



NEBRASKA AMERICAN LEGION

2010 State Baseball Rulebook



THE AMERICAN LEGION

Department of Nebraska

P.O. Box 5205

Lincoln, NE 68505

www.nelegionbaseball.net



The American Legion is the largest veteran's organization in the world with a membership of nearly 3 Million war-time veterans in the United States, District of Columbia and four foreign countries. Members of The American Legion are honorably discharged men and women who served their country on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States during World War I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Lebanon, Grenada, Panama and Persian Gulf Wars and Conflicts. The American Legion was founded and organized in 1919. Since that time, The American Legion has touched virtually every facet of American life, fulfilling its main objective of service to the community, state and nation.



Since 1925, The American Legion has sponsored a nationwide youth baseball program. During these past eight decades, over 10 million players have enjoyed playing the game of baseball. The American Legion and the 2.7 million members have raised millions of dollars each year to give young baseball players an opportunity to learn the importance of teamwork, team loyalty, discipline, leadership and good sportsmanship. The purpose of American Legion Baseball has always been to help develop America's youth that will someday step forward and become the nation's future leaders.



In 2009, Nebraska American Legion Baseball supported over 300 Junior and Senior teams across the state, comprised of over 4,000 players. Posts, sponsors, parent groups and countless volunteers successfully conducted 41 District tournaments and 7 State tournaments, culminating in two Nebraska Class A Senior teams participating in two national Regional tournaments. Nebraska has the fourth largest number of teams in the United States and ranks first in teams per capita and has maintained one of the strongest American Legion Baseball programs in the country for decades.

Purpose and Scope of American Legion Baseball

To inculcate in youth a better understanding of the American way of life and to promote the principles of 100% Americanism.

To instill in the nation's youth a sincere desire to develop within themselves a feeling of citizenship, sportsmanship, loyalty and team spirit.

To aid in the improvement and development of the physical fitness of our country's youth.

To build for the Nation's future through our youth.

Nebraska American Legion Baseball
2010 Rule Book

STATE TOURNAMENT PAIRINGS

2010 Class A Senior State Tournament - National Division

DAY 1	DAY 2	DAY 3	DAY 4	DAY 5
	L2 Game 6			<p style="text-align: center;">Seniors - 2010 Class A National Division AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL 8 TEAM STATE TOURNAMENT</p>
	L4	Game 9		
		L7	Game 12	
	L1 Game 5		L11	
	L3	Game 10		
Area 3 RU		L8		
Game 1			Game 13	
Area 6 CH	Game 7			
Area 5 RU				
Game 3				
Area 4 CH		Game 11		
Area 2 CH				
Game 2				
Area 7 RU	Game 8			
Host				
Game 4				
Area 1 RU				
				Game 14
				Game 15
				Champion
				L 13/14-1st Loss
				Game 12 Winner game 9 vs loser game 11 (note 1)
				Game 13 Winner game 10 vs winner game 11 (note 1)
				Game 14 Winner game 12 vs winner game 13 (note 2)
				Game 15 (if necessary) fifteen games will be needed if winner game 11 loses game 13 or winner game 12 wins game 14
				Note 1 Pairings for game 12 and 13 will not match previous opponents against each other unless absolutely necessary
				Note 2 If three teams remain after game 13, the winner of game 11 goes to game 15

2010 Class A Senior State Tournament - American Division

DAY 1	DAY 2	DAY 3	DAY 4	DAY 5/6
	L2 Game 6			<p style="text-align: center;">Seniors - 2010 Class A American Division AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL 8 TEAM STATE TOURNAMENT</p>
	L4	Game 9		
		L7	Game 12	
	L1 Game 5		L11	
	L3	Game 10		
Area 3 CH		L8		
Game 1			Game 13	
Area 6 RU	Game 7			
Area 5 CH				
Game 3				
Area 4 RU		Game 11		
Area 2 RU				
Game 2				
Area 7 CH	Game 8			
Host				
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				Game 15
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				Note 2 If three teams remain after game 13, the winner of game 11 goes to game 15, adding an extra day will be determined at the coaches meeting

STATE TOURNAMENT PAIRINGS

2010 Class B & C Senior State Tournaments

DAY 1	DAY 2	DAY 3	DAY 4	DAY 5/6						
				<p align="center">Seniors - 2010</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td align="center" colspan="2">AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL</td> </tr> <tr> <td align="center" colspan="2">8 TFAM</td> </tr> <tr> <td align="center" colspan="2">STATE TOURNAMENT</td> </tr> </table>	AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL		8 TFAM		STATE TOURNAMENT	
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8 TFAM										
STATE TOURNAMENT										
	L2 Game 6									
	L4	Game 9								
	L1 Game 5	L7	Game 12							
	L3	Game 10	L11		Game 14					
Area 4		L8	Game 13		Game 15					
Game 1						Champion				
Area 5	Game 7				L 13/14-1st Loss					
Area 2										
Game 3										
Area 7		Game 11								
Area 3										
Game 2										
Area 6	Game 8			Game 12						
Host				Game 13						
Game 4				Game 14						
Area 1				Game 15						
				Note 1						
				Note 2						

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Game 13	Winner game 10 vs winner game 11 (note 1)
Game 14	Winner game 12 vs winner game 13 (note 2)
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Note 2	If three teams remain after game 13, the winner of game 11 goes to game 15, adding an extra day will be determined at the coaches meeting.

2010 Class A, B, and C, Junior State Tournament

DAY 1	DAY 2	DAY 3	DAY 4	DAY 5/6						
				<p align="center">Juniors - 2010</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td align="center" colspan="2">AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL</td> </tr> <tr> <td align="center" colspan="2">8 TLAM</td> </tr> <tr> <td align="center" colspan="2">STATE TOURNAMENT</td> </tr> </table>	AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL		8 TLAM		STATE TOURNAMENT	
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**The American Legion
Department of Nebraska**
2009 American Legion Baseball Player of the Year



Bret Gardner
York, Nebraska

Bret Gardner of York, Nebraska was named the 2009 Nebraska Player of the Year. He earned a \$500 scholarship and a chance to be named National Player of the Year.

