

WYOMING AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL
POLICIES, PROCEDURES and PLAYING RULES

The following are the American Legion Rules and Regulations for the State of Wyoming, adopted by the Department Baseball Committee. These rules and regulations are intended to supplement the National American Legion baseball rules and apply only to the State of Wyoming.

PURPOSE

The Wyoming Department of American Legion Baseball will strictly follow the National rules pertaining to American Legion Baseball and MLB rules. Wyoming has elected to issue supplemental rules to govern play within the State and through the State tournaments. In case of conflict between State and National rules, the State rules shall take precedence.

RESOLUTION 16

All participants in American Legion Youth Programs will pay proper respect to the American Flag of the United States, at all times, including during the National Anthem. If a particular individual (s) cannot or will not meet the organization's expectations of proper respect for the American Flag, that individual(s) will be immediately removed from the program and not allowed further participation.

NON LEGION TEAM

- All Wyoming American Legion Varsity Senior teams (AA & A) and B level teams (17u) in Wyoming are prohibited from playing non- Wyoming American Legion teams within the State of Wyoming. This includes single games, double headers and tournament play. Scrimmages are acceptable.
- The exception to this rule is at the C level (15u) within Wyoming, regardless of the affiliation, are allowed to play each other in a single game, double header or tournament play. However, C teams must be registered with National American Legion Baseball to participate in the Wyoming State Tournament.
- If Wyoming American Legion teams and Wyoming non-American Legion teams are in the same tournament that takes place out of the State of Wyoming, they are allowed to play each other if they meet in tournament play. Out of state non-legion teams may be invited to your local tournaments,

Violations of this rule will result in your team's expulsion from any post season play.

FORMATION OF A NEW TEAM OR REINSTATEMENT OF A FORMER TEAM

If you are interested in forming a new Legion team, please email the information below to baseballwyo22@gmail.com and put "New Team Registration" or "Reinstatement of a Former Team" on the subject line. The following information must be included in the email;

- Sponsoring American Legion Post number.
- Other sponsoring information, if applicable.
- Is this a new team or an application for reinstatement?
- If reinstated, what was the last year of play?

- Legion Post Commander or Adjutants name and contact information.
- Legion team class (AA of A).
- Base high school and enrollment.
- Location and name of home baseball field.
- Team contact information (phone & email)
- Coach contact information (phone & email)

The Wyoming American Legion Baseball Executive Committee will review your information for the following;

- Whether the formation or reinstatement of your team will have a negative impact on existing teams of good-standing in your area.
- Whether you can show sufficient strength to insure you can complete all scheduled games during the season, including District and State tournaments.
- Whether you can show sufficient numbers to insure the program's existence for three (3) to five (5) years.
- Whether you can show you have sufficient economic support to pay all associated playing costs, including but not limited to
 - National fees
 - State Fees
 - Insurance
 - Uniforms with appropriate Legion patches
 - Baseballs
 - Umpiring fees
 - etc

The Executive Committee will vote on whether to allow the application or reinstatement. You will be notified of that decision. The Committee's decision is final. If approved, you will participate in the annual online team registration process which begins on January 1st of each year. All coaches and team administrators are required to complete a background check each year, and to provide a Certificate of Completion on Abuse Awareness Training from USA baseball.

All applications for a new team or reinstatement must be filed with the Department Baseball Chairman and approved prior to October 31st of the current year. Late applicants will not be accepted.

TEAM ELIGIBILITY

- (A) All teams wishing to participate in Wyoming American Legion baseball must be sponsored by an active American Legion Post. It is recommended that each Post only sponsor one program. Teams sponsored by other organizations will not be recognized as a Wyoming American Legion baseball teams.

TEAM COMPOSITION

- (A) Each Post will field a varsity team, designated as either an “AA” or “A” depending on the size of the recruiting area. The eight largest teams, defined by the Wyoming High School Athletic Association’s average enrollment numbers for each high school within that teams recruiting area will comprise the “AA” grouping. The rest will comprise the “A” grouping. These numbers will be reviewed on a two year basis (even year) to determine their division placement.
- (B) A recruiting area composed of multiple high schools cannot exceed the National enrolment guidelines.
- (C) “AA” and “A” designated teams are considered to be senior teams and will be comprised of 19u players.
- (D) Senior teams may also have additional junior teams in the “B” and “C” divisions
 - 1) “B” teams will be designated for 17u players
 - 2) “C” teams will be designated for 15u players
- (E) Dual Roster players
 - 1) Only three (3) players can be dual rostered to the Senior team(s) from Junior team(s).
 - 2) An unlimited number of players can be dual rostered between the Junior teams (B & C)
 - 3) A player can only be dual rostered once. He cannot appear on more than two (2) rosters.
- (F) No player over the age of 19 or under the age of 13, as defined by the National American Legion Age Chart will be allowed to play Wyoming American Legion baseball.

