

2018 AAU BASEBALL



HISTORIC DODGERTOWN VERO BEACH, FLORIDA

AAU MEMBERSHIP:

All athletes, coaches, scorekeeper, team admin, and bat-persons must hold a current AAU membership. AAU will provide memberships for the athletes. Coaches/scorekeeper, team admin, and any batpersons must obtain memberships on their own. In addition, all teams must hold a current AAU club membership which must be obtained by the team. All athletes and non-athletes listed on the roster will receive credentials for entrance into the Dodgertown facility.

Membership can be obtained at www.aabaseball.org , then click on Join AAU.

DATES:

14U/15U, 16/17U, 18/19U	July 12-19, 2018
Check-in / Coaches' Meeting / Pool Party	July 12, 2018
Competition	July 13-19, 2018

ENTRY FEE:

\$800 for minimum 5-games scheduled for 14U/15U, 16/17U, and 18/19U. If paying by credit card, a \$24.00 convenience fee is added. Includes tournament patches, if requested. All tournament registration is online. Visit www.aabaseball.org for more details about the tournament or click <http://www.aabaseball.org/Events/NationalEvents/NationalChampionships.aspx>.

ENTRY DEADLINE:

June 24, at 11:59 PM ET. Register early for this popular event. Once the entry deadline passes, teams on the waitlist will be cleared. Teams who have not completed their online registration will be removed if the event is full. Team registration is not complete until your roster has been uploaded and entry fees submitted. **Intent to Participate does not hold a slot for your team.**

TEAM CHECK-IN:

A person listed as bench personnel shall register the team at the appointed check in time below. This is a mandatory requirement. All team registration shall occur in the main conference room (building #2) at Historic Dodgertown. Players do not come to team check-in.

If a team is unable to check in at their assigned time, the team must contact the AAU Baseball department at the National Office **prior to the event** to make alternate arrangements. *Failure to check in at the designated time or to contact AAU Headquarters in advance to make alternate arrangements may affect your team's eligibility to participate in the National Championship.*

Each team shall have available an **“ELIGIBILITY BOOK”** for review at check-in upon request. The **“ELIGIBILITY BOOK”** must contain:

1. Copy of the team AAU Online Roster to be used at the event.
2. Copy of each athlete’s Proof of Age (driver’s license is acceptable).
3. List of AAU membership numbers for all athletes and bench personnel. It is not necessary to print each individual AAU membership card.

The **“ELIGIBILITY BOOK”** may be held at registration for review or requested to be seen by a member of the AAU Staff at any time during the tournament. Always have your Eligibility Book with you during your games. Any book held for review shall be returned to the team. Failure to have proper documentation at registration or during the event may result in athlete or team disqualification.

Credentials and player gifts will be distributed at team check-in for all rostered personnel.

CHECK-IN SCHEDULE: **All age groups: 3:00p – 4:30 PM Thursday, July 12**

COACHES MEETING: **All age groups: 5:00p – 5:30 PM Thursday, July 12**

The coaches meeting will be held in the same room as team check-in (Building #2).

Per AAU rules, if a team does not send a coach to the coaches’ meeting or make alternate arrangements in advance if necessary, the head coach will be suspended for the first game following the missed meeting.

OPENING

CEREMONIES:

Thursday, July 12, the Opening Party will be held at the Historic Dodgertown pool and barbeque area. There will be a pool party, a cookout and drinks for players and coaches. Parents and siblings are invited to the party, but will need to bring a picnic dinner. There will be no concessions available. Players and coaches must wear their jerseys or coaching shirts to be served. Shorts, swim trunks, and flip flops are encouraged. Volleyballs, basketballs, and tennis equipment will be provided. Be sure to bring a towel if you plan to swim. The fun begins at 6:30 p.m. and ends at 8:30p.m. This is an opening party you don’t want to miss!!!

SCHEDULES

and FORMAT:

Games will begin daily at **8:00** a.m. Days one and two of competition will be pool play. Double-elimination begins on day three unless rain prohibits.

Teams will be placed in pools for one round of pool play. Following pool play, all teams will advance to double-elimination bracket play.

