

AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL

Conducted by

IDAHO AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL, ORG.

THE AMERICAN LEGION
DEPARTMENT OF IDAHO



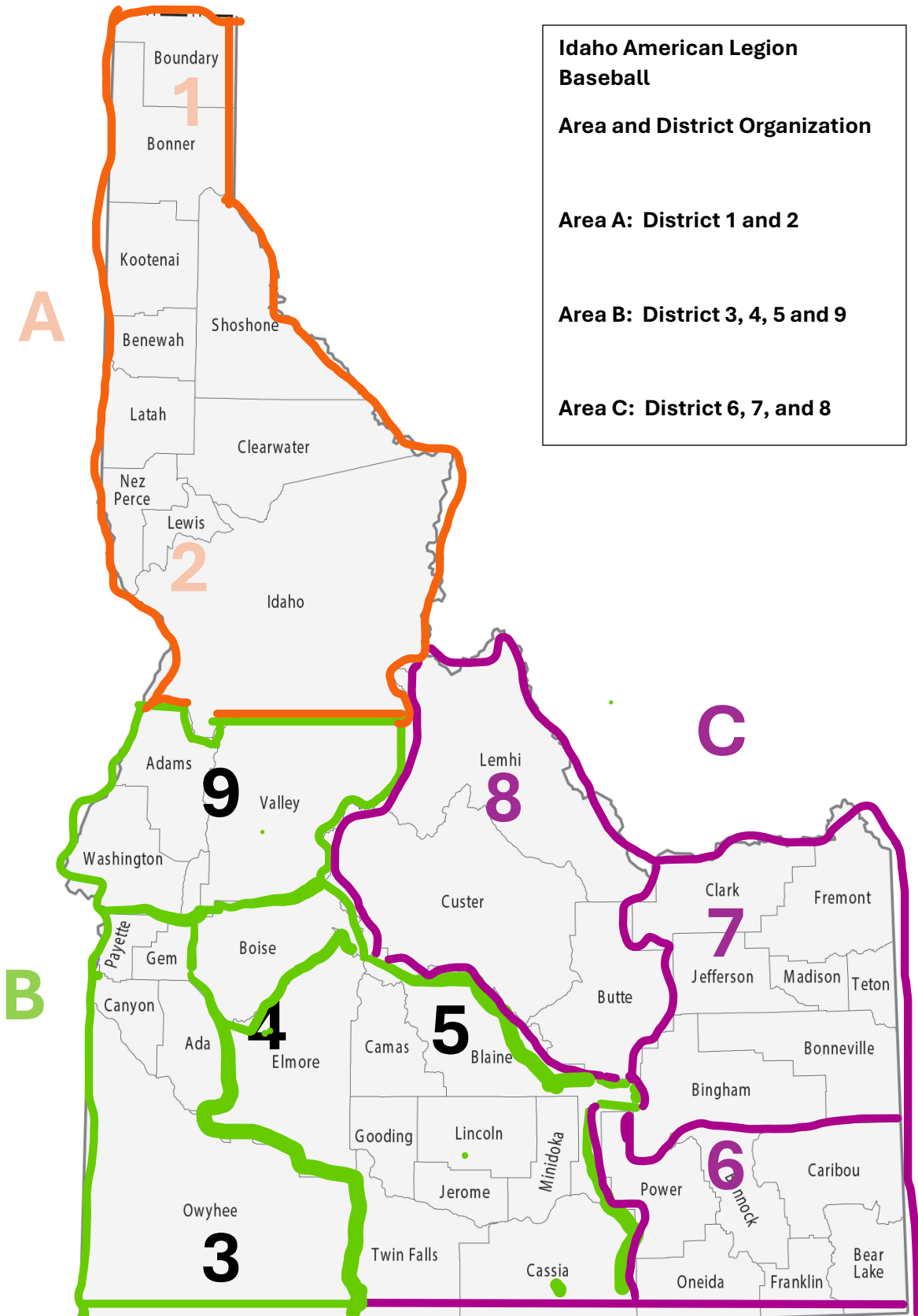
2026

PROCEDURES and REGULATIONS

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Idaho American Legion Baseball Map



PURPOSE AND SCOPE OF AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL

1. To install 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.

AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL 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 control in victory

Keep a sound soul, a clean mind, and a healthy body.

2026 American Legion Officers and Directors

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AREA TOURNAMENT BIDDING & REQUIREMENTS

Area Tournaments rotation, location and format must be approved by the Area and district directors of each area.

