

THE AMERICAN LEGION  
DEPARTMENT OF  HIO

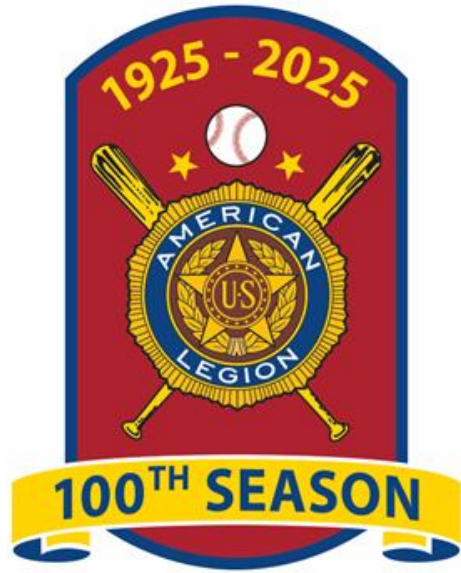


Welcome to American Legion Baseball

# American Legion Baseball History

- First AL World Series held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in 1926 at Yonkers Post 321
- 1927 was the only year not to have a World Series
- 2025 Marked 100 Years of ALB





THE AMERICAN LEGION  
DEPARTMENT OF  HIO

# *Athletic Committee*



## Department of Ohio Athletic Committee –

- Program Coordinator – Christie White
- Department Athletic Committee (AC) Chairman-Chris Emmons
- Asst Department AC Chairman- Marv Shamhart
- Junior Baseball Director- Phil Lightfoot
- 4 Region Directors – R1 Bryce Agner, R2 Mel Cantrell, R3 Bret Mavis, R4 Regis Kern

### **Sub Committee:**

State Tournament Site Liaison – Tyler Sisson Beavers Field

District Baseball Chairman- appointed by District Commanders; will assist them in their regions with teams and Super Regional tournaments.

**Authority:** The Ohio Athletic Committee has tremendous authority and jurisdiction within the state. In ninety-nine percent of all problems and protests, the Athletic Committee is the final ruling authority. The Committee must comply with a National Appeals Board ruling, but it does have the authority to adopt more restrictive recruiting rules. The Committee is comprised of volunteer members, and they are responsible to protect the safety of the players and fans, as well as to ensure the integrity of the program. These volunteers are charged to ensure fair competition, set up tournament play, establish state rules, operating procedures, Team fees and handle interpretations and protests.

**Meetings:** The Athletic Committee normally meets two-three times each year.

**October** - Post season meeting. Meeting will be held at Department HQ. Athletic Committee and Sub Committee

**January** - in conjunction with the Dept. of Ohio Mid-year Conference. The Athletic Committee considers final rule changes for the upcoming season and selects tournament sites. .

**February** - Coaches meeting held on a Sunday at Department HQ to review Rules and Tournaments. Athletic Committee and Sub Committee. This will be the only meeting that mileage will be paid

**July** – Athletic Committee must attend Sr Tournament. Hotel rooms provided by Department of Ohio , Sub Committee by invite

# 2025 Senior Baseball

2025 Season

NWO Region 1:

Districts 1,5

4 Teams

Napoleon, Ottawa, Pemberville, Findlay

WCO Region 2:

Districts 2,3,6,12

4 Teams

Sidney, Greenville, Utica, Columbus

SO Region 3:

Districts 4,7,8

6 Teams

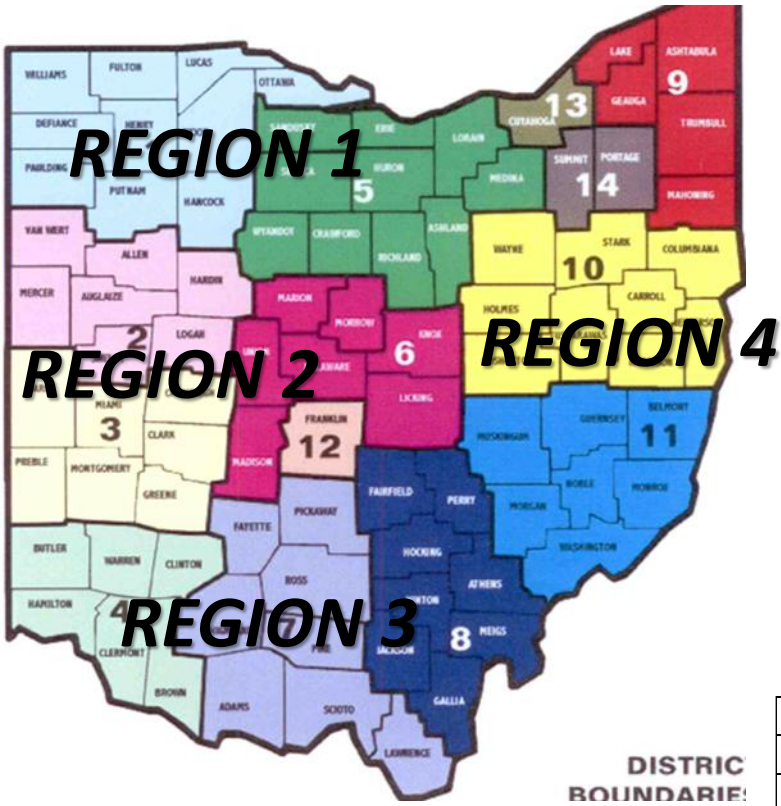
Chillicothe, Waverly, Harrison, Portsmouth, Athens, Lancaster

EO Region 4:

Districts 9,10,11,13,14

7 Teams

Marietta, Cambridge, Zanesville, St. Clairsville, Beverly-Lowell, Wayne County, New Philly



DISTRICT BOUNDARIES!



Region Breakdown				
Region	Area	Director	Districts	Number of Teams
1	NWO	Bryce	1,5	6
2	WCO	Mel	2, 3,6,12	6
3	SO	Bret	4,7,8	7
4	EO	TBD	9,10,11,13,14,	7



# 2025 Junior Baseball

2025 Season

NWO Region 1:

Districts 1,5

2 Teams

Bettsville, North Baltimore

WCO Region 2:

Districts 2,3,6,12

5 Teams

Sidney, Troy, Greenville, Utica, Columbus

SO Region 3:

Districts 4,7,8

5 Teams

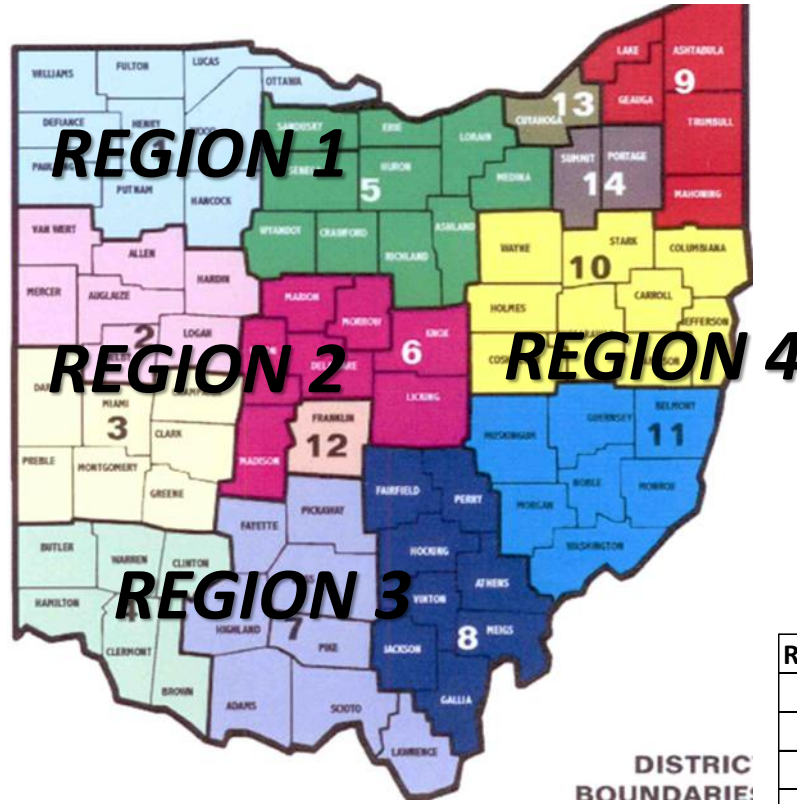
Chillicothe, Waverly, Portsmouth, Athens, Lancaster

EO Region 4:

Districts 9,10,11,13,14

5 Teams

Marietta, Cambridge, Zanesville, Beverly-Lowell, New Philly



*Presented By The Sons of  
The American Legion  
Detachment of Ohio*



Region JR Breakdown				
Region	Area	Director	Districts	Number of Teams
1	NWO	Bryce	1,5	2
2	WCO	Mel	2, 3,6,12	5
3	SO	Bret	4,7,8	5
4	EO	TBD	9,10,11,13,14,	5

# 2025 Department of Ohio Junior Tournament

July 17th - 20th

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4
R1 RU Carey Post 344 <b>14</b>			
1st Play In Game Thursday 10:30am	Carey Post 344 <b>1</b>		
R2 RU Utica Post 92 <b>5</b>			
	Game 3 Friday 9am		
R3 Lancaster Post 11 <b>1</b>		Lancaster Post 11 <b>8</b>	
Game 1 Thurs 5pm	Lancaster Post 11 <b>9</b>		
R4 St Clairsville Post 159 <b>0</b>		Game 8 Saturday 11:30am	
R1 Bettsville Post 733 <b>12</b>		Lancaster Post 11 <b>12</b>	
Game 2 Thurs 7:30pm	Bettsville Post 733 <b>13</b>		
R2 Troy Post 43 <b>2</b>		Bettsville Post 733 <b>5</b>	
	Game 4 Friday 11:30am		
R3 RU Chillicothe Post 757 <b>9</b>			Game 10 Sunday 10am
2nd Play In Game Thursday 1pm	Chillicothe Post 757 <b>1</b>		Lancaster Post 11
R4 RU Cambridge/Belle Valley 84/64 <b>8</b>			
	Troy Post 43 <b>1</b>	Bettsville Post 733 <b>13</b>	
	Game 5 Friday 2pm	Game 9 Saturday 2pm	
	Carey Post 344 <b>7</b>	St Clairsville Post 159 <b>7</b>	
		Game 7 Saturday 9am	
	St Clairsville Post 159 <b>15</b>		
	Game 6 Friday 4:30pm	St Clairsville Post 159 <b>13</b>	
	Chillicothe Post 757 <b>4</b>		
			Game 11 Sunday noon (if necessary) 30 minutes after
			Winner G11
			Loser G10



**2025 State  
Champions  
Lancaster  
Post 11**



# Important Baseball Dates 2026



- Thursday January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026, Registration Opens
- Sunday February 22<sup>nd</sup> Commission Meeting 10am / Coaches Meeting 1pm
- March 31<sup>st</sup> Deadline to establish players legal residence
- June 1<sup>st</sup> Deadline for Team Registrations
- June 5<sup>th</sup> Deadline to submit Transfer forms
- June 25<sup>th</sup> Deadline for Rosters/insurance and Team Packets
- Monday July 13<sup>th</sup> 6pm ALB Directors Teams Call to cover Regional Tournaments
  - Junior Regionals must be completed by Saturday July 11, 2026
  - Senior Regionals must be completed by Saturday July 18, 2026
- July 16-19, 2026, Ohio Junior State Tournament Thursday-Sunday Format
- July 24-27, 2026, Ohio Senior State Tournament Friday- Monday Format
- TBD Mason-Dixon Junior National Regional Maryland
- August 5-9, 2026, National Senior Regionals Lexington KY
- August 11-18, 2026, ALB World Series
- September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026, Official Close of the 2026 Season





# 2026 Tournaments

**Ohio Regional Tournaments**— Regions with less than 3 teams will schedule 3 game series. Home vs Home if game 3 is needed the team with the better run differential will be home team. Tiebreaker will be a coin flip

- All Tournament Sites will be determined at the Fall Meeting or Mid Winter at latest.
- Brackets will be seeded randomly by the Athletic Committee via Teams Meeting after June 1<sup>st</sup> registration Deadline.
- All Regional Tournaments will be played under Dept Tournament Rules. Double elimination. Winners will advance to 6 Team Double Elimination State Tournament.
- Regional Runners Up will advance to State Tournament to be entered into Single elimination Play in Game- the 2 winners will complete the 6 Team bracket.
  - Junior regionals will take place the week of July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2026, must be completed by July 11<sup>th</sup>
  - Senior Super Regionals will take place the week of July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2026, must be completed by July 18<sup>th</sup>