**Nebraska American Legion
Baseball Player of the Year Winners**

2009	Bret Gardner	York
2008	Jeffrey Kirchmann	West Point
2007	Blaine Drozd	Genoa
2006	Matthew Dimmitt	Alliance
2005	Luke Lavicky	Dwight
2004	Jonathan Soneson	St Paul

**Nebraska American Legion
Jim Hurlbert Memorial Baseball Scholarship Winners**

2009	Jeremy Burgener	Gering
	Johnathan Pfeifer	South Sioux City
2008	Tyler Hohenstein	Dakota City
	Jesse Hill	Wayne
2007	Jordan Hansen	York
	Lucas Buss	Beatrice
2006	Larry Dostal	Bellevue
	Matthew Dimmitt	Alliance
2005	Jason Franzluebbbers	West Point
	Joel Zitek	Ulysses
2004	Cyle French	Bancroft
	Justin Florian	Wilbur

Visit www.nelegionbaseball.net for scholarship information and applications

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Page

2010 State Tournament Pairings	3-4
Baseball Scholarships	5
Code of Sportsmanship	8
Department Athletic Committee	8
Manager's Checklist	9
Entry Dates and Deadlines	9
<u>Rule 1.00 -Team and Player Regulation</u>	
1.01 – Team Classification and Entry	10
1.02 – Player Eligibility	10
1.03 – Enrollment/Base School	10
1.04 – Insurance	10
1.05 – Uniforms	10
1.06 – Roster Limit, Coach/Manager	10
1.07 – Dual Roster Players	11
1.08 – Dual Participation	11
1.09 – First Aid	11
1.10 – Sponsor/Co-Sponsor	11
<u>Rule 2.00 -Game Regulations</u>	
2.01 – Scheduling	12
2.02 – Umpires	12
2.03 – Minimum Games	12
2.04 – Tobacco/Alcohol Use	12
2.05 – Protective Equipment	12
2.06 – Bats	12
2.07 – Minimum Players	12
2.08 – Limited Substitution	12
2.09 – Pitching	13
2.10 – Protests and Disputes	13
<u>Rule 3.00 -Player Recruitment</u>	
3.01 – Eligible Players	14
3.02 – Legal Address	14
3.03 – New Team	14
3.04 – Class C (ONLY) Enrollment	14
3.05 – Transfers	14
<u>Rule 4.00 -Conduct</u>	
4.01 – Un-Sportsmanlike Conduct	16
4.02 – Heckling	16
4.03 – Ejections	16
4.04 – Travel	16
4.05 – Malicious Contact	16
<u>Rule 5.00 -Team and Player Certification for Tournament Entry</u>	
5.01 – Roster Submission	17
5.02 – Tournament Play	17
5.03 – Roster Certification	17
5.04 – Birth Certificates	17
5.05 – Tournament Eligibility	17
5.06 – Player Agreement (Form 2)	17
5.07 – Add/Delete and Dual Roster Players	17
5.08 – Falsification of Roster	17
<u>Rule 6.00 -Tournament Plans</u>	
6.01 – Tournament Director	18
6.02 – Tournament Requirements	18
6.03 – Tournament Umpires	18

Nebraska American Legion Baseball
2010 Rule Book

6.04 – Games	18
6.05 – Host Post	18
6.06 – Suspended Games	18
6.07 – Designated Hitter	18
6.08 – Protests	18
6.09 – Team Elimination	19
6.10 – End of Season	19

Rule 7.00 -Tournament Dates and Sites

7.01 Area Tournament Dates and Sites	20
7.02 State Tournament Dates and Sites	20
7.03 Championship Series	20

Rule 8.00 -Financial Obligations for Tournament Host Post

8.01 – Area Tournaments	21
8.02 – State Tournaments	21
8.03 – All Tournaments	21

Rule 9.00 – Umpires

9.01 – Reporting Ejections and Incidents	22
9.02 – General Instructions to Umpires	22

Communicable Disease Procedures	23
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From the Book of Unwritten Baseball Rules by Baseball Digest...

13	Never let the score influence the way you manage.
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THE CODE OF SPORTSMANSHIP

I will:

Keep the rules.
Keep faith with my teammates.
Keep my temper.
Keep myself fit.
Keep a stout heart in defeat.
Keep my pride under in victory.
Keep a sound soul, a clean mind and a healthy body.

DEPARTMENT ATHLETIC COMMITTEE

AREA A (Districts 3, 8, 14)

Don Kiviniemi, Jr Bellevue (2009/2010 Chairman)	402-292-3205 H 402-689-1113 Cell	don.kiviniemi@nelegionbaseball.net
Butch Kreikemeier West Point	402-372-6417	Butch.Kreikemeier@nelegionbaseball.net

AREA B (Districts 2,6,7)

Jack McMahon Central City	308-986-2383	jack.mcmahon@nelegionbaseball.net
Jim Sidel St Paul	308-750-0467	jim.sidel@nelegionbaseball.net

AREA C (Districts 10, 11, 12, 13, 15)

Bill Kerns Crete	402-416-2462	Bill.Kerns@nelegionbaseball.net
Joe Ruzicka Seward	402-643-3119	joe.ruzicka@nelegionbaseball.net

AREA D (Districts 1, 4, 5, 9)

Robert Achziger Gering	308-436-2726	bob.achziger@nelegionbaseball.net
Larry Konken Hershey	308-539-3710 (C) 308-368-5687 (H)	larry.konken@nelegionbaseball.net

AT LARGE

Jody, Moeller - Shelton	308-216-1130	jody.moeller@nelegionbaseball.net
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PROGRAM COORDINATOR

Brent Hagel-Pitt Lincoln	402-464-6338	actdirlegion@windstream.net
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OFFICIAL RULES AND INSTRUCTIONS

The Department Athletic Committee, consisting of nine members, shall formulate rules and procedures, prepare tournament schedules, are responsible for area and state tournaments, and address all other matters dealing with this program. All games shall be played under the **2010 OFFICIAL BASEBALL RULES**, except as provided for in National American Legion Baseball Rules and as further provided for herein.

"I believe managing is like holding a dove in your hand. If you hold it too tightly you kill it, but if you hold it too loosely, you lose it." Source: The Artful Dodger (Tommy Lasorda)

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR TEAM MANAGERS/COACHES

“NEBRASKA AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL IS BY INVITATION ONLY” Team managers and coaches should read these rules covering eligibility and playing regulations very carefully. All dates and deadlines mentioned supersede national dates and deadlines, and will be rigidly enforced.

MANAGER'S CHECKLIST

[] 1. **HAVE YOU ENTERED YOUR TEAM(S)?** Initial Team Entry in the Program must be completed on or before **May 3, 2010, using the National American Legion Baseball On-Line Registration System**. Fees that will be assessed will be Nebraska fees of **\$125** for each team, National fees of \$50.00 for each Senior Team and \$25.00 for each Junior Team, and SA Vandyke Insurance fees (depending on what coverage is selected). **These fees are nonrefundable. Payment of above said fees is by credit card only.**

[] 2. **HAVE YOU OBTAINED GROUP ACCIDENT AND LIABILITY INSURANCE FOR YOUR TEAM(S)?** All teams participating in The American Legion Baseball Program must be covered by American Legion mandated Group Accident and Liability Insurance for the entire season. This insurance can only be obtained during the registration process using the National On-line Registration System. Cost will depend on whether you select annual or seasonal coverage.

[] 3. **HAVE YOU COMPLETED YOUR FINAL TEAM REGISTRATION IN THE NEBRASKA AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL PROGRAM, USING THE NATIONAL ON-LINE REGISTRATION SYSTEM?** Deadline for entering final team registration is **May 31, 2010**. After May 31, 2010, teams will not be allowed to register through the National On-Line Registration System. You will have to contact Department Headquarters for review and approval to participate. If approved, a **late fee of \$300.00 per team** will be assessed, payable to the Department of Nebraska. You will then be given steps how to register using the National On-Line Registration System.

