

2016

Minnesota American Legion Baseball Rule Book



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 - Rank 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	2014 - Michael Cuddyer, Colorado Rockies
1975 - Carlton Fisk, Boston Red Sox	1995 - Bob Tewksbury, Texas Rangers	2015 - Alex Gordon, Kansas City Royals
1976 - Rick Monday, Chicago Cubs	1996 - Paul Molitor, Minnesota Twins	2016 - TBA
1977 - Dave Winfield, San Diego Padres	1997 - Mo Vaughn, Boston Red Sox	

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A 2016 Season Message from the State Director

Thank you for participating in the 2016 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 – and to reflect changes in National rules and / or action taken by the State Baseball Committee. It is highly recommended that you review this year's Rulebook thoroughly, cover-to-cover. Some highlighted items:

1. **Background Checks:** Again in 2016, all coaches (and anyone else on your staff who has regular, direct contact with players) must pass a background check through National's designated provider. This is an ANNUAL requirement. Thus, it is imperative that you enter every coach on your staff into the national registration system and that they all complete background checks. District (and Tournament) Directors will be monitoring team compliance, at games and tournaments.
2. **Concussion training** certification requirements began with the 2012 season, and training is valid for three (3) years. Make sure that all new coaches (as well as any coaches whose certification may be expiring this season) complete the free training and that you submit a copy of their certificate of completion to your District Director by June 15. (Anyone who completes training through the MSHSL may substitute a copy of that certificate.)
3. **Team Registration:** In order to compete in 2016, teams must again register, pay fees and purchase insurance through the national website: 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, click on Programs, then Baseball to access the MN Legion Baseball Resource Page.
4. **Forms:** In addition to registering electronically with National, you must submit a printed hard copy of your roster, as well as Forms 76 and 77, as applicable -- plus any required concussion training certificates -- to your District Director by June 15 (or earlier if your District Director requests them earlier). Make sure to also submit a roster cover sheet, which is available on our state web page, along with many other forms and resources.

NOTE 1: You must also secure a fully-completed Form 2 from every player, before they commence participation in any practices or games with your team. To save you and your District Director copying time and expense, beginning in 2015, the State office discontinued collecting and maintaining copies of these permanently on file. Therefore, your District Director will ask you to submit the originals for review, and the originals will then be returned to you. (It is advised that teams retain them for at least 5 years.) During playoff (and state) tournament check-in, you will be required to present each player's original Form 2, in addition to proof of age (e.g., original birth certificate, passport, as outlined in Rule 2 of this rule book).

NOTE 2: If you plan to roster any player through a Form 76 Transfer (waiver), separate, advance approval (e.g., by email, verbal discussion) must first be obtained from the State Director by June 10. Work through your District Director on this. (For clarification, Declaration Form 77 is used in situations in which a player has the choice, under the Option Rule, of playing for two different teams; for example, he lives in one team's Base School Attendance Area, but attends school in another. Once this election is made, it is valid for the duration of the player's Legion eligibility. Transfer Form 76, on the other hand, is used in situations in which a neighboring team, which is carrying a full roster of 18, waives a player, so that he can tryout with the next closest team to his home address -- a team which otherwise would not have any rights to that player. Transfers are valid for the current playing season only. See Rule 4 for further details.)

5. **High school enrollment figures** for 2016 have been obtained from the MN Department of Education and those figures are available on our state website or from your District Director. All teams must use those DOE figures, and only those, when entering a school's enrollment into the registration system for each player -- and in calculating the team's Combined Total Enrollment.

As always, your District Directors and members of the State Baseball 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

2016 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 2016, by submitting their 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 by the State Director. (The form for such is available on the MN State baseball web page.) Any requests made to the State Director (through your District 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 -- and pay the National fee [\$50 for Sr. Legion, \$25 for Jr. Legion in 2016] and the Minnesota fee [\$125 for Sr. Legion, \$100 for Jr. Legion in 2016. 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 10: Separate, advance approval of any Form 76 Transfer (waiver) must be obtained from the State Director by this date, before a team may roster a player under this circumstance.

June 15: Final deadline for all teams to electronically submit their final roster through the National registration system. A hardcopy of the team's final roster packet, including 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.) This includes, but is not limited to: **1)** Submittal Cover Sheet; **2)** 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); **3)** Hardcopies of Concussion Training Certificates -- for new coaches and for those whose prior training has expired; **4)** Hardcopies of all Transfers / Releases (Form #76) and **5)** Hardcopies of all Declarations (Form #77), fully completed and signed by all those required.

NOTE: Prior to allowing player participation in any activity, all teams must collect a fully-complete and properly-executed Form 2 from each player; a player is otherwise deemed ineligible and use of any such player will result in game forfeitures. Each respective District Director shall establish the deadline date for teams to produce or submit hardcopy originals of Form 2's for inspection; such deadline must be prior to the start of each team's first playoff game (including play-in games).

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

June 27: District Directors' deadline to submit all hardcopy materials to the State Director.

July 25: Deadline for each District and / or Sub-State Director to declare its representative(s) for State Tournament participation.

2016 CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT DATES

Junior Legion:

- State Tournament: Hosted by Apple Valley, Post 1776. Teams report Monday, July 18th.
Games played Monday, July 18th through Sunday, July 24th.
- Mid-State Regional: Hosted by Rapid City SD Post #22. Team reporting / picnic or banquet: Wed., July 27th.
Games played Thurs., July 28th through Sunday, July 31st (or Monday, Aug 1st, TBA by Host.)

Senior Legion, Division II:

- State Tournament: 30th Annual; Hosted by LeSueur-Henderson Posts 55 & 74.
Team reporting / banquet: Thurs, July 28th.
Games played Friday, July 29th through Sunday, July 31st. (pool play format).
- Central Plains Regional Tournament: Hosted by Waupun WI Post 210. (8-teams in 2016: MN, KS, ND, NE, NV, WI (Champ + RU + Host).
Team reporting / banquet: Wed., Aug. 3rd. Games: Thurs., Aug. 4th through Sunday, Aug 7th.

Senior Legion, Division I:

- Sub-State Playoffs: Week of July 18thth (exact dates vary by Sub-State)
- State Tournament: 91st Annual; Hosted by Delano Post 377. Team reporting / banquet: Thursday. July 28th.
Games played Friday, July 29th through Monday, August 1st.
- Central Plains Region 6 Tournament: Hosted by Bismarck, ND. Team reporting / banquet: TUESDAY, August 2nd. (MN Champ and Runner-up both participate.) Games played Wed., Aug 3rd through Sun, August 7th.
- World Series: 90th Annual; Hosted by Shelby, NC. Team reporting: Tues, August 9th.
Banquet / events: Wed, Aug. 12th. Games played Thurs. Aug. 11th through Tues. Aug 16th.
Pool play format; Championship televised live on ESPNU.

2016 MINNESOTA BASEBALL OFFICERS

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NOTE: See map on inside of back cover for illustration of District boundaries.

Important Internet Resources:

Minnesota Baseball website: www.mnlegion.org (choose "Programs," then "Baseball")

National Baseball Information website: www.legion.org/baseball

National Team Registration website: www.baseball.legion.org

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) secured a fully-completed and properly signed Form #2 from each player and coach, 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 otherwise noted herein or in National American Legion Baseball Rules, as applicable. (See Rules Sections herein that pertain to the Division II and Junior Legion Programs as well.)
- 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 secure group accident and liability insurance coverage through S.A. Van Dyk prior to the first day or tryouts or practice -- or May 15 (June 1 in the case of newly forming teams) -- whichever comes earliest. 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 and full-executed original 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, available for inspection. The original Form 2 for each player should be retained by the team for five (5) years.

A copy of the Player Roster of Eligibility (National Form #1) must also be in the possession of the Team Manager at all times, available for inspection. **Note:** Once filed, only approved players who are listed on the team's official Form #1 Roster (and who have submitted a properly-executed Form #2) may participate in any games played by the team. (See Rule 7 for further information on player and team registration requirements.)
- 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.
 - 1. 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 insured 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, unless Rules allow for such.
1. Each team must have a properly-supplied first aid kit in its possession 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. (See Appendix B.)
 3. Per Minnesota American Legion Baseball's Youth Protection Policy (and applicable related MN Dept. National Policies), all Designated Individuals (e.g., adult managers, coaches, assistant coaches, and other team staff / volunteers who have regular, 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.)
- J. Force-Play Slide Rule.** The intent of the force-play Rule is to ensure the safety of the defensive player. This is a safety rule, as well as an interference rule. Whether or not the defense could have completed a double-play has no bearing on applicability. This Rule pertains to a force-play situation at any base, regardless of the number of outs.
1. On any force play, the runner must slide on the ground before the base – and in a direct line between the two bases. It is permissible for the slider's momentum to carry him through the base, in the baseline extended. **Exception:** A runner need not slide directly into a base, as long as the runner slides or runs in a direction away from the fielder, to avoid making contact or altering the play of the fielder. In this case, interference shall not be called.
 - a. "On the ground" can either be a head-first slide, or a slide with one leg and buttock on the ground before the base.
 - b. "Directly into a base" means the runner's entire body (feet, legs, trunk and arms) must stay in a straight line between bases. If a runner goes into a base standing up and does not make contact or alter the play of the defensive player, interference shall not be called. If the runner goes into a base standing up (and is either safe or out), but makes contact with or alters the play of the defensive player, interference shall be called.
 2. Contact with a fielder is legal, and interference shall not be called, if the runner makes a legal slide directly to the base and in the baseline extended. If contact occurs on top of the base as a result of a "pop-up" slide, such contact is legal.
 3. Actions by a runner are illegal, and interference shall be called, if:
 - a. The runner slides or runs out of the baseline in the direction of the fielder and alters the play of the fielder (with or without contact);
 - b. The runner uses a rolling or cross-body slide or either makes contact with, or alters the play of, a fielder;
 - c. The runner's raised leg makes contact higher than the fielder's knee, when the fielder is in a standing position;
 - d. The runner slashes or kicks the fielder with either leg, and / or
 - e. The runner illegally slides toward or makes contact with the fielder, even if the fielder makes no attempt to throw to complete a play.

