

2026
South Dakota
American Legion
Baseball Policy Manual



THE AMERICAN LEGION
DEPARTMENT OF SOUTH DAKOTA
ATHLETIC COMMISSION

STATE HEADQUARTERS
PO BOX 67
WATERTOWN, SD 57201

POINT OF EMPHASIS

American Legion Baseball adopts the philosophy and principles of the MLB/USA Baseball Pitch Smart initiative of practical, age-appropriate guidelines to educate parents, players and coaches to avoid overuse injuries and foster long, healthy careers for youth pitchers. National tournaments under the supervision of the National Americanism Commission will follow the appropriate pitching guidelines outlined by Pitch Smart and American Legion Baseball tournament policies adopted by the National Americanism Commission. Learn more online at www.mlb.com/pitch-smart/pitching-guidelines.

RESOLUTION 16

TO: Participants, Coaches, Umpires, Staff and Volunteers of SOUTH DAKOTA AMERICAN LEGION (SDAL) youth programs;

The South Dakota American Legion at its Executive meeting, held on February 10, 2017, in Oacoma, SD, adopted Resolution 16, passed by the National Executive Committee of the American Legion.

This resolution states that 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. Therefore, if any participant of any South Dakota American Legion Youth Program cannot or will not live up to these expectations, the individual will be removed from the program and not be able to resume participation.

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

RESOLUTION 2007-07

TO: Participants, Coaches, Umpires, Staff and Volunteers of SOUTH DAKOTA AMERICAN LEGION (SDAL) youth programs;

The South Dakota American Legion at its Department Convention, held on June 9, 2007, in Spearfish, SD, adopted Convention Resolution 2007-07, which states:

Resolved, by The American Legion Department of South Dakota, in Annual Convention assembled in Spearfish, SD, June 7, 8, 9, and 10, 2007, that Department Athletic Commission add language to their rules and regulations for American Legion Baseball, starting in the 2008 season, specifically stating that no coach shall discourage players from attending South Dakota American Legion Boys State; and be it

Finally Resolved, that the penalties be specified for infractions of this policy, including the possibility of suspension of the team from post season play.

POINT OF EMPHASIS

Athletes wishing to attend an American Legion Americanism program, in addition to baseball, shall be allowed to participate without fear of losing play time due to being absent during scheduled practices. Instead of being dissuaded, these athletes shall be encouraged to attend programs such as American Legion Boys State, Youth Trooper Academy and The American Legion Oratorical contests, without retribution. Our goal should be to encourage well rounded, patriotic youth.

No athlete shall be discouraged from attending any American Legion Americanism program by any baseball representative, manager or coach. All penalties for infractions of this policy will be handled by the South Dakota American Legion Athletic Commission and may include the possibility of suspension of the team from post season play.

2026
SOUTH DAKOTA
AMERICAN LEGION
STATE CHAMPIONSHIP
TOURNAMENTS

CLASS “A” Senior

Rapid City (Post #22)

July 28 — August 1

CLASS “A” Junior

Sioux Falls (Post #15)

July 30 – August 2

CLASS “B” Senior

Madison (Post #25)

July 31 - August 4

CLASS “B” Junior

Redfield (Post #92)

August 7 – 9

CLASS “B” 14U

Vermillion (Post #1)

July 24 - 26

OTHER TOURNAMENT
INFORMATION

NATIONAL REGIONAL TOURNAMENT

Fargo, ND

AUGUST 5-9, 2026

NATIONAL AMERICAN LEGION WORLD SERIES

Shelby, NC

AUGUST 13-18, 2026

2026 STATE AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL RULES AND REGULATIONS

The following American Legion baseball Rules and Regulations, adopted by the State Athletic Commission, are applicable in South Dakota and supplement National American Legion baseball rules as contained in the 2026 American Legion Rule Book. In case of a conflict between the state and national rules, state rules shall supersede. Major rules changes from last year are printed in boldface.

RULE 1

A player shall be eligible to play on a Post-sponsored Class “A” or Class “B” American Legion baseball team only from an area extending one-half the distance to the next Post and/or sponsor fielding a team unless designated differently by the Commission. (This rule does not apply to a city with two American Legion Posts, each sponsoring a certified American Legion baseball team recruited from one or more schools in the city in compliance with Plan B of the national rules.) The recruitment rules in South Dakota will be in full compliance with the National rules. Regardless of the level of play, each American Legion Baseball player will be entitled to only one transfer per year. Students who use “open enrollment” have the same one-time option, just like a transfer.

TRY-OUT

Definition: A means for the athlete to meet with the coach/manager of a team, closest to his parents’ domicile, for acceptance or denial on the team roster, for play in South Dakota American Legion Baseball.

The athlete may be considered as having met the definition of a TRY-OUT using any one of the following standards:

(A) Athlete meets with Team Manager and/or Post Commander (in consultation with the team manager) and expresses the desire to be transferred to another program, for reasons other than a physical practice.

(B) Athlete, physically, through a practice, makes an attempt to make the team. Players may be enrolled only from within the limits of this area with this exception: If a boy’s actual place of residence is established prior to March 31 of this year in a community other than the community where he attends high school, he may play with either team. His choice must be in writing and filed with the State Athletic Commission Chairman by June 20, 2026.

When ALB Roster Form is received by the Regional Athletic Officer on or before June 25, 2026, all varsity team players listed on Form #1 will be bound to that program for the remainder of the year with three exceptions: 1.) A change of domicile to another city or change of domicile to another base school or 2.) A transfer in accordance with national rule 4.E. or 3.) An open enrolled student must be enrolled into their new school by the beginning of the second semester of that current year and must stay enrolled thru March 31st of that same year to be eligible to play in that school’s recruiting area. If student decides to return to his prior school before March 31st of that same year, student would revert back to his previous school recruiting area. If student decides to return back to his previous school or any other school after March 31st of that same year, student would be ineligible to play for anyone except where he was enrolled as of the beginning of the second semester of that same year. This would be a player’s one and only open enrollment or transfer or declaration allowed under American Legion rules and player shall not be granted any other transfers except if players legal

domicile changes. If a player cannot obtain a release from the team manager or American Legion Post Commander in consultation with a team manager, the player can appeal the decision in writing to the Athletic Commission Chairman. The Chairman will render a final decision that is binding on all parties and cannot be appealed.

RULE 2

Registered American Legion baseball teams must be sponsored by an American Legion Post. Teams sponsored by other organizations must have prior approval of the State Athletic Commission.

All Post American Legion baseball teams in South Dakota shall play in either Class "A" or Class "B" competition. To qualify as a Class "B" team, the high school enrollment of the top three grades (10-12) must not exceed 500 students on March 31 of the current year as it appears on the American Legion baseball Registration Roster by June 30. Class "A" enrollment cannot exceed **4,000** students.

All South Dakota American Legion baseball teams will be aligned for tournament play at the June 2026 Athletic Commission meeting. The purpose of any later changes is to ensure that, within practical limitations, a similar number of teams is in each region.

A Post or other sponsoring organization may enter one registered team in regional or state tournament play, unless the school enrollment total requires more than one team in a city. A team hosting a state tournament is exempt from regional competition. When a Post hosting a state tournament is located in a city where two or more teams are required, the Post shall designate at the time of its tournament bid which team will be the host.

(A) The Class "A" SR Championship Tournament shall consist of eight (8) teams. Teams will be determined as follows: The Host and seven (7) teams that advance by winning a best 2 of 3 playoff based on seeding. The seven (7) best 2 of 3 playoffs will be hosted by the top seven (7) seeds. One game will be played Wednesday, July 22, with one or two games being played Thursday, July 23. Friday will be the rain makeup day if needed. Class "A" JR Tournament shall consist of eight (8) teams, host and seven (7) others. The 2 of 3 playoff will be based on seeding, same as Class "A" Senior. One game will be played Wednesday, July 22 with one or two games being played Thursday, July 23. Friday will be the rain makeup day if needed. If fifteen (15) teams or more participate in Class "A" Legion Baseball, only the top fourteen (14) seeded teams will participate in the playoffs. Each team is required to play a minimum of fourteen (14) games against other South Dakota Class "A" Teams. The seeding will be based on the SDHSAA Power Point System (See Below). Each team is to report their scores weekly to keep standings updated which will be posted beginning June 15.

