

# 2011

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, Chicago White Sox	1986 Dale Murphy, Atlanta Braves
1959 No award was made	1987 Don Mattingly, New York Yankees
1960 Ted Williams, Boston Red Sox	1988 Roger Clemens, Boston Red Sox
1961 Stan Musial, St. Louis Cardinals	1989 Alan Trammell, Detroit Tigers
1962 Bobby Richardson, New York Yankees	1990 Harold Reynolds, Seattle Mariners
1963 Warren Spahn, Milwaukee Braves	1991 Sid Bream, Atlanta Braves
1964 Brooks Robinson, Baltimore Orioles	1992 Terry Lee Steinbach, Oakland Athletics
1965 Eddie Fisher, Chicago White Sox	1993 Billy Swift, San Francisco Giants
1966 Frank Robinson, Baltimore Orioles	1994 Greg Maddux, Atlanta Braves
1967 Carl Yastrzemski, Boston Red Sox	1995 Bob Tewksbury, Texas Rangers
1968 Mickey Lolich, Detroit Tigers	1996 Paul Molitor, Minnesota Twins
1969 Harmon Killebrew Minnesota Twins	1997 Mo Vaughn Boston Red Sox
1970 Dave McNally, Baltimore Orioles	1998 Tony Gwynn San Diego Padres
1971 Steve Carlton, St. Louis Cardinals	1999 Steve Finley San Diego Padres
1972 Al Kaline, Detroit Tigers	2000 Chipper Jones Atlanta Braves
1973 Johnny Bench, Cincinnati Reds	2001 Todd Stottlemyre Arizona Diamondbacks
1974 Wilbur Wood Chicago White Sox	2002 Luis Gonzalez Arizona Diamondbacks
1975 Carlton Fisk, Boston Red Sox	2003 Jeff Bagwell Houston Astros
1976 Rick Monday Chicago Cubs	2004 Darrin Erstad Anaheim Angels
1977 Dave Winfield, San Diego Padres	2005 Scott Rolen St. Louis Cardinals
1978 Ron Guidry, New York Yankees	2006 Albert Pujols St. Louis Cardinals
1979 Mike Flanagan, Baltimore Orioles	2007 Chris Carpenter St. Louis Cardinals
1980 George Brett, Kansas City Royals	2008 Jason Verlander Detroit Tigers
1981 Gary Carter, Montreal Expos	2009 Lyle Overbay Toronto Blue Jays
1982 Jim Sundberg, Texas Rangers	2010 Brandon Inge Detroit Tigers
1983 Andre Thornton, Cleveland Indians	2011 Cory Hart Milwaukee Brewers
1984 Ryne Sandberg, Chicago Cubs	
1985 Jeff Reardon, Montreal Expos	

## **2011 Season Notes from the State Baseball Director:**

Thank you for participating in the 2011 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:

1. As was the case in 2010, teams will need to register, pay fees, and purchase insurance through National's American Legion Baseball web site in 2011. During the off-season, we provided a great deal of detailed feedback and worked extensively with the National office on areas in which the system needed improvement. While we hope that all of our recommendations will be reflected in the system for 2011, it's possible that glitches might yet exist; if so, specific instructions will be provided through your District Director. Any questions or issues with electronic registration should also be directed to your District Director and/or the state office. If you have not already done so, it is recommended that you proceed with 2011 electronic registration at [www.legion.org/baseball](http://www.legion.org/baseball).

2. In addition to registering electronically with National, each team must still submit printed hardcopies of its roster and player forms (Form 2, Form 76, Form 77, etc.) to its District Director by the deadline date outlined in this Rulebook (or earlier, as established by the District Director.) For those teams with outside sponsors, since the 2011 National registration system requires entry of more detailed sponsor contact information, a separate paper form does not need to be filed with MN American Legion Baseball in 2011 for outside sponsor re-approval.

3. As was the case last season, 2010-2011 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. All teams must use this supplied data – and only this supplied data – when listing the enrollment of particular high schools and calculating Combined Total Enrollment on their Form 1 Player Rosters.

4. American Legion Baseball will adopt the new BBCOR metal bat standard, effective January 1, 2012. (See Uniforms and Equipment section of this rule book for more detailed information, which might have impact upon team plans for 2011 equipment purchases.)