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

 - a. With less than two outs, the batter-runner, as well as the interfering runner, shall be declared out, and no other runner(s) shall advance.
 - b. With two outs, the interfering runner shall be declared out, and no other runner(s) shall advance.
 - c. If the runner's slide or collision is deemed to be flagrant, the runner shall be ejected from the contest.
 - d. If the bases are loaded with no outs, a double play attempt is made, and interference is called, all other runners must return to their original bases.
- K. Collisions.** The intent of this Rule is to encourage base runners and defensive players to avoid collisions whenever possible.
1. When there is a collision between a runner and a fielder who clearly is in possession of the ball, the umpire shall judge:
 - a. Whether the collision by the runner was avoidable (e.g., could the runner have reached the base without colliding) or unavoidable (e.g., the runner's path to the base was blocked), or

- b. Whether the runner was actually attempting to reach the base (or plate) or if he was attempting to dislodge the ball from the fielder.

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

- a. Ruling 1: If the fielder blocks the path of the base runner to the base (or plate), the runner may make contact, slide into, or collide with a fielder, as long as the runner is making a legitimate attempt to reach the base or plate.
 - b. Ruling 2: If the collision by the runner is flagrant, the runner shall be declared out and ejected from the contest. The ball shall be declared dead.
2. If the defensive player blocks the base (plate) or base line without the ball, obstruction shall be called. The runner is safe, and a delayed dead ball shall be called.
 - a. Ruling: If the runner collides flagrantly, he shall be declared safe on the obstruction, but will be ejected from the contest. The ball shall be declared dead.
 3. Malicious Contact is illegal. Any player who, in the judgment of the umpire, maliciously contacts another player shall be automatically ejected, and if the offender is a runner, shall be declared out.
 - a. The majority of intentional collisions occur at home plate, where the catcher (or other player covering home plate) 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 (versus 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. As with other playing regulations, pitching rules shall be consistent with Official Baseball Rules (such as the hand-to-mouth provisions, illegal feints to first or third base, etc.), except as noted herein (or in National American Legion Rules, as applicable.)

1. 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 an illegal pitcher is forfeiture of the game.
 - a. One pitch (or more) to a batter constitutes an appearance; if a pitcher is moved to a defensive position during a game, and is later returned to the mound during the same game, a second appearance is charged.
 - b. Each out constitutes 1/3 inning; a pitcher who throws to one batter, but does not retire him, is charged with an appearance, but not any portion of an inning.

- c. 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.
 - d. 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.
 - e. When games are suspended on one day and completed on another following day, the pitching records shall be charged as if all the applicable innings were pitched on the first day. For example: the pitcher will be charged for innings actually pitched on the first day; innings pitched on the subsequent day will also be charged to the first day, and one appearance will be charged, unless there is a change in pitchers.
2. A pitcher may have only eight (8) warm-up pitches between innings and not over eight (8) for the first inning that he pitches. 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 provision shall be liberally interpreted by the chief umpire.
 3. When time out is called to talk to a defensive player, upon the second visit to the mound by a coach in the same inning, that pitcher must be removed from the mound. The player may stay in the game at another defensive position, but he cannot return as pitcher in that game. Penalty for violation of this Rule is forfeiture of the game, if protest is filed with the umpire before the last out of the game.

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 pertaining to Uniform and Equipment Rules; Conduct; Team, & Player Registration requirements; District, Playoff 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. (See Appendix B.)
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.)

B. Player age.

1. American Legion Baseball competition in 2016 is open only to players born on or after January 1, 1997. Those born in 1996 or earlier are not eligible.
2. The 2016 Junior American Legion Baseball program is open only to players born on or after January 1, 1999. Those born in 1998 or earlier are not eligible to participate in Junior American Legion Baseball. It is a 17-and-under program.
3. For the 2016 season, players born in 2004 and after (those age 12 and under) are not eligible to participate. Players must be 13 years of age as of January 1, 2016, 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 already 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. (Such exemption requests also require National approval.)

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. (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. Because 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, Sub-State, and / or District tournaments, which remain in effect continuously, without interruption, through the State Tournaments; see the District / Playoff 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. These rules uniformly apply to all Minnesota Legion teams, unless an exception is otherwise noted herein (based upon the team’s classification) or unless a special exemption has been granted / approved by the State Baseball Director.

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 typically 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.) See the subsequent section entitled "Combined Total Enrollment Adherence" for information on the Total Enrollment to be attached to such a player.
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 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 (as defined above) 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.
5. If participation interest is such that one Base School can support more than one team (i.e., two or more different teams wish to designate the same Base School), such teams must outline, in writing, the agreed upon method for registering, assigning and / or selecting players between the teams. Such method is subject to approval by the respective District Director, as well as the State Director, prior to the rostering of any players. Once each team's National Form #1 Roster has been submitted and filed, no Transfers or interchanging of players between such teams during the season is allowed.

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

1. **Player Selection.** More specifically, except as outlined in Player Selection Exceptions below, provided that all other eligibility conditions and provisions of these Rules are met, in any combination, a team may select and roster any eligible player
 - a. Who attends that team's own designated Base School;
 - b. Who attends another team's designated Base School, provided that such player, as applicable
 - i. Has the properly executed written Transfer Form(s) #76, or
 - ii. Qualifies under the 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 (per Mapquest) 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 Option Rule; and has properly executed Form #77;
 - d. Who does not attend a Base or Non-Base School at all (including those who are home-schooled, who have graduated from high school, and / or who attend a school below the grade level of a high school, such as an elementary, middle or junior high school), provided that, as applicable
 - i. The player was properly rostered by the selecting team in the year(s) immediately prior, in the case of a player who has graduated from high school, and / or
 - ii. The player's Domicile is located within the Attendance Area of the team's Base School, and thus, he would normally be assigned to attend that Base School if enrolled in high school, or
 - iii. The player's Domicile is closer in distance (per Mapquest) 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 / Restrictions.** 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 April 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.
3. **Distance Calculations.** To determine distance between prospective player Domiciles and Base Schools, and / or Schools of Attendance, a calculation in miles (and decimal fractions thereof) shall be performed using Mapquest® (www.mapquest.com), utilizing its option for shortest driving distance within the "driving directions" feature.
- a. A school shall have only one location, as determined by its official, legal mailing address.
 - b. In the course of determining closest Base School(s), most boundary lines, such as American Legion Baseball District lines and school district boundaries, shall be ignored and not taken into account. (The only pertinent boundary lines applicable in the application and administration of Rule 4 are those used by school districts to define Attendance Areas for individual high schools.)
 - c. Because different internet browsers might deliver different results, Internet Explorer shall be the standard browser used in performing distance calculations.
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 game forfeitures, suspension from the Program (including from playoff participation), and / 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 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.)

Note 2: If a player attends a private boarding school in another state, through the Option Rule, the player has the opportunity to return home and play for the team that encompasses (or is nearest to, as applicable) his Domicile.

2. Such players must make this Option election in writing, using National Declaration Form #77. (In the event a player fails to physically complete Form 77, his first, initial appearance on a team's roster constitutes such election.)
 - a. The election shall be final and valid for the remainder of the player's American Legion Baseball eligibility, unless a subsequent event allows for a permissible change (i.e., the player becomes eligible to make a new election under the Option Rule.)
 - i. Examples of events that allow a permissible change include 1) a player's transfer to a new School of Attendance, 2) a player's change in Domicile (home address), 3) a player being cut from the team for which he was playing (or not being re-rostered by such team in a subsequent season) and that team's roster is otherwise full, 4) the formation of a new team in the area, 5) the discontinuance of the team for which the player played. (See related provisions later in this Rule 4 section.) **NOTE:** School of Attendance and Domicile are always determined as of March 31.
 - ii. Players who made an election under the Option Rule as a Junior Legion player are entitled to make a new Option Rule election as a Senior player.
 - 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 -- and be included with the team's National Form #1 Roster, in the season in which the player is initially rostered. (To prevent future questions of eligibility, it is advised that a copy of the player's Form #77 also be included with the team's Form #1 Roster submittal in subsequent seasons.)
 - c. In accordance with the provisions for determining a team's Combined Total Enrollment, the applicable Total Enrollment of the player's actual School of Attendance shall be counted.
 - d. A player rostered through the Option Rule shall not then also (and / or subsequently) be eligible for Transfer to a different team through the Transfer Rule, unless 1) he is cut from the roster of the team for which he previously played (is not re-rostered in a subsequent season by the team he had elected under the Option Rule) and that team's roster is otherwise full, and 2) he is also, likewise, not rostered by his other Option Rule team, whose roster is also otherwise full.

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 that is 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 only play for that Base School team.

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

Situation 2:

- A player attends (or would normally attend) any high school that is located in a Base School's Attendance Area. (**Note:** See Situation 7 for instances in which a player attends a private school, which is a base school itself.)
- 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 for
 - 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 for
 - The Base School team that is located nearest to his Domicile, as determined by Mapquest.
- The Form 77 election is valid for the life of his Legion Baseball eligibility, unless a subsequent event allows a permissible change.

Situation 4:

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

Situation 5:

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

Situation 6:

- A Player attends a private high school that is a Base School.
- The Player automatically has a one-time option, under the Option Rule, to play for
 - His private Base School team,
OR for
 - 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 already utilize the Option Rule to establish for which team they will play (see provisions of the Option Rule, as outlined earlier in this Rule section),
 - 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 (using the Distance Calculation method outlined earlier in Rule 4).
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), exceed the maximum Combined Total Enrollment, as defined earlier.
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, Transfer Form(s) #76 must be submitted to the State Director for final approval, through the respective District Director -- and be included with the team's National Form #1 Roster. A new Form #76 must be completed in subsequent seasons, even if the player is re-rostered by the same team.
9. 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 / additional schools are represented on the team roster, 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 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 onetime 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. Communications delivered by fax, email, telegram, hand, or US Mail 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. A protest 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
 - 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 responses 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, 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 District, 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.
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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, returned 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. Compliance with all terms of the Youth Protection Policy by all participants and Designated Individuals is mandatory. (See Appendix C.) Minnesota American Legion Baseball also reserves the right to deny, suspend, or prohibit participation, or otherwise remove any individual from participation, 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 in any way.