Implementation of SDHSAA Power Points

Opponent's Winning Percentage = .750 or higher

Win = 50 Points Loss = 39 Points

Opponent's Winning Percentage = .500 to .749

Win = 47 Points Loss = 36 Points

Opponent's Winning Percentage = .250 to .499

Win = 44 Points Loss = 33 Points

Opponent's Winning Percentage = .249 or lower

Win = 41 Points Loss = 30 Points

***Team does not play minimum of fourteen (14) games = 30 points for each game not played.**

***Seed points will be awarded based upon the opponent's win percentage as shown in the chart above.**

***Win Percentage = number of wins divided by the number of contests played.**

The Following Rules adopted by the South Dakota American Legion Athletic Commission will be applied:

1. Only games among South Dakota teams registered for the Legion postseason in Class "A" baseball will be counted toward the standings.
2. Only those games played on or before Friday, July 17th 2026, will be counted in the standings.
3. Teams must play a minimum of 12 games. If any team fails to play the required number of games prior to the deadline, a "30-point loss" will be added to that teams' PowerPoint Average (not affecting their opponents, but only their own Point Average). This calculation will be done after the conclusion of play on July 18th.
4. No more than four games can be played against the same opponent and count toward postseason standings. Any games played beyond four against the same opponent will be ignored in terms of seeding.
5. Games played in "bracket play" during regular season tournaments will be ignored. Any games that occur as part of "pool play" or preliminary rounds will be included in PowerPoint standings.
6. Games scheduled but not played due to any factor beyond weather, field conditions or Act of God are subject to forfeiture on a case-by-case basis. Individual cases will be reviewed by the Commission or their designee.
7. Playoffs will include a three-game "first round" series to be played at the higher seed. The seven teams who win their series and the event host will qualify for the State Tournament.
8. If a tie exists in seeding, the following tie-breaker procedures will occur:
 - a. Head-to-Head Results
 - b. Record against common opponents in descending order
 - c. Overall winning percentage
 - d. Total wins
 - e. Coin flip

(B) The Class "B" State Tournament shall consist of the winners of each of the 7 regional tournaments plus the host team. **All Class "B" regional tournament play shall be double elimination. All Class "B" American Legion regional tournament games shall be played on consecutive days. If a Class B team wishes to participate in the Class A Playoffs, said declaration must occur at time that accommodates scheduling the required fourteen (14) Class A games to be eligible.** All games in the State American Legion Baseball Tournaments will be conducted on a double elimination basis. All teams

participating in Regional and State Tournaments shall play at the time and date indicated in the established playing schedule or shall forfeit 30 minutes after scheduled game time or up to one hour between games.

RULE 3

All Class **“B” regional tournaments must be completed, and winners determined by July 27, 2026**, so as to enter the **State Class “B” Sr. American Legion Baseball Tournament scheduled for July 31-August 4, 2026**. Part of the proceeds from these regional tournaments shall be used to pay the **yearly accumulated expenses of the “B” Regional Athletic Officer**. Guaranteed gate requirement for the “B” tournament is \$2,500.00 of the net profit.

All Class **“A” Sr. best 2 of 3 playoff games must be completed, and winners determined by July 23, 2026** to enter the **State Championship Tournament scheduled for July 28-August 1, 2026**. The winner of the **State Championship Tournament will be South Dakota’s entrant into the national regional tournament** and registered with National Headquarters in accordance with National American Legion baseball rules. **Class "A" JR best 2 of 3 playoff games must be completed and winners determined by July 23 to enter the JR State Tournament scheduled for July 30-August 2, 2026**. Part of the proceeds from each **Class “A” Playoff Series shall be used to pay the playoff accumulated** expenses, meals, lodging and mileage of the State Commissioner working that playoff. Guaranteed gate requirement for the State Championship Tournament is \$7,000.00 of the net profit.

RULE 4

To be eligible for American Legion baseball competition, each Post shall file on-line on the National American Legion Baseball website by filling out the team entry form and insurance form and pay the fees for Sr. and Jr. teams or both if necessary, at that time. Teams will be certified with a one hundred-dollar **(\$150.00)** entry fee **per team** and must be **registered online** on or before **May 15, 2026**, the official state team entry deadline. The entry fee will be **\$300.00** for teams registering late between **May 15 and May 31, 2026**. No team will be permitted to participate in a American Legion baseball competition whose state entry form, proof of insurance, and accompanying registration fee are not **registered online** and on file at State Headquarters by **May 31, 2026**.

Non-registered, uninsured players will not be allowed to play American Legion Baseball. If your Post sponsors one or more teams, the Post must register and insure all teams.

(A) Each Post sponsoring an American Legion baseball team shall submit an ALB Roster Form (previously Form #1) with the copy of each Player Agreement/Parent’s Consent Form **#2 and identity documents** on each player of each team, as outlined in National Rule No. 6, to its Regional Athletic Officer by June 25, 2026, for verification as to player eligibility. ALB Roster Form will be binding for transfer purposes on varsity teams. ALB Roster Form shall be certified and approved by the State Chairman or Regional Officer in charge. No team will be permitted to compete in American Legion baseball tournaments whose official entry forms are not in the hands of the Regional Athletic Officer by June 25, 2026

Regional Athletic Officers shall verify:

Coaches shall retain and bring to all Tournaments a copy of the ALB Roster Form, the original copy of each Player Agreement/Parent’s Consent Form #2, a copy of any transfer

forms #76 or Option Rule forms #77 and an identifying document such as a birth certificate, copy of a driver's license, passport or any legal document authorized by National Headquarters.

(B) Immediately after June 30, 2026, each "A/B" Regional Athletic Officer shall conduct a meeting of all adult officials of teams under his supervision to select the site and dates for the regional tournament, to draw team pairings for the tourney on the basis of teams officially registered and represented at that meeting and to otherwise go over details for play of the regional tournament. Each "A/B" Regional Athletic Officer shall, not later than June 20, 2026, notify each Post sponsoring an American Legion baseball team under his supervision of the time and place of the meeting, and he shall at that meeting make available for the inspection by all team officials concerned all American Legion Baseball Registration Forms for each team. Eligibility protests of players involved in State tournaments must bear written proof of ineligibility and must be filed with the State Tournament Director at each such tournament no later than 9:00 a.m., local time on the first day of the tournament involved, except on the discovery of fraud. When fraud is discovered, the eligibility protest and a written description of the alleged fraud must be filed immediately. All other protests shall be filed as specified in the *Official Baseball Rules of Major League Baseball*.

(C) After verification of each player's eligibility by a certified copy of birth certificate or South Dakota driver's license or US Government Passport or US Government military or dependent military ID Card, the Regional Athletic Officer shall then return the roster, **with attachments**, to the team manager to be retained by him until called for by regional or state tournament officials.

(D) Each team manager shall have a physical examination made of all the American Legion baseball players on his team prior to June 25, 2026, and said manager shall assume full responsibility for securing complete and individual physical examinations sufficient to reveal heart condition, hernia, etc. Certification by the manager on the proper form that all members of the team have had a physical examination within the current school year shall accompany eligibility papers to the Regional Athletic Officer as outlined in paragraph B herein. No team shall be eligible to compete in any regional or state tournament unless such certification has been made.

RULE 5

(A) An American Legion baseball player may participate in other amateur baseball programs subject to prior approval of the Department Baseball Chairman. Legion Baseball players are not allowed to participate with other teams during American Legion Postseason until the Legion team they are on the Roster of has been eliminated. Postseason in SD begins July 20, 2026. Penalties for violation of this will be in accordance with the National Rule Book, Rule 5.

*ALB Form #6 is used for a player to request prior approval,
<https://sdlegion.org/ufile/f1/pdf/programs/baseball-forms-manuals/2018-Dual-Participation-form 6.pdf>.

(B) Competition between Non-American Legion teams is only prohibited for Class "A" Senior, Reserve, and Junior programs, with these two exceptions.

(1) Upon entering an American Legion sponsored event or tournament out-side of South Dakota and being matched up against a Non-American Legion team, that play will be deemed, okay.

- (2) Upon hosting an American Legion sponsored event or tournament within South Dakota and an entry of a Non-American Legion team, that play will also be deemed, okay. No in-state Non-American Legion teams will be allowed to participate in any South Dakota sponsored American Legion events or tournaments nor will any single game or double header games be allowed with any in-state Non-American Legion teams.

Any violations of this rule will result in the following penalty for the American Legion team involved:

1st Violation: Warning and probation

2nd Violation: Expulsion from that year's tournament play

3rd Violation: Expulsion from any further South Dakota American Legion play and any re-entry back into South Dakota American Legion program must be made by formal application, reviewed and approved by the South Dakota American Legion Athletic Commission.

RULE 6

Teams will be allowed to use the MLB designated hitter rule in the official baseball rules published by *Official Rules of Major League Baseball*. (Stipulations regarding use of the designated hitter appear on page 41 of this publication.)

