



2023

MINNESOTA



RULEBOOK



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THE 2023 MINNESOTA AMERICAN LEGION RULEBOOK
IS PUBLISHED BY THE
MINNESOTA AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL COMMITTEE
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This year's Minnesota Baseball Rulebook is dedicated to:

ALAN A. DAVIS SR.

2015-16 American Legion National Vice Commander
in great appreciation

for his service to our country as a sailor as well as
his many years of dedicated service as an ambassador for
Minnesota American Legion Baseball.

Minnesota American Legion Baseball celebrates
100 Seasons Strong in 2023.

VETERANS STRENGTHENING VETERANS

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Website:
minnesotalegionbaseball.com

SPORTSMANSHIP & HONOR

Coaches, managers, officials, players, parents and supporters should be aware that sportsmanship and honor are taken very seriously with American Legion Baseball.

It is good to make yourself familiar with The American Legion's expectations when it comes to conduct. (See Rule 6.)

Remember, The American Legion is an organization whose members are veterans, everyday people among us who were willing to fight and die for their country. Be grateful they served their country and offer this great summertime tradition of baseball:



• **Respect the U.S. flag.** Instilling national values is part of the program. All participants are to demonstrate proper respect. This includes standing, removing caps, hand over heart and facing the flag during the playing of the national anthem. Those who choose to disrespect the flag for reasons political or otherwise (such as kneeling or walking away) shall not be permitted to participate for the remainder of the season.

• **Respect the decisions of the umpires.** Sportsmanship includes acting appropriately when umps make a call. If a call appears to be incorrect, be civil in seeking a clarification. Unsportsmanlike and over-the-top disruptions do not set proper examples for youth.

• **Teach sportsmanship to players.** Tell them to: Shun profane language or obscene gestures. Not throw bats or other equipment. Not resort to roughness. Avoid heckling, uncomplimentary remarks or chanting. Keep their attention on the game. Remember to have fun.

AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL CODE OF SPORTSMANSHIP

I will:

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

A 2023 SEASON MESSAGE FROM THE STATE DIRECTOR

Thank you for participating in the 2023 American Legion Baseball season. This updated rulebook is your essential guide to American Legion Baseball rules and pertinent information for Minnesota. Each year, we try to make modifications in the language to make the rules clearer — and to reflect changes in National American Legion rules or action taken by the State Baseball Committee. It is strongly recommended that you review this rulebook thoroughly, cover-to-cover. Some highlighted items:

1. Background Checks, and Concussion Training. (See Rule 2.A.) All adult team staff must pass an *annual* background check through national's designated provider. You need to enter every coach on your staff into the national registration system at baseball.legion.org and that they all complete background checks. Concussion training certification 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. Certificates must be emailed to Vice Director Brandon Raymo, braymo22@gmail.com, and to your substate director if requested.

2. Child Abuse Awareness Training. Under a new federal law, beginning in 2020, all rostered team staff must also complete child safety training relating to identifying and preventing abuse. Renewal is now required every year. Within 24-72 hours of completing the annual background check, team staff who need to complete the training will automatically receive an email that contains a link to the free training, which must then be completed within 30 days. If questions, contact Brandon Raymo, braymo22@gmail.com. (See Rule 2.A., and Appendix C.)

3. Pitching Rules. (See Rule 1.P.) For the 2023 season, the maximum number of pitches allowed remains at 105 per day (applies to both Senior and Junior teams); the "day of rest" schedule also remains unchanged (chart is on Page 11). Please make sure to review specific language related to multiple games played on the same day, as well as the appearance rule. It is urged that teams self-enforce pitch count rules during the entire season, in the interest of player safety.

American Legion Baseball teams are *exempt* from the new Major League Baseball 3-batter-minimum rule (implemented in 2020 and designed to speed the pace of play) and the pitch-timer rule (implemented in 2023, for the same reason).

4. Courtesy Runners, Player Re-Entry. (See Rules 1.M. and 1.N.) Courtesy runners and player re-entry is permitted for all teams, but, for Division I Senior teams, during the regular season only.

5. Designated Hitter Rule. (See Rule 1.O.) Senior teams may DH for the pitcher *only*, during the entire season (regular and postseason). Senior teams, however, may opt to use a nine-player lineup in which the pitcher occupies the position of both pitcher and DH; "P/DH" must be listed on the lineup card prior to start of the game.

6. Player & Coach Uniforms. In 2023, player uniforms must display either the American Legion Baseball's new brand mark (on front cover) or old cross-bats emblem on the left sleeve or left chest. Coaches must be in a like uniform of the team to go onto the field. Uniforms, wind shirts or jackets worn by coaches must also display the new or old American Legion Baseball insignia. We understand national, in 2024, will move completely to the new one and disallow the old one. (See Rule 9.A.)

7. Team Registration. In order to compete in 2023, teams must again register, pay fees and purchase insurance through the national registration system website: www.baseball.legion.org. Registration for a Senior team is \$300 and a Junior team is \$250. A breakdown is available at minnesotal legionbaseball.com. The payment of fees and purchase of insurance is a two-part process; teams must forward (via email) their receipt for insurance purchase to Vice Director Brandon Raymo, braymo22@gmail.com. Questions regarding registration or the purchase of insurance should be directed to your district director.

8. Forms. You must secure a fully completed Form 2 from every player (signed by a parent), before they commence participation in any practices or games with your team. During playoff (and state) tournament check-in, you will be required to present each player's original Form 2, along with proof of age (original birth certificate, Real ID driver's license or passport). For all Juniors and Division II Seniors, a Minnesota driver's license will be accepted as proof of age.

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 or substate 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 players, 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.)

9. Injured players. Prior to the start of playoffs, a team will be able to replace a rostered player who incurs an injury that is determined by a licensed physician, to be season-ending. This letter or note must be available for review.

10. Enrollment. High school enrollment figures for 2023 are available on minnesotal legionbaseball.com. This is to be used when entering a school's enrollment into the registration system for each player — and in calculating the team's combined total enrollment, which *cannot* exceed 3,600 for Division I Seniors and Juniors and 400 for Division II Juniors and Seniors.

11. Devices. Electronic devices for calling pitches between pitchers and catchers such as PitchCom are not allowed.

As always, your district and substate directors and members of the State Baseball Committee are available to provide help. We appreciate your ongoing participation in American Legion Baseball! And we wish you success this season.

Sincerely,

Minnesota American Legion Baseball Director Randy Schaub

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2023 DEADLINES & IMPORTANT DATES

These deadlines apply uniformly to all American Legion teams — Division I, Division II, both Senior 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 or her earlier than the dates shown below, 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 2023 (or any season), by submitting their team application through the national registration system at baseball.legion.org. (Note: In 2023, due to rising postal costs, instead of mailing baseball kits to all teams, Minnesota American Legion Baseball has launched a free mobile app for accessing this rulebook and other aspects of the program.)

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 at minnesotalegionbaseball.com.) 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 (emailed, postmarked, etc.).

May 15: All existing teams must purchase insurance by this date from the designated carrier K&K Insurance — and pay the national fee (\$100 for Sr. Legion, \$75 for Jr. Legion in 2023) and the Minnesota fee (\$175 for Sr. Legion, \$150 for Jr. Legion in 2023). Both have a \$25 admin fee. A Senior team totals \$300. A Junior team totals \$250. A \$200 late fee will be assessed by National American Legion Baseball 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: Hardcopies of all transfers or releases (Form 76) and hardcopies of all Declarations (Form 77), must be fully completed and signed by all those required and submitted to the state director.

Note: Prior to allowing player participation in any activity, all teams must collect a fully complete 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 the above will be disqualified from participation or competition.

July 24: Deadline for each substate tournament director to declare, to the state director, its representative for state tournament participation.

July 30: Deadline for Minnesota American Legion Baseball to declare two participants for the National American Legion World Series regional tournament. Minnesota participates in Region 6: Central Plains. Other states in the region are Iowa, North Dakota, South Dakota and Nebraska. The Central Plains Tournament is Aug. 2-6 in Rapid City, S.D., and the World Series are Aug. 10-15 in Shelby, N.C.

2023 CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT DATES



Substate Tournaments:

Week of July 18, dates vary by tournament

Junior Legion Baseball:

- Division I Junior State Tournament 14th historical, hosted by Burnsville Baseball Association
July 27-30, at Alimagnet Park, Burnsville
Seven teams qualify through Substate Tournaments, one team as host
Eight teams compete in double-elimination tournament
- Division II Junior State Tournament 6th historical, hosted by Granite Falls Post 69
Aug. 4-6, Richter Field, Granite Falls
Seven teams qualify through Substate Tournaments, one team as host
Eight teams compete in single-elimination tournament with consolation bracket
- Prospect Series 3rd historical, hosted by Minnesota Legion Prospects
Aug. 5-6, Reynolds Field Complex, Northwestern University, Roseville
Players report Aug. 4 and some attend Twins game; panel breakfast Aug. 5
Four teams composed of all-star players from around the state compete in games
Players also display their skills in showcases and get exposed to college scouts

Senior Legion Baseball:

- Division I Senior State Tournament 97th historical, hosted by Rochester Post 92
July 27-30, Mayo Field, Massey Field, Adams Field, Hudson Field, Rochester
Teams report July 26, banquet that evening
Fifteen teams qualify through Substate Tournaments, one team as host
Sixteen teams compete in pool play to reach eight-team single-elimination bracket
Champion and runner-up qualify for Central Plains Tournament
(Minnesota gets to send its runner-up because it is among the top 6 in size.)
- Division II Senior State Tournament 36th historical, hosted by Roseau Post 24
July 28-30, Gilbertson Field, Roseau
Teams report July 27, banquet that evening
Seven teams qualify through Substate Tournaments, one team as host
Eight teams compete in single-elimination tournament with consolation bracket
- Tier I-A State Tournament 6th historical, hosted by Eagan Post 594
July 27-30 at Goat Hill Park, Eagan
Eight-to-ten Senior Legion teams qualify as the second teams from a base school
Teams compete in double-elimination tournament
- Central Plains Tournament Hosted by Rapid City Post 22
Aug. 2-6, Fitzgerald Stadium, Rapid City, S.D.
Seven teams from Region 6 (MN, IA, NE, SD, ND) and one host team compete in double-elimination tournament, with winner advancing to ALWS
Site is part of National American Legion 64-team baseball tournament
- American Legion World Series 97th historical, hosted by American Legion Americanism Commission
Aug. 10-15, Keeter Stadium, Shelby, N.C.
Eight teams, one from each regional, compete in 2 pools (Stars & Stripes)
Semifinal and final games typically are aired on ESPNU
Winning team attends Major League Baseball's World Series

FOREWORD

American Legion Baseball shall be played under rules set forth and adopted by the National Americanism Commission's American Legion Baseball Committee, The American Legion, National Headquarters, 700 N. Pennsylvania St., Indianapolis, IN 46206. Policies not covered in this publication, the Minnesota American Legion Baseball Rulebook, may be found in the Department of Minnesota Baseball Policy Manual. (Contact the baseball secretary for a copy.) Any variation between the information contained in this rulebook and the 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, provision or policy, as originally adopted by the State Baseball Committee. In such situations, the Minnesota American Legion 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 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 American Legion Baseball Rules, as applicable. (See 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 K&K Insurance 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 completed and full-executed original player agreement (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 (Form 1) must be always in the possession of the team manager, and available for inspection. Note: Once filed, only approved players who are listed on the team's official Form 1 roster (and who have submitted an 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. 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 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 toward 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 boys/girls (must be at least 10 years of age, properly outfitted and, in some cases, have parents and coaches sign a form) and ensuring that their time on the field of play is kept to a minimum.
- I. Player Safety, First Aid, Blood Rule.** If a player suffers a laceration or any other injury whereby blood is visible, the game shall be stopped at the earliest possible time and the player treated immediately. If the bleeding requires extensive treatment, a substitute shall replace the injured player. (Umpires are directed to give reasonable time to allow injured players to be treated; the umpire's judgment shall rule.) Players removed for a bleeding injury may return later in the game once the bleeding stops and is bandaged and any blood stain on clothing is covered up. Umpires may allow replacement jerseys.

1. Each team must have a 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 national policies), all designated individuals (e.g., adult managers, coaches, assistant coaches, and other team staff or volunteers who have regular, direct player contact, who are in a role of authority, or who travel and lodge with the team) must undergo and successfully pass annual background screening, prior to participating in any meeting, event, activity, practice 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, if 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 contacts 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 because 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 contacts, 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.
 - e. The runner illegally slides toward or contacts 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 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. Most 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 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 of if committed by an offensive or defensive player.
 - b. Beginning with postseason play (substate tournament play and forward), anyone ejected from a game is suspended for the remainder of the tournament, unless reinstated by the respective tournament director, whose decision is final.
- L. Length of Games.** All teams (Junior and Senior) 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.
- M. Courtesy Runners.** During the regular season, all teams (Junior and Senior) may use courtesy runners for the pitcher and/or catcher at any time during games.
1. Players who have participated in the game in any other capacity are ineligible to serve as courtesy runners. Should a courtesy runner pinch-hit, pinch-run or enter the game at any position, he is no longer eligible to be a courtesy runner.
 2. The same runner may not be used as a courtesy runner for both the pitcher and the catcher in the same inning.
 3. 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 players are available.)
 4. A courtesy runner may not be used for a pinch-hitter for the catcher, unless the catcher has been re- entered.
 5. A player who is placed on base as a courtesy runner may not be removed from a base to become a pinch- hitter, nor be replaced with another courtesy runner (unless injury, illness or ejection requires that he be replaced.)
 6. Violation of these courtesy runner rules shall be deemed to be an illegal substitution.
 7. For postseason play, Senior Division I teams must adhere to national rules, as outlined within the applicable post-season play section of this rulebook for Senior Division I teams. (For Division II and Junior Legion postseason play provisions, see the Division II and Junior Legion sections of this rulebook.)
 8. For league play, each respective League Director shall establish whether or not courtesy runners will be utilized.
- N. Re-Entry.** During the regular season, all teams (Junior and Senior) may utilize player re-entry.
1. Any starting player (including the designated hitter, if utilized, but excluding re-entry of the starting pitcher as pitcher) may withdraw from the game and then re-enter once, provided that such player occupies the same batting position when re-entering (and whenever in) the lineup.
 2. A substitute who is withdrawn may not re-enter, unless injury or illness occurs, and no other eligible players are available.
 3. Violation of these re-entry rules shall be deemed to be an illegal substitution.
 4. Beginning with postseason play, Senior Division I teams must adhere to national rules, as outlined within the applicable postseason play section of this rulebook for Senior Division I teams. (For Division II and Junior Legion postsea-son play provisions, see the Division II and Junior Legion sections of this rulebook.)
- O. Designated Hitter.** If desired, all teams (Junior and Senior) may utilize a designated hitter rule. (See Junior Legion section of this rulebook also.)
1. If used, Senior American Legion teams must utilize the MLB American League designated hitter rule (i.e., for the pitcher only), as published in Official Baseball Rules, throughout the entire season.

2. If desired, throughout the season (regular and all Minnesota postseason play), Senior American Legion teams may optionally utilize a 9-player lineup utilizing a designated hitter — whereby the pitcher bats for himself and occupies both the positions of pitcher and of designated hitter.
 - a. Use of this rule must be signified by listing the pitcher as “P/DH” on the official line-up card.
 - b. If, during the game, the P/DH is replaced as the Pitcher, he may remain in the game in the role of the designated hitter — and he may only bat in the DH slot.
 - c. If, during the game, the P/DH is replaced as the designated hitter, he may remain in the game as the pitcher. The new designated hitter may only bat in the DH slot.
 - d. If a pinch hitter or pinch runner is substituted for the DH, that player becomes the new P/DH — or the DH only — which must be declared at the time of the substitution.
 - e. No multiple substitutions may be made that will alter the batting order.
 - f. The player initially occupying the position of P/DH may re-enter the game once, the same as any other starter, although he may not re-enter as pitcher. (Note: Division I Senior teams may *not* utilize the re-entry rule during postseason play, however, unless permitted by national rules.)
 - g. 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, pinch-hits or pinch-runs for the designated hitter; or 2) the designated hitter (or any previous designated hitter) assumes a defensive position (except when the P/DH moves to the role of designated hitter only); or 3) if the starting pitcher moves to any defensive position, other than pitcher.
3. Beginning with the Division I Regional Tournament and beyond, Senior Division I teams must adhere to national rules, as outlined within the applicable postseason play section of this rulebook for Senior Division I teams. (For Division II and Junior Legion postseason play provisions, see the Division II and Junior Legion sections of this rulebook.)

