

The American Legion Department of Florida



Baseball Manual 2017-2018

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FOREWORD

This rulebook has been prepared by the Department of Florida Baseball Executive Committee as a form of communication between the Post Baseball Chairmen, team managers, and team coaches of the American Legion Baseball participants in the State of Florida.

It is recommended that you read the manual carefully and fully acquaint yourself with all the rules and regulations outlined in it. This manual has specific dates and guidelines for the State of Florida. **This manual must be used along with the 2018 National American Legion Baseball Rulebook.**

Failure to operate your team in accordance with the rules and regulations of American Legion Baseball, both State and National, could result in the following action:

- Team could be prohibited from playing American Legion Baseball
- Eligibility of your players could be jeopardized
- Lose players due to rule infractions
- Team could forfeit league or tournament games once the season is underway

The guidelines set forth in this manual and the rules and regulations outlined have been designed to protect your team, your players, and the American Legion Post or organization that sponsors your team. **THE BASIC OBJECTIVES ARE: (1) FAIR PLAY SO NEITHER TEAM GAINS AN UNFAIR ADVANTAGE, AND (2) PROVIDE SAFETY OF ALL PARTICIPANTS.**

If you have questions or comments about any information contained in this handbook, contact your Area Chairman or the Department Baseball Chairman, Andy Burkett; (786) 351-5485 or baseball@legionmail.org.

