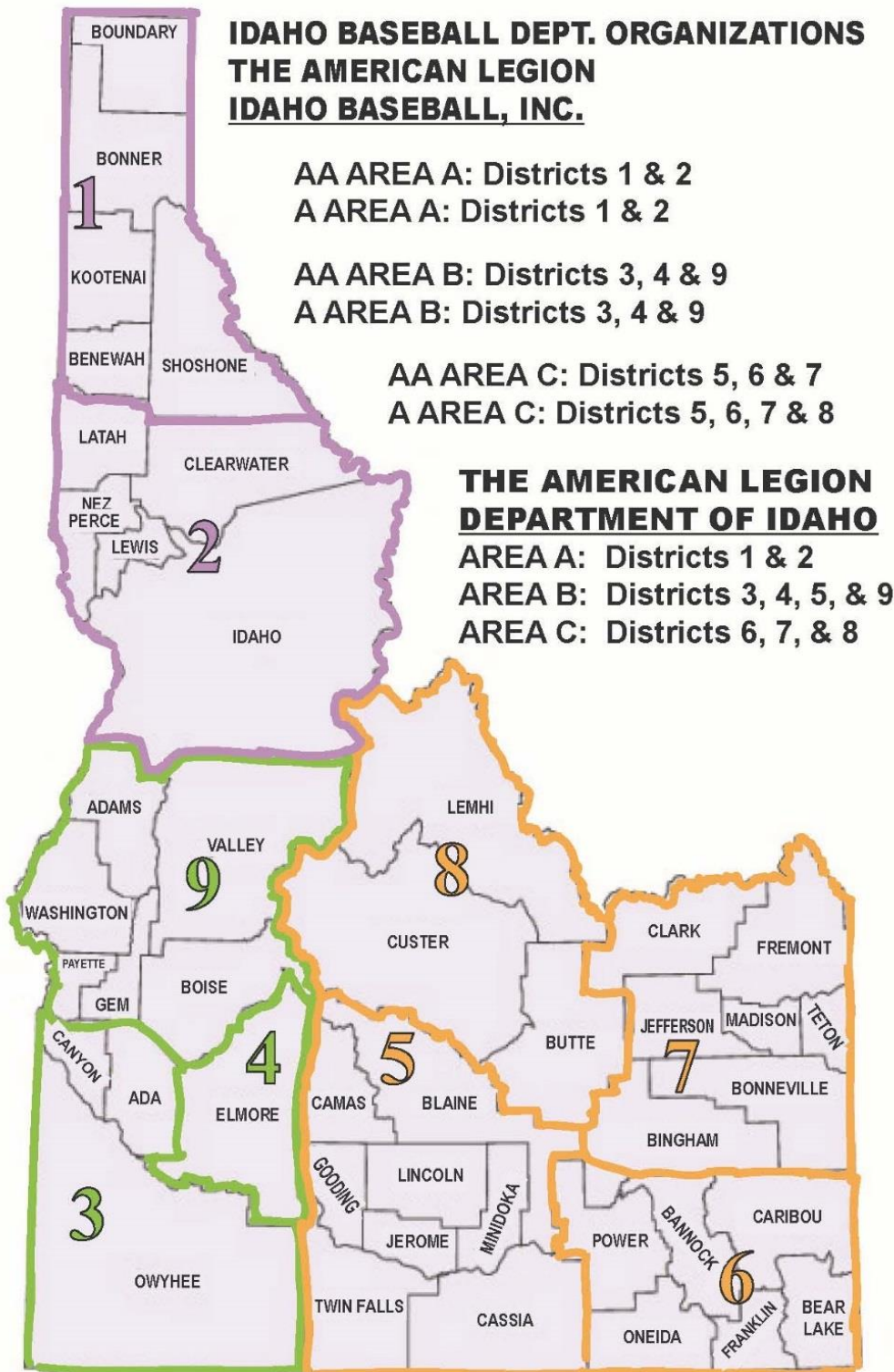


2020
Rules and REGULATIONS
for
AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL

conducted by
IDAHO AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL, INC.
IDAHO DEPARTMENT
THE AMERICAN LEGION



2020 IALB Organizational Map



THE CODE OF SPORTSMANSHIP

I WILL:

**Keep the rules
Keep faith with my teammates
Keep my temper
Keep myself fit
Keep a stout heart in defeat
Keep my pride under in victory
Keep a sound soul, a clean mind, and a healthy body.**

PURPOSE AND SCOPE OF AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL

1. To inculcate in youth a better understanding of the American way of life and to promote the principles of 100% Americanism.
2. To instill in the nation's youth a sincere desire to develop within themselves a feeling of citizenship, sportsmanship, loyalty and team spirit.
3. To aid in the improvement and development of the physical fitness of our country's youth.
4. To build for the Nation's future through our youth.

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2020 American Legion Officers & Directors

OFFICERS:

Chairman: Charles "Abe" Abrahamson
128 Blue 128 Blue Lakes Blvd.
Twin Falls, ID 83301
208-6

Vice Chairman:
Greg T. Stultz
5008 Lily Lane
Ammon, ID 83406
stultz@cableone.net
208-317-2292

Secretary:
Robin Abrahamson
128 Blue Lakes Blvd.
Twin Falls, ID 83301
208-681-0592

Treasurer:
Dean Shears
1925 Birch Ave. Lewiston,
ID 83501
shearsdm@yahoo.com
208-791-3318

AREA DIRECTORS:

Area A - Lucky Gallego
315 E. Main
Grangeville, ID 83530
208-507-2035/208-983-9387
lukydawg@gmail.com

Area B - Rob Woodruff
750 East 9th North
Mountain Home, ID 83647
Phone 208-724-1673
rwoodster@hotmail.com

