

# 2013

## 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	1978 Ron Guidry, New York Yankees	1998 Tony Gwynn San Diego Padres
1959 No award was made	1979 Mike Flanagan, Baltimore Orioles	1999 Steve Finley San Diego Padres
1960 Ted Williams, Boston Red Sox	1980 George Brett, Kansas City Royals	2000 Chipper Jones Atlanta Braves
1961 Stan Musial, St. Louis Cardinals	1981 Gary Carter, Montreal Expos	2001 Todd Stottlemyre Arizona Diamondbacks
1962 Bobby Richardson, New York Yankees	1982 Jim Sundberg, Texas Rangers	2002 Luis Gonzalez Arizona Diamondbacks
1963 Warren Spahn, Milwaukee Braves	1983 Andre Thornton, Cleveland Indians	2003 Jeff Bagwell Houston Astros
1964 Brooks Robinson, Baltimore Orioles	1984 Ryne Sandberg, Chicago Cubs	2004 Darrin Erstad Anaheim Angels
1965 Eddie Fisher, Chicago White Sox	1985 Jeff Reardon, Montreal Expos	2005 Scott Rolen St. Louis Cardinals
1966 Frank Robinson, Baltimore Orioles	1986 Dale Murphy, Atlanta Braves	2006 Albert Pujols St. Louis Cardinals
1967 Carl Yastrzemski, Boston Red Sox	1987 Don Mattingly, New York Yankees	2007 Chris Carpenter St. Louis Cardinals
1968 Mickey Lolich, Detroit Tigers	1988 Roger Clemens, Boston Red Sox	2008 Justin Verlander Detroit Tigers
1969 Harmon Killebrew Minnesota Twins	1989 Alan Trammell, Detroit Tigers	2009 Lyle Overbay Toronto Blue Jays
1970 Dave McNally, Baltimore Orioles	1990 Harold Reynolds, Seattle Mariners	2010 Brandon Inge Detroit Tigers
1971 Steve Carlton, St. Louis Cardinals	1991 Sid Bream, Atlanta Braves	2011 Cory Hart Milwaukee Brewers
1972 Al Kaline, Detroit Tigers	1992 Terry Lee Steinbach, Oakland Athletics	2012 Mark Ellis Los Angeles Dodgers
1973 Johnny Bench, Cincinnati Reds	1993 Billy Swift, San Francisco Giants	2013 Chad Billingsley Los Angeles Dodgers
1974 Wilbur Wood Chicago White Sox	1994 Greg Maddux, Atlanta Braves	
1975 Carlton Fisk, Boston Red Sox	1995 Bob Tewksbury, Texas Rangers	
1976 Rick Monday Chicago Cubs	1996 Paul Molitor, Minnesota Twins	
1977 Dave Winfield, San Diego Padres	1997 Mo Vaughn Boston Red Sox	

The American Legion  
**Minnesota**  
Rule Book  
2013

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# A message from the Director

## Notes on the 2013 Season

Thank you for participating in the 2013 American Legion Baseball season. This updated rule book 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. Significant items include:

1. New this year, all coaches or anyone else who has direct contact with players must undergo and pass a mandatory background check. It is imperative that any coach you add to your staff after you have had your team registration approved must also complete a background check. Starting with state playoffs or sooner, district directors will be monitoring to insure team coaching staffs, and other who have direct contact with the players, are in compliance with our background check policy. The new policy and everything you need to know about doing the check are in this year's rule book.
2. The certification of coaches for concussion training is an ongoing process. Coaches that participated in our program last year probably have their certification good through the 2014 season. Make sure that new coaches on your team undergo the concussion training and submit a copy of their certification to your district director by June 15. Those who obtained their training through the MSHSL can use copies of those certificates.
3. Last year, we incorporated a policy (N. Competition Policy, p. 12) on who American Legion teams can compete with during the season. The rule generally states that competition can only be against other American Legion teams or teams that participate in similar nationally-organized, sanctioned, community-based youth baseball programs.
4. In order to compete in 2013, teams must again register, pay fees and purchase insurance through our national website: [www.baseball.legion.org](http://www.baseball.legion.org). Any questions or issues with electronic registration should be directed to your district director or to the state baseball staff. Help is also available on our state website: [www.mnlegion.org](http://www.mnlegion.org), click on baseball. Please remember to complete the last step in the process -- submitting your final roster.
5. In addition to registering electronically with National, you must submit printed hard copies of your roster and player-coaches forms (Forms 2, 76 and 77) plus your concussion training certificates to your district director by June 15 (or earlier if your district director requests them earlier). Make sure to submit a roster cover sheet which is available on our state website.
6. As was the case last season, 2013 high school enrollment figures have been obtained from the Minnesota Department of Education and those figures are available on our state website. Your district director can help you access those figures. All teams must use this supplied data and only this supplied data when listing your enrollments.
7. There are also changes this year to the Major League Rule Book. Info will be in your kits.

And, lastly, you will note that this rule book is in a different, wider format this year. We are hoping this will make the book easier to use than the old, narrow format.

As always, your district directors and the state committee are available to provide any assistance that you might need. We hope you have a great season, and we appreciate your ongoing participation in Minnesota American Legion Baseball.

**Mike Perry, Minnesota State Baseball Director**

# 2013 DEADLINES & IMPORTANT DATES

These deadlines apply uniformly to all American Legion teams – Senior (Division I and Division II) and Junior -- unless noted or communicated otherwise. Hardcopies of the forms and information below must be submitted through your District Director (thus, must be submitted to him / her earlier than the dates shown below, in order to reach the State Director by the indicated deadline.)

**March 31:** Senior teams who qualify and wish to participate in the Division II program must report that intention to their respective District Director by this date.

**April 1:** By this date, teams should have applied to compete in 2013, by submitting Team Application through the National Registration system. (Note: Minnesota Baseball kits will be mailed to teams after that Team Application has been approved.)

**April 15:** Deadline for newly forming teams to submit their intent to participate, in writing, 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 be submitted by this date, for approval of State Director. (A convenient form to do this is available on the MN State baseball web page.) Any requests to State Director for exemption from certain rules, for hardship reasons must also be submitted by this date (postmarked).

**May 15:** All existing teams must purchase insurance by this date from the designated carrier, as well as pay the National fee [\$50 for Senior Legion, \$25 for Junior Legion in 2013] and the Minnesota fee [\$125 for Senior Legion, \$100 for Junior Legion in 2013], A \$200 late fee will be assessed by National after May 15.

**June 1:** Final deadline for new and existing teams to purchase insurance and pay fees. Failure to do so by this date will result in team disqualification from American Legion Baseball for the season. June 1 is also the deadline for District Directors to file District Rules with the State Director.

**June 15:** Final deadline for all teams to electronically submit their final roster through the National registration system. A hardcopy of the final roster, along with all player / coach forms, must be in the possession of the respective District Directors by this date (earlier, if required by the respective District Director.) Includes, but is not limited to: Along with Submittal Cover Sheet, a hardcopy printout of the team's final roster from the National registration system (must include all coaches and staff who are subject to background screening); Hardcopies of Concussion Training Certificates -- for new coaches and for those whose prior training has expired; Hardcopies of fully completed, signed Form 2's for all players, as well as for coaches and other officials who travel with the team; Hardcopies of all Transfers/Releases (Form #76) and Declarations (Form #77), fully completed and signed by all those required;

Teams that are not in compliance with all of the above will be disqualified from participation / competition.

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

**July 29:** Deadline for each District and Sub-state director to declare representative(s) for State Tournament participation.

## **Junior Legion:**

July 23 – 28: Annual Junior Legion State Tourn., Eagan (Tuesday-Sunday).

August 1 – 4: Mid-State Regional, Carthage, MO (Thursday-Sunday).

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

August 1: Reporting date for participating teams (Thursday).

August 2 – 4: 24th Annual Division II State Tournament, Bird Island (Friday-Sunday).

August 8 – 11: Central Plains Region, Pratt, KS (Thursday-Sunday).

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

Week-ending July 28: Sub-State Playoff Tournaments.

August 1: Reporting date for participating teams (Thursday).

August 2 – 5: 87th Annual State Division I Tournament, Edina (Friday-Monday).

August 8 – 12: Central Plains Region 6 National Playoff Tournament, Fargo, ND (Thursday-Monday; MN Champ & Runner-up both participate).

August 16 – 20: 88th American Legion Baseball National World Series, Shelby, NC (Friday-Tuesday).

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**Minnesota website:** [www.mnlegion.org](http://www.mnlegion.org) then follow the link for "baseball."

**National website:** [www.legion.org/baseball](http://www.legion.org/baseball)

**Registration website:** [www.baseball.legion.org](http://www.baseball.legion.org)



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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

Participation in the program is restricted to American Legion Baseball teams that have 1) properly registered, 2) completed and filed a Form 1 Roster, 3) completed and filed a Form #2 for all players and coaches, 4) purchased team insurance, 5) paid required fees, and 6) otherwise completed all other requirements for participation in the Program.

