

December 22nd, 2023

To: Minnesota American Legion Baseball Managers/Head Coaches

From: Randy Schaub, Minnesota State Baseball Director

Subject: 2024 Minnesota American Legion Baseball Season

If you are no longer involved with your team – PLEASE forward this email to the new team manager and coaches.

Registration will open January 1st, 2024! All coaches must complete a **background check and now have abuse awareness training every year.**

Concussion training certification is good for 3 years. Brandon Raymo will let you know if your concussion certification is up to date. K&K has not released premiums yet, so I do not know if the cost of required K&K insurance will go up for this year or not. You can't have an official team without insurance. If you have forgotten passwords for registration you will need to go to the National baseball website and use the "**forgot password**" feature. Brandon cannot help you with this! Starting the registration process early helps you and us. If you need help, use the MN Legion baseball website's "**help**" page at [https://www.minnesotalegionbaseball.com/copy-of-team registration](https://www.minnesotalegionbaseball.com/copy-of-team-registration).

Teams that are now eligible to play in the **new enhanced** Tier I state tournament playoffs need to contact me or Brandon as soon as you know your intentions. **The deadline will be April 15th**, but because this will affect Division I Senior sub-state formation, the sooner the better. Teams want to make sure they are scheduling teams in in the regular season that are going to be in their sub-state. We will be developing a form for teams that are opting for Tier I to have filled out by their Team manager and Head Coach and sent to me. This will be available off the minnesotalegionbaseball.com website. We are also looking to change the name of this new class tournament to something different than Tier I.

Former Southwest Minnesota State University baseball coach Paul Blanchard will be offering coaching clinics sponsored by Minnesota Legion Baseball around the state in late March and April. These will probably be on Sundays as a three-hour classroom clinic. More details on where and when

to come. Tentative sites are Marshall, Crookston, Virginia, Apple Valley, and St. Charles. Cost to be around \$35 per coach.

Teams that are interested in hosting future state tournaments should let us know and then be prepared to attend a spring or fall meeting to give a formal presentation. Competition has been keen for DII tournaments, less so for DI. We will need hosts for 2025 for DI and Tier I.

All 18- /19-year old's that are on DI Senior teams that advance to the Regionals will have to complete a background check and take sexual abuse training, like a coach, before they arrive for the Region tournament. This came from the American Legion National Committee after a hazing incident took place last summer in South Dakota. We are working on how that will take place. We can't seem to get around litigation concerns these days. I will spare you the soapbox speech on my real feelings!

We need a Division I Junior State Tournament Director since Mike Perry has retired from this post. If interested, contact me.

If you have concerns or are willing to assist in some capacity let myself or any other board member know.

Lastly, 2024 state tournaments are scheduled for: Division I Senior-Maple Grove/Osseo. Division II Senior- Bird Island. Junior Legion Division I- Bloomington, and Junior Legion Division II-St. Charles.

Happy safe and healthy Holidays to you all.

My best, Randy