlines.

All games shall be played under OFFICIAL BASEBALL RULES, as authorized by the Commissioner of Major League Baseball, except as noted herein.

**A. Voluntary Program.** All players and many coaches, managers, and other personnel participating in the American Legion Baseball program do so on a voluntary basis.

**B. Insurance.** All teams shall be covered by S.A. Van Dyk group accident and liability insurance prior to the first day of practice or tryouts, or June 1, whichever comes first. No Minnesota State Baseball kit will be issued without confirmation from National that insurance has been purchased. Teams who fail to purchase insurance prior to the required date shall be subject to disqualification from any further American Legion competition.

**C. Player Roster; Player Agreement & Consent.** A properly completed Player Agreement (National Form #2) for each player, coach, manager, or other official associated with the team shall be in the possession of the team Manager at all baseball games. A copy of the



Player Roster of Eligibility (National Form #1) must also be in the possession of the team at all times.

**D. Tobacco Use.** The use of any form of tobacco by a player, coach, manager, umpire, official, scorekeeper, or persons accompanying a team while on the playing field is prohibited. Any violation of this Rule will cause the individual to be removed from the game. For the purpose of this Rule, dugouts, player benches, and bullpens are considered part of the playing field.

**E. Controlled Substances.** The use of any controlled substance by participants will not be tolerated, and is grounds for expulsion from the Program.

**F. Game Limits.** Playing days will begin at 8:00 a.m. local time. No team shall be required to play more than two (2) games in any one day.

In the event of a suspended game, innings played to complete a game that was suspended on a prior day shall not count towards this maximum; each team may play an additional two (2) games on the day the suspended game is completed.

**G. Equipment Inspection.** Fifteen (15) minutes prior to the start of the game, umpires shall be required to check for illegal or cracked helmets and bats, and to remove any illegal or damaged equipment. Illegal or broken equipment represents serious potential for injury and must be addressed prior to the start of any game. Equipment in use shall also be monitored by the umpires throughout the game, to ensure its legality and safety suitability.

**H. On the Field.** Only registered players or adult coaches will be permitted in the coaching boxes on the field. Team managers shall be responsible for supervising bat and/or ball persons (who must be at least 12 years of age and properly outfitted per Equipment Rules) and ensuring that their time on the field of play is kept to a minimum.

**I. Blood Rule; First Aid.** If a player suffers a laceration or any other injury whereby blood is visible, the game shall be stopped at the earliest possible time and the player treated immediately. If the bleeding requires extensive treatment, a substitute shall replace the injured player. (Umpires are directed to give reasonable time to allow injured players to be treated; the umpire's judgment shall rule.) Injured player re-entry is subject to the applicable Re-entry Rule.

Each team must have a properly-supplied first aid kit in its possession for use at all baseball games.

**J. Force-Play Slide Rule.** The intent of the force-play Rule is to ensure the safety of the defensive player. This is a safety rule, as well as an interference rule. Whether or not the defense could have completed a double-play has no bearing on applicability. This Rule pertains to a force-play situation at any base, regardless of the number of outs.

1. On any force play, the runner must slide on the ground before the base – and in a direct line between the two bases. It is permissible for the slider's momentum to carry him through the base, in the baseline extended. **Exception:** A runner need not slide directly into a base, as long as the runner slides or runs in a direction away from the fielder, to avoid making contact or altering the play of the fielder. In this case, interference shall not be called.

a. "On the ground" can either be a head-first slide, or a slide with one leg and buttock on the ground before the base.

b. "Directly into a base" means the runner's entire body (feet, legs, trunk and arms) must stay in a straight line between bases.

If a runner goes into a base standing up and does not make contact or alter the play of the defensive player, interference shall not be called. If the runner goes into a base standing up (and is either safe or out), but makes contact with or alters the play of the defensive player, interference shall be called.

2. Contact with a fielder is legal, and interference shall not be called, if the runner makes a legal slide directly to the base and in the baseline extended. If contact occurs on top of the base as a result of a "pop-up" slide, such contact is legal.

3. Actions by a runner are illegal, and interference shall be called, if:

a. The runner slides or runs out of the baseline in the direction of the fielder and alters the play of the fielder (with or without contact);

b. The runner uses a rolling or cross-body slide or either makes contact with, or alters the play of, a fielder;

c. The runner's raised leg makes contact higher than the fielder's knee, when the fielder is in a standing position;

d. The runner slashes or kicks the fielder with either leg, and/or

e. The runner illegally slides toward or makes contact with the fielder, even if the fielder makes no attempt to throw to complete a play.

The **penalty** for the violations 3a-3e, immediately above, are as follows:

- a. With less than two outs, the batter-runner, as well as the interfering runner, shall be declared out, and no other runner(s) shall advance.
- b. With two outs, the interfering runner shall be declared out, and no other runner(s) shall advance.
- c. If the runner's slide or collision is deemed to be flagrant, the runner shall be ejected from the contest.
- d. If the bases are loaded with no outs, a double play attempt is made, and interference is called, all other runners must return to their original bases.

**K. Collisions.** The intent of this Rule is to encourage base runners and defensive players to avoid collisions whenever possible.

1. When there is a collision between a runner and a fielder who clearly is in possession of the ball, the umpire shall judge:

- a. Whether the collision by the runner was avoidable (e.g., could the runner have reached the base without colliding) or unavoidable (e.g., the runner's path to the base was blocked), or
- b. Whether the runner was actually attempting to reach the base (or plate) or if he was attempting to dislodge the ball from the fielder.

**Penalty:** If it is deemed that the runner a) could have avoided the collision and reached the base, or b) attempted to dislodge the ball, the runner shall be declared out, even if the fielder loses possession of the ball. The ball is dead, and all base runners shall return to the last base touched at the time of the interference.

- a. Ruling 1: If the fielder blocks the path of the base runner to the base (or plate), the runner may make contact, slide into, or collide with a fielder, as long as the runner is making a legitimate attempt to reach the base or plate.
- b. Ruling 2: If the collision by the runner is flagrant, the runner shall be declared out and ejected from the contest. The ball shall be declared dead.

2. If the defensive player blocks the base (plate) or base line without the ball, obstruction shall be called. The runner is safe, and a delayed dead ball shall be called.

Ruling: If the runner collides flagrantly, he shall be declared safe on the obstruction, but will be

ejected from the contest. The ball is dead.

3. Malicious contact is illegal. Any player who, in the judgment of the umpire, maliciously runs into another player shall automatically be called out and ejected.

**L. State Competition Rules.** For Senior Division I teams, the Rules listed below apply only during regular season play. Beginning with Senior Division I State Competition (Sub-District tournament play and forward), National Rules concerning Designated Hitters and Re-entry shall apply; thus, note that courtesy runners are also not allowed, beginning with Sub-District tournaments and forward. For further guidance, see the National American Legion Rulebook, as well as the Official Baseball Rules, as authorized by the Commissioner of Major League Baseball.

**1. Designated Hitter Rule.** *Note: For Senior Division I teams, this Rule applies to the regular season only. At the start of Senior Division I Sub-district tournament play, and through the Minnesota American Legion Division I State Tournament, the American League designated hitter Rule (for pitcher only, as published in the Official Baseball Rules) goes into effect.* On a voluntary basis (it is not mandatory), a hitter may be designated for any one starting player (not only pitchers), and all subsequent substitutes for that player in the game. A designated hitter for said player must be selected prior to the start of the game, and his name must be include on the lineup card presented to the umpire-in-chief and to the official scorekeeper. It is not mandatory that a team use a designated hitter, but failure to declare such a hitter prior to the game precludes use of a designated hitter in that game.

If a pinch hitter or pinch runner for the designated hitter is used, that player becomes the new designated hitter.

The role of designated hitter is terminated for the remainder of the game when:

- a. The defensive player, or any previous defensive player, for whom the designated hitter batted, subsequently bats, pinch hits or pinch runs for the designated hitter; or
- b. The designated hitter, or any previous designated hitter, assumes a defensive position.

A designated hitter and the player for whom he is batting are "locked" into the batting order. No multi-

ple substitutions may be made that will alter the batting rotation.

**2. Re-entry Rule.** Note: For Senior Division I teams, This Rule applies to the regular season only. At the start of Senior Division I Sub-district tournament play, and through the Minnesota American Legion Division I State Tournament, there is no re-entry provision of any kind. Any player in the starting line up may be substituted for once. This includes a player who was the designated hitter, provided such player occupies the same batting position whenever he is in the lineup. A substitute who is withdrawn from play may not re-enter.

**M. Pitching Rules.** No Senior Legion player, may pitch more than a total of twelve (12) innings or make more than four (4) appearances as a pitcher, in combining the total innings or appearances in any three (3) consecutive calendar-day period. No Junior Legion player may pitch more than a total of ten (10) innings or make more than three (3) appearances as a pitcher, in combining the total innings or appearances in any three (3) consecutive calendar-day period.

**Violation of these maximums shall cause the pitcher to become an illegal pitcher. The penalty for use of such an illegal pitcher is forfeiture of the game.**

1. Should a double or triple play cause a pitcher to exceed the permitted number of innings in three (3) consecutive calendar days, that action, in itself, shall not be construed as a violation of this Rule.

2. Any appearances on the mound will be governed by playing regulations. Any pitcher may be removed as a pitcher and still remain in the game at another position.

3. When games are suspended on one day and completed on another following day, the pitching records shall be charged as if all applicable innings were pitched on the first day. For example: the pitcher will be charged for innings pitched on the first day; innings pitched on the subsequent day will also be charged to the first day; one appearance will be charged, unless there is a change in pitchers.

4. When time out is called to talk to a defensive player, upon the second visit to the mound by a coach in the same inning, that pitcher must be removed from the mound. The player may stay in the game at another defensive position, but he cannot return as

pitcher in that game. Penalty for violation of this Rule is forfeiture of the game, if protest is filed with the umpire before the last out of the game.

5. A pitcher may have only eight (8) warm-up pitches between innings and not over eight (8) for the first inning that he pitches.

6. A new pitcher brought in from another defensive position shall have ample time to warm up. The number of warm-up pitches shall be designated by the chief umpire. (This Rule shall be liberally interpreted.)

7. Hand to Mouth Rule.

a. A pitcher may go to the mouth only if he is off the mound. (The mound is considered that area which includes the 18-foot diameter circle.)

b. Should a pitcher, while on the mound, go to his mouth, the umpire will call an automatic ball. Base runners will not advance on the automatic ball, unless such a ball would be the fourth called ball, causing a walk, and the regular rule on walks, as applied to base runners, would apply.

c. This method of automatic balls cannot be used to intentionally walk a batter. Such action will result in the pitcher being removed from the game. Such player cannot return.

d. Continued abuse of this Rule by an American Legion Baseball team may result in the team being suspended from further play in American Legion Baseball, as well as forfeiture of all games played to date. Such ruling shall be made by the appropriate American Legion Baseball Official.

**For other important information (such as that pertaining to Uniform and Equipment Rules; Conduct expectations; Team, Player and Sponsor Registration requirements; District and State level competition; Division II and Junior Legion program provisions) see the other applicable sections of this Rulebook.**

## RULE 2 PLAYER ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

### A. Player age.

1. American Legion Baseball competition in 2010 is open only to players born on or after January 1, 1991. Those born in 1990 or earlier are not eligible.
2. The 2010 Junior American Legion Baseball program is open only to players born on or after January 1, 1993. Those born in 1992 or earlier are not eligible to participate in Junior American Legion Baseball. It is a 17-and-under Program.

**B. Player's Residence (Domicile).** A player's legal residence shall be established as of March 31 of the respective year of competition.

1. A player's legal residence shall be his parents' (or permanent court-appointed guardian's) permanent and legal residence (Domicile). This means living in a particular locality with the intent of it being a fixed and permanent home; a post-office box, secondary short-term rental property or temporarily-leased space does not qualify as a Domicile. *Note: Temporary guardianship does not apply, unless a Court, having jurisdiction over such matters, has determined the parents to be incapable of supervision and care until the player reaches the age of majority (18 years of age.)*

2. If an eligible player's parents are divorced or legally separated, that player may elect to play for a team based upon the permanent residence (domicile) of either parent, provided that:

a. The player declares such domicile/team election in writing, and files it with the State Director, through the respective District Director, prior to the designated deadline date. Such declaration shall be final and valid for the remainder the player's Legion eligibility (and subject to all other applicable provisions and conditions of Rule 4), unless a subsequent event allows a permissible change.

b. The Total Enrollment (10, 11, 12<sup>th</sup> grades, as defined in Rule 4) of the school attended by the player as of March 31 of the respective year of competition must also be counted by the rostering team in its Combined Total Enrollment, as outlined in Rule 4.

3. In the event that both parents are deceased or incapable of caring for and supervising the player during minority, the player's residence will be deter-

mined by the Domicile of the permanent legal guardian, as appointed by the Court that has jurisdiction to make such an appointment.

4. Should a situation arise that is not covered by the provisions of this Rule, the authorized State Official will, at his/her sole discretion, determine the player's legal residence for the purposes of participation in the American Legion Baseball program.

a. Such decision shall be communicated in writing and filed with National Headquarters.

b. All applicable conditions and provisions of Rule 4 shall apply, and the Total Enrollment of the school attended by the player as of March 31 of the respective year of competition shall be counted by the rostering team in its Combined Total Enrollment.

5. For an eligible player who is not enrolled in secondary (high) school, including those who are emancipated and/or attending college, technical or trade school, the Player's Domicile shall continue to be determined as outlined above (i.e., based upon parent/guardian's permanent Domicile), even if the Player is temporarily residing elsewhere as of March 31 for the purpose of pursuing an education or any other reason. American Legion Baseball does not allow emancipated players to be "free agents."

**C. Professional Baseball Contract Rule.** Players who are 18 years of age may be signed to a professional baseball contract in accordance with the Rules of Professional Baseball. Such players may not be replaced on a team's National Form #1 Roster after the State or National submittal deadline has passed, whichever is earliest.

**D. Amateur Rule.** Only amateurs shall participate as players in American Legion Baseball. To be considered an amateur, a player must not:

1. Receive money, favors, or gratuities, direct or indirect, for playing baseball.

2. Accept money or favors for reimbursement of time lost at work while playing, or for expenses incurred while playing.

3. Accept, directly or indirectly, money or any favors by anyone for his baseball services, past or present. This also applies to a player's parents, trustees, guardians, etc.

4. Try out for any professional team without the written permission of his American Legion Baseball coach or Post Commander. (Professional Baseball Rules govern tryouts and merits of contracting with



professional clubs.)

Note: State Departments, Districts, or Posts planning all-star games are advised to contact their state high school athletic association (e.g., Minnesota State High School League) to confirm or clarify the effect upon each player's high school eligibility.

**E. Participation in Other Programs.** American Legion Baseball players, coaches, managers, or teams may participate in other amateur baseball programs, subject to the approval of team management, as well as the District Director. Since the American Legion believes that loyalty and ethics are key team ingredients, such permitted participation will not, in any way, interfere with a player's responsibility to American Legion Baseball throughout the entire season, as opposed to just during the playoffs and post-season play.