- FACILITIES:** All games will be played at Historic Dodgertown.
- UNIFORMS:** Uniforms and equipment shall be pursuant to the rules published by Major League Baseball (American League) with any exceptions/additions implemented by the AAU.
- COACHES' ATTIRE:** Preferred attire for coaches is the full baseball uniform. If coaches are not in full uniform, they must be in appropriate matching athletic attire consistent with the team uniform (i.e. collared shirts, coaches' dress shorts, such as golf shorts, khaki, chinos, etc; baseball caps, and athletic shoes. Open-toed shoes are not acceptable.). Athletic shorts, mesh shorts, etc. are not allowed. Baggy basketball shorts, shorts that extend well below the knees and the like will not be allowed. Coaches' shorts with team logos or similar *will* be allowed. The key is that coaches are expected to have a professional and neat appearance. Only baseball caps may be worn on the field and must be worn with the brim in front. No hats other than baseball caps may be worn.
- PENALTY** - If these requirements are not met, that particular coach(es) ***will not*** be eligible to participate until he is in compliance with the rule. Coach(es) not in compliance will not be allowed to take the field until they are properly attired. Whether a coach's attire is appropriate is solely a judgment call by the tournament director and may not be appealed.
- AAU PATCH:** Included in the National Championship entry fee will be patches for players and coaches upon advance request. The patches may be worn on the uniform or kept as a memento of the event.
- The AAU patch may be affixed to the left sleeve of the uniform jersey or over the left chest of a sleeveless uniform jersey.
- BASEBALLS:** Official AAU Spalding baseballs will be provided for all games.
- BATS:** 14U/15U, 16/17U, and 18/19U must follow the **NFHS rule** of BBCOR -3 length to weight ratio, or wood bats.
- RULES OF PLAY:** Major League Baseball (American League) rules except where modified. See Complete AAU Handbook and Nationals Abbreviated Rules.
- It is strongly recommended that coaches print the abbreviated version and have it with them at all times during the Grand Nationals. Coaches must read and understand the Complete AAU Handbook prior to attending the event.
- Games will be seven (7) innings in length.
- The 10-run/15-run rule will be in effect for all games.

No new inning may begin after a 2 hour time limit expires unless the score is tied. During **pool play only**, if the score is tied at the end 7 innings, or reaches its time limit, one extra inning will be played using the **international tiebreaker rule**. There will be no ties or international tiebreaker in elimination (bracket) play. All games in the elimination (bracket) round will be played out unless the mercy rule is reached. There will be no time limit in bracket play for medal games (Gold, Silver, Bronze).

At the beginning of the extra inning in pool play, coaches will meet at home plate and indicate to the umpire where in their batting order they will begin. Each team has the option of beginning anywhere in the batting order that was in place the previous inning. The previous two batters in the order will be placed on first and second base accordingly with no outs.

For example, the score is tied at the end of seven innings with the batter who is seventh in the batting order making the final out for the visiting team. At the top of the 8th inning the coach for that team may advise the umpire he chooses to start the extra inning with his number three batter. His number one batter would take second base, and his number two batter would take first base.

The opposing team will then advise the umpire where he will start his batting order. Once the tiebreaker begins, there is no re-entry of players.

If at the end of one extra inning with the international tiebreaker in place neither team scores, the game will end in a tie. Each team will be given one point for a tie, three points for a win, and no points for a loss.

The time limit will **not** apply in bracket play.

The NFHS speed-up rule/courtesy runners rule will be used at all National Championships.

TIEBREAKER RULES:

Tiebreakers apply to each individual round, including final standings. When one round has completed, it will no longer be considered in the tiebreaker criteria once the next round has begun. When breaking ties in the bracket round beginning with fifth-place, pool play will not be considered.

- a) Overall win-loss record
- b) Head-to-head competition, *provided all teams* have played each other
- c) Least number of runs allowed in round for which standings are being determined (all games in that round are considered; not just games between tied teams)
- d) Most runs scored differential in pool play rounds for which standings are being determined (all games in that round are considered; not just games between tied teams). Note that runs scored more than opponent

will be capped at a ten run max differential per game over the losing team. For example, and for tiebreaker purposes, a score of 18-3 will be credited with a 10 run differential for runs scored rather than 15.

e) Random draw

Note: When more than two teams are tied, **each time a team breaks the tie the remaining teams revert back to criterion b and begin the process again.**

If three or more teams are tied and if any one of the teams has not played all the other teams in the tie, criterion (b) will **not** be used.