**A. Game rules.** All games shall be played under OFFICIAL BASEBALL RULES, as authorized by the Commissioner of Major League Baseball, except as noted herein. As such, during the regular season and in post-season play, American Legion baseball teams

1. Shall not use a re-entry rule.
2. Shall not use courtesy runners.
3. Shall use the American League designated hitter rule, as published in Official Baseball Rules.

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

**C. Insurance.** All teams shall be covered under S.A. Van Dyk group's accident and liability insurance coverage prior to the first day or tryouts or practice -- or May 15 (June 1 in the case of newly forming teams) -- whichever comes earliest. No Minnesota State Baseball kit will be issued without confirmation from National that insurance has been purchased. Teams who fail to purchase insurance by the specified deadline date shall be subject to additional penalties or disqualification from American Legion Baseball.

**D. 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.

**E. 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.

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

**G. 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.

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

**I. Player Safety, First Aid / Blood Rule.** 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.) Players removed due to injury shall not be eligible to re-enter the game.

1. Each team must have a properly-supplied first aid kit in its possession for use at all baseball games.
2. Per Minnesota law, all coaches and officials must be properly trained in the identification and handling of possible concussions, in the interest of player safety.
3. Per Minnesota American Legion Baseball's Youth Protection Policy (and applicable related MN Department and National Policies), all Designated Individuals (e.g., adult managers, coaches, assistant coaches, and other team staff / volunteers -- who have direct player contact, who are in a role of authority, and/or who travel / lodge with the team) must undergo and successfully pass annual background screening, prior to participating in any meeting, event, activity, practice and/or games that involve youth participants. See Appendix C for complete information.

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

1. On any force play, the runner must slide on the ground before the base – and in a direct line between the two bases. It is permissible for the slider's momentum to carry him through the base, in the baseline extended. **Exception:** A runner need not slide directly into a base, as long as the runner slides or runs in a direction away from the fielder, to avoid making contact or altering the play of the fielder. In this case, interference shall not be called.
  - a. "On the ground" can either be a head-first slide, or a slide with one leg and buttock on the ground before the base.
  - b. "Directly into a base" means the runner's entire body (feet, legs, trunk and arms) must stay in a straight line between bases.

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

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

3. Actions by a runner are illegal, and interference shall be called, if:
  - a. The runner slides or runs out of the baseline in the direction of the fielder and alters the play of the fielder (with or without contact);
  - b. The runner uses a rolling or cross-body slide or either makes contact with, or alters the play of, a fielder;
  - c. The runner's raised leg makes contact higher than the fielder's knee, when the fielder is in a standing position;
  - d. The runner slashes or kicks the fielder with either leg, and/or
  - e. The runner illegally slides toward or makes contact with the fielder, even if the fielder makes no attempt to throw to complete a play.

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

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

**K. Collisions.** The intent of this Rule is to encourage base runners and defensive players to avoid col-

lisions 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 contacts another player is automatically ejected, and if the offender is a runner, is declared out.

- a. The majority of intentional collisions occur at home plate, where the catcher is blocking the plate. Runners are to slide directly to the plate, or away from the catcher, to avoid making contact with the catcher, especially when the defender is in possession of the ball. If there is any intentional and excessive force, or if there is any perceived intent to injure another player, the offending player shall be ejected from the game. This applies regardless if committed by an offensive or defensive player.

- b. Beginning with State Competition (Sub-district tournament play and forward), any one ejected from a game is considered to be suspended for the remainder of the tournament, unless reinstated by the respective tournament authority, whose decision is final.

**L. Length of Games.** During the regular season, Junior and Senior (Division I and Division II) teams may play seven-inning games (instead of nine), as well as extra innings, beyond seven, due to the score.

1. A 10-run rule may be applied after five (5) full innings have been played, unless the home team is ahead after four and one-half innings, at which time the game will be considered complete.

2. In the event of inclement weather or other conditions beyond control, a game of less than seven (7) innings may be called and considered complete, but in no event less than four and one-half innings.

3. Any game that does not go the required number of innings (or that is tied after going the required number of innings) may be considered a suspended game and may be resumed at the point it was stopped.

4. For District league play, each respective District Director shall establish the specific Length of Game rules that shall apply, subject to the above.

5. For post-season play, Length of Game shall be governed by the rules outlined within the applicable post-season play sections of this rule book for Senior and Junior teams.

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

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

For purposes of this rule section, when a violation occurs, the official scorekeeper shall record 12-1/3 innings pitched (in the case of a Senior Legion player), 10-1/3 innings pitched (in the case of a Junior Legion player).

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. Any player may be removed from the pitching position and remain in the game at another position. Official Baseball Rules require a pitcher to be removed when a coach makes two trips to the mound in the same inning. PENALTY – Forfeiture of the game if a protest is filed with the umpire-in-chief 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, 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 with out 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 Base ball participation, as well as forfeiture of games played to date.

**N. Competition Policy.** It is intended that Minnesota American Legion Baseball teams will compete against other American Legion Baseball teams, as well as other teams that participate in similar nationally-organized and sanctioned, community-based, youth baseball programs in the United States and Canada (e.g., Babe Ruth, VFW). In an effort to encourage the growth of such programs (and discourage their degradation), any Minnesota American Legion Baseball team that competes against other types of Minnesota-based teams (e.g., traveling all-star teams that are not participants of such nationally-organized, community-based youth baseball programs, hereinafter "travel team"), or that admits such a "travel team" into a tournament that it (the Minnesota American Legion Baseball team) is sponsoring, shall be subject to the following:

1. Any Minnesota American Legion Baseball team Head Coach, whose team plays any game against a Minnesota-based "travel team," shall be suspended for three (3) of his team's games against other American Legion Baseball teams. Playing two or more such games will result in the Head Coach's suspension from participating in his team's American Legion playoff games for the respective season.
2. Any Minnesota American Legion Baseball team that sponsors a tournament, and that admits a Minnesota-based "travel team" into such tournament, shall be suspended from participating in its team's American Legion playoff games for the respective season.
  - a. If the sponsoring Minnesota American Legion Baseball team admits one or more such Minnesota-based "travel teams" to its tournament regardless, all Minnesota American Legion Baseball teams participating in the tournament are expected to forfeit their games against such "travel team(s)" and/or withdraw from the tournament, in order to avoid

being subject to provision #1, above.

b. In the case of tournaments sponsored by non-Minnesota American Legion Baseball teams, participating Minnesota American Legion Baseball teams will similarly be expected to forfeit games and/or withdraw from participation, even though the sponsoring American Legion Baseball team is not be subject to this provision. Provision #1, above, will still apply, if the Minnesota American Legion Baseball team competes against a Minnesota-based "travel team"; every Minnesota American Legion Baseball team has a responsibility to know its opponents, as well as such opponents' classification status.

3. In the case of tournaments sponsored by non-Minnesota American Legion Baseball teams, and in which one or more non-Minnesota-based "travel teams" is participating, Minnesota American Legion Baseball teams will not be subject to the above provisions. It is hoped, however, that Minnesota American Legion Baseball teams would opt to not compete against such teams.

**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**

# **STAFF AND PLAYER ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

### **A. Team Manager, Coach, Staff Eligibility.**

1. A non-Legionnaire may act as team manager or coach.
2. Per Minnesota law, in the interest of player safety, all coaches (head and assistant) must be properly trained in the identification and handling of possible concussions. Those who do not possess, and submit valid proof of training shall be ineligible to serve as an American Legion Baseball Coach in Minnesota.
3. Per Minnesota American Legion Baseball's Youth Protection Policy (and applicable related MN Department and National policies), all Designated Individuals must undergo and successfully pass annual background screening, prior to participating in any meeting, event, activity, practice and/or games that involve youth participants. See Appendix C for complete information.

### **B. Player age.**

1. American Legion Baseball competition in 2013 is open only to players born on or after January 1, 1994. Those born in 1993 or earlier are not eligible.
2. The 2013 Junior American Legion Baseball program is open only to players born on or after January 1, 1996. Those born in 1995 or earlier are not eligible to participate in Junior American Legion Baseball. It is a 17-and-under program.
3. For the 2013 season, players born in 2001 and after (those age 12 and under) are not eligible to participate. Players must be 13 years of age as of January 1, 2013, to be eligible.

### **C. Player School Enrollment Status.**

1. American Legion Baseball participation is open to age-eligible players who are enrolled in high school as of March 31 of the respective year of competition.
2. American Legion Baseball participation is also open to age-eligible players who have graduated from high school as of March 31 of the respective year of competition.
  - a. Such players are restricted to playing for the team upon which they were rostered during the prior season.
  - b. Any request for exemption from this restriction, due to hardship or unforeseen circumstances, must be submitted in writing (including all applicable supporting documentation) to the State Director (through the applicable District Director), and approval must be granted, prior to the player's inclusion on the team's National Form #1 Roster.
  - c. Beginning with the 2015 season, age-eligible players who have graduated from high school will not be eligible to participate in American Legion Baseball.

