

**STATE OF ALASKA
AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL RULES**

**THE RULES CONTAINED HEREIN MAY BE
SOMEWHAT MORE RESTRICTIVE THAN NATIONAL
RULES, IN WHICH CASE
ALASKA RULES TAKE PRECEDENT.**

**ALASKA PLAYER SELECTION IS BASED ON
RULE # 4
FORM 100 MUST BE COMPLETED FOR ALL TEAMS**



PURPOSE AND SCOPE OF AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL

- 1) To inculcate 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.**

CODE OF SPORTSMANSHIP

**I WILL KEEP THE RULES.
I WILL KEEP FAITH WITH MY TEAM MATES.
I WILL KEEP MY TEMPER.
I WILL KEEP MYSELF FIT.
I WILL KEEP A STOUT HEART IN DEFEAT.
I WILL KEEP MY PRIDE UNDER IN VICTORY.
I WILL KEEP A SOUND SOUL, CLEAN MIND, AND HEALTHY BODY.**

**THE STATE OF ALASKA AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL DIRECTOR
IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE OVERALL AMERICAN LEGION
BASEBALL PROGRAM FOR THE STATE OF ALASKA.**

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**THE AMERICAN LEGION
DEPARTMENT OF ALASKA
MANAGERS/COACHES APPOINTMENT FORM
100**

Post _____ hereby request approval from The American Legion, Department of Alaska, and its American Legion Baseball Committee to appoint the following individuals to the positions indicated for calendar year _____:

Manager _____

Coach _____

Asst Coach _____

Asst Coach _____

We accept and will abide by all Department Baseball rules and agree to uphold The American Legion's high standards established for it baseball program.

Post Commander _____

District Director (Agree/Disagree) _____

Department Chairman (Agree/Disagree) _____

Important Dates to Remember

March 1	Form 100 filed with the District Director
<u>March 31</u>	Establishment of players' legal domicile (parents' domicile) and school enrollment.
April 15	Purchase medical and liability insurance, S .A. Van Dyke Deadline for Department Chairmen to file five (5) copies of Department rules.
May 1	Department Tournament information (dates & location) must be filed with National Headquarters.
May 15	New team entry forms due at Department Hdqs or Dept Chairman Team registration and registration fee due, \$325.00
June 2	Team rosters must be filed with District Director
June 26	DEADLINE :Form 1, Copies of Insurance, Original birth certificates, five 5x7 team pictures(labeled w/ names on reverse side) Must be filed with District Director
July 1	District Director deadline for filing form 1 with Department Chairman
July 26-30	District Tournaments District 1 Anchorage District 2 Wasilla
July 31-Aug 4	Alaska Department Tournament Mulcahy Stadium
August 11	Region 7 Banquet Roseburg, Oregon
August 12-16	Regional Tournaments
August 19	World Series Banquet - Corvallis, Oregon
August 19-24	WORLD SERIES Corvallis, Oregon



2004 AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL RULES

American Legion Baseball competition shall be played in accordance with rules adopted by the National Americanism Commission, The American Legion, 700 N. Pennsylvania St., Indianapolis, IN 46204. With a few exceptions, all department (state) and national tournament competition of American Legion Baseball will follow the Official Baseball Rules as authorized by the Commissioner of Major League Baseball and published by The Sporting News

All individuals involved in the State of Alaska American Legion Baseball program are required to have background check #2 performed by the Alaska State Troopers. The results of that check must be on file with the Department Baseball Chairman.

Modifications of these rules, as noted in Rule 1, generally pertain to matters of safety, equipment and insurance. They are made with the welfare of the players in mind. State rules may also be modified for regular season play if they do not conflict with national rules.

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PLAYING REGULATIONS RULE 1

A. Bat Rule. Wood, metal, ceramic, or graphite bats may be used.

1. Wooden bats are permitted under Official Baseball Rules as published by The Sporting News.
2. The maximum length is 36 inches and the maximum diameter is 2 5/8 inches.
3. The knob and end plug (if applicable) must be firmly attached.
4. A bat may not weigh, numerically, more than three units less than the length of the bat (e.g., a 34-inch-long bat cannot weigh less than 31 ounces).
5. A non-wood bat must have an approved, coded certification mark on the barrel of the bat signifying the bat is legal for NCAA competition.
6. For all games and practice use, all non-wood bats must have leather, rubber or taped grips securely attached to the bat handle.
7. Any bat that fails to meet these specifications or, in the umpire's judgment, has been altered to affect the distance factor or cause an unusual reaction on the baseball shall be removed from the game. The batter shall be declared out. Base runners shall not advance.

