



Area Three, Eastern Washington Local Info

PURPOSE AND SCOPE OF AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL

1. To inculcate in youth a better understanding of the American way of
a. life and to promote the principles of 100 percent Americanism.
2. To instill in the nation's youth a sincere desire to develop within
a. themselves a feeling of citizenship, sportsmanship, loyalty and team
b. spirit.
3. To aid in the improvement and development of the physical fitness of
a. our country's youth.

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

AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL 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

Protest Procedures

Should a protest be filed by the coach during a baseball game, the protest must first be filed correctly with the umpire or the umpire in chief. Always ask the umpire or umpire in chief to confer with his partner following protest to see if the issue can be corrected.

1. Protest must be filed with the umpire or umpire in chief who made the call prior to the next play or pitch.
2. Opposing coach must be notified of the protest at time of protest by the umpire(s).
3. Illegal player protest must be filed prior to the last out of the game.
4. Judgment calls, including balks are not protest-able. **Know your rules!**

Protesting coach shall submit to the senior commissioner (or his designate) his protest (**IN WRITING**) within twenty four (24) hours of game completion. Coach shall call the senior commissioner (or his designated player) immediately following the game with notification of protest. Protest shall contain complete game information at the time of the protest.

1. Teams playing.
2. Inning.
3. Placement of runners on base.
4. Outs at time of protest
5. Detailed explanation of incident causing protest, including rules misapplied.
6. Note in the scorebook at the point of protest explaining the protest and why.

Protest involving illegal players shall require the coach to attend, player to attend, and have his binder information available for review by the senior commissioner (or his designate). Umpire and umpire in chief of game shall supply in writing his explanation of the situation and rules which apply to his decision to the association president. That explanation shall be forwarded to the **SENIOR COMMISSIONER** (Andy Franklin) for review.

The senior commissioner (or his designate) shall meet with other commissioners and association official's liaison if necessary to resolve the dispute. Both coaches and umpires shall have the option of attending and offering pertinent comments at this time.

Following this meeting the senior commissioner (or his designate) shall render a decision (in writing) based on the rules which apply to the protest submitted to all concerned parties. The senior commissioner (or his designated) decision shall be final.

Ejection Procedures

Following an ejection of a coach by an umpire, both the umpire and coach shall provide a written report to the Senior Commissioner (Andy Franklin) the same day as the infraction. Suspension shall not be enforced until a review has been conducted by the Senior Commissioner. The Senior Commissioner's review shall happen within 24 hours and prior to the next scheduled game (excluding tournaments). Tournament ejections shall be the tournament director's responsibility and decision.

Offenses shall be of two different classes:

- A. **Major:** These offenses include actions which include sportsmanship, language, and ideals American Legion Baseball finds offensive. These offenses shall result in suspension.
- B. **Minor:** These offenses include objections to calls, minor verbal responses, and demonstrations of objection. These offenses may not result in suspension.

Note: Confronting umpires after a game will result in an automatic suspension.

- Players ejected from any game shall receive a one game suspension. The suspension shall be the next scheduled game to be played. If the ejection occurred in the first game of a double header and the team only has 9 players the ejected player may play in the second game. The ejected player will serve the one game suspension the next following game date.
- Any coach or other adult ejected must leave the ballpark **(Out of Sight and Sound)**.
- Ejected Players either are to remain on the bench or leave the ballpark.
- The Senior Commissioner may elect to confer with the umpire association official's liaison and a board member before rendering a decision. All decisions made by the Senior Commissioner shall be final.
- The Senior Commissioner (Andy Franklin) shall investigate all ejections during the season. Multiple ejections by the same coach/player may result in the offending coach/player being removed for the remainder of the season and/or exclusion from being asked to return in subsequent seasons.

American Legion Baseball Dugout Policy

American Legion Baseball rules are specific about who is allowed in the dugout.

1. Coaches who are listed on the national form have one roster.
 2. Players who are listed on the national roster form one roster.
 3. Only those team members who are listed on the national form I roster.
 4. **“All players and coaches must be in team uniform”**.
- **NO parents, scorekeepers, bat boys, bat girls or spectators are allowed in the dugout during any game unless they are registered on the national site.**
 - This rule is applied from the time teams arrive at the ball field until the game has concluded. Scorekeepers may sit outside of or adjacent to the dugout.
 - This is an American legion baseball national rule. The main issue is insurance. Anyone not listed on the team roster is **NOT** covered by insurance. This makes the team manager responsible for the injuries.
 - While baseball is a family experience, we just can't have parents, relatives, siblings and friends in and out of the playing area.

This is a national rule which must be followed by all coaches and players in our program.

Lightning Protocols

The current federation guidelines reflect the best information that current science has to offer and set what lawyers and judges would regard as the basic legal standards that would be used in a court trial regarding wrongful death or injury resulting from umpire/coach negligence in handling the threat of lightning strikes.