Area B -

Area C - Darrell Homer
3501 Shadow Mtn. Trl. Idaho Falls,
ID 83404
208-403-2163
darrelrh@cableone.net

DISTRICT DIRECTORS:

Dist. 1 - Dee Sasse
3191 E. Bogey Dr. Post Falls, ID
83854
208-755-1607
dsass1962@gmail.com

Dist. 2 - Dean Shears
1925 Birch Ave. Lewiston, ID 83501
208-791-3318
shearsdm@yahoo.com

Dist. 3 - Rick Harper
2325 E. Highmeadow Ct. Eagle, ID
83616
208-250-6543
rick@rharper.org

Dist. 4 - Troy Humble
20041 Locust Hill Dr
Green Leaf, ID 83626
208-941-0129
Troy@TK-Tel.com

Dist. 5 - Susan Kennedy
PO Box 701
Burley, ID 83318
208-312-0655
idahoveteran@yahoo.com

Dist. 6 - xxxxxxxxxxxx

Dist. 7 - Mike Whyte
Idaho Fall, ID
208-520-9267

Dist. 8 - VACANT

Dist. 9 - Dan Davis
516 W. Dewey Lane
Caldwell, ID 83605
208-570-4958
dandavisump@yahoo.com

2020 Idaho Tournament Schedules

Idaho Area District Tournaments:

Area A AA@

Area A A@

Area B AA@

Area B A@

Area C AA@

Area C A@I

Idaho "AA" State Tournament Seedings: Dates/Locations:

Game 1 State Tournament @ Boise, ID
Area B #1 v. Area C #3
Banquet 7/27
Games 7/28 – 8/1

Game 3 Northwest Regional @ Gillette, WY
Area A #1 v. Area B #2
Banquet- 8/04
Games 8/05 -8/07

Game 2 World Series @ Shelby, NC
Area C #1 v. Area B #3
Banquet- 8/12
Games 8/13 - 8/17

Game 4
Area f

Idaho "A" State Tournament Seedings: Dates/Locations:

Game 1 State Tournament @ Valley View, ID
Area C #1 v. Area B #3
Banquet 7/27
Games 7/28 – 8/1

Game 2 NWCART Region 7 @ Anchorage, AK
Area B #1 v. Area C #3
Banquet 8/06
Games 8/07 – 8/11

Game 3
Area C #1 v. Area B #2

Game 4
Area C #2 v. Area A #2 (Host)

B. "AA" TOURNAMENT BIDDING & REQUIREMENTS:

1. The hosting for the "AA" tournament will normally be bid at the annual meeting of the Board of Directors one year prior to the baseball season to which the tournament applies, (e.g.) The 2020 tournament will be bid at the 2020 annual Idaho Department mid-winter meeting in Boise. The Boise Capital will host the 2020 AA tournament in Lewiston, ID.
2. The Idaho "AA" State Tournament shall be rotated from in-state area A to B to C to B to A. If there is no bid from the region which has the eligible turn, priority will be given to the Area which has the next turn in the rotation. The normal rotation between Areas will NOT be changed, regardless of any change in tournament site in any year required by a "no bid" situation.
3. The bidder for the Idaho "AA" tournament shall present a check for \$250.00 to the Chairman at the time the bid is submitted, which amount will be returned if the bid is unsuccessful. An additional \$500.00 shall be presented to the Chairman by July 1 of the summer the tournament is held.
4. The tournament Host shall notify the Secretary by July 1 of the availability and cost of housing in the tournament area that might be useful for teams, coaches and fans. Such information, if presented with the bid, is helpful to the Directors in selection of the tournament Host.
5. Visiting teams to the Idaho State "AA" Tournament are required to provide all their own meals and lodging. The Host team will pay to the Chairman over and above the \$750.00 tournament fees, which are described above, a final payment of \$1,000.00. The State shall pay for all umpire fees for the Tournament at the rate of \$65.00 per game. The state shall pay mileage and per diem for the umpires from outside the Area hosting the tournament. The State shall provide thirteen (13) dozen American Legion Logo stamped baseballs for use at the tournament.
6. Tournament Host shall submit a financial statement to the Secretary and Chairman by October 1st together with the final payment.
7. The tournament Host shall provide lodging for three (3) State American Legion officials – two (2) umpires, one (1) for the Chairman or his appointed agent.
8. There shall be no entrance fee to the tournament.

C. "A" TEAM TOURNAMENT BIDDING & REQUIREMENTS:

1. The hosting of the "A" Tournament will normally be bid at the annual meeting of the Board of Directors for the tournament of the following year. (e.g.) The 2020 "A" tournament will be bid at the 2020 annual Idaho Department mid-winter meeting in Boise. The Capital XXX will host the 2020 "A" tournament,
2. The "A" Tournament shall be rotated from Area C to B to A. If there is no bid from the Area which has the next turn, priority will be given to the Area which has the successive turn in the rotation. The normal rotation between Areas will NOT be changed, regardless of any change in tournament site in any year required by a "no bid" situation.
3. The bidder for the Idaho "A" Tournament shall present a \$100.00 check to the Chairman at the time the bid is submitted, which amount shall be returned if the bid is unsuccessful. An additional \$150.00 shall be presented to the Chairman by the Host of the tournament by July 1 of the summer in which the tournament is held.
4. The tournament Host shall also send notification to the Secretary by July 1 of the availability and cost of housing in the tournament area that might be available for teams, coaches and fans. Such information if presented with the bid will be helpful to the Directors in selection of the tournament Host.
5. There will be no tournament entrance fee.