B. 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.) No re-entry is allowed.

C. 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 catchers' masks must have 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, a catcher must wear a mask. Any player who refuses to do so shall be ejected from the game.

D. Coaches. Only those players and coaches listed on the team's National Registration Form #1 or those approved by the Tournament Director are permitted on the coaching lines. All coaches must be identified by the tournament officials prior to their participation.

E. Collision Rule. 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 (could the runner 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 was he 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.

Clarification Ruling 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 3: - If the runner collides flagrantly, he shall be declared safe on the obstruction, but will be ejected from the contest. The ball is dead.

Clarification

Malicious Contact: Any player who, in the judgment of the umpire, maliciously runs into another player is automatically ejected and is declared out. The American Legion is concerned that some coaches may not have explained 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.

F. Designated Hitter Rule. All National Tournaments shall use the American League Designated Hitter Rule as published by The Sporting News.

G. Force-Play-Slide Rule. The intent of the force-play-slide rule is to ensure the safety of the defensive player. 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.

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.

a) “On the ground” means either a headfirst 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.

Clarification 1 - If a runner goes into a base standing up and does not make contact or alter the play of the defensive player, interference shall not be called.

Clarification 2 - If the runner goes into a base standing up and is safe or out, but makes contact with or alters the play of the defensive player, interference shall be called.

2. Contact with a fielder is legal and interference shall not be called if the runner:

a) Makes a legal slide directly to the base, or

b) Is on the ground at the time of contact and the fielder moves directly down the line between the two bases to attempt a play;

c) Makes a legal slide and makes contact with a defensive player who is on or over, but not beyond the base.

Clarification - When the base runner slides beyond the base, but does not (1) make contact with, or (2) alter the play of the defensive player, interference shall not be called.

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;

b) The runner uses a rolling, cross-body or pop-up slide and either makes contact with or alters the play of a fielder;

c) The runner’s raised leg makes contact higher than the fielder’s knee when in a standing position.

d) The runner goes beyond the base and either makes contact with or alters the play of the fielder;

Clarification - “Beyond the base” means any part of the offensive player’s body makes contact with or alters the play of the fielder beyond the base.

e) The runner slashes or kicks the fielder with either leg;

f) 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-f

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 not other runner(s) shall advance.

3. If the runner’s slide or collision is flagrant, the runner shall be ejected from the contest.

Clarification - 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.

Note: On a force play, with a two-man umpiring system, if the plate umpire does not have a potential play at the plate, he should move toward the base to observe the runner going into second or third base. In this situation, the base umpire must follow the throw and may not see the true effect of the lead runner's action.

H. First Aid Kit Rule. Each team must have a first aid kit with them in the dugout at each game.

I. Games per day. No team shall be required to play more than two games in one day. Playing days will begin at 8:00 a.m., local time.

J. Helmets. All players are required to wear a double-flapped, ear-protective helmet while batting, running the bases, and while on deck.

1. Batboys or girls must wear a double-flapped, ear-protective helmet while on the playing field.
2. All batting helmets must have the NOCSAE seal of approval stamped on the helmet, and such seal must be visible on the outside of the helmet.

3. Any helmet has a crack or the inside padding is worn or missing cannot be used and must be removed from the game.

K. Insurance Rule. 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 prior to registering with the Department Baseball Committee. Proof of such coverage must be submitted to the Department Baseball Committee at the time of registration. Violation of this rule will result in the disqualification from any further competition.

L. National Tournament Rules. The Americanism and Children & Youth Division may prescribe such rules for the playing of any national tournament, as it considers necessary. Copies of those rules are available from the Tournament Director.

M. 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.

N. Pitching. No player may pitch more than a total of 12 innings during any consecutive three-day period. No player may make more than four appearances as a pitcher during any consecutive three-day period. PENALTY: Game shall be forfeited if protest is filed with the umpire in chief before the last out of the game.

1. Should a double or triple play cause a pitcher to exceed the permitted 12 innings in three consecutive days that action in and of itself shall not be construed as a violation of this rule.
2. Any player may be removed from the pitching position and remain in the game at another position. However, a pitcher will be automatically removed when a coach makes two trips to the mound in the same inning and that player cannot return as a pitcher in that game. PENALTY for violating this rule: Forfeiture of the game if a protest is filed with the umpire in chief before the last out of the game.
Clarification - For the purpose of this rule violation, the official scorekeeper must record 12 and 1/3 innings.
3. Rule 1.N. Pitching rule shall be used in all District, Area, Zone, State and National tournaments.