PAST STATE BASEBALL CHAMPIONS

National Champions

1978 Hialeah Post 32
1981 West Tampa Post 248
1986 Jensen Beach Post 126
1997 Sanford Post 53



National Runner-Up

1948 Jacksonville Post 9

Most State Championships

West Palm Beach Post 12 – 11 wins

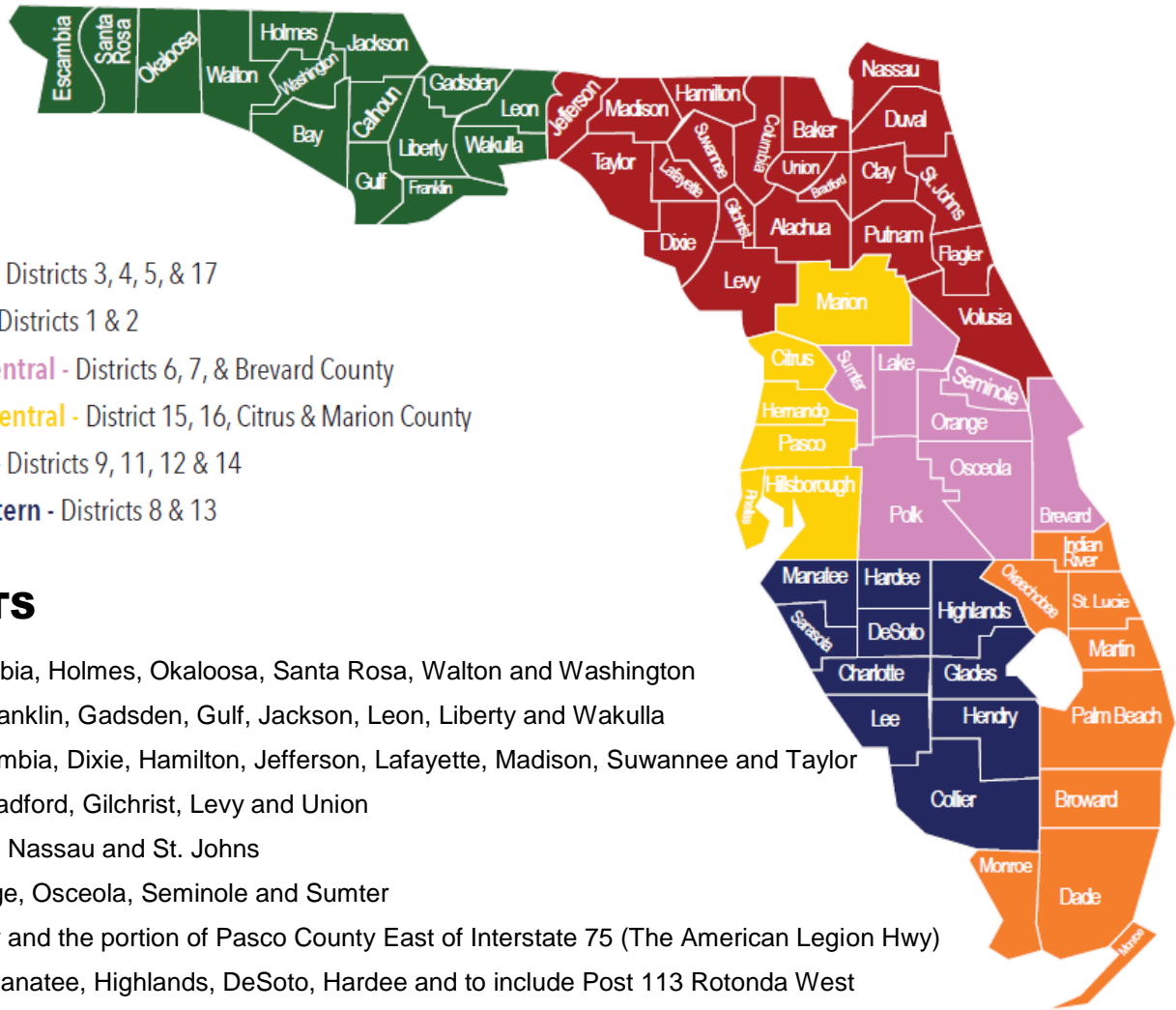
Senior State Champions

1928 Tampa
1929 Tampa
1930 Tampa
1931 Tampa
1932 West Palm Beach Post 12
1933 Gainesville Post 16
1934 Tampa
1935 West Palm Beach Post 12
1936 Tampa – Ybor City
1937 Tallahassee Post 13
1938 West Palm Beach Post 12
1939 Tallahassee Post 13
1940 Jacksonville Post 137
1941 Lakeland Post 4
1942 N/A
1943 N/A
1944 West Palm Beach Post 12
1945 Lakeland Post 4
1946 Avon Park Post 69
1947 Jacksonville Post 9
1948 Jacksonville Post 9
1949 Jacksonville Post 9
1950 West Palm Beach Post 12
1951 Jacksonville Post 9
1952 Jacksonville Post 9
1953 Jacksonville Post 9
1954 Jacksonville Post 9
1955 Lakeland Post 4
1956 West Palm Beach Post 12
1957 Miami Pan Am
1958 Lakeland Post 4
1959 West Palm Beach Post 12
1960 Miami Pan Am
1961 Miami Pan Am
1962 Bradenton Post 24
1963 West Palm Beach Post 12
1964 West Palm Beach Post 12
1965 Tallahassee Post 13
1966 Miami Post 300
1967 Miami Post 300
1968 West Tampa Post 248
1969 West Tampa Post 248
1970 Miami Shores Post 124
1971 Tallahassee Post 13
1972 Gainesville Post 16
1973 Vero Beach Post 39
1974 Deland Post 6
1975 Deland Post 6
1976 St. Petersburg Post 14
1977 West Palm Beach 12
1978 Hialeah Post 32
1979 Orlando Post 286
1980 Hialeah Post 32
1981 West Tampa Post 248
1982 Deland Post 6
1983 West Palm Beach Post 12
1984 West Tampa Post 248
1985 Madeira Beach Post 274
1986 Jensen Beach Post 126
1987 West Tampa Post 248
1988 West Palm Beach Post 12
1989 Sarasota Post 30
1990 Brandon Post 278
1991 Sarasota Post 30
1992 Miami Post 346
1993 Miami Post 346
1994 Miami Post 346
1995 Coral Gables Post 98
1996 Deland Post 6
1997 Sanford Post 53
1998 Sanford Post 53
1999 Bradenton Post 24
2000 Fort Pierce Post 358
2001 Sanford Post 53
2002 Sanford Post 53
2003 Sebastian Post 189
2004 Bay County Post 375
2005 Sanford Post 53
2006 Deland Post 6
2007 Coral Springs Post 265
2008 Fort Pierce Post 358
2009 Bradenton Post 24
2010 Boynton Beach 164
2011 Bradenton Post 24
2012 Fort Pierce Post 358
2013 Jacksonville Post 88
2014 Jacksonville Post 88
2015 Tallahassee Post 13
2016 Tallahassee Post 13
2017 Tallahassee Post 13