Area Tournament Brackets

1. In the case of 8 or less teams the District Tournament will be played at a single site.
2. In the case of more than 8 teams the District Tournament will either use "Home of the higher seed" or another method approved by the Area Director until the number of teams gets to 8 and then games will be played at a single site.

"AA" STATE TOURNAMENT BIDDING & REQUIREMENTS

- A. The hosting for the State tournament will be bid at the annual meeting of the Board of Directors, one year prior to the baseball season to which the tournament applies.
- B. The Idaho State Tournament rotation and hosting will be addressed based on Area participation.
- C. The bidder for an Idaho State tournament shall present a check for \$350.00 to the Chairman at the time the bid is submitted, which amount will be returned if the bid is unsuccessful.
- D. The tournament Host shall notify the Secretary by July 1 of the availability and cost of housing in the tournament area, that might be available for the team's coaches and fans. Such information, if presented with the bid, is helpful to the Directors in selection of the tournament Host.
- E. Visiting teams to an Idaho State Tournament are required to provide all their own meals and lodging.
 1. State shall pay for all umpire fees for the Tournament at the rate of \$90.00 per umpire per game.
 2. State will provide 10 dozen baseballs for use at the tournament.
- F. The tournament Host shall provide lodging for two (2) State American Legion officials — two (2) umpires, and one (1) for the Chairman or his appointed agent.
- G. There shall be no entrance fee for the teams to the tournament.

H. STATE TOURNAMENT ROTATION

B Teams = C-B-C-B
A Teams = B-C-B-A-C
AA Teams = A-C-B

GENERAL TEAM RESPONSIBILITIES FOR "A" and "AA" Idaho State TOURNAMENTS

- A. Team managers, coaches and players attendance at the Banquet is mandatory.
- B. Each team shall assume its own financial responsibilities.
- C. 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.
- D. Games shall be played on a lighted field unless approved by the State Chairman.
- E. The manager or coach is responsible for ensuring that a player who is ill and confined to his room, or who is ejected from a game, has adult supervision.
- F. A managers' and coaches' meeting shall be held on the eve of the Banquet.
- G. There will be no dressing at the ballpark. All teams must arrive in uniform for their games.
- H. There shall be no entrance fee for the teams to the tournament.
 - 1. The "A" Champion will be provided a stipend, from Idaho American Legion Baseball, Org., as partial support to participate in the Northwest Regional "A" Tournament (NWCART). If 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, Org. 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.
 - 2. The "AA" Champion will be provided a stipend, from Idaho American Legion Baseball, Org., as partial support to participate in the Regional Tournament. The stipend will be determined every year.

HOST RESPONSIBILITIES FOR "A" AND "AA" TOURNAMENTS

- A. 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.**
- B. The Host shall assist visiting teams in acquiring moderate priced lodging. (Arrangements should be made at least six (6) months prior to the tournament.)
- C. The Host shall provide adequate medical assistance on the field.
- D. The Host shall provide tournament packets to scouts and media who shall not be charged for admission to games.
- E. The field shall be dressed properly before the start of each game.
- F. The Host shall provide qualified official scorers and public address announcers for each game.
- G. The Host shall provide stadium/parking security.
- H. The local tournament chairman shall be responsible for the availability of and assignment of practice fields. No practice permitted on the tournament field.
- I. Host teams will be required to provide dressing room facilities at the tournament site for the umpires.
- J. 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.

TEAM ORGANIZATION RESPONSIBILITIES

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

Each Idaho American Legion AA and A baseball team shall pay a \$425.00 National Fee and shall purchase Liability & Accident Insurance for a Senior team from K and K insurance. All registrations payments, for both National and State, plus the 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.

B 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 20th 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, National Registration Fee (\$375.00), plus JUNIOR rates for insurance through K and K.

The enrollment cap for all B Division teams shall be 7,500. All teams playing in the "B" division, both Spring, Summer and Fall leagues will follow national junior rules as set out in the national rulebook, except for ,modified Fall rules and the age eligibility rules in Idaho, which are set out in or our rules at **Page 12, Paragraph E-1**. The deadline for registration for Idaho Spring League teams is March 1 of each Spring season. That season shall end on or before May 20.

For those American Legion Baseball programs that have affiliated senior and junior teams, junior eligible players may participate on both teams. However, senior eligible players may not participate on a junior team. Those eligible junior players may appear in an affiliated senior team game provided the total number of players in such senior game does not exceed 18 players.

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. Additionally, "Volunteers" (e.g. Trainers, or Bus Drivers on overnight trips) who may have unsupervised, one-on-one contact with any player, or players must Register and pay the fee on-line at <https://www.opportunities.averity.com/IdahoALBaseball>. Background checks must be done every year, regardless of whether other background checks may have been done for any other organizations!