**F. Proof of Age.** With respect to American Legion Baseball participation, the State Baseball Committee will only accept, as proof of age

1. A U.S. Government issue passport, and/or
2. Records of birth that are **originals or certified documents** from the State Bureau of Vital Statistics, Department of Health, or other government agency authorized to issue/certify birth documents; these documents typically have the raised seal of the issuing agency.
  - a. Notarized photocopies of birth certificates, hospital records, baptismal records, school records, or other such records are not acceptable proof of age and will result in disqualification of the player and/or team.
  - b. In the case of foreign birth, the player will present the applicable certificate or document, duly issued to the bearer by the Department of Homeland Security or Department of State, which documents that agency's accepted, official birth date of the bearer. Official birth certificates issued by a foreign country are acceptable, when accompanied by a letter with a certified English translation; such a birth certificate must have an official seal.
  - c. A Court-certified copy of that portion of a permanent legal adoption record, showing the place and date of a player's birth, shall be acceptable in cases involving players who have been adopted.

### **RULE 3 PLAYER SELECTION – PLAN “A”**

The “Plan A” Player selection method (as outlined within National American Legion Baseball Rules) is not applicable within the Minnesota American Legion Baseball program.

### **RULE 4 PLAYER SELECTION – PLAN “B”**

Only the “Plan B” Base School player selection method is used within the Minnesota American Legion Baseball program, allowing both Senior and Junior Legion Baseball teams to select players based upon 1) the high school attended by the eligible player and/or 2) the Player’s Domicile (as defined in Rule 2.)

Note: While “Plan B” player selection Rules are flexible, they are very complex; therefore, teams are advised to study the following Rules carefully in order to prevent issues of player ineligibility and/or team disqualification.

#### **A. Definitions of Key Terms.**

**1. Base School.** A high school located within Minnesota, public or private, that is officially declared by a participating American Legion Baseball team as its home base for the selection of eligible players.

**2. Non-Base School.** Any high school located within Minnesota, public or private, that is not a declared home base for a participating American Legion Baseball team.

**3. Public High School.** Any state-supported secondary high school with a traditional or alternative curriculum, which enrolls students through Grade 12 (or its equivalent) on a tuition-free basis.

**4. Private High School.** Any secondary high school located within Minnesota, with a traditional or alternative curriculum, which enrolls students through Grade 12 (or its equivalent), and which charges tuition for student attendance.

**5. Private Boarding School.** Any private secondary high school, with a traditional or alternative curriculum, which enrolls students through Grade 12 (or its equivalent), which charges tuition for student attendance, and which houses the majority of students (51%) at the school during the school year.

**6. Attendance Area (Boundary).** The populated area surrounding a particular public high school, established by the applicable public school system, using a designated method or boundary system to identify the one high school a student (player) is to normally attend. Typically, a high school's Attendance Area is tied to street lines or similar boundaries, and student addresses are mapped to a particular high school using such – or it is tied to similarly-mapped attendance at elementary or middle schools that feed directly into one particular high school.

a. When a player's Domicile is located within the Attendance Area of a Base School, that Base School is automatically deemed to be the closest Base School to the player's Domicile, regardless of the actual calculated distance between the player's Domicile and the Base School, in comparison to calculated distances between the player's Domicile and other schools in the area.

b. If a public school district does not have an established method for assigning resident students to normal high Schools of Attendance (in other words, if all students can only enroll in, and attend, high school by making application to a school of their choice within the school district), Attendance Areas/boundaries for each public high school within that public school district will be established by the State Baseball Committee.

c. A private high school or private boarding school (that does not have a defined Attendance Area/boundary of its own), which is located within the Attendance Area/boundary of a public high school, will assume the Attendance Area/boundary of that public high school.

**7. Open Enrollment.** A process through which a student (player) applies with the applicable public school district(s) to attend a different high school, traditional or alternative, than the one he would normally attend under the school district's method of assigning students to specific public high schools.

**8. School of Attendance.** The high school in which an eligible player is enrolled, as of March 31 of the respective year of competition.

a. **Non-Graduates, Not Attending High School.** For players who have not yet graduated from high school but who were also not enrolled in high school as of March 31 of the

respective year of competition (including those who are home-schooled, who attend an elementary, middle or junior high school, and those who normally would be enrolled in high school, but who are not), a player's School of Attendance shall be based upon the player's Domicile as of March 31. In other words, his School of Attendance is the high school he normally would be attending, based upon his Domicile, if enrolled in high school.

**b. High School Graduates.** For those no longer in high school on March 31 of the respective year of competition because of graduation from high school (including those attending a college or other post-secondary school), a player's School of Attendance shall be the last high school attended by that player (i.e., the school in which the player was enrolled as of March 31 of the year of competition immediately prior.)

**9. Total Enrollment (of a School).** Enrollment for a school is determined by using only the number of 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade students, as officially recorded and published by the Minnesota Department of Education for the applicable school attendance year, inclusive of March 31 of the respective year of competition. (Such enrollment data for schools throughout Minnesota, as published by the Minnesota Department of Education, will be made available to participating teams by the State Baseball Committee, through the District Directors.)

a. Every student registered shall be counted by participating teams, including special education students, physically-challenged students, bilingual students and students over the age of 19.

b. Single-gender student-bodied schools' enrollment must be doubled by teams, when declaring that particular school's Total Enrollment. (For example, an all male school with 1,000 enrollees must be declared/recorded by the team as having an enrollment of 2,000.)

**10. Combined Total Enrollment.** The accumulated, combined Total Enrollments of all public, private, and private boarding high schools that are represented by players on a team's roster through,

a. The player's actual attendance at a particular high school,

b. The addition of a high school's Total Enrollment through the fact that the player would otherwise normally attend a particular school (if enrolled in high school), per the

School of Attendance provisions above, and  
c. The accumulation of Total Enrollments for particular high schools under the Option and Transfer & Bypass Rules.

In no event will the Combined Total Enrollment of schools represented on a team's roster exceed the following:

- a. For Junior teams and Senior Division I teams, 3,600, unless the Base School itself exceeds 3,600 and all players attend that school. *(See the School Enrollment Expansion Rule, however, for certain exceptions related to previously-rostered players.)*
- b. For Division II teams, 400, except as specifically noted in Division II Program Rules.

**B. Base School Designation.** Each team must designate a Base School, which serves as its basis, or core area, for selecting and rostering players.

1. Each team may designate only one high school as its Base School; it may be a public or a private high school. *(Note: See important information below regarding player selection restrictions that apply to certain types of Base School teams.)*

2. At time of formation, a new team must request advance approval of its Base School designation from the respective District and State Director.

a. A team that designates a private high school as its Base School may only roster players who attend its Base School.

b. A team that designates a Base School with Total Enrollment that exceeds the maximum Combined Total Enrollment of 3,600 may only roster players who attend its Base School.

*(Note: For those teams with Outside Sponsors (i.e., teams not sponsored by an American Legion Post), see Player and Team Registration Rule section for important information pertaining to annual Outside Sponsor approval requirements.)*

3. An existing team may request a change in its Base School. Such request must be in writing, and be approved by the respective District Director and State Director, prior to submittal of the team's National Form #1 Roster for the applicable year of competition.

4. If two or more teams are sponsored by the same American Legion Post or Outside Sponsor, the respective District Director and State Director must approve the Base School assigned for each team in

advance.

5. If participation interest is such that one Base School can support more than one team (i.e., two or more different teams wish to designate the same Base School), such teams must outline, in writing, the agreed upon method for registering, assigning and/or selecting players between the teams. Such method is subject to approval by the respective District Director, as well as the State Director, prior to the rostering of any players. Once each team's National Form #1 Roster has been submitted and filed with the District Director, no Transfers or inter-changing of players between such teams is allowed.

**C. Player Selection and Rostering.** Teams may select and roster eligible players (through registration/tryout methods of their own choosing), who are enrolled, as of March 31 during the respective year of competition, in any public, private, technical, vocational, regional, preparatory or other type of secondary/high school (or in any combination of these schools). Teams may also select eligible players who are enrolled in college, technical or trade schools, who are emancipated, who do not attend any school, who attend elementary, middle or junior high schools, and/or who are home schooled.

**1. Player Selection.** More specifically, except as outlined in Player Selection Exceptions below, provided that all other eligibility conditions and provisions of these Rules are met, in any combination, a team may select and roster any eligible player

- a. Who attends that team's own designated Base School;
- b. Who attends another team's designated Base School, provided that such player, as applicable
  - i. Has the properly executed written Transfer Form(s) #76, or
  - ii Qualifies under the Rule 4 Option Rule and has properly executed Declaration Form #77;
- c. Who attends a Non-Base School, provided that, as applicable
  - i. The player's Domicile is located within the Attendance Area of the selecting team's Base School; or
  - ii. The player's Domicile is closer in distance to the selecting team's Base School than to any other team's Base School (if

the player's Domicile is not actually located within any Base School's Attendance Area); or

iii. The player has the properly executed written Transfer Form(s) #76; or

iv. The player qualifies under the Rule 4 Option Rule; and has properly executed Declaration Form #77;

d. Who does not attend a Base or Non-Base School at all (including those who are home schooled, who have graduated from high school, and/or who attend a school below the grade level of a high school, such as an elementary, middle or junior high school), provided that, as applicable

i. The player was properly rostered by the selecting team in the year(s) immediately prior, in the case of a player who has graduated from high school, and/or

ii. The player's Domicile is located within the Attendance Area of the team's Base School, and thus, he would normally be assigned to attend that Base School if enrolled in high school, or

iii. The player's Domicile is closer in distance to the selecting team's Base School than to any other team's Base School (if the player's Domicile is not actually located within any Base School's Attendance Area), or

iv. The player has the properly executed written Transfer Form(s) Form #76; or

v. The player qualifies under the Rule 4 Option Rule and has properly executed Declaration Form #77.

**2. Player Selection Exceptions.** The following player selection restrictions apply to certain Base School teams:

a. A team whose Base School is a private high school may only select and roster players who attend its Base School.

b. A team whose Base School's Total Enrollment exceeds the maximum Combined Total Enrollment of 3,600 may only select and roster players from its Base School. (Note: see the School Enrollment Expansion Rule for exceptions related to certain previously-rostered players.)

**3. Distance Calculations.** To determine distance between prospective player Domiciles and Base

Schools, and/or Schools of Attendance, a calculation in miles (and decimal fractions thereof) shall be performed using Mapquest® (www.mapquest.com), utilizing its option for shortest driving distance within the “driving directions” feature.

- a. A school shall have only one location, as determined by its official, legal mailing address.
- b. In the course of determining closest Base School(s), most boundary lines, such as American Legion Baseball District lines and school district boundaries, shall be ignored and not taken into account. (The only pertinent boundary lines applicable in the application and administration of Rule 4 are those used by school districts to define Attendance Areas for individual high schools.)

**4. Combined Total Enrollment Adherence.** In selecting players for its roster, the Total Enrollment of each player’s Base or Non-Base School of Attendance shall be counted by the rostering team in accumulating the Combined Total Enrollment of schools represented on its roster.

- a. In no event shall the Combined Total Enrollment of the schools represented on the team’s roster (including any bypassed schools under Transfer & Bypass Rule herein), exceed the maximum Combined Total Enrollment, as defined above.
- b. If a single high school’s Total Enrollment exceeds the maximum Combined Total Enrollment, the team that uses such school as its Base School shall not be permitted to select players from any other high school. (Note: see School Enrollment Expansion Rule, however, for exceptions related to certain previously-rostered players.)
- c. For those players who do not attend a high school at all (including those enrolled in college, technical or trade school, as well as those who are home-schooled or who attend elementary, middle, or junior high schools), in accumulating Combined Total Enrollment, a team shall count the Total Enrollment of the applicable School(s) of Attendance; that is,
  - i. the high school that the player last attended as of March 31 of the year of competition immediately prior; or
  - ii. the high school that the player would



otherwise normally attend, based upon his Domicile, if the player was not attending a high school at all on March 31 (such as in the case of a home-schooled student, or one attending an elementary, middle or junior high school). In the case of the latter, the enrollment of the elementary, middle or junior high school that the player actually attends shall not be counted at all.

The inclusion of such players on a team's Player Roster (National Form #1) is subject to prior approval by the respective District Director and State Director. Explanation / notation of the player's high school attendance status (as well as Total Enrollment used for that player) shall be included with the team's Player Roster (Form #1).

d. Teams that exceed the maximum Combined Total Enrollment, and that participate in American Legion Baseball competitions during the season regardless, shall face disciplinary action, up to and including suspension from the Program for one year (including playoff participation), or permanent expulsion.

**D. Option Rule.** This Minnesota Rule applies only to those players 1) whose Domicile is outside the Attendance Area of their School of Attendance (regardless if the School of Attendance is a Base School or not); and/or 2) who attend private high schools that are located within another Base School's Attendance Area (regardless if the private school is a Base School or not, and/or if the Player's Domicile is located within the private school's assumed Attendance Area or not.) Specifically,

1. In the case of a player whose attends a public or private high school that a) is a Base School itself, or b) lies within the Attendance Area of a Base School, but the player's Domicile is located in a different school's Attendance Area, the player may elect to play for

a. The Base School team whose Attendance Area encompasses his Domicile, or

If the player's Domicile is not actually located within a Base School's Attendance Area, the Base School team that is closest to the player's Domicile, or

b. The Base School team associated with his School of Attendance, i.e.,

- i. If his School of Attendance is is a Base School, the team based at his School of Attendance;
- ii. If his School of Attendance is not a Base School itself, the Base School team whose Attendance Area encompasses the physical location of his School of Attendance.

Note: If a player attends a school (public or private) that is not a Base School itself, and it is not physically located in a Base School team's Attendance Area, the player is not eligible to make an election under this Option Rule. (He may only play for the Base School Team that is closest to his Domicile, unless properly released by that team under the Transfer Rule.)

2. Such players must make this Option election in writing, using National Declaration Form #77.
  - a. The election shall be final and valid for the remainder of the player's American Legion Baseball eligibility, unless a subsequent event allows a permissible change.
  - b. Before a player may be included on the team's National Form #1 Roster, Declaration Form #77 must be submitted to the State Director for final approval, through the respective District Director.
  - c. It is advised that a copy of Form #77 for each player utilizing the Option Rule be included with the team's National Form #1 Roster when the player is initially rostered, as well as with the team's Form #1 Roster for each subsequent year during which the player is rostered, to prevent questions of eligibility.
  - d. Players who utilize the Option Rule shall not be eligible for Transfer to another team under the Transfer Rule, unless a subsequent event allows a permissible change.
  - e. In accordance with the provisions for determining a team's Combined Total Enrollment, the applicable Total Enrollment of the player's School of Attendance shall be counted.

**Due to the complexity of Plan B Player Selection Rules, the following examples are provided in an effort to provide clarity, with respect to determining a player's beginning Base School team. All other eligibility Rules and requirements must also be met, without exception.**

Note: By definition, a Base School is located within its own Attendance Area.

Situation 1:

- a. A player attends (or would normally attend) any high school located in a Base School's Attendance Area.
- b. The Player's Domicile is also located in that Base School Attendance Area.
- c. Accordingly, the player can play for that Base School team only.