Junior State Champions

1988 Lakeland Post 4
1989 Bradenton Post 24
1990 Columbus, Miami
1991 Boca Raton Post 277
1992 Sarasota Baseball Club
1993 Jacksonville Post 283
1994 Sarasota Baseball Club
1995 Sarasota Baseball Club
1996 George Jenkins, Lakeland
1997 Orlando Post 286
1998 Apopka Baseball Club
1999 Tampa Catholic Post 5
2000 Pensacola Post 33
2001 North Tampa Post 334
2002 Lake Brantley Baseball Club
2003 Dunedin Post 275
2004 Oviedo Baseball Club
2005 Oviedo Baseball Club
2006 Oviedo Baseball Club
2007 Deland Post 6
2008 Jupiter Post 271
2009 N/A
2010 Deltona Trinity
2011 Stuart Post 62
2012 Fort Pierce Post 358
2013 N/A
2014 Wellington Post 390
2015 N/A
2016 N/A
2017 Atlantic Beach Post 316

BASEBALL AREA & DISTRICT ORGANIZATION MAP



AREAS

- **Northern** - Districts 3, 4, 5, & 17
- **Western** - Districts 1 & 2
- **Eastern Central** - Districts 6, 7, & Brevard County
- **Western Central** - District 15, 16, Citrus & Marion County
- **Southern** - Districts 9, 11, 12 & 14
- **Southwestern** - Districts 8 & 13

DISTRICTS

- 1 – Bay, Escambia, Holmes, Okaloosa, Santa Rosa, Walton and Washington
- 2 – Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Jackson, Leon, Liberty and Wakulla
- 3 – Baker, Columbia, Dixie, Hamilton, Jefferson, Lafayette, Madison, Suwannee and Taylor
- 4 – Alachua, Bradford, Gilchrist, Levy and Union
- 5 – Clay, Duval, Nassau and St. Johns
- 6 – Lake, Orange, Osceola, Seminole and Sumter
- 7 – Polk County and the portion of Pasco County East of Interstate 75 (The American Legion Hwy)
- 8 – Sarasota, Manatee, Highlands, DeSoto, Hardee and to include Post 113 Rotonda West
- 9 – Broward
- 11 – Palm Beach, Okeechobee and Clewiston from Hendry County, Indiantown from Martin County and part of Martin County south of the St. Lucie River
- 12 – Brevard, Indian River, Martin (except Indiantown and the part of Martin County South of the St. Lucie River) and St. Lucie
- 13 – Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry (except Clewiston) and Lee (except Post 113 Rotonda West)
- 14 – Dade and Monroe
- 15 – Hillsborough, the portion of Pasco County except New Port Richey, Hudson, Holiday, Marion, Citrus and Seven Springs West of Interstate 75 (The American Legion Hwy) and all of Hernando County
- 16 – Pinellas, New Port Richey, Hudson, Holiday and Seven Springs from West Pasco County
- 17 – Flagler, Putnam and Volusia

BASEBALL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Department Baseball Chairman