O. Tobacco Rule. The use of any form of tobacco 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.

P. Ten (10) Run Rule. All Tournaments shall use a 10-run rule after seven innings, unless the home team is ahead by 10 runs or more after 6 1/2 innings at which time that game will be halted.

ALASKA RULE IS 10 RUNS AFTER FIVE INNINGS AND SEVEN RUNS AFTER SEVEN INNINGS.

Q. Uniforms. Players and coaches must be in uniforms of the same color and style when competing in 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 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.

PLAYER ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS RULE 2

A. Players Age. American Legion Baseball competition in **2004** is open only to players born **on or after January 1, 1985**.

Clarification - Any player born in **1984** is NOT eligible to play American Legion Baseball.

B. Player's Domicile. A player's legal domicile shall be established before March 31, **2004**.

1. A player's domicile shall be his parents, or permanent court-appointed guardian's, permanent and legal domicile.

Clarification - Temporary guardianship does not apply unless a court having jurisdiction over such matters has determined the parents to be incapable of supervision and care until the player reaches the age of majority (18 years of age).

1. Emancipated college or university players are required to play for the team nearest their parent's domicile or for the team they last played for. The American Legion does not allow emancipated players to be "free agents".

2. If the parents are divorced by a court order, that player may play for a team of either parent's legal and permanent domicile provided:

a) The player must declare, in writing, the team of his choice and file that declaration with the Department Chairman prior to the Department closing date. The player's declaration shall be final and valid for the remainder of the player's eligibility.

Clarification - The enrollment of the high school in which a player is enrolled on March 31 shall be counted. The completing of a National Form #2 shall be proof of the player's choice. Once a player is deemed qualified and plays for a team under Rule 2.B.2, that player is not eligible to qualify for Rule 4.E (Transfer Rule). The player's eligibility shall remain with that team.

3. In the event that both parents are deceased or incapable of caring for and supervising the player during minority, the player's domicile will be determined by the domicile of the permanent legal guardian appointed by the courts having jurisdiction to make such an appointment.

4. Should a situation arise which is not covered by the provision of this rule, the Department Chairman will, with the concurrence of the National Appeals Board, determine the player's legal domicile for the purpose of his participation in The American Legion Baseball Program. Such decision shall be in writing and filed with National Headquarters.

5) ALASKA RULE SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES

Players residing in rural Alaska unable to commute to the team nearest the parent's legal domicile due to geographical restrictions, may by written parental request to the American Legion Baseball Chairman, reside during the American Legion baseball season with an adult relative, i.e. aunt uncle, sister, brother or grandparents, willing to accept responsibility for the player. This relative must, in writing, accept this responsibility and agree to abide by all American Legion rules, restrictions and decisions of the Department of Alaska.

The player must play for the team nearest the relative's legal domicile. The relative's legal domicile must be established prior to **March 31, 2004**. No request will be considered after **May 15, 2004**.

Application of this rule will be on a case by case basis by the Department Baseball Chairman and the baseball committee. Approval must be in writing and signed by the Department of Alaska, Baseball Chairman. Should this request be granted it shall be for the duration of that player's eligibility.

This rule has been reviewed and approved by the National Appeals Board.

C. Professional Baseball Contract. Players who are 18 years of age may be signed to a professional baseball contract in accordance with the rules of professional baseball.

Clarification - It is important that teams select and register players that will complete their obligation to their American Legion team. Any player that signs a professional contract cannot be replaced on the National Form #1.

D. Amateur Rule. Only amateurs shall participate as players in American Legion Baseball. To be considered an amateur, players must not:

1. Receive money, favors or gratuities, direct or indirect, for playing baseball.
2. Accept money or favors for reimbursement for time lost at work while playing or for expenses incurred while playing.
3. Participate in an all-star baseball game that is not approved by the authorized Department Official.
4. Accept, directly or indirectly, money or any favors from anyone for their baseball services, past or present. This also applies to a player's parents, trustees, guardians, etc.
5. Try out for any professional team without the written permission of their American Legion Baseball coach or Post Commander.

Note: Departments, Districts or Posts planning an all-star game should contact their state high school athletic association to ensure each player's high school eligibility is protected.