5. With respect to pitching, American Legion Baseball has adopted Major League's revised Hand-to-Mouth rule. (See the Playing Regulations section of this rule book for specific information.)

6. Please take a look at and use our revised website. Go to [www.mnlegion.org](http://www.mnlegion.org). It contains many more resources for Legion baseball people.

As always, your District Directors and State Committee are available to provide any assistance that you might need.

**Darwin Berg, Minnesota State Baseball Director**

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## **2011 MINNESOTA DEADLINES** **& IMPORTANT DATES**

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 and information listed below must be submitted through each District Director (so must be submitted to the District Director earlier than the date shown below, in order to reach the State Director by the indicated deadline.)

**April 15:** Newly forming teams must have submitted written intent to form a team, including sponsor information, team name, base school, primary team contact person, etc. If existing teams have a change in sponsorship, base school or other critical information, it must also have been submitted by this date, for approval by the State Director.

**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 20:** Final deadline for all team / player forms and information. Hardcopies must be in the possession of the respective District Directors by this date (or earlier, if required by District Director.) Includes, but is not limited to:

a) A hardcopy printout of the team's final roster, including coaches, as submitted / generated through the national registration system; b) Hardcopies of fully completed, signed Form 2's for all players and coaches; c) All Transfers/Releases (Form #76) and Declarations (Form #77), fully completed and signed by all those required; d) All special notices, requests for approval, unique exemptions, and/or required information submittals that do not otherwise have a specified deadline date (e.g., special player elections due to change in address, guardianship, or new team formation / team cessation, etc.) Prior to this date, teams will have already paid, through the prescribed method, the National fee (\$50 for Senior Legion, \$25 for Junior Legion in 2011), the Minnesota Baseball kit fee (\$100 for Senior Legion, \$30 for Junior Legion in 2011), as well as the team's insurance premiums.

Teams that are not in compliance with all of the above shall be considered ineligible.

**June 27:** District Directors' deadline to submit above to State Director.

**July 25:** Deadline for each District to declare its champion(s) for State Tournament participation.

### **Junior Legion:**

**July 25 – 31:** Annual Junior Legion State Tournament in Eagan, MN.

**Aug 3 – 7:** Mid-State Regional, Fargo, ND.

**Aug 3 – 7:** West Regional, Cheyenne, WY.

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

**July 27:** Reporting date for participating teams. (Wednesday)

**July 28 – 30:** 22nd Annual Division II State Tournament in Ely, MN. (Note: Thursday through Saturday for 2011.)

**Aug 4 – 7:** Central Plains Region, Viroqua, Wisconsin.

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

**July 28:** Reporting date for participating teams. (Thursday)

**July 29 – Aug 1:** 85th Annual State Division I Tournament in Eden Prairie, MN. (Note: Friday through Monday for 2011.)

**Aug 4 – 8:** Central Plains Region 6 National Playoff Tournament, Dickinson, ND. (MN Champ and Runner-up both participate here)

**Aug 12-16:** 86th American Legion Baseball National World Series, Shelby, NC.

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Al Zdon, Baseball Secretary.*

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

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## 2011 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. 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.

**H. 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.

**I. 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.

**J. 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.

**K. 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 included 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 multiple 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.

**L. 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 shall not bring his pitching hand in contact with his mouth or lips while in the 18-foot circle surrounding the pitcher's plate, provided, however, that the pitcher may touch his mouth or lips in that area, so long as he is not in contact with the pitcher's plate when doing so, and so long as he clearly wipes the fingers of his pitching hand completely dry before touching the pitcher's plate. Exception: provided it is agreed to by both managers, the umpire, prior to the start of a game played in cold weather, may permit the pitcher to blow on his hand.

b. For violation of this rule, the umpire shall immediately call a ball. (Base runners will not advance on the automatic ball, unless such a ball is the fourth called ball, causing a walk; the regular rule on walks, as applied to base runners, would then apply.) If the pitch is made, however, and a batter reaches first base on a hit, an error, a hit batsman or otherwise, and no other runner is put out before advancing at least one base, the play shall proceed without reference to the violation.

c. Automatic balls called under this rule cannot be used to intentionally walk a batter. Such action will result in the pitcher being removed from the game, with no eligibility to re-enter.

d. Repeat offenders of this rule shall be subject to disciplinary action by the designated authority, up to and including team suspension or expulsion from American Legion Baseball participation, as well as forfeiture of games played to date.