STEP TWO —Harassment Training: all adult participants (coaches, managers, volunteers and players, 18 years of age or older) are required by Public Law 115-126 to have adult abuse awareness training and background checks to be eligible to participate in American Legion Baseball Regional or National Tournaments. Once you have completed your background check, you will be sent a link (Protect Youth Sports), that will expire in 14 days, to adult abuse awareness training.

STEP THREE - 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 FOUR - 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. The deadline for this registration is May 15 each year for divisions "A" and "AA" playing only in the summer leagues. The deadline for all "B" division teams and those "A" division teams that are also playing in the spring league is March 1 of each year. Register your team(s) as soon as possible beginning January 1 of each year!

STEP FIVE - 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 **senior** insurance, liability and medical, from K and K. If you are a true "B" division team you may purchase junior insurance through K and K; 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 1 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 15 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, (placed in the American Legion Baseball Scholarship Fund) for late payment of fees, and (3) 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 SIX - 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, your medical release and indemnity forms, plus player agreement form (form 2) and submit your team picture — all on-line and due by June 25! If you cannot submit pictures on-line, you will have to submit four (4), 5" x 7" color team pictures, with typed captions identifying all players and coaches to IALB Chairman, due by June 30.

Junior and Senior SPRING and Fall LEAGUE TEAMS – AREA B:

Rosters & Form 2s for the Spring B & A League are due by June 25th of each year. Rosters & Form 2s for the Summer B & A League are due by June 25 of each year. Rosters for Fall League are due by August 25 of each year. NO TEAM PICTURES are required. 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 forfeit.

TEAM COMPOSITION AND PLAYER ELIGIBILITY:

- A. Except as provided below for “A” teams, all teams and players must conform to the National American Legion Rule Book.
- B. “A” teams may be made up from any school, or contiguous schools, with no more than 7500 enrollments in grades 10, 11, and 12.
- C. For those American Legion Baseball programs that have affiliated senior and junior teams, junior eligible players may participate on both teams. However, senior eligible players may not participate on a junior team. Those eligible junior players may appear in an affiliated senior team game provided the total number of players in such senior game does not exceed 18 players.
- D. No player shall be rostered and play in two different programs (e.g. Travel Ball, and American Legion Baseball) at any time.
- E. Idaho B Legion
 - 1. This is a league primarily designed for 7th, 8TH, and 9TH grade players.
 - a. **Minimum age:** Must turn 13 before September 1st of the current season.
 - b. **Maximum age:** Cannot turn 17 before September 1st of the current season.
 - 2. Age Violation Rule: Any team found in violation of the age rules established, will receive the following:
 - a. \$200 fine (Placed in the American Legion Baseball Scholarship Fund)
 - b. Coach suspension of three (3) games
 - c. Forfeit all games from that date back to beginning of season.
 - d. Removal from District and/or State play upon Board approval

The age eligibility chart for American Legion Baseball in 2025 is as follows:

- **Players born in 2007 or 2008:** Must play in the Senior Legion Baseball program
- **Players born in 2014 or later:** Not eligible to play American Legion Baseball
- **Players born in 2006 or before:** No longer eligible to play American Legion Baseball

TEAM BINDERS:

- A. 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 June 1st, but no later than June 15th.
- B. All teams shall also be prepared to produce their Team Roster (Form 1), Proof of Insurance, Coaches Code of Ethics' Statement, a copy of their Certification of Concussion Training completed within the last 2 years, signed Drug and Alcohol Policy statement from all team members, and Player Transfer Forms as required.

PLAYING REGULATIONS:

- A. All games shall be played according to the 2026 National American Legion Rule Book and the 2026 Edition of the Official Major League Baseball Rules and the 2026 State Idaho Legion Rules.

NATIONAL AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL RULES:

For more than 100 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.

SENIOR and JUNIOR BASEBALL RULES:

PLAYING REGULATIONS

- 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. 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 feinted with 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.)

3. 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. Scorekeepers or Trainers may be permitted in the dugout without uniforms.

G. **Courtesy Runners.** Departments may use the courtesy runner rule for their respective American Legion Baseball program during regular season and/or during the POST SEASON: "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.

1. 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 (pitcher only).** A hitter may be designated to bat for the starting pitcher and all subsequent pitchers in any game without otherwise affecting the status of the pitcher(s) in the game.
- J. **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.
- K. **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.

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

M. **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.

N. **Helmets:** 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 one warning). Batters are required to wear a standard batting helmet with earflaps.

