

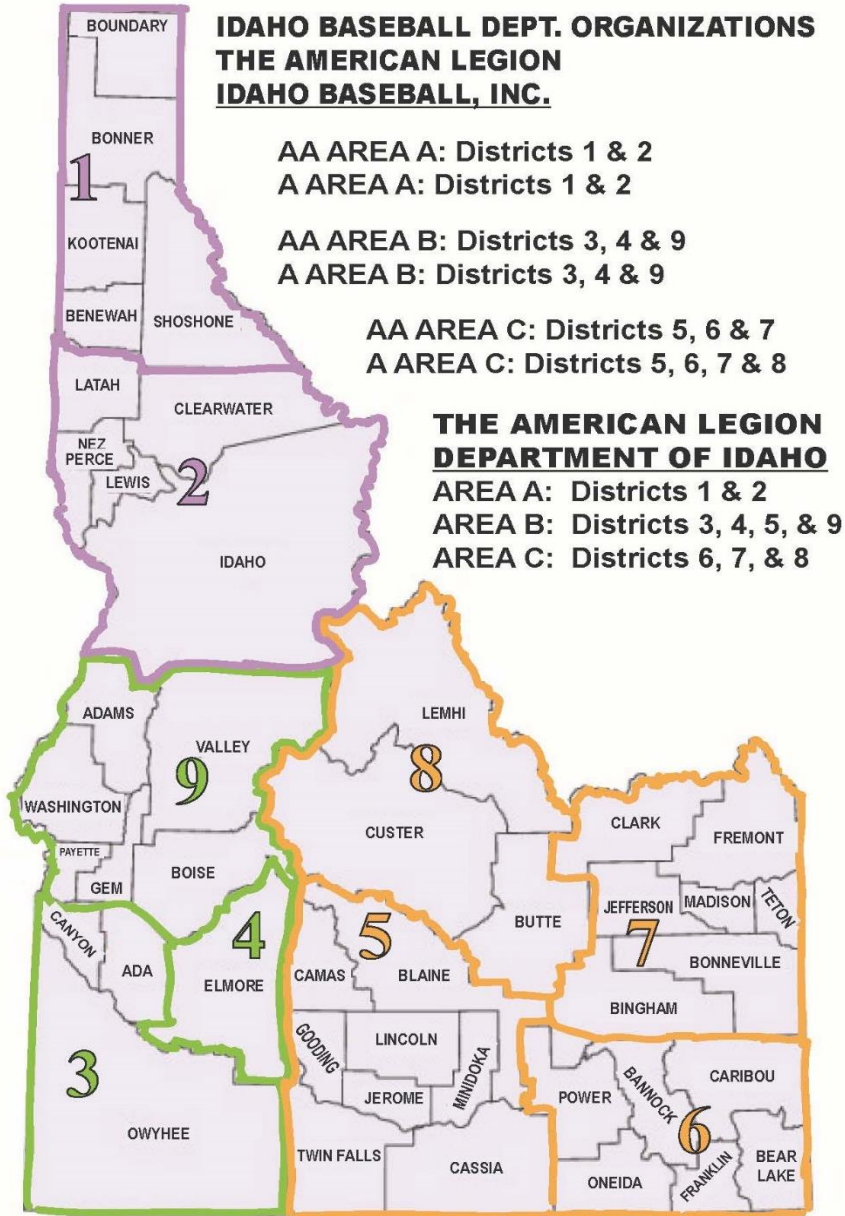
AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL

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



2023
**PROCEDURES, REGULATIONS
& BYLAWS**

2023 IALB ORGANIZATIONAL MAP



PURPOSE AND SCOPE OF AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL

1. To instill 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.

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 control in victory
Keep a sound soul, a clean mind, and a healthy body.