Andy Burkett

(786) 351-5485

baseball@legionmail.org

Northern Area Chairman

Terry Phillips

(904) 535-4114

Tagphillips2@aol.com

Western Central Area Chairman

Eddie Diaz

(813) 263-5432

ediaz1451@hotmail.com

Western Area Chairman

Wes Singletary

(850) 339-6354

wes.singletary@comcast.net

Southern Area Chairman

Jack Buzek

(561) 758-9299

buzzcoach@aol.com

Eastern Central Area Chairman

Paul Jacobs

(863) 604-9350

Pjacobs21@tampabay.rr.com

Southwestern Area Chairman

Bob Hewitt

(239) 691-6786

drrehewitt@gmail.com

IMPORTANT DATES

January 1	Online Registration begins for the 2018 season: https://baseball.legion.org/
March 31	Establishment of player's legal domicile (parent's domicile) and high school enrollment for grades 10, 11 & 12
April 15	DEADLINE to file Plan "A" and Plan "B" rezoning or new zoning with Department
May 15	DEADLINE to register for the 1 st Annual City by the Sea 14U Tournament; \$350.00 entry fee – pay at the plate umpires
May 22	DEADLINE to purchase insurance, pay registration fees, and complete background checks. Late fee of \$200 charged until June 1
May 25 - 27	Inaugural 1st Annual City by the Sea 14U Tournament; Brackets will be sent out May 18. \$350.00 entry fee – pay at the plate umpires Sponsored by Squadron 283 For More Information Contact: Terry Phillips 904-535-4114 or tagphillips2@aol.com
May 30	DEADLINE to register for the Area Tournaments
June 1	LAST DAY to register teams, purchase insurance, pay fees, and complete background checks
June 5	Teams can start to Play Legion Ball (<i>High School Baseball Season ends June 3</i>)
June 8	DEADLINE to submit Team Rosters (All Rosters are Frozen). Form #1 must be submitted to your Area Chairman. Min 12/ Max 18

June 8 - 10	Northern Area Jr. & Sr. Tournament, Jacksonville Entry fee \$400.00 – pay at the plates Sponsored by Squadron 283 For More Information Contact: Terry Phillips 904-535-4114 or tagphillips2@aol.com
June 14 - 17	Southern Area Tournament, Lantana
June 22 - 24	Western Central Area Tournament, Tampa
July 13-15	Western Area Tournament, Tallahassee
July 15	DEADLINE for baseball scholarship applications to Department
July 15	Jumbo Shrimp Fundraiser Tournament at 3:05 PM
July 18 - 21	JR State Tournament Hosted by Post 283 and Squadron 283 Jacksonville, FL
July 25 - 29	SR State Tournament Jesuit High School, Tampa
August 8 - 12	Southeast Regional Tournament
August 16 - 21	World Series, Shelby, NC

****If your Team wants to play in an Area Tournament, contact the Area Chairman to reserve your team's spot. (page 5)****

2018 SENIOR STATE TOURNAMENT INFORMATION

Location

Jesuit High School
4701 N. Himes Ave. Tampa, FL 33614

Dates

End-of-Season Banquet: Wednesday, July 25
State Tournament: Thursday, July 26 – Sunday, 29

Hotel Accommodations

TBD – check our website for updates: www.floridalegion.org

Senior Team Housing

Department will provide up to 7 rooms that will sleep 4 players for each participating team that is required to travel over 60 miles from the tournament site. Any additional rooms needed by the participating teams must be paid by the participating team.

- If a team reports to the State Tournament with a limited roster, a lesser number of rooms may be provided
- Each team that requires housing must place a security deposit of \$200.00 with the Department Baseball Chairman upon arrival. This deposit will be returned if no damage occurs at the lodging site.

Area Boundaries

The Florida Baseball Executive Committee has established 6 area boundaries. For baseball team balance, some boundaries may be adjusted for the Championship play-off series. The following guidelines are established for the 2018 season:

The 8 SENIOR participating teams shall be:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Northern Area Champion | 5. Southern Area Champion |
| 2. Western Area Champion | 6. Southwestern Area Champion |
| 3. Eastern Central Area Champion | 7. Floating Team 1 |
| 4. Western Central Area Champion | 8. Floating Team 2 |

****The two floating teams will be determined by the Department Executive Baseball Committee****

Area Tournaments

Championship play-off procedures will be established by the Area Baseball Chairmen with coordination of the Department Baseball Chairman.

These tournaments are put in place, so Legion Baseball teams can compete against other Legion Teams. At each Area Tournament your team will play 4 games. If you go to two Area Tournaments, your team will have completed their minimum requirement to play 8 Legion sanctioned games. If your team would like to participate in an Area Tournament, contact the Area Chairman to reserve your Team's spot. (Contact information on Page 5)

State Tournament Play

No Department will be permitted to enter a team in a National Tournament unless an official Department Tournament was held, with two or more regularly certified teams participating. *At least 8 teams must be officially certified in regular season play for a Department to enter a team in a National Tournament.*

*The Area with the MOST teams will get the first floating team spot.

* The Area that HOSTs that State Tournament will get the second floating team spot.