RULE 7

Pitching Rule. Senior and Junior American Legion Baseball programs, 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 the hitter. No player may enter the game as a pitcher unless having fulfilled the required rest days as mandated below. No player may make more than two appearances as a pitcher during any consecutive three-day period. **Also, players will be charged with 2 appearances if they leave the pitching position and return as the pitcher in the same game.**

PENALTY – The pitcher is removed from the game and team manager shall be ejected from the game and serve an additional one game suspension. For further information see the current National American Legion Baseball Rule Book (Rule 1.S.) Pitchers will have a daily maximum of 105 pitches per day. Required rest will be as follows:

1-30 pitches: 0 days

31-45 pitches: 1 day

46-60 pitches: 2 days

61-80 pitches: 3 days

81+ pitches: 4 days

***POINT of EMPHASIS - RULE 7 applies to ALL Pitching regardless of where or with whom the player pitched.**

RULE 8

All teams and sub varsity teams must be covered by group accident and liability insurance for the entire season as outlined in the National Rule Book 1(O). Coverage must be purchased prior to registering with the Department. Proof of such coverage must be submitted to the Department at the time of registration. **Any team that fails to purchase insurance from K & K Insurance shall be disqualified from any further competition.**

RULE 9

To expedite tournament play, all Regional and State B Tournament games in the Department shall utilize a 10-run rule after five innings, unless the home team is ahead by 10 runs or more after 4-1/2 innings. All Regional and State B Tournament Championship games will end after 7 innings. **All 2 out of 3 Playoffs and South Dakota State A Championship Tournament games shall utilize the 10-run rule after 5 innings, unless the home team is ahead by 10 runs or more after 4 1/2 innings.**

RULE 10

The purpose of The American Legion baseball program is to stimulate Americanism and develop citizenship. Therefore, all American Legion baseball players, managers, coaches, Post Athletic Officers or Legion representatives shall not be allowed to use tobacco (in any form), intoxicating liquor, profanity, or controlled substances in the dugouts or on the playing field during American Legion baseball games. Uniforms shall be kept neat. Any violation of the foregoing shall result in removal from further participation. **In accordance with the resolution adopted at the 2002 SD American Legion State Convention, the sale, use, or consumption of alcoholic beverages is prohibited in any baseball park when American Legion Baseball is being played.** Violations of this rule will result in the individuals involved and the head coach being removed from the stadium.

RULE 11

(A) Any protest involving a rules infraction must be placed with the proper American Legion athletic official responsible for the tournament before the next pitch is made following the point of protest. All protests shall be made in accordance with the official rules of baseball. Regular season games shall be protested in the same manner, and the written protest containing complete information must be filed with the Regional Athletic Officer within twenty-four (24) hours. Protests will not be considered if they are based on the judgment of an umpire.

(B) In the event a team protests any game to the State Athletic Commission, the sponsoring Post shall present a fifty-dollar (\$50) cash bond to the Athletic Officer in Charge. Said bond will be returned if the protest is allowed. If the protest is denied, the amount of bond will be used to partially defray expenses of settling that protest.

RULE 12

The players and team coach shall be in full uniform during all regional and state tournament games in which their team participates, and it is strongly recommended that they also appear in uniform for all other games in which they participate. It is recommended that batboys/batgirls also appear in uniform.

RULE 13

All players in American Legion baseball competition are required to wear double-flapped ear-protector helmets while batting or running bases. Catchers are required to wear some type of protective helmet while catching. A catcher's mask throat protector is required. It is also required that the catcher's mask with throat protector be worn when warming up a pitcher. The extended "stub" on certain masks does not constitute a throat protector.

All batboys/batgirls are required to wear protective headgear (helmets) while on the playing field and in or near the dugout area.

All baseball players and coaches are required to wear The American Legion Baseball insignia patch on either the left sleeve or left chest of the uniform shirt, wind shirt, or jacket. Players and coaches with no patch on the uniform shirt, wind shirt, or jacket will be restricted to the dugout. NO PATCH — NO PLAY!

RULE 14

If a coach is ejected during a regular season game, it would result in a minimum one (1) game suspension and is **“MANDITORY SELF-REPORTING”** to the Chairman of the South Dakota American Legion (SDAL) Athletic Commission or his designee (ie. next game or at the discretion of the Athletic Commission). Failing to self-report would result in two (2) game suspension. If a second ejection of a coach occurs, there would be a minimum one (1) week suspension, or a suspension based on the discretion of the Athletic Commission and is **“MANDITORY SELF-REPORTING”** to the Chairman of the SDAL Athletic Commission or his designee. Failing to self-report would result in a suspension based on the discretion of the Athletic Commission. A third ejection for a coach would result in a suspension for the remainder of the season.

A coach may request an appeal to the SDAL Athletic Commission. During the appeal process (if granted) there will be no suspension until a decision has been made.

NOTE: If a coach is ejected during the first game of a double-header, they are suspended for the remainder of that day as there is not enough time for an appeal process to take place.

If a player is ejected for **“UNSPORTSMANLIKE”** behavior during a regular season game, it would result in a minimum of two (2) game suspension and is **“MANDITORY REPORTING BY COACH”** to the Chairman of the SDAL Athletic Commission or his designee (ie. next two (2) consecutive games or at the discretion of the Athletic Commission). If a second ejection of a player for **“UNSPORTSMANLIKE”** behavior occurs, there would be a minimum of one (1) week suspension or four (4) consecutive game suspension, based on the discretion of the Athletic Commission. A third ejection of a player for **“UNSPORTSMANLIKE”** behavior would result in a suspension for the remainder of the season.

If a player is ejected for a rule violation (ie. runner colliding with catcher) and the Official declares the ejection **NOT** to be unsportsmanlike; it will only be a one (1) game suspension.

See National Rule Book for tournament rules regarding Coach/Player ejections.

S.D. AMERICAN LEGION REGIONS

The following tentative team-to-region assignments — with every South Dakota Legion Post tentatively assigned to a region, including those Posts that have or are known to be sponsoring teams and those that may later put a team on the playing field — have been approved by the State Legion Athletic Commission, and such assignments will be effective for the 2026 American Legion baseball playing season, subject to changes provided by Rule 2(B) and 2(C). Any Class “A” team may compete with “B” teams during the regular season, including any local round-robin league play and may be included in the league standings and any league championship, if it is agreeable with other league members. Such Class “A” teams, however, will not compete in any games involving Class “B” regional tournament competition.

SOUTH DAKOTA AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL CLASS A JUNIOR LEGION DIVISION GUIDELINES AND RULES

The following Rules and Guidelines have been approved by the South Dakota American Legion Athletic Commission at the December 2024 Annual Meeting

Team Eligibility: Each program will only be allowed one entry into the Senior Legion Division. Each program will be allowed to enter as many teams as they wish into the Junior Legion Division.

Participant Eligibility: Athletes that have remaining eligibility per SDHSAA rules and meet the National American Legion Baseball age requirements for the Senior Legion division are eligible to participate in the Class A Junior Legion Division.

Athletes are only eligible to participate in one (1) postseason. Whether that is Senior Legion, Junior Legion, or 16U Class A. They are allowed to participate in only one (1).

Registration and Insurance: All teams in the Junior Legion Division must register through the National American Legion Baseball Website as Senior Division teams and purchase the Senior Division insurance. Teams are to be registered as either “Team Name #2” or “Team Name Reserve”.

*Example: Sioux Falls Post 15 East Legion Reserve or Sioux Falls Post 15 West #2.

SOUTH DAKOTA AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL CLASS B 14U LEGION DIVISION GUIDELINES AND RULES

The following Rules and Guidelines have been approved by the South Dakota American Legion Athletic Commission at the January 2026 Annual Meeting

All games played will follow the same Rules and Guidelines as the Junior Legion Division except for the Pitching Rule. 14U American Legion Baseball programs, no player may pitch more than a total of 95 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 unless having fulfilled the required rest days as mandated below. No player may make more than two appearances as a pitcher during any consecutive three-day period. Also, players will be charged with two appearances if they leave the pitching position and return as the pitcher in the same game.

PENALTY – The pitcher is removed from the game, and the team manager/coach shall be ejected from the game and serve an additional one game suspension. For further information see the current National American Legion Baseball Rule Book (Rule 1.S.) Pitchers will have a daily maximum of 95 pitches per day. Required rest will be as follows:

- 1 – 20 pitches: 0 days rest
- 21 – 35 pitches: 1 day rest
- 36 – 50 pitches: 2 days rest
- 51 – 65 pitches: 3 days rest
- 66+ pitches: 4 days rest

***POINT of EMPHASIS - RULE 7
applies to ALL Pitching regardless of
where or with whom the player pitched.**

Note – Rest rule requirements include all games athletes play for other teams or as part of other events.

Note – 14U teams can use DH at any position for regular season games only if all coaches agree prior to start of game. For postseason games, DH will be used for the pitcher only.