6. Visiting teams to the Idaho State "A" Tournament are required to provide all of their own meals and lodging. The State shall pay for all umpire fees at the rate of \$65.00 per game. The State shall pay the mileage and per diem for the umpires from outside of the Area hosting the tournament. The State shall provide thirteen (13) dozen American Legion baseballs for use at the tournament. The "A" Champion will be subsidized \$3,000.00 by the Idaho American Legion Baseball, Inc. as partial support to participate in the Northwest Regional "A" Tournament (NWCART). In the event that the NW Regional "A" Tournament is hosted by the State of Alaska, the Champion's flight costs in traveling to the Alaskan tournament shall be paid for by Idaho American Legion Baseball, Inc. The Teams will be responsible for their travel costs to and from Seattle, Washington, for the flight to Alaska, and their housing, food and local transportation costs while at the tournament.
7. The Tournament managers shall provide lodging for three (3) State American Legion officials – two (2) umpires, one (1) for the Chairman or his appointed agent.
8. Tournament managers shall submit a financial statement to the Secretary and Chairman by October 1.

D. GENERAL TEAM RESPONSIBILITIES FOR "A" AND AA" TOURNAMENTS:

1. Prior to the banquet, team managers and coaches shall arrive at the Host city. Attendance at the banquet is mandatory.
2. Each team shall assume its own financial responsibilities.
3. Each team manager will present the state representative, immediately on arrival at the tournament site, their original Rosters, original or certified birth certificates or other proof of age per National Rules, their National Form 2s for each player, concussion certification and Coaches' Ethics statement.
4. Games shall be played on a lighted field approved by the State Chairman.
5. The manager or coach is responsible to ensure that a player who is ill and confined to his room or who is ejected from a game has adult supervision.
6. A managers' and coaches' meeting shall be held on the eve of the tournament, generally following the banquet or picnic.
7. There will be no dressing at the ballpark. All teams must arrive in uniform for their games.

E. HOST RESPONSIBILITIES FOR "A" AND "AA" TOURNAMENTS:

1. A banquet/picnic, at no charge for tournament team players and coaches, shall be held by the Host on the evening prior to the tournament. All teams are required to attend dressed in shoes, slacks, shirts & ties; or in nice team polo shirts all the same color and design. **Baseball caps will not be allowed at the banquet/picnic.**
2. The Host shall assist visiting teams in acquiring moderate priced lodging. (Arrangements should be made at least six (6) months prior to the tournament.)
3. The Host shall provide adequate medical assistance on the field.
4. The Host shall provide tournament packets to scouts and media who shall not be charged for admission to games.
5. The field shall be dressed properly before the start of each game.
6. The Host shall provide qualified official scorers and public address announcers for each game.
7. The Host shall provide stadium/parking security.

8. The local tournament chairman shall be responsible for the availability of and assignment of practice fields. No practice permitted on the tournament field.
9. Host teams will be required to provide dressing room facilities at the tournament site for the umpires.
10. Host shall have policy in place to warn fans and players of weather conditions specifically regarding Lightning danger. The Host team shall make an announcement of suitable cover available at the ballpark should play be suspended by the Umpires in charge of the game.

F. TEAM ORGANIZATION RESPONSIBILITIES

1. REGISTRATION OF "AA" AND "A" TEAMS:

Each Idaho American Legion AA and A baseball team shall pay a \$50.00 National Fee, a \$175.00 State registration fee and shall purchase Liability & Accident Insurance for a Senior team from S.A. Van Dyke. All registrations, National and State, payments and purchase of insurance shall be done on-line at the National site: <http://www.legion.org/baseball>. The DEADLINE for registration is May 15th of each season. There will be a NATIONAL late fee of \$200.00 assessed for all submissions after May 15th and you will be locked out of the on-line registration until after that fee is paid.

2. REGISTRATION OF "B" JUNIOR LEGION TEAMS:

This is a league primarily designed for 8th grade and 9th grade students. The season for the Spring League Division in area "B" Division shall begin no earlier than March 1st of each year and end on or before May 15th of each year. Teams playing only in the summer in all Areas shall follow the dates, deadlines and penalties as set forth for A and AA Division teams above.

All "B" Division teams are eligible for the JUNIOR rate for the National Fee (\$25.00) and JUNIOR rates for insurance through S.A. Van Dyke. The State Fee shall be \$50.00 for all "B" Division teams, regardless of whether they play through the Spring League and Summer League, (Areas A and C).

The enrollment cap for all B Division teams shall be 5,000. All teams playing in the "B" division, both spring and summer leagues will follow national junior rules as set out in the national rulebook, with the exception of the age eligibility rules in Idaho, which are set out in our rules at Page 12, Paragraph G-5. The deadline for registration for Area B Spring League teams is March 1st of each Spring season. That season shall end on or before May 15th. In Areas A or C, the registration and other deadlines are the same as for A and AA Division teams. In Area B only, regardless of whether an Organization plans on fielding a "B" Division team during the Spring League, and then using some of the same players from that Spring League in their "A" Division summer league, they shall pay both the "B" Division fees and insurance AND then pay a separate NATIONAL fee for their "A" Division team. If that Organization elects to continue on through the Summer with its "B" Division team, they may DUAL ROSTER a "B" Division team player ONLY through the date of the first game of the "A" team. However, no team may have more than 18 players on any roster at any time!

If an organization is fielding a "AA", an "A" and a "B" division throughout the season, all roster changes between the "A" and the "B" teams MUST be done prior to the start of the "A" regular league season. Neither team may have more than 18 rostered players at one time.

STEP ONE - BACKGROUND CHECKS: every manager & coach must successfully complete a background check through protect youth sports, before attempting to register your team on-line, and before having ANY contact with any player. Any "Volunteer" who may have unsupervised, one-on-one contact with any player must also complete this background check (e.g. Trainers, or Bus Drivers on overnight trips). Register and pay the fee on-line at <https://www.opportunities.averity.com/IdahoALBaseball>. Background checks must be done every year and regardless of whether other background checks may have been done for any other organizations!