E. Birth Certificates. Records of birth must be an original or a certified document from the State Bureau of Vital Statistics or Department of Health or other governmental agency authorized to certify birth documents.

1. Notarized photocopies of birth certificates, hospital records, baptismal records, school records or certificates **are not** acceptable proof of age and will disqualify a player and/or the team.

2. In case of foreign birth, a player will present any certificate or document duly issued to the bearer by the Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services or by the Department of State that shows the birth date of the bearer. Official birth certificates issued by a foreign country are acceptable when accompanied by a letter with an English translation, and such birth certificate must have an official seal.

3. A court certified copy of that portion of permanent legal adoption papers showing the place and date of a player's birth shall be acceptable in cases involving adopted players.

PLAYER RECRUITING PLAN “A” RULE 3

THIS RULE DOES NOT APPLY TO ALASKA

Plan “A” recruiting rules are based on zones (territory) and are usually designed for large cities where Plan “B” base school recruiting would be impractical. Under Plan “A” rules, a specific zone is drawn on a map. The secondary school enrollments shall be 5,000 students or less. Secondary school enrollments in a territory are added up and divided by 5,000 to determine the number of zones. For example, if in a territory there are 10,257 students (10th, 11th & 12th grades), the number of students is divided by 5,000 (enrollment cap), which equals 2.05, which will require a minimum of three (3) zones to be established. Players (including emancipated players) whose parents’ domicile is within this zone must play for the team in this zone, unless waived to an adjacent zone. All zoning is subject to approval by the National Americanism Commission.

A. Zoning. Zoning of cities, counties and/or school districts may be requested by a team(s).

1. The Department Baseball Committee shall review and approve requests for such zoning. It shall be the responsibility of the Department Baseball Committee to forward zone maps for final approval to the National Americanism and Children & Youth Division before April 15, 2004.
2. A detailed street map showing specific boundaries, as well as the locations and enrollment figures of all high schools, must accompany such requests.
3. If a team’s boundaries are changed, a new map and letter of explanation must be submitted for approval prior to April 15, 2004.

B. Player Recruiting. A Post may select players whose parents’ domicile was established in their zone on or before March 31, 2004 and players whose parents have moved and established a new domicile in their zone after March 31, 2004.

1. Players not selected to play with the team in their zone may play for the next nearest Plan A team provided the player has obtained a written transfer (Form #76) from the team manager in their zone.
2. Players in their final year of eligibility whose parents have established a new domicile shall have the option of playing for their old team or playing for the new team of their parent’s new domicile. A written request must be filed with, and approved by, the Department Chairman prior to listing the player on the National Form #1. This request must be accompanied by the parent’s affidavit stating that the move is permanent and listing the previous and present domicile addresses.

3. In the event a new team is formed and new zones are established that change a player's eligibility, those players previously registered on National Form #1 are permitted a one-time option of playing for the team of their old zone or playing for the team of their new zone.

a) Zones must be adjacent to each other.

b) Transfers are permitted only when the combined enrollment of all zones is less than **5,000**.

c) Transfers shall be final and valid for the player's remaining eligibility, unless there is a permanent change of address of the parents' domicile.

d) The Department Baseball Chairman must approve all transfers prior to listing the player on the National Form #1.

e) A written request for a transfer must be filed with, and approved by, an authorized baseball official prior to listing the player on the National Form #1. (This request must be accompanied by the parents' affidavit stating that the move is permanent and listing the previous and present domicile addresses.)

4. A written request must be filed with, and approved by, the Department Baseball Chairman prior to listing the player on the National Form #1.

PLAYER RECRUITING PLAN “B” RULE 4

Plan “B” allows Legion Baseball teams to select players who attend nearby high schools. High schools are combined to form a recruiting area. A player, whose parents’ domicile is nearest a base school, is eligible to try out and play for the team if the player meets all other eligibility requirements and the combined enrollment of the recruiting area (combination of schools) does not exceed 5,000 students in the 10th, 11th and 12th grades.

Note: Plan “B” recruiting rules are more flexible but more complex than the Plan “A” (zoning) rules. Study these rules carefully.

A. Base school. All teams must have a base school.

1. New teams must request and receive approval for a base school from the Department Baseball Committee at the time the team registers with the Department Baseball Committee.
2. Existing teams may request to change their base school. This request must be in writing and approved by the Department Baseball Committee prior to submitting the National Form #1.
3. If two or more teams are sponsored by the same American Legion Post or outside sponsor, the Department Baseball Committee will assign the base school for each team.