**D. 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, 12th 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 determined 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."

**E. 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.

**F. 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.

**G. 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, which remain in effect continuously, without interruption, through the state tournaments; see the Sub-state and State Tournament sections of this rule book for further information on such.)

**H. 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 10th, 11th and 12th 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. A change in a team's Base School constitutes the discontinuance of a team that existed with the originally-designated Base School, as well as the creation of a new team, concurrently.
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.

**C. Player Selection and Rostering.** Teams may select and roster eligible players (through registration/try-out 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) immedi-

- ately 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.)
- c. A team whose Base School Total Enrollment exceeds 400 (i.e., 401 or more) may only select and roster players from its own Base School, as well as players who attend Private High Schools and who are eligible to make a one-time election under the Option Rule.
  - i. This rule applies only to Senior Division I teams which began their participation in the Minnesota American Legion Baseball program (or that made a change in their Base School designation), effective with, or after, the 2009 season.
  - ii. Teams covered by this rule, however, may select and roster up to one player under the Transfer & Bypass Rule OR one player who attends a Non-Base School.
  - iii. Any request for a team's exemption from this rule, for extenuating or hardship reasons, must be submitted to the State Baseball Director, in writing, no later than February 15 of the respective year of competition. Such exemption is subject to future revocation by the State Baseball Director.
  - iv. This intent of this rule is to encourage the creation of more teams, and thus, more opportunities for youth to play American Legion Baseball.
  - v. As a transitional measure beginning with the 2012 season, any players who would become ineligible to play for the team upon which they were rostered in 2011 may continue to finish their eligibility with such team, without penalty to the team.

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 1: If the Base School teams in 1a and 1b (immediately above) are determined to be the exact same Base School team, the Player will then have the option of playing for the team identified under 1b (immediately above) -- or for the team identified as being next closest to the player's Domicile. (See Situation 4 in next section for clarification.)

Note 2: 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 he is cut from the roster of the team for which he previously played, or 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 player attends (or would normally attend) any high school located in a Base School's Attendance Area.
- The Player's Domicile is also located in that Base School Attendance Area.
- 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 7 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:**

- In Situation 3, it is determined that a) the Base School team whose Attendance area encompasses the Player's School of Attendance is identical to the Base School team that b) is located nearest to his Domicile, according to Mapquest. In other words, the player does not really have an option at all, because it is the same Base School team in both instances.
- As a result, 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 next nearest Base School team located 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 5:**

- 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 6:**

- 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 7:

- 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 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 utilize the Option Rule to establish that they will be playing for that team (unless cut from the roster of the team for which they previously played, or 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 executed in 2012 and later shall be valid for the respective year of competition only and shall expire on December 31 of that year. Transfers executed prior to the 2012 season shall remain final and binding for the remainder of the player's American Legion Baseball eligibility, unless a subsequent event allows a permissible change or unless the player is cut from the team to which he transferred; such situations require advance approval of the District and State Director, prior to the player being rostered by his original, pre-transfer (or another) team.
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 / tryout 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/School.** Players who, from one year of competition to the next, realize a change in their school of attendance -- and / or players who (including those attending colleges, technical or trade schools) 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 their new school of attendance and / or the new permanent Domicile, provided that all other eligibility provisions are met.

In only the case of a Domicile (address) change, 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 / Change in Attendance Area (Boundary).** In the event that a new Legion team is formed -- or in the event that a public school system revises the official Attendance Area (Boundary) of its high school(s) -- which then results in a new (or different) team assuming jurisdiction over (i.e., gaining rostering rights to) a player who has already been previously rostered by another team, that player has a one-time option election of continuing to play with a) the team for which he last played, or b) the new / different team for which he is now eligible to play.

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 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 Sub-District, District, or Sub-State tournaments), to the respective District's baseball fund;
- b. In the case of a protest involving State Tournament competition (filed after the final District or Sub-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 Sub-state 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 fully-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 Sub-state 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.

American Legion youth programs are intended to encourage safe, healthy, growth-oriented, and productive interaction between staff, volunteers, and children or youth. As such, per Minnesota American Legion Baseball's Youth Protection Policy (and applicable related MN Department and National policies), abuse in any form, whether it be physical, emotional, sexual, verbal or economic exploitation, will not be tolerated. (See Appendix C.) Compliance with all terms of the Youth Protection Policy by all participants and Designated Individuals is mandatory.

**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 a sub-district, sub-state 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 (Appendix A).

# 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 (submitted through the respective District Director) by April 15 of the respective year. Teams seeking exemption from certain rules, such as Player Selection Exceptions in Rule 4, must also submit such request, with full justification, by April 15.
2. Annual completion of Team Application (electronically, through Nat'l system), signifying the intent to participate during the season; by April 1.
3. Purchase of accident and liability insurance coverage from the approved carrier, as well as payment of any and all National fees (for 2013, \$50 for Senior Legion and \$25 for Junior Legion) and State fees (for 2013, \$125 for Senior Legion and \$100 for Junior Legion). Required annually, by no later than May 15 for existing teams (those who participated during the prior season), June 1 for new teams. (\$200 late fee applies after May 15.)
4. Electronic submittal of the team's final Player Roster of Eligibility through the National web site. Required annually, by no later than June 15.
5. Submittal of a fully-completed and accurate hardcopy printout of the team's final Player Roster of Eligibility to the respective District Director. Required annually, by no later than June 15 (earlier if required by Director).
6. Submittal of 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, by June 15, to the respective District Director.
7. For all coaches and team staff, in addition to the completion of a background screen, submittal of Concussion Training Certificate of Completion, as required. In addition, submittal of National Form #2 for each individual coach, manager, and other team official who travels and/or serves in an official capacity with the team. Required annually, delivered to the respective District Director, by no later than June 15.
8. Submittal of fully completed Transfer Form(s) #76 and Declaration Form(s) #77, as applicable and required for individual players, with all required signatures. Required annually, delivered to the respective District Director, on or before June 15.

Following their review and approval of such, District Directors shall deliver items 5-8 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 May 15 for existing teams (those who legitimately participated during the prior season), June 1 for new teams.

1. Any existing team that fails to purchase insurance by May 15 shall be assessed an additional \$200 late fee.
2. Any new or existing team that fails to purchase insurance by June 1 shall be disqualified from playing American Legion Baseball during the respective season.

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

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

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

1. For Post-sponsored teams, a bona-fide member of the Post must be officially responsible for the team at all times as Business Manager / Athletic Officer. A non-Legionnaire may act as team manager or coach.
2. An American Legion Post may sponsor more than one team; several Posts may share sponsorship of a single team.
3. Non-Legion ("Outside Sponsorship") of a team is permissible subject to approval by the respective District and the State Director at the time of initial team formation, as well as ongoing supervision by the State Baseball Committee. Outside Sponsors 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-state tournaments, which remain in effect continuously, without interruption, through the State 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, District, and/or Sub-State playoff tournaments constitute the beginning of State Competition, at which time certain rules pertaining to uniforms and equipment apply, as outlined in the State Tournament competition regulations section.
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, Sub-State, 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.** Wood metal, ceramic, composite, or graphite bats may be used on the playing field.

1. All non-wood bats must carry the BBCOR certification mark on the barrel, signifying legality for use. If a bat carries the BBCOR mark, but it has been decertified, it is not legal for use.
2. In the opinion of the umpire, any bat that has been altered shall be removed from the game, and the player and team manager/head coach shall be ejected from the game. Non-wood bats must not exceed 36 inches in length and 2-5/8 inches in diameter.
3. Wood bats may be comprised of laminate or composite wood.
4. Wood bats must not exceed 42 inches in length and 2-3/4 inches in diameter. An indentation in the end of the bat, up to one inch in depth (a cupped bat) is permitted.
5. The entire bat must be round, with a constant radius at any point, and the finish of the hitting area must be smooth.
6. There must be a direct line from the center of the knob to the center of the large end.
7. All bats must have an identification mark 18 inches from the end of the handle.
8. No foreign substance or material used to improve grip, which 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.



9. In the opinion of the umpire, any bat that fails to meet these specifications or that 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 also be declared out, any base runners shall not advance, and the player and team manager shall be ejected from the game.

**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. For purposes of league competition within a District, a team is a member of the District Program in which its Base School is 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, District Tournaments and/or Sub-State 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, 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. 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 or Sub-state Tournament, (whichever is earliest), except upon discovery of fraud, in which case protests must be filed immediately upon discovery and include a full written description of the alleged fraud.