STEP TWO - CONCUSSION TRAINING: All coaches and assistants present during all practices and games MUST HAVE written documentation that they have completed either the IHSSA or the center for disease control concussion training. written certification is good for two years and then must be renewed. penalty: any coach or assistant who does not have written certification of up-to-date concussion training may not be on the field for any games or practices until that new written certification is completed. any violation of this requirement will result in the immediate suspension of that coach or assistant for a period of one year unless modified by appeal to the state chairman who will have the sole discretion, based on good cause shown, to modify the penalty.

STEP THREE - TEAM REGISTRATION: log on to the national site and register your team or teams designate whether you are a senior division "A", senior division "AA", or a junior division B team. your registration will be approved by the state chairman within one (1) week. deadline for this registration is May 15th each year for divisions "A" and "AA" playing only in the summer leagues. the deadline for all "B" division teams and those "A" di- vision teams that are also playing in the spring league is march 1st of each year. register your team(s) as soon as possible beginning January 1 of each year!

STEP FOUR - FEES & INSURANCE: when you register, you should also pay your registration fees, both national and state and if you are an "A" or an "AA" division team, purchase your ~~own~~ insurance, liability and medical, from S. A. Van Dyke. if you are a true "B" division team you may purchase junior insurance through S. A. Van Dyke payment must be by debit or credit card. no exceptions! deadline for payment of fees and purchase of insurance in the "B" spring league teams in area b is March 1st of each year and is good through the summer if any team continues through the summer. The deadline for "A", "AA" and any "B" division teams playing only during the summer league is May 15th of each year.

If you have not paid your fees and purchased your insurance by your respective division due dates, you will automatically be locked out of the on-line system. You will not be allowed to continue the registration process until you have been reinstated. You will have to (1) Contact the State Chairman, (2) pay the \$200.00 late fee for late payment of fees, (3) and show cause why you should be allowed to continue the registration process. The State Chairman will email all Area and District Directors setting forth the reasons cited by the team for their failure to pay all fees and insurance by the deadline and the majority vote of the Directors will control whether a late paying team will be allowed to resume the registration process.

PENALTY: If a team plays any games without being properly registered and without having paid its fees and insurance, they will forfeit all games played to date and they may be ineligible for all post-season play.

STEP FIVE - ROSTER/MEDICAL INDEMNITY RELEASE & TEAM PICTURES: "B" SUMMER LEAGUE TEAMS ONLY AND A & AA DIVISIONS

Upon payment of all fees and purchase of insurance you will then complete your rosters and your medical release and indemnity forms (form 2s) and submit your team picture – all on-line and due by June 25th! if you cannot submit pictures on-line, you will have to submit four (4), 5"x7" color, team pictures with typed captions identifying all players/coaches to the state chairman, Charles "Abe" Abrahamson due by June 30th

"B" SPRING LEAGUE TEAIN AREA "B":

Rosters & Form 2s for the Spring B League are due by March 15th of each year. Rosters & Form 2s for the Summer B League are due by June 25th of each year. NO TEAM PICTURES are required in the B Division. no team – A, AA or B may carry more than 18 rostered players at any time.

PENALTY: failure to submit your complete roster by the applicable due dates will result in that team's disqualification for the remainder of the season and all games played previously will be declared forfeited

Alcohol Policy

1. The Home/Host team at all games will have a game administrator available to ensure that no alcoholic beverages are sold or consumed within the confines of the ballpark.
2. If a complaint is made to any member of the Idaho American Legion Baseball, Inc. Board of Directors, an investigation will be conducted, and if the complaint is found to be accurate, any organization found to be in violation of the rule by a majority vote of the Board of Directors will be penalized as follows:

First Offense: The Organization will receive a letter from the State Chair- man putting them on probation for the remainder of the season.`

Second Offense: If there is a second offense within one year of the first offense, the Organization will be fined \$150.00, which will be placed in the Idaho American Legion Baseball Scholarship Fund.

Subsequent Offenses: If there are subsequent violations during the three (3) year period from the time of the first offense, the Organization will be fined \$250, which will be placed in the Idaho American Legion Baseball Scholarship Fund.

G. TEAM COMPOSITION AND PLAYER ELIGIBILITY:

1. Except as provided below for "A" teams, all teams and players must conform to the National American Legion Rule Book.
2. "A" teams may be made up from any school or contiguous schools with no more than 1,000 enrollments in grades 10, 11, and 12.
 - a. Player eligibility for the 2020 Idaho season: Players born on or after Jan. 1, 1999.
3. Any "AA" team may also field an "A" team subject to the following limitations:
 - a. Player eligibility for the 2020 Idaho season: Players born on or after Jan. 1, 1999.
 - b. Players must come from the same schools from which the "AA" team is recruited.
4. MINIMUM AGE RULE: To be eligible for playing Idaho American Legion baseball in the A and AA Divisions, players shall be age 14 on or before September 1st of each season. THERE WILL BE NO "CASE BY CASE" EXCEPTIONS.
5. To be eligible to play in the B Division players must be age 13 on or before May 1st of the current season and must not be more than 16 years of age prior to September 1st of the current season of play. This is a league primarily designed for 8th grade and 9th grade students.
6. Team officials shall have a complete set of proofs of age per National Rules for all rostered players approved by their District or Area Director **as soon as possible after July 1, but no later than July 15** (see pages 23 & 24 - National Rule 2-E (1-7), player eligibility)
7. All teams shall also be prepared to produce their Coaches Ethics' Statement, a copy of their Certification of Concussion Training within the last 2 years, and a signed Drug Policy statement from all team members. After June 25th, no player shall be dual registered on both "AA" and "A" rosters. No player shall play in two different programs, for example, Babe Ruth and American Legion at any time without advance written approval from the State Chairman.