P. 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. For the 2021 season,
 - a. As outlined below, no player (Junior or Senior) may pitch more than a total of 105 pitches per day (a 24-hour day is defined as 8 a.m. to 8 a.m.) Those who pitch will also be subject to required days of rest:

***Note 1:** If a team has multiple games scheduled on the same day, a pitcher who pitches more than 45 pitches in Game 1 may not pitch in a subsequent game that same day and is required to follow the listed rest protocol.
 - b. A pitcher, however, will be allowed to finish a batter, if he reaches or exceeds the maximum limit during an at-bat; the pitcher must exit the position after the conclusion of that batter’s at-bat.

Note 2: If a pitcher exceeds the maximum limit during an at-bat, all pitches thrown must be counted in that pitcher’s accumulation of pitches thrown. For example, if a pitcher throws 107 pitches as part of finishing a batter, all 107 pitches must be counted (not 105) in accumulating his total pitch count; similarly, if a pitcher is removed after finishing a batter to whom he has thrown 33 pitches, all 33 pitches must be counted (not 30) in accumulating his total pitch count.

Required Days of Rest depending upon pitches thrown on a given day*					
Daily max pitches/day	No days of rest	1 day of rest	2 days of rest	3 days of rest	4 days of rest
105	0-30	31-45	46-60	61-80	81+

** If a team has multiple games on the same day, a pitcher who pitches more than 45 pitches in Game 1 may not pitch in a subsequent game that same day and is required to follow the rest protocol. If he throws 45 pitches in Game 1, he may return to pitch in Game 2, subject to the limit of 105 pitches for the day.*

- c. No player may enter a game as a pitcher, unless he has fulfilled the required days of rest, as outlined above.
- d. All pitches must be counted in the accumulations outlined above, (per Official Baseball Rules, batters may be intentionally walked, without pitches needing to be thrown.)
- e. A throw from pitcher to catcher that is declared a “no-pitch” by the umpire (e.g., when an umpire grants time) is not a “pitch”.
- f. No player may make more than two (2) appearances as a pitcher during any consecutive three-day period.
 - i. One pitch (or more) to a batter constitutes an appearance.
 - ii. After one visit to the mound if a pitcher is moved to a defensive position during a game — and is later returned to the mound as pitcher during the same game — a second appearance is charged.
 - iii. When a game is suspended on one day and completed on another following day, pitches (and appearances) will be counted on the day in which the pitches are thrown.

- g. Violation of the above rules shall cause the pitcher to become an illegal pitcher; the penalty for such is ejection of the pitcher and manager/head coach if a protest is filed with the umpire-in-chief before the last out of the game. The manager/head coach will also serve an immediate, additional one-game suspension.
 - 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 applied 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.
 - 4. For the 2020 season and beyond, American Legion Baseball teams are exempt from adhering to the Major League Baseball rule (implemented in 2020 and designed to speed the pace of play), which requires pitchers to pitch to a minimum of three batters (or pitch to the end of the half-inning) before a pitching change can be made.
- Q. Fake Tag Rule.** A fake tag is an act by a defensive player without the ball that simulates a tag. A fake tag is considered obstruction and is not allowed in the interest of sportsmanship and player safety.
- R. 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, to avoid being subject to Provision R-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 subject to this provision. Provision R-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. American Legion Baseball strives to be community-based, not recruitment-based.

For other important information (such as pertaining to Uniform and Equipment Rules; Conduct; Team, & Player Registration requirements; League, Substate and State competitions; Division II and Junior Legion program provisions), see the other applicable sections of this rulebook.

RULE 2 STAFF & PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

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 ongoing valid proof of training to the state director (or to his designated representative) 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 (summarized in Appendix C), as well as all applicable related Department of Minnesota and American Legion National Headquarters policies, all designated individuals (prior to participating in any meeting, event, activity, practice, tryout and/or game that involves youth participants) must ...
 - a. Undergo and successfully pass an annual background screening through the designated provider.
 - b. Complete abuse awareness training (and provide proof thereof) through a designated provider, per Public Law 115-126: Protecting Youth Victims from Sexual Abuse and Safe Sports Authorization Act of 2017. Such training is required every year and must be renewed thereafter in order to maintain compliance and eligibility to participate in American Legion Baseball.

B. Player age.

1. American Legion Baseball competition in 2023 is open only to players born on or after Jan. 1, 2004. Those born in 2003 or earlier are not eligible.
2. The 2023 Junior American Legion Baseball program is open only to players born on or after Jan. 1, 2006. Those born in 2005 or earlier are not eligible to participate in Junior American Legion Baseball. It is a 17-and-under program.
3. For the 2023 season, players born in 2012 and after (those age 12 and under) are not eligible to participate. Players must be 13 years of age as of Jan. 1, 2023, to be eligible.

C. Player School Enrollment Status.

2. 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.
3. 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. Returning graduated, age-eligible players are restricted to playing for the team upon which they were rostered during the prior season, unless a subsequent event allows for a permissible change (e.g., new team formation).
 - 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 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 (10th, 11th, 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. If 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 or 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 American Legion 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 or attending college, technical or trade school, the player's domicile shall continue to be determined as outlined above

(i.e., based upon parent or 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 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: 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. 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-issued passport.
 2. Records of birth that are originals or certified documents from the State Bureau of Vital Statistics, Department of Health, County Recorder or other government agency authorized to issue/certify birth documents; these documents typically have a raised seal or certifying authentication 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 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 (such as a NEXUS card) 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.
 3. A U.S. government-issued military ID card or dependent ID card.

RULE 3 PLAYER SELECTION: PLAN A

The Plan A player selection method (zone-based) 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 to prevent issues of player ineligibility or team disqualification. These rules uniformly apply to all Minnesota American Legion Baseball teams, unless an exception is otherwise noted herein (based upon the team's classification) or unless a special exemption has been granted 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 most students (51%) at the school during the school year.
6. **Attendance Area (boundaries):** 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 high school.
 - a. When a player's domicile is 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 (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), boundaries for attendance areas 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 of its own), which is within the boundaries of a public high school, will assume the attendance area 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:** 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 school's total enrollment. (For example, an all-male school with 1,000 enrollees must be declared or 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.
- c. The accumulation of total enrollments for 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 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 for certain exceptions related to previously rostered players.)
 - b. For Division II teams, 400, except as specifically noted in Division II 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 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 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 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 and 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 high or secondary 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, 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. Attends that team's own designated base school.
 - b. Attends another team's designated base school, provided that such player, as applicable:
 - i. Has the properly executed written Transfer Form 76.
 - ii. Qualifies under the Option Rule and has properly executed Declaration Form 77.
 - c. Attends a non-base school, provided that, as applicable:
 - i. The player's domicile is within the attendance area of the selecting team's base school.
 - ii. The player's domicile is closer in distance (via roads per Google Maps) 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).
 - iii. The player has the properly executed written Transfer Form 76.
 - iv. The player qualifies under the Option Rule; and has properly executed Form 77.
 - d. Does not attend a base or non-base school at all (including those who are home-schooled, who have graduated from high school 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 immediately prior, in the case of a player who has graduated from high school.

- ii. The player's domicile is 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.
 - iii. The player's domicile is closer in distance (via roads per Google Maps) to the selecting team's base school than to any other team's base school (if the player's domicile is not actually within any base school's attendance area).
 - iv. The player has the properly executed written Transfer Form Form 76.
 - 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 Google Maps, utilizing its option for shortest driving distance.
- a. A school shall have only one location, as determined by its official, legal physical address.
 - b. While determining closest base school, 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. If different internet browsers might deliver different results, Google Chrome 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.
 - 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 attends shall not be counted at all.

The inclusion of such players on a team's Form 1 player roster is subject to prior approval by the respective district director and state director. A 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 Form 1 player roster.

- 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 of whether the school of attendance is a base school); or 2) who attend private high schools that are within another base school's attendance area (regardless of whether the school of attendance is a base school and if the player's domicile is 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 within a base school's attendance area, the base school team that is closest to the player's domicile.
 - 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 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 can 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 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 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 (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.

Examples

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. (By definition, a base school is within its own attendance area.)

Situation 1:

- A player attends (or would normally attend) any high school that is in a base school's attendance area.
- The player's domicile also is 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 in a base school's attendance area. (Note: See Situation 6 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 in a base school's attendance area.
- The player's domicile is 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 nearest to his domicile, as determined via roads per Google Maps.
- 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 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 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 via roads per Google Maps.

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 in a base school's attendance area, for the base school team that is nearest to his domicile, as determined via roads per Google Maps.)
- 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 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 or 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 Form 1 roster.
2. A released player may register or 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 or 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 or 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 a transfer will include, in its combined total enrollment, the:
 - a. Total enrollment of the player's school of attendance, *and*
 - b. The total enrollment of each high school serving as a base school for the team 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 Dec. 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 Form 1 roster, Transfer Form 76 must be submitted to the state director for final approval, through the respective district director — and be included with the team's 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 or tryout for a new team, in accordance with all other eligibility and player selection 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.
2. The newly rostering team's 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 or additional schools are represented on the team roster.
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 Form 1 roster.

For similar provisions pertaining to Division II players and teams, see the Division II rules within this rulebook.

H. Change of Address or School. Players who, from one year of competition to the next, realize a change in their school of attendance — 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 or tryout, and play for the team based upon their new school of attendance or the new permanent domicile, or both, provided that all other eligibility provisions are met.

In only the case of a domicile (address) change, a Senior Legion player who has one year of eligibility remaining, however, shall have the option to register or 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 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 or Change in Attendance Area. If 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 or high schools — 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 or 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 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 American Legion Baseball Rules. District rules, except for state player eligibility and player selection and rostering rules, may be more restrictive than state rules.

1. District. Each district director (or designated representative) shall be responsible for the interpretation of district rules and has full authority for receiving and answering all questions, disputes or protests occurring within, and pertaining to, district-level competition (substate tournaments), 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 all applicable rules.
2. State. The state director (or designated representative) shall be responsible for the interpretation of state rules and has full authority for receiving and answering all questions, disputes or protests occurring within, and pertaining to, state rules and state tournament competition, with no provision for appeal. When conditions permit or are deemed necessary by him, the state director (or 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 American Legion Baseball Committee's National Appeals Board shall be responsible for the interpretation of American Legion Baseball Rules. All requests for such must be in writing (emails and letters constitute written communication) 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 Appeals Board shall follow appeal procedures, as published by the national organization. No appeal shall be considered by the 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. Written protests may be sent via postal mail or email or delivered in person on paper.
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 will not be accepted or considered.
3. A protest must be filed within twelve (12) hours of the ending of a game in which the issue arose. Such protest shall be accompanied by a check for \$100, made payable to Minnesota American Legion Foundation, Fund 52 Baseball.

- a. In the case of a protest involving district-level competition (filed before or during substate tournaments), make the check to the respective substate baseball fund.
- b. In the case of a protest involving state tournament competition (filed after the final substate tournament), make the check to "Minnesota American Legion Foundation," memo: "Fund 52 Baseball."
4. Protest responses will be issued as soon as reasonably possible. If the protest is not allowed, money paid per above shall be forfeited. If the protest is allowed, money paid per above shall be returned.
5. Protests pertaining to the eligibility of a team or player entered in state competition must be filed prior to the first game of the substate 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, substate and state tournaments, if a protest is allowed and a winner disqualified, the runner-up team shall be declared the winner. All other teams will move up in the final order. Teams could become eligible for continued play through this process.

RULE 6 CONDUCT

- A. Scope; Conduct Requirements.** Sportsmanship and honor are core values of the American Legion Baseball program, and thus taken very seriously. Therefore, all persons associated or traveling with American Legion Baseball teams are expected to always conduct themselves in a respectful and ethical manner, 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 or otherwise brings discredit or disrespect to or upon the program, such person will be subject to disciplinary action, up to an including ejection from a contest, suspension, returned home (as applicable) from a competition at his own expense by the first available method of transportation or removal from further participation in the program. Director decisions shall be final.
- B. Youth Protection Policy.** 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 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.
- C. Respect for the Flag.** A primary tenant of American Legion Baseball is instilling Americanism and its values within our country's youth. Therefore, and in compliance with American Legion Resolution 16 (2016), Minnesota American Legion Baseball expects all participants (players, coaches, and other team staff members) to always demonstrate proper respect the U.S. flag. This includes standing at attention, facing the flag (with hat over heart) during performances of the national anthem. Those who choose (for political, or any other reason) to not display the program's expected level of respect for the flag shall not be permitted to be a participant in American Legion Baseball.
- D. Sportsmanship Issues.** No player, coach, manager or other person associated with an American Legion Baseball team shall ...
 1. Use any profane language during competition.
 2. Throw bats 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 or permanent removal from the program.

- E. Ejection & Reinstatement.** Any player, coach, manager or other person ejected by an umpire must leave the ballpark. Anyone ejected from a game during substate or state tournament competition is suspended for that game and the next scheduled game of the season or tournament. Additional punishment and suspension can be added at the state director's discretion.

RULE 7 PLAYER & TEAM REGISTRATION

- A. Requirements.** All American Legion Baseball teams must register national and state levels by visiting baseball.legion.org. 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 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. 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 passed 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 national 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 all national fees (for 2023, \$100 for Senior Legion and \$75 for Junior Legion) and State fees (for 2023, \$175 for Senior Legion and \$150 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.
Note: The electronic payment receipt for insurance must also be forwarded to the state director (or to his designated representative), as proof of purchase.
 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 fully completed Transfer Form 76 and Declaration Form 77, as applicable and required for individual players, with all required signatures. Required annually, as requested, 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.
 6. 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 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 fully completed a Form 2 (signed by at least one parent or legal guardian) is deemed to be ineligible, and a team's use of any such player will result in game forfeitures or other team penalties.*
 - b. Each district director shall establish the deadline date for teams to submit (or produce) hardcopy originals of Form 2 for inspection and approval; such deadline will be prior to the start of each team's first playoff game (including any play-in game).
 7. Ensuring that all managers, coaches and other staff members (who have regular, direct contact with players) have completed a background screens, abuse trainings and concussion protocol trainings, prior to participating in any meeting, event, activity, practice or game that involves youth participants.
Failure to fully comply with these registration requirements by the designated deadline dates will result in team disqualification.

- B. Insurance.** Certificates of insurance must carry an issue date or effective date prior to the first day of team tryouts, practice and 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 (Form 1) shall not contain more than eighteen (18) players, all of whom must have submitted an accurate, fully completed and properly executed 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.
 - a. American Legion Baseball insurance provides coverage for all players who tryout or practice with the team, provided the insurance purchase date for seasonal coverage precedes the date of such activities. Once games begin, only those players listed on the team's official Form 1 roster shall be covered.
 - b. For those teams that have affiliated Senior and Junior teams (i.e., both teams are based at the same base school), Junior players may be dual-rostered on the Senior team's official Form 1 roster, in addition to being listed on the Junior team's roster (neither roster to exceed 18 total players) — and such Junior players may participate in the games of both teams. *Senior players may not be dual rostered on the affiliated Junior team's roster.*
 2. Once filed, and after the final Form 1 roster filing date has passed, players may not be added to a Form 1 roster. Players may, however, be replaced prior to the end of the regular season (i.e., before the start of a Junior or Senior team's first postseason game) in only the following circumstances, with state director approval:
 - 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.
 - c. In the case of a season-ending injury, if certification of the injury and the player's inability to continue to participate is fully supported by medical documentation from the injured player's treating medical physician, which must be submitted to the state director.
- D. Team Sponsorship & Identification.** The sponsor of an American Legion baseball team must be identified on the team's Player Roster of Eligibility (Form 1), as well as a team manager, who serves as the responsible business authority for the team.
1. For post-sponsored teams, a bona fide member of the post must be always officially responsible for the team as business manager or athletic officer. A non-Legionnaire may act as team manager or coach.
 2. American Legion posts 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. 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.