**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 2011 is open only to players born on or after January 1, 1992. Those born in 1991 or earlier are not eligible.
2. The 2011 Junior American Legion Baseball program is open only to players born on or after January 1, 1994. Those born in 1993 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 respective District Director. Since the American Legion believes that loyalty and ethics are key team ingredients, such permitted participation should 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 ongoing post-season play. (Note: added expectations and requirements pertaining to player eligibility, attendance and participation apply, beginning with sub-district tournaments; see the District and State Tournament sections of this rule book for further information on such.)

**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.
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 interchanging of players between such teams during the season 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](http://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 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. Changes in such information for existing teams must also be submitted by this date for approval.
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 2011: \$50 for Senior Legion, \$25 for Junior Legion). Required annually by June 20.
4. 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.
5. 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.

6. 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 20.

7. 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 20.

District Directors shall deliver items 4-7 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 manag-

er 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 are subject to re-approval each year by the respective District Director and State Director. Teams with Outside Sponsors must name a responsible person to act as the team’s business manager.

**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 respective District Director. Since the American Legion believes that loyalty and ethics are key team ingredients, such permitted participation should 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 ongoing post-season play. (Note: added expectations and requirements pertaining to player eligibility, attendance and participation apply, beginning with sub-district tournaments; see the District and State Tournament sections of this rule book for further information on such.)

## **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, which must be done electronically on the national baseball website, 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.** Any solid (one-piece) wood bat or any metal bat (excluding those with composite barrels, for 2011) may be used, provided all required standards for such are met.

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. All non-wood bats must have an approved, coded certification mark on the barrel of the bat, signifying it is legal for NCAA competition, as follows:

a. Effective January 1, 2012, American

Legion Baseball will officially adopt the BBCOR (Ball-Bat coefficient of Restitution) standard for bats (as adopted by the NCAA January 1, 2011), which is designed to eliminate discrepancies with bat lengths and provide a more direct measure of bat performance, improve safety, and produce similar batted-ball speeds between wood and non-wood bats. All non-wood bats used on the playing field in 2012 must, therefore, carry the BBCOR certification logo, signifying it is legal for use.

b. For the 2011 season, American Legion Baseball teams must continue to adhere to the NCAA's prior BESR (Ball Exit Speed Ratio) bat standard. Thus, all non-wood bats used on the playing field in 2011 must carry the BESR certification logo. Bats that carry the BBCOR certification logo, however, are also deemed legal for use on the playing field in 2011, if an American Legion Baseball team desires to use such.

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 of high quality. Balls approved to be of such standards include Diamond D-1 Pro, Wilson A-1010, and Rawlings R100 or R100HS.

**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 games, courtesy runners, designated hitters, player re-entry, team / individual player eligibility, as well as requirements for dedicated attendance and participation on the part of players, as outlined in state tournament competition regulations.

**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. Note: For purposes of this section, Sub-District and District Tournaments constitute the beginning of State Tournament 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 eligi-

bility 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 registered 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, 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 a maximum of up to \$5 per day for meals (for up to each of 18 players 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, however, (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. Housed teams receive assistance for 2 meals. Non-housed teams receive assistance for 1 meal.

Days 2 & 3: Housed teams playing 2 games receive assistance for 2 meals. Housed teams playing 1 game receive assistance for 1 meal; if not eliminated, however, they receive assistance for 2 meals. Non-housed teams playing 2 games receive assistance for 1 meal; those 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. Of particular note:

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.

3. Provisions pertaining to the required length of state tournament games shall apply.

4. Uniform requirements shall be strictly enforced.

5. In addition to meeting all other eligibility requirements, a player must be in attendance on a continuous basis during the tournament in order to maintain his ongoing eligibility to participate, unless granted an exception by the applicable tournament authority for

extenuating reasons.

Any deviation from such State Competition Rules requires approval from the State Baseball Director and will only be considered in extenuating, unavoidable circumstances.

**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 necessarily 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
- 2010 – Tom Coombe, Ely

#### **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
- 2010 -- Jeff Schugel, New Ulm

**RULE 13  
SENIOR NATIONAL TOURNAMENTS**

As directed by National Headquarters, the Champion and Runner-up of the Minnesota Division I State Tournament shall compete in the Central Plains Region 6 National Regional tournament. (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, require-

ments, 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 400 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. 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.