2023 TABLE OF CONTENTS

2023 IALB ORGANIZATIONAL MAP2

PURPOSE AND SCOPE OF AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL3

2023 AMERICAN LEGION OFFICERS & DIRECTORS5

2023 IDAHO TOURNAMENT SCHEDULES6

“AA” TOURNAMENT BIDDING & REQUIREMENTS7

“A” TEAM TOURNAMENT BIDDING & REQUIREMENTS7

GENERAL TEAM RESPONSIBILITIES FOR “A” AND AA” TOURNAMENTS8

HOST RESPONSIBILITIES FOR “A” AND “AA” TOURNAMENTS8

TEAM ORGANIZATION RESPONSIBILITIES9

TEAM COMPOSITION AND PLAYER ELIGIBILITY11

PLAYING REGULATIONS12

 IDAHO STATE RULES17

IDAHO STATE AND AREA TOURNAMENTS18

2023 AMERICAN LEGION OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

OFFICERS:

Chairman: Charles "Abe" Abrahamson
128 Blue 128 Blue Lakes Blvd.
Twin Falls, ID 83301
208-569-5745
abeidaho@yahoo.com

Vice Chairman:
Greg T. Stultz
5008 Lily Lane
Ammon, ID 83406
stultzgt@gmail.com
208-317-2292

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

AREA DIRECTORS:

Area A – Brenda Hokenson
Moscow, ID 83843
208-596-2804
hokensonbrenda@gmail.com

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

Area C – Greg T Stultz
Temp
Idaho Falls, ID 83404

DISTRICT DIRECTORS:

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

Dist. 2 – Rand Lewis
Moscow, ID 83843
208-819-0956
rand@tscorp.com

Dist. 3&4 -Mike Chilton
Boise, ID 83647
208-850-4746
mjchilton@msn.com

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

Dist. 6 – Ron Looser
Pocatello, ID 83201
Rwl2845@gmail.com

Dist. 7 – Paul Voelker
Idaho Falls ID

Dist. 8 - VACANT

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

2023 IDAHO TOURNAMENT SCHEDULES

Idaho Area District Tournaments:

Area A AA@TBD

Area A A@TBD

Area B AA@TBD

Area B A@TBD

Area C AA@TBD

No AA District Tournament

Area C A@

Twin Falls (CRHS and TFHS)
Tuesday 7/18 – Friday 7/21/
16 Team Bracket

Area C B@

Burley/Minco
Thursday 7/13 – Saturday 7/15
Max 16 Team Bracket

Idaho “AA” State Tournament:

CD Alene, ID

Banquet Monday 7/24
Games Tuesday 7/25 Saturday 7/29

Idaho “A” State Tournament:

Nampa, ID

Banquet Tuesday 7/25
Games Wednesday 7/26 Sunday 7/30

Idaho “B” State Tournament:

Mountain Home

Banquet Tuesday 7/19
Games Wednesday 7/20 Sunday 7/23

AA Regional Tournament:

Gillette, WY

Banquet Tuesday 8/1
Games Wednesday 8/2 Sunday 8/6

A Regional Tournament:

Havre, MT

Banquet Thursday 8/3
Games Friday 8/4 Tuesday 8/8

“AA” TOURNAMENT BIDDING & REQUIREMENTS

1. The hosting for the “AA” 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.
2. The Idaho “AA” State Tournament rotation and hosting will be addressed based on Area participation.
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 \$250.00 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 the team’s 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.
 - a. State shall pay for all umpire fees for the Tournament at the rate of \$75.00 per umpire per game.
 - b. State shall pay mileage and per diem for the umpires from outside the Area hosting the tournament.
 - c. State will provide 10 dozen baseballs for use at the tournament.
6. Tournament Host shall submit a financial statement to the Secretary and Chairman by October 1 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 for the teams to the tournament.

“A” TEAM TOURNAMENT BIDDING & REQUIREMENTS

1. The hosting for the “A” 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.
2. The “A” Tournament rotation and hosting will be addressed based on Area participation.
3. The bidder for the Idaho “A” Tournament shall present a \$250.00 check to the Chairman at the time the bid is submitted, which amount shall be returned if the bid is unsuccessful. An additional \$250.00 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 team’s, 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.
 - a. State shall pay for all umpire fees at the rate of \$75.00 per umpire per game. State shall pay the mileage and per diem for the umpires from outside of the Area hosting the tournament.
 - b. State shall provide 10 dozen baseballs for use at the tournament.
 - c. 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. The Tournament manager shall submit a financial statement to the Secretary and Chairman by October 1.