*Note: If the player's School of Attendance is a private Base School, and it is located within another Base School's Attendance Area (e.g., a public Base School's Attendance Area), the player is eligible to make an Option election to play for the private Base School team – or for the public Base School team whose Attendance Area encompasses his School of Attendance (see Situation 6 below.)*

Situation 2:

- A player attends (or would normally attend) any high school that is located in a Base School's Attendance Area.
- The Player's Domicile is located outside of that Base School's Attendance Area – **in a different Base School's Attendance Area.**
- The Player has a one time option, under the Option Rule, to play for
  - The Base School team whose Attendance Area encompasses his School of Attendance
  - OR
  - The Base School team whose Attendance Area encompasses his Domicile
- His Form 77 election is valid for the life of his Legion Baseball eligibility, unless a subsequent event allows a permissible change.

Situation 3:

- A Player attends (or would normally attend) any high school that is located in a Base School's Attendance Area.
- The Player's Domicile is located outside of that Attendance Area – **in which there is no Base School.**
- The Player has a one-time option, under the Option Rule, to play for
  - The Base School team whose Attendance Area encompasses his School of Attendance,
  - OR
  - The Base School team that is located nearest to his Domicile, as determined by Mapquest.
- The Form 77 election is valid for the life of his Legion Baseball eligibility, unless a subsequent event allows a permissible change.

#### Situation 4:

- A Player attends (or would normally attend) any high school which is not located within a Base School's Attendance Area.
- The Player's Domicile, however, is located within the Attendance Area of a Base School.
- Accordingly, the Player may only play for the Base School team whose Attendance Area encompasses his Domicile (where he legally resides).

#### Situation 5:

- A Player attends (or would normally attend) any high school that is not located in a Base School Attendance Area.
- The Player's Domicile is also not located in a Base School's Attendance Area.
- As such, the Player may play only for the Base School team that is nearest to his Domicile, as determined by Mapquest.

#### Situation 6:

- A Player attends a private high school that is a Base School.
- The Player automatically has a one-time option, under the Option Rule, to play for
  - His private Base School team OR
  - The Base School team whose Attendance Area encompasses his Domicile (or, if his Domicile is not located in a Base School's Attendance Area, for the Base School team that is nearest to his Domicile, as determined by Mapquest.)
- His Form 77 election is valid for the life of his Legion Baseball eligibility, unless a subsequent event allows a permissible change.

**Note:** The above examples are intended to illustrate for which Base School team a Player is eligible to play. Once established, a team must then determine whether or not it can legally roster the player (without exceeding Combined Total Enrollment), whether it wishes to Release the player and issue a transfer (if allowed to do so), etc.

**E. Transfer & Bypass Rule.** Any Player, except Jr. Legion players and others as specifically noted elsewhere in Rule 4, may be released from (i.e., waived by) a Base School team, in accordance with the following conditions and provisions.

1. Teams shall not grant Transfers to any players

- a. Who do not first register / tryout with the respective team;
  - b. Who utilized the Option Rule to establish that they will be playing for that team (unless a subsequent event allows a permissible change);
  - c. If the prospective releasing team does not have a full roster of eighteen (18) players on its Player Roster of Eligibility (National Form #1);
2. A released player may register/tryout with the Base School team that is next closest in distance to his Domicile.
3. Before registering / trying-out with that next closest team, however, and before that team may consider or select him, the released player must obtain Transfer Form #76 from the releasing team (including required signatures), and make it available for review by the team to which he is applying.
4. If not selected, the player may then request a release from that team, and then register / tryout with the team that is consecutively the next closest in distance to his Domicile (by obtaining another Transfer Form #76), and so on, until the player is selected by a team.
5. Any team rostering a player who has been issued Transfer(s) will include, in its Combined Total Enrollment, the
  - a. Total Enrollment of the player's School of Attendance, AND
  - b. The Total Enrollment(s) of each high school serving as a Base School for the team(s) that the player "bypassed" (i.e., the Base Schools that are closer in distance to his Domicile than the team that ultimately rosters him).
6. In no event shall the Combined Total Enrollment of the schools represented on the team's roster (including any bypassed schools under this Rule), exceed the maximum Combined Total Enrollment, as defined above.
7. All transfers shall be final and binding for the remainder of the player's American Legion Baseball eligibility, unless a subsequent event allows a permissible change.
8. Before a player may be included on the team's National Form #1 Roster, all required, applicable Transfer Form(s) #76 must be submitted, through the respective District Director, to the State Director for final approval.
9. It is advised that a copy of Form #76 for each player utilizing the Transfer Rule be included with the team's National Form #1 Roster when the player is initially rostered, as well as with the team's Form #1 Roster for each subsequent year during which the player is rostered, to prevent questions of eligibility.
10. Any transfers across State lines require mutual written permission of both respective State Directors.

**F. Teams that No Longer Exist.** Players who are unable to complete their eligibility, because the team for which they last played no longer exists, may register / try-out for a new team, in accordance with all other Eligibility

and Player Selection & Rostering provisions, including that

1. The rostering team shall include the Total Enrollment of the player's School of Attendance in computing its Combined Total Enrollment, and
2. The inclusion of such players on the newly rostering team's National Form #1 Roster is subject to prior approval by the respective District Director and State Director, following explanation of the circumstances.

**G. School Enrollment Expansion.** Senior Division I players who would otherwise be unable to complete their eligibility, because enrollment expansion from one year to the next eliminated their School of Attendance from a team's previously used combination of schools in accumulating Combined Total Enrollment, may continue to play for the team for which they last played, provided that

1. No new players are recruited from that player's School of Attendance,
2. No new schools are represented on the team roster, (forming a different combination of schools), and/or
3. Written permission for a player to continue under these circumstances is obtained from the respective District Director, as well as and State Baseball Director, prior to the player's inclusion on the team's National Form #1 Roster.

For similar provisions pertaining to Division II players / teams, see the Division II Program Rules within this Rulebook.

**H. Change of Address.** Players (including those attending colleges, technical or trade schools) who, from one year of competition to the next, realize a *permanent change* in Domicile (as defined in Rule 2), which makes them ineligible to continue playing with their original team, shall be eligible to register / tryout, and play for the team based upon the new *permanent* Domicile, provided that all other eligibility provisions are met.

Such a Senior Division player who has one year of eligibility remaining, however, shall have the option to register / tryout for a team based upon his new Domicile, or to continue to play with the team for which he had been playing.

1. Prior to the player being included on the new team's National Form #1 Roster, the player's parents or legal guardians must furnish a notarized statement to the prospective team (who must forward it for approval by the respective District Director and State Director) which
  - a. Confirms the change in Domicile (including both the old and new addresses, as well as the effective date), and, if applicable,
  - b. Specifies for which team the player wishes to

play, in the case of a player in his final year of eligibility.

2. The Total Enrollment of the player's School of Attendance on March 31 of the applicable year of competition shall be counted in computing the rostering team's Combined Total Enrollment.

**I. New Team Formation.** In the event a new Legion team is formed, which results in the new team assuming jurisdiction over (i.e., gaining rostering rights to) a player that is already rostered by another team, that player has a one-time option election of continuing to play with the team for which he last played, or for the newly formed team.

1. Such election shall be final and valid for the remainder of the player's American Legion Baseball eligibility, unless a subsequent event allows a permissible change.

2. This option is available to those players who made a previous election (for the remainder of their eligibility) under the Option Rule. Making an election under this New Team Formation provision serves to replace such prior Option Rule election.

3. Prior to being included on either team's National Form #1 Roster, the player must complete Declaration Form #77, which must be forwarded, through the respective District Director, to the State Director for approval.

4. If approved, the Total Enrollment of the high school attended by the player, as of March 31 of the applicable year of competition, shall be counted in computing the rostering team's Combined Total Enrollment.

## RULE 5 PROTESTS

**A. Jurisdiction and Authority.** It is the State Baseball Committee's duty to formulate rules and regulations for competition in Minnesota. State Player Selection and Rostering Rules may be more restrictive than National Rules. District Rules, with the exception of State Player Eligibility and Player Selection & Rostering Rules, may be more restrictive than State Rules.

**1. District.** Each District Director (or his designated representative) shall be responsible for the interpretation of District Rules and has full authority for receiving and answering all questions, disputes and/or protests occurring within, and pertaining to, District-level competition (pre-State Tournament), with no provision for appeal. Each District Director shall also have full and final authority to disqualify or suspend any person deemed to be in violation of any and all applicable Rules.

In the case of the Junior Legion Program, the Junior Legion Director (or his designated representative) shall, respectively, have all such same responsibility and authority.

**2. State.** The State Director (or his designated representative) shall be responsible for the interpretation of State Rules and has full authority for receiving and answering all questions, disputes and/or protests occurring within, and pertaining to, State Rules and State Tournament competition, with no provision for appeal. When conditions permit and/or are deemed necessary by him, the State Director (or his representative) may appoint a person or committee to assist in making decisions, appointed from neutral teams or Districts. The State Director shall also have full and final authority to disqualify or suspend any person deemed to be in violation of any and all applicable Rules.

**3. National.** The National Americanism and Children & Youth Division shall be responsible for the interpretation of national Rules. All requests for such must be in writing (telegrams, faxes and e-mails constitute written communications, in addition to letters) and be submitted through the State Director. Responses will also be delivered through the State Director. Any appeal of a Rule interpretation issued by the National Americanism and Children & Youth Division shall follow National appeal procedures, as published by the national organization. No appeal shall be considered by the National Appeals Board until all applicable, established appeal procedures within the respective State's Rules have been exhausted, as certified in writing by the State Director; such appeals must therefore be delivered to National through the State Director.

**B. Game Condition Protests.** Protests of Official Baseball Rules and playing rule interpretations during actual game conditions must be filed with the Umpire-in-



Chief before the next legally pitched ball is thrown from the pitching mound.

**C. Minnesota Protest Procedures.** All protests shall be filed in writing with the applicable Authority, and must precisely and fully outline all points of contention.

1. Faxes, e-mails, telegrams, mail-a-grams, and hand-delivered letters constitute written protests.

2. Protests on any subject pertaining to American Legion Baseball in Minnesota must be filed by team management only. Protests received from any other person(s) will not be accepted or considered.

3. Protests must be filed within twelve (12) hours of the time at which the Rule interpretation, answer or decision was provided, but in no event later than twelve (12) hours after the ending time of a game in which the issue arose. Such protest shall be accompanied by a certified check for \$100, made payable as follows:

a. In the case of a protest involving District-level competition (filed before or during District tournaments), to the respective District's baseball fund;

b. In the case of a protest involving State Tournament competition (filed after the final District Tournament or during/after the State Tournament), to the State baseball fund.

4. Protest response will be issued as soon as reasonably possible. If the protest is not allowed, moneys paid per above shall be forfeited. If the protest is allowed, moneys paid per above shall be returned.

5. Protests pertaining to the eligibility of a team/player entered in State Competition must be filed prior to the first game of the Sub-District or District Tournament, (whichever is earliest), except upon discovery of fraud, in which case eligibility protests must be filed immediately upon discovery of the alleged fraud and include a full written description of such.

a. All protests regarding player eligibility must be specific, with definitive written proof provided.

b. If a player is found to be ineligible, he shall be disqualified immediately. All games in which the disqualified player participated shall be forfeited.

c. In District and State Tournaments, if a protest is allowed and a winner disqualified, the runner-up team shall be declared the winner. All other teams will move up in the final order. Teams could become eligible for continued play through this process.

## RULE 6 CONDUCT

**A. Scope; Conduct Requirements.** Sportsmanship and honor are core values of the American Legion Baseball program, and thus taken very seriously. Therefore, all persons associated or traveling with American Legion Baseball teams are expected to conduct themselves in a respectful and ethical manner at all times, as well as abide by established Rules. In the opinion of the respective District Director or State Director (or designated representatives), if any manager, coach, player or other person associated with an American Legion Baseball team conducts himself in an unsportsmanlike manner, creates disturbances, and/or otherwise brings discredit or disrespect to or upon the Program, such person will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including ejection from a contest, suspension, return home, as applicable, from a competition at his own expense by the first available method of transportation, and/or removal from further participation in the Program. Director decisions shall be final.

**B. Sportsmanship Issues.** No player, coach, manager, or other person associated with an American Legion Baseball team shall

1. Use any profane language during the course of competition;
2. Throw bat(s) or any other equipment;
3. Make any unsportsmanlike, offensive or unnecessary gestures in response to an umpire's decision; *(Note: only team captains, managers or coaches may ask for clarification of a Rule or decision; arguing is not allowed.)*
4. Make offensive gestures or comments to fans or opposing players;
5. Resort to unnecessary roughness on the playing field;
6. Abuse, heckle or make uncomplimentary remarks whatsoever to any opposing players, umpires, or team official;
7. Use other ploys, such as chanting in unison with the intent to disturb or disrupt the play of others;
8. Behave in any other manner that is deemed to be unsportsmanlike, in the opinion of the applicable American Legion Baseball authority.

Any individual or team deemed to be in violation is subject to disciplinary action, up to and including immediate ejection, suspension, forfeiture of game, and/or permanent removal from the Program.

**C. Ejection and Reinstatement.** Any player, coach,

manager or other person ejected by an umpire must leave the ballpark. Anyone ejected from a game during District or State Tournament competition is considered to be suspended for the remainder of the tournament, unless reinstated by the respective authority (District Director, State Director and/or tournament director), whose decision is final.

Coaches are also instructed to review the Coach's Code of Ethics later in this Rulebook.

## **RULE 7 PLAYER AND TEAM REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS**

**A. Requirements.** All American Legion Baseball teams must register with the State Baseball Committee. Unless otherwise specified by the State Director, the following are the minimal requirements for registration, subject to the deadline dates outlined herein or through separate communication. Additional forms, declarations, and approval requests, may be required, as outlined within these Minnesota American Legion Baseball Rules. All of the below must be submitted through the respective District Director, and early enough to meet State deadline.

1. At the time of initial team formation, providing notice of intent to form a team, its sponsor, team name, base school, and primary team contact person. Due to State Director by April 15 of the respective year.
2. Purchase of accident and liability insurance coverage from the approved carrier. Required annually, by no later than June 1.
3. Fulfillment of any and all National American Legion electronic or manual registration and/or form filing requirements, as well as payment of any and all National fees (for 2010: \$50 for Senior Legion, \$25 for Junior Legion). Required annually by June 20.
4. Fulfillment of any and all Minnesota State Department electronic or manual registration and/or form filing requirements, as well as payment of any and all associated fees (for 2010: \$100 for Senior Legion, \$30 for Junior Legion). Required annually by June 20.
5. Fully completed, printed copy of the team's Player

Roster of Eligibility (National Form #1), approved by the respective District Director, as well as the State Director. Required annually, delivered to District Director by June 20.

6. Fully completed and signed (by both player and parent/guardian) Player Agreement (National Form #2) for each individual player listed on the Form #1 Roster, as well as for each individual coach, manager, and other team official who travels with or serves in an official capacity with the team. Required annually, delivered to District Director by June 20.

7. Fully completed Transfer Form(s) #76, as applicable and required for individual players, with all required signatures, approved by the respective District Director, as well as the State Director. Required annually, due to State Director by June 10.

8. Fully completed Declaration Form(s) #77, as applicable and required, for individual players, with all required signatures, approved by the respective District Director, as well as the State Director. Required annually, due to State Director by June 10.

9. For those teams not sponsored by an American Legion Post (but rather by an Outside Sponsor) re-submittal of a fully completed Non-Legion Sponsor Application Form, for approval by the respective District Director, as well as the State Director. Required annually, due to State Office/Rules Committee by April 15.