## State Tournaments—

- State Junior Tournament will be played under Dept Tournament Rules. Double Elimination, Dept will Provide winner and Runner up Team trophies. Dept will provide rooms for all teams outside of 60 Miles. Winner will advance to Regional tournament.
  - State Junior Tournament will take place July 16-19<sup>th</sup>, 2026, Beavers Field Thursday – Sunday
- State Senior Tournaments will be played under Dept Tournament Rules. Double elimination , Department to Provide Winner and Runner up Trophies. Dept will provide rooms for all teams outside of 60 miles. Winner will advance to Regional tournament.
  - State Senior Tournament will take Place July 24-27<sup>th</sup> 2026 Beavers Field Friday-Monday



# State Tournaments



- After winning/ or being runner Up at your regional, you must complete your team packet for your region director to submit to Dept. this includes a Program Ad Opportunity, and Housing form 4 players per room Max 18 Players and 2 Coaches
- Each Game will begin with the National Anthem and Code
- Day 1 – Teams Must Check in 90 Min prior to scheduled Game Time
  - Each Team **MUST** have copies of all players State issued ID or birth certificate
  - Hotel room keys will be available after 3pm on Day 1
  - All Teams **MUST** Check Out each morning before arrival at the Field
  - If you continue in the tournament, you will be assigned rooms
- Day 1 – Games Start at Noon
- Day 2 and on Games start at 10am
- Coin Flip 30 Min before each game to decide Home team. This continues through to Game 10 where the Winning team has choice. If Game 11 is needed a coin flip will decide the Home team



# Important Info



## What will it Cost the Post?

- Registration estimate to include Department, and National fees Plus insurance \$1,000.00
- Roughly \$3,500.00 for equipment, uniforms, umpires, and miscellaneous costs
- Ask the community to sponsor
- Have charitable gaming? ALB is a 4 Pillar Program and charitable \$\$ can be used!!
- Senior Team Department fee is \$600.00
- Junior Team Department fee is \$500.00

Insurance is mandatory through National Site- 2026 estimate is \$250.00 for more in

**1-800-441-3994.**

## Age

- Senior Players age is 18 to 19 for the 2026 season
- If a player turns 20 ANYTIME this calendar year, he CANNOT play. His eligibility has expired
- Junior Players age is 13 to 17 for the 2026 season
- National Age Chart <https://www.legion.org/get-involved/youth-programs/baseball/american-legion-baseball-resources>

## Rulebook

- 2026 Department of Ohio American Legion Baseball Rulebook Available February
- 2026 National American Legion Baseball Rulebook available in March 2026
- Insurance website <https://baseball.legion.org/>
- Important team forms
- All located on the Department website <https://www.ohiolegion.com/baseball/>

# Continued....



## Registration

- All Teams must register their teams on the National ALB site. Registration opens Jan 1
- All teams must purchase insurance and pay fees through Nat'l Site- opens Feb 22<sup>nd</sup>
- All Coaches must be entered into roster along with all players
- **Once rosters, BG's and Abuse Awareness training has completed their roster can be approved by Dept Chair**

## Safety

- **All coaches, managers and assistant coaches, and Players over 18 years of age are required to do a background check and abuse awareness training through the National ALB site.**

## No Patch / No Play



- **Uniforms must have ALB patch either on left sleeve or left breast**

## Paperwork

- Each team must complete their Ohio Team Packet within the Packet must include
- Team Picture
- Official Team Roster from ALB Site
- Form 2 – Each player must have signed by parents and notarized to play ALB.
- Each player must have copy of driver's license or Birth cert for some Jr Players

# New for 2026



*The Department of Ohio has created and Ohio American Legion Jr and Sr League in Game Changer. All teams are being asked to Join. The idea is to be able to track better and eventually look at stat awards at tournaments and others. It is important that you join and have an accurate score keeper !*



**GAMECHANGER**

<https://web.gc.com/organizations/dchdqlxJtLKL/join>

<https://web.gc.com/organizations/zTv1ooBfVOn8/join>

Ohio American Legion Junior Baseball


Ohio American Legion Senior Baseball



# Registration and Forms

Form 2 – Player Agreement. All players must have a Form 2 – Notarized Signatures

Form 76 – Transfer Form. Read transfer Player rules for application

AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL 

**2025 Form #2**

**Player Agreement** Please PRINT or TYPE

PLAYER'S NAME

Print. Do not use if appears on driver license or birth certificate.