What are the rules in handling lightning disturbances?

1. When thunder is heard, or a cloud-to-ground lightning bolt is seen, the thunderstorm is close enough to strike your location with lightning.
2. Officials and coaches should **SUSPEND** play and take shelter immediately.
3. Thirty-minute rule: Once play has been suspended, wait at least thirty (30) minutes after the last thunder is heard or flash of lightning is witnessed prior to resuming play.
4. Any subsequent thunder being heard or lightning seen after the beginning of the thirty (30) minute count, reset the clock and another thirty (30) minute count should begin.
5. Officials and coaches shall determine if a game should be played or canceled.

Coaches are responsible for their players:

Players are not supposed to remain in the dugouts. Open-sided structures, especially those attached to or underneath metal fences are extremely unsafe if hit by lightning. Many are directly attached to the backstop, the highest metal pointed object around. Absent an enclosed structure, players and coaches should go to their vehicles.

A word about fans:

You are not responsible for fan safety during a game stoppage for lightning threats. All fans should be encouraged to seek shelter in their vehicles.

Rescheduling of Games

(Only for rain, umpire shortage, or severe emergencies)

LEAGUE GAMES MUST BE RESCHEDULED WITHIN SEVEN DAYS OF CANCELLATION!

All Area Three teams shall communicate with and reschedule canceled **LEAGUE GAMES** with opposing coaches within seven days of cancellation. Once the coaches have agreed to a date, time and location, email that information to Glen Reser and he will schedule the umpire and change the schedule online. Should any team be unable to make contact with an opposing coach they should contact Glen Reser (glen@siyb.org) (after 3 days). If Glen isn't able to assist in getting the game scheduled then the Senior Commissioner will support all coaches needing assistance with contacting and rescheduling games if necessary.

Information needed to reschedule canceled league contest:

1. Date, teams involved, time and place of game canceled. If you have a game number that would be of great assistance.
 2. Date, teams involved, time, and place of new game to be played.
 3. Email to Glen Reser (glen@siyb.org)
- Always check Arbiter to be sure scheduled changes have been made. Games are only considered to be officially rescheduled when the assignor has received required information from the parties involved and has posted the rescheduled game on Arbiter.
 - League games not rescheduled within seven days may be forfeited by one or both teams. The Senior Commissioner will make the final decision.
 - If a team does not complete their league schedule, then they will not be eligible for postseason play for the current year and can only be an exhibition team the following year.

Important note: Reschedule League games before non-league games.

Dual Roster of players

A maximum of three (5) players may be on dual rosters.

Five “AA” players may be rostered to an “AAA” team during the regular season.

Five “A” players may be rostered to an “AA” team during the regular season.

If a school has two “AA” or “A” teams then five players may be dual rostered between any of the two teams.

The team allowing a player to be dual rostered has the option of allowing or not allowing the player(s) to participate on any give date or game with the other team. The coach’s decision is final and not subject to appeal to any American Legion Baseball Commissioner or Department of Washington State Baseball Chairman.

Players may participate on one or both teams in district playoffs, but must decide on which team to play for before any regional or state tournaments begin. Players are encouraged to play with the team that they had greater participation with, but may elect to talk with both team coaches and family before making a final decision. Once the player(s) decision has been decided, the player (s) will participate in post season American Legion Baseball tournament play with the team he has selected.

Arbiter

All Area Three teams should always check Arbiter to be sure their scheduled home games have umpires assigned. Games are only considered to be officially scheduled when the assignor has scheduled the game in Arbiter.

IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE HOME TEAM TO ENSURE UMPIRES HAVE BEEN ASSIGNED.

How do I sign in?

- To sign into ArbiterSports: Go to <http://www.ArbiterSports.com/> and enter the sign-in information provided below into the entry fields at the top right of the page.
- Enter your sign in information as listed below:
 - Username spokanelegion@yahoo.com
 - Password: baseball2016
- Click on **The Umpire Organization** tab all the way to the right and select the correct association
- Click on the **Schedule** tab then click on the master schedule at the top.
- You can then select to view games for each of your teams, sites.

Host Team Responsibilities

- The **HOST TEAM** (not necessarily the home team) will be responsible for prepping the field for each game to be played at the host’s field.

- All playing surfaces, mounds, and home plates will be raked, dragged, watered and line properly. It is the responsibility of the host team to have bases at each game.
- You may not always be the home team on your home field.

THE TEAM LISTED AS THE HOME TEAM WILL ALWAYS SUPPLY THE BASEBALL'S EVEN IF YOU ARE NOT PLAYING ON YOUR OWN FIELD.

League Tie Breakers

Tie breaker rules shall apply to all levels of play

1. Best Record
2. Head to head against tied team(s)
3. Fewest runs allowed against tied team(s)
4. Fewest walks allowed against tied team(s)
5. Coin Flip

Reminder: Only league games shall be counted in tie breakers situations