District Directors shall deliver items 5 and 6 to the State Director by no later than June 27 of each year.

Failure to fully comply with these registration requirements by the designated deadline dates will result in team disqualification.

**B. Insurance.** Certificates of Insurance must carry an issue/effective date that is prior to the first day of team tryouts, practice and/or play, but in no event a date that is later than June 1.

**C. Players Per Team.** A team's Player Roster of Eligibility (National Form #1) shall not contain more than eighteen (18) players. Players may not be added to Rosters, nor may Rosters be changed after the State or National Form #1 Player Roster submittal deadline has passed, whichever is earliest. However, after submission and certification of the National Form #1 Roster, a player may be replaced

1. In the case of his death;
2. If that player is placed on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States.

**D. Team Sponsorship.** The sponsor of an American Legion baseball team must be identified on the team's Player Roster of Eligibility (National Form #1), as well as the team's Business Manager / Athletic Officer, who serves as the responsible business authority for the team.

1. For Post-sponsored teams, a bona-fide member of the Post must be officially responsible for the team at all times as Business Manager / Athletic Officer. A non-Legionnaire may act as team manager or coach.
2. An American Legion Post may sponsor more than one team; several Posts may share sponsorship of a single team.
3. Non-Legion ("Outside Sponsorship") of a team is permissible subject to approval by the respective District and the State Director at the time of initial team formation, as well as ongoing supervision by the State Baseball Committee. Outside Sponsors must be re-approved each year by the respective District Director and State Director, through submittal of the Non-Legion Sponsor Application Form. Teams with Outside Sponsors must name a responsible person to act as the team's business manager.

**E. Participation in Other Programs (Legion First).** American Legion Baseball players, coaches, managers, or teams may participate in other amateur baseball programs, subject to the approval of team management, as well as the District Director. Since the American Legion believes that loyalty and ethics are key team ingredients, such permitted participation will not, in any way, interfere with a player's responsibility to American Legion Baseball throughout the entire season, as opposed to just during the playoffs and post-season play.

## **RULE 8 PLAYER & TEAM CERTIFICATION**

**A. Enrollment Form Completion and Submittal.** All teams desiring participation in State/National competition must complete National Form #1 (Player Roster of Eligibility) and National form #2 (Player Agreement), as furnished by the National Americanism Commission, and all other specified forms and requirements that are deemed necessary. Such completion and submittal must be in accordance with prescribed procedures, which may require direct filing with both National and State Baseball

Officials, allowing opportunity for proper certification by the responsible State Baseball Official.

**1. Player Roster of Eligibility (National Form #1.)**

American Legion Baseball players must enroll on Player Roster of Eligibility (National Form #1). This form must be complete, including each player's full name and the address of legal Domicile. A copy of the Form #1 Roster will be retained by the State Baseball Committee. A copy of the National Form #1 Roster must also be in the possession of the team at all times.

**2. Player Agreement (National Form #2.)** All players, their parents or court-approved legal guardians must enroll by completing a Player Agreement (National Form #2). The team manager will retain the original Form #2; a copy must be filed with the State Director. Any team or player who fails to complete and file Form #2 shall be disqualified from play.

**B. Certification by State.** The State Director shall be responsible for certifying that a team and its players were properly registered by the State's closing date. This includes certifying that a team and its players are properly covered by insurance.

## **RULE 9 UNIFORMS AND EQUIPMENT**

**A. Uniforms.** Teams need not be uniformed until reaching State and National Championship Competition. (Note: District Directors, however, may establish their own Rules on uniforms for regular season competition.)

1. Sub-district and District playoff tournaments constitute the beginning of State Competition.

2. All players, coaches and managers must be in a like uniform of the team to go on to the field.

3. The American Legion Baseball Insignia [official patch] must be worn on the left sleeve or left chest of the uniform shirt.

4. Each team will be inspected for proper placement of the American Legion Baseball Insignia [official patch] on the uniform prior to the start of each tournament. Players in uniforms without the Insignia, or wearing uniforms with an improperly-placed Insignia, will not be permitted to play.

5. American Legion Baseball Insignia [official patches] may be obtained from The National Emblem Sales, The American Legion, PO Box 1055, Indianapolis, Indiana 46206, 1-888-453-4466.

6. The front or back of the uniform shirt may carry lettering or an insignia that identifies the Post, Department (State), Town, City, Community, or

sponsor which the team represents.

Appropriateness is subject to approval by the respective District Director and State Director.

7.A number at least six (6) inches high must be carried on the back of the uniform shirt.

**B. On the Field, Uniforms.** Only registered players or adult coaches will be permitted in the coaching boxes on the field. During Sub-District, District, State and National tournament competition, all coaches must be attired in a like uniform of his team, in order to go onto the playing field.

It is permissible for coaches and players to wear a courtesy jacket, wind shirt or alternate jersey due to adverse weather conditions, provided that the team uniform top is worn underneath. Those not in compliance shall be restricted to the dugout.

**C. Helmets.** All players are required to wear a double-flapped, ear-protective helmet while batting, coaching, running the bases, or on deck.

1. All batting helmets must meet the NOCSAE specifications and bear the imprinted NOCSAE stamp on the outside of the helmet. Any helmet that is cracked, or that has worn or missing inside padding, cannot be used and must be removed from usage during a game.

2. All bat and/or ball persons must wear an approved, properly-fitted, double-flapped, ear-protective helmet while on the field.

3. All base coaches are required to wear a standard batting helmet, with or without ear flaps. Non-compliance shall result in confinement to the dugout.

**D. Catcher's Equipment.** Catchers are required to wear a safety helmet, throat protector and protective cup, in addition to normal catcher's equipment.

1. All catchers' masks must have a built-in or attachable throat guard. Umpires and tournament officials shall halt the game until compliance is met.

2. While warming up a pitcher, either in or out of the bull pen, a catcher must wear a mask. For the purposes of this Rule, "catcher" means anyone (coach, player, scorekeeper, or anyone working/traveling with the team) who warms up a pitcher. He or she must wear a mask. Refusal to do so will result in removal of that person from game activities.

**E. Bats.** Metal, graphite, solid wood, or composite bats may be used at any time.

1. The maximum length of the bat is 36 inches, and the effective maximum diameter is 2-5/8 inches.

2. The knob and end plug (if applicable) must be

firmly attached.

3. The bat may not weigh, numerically, more than three units less than the length of the bat (e.g., a 34-inch bat cannot weigh less than 31 ounces.)

4. A non-wood bat must have an approved, coded certification mark on the barrel of the bat, signifying it is legal for NCAA competition. Bats that were manufactured prior to the NCAA certification process that pass certification must have a "BESR Certified" sticker, which must be obtained through the manufacturer.

5. For all games and practice use, all non-wood bats must have a leather, rubber or taped grip, securely attached to the bat handle.

6. The entire bat must be round, with a constant radius at any point, and the finish of the hitting area must be smooth.

7. There must be a direct line from the center of the knob to the center of the large end.

8. It is mandatory that all bats have an identification mark 18 inches from the end of the handle.

9. No foreign substance that will in any way discolor the ball may be added to the surface of the bat beyond 18 inches from the end of the handle.

10. Any bat that fails to meet these specifications or, in the umpire's judgment, has been altered to affect the distance factor or cause an unusual reaction on the baseball, shall be removed from the game. The batter shall be declared out, and base runners shall not advance.

11. Plugged metal bats with rubber, metal or plastic inserts or caps on the bat handle end of the bat are prohibited. Bats with the handle in one piece, including the handle ring, are legal, as are bats with a polyethylene end cap on the barrel of the bat.

**F. Baseball Standards.** All baseballs used in American Legion Baseball games must be Diamond D-1 Pro or Pro-9 or better.

**G. Pitcher's Glove.** The pitcher's glove may not be white, gray, nor, in the judgment of an umpire, distracting in any manner. No pitcher may attach any foreign material to his glove that is of a color different from the glove. The umpire shall remove any glove from the game that violates this Rule.

**H. On-Deck Equipment.** Equipment permitted in the on-deck area includes bats, weighted and un-weighted, and devices designed to attach to and remain part of the bat, such as weights and wind resistant foils. Sledge hammers, weighted pipes and other "homemade" heavy objects/items are not permitted. Devices deemed unsafe



by the umpires and/or tournament officials cannot be used.

**I. First Aid Kit.** Each team must have a properly-supplied first aid kit in its possession for use at all baseball games.

**J. Equipment Inspection.** Fifteen (15) minutes prior to the start of each game, umpires shall be required to check for illegal or cracked helmets and bats, and to remove any illegal or damaged equipment. Illegal or broken equipment represents serious potential for injury and must be addressed prior to the start of any game. Equipment in use shall also be monitored by the umpires throughout the game, to ensure its legality and safety suitability.

## **RULE 10 DISTRICT COMPETITION**

**A. Who May Compete.** Competition will only be among approved teams that have properly registered (per the Registration section within these Rules) for the respective year of competition.

**B. District Organization.** The State Department of Minnesota is divided into ten (10) Districts, corresponding with the Districts used for all Department of Minnesota Legion Post administration.

1. Teams must play within the District in which their Base Schools are located. Any exceptions must be approved in advance by the State Director.
2. Organization and play in each of the Districts shall be under the control and supervision of the respective District Director, appointed by the respective District Commander.
3. Each District Director shall establish the District's final team/player registration and filing date deadlines for his own District, with such dates being early enough to accommodate meeting all subsequent State and National filing deadlines. With respect to the Junior Legion Program, the Junior Legion Director (or his designated representative) shall, respectively, have such same authority.

**C. District Rules.** Each District Director must file a complete set of District Rules with the State Director, no later than June 1 of each respective year of competition.

1. District Rules may be more restrictive than State and/or National Rules.
2. Effective with the start of Sub-District and/or District Tournaments, however, State Competition

Rules take precedent over existing District Rules and must be applied. Of particular note are such Rules related to uniforms and equipment, length of game, courtesy runners, designated hitters, and player re-entry.

**D. Plan A Filing Requirements.** Plan A is no longer utilized in Minnesota; thus, any Rules pertaining to Plan A do not apply.

**E. Protests.** In accordance with the Rules and procedures for Protests, each District Director has full authority to settle any and all questions and/or issues of dispute pertaining to American Legion Baseball within his respective District. Only protests filed by team management will be accepted; those received from any other person(s) will not be accepted or considered.

**Eligibility Protests.** Protests pertaining to the eligibility of a team/player entered in State Competition must be filed prior to the first game of the Sub-District or District Tournament, (whichever is earliest), except upon discovery of fraud, in which case eligibility protests must be filed immediately upon discovery and include a full written description of the alleged fraud.

**F. District Tournament(s).** Each District Director, or his designated representative(s), shall direct and have full authority over the District Tournament(s) to determine District Champion(s). For the Junior Legion program, the Junior Legion Director, or his designated representative(s), shall have full authority for such.

1. District Champion(s) shall be declared to the State Director by each District Director no later than three (3) days prior to the reporting date established for the respective State Tournament.
2. If for any reason, a District Championship team is unable to represent the District in State Tournament competition, the District Director will report such circumstances, as well as a replacement team, by this same date to the State Director.
3. Only approved, certified teams, which have satisfied all of the requirements and obligations under American Legion Baseball Rules, will be allowed to compete in the State Tournament.
4. If a protest concerning team eligibility for State Tournament competition is allowed, and a team is subsequently disqualified, all other teams will move up in the final order, and a new District Champion may be declared, qualifying such team to compete in the State Tournament.

**G. On the Bench and Field.** Only registered team Players, Team Business Manager, Team Manager, Team Coaches, one Team Scorekeeper, up to two Team Bat Persons, members of the State Baseball Sportsmanship

Committee, and/or the respective District Director are allowed on the bench during District and/or Sub-District Tournament competition.

1. Team Managers shall be responsible for supervising Bat and/or Ball Persons (who must be at least 12 years of age and properly outfitted per Equipment Rules) and ensuring that their time on the field of play is kept to a minimum.
2. Only registered players or adult coaches, in a like uniform of the team, will be permitted in the coaching boxes on the field.

## **RULE 11**

### **SENIOR DIVISION I TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS**

#### **A. Who May Compete; Team & Player Eligibility.**

Competition will only be among approved Senior teams that have properly registered (per the Registration section within these Rules) for the respective year of competition.

1. Only those players who submitted a fully completed Player Agreement (National Form #2), per all requirements, shall be eligible to compete with their team. Upon arrival at State Tournament registration, Team Managers must make the original Form #2 for each player, as well as player Proof of Age, available for inspection by the State Baseball Committee.
2. On the State Tournament Reporting Date, all players must be present during registration and orientation. Any player who is absent from registration and orientation shall not be allowed to play or otherwise participate. Hardship exception requests, such as for medical emergencies or death in the family, must be made in writing to the State Director, who has full and final authority in the matter.
3. Any player registered on the reporting date during State Tournament orientation, who subsequently leaves the Tournament site to participate in a non-Legion baseball activity, shall immediately lose eligibility to participate/play in any further State Tournament games/events. Any player who requires temporary leave from the site for hardship reasons must seek advance approval from the State Director in order to maintain eligibility.
4. With respect to individual games, all players must be listed on the team line-up card to be eligible to play, which is to be submitted to the umpire and official scorekeeper prior to the start of the game. Players not listed shall not be eligible to participate in that game.

**B. Jurisdiction.** The State Tournament will be under the direction of the State Director, or the Tournament Director, as appointed by the State Director. Such Director shall have full and final authority for all tournament decisions, including the postponement and rescheduling of games due to weather or other conditions/factors. The Director shall also have final authority for the selection of Umpires and Official Scorekeepers.

**C. Tournament Size & Format.** Sixteen (16) teams shall compete in a double-elimination format at the State Tournament. The field of teams shall include one first place Champion from each of the ten (10) Minnesota Districts, along with the Runner-up and Third Place teams from Districts 3 and 10, as well as the designated Fourth Place team from District 10. Every third year (beginning in 2008 with the 3<sup>rd</sup> District), Districts 3 and 10 shall give up a State Tournament berth to the District 6 Runner-up. The remaining berth in the State Tournament shall be filled by the Host Team. The State Baseball Committee shall review this method for distributing State Tournament berths annually, based upon the number of teams participating in each of the Districts.

1. No Host Team shall be denied the opportunity of winning Tournament championships at the District or Sub-District level.
2. In the event the Host Team is declared the District Champion, the District Runner-up shall compete as the Host Team.
3. At least two umpires shall be used for each game.

**D. Protests.** In accordance with the Rules and procedures for Protests, the State Director, or his designated Tournament Director or other representative(s), shall have full and final authority with respect to all questions and matters of dispute at the State Tournament. Only protests filed by team management will be accepted; those received from any other person(s) will not be accepted or considered. When conditions permit and/or are deemed necessary by him, the State Director (or his representative) may appoint a person or committee to assist in making decisions, appointed from neutral teams or Districts.

**Eligibility Protests.** Protests pertaining to the eligibility of a team/player entered in State Competition must be filed prior to the first game of the Sub-District or District Tournament, (whichever is earliest), except upon discovery of fraud, in which case eligibility protests must be filed immediately upon discovery and include a full written description of the alleged fraud.

