



# 2017 Michigan Department Baseball Rules

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**Insurance Deadline  
May 15, 2017**

**Team Entry Deadline  
Tuesday, June 20, 2017 - 10:00 AM**

**For Questions or Concerns, Please Contact your District/Zone Chairman or**






**Roxanne Osga, Baseball Secretary  
517-371-4720 x23  
activity@michiganlegion.org**

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**Tournament Schedule on Back Cover**

## **CHECK LIST**

The following information is essential to register a team for the 2017 American Legion Baseball Season. All teams **MUST** register their team online at [www.legion.org/baseball](http://www.legion.org/baseball) and purchase insurance by **May 15, 2017**. All teams should send all information to their District Contact by **Friday, June 16, 2017**. District Contacts need to send their entire District's team information to their Zone Chairman (see Department rule book). Zone Chairman need to send all their Zone's team information to the Department Headquarters Office before the **Team Entry Deadline of June 20, 2017, by 10:00 a.m.**  
**NO EXCEPTIONS.**

-  **January 1st - May 15th** - Go to [baseball.legion.org](http://baseball.legion.org) and register your team. Once your team is approved (after the background checks are completed) use the username and password you created to sign back in and purchase your insurance as well as State (\$50) & National (\$50) fees online. FYI: insurance must be purchased before tryouts. So the earlier you set tryouts the earlier you need to purchase your insurance.
-  **May 15th 5:00 PM EST** - Insurance Deadline. Newly formed teams that miss the established deadline shall have until June 1 to purchase insurance without penalty. Should a previously registered team miss the established deadline, then they shall have "grace" period until June 1 at 4:00 PM EST to purchase insurance, but assessed a late fee of \$200.
-  **June 16th** - ALL teams must have submitted their roster online and handed to the district (if no district then zone) chairman all necessary forms (#2, #76, #77) along with the \$10 per new player fee, \$8 per background check fee, team photo, written declaration stating which tier (A, AA) for their review. EVERY player on your roster need a #2 form COMPLETELY filled out along with #76 or #77 as necessary. **Teams should make copies of all forms for their own records.**
-  **June 19th** - ALL district chairmen must hand copies of all forms to their zone chairman. Suggested timeline is by June 19th. The zone chairman will then certify teams as eligible or ineligible. District Chairman, it is in your best interest to make copies of any or all forms that you may need to refer to in a District Tournament for your own files.
-  **June 20, 2017 at 10:00A M** - All zone chairmen must hand copies of all forms to the State Chairman for the Department files. Zone Chairman, it is in your best interest to make copies of any or all forms that you may need to refer to in a Zone Tournament for your own files. **Consequences for not having ALL proper paperwork to the State Chairman by June 20, 2017 at 10:00 am is ineligibility.**

# 2017 MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT BASEBALL RULES

## PREAMBLE

THE MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT BASEBALL COMMITTEE SUPPORTS THE NATIONAL AMERICANISM COMMISSION IN ITS ANNUAL PUBLICATION AND DISSEMINATION OF THE AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL RULE BOOK INCLUDING THE TOURNAMENT RULES & POLICIES MANUAL AND THE UMPIRES MANUAL. ALL OF THE DOCUMENTS CAN BE FOUND ON THE NATIONAL WEBSITE: [www.legion.org/baseball](http://www.legion.org/baseball) THE MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT BASEBALL COMMITTEE WILL ADHERE TO THOSE RULES EXCEPT AS SPECIFICALLY MODIFIED BY THE RULES LISTED BELOW. WE ENCOURAGE ALL COACHES TO READ AND FAMILIARIZE THEMSELVES WITH THE COMPLETE NATIONAL RULE BOOK.

1. All team entry forms, with supporting documentation for individual players, must be directly sent to their respective District Chairman to be checked and sign all team paper work by Friday June 16, 2017. The District Baseball Chairman or the team manager must send all team paper work to their respective Zone Baseball Chairman to check and sign all paper work before submitting to American Legion's State Headquarters at 212 N. Verlinden Ave. Lansing, MI. 48915 by June 20, 2017 at 10:00 a.m.
  - A. New players shall be assessed a \$10 registration fee to be submitted with paperwork. This is a onetime cost and will cover the player for the remainder of his eligibility.
  - B. Background check fee for \$8 per check completed is to be submitted with paperwork. This is an annual cost as background checks are required for coaches and managers yearly.
2. All District and Zone winners shall be certified as winners by the District and Zone Chairman immediately via telephone/email to the Department Headquarters and by a signed fax to Department Headquarters within 24 hours of the close of their Tournament.