[] 4. **HAVE YOU NOTIFIED OFFICIALS OF CHANGES TO YOUR TEAM ROSTER?** All teams will be allowed to add or delete players and dual roster players on their team roster up to and including **June 21 2010**. Changes to rosters will be done using the National On-Line registration System.

[] 5. **HAVE YOU OBTAINED CERTIFIED BIRTH CARDS OR CERTIFICATES FOR YOUR PLAYERS?** Teams are required to provide birth certificate cards or original birth certificates and a copy of their team roster to the Area Tournament Director by **Seeding meeting**. Failure to do so will result in disqualification from the tournament. **DO NOT MAIL THESE TO DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS!! Birth Certificate Cards can be obtained through Department Headquarters for \$5.00 per card, plus tax. Certification of Birth Certificates will be done through Area Athletic Committee Representatives.**

SPECIAL RULES OF ENTRY DATES AND DEADLINES

Initial team entry (Application) into the Nebraska American Legion Baseball Program must be completed through the National On-Line Registration System by **May 3, 2010**.

Deadline for complete and final team registrations using the National On-Line Registration System is **May 31, 2010**. Failure to meet the May 31, 2010 deadline may result in disqualification from competition in the Nebraska American Legion Baseball Program.

Transfer Form 76 's, Form 77's, Add/Delete Form's, and Dual Roster Form's, are available on the Nebraska American Legion Baseball Web Site. Forms will be printed from this site, filled out, required signatures obtained, and mailed to Department Nebraska. Transfer Form 76's and Form 77's must be received by May 31, 2010. Add/Delete Forms and Dual Roster Forms must be received by June 21, 2010.

Form 2's will be obtained through the National On-Line Registration System. A Form 2 will be filled out and printed from the National On-Line Registration System (one form per player). The coach will then obtain all required signatures and mail one completed Form 2 (one per player) to Department Headquarters (by May 31, 2010) and keep one copy for their records. A copy of your SA Vandyke Insurance, both Liability and Accident - must be mailed to Department Headquarters by May 31, 2010.

Area/District team placements are published on the <http://www.nelegionbaseball.net> website. Final area/district assignments will be published by June 21, 2010. It is the coaches responsibility to check the web site.

The deadline is **May 25, 2010** for all umpires applying for State Tournaments and June 18, 2010 for all other umpires. Late umpire certifications will be handled on a case-by-case basis by the Head Legion Liaison Umpire.

1.00 --TEAM AND PLAYER REGULATIONS

1.01 TEAM CLASSIFICATION AND ENTRY:

(a) The Nebraska American Legion Baseball program is divided into three classes (Class A, Class B, and Class C), with a Senior and Junior age division in each class.

- Class A will consist of all teams whose school or combination of schools has a total enrollment of 600 or more.
- Class B will consist of all teams whose school or combination of schools has a total enrollment of 161 through 599.
- Class C will consist of those teams whose school or combination of schools has a total enrollment of 160 or fewer.

(b) Entry in the program must be done on or before **May 31, 2010**, using the National On-Line Registration System.

(c) Legion Posts, Towns or teams will not combine without written approval from the Nebraska American Legion Athletic Committee. Requests to combine must be in writing and sent to Department Headquarters. **Must be received by January 1, 2010**

1.02 PLAYER ELIGIBILITY:

(a) American Legion Senior Baseball competition in 2010 is open only to players born on or after January 1, 1991. (Any player born in 1990 is not eligible.) American Legion Junior competition in 2010 is open to players born on or after January 1, 1993 (A player born in 1992 must play Senior Legion Baseball.)

(b) Player eligibility, properly established with a primary team under the rules of Nebraska American Legion Baseball, will remain with that team throughout the player's participation. Players will play for the Team where high school attended first, if no team exists will then play for the team closest parents domicile. When an option exists for the player to select the team recruited from the community of legal residence or the team recruited from the school attended, the player must play out his/her eligibility with the team first selected (utilizing NALB Form 77), and may not change from year to year, this option is for Junior players first entering the program. Eligibility may be broken only by change in mailing address of parents or legal guardian or change in legal custody of player. Rule 3.04 (c) also applies.

(c) Any player regardless of age or grade who participates in the Nebraska American Legion Baseball program will abide by all rules published in the Nebraska American Legion Baseball Rule Book.

1.03 ENROLLMENT: Records showing the **total enrollment of grades 10 through 12**, obtained annually from the NEBRASKA STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT, TAKEN THE LAST FRIDAY IN SEPTEMBER, will be used in determining classification of teams. Teams may opt to enter a larger enrollment class for tournament play.

(a) All teams must have a base school with one hundred percent (100%) of enrollment counted. The base school will be the school of the sponsoring post or community from which a team recruits **the majority of its players**.

(b) Should more than one team be recruited from a base school by two or more posts in the same community, the initially established program shall be in the primary team. All players or transfers must tryout for the primary team. Such tryout must be held no later than **May 31, 2010**. The secondary team may only recruit from players cut in tryout from, or transferred by, the primary team.

(c) Should a post sponsor more than one team, the initially established team shall be the primary team. All players or transfers must tryout for the primary team. Tryouts must be held no later than **May 31, 2010**. The secondary team may only recruit players cut in tryout from, or transferred by the primary team.

(d) A Senior team and Junior team sponsored by the same Post may have different base schools (based on combination of schools involved) and may play in different tournament classes.

1.04 INSURANCE: All teams must be covered by group accident and liability insurance for the entire season. The American Legion coverage must be purchased during the team registration process using the National On-Line Registration System.

1.05 UNIFORMS: Teams must be in like uniforms to play American Legion Baseball. [**Penalty;** Players and coaches failing to comply with this rule will be ineligible to participate.]

(a) The American Legion Baseball **embroidered patch insignia** must be worn on the left sleeve or left chest of the uniform shirt or outer garment (silkscreen or other copy prohibited). If the ineligibility of players that fail to have patches on their uniforms will result in forfeiture of a game, the game will continue without forfeit and the Head Coach of the offending team will be ejected and in addition, will serve a two-game suspension following the ejection. Patches are available through Department Headquarters for \$2.00 each, plus sales tax.

(b) The front of the uniform shirt may carry lettering that identifies the Post, town or sponsor which the team represents.

(c) A number at least six inches high **MUST** be carried on the back of the uniform shirt.

(d) Uniform Shirts will be tucked in at all times.

(e) Wearing of the uniform must present a positive and professional appearance and image.

1.06 ROSTER LIMIT, COACH/MANAGER: All teams will be limited to 18 players. Only registered players or two adult **coaches in full uniform of the team** are permitted on the coaching lines. A non-Legionnaire may act as coach. A member of the sponsoring Post should be the team business manager.