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, 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 & 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 items below must be completed, and, as applicable, submitted through the respective District Director, early enough to meet the 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, by submitting a New Team Formation / Change Form. 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.

NOTE: If a team has previously participated in the American Legion Baseball Program, but three (3) or more seasons have elapsed since its last season of participation, the team must submit a New Team Formation / Change Form, to confirm its intended name, base school, sponsor, etc.

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 2016, \$50 for Senior Legion and \$25 for Junior Legion) and State fees (for 2016, \$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; \$200 late fee applies after May 15), June 1 for new teams.
4. Electronic submittal of the team's final Form 1 Roster through the National registration system. Required annually, no later than June 15. (If an extension is granted for hardship reasons, per National rules, such extension may not extend past June 25.)
5. Submittal of a fully-completed and accurate hardcopy printout of the team's final Form 1 Roster to the respective District Director, along with a fully-completed "Roster Submittal Cover / Team Information Sheet." Required annually, no later than June 15 (earlier if required by Director).
6. Submittal of a valid Concussion Training Certificate of Completion for each member of the coaching staff, delivered to the respective District Director, in seasons as required, by no later than June 15 (or upon the date the coach joins the team's staff, if after June 15).
7. 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, no later than June 15.

NOTE: Before any player may be rostered through a Form #76 Transfer (waiver), separate, advance approval must be obtained from the State Director by June 10.

8. Collection of a fully-complete and properly-executed Form 2 from each player (as well as from each coach, manager, and other team official who travels and / or serves in an official capacity with the team); required annually, prior to any player or staff member's participation.
 - a. Any player who has not completed a Form 2 is deemed to be ineligible, and the use of any such player will result in game forfeitures and / or other team penalties.
 - b. Each District Director shall establish the deadline date for teams to submit (or produce) hardcopy originals of Form 2's for inspection and approval; such deadline will be prior to the start of each team's first playoff game (including any play-in game).
9. Ensuring that all managers, coaches and other staff members (who have regular, direct contact with players) have completed an annual background screen, prior to participating in any meeting, event, activity, practice and / or game that involves youth participants. (Proof of completion is not required to be manually submitted.)

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

District Directors shall deliver items 5-7 above to the State Director by no later than June 27 of each year, following their review and approval of such, ensuring accuracy and completeness.

- 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 for 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, all of whom must have submitted an accurate, fully-completed and properly-executed National Form #2, prior to participating in any practices or games.
1. Only approved players, who are listed on the Form 1 Roster, may participate in any games played by the team.
 2. Once filed, and after the final Form 1 Roster filing date has passed, players may not be added to a Form 1 Roster, nor may players be replaced, except in the following circumstances:
 - a. In the case of a player's death;
 - b. If a player is placed on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States.
- D. Team Sponsorship / Identification.** 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 permitted, subject to approval by the respective District Director, and State Director, at the time of initial team formation (as well as annual re-approval and supervision by the State Baseball Committee thereafter). Outside Sponsors may include such entities as support groups, booster clubs, associations, private/public companies or corporations. Teams with Outside Sponsors must name a responsible person to act as the team's business manager.
 4. Team names may identify the Post, City, Town, Township, Community, or Sponsor that the team represents. Appropriateness is subject to District and State Director approval.
- 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. Because 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, Sub-State, and / or District Tournaments, which remain in effect continuously, without interruption, through the State Tournaments; see the District / Playoff 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), as well as all other specified forms and requirements that are deemed necessary, including the completion of National Form #2 (Player Agreement, as furnished by the National Americanism Commission) by all players. Completion and submittal of required information 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.)** All American Legion Baseball teams must enroll players on the Player Roster of Eligibility (National Form #1), which is submitted electronically through on the National registration website; it must be complete, including each player's full name, accurate address of legal Domicile and birth date. A copy of the Form #1 Roster will be retained by the State Baseball Committee; a copy 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). Each team manager will retain the originals; a copy must be filed with the State Director, when required. 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.
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RULE 9 UNIFORMS AND EQUIPMENT

- A. Uniforms.** Teams need not be uniformed until reaching State / National 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 District / Playoff and State Tournament competition Rule sections.
 2. All players, coaches and managers must be in a like uniform of the team to go on to the field.
 3. The front or back of the uniform shirt may carry lettering or an insignia that identifies the Post, Department (State), City, Town, Township, Community, or Sponsor that the team represents. Appropriateness is subject to approval by the respective District Director and State Director.
 4. A number at least six (6) inches high must be carried on the back of the uniform shirt.
 5. The American Legion Baseball Insignia (official patch, or authorized silkscreen) must be worn on the left sleeve or left chest of all uniform shirts.
 - a. Uniforms will be inspected for such prior to the start of Sub-District, Sub-State, District and State Tournaments. Players wearing uniforms without the Insignia (or with improper placement of such), will not be permitted to play.
 - b. The official Insignia is only available through National Emblem Sales, The American Legion, P.O. Box 36460, Indianapolis, IN 46236, 1-888-453-4466, <http://emblem.legion.org>)
 6. Wearing of the uniform must present a positive and professional appearance and image. Uniform shirts must be tucked in and buttoned, as applicable, at all times.
 7. Sleeves, not attached to the jersey, may be worn by any player, may contain a product logo and, if worn on both arms, must be of the same color. Sleeves, however, cannot be white in color, and may not be a distraction to the game, as determined by the chief umpire.
 8. 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.
- B. 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 (National Organizing Committee for Safety in Athletic Equipment) specifications and bear the NOCSAE stamp. Any helmet that is cracked, excessively 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. Noncompliance shall result in confinement to the dugout.
- C. 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 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.

- D. 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. 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.
- E. 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.
- F. 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.
- G. On-Deck Equipment.** Equipment permitted in the on-deck area includes bats, weighted and unweighted, 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.
- H. First Aid Kit.** Each team must have a properly-supplied first aid kit in its possession for use at all baseball games. (A list of suggested contents is available on the National ALB web site.)
- I. 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.
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RULE 10

DISTRICT, LEAGUE & PLAYOFF 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 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.
1. 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 applicable / 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. Playoff Tournament(s).** Each District Director, his designated representative(s), or the designated Sub-State Tournament Director (as appointed by the State Director), shall direct and have full authority over the respective tournament (League, 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. **Player Post-Season Eligibility.** Only those players listed on the team's official Form #1 Roster and who submitted a fully-completed and properly-executed Player Agreement (National Form #2), shall be eligible.
 - a. Prior to a player being eligible to play, Team Managers must make the player's original Form #2, as well as player Proof of Age (and any other requested documentation, as applicable), available for inspection by the Tournament Director.
 - b. On the designated Sub-State, 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 (and State Director), shall not be allowed to play or otherwise participate. Subsequently, any player who is absent from the Tournament, or is otherwise unavailable to participate, without permission from the Tournament / District (and State Director), shall also lose eligibility for ongoing post-season play / participation. Requests for excused absence must be made to the Tournament Director, in writing and in advance of the first day of the Tournament, providing full details as to why there is need for absence. Emergency absences, for which advance approval was not possible / sought, will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.
 - c. With respect to individual games, all players who are present and available to participate must be listed on the team's line-up card to be eligible to play. A copy must be provided to the chief umpire, and, as requested, to the Tournament Director, prior to the start of the game. Players who are not listed shall not be eligible to play.
 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. 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 listed on the team's official Form #1 Roster and who submitted a fully-completed and properly-executed Player Agreement (National Form #2), shall be eligible. Upon arrival at tournament registration and orientation, Team Managers must make the original Form #2 for each player, as well as player Proof of Age (and any other requested documentation, as applicable), available for inspection by the State Baseball Committee. Players will not be allowed to play until such is satisfactorily presented.
 2. On the State Tournament Reporting Date, all players must be present during registration and orientation. Any player who is absent shall not be eligible to participate from that point forward, unless excused by the State Director. Requests for excused absence must be made to the State Director, in writing and in advance of the Reporting Date, providing full details as to why there is a need for absence. Emergency absences, for which advance approval was not possible / sought, will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.
 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, unless the absence was approved / excused by the respective Tournament Director, as well as the State Director.
 4. Any player who was approved to play during registration and orientation, who subsequently leaves the Tournament site and / or is absent or otherwise unavailable to participate, without advance permission from the State Director, shall lose eligibility for ongoing post-season play / participation.
 5. With respect to individual games, all players who are present and available to participate must be listed on the team's line-up card to be eligible to play. A copy must be provided to the chief umpire and official scorekeeper, and, as requested, to the Tournament or Site Director, prior to the start of the game. Players who are not listed shall not be eligible to play.
- 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.

1. 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 Tournament / Program.
3. Teams eliminated from State Tournament competition will vacate provided housing 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 completion time, 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.
1. 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 excused by the Tournament (and State) Director. 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 Program.
1. All State Tournament player participants 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 each team's Chaperone Form.
 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. Tournament Awards.** Annually, committees created by the State Director shall name recipients of the following:
1. Fred Wannamaker Outstanding Player Award.
 2. Robb Wassenaar Outstanding Pitcher Award (beginning in 2013)
 3. Father Moran Sportsmanship Award
- M. 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.
- N. 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 TROPHIES & AWARDS

For recipients not listed in this section, see the listings that appear earlier or later in this Rulebook publication, as well as in the Division II and Junior Legion Rule sections. In addition, visit the Minnesota American Legion Baseball web page (www.mnlegion.org, then click on Baseball) for other historic information and Tournament results, as available.

