

TENNESSEE AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL

2023 STATE TOURNAMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS



(The American Legion National Rule Book is the basis for all rules for this tournament. Some rules are emphasized, and others are adapted for this tournament.)

1. All coaches will bring team registration documents to the tournament, one hour before the game; rosters, and proof of age (such as driver's license, government issued ID, or original certified copy of birth certificate), National Form #2. The documents must be readily available for a tournament official to inspect and review. Each player must be prepared to present proof of identity to tournament officials.
2. Designated Hitter –
 - A. Seniors: If a designated hitter is used, it is used for only the pitcher.
 - B. Juniors & Prospects: If a designated hitter is used, it can be used for any player in the batting order.
3. Courtesy Runner –
 - A. Seniors: No courtesy runners are used in the tournament.
 - B. Juniors & Prospects: If a courtesy runner is used, it can only be used for the pitcher and catcher. The same courtesy runner can't be used for both. If a team does not have enough players to designate a runner for both, the last out in the batting order will be used.
4. Tournament Formats –
 - A. All State tournaments will be ran by the Department of Tennessee - Baseball Committee. No team shall gain any specific home field advantage when their venue is selected to host the tournament.
 - B. The tournament is a seeded, double elimination tournament. The higher seeded team will be the home team in the first round. All games after, will conduct a coin toss. The winner of the coin toss has the choice of being the home team. All teams will play the first day.
 - C. All games will be 7 innings unless shortened due to run rule.
 - D. Run rule is a 10 run mercy rule after five innings of play or 4 ½ innings if the home team has the last at-bat.
 - E. No team, in accordance with the National Rule Book, will play more than two games in one day.
 - F. The Tournament Director will decide if a game is to be delayed, suspended or completed due to inclement weather. A 30 minute delay will be implemented for lightning.
 - G. No team can be eliminated unless they have lost at a minimum of two games regardless of the tournament format.
 - H. Seeding will be determined using a blind draw. The blind draw will be conducted by the Department of Tennessee – Baseball Committee. All teams participating in the tournament will have their names placed in a hat. A team will be entered into the numbered position on the seeded bracket corresponding to order of when their team was pulled from the hat.
 - I. The Tournament Director will provide each team advanced notice of any venue specific requirements or restrictions within 14 days of the start of the tournament.



...Rules and Regulations continued.

5. Everyone in the dugout must be in appropriate uniform. See *National Rule Book for proper uniform*. Players and coaches will wear uniforms in an appropriate manner at all times, (i.e., shirt tails in at all times, and hats worn properly). Only the players legally on roster for that team will be in the dugout. Scorekeepers, and medical staff do not have to wear uniforms and they may sit in the dugout, however they need to stay in the dugout.
6. All base coaches will wear protective headgear, such as batting helmets or catcher’s skull caps per National rules.
7. All participants will have the official American Legion Baseball shoulder patch on their left sleeve or left chest of the jersey. Participants who do not have a patch will be removed from the game until this is corrected, then they may re-enter the game.
8. Re-entry Rule –
 - A. Seniors: Re-entry rules are not allowed. Once a player is removed from the game then the player is no longer eligible to participate in the game.
 - B. Juniors & Prospects: Re-entry rules is allowed. If a player is removed from the game, that player must re-enter back into the position in the batting order.
9. Pitching Rules – The American Legion pitching rules are in effect. Pitch counts will be updated after each half inning and confirmed with the umpires.
 - A. 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 & serve an additional game suspension.
 - B. 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.
 - C. If a player returns as a pitcher in the same game, he will be charged with another appearance.
 - D. If a team has multiple games scheduled on the same day, a pitcher who pitches more than 45 pitches in Game 1 may not pitch in a subsequent game that day and will be required to follow the rest protocol listed.
 - E. Juniors & Prospects: If a pitcher reaches a day(s) of rest threshold while facing a batter, the pitcher may continue to pitch until any one of the following conditions occurs: (1) that batter reaches base; (2) that batter is retired; or (3) the third out is made to complete the half-inning or the game. The pitcher will only be required to observe the calendar day(s) of rest for the threshold he/she reached during that at-bat, provided that pitcher is removed or the game is completed before delivering a pitch to another batter. A day is defined as 8:00 AM to 8:00 AM

Daily Max Required Rest (Pitches)

Program	Pitches in Game	0 days	1 day	2 days	3 days	4 days
Seniors/Juniors	105	30	31-45	46-60	61-80	81+



...Rules and Regulations continued.