RULE 8 PLAYER & TEAM CERTIFICATION

- A. Enrollment Form Completion & Submittal.** All teams desiring participation in state and national competition must complete Form 1 (Player Roster of Eligibility), as well as all other specified forms and requirements that are deemed necessary, including the completion of Form 2 (Player Agreement, found at baseball.legion.org) 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 Committee official.
1. **Player Roster of Eligibility (Form 1.)** All American Legion Baseball teams must enroll players on the Player Roster of Eligibility (Form 1), which is submitted electronically through baseball.legion.org; 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 always in the possession of the team.
 2. **Player Agreement (Form 2.)** All players, their parents (or court-approved legal guardians) must enroll by completing a Player Agreement (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.

RULE 9 UNIFORMS & EQUIPMENT

- A. Uniforms.** Teams need not be uniformed until reaching substate, state or national competition. (District directors, however, may establish their own rules on uniforms for regular season competition.)

1. Substate playoff tournaments constitute the beginning of state competition, at which time certain rules pertaining to uniforms and equipment apply, as outlined in Rule 10.
2. All players, coaches and managers must be in a like uniform of the team to go on to the field.
 - a. 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 American Legion Baseball Insignia (official patch or authorized silkscreen) is displayed on the left sleeve or left chest. Those not in compliance shall be restricted to the dugout.
3. The front or back of the uniform shirt may only 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. This 2023 season, the American Legion Baseball insignia (cross-bats behind emblem) or new brand mark (home-plate shape with stars and stripes under the word "baseball") 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 substate, state and national tournaments. Players wearing uniforms without one or the other insignia (or with improper placement of such), will not be permitted to play.
 - b. The official patches are available through National Emblem Sales, The American Legion, P.O. Box 36460, Indianapolis, IN 46236, 1-888-453-4466, emblem.legion.org.
 - c. A zip-file download of the new baseball brand mark is available at mnlegion.org. (Minnesota officials have heard from national officials that, in 2024, only the new version will be in use.)
6. Wearing of the uniform must present a positive and professional appearance and image. Uniform shirts must be tucked in and buttoned, as applicable, always.
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.



- B. Helmets.** All players and bat boys/girls 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 boys/girls 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 or 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. Approved balls include Diamond D1-Pro, Diamond D1-AL (emblem.legion.org), Wilson A1010, Rawlings R100, Baden 3B and AD Starr AD800. Baseballs that display the American Legion Baseball authenticating logo are recommended for use during the regular season — and are required to be used during postseason competition.

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. Sledgehammers, weighted pipes, and other "homemade" heavy objects or items are not permitted. Devices deemed unsafe by the umpires or tournament officials cannot be used.

H. First-Aid Kit. Each team must have a first-aid kit in the dugout at each game.

I. Equipment Inspection. Fifteen (15) minutes prior to the start of each game, umpires shall 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

LEAGUE & SUBSTATE COMPETITION

- A. Who May Compete?** Competition will be among approved teams that have properly registered (per Rule 7) for the respective year of competition.
- B. District Organization.** The American Legion 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 and player registration and filing date deadlines, with such dates being early enough to accommodate meeting all subsequent state and national filing deadlines.
- C. District Rules.** Each district director may file a complete set of district league rules with the state director, and if doing so, must file no later than June 1 of each respective year of competition.
1. District rules may be more restrictive than state or national rules.
 2. State and national rules take precedent over existing district rules in the postseason, beginning with substate tournaments. Of note are such rules related to uniforms and equipment, length of games, team and 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 all questions 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 others will not be accepted or considered.
1. Protests pertaining to the eligibility of a team or player entered in postseason competition must be filed prior to the first game of the substate tournament — 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.** Senior and Junior substate directors, as appointed by the State Baseball Committee, have full authority over the respective tournament (league, district or substate) to determine the tournament champion.
1. Only those players listed on the team's official Form 1 roster and who submitted a fully completed and properly executed Player Agreement (Form 2), shall be eligible for postseason play.
 - a. Any Senior team (Division I and Division II), however, which has less than twelve (12) rostered players available prior to the start of postseason play, may add the applicable number of players to its roster from its affiliated Junior Legion team (i.e., the Junior team based at the same base school as the Senior team), to bring its available number of players up to twelve (12) maximums. As such, players declared as not being available to participate, and who are being replaced on the team's roster by players from an affiliated Junior team, shall thus immediately be deemed ineligible from further participation in that respective season.
 - b. Prior to a player being eligible to play, team managers must make player Form 2 and proof of age available for inspection, for all players who will be participating (and any other requested document, as applicable), to the tournament director.
 - c. On the designated substate tournament reporting date, all players must be present and available for participation. Any player absent without permission from the substate tournament shall not be allowed to play or otherwise participate. Subsequently, any player absent from the tournament, or is otherwise unavailable to participate, without permission from the substate and state director shall also lose eligibility for ongoing postseason play and participation. Requests for excused absence must be made to the substate director, in writing and in advance of the first day of the tournament, providing full details as to why there is need for absence. (Examples of excused absences include events such as funerals, college orientation attendance, work requirements and military service. Examples of unexcused absences include travel-team participation, showcase attendance [apart from USA Baseball].) Emergency absences, for which advance approval was not possible or sought, will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.
 - d. 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. Teams eligible to compete in their respective postseason tournaments are expected to fully participate and have an adequate number of players. If a team intends to not participate, or has concerns regarding the availability of players, communication must be provided to the applicable tournament director as early as possible.

3. If two or more active Division I Senior teams are based at the same base school during a season of play, the “second-tier” (known as “Tier I-A”) team may opt out of participation in the Division I Senior postseason, and thus, out of eligibility for participation in the Division I Senior State Tournament that season. Such a second tier (I-A) team may, instead, elect to participate in the Tier I-A State Tournament. Notice of such an opt-out election must be provided to the respect district director and state director by no later than June 1, to ensure proper alignment of playoff tournaments.
 4. A state tournament host team must participate in its assigned playoff tournament. Refusal or inability to do so will result in an alternate team being named to occupy the “host berth” during the state tournament.
 5. The substate tournament champion, as applicable, shall be declared to the state director by each tournament no later than three (3) days prior to the reporting date established for the respective state tournament.
 - a. The tournament or district director must also provide the state director with pitch count information for any pitchers who are subject to restricted usage at the start of their respective state tournament.
 6. If for any reasons, a championship team is unable to represent the substate, as applicable, in state tournament competition, the tournament or district director will report such circumstances, as well as a replacement team, by that same date to the state director.
 7. 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 & Field.** Only registered team players, team business manager, team manager, team coaches, one team scorekeeper, up to two team bat boys/girls, members of the State Baseball Committee or the respective district or tournament director are allowed on the bench during sub-district, district or substate tournament competition.
1. Team managers shall be responsible for supervising bat boys/girls and ensuring that their times on the field of play is kept to a minimum. Bat boys/girls must be 10 or older, and they participate at the discretion of the tournament directors. Some tournament directors require signed consent forms. Contacting them well in advance is suggested.
 2. Only registered players or adult coaches, in a uniform of the team, will be permitted in the coaching boxes on the field.

RULE 11 DIVISION I SENIOR POSTSEASON

- A. Who May Compete, Team & Player Eligibility?** Competition will be among approved Senior Legion teams that have properly registered (per Rule 7) for the respective year of competition. For purposes of this section, “postseason” refers to substate and state tournaments.
1. Only those players listed on the team’s official Form 1 roster and who submitted a fully completed and properly executed 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.
 - a. However, Senior teams which have less than twelve (12) rostered players available prior to the start of the postseason, may add the applicable number of players to its roster from its affiliated Junior Legion team (i.e., the Junior team based at the same base school as the Senior team), to bring its available number of players up to twelve (12).
 - b. As such, players declared as not being available to participate, and who are being replaced on the team’s roster by players from an affiliated Junior team, shall thus immediately be deemed ineligible from further participation in season.
 2. On any 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. (Examples of excused absences include events such as funerals, college orientation attendance, work requirements. Examples of unexcused absences include such events as showcase attendance [apart from USA Baseball] and travel-team participation.) Emergency absences, for which advance approval was not possible or 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 substate

tournament shall not be eligible to participate in the state tournament, unless the absence was approved or 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 or is absent or otherwise unavailable to participate, without advance permission from the state director, shall lose eligibility for ongoing postseason 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.** State tournaments will be under the direction of the state director, or the designated 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 and factors, as well as the determination of the tournament champion, runner-up, and third-place team, in the event of unplayable conditions.
- C. Tournament Format & Hosts.** Unless designated otherwise by the state director and State Baseball Committee, sixteen (16) teams shall compete in a pool-play format at the Minnesota American Legion Baseball Division I State Tournament, with the winningest eight teams advancing to a single-elimination tournament. The field of teams shall include the champions of fifteen (15) substate tournaments. The organization of such substate tournaments, as well as assigning teams to substate regions, shall be determined by the State Baseball Committee, or by a designated subcommittee. The remaining berth in the state tournament shall be filled by the host team.
1. The host team is the Div. I Senior Legion Baseball team associated with the contracted host post or association.
 2. No host team shall be denied the opportunity of participating or winning in postseason tournaments. Nor shall any team hosting a tournament refuse to participate in any such tournament. Host teams will not be permitted to rest their team to avoid creating an unfair advantage at either a department or national regional tournament.
 3. If the host team wins a substate tournament, earning a berth at state, the runner-up from the same substate tournament will be assigned to the host team's "championship berth." The host team is assigned to the "host berth."
- D. Umpires & Scorekeepers.** At least two umpires shall be used for each game. The tournament director shall have final authority for the selection of umpires and official scorekeepers.
- E. Protests.** In accordance with the rules and procedures for protests, state director, or the designated tournament director, has full authority to settle all questions or issues of dispute at the respective state or substate tournament. Only protests filed by team management will be accepted; those received from any others will not be accepted or considered.
1. Protests pertaining to the eligibility of a team or player entered in postseason competition must be filed prior to the first game of the substate tournament — 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.
- F. Housing & Meals.** Only players properly registered on the Form 1 roster, 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 per mile, one way, once per day, in lieu of housing. To determine "miles" for purposes of this rule, Google Maps shall be used to calculate the shortest driving distance between the participating team's base school and the street address of Div. I 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 and players that display gross recklessness with respect to accommodations 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 and Legion Baseball altogether.
 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 \$10 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 \$10 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 or 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 pool-play 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.

- G. On the Bench & Field.** Only registered team players, team business manager, team manager, team coaches, one team scorekeeper, up to two team bat boys/girls, members of the State Baseball Committee and the respective district director are allowed on the bench during the postseason.
1. Team managers shall be responsible for supervising bat boys/girls and ensuring that their times on the field of play is kept to a minimum. Bat boys/girls must be 10 or older, and they participate at the discretion of the tournament directors. Some tournament directors require signed consent forms. Contacting them well in advance is suggested.
 2. Only registered players or adult coaches, in a uniform of the team, will be permitted in the coaching boxes on the field.
- H. Game Limits.** Playing days will begin at 8 a.m. local time. No state tournament games will begin after 11 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 toward this maximum; each team may play an additional two (2) games on the day the suspended game is completed.
- I. Length of Games.** Division I State Tournament games shall be seven innings, except in the following cases:
1. Extra innings become necessary due to the score.
 2. 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.
 3. In the event of inclement weather or other conditions beyond control, the state director may call a game of less than seven (7) 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.
- J. State Competition Rules, Confirmed.** Substate tournaments constitute the beginning of state competition. Of note:
1. National American Legion Baseball Rules shall apply, including:
 - a. Courtesy runners may not be used.
 - b. Re-entry is not allowed.
 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 substate and state tournaments, to maintain ongoing eligibility to participate, unless excused by the tournament (and state) director. The state director shall have full and final authority.
- K. Code of Sportsmanship & National Anthem.** The American Legion Baseball Code of Sportsmanship shall be read before every game of the substate and state tournaments. The U.S. national anthem "The Star-Spangled Banner" shall be played or performed *at least* before the first game of each day and prior to a state or substate tournament championship game.
- L. Conduct, General.** All players and persons traveling or participating in an official capacity with an American Legion Baseball team are expected to always conduct themselves in an exemplary manner. Any person determined to be causing unnecessary disturbances or not abiding by rules, as determined by the state director or a designated representative, will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including suspension for the remainder of the tournament, returning home by the first available method of transportation, and possible suspension or expulsion from American Legion Baseball.
1. All postseason player participants shall continuously be in their respective housing units from 11:59 p.m. each night

until 6 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 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 common area.
 5. Any player, coach or manager or other person ejected by an umpire must leave the ballpark. Anyone ejected from a game is suspended for the remainder of the tournament, unless re-instated by the state director, whose decision is final.
- M. State Tournament Awards.** Annually, committees created by the state director shall name recipients of the following:
1. Fred Wannamaker Outstanding Player Award.
 2. Father Moran Sportsmanship Award
- N. State Tournament Banquet.** Players, coaches and managers of participating teams (up to 18 players and 2 adult coaches) will be guests of the state tournament hosts at the opening banquet, held the evening prior to the first day of tournament play. Attire for players, coaches, managers and others in attendance shall be appropriate to the occasion.
- O. Tournament Host Bids & Contracts.** 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. Signed contracts to host the state tournament shall be filed with the secretary and state director.

RULE 12 MINNESOTA TROPHIES & AWARDS

For recipients not listed in this section, see the listings that appear earlier or later in the 2023 Minnesota American Legion Rulebook, as well as in the Division II and Junior Legion Rule sections. In addition, visit the Minnesota American Legion Baseball website (mnlegion.org, then under "Programs" click on "Baseball") for other historic information and results, as available.

- A. Ken Skoug Championship Trophy.** Awarded annually to the Division I Champion; named in honor of a past Department of Minnesota Baseball Director Kenneth Skoug of Duluth, who was lost in a plane crash over Lake Michigan, while on his way to the 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 406 member, who was an organizer and longtime coach and 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 Post 550 Gold team and serving as a vice director on the State Baseball Committee for many years. He had also been active in other Legion activities, including chairing several department conventions.
- D. Father Moran Sportsmanship Trophy.** Named in honor of the 3rd District's first director of baseball, this award honors Father David Moran of Farmington Post 189 and the Church of St. Michael; awarded annually, as selected by committee, to the team displaying exemplary attitude and behavior, both on and off the field, during the Minnesota American Legion Baseball 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. Minnesota American Legion Baseball Hall of Fame inductees.** Induction 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 person annually.
- G. Coach of the Year Award.** This award is presented to a coach who has made extraordinary contributions to the American Legion Baseball Program over a number of years. This honor is not necessarily awarded every year.
- H. Post of the Year Award.** This award is presented to a Minnesota American Legion post that has made extraordinary contributions to Minnesota American Legion Baseball over a number of years. This honor is not necessarily awarded every year and efforts are made to avoid repetition.

- I. **Graduate of the Year.** This award is bestowed to a graduate of Minnesota American Legion Baseball, not necessarily annually. "Graduate" means former Legion Baseball player.
- J. **Shelly Hanson Championship Trophy.** Awarded annually to the Division II State Tournament Champion and named in honor for the longtime service rendered by G. Sheldon (Shelly) Hanson, of Austin, as secretary of Minnesota American Legion Baseball from 1966 to 1987.
- K. **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. Marshall served as state baseball director from 1967 to 1981.
- L. **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 Senior State Tournament. This trophy is presented in honor of longtime service to American Legion Baseball by Purple Heart-recipient Tony Sipe of Ada Post 26.
- M. **Rocky Wedin Sportsmanship Award.** Awarded annually to the Div. II Senior 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 of Wells Post 210, for his many years of devoted service to American Legion Baseball.
- I. **Ron Nenovich Sportsmanship Trophy.** Named in honor of Bloomington Post 550's longtime athletics officer, this trophy honors a Marine veteran who grew up in Chisholm. It is awarded annually, as selected by committee, to the team displaying exemplary attitude and behavior, both on and off the field, during the Division I Junior State Tournament.
- J. **Jim Peck 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 I Junior State State Tournament. The trophy honors Jim Peck, longtime team manager for Excelsior Post 259 and longtime State Baseball Committee member.