**E. District and/or Sub-State Tournament(s).** Each District Director, his designated representative(s), or the designated Sub-State Tournament Director, shall direct and have full authority over the respective tournament (Sub-District, District, or Sub-State) to determine the Tournament Champion and/or District Champion(s). For the Junior Legion program, the Junior Legion Director, or his designated representative(s), shall have full authority for such.

1. On the designated Sub-District, District, or Sub-State Tournament Reporting Date, all players must be present and available for participation. Any player who is absent, without permission from the Tournament / District Director, as applicable, for hardship reasons, shall not be allowed to play or otherwise participate. Subsequently, any player who leaves the tournament, or is otherwise unavailable to participate, without permission from the Tournament / District Director, as applicable, shall also lose eligibility for ongoing post-season play / participation.
2. The District Champion(s) or Sub-State Tournament Champion, as applicable, shall be declared to the State Director by each Tournament / District Director, no later than three (3) days prior to the reporting date established for the respective State Tournament.
3. If for any reasons, a Championship team is unable to represent the District or Sub-State, as applicable, in State Tournament Competition, the Tournament / District Director will report such circumstances, as well as a replacement team, by that same date to the State Director.
4. 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.
5. 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 Champion may be declared, qualifying such team to compete in the State Tournament.

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



# 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, District, and/or Sub-State Playoff 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 who did not continuously participate in, or who otherwise was absent from any portion of, the Sub-District, District, and/or Sub-State Tournament, shall not be eligible to participate in the State Tournament. Hardship exception requests (as described above), must be made in writing to the State Director, who has full and final authority in the matter.
4. Any player registered on the reporting date during State Tournament orientation, who subsequently leaves the Tournament site to participate in a non-Legion baseball activity, shall immediately lose eligibility to participate/play in any further State Tournament games/events. Any player who requires temporary leave from the site for hardship reasons must seek advance approval from the State Director in order to maintain eligibility.
5. 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 player eligibility, the postponement and rescheduling of games due to weather or other conditions/factors, as well as the determination of the Tournament Champion, Runner-up, and Third-Place team, in the event of unplayable conditions. 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. Effective with the 2013 season, the field of teams shall include the Champions of fifteen (15) Sub-State Tournaments. (The organization of such Sub-State Tournaments, as well as individual team assignments to such, shall be determined by the State Baseball Committee, or by its designated representative(s) and/or subcommittee.) The remaining berth in the State Tournament shall be filled by the Host Team. The State Baseball Committee shall periodically review this method of distributing State Tournament berths.

1. No Host Team shall be denied the opportunity of winning Tournament Championships at the Sub-District, District, and/or Sub-State Tournament level.
2. The Host Team shall always occupy the "Host" berth, as specified by time and place shown on the tournament schedule/bracket. In the event that the Host Team also earns a State Tournament Berth through the playoff process, the runner-up from the same Sub-State Playoff Tournament (or District Tournament, if applicable) will be assigned to the Host Team's "championship berth."
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, District, or Sub-State Tournament (whichever is earlier), 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), housed and non-housed teams will receive assistance, but only for up to 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 playing 2 games receive assistance for 1 meal; those playing 1 game 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, District, and/or Sub-State Playoff Tournaments constitute the beginning of State Competition. Of particular note:

1. Provisions pertaining to the required length of state tournament games shall apply.
2. Uniform requirements shall be strictly enforced.
3. In addition to meeting all other eligibility requirements, a player must be in attendance on a continuous basis during the Sub-District, District, and/or Sub-State Tournaments, in order to maintain ongoing eligibility to participate, unless granted an exception by the applicable tournament authority for hardship or extenuating circumstances. The State Director shall have full and final authority.

**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.
5. Any player, coach or manager or other person ejected by an umpire must leave the ballpark. Anyone ejected from a game is considered to be suspended for the remainder of the tournament, unless re-instated by the State Director, whose decision is final.

**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. 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 lifelong 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
- 2011 -- Doug Schuette, Brownton
- 2012 -- Mike Fogelson, Bemidji

## **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
- 2011 -- Eden Valley and Watkins Posts 381 and 453
- 2012 -- Chaska Post 57

## **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
- 2011 -- Mike Halloran, Edina  
Charlie Walters, Minneapolis
- 2012 -- James Brower, Excelsior  
Cole Irish, Plainview



# 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, requirements, and procedures outlined in this Rulebook, also apply to teams electing to participate in the Division II program. Failure to comply will result in player/team ineligibility.

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

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

1. Consolidated school districts with Total Enrollment of 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 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 pro-



posed 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.** Unless noted otherwise herein, all rules applicable to the Division I State Tournament also apply to the Division II State Tournament.

1. The Division II State Tournament will be an eight-team, single-elimination event. Due to the absence of an approved Division II National Tournament (sponsored by the National American Legion and under its jurisdiction), and because the Division II State Tournament is a continuation of the regular season (with teams opting out of Division I competition), games shall be seven (7) innings in length, except in the following cases:

a. Extra innings become necessary due to the score;

b. A 10-run rule shall apply after five (5) full innings have been played, unless the home team is ahead after four and one-half innings, at which time the game will be considered complete.

c. In the event of inclement weather or other conditions beyond control, the Tournament Director may call a game of less than seven (7) innings. If a game is stopped before four and on-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.

d. The Tournament shall be under the jurisdiction of the State Director, or his designated representative (Tournament Director.) Such Director shall have full and final authority for all tournament decisions, including player eligibility, the postponement and rescheduling of games due to weather or other conditions/factors, as well as the determination of the Tournament Champion, Runner-up, and Third-Place team, in the event of unplayable conditions. The Director shall also have final authority for the selection of umpires and official scorekeepers.

2. 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. 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 – Sebek  
1994 – LaCrescent  
1995 – Pine Island  
1996 – Big Lake  
1997 – LaCrescent

#### Runner-up

Karlstad  
New Ulm  
Lamberton  
Lamberton  
Benson  
Mt. Lake  
Cannon Falls  
Plainview  
Cannon Falls  
Perham

1998 – Milroy	Ely
1999 – Nashwauk-Keewatin	Paynesville
2000 – Sacred Heart (Regional Champion)	Montgomery
2001 – Parker’s Prairie	Morris
2002 – LeSueur-Henderson	Blue Earth
2003 – Paynesville	Nashwauk-Keewatin
2004 – Sebek	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
2011 -- Eden-Valley-Watkins	Ely
2012 -- Plato	Ely

### **Third Place Trophy**

2009 – Jordan  
 2010 -- Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton  
 2011 -- LaCrescent  
 2012 -- Stewartville

### **Consolation Trophy**

2009 – Royalton  
 2010 -- Holdingford  
 2011 -- Luverne  
 2012 -- Eden Valley-Watkins

### **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, Sebek  
 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, Sebek  
 2005 – Adam Kneble, Warroad  
 2006 – Steve Beckman, Jordan  
 2007 – Joe Lucas, Jordan  
 2008 – Trevor Ness, Staples-Motley  
 2009 -- Matt Geslinger, Eden Valley-Watkins  
 2010 -- Brandon Vethein, LaCrescent  
 2011 -- Matt Geislinger, Eden Valley-Watkins  
 2012 -- Ethan Maas, Plato

### **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. The winners include:

2011 -- Kenyon  
 2012 -- Sacred Heart

# 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 2013 Junior American Legion Baseball program is open only to players born on or after January 1, 1996. Those born in 1995 or earlier are not eligible to participate in Junior American Legion Baseball. It is a 17 and under Program. Also, for the 2013 season, players born in 2001 and after (those age 12 and under) are not eligible to participate. Players must be 13 years of age as of January 1, 2013 to be eligible.

**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:  
**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.

**F. State Tournament.** The Junior Legion State Tournament will be an 16-team, double elimination event. Unless noted otherwise herein, all rules applicable to the Division I State Tournament also apply to the Junior Legion State Tournament.

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. Due to the absence of an approved Division II National Tournament (sponsored by the National American Legion and under its jurisdiction), therefore the Junior Legion State Tournament is a continuation of the regular season, games shall be seven (7) innings in length, except in the following cases:

a. Extra innings become necessary due to the score;

b. A 10-run rule shall apply after five (5) full innings have been played, unless the home team is ahead after four and one-half innings, at which time the game will be considered complete;

c. In the event of inclement weather or other conditions beyond control, the Tournament Director may call a game of less than seven (7) 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.

d. The Tournament shall be under the jurisdiction of the Junior Legion Director and State Director, or their designated representative (Tournament Director.) Such Director shall have full and final authority for all tournament decisions, including player eligibility, the postponement and rescheduling of games due to weather or other conditions/factors, as well as the determination of the Tournament Champion, Runner-up, and Third-Place team, in the event of unplayable conditions. The Director shall also have final authority for the selection of umpires and official scorekeepers.

e. Housing and Meal provisions unique to the Junior Legion State Tournament shall be established annually by the Junior Legion Director and State Baseball Committee.