- A. Ken Skoug Championship Trophy.** Awarded annually to the Division I Champion; named in honor of a past Department Baseball Director, Kenneth Skoug of Duluth, who was lost in a plane crash over 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 Division I Runner-up; named in honor of the veteran Christie de Parcq Post member, who was one of the organizers and longtime coach / 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; 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; awarded annually, as selected by committee, to the team displaying exemplary attitude and behavior, both on and off the field, during the Division I State Tournament.
- E. Fred Wannamaker 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 Minnesota American Legion Baseball Division I State Tournament. This trophy is presented in memory of the longtime secretary of the American Legion State Baseball program in Minnesota.
- F. Rob Wassenaar Outstanding Pitcher Trophy.** Created in 2013, this award recognizes the American Legion Baseball pitcher, who, as determined by a special selection committee, delivered the most outstanding performance on the mound during the annual Division I State Tournament. The award's name honors an outstanding citizen and former American Legion pitcher who, in addition to being a member of Edina's 1983 National Championship team, was awarded the Fred Wannamaker Outstanding Player Trophy in two consecutive seasons (1982 and 1983).
- G. 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.
- H. 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 is not necessarily awarded every year.
- I. Post of the Year Award.** This award is presented to a Minnesota American Legion Post that has made extraordinary contributions to the American Legion Baseball Program over a number of years. This honor is not necessarily awarded every year.
- J. Graduate of the Year.** This award is bestowed to a graduate of Minnesota American Legion Baseball, not necessarily annually.
- K. Shelly Hanson Championship Trophy.** Awarded annually to the Division II State Tournament Champion and named in honor for the long-time service rendered by G. Sheldon (Shelly) Hanson, of Austin, to the State Baseball Program, as Secretary from 1966 to 1987.
- L. Bob Marshall Runner-Up Trophy.** Awarded annually to the Division II State Tournament Runner-up, and named in honor of past State Baseball Director, Robert (Bob) Marshall of Dilworth. Bob served as State Department Baseball Director from 1967 to 1981.
- M. Tony Sipe Outstanding Player Award.** Awarded annually, as selected by a committee, to the American Legion Baseball player deemed to be the most outstanding player during the annual Division II State Tournament. This trophy is presented in honor of long-time service to American Legion Baseball by Tony Sipe of Ada.
- N. Rocky Wedin Sportsmanship Award.** Awarded annually to the team displaying exemplary attitude and behavior, both on and off the field, as selected by committee. The trophy is named in honor of Rodney "Rocky" Wedin, for his many years of devoted service to American Legion Baseball.

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 Baseball Director shall report and certify the Minnesota State Champion and Runner-up teams to the National Americanism Commission, National American Legion Baseball Program, providing additional information and material, as required.
 - B. Jurisdiction.** All National Tournaments will be played under the direction and supervision of the National Americanism Commission. Any / all disputes and questions shall be referred to the National Tournament Director. Any situation not specifically covered by National rules or regulations will be referred to the National Americanism and Children & Youth Division, whose decision shall be final.
 - C. 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.
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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 participation.
 - 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 shall 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 (and State) Director.
 - a. Players who play on a paired High School team must play Legion Baseball for the Base Post Team of the paired schools. The Total Enrollment of all schools represented on the team's National Form #1 Roster shall count in determining Combined Total Enrollment. If enrollment of the two paired schools exceeds 400, the team is 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:
 - a. 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 proposed zone boundaries by May 15 of the respective year of competition.
 - ii. If any rostered player's Domicile is outside of the designated zoned area, the team is deemed ineligible to participate in Division II, and must participate at the Division I level.
5. Teams with a Base School enrollment of less than 200, and thus 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 the need to add more players in order to field a team. The Bypassed 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. At the direction of the State Baseball Committee, the Division II State Tournament will be an eight-team, single-elimination event or a nine-team pool-play 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 / team 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.

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.

- A. Who May Compete.** Competition will only be among approved Junior Legion teams that have properly registered (per the Registration section within this Rulebook) 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 2016 Junior American Legion Baseball program is open only to players born on or after January 1, 1999. Those born in 1998 or earlier are not eligible to participate in Junior American Legion Baseball. It is a 17 and under Program. Also, for the 2016 season, players born in 2004 and after (those age 12 and under) are not eligible to participate. Players must be 13 years of age as of January 1, 2016 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 / team deemed to be in violation of any and all applicable Rules.
- E. Special Exceptions.** In addition to specific exceptions noted within other sections of this Rulebook, the following exceptions apply only to the Junior Legion Program, and its participating teams and players:
 - 1. 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. (See Rule 1 for complete pitching provisions.)
 - 2. Beginning with the 2014 season, Junior Legion teams may
 - a. Use courtesy runners for the pitcher and / or catcher at any time during games.
 - i. Players who have participated in the game in any other capacity are ineligible to serve as courtesy runners.
 - ii. The same runner may not be used as a courtesy runner for both the pitcher and the catcher in the same inning.
 - iii. A player may not run as a courtesy runner for the pitcher or the catcher, and then be used as a substitute for another player in that half-inning (unless an injury, illness or ejection occurs and no other runners / players are available.)
 - iv. A courtesy runner may not be used for a pinch-hitter for the catcher, unless the catcher has been re-entered.
 - v. A player who is placed on base as a courtesy runner may not be replaced with another courtesy runner, unless injury, illness or ejection requires that he be replaced.
 - vi. Violation of these courtesy runner rules shall be deemed to be an illegal substitution.
 - b. Utilize a re-entry rule, whereby any starting players (except for the pitcher and the designated hitter, if used) may withdraw from the game and then re-enter once, provided that such players occupy the same batting position when re-entering (and whenever in) the lineup. (A substitute who is withdrawn may not re-enter.) Starting pitchers and designated hitters (if applicable) that change positions later in the same game are not eligible for re-entry.
 - c. If desired, designate a player in the starting line-up (who is not already a starting defensive player) to hit for any one starting player (not just for the pitcher) and all subsequent substitutes for that starting player in the game. If used, a designated hitter for said starting player shall be selected prior to the start of the game, and his name shall be included on the lineup card presented to the umpire-in-chief and official scorer. Failure to declare a designated hitter prior to the game precludes the use of a designated hitter in that game.
 - i. If a pinch hitter or pinch runner for the designated hitter is used, that player becomes the new designated hitter.

- ii. A designated hitter is "locked" in the batting order; no multiple substitutions may be made that will alter the batting rotation order of the designated hitter.
- iii. The role of the designated hitter is terminated for the remainder of the game when 1) the defensive player, or any previous defensive player for whom the designated hitter batted, subsequently bats or pinch-hits for the designated hitter; or 2) the designated hitter, or any previous designated hitter, assumes a defensive position.

F. State Tournament. The Junior Legion State Tournament will be a 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. 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.
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.
3. 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.
4. 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 Champions include:

	<u>Champion</u>	<u>Runner-Up</u>	<u>Site</u>
2009:	Bloomington Blue	Excelsior	Eagan
2010:	*Burnsville	Eden Prairie	Eagan
2011:	*Excelsior	Wayzata	Eagan
2012:	Excelsior	Eden Prairie	Eagan
2013:	*Eden Prairie	Excelsior #1	Eagan
2014:	Excelsior	Wayzata	Apple Valley
2015:	Excelsior	Burnsville	Apple Valley
2016:			Apple Valley

* Regional Champion

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. Questions concerning player eligibility should be raised with the prior Legion Coach, District Director, or State Director.
 - 4. All team and player registration procedures are to be followed closely, including gathering, completing, and filing all paperwork and forms.
 - 5. Coaches should not put their team, sponsor, or District at risk, or otherwise jeopardize player participation or set a poor example, by not following established Rules.
 - 6. 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)

All coaches are directed to review the full policy, as available on the Minnesota American Legion Baseball web page, www.mnlegion.org (then click on Baseball.) Highlights of the requirements are shown below:

- 1) ALL participating coaches and officials must receive (and present evidence of) training on concussion symptoms. (While not required, it is recommended that other team staff, such as Directors, Business Managers and scorekeepers, complete training also.) Training certification is valid for three (3) years, after which, coaches must undergo training again and submit a new certificate of completion.
 - a. Umpires and their Associations must also secure training on their own; coaches should use umpires who have received the required training.
 - b. A valid copy of each coach's training certificate must be on-file with the team's District Director. New / renewal certificates should be submitted with the team's annual roster packet. 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.)
 - c. The CDC (Center for Disease Control and Prevention) offers a FREE on-line training video, which meets the requirements: <http://www.cdc.gov/headsup/youthsports/training/index.html>
(If a certificate is lost, coaches cannot return to the on-line training to produce another certificate, without watching the training video again; thus, it is highly recommended that, in addition to printing the certificate, coaches save the certificate to their computer hard drives.)
- 2) The law does not require that teams have a medical professional on-site. However, during games, practices, tryouts, etc., coaches / officials must remove players who exhibit signs of possible concussion (as outlined in the training). It is recommended that parents be advised that an injured player be evaluated by a medical professional, if concussion symptoms are exhibited or if there is concern about the force of a hit sustained by a player.
- 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. (Coaches should 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. A link to the CDC handouts is also available on the MN Legion Baseball web site.

APPENDIX C

Minnesota American Legion Baseball

Youth Protection Policy

(effective 12/1/12)

Directors, Managers, Coaches and other participants are directed to review the full policy, as available on the Minnesota American Legion Baseball web page. Highlights are as follows:

American Legion youth programs are intended to encourage safe, healthy, growth-oriented, and productive interaction between staff, volunteers, and children or youth. As such, the Minnesota American Legion Baseball Program does not tolerate abuse in any form, whether it be physical, emotional, sexual, verbal or economic exploitation. 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 Policy Program Manager (State Baseball Director), in writing. If there is ANY reasonable suspicion that illegal child abuse has occurred, the observing and / or knowledgeable person is expected to immediately report such to law enforcement authorities, as well as to the youth participant's parent(s) or guardian(s).

Background Screening Requirement: The use of criminal background screening is considered a standard protocol by youth-serving organizations -- the purpose being to verify identity and determine whether anything in a person's past might disqualify him / her from working with youth participants. Therefore, all Designated Individuals are required by American Legion Baseball to undergo background checks each season by the Designated Provider, prior to engaging in any meetings, events, activities, practices and / or games that involve youth participants. The cost of individual background screening for Designated Individuals, will be borne by Minnesota American Legion Baseball. 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.