BATS – Any USA Stamped, BBCOR Stamped, or wood bat will be legal. USSSA bats will not be allowed.



**SOUTH DAKOTA AMERICAN LEGION
ATHLETIC COMMISSION MEMBERS**

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REGION 1A JR. ATHLETIC OFFICER

Commissioner Brock Greenfield

REGION 1B ATHLETIC OFFICERS

Commissioners Dan Karst & Travis Kurth



REGION 2A SR. ATHLETIC OFFICER

Commissioner Mark Thomas

REGION 2A JR. ATHLETIC OFFICER

Commissioner Mark Thomas

REGION 2B ATHLETIC OFFICER

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REGION 3A SR. ATHLETIC OFFICER

Commissioner Gene Gillen

REGION 3A JR. ATHLETIC OFFICER

Commissioner Beau Garcia

REGION 3B ATHLETIC OFFICER

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REGION 4B ATHLETIC OFFICER

Commissioner Doug Freidel



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REGION 6B ATHLETIC OFFICER

Eric Hortness

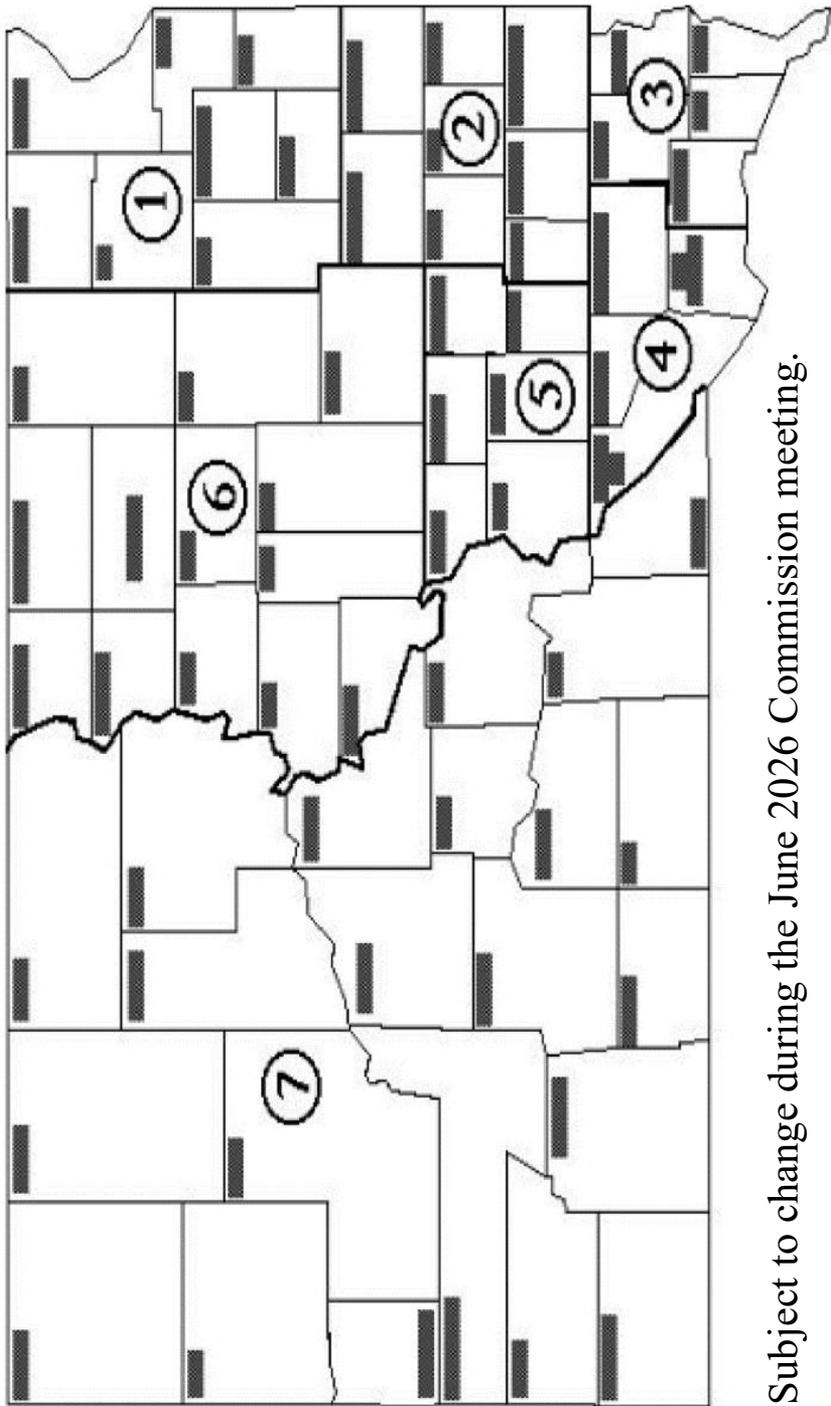
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REGION 7B ATHLETIC OFFICER

Commissioner Marv Tisdall





**Subject to change during the June 2026 Commission meeting.*

PORTER T. TALCOTT SPORTSMANSHIP AWARDS — 2025

The highly coveted Porter T. Talcott Sportsmanship Trophies were awarded to Sr. A team Renner Post #307 and Sr. B team Dell Rapids Post #65 and Jr. A team Aberdeen Post #24 and Jr. B team Belle Fourche Post #32 for their sportsmanship during the 2025 state tournaments.

The winning “Sr” and “Jr” teams were selected on the basis of displaying the best all-around sportsmanship qualities, both on and off the field, during the state tournaments.

Each team received a plaque with a replica of the Talcott Trophy, signifying the annual award given to a team participating in each of the state tournaments.

The trophy is given by friends of the late Mr. Talcott, long-time junior baseball enthusiast, who was killed in an automobile accident near Huron in 1951. Mr. Talcott was a member of Sydney L. Smith. Post of Aberdeen. He served as a lieutenant in the North Dakota 164th Division during World War I. Arrangements for this award were made by his widow out of funds she received from friends for some type of memorial.



PORTER T. TALCOTT SPORTSMANSHIP TROPHY WINNERS A & B SR'S

Awarded to the state tournament teams displaying the best all-around sportsmanship qualities, both on and off the playing field, during tournament competition. There was no award prior to 1952.

1952— Sioux Falls	1990— (A) Aberdeen; (B) Ipswich
1953— Sturgis	1991— (A) Sioux Falls; (B) Wagner
1954— Roslyn	1992—(A)Sturgis N Hills(B) Wessington Springs
1955— Hoven	1993— (A) Rapid City; (B) Howard
1956— Rapid City	1994— (A) Mitchell; (B) Groton
1957— Britton	1995— (A) Rapid City; (B) Clear Lake
1958—Rapid City	1996— (A) Pierre; (B) Howard/De Smet
1959—Seneca	1997— (A) Brookings; (B) Gregory County
1960—Howard	1998— (A) Watertown; (B) Parkston
1961— Cresbard	1999— (A) Yankton; (B) Wessington
1962— Milbank	2000— (A) Sioux Falls; (B) Lennox
1963— Mobridge	2001— (A) Brookings; (B)Custer/Hot Springs
1964— Bath	2002— (A) Sioux Falls West; (B) Freeman
1965— Redfield	2003— (A) Yankton; (B) Miller/Wessington
1966— Frederick	2004— (A) Watertown; (B) Parkston
1967— Canova	2005— (A) SF West; (B) Madison
1968— Spearfish	2006— (A) SF West; (B) Milbank
1969— Scotland	2007— (A) Mitchell; (B) Chamberlain
1970 — (A) Huron; (B) Wessington Springs	2008— (A) Rapid City 22; (B) Platte/Geddes
1971— (A) Rapid City; (B) Corsica	2009— (A) Mitchell; (B) Vermillion
1972— (A) Rapid City; (B) Groton	2010— (A) SF East; (B) Belle Fourche
1973— (A) Rapid City; (B) Redfield	2011— (A) Rapid City Post 22; (B) Redfield
1974— (A) Watertown; (B) Canova	2012— (A) SF West; (B) Corsica
1975— (A) SF Blackbirds; B) Spearfish	2013— (A) Mitchell; (B) Tabor
1976— (A) Rapid City; (B) Lake Andes	2014— (A) Yankton; (B) Tabor
1977— (A) Rapid City; (B) Faulkton	2015— (A) Pierre; (B) Vermillion
1978— (A) Watertown; (B) Hot Springs	2016— (A) Rapid City 320; (B) Redfield
1979— (A) Watertown; (B) Armour	2017— (A) Mitchell; (B) Winner/Colome
1980— (A) Watertown; (B) Howard	2018— (A) Mitchell; (B) Dell Rapids
1981— (A) Watertown; (B) Corsica	2019— (A) Rapid City 22; (B) Redfield
1982— (A) Huron; (B) Ipswich	2020 – Year cancelled due to Covid
1983— (A) Sioux Falls; (B) Leola	2021 – (A) Sioux Falls East; (B) Vermillion
1984— (A) Aberdeen; (B) Webster	2022—(A) Sioux Falls 15 East; (B) Gregory
1985— (A) Rapid City; (B) Tabor	2023—(A) Rapid City 22; (B) Dell Rapids