**E. Housing and Meals.** Only players properly regis-

tered on the Player Roster of Eligibility (National Form #1), not to exceed eighteen (18), as well as up to two (2) adults (e.g., one coach and one manager) may receive assistance with housing and meals at the State Tournament's expense. Arrangements for housing and meals for any additional individuals accompanying a team shall be the responsibility of the respective team.

1. Teams based more than fifty (50) miles from the State Tournament site will be housed at State Tournament expense. Teams based within fifty (50) miles of the State Tournament site will receive \$2.00 per mile, one way, once per day, in lieu of housing.

To determine "miles" for purposes of this Rule section, Mapquest shall be used to calculate the shortest driving distance between the participating team's Base School and the street address of State Tournament Field #1, which shall be the main, primary baseball field at which the championship game is contested.

2. Each team that is housed must post a \$500 damage deposit at or before check-in, to be retained by the Tournament's housing representative until time of team checkout, at which time accommodations will be inspected for damage. In the event of damage, the sponsoring Post or Outside Sponsor will also be contacted regarding its involvement in the resolution. Teams/players that display gross recklessness with respect to accommodations and/or that show a repetitive pattern of destructive behavior will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including suspension or expulsion from the American Legion Baseball Program.

3. Teams eliminated from State Tournament competition will vacate housing provided by the State Tournament immediately following elimination. Exceptions to this Rule may be made by the State Director or his designated representative, based upon safety considerations, taking various facts into account, such as the time the team's final game was completed, travel distance, weather conditions, and transportation method.

4. Meal assistance shall be provided on a per game basis, in accordance with the following:

a. All housed teams will be provided with \$5 per game for meals (or receive actual meal(s) in lieu thereof) for each tournament-housed player and coach. On days during which a housed team plays only one game, but is not eliminated, it shall receive meal assistance as if it had played two games.

b. All non-housed teams will be provided with \$5 per game for meals (or receive actual meal(s) in lieu thereof) for up to each of 18 play-

ers and two adult coaches, but only for those days during which they play two games. No meal assistance will be provided for any days during which a non-housed team plays one single game.

c. On days during which a total of only two games or less are normally scheduled/played (e.g., championship day of tournament), only housed teams will receive assistance, and only for one meal.

d. Innings to complete a previously suspended game are not considered in determining games played on a particular day. The suspended game will be considered as having been played in its entirety on the day it was begun.

Based upon a normally-scheduled, 4-day, 16-team double-elimination tournament, the following example illustrates tournament-provided meal assistance:

Day 1: All teams play twice; therefore, they receive assistance for 2 meals.

Days 2 & 3: Teams playing 2 games receive assistance for 2 meals. Housed teams playing 1 game receive assistance for 1 meal; if not eliminated, they receive assistance for 2 meals. Non-housed teams playing 1 game receive no meal assistance.

Day 4: Housed teams playing 1 or 2 games receive assistance for 1 meal. Non-housed teams receive no meal assistance.

**F. On the Bench and Field.** Only registered team Players, Team Business Manager, Team Manager, Team Coaches, one Team Scorekeeper, up to two Team Bat Persons, members of the State Baseball Sportsmanship Committee, and/or the respective District Director are allowed on the bench during State Tournament competition.

1. Team Managers shall be responsible for supervising Bat and/or Ball Persons (who must be at least 12 years of age and properly outfitted per Equipment Rules) and ensuring that their time on the field of play is kept to a minimum.

2. Only registered players or adult coaches, in a like uniform of the team, will be permitted in the coaching boxes on the field.

**G. Game Limits.** Playing days will begin at 8:00 a.m. local time. No State Tournament games will begin after 11:00 p.m. local time, unless inclement weather or other conditions make such necessary, as determined by the State Director or his designated representative. No team

will be required to play more than two (2) games in any one day.

In the event of a suspended game, innings played to complete a game that was suspended on a prior day shall not count towards this maximum; each team may play an additional two (2) games on the day the suspended game is completed.

**H. Length of Games.** Division I State Tournament games shall be nine innings, except in the following cases:

1. Extra innings become necessary due to the score, or
2. A 10-run rule shall apply after seven (7) full innings have been played, unless the home team is ahead after six and one-half innings, at which time the game will be considered complete.
3. In the event of inclement weather or other conditions beyond control, the State Director may call a game of less than nine (9) innings, but in no event less than four and one-half innings. If a game is stopped before four and one-half innings, it shall be considered a suspended game, and it will be resumed from the point it was stopped as soon as reasonably possible.

**I. State Competition Rules, Confirmed.** Sub-district and District playoff tournaments constitute the beginning of State Competition.

1. The American League Designated Hitter Rule, as published by Official Baseball Rules, shall apply. (A designated hitter is allowed for the pitcher only.)
2. Player re-entry of any kind is not allowed; thus, courtesy runners are also not allowed.

**J. Code of Sportsmanship.** The American Legion Baseball Code of Sportsmanship shall be read before every game at the State Tournament.

**K. Conduct, General.** All players and persons traveling and/or participating in an official capacity with an American Legion Baseball team are expected to conduct themselves in an exemplary manner at all times. Any person determined to be causing unnecessary disturbances or not abiding by any and all Rules, as determined by the State Director or his designated representative, will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including suspension for the remainder of the Tournament, return home by the first available method of transportation, and/or suspension / expulsion from the American Legion Baseball Program. The appropriate State, City and/or Tournament official, as well as player's parent/guardian, shall be advised of the circumstances

and the action taken.

1. All player participants in the State Department Tournament shall continuously be in their respective housing units from 11:59 p.m. each night until 6:00 a.m. the next morning.
2. Bed checks shall be conducted each night by the person responsible for housed teams, as identified on the designated Chaperone Form #100.22.
3. Violators of the above shall be subject to disciplinary action as outlined above. Exceptions to the in-room requirements above may be made by the State Director, or his designated representative, but usually would only apply to those situations in which players are spectators at Tournament games, and under the direct supervision and accompaniment of their Coach and/or Team Manager.
4. There shall be no shoving, pushing, fighting or any other unnecessary raucous activity in any lodging facility (including individual rooms), dining halls or other public facility/area.

**L. Outstanding Player Award.** A committee selected by the State Director shall name a player to receive the "Fred Wannamaker Outstanding Player Award."

**M. Sportsmanship Award.** A committee selected by the State Director shall name a team to receive the State Tournament's "Father Moran Sportsmanship Trophy."

**N. Tournament Banquet.** Players, coaches and managers of participating teams (up to 18 players and 2 adult coaches) will be guests of the State Tournament hosts at the opening banquet, held the evening prior to the first day of tournament play.

Attire for players, coaches, managers and others in attendance shall be appropriate to the occasion.

**O. Tournament Host Bids.** All bids to host the State Tournament must be submitted in writing to the State Director on or before any date so specified in a public request for bids. Such announcements will be published annually in the official Department Publication, *The Minnesota Legionnaire*. Requests for information on the requirements of hosting a State Tournament, or about submitting bids, should be addressed to the Department of Minnesota Baseball Secretary, as identified at the start of this Rulebook.



## RULE 12 MINNESOTA STATE TROPHIES & AWARDS

For recipients not listed in this section, see the listings that appear earlier or later in this Rulebook publication.

### **A. Ken Skoug Championship Trophy**

Awarded annually to the State Division I Department Champions and named in honor of a past Department Baseball Director, Kenneth Skoug of Duluth, who was lost in a plane crash in Lake Michigan while on his way to the annual Department Convention in Duluth in 1950.

### **B. Mark Haywood Runner-Up Trophy**

Awarded annually to the State Division I Runner-up and named in honor of the veteran Christie de Parcq Post member who was one of the organizers and longtime coach or manager of that fine team in the St. Paul area.

### **C. Red Haddox Third Place Trophy**

Awarded annually to the third-place finisher in the Division I Tournament and named in honor of Gerald "Red" Haddox of Bloomington. Haddox pursued a life-long passion for youth sports, including coaching the Bloomington Gold American Legion team and serving as Department Vice-Director for many years. He had also been active in other Legion activities, including chairing several State Conventions.

### **D. Father Moran Sportsmanship Trophy**

Named in honor of the first District Director of American Legion Baseball in the Third District. This trophy is awarded to the team displaying the proper attitude, both on and off the field, as selected by the Sportsmanship Committee, appointed for this purpose at each Division I State Department Tournament.

### **E. Fred Wannamaker Outstanding Player Trophy**

Awarded annually to that American Legion Baseball player who, in the opinion of a special selection committee, was the outstanding player of the annual Division I State American Legion Baseball Tournament. This trophy is presented in memory of the longtime secretary of the American Legion State Baseball program in Minnesota.

### **F. Minnesota American Legion Baseball Hall of Fame**

This award is presented to those who have made extraordinary contributions to the Minnesota American Legion Baseball Program over the years. It is not nec-

essarily presented every year, and it can be presented to more than one individual or group annually. (Award recipients are listed later in this Rulebook publication.)

### **G. Coach of the Year Award**

This award is presented to a coach who has made extraordinary contributions to the American Legion Baseball Program over a number of years. This honor will not necessarily be awarded every year.

- 1998 – Brad Dean, Willmar  
Bucky Burgau, Moorhead  
Bruce Young, Apple Valley  
Jeff Gallagher, Montevideo
- 1999 – Dick Johnson, Anoka
- 2000 – Bob Streetar, Grand Rapids
- 2001 – George Horihan, LaCrescent
- 2002 – Jim Peck, Excelsior
- 2003 – Jim Senske, New Ulm
- 2004 – Charlie Godbout, West St. Paul
- 2005 – Ron Adams, North St. Paul
- 2006 – Gary Wilson, Minneapolis Northeast
- 2007 – Keith Kangas, Rochester A's
- 2008 – Tom Yelle, Coon Rapids
- 2009 – Bill Kinnunen, Grand Rapids

### **H. Post of the Year Award**

This award is presented to an American Legion Post that has made extraordinary contributions to the American Legion Baseball Program over a number of years. This honor will not necessarily be awarded every year.

- 1998 – Apple Valley Post 1776
- 1999 – Bloomington Post 550
- 2000 – Moorhead Post 21
- 2001 – New Ulm Post 132
- 2002 – Willmar Post 167
- 2003 – Richfield Post 435
- 2004 – Tri-City, New Brighton, Post 513
- 2005 – North St. Paul Post 39
- 2006 – Excelsior Post 259
- 2007 – Marshall Post 113
- 2008 – Sacred Heart Post 229
- 2009 – LeSueur-Henderson Posts 55 and 74

### **I. Graduate of the Year**

This award is bestowed annually to a graduate of Minnesota American Legion Baseball.

- 1988 – Terry Steinbach, New Ulm
- 1989 – Kent Hrbek, Bloomington
- 1991 – Mike Kingery, Atwater
- 1993 – Dave Winfield, St. Paul Attucks-Brooks

Paul Molitor, St. Paul Attucks-Brooks  
1994 – Jim Eisenreich, St. Cloud  
1996 – John Anderson, Keewatin  
1998 – Dean Bowyer, Ada  
1999 – Paul and John Blanchard  
2000 – Wes Westrom, Clearbrook  
2001 – Mike Mason, Excelsior  
2002 – Jack Morris, St. Paul  
2003 – Michael Restovich, Rochester  
2004 – Dave Goltz, Rothsay  
2005 – Todd Oakes, Caledonia  
2006 – Rob Wassenaar, Edina  
2007 – Robb Quinlan, North St. Paul  
2008 – Bill Davis, Richfield  
2009 -- Darin Everson, Ada

### **RULE 13**

#### **SENIOR NATIONAL TOURNAMENTS**

The Minnesota Division I State Champion and Runner-up shall compete in the Central Plains Region 6 or the Great Lakes Region 5 National Regional tournaments, as determined by National Headquarters. (Note: Currently there are no nationally-supervised post-season tournaments for the Division II or Junior Legion Baseball programs.)

**A. Certification.** By the designated National deadline, each year, the State Department Baseball Director shall report and certify the Minnesota State Champion and Runner-up teams to the National Americanism Commission, National American Legion Baseball Program.

A copy of such teams' Player Roster of Eligibility (National Form #1), as well as Proof of Age for each player shall be presented for inspection at the National Regional tournament sites.

**B. Who May Compete.** Competition will only be among approved Senior American Legion teams that have properly registered with their respective State Department, and for whom the State Director has provided certification to the National Baseball Section of the American Legion.

1.No State Department may enter a team in a Senior National Tournament without first conducting an official State Department Tournament, with two or more certified teams participating.

2. The National American Legion Baseball program only provides financial support for the participation of up to eighteen (18) players and two adult team members, all of whom must be included on the team's Form #1 Roster that was submitted for the

respective year of competition.

**C. Jurisdiction.** All National Tournaments will be played under the direction and supervision of the National Americanism Commission. All disputes and questions arising shall be referred to the Americanism Commission Representative or to the National Americanism and Children & Youth Division for a decision, which shall be final. Any situations arising that are not covered by National Rules and regulations will also be under the jurisdiction of the National Americanism Division, whose decisions shall be final.

**D. Eligibility Protests.** Eligibility protests of players involved in National Tournaments must bear written proof of ineligibility and must be filed with the National Tournament Director at each such tournament, no later than 9:00 a.m., local time on the first day of the Tournament involved, except upon the discovery of fraud. When fraud is discovered, the eligibility protest and a written description of the alleged fraud must be filed immediately. All other protests shall be filed as specified in the Official Baseball Rules.

**E. National Tournament Play.** Teams in National Tournament competition play every day. The National Tournament Director will issue complete instructions concerning an eight-team double-elimination format. No National Tournament games will begin after 11:00 p.m. (local time).

**F. Host Teams.** No Regional Host Team shall be denied the opportunity of winning in tournaments leading up to the regional tournament, nor shall any team hosting a State Department or National Regional Tournament refuse to participate in any such Tournament. Host teams for State Department or National Regional Tournaments are mandated to participate in District and/or State Tournaments, until such time as the team is eliminated from competition, to prevent the creation of an unfair advantage of rest at either a State Department or National Tournament.

**G. Minimum Active Players.** Teams competing in American Legion Baseball Senior National Tournaments must have twelve (12) players available for participation. Except in the case of host teams at National Regional Tournaments, in accordance with National Rules, teams with less than twelve (12) players are permitted to transfer up to three (3) players from their affiliated Junior American Legion team roster to the Senior team. Any player transferred from a Junior team to the Senior team must be approved and certified by the Department

Baseball Director. The Junior roster must have been registered with the National Office by July 15 of the respective year of competition. Any Senior team that does not have twelve (12) players will forfeit its right to participate, and the National Appeals Board, in consultation with the State Department Baseball Director, shall determine a suitable replacement team.

## **RULE 14 DIVISION II PROGRAM**

The Division II program in Minnesota is intended to provide smaller communities with an opportunity for their teams to compete and advance, through district tournaments, to a state championship tournament, held at varying sites throughout Minnesota.

**A. Who May Compete.** All approved Senior American Legion teams who have properly registered in Minnesota are automatically eligible to compete in Division I. The Division II program is a voluntary program. Senior teams that qualify and wish to participate in the Division II program must report their intention to do so to their respective District Director by March 31 of each respective year of competition.