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3. Any team found to have an ineligible player will be suspended from District, Zone and State play and will forfeit all games that player played in, as well as, any moneys due them. The eligibility of players can be protested at any time with documentary proof. Proof of residence and age will be done before District, Zone and State play. Driver's license or Michigan picture identification card will be used for verification.
  - A. All other protests will be decided at the time of irregularity (before play is resumed) by the umpires and the committee in charge of the tournament.
4. All districts with two or less teams must consolidate with a neighboring district. This may be considered your zone tournament. If zone only consists of one team, the committee will place that team in a neighboring zone.
5. The zone tournament shall have no host. The zone tournament shall be rotated from district to district. The zone chair shall declare the specific district location before the district tournament begins.
6. Weather permitting, District Tournaments shall be completed 3 days before the Zone Tournament and the Zone Tournaments shall be completed 3 days before the State Tournament.
7. If the host of the state tournament wins their zone tournament, the runner-up of that zone shall also advance to the state tournament guaranteeing a 6 team state tournament.
8. There shall be two (2) umpires per games of State Tournament play and four (4) umpires for the potential last, and final game for both Class A & Class AA.
9. At the fall state convention, the Department Baseball Chairman shall make a recommendation the State Baseball Committee as to an Umpire in Chief.
  - A. Zone Chairmen shall make recommendations for possible candidates representing their Zone with a total of 6 umpires (1 from each zone plus an umpire and chief. The final selection shall be the Department Baseball Chairman. If a Zone does not have an umpire then the host zone chooses an umpire.
  - B. At the conclusion of the state tournament, the State Committee will review and evaluate each of the umpires
  - C. The Department Baseball Chairman shall compile these evaluations and disseminate to the committee members
10. The Department Tournament schedule will be announced by the Department Baseball Chairman at the Fall Conference.
11. All teams are expected to be ready to play at the scheduled time. Failure to be present 15 minutes after the scheduled time, will result in a forfeit of that game.

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12. Bracketing, as outlined by the National Americanism Commission, will be adhered to.
13. When possible and not disruptive to the tournament, the home team shall have the third base dugout. Warm-up time before games shall be regulated by the committee in charge. The host team field is a neutral field at any level of play and is controlled by the committee in charge.
14. Two adult coaches, in a like team uniforms, may appear in the coach's box. An adult must be in the dugout at all times. An alternate adult may be designated before Zone and State Tournament play.
15. Any American Legion Baseball manager who plays a boy in a regularly scheduled game in District, Zone or Department competition who is found to be ineligible under any Department or National rule, shall be suspended for one (1) year from the date of the infraction. He shall not be allowed to take part in any phase of the American Legion Baseball Program during that period of time.
16. The District and Zone Chairman shall have full authority in the handling of his tournament.
17. Post sponsoring teams in the Department Tournament are required to furnish proof of ability to pay for any and all damages incurred by members of their team when conclusively proven to be their responsibility.
18. Any manager or coach found guilty of jeopardizing any high school athlete's eligibility will be automatically and immediately suspended for one (1) year.
19. The Department Committee adopts the national tournament "Conduct off the Field Rules" as outlined in the Tournament Rules & Polices Manual published by the American Legion Americanism Commission.
20. Housing for the Department Tournament will be provided for eighteen (18) registered players, one (1) manager and (1) coach. Teams eliminated in the morning play at the Department Tournament will be allowed luncheon before returning home. Teams eliminated from the tournament shall leave the tournament site immediately.
21. A team sponsored by an outside organization must have an American Legion member as its manager.
22. Written parental permission for emergency medical aid must accompany each ball player at the Zone and Department Tournaments.
23. Recruiting for all teams will be under Plan B as set forth in the National Rule Book.