B. Player Recruiting. Teams may select players who are enrolled on March 31, **2004**, in any public, private, technical, vocational, regional, or preparatory high school, or any combination of these schools.

1. Existing teams may request a new combination of schools from the Department Baseball Committee; however, approval must be given prior to listing any player on the National Form #1.
2. Teams may not recruit a player(s) from another team’s base school.

Clarification

Teams may select:

1. Non-base school players whose parent’s or guardian’s domicile is nearest the team’s base school. To determine the nearest team **the shortest driving distance as calculated by DeLorme™, Street Atlas USA® 2004 computer program.**
2. Player(s) who qualify under Rule 4.C. **Does not apply to Alaska**
3. Player(s) who qualify under Rule 4.E. **Does not apply to Alaska**
3. The combined total enrollment of the schools cannot exceed 5,000 students for 10th, 11th and 12th grades.
4. Enrollment for a school(s) is determined using the number of 10th, 11th and 12th grade students officially recorded on March 31, **2004**, by the State Board of Education or other state agency that has jurisdiction over school

enrollment. Note: Every student registered shall be counted; including special education students, physically challenged students, bilingual students, and students over the age of 19.

5. When a single high school's enrollment exceeds 5,000 students, the team that has such a school as its base school, shall not recruit from any other school.

Clarification - The enrollment of the high school the player attends will be counted. Emancipated players such as college or university students or players no longer in high school must play for the team nearest their parents' or guardian's domicile or for the team they last played. Teams shall count the enrollment of the last high school attended. The school enrollment for middle schools, junior high schools and high school freshmen classes shall not be counted.

C. "Option" Rule. DOES NOT APPLY TO ALASKA Players attending a high school (including 9th grade freshmen) outside a team's recruiting area, may have the option of playing for the team nearest the high school the player attends or playing for the team nearest the parent's legal domicile. To determine the nearest team **the shortest driving distance as calculated by DeLorme™, Street Atlas USA® 2004 computer program.**

1. The player must complete National Declaration Form #77 on which the player declares in writing the team for which he wishes to play.

a) Such election shall be final and valid for the remaining player eligibility, unless that player changes school or domicile. Such declaration is final and permanent.

b) The team manager must forward Form #77 to the Department Baseball Chairman prior to listing the player on the National Form #1.

Clarification

Players who qualify under Rule 4.C. are not eligible in future years to qualify for Transfer Rule 4.E.

The enrollment of the high school the player attends will be counted. Emancipated players such as college or university students or players no longer in high school must play for the team nearest their parents' or guardian's domicile or for the team nearest the high school last attended. Teams shall count the enrollment of the last high school attended. The school enrollment for middle schools, junior high schools and high school freshmen classes shall not be counted.

D. Middle School and Junior High Students. These players shall play for the base school team of their parents' legal domicile. A non-base school player shall play for the team nearest their parents' domicile. Enrollment of the school attended shall not be counted.

E. Transfer Rule. DOES NOT APPLY TO ALASKA A player released from a team must obtain permission on National Transfer Form #76 from that team's manager to play for the team that is closest to his parents' domicile.

1. To determine the nearest team **the shortest driving distance as calculated by DeLorme™, Street Atlas USA® 2004 computer program.**

2. The player must provide Transfer Form #76 to the new team manager, which must be forwarded to the authorized Department Baseball Official for approval, prior to listing the player on the Form #1. All transfers shall be final and binding through the remainder of a player's eligibility.

Clarification

Players who try-out for and fail to make the nearest team can request to transfer to the second closest team. If cut again, that player may try-out for the third closest team, until which time the player is able to play on a team. The enrollment of the high school a player attends on March 31, shall be counted.

3. Transfers across state lines require mutual written permission of both Department Chairmen.

4. Players who have qualified and played for a Legion team under Rule 4.C. are not eligible for a transfer under Rule 4.E.

F. School Enrollment Expansion. Players who are unable to complete their eligibility because enrollment expansion eliminated their school from previously approved combinations, may continue on the team for which they last played, provided no new players are recruited from their school.

1. Written permission for a player to continue under these circumstances must be obtained from the Department Baseball Chairman prior to listing the player on the National Form #1.

2. Teams cannot form different combinations of schools.

G. Change of Address. Players who realize a permanent change in their parents' or guardians' domicile shall be eligible to compete for the team nearest their parents' new domicile.