RULE 13 CENTRAL PLAINS TOURNAMENT

As directed by National Headquarters, the champion and runner-up of the Minnesota American Legion Baseball Division I State Tournament shall compete in Region 6, the Central Plains Tournament. Region 6 brings eight teams together for a double-elimination tournament at Fitzgerald Stadium at Black Hills Surgical Hospital Ballpark in Rapid City, S.D.

The tournament invites two teams from Minnesota, two from Nebraska, one from Iowa, one from North Dakota, one from South Dakota and the host, which this year is Rapid City Post 22. Scores for all regionals in the American Legion Baseball national 64-team tournament are available by downloading the "American Legion World Series" app on any mobile phone. The champions of each of the eight regionals advance to the American Legion World Series in Shelby, N.C.

- A. **Certification.** By the designated national deadline, each year, the state baseball director shall report and certify the Minnesota champion and runner-up teams to the National Americanism Commission's American Legion Baseball Committee, 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's American Legion Baseball Committee. Any and 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 American Legion Baseball Committee, whose decision shall be final.
- C. **Eligibility Protests.** Eligibility protests of players involved in regional tournaments or the American Legion World Series must bear written proof of ineligibility and must be filed with the national tournament director at each such tournament, no later than 9 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.

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 substate tournaments, to a state championship tournament, held at varying sites throughout Minnesota.

- A. **Who May Compete?** The Division II program is a voluntary program. Senior teams that qualify and wish to participate in the Division I 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 section, all national, as well as all Minnesota American Legion Base-

ball 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 or 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, 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 or combined for Minnesota State High School baseball competition may join 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 director, then the 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 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 Form 1 roster, the player's actual school of attendance must be listed.
 3. Teams that played in Division II Baseball in the year immediately prior, but whose current year combined total enrollment exceeds the 400 maximums, 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 or 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 or city, as well as be sponsored by an American Legion post or outside sponsor other than that used by the Division I team.
 - 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 or 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 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 season.
 - 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 must fully demonstrate the lack of interest, or need for players, by meeting the conditions for release and transfer of players and issuing Transfer Form 76.
 - b. Upon approval, the total enrollment of the bypassed team 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 Minnesota American Legion Baseball Division I State tournament also apply to the Minnesota American Legion Division II State Tournament.
1. The Minnesota American Legion Baseball Division II State Tournament will be an eight-team, single-elimination event, unless designated otherwise by the state director and Baseball Committee.
 - a. Due to the absence of an official Division II national tournament, the Division II State Tournament is a continuation of the regular season (with teams opting out of Division I competition).
 - b. 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 and team eligibility, the postponement and rescheduling of games due to weather or other conditions and 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 scorekeepers.
 2. As available and approved by the State Baseball Committee, regional play may 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 Rule 7) for the respective year of competition.
- B. Rule Adherence.** Unless specifically noted otherwise within this rulebook, all national, as well as all Minnesota 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 or team ineligibility.
- C. Player Age.** The 2023 Junior American Legion Baseball program is open only to players born on or after Jan. 1, 2006. Those born in 2005 or earlier are not eligible to participate in Junior American Legion Baseball; it is a 17-and-under program. Also, for the 2023 season, players born in 2011 and before (those age 12 and under) are not eligible to participate. Players must be 13 years of age as of Jan. 1, 2023, to be eligible.
- D. Jurisdiction & Authority.** The state director (or a designated representative) shall be responsible for the interpretation of Junior Legion rules and has full authority for receiving and answering all questions, disputes or protests occurring within, and pertaining to, Junior Legion competition, with no provision for appeal. The respective substate and state tournament directors at Division I and II levels shall have full and final authority to direct Junior Legion tournaments, including, as well as to disqualify or suspend any person or team deemed to be in violation of 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. Junior Legion teams may ...
 - a. If desired, designate a player in the starting lineup (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 scorekeeper. 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, pinch-hits, or pinch-runs for the designated hitter; or 2. the designated hitter, or any previous designated hitter, assumes a defensive position.
- F. State Tournament.** The Division I and II Junior Legion state tournaments will be eight-team, double-elimination events, unless designated otherwise by the Minnesota American Legion Baseball Committee. Unless noted otherwise herein, rules applicable to Senior Legion Baseball tournaments are applicable to Junior Legion Baseball tournaments.
 - 1. Due to the absence of an approved Junior Legion national tournament (sponsored by the National American Legion and under its jurisdiction), the Junior Legion state tournaments are a continuation of the regular season in terms of rules. The following regular season rules may, therefore, continue for the duration of the entire season:
 - a. The use of courtesy runners.
 - b. Player re-entry provisions.
 - 2. The tournaments shall be under the jurisdiction of the state director, or a 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 and 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.
 - a. Junior Legion teams that do not have combined total enrollment (as defined in Rule 4) that exceeds 400 may participate in the Minnesota American Legion Baseball Division II Junior State Tournament.
 - 3. Housing and meal provisions unique to the Junior state tournaments shall be established annually by the State Baseball Committee.

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 district, state and national 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 players 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 — as well as the American Legion's principles of Americanism and respect for flag and country.
- 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 toward 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.

A good coach possesses five key traits: *integrity, competence, respect, responsibility and concern.*

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

APPENDIX B

MINNESOTA YOUTH ATHLETICS

CONCUSSION LAW

Effective Sept. 1, 2011, coaches are directed to review the full policy, as available on the Minnesota American Legion Baseball website, minnesotal legionbaseball.com. Highlights of the requirements are shown below:

- A. 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 the training also.) Training certification is valid for three (3) years, after which, coaches must undergo training again and submit a new certificate of completion.
 - 1. Umpires and their associations must also secure training on their own; coaches should use umpires who have received the required training.
 - 2. A valid copy of each coach's training certificate must be on-file with the team's district and state director (or his designated representative.) Coaches who do not have a valid certificate of training on file, will not be considered eligible to coach Legion Baseball in Minnesota.
 - 3. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) offers a free online training video, which meets the requirements: cdc.gov/headsup/youthsports/training/index.html
 - 4. Those who have completed concussion training through the Minnesota State High School League are considered to have met the requirement, provided that they submit a copy of the certificate of completion for that training program.
- B. The law does not require that teams have a medical professional or athletic trainer on site. However, during games, practices, tryouts, etc., coaches and 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 due to the force of a hit sustained by a player.
- C. 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.)
- D. Informational handouts on concussions (produced by the CDC) are available to parents, athletes and team coaches via a link on the Minnesota American Legion Baseball and CDC websites. (Team managers are also encouraged to personally provide such.) It is highly recommended that coaches have these resources available for reference (hardcopy or electronic) at the ballfield — and so that pertinent information can be provided to parents of any player who is suspected to have suffered a concussion.

APPENDIX C

MINNESOTA AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL

YOUTH PROTECTION POLICY

Effective Dec. 1, 2012, directors, managers, coaches and other participants are directed to review the full policy, as available on the Minnesota American Legion Baseball website, minnesotal legionbaseball.com. Critical excerpts 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, Minnesota American Legion Baseball 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 suspicions or allegations in written form (email or postal mail) to one or both of the youth protection policy managers, who are State Director Randy Schaub and Vice Director Brandon Raymo.

Find their contact information on the next page. In addition to writing, it is suggested to call them to draw their attention to the written message, as they may be at games or Legion functions. This way, they can act fast.

If there is *any* reasonable suspicion that illegal child abuse has occurred, the observing or knowledgeable person is expected to immediately report such to law enforcement authorities, and, in most cases, to the youth participant's parents or guardians.

Youth Protection Policy Managers: The people designated by Minnesota American Legion Baseball to administer this policy.

Randy Schaub, state director
Minnesota American Legion Baseball
203 First St., P.O. Box 124
Danube, MN 56230
320-522-1894 (c), 320-826-2621 (h)
randypschaub23@gmail.com

Brandon Raymo, vice director
Minnesota American Legion Baseball
130 Buckeye Drive
Montevideo, MN 56265
320-226-0828 (c)
braymo22@gmail.com

A. 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 or 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 or games that involve youth participants. The cost of individual background screening for designated individuals, will be borne by Minnesota American Legion Baseball. Screening requires ...

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 or managers 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
1-877-319-5587 (8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. EST, 7:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. CST)
protectyouthsports.com

Application Procedure: To apply for a Minnesota Legion Baseball background check, designated individuals must utilize the following link, which is also available on the Minnesota American Legion Baseball website:

opportunities.avery.com/MNLegionBaseball

Findings: The designated provider shall transmit the result of individual background screenings to the policy program manager (or to his designated representative) — only in the form of a “pass or fail” indicator. One or more of the following disqualifying criteria will be cause for a “failure” 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, including “victimless” crimes of a sexual nature (such as pornography).
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 and validated through the background screening process.

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

B. Abuse Awareness Training. All designated individuals are required to complete abuse awareness training through a designated training provider and submit proof of completion. Such training expires after two (2) years and, thus then requires re-completion at that time to maintain eligibility to participate in American Legion Baseball.

If Abuse Awareness Training is required, following completion of the background screen, the designated individual will automatically receive an email that contains a link to the Protect Youth Sports training program, which must then be completed within thirty (30) days. (See the “Designated Training Providers” section below for information on an approved alternate training program through USA Baseball.)

If a designated individual has completed training through some other source, from which he or she has received a valid certificate of completion, the state director has the discretion to approve and accept such certification, in lieu of the certification available from a designated training provider, provided that the training is deemed to be completely equivalent.

Designated Individuals: Per guidelines in the full policy, all team staff members, coaches, statisticians, other volunteers, or paid staff members who have regular and direct contact with youth participants — as identified by the team sponsor or team manager.

Designated Training Providers: Both of the following are at no cost to the participant.

- A. Protect Youth Sports.** This is the Minnesota American Legion Baseball Program’s preferred, recommended training program to be completed by designated individuals. This generates as an email to those individuals as part of the online registration process at baseball.legion.org. However, direct links can be found at minnesotalegionbaseball.org.

Procedure: Following successful completion of the background check screening, the designated individual will receive an invitation via email to complete the Protect Youth Sports “Child Safety Training” program. On behalf of the designated individual, proof of completion will then be automatically transmitted electronically to the policy program manager (or to a designated representative) by Protect Youth Sports.

- B. USA Baseball** This is found at usabdevelops.com. Click on “Athlete Safety.” USA Baseball calls the entirety of its safety programs BASE, for Baseball Athlete Safety Education. Click BASE, then scroll down to “education and training” and there is a link to sign up for free “Abuse Awareness online courses.” You will need to register with USA Baseball.

Procedure: Following the designated individual’s completion of this training program, he or she will be issued (electronically) a certificate of completion (save or print), for manual submission (email or mail) to the policy program manager (or to his designated representative) as proof of course completion. In addition, the USA Baseball certificate of completion must later be presented to tournament officials by the designated individual, should his or her team qualify for participation in an American Legion National Regional Tournament, and, subsequently, the American Legion World Series.

This Youth Protection 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 participants, volunteers or organizations whose actions or behaviors are deemed inappropriate 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.

MINNESOTA 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, and, with no season in 2020, that makes 2023 the 100th season.

Minnesota’s first state tournament was held in Mankato in 1926, and it has been held every year since, except for 2020, when the season was canceled as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. Otherwise, Minnesota is 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 has continued to lead the nation ever since — 2022 (383), 2021 (372), 2019 (366 teams), 2018 (351 teams), 2017 (357 teams), 2016 (323 teams), 2015 (306 teams).

No other state has exceeded the 300-team mark in the last seven years of season competition. As of presstime, Minnesota was sitting at an amazing 403 teams, though that number could dip before June 1.

In 100 seasons of play in Minnesota, materials have been supplied to roughly 26,700 teams, who provided playing opportunities to an estimated 414,247 players. There are an estimated 6,400 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. Some Legion



Baseball teams are sponsored by VFW posts or local baseball associations.

Division I champions from American Legion districts across the state, as well as a host team, compete in the annual Minnesota American Legion Division I State Tournament to determine the state champion. The Division II State Tournament is held annually, as well as the Division I Junior and Division II Junior state tournaments. Plus, there is a Tier I-A tournament for when multiple Division I teams come from the same school district. The second-tier team goes to their own tournament.

The Division I national playoff tournaments are a series of tournaments in eight 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 runner-up both go on to compete in the Central Plains Regional Playoffs, because of the high number of registered teams in Minnesota.) The eight regional champions then compete in the American Legion World Series to determine the national champion. For cable-television reasons, since 2011, the American Legion World Series has been held in Shelby, N.C. Before then, it rotated to ballparks big and small around the country.

Minnesota has produced five national champions, as follows:

- Minneapolis-Richfield Post 435 in 1943, defeating a team from Springfield, Ohio.
- Edina Post 471 in 1983, defeating Boyertown, Pa., Post 471. (A battle of two Post 471's!)
- New Brighton Post 513's Tri-City Red in 1999, defeating Kennewick, Wash., Post 34
- Rochester Post 592's Rochester A's in 2003, defeating Cherryville, N.C., Post 100
- Eden Prairie Eagles in 2011 (outside sponsor: Eden Prairie Baseball Association), defeating Medford, Ore., Post 15

Also worth noting:

- In 2002, Excelsior Post 259 was the national runner-up, falling to West Point, Miss., Post 212.
- In 2007, Eden Prairie was the national runner-up, falling to Columbia, Tenn., Post 19.
- In 2010, Eden Prairie was the national runner-up, falling to Midwest City, Okla., Post 170.
- A handful of Minnesota teams besides the ones listed above have qualified for the ALWS: Burnsville Post 1700 in 2013, Woodbury Post 501 in 2005, Eden Prairie in 2004, Bloomington Post 550 in 1999, Excelsior Post 259 in 1998, New Brighton Post 513's Tri-City Red in 1997, Osseo Post 172 in 1995, Osseo Post 172 in 1993, Moorhead Post 21 in 1988, New Ulm Post 132 in 1985 (interestingly, they hosted and won the regional, reaching the ALWS without being state champ or runner-up), Edina Post 471 in 1982, New Ulm Post 132 in 1978, Minneapolis-Richfield Post 435 in 1973; St. Paul North End Post 474 in 1950, Austin Post 91 in 1948, Minneapolis-Richfield Post 435 in 1944, St. Paul Christie-DeParcq Post 406 in 1935, Minneapolis North Side Post 230 in 1932, St. Paul John DeParcq Post 406 in 1928.
- In 1980, Ely hosted the ALWS; Honolulu defeated Boyertown, Pa., Post 471
- In 1955, St. Paul hosted the ALWS; Cincinnati Post 216 defeated Washington, D.C., Post 31
- In 1944, Minneapolis hosted the ALWS; Cincinnati Post 50 defeated Albemarle, N.C.

