

**DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK 6th District AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL BY-LAWS
2019**

SECTION 1 - Administration

1. These By-Laws are intended to supplement the National & Department Rules governing American Legion Baseball and provide for the administration of American Legion Baseball in the 6th District of New York. Any conflicts of rules shall be resolved by Reference to the Department / National Rules.
2. A chairman will be appointed by the 6th District commander. The 6th District Baseball Chairman will be the chief administrator for all baseball matters in the 6th District.
3. The 6th District Chairman at their discretion may appoint / remove a baseball administrator to handle the day to day operations of the league.
4. All matters needing clarification of rules shall be run through the appointed Baseball Administrator who shall forward his ruling to the District Chairman. All teams may ask Administrator to recuse himself if the ruling involves his post team.
5. The Chairman shall appoint a protest committee. All protests shall be sent to Chairman / Baseball Administrator in writing within 24 hours. The committee shall decide to meet in person or on the phone and make a ruling, any committee member whose team is involved shall recuse themselves. The District Chairman shall cast a vote in case of a tie. This committee ruling shall be final.
6. The 6th District shall have meetings as follows:
 - 1) First meeting March / April
 - 2) Mandatory March scheduling meeting (after Mid Winter Conference)
7. All voting will need $\frac{2}{3}$ of the teams to pass any changes.
8. Each team shall cast 1 vote. The team manager or representative is eligible to vote.

SECTION 2 - Membership

1. Membership shall be open to all Posts in the 6th District in the State of New York and any areas added to the district by the State Baseball Committee. In 2019 that area is made up of teams in the following counties: Broome, Chemung, Cortland, Delaware, Madison, Otsego, Schuyler, Tompkins and Tioga. Any post may enter a team for competition in the district as long as they are in compliance with National and Department rules.
2. All teams must register electronically on the national legion website with the Department of New York and complete all of the national background checks and forms. (www.baseball.legion.org)
3. All teams must attend the mandatory March district meeting to be full voting members for that season. New teams that arise after that meeting may be considered for current year membership by a majority vote of current teams.
4. League Participation: All senior teams in District 6 will have to play in District 6 league play and complete their schedule to be eligible to qualify for the July District Tournament. Refusal to complete fully in league play will forfeit your right to play in the July District 6 Tournament.

5. The District Tournament will be made up of (8) teams. The teams will be the top 8 teams based on the point totals for each team after league schedule has been completed.
6. All teams must be a registered team within the Department of New York State. Any team that has properly filed the necessary documents and proper liability and medical insurance as required by National and Department Rules is allowed to compete. All due dates will be provided to teams at the coaches meeting.
7. Any team that forfeits more than 1 of their scheduled league games during the league season will be automatically disqualified from the July District Tournament.

SECTION 3 - Individual Player Eligibility

1. A player is eligible to compete in the American Legion Baseball program as long as he abides by the American Legion National By-Laws and player eligibility requirements. These requirements can be found in the National Rulebook, Rule #2.

SECTION 4 - League Play

1. All teams must compete in the 6th District Baseball League to be eligible and complete their league schedule with less than 2 forfeited games to be eligible for the July District 6 Tournament.
2. Teams must also play a minimum of 15 games against fully registered American Legion teams. This can be accomplished by counting league and non league games.
3. A point system will be used to establish league standings:
Win = 2 points
Tie = 1 point
Loss = 0 points
Forfeit = minus 1 point
4. Each team has to have 9 players to play league games. A team has to start and finish the game with 9 players. If a team falls below 9 players no matter the circumstance during the game that has already started that team will automatically lose the game.
5. Teams will be given the league schedule at the mandatory March meeting and any changes needed by any team must be submitted to District Chairman by May 1st. Soon thereafter the District Chairman will send all managers the final 2019 league schedule.
6. A team that forfeits and does not call in a reasonable (24 hours except for weather cancellations) amount of time to cancel the umpires shall be responsible to reimburse the other team the full amount of umpire fees.
7. All rainouts must be reported to the District Chairman / Baseball Administrator and rescheduled within 72 hours of the date of the rainout. The District Chairman / Baseball Administrator reserves the right to reschedule games if the teams cannot come to a mutual consensus or does not notify him within the 72 hour period.
8. The winning team shall be responsible to notify the District Chairman / Baseball Administrator of the final score of the game by the end of night so league standings can be accurately updated after each night.
9. If a team is found to have an illegal player all games that player participated in will be

