

## December 2020 American Legion Baseball

The Baseball Commission met on October 17 at Post 152 in Ashland, Mo. to begin planning for the 2021 baseball season. We will meet at same location on December 5. The intent is to have a season, pending DEC concurrence, because we feel cancellation of another year does not bode well for the future of our program. Teams played this summer in other programs and if they are forced to do so again, they may never return to ALB.

Any play must comply with COVID protocols in place. The uncertainty of what those may be are unknown and the recent election results may change the landscape. However, we need to have plans in place and see what transpires.

New this year is required Sexual Abuse and Molestation training for all adults involved in the program. Training is mandated by Congress, and no team can be registered until all listed on their application have completed training. Instructions on how to do this will be forthcoming. It is free and done online, so should not be a hindrance.

Tournament sites will be the same that were selected for 2020. There will be no bidding for 2021. Dates will be finalized at the Commission meeting during Spring Conference. If there is no Conference, the Commission will meet and share the information.

Final note, I received many inquiries about the 19 year old players who lost their final year of eligibility due to cancellation of the season possibly getting an extra year to play. The answer is no. The National Baseball Committee and the Americanism Commission deemed such action would be detrimental to the program to allow this.

Gary Stone, Department Baseball Chairman