**B. Rule Adherence.** Unless noted otherwise within this Rule Section, all National, as well as all Minnesota Department American Legion Baseball Rules, requirements, and procedures outlined in this Rulebook, also apply to teams electing to participate in the Division II program. Failure to comply will result in player/team ineligibility.

**C. Eligibility.** Teams that elect to participate in the Division II Program shall not have Combined Total Enrollment (as defined in Rule 4) that exceeds 400, except as may be provided herein.

**D. Special Exceptions.** The following exceptions apply to Division II only.

1. Consolidated school districts with Total Enrollment of 500 or less in grades 10, 11 and 12, where multiple teams are sponsored by multiple Legion posts, may participate in the Division II Baseball Program, provided they have advance approval from their respective District Director, as well as the State Director. Without such proper approval, teams will not be eligible for State Tournament Competition.

2. Individual schools that are paired/combined for Minnesota State High School baseball competition may join together as a Base School for Division II American Legion team formation. The Total Enrollment of both schools will be counted, with the largest of the schools used as the Legion team's Base School. This arrangement must be approved on an annual basis by the respective District Director, as well as the State Director.

Players who play on a paired High School team must play Legion Baseball for the Base Post Team of the paired schools. The Total Enrollments of all schools represented on the team's National Form #1 Roster will count in determining Combined Total Enrollment. If enrollment of the two paired schools should exceed 400, the team will become ineligible for Division II and must participate in Division I. On the National Form #1 Roster, the player's actual School of Attendance must be listed.

3. Teams that played in the Division II Baseball Program in the year immediately prior, but whose current year Combined Total Enrollment exceeds the 400 maximum, may continue to participate in Division II if the three-year average of its Combined Total Enrollment does not exceed 400. To calculate this average, teams must count the current year's Combined Total Enrollment, plus the two preceding years'.

This exception does not apply to a team that adds a player or players from an additional or different school and, thus, must include the Total Enrollment of that school in computing its Combined Total Enrollment.

4. Smaller cities and communities that are part of larger school systems/districts (normally ineligible for Division II because of the school district's enrollment size), can qualify for Division II participation under the following conditions:

a. The team must identify, and use, the name of the smaller community/city, as well as be sponsored by an American Legion Post or Outside b. Sponsor other than that used by the Division I team(s).

b. The team must develop a zoned area within the larger school district, from which it will select players.

i. Zone boundaries must be outlined/depicted on a map. (In the case in which school districts have been consolidated, the pre-consolidated, original school district boundaries may be a zoning option to consider.) Zone maps must be submitted by

April 1 of each year to the respective District Director, as well as State Director, who will issue a ruling on the proposed zone boundaries by May 15 of the respective year of competition.

ii. If any rostered player's Domicile is outside of the designated zoned area, the team is deemed ineligible to participate in Division II, and must participate at the Division I level.

5. Teams with a Base School enrollment of less than 200 that are unable to fill out a roster may submit a written request to the District Director, by May 15 of the respective year of competition, for an exception to the Bypass Rule (see Rule 4, Player Selection). Such requests are also subject to final approval by the State Director.

a. Teams utilizing this exception must demonstrate a need to add more players in order to field a team. The By-passed team(s) must fully demonstrate the lack of interest/need for players by meeting the conditions for Release/Transfer of players and issuing Transfer Form(s) #76.

b. Upon approval, the Total Enrollment of the Bypassed team(s) may then be waived from inclusion in the rostering team's Combined Total Enrollment. The Total Enrollment of each rostered player's School of Attendance, however, must be counted.

**E. State Tournament.** The Division II State Tournament will be an eight-team, single elimination event.

1. Regional play will follow the State Tournament. If such regional play is in Minnesota, a champion and a host team will qualify for the regional tournament.

2. In the absence of an approved Division II National Regional American Legion tournament (sponsored by the National American Legion and under its jurisdiction), the following Rules will apply to all Division II competition, up to and including the State Division II Tournament:

a. The designated hitter Rule will apply to any starting players.

b. Starting players will be allowed to re-enter.

c. Games will be seven (7) innings through the end of the Division II State Tournament, unless extra innings become necessary due to the score. A 10-run rule shall apply after five (5) innings, unless the home team is ahead by 10 runs or more after four and one-half innings, at which time the game will be halted.

**F. Participation in Other Programs (Legion First).**

American Legion Baseball players, coaches, managers, or teams may participate in other amateur baseball programs, subject to the approval of team management, as well as the District Director. Since the American Legion believes that loyalty and ethics are key team ingredients, such permitted participation will not, in any way, interfere with a player's responsibility to American Legion Baseball throughout the entire season, as opposed to just during the playoffs and post-season play.

## **G. Champions & Awards.**

### **Shelly Hanson Championship Trophy**

Awarded annually to the Division II State Department Champions and named in honor for the long-time service rendered by G. Sheldon (Shelly) Hanson, of Austin, Minnesota, to the State Department Baseball Program, as Secretary from 1966 to 1987.

### **Bob Marshall Runner-Up Trophy**

Awarded annually to the Division II State Department Runner-up, and named in honor of past State Department Baseball Director, Robert (Bob) Marshall of Dilworth, Minnesota. Bob served as State Department Baseball Director from 1967 to 1981.

## **Past Division II Champions & Runners-Up**

| <u>Champion</u>                            | <u>Runner-up</u>  |
|--|-------------------|
| 1988 – Swansville                          | Karlstad          |
| 1989 – LaCrescent                          | New Ulm           |
| 1990 – Glencoe                             | Lamberton         |
| 1991 – Benson                              | Lamberton         |
| 1992 – New York Mills                      | Benson            |
| 1993 – Sebeka                              | Mt. Lake          |
| 1994 – LaCrescent                          | Cannon Falls      |
| 1995 – Pine Island                         | Plainview         |
| 1996 – Big Lake                            | Cannon Falls      |
| 1997 – LaCrescent                          | Perham            |
| 1998 – Milroy                              | Ely               |
| 1999 – Nashwauk-Keewatin                   | Paynesville       |
| 2000 – Sacred Heart<br>(Regional Champion) | Montgomery        |
| 2001 – Parker's Prairie                    | Morris            |
| 2002 – LeSueur-Henderson                   | Blue Earth        |
| 2003 – Paynesville                         | Nashwauk-Keewatin |
| 2004 – Sebeka                              | Ely               |
| 2005 – Jordan<br>(Regional Champion)       | Pipestone         |
| 2006 – Jordan<br>(Regional Champion)       | Montevideo        |
| 2007 – Jordan<br>(Regional Champion)       | Fairfax           |



2008 – Jordan LaCrescent  
(Regional Runner-up)  
2009 – Eden Valley-Watkins Pipestone

### **Third Place Trophy**

2009 – Jordan

### **Consolation Trophy**

2009 – Royalton

### **Tony Sipe Outstanding Player Trophy**

Awarded annually to the American Legion Baseball player who, in the opinion of a special selection committee, was the outstanding player of the annual Division II State American Legion Baseball Tournament. This trophy is presented in honor of long-time service to American Legion Baseball by Tony Sipe of Ada, Minnesota.

The winners include:

1993 – Ryan Tuorila, P/1B, Sebeka  
1994 – Kevin Briggeman, P/SS, LaCrescent  
1995 – Joe Ohm, P, Plainview  
1996 – Jeremy Belisle, P, Big Lake  
1997 – Jamie Louwagie, SS/3B/P, Milroy  
1998 – Rick Schlieman, C/P, Madison  
1999 – Mark Skrunkrud, P/SS, Eyota  
2000 – Ryan Hebrink, Sacred Heart  
2001 – Erick Koep, 1B, Parker's Prairie  
2002 – Reggie Stevens, St. Charles  
2003 – Adam Kempfen, Paynesville  
2004 – Zach Etter, Sebeka  
2005 – Adam Kneble, Warroad  
2006 – Steve Beckman, Jordan  
2007 – Joe Lucas, Jordan  
2008 – Trevor Ness, Staples-Motley  
2009 -- Matt Gesilinger, Eden Valley-Watkins

### **Rocky Wedin Sportsmanship Trophy**

Awarded annually to that team displaying the proper attitude, both on and off the field, as selected by the Sportsmanship Committee appointed for this purpose at each State Tournament. The trophy is named in honor of Rodney "Rocky" Wedin, for his many years of devoted service to American Legion Baseball.

## **RULE 15 JUNIOR LEGION PROGRAM**

The Junior Legion program in Minnesota is intended to provide players who are 17 and under with an opportunity to compete within their own age category and advance to a state championship tournament, held at varying sites

throughout Minnesota.

**A. Who May Compete.** Competition will only be among approved Junior Legion teams that have properly registered (per the Registration section within these Rules) for the respective year of competition.

**B. Rule Adherence.** Unless specifically noted otherwise within this Rulebook, all National, as well as all Minnesota Department American Legion Baseball Rules, requirements, and procedures outlined in this Rulebook, also apply to teams participating in the Junior Legion program. Failure to comply will result in player/team ineligibility.

**C. Player Age.** The 2010 Junior American Legion Baseball Program is open only to players born on or after January 1, 1993. Those born in 1992 or earlier are not eligible to participate in Junior American Legion Baseball. It is a 17 and under Program.

**D. Jurisdiction and Authority.** The Junior Legion Director (or his designated representative) shall be responsible for the interpretation of Junior Legion Program Rules and has full authority for receiving and answering all questions, disputes and/or protests occurring within, and pertaining to, Junior Legion Program competition, with no provision for appeal. The Junior Legion Director shall also have full and final authority to direct Junior Legion championship tournaments, including the Junior Legion State Tournament, as well as to disqualify or suspend any person deemed to be in violation of any and all applicable Rules.

**E. Special Exceptions.** In addition to specific exceptions noted within other sections of this Rulebook, the following exceptions apply only to the Junior Legion Program, and its participating teams and players:

**1. Playing Regulations; Pitching.** No Junior Legion player may pitch more than a total of ten (10) innings or make more than three (3) appearances as a pitcher, in combining the total innings or appearances in any three (3) consecutive calendar-day period.

**2. Player Selection; Transfer & Bypass Rule.** Junior Legion players shall not be eligible for Transfer.

**F. State Tournament.** The Junior Legion State Tournament will be an eight-team, single elimination event.

1. Regional play will follow the State Tournament. If

such regional play is in Minnesota, a champion and a host team will qualify for the regional tournament.

2. In the absence of an approved Junior Legion National Regional tournament (sponsored and supervised by the National American Legion and under its jurisdiction), the following Rules will apply to all Junior Legion competition, up to and including the State Junior Legion Tournament:

- a. The designated hitter Rule will apply to any starting players.
- b. Starting players will be allowed to re-enter.
- c. Games will be seven (7) innings through the end of the Junior Legion State Tournament, unless extra innings become necessary due to the score. A 10-run rule shall apply after five (5) innings, unless the home team is ahead by 10 runs or more after four and one-half innings, at which time the game will be halted.

## **G. Champions & Awards.**

### **Past Junior Legion Champions & Runners-Up**

| <u>Year</u> | <u>Champion</u>  | <u>Runner-up</u> |
|-------------|------------------|------------------|
| 2009        | Bloomington Blue | Excelsior        |

## **AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL HISTORY & FACTS**

Minnesota began its participation in American Legion Baseball in the early 1920's. Some Minnesota teams trace their continuous participation back to 1923. Minnesota's first State Tournament was held in Mankato in 1926, and it has been held every year since, making Minnesota one of only three states in the nation that has held a tournament every year since the program's national inception in 1926. In 1959, Minnesota topped the nation, by having more registered American Legion teams than any other state. The State held this distinction for nine years. Pennsylvania now has the largest program and Minnesota is second.

In the first 84 years of play in Minnesota, materials have been supplied to almost 23,500 teams, who provided playing opportunities to an estimated 348,000 players. In 2009, over 300 teams participated, rostering approximately 6,000 Minnesota youth as players. There are also over 10,000 players, aged 8 through 18, who also play baseball under sponsorship of American Legion community programs, though not in the official American Legion Baseball program.

Division I Champions from each American Legion District across the State, as well as some runners-up and a host team, compete in the annual Minnesota American Legion State Tournament to determine the State Champion. A Division II single-elimination State Tournament is also held annually, as well as a Jr. Legion Tournament.

The Division I National playoff tournaments are a series of tournaments in the eight National Regions of American Legion Baseball. A

Host team, each State Champion, plus runners-up from several states, including Minnesota, make up the 64 teams competing in eight-team double-elimination regional championship tournaments. (Both Minnesota's Division I Champion and Runner-up go on to compete in the National Regional Playoff tournaments, because of the high number of registered teams in Minnesota.) The Regional Champions then compete in the World Series of American Legion Baseball to determine the National Champion.

Minnesota has produced four National Champions – Minneapolis Richfield Post 435 in 1943; Edina Post 471 in 1983; New Brighton Post 513's Tri-City Red in 1999, and Rochester Post 592's Rochester A's in 2003. In 2002, Excelsior Post 259 was the National Runner-up, and in 2007, Eden Prairie was the National Runner-up.

Minnesota also sends a Division II team and a Junior Legion team to regional tournaments; there is no National Championship tournament for Division II or Junior Legion at this time, however.

### **COACH'S CODE OF ETHICS**

Baseball is a game played at numerous levels, including professional, collegiate, interscholastic, community, and recreational – and from local to international levels of competition. Players, coaches, umpires, officials and support personnel have a duty to abide by the highest level of sportsmanship and conduct. Coaches, especially, must be aware that he or she has tremendous influence, good or bad, in the development of the baseball player, and thus, shall never place the value of winning above instilling the highest desirable ideals of character. A coach must constantly uphold the honor and dignity of the game and the profession. In all personal contact with athletes, umpires, officials, administrators, district, state and national organizations, the media, and the public, a coach shall strive to set an example of the highest ethical and moral conduct.

- A. "Bench jockeying" will not be allowed. Coaches shall prohibit bench jockeying, including personal, offensive, and malicious remarks, as well as cursing and obscene language, directed at opponents, umpires or spectators.
- B. Coaches shall take an active role in the prevention of drug, alcohol, and tobacco abuse and, under no circumstances, authorize the use of such.
- C. Coaches shall not use alcohol or tobacco products when in contact with players.
- D. Coaches shall not make false, deceptive, misleading or fraudulent statements concerning work activities, or personal or organizational affiliations.
- E. Coaches shall be thoroughly familiar with American Legion Baseball Rules and be responsible for their interpretation and enforcement within the team environment.
  - 1. The spirit and letter of the Rules are to be regarded as mutual agreements.
  - 2. Coaches shall not attempt to seek advantage by circumventing the spirit or letter of the Rules.
  - 3. Coaches shall not permit ineligible player(s) to participate, practice or be part of any team function without

first discussing eligibility with a previous Legion coach or the State Director, and without securing permission, in writing, using the proper forms from the State Director.

4. Players should be taught to respect the dignity of the game, umpires, and opponents.

F. Coaches shall confine their discussions to the Rules and not challenge umpire decisions that involve judgment.

G. Coaches shall actively use their influence to enhance sportsmanship by athletes and spectators.

Before and after contests, opposing coaches should meet and exchange friendly greetings in order to set the correct tone.