1. A notarized statement from the player's parents must list the previous address and new permanent address. Written permission must be obtained from the authorized Department Baseball Official in which the "new" team is located, prior to listing the player on the National Form #1. If released, a player may be transferred to the next nearest team as provided for in Rule 4.E (Transfer Rule).

2. The enrollment of their previous high school as of March 31, **2004** shall be counted.

H. Final Year of Eligibility. Players having one year of eligibility remaining, whose parents move out of the team's recruiting area, shall have an option of playing for the team nearest their parents' new domicile or returning to their former team.

1. The enrollment of the high school the player attends on March 31, **2004** shall be counted.
2. Written permission to play for their previous team must be obtained from the Department Baseball Chairman prior to listing the player on the National Form #1.

I. Home-Schooled Players. A player who is home-schooled may compete for the team nearest their parents' or guardians' legal domicile. To determine the nearest team **the shortest driving distance as calculated by DeLorme™, Street Atlas USA® 2004 computer program.**

1. Written permission for such competition must be obtained from the authorized Department Baseball Official prior to listing the player on the National Form #1.
2. Enrollment figures for such players shall be that of the high school the parents' domicile is located in.

J. New Team Formation. In the event a new Legion team is formed which is closer to a player's parents' domicile, that player has a one-time option of playing with the team for which he last played or for the new team.

1. The Department Baseball Chairman, prior to listing the player on the National Form #1, must grant written permission.
2. The enrollment shall be added to the team's total enrollment.

PROTESTS RULE 5

A. Protest Procedures. All Department Baseball Committees shall, in their rules, define procedures for filing protests. This rule will specify how protests are to be filed, time limits, fees, if any, and with whom protests are to be filed.

B. Written Proof. All protests of player eligibility must be specific, with written proof. All protests shall be filed with the Department in accordance with Department Baseball Rules. All protests must indicate the specific rule that is alleged to have been violated.

C. Forfeitures. If a player is ruled ineligible, that player shall be disqualified immediately and all games in which the disqualified player participated shall be forfeited.

D. Game Protest. Protests of Official Baseball Rules published by The Sporting News during actual game conditions must be filed with the chief umpire before the next legal pitch.

E. Appeals to National Headquarters. All protests involving player eligibility and filed with the National Appeals Board must be sent via the Department Chairman. (See Rule 10).

ALASKA PROTEST PROCEDURE

RULE 5 A

NATIONAL RULE 5: B, C, D AND E APPLY TO ALASKA SECTION A, AND B INCORPORATED.

- A. Procedure:** Protests must be in filed in writing by the team manager listed on the Alaska Form 100 Protests of eligibility must be submitted to the appropriate District Director, accompanied by a non-refundable fee of fifty dollars and forwarded to the Department Baseball Chairman for ruling. The baseball committed shall make the final determination and that ruling shall be final. During tournament play such protests must be filed by 9AM the opening day of the tournament.
- B. Department rule interpretation.** Interpretation of the Department of Alaska rules will be made by the Department Baseball Chairman.

TEAM AND PLAYER CERTIFICATION RULE 6

A. Player and Team Registration. American Legion Baseball teams must register with their Department Baseball Committee.

Clarification

National Forms #1 and #2 must be fully completed and typed. The Department Baseball Chairman must certify the team before the Department closing date and ensure the team is properly registered and properly insured. Certificates of insurance (both liability and medical) must be filed with Department Officials at the time of registration.

B. National Form #1. American Legion Baseball players must enroll on Player Roster of Eligibility (National Form #1). This form must be typed and completely filled out to include each player's full name and the address of their parent's permanent legal domicile. The Department Baseball Chairman must forward the original Form #1 to National Headquarters by July 15, **2004**.

C. National Form #2. All players, their parents or court approved legal guardians must complete Player Agreement and Parent Consent Form #2. The Team Manager will retain the original Form #2. The second copy must be filed with the Department Baseball Chairman. Any team or player who fails to complete and file Form #2 shall be disqualified from any further play.