**F. 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 respective District Director. Since the American Legion believes that loyalty and ethics are key team ingredients, such permitted participation should 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 ongoing 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**

#### Champion

1988 – Swanville  
1989 – LaCrescent  
1990 – Glencoe  
1991 – Benson  
1992 – New York Mills  
1993 – Sebeka  
1994 – LaCrescent  
1995 – Pine Island  
1996 – Big Lake  
1997 – LaCrescent  
1998 – Milroy  
1999 – Nashwauk-Keewatin  
2000 – Sacred Heart  
(Regional Champion)  
2001 – Parker's Prairie  
2002 – LeSueur-Henderson  
2003 – Paynesville  
2004 – Sebeka

#### Runner-up

Karlstad  
New Ulm  
Lamberton  
Lamberton  
Benson  
Mt. Lake  
Cannon Falls  
Plainview  
Cannon Falls  
Perham  
Ely  
Paynesville  
Montgomery  
Morris  
Blue Earth  
Nashwauk-Keewatin  
Ely



2005 – Jordan (Regional Champion)	Pipestone
2006 – Jordan (Regional Champion)	Montevideo
2007 – Jordan (Regional Champion)	Fairfax
2008 – Jordan (Regional Runner-up)	LaCrescent
2009 – Eden Valley-Watkins	Pipestone
2010 -- LaCrescent	Jordan

### **Third Place Trophy**

- 2009 – Jordan
- 2010 -- Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton

### **Consolation Trophy**

- 2009 – Royalton
- 2010 -- Holdingford

### **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
- 2010 -- Brandon Vethein, LaCrescent

### **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 2011 Junior American Legion Baseball Program is open only to players born on or after January 1, 1994. Those born in 1993 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 12-team, double 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 an 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
2010	Burnsville	Eden Prairie

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

Minnesota began its participation in American Legion Baseball in the early 1920s. 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 24,000 teams, who provided playing opportunities to an estimated 360,000 players. In 2010, over 320 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 Central Plains Regional Playoffs, 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 and 2010, 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.

tation 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 Frank Fust, Minneapolis
1968	Dr. Robert M. Farrish, Litchfield
1969	Theodore "Ted" Peterson, Minneapolis
1970	Maurice Godsey, Winona 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 C.I. "Spike" Piper, Blue Earth Leonard Grill, Minneapolis
1980	Louise Kainz, Ely Joe Kastelic, Ely Sheldon Hanson, Austin
1983	Dale Timm, Owatonna Al Schmidt, Shakopee Tony Sipe, Ada
1984	George Marsnik, Ely Rueben Nathe, Litchfield Rodney, Wedin, Wells Kenneth Swartz, Bloomington
1986	Halver Johnson, Moorhead
1989	George Bodlovick, St. Paul Gerald "Red" Haddox, Bloomington
1990	Al Schoenthaler, Roseville
1991	Tom Mattson, Albert Lea
1992	Jim Peck, Excelsior
1993	Tom Elliot, St. Cloud Ray DeZurik, Waite Park
2000	Joe Baker, Moorhead Al Davis, Princeton George Karnas, Richfield

2001 Nick Kakos, Minneapolis  
Darwin Berg, Chanhasen

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

2010 Gail Kalata, St. Paul

**MINNESOTA AMERICAN LEGION  
DEPARTMENT CHAMPIONS (DIVISION I)**

**1926-current**

<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 (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 (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 Lake
1976	St. Cloud	White Bear Lake
1977	St. Cloud	Edina
1978	New Ulm (Reg. Champions)	Bloomington
1979	St. Paul Arcade-Phalen	St. Cloud
1980	Mpls.-Richfield	St. Paul Arcade 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 Lakeview
1991	Excelsior	Apple Valley
1992	New Ulm	Cold Spring
1993	Tri-City Red (New Brighton)	Osseo (Reg. Champ.)
1994	Tri-City Red (New Brighton)	Anoka
1995	New Ulm	Osseo (Reg. Champ.)
1996	Rochester A's	Excelsior
1997	Tri-City Red (New Brighton) (Regional Champions)	St. Paul Hamline
1998	Excelsior (Regional Champions)	South St. Paul
1999	Tri-City Red (New Brighton) (National Champions)	Bloomington Blue (Regional Champions)
2000	Tri-City Red (New Brighton)	Waite Park
2001	Coon Rapids	New Ulm
2002	Apple Valley	Excelsior (National Runners-up)
2003	Rochester A's (National Champions)	Bloomington Blue
2004	Eden Prairie (Regional Champions)	Apple Valley
2005	Eden Prairie	Woodbury Blue (Regional Champions)
2006	Eden Prairie	Coon Rapids
2007	Eden Prairie (National Runner-up)	Apple Valley
2008	Eastview	Eden Prairie
2009	Rochester Patriots	Apple Valley