H. PLAYING REGULATIONS:

All games shall be played according to the 2020 National American Legion Rule Book and the 2020 Edition of the Official Baseball Rules as published by Triumph Books except as provided in Paragraph I-2 below.

AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL RULES

For more than 90 years, the Legion's National Americanism Commission has overseen the American Legion Baseball (ALB) program. This body is responsible for the playing rules, recruiting rules and all other aspects of the program. One of the unique characteristics of American Legion Baseball is that both senior and junior Legion teams follow Official Baseball Rules with few modifications. Changes to the Official Baseball Rules may be made by the Americanism Commission and are noted in Rule 1 of ALB rules. These modifications are matters of safety, equipment and insurance; they are made with the welfare of the players in mind. The Americanism Commission reviews American Legion Baseball rules in odd-numbered years. All department policies and regulations must be reviewed and approved annually by the department baseball committee. For the good of the program, team managers, coaches and Legionnaires may submit changes through their department baseball committees for consideration. Submitted changes are presented to the department chairmen at the fall baseball conference for consideration; recommendations by the ALB Committee are forwarded to the Americanism Commission for consideration. Questions and concerns about the rules should be directed to your state baseball chairman. An electronic version of this rule book is available online at legion.org/baseball/resources

SENIOR BASEBALL RULES

PLAYING REGULATIONS RULE 1

A. Baseballs. An American Legion Baseball authenticating logo is recommended on all baseballs used in regular season and required for all post-season competition. A current list of authentic products is online at emblem.legion.org.

B. Bat Rule

1. Wood bat. The bat must be a smooth, rounded stick not more than $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches in diameter at its thickest part nor more than 42 inches in length. An indentation in the end of the bat up to 1 inch in depth is permitted (cupped bats).
2. Non-wood bats. Metal, ceramic, composite or graphite bats may be used provided they do not exceed 36 inches in length and the maximum diameter is $2\frac{5}{8}$ inches.
3. Any non-wood bat must have the BBCOR certification code marked on the barrel of the bat.
4. Any non-wood bat that does not display the approved certification mark or in the umpire's judgment has been altered shall be removed from the game, and the player and team manager shall be ejected.

C. The Batter. The batter shall take his position in the batter's box promptly when it is his time at bat

1. 1 The batter shall not leave his position in the batter's box after the pitcher comes to set position or starts his windup.
2. The batter shall keep at least one foot in the batter's box throughout the batter's time at bat, unless one of the following exceptions applies, in which case the batter may leave the batter's box but not the dirt area surrounding home plate:
 - a. The batter swings at a pitch;
 - b. The batter is forced out of the batter's box by a pitch;
 - c. A member of either team requests or is granted "Time";
 - d. A defensive player attempts a play on a runner at any base;
 - e. The batter feints a bunt;
 - f. A wild pitch or passed ball occurs;
 - g. The pitcher leaves the dirt area of the pitching mound after receiving the ball;
 - h. The catcher leaves the catcher's box to give defensive signals. (Official Baseball Rule 6.)

American Legion Baseball umpires are to enforce this pace of play rule.

D. Blood Rule. If a player suffers from a laceration or other injury where blood is visible, the game shall be stopped at the earliest possible time and the athlete treated immediately. If the injury requires extensive treatment, a substitute shall replace the injured player. (Umpires are directed to give a reasonable amount of time to allow all injured players to be treated.)

E. 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 catcher's masks must have a built-in or attachable throat guard. Umpires and tournament officials shall halt the game until this rule is complied with.
2. While warming up a pitcher, either in or out of the bullpen, any player or coach must wear a mask. Any person who refuses to do so shall be ejected from the game.

F. Coaches. Only those players and coaches listed on the team's National (Electronic) Registration Form #1 or Coaches Drop/Add Form #5 are permitted on the coaching lines.

G. Courtesy Runners. Departments may use the courtesy runner rule for their respective American Legion Baseball program during regular season only: "Teams have the option to use a courtesy runner for the pitcher and/or catcher at any time. The umpire-in-chief shall record courtesy runner participation and announce it to the official scorer. For speed-up purposes, it is recommended that the courtesy runner be used with two men out in all games."

The courtesy runner rule does not apply to a pinch-hitter for the catcher unless the catcher has been re-entered. A team may not use the same runner for the pitcher and catcher in the same inning. The courtesy runner may not be removed from a base to become a pinch hitter. A player removed from the game may not be used as a courtesy runner. Should the courtesy runner pinch hit, pinch run or enter the game at any position, he will no longer be eligible to be a courtesy runner. A player who violates the courtesy runner rule is considered an illegal substitute.

H. 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 (the runner could have reached the base without colliding) or unavoidable (the runner's path to the base was blocked), or
 - b) Whether the runner was actually attempting to reach the base (plate) or attempting to dislodge the ball from the fielder.

PENALTY – If 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.

Ruling 1 – If the fielder blocks the path of the base runner to the base (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 .

Ruling 2 – If the collision by the runner was flagrant, the runner shall be declared out and ejected from the contest. The ball shall be declared dead.

2. If the defensive player blocks the base (plate) or base line without the ball, obstruction shall be called. The runner is safe, and a delayed dead ball shall be called. Ruling – If the runner collides flagrantly, he shall be declared safe on the obstruction but will be ejected from the contest. The ball is dead.
3. Collisions at home plate. A runner attempting to score may not deviate from his direct pathway to the plate in order to initiate contact with the catcher (or other player covering home plate), or otherwise initiate an avoidable collision. If, in the judgement of the umpire, a runner attempting to score initiates contact with the catcher (or other player covering home plate) in such a manner, the umpire shall declare the runner out (regardless of whether the player covering home plate maintains possession of the ball) . In such circumstances, the umpire shall call the ball dead, and all other base runners shall return to the last base touched at the time of the collision. If the runner slides into the plate in an appropriate manner, he shall not be adjudged to have violated Rule 1.H.