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24. No manager or coach shall serve as a District Baseball Chairman, Zone Chairman or umpire at any post season American Legion Tournament. Exception: When the District and Zone tournaments are combined, and the Zone Chairman is the Tournament Chairman, a manager or coach can serve as a District Baseball Chairman.
25. Beginning with the 2007 season, the state tournament shall be hosted by Zone 4 and rotated to each zone thereafter: Zone 5-2008, Zone 1-2009, Zone 2-2010, Zone 3-2011 and continue in rotation. At the Fall Conference, the following year's zone host must declare their intention to host the tournament. In the event that zone declines the host status or it is determined there was no representation from that zone the summer just concluded, the state committee shall offer the tournament to the following zone in sequence. If that zone accepts the tournament, the rotation continues. However, if that zone declines, the tournament host is opened to the entire state and awarded by the state committee and the rotation resumes the following year (Example: for 2009, Zone 1 had no representation during the 2008 season. Zone 1 therefore, is denied host privilege for the 2009 state tournament. Zone 2 would have opportunity to accept the 2009 tournament. If they accept, the rotation continues; if they decline, their host status for 2010 remains). To avoid any confusion, zones will not be allowed to switch years.
26. The State Tournament for class A shall be comprised of a host team and 5 Zone Champions. If a Zone(s) have no representative (registered team), the zone which has the most registered teams shall be allowed to send their runner-up or other teams. That team(s) shall fill in the slot(s) in the State Tournament of the non-representative zone(s). The State Committee shall determine the seating of the non-representative zones. The State Tournament for class AA shall be comprised of 8 teams: A host team and the 5 Zone Champions. If a Zone has no represented team, that slot shall be filled by the Zone with the most registered teams. The remaining slots for the tournament shall be selected on the basis of most registered teams. No Zone shall have more than two (2) representatives in this tournament. The State Committee shall determine the seating of the non-Zone champion teams. If two Zones have the same number of registered teams, the second determination shall be the most registered teams in Class AA. If there is still a tie, a flip of the coin shall determine which Zone is selected.
27. Each team in the State Tournament must submit a \$200 damage deposit at the end of the zone tournament to be returned to them minus any charges after the hotel bill is paid. Deposit will be forfeited if the team fails to appear.
28. Each team is to submit \$50 state registration fee & \$50 national registration fee at the time of online insurance payment.

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29. Official baseball chain of command is as follows: Team, Post, District, Zone, State Baseball Committee.
30. Players recruited within a team's district are not required to secure releases from teams outside the district even though the outside team(s) may be closer to the players domicile.
31. A player discovered entering the batter's box with an illegal bat shall be given the opportunity to change bats. If it is discovered that a ball is contacted with an illegal bat, the batter shall be declared out and ejected along with the head coach and all action by the illegally batted ball shall be nullified.
32. Effective 2010 Baseball season, The Department of Michigan baseball committee shall create a second senior division which hereafter shall be known as Class A. This division will be based on smaller school population and shall adhere to the Department of Michigan Baseball rules and the National rules except as specifically modified by the following rules:
  - A. Qualification to participate in Class A will be limited to registered teams with a total team registration of 1500 students (10-12 grades) or less, unless a Post has a registered AA team. That Post can register an A team that same season and operate under the 5000 student population rule. The A team must use the same base school as the AA team.
  - B. Upon the filing of the National form #1, a team shall declare, in writing, their intentions to compete in Class A, this shall be an annual declaration.
  - C. Post-season tournaments shall consist of a zone level tournament with the champions advancing to a state tournament. The State Champion shall not have the ability to advance into The American Legion National Tournament.
  - D. For post-season tournament purposes, if a post sponsors both a Class A and AA, a player cannot be registered on both teams.
  - E. Location of the Zone Tournament shall be exclusively the responsibility of the Zone Chair.
  - F. The State Committee shall determine which zone shall host the first State Finals. Thereafter, the state tournament shall rotate in the same fashion as Class AA.
  - G. Host for the State Tournament shall follow the guidelines of the Department of Michigan Baseball Rule #25. The State Baseball Committee shall develop a host contract for Class A State Finals.
  - H. Only zones that have Class A registered teams shall participate in the Class A zone tournament with the winner advancing to the Class A State Finals (Maximum of 6 teams including the host).
33. Any team that initially registers, but fails to complete all proper registration steps to be a legal Legion team will be fined a performance fee to the baseball program

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in the increments as followed: \$75 for first offence, \$150 for second offence, and \$300 for third offence and any offence thereafter. The performance fee must be submitted to the baseball secretary BEFORE the team application will be approved.