2010 Eden Prairie Eagan  
(National Runner Up)

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

<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 Parcq, 406
1963	Dennis Denning	SS	St. Paul Christie de 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 606
1968	Dave Winfield	P/SS	St Paul Attucks-Brooks, 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, 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
2010	Matt Halloran	C	Eden Prairie

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

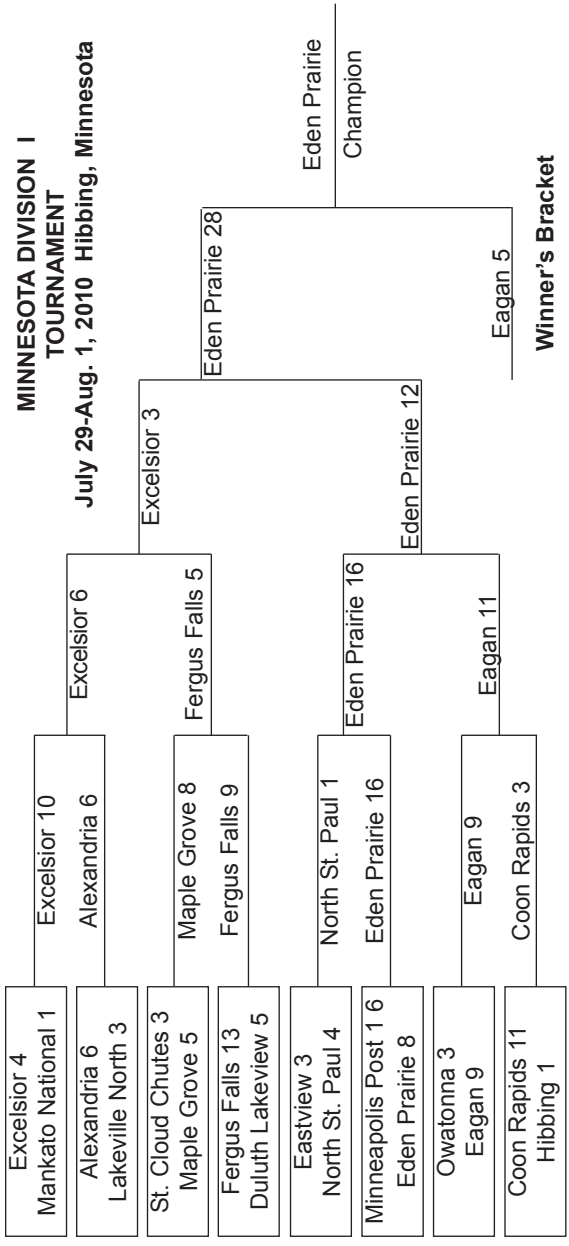
1926	Mankato
1927	Little Falls
1928	St. Paul Lexington Park
1929	St. Cloud
1930	Stillwater
1931	Stillwater
1932	Minneapolis, U of M
1933	Minneapolis, U of M
1934	Cokato
1935	Breckinridge
1936	Willmar
1937	Fergus Falls
1938	Rochester
1939	Mpls Nicollet Park
1940	St. Paul Lexington Park
1941	St. Paul Lexington 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
2011	Eden Prairie
2012	Chaska