H. Contest umpires will be treated with respect and be supported by coaches.

1. Coaches shall not engage in conduct which will incite players or spectators against umpires or competitors.

2. Coaches shall not publicly criticize umpires, players, or the opposition; it is deemed inappropriate and unethical.

I. Coaches should expect umpires to display a courteous and dignified attitude towards them, other coaches, and players.

J. Coaches shall not engage in sexual (or any other) harassment – or any form of verbal, mental or physical abuse.

K. Coaches shall develop and promote a spirit of cooperation among the baseball family, including sponsors and any person connected with the program.

Baseball is a game of fun, designed to be enjoyed by the young people who participate; it is not a hobby for the adults who coach them.

**Coaches are directed to refer to the National American Legion Baseball Coach's Manual, most specifically, Section 1, Coaching Ethics Code, which has complete information on expectations.**

## MINNESOTA AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL HALL OF FAME

Recipients of the Minnesota American Legion Baseball Hall of Fame are honored for outstanding contributions to American Legion Baseball in the State of Minnesota. This award was established in 1962 and presented that year for the first time. The award is presented by the State Baseball Committee to select individuals or groups. It is not necessarily awarded every year.

|      |  |
|------|--|
| 1962 | Frank c. Momsen, Tracy   |
| 1963 | Dr. W.H. Mulligan, St. Cloud   |
| 1964 | Robert P. Marshall, Dilworth   |
| 1965 | Mark Hayward, St. Paul   |
| 1966 | Thomas Warner, Marshall  |
| 1967 | Harry Moldenhauer, St. Paul<br>Frank Fust, Minneapolis   |
| 1968 | Dr. Robert M. Farrish, Litchfield  |
| 1969 | Theodore "Ted" Peterson, Minneapolis   |
| 1970 | Maurice Godsey, Winona<br>Mathew J. Stukel, Ely  |
| 1971 | G. Sheldon Hanson, Austin  |
| 1972 | Gaylord Zelinske, Brainerd   |
| 1973 | S.C. "Sig" Qvale, Austin   |
| 1975 | M.E. "Shorty" Dekko, Gary  |
| 1976 | George Medvic, Minneapolis   |
| 1977 | John Koch, Trimont   |
| 1978 | Dale Van De Walker, St. Paul   |
| 1979 | Robert Schabert, St. Paul<br>C.I. "Spike" Piper, Blue Earth<br>Leonard Grill, Minneapolis              |
| 1980 | Louise Kainz, Ely<br>Joe Kastelic, Ely<br>Sheldon Hanson, Austin                                       |
| 1983 | Dale Timm, Owatonna<br>Al Schmidt, Shakopee<br>Tony Sipe, Ada  |
| 1984 | George Marsnik, Ely<br>Rueben Nathe, Litchfield<br>Rodney, Wedin, Wells<br>Kenneth Swartz, Bloomington |
| 1986 | Halver Johnson, Moorhead   |
| 1989 | George Bodlovick, St. Paul<br>Gerald "Red" Haddox, Bloomington   |
| 1990 | Al Schoenthaler, Roseville   |
| 1991 | Tom Mattson, Albert Lea  |
| 1992 | Jim Peck, Excelsior  |
| 1993 | Tom Elliot, St. Cloud<br>Ray DeZurik, Waite Park   |
| 2000 | Joe Baker, Moorhead<br>Al Davis, Princeton<br>George Karnas, Richfield                                 |

2001 Nick Kakos, Minneapolis  
Darwin Berg, Chanhassen

2002 Norb Winter, Watkins  
Jack Bloedel, New Ulm  
Al Zdon, Mounds View  
Harold Solheim, Princeton

2003 Bob Letourneau, Osseo  
Dick Seal, Sauk Rapids

2004 Bob Zellman, Norwood

2006 Huck Arneson, Barnesville  
Dick Johnson, Anoka  
Bob Garin, Crosslake

2007 Tink Larson, Waseca

2008 Roger Niebeling, Borup

2009 Jeff Reese, New Richland

**MINNESOTA AMERICAN LEGION  
DEPARTMENT CHAMPIONS (DIVISION I)  
1926-2009**

| <b>Year</b> | <b>Champion</b>                                    | <b>Runner-up</b>           |
|-------------|--|----------------------------|
| 1926        | Crosby   | St. Paul Navy-Marine       |
| 1927        | St. Paul John de Parcq                             | Cambridge                  |
| 1928        | St. Paul John de Parcq<br>(Sectional Champions)    | St. Cloud                  |
| 1929        | Cottonwood   | St. Paul Post 8            |
| 1930        | Mpls. North Side                                   | Parkers Pairie             |
| 1931        | Winona   | Mpls. North Side           |
| 1932        | Mpls. North Side (Reg. Champ.)                     | Duluth                     |
| 1933        | Post 8, St. Paul                                   | Mpls. Kyle                 |
| 1934        | New Ulm  | Cokato                     |
| 1935        | St. Paul Christie de Parcq<br>(Regional Champions) | Mpls. Laidlaw              |
| 1936        | Mpls. North Side                                   | St. Paul Christie de Parcq |
| 1937        | Railroad, St. Paul                                 | Cokato                     |
| 1938        | St. Paul Midway                                    | Cokato                     |
| 1939        | Mpls. Fire and Police                              | Blackduck                  |
| 1940        | Mpls. Fire and Police                              | Waverly                    |
| 1941        | New Ulm  | Mpls. Courthouse           |
| 1942        | St. Paul Hamline                                   | Robbinsdale                |
| 1943        | Mpls.-Richfield (National Champ.)                  | So. St. Paul               |
| 1944        | Mpls.-Richfield (Regional Champ.)                  | St. Paul Twin City Federal |
| 1945        | Mpls. Fire and Police                              | Winona                     |
| 1946        | St. Paul Christie de Parcq                         | Stillwater                 |
| 1947        | St. Paul Christie de Parcq                         | St. Cloud                  |
| 1948        | Austin (Regional Champions)                        | St. Cloud                  |
| 1949        | St. Paul North End                                 | Winona                     |
| 1950        | St. Paul North End (Reg. Champ.)                   | Mpls.-Richfield            |
| 1951        | St. Cloud  | Austin                     |
| 1952        | St. Paul, North End                                | Melrose                    |
| 1953        | Austin   | St. Paul North End         |
| 1954        | St. Paul North End                                 | St. Cloud                  |
| 1955        | Edina  | Mpls. Camden               |
| 1956        | St. Paul North End                                 | Mpls. Grain Exchange       |
| 1957        | Mankato  | St. Paul North End         |
| 1958        | Mpls. Grain Exchange                               | Duluth Wisted              |
| 1959        | Mpls.-Richfield                                    | Granite Falls              |
| 1960        | Fergus Falls                                       | Norwood                    |
| 1961        | Mpls.-Richfield                                    | St. Paul Christie de Parcq |
| 1962        | St. Paul Christie de Parcq                         | Duluth                     |
| 1963        | St. Paul Christie de Parcq                         | Austin                     |
| 1964        | Mpls. Grain Exchange                               | Austin                     |
| 1965        | Rosetown Memorial                                  | Brooklyn Center            |
| 1966        | North St. Paul                                     | St. Paul Park              |



|      |   |   |
|------|---|---|
| 1967 | St. Paul Attucks-Brooks                             | Mpls.-Richfield                             |
| 1968 | St. Paul Attucks-Brooks                             | Mpls.-Richfield                             |
| 1969 | Edina   | Moorhead                                    |
| 1970 | Winona  | Mpls. Gopher                                |
| 1971 | North St. Paul                                      | Winona                                      |
| 1972 | Mpls.-Richfield                                     | Moorhead                                    |
| 1973 | Mpls.-Richfield (Reg. Champ.)                       | St. Louis Park                              |
| 1974 | St. Paul Attucks-Brooks                             | Bemidji                                     |
| 1975 | Grand Rapids  | White Bear<br>Lake                          |
| 1976 | St. Cloud   | White Bear<br>Lake                          |
| 1977 | St. Cloud   | Edina                                       |
| 1978 | New Ulm (Reg. Champions)                            | Bloomington                                 |
| 1979 | St. Paul Arcade-Phalen                              | St. Cloud                                   |
| 1980 | Mpls.-Richfield                                     | St. Paul Arcade<br>Phalen                   |
| 1981 | Rochester, William T. McCoy                         | Hastings                                    |
| 1982 | Edina (Regional Champions)                          | Mpls.-Richfield                             |
| 1983 | Edina (National Champions)                          | New Ulm                                     |
| 1984 | Waite Park  | Willmar                                     |
| 1985 | St. Paul Jacobsen                                   | Hutchinson                                  |
| 1986 | Waite Park  | Rochester                                   |
| 1987 | St. Louis Park                                      | Apple Valley                                |
| 1988 | Moorhead (Regional Champions)                       | Rochester                                   |
| 1989 | Apple Valley  | New Ulm                                     |
| 1990 | St. Paul Hamline                                    | Duluth<br>Lakeview                          |
| 1991 | Excelsior   | Apple Valley                                |
| 1992 | New Ulm   | Cold Spring                                 |
| 1993 | Tri-City Red (New Brighton)                         | Osseo<br>(Reg. Champ.)                      |
| 1994 | Tri-City Red (New Brighton)                         | Anoka                                       |
| 1995 | New Ulm   | Osseo<br>(Reg. Champ.)                      |
| 1996 | Rochester A's                                       | Excelsior                                   |
| 1997 | Tri-City Red (New Brighton)<br>(Regional Champions) | St. Paul<br>Hamline                         |
| 1998 | Excelsior (Regional Champions)                      | South St. Paul                              |
| 1999 | Tri-City Red (New Brighton)<br>(National Champions) | Bloomington<br>Blue (Regional<br>Champions) |
| 2000 | Tri-City Red (New Brighton)                         | Waite Park                                  |
| 2001 | Coon Rapids   | New Ulm                                     |
| 2002 | Apple Valley  | Excelsior<br>(National Runners-up)          |
| 2003 | Rochester A's<br>(National Champions)               | Bloomington<br>Blue                         |
| 2004 | Eden Prairie<br>(Regional Champions)                | Apple Valley                                |
| 2005 | Eden Prairie  | Woodbury Blue<br>(Regional Champions)       |
| 2006 | Eden Prairie  | Coon Rapids                                 |
| 2007 | Eden Prairie<br>(National Runner-up)                | Apple Valley                                |
| 2008 | Eastview  | Eden Prairie                                |
| 2009 | Rochester Patriots                                  | Apple Valley                                |

**AMERICAN LEGION  
DIVISION I STATE TOURNAMENT  
OUTSTANDING PLAYER AWARD  
(The Fred Wanamaker Award: 1960-2009)**

| <u>Year</u> | <u>Player</u>    | <u>Pos.</u> | <u>Post. #</u>                     |
|-------------|------------------|-------------|------------------------------------|
| 1960        | Barry Johnson    | P           | Fergus Falls, 30                   |
| 1961        | Cliff Warnke     | P           | Winona, 9                          |
| 1962        | Bob Williams     | P           | St. Paul Christie de<br>Parcq, 406 |
| 1963        | Dennis Denning   | SS          | St. Paul Christie de<br>Parcq, 406 |
| 1964        | Jerry Wickman    | P           | Mpls Grain Exchange 403            |
| 1965        | Dennis Coleman   | P           | Rosetown Memorial, 542             |
| 1966        | Jim Myers        | P           | North St. Paul, 39                 |
| 1967        | Tim Hadro        | C           | St Paul Attucks-Brooks<br>606      |
| 1968        | Dave Winfield    | P/SS        | St Paul Attucks-Brooks,<br>606     |
| 1969        | Mike Shea        | 3B          | Little Falls, 46                   |
| 1970        | Mike Semling     | RF          | Winona, 9                          |
| 1971        | Terry Johnson    | P/1B        | Kenyon, 78                         |
| 1972        | Mark Stevens     | P           | Duluth Lakeview, 342               |
| 1973        | Chuck Engle      | P/1B        | St. Louis Park, 282                |
| 1974        | Peter Maus       | P/IF        | Bemidji, 14                        |
| 1975        | Tim Fagley       | P           | White Bear Lake, 168               |
| 1976        | Greg Berling     | P           | St. Cloud, 76                      |
| 1977        | Bill Peterson    | P           | Edina, 471                         |
| 1978        | Terry Steinbach  | 2B          | New Ulm, 132                       |
| 1979        | Bill Larson      | P           | St Paul Arcade-Phalen,<br>577      |
| 1980        | James Burns      | 3B          | Minneapolis Falldin, 555           |
| 1981        | Bill Cutschall   | P           | Rochester, 92                      |
| 1982        | Rob Wassenaar    | P/3B        | Edina, 471                         |
| 1983        | Rob Wassenaar    | P/3B        | Edina, 471                         |
| 1984        | Tim Piechowski   | P/SS        | Willmar, 167                       |
| 1985        | Vince Palyan     | P/SS        | St. Paul Jacobsen, 487             |
| 1986        | Jeremy Mendal    | C/OF        | Waite Park, 428                    |
| 1987        | Bob Divinski     | P/3B        | St. Louis Park, 282                |
| 1988        | Todd Hoffman     | CF          | New Ulm, 132                       |
| 1989        | Al Stoye         | P           | Apple Valley, 1776                 |
| 1990        | Wes Denning      | CF          | St. Paul Hamline, 418              |
| 1991        | Jason Pflaum     | 2B          | Excelsior, 259                     |
| 1992        | Ben Griffin      | LF          | Cold Spring, 455                   |
| 1993        | Matt McDonough   | C           | Osseo, 172                         |
| 1994        | Robb Ramacher    | CF          | Tri-City, 513                      |
| 1995        | Brady Renweiler  | 1B          | New Ulm, 132                       |
| 1996        | Joe Siple        | 2B          | Rochester A's, 92                  |
| 1997        | Charlie Brookins | P           | St. Paul Park, 98                  |
| 1998        | Ryan Klocksien   | P/IF        | Excelsior, 259                     |
| 1999        | Billy Schneider  | 2B          | Tri-City, 513                      |
| 2000        | Josh Krogman     | P/IF        | Waite Park, 428                    |
| 2001        | Danny Anderson   | P/IF        | Coon Rapids, 334                   |

|      |                |      |                        |
|------|----------------|------|------------------------|
| 2002 | Dan Brosnan    | 1B   | Apple Valley, 1776     |
| 2003 | Steve Edlefsen | SS   | Bloomington, 550 Blue  |
| 2004 | Justin Milo    | 1B   | Eden Prairie           |
| 2005 | Nate Hansen    | SS   | Eden Prairie           |
| 2006 | Aaron Senne    | OF/P | Rochester Redhawks     |
| 2007 | Dan Miller     | P/OF | Eden Prairie           |
| 2008 | Scott Lindner  | SS   | Eden Prairie           |
| 2009 | Derek Hovick   | P/OF | Rochester Patriots, 92 |