Designated Individuals: Using guidelines in the policy, individual team sponsors shall identify persons (i.e., "Designated Individuals") within their organization (e.g., team staff members and volunteers who have regular and direct contact with youth participants), who will be subject to annual background screening, as described above.

Designated Screening Provider:

Priority Research Services, Inc., DBA "Protect Youth Sports."
14499 N. Dale Mabry Hwy, Ste 201S South, Tampa, FL 33618;
(877) 319-5587 (8:30 am to 5:30 pm EST)
www.protectyouthsports.com.

To apply for a Minnesota Legion Baseball background check:

(a link is also available on the MN Legion Baseball web page): <https://www.opportunities.averity.com/MNLegion>

Results / Findings: The Designated Provider shall submit the result of individual background screenings to the designated Minnesota Program Manager (State Baseball Director) -- only in the form of a "pass or fail" indicator. One or more of the following disqualifying criteria will be cause for a "fail" indicator, precluding a person from participating as a Designated Individual (i.e., serving as a coach, manager, or in any other volunteer or paid team staff role.)

- 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 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.

Appeals: If a Designated Individual has concerns or does not agree with the result of his / her background screen, he / she is to contact the Designated Provider (as listed above) directly.

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. 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. 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.

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 then surpassed Minnesota, with Minnesota being second for many years. In 2014, however, Minnesota again topped the nation, having 306 teams; Pennsylvania was second with 299 teams, Nebraska was third with 281, Wisconsin was fourth with 207, and Illinois was fifth with 163. Minnesota led the nation again in 2015, with 306 teams once more; no other state exceeded the 300-team mark.

In 90 years of play in Minnesota, materials have been supplied to over 25,300 teams, who provided playing opportunities to an estimated 380,000 players. (In 2015, 306 teams participated, rostering 5,002 Minnesota youth as players.) There are also an estimated 10,000 players, aged 8 through 18, who play baseball within various community programs throughout the state, with the support or sponsorship of their local American Legion Posts."

Division I Champions from American Legion Districts across the State, as well as a host team, compete in the annual Minnesota American Legion State Tournament to determine the State Champion. A Division II State Tournament is also held annually, as well as a Jr. Legion State Tournament.

The Division I National playoff tournaments are a series of tournaments in 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. (Minnesota's Division I Champion and its Division I Runner-up both 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, as follows:

- 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; 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 nationally-sponsored Championship Tournament for Division II or Junior Legion at this time, however.

MINNESOTA AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL GRADUATES OF THE YEAR

1988:	Terry Steinbach, New Ulm	2004:	Dave Goltz, Rothsay
1989:	Kent Hrbek, Bloomington	2005:	Todd Oakes, Caledonia
1991:	Mike Kingery, Atwater	2006:	Rob Wassenaar, Edina
1993:	Dave Winfield, St. Paul Attucks Brooks Paul Molitor, St. Paul Attucks-Brooks	2007:	Robb Quinlan, North St. Paul
1994:	Jim Eisenreich, St. Cloud	2008:	Bill Davis, Richfield
1996:	John Anderson, Keewatin	2009:	Darin Everson, Ada
1998:	Dean Bowyer, Ada	2010:	Jeff Schugel, New Ulm
1999:	Paul and John Blanchard	2011:	Mike Halloran, Edina Charlie Walters, Minneapolis
2000:	Wes Westrom, Clearbrook	2012:	James Brower, Excelsior Cole Irish, Plainview
2001:	Mike Mason, Excelsior	2013:	Dean Atchison, Moorhead
2002:	Jack Morris, St. Paul	2014:	Wade Adamson, Willmar
2003:	Michael Restovich, Rochester		

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 by the State Baseball Committee to select individuals or groups. It is not necessarily awarded every year.

1962: Frank C. Momsen, Tracy	1991: Tom Mattson, Albert Lea
1963: Dr. W.H. Mulligan, St. Cloud	1992: Jim Peck, Excelsior
1964: Robert P. Marshall, Dilworth	1993: Tom Elliot, St. Cloud
1965: Mark Hayward, St. Paul	Ray DeZurik, Waite Park
1966: Thomas Warner, Marshall	2000: Joe Baker, Moorhead
1967: Harry Moldenhauer, St. Paul	Al Davis, Princeton
Frank Fust, Minneapolis	George Karnas, Richfield
1968: Dr. Robert M. Farrish, Litchfield	2001: Nick Kakos, Minneapolis
1969: Theodore "Ted" Peterson, Minneapolis	Darwin Berg, Chanhassen
1970: Maurice Godsey, Winona	2002: Norb Winter, Watkins
1971: G. Sheldon Hanson, Austin	Jack Bloedel, New Ulm
1972: Gaylord Zelinske, Brainerd	Al Zdon, Mounds View
1973: S.C. "Sig" Qvale, Austin	Harold Solheim, Princeton
1975: M.E. "Shorty" Dekko, Gary	2003: Bob Letourneau, Osseo
1976: George Medvic, Minneapolis	Dick Seal, Sauk Rapids
1977: John Koch, Trimont	2004: Bob Zellman, Norwood
1978: Dale VanDeWalker, St. Paul	2006: Huck Arneson, Barnesville
1979: Robert Schabert, St. Paul	Dick Johnson, Anoka
C.I. "Spike" Piper, Blue Earth	Bob Garin, Crosslake
Leonard Grill, Minneapolis	2007: Tink Larson, Waseca
1980: Louise Kainz, Ely	2008: Roger Niebeling, Borup
Joe Kastelic, Ely	2009: Jeff Reese, New Richland
Sheldon Hanson, Austin	2010: Gail Kalata, St. Paul
1983: Dale Timm, Owatonna	2011: Ron Beckman, Jordan
Al Schmidt, Shakopee	2012: John Sherman, Minneapolis
Tony Sipe, Ada	Bill Taunton Sr., Willmar
1984: George Marsnik, Ely	2013: Dennis Frey, Howard Lake
Rueben Nathe, Litchfield	2014: Jim Donahue, Edina
Rodney Wedin, Wells	Alberta Marth, New Ulm
Kenneth Swartz, Bloomington	Bob Nistler, Albert Lea
1986: Halver Johnson, Moorhead	2015: Mike Gort, Marshall
1989: George Bodlovick, St. Paul	Mike Perry, Hopkins
Gerald "Red" Haddox, Bloomington	Carl "Red" Wyczawski, New Ulm
1990: Al Schoenthaler, Roseville	

MINNESOTA AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL POST OF THE YEAR

1998: Apple Valley Post 1776	2007: Marshall Post 113
1999: Bloomington Post 550	2008: Sacred Heart Post 229
2000: Moorhead Post 21	2009: LeSueur-Henderson Posts 55 and 74
2001: New Ulm Post 132	2011: Eden Valley and Watkins Posts 381 and 453
2002: Willmar Post 167	2012: Chaska Post 57
2003: Richfield Post 435	2013: Bird Island and Olivia Posts 430 and 186
2004: Tri-City, New Brighton Post 513	2014: Luverne Post 123
2005: North St. Paul Post 39	2015: Princeton Post 216
2006: Excelsior Post 259	

MINNESOTA AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL COACH OF THE YEAR

1998:	Brad Dean, Willmar Bucky Burgau, Moorhead Bruce Young, Apple Valley Jeff Gallagher, Montevideo	2005:	Ron Adams, North St. Paul
1999:	Dick Johnson, Anoka	2006:	Gary Wilson, Minneapolis Northeast
2000:	Bob Streetar, Grand Rapids	2007:	Keith Kangas, Rochester A's
2001:	George Horihan, LaCrescent	2008:	Tom Yelle, Coon Rapids
2002:	Jim Peck, Excelsior	2009:	Bill Kinnunen, Grand Rapids
2003:	Jim Senske, New Ulm	2010:	Tom Coombe, Ely
2004:	Charlie Godbout, West St. Paul	2011:	Doug Schuette, Brownton
		2012:	Mike Fogelson, Bemidji
		2013:	Scott Hackett, Eden Prairie
		2015:	Greg Nesbitt, Prior Lake

MINNESOTA AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL DIVISION I STATE CHAMPIONS

<u>Year</u>	<u>Champion</u>	<u>Runner-Up</u>	<u>Site</u>
1926:	Crosby	St. Paul Navy-Marine	Mankato
1927:	St. Paul John de Parcq	Cambridge	Little Falls
1928:	*St. Paul John de Parcq	St. Cloud	St. Paul Lexington Park
1929:	Cottonwood	St. Paul Post 8	St. Cloud
1930:	Minneapolis North Side	Parkers Prairie	Stillwater
1931:	Winona	Minneapolis North Side	Stillwater
1932:	**Minneapolis North Side	Duluth	Minneapolis, U of M
1933:	St. Paul Post 8	Minneapolis Kyle	Minneapolis, U of M
1934:	New Ulm	Cokato	Cokato
1935:	**St. Paul Christie de Parcq	Minneapolis Laidlaw	Breckenridge
1936:	Minneapolis North Side	St. Paul Christie de Parcq	Willmar
1937:	St. Paul Railroad	Cokato	Fergus Falls
1938:	St. Paul Midway	Cokato	Rochester
1939:	Minneapolis Fire and Police	Blackduck	Minneapolis Nicollet Park
1940:	Minneapolis Fire and Police	Waverly	St. Paul Lexington Park
1941:	New Ulm	Minneapolis Courthouse	St. Paul Lexington Park
1942:	St. Paul Hamline	Robbinsdale	St. Paul Lexington Park
1943:	†† Minneapolis-Richfield	South St. Paul	St. Paul Lexington Park
1944:	** Minneapolis-Richfield	St. Paul Twin City Federal	St. Paul Lexington Park
1945:	Minneapolis Fire and Police	Winona	St. Paul Lexington Park
1946:	St. Paul Christie de Parcq	Stillwater	Duluth
1947:	St. Paul Christie de Parcq	St. Cloud	St. Paul Lexington Park
1948:	** Austin	St. Cloud	St. Paul Lexington Park
1949:	St. Paul North End	Winona	Shakopee
1950:	** St. Paul North End	Minneapolis-Richfield	St. Paul Lexington Park
1951:	St. Cloud	Austin	St. Paul Lexington Park
1952:	St. Paul North End	Melrose	St. Paul Lexington Park
1953:	Austin	St. Paul North End	St. Paul Lexington Park
1954:	St. Paul North End	St. Cloud	St. Paul Lexington Park
1955:	Edina	Minneapolis Camden	St. Paul Lexington Park
1956:	St. Paul North End	Minneapolis Grain Exchange	St. Paul Lexington Park
1957:	Mankato	St. Paul North End	St. Paul Midway Stadium
1958:	Minneapolis Grain Exchange	Duluth Wisted	St. Paul Midway Stadium
1959:	Minneapolis-Richfield	Granite Falls	Austin
1960:	Fergus Falls	Norwood	St. Paul Midway Stadium
1961:	Minneapolis-Richfield	St. Paul Christie de Parcq	St. Paul Midway Stadium
1962:	St. Paul Christie de Parcq	Duluth	St. Paul Midway Stadium
1963:	St. Paul Christie de Parcq	Austin	St. Paul Midway Stadium
1964:	Minneapolis Grain Exchange	Austin	St. Paul Midway Stadium
1965:	Rosetown Memorial	Brooklyn Center	Winona
1966:	North St. Paul	St. Paul Park	St. Paul Midway Stadium
1967:	St. Paul Attucks-Brooks	Minneapolis-Richfield	St. Paul Midway Stadium
1968:	St. Paul Attucks-Brooks	Minneapolis-Richfield	St. Cloud