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 for ensuring 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.

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.

TEAM ORGANIZATION RESPONSIBILITIES

1. 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 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 15 of each season. There will be a NATIONAL late fee of \$200.00 assessed for all submissions after May 15 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 (\$375.00) and JUNIOR rates for insurance through S.A. Van Dyke.

The enrollment cap for all B Division teams shall be 2,000. All teams playing in the “B” division, both spring and summer leagues will follow national junior rules as set out in the national rulebook, except for 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 1 of each Spring season. That season shall end on or before May 15. 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 success- fully 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! [Application Form](#) ([averity.com](https://www.opportunities.averity.com))

STEP TWO – Sexual Harassment Training: 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.

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. [HEADS UP to Youth Sports: Online Training | HEADS UP | CDC Injury Center](#)

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. 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 ~~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 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 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 and your medical release and indemnity forms (form 2s) 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"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 TEAM 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 25 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

3. ALCOHOL POLICY

- A. 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.
- B. 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 Chairman 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.

TEAM COMPOSITION AND PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

Senior & Junior American Legion Baseball

2023 Age Eligibility Chart

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Traditional Grade in School	Birth Year
Age-12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	Not Eligible	2011
Age-13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	7	2010
Age-14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	8	2009
Age-15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	Freshman	2008
Age-16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	16	Sophomore	2007
Age-17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	Junior	2006
Age-18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	Senior	2005
Age-19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	19	College /HS	2004
Age-20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	N/E	2003

Players born in 2004 or 2005 must play in the Senior Legion Baseball program.

Players (age 12 and under) born in 2011 and after are not eligible to play American Legion Baseball.

Players 13, 14, and 15 are allowed to participate in the IDAHO "B" League only.

Players born in 2003 or before are no longer eligible to play American Legion

1. Idaho B Legion:

This is a league primarily designed for 13 - 15 year-old players.

2. Minimum age: Must turn 13 before September 1st of the current season

3. Maximum age: Cannot turn 16 before September 1st of the current season.

4. THERE WILL BE NO "CASE BY CASE" EXCEPTIONS.

5. 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)

6. All teams shall also be prepared to produce their Coaches Ethics' Statement, Sexual Harassment Training and Concussion Training Certificates, and a signed Drug Policy statement from all team members.
7. After June 25, no player shall be dual registered on both "AA" and "A" rosters. No player shall play in two different programs.

PLAYING REGULATIONS

1. 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.
3. 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 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.

POINT OF EMPHASIS

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. 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.

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)					
Required Days Rest		0 Day	1 Day	2 Days	3 Days	4 Days
ALB Senior Program	105	0-30	31-45	46-60	61-80	81+

ALB Senior Program

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.

CLARIFICATION

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 45 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 10run 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.

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.

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.

DUAL PARTICIPATION: American Legion Baseball players may participate in other amateur baseball 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 to 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 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.

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 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 the 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.

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. 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

The procedure for suspension and notification is. The officials shall issue a card to the coach or administrator when a Coach, Player or Spectator is ejected from competition. All of the assigned officiating crew must approve of the ejection. The card must be issued at conclusion of the competition in which the infraction occurred. The game officials that eject an individual for an unsportsmanlike or flagrant act must notify the District 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 contest 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 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.

IDAHO STATE AND AREA TOURNAMENTS

For 2023 Season the following seeding has been. This is established each year and based on number each Area has.

1. The "AA" tournament shall consist of eight (8) teams determined as follows:
 - a. Area A - 2 teams unless Hosting
 - b. Area B - 2 teams unless Hosting
 - c. Area C - 4 teams unless Hosting

2. The "A" tournament shall consist of eight (8) teams determined as follows:
 - a. Area A –2 teams unless Hosting,
 - b. Area B - 2 teams unless Hosting
 - c. Area C - 4 teams unless Hosting

3. The "B" tournament shall consist of eight (8) teams determined as follows:
 - a. Area A –0 teams
 - b. Area B - 4 teams unless Hosting
 - c. Area C - 4 teams unless Hosting

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 \$75.00 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