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

- O. **Insurance:** Every American Legion Baseball team must purchase both group liability and accident insurance from the Legion's agent of record (K&K Insurance). Coverage must be purchased by the department deadline date or no later than 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 K&K Insurance.

Specific questions concerning coverage must be directed to the agent of record at 1-800-441-3994. Any team that wishes to play American Legion Baseball must purchase insurance from K&K Insurance.

- 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.

ALB Senior Program **Daily max**
 (pitches in game)

Required Days Rest		0 Day	1 Day	2 Days	3 Days	4 Days
Pitches	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. 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 day and will be required to follow the rest protocol listed.
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.

American Legion Baseball is fully Pitch Smart compliant for the 2024 season.

The following are recommendations and suggested guidelines:

- Consideration should be given to not exceeding 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.

T. **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.”

U. **Tobacco-cigarettes:** The use of any form of tobacco-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 and possibly suffer further discipline.

V. **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.

W. **Uniforms:** Players and coaches must be in “uniform 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 emblem on either the left sleeve or left chest of his uniform shirt and an American flag on the right sleeve 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 emblem options include 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 emblem on either the left sleeve or left chest. Coaches and players not in proper “uniform” will be restricted to the dugout. Other baseball organizations’ emblems or insignia are prohibited to appear on the uniform.

Idaho State Rules

Playing non- American Legion Teams:

Teams must play all scheduled American Legion games. Once teams play their required games, they are eligible to play teams outside of American Legion Baseball. If teams do not play their required number of games against Legion teams, they are not eligible for post season play.

PITCHING RULE:

Strictly pursuant to National Rule 1-S, SENIOR 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-S, pages 15 – 20 assess a penalty of forfeiture of the games and/or suspension of the coach and/or player.

Extra Innings Rule:

If the score is tied after eight (8) complete innings, each half inning following the eighth inning will begin with a runner on second base. The runner placed on second base at the start of each half inning shall be the player in the batting order immediately preceding that half inning’s leadoff hitter. By way of example, if the number five hitter in the batting order is due to lead off the ninth inning, the number four player in the batting order shall begin the inning on second base.

DUAL PARTICIPATION:

American Legion Baseball players may participate in other amateur programs such as college tryouts, showcase events, pro camps and other sports venues. The team manager and player must obtain written approval from the Department Baseball Chairman prior to participating in the event and/or tournament. Players are not free to play or be rostered with club teams, Rocky Mountain Baseball teams, or AAU teams while playing in ALB. The use of National Form #6 must be used and is available for this request.

All Divisions, AA, A & B, shall be allowed during regular season and/or post season to use courtesy runners, utilize a designated hitter, or re-enter players as set out in the National Rules, paragraphs 1-G, 1-I and 1-T. AA and A Divisions follow SENIOR Rules. Only B Division teams follow JUNIOR rules.

Score Keeping:

It shall be the responsibility of the home team to assign a participant of their organization the responsibility of recording both teams' scores.

- A. Team scores shall be entered on an Official Score Sheet Pad. Teams must have paper proof to protest a game..
- B. These records shall be retained for verification of team win/loss stats, plus for resolution of any disputes related to advancement in tournament play.

Protests:

- A. All protests of player eligibility must be specific with definite written proof.
- 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 Area Director 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 will be final without recourse.*** 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. Approval or disqualification of any player protested as ineligible will be made by the Chairman or his/her designee. **A fee of \$100.00** shall accompany any protest. (Fee will be deposited in the Idaho American Legion Baseball Scholarship fund.)

- F. 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, Org. 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.

Ejection rule.

If in any game including tournament play any coach, player or spectator is ejected for an un-sportsman or flagrant act they will be suspended for the remainder of that game and any succeeding game.

During any game when there are excessive types of conduct from a coach, player or spectator, additional suspension time may be issued. Excessive types of conduct would include but not be limited to:

- Violent contact with any game participants (players, coaches, or umpires).
- Threatening language directed at a coach, player, or umpire.
- Failure to leave the field or venue after ejection and a reasonable period has passed.
- Intentionally throwing of equipment
- Unsportsmanlike conduct
- Disrespectful behavior

The procedure for suspension and notification is: All of the assigned officiating crew or the Area or District Director must approve of the ejection. The game officials that eject an individual for an unsportsmanlike or flagrant act must notify the District Director or Area Director with a written report by the conclusion of the next day. The District Director, upon receipt of the report, shall notify the League Chairman with a written report of the incident by the conclusion of the next day.