I certify that the information shown above regarding me is correct. I agree to devote my entire service as an American Legion Baseball (ALB) player this season to  (team name). I agree to abide by all ALB rules and regulations. I agree to accept the sole, exclusive and final jurisdiction and authority of the American Legion National Appeals Board over any ruling(s), dispute(s), disagreement(s), or subject matter having to do with or having any impact or effect upon the ALB program, rules, tournaments, administration, or games and their ruling shall be final without any rights of appeals. In addition, their ruling shall be considered that of an arbitrator to which the parties agree is a final adjudication of all matters in controversy. Procedures for filing an appeal to the National Baseball Appeals Board are outlined in National Rule 10 of the American Legion Baseball Rule Book. Voluntarily and of my own free will, I elect to participate in the ALB program and as a member of my ALB team.

I understand and acknowledge that the very nature of baseball has hazards that can cause serious injury and/or death. I assume all risks of injury and damage incident to my participation in ALB. I agree in the event of illness or injury during an ALB game or practice, I hereby give consent to the performance of such diagnostic, medical and/or surgical treatment as may be deemed medically necessary to assure my safety. I have read and understand National Executive Committee Resolution No. 16: Expectations for Rendering Proper Respect when Participating in Programs of The American Legion, October 2016 (copy of which is available at [www.archive.legion.org](http://www.archive.legion.org)) and agree to be bound to the terms of said resolution.

I irrevocably consent to, and authorize the ALB, its licensees, agents, successors and assigns, to use my name, likeness, and voice and to reproduce, distribute, display, and to prepare derivative works of any images or recordings of me taken, or in which I may be included, in conjunction with or without my name, made through any medium, for publicity, advertising, promotional or any other lawful purpose without compensation to me.

I have read ALB's Privacy Policy, Drug and Alcohol Policy, and Fan Conduct Policy (copies of which are available at [www.legion.org/baseball/resources](http://www.legion.org/baseball/resources)) and agree to be bound to the terms of each such policy.

In consideration of the privilege to participate in the ALB program, hereby release, discharge, relinquish, agree not to take legal action against, hold harmless, and indemnify The American Legion, its officers, agents, representatives, employees and officials, ALB sponsors, supervisors, participants, players, agents, coaches, managers and persons transporting me to and from ALB activities, from any claims, demand, actions, and cause of action of any sort, arising out of my participation in the ALB program, including, but not limited to, (1) any injury or death sustained in connection with my participation in the ALB program, including but not limited to travel to and from program related activities, whether the result of negligence or for any other cause; and (2) any ruling(s), dispute(s), disagreement(s), or subject matter having to do with or having any impact or effect upon the ALB program, rules, tournaments, administration, or games. Except as otherwise provided above, I agree that any dispute arising out of this agreement shall be governed by the laws of Indiana, notwithstanding any conflicts of law principles. Any action relating to this agreement must be filed and maintained in a court in the state of Indiana, and users consent to exclusive jurisdiction and venue in such courts for such purpose.

I certify that I am a legal United States citizen, or possess legal residency, or visitor status to be in the United States, and that I shall provide proof of said legal status if requested prior to or during any American Legion national-level ALB participation. I further understand that I shall be denied participation in any American Legion national-level youth programs if I refuse to comply with providing proof of said legal status, or are not legally in the United States.

Player's signature Date

Player's printed name


I am a parent with legal custody or legal guardian of the above player and hereby consent and agree to the foregoing terms and provisions on the above player's behalf.

Parent's or legal guardian's signature Parent's or legal guardian's printed name

Page 1 of 2

It is strongly recommended that this form be notarized. Most hospitals require consent form to be notarized. Send copy to Department Baseball chairman. Team manager shall retain original.

This form is available online at [www.legion.org/baseball](http://www.legion.org/baseball)

AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL 

**Player Transfer Form #76**

**Please PRINT or TYPE**

This form is to be used by players who have been cut and released by an American Legion team. Released players may be eligible to transfer under rules 3.B.1 or 4.D to the next closest team.

- American Legion Baseball senior players are required to play for the closest team unless released, in which case the player shall need to determine the next closest team using MapQuest ([www.mapquest.com](http://www.mapquest.com)).
- If the player is unable to earn a spot on the roster of the second team, that player shall be allowed to play for the third closest team, etc.
- All parties involved understand that this transfer is valid from January 1 to December 31 of the current season only.
- All parties understand that the department baseball chairman must approve this transfer prior to placing player on National Form #1.