10. Ejections – Any player or coach ejected from a game for any reason will sit out the remainder of that game, and the next game his team is scheduled to play.
(The player or coach may ask the State or Tournament Director on site to be reinstated in the tournament. Reinstatement will be considered by the State or Tournament Director based on the severity of the infraction.)
11. Lineup Cards – Teams will provide their own lineup cards. Cards will be completed in at least 3 copies, with first name, last name, position, and jersey number for all players, including substitutes. One copy to umpire, press box, and opposing team. Home and visiting team will be determined by a coin toss after the first round. Coaches should accomplish this prior to turning in their lineup cards.
12. Each team is required to bring one dozen of baseballs for the tournament. Team Managers will turn in the baseballs at team check-in on the first day. If additional baseballs are needed then the Department will provide the additional baseballs. Each team is required to assist in the return of foul baseballs to the umpires.
13. Admission – A day pass is \$10. Children 10 and under are free. Players and coaches have free entrance while in uniform.
14. Concessions – Provided at each location. **NO OUTSIDE FOOD OR DRINKS ARE ALLOWED IN THE BASEBALL FACILITIES. NO COOLERS ALLOWED, EXCEPT TEAM COOLERS.**
15. Dugouts – Teams WILL clean up their dugout after each game.
16. Protests – The only protests allowed are protests based on rules interpretation, and player eligibility/fraud. Protests may be submitted, in writing, to the tournament director on site prior to the end of the game in question. A \$100, non-refundable protest fee must also be paid to finalize the protest. Decision of the tournament protest committee is final. Protests of the Official rules of baseball during actual game conditions must be filed with the umpire before the next legal pitch.
17. Good sportsmanship is expected in all games. Each team will play the games that are scheduled. If a team withdraws from the tournament for any reason, other than not being able to field 9 players, any tournament deposit paid at the beginning of the season will not be refunded to the team.
18. Forfeiture – Once the bracket/schedule for a tournament is set by the Baseball Committee, a team that does not show up for the contest will forfeit and the opponent will advance.
19. Player eligibility protests must be filed with the respective Legion State Director for the protesting team prior to 8am on July 26, 2022. The protest must be specific with written proof of ineligibility claim. All protests must indicate the specific rule that is alleged to have been violated. This protest must be provided to the State Director in writing.
20. Team Managers are responsible for the conduct of their players and parents.
21. Senior Division (19U) Only: Each team must provide a mandatory team photo with all players and coaches, identified left to right and by row, to include name and jersey number.
22. The National Anthem will be played and the Sportsmanship Code will be read during each game. All attendees of a sanctioned Department of Tennessee American Legion Baseball game are expected stand during the playing of the National Anthem to honor our United States Flag.
23. The Tournament Director is responsible for notifying teams of their scheduled games in the tournament. Any venue specific request or requirements should be relayed to the teams in a timely manner to ensure the team is adequately prepared to compete at the venue.



...Rules and Regulations continued.

24. The American Legion Baseball Code of Sportsmanship must be recited at the beginning of sanctioned Department of Tennessee American Legion Baseball games during the tournament. Teams will form on the foul line closest to their team dugout for this pregame event, which will be conducted after the playing of our National Anthem.

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 in victory

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

25. The Department of Tennessee has a “warning then ejection” policy for any violation of what is considered good sportsmanship by the Tournament Staff. Once an ejection has been ruled, the ruling is final. The person who has been ejected must leave the premises immediately before play resumes. In the event that a person refuses to exit the premises, local authorities will be contacted to assist in the ejection of the person. At no time will physical contact be used by the tournament staff to remove a person who has been ejected. There is a zero tolerance for physical violence and no warning will be given. Local authorities will be informed immediately. The person involved in physical violence will be barred from attendance to any future American Legion event without written permission from the Department of Tennessee Baseball Committee.
26. Please direct all questions regarding the tournament rules to the Tournament Director or the Department of Tennessee American Legion Baseball Chairman. If the Baseball Chairman is not on site, he/she can be contacted using the information below.

Don “Chuck” Johnson
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