

AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL

Department of Virginia

2022 Tournament Rules and Policies

INTRODUCTION

All Department of Virginia tournaments will be played under the policies and rules established by the Department Americanism Commission. All disputes and questions shall be referred to the on-site Tournament Director appointed by the Department Baseball Chairman.

It is important that the coaching staff read and understand these instructions, tournament rules and policies. There are many policies which are designed to provide for the safety of the players and also provide a level playing field.

DEPARTMENT TOURNAMENT CERTIFICATION

The Team Manager is responsible for ensuring the following items are sent via email (james_grenier@yahoo.com) to the Department Baseball Chairman immediately following the league Tournament, and hand carried to the Department tournament site.

NOTE: Failure to deliver the proper paperwork can disqualify a player and/or the team from competing in the department tournament.

- 1) The Team Managers will hand carry and personally deliver to the onsite Department Tournament Director the following forms:
 - a) Original or State Certified Birth Certificates or
 - i) driver's license that complies with the new Federal Real ID Law; or
 - ii) a military ID, dependent ID, a US passport, or
 - b) Coach Add/Drop Form #5 if applicable.
 - c) Copies of Form 76 or Form 77 for player transfer or player option.
 - d) Tournament pitching chart from league/regional tournament.
 - e) NOTE: The team roster will be downloaded from the national baseball website www.legion.org/baseball by local chairman. Department Chairman shall verify that the team manager and coaches have successfully passed the mandated background screening requirements. It is critical that the housing form reach the Tournament Director immediately following the completion of your department tournament. Forms must be emailed to james_grenier@yahoo.com.

PLAYER ELIGIBILITY PROTESTS

Eligibility protests of players involved in Department tournaments must be in writing and provide proof of ineligibility. They must be filed with the Department Tournament Director at the tournament site no later than 9:00 a.m. local time on the first day of the tournament involved, except when there is a 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 concerning game situation shall be filed as specified in the Official Baseball Rules and National Rule #1.

GAME PROTESTS

The Tournament Rules and Protest Committee shall consist of the Tournament Director and two individuals, not affiliated with any team on the field. These members shall be appointed by the Tournament Director, who will chair the Committee. Protests will be handled and settled by the Tournament Rules and Protest Committee at the time they are lodged.

TOURNAMENT RULES

- 1) Department competition will include the host team and seven (7) teams determined by league playoffs.
- 2) Minimum Active Players. Teams completing in ALB Senior Division/League, Department or National Tournament must have 9 eligible rostered players available for participation at all times. Players not present during team registration may be considered available for tournament play; all players must check-in with the Tournament Director prior to being entered on the line-up card. The final decision on player eligibility will be at the discretion of the tournament director and baseball chairman. Teams with less than 12 players on their roster available for play may assign players from the Junior roster to the Senior roster to get the number of active players up to 12. Players assigned to the senior roster from the Junior roster must be approved and certified by the Department Baseball Chairman. Players must be on the Junior Roster certified to National office.
- 3) Department tournaments will be eight team double elimination tournaments.
- 4) Department competition will be determined by league and regional playoffs.
- 5) The Department Chairman or designated representative will conduct a daily coach meeting at the designated location TBD.
 - a) A daily coin-flip is conducted to determine home team for all games.
 - b) Any team manager late for the daily coaches meeting shall be declared the visiting team.
 - c) The third base dugout is designated as the home team dugout.
- 6) No team shall be required to play more than two games in one day.
- 7) No tournament game shall start after 11:00 p.m. local time.
- 8) Teams eliminated from the Department tournament when the game ends by 8:00 pm shall return home and not be housed at the host expense.
- 9) All games shall be played in accordance with Rule #1 of The American Legion Rule book with minor modifications in this policy.