SENIOR STATE TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE



****Teams are still to be determined****

Thursday, July 19

Game 1 – Team 1	vs	Team 2
Game 2 – Team 3	vs	Team 4
Game 3 – Team 5	vs	Team 6
Game 4 – Team 7	vs	Team 8

Friday, July 20

Game 5 – Loser Game 1	vs	Loser Game 2
Game 6 – Loser Game 3	vs	Loser Game 4
Game 7 – Winner Game 1	vs	Winner Game 2
Game 8 – Winner Game 3	vs	Winner Game 4
Game 9 – Winner Game 5	vs	Loser Game 8
Game 10 – Winner Game 6	vs	Loser Game 7

Saturday, July 21

Game 11 – Winner Game 7	vs	Winner Game 8
Game 12 – Winner Game 9	vs	Winner Game 10
Game 13 – Winner Game 12	vs	Loser Game 11

Sunday, July 22

Game 14 – Winner Game 11	vs	Winner Game 13
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Game 15 will be needed if the Winner of Game 11 loses Game 12 or the Winner of Game 13 wins Game 14 – One hour after Game 14.

Pairing for Game 12 and 13 will not match previous opponents against each other unless necessary (Tournament Director has further instructions).

If three teams remain after Game 13, Winner Game 11 automatically draws the bye for Game 14.

2018 JUNIOR STATE TOURNAMENT INFORMATION

Location

Hosted by Post 283 and Squadron 283
9459 Ft. Caroline Rd. Jacksonville, FL 32225

Dates

End-of-Season Banquet: Wednesday, July 18
State Tournament: Wednesday, July 18 – Saturday, 21

Hotel Accommodations

TBD – check our website for updates: www.floridalegion.org

Junior Team Housing

Each Junior team will be responsible for their meals and housing. Each Junior team requiring housing (60 miles or more from the tournament site) will receive \$500.00 from the Department Baseball Executive Committee to help defray expenses. An additional \$50.00 will be paid for each game played in excess of 2 (This payment will only be paid after the Committee has received a “no damage” report from the hotel).

Area Tournaments

Championship play-off procedures will be established by the Area Baseball Chairmen with coordination of the Department Baseball Chairman. These tournaments are put in place, so Legion Baseball teams can compete against other Legion Teams. At each Area Tournament your team will play 4 games. If you go to two Area Tournaments, your team will have completed their minimum requirement to play 8 Legion sanctioned games. If your team would like to participate in an Area Tournament, contact the Area Chairman to reserve your Team’s spot. (Contact information on Page 5)

State Tournament Play

No Department will be permitted to enter a team in a National Tournament unless an official Department Tournament was held, with two or more regularly certified teams participating. *At least 8 teams must be officially certified in regular season play for a Department to enter a team in a National Tournament.*



JUNIOR STATE TOURNAMENT **SCHEDULE**



****Teams are still to be determined****

Thursday, July 19

Game 1 – Team 1	vs	Team 2
Game 2 – Team 3	vs	Team 4
Game 3 – Team 5	vs	Team 6
Game 4 – Team 7	vs	Team 8

Friday, July 20

Game 5 – Loser Game 1	vs	Loser Game 2
Game 6 – Loser Game 3	vs	Loser Game 4
Game 7 – Winner Game 1	vs	Winner Game 2
Game 8 – Winner Game 3	vs	Winner Game 4
Game 9 – Loser Game 8	vs	Winner Game 5
Game 10 – Winner Game 6	vs	Loser Game 7

Saturday, July 21

Game 11 – Winner Game 7	vs	Winner Game 8
Game 12 – Winner Game 9	vs	Winner Game 10
Game 13 – Loser Game 11	vs	Winner Game 12

Sunday, July 22

Game 14 – Winner Game 11	vs	Winner Game 13
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Game 15 will be needed if the Winner of Game 11 loses Game 12 or the Winner of Game 13 wins Game 14 – One hour after Game 14.

Pairing for Game 12 and 13 will not match previous opponents against each other unless necessary (Tournament Director has further instructions).

If three teams remain after Game 13, Winner Game 11 automatically draws the bye for Game 14.

FLORIDA SPECIFIC RULES AND REGULATIONS

Article I – Name & Purpose

Section 1.

The official name of this organization shall be "The American Legion Baseball Association of the Department of Florida," here in after referred to as the "Association."

Section 2.

The purpose of the Association:

- i. To provide a baseball program through which all members of the Association may participate under a common set of rules, to the mutual benefit of all, and
- ii. To provide concrete and practical lessons of citizenship and sportsmanship by playing the American game of baseball, and
- iii. To provide for the safety of the participants.

Section 3.