**DIVISION I STATE TOURNAMENT SITES  
1926 - 2010**

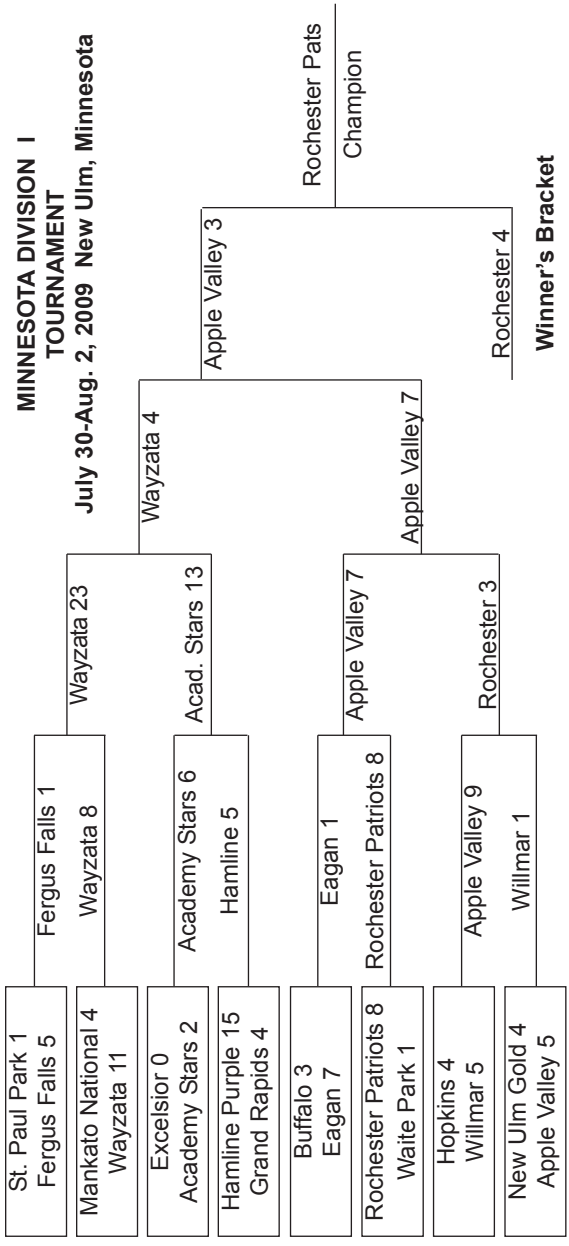
|      |                         |
|------|-------------------------|
| 1926 | Mankato                 |
| 1927 | Little Falls            |
| 1928 | St. Paul Lexington Park |
| 1929 | St. Cloud               |
| 1930 | Stillwater              |
| 1931 | Stillwater              |
| 1932 | Minneapolis, U of M     |
| 1933 | Minneapolis, U of M     |
| 1934 | Cokato                  |
| 1935 | Breckinridge            |
| 1936 | Willmar                 |
| 1937 | Fergus Falls            |
| 1938 | Rochester               |
| 1939 | Mpls Nicollet Park      |
| 1940 | St. Paul Lexington Park |
| 1941 | St. Paul Lexington Park |
| 1942 | St. Paul Lexington Park |
| 1943 | St. Paul Lexington Park |
| 1944 | St. Paul Lexington Park |
| 1945 | St. Paul Lexington Park |
| 1946 | Duluth                  |
| 1947 | St. Paul Lexington Park |
| 1948 | St. Paul Lexington Park |
| 1949 | Shakopee                |
| 1950 | St. Paul Lexington Park |
| 1951 | St. Paul Lexington Park |
| 1952 | St. Paul Lexington Park |
| 1953 | St. Paul Lexington Park |
| 1954 | St. Paul Lexington Park |
| 1955 | St. Paul Lexington Park |
| 1956 | St. Paul Lexington Park |
| 1957 | St. Paul Midway Stadium |
| 1958 | St. Paul Midway Stadium |
| 1959 | Austin                  |
| 1960 | St. Paul Midway Stadium |
| 1961 | St. Paul Midway Stadium |
| 1962 | St. Paul Midway Stadium |
| 1963 | St. Paul Midway Stadium |
| 1964 | St. Paul Midway Stadium |
| 1965 | Winona                  |
| 1966 | St. Paul Midway Stadium |
| 1967 | St. Paul Midway Stadium |
| 1968 | St. Cloud               |
| 1969 | St. Cloud               |
| 1970 | Winona                  |
| 1971 | Moorhead                |
| 1972 | St. Cloud               |
| 1973 | St. Paul Midway Stadium |
| 1974 | New Ulm                 |
| 1975 | Ely                     |
| 1976 | Willmar                 |
| 1977 | Ely                     |
| 1978 | Austin                  |
| 1979 | Willmar                 |
| 1980 | Richfield               |
| 1981 | Ely                     |
| 1982 | Willmar                 |

|      |              |
|------|--------------|
| 1983 | New Ulm      |
| 1984 | Albert Lea   |
| 1985 | Richfield    |
| 1986 | Marshall     |
| 1987 | Grand Rapids |
| 1988 | Ely          |
| 1989 | New Ulm      |
| 1990 | Richfield    |
| 1991 | Mankato      |
| 1992 | Willmar      |
| 1993 | New Ulm      |
| 1994 | Northfield   |
| 1995 | Hibbing      |
| 1996 | Moorhead     |
| 1997 | Chaska       |
| 1998 | Hibbing      |
| 1999 | St. Cloud    |
| 2000 | Duluth       |
| 2001 | Rochester    |
| 2002 | Marshall     |
| 2003 | Rochester    |
| 2004 | Northfield   |
| 2005 | St. Cloud    |
| 2006 | Excelsior    |
| 2007 | Bloomington  |
| 2008 | Burnsville   |
| 2009 | New Ulm      |
| 2010 | Hibbing      |

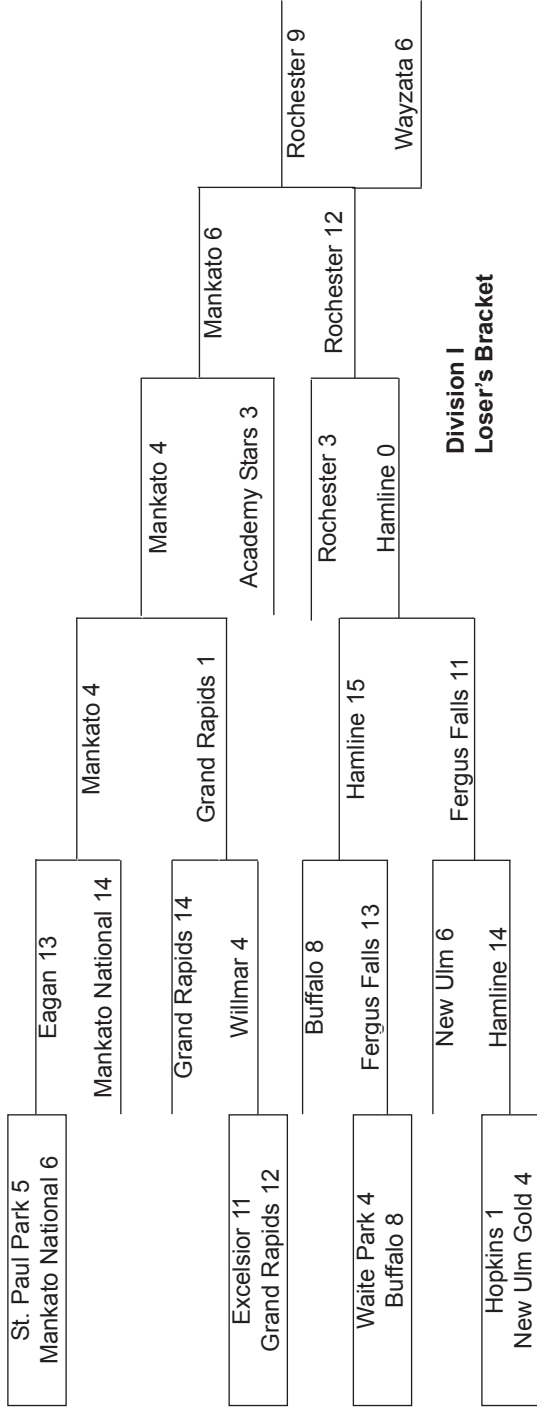
**DIVISION II STATE TOURNAMENT SITES  
1987 – 2010**

|      |                       |
|------|-----------------------|
| 1987 | Barnesville           |
| 1988 | Ada                   |
| 1989 | New Ulm               |
| 1990 | Richfield             |
| 1991 | Mankato               |
| 1992 | Willmar               |
| 1993 | New Ulm               |
| 1994 | Northfield            |
| 1995 | Litchfield-Hutchinson |
| 1996 | Willmar               |
| 1997 | Nashwauk-Keewatin     |
| 1998 | Montevideo            |
| 1999 | Ely                   |
| 2000 | Truman                |
| 2001 | Willmar               |
| 2002 | Willmar               |
| 2003 | Ely                   |
| 2004 | Northfield            |
| 2005 | LeSueur               |
| 2006 | Willmar               |
| 2007 | Ely                   |
| 2008 | Sacred Heart          |
| 2009 | LeSueur-Henderson     |
| 2010 | Dilworth              |

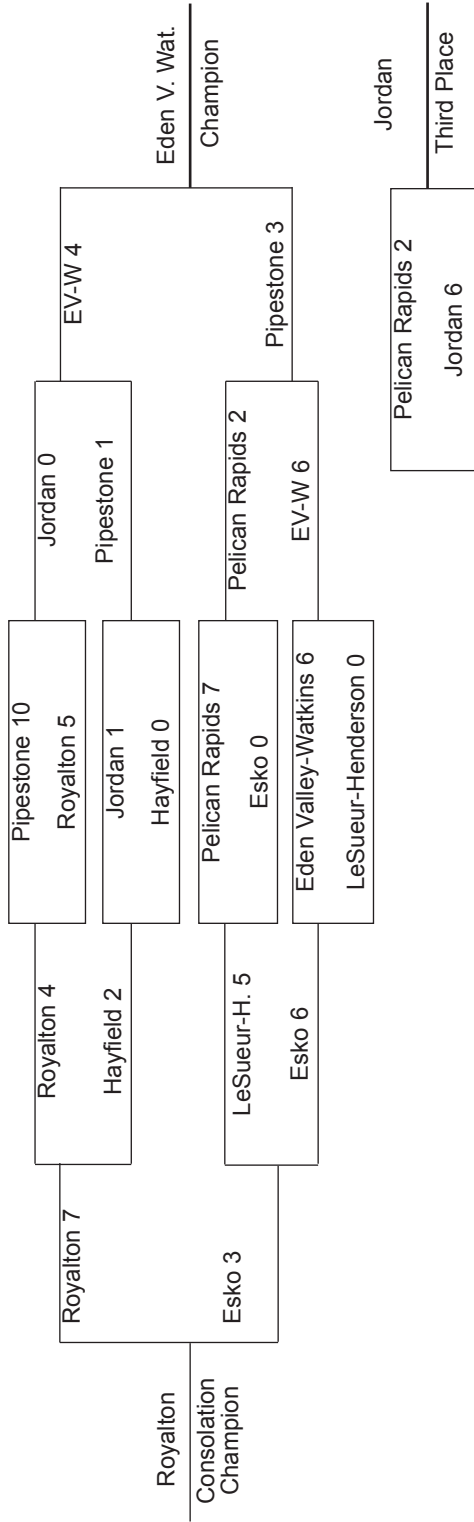
**MINNESOTA DIVISION I  
TOURNAMENT  
July 30-Aug. 2, 2009 New Ulm, Minnesota**



**Winner's Bracket**



**21st ANNUAL MINNESOTA AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL DIVISION II TOURNAMENT**  
**July 31-Aug. 2, 2009, LeSueur-Henderson, Minnesota**





## Graduate of Year -- 2009

# Darin Everson

Darin Everson was selected by the Minnesota American Legion Baseball Committee as its Graduate of the Year for 2009.

Everson grew up in Ada where he played Legion baseball from the 7th grade to the 12th grade. He was All-Region and All-District from 1987-1989.

In college, he played baseball and football for Valley State University in North Dakota, earning top freshman player as a quarterback in 1989.

He transferred to Butte College in Oroville California and played baseball while earning his AA degree.

In 1991-92, he transferred to Mayville State University in North Dakota and earned All-American honors and Conference Player of the year as a catcher. He earned the same honors the following year, and was the Most Outstanding Graduating Senior in the Conference.

During this time, he also coached American Legion Baseball in Ada.

His professional career included started in 1993 and continued until 1999. He played minor league ball and did spring training stints with the Montreal Expos, Pittsburgh Pirates and the Boston Red Sox.

In 2003, he became an associate scout with the Baltimore Orioles, and in 2006, he became a hitting coach in the Florida Marlins organization at Jupiter, Florida.

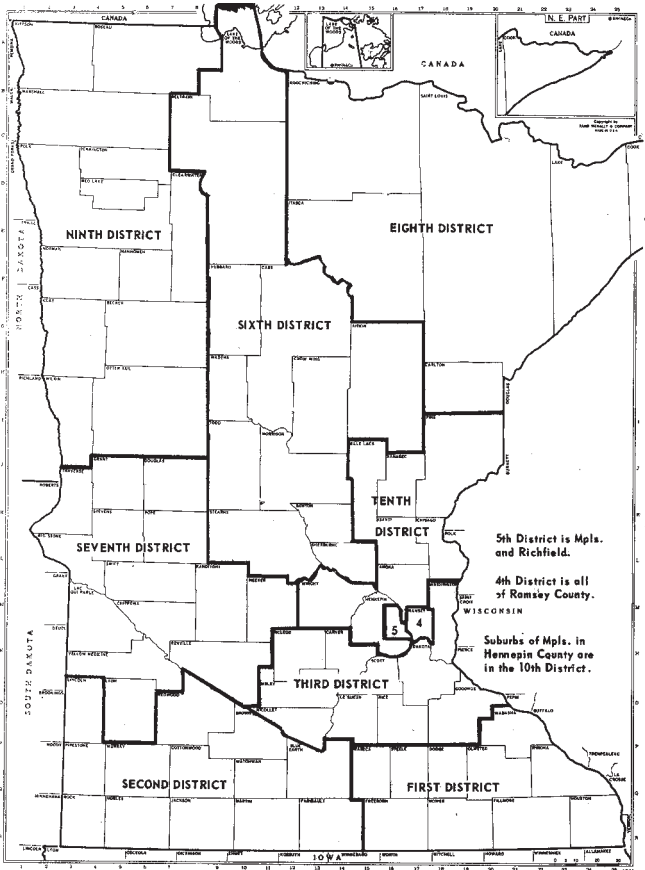
In 2007-08, he was a field manager for Jamestown in the New York-Penn League. In 2008, his team was the wild card champion, and lost in the league championship series.

This past year, he was a field manager for Greensboro, North Carolina, in the South Atlantic League, again with the Florida Marlins organization.



## Notes

# The Department of Minnesota consists of 10 districts.



## THE CODE OF SPORTSMANSHIP

### I WILL:

1. Keep the rules.
2. Keep the faith with my teammates.
3. Keep my temper.
4. Keep myself fit.
5. Keep a stout heart in defeat.
6. Keep my pride under in victory.
7. Keep a sound soul, a clean mind, and a healthy body.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE CODE OF SPORTSMANSHIP BE REPEATED BY THE COMPETING TEAMS BEFORE EACH GAME.



This Year's Minnesota  
Rule Book is Dedicated to

# All Veterans

For their sacrifice and  
service in ensuring that  
the United States is free  
and that its people are  
guaranteed the rights of  
life, liberty and the pursuit  
of happiness.

American Legion Baseball  
is a  
program of the Minnesota  
American Legion.  
*Still Serving America.*

**84 Years Strong**