MINNESOTA AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL COACHES OF THE YEAR

1998	Brad Dean, Willmar Post 167	2010	Tom Coombe, Ely Post 248
	Bucky Burgau, Moorhead Post 21	2011	Doug Schuette, Brownton Post 143
	Bruce Young, Apple Valley Post 1776	2012	Mike Fogelson, Bemidji Post 14
	Jeff Gallagher, Montevideo Post 59	2013	Scott Hackett, Eden Prairie*
1999	Dick Johnson, Anoka Post 102	2015	Greg Nesbitt, Prior Lake Post 447
2000	Bob Streetar, Grand Rapids Post 60	2016	Bob Klefsaas, Apple Valley Post 1776 Eastview
2001	George Horihan, La Crescent Post 595	2017	Mitch McLeod, Detroit Lakes Post 15
2002	Jim Peck, Excelsior Post 259	2018	Steve Agre, Sacred Heart Post 229
2003	Jim Senske, New Ulm Post 132	2019	Rob Hager, Excelsior Post 259
2004	Charlie Godbout, West St. Paul Post 521	2020	Tim Epema, Montevideo Post 59
2005	Ron Adams, North St. Paul Post 39	2021	Scott McCready, St. Charles Post 190
2006	Gary Wilson, Minneapolis Falldin Post 555		Cory Schmitz, Lewiston Post 90
2007	Keith Kangas, Rochester Post 92 A's	2022	Lon Berberich, Le Sueur-Henderson Posts 55 & 74
2008	Tom Yelle, Coon Rapids Post 334		Doug Ruter, Willmar Post 167
2009	Bill Kinnunen, Grand Rapids Post 60		Jamie Mulvihill, Mankato Post 11 National

*outside sponsor

MINNESOTA AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL POSTS OF THE YEAR

1998	Apple Valley Post 1776	2011	Eden Valley & Watkins Posts 381 & 453
1999	Bloomington Post 550	2012	Chaska Post 57
2000	Moorhead Post 21	2013	Bird Island & Olivia Posts 430 & 186
2001	New Ulm Post 132	2014	Luverne Post 123
2002	Willmar Post 167	2015	Princeton Post 216
2003	Richfield Post 435	2016	Montevideo Post 59
2004	Tri-City, New Brighton Post 513	2017	New London & Spicer Posts 545 & 537
2005	North St. Paul Post 39	2018	Ely Post 248
2006	Excelsior Post 259	2019	St. Charles Post 190
2007	Marshall Post 113	2020	Chanhassen Post 580
2008	Sacred Heart Post 229	2021	Foley Post 298
2009	LeSueur & Henderson Posts 55 & 74	2022	Osseo-Maple Grove Post 172

MINNESOTA AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL GRADUATES OF THE YEAR

1988	Terry Steinbach, New Ulm Post 132	2008	Bill Davis, Minneapolis-Richfield Post 435
1989	Kent Hrbek, Bloomington Post 550	2009	Darin Everson, Ada Post 26
1991	Mike Kingery, Atwater Post 375	2010	Jeff Schugel, New Ulm Post 132
1993	Dave Winfield, St. Paul Attucks-Brooks Post 606	2011	Mike Halloran, Edina Post 471
	Paul Molitor, St. Paul Attucks-Brooks Post 606		Charlie Walters, Minneapolis
1994	Jim Eisenreich, St. Cloud Post 76	2012	James Brower, Excelsior Post 259
1996	John Anderson, Keewatin Post 452		Cole Irish, Plainview Post 179
1998	Dean Bowyer, Ada Post 26	2013	Dean Atchison, Moorhead Post 21
1999	Paul & John Blanchard, Wayzata Post 118	2014	Wade Adamson, Willmar Post 167
2000	Wes Westrom, Clearbrook Post 256	2016	Jerry Terrell, Waseca Post 228
2001	Mike Mason, Excelsior Post 259	2017	Doug Palmer, New Ulm Post 132
2002	Jack Morris, St. Paul Christie-DeParcq Post 406	2018	Howard Nathe, Melrose Post 101
2003	Michael Restovich, Rochester Post 92	2019	Steve Schneider, Willmar Post 167
2004	Dave Goltz, Rothsay Post 376	2020	no award due to pandemic
2005	Todd Oakes, Caledonia Post 191	2021	Glen Perkins, Stillwater Post 48
2006	Rob Wassenaar, Edina Post 471	2022	Brad Hand, Chaska Post 57
2007	Robb Quinlan, North St. Paul Post 39		

USEFUL INTERNET RESOURCES

Minnesota American Legion Baseball

minnesotalegionbaseball.org

The Gazette

mnlegion.org/the-gazette

National Registration and Information

baseball.legion.org and legion.org/baseball

Minnesota Legion Prospects Series

mnlegionprospects.com



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	2001	Nick Kakos, Minneapolis
1963	Dr. W.H. Mulligan, St. Cloud		Darwin Berg, Chanhassen
1964	Robert P. Marshall, Dilworth	2002	Norb Winter, Watkins
1965	Mark Hayward, St. Paul		Jack Bloedel, New Ulm
1966	Thomas Warner, Marshall		Al Zdon, Mounds View
1967	Harry Moldenhauer, St. Paul		Harold Solheim, Princeton
	Frank Fust, Minneapolis	2003	Bob Letourneau, Osseo
1968	Dr. Robert M. Farrish, Litchfield		Dick Seal, Sauk Rapids
1969	Theodore "Ted" Peterson, Minneapolis	2004	Bob Zellman, Norwood
1970	Maurice Godsey, Winona	2006	Huck Arneson, Barnesville
1971	G. Sheldon Hanson, Austin		Dick Johnson, Anoka
1972	Gaylord Zelinske, Brainerd		Bob Garin, Crosslake
1973	S.C. "Sig" Qvale, Austin	2007	Tink Larson, Waseca
1975	M.E. "Shorty" Dekko, Gary	2008	Roger Niebeling, Borup
1976	George Medvic, Minneapolis	2009	Jeff Reese, New Richland
1977	John Koch, Trimont	2010	Gail Kalata, St. Paul
1978	Dale VanDeWalker, St. Paul	2011	Ron Beckman, Jordan
1979	Robert Schabert, St. Paul	2012	John Sherman, Minneapolis
	C.I. "Spike" Piper, Blue Earth		Bill Taunton Sr., Willmar
	Leonard Grill, Minneapolis	2013	Dennis Frey, Howard Lake
1980	Louise Kainz, Ely	2014	Jim Donahue, Edina
	Joe Kastelic, Ely		Alberta Marth, New Ulm
	Sheldon Hanson, Austin		Bob Nistler, Albert Lea
1983	Dale Timm, Owatonna	2015	Mike Gort, Marshall
	Al Schmidt, Shakopee		Mike Perry, Hopkins
	Tony Sipe, Ada		Carl "Red" Wyczawski, New Ulm
1984	George Marsnik, Ely	2016	Ron Nenovich, Bloomington
	Rueben Nathe, Litchfield	2017	Jarvis Anderson, Plainview
	Rodney Wedin, Wells		Jim Clancy, Minneapolis
	Kenneth Swartz, Bloomington		Jim Larson, Minneapolis
1986	Halver Johnson, Moorhead	2018	Bruce Barron, Minneapolis
1989	George Bodlovick, St. Paul		Harlan Nepp, Pipestone
	Gerald "Red" Haddox, Bloomington	2019	Mike Karnas, Richfield
1990	Al Schoenthaler, Roseville		Ed Stalker, Albert Lea
1991	Tom Mattson, Albert Lea		Steve Timmer, Moorhead
1992	Jim Peck, Excelsior	2020	Richard "Dick" Mueller, New Ulm
1993	Tom Elliot, St. Cloud		Jeff "Slick" Miller, Ottertail
	Ray DeZurik, Waite Park	2021	Vern Kitzberger, New Ulm
2000	Joe Baker, Moorhead	2022	Father David Moran, Farmington
	Al Davis, Princeton		Donald "Bucky" Burgau, Moorhead
	George Karnas, Richfield		Luther Dorr, Princeton

MINNESOTA AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL DIV. I SENIOR STATE CHAMPIONS

Year	Champion	Runner-Up	Host/Site
1926	Crosby	St. Paul Navy-Marine	Mankato Post 11
1927	St. Paul John DeParcq Post 406	Cambridge Post 290	Little Falls Post 46
1928	*St. Paul John DeParcq Post 406	St. Cloud Post 76	St. Paul Lexington Park
1929	Cottonwood Post 503	St. Paul Post 8	St. Cloud Post 76
1930	Minneapolis North Side Post 230	Parkers Prairie Post 219	Stillwater Post 48
1931	Winona Post 9	Minneapolis North Side Post 230	Stillwater Post 48
1932	**Minneapolis North Side Post 230	Duluth	Minneapolis U of M Post 548
1933	St. Paul Post 8	Minneapolis Kyle	Minneapolis U of M Post 548
1934	New Ulm Post 132	Cokato Post 209	Cokato Post 209
1935	**St. Paul Christie-DeParcq Post 406	Minneapolis Laidlaw	Breckenridge Post 53
1936	Minneapolis North Side Post 230	St. Paul Christie-DeParcq Post 406	Willmar Post 167
1937	St. Paul Railroad	Cokato Post 209	Fergus Falls Post 30
1938	St. Paul Midway	Cokato Post 209	Rochester Post 92
1939	Minneapolis Fire & Police Post 396	Blackduck Post 372	Minneapolis Nicollet Park
1940	Minneapolis Fire & Police Post 396	Waverly Post 305	St. Paul Lexington Park
1941	New Ulm Post 132	Minneapolis Courthouse	St. Paul Lexington Park
1942	St. Paul Hamline Post 418	Robbinsdale Post 251	St. Paul Lexington Park
1943	††Minneapolis-Richfield Post 435	South St. Paul Post 481	St. Paul Lexington Park
1944	**Minneapolis-Richfield Post 435	St. Paul Twin City Federal	St. Paul Lexington Park
1945	Minneapolis Fire & Police Post 396	Winona Post 9	St. Paul Lexington Park
1946	St. Paul Christie-DeParcq Post 406	Stillwater Post 48	Duluth
1947	St. Paul Christie-DeParcq Post 406	St. Cloud Post 76	St. Paul Lexington Park
1948	**Austin Post 91	St. Cloud Post 76	St. Paul Lexington Park
1949	St. Paul North End Post 474	Winona Post 9	Shakopee Post 2
1950	**St. Paul North End Post 474	Minneapolis-Richfield Post 435	St. Paul Lexington Park
1951	St. Cloud Post 76	Austin Post 91	St. Paul Lexington Park
1952	St. Paul North End Post 474	Melrose Post Post 101	St. Paul Lexington Park
1953	Austin Post 91	St. Paul North End Post 474	St. Paul Lexington Park
1954	St. Paul North End Post 474	St. Cloud Post 76	St. Paul Lexington Park
1955	Edina Post 471	Minneapolis Camden	St. Paul Lexington Park
1956	St. Paul North End Post 474	Mpls. Grain Exchange Post 403	St. Paul Lexington Park
1957	Mankato Post 11	St. Paul North End Post 474	St. Paul Midway Stadium
1958	Mpls. Grain Exchange Post 403	Duluth Wisted Post 28	St. Paul Midway Stadium
1959	Minneapolis-Richfield Post 435	Granite Falls Post 69	Austin Post 91
1960	Fergus Falls Post 30	Norwood Post 343	St. Paul Midway Stadium
1961	Minneapolis-Richfield Post 435	St. Paul Christie-DeParcq Post 406	St. Paul Midway Stadium
1962	St. Paul Christie-DeParcq Post 406	Duluth	St. Paul Midway Stadium
1963	St. Paul Christie-DeParcq Post 406	Austin Post 91	St. Paul Midway Stadium
1964	Mpls. Grain Exchange Post 403	Austin Post 91	St. Paul Midway Stadium
1965	Rosetown Memorial Post 542	Brooklyn Center Post 630	Winona Post 9
1966	North St. Paul Post 39	St. Paul Park Post 98	St. Paul Midway Stadium
1967	St. Paul Attucks-Brooks Post 606	Minneapolis-Richfield Post 435	St. Paul Midway Stadium
1968	St. Paul Attucks-Brooks Post 606	Minneapolis-Richfield Post 435	St. Cloud Post 76
1969	Edina Post 471	Moorhead Post 21	St. Cloud Post 76
1970	Winona Post 9	Minneapolis Gopher Post 440	Winona Post 9
1971	North St. Paul Post 39	Winona Post 9	Moorhead Post 21
1972	Minneapolis-Richfield Post 435	Moorhead Post 21	St. Cloud Post 76
1973	**Minneapolis-Richfield Post 435	St. Louis Park Post 282	St. Paul Midway Stadium
1974	St. Paul Attucks-Brooks Post 606	Bemidji Post 14	New Ulm Post 132
1975	Grand Rapids Post 60	White Bear Lake Post 168	Ely Post 248
1976	St. Cloud Post 76	White Bear Lake Post 168	Willmar Post 167
1977	St. Cloud Post 76	Edina Post 471	Ely Post 248
1978	**New Ulm Post 132	Bloomington Post 550	Austin Post 91
1979	St. Paul Arcade-Phalen Post 577	St. Cloud Post 76	Willmar Post 167
1980	Minneapolis-Richfield Post 435	St. Paul Arcade-Phalen Post 577	Mpls.-Richfield Post 435
1981	Rochester Wm. T. McCoy Post 92	Hastings Post 47	Ely Post 248
1982	**Edina Post 471	Minneapolis-Richfield Post 435	Willmar Post 167

1983	††Edina Post 471	New Ulm Post 132	New Ulm Post 132
1984	Waite Park Post 428	Willmar Post 167	Albert Lea Post 56
1985	St. Paul Jacobsen Post 487	Hutchinson Post 96	Mpls.-Richfield Post 435
1986	Waite Park Post 428	Rochester Post 92	Marshall Post 113
1987	St. Louis Park Post 282	Apple Valley Post 1776	Grand Rapids Post 60
1988	**Moorhead Post 21	Rochester Post 92	Ely Post 248
1989	Apple Valley Post 1776	New Ulm Post 132	New Ulm Post 132
1990	St. Paul Hamline Post 418	Duluth Lakeview Post 342	Mpls.-Richfield Post 435
1991	Excelsior Post 259	Apple Valley Post 1776	Mankato Post 11
1992	New Ulm Post 132	Cold Spring Post 455	Willmar Post 167
1993	New Brighton Post 513 Tri-City Red	**Osseo Post 172	New Ulm Post 132
1994	New Brighton Post 513 Tri-City Red	Anoka Post 102	Northfield Post 84
1995	New Ulm Post 132	**Osseo Post 172	Hibbing Post 222
1996	Rochester Post 92 A's	Excelsior Post 259	Moorhead Post 21
1997	**New Brighton Post 513 Tri-City Red	St. Paul Hamline Post 418	Chaska Post 57
1998	**Excelsior Post 259	South St. Paul Post 481	Hibbing Post 222
1999	††New Brighton Post 513 Tri-City Red	**Bloomington Post 550 Blue	St. Cloud Post 76
2000	New Brighton Post 513 Tri-City Red	Waite Park Post 428	Duluth
2001	Coon Rapids Post 334	New Ulm Post 132	Rochester Post 92
2002	Apple Valley Post 1776	†Excelsior Post 259	Marshall Post 113
2003	††Rochester Post 92 A's	Bloomington Post 550 Blue	Rochester Post 92
2004	**Eden Prairie	Apple Valley Post 1776	Northfield Post 84
2005	Eden Prairie	**Woodbury Post 501 Blue	St. Cloud Post 76
2006	Eden Prairie	Coon Rapids Post 334	Excelsior Post 259
2007	†Eden Prairie	Apple Valley Post 1776	Bloomington Post 550
2008	Apple Valley Post 1776 Eastview	Eden Prairie	Burnsville Post 1700
2009	Rochester Post 92 Patriots	Apple Valley Post 1776	New Ulm Post 132
2010	†Eden Prairie	Eagan Post 594	Hibbing Post 222
2011	††Eden Prairie	Lino Lakes Post 566	Eden Prairie (os)
2012	Edina Post 471	Eden Prairie	Chaska Post 57
2013	Eden Prairie	**Burnsville Post 1700	Edina Post 471
2014	Lakeville Post 44 North	St. Cloud Post 76 Chutes	Eagan Post 594
2015	Wayzata Post 118	Eden Prairie	Chanhasen Post 580
2016	Woodbury Post 501 Blue	Forest Lake Post 225	Delano Post 377
2017	New Brighton Post 513 Tri-City Red	Ham Lake Post 2000	St. Paul CHS Field (Post 513's Tri-City Red)
2018	New Brighton Post 513 Tri-City Red	Wayzata Post 118	Edina Post 471
2019	Excelsior Post 259	Edina Post 471	Cold Spring Post 455
2020	Season canceled	NA	NA
2021	Osseo Post 172	Hopkins Post 320	St. Cloud Post 76 Chutes
2022	St. Michael Post 567 Mikes	Mankato Post 11 National	Burnsville (os)
2023	TBD	TBD	Rochester Post 92 A's

* Sectional Champion
†† National Champion

MINNESOTA AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL DIV. I OUTSTANDING PLAYER AWARD Fred Wannamaker Award

Year	Player	Position	Post (team)
1960	Barry Johnson	Pitcher	Fergus Falls Post 30
1961	Cliff Warnke	Pitcher	Winona Post 9
1962	Bob Williams	Pitcher	St. Paul Christie De-Parcq Post 406
1963	Dennis Denning	Shortstop	St. Paul Christie De-Parcq Post 406
1964	Jerry Wickman	Pitcher	Minneapolis Grain Exchange Post 403
1965	Dennis Coleman	Pitcher	Rosetown Memorial Post 542
1966	Jim Myers	Pitcher	North St. Paul Post 39
1967	Tim Hadro	Catcher	St. Paul Attucks-Brooks Post 606
1968	Dave Winfield	Pitcher, Shortstop	St. Paul Attucks-Brooks Post 606
1969	Mike Shea	3rd Base	Little Falls Post 46