1986— (A) Milbank; (B) Tabor	2024—(A) Watertown; (B) Dell Rapids
1987— (A) Brookings; (B) Sisseton	2025- (A) Renner; (B) Dell Rapids
1988— (A) Huron; (B) Tabor	
1989— (A) Rapid City; (B) Canton	

**PORTER T. TALCOTT SPORTSMANSHIP
TROPHY WINNERS A & B JR'S**

Year	“A”	“B”
2015	Aberdeen	
2016	Sioux Falls	
2017	Mitchell	
2018	Harrisburg;	WIN
2019	Watertown;	Wagner
2020	Season Cancelled	
2021	Sioux Falls East	Belle Fourche
2022	Rapid City 22 Expos	Clark/Willow Lake
2023	Sioux Falls East	Winner/Colome
2024	Pierre	Martin
2025	Aberdeen	Belle Fourche

DEPARTMENT BASEBALL SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Year	Player	Town
2017	Karlie Karst	Sisseton
2018	Hunter Johnson	Corsica
2019	Nicholas Kemper	Sioux Falls
2020	Season Cancelled	
2021	Ben Loos	Harrisburg
2022	Joseph Van Overshelde	Clark/Willow Lake
2023	Trey Heckenlaible	Sioux Falls
2024	Dakota Munger	Pukwana
2025	McCoy Rippentrop	Hot Springs

**SOUTH DAKOTA AMERICAN LEGION
STATE BASEBALL CHAMPIONS**

1926	Beresford			<u>Year</u>	<u>A CHAMP</u>	<u>B CHAMP</u>
1927	Alcester			1950	Aberdeen	Corsica
1928	Mitchell			1951	Mitchell	Gregory
1929	Gregory			1952	Aberdeen	Flandreau
1930	Aberdeen			1953	Aberdeen	Lennox
1931	Watertown			1954	Aberdeen	Gregory
1932	Colton			1955	Aberdeen	Gregory
1933	Gregory			1956	Aberdeen	Elk Point
1934	Sioux Falls			1957	Sioux Falls	Scotland
1935	Pierre			1958	Sioux Falls	Scotland
1936	Pierre			1959	Sioux Falls	Scotland
1937	Pierre			1960	Aberdeen	Howard
1938	Pierre			1961	Rapid City	Howard
1939	Aberdeen			1962	Rapid City	Milbank
1940	Sioux Falls			1963	Rapid City	Milbank
1941	Pierre			1964	Aberdeen	Gregory
1942	Aberdeen			1965	Rapid City	Redfield
1943	Sioux Falls			1966	Rapid City	Canton
1944	Aberdeen			1967	Pierre	Eureka
1945	Aberdeen			1968	Pierre	Dell Rapids
1946	Sioux Falls			1969	Sioux Falls	Dell Rapids
1947	Aberdeen			1970	Rapid City	Howard
1948	Sioux Falls			1971	Rapid City	Howard
1949	Aberdeen			1972	Rapid City	Parkston

**SOUTH DAKOTA AMERICAN LEGION
STATE BASEBALL CHAMPIONS (cont.)**

<u>Year</u>	<u>A CHAMP</u>	<u>B CHAMP</u>		<u>Year</u>	<u>A CHAMP</u>	<u>B CHAMP</u>
1973	Rapid City	Selby		2008	Aberdeen	Parkston
1974	Rapid City	Orient/Faulkton		2009	Rapid City	Vermillion
1975	Rapid City	Java		2010	Rapid City	Alexandria
1976	Rapid City	Groton		2011	Sioux Falls	Garretson
1977	Rapid City	Parkston		2012	Brookings	Groton
1978	Rapid City	Groton		2013	Rapid City	Groton
1979	Rapid City	Armour		2014	Rapid City	Madison
1980	Rapid City	Scotland		2015SR	Rapid City	McCook/Miner
1981	Rapid City	Mobridge		2015JR	Rapid City	NONE
1982	Rapid City	Clark		2016SR	Rapid City	Milbank
1983	Rapid City	Lesterville		2016JR	Watertown	NONE
1984	Rapid City	Groton		2017SR	Pierre	Vermillion
1985	Rapid City	Tabor		2017JR	Sioux Falls E	Lennox
1986	Rapid City	Clark		2018SR	Rapid City	Dell Rapids
1987	Rapid City	Clark		2018JR	Watertown	Lennox
1988	Sioux Falls	Miller		2019SR	Renner	Lennox
1989	Sioux Falls	Canton		2019JR	Renner	Claremont/Britton
1990	Rapid City	Groton		2020	Year Cancelled	Due to Covid
1991	Rapid City	Miller		2021SR	Renner 1	Tabor
1992	Sioux Falls	Miller		2021JR	Brookings	Redfield
1993	Rapid City	Lennox		2022 SR	Rapid City	Vermillion
1994	Rapid City	Vermillion		2022 JR	Sioux Falls East	Lake Norden/Badger
1995	Rapid City	Groton		2023 SR	Harrisburg Gold	Dell Rapids
1996	Rapid City	Brandon		2023 JR	Sioux Falls East	Lennox
1997	Sioux Falls	Howard		2024 SR	Renner	Elk Point-Jefferson
1998	Rapid City	Groton		2024 JR	Rapid City	Lennox
1999	Mitchell	Scotland		2025 SR	Harrisburg Gold	Dell Rapids
2000	Rapid City	Groton		2025 JR	Rapid City	Parkston
2001	Rapid City	Milbank				
2002	Rapid City	Freeman				
2003	Sioux Falls W	Freeman				
2004	Sioux Falls E	Madison				
2005	Rapid City	Parkston				
2006	Rapid City22	Winner/Colome				
2007	Sioux Falls	Parkston				

**SOUTH DAKOTA AMERICAN LEGION
A & B SR BIG STICK AWARD WINNERS
(Sponsored by South Dakota Umpires Association)
No selection prior to 1994**

Year	“A SR”	“B SR”
1994	Scott Dressler, Rapid City, .590	Tony Larsen, Vermillion, .583
1995	Mark Ellis, Rapid City, .563	Zelos Johnson, Groton, .611
1996	Shawn Ellis, Sioux Falls East, .565	Dallas Schneiderman, Brandon, .556
1997	Kris Garry, Sioux Falls East, .619	Dan Karges, Milbank, .609
1998	Kelby Klosterman, Spearfish, .667	Justin Pearson, Big Stone C., .409
1999	Eric Baily, Yankton, .500	Jesse Kurtenbach, Groton, .609
2000	Matt Sisk, Sioux Falls West, .526	Terry Tchida, Britton/Claremont, .610
2001	Adam Schroeder, Valley Sprgs., .667	Brendon Hinrichs, Groton, .619
2002	Andrew Shepherd, Rapid City, .579	Kyle Broderson, Lennox, .471
2003	Justin Rippentrop, Sioux Falls West, .684	Dustin Schrader, Winner/Colome, .642
2004	Matt Adamson, Sioux Falls East, .546	Zack Lambrechts, Milbank, .471
2005	Max Fenske, Rapid City 22, .578	Chris Sherman, Winner/Colome, .615
2006	Michael Babcock, Aberdeen, .550	Bryce Kreutzfeldt, Flandreau, .591
2007	Bryan Mergen, Brookings, .545	Matt Franck, Cresbard, NW, .556
2008	Jason Schmidt, Mitchell, .476	Jeff Fish, Milbank, .500
2009	Zach Cimburek, Rapid City 320, .579	Keith Cutler, Platte/Geddes, .600
2010	Christen Cox, Aberdeen, .696	Heath Giedt, Groton, .500
2011	Carter Wevik, Rapid City 22, .583	Shane Dickey, Garretson, .643
2012	Jordan Risse, Sioux Falls East, .591	Mitch Foster, Flandreau, .524
2013	Dylanger Pierson, Mitchell, .692	Kyle Scofield, Flandreau, .526
2014	Jared Tschetter, Brookings, .714	Jacob Giles, Madison, .550
2015	Dylanger Pierson, Mitchell .692	Riley Schrader, Humbolt .579
2016	Eric Petry & Timmy Paris, Rapid City 22 .500	Carter Kratz Vermillion .733
2017	Landon Badger, Pierre .600	Parker Louks, Spearfish .625
2018	Nick Hoekstra, Renner .714	Matt Gillogly, Dell Rapids .625
2019	Calvin Hegg, Mitchell .500	Camden Osborn, Redfield .471
2020	No Season	No Season
2021	Zach Ridl, Renner & Ryne Hammerstrom, Sioux Falls East, .533	Kaleb Kubal, Tabor .625
2022	Lincoln Kienholz, Pierre, .600	Camden Osborn, Redfield .700
2023	Sawyer Tolk, Sioux Falls East, .500	Logan Winkler, Tabor .500
2024	Teigan Munce, Harrisburg Gold, .500	Keaton Gale, Elk Pt-Jefferson .500
2025	Eli Kokenge, Harrisburg Gold, .600/9-15	Carter Simon, Groton .533/8-15