If three or more teams are tied, all teams have played each other and head-to-head competition does not break the tie, all teams will continue to criterion (c). If one team breaks the tie in criterion (c) but other teams are still tied, those teams will revert to criterion (b). If the three (or more)-way tie is not broken with criterion (c), all teams continue to criterion (d).

Once one team breaks the tie at any point, the remaining teams revert to criterion (b) and begin the process again.

EXTENDED

INCLEMENT WEATHER:

In the event of extended inclement weather, at its **sole discretion** the tournament committee may deem it necessary to alter the tournament format by shortening either the time limit for games and/or reducing the number of innings that will constitute an official game, or other means necessary to complete the tournament within the published dates. It is also possible that in these conditions, games may roll to the following day, teams may play more games in one day than originally scheduled, and single-elimination may have to begin on a day that pool play has just finished. The entire rain policy can be found in the AAU Rules Handbook.

ELIGIBILITY:

The National Championship will be subject to monitoring by the National Baseball Executive Committee.

At the National Championships in ALL AGE GROUPS, all team members must be on the roster filed seven days prior to team check-in unless a special request is made to the Baseball Committee. At the day of check-in, coaches will have one last opportunity to make adjustments to their roster before signing.

If a player is found to be ineligible prior to the start of the tournament, the player will be expelled from the tournament. If a player is found to be ineligible after the tournament has begun, upon discovery, that player and head coach will be expelled from the competition. All games in which the ineligible player participated in the most current round will be forfeited. Teams will be seeded by record incorporating the forfeits. The team may be subject to future sanctions. Coaches are responsible to see that their team meets all eligibility requirements.

Any questions pertaining to the eligibility of a player or team shall be directed to the Tournament Director or his/her designee in attendance. All claims of an ineligible player *must be accompanied by proof*, and will be determined by the Tournament Committee.

PLAYER AGE DETERMINATION:

AGE GROUP	BORN ON /AFTER
14U/15U	May 1, 2003
16/17U	May 1, 2001
18/19U	May 1, 1999

Proof of age is required for participation in AAU and must be produced upon request. Acceptable forms of birth documents are listed in the AAU Rules Handbook. No other forms will be accepted.

PLAYER ROSTER:

Rosters are limited to a maximum of 20 players for 14U, 25 players for 15U and 16U/17U, and 30 players for 18U/19U. All National rosters must be filed online at least seven days prior to the event.

COACHES:

Each team is entitled to a maximum of **three (3) bench personnel (head coach and assistants) and (1) one scorekeeper/assistant coach**. Each individual must be a registered as an AAU non-athlete. Only those coaches/scorekeepers filed on the online roster will be permitted on the field or in the dugout. Team Administrators are not granted dugout access.

TEAM ADMINISTRATOR:

Each team may have one team administrator on the roster (business manager, team mom, team dad, travel coordinator, etc.). Team administrators on the roster will receive credentials but will not be allowed on the field of play or in the dugout.

BATPERSONS:

No more than two (2) bat-persons may be registered by each team. Each bat-person should be between the ages 8-18 at the time of the tournament and registered as an AAU non-athlete. If a bat-person is younger than 8 years old, s/he must have served as a bat-person throughout at least one season. Bat-persons must wear helmets when in live playing areas.

AWARDS and CEREMONIES:

Award ceremonies will be held for 1st-8th place teams. These ceremonies will commence immediately following each game that determines 1st through 8th place. Teams will receive their medals or trophies after their game on the infield of the field they just played on. Team trophies will be awarded to the top four (4) teams in each age division. Photos will be permitted.

CONDUCT:

Players' and coaches' conduct should be above reproach, both on and off the diamond. Any misconduct will result in disqualification from the championship without refund. Coaches listed on the official team roster will be responsible for the conduct of their players and fans for any damages incurred to the hotel(s) or

facilities used by their players listed on the roster. Any player or coach who is ejected from a game will also be disqualified from that team's following game. The second occurrence during the tournament results in suspension for the remainder of the tournament as well as possible imposition of further sanctions.