1970	Mike Semling	Right Field	Winona Post 9
1971	Terry Johnson	Pitcher, 1st Base	Kenyon Post 78
1972	Mark Stevens	Pitcher	Duluth Lakeview Post 342
1973	Chuck Engle	Pitcher, 1st Base	St. Louis Park Post 282
1974	Peter Maus	Pitcher, Infield	Bemidji Post 14
1975	Tim Fagley	Pitcher	White Bear Lake Post 168
1976	Greg Berling	Pitcher	St. Cloud Post 76
1977	Bill Peterson	Pitcher	Edina Post 471
1978	Terry Steinbach	2nd Base	New Ulm Post 132
1979	Bill Larson	Pitcher	St. Paul Arcade-Phalen Post 377
1980	James Burns	3rd Base	Minneapolis Falldin Post 555
1981	Bill Cutschall	Pitcher	Rochester Post 92
1982	Rob Wassenaar	Pitcher, 3rd Base	Edina Post 471
1983	Rob Wassenaar	Pitcher, 3rd Base	Edina Post 471
1984	Tim Piechowski	Pitcher, Shortstop	Willmar Post 167
1985	Vince Palyan	Pitcher, Shortstop	St. Paul Jacobsen Post 487
1986	Jeremy Mendal	Catcher, Outfield	Waite Park Post 428
1987	Bob Divinski	Pitcher, 3rd Base	St. Louis Park Post 282
1988	Todd Hoffman	Center Field	New Ulm Post 132
1989	Al Stoye	Pitcher	Apple Valley Post 1776
1990	Wes Denning	Center Field	St. Paul Hamline Post 418
1991	Jason Pflaum	2nd Base	Excelsior Post 259
1992	Ben Griffin	Left Field	Cold Spring Post 455
1993	Matt McDonough	Catcher	Osseo Post 172
1994	Robb Ramacher	Center Field	Tri-City Red Post 513
1995	Brady Ranweiler	1st Base	New Ulm Post 132
1996	Joe Siple	2nd Base	Rochester Post 92 A's
1997	Charlie Brookins	Pitcher	St. Paul Park Post 98
1998	Ryan Klocksien	Pitcher, Infield	Excelsior Post 259
1999	Billy Schneider	2nd Base	Tri-City Red Post 513
2000	Josh Krogman	Pitcher, Infield	Waite Park Post 428
2001	Danny Anderson	Pitcher, Infield	Coon Rapids Post 334
2002	Dan Brosnan	1st Base	Apple Valley Post 1776
2003	Steve Edlefsen	Shortstop	Bloomington Post 550 Blue
2004	Justin Milo	1st Base	Eden Prairie (os)
2005	Nate Hansen	Shortstop	Eden Prairie (os)
2006	Aaron Senne	Outfield, Pitcher	Rochester Redhawks (os)
2007	Dan Miller	Pitcher, Outfield	Eden Prairie (os)
2008	Scott Lindner	Shortstop	Eden Prairie (os)
2009	Derek Hovick	Pitcher, Outfield	Rochester Post 92 Patriots
2010	Matt Halloran	Catcher	Eden Prairie (os)
2011	Austin Malinowski	Pitcher, 1st Base	Lino Lakes Post 556
2012	Cody Wetmore	Pitcher, 1st Base, Outfield	Eden Prairie (os)
2013	Luke Lind	Pitcher, 1st Base	Eden Prairie (os)
2014	Jeff Fasching	Pitcher, Outfield	St. Cloud Post 76 Chutes
2015	Jeff Athey	3rd Base, 1st Base	Eden Prairie (os)
2016	Cameron Kline	Outfield, Pitcher	Forest Lake Post 225
2017	Ross Indlecoffer	3rd Base, 1st Base, Pitcher	New Brighton Post 513 Tri-City Red
2018	John Solfest	Pitcher, Infield	New Brighton Post 513 Tri-City Red
2019	Nick Thimsen	Outfield	Excelsior Post 259
2020	Season canceled	N/A	N/A
2021	Jake Perry	3rd Base	Hopkins Post 320
2022	Kaden Amundson	Catcher	St. Michael Post 567

(os) means outside sponsor, usually a baseball association

Did you know Junior Legion has an all-star series?

It's called Minnesota Legion Prospects Series. It is Aug. 4-6 at Univ. of Northwestern in Roseville.

The players and parents even attend a Minnesota Twins game together!

Go online to mnlegionprospects.com. College scouts and players get to know each other.



OFFICIAL SPONSOR OF
MINNESOTA AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL

MINNESOTA AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL
OUTSTANDING PITCHER AWARD
Rob Wassenaar Award

2013	Matt Hopfner, Edina Post 471	2018	Sam Westermeyer, Wayzata Post 118
2014	AJ Sayer, Lakeville Post 44 North	2019	John Solfest, New Brighton Post 513 Tri-City Red
2015	Jake Marsh, Wayzata Post 118	2020	Season canceled
2016	Tom Skoro, Wayzata Post 118	2021	Ian Koosman, Willmar Post 167
2017	Seth Miller, Ham Lake Post 2000	2022	Louis Magers, Mankato Post 11 Nationals

MINNESOTA AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL
TIER I-A CHAMPIONS

Year	Champion	Runner-Up	Site
2017	Andover (os)	Minnetonka Mud Hens (os)	Apple Valley Post 1776
2018	Apple Valley Post 1776 Eastview	Apple Valley Post 1776 A.V.	Apple Valley Post 1776
2019	Edina Post 471	Eagan Post 594	Eagan Post 594
2020	Season canceled	NA	NA
2021	Eagan Post 594	Minnetonka Mud Hens (os)	Eagan Post 594
2022	<i>results unavailable</i>		Eagan Post 594
2023	TBD	TBD	Eagan Post 594

MINNESOTA AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL
DIVISION I JUNIOR STATE CHAMPIONS

Year	Champion	Runner-Up	Host/site
2009	Bloomington Post 550 Blue	Excelsior Post 259	Eagan Post 594
2010	*Burnsville Post 1700	Eden Prairie (os)	Eagan Post 594
2011	*Excelsior Post 259	Wayzata Post 118	Eagan Post 594
2012	Excelsior Post 259	Eden Prairie (os)	Eagan Post 594
2013	*Eden Prairie (os)	Excelsior Post 259 Team 1	Eagan Post 594
2014	Excelsior Post 259	Wayzata Post 118	Apple Valley Post 1776
2015	Excelsior Post 259	Burnsville (os)	Apple Valley Post 1776
2016	Hopkins Post 320	Burnsville (os)	Apple Valley Post 1776
2017	*Edina Post 471	Excelsior Post 259	Apple Valley Post 1776
2018	Excelsior Post 259	Wayzata Post 118	Apple Valley Post 1776
2019	Hopkins Post 320	Excelsior Post 259	Bloomington Post 550
2020	Season canceled	NA	NA
2021	New Prague Post 45	Eden Prairie (os)	Bloomington Post 550
2022	New Prague Post 45	Delano Post 377	Bloomington Post 550
2023	TBD	TBD	Burnsville

*regional champion

MINNESOTA AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL DIVISION II SENIOR STATE CHAMPIONS

Year	Champion	Runner-Up	Host/site
1987	Swanville Post 313	Ada Post 26	Barnesville Post 153
1988	Swanville Post 313	Karlstad Post 445	Ada Post 26
1989	La Crescent Post 595	New Ulm Post 132	New Ulm Post 132
1990	Glencoe Post 95	Lamberton Post 41	Mpls.-Richfield Post 435
1991	Benson Post 62	Lamberton Post 41	Mankato Post 11
1992	New York Mills Post 116	Benson Post 62	Willmar Post 167
1993	Sebeka Post 456	Mountain Lake Post 389	New Ulm Post 132
1994	La Crescent Post 595	Cannon Falls Post 142	Northfield Post 84
1995	Pine Island Post 184	Plainview Post 179	Litchfield Post 104 & Hutchinson
1996	Big Lake Post 147	Cannon Falls Post 142	Willmar Post 167
1997	La Crescent Post 595	Perham Post 61	Nashwauk Post 307 & Keewatin
1998	Milroy Post 274	Ely Post 248	Montevideo Post 59
1999	Nashwauk-Keewatin Post 307	Paynesville Post 271	Ely Post 248
2000	*Sacred Heart Post 229	Montgomery Post 79	Truman Post 115
2001	Parkers Prairie Post 219	Morris Post 29	Willmar Post 167
2002	Le Sueur-Henderson Posts 55 & 74	Blue Earth Post 89	Willmar Post 167
2003	Paynesville Post 271	Nashwauk-Keewatin Post 307	Ely Post 248
2004	Sebeka Post 456	Ely Post 248	Northfield Post 84
2005	*Jordan Post 3	Pipestone Post 6	Le Sueur Post 595
2006	*Jordan Post 3	Montevideo Post 59	Willmar Post 167
2007	*Jordan Post 3	Fairfax Post 205	Ely Post 248
2008	**Jordan Post 3	La Crescent Post 595	Sacred Heart Post 229
2009	Eden Valley-Watkins Posts 381 & 453	Pipestone Post 6	Le Sueur-Henderson Posts 55 & 74
2010	La Crescent Post 595	Jordan Post 3	Dilworth Post 397
2011	*Eden Valley-Watkins Posts 381 & 453	Ely Post 248	Ely Post 248
2012	Plato Post 641	Ely Post 248	Sacred Heart Post 229
2013	*La Crescent Post 595	Morris Post 29	Bird Island-Olivia Posts 430 & 186
2014	Plato Post 641	St. James Post 33	Luverne Post 123
2015	*Foley Post 298	Moose Lake Post 379	Morris Post 29
2016	Minneapolis Giantvalley Post 234	Glenwood-Lowry Posts 187 & 253	Le Sueur-Henderson Posts 55 & 74
2017	*Pierz Post 341	Proctor Post 106	New London-Spicer Posts 537 & 545
2018	Le Sueur-Henderson Posts 55 & 74	**La Crescent Post 595	Pelican Rapids Post 17
2019	Dilworth-Glyndon-Felton	*Plato Post 641	Ely Post 248
2020	Season canceled	NA	NA
2021	Sacred Heart/MACCRAY Post 229	Atwater Post 375	Sacred Heart Post 229
2022	Wadena Post 171	Morris Post 29	Luverne Post 123
2023	TBD	TBD	Roseau Post 24

* Regional Champion

** Regional Runner-Up

MINNESOTA AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL DIVISION II JUNIOR STATE CHAMPIONS

Year	Champion	Runner-Up	Site
2017	La Crescent Post 595	Holy Family, Victoria (os)	Olivia-Bird Island Posts 186 & 430
2018	Holy Family, Victoria (os)	Aitkin Post 86	Montevideo Post 59
2019	Aitkin	Esko (os)	St. Charles Post 190
2020	Season canceled	NA	NA
2021	Minnewaska	Upsala-Swanville Post 313	Montevideo Post 59
2022	Montevideo VFW Post 380	Le Sueur-Henderson Posts 55 & 74	Ely Post 248
2023	TBD	TBD	Granite Falls Post 69

MINNESOTA AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL DIV. II OUTSTANDING PLAYER AWARD

Tony Sipe Award

Year	Player	Post (team)	Year	Player	Post (team)
1993	Ryan Tuorila	Sebeka Post 456	2008	Trevor Ness	Tri-County Post 124 (Staples-Motley)
1994	Kevin Breggeman	La Crescent Post 595	2009	Matt Geislinger	Eden Valley-Watkins Posts 381 & 453
1995	Joe Ohm,	Plainview Post 179	2010	Brandon Vethein	La Crescent Post 595
1996	Jeremy Belisle	Big Lake Post 147	2011	Matt Geislinger	Eden Valley-Watkins Posts 381 & 453
1997	Jamie Louwagie	Milroy Post 274	2012	Ethan Maas	Plato Post 641
1998	Rick Schlieman	Madison Post 158	2013	Ryan Tapani	Providence Academy
1999	Mark Skrunkrud	Eyota Post 551	2014	Walker Froehling	St. James Post 33
2000	Ryan Hebrink	Sacred Heart Post 229	2015	Tyler Midas	Foley Post 298
2001	Erick Koep	Parkers Prairie Post 219	2016	Andrew Wolpert	Mpls. Giantvalley Post 234
2002	Reggie Stevens	St. Charles Post 190	2017	Noah Boser	Pierz Post 341
2003	Adam Kempfen	Paynesville Post 271	2018	Cole Pengilly	Le Sueur-Henderson Posts 55 & 74
2004	Zach Etter	Sebeka Post 456	2019	Jacobe Stetz	Dilworth Post 397 (DGF)
2005	Adam Kneble	Warroad Post 25	2020	Season canceled	NA
2006	Steve Beckman	Jordan Post 3	2021	Tyler Froland	Sacred Heart Post 229 (MACCRAY)
2007	Joe Lucas	Jordan Post 3	2022	Payton Rondestvedt	Wadena Post 171

MINNESOTA AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL IS

1000

SEASONS STRONG

96TH ANNUAL DIVISION I SENIOR STATE TOURNAMENT RESULTS

July 28-31, 2022

Rich Vanderlaan Field & Bob Bunnell Field at Alimagnet Park, Burnsville
 Veterans Field at Memorial Park, Prior Lake
 Joe Schleper Stadium at Tahpah Park, Shakopee

POOL 1														
Day	Time	Location	Team		Team	Score	Score	Innings	Team	Won	Lost	Allowed (-)	Scored (+)	Total Inn
Thurs	10:00	Fld 1, G1	Maple Grove	vs	Rochester A's	6	3	7	Rochester A's	I	I	0.8095238095	0.619047619	21
Thurs	12:30	Fld 1, G5	Rosemount H	vs	Hopkins	2	6	7	Hopkins	I	II	1.35	0.6	20
Thurs	3:00	Fld 1, G9	Maple Grove	vs	Rosemount	8	7	7	Maple Grove	III		0.7	1.5	20
Thurs	5:30	Fld 1, G13	Rochester A's	vs	Hopkins H	9	2	7	Rosemount	I	II	0.7142857143	0.8571428571	21
Friday	10:00	Fld 1, G17	Hopkins H	vs	Maple Grove	4	16	6						Maple Grove Advances
Friday	12:30	Fld 1, G19	Rochester A's	vs	Rosemount	1	9	7						Rosemount Advances

POOL 2														
Day	Time	Location	Team		Team	Score	Score	Innings	Team	Won	Loss	Allowed (-)	Scored (+)	Total Inn
Thurs	10:30	Fld 2, G2	Grand Rapids	vs	Edina H	2	1	7	Mankato Nat	III		0.5238095238	1	21
Thurs	1:00	Fld 2, G6	Mpls Lakers	vs	Mankato Nat	3	6	7	Edina	I	II	0.4761904762	0.1428571429	21
Thurs	3:30	Fld 2, G10	Grand Rapids	vs	Mpls Lakers	2	3	7	Mpls Lakers	I	II	0.5714285714	0.4761904762	21
Thurs	6:00	Fld 2, G14	Mankato Nat	vs	Edina	8	2	7	Grand Rapids	I	II	0.5238095238	0.4761904762	21
Friday	10:30	Fld 2, G18	Mankato Nat	vs	Grand Rapids	7	6	7						Mankato Advances
Friday	1:00	Fld 2, G20	Edina	vs	Mpls Lakers	4	0	7						Edina Advances

POOL 3														
Day	Time	Location	Team		Team	Score	Score	Innings	Team	Won	Lost	Allowed (-)	Scored (+)	Total Inn
Thurs	10:00	Fld 3, G3	Willmar H	vs	St Michael	0	3	7	Farmington		III	1.428571429	0.5714285714	21
Thurs	12:30	Fld 3, G7	Farmington H	vs	Sartell	3	11	7	St Michael	III		0.4210526316	1.210526316	19
Thurs	3:00	Fld 3, G11	Willmar	vs	Farmington H	11	2	7	Sartell	I	II	1.263157895	1	19
Thurs	5:30	Fld 3, G15	St Michael	vs	Sartell H	12	1	5	Willmar	II	I	0.4285714286	0.9523809524	21
Friday	3:00	Fld 2, G21	Sartell H	vs	Willmar	4	9	7						St Michael Advances
Friday	5:30	Fld 2, G23	St Michael H	vs	Farmington	8	7	7						Willmar Advances