**SOUTH DAKOTA AMERICAN LEGION
A & B JR BIG STICK AWARD WINNERS
(Sponsored by South Dakota Umpires Association)**

Year	“A”	“B”
2015	Trey Schmidt, Watertown .600	
2016	Blake Holden, Watertown .667	
2017	Campbell Mindt, Sioux Falls East .611	
2018	Mitchell Sand, Rapid City 320 .636;	Alex Morris, Groton .600
2019	Liam Porter, Rapid City 22	Peyton Eich, Lennox .545
2020	No Season	No Season
2021	Jack Smith, Sioux Falls East .565	Ethan Bartels, Winner/Colome
2022	Wyatt Reeder, Rapid City 22	Nolan Wahfeldt Belle Fourche,
2023	Kasen Christiansen, Sioux Falls East	Quincy Philips—Winner/Colome
2024	Jehiel Aviles, Aberdeen .600	Talen Eich, Lennox .643
2025	Bennet Bloom, Renner, .500 5/10 Murphy Eisenberg, Renner, .500 6/1	Jaxx Kurtenbach, Parkston, .667 6/9

**SOUTH DAKOTA TOURNAMENT MVP
(No Selection Prior to 1951)**

Year	Name	Pos	Town
1951	Joe Belak	p	Gregory
1952	Ronald Peterson	c	Sioux Falls
1952	Lyle Dahme	p	Aberdeen
1953	Mike Poppens	p	Lennox
1954	Dean Braun	p	Flandreau
1955	Kermit Kidner	p-1b	Rapid City
1956	Roger Hackett	p	Aberdeen
1957	Lew Mavity	ss	Sioux Falls
1958	John Beisner	c	Rapid City
1959	Jerry Crider	p	Sioux Falls
1960	Wally Johnson	ss-p	Aberdeen
1961	Gene Thedorff	p	Huron
1962	Robert Dorn	c	Chamberlain
1963	Erin Peterson	2b	Rapid City
1964	James Geaghan	ss	Gregory
1965	James Moreland	3b	Sioux Falls
1966	Raymond L. Johnson	p-ss	Canton
1967	David Lee Bauer	p-ss	Eureka

1968	Greg Stanczyk	of	Rapid City
1969	Cliff Anderson	p-c-1b	Dell Rapids
1970	(A) Terry Danielson	c	Rapid City
	(B) Larry Keeton	p-of	Wessington
1971	(A) Dave Collins	1b	Rapid City
	(B) Ron Weidler	p-of	Howard
1972	(A) Bill Ewing	2b-p	Rapid City
	(B) Tom Maxwell	p-inf	Parkston
1973	(A) Joe Ewing	of-p	Rapid City
	(B) Joe Walter	of-p	Howard
1974	(A) Craig Soderquist	1b	Rapid City
	(B) Kirk Carr	ss-p	Orient-Faulkton
1975	(A) LeRoy Weimer	c	Rapid City
	(B) Ron Hoffman	p-1b	Colton
1976	(A) Rich Downs	c	Rapid City
	(B) Ron Westby	p-ss	Groton
1977	(A) Jim Hendrickson	of	Rapid City
	(B) Brooks Gehring	p-1b	Parkston
1978	(A) Bud Bartholow	of-c-p	Rapid City
	(B) Rich Zimney	p-of	Groton
1979	(A) Steve Wolff	ss	Rapid City
	(B) Brett Neuman	c	Groton
1980	(A) Roger Lewis	p	Rapid City
	(B) Kevin Hofer	c	Scotland
1981	(A) Kent Torve	p-3b	Rapid City
	(B) Bruce Mogen	p-1b	Mobridge
1982	(A) Burt Beattie	p-ss	Aberdeen
	(B) Gene Lorenz	p-ss	Clark
1983	(A) Mike Eberle	c	Rapid City
	(B) Dennis Putzier	c	Colton
1984	(A) Todd Miller	2b	Aberdeen
	(B) Eric Larson	of	Groton
1985	(A) Steve Ramharter	cf-p	Sioux Falls
	(B) Steve Fejfar	c-p	Tabor
1986	(A) Marty Andrews	c-p	Rapid City
	(B) Rob Stack	ss-p	Tabor
1987	(A) Shawn Muffat	of	Rapid City
	(B) Gary Kortan	ss-p	Tabor
1988	(A) John Legel	ss	Sioux Falls

	(B) Donny Godel	ss	Winner
1989	(A) Mike Lorang	p-cf	Sioux Falls
	(B) Doug Sehr	p	Canton
1990	(A) Ryan Krogman	p-ss	Brookings
	(B) Peter Wilson	p-inf	Canistota
1991	(A) Kyle Yamada	ss	Rapid City
	(B) Nick Johannsen	p-of	Miller
1992	(A) Dan Conrad	c	Sioux Falls
	(B) Lee Fischer	p-of	Wessington
1993	(A) Ryan Merritt	lf	Rapid City
	(B) Jeremy Hinker	p-1b-of	Howard
1994	(A) Mark Ellis	ss	Rapid City
	(B) Ryan Gordon	p-c	Salem
1995	(A) Mark Ellis	ss	Rapid City
	(B) Scott Johnson	p-1b	Flandreau
1996	(A) Luke Wheeler	3b	Rapid City
	(B) Dallas Shneiderman	p-ss	Brandon
1997	(A) Kris Garry	cf	Sioux Falls
	(B) Landon Jacobsen	p-ss	Howard
1998	(A) Rusty Remmers	cf	Watertown
	(B) Jay Merrigan	cf	Vermillion
1999	(A) Josh DeJong	p-2b	Mitchell
	(B) James Gordon	p-u	Scotland
2000	(A) Brad Hunt	p-inf	Rapid City
	(B) Jesse Kurtenbach	inf	Groton
2001	(A) Greg Geary	1B	Rapid City
	(B) Trey Flichs	inf	Groton
2002	(A) Andrew Shepherd	inf	RC
	(B) Pat Krause	inf	Milbank
2003	(A) Corey Benson	p-inf	SF West
	(B) Travis Lester	inf	Milbank
2004	(A) Chris Kessinger	of-p	SF East
	(B) Brock Kreutzfeldt	p-3b	Madison
2005	(A) Chris Kessinger	if-p	SF East
	(B) Jeremy Wermers	if-p	Parkston
2006	(A) Josh Nolan	if	Rapid City
	(B) Jared Donahue	p-of	Winner/Colome
2007	(A) Trey Krier	p	Sioux Falls West
	(B) Tom Murtha	of-p	Parkston

2008	(A) Justin Kline	c	Aberdeen
	(B) Brady Nolz	p-if	Parkston
2009	(A) Kolton Emery	if-p	Rapid City #22
	(B) Tyler Johnson	p-of	Vermillion
2010	(A) Parker Sullivan	of	Rapid City #22
	(B) Tyson Gau	p-if	Alexandria
2011	(A) Alex Schultz	p 1b-of	SF East
	(B) Dustin Steckler	ss-p	Garretson
2012	(A) Matthew Thomas	of	Brookings
	(B) Jamie Jorgenson	of	Groton
2013	(A) Greg Schafer	of	Rapid City #22
	(B) Tanner Anderson	of	Vermillion
2014	(A)Matthew Minnick	of	Rapid City #22
	(B) Jacob Leighton	of	Madison
2015	(A) Matt Vickers	1b-p	Rapid City #22
	(B) Luke Loudenburg	c	McCook/Minor
2016	(A) Tiegen Lindner	of	Renner
	(B) Brady Krause	of	Milbank
2017	(A) Landon Badger	of	Pierre
	(B) Billy Mount	of	Vermillion
2018	(A) Cooper Bowman	ss	Rapid City #22
	(B) Matt Gillogly	of	Dell Rapids
2019	(A) Mason Runia	ss-p	Renner
	(B) Bennett Osborn	p-ss	Redfield
2020	Season Cancelled		
2021	(A) Sam Stukel	of-p	Renner
	(B) Riley Rothschadl	ss-p	Tabor
2022	(A) Harrison Good	rf-p	Rapid City #22
	(B) Jake Jensen	fb-p	Vermillion
2023	(A) Eli Kokege	ss/p	Harrisburg Gold
	(B) Dylan Klindt	cf/p	Dell Rapids
2024	(A) Sullivan Schlimgen	c	Renner
	(B) Keaton Gale	ss/p	Elk Pt-Jefferson
2025	(A) Eli Kokege	inf/p	Harrisburg Gold
	(B) Tad Tjaden	p/cf	Dell Rapids