RECRUITING AREA

- (A) Wyoming will follow the National American Legion Plan B recruiting guidelines. All programs must designate the high schools within their recruiting area by March 1st of each calendar year.
- (B) The addition of another State approved team may change the recruiting area for an existing program. Existing players whose domicile is closer to the new team will have a onetime option to move to the new team. (see National Rule 4.1)

BAT CERTIFICATION

Wyoming American Legion baseball will strictly adhere to the NCAA policy and guidelines on bat certification. It is the responsibility of the Head Coach of each Legion program in Wyoming to ensure program compliance. Should a question arise during a game concerning a bat, the Head Coach should approach the home plate umpire and the game will be suspended at that point. The bat in question will be compared to the NCAA listing furnished by the home team. If the bat in question is not on the list, it will be removed from the game by the home plate umpire, and one of the following will take place;

- 1) If the bat is found to be illegal (not on the list) prior to the first pitch of that at bat, the bat will be removed and play will resume;
- 2) If the bat is found to be illegal after the first pitch or after the ball is put into play, the batter will be out and the ball will be ruled dead. All base runner will return to their original base and play will resume at that point. Be aware this could result in the end of an inning.

There will be no suspension of either the coach or the player, but the incident will be reported to the State UIC and State Chairman by the home plate umpire

STATE TOURNAMENTS

- (A) National American Legion Baseball and MLB rules will be strictly enforced for all levels of State Tournament play.
- (B) "AA" and "A" are considered Senior divisions and will follow the national bracket. The "AA" winner will move on the ALB regional tournament, while the "A" winner will play in the NWCART tournament.
- (C) "B" and "C" are considered Junior divisions will follow a standard eight (8) team double elimination bracket.
- (D) Entry fees are \$500 plus on dozen ALB logo balls at all levels, subject to change by the State board.
- (E) Protests will be handled on the field. Games will be suspended until the protest is finalized.
- (F) Umpires will be assigned by the State UIC for the "AA" and "A" divisions. The "B" and "C" divisions may use local umpires.
- (G) Run rules will be as follows for all State and District play;
 - 1- Ten (10) runs after five (5) innings unless the home team is ahead after 4 ½ innings.
 - 2- Additionally, for the "C" division, fifteen (15) runs after three (3) innings.
- (H) Location and Rotation
 - 1) The "AA" division has established the following rotation. Changes will be made depending on field availability and school movement between "AA" and "A" divisions. The rotation is as follows: Casper-Gillette-Cheyenne-Laramie-Rock Springs-Sheridan-Jackson-Riverton
 - 2) The "A" division is separated with an East and West district. District tournaments will be held with the top four (4) teams from each District qualifying for the State Tournament. The State Tournament location will be finalized at the State meeting each year based on an East-West rotation
 - 3) The "B" and "C" divisions are set up by quadrant. The State tournament location is on a counter clockwise rotation. The top two (2) teams from each quadrant, determined by conference play, qualify for the State Tournament. The hosting quadrant will only qualify one (1) team. The State Tournament location will be finalized at the State meeting each year.
- (I) Tournament Host Responsibilities will include, but not be limited to the following;
 - 1- Provide a safe playing environment and full field prep before each game.
 - 2- Provide motel rooms for six (6) umpires and one (1) state officer (AA and A only)
 - 3- Pay individual umpires for mileage, fees and per diem as established by the State board.
 - 4- Provide scorekeepers, announcers and someone to monitor pitch count for each game and for the tournament.
 - 5- Keep a well maintained facility
 - 6- Provide lodging information for teams six (6) to eight (8) months in advance

(J) Minimum Requirements for Hosting a State Tournament

- 1- Stadium lighting meets current standards
- 2- Provide a consistent playing surface
- 3- Provide two (2) batting cages and two (2) bull pens
- 4- Provide sufficient parking and seating
- 5- Provide drinking water for all players and coaches
- 6- Concessions
- 7- Programs with team rosters
- 8- Adequate restroom facilities
- 9- Umpire change area
- 10- Phone/WIFI
- 11- Provide a media and state board tent or room in the press box.

PITCH COMS

Pitch coms are approved for all Wyoming state play up to and including the state tournaments at all 4 divisions