Department rules contained here-in, are supplementary to, and not intended to conflict with the official National American Legion baseball rules. The purpose of these rules is to protect and stimulate the competition of American Legion baseball within the state of Florida.

Article II – Association Management

Section 1.

American Legion Baseball competition shall be played under the rules set forth and adopted by the National Americanism Commission and the Department of Florida Executive Baseball Committee.

Section 2.

The Association shall be governed by the Department of Florida American Legion Executive Baseball Committee, here-in after referred to as the "Committee."

Section 3.

The Committee shall pass upon the eligibility of players and teams and perform all necessary functions for the conduct of the American Legion Baseball program in the State of Florida as promulgated by the National Americanism Commission and the Department of Florida American Legion Executive Baseball Committee.

Section 4.

The Department Executive Baseball Committee shall be comprised of 7 members approved by the Department Commander.¹ Department Baseball Executive Committee

Chairman. 6 Committee Representatives - one from each of the 6 official Department Baseball Areas.

NOTE: The Baseball Chairman may approve a "vice-chairman" for an area that geography makes it difficult for one chairman to supervise, or to assist the Area Chairman with the Junior Program.

Article III - 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). Coverage must be purchased NO LATER THAN MAY 22. Should a team miss the established deadline, they will have to pay a late fee of \$200.00. **Any team who fails to purchase insurance by June 1 from the agent of record shall be disqualified from any further competition.**

Senior Team Insurance Break Down:

Accident Coverage = \$255 (yearly) or \$175 (seasonal)

Liability Coverage = \$125 (yearly or seasonal)

Administration Fee = \$25 (yearly or seasonal)

National Fee = \$50 (yearly or seasonal)

Total Year Cost = \$455.00

Total Seasonal Cost = \$375.00

Junior Team Insurance Break Down:

Accident Coverage = \$210 (yearly) or \$145 (seasonal)

Liability Coverage = \$85 (yearly or seasonal)

Administration Fee = \$25 (yearly or seasonal)

National Fee = \$50 (yearly or seasonal)

Total Year Cost = \$370.00

Total Seasonal Cost = \$305.00

NOTE: It is recommended that you purchase year-round insurance to cover any after season play time or fall ball.

Article IV - Membership

Section 1.

All teams must have an approved recruiting area that meets the National and Departmental guidelines for team membership.

Section 2.

All teams must have a "base school" or an approved recruiting "zone".

Section 3.

All teams must submit a team registration form showing its base school and/or recruiting area, which shall be approved by the Area Chairman and certified by the Department Baseball Chairman.

Section 4.

Teams may register as a Senior or Junior team according to guidelines established by the Department Baseball Executive Committee.

Article V - Registration & Certification

Section 1.

Each team must have an American Legion Post as a sponsor or an approved outside sponsorship.

Section 2.

Each team must register online, regardless of class, and pay an entry fee as follows:

- i. \$50.00 entry fee to National Headquarters for both Senior and Junior Teams
- ii. A late entry application may be accepted as late as June 8, 2018 and must have a late fee payment of: Senior \$25 and Junior \$10. Any application received after June 8, 2018 will **NOT** be eligible for post-season tournament play.

Section 3.

Each team must submit to National Form 2 registration form on or before June 20th, of the current year. The Area Chairman shall review, approve and submit all Form 1s to the Department Baseball Chairman on or before May 31, 2018. **ALL ROSTERS ARE "FROZEN" AS OF JUNE 8 AND ARE LIMITED TO EIGHTEEN PLAYERS.**

EACH TEAM THAT ADVANCES TO THE STATE TOURNAMENT MUST **BRING A LEGION BASEBALL PLAYER ID CARD OR DRIVER'S LICENSE** TO PRESENT TO THE STATE CHAIRMAN AT THE STATE TOURNAMENT CHECK IN, PRIOR TO THE START OF TOURNAMENT PLAY.

Article VI – Background Checks

All Coaches and Coaching Staff, District Chairmen, Area Chairmen and any others who have contact with the players, on a one on one basis, will have a yearly background check through Department Headquarters. Go to:

<https://opportunities.averity.com/ALFlorida> to submit you background check today!

Article VII - Schedules & Scheduling

Section 1.