SOUTH DAKOTA AMERICAN LEGION A and B JR TOURNAMENT MVP

Year	(Division) Name	Position	City
2015	(A) Cooper Bowman,	IF	Rapid City #22
2016	(A) Blake Holden	p-if	Watertown
2017	(A) Jake Smith	p-if	Sioux Falls East
	(B) Brock Anderson	p-if	Lennox
2018	(A) Mason Evans	c	Watertown
	(B) Brandon Fodness	c-if	Lennox
2019	(A) Ethan Fredrickson	p	Renner
	(B) Chandler Larson	ss-p	Groton
2020	Season Cancelled		
2021	(A) Nathan Lease	if-p	Brookings
	(B) Nolan Gall	if-of	Redfield
2022	(A) Sawyer Mindt	fb-p	Sioux Falls East
	(B) Cristhian	c-p	Lake Norden/Badger
2023	(A) Colin Lunders	c	Sioux Falls East
	(B) Talen Eich	p	Lennox
2024	(A) Travis Schlosser	p-1b	Rapid City #22
	(B)Talen Eich	3b/p	Lennox
2025	(A) Brayden Stapert	c	Rapid City #22
	(B) Grady Bowar	p-ss	Parkston



SOUTH DAKOTA UMPIRE ASSOCIATION

In recognition of 40 years continuous and dedicated service to South Dakota Baseball, the following Umpires have earned a lifetime free pass to all American Legion Baseball State Tournaments. We thank you for impacting the lives of the young people who participate in the American Legion Baseball Program.

Ace Boschee, Columbia

Rodney Burke, Harrisburg

Bill Ellwanger, Pierre

Jeff Gudahl, Yankton

Gerry Leber, Colome

Glen McCready, Winner

Duane "Stub" Miller, Canova

Fred Obermeier, Clark

Allen Olson, Sioux Falls

Paul Ortman, Sioux Falls

Richard "Rock" Rockafellow, Phillip

Kerry Wenbourne, Aberdeen

John Witcraft, Rapid City

REGULATIONS FOR AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL TOURNAMENT PLAY

The following are reminders for clear understanding of tournament procedures:

1. All on-field personnel will refrain from the use of tobacco (in any form) and the use of profanity.
2. No uncomplimentary remarks to, riding of, or baiting of an opponent or umpires is allowed.
3. No throwing of bats or helmets in an unsportsmanlike manner is allowed.
4. If a protest on an umpire's ruling is proposed, the decision and settlement must be made on the field before the next pitch.
5. After a game starts, a pitcher will be allotted a maximum of five (5) warm-up pitches between innings (unless umpire gives special permission for more). A relief pitcher will be allotted a maximum of eight (8) warm-up pitches — unless an injury to preceding pitcher has occurred.
6. Except for an injury, a coach or manager must remove a pitcher from the mound after making the second visit to the mound in the same inning.
7. All players should run to and from their dugouts and field positions.
8. Batboys/batgirls or a dugout member should have pitcher's jacket ready immediately upon the pitcher becoming a base runner.
9. The 10-run rule will be utilized in all State Championship tournament games and championship games in all Regional and State B Tournament play.
10. There will be no rain-shortened games unless agreed upon by participating teams prior to the start of the tournament or as the Tournament Director so directs.

**YOUR COOPERATION IS REQUESTED IN CARRYING OUT THE ABOVE
REGULATIONS IN ORDER TO EXPEDITE TOURNAMENT PLAY.**

SCOTT KORTAN, SECRETARY
S.D. UMPIRES ASSOCIATION
605-660-0185
Scott.Kortan5@gmail.com

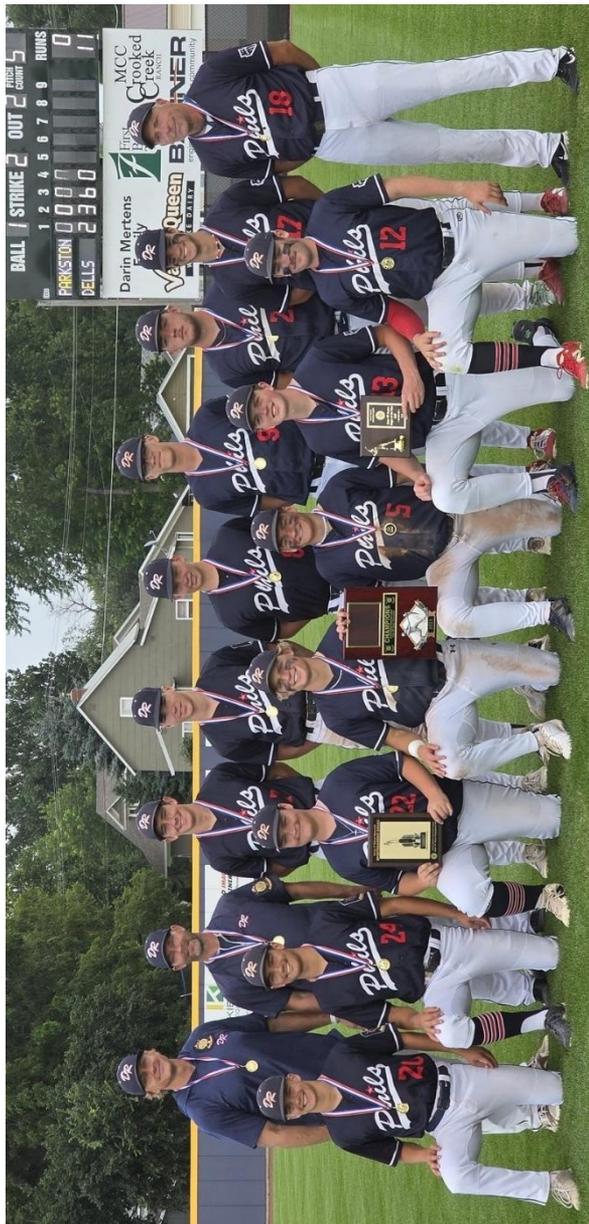
LYLE TOLSMA, CHAIRMAN
STATE AMERICAN LEGION ATHLETIC COMMISSION
23807 ANNA CT
RAPID CITY, SD 57702
lyle.tolsma@gmail.com



2025 CLASS “A” STATE CHAMPIONS

Harrisburg Gold Post 45

Front Row: Bat Boy Luke McKeown, Griffen Schlapkohl, Eli Kokenge, Michael Oakland, Ty Raymond, Rylan Boe, Andrew Dierks. Back Row: Coach Will Simmons, Darren Safranski, Noah Boschee, Ethan Beek, Taten Munce, Kason Syverson, Gabe Long, Jared Hawthorne, Kade Wede, Bryson Esser, Coach Zeb Wede



2025 CLASS “B” STATE CHAMPIONS

Dell Rapids Post 65

Top row: Head Coach Danny Miller, Assistant Coach Steve Millage, Jake Heinitz, Connor Hanson, Gauge Bunkers, Jackson Ahlers, Matt Nelson, Kenny Swanson, Assistant Coach Fran Ruesink. Front row: Thomas LaVoy, Jackson Poppel, Talan Millage, Cole Ruesink, Drake Eastman, Tad Tjaden, Lincoln Fersdahl.