- 10) All Senior State, Regional and World Series games are seven (7) innings, unless extreme weather conditions dictate the modification of this rule or the game has been shortened by applying the “mercy rule” (10 run rule after 5 innings).
- 11) All Junior District, State, Regional and World Series games are Seven (7) innings, unless extreme weather conditions dictate the modification of this rule or the game has been shortened by applying the “mercy rule” (10 run rule after 5 innings).
- 12) To minimize the risk of extended extra-inning games; teams will begin with a runner on second base (player with last completed at bat) until a winner is determined.
- 13) The American Legion permits re-entry rule for junior division during tournament play.
- 14) The American Legion permits courtesy runners for pitcher or catcher during junior division tournament play.
- 15) Official Baseball Rules – Senior Division, Designated Hitter (DH) rule (pitcher only) will be used in tournament play as outlined in the American Legion Baseball Rules.
- 16) Official Baseball Rules – Junior Division, Designated Hitter (DH) rule (any defensive player) will be used in tournament play as outlined in the American Legion Baseball Rules.
- 17) Suspended games will be completed from the point of suspension.
 - a) When a game is suspended and completed the following day, the pitcher will be charged for innings pitched on the first day. Any innings pitched by that pitcher on the next day will be charged to the second day. One appearance will be charged for each appearance.
 - b) A suspended game completed on a second day will not count toward the two games in one-day rule. Teams that complete a suspended game can still play an additional two (2) full games.
- 18) In the case of rain, games may be moved to other locations at the discretion of the Tournament Director on site. **Note:** American Legion tournaments have duration limits, and Tournament Directors must make every effort to complete tournaments on time. The Tournament Director has additional instructions for rain delayed tournaments.
- 19) The pitching rule will be observed throughout all levels of tournament play (district, department, regional and world series). The winning team traveling to the next level of play must comply with the Smart Pitch guidelines for rest.
- 20) Teams will dress in the hotel or at home. No team shall dress at the ballpark unless dressing rooms are provided.
- 21) Any player or coach ejected from a game must leave the park and may not return while the game is in progress. The Tournament Director and umpire shall file an ejection report to the Department Office.
- 22) Players removed from a game (other than ejection by an umpire) may be used as a base coach.
- 23) The Tournament Director must approve all batboys or batgirls.
- 24) The Tournament Director appoints the official scorekeeper. No team is permitted to have a scorekeeper in the dugout unless that person is in uniform and listed on the National Team Roster.
 - a) The only non-uniformed personnel permitted in the dugouts are certified medical trainers or a Legionnaire stationed in the dugout at the direction of the tournament director.

PITCHING RULES

- 1) Pitch Smart limitations apply as specific in American Legion Baseball Rule 1 Playing Regulations. The rule specifies the maximum amount of pitches a pitcher can throw in a single day. Players playing in ALB Junior and Senior tournament are limited to 105 pitches in each day. Coaches must adhere to required rest periods prior to a pitcher entering a game. No player can make more than 2 appearances in a consecutive three-day period. Penalty—the pitcher and team manager shall be ejected from the game if a protest is filed with the umpire-in-chief before the last out of the game.
- 2) Any player removed from the pitching position when a coach makes a second trip to the mound in the same inning cannot return to the mound again during that game. Penalty—Forfeiture of the game if a protest is filed with the umpire-in-chief before the last out of the game.
- 3) Highly recommended coaches confirm number of pitches thrown by each pitcher at the end of each half of each inning.

ON FIELD CONDUCT

The umpires are instructed to monitor, promote and enforce the following:

- 1) Only one on-deck batter will be out of the dugout. Other personnel are to remain in the dugout, bullpen or coaches' box. Umpires are also instructed to keep players off the dirt around home plate after a home run.
- 2) Except for lengthy delays, the pitcher will be limited to five (5) warm-up throws between innings. (Official Baseball Rules)
- 3) When warming up a pitcher in the bullpen, the catcher must wear a mask and if needed, a third player must protect the bullpen from line drives and foul balls.
- 4) Shirt-tails are to be tucked in.
- 5) Do not "charge" an umpire.
- 6) List the last names and uniform numbers of all players, including non-starters, on the line-up cards.
- 7) Any player, coach, manager or party accompanying a team may be ejected for the remainder of the game from the time of the rule infraction if they:
 - a. Use profane language in any manner.
 - b. Make any unnecessary gestures in protesting an umpire's decision. (Only the team manager or coach may ask for a clarification of a rule, but never argue.)
 - c. Throw bats or any other equipment.
 - d. Make unnecessary gestures to fans, opposing players or coaches.
- 8) If an umpire ejects a player or a coach from the game, the ejected person shall be suspended for the remainder of the tournament, unless reinstated by the Tournament Director.
- 9) Team managers are responsible for fan conduct at all times; American Legion baseball is based on an expectation of good sportsmanship. Fans may be ejected from the field for demonstrating excessively poor sportsmanship.

CONDUCT OFF THE FIELD

- 1) All persons traveling with an American Legion Baseball team are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that will, at all times, reflect credit on their community, state and The American Legion Baseball program.
 - a. Any player, manager or team official, whose conduct may be considered detrimental or injurious to others, or the program, may be suspended for the remainder of the tournament and returned home by means of the first available transportation. A parent, coach or other team official will escort offending players home. The Department Baseball Chairman will be notified of such action.
 - b. If a team's conduct creates an embarrassment to The American Legion, the Tournament Director has final authority to suspend the team and or the Team Manager for two or more games.
- 2) Team managers and coaches are responsible for player conduct at all times. Pushing, shoving or unnecessary playfulness in hotels, restaurants and other public areas will not be tolerated.