Nebraska American Legion Baseball
2010 Rule Book

1.07 DUAL ROSTER PLAYERS: Coaches may dual roster players **between affiliated teams** on both the junior and senior roster. Only three (3) players (Class A) from the Junior roster, five (5) players (Class B & C) can be dual rostered on the Senior team roster, and not to exceed the 18 players. Deadline for dual roster of players is June 21, 2010. Once Junior Post Season Tournaments start Junior Players are locked into the Junior Program until eliminated. Dual Roster Forms will be obtained from the nelegionbaseball.net web site, coaches will fill out the form and submit to the Department Headquarters. Ensure both rosters in the National On-Line System reflect dual roster players.

1.08 DUAL PARTICIPATION: Teams or players registered to participate in the Nebraska American Legion Baseball Program may participate in other amateur baseball programs, subject to **prior approval from the Department Baseball Chairman**. It is important that dual participation will not in any way interfere with a player's responsibility to American Legion Baseball.

1.09 FIRST AID: Each team must provide an adequate First Aid Kit as part of its equipment at all practice sessions and games. Aggressive treatment of open wounds or skin lesions should be followed. In particular, whenever a player suffers a laceration or wound where oozing or bleeding occurs, the practice or game should be stopped at the earliest possible time; and the athlete should leave the field of play and be given appropriate medical treatment. During practice, the athlete should not return to the field of play without containment of the injury. If, during a game, the athlete can be treated without undue delay, play shall be stopped until the athlete has received treatment and is cleared to play. However, if the bleeding requires extensive treatment, a substitute shall replace the injured player.

1.10 SPONSOR/CO-SPONSOR: All teams participating in the Nebraska American Legion Baseball program must have an American Legion Post as a sponsor or co-sponsor.

"Baseball is like driving, it's the one who gets home safely that counts." - Tommy Lasorda

2.0 -- GAME REGULATIONS

2.01 SCHEDULING: All teams will schedule their own season play. (A final list of all registered teams will be available on the <http://www.nelegionbaseball.net> website by **June 21, 2010**.)

2.02 UMPIRES: Use of REGISTERED umpires during regular season games IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED. Only REGISTERED AND CERTIFIED American Legion umpires who have attended an annual American Legion sponsored Umpire Clinic and Rules Meeting and Completes the Umpire Test will be eligible to work Area Tournaments. ONLY REGISTERED AND CERTIFIED UMPIRES will be selected and paid by the Department Athletic Committee for State Tournaments.

2.03 MINIMUM GAMES: Teams are required to play a minimum of 10 regular season games by the seeding meeting date of Area Tournaments. Teams not having the minimum of 10 games will be seeded last in tournament. Mercy rule will be 8 runs after 5 innings of play in 7 inning games and 8 runs after 7 innings in 9 inning games (regular season). Post Season mercy rule see Rule 6.04.

2.04 TOBACCO OR ALCOHOL USE: The use of tobacco or alcohol by a player, coach, manager or umpire while on the playing field is prohibited. Any violation of this rule will cause the individual to be removed from the game. For the purpose of this rule, dugouts, player benches and bullpens are considered part of the playing field.

2.05 PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT.

(a) **Player helmets:** All players are required to wear a double-flapped ear protective helmet with a face guard while batting or on deck. Base runners have the option of wearing a helmet with or without a face guard. Helmets/face guards must meet NOCSAE (National Organizing Committee for Safety in Athletic Equipment) specifications and bear the NOCSAE stamp.

(b) **Catchers** are required to wear a safety helmet, throat protector and a protective cup. Any catcher's mask that does not have an extended metal or plastic throat protector of at least 2 inches in length is required to have an attachable throat protector. Umpires and/or tournament officials are instructed to halt any game until this rule is complied with. If the team fails to comply, that team will forfeit the game. **Any person warming up a pitcher** must wear a mask in or out of the bullpen. It is recommended that batters wear a protective mouth guard while batting.

(c) **Base Coaches** are required to wear a protective baseball helmet (with bill – no "skull caps") while coaching first or third base. Helmets are not required to have ear flaps. Players acting as base coaches are required to wear helmets in accordance with Rule 2.05(a), facemask optional.

2.06 BATS: Only bats that are -3 (drop) will be allowed in American Legion baseball games. Only bats may be used in warming up in the on-deck area or in any other location. Weighted bats, devices designed to attach to and remain part of the bat, such as weighted donuts or wind resistant foils are permitted. Sledge hammers, weighted pipes and other heavy paraphernalia are not permitted.

2.07 MINIMUM PLAYERS: Teams must start games with a minimum of nine players; however, should this number be diminished for any reason, the game may be continued with less than nine players and still be considered a legal game (see Rule 4.03(i) for special consideration of ejected, Class B and C players serving mandatory one-game suspension). An automatic out will be called on the absent player when his/her turn in the batting lineup occurs.

2.08 LIMITED SUBSTITUTION: The following limited substitution rule will be allowed during regular season and tournament play except for Class A Senior post-season tournaments:

(a) Any of the nine starting players may be withdrawn from the game and re-entered once, however, upon re-entry such player must assume his/her original batting position in the lineup. (Re-entry in the lineup by a pitcher will be considered as another appearance.)

(b) A substitute pitcher going to the mound shall pitch to the first batter to face him/her until the batter has advanced to first base, or has been put out, or until there is a third out.

(c) When a substitute is withdrawn from the game, he/she may not be re-entered.

(d) Any team will be permitted to use the limited substitution rule during regular season play, providing the player reports to the plate umpire. However, Class A Senior teams are **NOT** allowed to use limited substitution in post-season tournament competition.

(e) A hitter may be designated to bat for the starting pitcher and all subsequent pitchers (ONLY) in any game without otherwise affecting the status of the pitcher(s) in the game. A Designated Hitter for the pitcher must be selected prior to the game and must be included in the lineup cards presented to the Umpire in Chief. It is not mandatory that a hitter be designated for the pitcher, but failure to do so prior to the game precludes the use of a Designated Hitter for that game. A starting defensive player cannot be listed as the designated hitter in the starting lineup. If a pinch runner for the designated hitter is used that player becomes the new designated hitter. No multiple substitutions may be made that alter the batting rotation and a replaced Designated Hitter shall not re-enter the game in any capacity. A designated hitter and the player for who he is batting are locked into the batting order. The role of the designated hitter is terminated for the remainder of the game when:

(1) The defensive player, or any previous defensive player for who the designated hitter batted, subsequently bats or pinch-hits for the designated hitter; or

Nebraska American Legion Baseball
2010 Rule Book

(2) The designated hitter or any previous designated hitter assumes a defensive position.

(f) Courtesy Runners

(1). At any time, the team at bat may use courtesy runners for the pitcher and/or the catcher.

(2). The same individual runner may not be used for both positions (pitcher and catcher) during the game.

(3). Neither the pitcher nor the catcher will be required to leave the game under such circumstances.