2025 CLASS “A” JR STATE CHAMPIONS

Rapid City Post 22 Expos

Bridger Karn #7, Hunter Larson #10, Reece Palmer #12, Brixton Steen #13, Sam Schroeder #16, Daxton Karn #17, Reagan Koskan #21, Trevor Schlosser #22, Taten Giddings #23, Brayden Stapert #24, Ryne Keszler #25, Reegan Tumquist #26, Hudson Ogle #31, Maddux Kraft #32, Matthew Kelley #46, Jack Koley #48, Cooper

2026 SOUTH DAKOTA AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL IMPORTANT DATES

- March 31 Establishment of player's legal domicile (parents' domicile) and high school enrollment for grades 10, 11 & 12
- April 1 DEADLINE for Background & Adult Abuse Training completed for Manager's, Coach's & Volunteer's, to include all players that are 18 years of age or older.
- May 15 Team entry fee of \$150 Sr. team and \$150 Jr. team. Team entry form and proof of insurance must be filed online. **(Entry fee is \$300 for teams registering late between May 15-31).**
- 31 **FINAL DAY** to register team applications, purchase insurance and pay registration fees for 2026 season
- June 25 DEADLINE for **Team Managers** to submit online Form #1 with Department Chairman to be eligible for national tournaments. **All other required forms need to be filled out, signed, and presented at tournament time.**
- 30 DEADLINE for **Department Baseball Chairman** to approve online Form #1 with National Office to be eligible for national tournaments
- July 15 DEADLINE for baseball scholarship application submission to department headquarters
- 16-18 14U Class B Regional tournaments
- 17 Last day for Sr. A regular season games to count for seeding
- 17 Last day for Jr. A regular season games to count for seeding
- 21-23 Sr. B Regional tournaments (locations to be determined)
- 22 State A Sr. & State A Jr. play-in game 1
- 23 State A Sr. & State A Jr. play-in game 2, if necessary, game 3 will follow 30 minutes after
- 24-26 State 14U B tournament (Vermillion)
- 27-28 Jr. B Regional tournaments (locations to be determined)
- 27 State A Sr. opening ceremonies (Rapid City)
- 28-Aug. 1 State A Sr. tournament (Rapid City)
- 30-Aug. 2 State A Jr. tournament (Sioux Falls)
- 31-Aug. 4 State B Sr. tournament (Madison)
- August
- 5-9 A Sr. National Regional tournament (Fargo, ND)
- 7-9 State B Jr. tournament (Redfield)
- 13-18 A Sr. World Series (Shelby, NC)

Designated Hitter Rule

(Reprinted from: Official Rules of Major League Baseball)

6.10 (b) The rule provides as follows:

A hitter may be designated to bat for the starting pitcher and all subsequent pitchers 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.

The designated hitter named in the starting lineup must come to bat at least one time, unless the opposing club changes pitchers.

It is not mandatory that a club designate a hitter for the pitcher, but failure to do so prior to the game precludes the use of a designated hitter for that game.

Pinch hitters for a designated hitter may be used. Any substitute hitter for a designated hitter becomes the designated hitter. A replaced designated hitter shall not re-enter the game in any capacity.

The designated hitter may be used defensively, continuing to bat in the same position in the batting order, but the pitcher must then bat in the place of the substituted defensive player, unless more than one substitution is made, and the manager then must designate their spots in the batting order.

A runner may be substituted for the designated hitter and the runner assumes the role of the designated hitter. A designated hitter may not pinch run.

A designated hitter is “locked” into the batting order. No multiple substitutions may be made that will alter the batting rotation of the designated hitter.

Once the game pitcher is switched from the mound to a defensive position, this move shall terminate the designated hitter role for the remainder of the game.

Once a pinch hitter bats for any player in the batting order and then enters the game to pitch, this move shall terminate the designated hitter role for the remainder of the game.

Once the game pitcher bats for the designated hitter, this move shall terminate the designated hitter role for the remainder of the game. (The game pitcher may only pinch-hit for the designated hitter.)

Once a designated hitter assumes a defensive position, this move shall terminate the designated hitter role for the remainder of the game. A substitute for the designated hitter need not be announced until it is the designated hitter’s turn to bat.

BUILD INTEREST AND ATTENDANCE USE PUBLICITY

American Legion Baseball is the largest organized summer youth program in our state. But only a few people other than those who actually work with the ball clubs ever hear about the games or players. Publicity and public relations are vitally important to maintain and increase the interest of team members, baseball fans, and all those who help support the program.

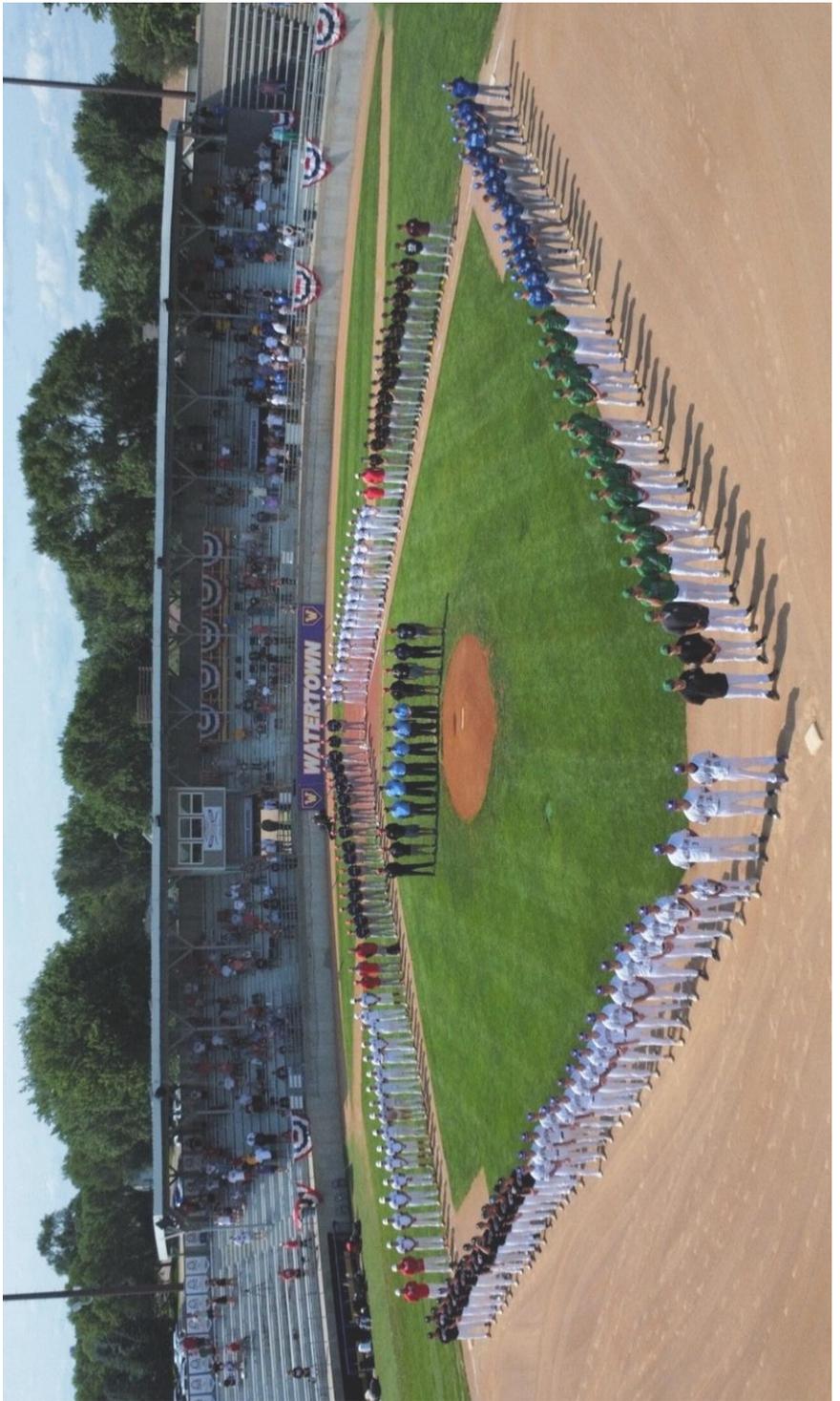
PUBLICITY CAN MAKE YOUR BASEBALL PROGRAM A SUCCESS AND PROFITABLE. Here's how it can be done:

One person — the Post Commander, Team Coach, Team Manager, Post Athletic Officer, or anyone who is qualified — must be responsible for reporting your team's activities. This task doesn't take a lot of time but must be done while news is still news.

Weekly and daily newspapers, radio, and TV stations are within easy reach, and most are eager to report area sports stories. Some news outlets, in fact, welcome collect phone calls to learn of game results.

Pre-game stories should increase game attendance. A short item reporting the competing teams, starting pitchers, season records of both teams, plus the **TIME** and **PLACE** of the game should be sufficient. A printed season schedule in newspapers and on handbills is helpful, too.

A follow-up story right after the game is extremely important. With follow-up stories, the news media usually wants highlights of the game, score by innings, each team's totals of runs, hits, and errors, and the names of pitchers and catchers.





In accordance with National American Legion Baseball Rule 1, (W), 1., the above pictured American Legion Baseball Insignia must be worn on the left sleeve or left breast of the uniform shirt. The Insignia, stock no. 720.420, is available from State Headquarters at \$2.00 each, plus shipping, remittance with order.

The 100th Season patches may still be worn as long as everyone is wearing the same patch.