1969:	Edina	Moorhead	St. Cloud
1970:	Winona	Minneapolis Gopher Post	Winona
1971:	North St. Paul	Winona	Moorhead
1972:	Minneapolis-Richfield	Moorhead	St. Cloud
1973:	** Minneapolis-Richfield	St. Louis Park	St. Paul Midway Stadium
1974:	St. Paul Attucks-Brooks	Bemidji	New Ulm
1975:	Grand Rapids	White Bear Lake	Ely
1976:	St. Cloud	White Bear Lake	Willmar
1977:	St. Cloud	Edina	Ely
1978:	** New Ulm	Bloomington	Austin
1979:	St. Paul Arcade-Phalen	St. Cloud	Willmar
1980:	Minneapolis-Richfield	St. Paul Arcade Phalen	Richfield
1981:	Rochester, William T. McCoy	Hastings	Ely
1982:	** Edina	Minneapolis-Richfield	Willmar
1983:	†† Edina	New Ulm	New Ulm
1984:	Waite Park	Willmar	Albert Lea
1985:	St. Paul Jacobsen	Hutchinson	Richfield
1986:	Waite Park	Rochester	Marshall
1987:	St. Louis Park	Apple Valley	Grand Rapids
1988:	** Moorhead	Rochester	Ely
1989:	Apple Valley	New Ulm	New Ulm
1990:	St. Paul Hamline	Duluth Lakeview	Richfield
1991:	Excelsior	Apple Valley	Mankato
1992:	New Ulm	Cold Spring	Willmar
1993:	Tri-City Red, New Brighton	** Osseo	New Ulm
1994:	Tri-City Red, New Brighton	Anoka	Northfield
1995:	New Ulm	** Osseo	Hibbing
1996:	Rochester A's	Excelsior	Moorhead
1997:	** Tri-City Red, New Brighton	St. Paul Hamline	Chaska
1998:	** Excelsior	South St. Paul	Hibbing
1999:	†† Tri-City Red, New Brighton	** Bloomington Blue	St. Cloud
2000:	Tri-City Red, New Brighton	Waite Park	Duluth
2001:	Coon Rapids	New Ulm	Rochester
2002:	Apple Valley	Excelsior †	Marshall
2003:	†† Rochester A's	Bloomington Blue	Rochester
2004:	** Eden Prairie	Apple Valley	Northfield
2005:	Eden Prairie	** Woodbury Blue	St. Cloud
2006:	Eden Prairie	Coon Rapids	Excelsior
2007:	† Eden Prairie	Apple Valley	Bloomington
2008:	Eastview	Eden Prairie	Burnsville
2009:	Rochester Patriots	Apple Valley	New Ulm
2010:	† Eden Prairie	Eagan	Hibbing
2011:	†† Eden Prairie	Lino Lakes	Eden Prairie
2012:	Edina	Eden Prairie	Chaska
2013:	Eden Prairie	** Burnsville	Edina
2014:	Lakeville North	St. Cloud Chutes	Eagan
2015:	Wayzata	Eden Prairie	Chanhassen
2016:	TBD	TBD	Delano
2017:	TBD	TBD	St. Paul
2018:	TBD	TBD	Edina
2019:	TBD	TBD	Cold Spring

* Sectional Champion

** Regional Champion

†† National Champion

† National Runner-up

DIVISION I STATE TOURNAMENT OUTSTANDING PITCHER AWARD RECIPIENTS The Rob Wassenaar Award

2013: Matt Hopfner, Edina Post 471

2015: Jake Marsh, Wayzata Post 118

2014: AJ Sayer, Lakeville North

2016:

DIVISION I STATE TOURNAMENT OUTSTANDING PLAYER AWARD RECIPIENTS

The Fred Wannamaker Award

<u>Year</u>	<u>Player</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Team, Post #</u>
1960:	Barry Johnson	Pitcher	Fergus Falls, 30
1961:	Cliff Warnke	Pitcher	Winona, 9
1962:	Bob Williams	Pitcher	St. Paul Christie de Parcq, 406
1963:	Dennis Denning	Shortstop	St. Paul Christie de Parcq, 406
1964:	Jerry Wickman	Pitcher	Minneapolis Grain Exchange, 403
1965:	Dennis Coleman	Pitcher	Rosetown Memorial, 542
1966:	Jim Myers	Pitcher	North St. Paul, 39
1967:	Tim Hadro	Catcher	St. Paul Attucks-Brooks, 606
1968:	Dave Winfield	Pitcher / Shortstop	St. Paul Attucks-Brooks, 606
1969:	Mike Shea	3rd Base	Little Falls, 46
1970:	Mike Semling	Right Field	Winona, 9
1971:	Terry Johnson	Pitcher / 1st Base	Kenyon, 78
1972:	Mark Stevens	Pitcher	Duluth Lakeview, 342
1973:	Chuck Engle	Pitcher / 1st Base	St. Louis Park, 282
1974:	Peter Maus	Pitcher / Infield	Bemidji, 14
1975:	Tim Fagley	Pitcher	White Bear Lake, 168
1976:	Greg Berling	Pitcher	St. Cloud, 76
1977:	Bill Peterson	Pitcher	Edina, 471
1978:	Terry Steinbach	2nd Base	New Ulm, 132
1979:	Bill Larson	Pitcher	St. Paul Arcade-Phalen, 377
1980:	James Burns	3rd Base	Minneapolis Falldin, 555
1981:	Bill Cutschall	Pitcher	Rochester, 92
1982:	Rob Wassenaar	Pitcher / 3rd Base	Edina, 471
1983:	Rob Wassenaar	Pitcher / 3rd Base	Edina, 471
1984:	Tim Piechowski	Pitcher / Shortstop	Willmar, 167
1985:	Vince Palyan	Pitcher / Shortstop	St. Paul Jacobsen, 487
1986:	Jeremy Mendal	Catcher / Outfield	Waite Park, 428
1987:	Bob Divinski	Pitcher / 3rd Base	St. Louis Park, 282
1988:	Todd Hoffman	Center Field	New Ulm, 132
1989:	Al Stoye	Pitcher	Apple Valley, 1776
1990:	Wes Denning	Center Field	St. Paul Hamline, 418
1991:	Jason Pflaum	2nd Base	Excelsior, 259
1992:	Ben Griffin	Left Field	Cold Spring, 455
1993:	Matt McDonough	Catcher	Osseo, 172
1994:	Robb Ramacher	Center Field	Tri-City Red, 513
1995:	Brady Ranweiler	1st Base	New Ulm, 132
1996:	Joe Siple	2nd Base	Rochester A's, 92
1997:	Charlie Brookins	Pitcher	St. Paul Park, 98
1998:	Ryan Klocksien	Pitcher / Infield	Excelsior, 259
1999:	Billy Schneider	2nd Base	Tri-City Red, 513
2000:	Josh Krogman	Pitcher / Infield	Waite Park, 428
2001:	Danny Anderson	Pitcher / Infield	Coon Rapids, 334
2002:	Dan Brosnan	1st Base	Apple Valley, 1776
2003:	Steve Edlefsen	Shortstop	Bloomington Blue, 550
2004:	Justin Milo	1st Base	Eden Prairie, NA
2005:	Nate Hansen	Shortstop	Eden Prairie, NA
2006:	Aaron Senne	Outfield / Pitcher	Rochester Redhawks, NA
2007:	Dan Miller	Pitcher / Outfield	Eden Prairie, NA
2008:	Scott Lindner	Shortstop	Eden Prairie, NA
2009:	Derek Hovick	Pitcher / Outfield	Rochester Patriots, 92
2010:	Matt Halloran	Catcher	Eden Prairie, NA
2011:	Austin Malinowski	Pitcher / 1st Base	Lino Lakes, 556
2012:	Cody Wetmore	Pitcher / 1st Base / Outfield	Eden Prairie, NA
2013:	Luke Lind	Pitcher / 1st Base	Eden Prairie, NA
2014:	Jeff Fasching	Pitcher / Outfield	St. Cloud Chutes, 76
2015:	Jeff Athey	3rd Base / 1st Base	Eden Prairie, NA
2016:			

MINNESOTA AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL DIVISION II STATE CHAMPIONS