Before additional suspension is issued, the umpire or other Legion official involved will need to submit a written report to the American Legion Area Directors for review. The Area Directors will meet (either in person, by telephone or video conferencing) to discuss the reported events and will further offer an

opportunity for the coach or player to submit information as to the actions in question and will determine the length of suspension.

A second violation of any type by any coach, player or spectator could result in being suspended for the remainder of the season. If penalties are imposed at the end of the season and no contests remain, the penalty is carried over to the next season scheduled game.

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 not 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 or Legion Director.

Conduct

1. Managers, coaches, player/s or person/s who in the opinion of the Area Director or his representative, conduct themselves in an ungentlemanly or unsportsmanlike manner that would reflect discredit to this program may be suspended or disbarred by the Committee. The Committee's decision will be final.
2. Heckling No player, coach, manager, or party associated with an American Legion Baseball team shall abuse, heckle, or make any uncomplimentary remarks or gestures to any opposing players; team, officials, umpires or patron/s. An individual violating this regulation shall be ejected immediately from the game and may suffer further discipline.
3. Sportsmanship. Any player, coach/manager or other party accompanying a team will be suspended for the remainder of the game or multiple games from the time of rule infraction if they:
 - a. Use profane language
 - b. Make any unnecessary or obscene gestures in protesting an umpire's decision (Only team manager or coaches may ask for a clarification of a rule: they may Never argue).
 - c. Throw bats or other equipment.
 - d. Make unnecessary or obscene gestures to fans of opposing players
 - e. Resort to unnecessary roughness on the playing field
4. Any player, coach, or manager ejected by an umpire must leave the ball park.

5. Any player, coach, or manager suspended from a tournament game by an umpire for unsportsmanlike conduct is suspended for the balance of the tournament unless reinstated by the Area Director. The Directors decision will be final.

CONDUCT BY SPECTATORS OR FANS

1. A spectator or fan that conducts themselves in an ungentlemanly or unsportsmanlike manner, in the opinion of the umpire or director in charge that would reflect discredit to the American Legion Baseball program or The American Legion, shall be removed from the ballpark and/or suspended for additional games.

2. Aerosol Air Horns and other mechanical noisemakers are prohibited. A spectator or fan will be asked not to use them. A second warning will cause those spectators or fans to be removed from the stands and/or suspended for additional games.

Discipline of players, coaches and spectators

1. Ejection by umpire – Current game plus one additional game (unless reduced by Area Director)
2. Suspension by Director – Excessive Conduct
 - a. Area Director can impose 3 game suspension or less
 - b. 4 games or more requires a quorum of the board.

Appeals Process

To start an appeal the suspended person(s) must submit payment of \$100 to IALB.

For suspension lasting 3 days or less – Appeal will go to the Area Director

For suspensions of more than 3 days – Appeal will go to the state Chairman. (All correspondence will include Area Director as well).

Suspended person(s) wishing to appeal must write a formal letter stating the reason for appeal. The letter must be sent to the AD and the Chairman. The AD and/or Chairman will not start the appeal until the letter has been received.

The Chairman's decision is final and without recourse.

IDAHO STATE AND AREA TOURNAMENTS

For the 2026 Season, the seeding has been set as follows. This is established each year, based on the number of teams each Area has.

- A. The "AA" tournament shall consist of eight (8) teams, determined as follows:
 - 1. Area A - 1 teams unless Hosting
 - 2. Area B - 3 teams unless Hosting
 - 3. Area C - 3 teams unless Hosting
- B. The "A" tournament shall consist of eight (8) teams, determined as follows:
 - 1. Area A —1 team unless Hosting,
 - 2. Area B - 3 teams unless Hosting
 - 3. Area C - 3 teams unless Hosting
- C. The "B" tournament shall consist of eight (8) teams determined as follows:
 - 1. Area A— 1 team
 - 2. Area B - 3 teams unless Hosting
 - 3. Area C - 3 teams unless Hosting
- D. 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.
- E. 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.
- F. "AA" tournament games are seven (7) innings in length, and "A" tournament games are seven (7) innings in length.
- G. State trophies and awards (championships, runners-up, sportsmanship, individuals) shall be provided by Idaho American Legion Baseball, Inc.
- H. Idaho American Legion Baseball, Inc. shall pay umpires a minimum of \$90.00 per game at both AA and A Tournaments. Any umpire wishing to donate umpire services is encouraged to return the earnings.
- I. 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.
- J. 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. The Class "B" tournament will have (2) umpires until the semi-Final game at which time a minimum of three (3) umpires will be required for the remainder of the tournament.

K. Invitation should be extended to any American Legion member and their spouse to any State tournament.

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