Any player who, in the judgment of the umpire, maliciously contacts another player is automatically ejected and, if the offender is a runner, is declared out. The American Legion is concerned that some coaches may not explain to their players that malicious contact is illegal. The majority of intentional collisions occur at home plate, where the catcher is blocking the plate. Runners should be instructed to slide directly to the plate or away from the catcher to avoid making contact with the catcher, especially when the defender is in possession of the ball. Umpires have been instructed that if there is any intentional and excessive force, or if there is any intent to injure another player, the offending player shall be ejected from the game. The malicious contact penalty will be enforced whether committed by an offensive or defensive player. Any player ejected by an umpire is automatically removed from the tournament, unless the tournament director reinstates that player.

I Designated Hitter (DH) Rule. Senior American Legion Baseball programs and all senior national tournaments shall use the American League designated hitter rule as published in Official Baseball Rules

J. Force-Play-Slide Rule. The intent of the force-play-slide rule is to ensure the safety of all players. This is a safety as well as an interference rule. Whether the defense could have completed the double play has no bearing on the applicability of this rule. 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 and in a direct line between the two bases. It is permissible for the slider's momentum to carry him through the base in the baseline extended.

Exception: A runner need not slide directly into a base as long as the runner slides or runs in a direction away from the fielder to avoid making contact or altering the play of the fielder. Interference will not be called.

- a. "On the ground" means either a head-first slide or a slide with one leg and buttock on the ground.
 - b. "Directly into a base" means the runner's entire body (feet, legs, trunk and arms) must stay in a straight line between the bases.
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.
 3. Actions by a runner are illegal and interference shall be called if:
 - a) The runner slides or runs out of the base line 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 and either makes contact with or alters the play of the fielder.
 - c) The runner's raised leg makes contact higher than the fielder's knee when 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.

PENALTY for a-e:

1. 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.
2. With two outs, the interfering runner shall be declared out and no other runner(s) shall advance .
3. If the runner's slide or collision is flagrant, the runner shall be ejected from the game.

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

L. Games: Per day. No team shall be required to play more than two games in one day. Playing days will begin at 8 a.m. local time.

M. Helmet: All players are required to wear a double-flapped, ear protective helmet while batting, running the bases and on deck.

1. Bat boys or girls must wear a double-flapped, ear-protective helmet at all times.
2. All batting helmets must have the National Operating Committee on Standards for Athletic Equipment (NOCSAE) seal of approval stamped on the helmet, and such seal must be visible on the outside of the helmet.
3. Base coaches are required to wear a standard batting helmet, with or without earflaps (safety rule: ejection for non-compliance after.

Any helmet that has a crack, or inside padding that is worn or missing, cannot be used and must be removed from the game.

N. Insurance: Every American Legion Baseball team must purchase both group liability and accident insurance from The American Legion's agent of record (S. A. Van Dyk, Inc.). Coverage must be purchased on or before June 1. Violation of this rule will result in the disqualification from any further competition.

Teams interested in playing American Legion Baseball must have liability and accident insurance in force prior to the first practice or team tryout. The American Legion National Executive Committee has mandated that insurance must be purchased from the agent of record for The American Legion, which is S.A. Van Dyk, Inc.

Specific questions concerning coverage must be directed to the agent of record at 1-800-323-7326. Any team that wishes to play American Legion Baseball must purchase insurance from S.A. Van Dyk, Inc., prior to registering with the department baseball committee.

O. Lightning Safety: The purpose of these guidelines is to provide a default policy to those responsible for making decisions concerning the suspension and restarting of contests based on the presence of lightning.

1. Assign staff to monitor local weather conditions before and during events.
2. Develop an evacuation plan, including identification of appropriate nearby shelters.
3. Develop criteria for suspension and resumption of play:
 - a) When thunder is heard or a lightning bolt is seen within 8 miles, the thunderstorm is close enough to strike your location with lightning. Suspend play and take shelter immediately
 - b) Thirty-minute rule. Once play has been suspended, wait at least 30 minutes after the last thunder is heard or flash of lightning is witnessed prior to resuming play.
 - c) For any subsequent thunder or lightning after the beginning of the 30-minute count, reset the clock and start another 30-minute count.
4. If available, electronic detection devices should be used as additional tools to determine the severity of the weather. However, such devices should not be used as the sole source when considering terminating play.
5. Hold periodic reviews for appropriate personnel.

P. National Senior Tournament Rules: The Americanism Division may prescribe such rules for the playing of any national tournament as it considers necessary. Copies of these rules are available from the tournament director.

Q. 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 items are not permitted. Devices deemed unsafe by the umpires and/or tournament director cannot be used.

R. Pitching Rule: No player may pitch more than a total of 105 pitches per day. A pitcher will be allowed to finish a batter if he reaches or exceeds the maximum limit during an at-bat but must exit the position after that hitter. No player may enter the game as a pitcher without having fulfilled the required rest days as mandated in the chart below. No player may make more than two appearances as a pitcher during any consecutive three-day period. PENALTY – The pitcher is removed from the pitcher's position and head coach shall be ejected from the game and serve an additional game suspension.

	Daily Max (pitches in game)	0 Day	1 Day	2 Days	3 Days	4 Days
ALB Senior Program	105	0-30	31-45	46-60	61-80	81+

1. Any player may be removed from the pitching position and remain in the game at another position. However, a pitcher will be automatically removed from the position when a coach makes a second trip to the mound in the same inning, and that player cannot return as a pitcher in that game. PENALTY – Forfeiture of the game if a protest is filed with the umpire-in-chief before the last out of the game.