C. Dual Participation. ALASKA RULE is SOMEWHAT MORE RESTRICTIVE THAN NATIONAL RULE

During the regular season, American Legion Baseball players or teams may participate in other amateur baseball programs. The Team Manager and the player must obtain written approval from the Department Baseball Chairman, prior to participating in the event and/or tournament. **Should a player miss any scheduled American Legion game, that player will be declared ineligible for the duration of that playing season.**

Clarification Dual participation shall in no way interfere with a player's responsibility to his American Legion Baseball Team. Once tournament play has begun (District Tournament up and through American Legion World Series) the Department Baseball Chairman cannot grant permission to participate in non-Legion sanctioned tournaments, exhibition games, showcases or combines. The American Legion believes team loyalty is a key ingredient for any team sport. Any American Legion Baseball player missing any portion of an American Legion tournament, because that player participated in another non-sanctioned baseball event such as exhibition game, tournament, showcase, combine or other youth programs shall be ineligible for post-season tournament play.

E. Players Per Team. No American Legion team may have more than 18 registered players once the National Form #1 is registered with the Department. Each team must register before the Department closing date. A member of the Post should have charge of the team as manager, except in the case of outside sponsorship. A non-Legionnaire may act as coach.

1. In cases of death, a player may be replaced on a National Form #1.
2. A player may be replaced if that player is placed on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States following the submission of the certified National Form #1.

F. Non-American Legion Post Sponsorship. Non-Legion (outside sponsorship) is permissible, subject to the approval and supervision of the Department Baseball Committee.

SPORTSMANSHIP & CONDUCT RULE 7

A. Conduct. Managers, coaches or players who, in the opinion of the Department Chairman or his representative, conduct themselves in an unsportsmanlike manner that would discredit this program may be removed by the Department Baseball Committee. The Department Baseball Committee's decision will be final.

B. Heckling. No player, coach, manager or other party associated with an American Legion Baseball team shall abuse, heckle or make uncomplimentary remarks to opposing players, team officials or umpires. The umpire shall immediately eject from the game any individuals violating this regulation.

C. Sportsmanship. Any player, coach, manager or other party accompanying a team will be ejected from the game from the time of the infraction, if they:

1. Use profane language.
2. Throw bats or other equipment.
3. Make unnecessary or obscene gestures to umpires, fans or opposing players.
4. Commit unnecessary roughness on the playing field.

D. Reinstatement. Any player, coach or manager suspended from a game in tournament play by an umpire for unsportsmanlike conduct is suspended for the remainder of the tournament unless reinstated by the Tournament Director. The Tournament Director's decision is final.

E. Ejection from the Ballpark. Any player, coach or manager ejected by an umpire must leave the ballpark.

F. Violence: Physical violence or threat thereof directed at an official, American Legion representative, coach, opposing player or volunteer will result in an immediate and automatic three year suspension from participating in Alaska American Legion Baseball.

DEPARTMENT JURISDICTION RULE 8

A. Department Rules and Regulations. It is the duty of the Department (State) Baseball Committee to formulate rules and regulations that are not in conflict with National Rules.

1. Department rules may be more restrictive than National Rules.
2. Department Rules will include procedure for protests. (The protection and stimulation of competition must be used in setting these regulations.)
3. Five copies of the Department Rules must be filed with National Headquarters before April 15, **2004**.

B. Department Rulings. The Department Baseball Committee shall decide all questions, disputes and protests within a Department. The Department Baseball Committee shall have the authority to disqualify or suspend anyone violating a Department or National Rule.

C. National Player Eligibility Rule Interpretations. The National Americanism and Children & Youth Division shall make interpretations of National Rules.

1. All requests for interpretations must be in writing and routed through the appropriate Department Baseball Chairman or State Adjutant. Telegrams, e-mail and fax copies are considered written requests. Failure to follow this procedure may result in suspensions and/or forfeiture of fees.

NATIONAL TOURNAMENTS RULE 9

A. National Tournament Registration. The Department Championship team must be certified to the National Americanism Commission by the authorized Department Baseball Official. Certification must be mailed, postmarked no later than midnight, **August 8, 2004**. **Note:** National Headquarters will only be financially responsible for a maximum of 18 players and two adults who are included on the National Form #1.

B. National Competition. Tournament competition is open only to teams that have registered with the State Baseball Committee. The State Baseball Committee is responsible for filing the **original** National Form #1 with the Baseball Section, The American Legion, 700 N. Pennsylvania St., Indianapolis, IN 46204, postmarked no later than July 15, **2004**, in accordance with Department regulations.

C. National Tournament Supervision. All National tournaments will be played under the supervision of the National Americanism Commission. All disputes and questions shall be referred to the National Tournament Director. Any situation not specifically covered by National rules or regulations will be referred to the National Americanism and Children & Youth Division, whose decision shall be final.