POOL 4														
Day	Time	Location	Team		Team	Score	Score	Innings	Team	Won	Lost	Allowed (-)	Scored (+)	Total Inn
Thurs	10:30	Fld 4, G4	Burnsville	vs	Moorhead Blu	4	8	7	Burnsville	I	II	1.45	1.3	20
Thurs	1:00	Fld 4, G8	Princeton H	vs	Rosetown	11	9	7	Rosetown	I	II	1.352941176	1.882352941	17
Thurs	3:30	Fld 4, G12	Burnsville H	vs	Princeton	11	10	8	Princeton	II	I	0.9090909091	1.318181818	22
Thurs	6:00	Fld 4, G16	Moorhead Blu	vs	Rosetown H	12	1	5	Moorhead Blu	II	I	0.6842105263	1.052631579	19
Friday	3:30	Fld 1, G22	Burnsville H	vs	Rosetown	0	11	5						Princeton Advances
Friday	6:00	Fld 1, G24	Princeton	vs	Moorhead Blu	8	0	7						Moorhead Advances

Fields:
 Field 1: AliMagnet Vanderlaan
 Field 2: AliMagnet Bunnell
 Field 3: Prior Lake - Memorial Park
 Field 4: Shakopee - Tahpah Park

Best record advances - if Tie Breakers needed use
 1) Head to Head
 2) Runs allowed divided by all Innings played (-) %
 3) Runs scored divided by all Innings played (+) %
 4) Flip a coin



Top 8 qualify for single-elimination bracket. See next page. →

**2022 Champions:
 St. Michael Post 567 Mikes**

2022 MINNESOTA DIVISION ONE AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL STATE TOURNAMENT

7/31/2022

BURNSVILLE, MINNESOTA

ALIMAGNET FIELDS

#1 Rich Vanderlaan Field * #2 Bob Bunnell Field

#3 Prior Lake (Memorial) * #4 Shakopee (Tahpah)

July 28, 2022 - July 31, 2022

Note field and game time changes

MAPLE GROVE (H) 1						MANKATO NATIONAL (H) 10	
Sat 10:30 Fid 2, G25						5 innings	Sat 1:30 Fid 1, G28
EDINA 4	EDINA (H) 1		ST. MICHAEL			MANKATO NATIONAL 8	ROSEMOUNT 0
	Sat 4:30 Fid 1, G29		CHAMPIONS			MANKATO NATIONAL(H) 2	
	Loser to 3rd Place		Sun 11:00 AM Fid 1, G32			7:00 Fid 1, G30	
ST. MICHAEL (H) 7						Loser to 3rd Place	PRINCETON (H) 2
Sat 11:00 Fid 1, G26			G31 & G32 Teams to flip for Home				WILLMAR (H) 1
	ST. MICHAEL 6						Sat 1:00 Fid 2, G27
MOORHEAD 3							WILLMAR 5
			WILLMAR				
			3rd Place				
			Sun 10:30 Fid 2, G31				
	EDINA (H) 3						
	H = Home Team Home Team to occupy 3B						
			CHAMPIONSHIP BRACKET IS SINGLE ELIMINATION				

35TH ANNUAL DIVISION II SENIOR STATE TOURNAMENT RESULTS

July 29-31, 2022
Redbird Field, Luverne

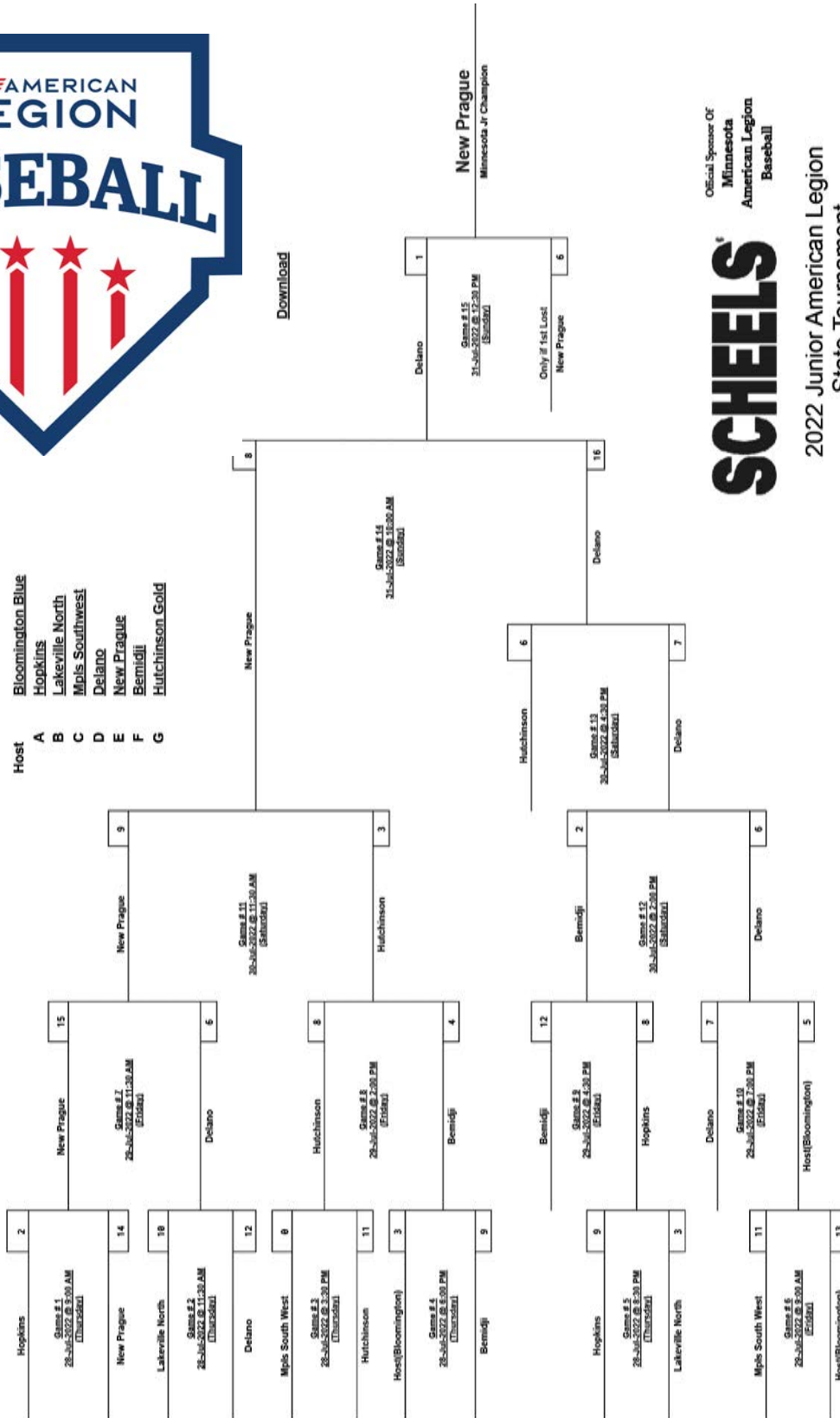
8 Morris Post 29	Game 1 Friday, July 29 10:00	4 Morris Post 29 (H)	Game 8 Saturday, July 30 5:00	3 Morris Post 29 (H)	Game 11 Sunday, July 31 2:00	Div. 2 Champion Wadena Post 171
6 Chatfield Post 197 (H)	Game 5 Saturday, July 30 9:00	2 Chatfield Post 197 (H)	Game 2 Friday, July 29 12:30	1 Sibley East Post 433		
6 Jackson Post 130	8 Jackson Post 130	4 Jackson Post 130	Game 3 Friday, July 29 4:00	5 Sibley East Post 433 (H)		
6 Jackson Post 130	8 Jackson Post 130	4 Jackson Post 130	Game 6 Saturday, July 30 11:30	7 DGF Post 397		
Consolation Champion DGF Post 397	Game 7 Saturday, July 30 2:00	6 Jackson Post 130	Game 9 Saturday, July 30 7:30	0 Tri-Town/Atwater Post 375		
7 DGF Post 397(H)	7 DGF Post 397	4 Dilworth Glyndon Felton Post 397 (H)	Game 4 Friday, July 29 7:30	4 Wadena Post 171 (H)		
1 Luverne Post 123 (H)	1 Luverne Post 123 (H)	4 Dilworth Glyndon Felton Post 397 (H)		0 Luverne Post 123-Host		
		4 Dilworth Glyndon Felton Post 397 (H)		13 Sibley East Post 433		
		4 Dilworth Glyndon Felton Post 397 (H)		Game 10 Sunday, July 31 11:30		3rd Place Sibley East Post 433
		4 Dilworth Glyndon Felton Post 397 (H)				2 Tri-Town/Atwater Post 375 (H)

13TH ANNUAL DIVISION I JUNIOR STATE TOURNAMENT RESULTS

July 28-31, 2022
Red Haddock Field, Bloomington



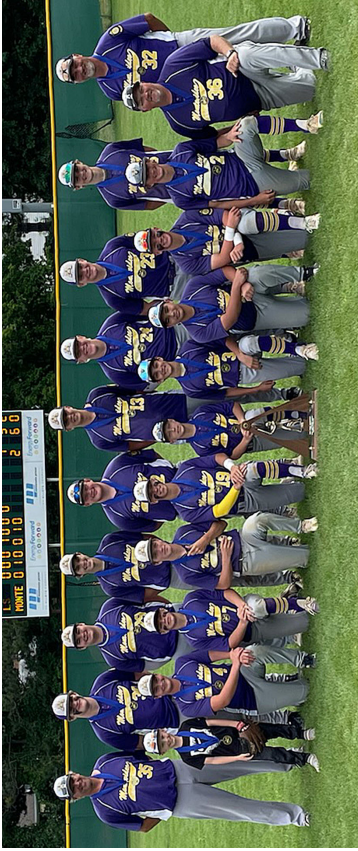
- Host**
- A **Bloomington Blue**
 - B **Hopkins**
 - C **Lakeville North**
 - D **Mpls Southwest**
 - E **Delano**
 - F **New Prague**
 - G **Bemidji**
 - H **Hutchinson Gold**



2022 Junior American Legion State Tournament
Toro Stadium@Red Haddock Field
Bloomington, MN
July 28 - July 31, 2022

5TH ANNUAL DIVISION II JUNIOR STATE TOURNAMENT RESULTS

Aug. 5-6, 2022
Veterans Memorial Field, Ely



2022 Champions: Montevideo VFW Post 380

Sleepy Eye Post 7	Morris Post 29	Morris Post 29	Le Sueur Henderson Posts 55 & 74(H)	Le Sueur Henderson Posts 55 & 74	Montevideo VFW Post 380
Game 1 Thursday, August 4 10:00	Game 5 (2-5) Friday, August 5 9:00	Game 1 (6-7) Thursday, August 4 10:00	Game 8 (5-4) Friday, August 5 4:30	Game 11 (8-4) Saturday, August 6 12:30	Champion
Sleepy Eye Post 7 (H)	Sleepy Eye Post 7 (H)	Esko (os) (H)	Esko (os)	Montevideo (H)	Esko (os)
Game 2 Thursday, August 4 12:30	Game 2 Thursday, August 4 12:30	Game 2 Thursday, August 4 12:30	Game 2 Thursday, August 4 12:30	Game 12 Saturday, August 6 3:00	
Sleepy Eye Post 7	Hayfield Post 330	Sleepy Eye Post 7	Sleepy Eye Post 7	Dilworth Post 397 (DGF)	Montevideo VFW Post 380
Game 3 Thursday, August 4 4:00	Game 3 Thursday, August 4 4:00	Game 3 Thursday, August 4 4:00	Game 3 Thursday, August 4 4:00	Game 9 (2-8) Friday, August 5 7:00	
Hayfield Post 330	Hayfield Post 330	Hayfield Post 330	Hayfield Post 330	Dilworth Post 397 (DGF)	Montevideo (H)
Game 4 Thursday, August 4 7:00	Game 4 Thursday, August 4 7:00	Game 4 Thursday, August 4 7:00	Game 4 Thursday, August 4 7:00	Game 10 Saturday, August 6 10:00	
Ely Post 248 (H)	Ely Post 248	Ely Post 248	Ely Post 248 (Host)	Montevideo VFW Post 380 (H)	Esko (os)
Game 6 (0-1) Friday, August 5 11:30	Game 6 (0-1) Friday, August 5 11:30	Game 6 (0-1) Friday, August 5 11:30	Game 6 (0-1) Friday, August 5 11:30	Game 10 Saturday, August 6 10:00	
Morris Post 29	Morris Post 29	Morris Post 29	Morris Post 29	Montevideo VFW Post 380 (H)	Esko (os)
Game 7 (11-0) Friday, August 5 2:00	Game 7 (11-0) Friday, August 5 2:00	Game 7 (11-0) Friday, August 5 2:00	Game 7 (11-0) Friday, August 5 2:00	Game 10 Saturday, August 6 10:00	
Hayfield Post 330 (H)	Hayfield Post 330 (H)	Hayfield Post 330 (H)	Hayfield Post 330 (H)	Montevideo VFW Post 380 (H)	Esko (os)
Game 10 Saturday, August 6 10:00	Game 10 Saturday, August 6 10:00	Game 10 Saturday, August 6 10:00	Game 10 Saturday, August 6 10:00	Game 10 Saturday, August 6 10:00	

os = outside sponsor

**DURING THE LAST WEEKEND OF JULY
BE SURE TO READ:**

The Gazette

A Publication of
Minnesota American Legion Baseball



The Gazette
A Publication of
Minnesota American Legion Baseball
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Vol. 27, No. 5
Burnsville, Minnesota
Monday, Aug. 1, 2022

The St. Michael Post 567 team poses with their 2022 championship trophy. Front row from left are Ryan Fischer, Hunter Palmer, Kaden Amundson, Ben Boebel, Matthew Maulik, Hayden Frank, Owen Naros, Hayden Olson and Immediate Past Minnesota American Legion Commander Tom Fernlund. Back row from left are assistant coach Lance Krupke, Jaxon Price, Trey Sybrant, Dylan Byer, Evan Saunders, Drew Luster, Max Sutter, Zachary Romans, Zack Hlinsky, assistant coach Doug Sander, coach Jesse Hackenmueller and Minnesota American Legion 3rd District Commander Gary Richardson.

Amundson battles injuries, fatigue to win MVP

St. Mike defeats Mankato National 13-2 in title game

By John Sherman

Kaden Amundson played the game of his life in the State Division I American Legion title game Sunday at Rich Vanderlaan Field in Burnsville.

Despite limping on an injured ankle, the St. Michael catcher dominated in a 13-2 victory over Mankato National. By the end of the day, he was covered in dirt, but when the dust settled he had hit a home run and picked four Nationals off base.

The home run reminded the field announcer of Kirk Gibson's historic walk-off homer as the Dodgers beat the Oakland A's in the first game of the 1988 World Series. And, of course, the announcer said so, with the fervor of "The Giants win the pennant! The Giants win the pennant!" True, Amundson's trip around the bases was about the same speed as fans and his mom, Amundson talked about his memorable day on the diamond.

"It was a good day at the ball park," he began. "The best thing about our team is just the relationships we have. It's like a brotherhood."

Asked about the home run, Amundson paused, and then said, "I have to give that one to the big man upstairs."

St. Michael is a first-time Division I state Legion baseball champion, and that makes the upcoming regional trip to Rapid City, South Dakota all the more exciting.

"The Mikes" as their fans call them have a fast outfield led by Hunter Palmer and a deep Owen Naros. Can they bring home the big one from South Dakota? As long as Amundson can walk, there is a chance.

St. Michael catcher Kaden Amundson holds the Fred Wannamaker Award, which goes to the outstanding player of the tournament. With him, on the left, is Commander Gary Richardson and, on the right, Immediate Past Department Commander Tom Fernlund.

Gibson's, but there was no worldwide TV audience watching - only about 400 Minnesota baseball fans.