Permission is hereby requested for  Player's full name  Player's date of birth

Parent's address, city, state, ZIP  Parent's phone number

Player's high school  High school enrollment  Team's total enrollment

Player is hereby released from the following team:  Name of former team (print or type)

Player's signature (print and sign)

Parent's signature (print and sign)

Name of new team (print or type)

Team manager's signature and printed name (former team)

Manager's signature – team 1 (print and sign)  Manager's signature – team 2 (print and sign)  Manager's signature – team 3 (print and sign)

Department Baseball Chairman signature and date

This form must be filed with National Form #1. The team manager shall retain copy for his files. This form shall be filed with department headquarters.

If transfer crosses a state border, both department chairmen must approve prior to placing player on Form #1.

Concerning Department Baseball chairman

This form is available online at [www.legion.org/baseball](http://www.legion.org/baseball)

Revised 02/2013



# *Read the Rulebook*

American Legion Baseball plays by MLB rules and there are quite a few differences from NFHS –High School Rules

- For regular season play rules can be adjusted to get games in
- For all tournament play (Regional, State and Beyond) strict adherence to the National Rule Book will be followed <https://www.ohiolegion.com/baseball/>
  - Some examples but not limited to:
    - NO RE-ENTRY
    - NO COURTESY RUNNERS
    - DH FOR PITCHER ONLY - NO OHTANI RULE
    - 7 INNING GAMES
    - MERCY RULE 10 AFTER 5, OR 4 ½ IF HOME TEAM IN THE LEAD
    - COACHES MUST BE IN FULL UNIFORM TO MATCH PLAYERS, CAGE JACKETS ALLOWED, COACHES MUST WEAR HELMET OR SKULL CAP WHILE COACHING BASES
    - <https://www.legion.org/get-involved/youth-programs/baseball/american-legion-baseball-resources>

# Continued



## ***American Legion Baseball recruiting rules***

- The Department of Ohio American Legion Baseball recruiting plan allows for selection of players who attend nearby high schools. Please note that National Recruiting Rule 4 - Player Recruiting was changed in 2020. As a result of the change, combined total enrollment of high schools cannot be 7,500 for grades 1-11 and 12. ***Reference Pages 14-16 of Ohio Rulebook***
- For High School enrollment numbers visit this site <https://high-schools.com/>

**Rule 2 E. Players Per Team.** No American Legion Baseball team may have more than 18 registered players once National Form #1 is registered with the department. Each team must register players on National Form #1 via online registration with their department by June 25 or the department closing date, whichever comes first. The department baseball chairman must certify teams to National Headquarters by June 30 to be eligible for national competition. A non-Legionnaire may serve as coach.

1. For those American Legion Baseball programs that have affiliated senior and junior teams, junior eligible players may participate on both teams during the regular season. However, senior eligible players may not participate on a junior team. Those eligible junior players may appear in an affiliated senior team game provided the total number of players in such senior game does not exceed 18 players. ***(Point of Emphasis- National deems regular season anything before June 25<sup>th</sup> Deadline... If you have a Junior Player that you want to play on both the Jr team and Sr team for tournaments they must be on BOTH ROSTERS!!!) National Form #1 refers to Online registration of a Player...***



# Pitching Rules

**Rule 1. S. Pitching Rule.** No player may pitch more than a total of 105 pitches per day. A pitcher will be allowed to finish a batter if he reaches or exceeds the maximum limit during an at-bat but must exit the position after that hitter.

No player may enter the game as a pitcher without having fulfilled the required rest days as mandated in the chart below. No player may make more than two appearances as a pitcher during any consecutive three-day period. PENALTY – The pitcher is removed from the pitcher’s position and head coach shall be ejected from the game and serve an additional game suspension.

1. Any player may be removed from the pitching position and remain in the game at another position. However, a pitcher will be automatically removed from the position when a coach makes a second trip to the mound in the same inning, and that player cannot return as a pitcher in that game. PENALTY – Forfeiture of the game if a protest is filed with the umpire-in-chief before the last out of the game.
2. If a player returns as a pitcher in the same game, he will be charged with another appearance.
3. If a team has multiple games on the same day, a pitcher who pitches more than 45 pitches in Game 1 may not pitch in a subsequent game that day and will be required to follow the rest protocol listed.
4. A day is defined as 8 a.m.to 8 a.m.