At all national, regional and World Series tournaments, any game suspended by the on-site tournament director will become a suspended game and will be completed from the point of suspension.

2. If a player returns as a pitcher in the same game, he will be charged with another appearance.
3. Any pitcher who pitches more than 30 pitches in a game may not pitch in any subsequent games that day.
4. A day is defined as 8 a.m. to 8 a.m.

American Legion Baseball adopts the philosophy and principles of the MLB/USA Baseball Pitch Smart initiative of practical, age-appropriate guidelines to educate parents, players and coaches to avoid overuse injuries and foster long, healthy careers for youth pitchers. Learn more online at pitchsmart.org. The following are recommendations and suggested guidelines:

- **Consideration should be given to not exceed 100 combined innings pitched in any 12-month period.**
- **Take at least four months off from competitive pitching every year, including at least two to three continuous months off from all overhead throwing.**
- **Coaches should consider the pitcher's age and recommended guidelines for that age group (i.e., a 15-year-old pitcher on a senior team should be limited to 95 max pitches, although 105 is allowed).**
- **Once a pitcher is removed, consideration should be given to what position he is assigned once he is done pitching, as well as the throwing requirement of the fielding position once the pitcher vacates the mound. Make sure to properly warm up before pitching.**
- **Avoid playing for multiple teams at the same time.**
- **Avoid playing catcher while not pitching.**
- **Avoid pitching in multiple games on the same day.**
- **Make sure to follow guidelines across leagues, tournaments and showcases.**
- **Monitor for other signs of fatigue.**

S. Re-entry Rule: Departments may use the following re-entry rule for their respective department baseball program during regular season play only: "Any of the starting players may be withdrawn and re-enter once, including a player who was the designated hitter, provided such player occupies the same batting position whenever he is in the lineup. A substitute who is withdrawn may NOT re-enter."

T. Tobacco/e-cigarettes: The use of any form of tobacco/e-cigarettes by a player, coach, manager or umpire while on the playing field, benches, in the bullpen or dugouts is prohibited. Any individual violating this rule will be ejected from the game.

U. 10-Run Rule:

1. During the regular season, the department committee may grant permission to senior teams/leagues to use a 10-run rule for league games and invitational tournaments.
2. During the regular season, the department committee may allow senior teams to play seven-inning or nine-inning games with a 10-run mercy rule after five innings of play or 4½ innings if the home team has the last at-bat.

V. Uniforms: Players and coaches must be in uniforms of the same color and style when competing in regular season department (state) and national tournaments.

1. Any player, coach or manager who does not have an American Legion Baseball insignia on either the left sleeve or left chest of his uniform shirt, wind shirt or jacket will be removed from the game.

2. The front of the uniform shirt may carry lettering that identifies the post, department, town city, community or sponsor that the team represents. Such lettering must be acceptable to the sponsoring department.
3. Approved American Legion Baseball insignia includes patches available through Emblem Sales, sublimation or screen printed onto the uniform shirt.

It is permissible at all levels of American Legion Baseball for coaches and players to wear courtesy jackets (wind shirts or jackets), which must have an American Legion Baseball insignia on either the left sleeve or left chest. Coaches and players not in proper uniform will be restricted to the dugout.

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Idaho State Rules

PITCHING RULE: Strictly pursuant to National Rule 1-R, pages 14 – 16, SENIOR rules and pages 60-62 JUNIOR rules. Protests should be brought to the attention of your Area or District Directors who will investigate and after consultation with the Board of Directors may, per National Rule 1-R, pages 15 – 18, assess a penalty of forfeiture of the games and/or suspension of the coach and/or player.

3. Idaho American Legion “AA”, “A” or “B” teams shall not play any Idaho “Club” team except when the Idaho “Club” team is participating in an invitational tournament hosted by a registered Idaho American Legion team or teams, and have had to travel to said tournament site and spend overnights there, in which case Idaho Legion teams may also play that traveling team on either the day before or the day after the Tournament as well. A “Club” team is defined as any team not registered as an Idaho American Legion team that season unless they are registered teams with either the National Little League or National Babe Ruth organizations.
4. All Divisions, AA, A & B, shall be allowed *DURING REGULAR SEASON ONLY* to use courtesy runners, utilize a designated hitter, or re-enter players as set out in the National Rules, paragraphs 1-G, 1-L and 1-S, pages 8, 10 & 16 in the Senior rules and pages 54, 56 and 62 in the Junior rules. AA and A Divisions follow SENIOR Rules. Only B Division teams follow JUNIOR rules.
5. DUAL PARTICIPATION: All players seeking permission to play in any other amateur baseball program MUST COMPLY with National Rule 6(D) and seek written approval from the Department Chairman PRIOR to that event. The Form for this request is on the website at www.idaholegionbaseball.org under FORMS.

PENALTY FOR VIOLATION OF RULES #3 AND #5 ABOVE:

Any Idaho American Legion “AA” or “A” or “B” Division team found to be in violation of the above rule #3 by a majority vote of the Board of Directors will be penalized as follows:

1. First offense: Team fined \$300.00 (fine to be placed into Idaho American Legion Baseball Scholarship Fund)
2. Second offense within one year of time of first offense: Team fined \$400.00 (fine to be placed into Idaho American Legion Baseball Scholarship Fund), Head Coach suspended for all post-season play.
3. Subsequent violation(s) during three (3) year period from time of first offense: Team fined \$400.00 (fine to be placed into Idaho American Legion Baseball Scholarship Fund), Head Coach suspended for all post-season play and for the following full season from Idaho American Legion Baseball.