(4). Players who have participated in the game in any other capacity are ineligible to serve as courtesy runners.

(5). Player may not run as a courtesy runner for the pitcher or catcher and then be used as a substitute for another player in that half inning. If an injury, illness or ejection occurs and no other runners are available, the courtesy runner may be used as a substitute.

2.09 PITCHING: No Senior player may pitch more than 12 innings or make more than FOUR appearances; or Junior player pitch more than 10 innings, or make more than THREE appearances as a pitcher in combining the total innings or appearances in any three (3) consecutive days. See Nat'l Rule (1.N), American Legion Baseball Rule Book. A pitcher who throws to one batter but does not retire him/her shall be charged with an appearance, but no inning. Example: 3 outs= 1 inning, 1 out = 1/3 inning. One pitch or more to a batter makes one appearance.

(a) Any pitcher may be removed as a pitcher and still remain in the game at another position. Any subsequent return to the mound will count as another appearance. **If a pitcher is removed automatically by the second trip to the mound by the coach in the same inning, that player cannot return as a pitcher in that game.**

2.10 PROTESTS AND DISPUTES: All questions, disputes and protests within the state program shall be decided by the Department Athletic Chairman or Committee. The Department Committee shall have the power to disqualify or suspend anyone violating Department or National rules.

"Son, what kind of pitch would you like to miss?" – Dizzy Dean

3.00 – PLAYER RECRUITMENT

3.01 ELIGIBLE PLAYERS: Posts may use players who are regularly enrolled in school prior to March 31 of this year. Emancipated players such as college or university students or players no longer in high school **MUST** play for the team last played for. If last team played for no longer exists then the player must play for team closest to parents domicile.

3.02 LEGAL ADDRESS: The mailing address of parents or permanent court appointed guardian is considered legal residence of player. Any player whose parents move and establish a new permanent residence after March 31 must submit a request to play with the team of his/her new permanent residence. **The request must be in writing, include a statement by the parents that the move is permanent, and must be filed with the Department Athletic Committee not later than May 31, 2010.** Player recruitment by Plan A “zoning” (National Rule 3) is not utilized in Nebraska.

3.03 New Teams: A new team is a team that has not officially registered to participate in the Nebraska legion baseball program for 5 years. *note: When this rule applied you do not separate the new team designation between Senior and Junior teams.

(a) If no team is recruited from the community of the player's legal residence or from the school he/she attends, then the player's eligibility is with the team nearest his/her legal residence regardless of class. The enrollment of the school the player attends must be added to the enrollment of the base school which this player is recruited.

(b) Non-base school players who were obligated to play for the team nearest their parent's legal residence as 9th grade students shall be grandfathered into the program they initially entered until they move or change schools. Players who are unable to complete their eligibility because enrollment expansion exceeds 5,000 may continue on the team for which they last played, provided that no new players are recruited from their school.

(c) In the event a new team is formed which is nearer to a player's residence, the player has a one-time option of playing with the team for which he last played or for the new team.

3.04 CLASS B & C (ONLY) ENROLLMENT – Rule 3.03 above is amended in the case of enrollment requirements for Class B & C teams, as follows:

(a) Although the player selects the team recruited from his/her legal residence, should the player attend a school other than the base school, ten percent (10%) of his/her school enrollment will be added to the base school enrollment. This ten percent (10%) shall be counted only once per school involved regardless of the number of players coming from the non-base school so long as the number of players doesn't exceed the number of players from the base school.

(b) **320 Rule (Class C Only):** If the teams total enrollment exceeds 320 without the ten-percent rule applied, that team will be required to participate in Class B.

(c) NSAA Approved Coop Baseball Schools: If schools are an approved NSAA coop school during the school year for baseball, players from coop schools could play for the base school in the summer and no transfer would be required. Enrollment from the coop schools would have to be counted by base school. Number of players coming from coop schools can not exceed the numbers from the base school. Schools that are not an approved NSAA coop school for baseball, would have to refer to rule

1.01 (c) for combining.

3.05 TRANSFERS: National rules concerning transfer of players are utilized in Nebraska. The transfer request form (Transfer Form 76) can be obtained through the Nebraska Legion Baseball Web Site. Form will be filled out, printed, and all required signatures obtained and mailed to Department Nebraska. Copy of the final approved Form 76 will be sent to the respective coach.

(a) A player who tries out for his/her eligible team and is cut, must, upon the player's request, either be transferred or be placed on the team roster (National Form 1) and provided the opportunity to actively participate. All transfers must be completed by **May 31, 2010**.

(b) A player who does not try out for his/her eligible team for whatever reason and who files a request may be transferred with the approval of the **team manager AND coach**, with final approval by the appropriate Department Athletic Committee Area Representative prior to being sent to the Department of Nebraska.

(c) A player who will transfer from one high school to another between spring and fall semesters, may request transfer to the Legion team that recruits the new school to be attended in the fall, providing that **the March 15 Nebraska Department of Education statutory transfer requirements** have been met to be eligible for participation in high school sports at the beginning of the fall semester. The transfer request (Form 76) will include documentation of the approved school transfer before it will be considered by the Department Activities Director. Enrollment of the last school attended by the player will be added to the new team's total enrollment. Class B & C only will count 10% of the enrollment of last school attended.

(d) Transfer requests will not be considered or approved if a team is left with fewer than 14 players on the roster (DOES NOT INCLUDE DUAL ROSTER PLAYERS).

(e) All players requesting a transfer to another team will be granted **a one-year transfer only**. Players must reapply for transfer each year.

Nebraska American Legion Baseball
2010 Rule Book

(f) In the case of transfers, player base school enrollment of 10/11/12 grades will apply to all players regardless of age or grade.

*"Once he hit a line drive right past my ear. I turned around and saw the ball hit his ass sliding into second."
- Satchel Paige talking about the speed of Cool Papa Bell*

4.00 – CONDUCT

4.01 UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT: Any manager, coach or player who displays un-sportsmanlike conduct or discredits this program, in the opinion of the Department Athletic Chairman or his representative, may be removed from further participation in any American Legion Baseball competition as determined by the Department Athletic Committee.

Unsportsmanlike conduct incidents will be considered by the Department Athletic Committee during the selection of Area and State Tournament host sites.

4.02 HECKLING: No player, coach, manager, or any person associated with any American Legion Baseball team shall abuse, heckle, or make uncomplimentary remarks to any player or team official. The umpire shall immediately eject any individual violating this rule from the ballpark.