## 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 (Reg'l. champ)	Eden Prairie
2011	Excelsior (Reg'l. champ)	Wayzata
2012	Excelsior	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 86 years of play in Minnesota, materials have been supplied to almost 25,000 teams, who provided playing opportunities to an estimated 365,000 players. In 2012, 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 five National Champions – Minneapolis Richfield Post 435 in 1943; Edina Post 471 in 1983; New Brighton Post 513's Tri-City Red in 1999, Rochester Post 592's Rochester A's in 2003, and Eden Prairie in 2011. 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.

# APPENDIX A

## COACH'S CODE OF ETHICS

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

- A. "Bench jockeying" will not be allowed. Coaches shall prohibit bench jockeying, including personal, offensive, and malicious remarks, as well as cursing and obscene language, directed at opponents, umpires or spectators.
- B. Coaches shall take an active role in the prevention of drug, alcohol, and tobacco abuse and, under no circumstances, authorize the use of such.
- C. Coaches shall not use alcohol or tobacco products when in contact with players.
- D. Coaches shall not make false, deceptive, misleading or fraudulent statements concerning work activities, or personal or organizational affiliations.
- E. Coaches shall be thoroughly familiar with American Legion Baseball Rules and be responsible for their interpretation and enforcement within the team environment.
  - 1. The spirit and letter of the Rules are to be regarded as mutual agreements.
  - 2. Coaches shall not attempt to seek advantage by circumventing the spirit or letter of the Rules.
  - 3. Coaches shall not permit ineligible player(s) to participate, practice or be part of any team function without first discussing eligibility with a previous Legion coach or the State Director, and without securing permission, in writing, using the proper forms from the State Director.
  - 4. Players should be taught to respect the dignity of the game, umpires, and opponents.
- F. Coaches shall confine their discussions to the Rules and not challenge umpire decisions that involve judgment.
- G. Coaches shall actively use their influence to enhance sportsmanship by athletes and spectators. Before and after contests, opposing coaches should meet and exchange friendly greetings in order to set the correct tone.
- H. Contest umpires will be treated with respect and be supported by coaches.
  - 1. Coaches shall not engage in conduct which will incite players or spectators against umpires or competitors.
  - 2. Coaches shall not publicly criticize umpires, players, or the opposition; it is deemed inappropriate and unethical.
- I. Coaches should expect umpires to display a courteous and dignified attitude towards them, other coaches, and players.
- J. Coaches shall not engage in sexual (or any other) harassment – or any form of verbal, mental or physical abuse.
- K. Coaches shall develop and promote a spirit of cooperation among the baseball family, including sponsors and any person connected with the program.

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

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



# Appendix B - Minnesota Youth Athletics Concussion Law (effective 9/1/11)

During 2011, the State of Minnesota passed a new law; all non-profit organizers/participants of youth athletics must comply (in addition to HS athletic programs). Therefore, all MN American Legion teams must be in compliance with the following provisions, effective 9/1/11.

1) ALL participating coaches and officials must receive training on concussion symptoms. (Certification is valid for a 3-year period, after which, coaches must take the training again and obtain a new certificate of completion.)

a. Umpire Associations / Umpires must secure training on their own. Coaches, however have an obligation to ensure that they use umpires who have received the required training, per Minnesota law.

b. Because player safety is of the utmost importance, although not required, it is also recommended that other Legion team staff, such as Business Managers, scorekeepers, etc. receive training as well.)

c. A valid copy of each coach's training certificate must be on-file with the team's District Director. New / renewal certificates should be included with the team's annual roster packet, which is submitted to District Directors in June. Coaches who do not have a valid certificate of training on file, will not be considered eligible to coach Legion Baseball in MN. (Those who have completed concussion training through the MN State HS League may submit a copy of that certificate of completion, in lieu of undergoing the following training, if desired.)

d. The CDC (Center for Disease Control and Prevention) worked with youth athletic organizations to develop a FREE on-line training video, which meets Minnesota state requirements. It is available at the following web site (link is also available on MN Legion Baseball web page): [http://www.cdc.gov/concussion/HeadsUp/online\\_training.html](http://www.cdc.gov/concussion/HeadsUp/online_training.html)

After viewing the video and taking a short quiz, a certificate will appear on-screen (which has a fixed, non-changeable date). Coaches must type their name in the applicable blank, then print the certificate. It is highly recommended that, before exiting that on-line screen, coaches also choose the option to save the certificate to their computers for reprinting later if needed. (If a certificate is lost, coaches cannot return to the on-line training to produce another certificate, without watching the entire training video again.)

2) During games, practices, tryouts, etc., coaches/officials must remove players who exhibit signs of possible concussion (as outlined in the training).

The training also recommends that coaches/officials suggest to parents that injured players be evaluated by a medical professional, if concussion symptoms are exhibited. (That is, the law does not require that coaches have a medical professional on-site during games to evaluate players for concussions ... it simply states that coaches have an obligation to remove players, if you see evidence of symptoms, or if you are concerned about the force of a hit sustained by a player.) If a player does not see a doctor, and if a coach has concerns about a player's health, coaches have an obligation to again remove the player and/or not let him play -- and to discuss the ongoing concern with the player's parents.

3) If a player is removed from participation due to symptoms, and if a concussion is confirmed, the player cannot resume participation without written consent from a doctor. (It is strongly suggested that coaches maintain a copy of the medical release with other player documents.)

4) Information on concussions must be made available/given to parents, athletes, coaches, etc. On the CDC web site, handouts are available for coaches, athletes and parents. It is suggested that coaches print and keep copies handy in their game-day bags. (Use of these handouts is referenced in the training video.) A link to the CDC's handout page is available on the MN Legion Baseball web site.

Coaches should contact their respective District Director for any questions about this MN law.

# Appendix C

## Minnesota American Legion Baseball Youth Protection Policy (Effective 12/1/12)

American Legion youth programs are intended to encourage safe, healthy, growth-oriented, and productive interaction between staff, volunteers, and children or youth. As such, in concurrence and in conjunction with Department of Minnesota and National American Legion policies, the Minnesota American Legion Baseball Program does not tolerate abuse in any form, whether it be physical, emotional, sexual, verbal or economic exploitation. (Note: full review of the Minnesota and National policies is strongly encouraged.)

This policy does not, and cannot, address every situation concerning the protection of children and youth. Just because certain actions or behaviors are not prohibited under this policy does not mean that they are acceptable behaviors. Program directors may be required to act with a certain degree of personal discretion, in the interest of helping to protect the welfare and well-being of children and youth. Minnesota American Legion Baseball, therefore, reserves the right to take disciplinary action against any Program participant(s), volunteer(s) or organization(s) whose actions or behaviors are deemed inappropriate and/or inconsistent with the Program's principles, objectives, rules, policies, or intent.

### **Youth Protection Safeguards.**

While Minnesota American Legion Baseball has the utmost confidence in its staff and volunteers, the possibility of misconduct or abuse by adults who occupy authority or leadership roles in programs involving children and youth certainly exists. As a result, it is important that safeguards be present, to help protect the welfare and well-being of children and youth, which is of utmost priority to the Program. The use of criminal background screening is considered a standard protocol by youth-serving organizations. Volunteer program staff undergo criminal history screening for many of the same reasons employers conduct background checks -- the purpose is to verify identity and determine whether anything in the person's past might disqualify him/her from working with youth participants.

**Background Screening Requirements.** As such, all Designated Individuals associated with Minnesota American Legion Baseball shall be subject to annual background screening (prior to the start of each season) by the Designated Provider, before participating in any meetings, events, activities, practices and/or games that involve youth participants. (See Definitions section, below, for those deemed to be "Designated Individuals" and who are subject to the background screening requirement.) In accordance with National American Legion policy

#### A. Background screening will include the following:

- 1) Social security number verification and address history trace,
- 2) Alias names national search,
- 3) National sex offender registry search,
- 4) National criminal database search,
- 5) A county or statewide criminal court search, within those states known to have insufficient data contributed to the national criminal database (Delaware, Georgia, North Dakota, Kentucky, Massachusetts, South Dakota, Wyoming, and others as may be deemed in the future).

#### B. Background screening that yields one or more of the following disqualifying criteria will preclude an individual from participating as a Designated Individual (i.e., serving as a coach, manager, or in any volunteer staff role of leadership and/or authority:

- 1) Conviction of a felony,
- 2) Conviction of a crime involving a minor, regardless of the offense,
- 3) Conviction of a crime involving force or threat of force against a person
- 4) Conviction of a crime in which sexual behavior is an element,
- 5) Conviction of a crime involving controlled substances (not paraphernalia or alcohol)
- 6) Conviction of a crime involving cruelty to animals
- 7) Any sex offender registrant,
- 8) Refusal to undergo background screening, as mandated.