D. National Tournament Player Eligibility Protest. Eligibility protests of players involved in national tournaments must bear written proof of ineligibility and must be filed with the National Tournament Director at each such tournament no later than 9:00 a.m., local time on the first day of the tournament involved, except on the discovery of fraud. When fraud is discovered, the eligibility protest and a written description of the alleged fraud must be filed immediately. All other protests shall be filed as specified in the Official Baseball Rules published by The Sporting News.

E. National Tournament Play. Teams competing in National tournaments will play every day.

1. The National Tournament Director has complete instructions concerning double elimination.
2. No National Tournament games will begin after 11:00 p.m., local time.

F. Regional Tournament Host. No Regional host team shall be denied the opportunity of participating in tournaments leading up to the Regional Tournament. Nor shall any team hosting a Department or National Regional Tournament refuse to participate in any such tournament.

Clarification: The host team for a Department or National Regional tournament is mandated to participate in the District and/or State Tournament until such time as the team is eliminated from competition. Host teams will not be permitted to rest their team creating an unfair advantage at either a Department or National Regional Tournament.

G. Tournament Photographs. Department Baseball Officials are required to furnish National Headquarters and the local Regional Tournament Chairman two (2) high quality glossy (color) photographs, 5" x 7", of the Department Championship team with players and coaches identified.

1. The Department Chairman must express mail to the local Regional Tournament Host, two photographs, no later than **August 6, 2004** to ensure the championship team's photo will appear in the Regional Tournament souvenir program and local newspaper.

2. Digital photographs are acceptable if printed on high glossy photo paper or if resolution is at least 300-dpi and if diskette accompanies two high quality copies of the digital photo.

H. Department Championship Play. No Department may enter a team in a National Tournament without first conducting an official Department Tournament that had two or more certified teams participating.

1. At least eight teams must be officially registered in regular season play for a Department to enter a team in a National Tournament.

I. Artificial Noisemakers Prohibited. The National Americanism Commission has an established policy that prohibits artificial noisemakers at all times. Fans who operate artificial noisemakers will be asked not to do so. A second warning will cause those fans to be removed from the stands.

J. Suspended Games. Suspended games will be completed from the point of suspension.

- (1) When games are suspended on one day and completed the following day the pitching records shall be charged as played the previous day.
- (2) The pitcher will be charged for innings pitched on the first day. Innings pitched on the following day will also be charged to the first day. One appearance will be charged unless pitchers change.
- (3) A suspended game completed on the following day will not count toward two (2) games in Rule 1.I. These teams can still play an additional two (2) full games.

NATIONAL BASEBALL APPEALS BOARD RULE 10

A. National Appeals Board. There is a National Baseball Appeals Board (hereafter referred to as “the Board”) composed of (1) the Chairman of the National Americanism Commission; (2) the Chairman of the Baseball and Recreation Subcommittee; and (3) a third member appointed by the Chairman of the National Americanism Commission. The Chairman shall also appoint two alternate members. The term of office for board members and alternate members shall be one year.

B. Time Limit. An appeal filed under this rule must be made within 24 hours of the time when the rule interpretation of the National Americanism and Children & Youth Division is issued. Such appeal may be made by telegram, fax, and e-mail or mail-a-gram and shall state the precise points of contention that are the basis for the appeal. If an appeal is not filed within 24 hours to the National Americanism and Children & Youth Division, an interpretation will not be considered.

C. Filing An Appeal. All appeals must be in writing and addressed to The American Legion, National Baseball Appeals Board, 700 N. Pennsylvania St., PO Box 1055, Indianapolis, IN 46204. Faxes and e-mail protests are acceptable when sent in by the Department Baseball Chairman or Department Adjutant. National Headquarters Fax Number is (317) 630-1369. E-MAIL ADDRESS: acy@legion.org

D. Final Authority. The Board shall have sole jurisdiction over any appeal filed following a decision involving American Legion Baseball rule interpretations rendered by the National Americanism and Children & Youth Division. The decision of the Board shall be final and may be enforced by a court of law. The concurrence of a majority of the members of the Board shall constitute the ruling by the Board.

E. Approved Interpretations. During tournaments supervised by National Headquarters, the Board shall approve interpretations rendered by the National Americanism and Children & Youth Division before publication of the interpretation.

F. Appeal Procedure. No appeal shall be considered by the Board until all established appeal procedures within the respective Department’s rules have been exhausted, as certified in writing by the Department Baseball Chairman.