PROTESTS:

Protests must be made verbally with the umpire by the offended team at the time of the play and before the next pitch. A fee of \$100.00 cash (refunded if upheld) must accompany the protest. All decisions of the protest committee shall be final. The site director, tournament director, Umpire-In-Chief and AAU senior sports manager and/or national chair shall comprise the protest committee for rule challenges. Only decisions involving the misinterpretation or misapplication of a specific rule may be protested. No protest shall be allowed in matters involving solely the officials' judgment.

**WITHDRAWAL OF
TOURNAMENT ENTRY:**

Deadline for withdrawal of a tournament will be the tournament entry deadline. If a team does not give notification of withdrawal prior to the tournament deadline date the team forfeits their entry fee.

SPECTATOR ADMISSION:

Tournament passes are \$40 and cover all games, including the championship games in Ed Smith Stadium. Daily admission will be available for \$10. Children age 10 and younger are free for the entire event. Discounted tickets are available with advance purchase. To order advance tickets (\$35), call Connor at 407.828.3459. Advance tickets are available through 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, July 5. Advance tickets will be picked up at Will-Call at the gate, or in advance at team registration. Fans are strongly encouraged to purchase tickets in advance to avoid long lines for ticket purchase. Tickets/Tournament passes are available at team check-in and at the entrance to the park.

COOLER POLICY:

Coaches may bring a team cooler into the facility. Each team will be responsible for water and ice for their games. There is access to a central water line near the concession stand to fill coolers with tap water, if desired. There is not ice available at the facility, nor are their cups. **PLEASE BRING ICE AND CUPS WITH YOU TO YOUR GAMES AND NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES OF YOUR CHOICE TO HYDRATE YOUR TEAM.** No alcoholic beverages and/or glass containers will be permitted. Please also note that no lockable storage is available for cooler or other personal belongings. Dodgertown is not responsible for personal items that are lost or stolen. **PERSONAL COOLERS FOR SPECTATORS ARE NOT ALLOWED.**

SHELTER POLICY:

Seating is available at all facilities but ***is not covered***. Pop-up tents/shelters are allowed and recommended but must be down the foul lines back from the bleacher line of view. Please be respectful of spectators around you when sheltering yourself from the sun.

**TRANSPORTATION
and PARKING:**

Teams are responsible for their own transportation to and from all facilities. Parking at each of the facilities is complimentary. Please plan to arrive early.

HOUSING:

The AAU makes every effort to provide the best quality experience for athletes, coaches and families that participate in AAU events. Host hotels have been carefully selected for your teams and athletes. These properties are ready to work with you providing the best accommodations at a great price, especially the Villas at Dodgertown. These are right on property with many amenities. The best is that you have a place to go during any rain delay. In order to complete your registration process, you are asked to use the AAU housing bureau to book your rooms. Contact Marcela Alberti (marcelaa@hbceventservices.com) for assistance.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Registration and Rule Information:

AAU National Headquarters

Tim Meyer
Sport Manager – Baseball
tmeyer@aausports.org
407.828.2723

Connor Meredith
Sport Coordinator - Baseball
cmeredith@aausports.org
407.828.3459

Tournament Director (contact once tournament has begun):

Bob Thomas
352-348-3103

The AAU cannot and does not guarantee the appearance and/or participation of specific participant(s) and/or teams (as applicable) in this event, nor can it guarantee the number of teams that will participate. The AAU has sanctioned (approved) this Event as an official AAU Event (competition), but the AAU is not and shall not be responsible for any participant's or spectator's expenses related to this Event (nor reimbursements for same) in case of dissatisfaction of any participant, friend, family, or spectator. This includes, but is not limited to, all travel, hotel (lodging), food, entry fees and/or any other expenses related to the event.

- This event is sanctioned by the Amateur Athletic Union of the U. S., Inc.
- All participants must have a current AAU membership.
- AAU membership may not be included as part of the entry fee to the event.
- AAU membership must be obtained before the competition begins except where the event operator has a laptop available with an internet connect. Participants are encouraged to visit the AAU web site www.aausports.org to obtain their membership.