If a Designated Individual is charged with, or has a case pending that involves, any of the disqualifying

criteria above, that individual will not be allowed to participate until legal adjudication has been made and until the screening has been verified as successfully completed.

If there is need to substitute for -- or replace -- an American Legion Baseball Designated Individual during the season, the individual serving as the replacement or substitution shall not commence participation or assume any duties until after background screening has been successfully completed.

If information is acquired during a season that a Designated Individual (who successfully completed background screening prior to the start of the season) may have sustained one or more of the disqualifying criteria, that Designated Individual shall be prohibited from participating as a Designated Individual until accuracy of the information has been verified / validated through the background screening process.

**Note:** Minnesota American Legion Baseball also reserves the right to prohibit any individual from serving as a Designated Individual (or in any other role), if at any time the Program, in its sole opinion, deems the individual to be unfit, not properly qualified, or unsuited, to working with children and youth.

**Screening Provider.** To maintain consistency and enhance confidentiality, although a Designated Individual may have the ability to provide proof of background screening for some other purpose or through some other source, all background screening for Minnesota American Legion Baseball Program will be conducted by the Designated Provider (the exclusive commercial vendor engaged by The American Legion National Headquarters to conduct background check screening for staff and volunteers of national youth programs of the American Legion.)

**Screening Procedure.** As part of the National American Legion Baseball team application and registration process, all Designated Individuals must complete a background screening application (on-line), directly with the Designated Provider. Failure to do so will result in the individual's inability to participate.

Minnesota On-line Background Screening Application for Designated Individuals:  
<https://opportunities.avery.com/MNLegion>

**Results / Findings.** The Designated Provider shall submit the result of individual background screenings to the designated Youth Protection Policy Program Manager for Minnesota American Legion Baseball. Such results shall be in the form of a "pass or fail" indicator. A "pass" indicator means that the background screen for a Designated Individual does not contain any disqualifying criteria; a "fail" indicator means that the background screen for a Designated Individual contains disqualifying criteria. Accordingly, the Youth Protection Policy Program Manager will provide results notification to Designated Individuals (and their team's manager, as applicable).

**Appeals.** If a Designated Individual has concerns or does not agree with the result of his/her background screen, he/she has the right to contact the Designated Provider directly to appeal the result or to provide additional / updated information. The Designated Provider will submit a revised "pass or fail" indicator result, as applicable, to the Youth Protection Policy Program Manager for Minnesota American Legion Baseball.

#### **Definitions.**

##### **1. Abuse:**

- Physical Abuse - Injury intentionally inflicted.
- Economic Abuse/Exploitation - Deliberate temporary or permanent misuse of another's money or belongings.
- Emotional Abuse - mental or emotional injury inflicted resulting in an observable and material impairment in growth, development or psychological functioning.
- Neglect - Failure to provide basic needs of vulnerable individuals or protect them from harm.
- Sexual Abuse - contact or activity of a sexual nature, without consent, or when consent is not possible.
- Verbal Abuse - Use of words intended to cause harm or demean the person being spoken to.

**2. Designated Provider:** The exclusive commercial vendor engaged by The American Legion National Headquarters to conduct background check screening for staff and volunteers of national youth programs of the American Legion.

Effective October 17, 2012:  
Priority Research Services, Inc., DBA "Protect Youth Sports."  
14499 N. Dale Mabry Hwy, Ste 201 South  
Tampa, FL 33618  
(877) 319-5587 (8 am to 6 pm EST)  
[www.protectyouthsports.com](http://www.protectyouthsports.com)

**3. Designated Individual:** Individuals designated by Minnesota American Legion Baseball who are subject to background screening, prior to being eligible to participate in any meetings, events, activities, practices and/or games that involve youth participants. More specifically,

- An adult (18 years of age or older) staff person or volunteer, who occupies an authority, supervisory or leadership role with an American Legion Baseball team, and who has direct, regular one-on-one contact with youth participants. Examples include the following (or the equivalent titles for similar roles):

- Team Manager/Director
- General Manager
- Manager/Head Coach
- Head Coach
- Assistant Head Coach
- Pitching, Batting, Fielding and/or other specialty coach / instructor
- Base Coach
- Coach
- Assistant Coach

- Substitute / intermittent or part-time Coach or Assistant Coach

- An adult volunteer, who travels and/or lodges with an American Legion Baseball team as an official member of its staff, who occupies an authority, supervisory or leadership role with the team, and who has direct one-on-one contact with youth participants -- even though any/all of the preceding might be intermittent during the season. Such persons might include the following (or the equivalent titles for similar roles):

- Team Van/Bus Driver
- Team Business Manager
- Sponsor Representative
- Team Chaperon
- Team Staff Member Clinic or Camp Director / Leader
- Drill / Practice / Tryout Leader or Assistant

- State and District Directors, Vice-Directors, Program / League Directors

- State and/or District-invited Ambassador staff members

- State, District, Sub-District and Sub-State Tournament Directors and other designated official staff members (i.e., all persons designated to serve as tournament directors for Division I, Division II, and Junior Legion playoff tournaments)

The following are examples of those who are NOT considered to be Designated Individuals, (i.e., not normally subject to background screening), unless they also occupy a role described above on a dual or intermittent basis:

- Team Volunteers who are less than 18 years of age.

- Player parents who might assist with team activities (such as fundraising, carpooling, etc.) and who do not otherwise occupy a role outlined above)

- Equipment Managers/Assistants

- Scorekeepers / Statisticians

- Field Maintenance Staff / Crew

- Announcers / Scoreboard Operators

- Gate / Concession Workers

- Fundraising / Event Coordinators

- Web Site Administrators

- Team Treasurers

- Team Clerical and Administrative Staff

- Drivers (or pilots) of commercial transportation services (Note: it is each team's responsibility to utilize service providers who conduct background screening on such personnel, and/or to request that background screening be conducted.)

**4. Child:** Anyone under the age of 12.

**5. Youth:** anyone between 12 and 18 years of age.

**6. Youth Protection Policy Program Manager:** The person designated by Minnesota American Legion Baseball to administer this policy, which includes receiving background screening results from the Designated Provider and notifying Designated Individuals accordingly.

Effective December 1, 2012:

State Director, Minnesota American Legion Baseball

### **Costs.**

Costs associated with the administration of this policy, including the cost of individual background screening for Designated Individuals, will be borne by Minnesota American Legion Baseball.

**Reporting Violations and Abuse.**

Any person who observes, or otherwise becomes aware of, any violation of this policy (including inappropriate or abusive behavior) has a responsibility to report his/her suspicion(s) or allegation(s) to the Youth Protection Policy Program Manager, in writing.

If there is ANY reasonable suspicion that illegal child abuse has occurred, the observing and/or knowledgeable person must also immediately report such to law enforcement authorities, as well as to the youth participant's parent(s) or guardian(s). This reporting responsibility may not be abdicated to another individual; it is not to be assumed that law enforcement, parent(s), guardian(s), or the Youth Protection Policy Program Manager is already aware through other means. The accused individual shall be immediately suspended from all activities involving contact with youth participants, with such suspension continuing until the accused is cleared of all such allegations. If the allegations are proven correct, the accused shall be permanently removed from all participation in Minnesota American Legion Baseball.

**General Team and Individual Responsibilities.**

All Minnesota American Legion Baseball teams, as well as individual staff volunteers, have important responsibilities in the administration of this policy, as well as generally ensuring the safety and welfare of the American Legion Baseball program's youth participants. These responsibilities include the following:

- Ensuring that all Designated Individuals have successfully completed background screening, before their participation is permitted.
- Reporting suspected and/or confirmed abuse which is in violation of this policy.
- Taking appropriate steps at all times to protect the welfare and well-being of youth participants.
- In general, reviewing, understanding, and complying with this policy and all of its requirements.

Teams and/or individuals who fail to comply with this policy are subject to disciplinary action, including suspension or expulsion from the American Legion Baseball Program.