Obligations of the Home Team:

- i. Home team shall see that the field is properly prepared; lines are plainly marked and skin area is dragged.
- ii. Home team shall provide at least 6 new baseballs per game (NFHS or better).
- iii. See that the field is open and ready for play 1 hour before game time for the visiting team.
- iv. See that umpires are aware of game site and time. Umpires are scheduled according to local league guidelines. **UMPIRES SHALL BE FAMILIAR WITH AMERICAN LEGION RULES AND GUIDELINES.**
- v. Home team shall be responsible for umpire fees for regular season play.
- vi. Home team shall provide a competent official scorekeeper.
- vii. Home team shall notify the visiting team as to the directions of their playing site.

Section 2.

Obligations of Visiting Team:

- i. Must be at the site of the game at least 1 hour before game time, to complete pre-game drills and deliver legible line up to an official scorekeeper.

Section 3.

League games postponed shall be rescheduled as soon as possible.

Article VIII - Forfeiture

Teams and players not completing at least 8 American Legion Sanctioned games will be suspended from post-season tournament play.

Article IX - Protesting Games

Section 1.

On a game that is protested by the coach, he shall notify the umpire in chief or plate umpire at once of his protest. The umpire must in turn notify the opposing coach.

Section 2.

An official protest must be filed in writing by the coach within 24 hours after completion of the game to the Area **AND** Department Baseball Chairman. **A filing fee of \$25.00 shall accompany the protest.** If the protest is allowed, the fee is returned. If not allowed, the fee is put in the Baseball Committee's General Fund. **If the fee does not accompany the protest, no action will be taken.**

Section 3.

Protests on judgment calls will not be considered.

Section 4.

Step 1: All requests for interpretation or appeal of American Legion Baseball rules must be in emailed to the Area or Department Baseball Chairman.

Step 2: If there can be no resolution at that level, the request for interpretation or appeal may be forwarded to the Department Baseball Chairman.

NOTE: The Florida Department Baseball Chairman will make the final decision on all Junior appeals.

Step 3: For a Senior protest, if there can be no resolution at the state level, the request for interpretation or appeal may be forwarded to the National Appeals Board at National Headquarters by the Department Baseball Chairman.

NOTE: Should any coach, player, or manager with American Legion Baseball, appeal directly to the National Americanism Commission and forego steps 1 & 2 of the appeal procedure - this shall be considered a violation of this rule and the person or parties protest will be denied and forfeit their filing fee.

Article X - Playing Regulations

Patches.

Patches must be on jersey prior to the start of the regular season

Coaching Boxes.

Players and coaches who are registered on the National Registration Form #1 are permitted on the coaching lines. Coaches and players must be in like uniforms in order to go on the playing field during National competition. Additional coaches not listed on the Form #1 must be approved by the league or tournament director.

Games per day.

Teams are not required to play more than 7-inning games during non-state or regional tournaments. Playing days can begin at 8:00 AM, local time. **NOTE:** Any game started on one day and carried over to the next day - player and game records will be credited to the day the game started.

10-Run Rule.

In addition to National's rule: For all 7 inning games during regular season play, or "B" Tournaments, the 10-Run Rule shall apply after 5 innings.

Jewelry.

The Department Baseball Committee discourages the wearing of any jewelry such as earrings, necklaces, and bracelets that may cause an injury.

Speed-Up Rule.

In Departmental play the "speed-up rule" can be utilized in Senior game play. It may also be utilized in Junior game play by use of a non-participating player to run for the catcher as soon as he reaches base. **The speed-up rule is optional.** Speed-up Rule **will not** be used in State or National Tournament play.

Dual Participation.

American Legion Baseball players or teams may participate in other amateur baseball programs provided that dual participation will not in any way interfere with a player's responsibility to American Legion Baseball.

- i. During the regular season, a coach must determine if he will permit one of his players to dual participate in another baseball program.
- ii. If a player participates in another baseball program's qualifying tournaments, tryout camps, area games, showcases or any other baseball programs that have conflicting dates with the American Legion Championship Play-offs, he or she will be ruled ineligible to participate in the American Legion Championship Tournaments at any level.
- iii. American Legion Baseball championship play is not an "All-Star" program and encourages participants to devote their time and energies to their local team. In addition to being registered on the National Form #1 by June 1, a position player must have participated in a minimum of 8 American Legion games prior to district or area tournaments. A pitcher who only pitches must have participated in a minimum of 3 American Legion Baseball games prior to district or area tournaments.
- iv. Coaches must be able to verify these requirements by having their scorebooks available upon request. Coaches may appeal these requirements for medical reasons only.