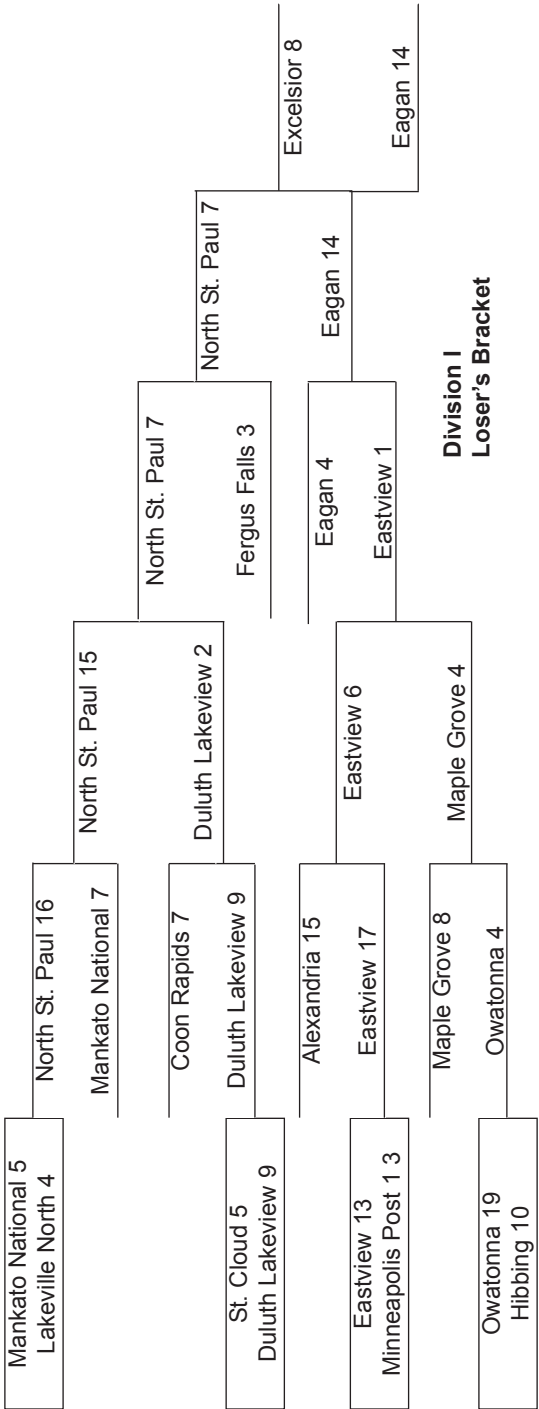
**DIVISION II STATE TOURNAMENT SITES  
1987 – current**

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
2011	Ely
2012	Sacred Heart

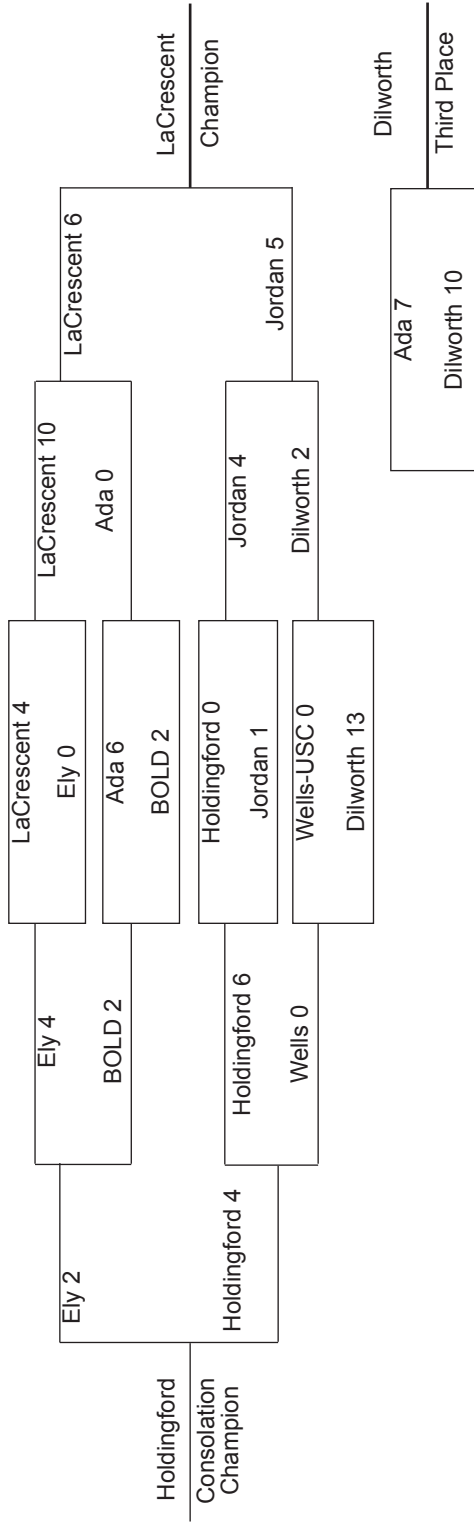
**MINNESOTA DIVISION I  
TOURNAMENT  
July 29-Aug. 1, 2010 Hibbing, Minnesota**