**NO PLAYER MAY MAKE MORE THAN TWO (2) APPEARANCES AS A PITCHER DURING ANY CONSECUTIVE THREE (3) DAY PERIOD**

DAILY MAX	# PITCHES & REQUIRED REST				
PITCH/GAME	30	31-45	46-60	61-80	81+
105	0	1 DAY	2 DAY	3 DAY	4 DAY



# 2026 New Rules Adoption

**Rule 1. S. One- Way Communication** A coach may use a one-way electronic communication device to communicate with the catcher for the purpose of calling pitches. Coaches may not use electronic communication device(s) to communicate with any other team member while on defense or any team member while on offense. When using the electronic communication device, the coach cannot be outside the dugout/bench area. A tablet computer used for scorekeeping purposes only is permissible.

**Rule 9. L Minimum Active Players** Teams competing in American Legion Baseball senior national tournaments (including state tournaments) must have nine players available for participation at a national tournament at all times. Senior teams that have fewer player available from their approved roster strength are permitted to bring up players registered on their affiliated Junior American Legion Baseball team roster to the senior team to approved roster strength not to exceed a total of 18 players. **CLARIFICATION – If the Senior team’s approved roster strength is 16 players, the team is allowed to only transfer enough Junior players to a roster strength of 16 players.**

Any players transferred from junior team to senior team must be approved and certified by the department baseball chairman. The junior roster must be **registered with the national office by June 30**. Any senior team that does not have nine players will forfeit its right to participate, and the National Americanism Division – in consultation with the department baseball chairman – shall determine a suitable replacement team.

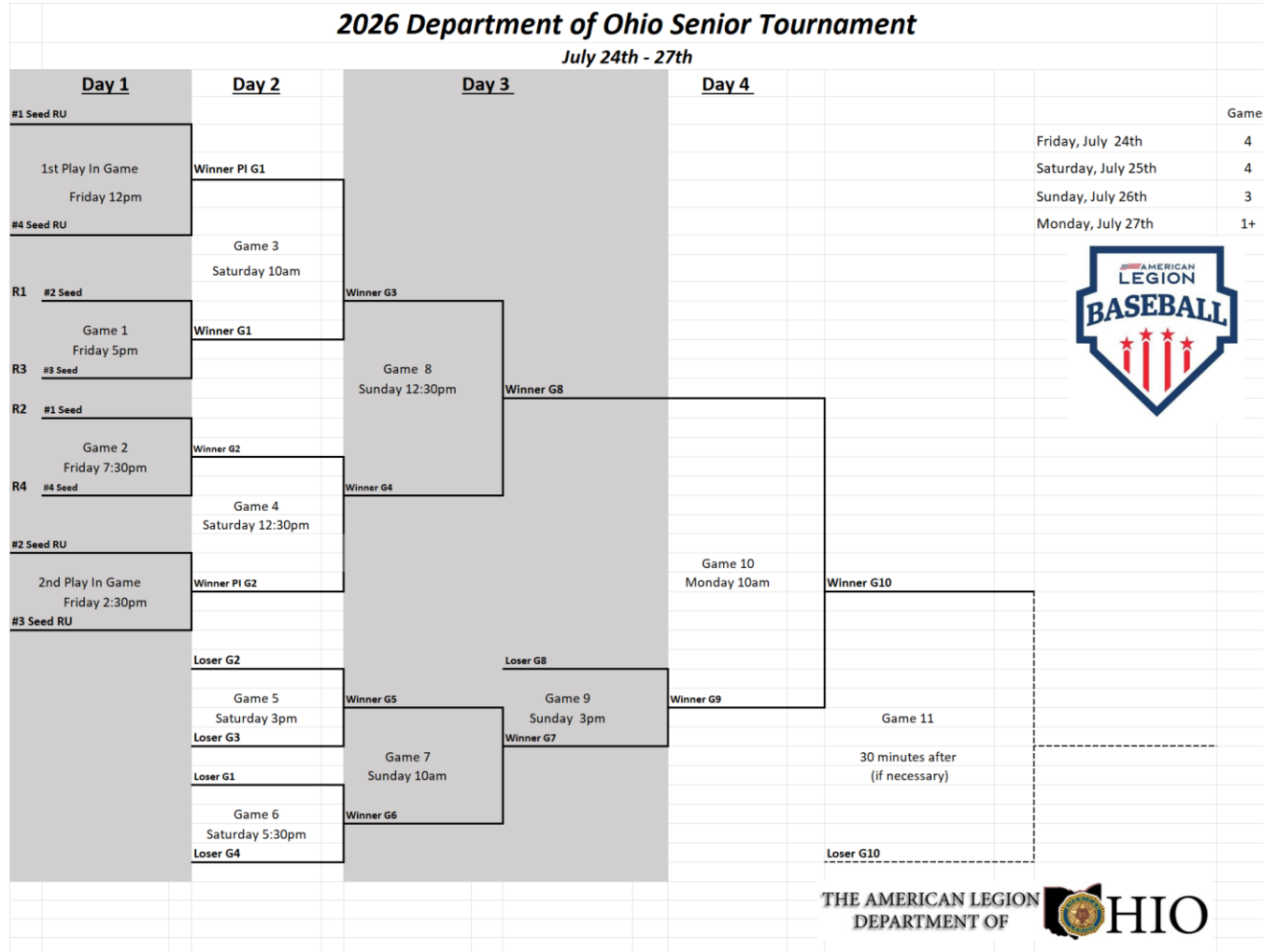
**Rule 9. M. Between Inning Time Limit** Between innings, teams have 120 seconds (or 150 seconds for a relief pitcher) to be ready for the first pitch (pitcher holding the ball and touching the pitcher’s plate and a batter standing in the batter’s box ready to hit). The 120 second clock (or 150 second clock for a relief pitcher) shall start when all defensive players have started to leave their positions after the last out has been made and stops when the umpire calls “Play” for the first pitch of the first batter of the next half-inning. 3rd base umpire will use a stop- watch if a clock is not available. If there are unusual circumstances that prevent either team from getting on or off the field, other common -sense delays such as ceremonies or field maintenance not the fault of the teams, or an injury, the time clock is delayed until players have had an opportunity to begin to move to their positions. If the offensive team is not ready within the 120 second or 150 second clock, the umpire shall call a strike. If the defense is not ready, a ball shall be awarded to the first batter.-