4.03 EJECTIONS: Any player, coach or manager can be ejected from a game by an umpire for any of the following rule infractions:

- (a) Use of tobacco or alcohol while on the playing field, benches, in the bullpen or dugouts
- (b) Use of profane language.
- (c) Making unnecessary gestures in protesting an umpire's decision. (Only the team manager or coach may ask for a clarification of a rule, but never argue.)
- (d) Throwing bats or other equipment.
- (e) Making unnecessary gestures to fans or opposing players.
- (f) Resorting to unnecessary roughness on the playing field.
- (g) Any conduct by players, coaches or managers resulting in ejection will result in suspension from the remainder of that game and will serve a **MANDATORY one-game suspension the following game**, to include Area and State tournament games. Coaches or players will not be allowed in uniform or in the dugout during the suspension.
- (h) 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. (Rule 4.03(g) applies if reinstated by the Tournament Director)
- (i) **Class B and C ONLY:** If after the ejection of a player and the MANDATORY one-game suspension results in the team not having the minimum of nine players required to start the next game, the suspended player may be started in that next game and will be removed from the game after the first pitch. The team will be allowed to continue the game with eight players.

4.04 TRAVEL: All persons traveling with American Legion Baseball teams are expected to conduct themselves in a respectable and responsible manner at all times. Any person causing an unnecessary disturbance at any time and not abiding by the rules will be immediately ejected from the ballpark. Any expense for damage incurred will be borne by the individual and/or the post serving as the team sponsor.

4.05 MALICIOUS CONTACT: (See National Rule 1.E): Any player who, **in the judgment of the umpire** maliciously runs into another player is automatically ejected and declared out. Malicious contact is ILLEGAL. The player is automatically removed from the Area, State Tournament (unless that player is reinstated by the Tournament Director or a representative of the Department Athletic Committee.) **Rule 4.03(a) through 4.03(i) apply for ejections.**

"Baseball, it is said, is only a game. True. And the Grand Canyon is only a hole in Arizona. Not all holes, or games, are created equal." George Will, Source: Widely Attributed

5.00 --TEAM AND PLAYER CERTIFICATION FOR POST TOURNAMENT ENTRY

5.01 ROSTER AND OTHER OFFICIAL PAPERWORK SUBMISSION: Each team will be required to provide the Tournament Directors (at the seeding meeting), Team Rosters, Form 2's, Transfer Form 76's (if any), Form 77's (if any), Dual Roster Forms (if any), two (2) 5X7 Color Team Photos, SA Vandyke Insurance Forms, Legion Birth Certificate Cards or Original Birth Certificates (if no card is obtained). Failure to provide said material may result in disqualification.

5.02. TOURNAMENT PLAY:

(a) All registered teams may enter the open tournament program. Junior competition ends at the state tournament. Teams may elect to continue participation in post-season tournaments if available and with the approval of the Department Activities Director.

(b) Only Class A Senior teams shall be eligible for and registered with the National Tournament program. Due to the number of registered Senior Legion teams, Nebraska is represented in National Tournaments by TWO teams.

(c) The Class A Senior State Champion team and the Class A Senior State Runner-up will advance to Regional Tournament competition in the Region 6 National Tournament.

5.03 ROSTER CERTIFICATION: Roster certification will be performed at seeding meetings. Should any team be using ineligible players, such players will be disqualified. Any manager, who has any doubt as to the eligibility of a player, should contact his/her Area Athletic Committee Representative or Department Activities Director. The seeding meeting will be the last point to question or protest a player's eligibility.

5.04. BIRTH CERTIFICATES:

(a) Legion Birth Certificate Verification Cards are available through Department Nebraska and can be utilized in lieu of original birth certificates, once issued. The cards are accepted at Area, State and National Tournaments. The Birth Certificate Verification Cards remain valid through the entire American Legion eligibility of the player. Cards are \$5.00 each, plus tax, and can be obtained through the Department Headquarters. Original Birth Certificates must be validated and verified through the respective Area Athletic Committee Representatives before cards can be issued.

(b) Issuance of Birth Certificate Verification cards are based on the review of the original birth certificate by an Area Representative of the Department Athletic Committee or the Department Activities Director.

(c) All birth certificates must be **certified**, carrying the signature of the Director of the Bureau of Vital Statistics and the raised/official imprint of the state seal in which the player was born. Plastic billfold-size birth registration cards obtained from the Bureau of Vital Statistics are valid.

(d) The following **ARE NEVER ACCEPTABLE AS LEGAL BIRTH RECORDS:**

- (1) Baptismal certificate
- (2) Hospital certificate or records
- (3) School certificate or records

(e) In case of foreign birth the player will present any certificate or document duly issued to the bearer by the United States Immigration and Naturalization Service or by the Department of State which shows the birth date of the bearer.

OFFICIAL Birth Certificates or records issued by a foreign country are acceptable when accompanied by an English Translation and notarized.

(f) A properly notarized copy of that portion of legal adoption papers showing the place and date of a player's birth shall be acceptable in cases of foster parents. **MAKE SURE YOU HAVE THE PROPER CERTIFICATION.**

5.05 TOURNAMENT ELIGIBILITY: Any player who does not have a Birth Certificate Verification Card or Certified Birth Certificate for presentation to the Tournament Director at the seeding meeting, shall be ineligible for all games in that tournament. Each coach and/or manager shall be responsible for carrying Birth Certificate Verification Cards or certified birth certificates for the team's players.

5.06 PLAYER AGREEMENT: A National Form 2 (Player Agreement and Parent's Consent and Release Form) must be completed by each player's parent or guardian, and be in the possession of the team's coach/manager at all regular and Post Season games. It is required that all player's have a completed form presented to the Tournament Director prior to the team's first appearance in the tournament. Those without a properly completed form cannot participate.

5.07 ADD/DELETE AND DUAL ROSTER PLAYERS: All teams will be allowed to add or delete and dual roster players on their team roster up to and including June 21, 2010. After June 21, 2010 Senior teams may replace players only in case of death. Junior teams will be allowed to replace seriously injured players up to the first game of the tournament provided a replacement is needed to maintain a minimum of 10 players. All requests must be in writing to Department Headquarters. If phoned in, the call must be followed up with a letter or FAX.

5.08 FALSIFICATION OF ROSTER: The Department Athletic Committee reserves the right to disqualify from further tournament competition any teams which falsified its team roster.

6.00 - TOURNAMENT PLANS

6.01 TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR: A Tournament Director may not manage, coach, participate as a player or umpire in any tournament in which he/she serves as a Tournament Director. All Tournament Directors will attend a mandatory meetings in June of each year and will be reimbursed mileage up to .22 cents a mile and up to a max cap of \$60 for hotel. (if 100 or more miles away from meeting site).

6.02 TOURNAMENT REQUIREMENTS: The U.S. Flag will be flown during every tournament game and the National Anthem will be played or performed before every tournament game. All players will recite the "Code of Sportsmanship" preceding all first-round games and every championship game. American Legion tournament officials will wear their Legion caps at the tournament site. **ALL Area and State Tournaments will utilize tournament brackets as provided by the Department Athletic Committee ONLY**

6.03 TOURNAMENT UMPIRES: Area Tournament Directors will submit to Department Headquarters a list of at least four competent umpires who will work the tournament games. (The Department Athletic Committee recommends that three umpires be required to work each game at area tournaments.) Approval or rejection of umpires will be made by the Department Athletic Committee. All tournament umpires shall be certified by Department Headquarters and have attended an American Legion sponsored umpire clinic/ rules meeting and take a test annually prior to working any tournament games. The Department Athletic Committee will furnish certified umpires for all state tournaments. Umpires will be reimbursed mileage of .22 cents a mile and up to a max cap of \$60 per night for hotel (if 100 miles away from site). Umpires will be required to double up in rooms at tournaments.