- counted as forfeits.
10. If a team does not have the proper paperwork to the District Chairman by the Department due date, the team will not be allowed to play in league play for that season unless authorized by the District Chairman or the Department Baseball Chairman.
 11. All teams must use Diamond D1-AL baseballs with the American Legion stamp.
 12. Chain of Command: County, District Chairman. District Assistants
 - Gil Wood - District Chairman
 - Tom Lesko - District Assistant
 - Tom Ryan - District Assistant
 - Tom Slocum - District Assistant
 13. Penalty for not following chain of command:
 - 1) Coach suspended 3 games
 - 2) 2nd offense coach suspended for remainder of 2019 season
 14. Team photo must be sent and turned into Mr. Joe Finn by the 2nd game of league play.
If
the team photo not sent to Mr. Finn by deadline you will not play and games will be counted as forfeits until it is completed.
 15. No tobacco or chew in mouth during games. Penalty for coach = 3 game suspension.
 16. Travel Ball: Players are allowed to play travel ball, but once the District Tournament begins they must make a choice until their team is eliminated from the districts. No player is allowed to play for any other team during the duration of their teams participation in the week long District 6 Tournament.
 17. Players must be present in half of their teams scheduled league games to be eligible to play in the District 6 Tournament so the cutoff for 2019 is 7 games.
 18. 6th District will use Junior Legion Rules during the regular season:
 - 1) DH can be used as option for any player in lineup not the pitcher only
 - 2) High School re-entry rule can be used
 19. Each team must have a first aid kit with them in dugout at each game. If not the head coach will receive a 1 game suspension.
 20. The following will be the criteria for tiebreakers:
 - 1) Head to Head
 - 2) Fewest Runs Allowed amongst tied teams
 - 3) Coin Flip
 21. Only coaches and managers that are listed on the team Form #1 will be allowed on the field or in the dugout during the game.
 22. Base coaches will wear baseball helmets when coaching base lines. The coaches on the baselines do not need helmet with ear flaps but if a player is coaching the baselines the helmet needs ear flaps.
 23. All players and coaches will wear a full team uniform, no shorts! When District 6 Tournament play begins the uniform top worn by all players and coaches needs to include a legion shoulder patch. During regular league season the shoulder patch will not be required but is recommended.
 24. Metal bats can be used again this year, they must have the BBCOR certified stamp.

SECTION 5 - District Tournament

1. The 6th District Chairman shall organize an annual District Tournament for all divisions to determine a District 6 champion. The tournament will be held at a central location of the Chairman's choosing.
2. District tournament playing rules shall follow the rules set by the National and Department playing rule books and MLB rules.
3. During District 6 Tournament play the following league play rules will not be used:
 - 1) DH can be used as option but for the pitcher only.
 - 2) There will be no high school re-entry or any re-entry of any kind.
4. A seeding meeting shall be held a day or 2 before the tournament and all teams that qualified must send a team representative.
5. Senior and Junior division District Tournament games shall be 7 innings.
6. Any District Tournament games suspended by inclement weather must be played until the finish the next day no matter what inning the suspension began.
7. During District Tournament play (and league season) there will be a 10 run mercy rule in effect if the team losing by 10 runs or more has had at least 5 innings of at bats.
8. All teams must have 12 players present for all District Tournament games or that team shall forfeit the game. All players must be listed on the teams National Form #1 roster.
9. If a team forfeits once the District Tournament begins through the end of the tournament that team (Post) shall be ineligible to participate in the District Tournament the next year. Exception: Team (Post) may be reinstated if the District Chairman deems that there are wholesale changes to the team where the offending parties have no association with the team any longer.
10. If a team forfeits they will be placed in Option B the following year.
11. All tournament protests shall be settled immediately by the game official assigned to that game.
12. All tournament games will have 2 umpires paid for by the district.