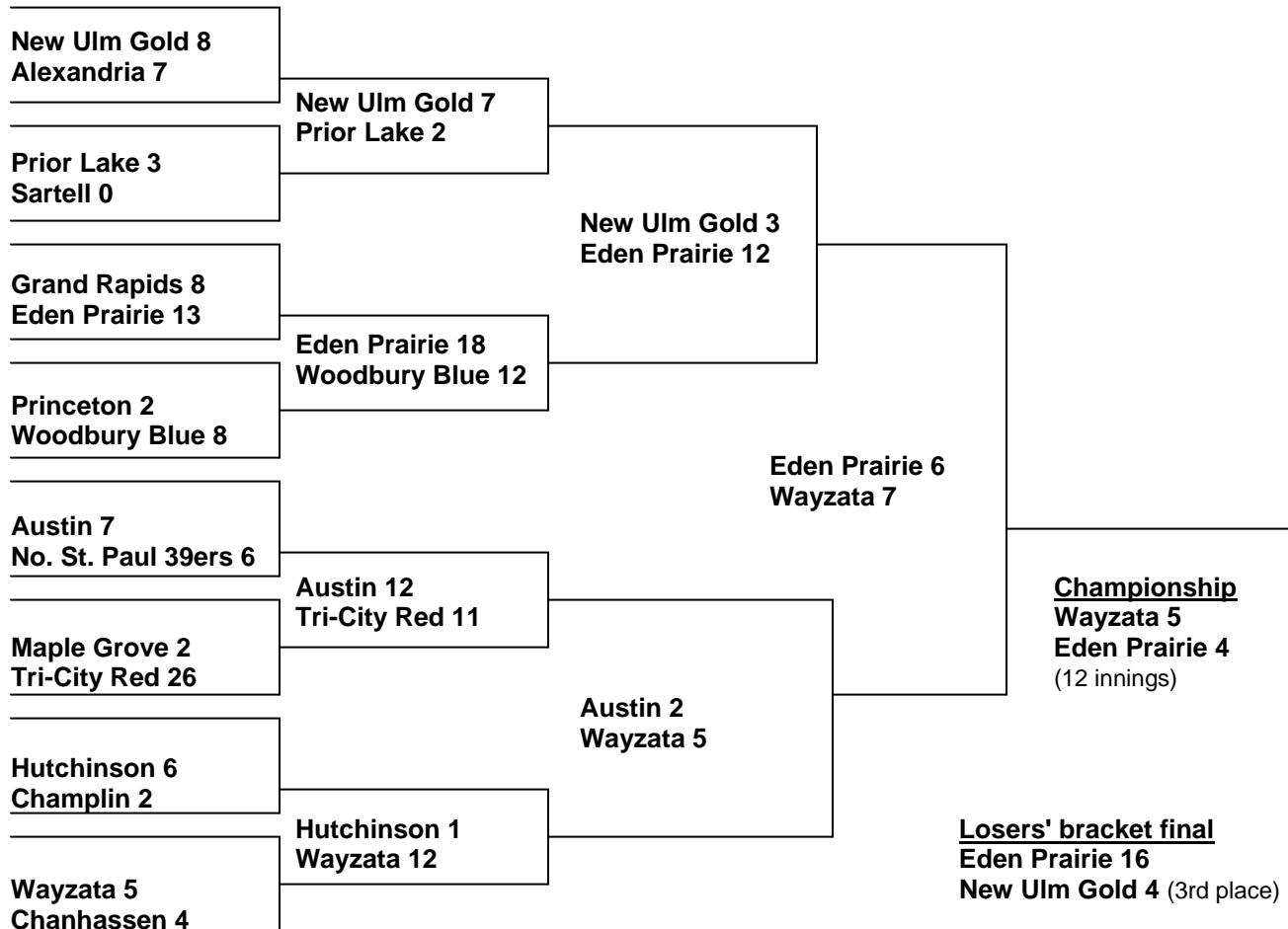
	<u>Champion</u>	<u>Runner-Up</u>	<u>Site</u>
1987:	Swanville	Ada	Barnesville
1988:	Swanville	Karlstad	Ada
1989:	LaCrescent	New Ulm	New Ulm
1990:	Glencoe	Lamberton	Richfield
1991:	Benson	Lamberton	Mankato
1992:	New York Mills	Benson	Willmar
1993:	Sebeka	Mt. Lake	New Ulm
1994:	LaCrescent	Cannon Falls	Northfield
1995:	Pine Island	Plainview	Litchfield-Hutchinson
1996:	Big Lake	Cannon Falls	Willmar
1997:	LaCrescent	Perham	Nashwauk-Keewatin
1998:	Milroy	Ely	Montevideo
1999:	Nashwauk-Keewatin	Paynesville	Ely
2000:	*Sacred Heart	Montgomery	Truman
2001:	Parker's Prairie	Morris	Willmar
2002:	LeSueur-Henderson	Blue Earth	Willmar
2003:	Paynesville	Nashwauk-Keewatin	Ely
2004:	Sebeka	Ely	Northfield
2005:	*Jordan	Pipestone	LeSueur
2006:	*Jordan	Montevideo	Willmar
2007:	*Jordan	Fairfax	Ely
2008:	**Jordan	LaCrescent	Sacred Heart
2009:	Eden Valley-Watkins	Pipestone	LeSueur-Henderson
2010:	LaCrescent	Jordan	Dilworth
2011:	*Eden Valley-Watkins	Ely	Ely
2012:	Plato	Ely	Sacred Heart
2013:	*LaCrescent	Morris	Bird Island-Olivia
2014:	Plato	St. James	Luverne
2015:	*Foley	Moose Lake	Morris
2016:	TBD	TBD	LeSueur-Henderson
2017:	TBD	TBD	New London-Spicer
2018:	TBD	TBD	Pelican Rapids
2019:	TBD	TBD	Ely

* Regional Champion ** Regional Runner-Up

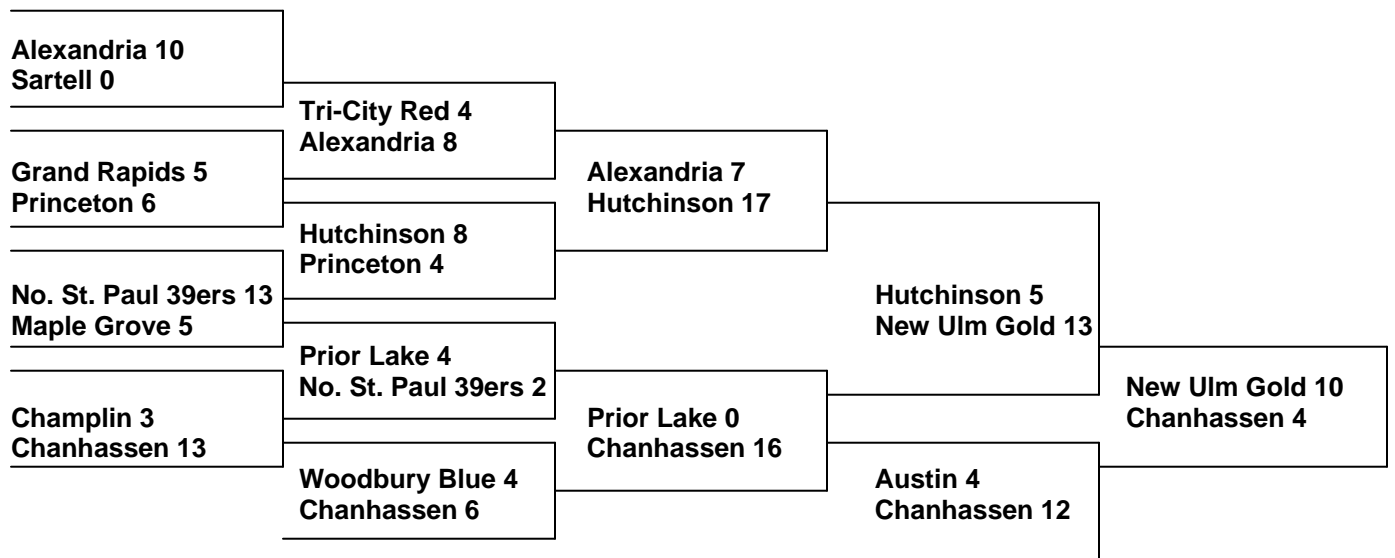
DIVISION II STATE TOURNAMENT OUTSTANDING PLAYER AWARD RECIPIENTS The Tony Sipe Award

	<u>Player</u>	<u>Team</u>		<u>Player</u>	<u>Team</u>
1993:	Ryan Tuorila	Sebeka	2005:	Adam Kneble	Warroad
1994:	Kevin Breggeman	LaCrescent	2006:	Steve Beckman	Jordan
1995:	Joe Ohm,	Plainview	2007:	Joe Lucas	Jordan
1996:	Jeremy Belisle	Big Lake	2008:	Trevor Ness	Staples-Motley
1997:	Jamie Louwagie	Milroy	2009:	Matt Geislinger	Eden Valley-Watkins
1998:	Rick Schlieman	Madison	2010:	Brandon Vethein	LaCrescent
1999:	Mark Skrunkrud	Eyota	2011:	Matt Geislinger	Eden Valley-Watkins
2000:	Ryan Hebrink	Sacred Heart	2012:	Ethan Maas	Plato
2001:	Erick Koep	Parker's Prairie	2013:	Ryan Tapani	Providence Academy
2002:	Reggie Stevens	St. Charles	2014:	Walker Froehling	St. James
2003:	Adam Kempson	Paynesville	2015:	Tyler Midas	Foley
2004:	Zach Etter	Sebeka	2016:		

**90th ANNUAL MINNESOTA AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL
DIVISION I STATE TOURNAMENT RESULTS
July 31 - August 3, 2015, Chanhassen**



Losers' Bracket



**29th ANNUAL MINNESOTA AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL
DIVISION II STATE TOURNAMENT RESULTS
July 31 - August 2, 2015, Morris**

<u>Pool A</u>	<u>Pool B</u>	<u>Pool C</u>
A1 - Foley	B1 - Jordan	C1 - LaCrescent
A2 - Dilworth	B2 - Wells Post 210	C2 - Moose Lake
A3 - BOLD	B3 - Giantvalley	C3 - Morris (Host)