Player's Domicile.

In addition to National's rule: Established public school boundaries are used in establishing the recruiting zones for each team. If an area has "open" enrollment, the Department Baseball Committee may establish recruiting boundaries or zones.

Professional Baseball Contract.

In addition to National's rule: It is important that teams select and register players that will complete their obligation to the American Legion Team. Any player who signs a professional contract on or after July 1st ***cannot*** be replaced on the National Form #1. Professional teams may sign a player at any time.

Proof of Age.

In addition to National's rule: Certified copies of a Legion Baseball Player Card, Florida Driver's License, or Florida Identification Card must accompany the Form 1 on

or prior to June 1. The originals must accompany the winning team throughout championship play. ***A Legion Baseball Player Card can be purchased through the Department of Florida. The player/ coach will need to fill out the form on page 19 and submit \$5.00 in order to receive their card.***

Article XI – Player Recruiting Plan "A" – Rule 3

In addition to National's rule: All zones in Florida are subject to be reviewed each year by the Department Baseball Committee. ALL ZONES MUST BE LIMITED TO A SPECIFIC BOUNDARY.

Current Cities Under this zoning: Jacksonville

Article XII – Player Recruiting Plan "B" – Rule 4

In addition to National's rule: All zones in Florida are subject to be reviewed each year by the Department Baseball Committee. ALL ZONES MUST BE LIMITED TO A SPECIFIC BOUNDARY.

Current Cities Under this zoning: All other cities not listed under Plan "A" Zoning

Article XIII – Sportsmanship & Conduct – Rule 7

Approved Ruling - When applying the suspension rule, penalties shall be served for the team's next regularly scheduled contest(s). If a previously scheduled game has been postponed or halted, that make-up game against the originally scheduled opponent shall count as a regularly scheduled contest.

1. **Fighting** - Any physical abuse of an opposing player, including attempting to strike with the arms, hands, legs, feet or equipment in a combative manner.
2. **Physical Abuse of Game Officials (Umpires)** - Any threat of physical intimidation or harm to include pushing, shoving, kicking, throwing at or attempting to make physical contact.

PENALTY for 1 & 2.

If a player, coach or team representative is ejected from a contest because of physically abusing an official or fighting an opposing player, the following shall be enforced:

- i. For the first offense by an individual, ejection plus suspension from the team's next contest.
- ii. For a second offense by an individual in the same season, ejection and suspension for the remainder of the season, including post season competition.
- iii. Procedures for enforcing penalties are as follows:

- a. After an ejection and suspension, the offending individual must leave the field and dugout area immediately and is not allowed to communicate with team members or the umpires.
 - b. Suspended personnel shall not be in uniform, allowed in any team area or perform any team duty while serving their suspensions.
 - c. It is the responsibility of the team's head coach and/or team manager to administer and enforce the suspension penalty. If a suspended player or coach is found to have participated in a game during the prescribed suspension, the game will be forfeited by the offending team.
 - d. If the penalty occurs during the team's last game of the season, a one-game penalty will be assessed at the beginning of the next season.
- iv. Any player or coach ejected by an umpire during the regular season must sit out the following game. At the State Tournament, he must be reinstated by the Tournament Director after sitting out a minimum of one game.

JUNIOR TEAM REGULATIONS

Department of Florida American Legion Junior baseball competition shall be played in accordance with rules set forth and adopted by The National Americanism Commission for class "A" competition with the exception of the above special rules that have been adopted by the Florida Baseball Executive Committee.



LEGION BASEBALL PLAYER CARD ORDER FORM

Player's Name: _____
(First) (Middle) (Last)

Height: _____ Weight: _____ D.O.B: _____ Sex: _____

Home Address: _____
(Street or P.O. Box)

(City) (State) (Zip Code)

Home Telephone: _____

Primary Position: _____

Sponsoring Florida Legion Post: _____

Name of Team: _____

Name of Coach: _____

Coach's Telephone: _____

Cost of the Baseball Player's card is \$5.00

Mail payment and form to:
Florida American Legion
P.O. Box 547859
Orlando, FL 32854
Attn: Baseball