**Winner's Bracket**



**22nd ANNUAL MINNESOTA AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL DIVISION II TOURNAMENT**  
**July 30-31, Dilworth, Minnesota**





## Graduate of Year -- 2010

# Jeff Schugel

Jeff Schugel, who is currently a major league scout with the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim, has been selected to receive the 2010 Minnesota American Legion Graduate of the Year.

Schugel is the second New Ulm native to receive the award with Terry Steinbach winning the award in 1988.

Schugel, who was on the 1978 New Ulm American Legion World Series baseball team is entering his 28th season in professional baseball, the last 24 as a scout.

Schugel was a team captain at Minnesota State-Mankato in both 1982 and 1983 before being drafted by the Twins in 1983 in the 18th round. He played three years for Twins' farm teams in Elizabethtown and Visalia from 1983 until 1986 before becoming the Florida Scouting Supervisor for the Twins from 1987 until 1991. From 1992 until 1993 he was the East Coast Supervisor of Scouting for the Twins.

He changed organizations in 1994 when he became the National Cross-Checker and Director of International Scouting for the Colorado Rockies. In 2000 he became the Special Assistant to the General Manager for the Los Angeles Dodgers and also the Director of International Scouting.

In 2005 he jumped to the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim as a Major League scout where he oversees potential trades and free agent signings. He was recently a finalist for the Major League Scouting Director for the Arizona Diamondbacks.

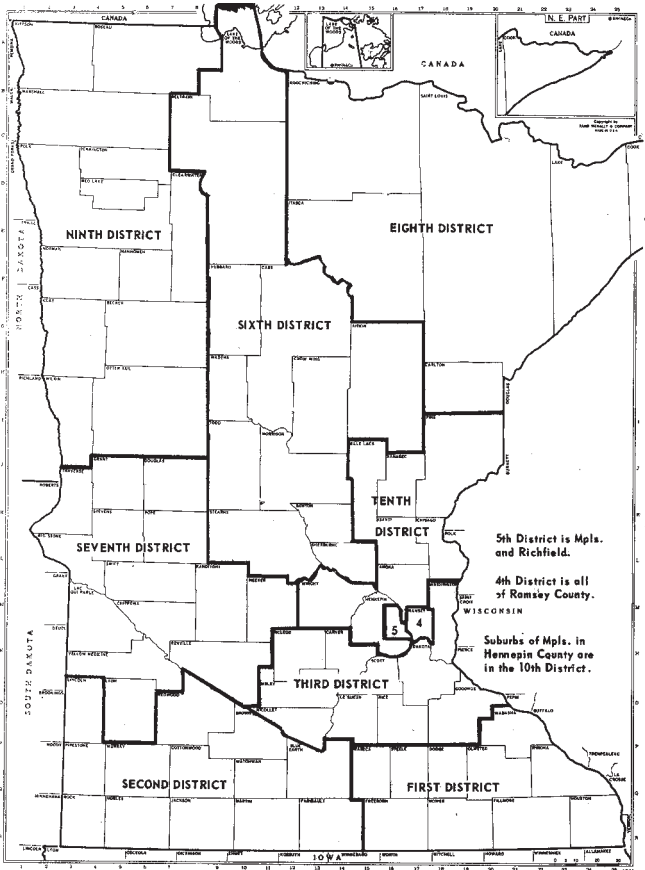
Schugel signed former Twins pitcher Brad Radke in 1991. He also signed New Ulm native Jamie Hoffmann. Schugel holds a high school hockey record for the Eagles. As a goalie, he recorded 1,079 saves which is a career record.

(Information from the New Ulm Journal.)



## **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 Those in the Military

Who have given the  
ultimate sacrifice for their  
nation since Sept. 11, 2001.

Let us not forget the cost  
of freedom.

American Legion Baseball  
is a program of the  
Minnesota American  
Legion.

*Still Serving America.*

**85 Years Strong**