

Umpires and Coaches,

Thank you for all the time you put into Nebraska American Legion Baseball. Without you, many kids would not have the opportunity to play a great game. As a way to keep everyone connected and updated, the NALB Umpire Committee will be sending out educational bulletins every 10-15 days. In the bulletins, we will address rule situations and game management issues that arise during NALB play. If you have a situation you would like us to address please send it to your area umpire liaison.

Have a great 2022 Nebraska American Legion Baseball season!

NALB Umpire Committee

2022 Nebraska American Legion Baseball - Bulletin #1

[Nebraska American Legion Baseball Website - Umpire Section](#)

Umpire Registration & Certification - Information about registering and certification clinics

Umpire Committee - Contact information for your area umpire liaison

Umpire List & Associations - List of registered and certified umpires plus contact information for umpire associations around the state

Umpire & Coach Reports - Location of the umpire ejection/incident report and coach's incident report

Regular Season Information - List of requirements for the regular season and expectations for umpires

Postseason Information - List of requirements to work postseason baseball, application to umpire a regional tournament, and state tournament umpire rotation

Umpire & Coach Communications - Contains all the information sent out to umpires and coaches throughout the season

Educational Materials - Contains multiple resources for umpires to improve their craft

2022 NALB Rule Changes

1. The only playing rule change for the 2022 season is that a fielder will no longer be able to fake a tag. A fake tag will be considered obstruction by the fielder. The obstructed runner shall be awarded at least one base beyond the last legally touched by such runner, before the obstruction.
2. Before the game, any player participating in an "anthem standoff" will be ejected from the game and will face a suspension.
3. There will be zero tolerance for cyber bullying on social media. Players or coaches participating will be subject to a suspension.

2021-2022 Points of Emphasis

1. From the time the last infielder crosses the foul line the defense will have 90 seconds to complete their warmup pitches and be ready to start play. For a new

pitcher, the 90 seconds begins at the time of his first warmup pitch. With 30 seconds left the defense will get no more than 2 pitches. With 15 seconds left the pitcher will have only 1 pitch left if they have not already completed their warmup throws. At the end of 90 seconds the inning will start. The base umpire is responsible for tracking the time. Have a stopwatch to keep track of time.

2. Only 1 offensive conference will be allowed per inning. The plate umpire will be responsible for tracking this information on their line-up card.
3. When the bases are unoccupied, the pitcher shall deliver the ball to the batter within 12 seconds after he receives the ball. Each time the pitcher delays the game by violating this rule, the umpire shall call "Ball." The 12-second timing starts when the pitcher is in possession of the ball and the batter is in the box, alert to the pitcher. The timing stops when the pitcher releases the ball. The intent of this rule is to avoid unnecessary delays. The umpire shall insist that the catcher return the ball promptly to the pitcher, and that the pitcher take his position on the rubber promptly. Obvious delay by the pitcher should instantly be penalized by the umpire.
4. In and outs limited to 8 minutes per team, same as area and state tournaments.
5. Maximum 30 minutes between games when having double headers. This includes infields.
6. Introducing players 10 minutes before game time followed by the National Anthem and the plate meeting will be 5 minutes before the game.

Safety Issue

All players and coaches must wear a mask when warming up a pitcher on the field and in the bullpen. This is a safety and liability issue, programs don't put yourself in a bad situation by not following this American Legion Baseball rule.

Rules to Review

Balk

-When a balk occurs it is a live ball, let the play finish and then decide if we are going to enforce the balk (the coach never has a choice). If all runners and the batter/runner advance one base, then we will ignore the balk. If that does not happen, put the batter back at the plate (with the same count prior to the balk) and advance all runners one base.

-The third to first move by a right handed pitcher is a balk during legion baseball.

Defensive Conferences

- Each pitcher can be visited by a coach once per inning without being removed
- The second visit in an inning requires the pitcher to be removed from the game

-A coach can not visit a pitcher twice during the same at bat. The coach would be ejected, and the pitcher would be removed from the mound after finishing the at bat. This is the reason umpires need to record visits.

Offensive Conferences

-Coach is allowed only one offensive conference each inning.
-The offensive team may conference with their players during the defensive conference. If their conference delays the game, they can be charged with an offensive conference.

Courtesy Runner

-The same player may run for both the pitcher and the catcher but not in the same inning.
-The courtesy runner can not be removed from the base paths to be a pinch hitter.

Designated Hitter & Starting Pitcher Re-Entry

-The designated hitter can be used only for the pitcher.
-Both the designated hitter and starting pitcher may re-enter.
-If the designated hitter enters the game the starting pitcher will bat in the place of the replaced defensive player.
-If the starting pitcher is removed from the mound and becomes a position player it terminates the role of the designated hitter for the game. The pitcher will either bat in the place of the designated hitter or if the designated hitter remains in the lineup as a position player, the pitcher will bat in the place of the replaced defensive player.

Ejection Report

-If you have an ejection, please use the link below to fill out a report within 12 hours. Please also let your local area representative know as well as your assignor.

[2022 NALB Umpire Ejection/Incident Report](#)

Pitch Count Rules

-As an umpire you are not responsible for keeping pitch counts. Your role is to enforce the penalty when the rule is violated. Remember you will use the home book if both teams can not agree on the number of pitches. If there is a violation, eject the coach and remove the pitcher from the pitching position.

-Seniors

Max Pitches - 105

0 day - 0-30

1 day - 31-45

2 days - 46-60

3 days - 61-80

-Juniors

- d days - 81+
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- 0 day - 0-30
- 1 day - 31-45
- 2 days - 46-60
- 3 days - 61-80
- d days - 81+

Run Rules

- For all regular season games and postseason games for all levels except Class A Seniors, the run rule is 8 runs after 5 innings.
- During state tournaments, Class A Seniors will use the 10 run rule after 5 innings (this is a requirement to be eligible for national postseason play).