- 34. No team will be able to register if they have an unpaid balance to the American Legion Department of Michigan Baseball Program.
- 35a. Junior teams may certify with Department and National by their deadline dates as long as they are labeled as Junior teams. Junior team players can be listed on both a Senior and Junior team roster in compliance as outlined in the National Rules.
- 35b. Junior teams are prohibited from taking part in regular Senior team Post season tournaments at the District, Zone or Department level. Teams are allowed to participate in American Legion sanctioned Post season tournaments for Junior-type teams in other states.
- 35c. Junior team players are required to follow rules involving Form #76 and #77 waiver/choice forms, if Junior team competition is not available in the Senior teams recruiting area, but the forms #76/77 do not restrict Junior players, to specific teams next year. (This allows Junior players to return to the regular Senior Legion team nearest their school or their parents legal residence).
- 35d. For rules of play the Junior division may use MHSAA rules, but must be uniform throughout the Department.

Revised            1978, 1981, 1982, 1983, 1984, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991,  
                         1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004,  
                         2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015



## Michigan District Baseball Contact

<u>Name</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Telephone #</u>
<u>1st (Detroit) - None</u>		
<u>2<sup>nd</sup> -</u>		
<u>3<sup>rd</sup> - None</u>		
<u>4th - Mike Shannon</u>	208 North Elm St, Three Oaks, I 49128	(269) 756-9837 (269) 449-7840
<u>5th - None</u>		
<u>6th -Dale A. Bates</u>	2368 Lake Lansing Rd, East Lansing MI 48823	(517) 351-8995
<u>7th - Linda Sharp</u>	1290 E Caro Rd, Caro, MI 48723	(989) 790-4890
<u>8th - Mitch Louth</u>	500 S. Wight St., St. Johns, MI 48879	(989) 224-3458
<u>9th -</u>		
<u>10th - Ed Holder</u> edlinholder@yahoo.com	107 N. Orlo Rd, Midland, MI 48640	(989) 835-1670 (517) 231-1911
<u>11th - None</u>		
<u>12th - Christopher Reynolds</u> cjrcreynolds1@yahoo.com	PO Box 52, Rock, MI 49880	(906) 356-6154
<u>16th - Jeffrey McGinnis</u> usmcjeff@yahoo.com	529 Emmons Lincoln Park MI 48146	(313) 550-1070
<u>17th - John Shirkey</u>	1807 Pebble Creek Dr, Canton, MI 48185	(734) 721-4620
<u>18th - Bob Eggert</u> bobedent@aol.com	1805 Viola, Ortonville, MI 48462	(810) 516-3293
<u>19th - Thomas Derenzy</u>	4568 Kidder Rd, East Jordan, MI 49727	(231) 536-7025

**2017**  
**AMERICAN LEGION**  
**DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN**  
**BASEBALL COMMITTEE**  
**DISTRICT AND ZONE RESPONSIBILITIES**

<u>Name</u>	<u>District</u>	<u>Zone</u>
Jeffery McGinnis 529 Emmons Lincoln Park, MI 48146 (313) 550-1070 usmcjeff@yahoo.com	Detroit and 16	1
Tom Romain 3533 Spielman Rd Adrian, MI 49221 (517) 403-6129 (517) 263-5921 tomain@summitfinancialgroup.net	2, 3, 4, 5	2
Bob Eggert 1805 Viola Dr Ortonville MI 48462 (810) 516-3293 bobedent@aol.com	6, 7, 8, 17, 18	3
Nelson Cronkright 342 S Homer Midland, MI 48640 (989) 615-8990 (989) 631-1444 nelsoncronkright@mcardle-midland.com	9, 10, 19	4
Mike Trickey 811 Pine St Marquette, MI 48955 (906) 226-6404 mvtrickey271@yahoo.com	11, 12	5
Dave Stanifer, SAL Representative 2889 Lee Marie Dr Adrian, MI 49221 (517) 605-3847 (517) 263-1457 djstanifer@frontier.com		



# American Legion Baseball

“A Program of Service to the Youth of America”

Since 1925

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## 2017 Tournament Schedule

**State Tournament:** Class A – Gladwin, Michigan  
Class AA – Northwood  
University  
Midland, Michigan  
July 26 - July 30, 2017

**Regional Tournament:** Napoleon, OH  
August 2 - 6, 2017

**World Series:** Shelby, North Carolina  
August 10 - 15, 2017

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