# 2026 Point of Emphasis



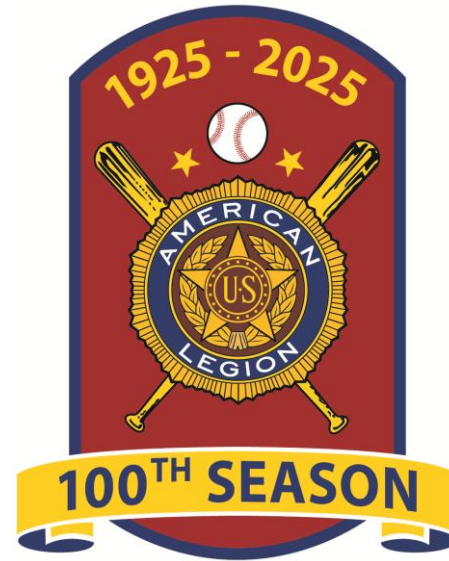
**Rule 1. D. Dual Participation** The American Legion believes team loyalty is a key ingredient for any team sport. Dual participation shall no way interfere with a player's responsibility to his American Legion Baseball team. Once state tournament play has completely concluded and should there be open dates prior to team travel (August 3) to national regional tournaments, a player(s) may be granted permission to dual participate from the American Legion Baseball Committee chairman. Any player participating in another sanctioned baseball game/tournament during the American Legion post-season tournament dates shall be ineligible from further post-season tournament play. CLARIFICATION – Players attending military assignment, MLB-sanctioned invitation only event, player combine/evaluation of extended drills and/or game-like scenarios events, or college of enrollment orientation workouts may be granted an exception on a case-by-case basis with proper documentation. Prior written approval from the American Legion Baseball Committee chairman is required.- 6.D is for clarification purposes only.

# 2026 State Tournament Draw



- Game 1 Number 2 Seed vs Number 3 Seed
- Game 2 Number 1 Seed vs Number 4 Seed
- The play in games will have the Runners up from opposite regions

*Welcome to  
American  
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