# 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	2008	Roger Niebeling, Borup
1963	Dr. W.H. Mulligan, St. Cloud	2009	Jeff Reese, New Richland
1964	Robert P. Marshall, Dilworth	2010	Gail Kalata, St. Paul
1965	Mark Hayward, St. Paul	2011	Ron Beckman, Jordan
1966	Thomas Warner, Marshall	2012	Bill Taunton Sr., Willmar
1967	Harry Moldenhauer, St. Paul Frank Fust, Minneapolis		John Sherman, 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, Chanhassen		
2002	Norb Winter, Watkins Jack Bloedel, New Ulm Al Zdon, Mounds View Harold Solheim, Princeton		
2003	Bob Letourneau, Osseo Dick Seal, Sauk Rapids		
2004	Bob Zellman, Norwood		
2006	Huck Arneson, Barnesville Dick Johnson, Anoka Bob Garin, Crosslake		
2007	Tink Larson, Waseca		

# 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 Champ.)	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 (Reg. Champ.)	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 (Regional Champions)	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 (Regional Champions)	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 (Regional 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 (Regional Champions)
1994	Tri-City Red (New Brighton)	Anoka
1995	New Ulm	Osseo (Regional Champions)
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 (National Runner Up)	Eagan
2011	Eden Prairie (National Champions)	Lino Lakes
2012	Edina	Eden Prairie

# 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
2011	Austin Malinowski	P/1B	Lino Lakes, 556
2012	Cody Wetmore	P/1B/OF	Eden Prairie

# DIVISION I STATE TOURNAMENT SITES

## 1926 - current

1926	Mankato	1986	Marshall
1927	Little Falls	1987	Grand Rapids
1928	St. Paul Lexington Park	1988	Ely
1929	St. Cloud	1989	New Ulm
1930	Stillwater	1990	Richfield
1931	Stillwater	1991	Mankato
1932	Minneapolis, U of M	1992	Willmar
1933	Minneapolis, U of M	1993	New Ulm
1934	Cokato	1994	Northfield
1935	Breckinridge	1995	Hibbing
1936	Willmar	1996	Moorhead
1937	Fergus Falls	1997	Chaska
1938	Rochester	1998	Hibbing
1939	Mpls Nicollet Park	1999	St. Cloud
1940	St. Paul Lexington Park	2000	Duluth
1941	St. Paul Lexington Park	2001	Rochester
1942	St. Paul Lexington Park	2002	Marshall
1943	St. Paul Lexington Park	2003	Rochester
1944	St. Paul Lexington Park	2004	Northfield
1945	St. Paul Lexington Park	2005	St. Cloud
1946	Duluth	2006	Excelsior
1947	St. Paul Lexington Park	2007	Bloomington
1948	St. Paul Lexington Park	2008	Burnsville
1949	Shakopee	2009	New Ulm
1950	St. Paul Lexington Park	2010	Hibbing
1951	St. Paul Lexington Park	2011	Eden Prairie
1952	St. Paul Lexington Park	2012	Chaska
1953	St. Paul Lexington Park	2013	Edina
1954	St. Paul Lexington Park	2014	Eagan
1955	St. Paul Lexington Park	2015	Chanhausen
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		



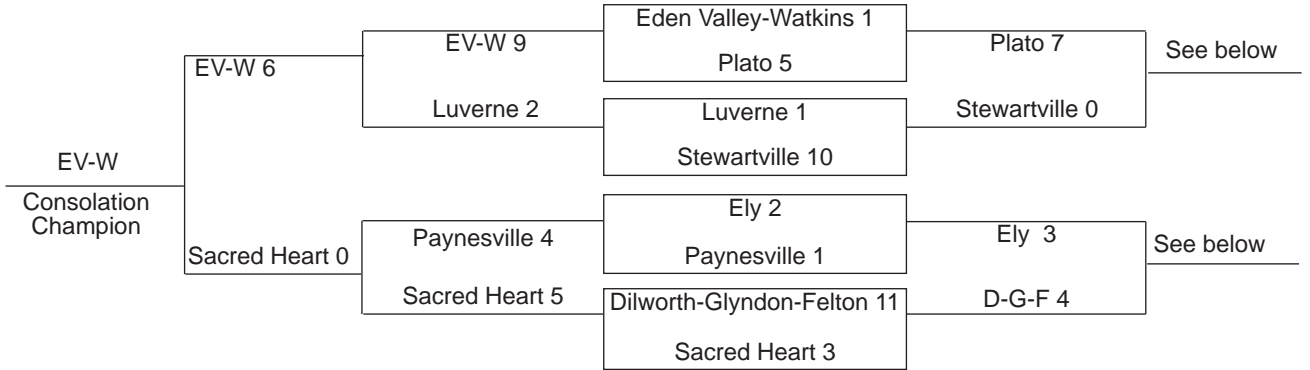
# DIVISION II STATE TOURNAMENT SITES

## 1987 – current

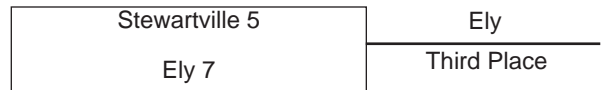
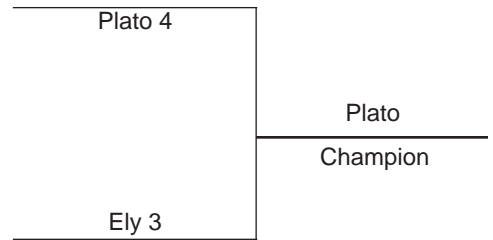
1987	Barnesville
1988	Ada
1989	New Ulm
1990	Richfield
1991	Mankato
1992	Willmar
1993	New Ulm
1994	Northfield
1995	Litchfield-Hutchinson
1996	Willmar
1997	Nashwauk-Keewatin
1998	Montevideo
1999	Ely
2000	Truman
2001	Willmar
2002	Willmar
2003	Ely
2004	Northfield
2005	LeSueur
2006	Willmar
2007	Ely
2008	Sacred Heart
2009	LeSueur-Henderson
2010	Dilworth
2011	Ely
2012	Sacred Heart
2013	Bird Island-Olivia
2014	Luverne
2015	Morris
2016	LeSueur

# 2012 DIVISION II TOURNAMENT

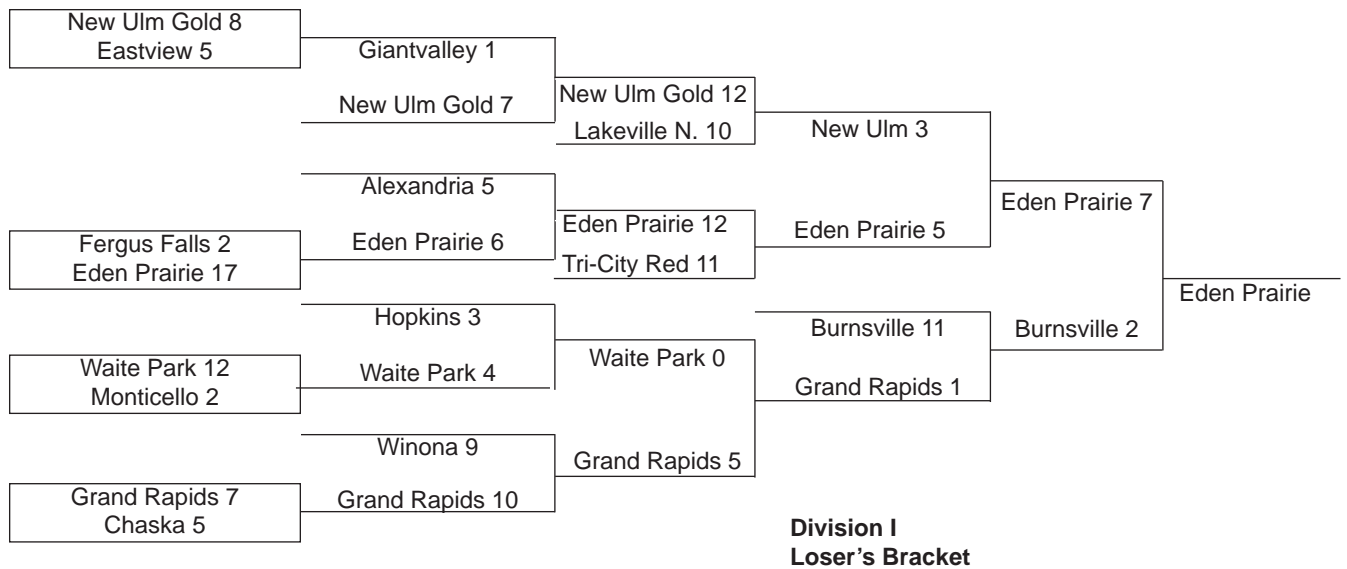
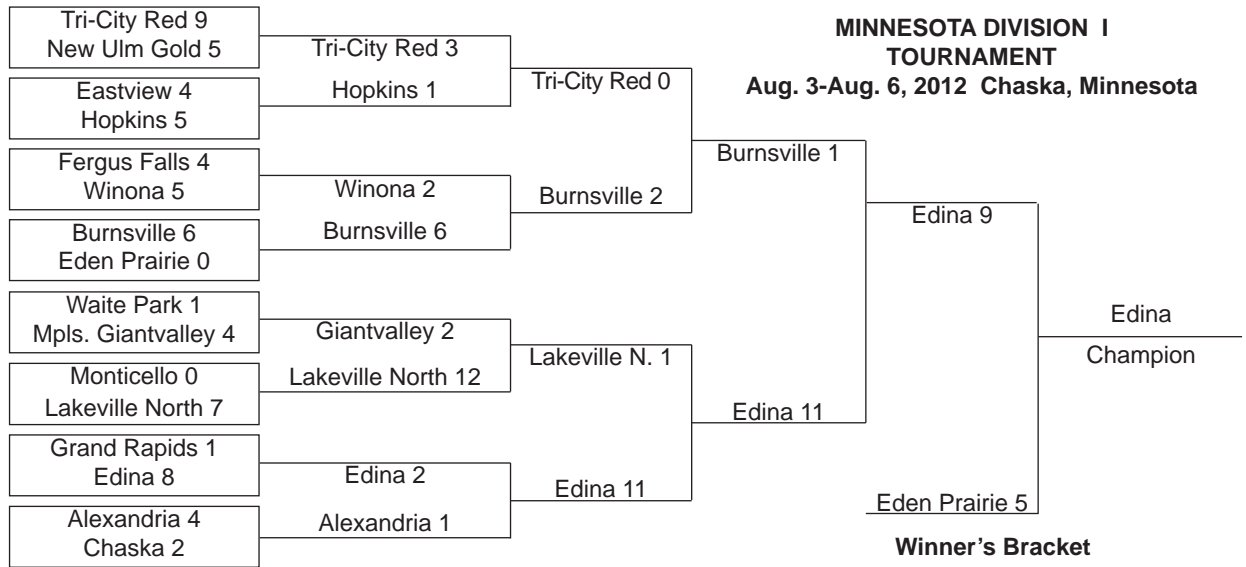
22nd ANNUAL MINNESOTA AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL DIVISION II TOURNAMENT  
July 30-31, Dilworth, Minnesota



Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton was ejected from the Tournament.  
Winner of Third Place game advanced to title game.



# 2012 DIVISION I TOURNAMENT







# GRADUATE OF THE YEAR

## JIM BROWER

James Robert Brower was born in 1972 in Edina and grew up playing baseball, basketball and football. He was a member of the 1985 East Tonka team that made it to the Little League World Series. He played high school baseball for Minnetonka High School where he lettered in five sports including track and bowling. He pitched no-hitter against Eden Prairie as a junior, and, in basketball as a senior he set a record with 40 points in one game. As a right-handed pitcher, his fastball topped 91 miles per hour. He played summer baseball for the Excelsior American Legion team.

Brower was highly recruited out of high school, but his college choice was the University of Minnesota, where he was named a Big Ten All Star in 1994. He was drafted by the Texas Rangers in the sixth round of 1994 Amateur Draft. He spent four years in the Rangers farm system before being released in 1998. He signed with the Cleveland Indians and made his Major League debut in September, 1999, at age 26.

Over the next nine years, Brower pitched for eight different Big League teams: Cleveland, Cincinnati, Montreal, San Francisco, Atlanta, San Diego, Baltimore and the New York Yankees. Probably his best year was in 2004 when he pitched a team record 89 games for the San Francisco Giants, with a 7-7 record and a 3.29 earned run average. He won division titles with the Giants. His career numbers included 33 wins and 32 loses, a 4.67 earned run average and 397 strikeouts in 574 innings. He later pitched for a year with the Hiroshima Toyo Carp in Japan, and is currently the pitching coach for the Kane County Cougars, Geneva, Ill., in the Midwest League, entering his second year.

He and his wife, Jessica, have a daughter Landry.



**JIM BROWER**



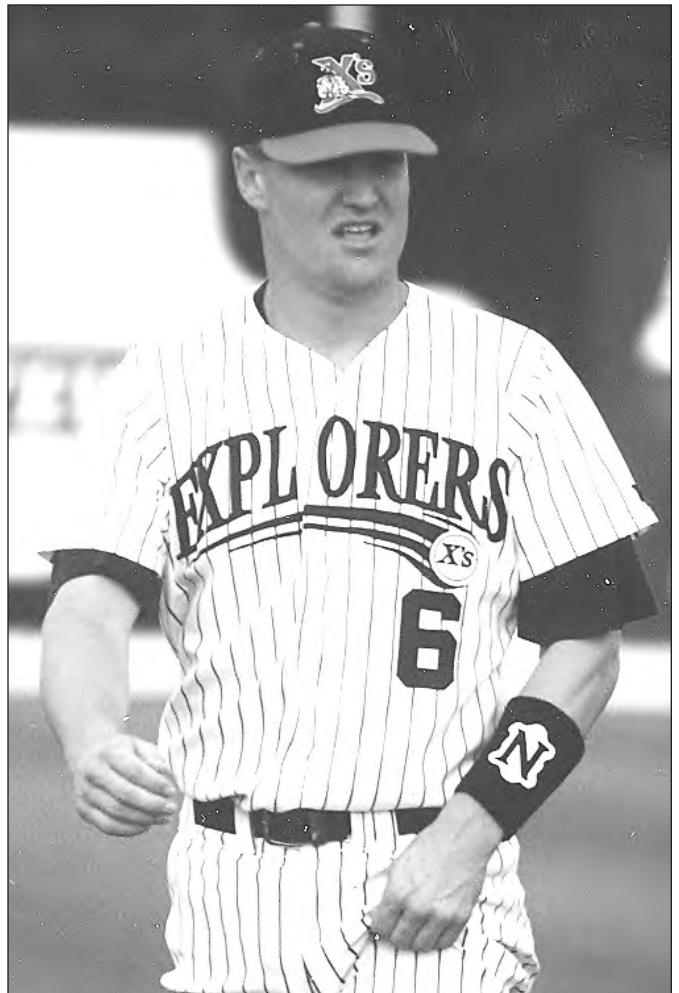
# GRADUATE OF THE YEAR COLE IRISH

Cole Irish grew up in Plainview, Minnesota, where he was a three-sport athlete earned all-conference, all district and all-region honors. He was a three-time captain on the baseball team, and was named to the academic all-conference team. He batted .453 for his high school career, and played American Legion Baseball. Born in 1974, he is the son of LaVern and Janice Irish.

He then played for South Dakota State University and was a four-year letter winner. During his time with the Jack Rabbits, Irish set a record for highest batting average in a season (.449) that still stands. His career college average was .359 and he drove in 144 runs in 186 games. In his senior year, he drove in 63 runs, with 13 homers, in just 47 games. He ranks second all time at SDSU in both stolen bases in a season (25) and stolen bases in a career (64). There is a year-end award at SDSU after each season called the Cole Irish Mr. Hustle Award.

Irish was all conference in 1995 and 1996, and was picked most valuable player in the Southern Division of the conference. In 1996, he was also All-Region and was named an NCAA All-American. During his college days, he played in the Kansas Jayhawks League for the Wichita Broncos. In 2005, he was elected to the El Dorado Baseball Hall of Fame. He played all six fielding positions for the Broncos, and batted .462 in the 1995 National Baseball Congress World Series.

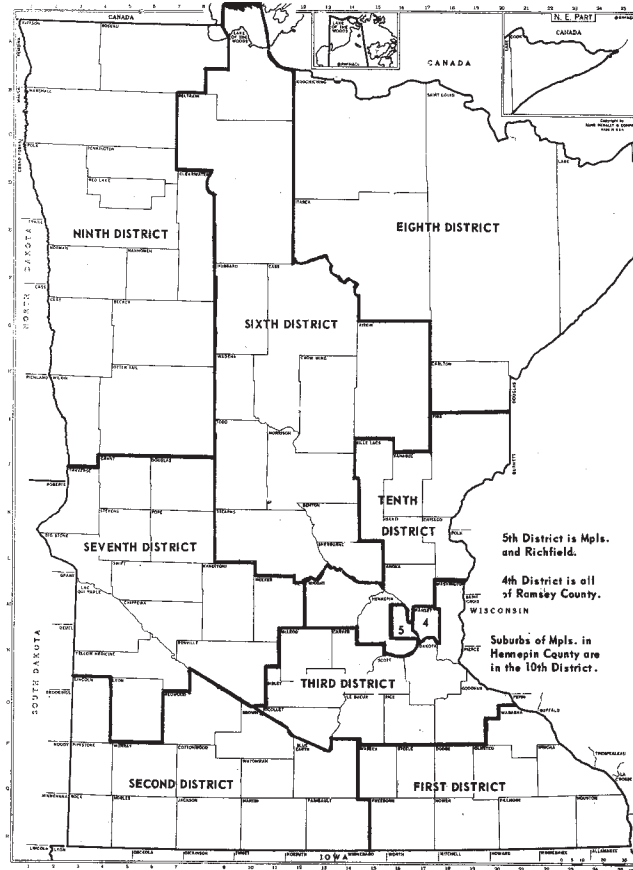
He concluded his baseball career with a stint for the Sioux City Explorers in the Northern League in 1996.



COLE IRISH

# 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

## Darwin Berg

His leadership as state director over  
ten years brought Minnesota  
American Legion Baseball to new  
heights, including two national  
championships, seven regional titles,  
and two national runners-up.  
His vision and patience created an  
exemplary program.

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

**86 Years Strong**