6.04 TOURNAMENT GAMES:

(a) Class A Seniors will play double elimination, nine inning games in Area and State Tournaments. Class A Juniors, Class B and C Senior & Junior Legion teams will play double elimination, 7 inning games in both Area and State Tournaments and are not required to advance on to regional tournaments. The 10-run lead at the end of 5 or 6 innings will apply for seven inning games and 10-run lead at the end of 7 or 8 innings will apply for nine inning games.

(b) Class A Senior Legion teams will each have an area winner and runner-up. After the seven areas have been completed, the area winners and runner-ups will be split into two eight team State Tournaments. One called the National Division and the other called the American Division. The winners of each division will play a one game playoff at a designated tournament site to determine the Class A State Champion. See the back of the rule book

(c) Class A, B and C Junior Area Tournaments and Class B & C Senior Area Tournaments will be double elimination, seven inning games, with the 10-run rule in effect after 5 or 6 innings and are not required to advance on to Regional Tournaments. No team will be required to play more than one game per day. In case of rain, Tournament Directors will get permission from their respective Area Athletic Committee Rep and Department Activities Director to alter the tournament schedule. Tournament Directors wanting to deviate from the approved Post Season Tournament start dates must submit a written request to Department Headquarters for approval.

6.05 HOST POST: The host post concept will be followed in all State Tournaments. In case the tournament host qualifies for the State tournament as an Area winner, the Area runner-up will assume the Host Post position. The tournament host will, however, have the option of playing in the first round of play. (Area hosts may also exercise the option of playing in the first round of play only).

6.06 SUSPENDED GAMES: All tournament games will be played in full, subject only to the ten run rule detailed in Section 6.04. Any game stopped for obvious reasons by the chief umpire, shall be resumed at the exact point of suspension of the original game. The lineup and batting order of both teams shall be exactly the same as the lineup and batting order at the moment of suspension of play. A player who had not previously been in the game may replace any player.

6.07 DESIGNATED HITTER: All tournament games shall utilize the American Legion Designated Hitter Rule. Class A Senior teams are not allowed to use limited substitution in tournament competition.

6.08 PROTESTS:

(a) There shall be no protests filed during tournament play that are based on judgment decisions of the umpires. All protests of player eligibility issues must be filed and taken care of by the seeding meetings, except when there is a discovery of fraud. When fraud is suspected, the eligibility protest and a written description of the alleged fraud must be filed immediately.

(b) Protests of rule interpretations during actual game conditions must be filed with the umpire-in-chief before the next legally pitched ball is thrown from the pitching mound.

(c) A protest fee of \$50 shall be posted with the Tournament Director at the time of the protest and the protest must be resolved before the game proceeds. The Tournament Director will immediately contact the respective Athletic Committee Representative to immediately resolve the protest. If the Tournament Director and Department Athletic Committee Representative upholds the protest, the fee will be returned. If the protest is denied, the fee will be added to Athletic

Nebraska American Legion Baseball
2010 Rule Book

Committee fund. The Tournament Director must submit a written account of the protest with in twenty four hours to Department.

(d) The Department Committee will not discuss protests with team coaches or managers until the formal written protest has been received from and explained by the local Tournament Director, and then only after a ruling on the protest has been made.

6.09 TEAM ELIMINATION: IF A TEAM FAILS TO PARTICIPATE IN A SCHEDULED GAME FOR ANY REASON, THE TEAM WILL BE ELIMINATED FROM FURTHER TOURNAMENT COMPETITION. Forfeiting a championship game will result in elimination from the tournament and the third place team will be named runner-up. If a team fails to appear for an Area or State Tournament or is disqualified from Area or State Tournament competition, they will be assessed a \$300.00 Post Season Tournament guarantee fee, payable to the Department of Nebraska. If fee is not paid, team will not be allowed to participate in the Nebraska American Legion Baseball Program the next season. Teams have until the seeding meeting to drop from Area Tournament competition.

6.10 END OF SEASON: The American Legion Baseball season is determined to be over for each individual team as they are eliminated from organized American Legion Post Season Tournaments.

*"Been in this game one-hundred years, but I see new ways to lose 'em I never knew existed before."
- Casey Stengel*

7.00 ---TOURNAMENT DATES AND SITES

7.01—2010 DISTRICT (AREA) TOURNAMENTS						
	CLASS A		CLASS B		CLASS C	
Area	Senior July 14-19	Junior July 14-19	Senior July 22-27	Junior July 15-20	Senior July 22-27	Junior July 15-20
1	Burke	Creighton Prep	Syracuse	Auburn	Ord	Crofton
2	Omaha South	Omaha Central	Springfield	Plattsmouth	Hartington	Wisner
3	Elkhorn	Millard South	Omaha Roncalli	Bennington	Dodge	West Point
4	Omaha Skutt	Millard West	Seward	Wahoo	Iecumseh	Nehawka
5	Lincoln	Lincoln	Aurora	Albion	Harvard	Hebron
6	Fremont	S. Sioux City	Holdrege	Lexington	Gibbon	Boelus(DCB)
7	North Platte	Kearney	Gering	Ogallala	Overton	Hershey/Sutherland
7.02 – 2010 STATE TOURNAMENTS						
DIV	Senior July 23-27	Junior July 23-27	Senior Jul 31-Aug 4	Junior July 24-28	Senior Jul 31-Aug 4	Junior July 24-28
AL	Papillion	Omaha Westside	Schuyler	O'Neill	Tri-County	Pender
NL	Columbus					
7.03—CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES (SENIORS ONLY)						
July 7, 2010 Class A, Area 1 - 4 Seeding Meeting will determine exact Area numbers for host sites selected						
July 31, 2010 - Game 1: Class A American Division winner Vs National Division winner (site: winner of American Div)						
August 7, 2010 — Game 2: Class B Champ vs Class C Champ (site: winner of Class C)						
Championship Banquet is optional						

"If I ever find a pitcher who has heat, a good curve, and a slider, I might seriously consider marrying him, or at least proposing." Sparky Anderson, Source: coaching quotes (website)

8.00 --FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS OF TOURNAMENT HOST POST

8.01 AREA TOURNAMENTS: The tournament host will provide umpires, balls, ground rental, and pay all expenses of staging the tournament. The Department Athletic Committee will furnish plaques for the Champion and Runner-up in both Senior and Junior competition. Teams will pay their own expenses involved with participation in the tournament.