4. Any Idaho American Legion "AA", "A" or "B" team found to be in violation of Rule 5 above by a majority of the Board of Directors will be penalized as follows: The player will be suspended for the next three (3) league games scheduled after notification by the State Chairman of the violation. The coach shall be suspended for the next league game - unless, upon appeal to the State Chairman, it is found that the Coach did not have notice of the player's participation in the event.
5. Protests:
 - a. All protests of player eligibility must be specific with definite written proof and the protest must be lodged prior to the start of the game.
 - b. If a player is found to be ineligible, he shall be disqualified immediately. All games in which such disqualified player participated shall be declared forfeited.
 - c. Protests of rule interpretations during actual game conditions must be filed with the umpire-in-chief before the next legally pitched ball is thrown from the pitcher's mound.
 - d. Protests arising in any regularly scheduled game must be filed with the Area or District Director. All protests arising in area, regional or state final play will be ruled upon by the Chairman.
 - e. Protests arising in any regularly scheduled game must be filed with the Chairman within twenty-four (24) hours of completion of the game in question. Complete information, including a report from umpires must accompany each protest. The Chairman's decision of will be final without recourse. A record of all protests shall be filed with the minutes and reports of the Idaho American Legion Baseball, Inc. In handling tournaments within Idaho, tournament managers shall hold a meeting of all team managers involved in the tournament. At this meeting all team managers shall submit a copy of the team roster and proof of age pursuant to National Rules for each player on his/her team. Any protests as to eligibility of any player shall be made at this time. Protests as to eligibility of any player in that tournament will not be accepted after that time. Approval or disqualification of any player protested as ineligible will be made by the Chairman or his/her designee. A fee of \$10.00 shall accompany any protest.
6. If a coach or player uses profanity, physically abuses an umpire or refuses to leave a game when ejected, he/she is subject to suspension by any Idaho American Legion Director who shall make a written report to the Chairman as a record. Umpires shall submit the required Umpire Ejection Report for all ejections of an American Legion Coach or Player, whether at an American Legion game or while representing American Legion Baseball during any tournament in the State of Idaho. The Umpire shall submit the report to the District and/or Area Director responsible in that area within 24 hours of the ejection. That District or Area Director will discuss the offense leading to the ejection with the Umpire submitting the report and/or the Umpire Assignor in that area, and make a recommendation on the appropriate penalty to the Chairman. Any final penalty will be assessed by the Chairman and communicated to the Coach and his organization and to the appropriate Area or District Director. Any game suspensions shall be for the next league games following that notice from the Chairman.
7. Illegal equipment shall not be worn by any player. This applies to any equipment which, in the opinion of the umpire-in-chief, is dangerous or confusing. Any Idaho American Legion Baseball, Inc. Director may authorize the use of artificial limbs which in his/her opinion are no more dangerous to players than the corresponding human limb and do not place an opponent at a disadvantage.

8. All players, coaches, managers and umpires are expected to demonstrate proper respect during the sportsmanship code and playing of the national anthem. Proper respect means to remove your cap, place it over the heart, stand at attention and no talking. A coach is also held accountable for his actions during the Code/Anthem, or not being on the line for the Code/Anthem unless he is doing administrative duties for the tournament or games. A player or coach who is subject to discipline will have a one (1) game suspension for that first offense – at that game. A second offense is suspension until a final report has been completed and the Board of Directors has ruled, all to be done within one (1) week of the offense. Alleged Violations in District, State, Regional or World Series tournaments will result in suspension of the person from the entire tournament, unless reinstated by the tournament director.

I. IDAHO STATE AND AREA TOURNAMENTS:

1. The "AA" tournament shall consist of eight (8) teams determined as follows:
 - a. Area A - 1 team unless Hosting, then 2 teams
 - b. Area B - 4 teams unless Area A Hosting, then 3 teams
 - c. Area C - 3 teams every year
2. The "A" tournament shall consist of 8 teams consisting of:
 - a. Area A - 1 team unless Hosting, then 2 teams
 - b. Area B - 3 teams unless Hosting, then 4 teams
 - c. Area C - 3 teams unless Hosting, then 4 teams
3. In all cases, the Host team takes the lowest seed in their Area. Any team submitting a roster after June 30th is ineligible to compete in any Area or State American Legion Baseball tournament.
4. Tournament brackets may be adjusted during the tournament so that the Host team gets to play in the feature game on the first day only.
5. "AA" tournament games are seven (7) innings in length, and "A" tournament games are seven (7) innings in length.
6. State trophies and awards (championships, runners-up, sportsmanship, individuals) shall be provided by Idaho American Legion Baseball, Inc.
7. Idaho American Legion Baseball, Inc. shall pay umpires a minimum of \$65.00 per game at both AA and A Tournaments. Any umpire wishing to donate umpire services is encouraged to return the earnings.
8. The State Chairman shall select the outside-of-Host Area umpires for State "AA" and State "A" tournaments and he shall appoint the umpire-in-chief for both tournaments from the Host Area.
9. The Class "AA" tournament shall have a minimum of three (3) umpires during the entire State tournament.

The Class "A" tournament shall have two (2) umpires until the semi-finals at which time three (3) umpires shall be required for the remainder of the tournament. At the sole discretion of the State Tournament Director, a fourth umpire may be added for the Semi-Final and Championship games.

10. Invitation to recognition of Department of Idaho American Legion officials at State tournaments shall be extended to:
 - a. Department Commander;
 - b. Host Area Vice Commander;
 - c. Department Adjutant;
 - d. National Executive Committeeman;
 - e. Alternate National Executive Committeeman;
 - f. Host District Commander;
 - g. Host Post Commander;
 - h. All District/Area Baseball Chairmen

These officials should receive all information on State tournaments, and two (2) passes. Addresses of the officials listed above are available from:

Charles "Abe" Abrahamson, Adjutant
American Legion Dept. of Idaho
208-681-0592
idlegion@mindspring.com