**Friday, July 31st
(Pool Play)**

<u>Game</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Team</u>		<u>vs</u>	<u>Team</u>		<u>Score</u>	<u>Field, Time</u>
1	8	A1 - Foley	H		A2 - Dilworth	V	0	F1, Noon
2	1	B1 - Jordan	H		B2 - Wells	V	5	F2, 1 pm
3	2	C2 - Moose Lake	V		C1 - LaCrescent	H	3	F1, 2:15
4	3	B2 - Wells	V		B3 - Giantvalley	H	5	F2, 3:15
5	0	A2 - Dilworth	H		A3 - BOLD	V	5	F1, 4:30
6	24	C1 - LaCrescent	H		C3 - Morris	V	0	F1, 7 pm

Saturday, August 1st

<u>Game</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Team</u>		<u>vs</u>	<u>Team</u>		<u>Score</u>	<u>Field, Time</u>
7	6	A3 - BOLD	V		A1 - Foley	H	8	F1, Noon
8	13	B - Giantvalley	V		B1 - Jordan	H	11	F1, 2:15
9	1	C3 - Morris	V		C2 - Moose Lake	H	2	F1, 4:30

Sunday, August 2nd

<u>Game</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Team</u>		<u>vs</u>	<u>Team</u>		<u>Score</u>	<u>Field, Time</u>
10	6	Moose Lake (9 innings)	V		LaCrescent	H	5	F1, 11:00
11	1	Foley	H		Giantvalley (3rd Place)	V	0	F1, 1:15

Championship

<u>Game</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Team</u>		<u>vs</u>	<u>Team</u>		<u>Score</u>	<u>Field, Time</u>
12	2	Moose Lake	V		Foley	H	6	F1, 3:30

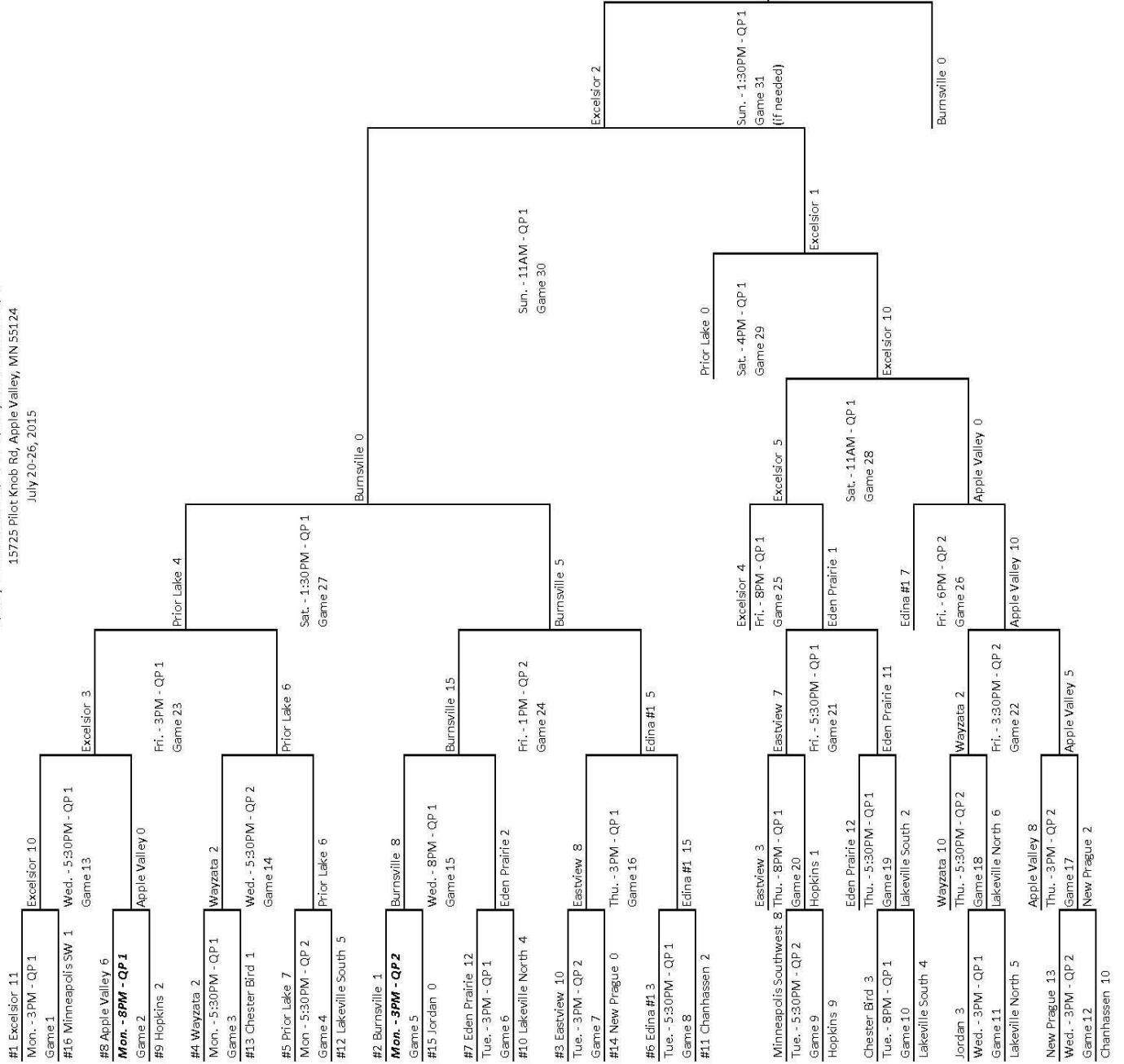
2015 Minnesota JR Legion State Tournament

Apple Valley, MN

Quarry Point Field #1 = QP 1 & Quarry Point Field #2 = QP 2
 15725 Pilot Knob Rd, Apple Valley, MN 55124
 July 20-26, 2015

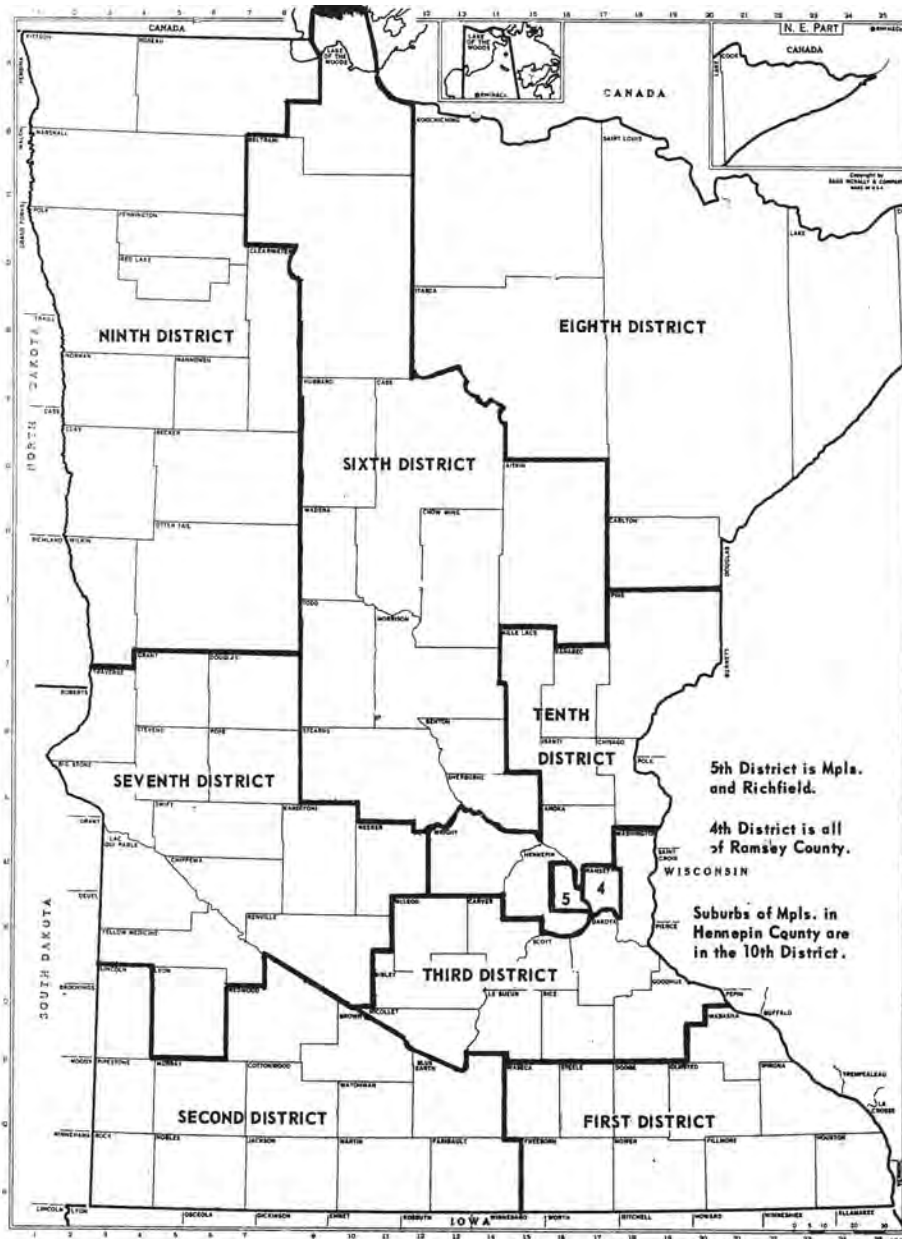
SEEDS

- #1-Excelsior
- #2-Burnsville
- #3-Eastview
- #4-Wayzata
- #5-Prior Lake
- #6-Edina#1
- #7-Eden Prairie
- #8-Apple Valley
- #9-Hopkins
- #10-Lakeville North
- #11-Chanhassen
- #12-Lakeville South
- #13-Chester Bird
- #14-New Prague
- #15-Jordan
- #16-Minneapolis Southwest



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 RECITED
BY THE COMPETING TEAMS BEFORE EACH GAME.



This year's Minnesota Rule Book
is dedicated to

Past and Present District Directors

For their dedicated and tireless
volunteer service to
American Legion Baseball
in their Districts and throughout the state.

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

91 Years Strong