8.02 STATE TOURNAMENTS

(a) General Information: The tournament host will provide balls, ground rental, and pay all other expenses of staging the tournament. The Department Athletic Committee will furnish and pay umpires for all State Tournaments, Senior and Junior and All Class Playoff. The Department Athletic Committee will furnish plaques and awards.

(b) The host post will pay all teams commuting to the tournament for each of their games \$30 a day per diem and 60 cents a mile one-way for each day they travel and participate in a tournament game. Distances will be taken from Mapquest.com.

(c) The host post will pay all teams staying at the tournament site 60 cents a mile one way for their original trip to the tournament site, and \$100 a day expense money for each day they are at the tournament site, until eliminated. Area champions who live within 100 miles of the state tournament site **will not** be authorized housing. Rule 8.02 (b) will apply to teams fitting into this category.

(d) Teams which lie outside of the 100-mile radius must state their preference of commuting to tournament games or staying at the tournament site prior to the first game of the tournament.

(e) In case of rained out games, the Department Athletic Committee will pay per diem and mileage expenses of teams participating in the tournament if the host post shows a loss on the complete tournament. Expenses will be paid for rained out games only.

(f) The host post will pay Department Headquarters a State Tournament financial award fee of \$1000.00, **payable within 15 days following the completion of the tournament.** Should the tournament host show a financial loss after completion of the tournament, a waiver of the State Tournament bid fee should be requested in writing to the Department Athletic Committee from the Post Commander. The waiver must show a complete financial breakdown of expenses and revenue with receipts and invoices attached.

8.03 ALL TOURNAMENTS. Coaches and Team Managers shall work closely with motel officials and conduct inspections of rooms prior to the departure, check-out, and release of tournament teams. Any expense for damage incurred will be inherited by the player, team or Post serving as the team sponsor. **NOTE: It is suggested that rooms be inspected before the visiting teams arrive.**

"Baseball has been good to me since I quit trying to play it." – Whitey Herzog

9.0—UMPIRES

9.01 – Reporting Ejections and Incidents: Umpires are to be vigilant in reporting ejections and incidents that occur on the field during the course of a game to the Department Activities Director as soon as possible. The Umpire Report of Ejections/Incidents shall be faxed to the Department within 24 hours and if no fax available, mailed immediately.

9.02 – General Instructions to Umpires

- Umpires, on the field, should not indulge in conversation with players. Keep out of the coaching box and do not talk to the coach on duty.
- Umpires on the field shall not use any form of tobacco or alcohol.
- Keep your uniform in good condition. Be active and alert on the field.
- Be courteous, always, to club officials; avoid visiting in club offices and thoughtless familiarity with officers or employees of contesting clubs. When you enter a ball park your sole duty is to umpire a ball game as the representative of baseball.
- Do not allow criticism to keep you from staying out of bad situations that may lead to protested games.
- Carry your rule book. It is better to consult the rules and hold up the game ten minutes to decide a knotty problem than to have a game thrown out on protest and replayed.
- Keep the game moving. A ball game is often helped by energetic and earnest work of the umpires.
- You are the only official representative of baseball on the ball field. It is often a trying position which requires the exercise of much patience and good judgment, but do not forget that the first essential in working out a bad situation is to keep your own temper and self-control.
- You no doubt are going to make mistakes, but never attempt to “even up” after having made one. Make all decisions as you see them and forget which is the home or visiting club.
- Keep your eye everlastingly on the ball while it is in play. It is more vital to know just where a fly ball fell, or a thrown ball finished up, than whether or not a runner missed a base. Do not call the plays too quickly, or turn away too fast when a fielder is throwing to complete a double play. Watch out for dropped balls after you have called a man out.
- Do not come running with your arm up or down, denoting “out or safe”. Wait until the play is completed before making any arm motion.
- Each umpire team should work out a simple set of signals, so the proper umpire can always right a manifestly wrong decision when convinced he has made an error. If sure you got the play called correctly, do not be stampeded by players’ appeals to “ask the other man”. If not sure, ask one of your associates. Do not carry this to extremes, be alert and get your own plays. But remember! The first requisite is to get decisions correctly. If in doubt don’t hesitate to consult your associate. Umpire dignity is important but never as important as “being right”.
- A most important rule for umpires is always “BE IN POSITION TO SEE EVERY PLAY”. Even though your decision may be 100% right, players still question it if they feel you were not in a spot to see the play clearly and definitely. Finally, be courteous, impartial and firm, and by doing so you will command respect from all.
- As appearing in “**Official Baseball Rules**”

For any questions regarding umpire issues, contact Area Umpire Representatives:

Chief	Tim Riskowski	(402) 651-9926	tim.riskowski@neleginobaseball.net
Area A	Mike Fye	(402) 758-0723	mike.fye@nelegionbaseball.net
Area B	Gary Eikmeier	(402) 693-2369	Gary.Eikmeier@nelegionbaseball.net
Area B	Tim Higgins	(308) 381-7824	tim.higgins@nelegionbaseball.net
Area C	Jerry Frasier	(402) 432-6149	jerry.frasier@nelegionbaseball.net
Area D	Larry Ross	(308) 632-7378	larry.ross@nelegionbaseball.net

*"Boys, I'm one of those umpires that misses 'em every once in a while so if it's close, you'd better hit it."
- Cal Hubbard*

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE PROCEDURES (Revised April 1999)

While risk of one athlete infecting another with HIV/AIDS during competition is close to nonexistent, there is a remote risk that other blood borne infectious diseases can be transmitted. For example, Hepatitis B can be present in blood as well as in other body fluids. Procedures for reducing the potential for transmission of these infectious agents should include, but not be limited to, the following:

- The bleeding must be stopped, the open wound covered and if there is an excessive amount of blood on the uniform, it must be changed before the athlete may participate.
- Routine use of gloves or other precautions to prevent skin and mucous-membrane exposure when contact with blood or other Body fluids is anticipated.
- Immediately wash hands and other skin surfaces if contaminated (in contact) with blood or other body fluids. Wash hands immediately after removing gloves.
- Clean all contaminated surfaces and equipment with an appropriate disinfectant before competition resumes.
- Practice proper disposal procedures to prevent injuries caused by needles, scalpels and other sharp instruments or devices.
- Although saliva has not been implicated in HIV transmission, to minimize the need for emergency mouth-to-mouth resuscitation, mouthpieces, resuscitation bags or other ventilation devices should be available for use.
- Athletic trainers/coaches with bleeding or oozing skin conditions should refrain from all direct athletic care until the condition is resolved.
- Contaminated towels should be properly disposed of/disinfected.
- Follow acceptable guidelines in the immediate control of bleeding and when handling bloody dressings, mouth guards and other articles containing body fluids.
- Additional information is available from your state high school association and from the NFHS.

The American Legion Department of Nebraska supports the Communicable Disease Procedure adopted by the NATIONAL FEDERATION OF STATE HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION.

"I made a game effort to argue but two things were against me: the umpires and the rules." - Hall of Fame Manager Leo Durocher