After the celebration with teammates, his

Line Score
St. Michael 400 043 2 13 13 4
Mankato 001 010 0 2 5 1
Winning Pitcher: Owen Naros

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2022 Champions: Hayfield Post 330

INAUGURAL MINNESOTA AMERICAN LEGION FASTPITCH SOFTBALL STATE TOURNAMENT RESULTS

July 30-31, 2022
Jaycee Park, Mankato



2022 American Legion Girls Fastpitch Softball Tournament

Jaycee Park — Mankato
July 30-31



Adams (4-1)	Game 10 July 31, 2022	Field 2 12:00 PM	Adams (6-1)	Game 5 July 30, 2022	Field 2 3:00 PM	Bemidji Post 14 (H)	Game 1 July 30, 2022	Field 1 11:00 AM	Howard Lake (3-2) (H)	Game 6 July 30, 2022	Field 1 3:00 PM	Browerville (8-7 9 inn.) (H)	Game 12 July 31, 2022	Field 1 1:00 PM	Hayfield (9-5)	Champions
5th Place																
Bemidji (9-3)	Game 9 July 31, 2022	Field 2 10:00 AM	Adams (H)	Game 2 July 30, 2022	Field 2 11:00 AM	Adams Post 146	Game 2 July 30, 2022	Field 2 11:00 AM	Browerville (3-1)							
7th Place																
Wadena (H)	Game 7 July 30, 2022	Field 2 5:00 PM	Parkers Prairie (H)	Game 3 July 30, 2022	Field 1 1:00 PM	Parkers Prairie Post 219	Game 3 July 30, 2022	Field 1 1:00 PM	Fairmont (7-1) (H)	Game 8 July 30, 2022	Field 1 5:00 PM	Hayfield (6-1)	Game 8 July 30, 2022	Field 1 5:00 PM		
Bemidji	Game 4 July 30, 2022	Field 2 1:00 PM	Wadena	Game 4 July 30, 2022	Field 2 1:00 PM	Hayfield Post 330 (H)	Game 4 July 30, 2022	Field 2 1:00 PM	Hayfield (6-4)							
Bemidji (9-3)	Game 11 July 31, 2022	Field 1 11:00 AM	Howard Lake (H)	Game 11 July 31, 2022	Field 1 11:00 AM	Wadena Post 171										
3rd Place																
Fairmont (12-5)	Game 12 July 31, 2022	Field 1 11:00 AM	Fairmont													

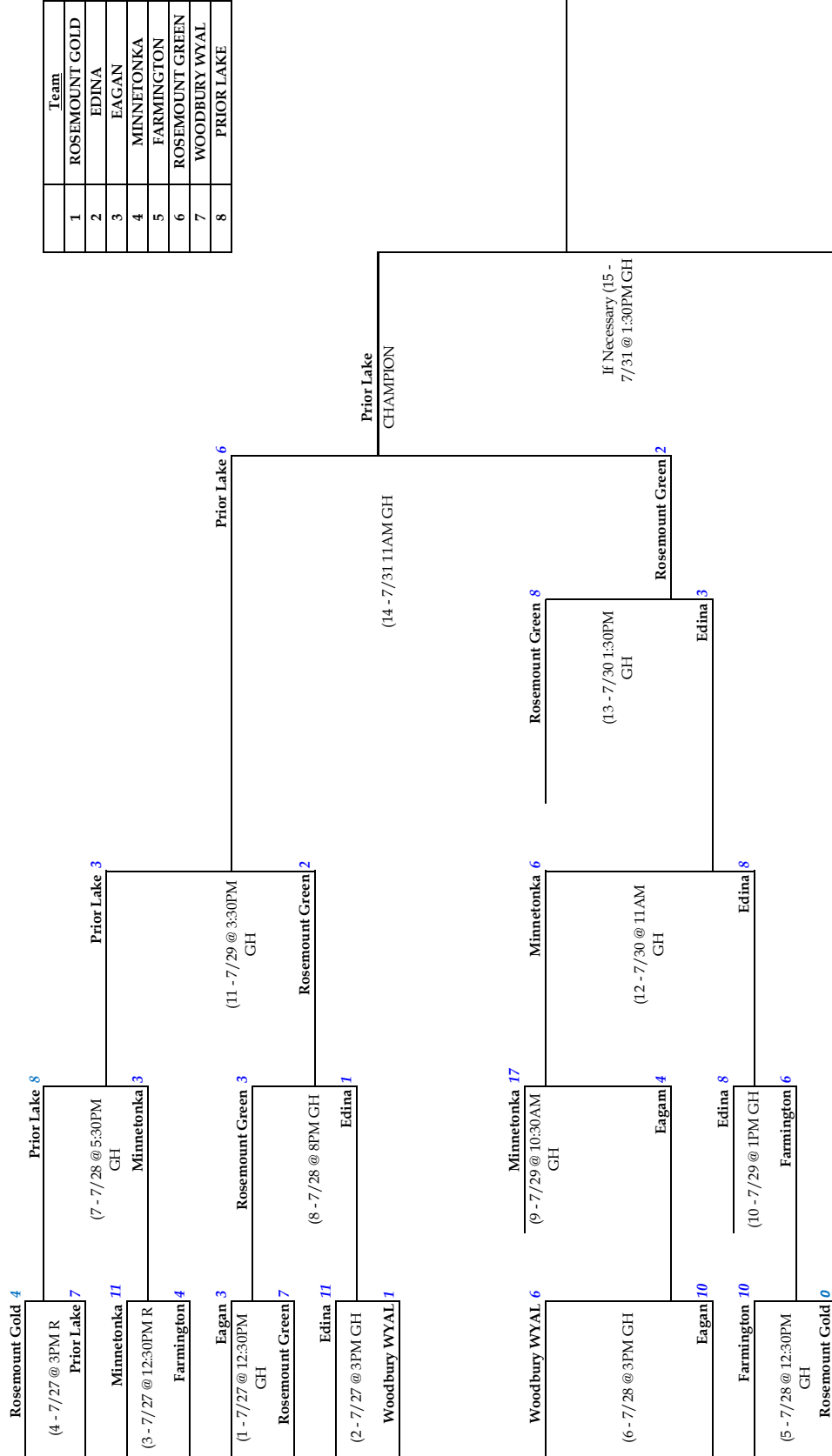
Sportsmanship Award: Howard Lake Post 145
Outstanding Pitcher: Anna Bamlet (Hayfield)
Outstanding Player: Jo Tempel (Hayfield)

5TH ANNUAL TIER I-A STATE TOURNAMENT RESULTS

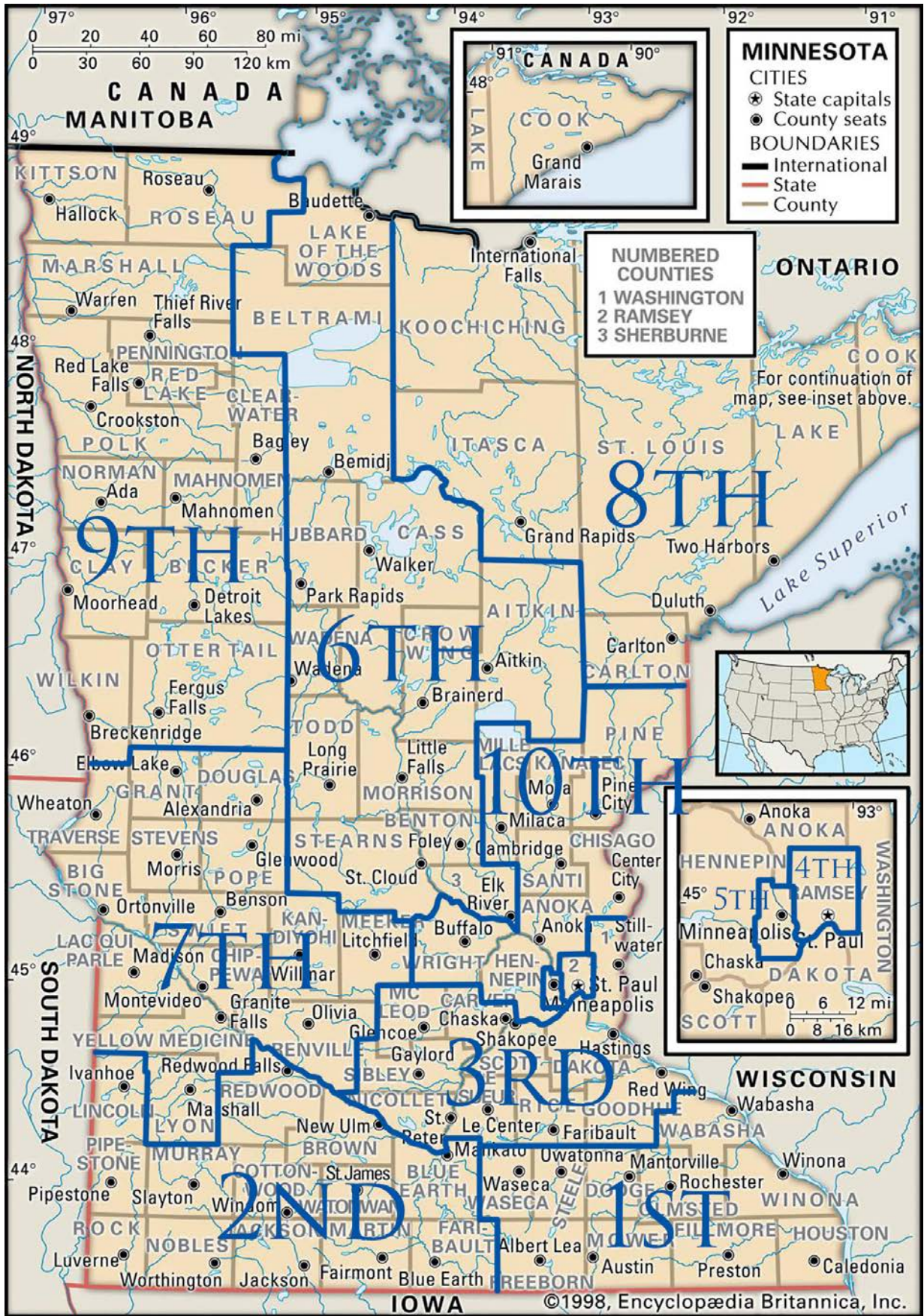
July 28-31, 2022
Goat Hill Park, Eagan

2022 TIER 1A STATE TOURNAMENT

JULY 27 - JULY 31, 2022
HOSTED BY EAGAN @ BIG GOAT PARK & RAHN PARK, EAGAN
GH = GOAT HILL - 4391 Lexington Avenue South, Eagan
R = RAHN PARK - 4425 Sandstone Drive, Eagan



THE 10 DISTRICTS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MINNESOTA



National American Legion Baseball Graduates of the Year

Each year The American Legion honors a former American Legion Baseball player who is currently playing in the Major Leagues for his character, leadership, playing abilities and community service. Individuals are recommended by their respective post.

- | | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1958: John Sherman Lollar
Chicago White Sox
Arkansas | Lafayette, La. | 2001: Todd Stottlemeyer
Arizona Diamondbacks
Washington |
| 1959: No award was made | 1979: Mike Flanagan
Baltimore Orioles
Manchester, N.H., Post 2 | 2002: Luis Gonzalez
Arizona Diamondbacks
Tampa, Fla., Post 248 |
| 1960: Ted Williams
Boston Red Sox
San Diego, Calif. | 1980: George Brett
Kansas City Royals
El Segundo, Calif. | 2003: Jeff Bagwell
Houston Astros
Middletown, Conn., Post 75 |
| 1961: Stan Musial
St. Louis Cardinals
Donora, Pa. | 1981: Gary Carter
Montreal Expos
Fullerton, Calif. | 2004: Darrin Erstad
Anaheim Angels
Jamestown, N.D. Post 14 |
| 1962: Bobby Richardson
New York Yankees
Sumter, S.C. | 1982: Jim Sundberg
Texas Rangers
Galesburg, Ill. | 2005: Scott Rolen
St. Louis Cardinals
Jasper, Ind. |
| 1963: Warren Spahn
Milwaukee Braves
Buffalo, N.Y. | 1983: Andre Thornton
Cleveland Indians
Phoenixville, Pa. | 2006: Albert Pujols
St. Louis Cardinals
Independence, Mo., Post 340 |
| 1964: Brooks Robinson
Baltimore Orioles
N. Little Rock, Ark., Post 1 | 1984: Ryne Sandberg
Chicago Cubs
Spokane, Wash. | 2007: Chris Carpenter
St. Louis Cardinals
Manchester, N.H., Post 79 |
| 1965: Eddie Fisher
Chicago White Sox
Oklahoma | 1985: Jeff Reardon
Montreal Expos
Dalton, Mass. | 2008: Justin Verlander
Detroit Tigers
Powhatan, Va., Post 201 |
| 1966: Frank Robinson
Baltimore Orioles
Pleasanton, Calif., Post 237 | 1986: Dale Murphy
Atlanta Braves
Portland, Ore. | 2009: Lyle Overbay
Toronto Blue Jays
Centralia, Wash., Post 15 |
| 1967: Carl Yastrzemski
Boston Red Sox
Bridgehampton, N.Y. | 1987: Don Mattingly
New York Yankees
Evansville, Ind. | 2010: Brandon Inge
Detroit Tigers
Lynchburg, Va. |
| 1968: Mickey Lolich
Detroit Tigers
Portland, Ore., Post 102 | 1988: Roger Clemens
Boston Red Sox
Spring Woods, Ohio | 2011: Cory Hart
Milwaukee Brewers
Kentucky |
| 1969: Harmon Killebrew
Minnesota Twins
Payette, Idaho | 1989: Alan Trammell,
Detroit Tigers
San Diego, Calif. | 2012: Mark Ellis
Los Angeles Dodgers
Rapid City, S.D., Post 22 |
| 1970: Dave McNally
Baltimore Orioles
Billings, Mont., Post 4 | 1990: Harold Reynolds
Seattle Mariners
Corvallis, Ore., Post 11 | 2013: Chad Billingsley
Los Angeles Dodgers
Napoleon, Ohio, Post 300 |
| 1971: Steve Carlton
St. Louis Cardinals
Miami, Fla. | 1991: Sid Bream
Atlanta Braves
Carlisle, Pa. | 2014: Michael Cuddyer
Colorado Rockies
Chesapeake, Va., Post 280 |
| 1972: Al Kaline
Detroit Tigers
Baltimore, Md. | 1992: Terry Lee Steinbach
Oakland Athletics
New Ulm, Minn., Post 132 | 2015: Alex Gordon
Kansas City Royals
Lincoln, Neb., Post 3 |
| 1973: Johnny Bench
Cincinnati Reds
Anadarko, Okla. | 1993: Billy Swift
San Francisco Giants
Portland, Maine | 2016: Cliff Lee
Philadelphia Phillies
Benton, Ark. |
| 1974: Wilbur Wood
Chicago White Sox
Watertown, Mass., Post 99 | 1994: Greg Maddux
Atlanta Braves
Las Vegas, Nev., Post 8 | 2017: Brian Dozier
Minnesota Twins
Tupelo, Miss., Post 49 |
| 1975: Carlton Fisk
Boston Red Sox
Bellows Falls, Vt., Post 37 | 1995: Bob Tewksbury
Texas Rangers
New Hampshire | 2018: Brian Duensing
Chicago Cubs
Omaha, Neb., Post 374 |
| 1976: Rick Monday
Chicago Cubs
Santa Monica, Calif., Post 123 | 1996: Paul Molitor
Minnesota Twins
St. Paul, Minn., Post 8 | 2019: Neil Walker
Pittsburgh Pirates
Gibsonia, Pa., Post 548 |
| 1977: Dave Winfield
San Diego Padres
St. Paul, Minn., Post 606 | 1997: Mo Vaughn
Boston Red Sox
Norwalk, Conn. | 2020: No award was made |
| 1978: Ron Guidry
New York Yankees | 1998: Tony Gwynn
San Diego Padres
Long Beach, Calif., Post 27 | 2021: Jacob DeGrom
New York Mets
Deland, Fla., Post 3 |
| | 1999: Steve Finley
San Diego Padres
Paducah, Ky., Post 31 | 2022: Brandon Woodruff
Milwaukee Brewers
Tupelo, Miss., Post 49 |
| | 2000: Chipper Jones
Atlanta Braves
Deland, Fla., Post 6 | 2023: Corey Seager
Texas Rangers
Kannapolis, N.C., Post 115 |



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