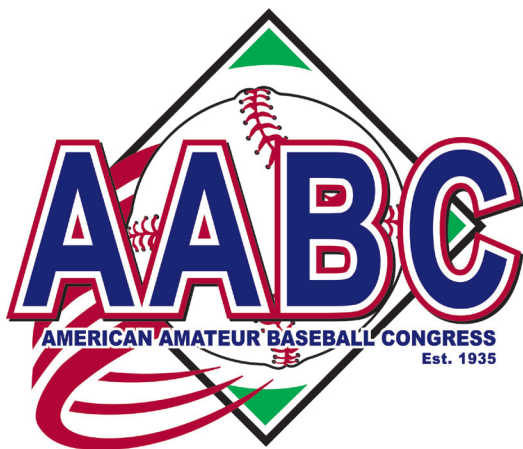


OFFICIAL HANDBOOK



2016 DIRECTORY

RULES AND REGULATIONS

AMERICAN AMATEUR BASEBALL CONGRESS

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Diamond®



**The Diamond Baseball is the
official ball for all divisions
of the AABC in Regional and
World Series tournaments.**

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THE AMERICAN AMATEUR BASEBALL CONGRESS

The American Amateur Baseball Congress is the only amateur baseball program that provides progressive and continuous organized competition – sub-teens through adults – at World Series levels. It is coordinated with other programs through USA Baseball and the American Baseball Coaches Association.

OUR MISSION

American Amateur Baseball Congress strives to enlarge and advance the scope of amateur baseball by stimulating interest and competition, and to provide a sound, experienced organization to assist and educate local groups in obtaining the maximum citizenship values.

OUR WEBSITE

You may access the American Amateur Baseball Congress website at <http://www.aabc.us>. The website contains the latest news and information regarding the AABC.

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DEFINITIONS

AABC, the Congress and the National Office: as used throughout this Handbook means the American Amateur Baseball Congress.

Division: One of the following fourteen (14) age groups in which the AABC conducts competition:

1. Stan Musial Division (unlimited age);
2. Connie Mack Division (in 2016, players born on or after May 1, 1997 or players born between May 1, 1996 and April 30, 1997 if they graduated high school in 2016.);
3. Don Mattingly Division (in 2016, players born on or after May 1, 1998 and players born on or after May 1, 1997 if they have high school eligibility remaining for the 2016/2017 school year);
4. Mickey Mantle Division (in 2016, players born on or after May 1, 1999 or players born between May 1, 1998 and April 30, 1999 if they are a sophomore in high school in 2016);
5. Ken Griffey Jr. Division (in 2016, players born on or after May 1, 2000 or players born between May 1, 1999 and April 30, 2000 if they are a freshman in high school in 2016);
6. Sandy Koufax Division (in 2016, players born on or after May 1, 2001 or players born between May 1, 2000 and April 30 2001 if they are in the 8th grade in 2016);
7. Nolan Ryan Division (In 2016, players born on or after May 1, 2002);
8. Pee Wee Reese Division (In 2016, players born on or after May 1, 2003);

9. Gil Hodges Division (In 2016, players born on or after May 1, 2004);
10. Willie Mays Division (In 2016, players born on or after May 1, 2005);
11. Jackie Robinson 9s Division (In 2016, players born on or after May 1, 2006); and
12. Roberto Clemente Division (In 2016, players born on or after May 1, 2007); and
13. Roberto Clemente 7s Division (In 2016 players born on or after May 1, 2008).
14. Rod Carew Division 6U (In 2016 players born on or after May 1, 2009).

League: Six (6) or more teams, per age division, with its own government playing a regular schedule of not less than four (4) games per team. Some Associations may require Leagues to embrace more than six (6) teams to qualify for membership. The minimum schedule of four (4) games per team must be played prior to Tournament competition other than qualifiers.

Association: A group of Leagues typically within one geographic state operating under its own government, with its own elected officers and qualifying at least one champion for Tournament competition with other Association champions. One geographic state generally constitutes an Association, but the National Office may split single states and/or combine adjoining states to form an Association.

Association Competition: Tournament competition above League levels that is between teams from Leagues within the same Association.

Region: One of eight geographic areas defined by the AABC and qualifying at least one champion for Tournament competition with other Regional champions. Generally, a Region is comprised of several Associations from U.S. states, providences of Canada and/or Puerto Rico, but a single Association may comprise an entire Region (e.g., Puerto Rico). Please see the Regional Vice Presidents section of the Handbook on page 3 for current Regional composition.

Regional Competition: Tournament competition above Association levels that is comprised of teams from Associations within the Region and/or other Associations so designated by the AABC.

National Competition: Tournament competition above the Association levels (Regional Qualifiers, Region Championships, World Series Qualifiers, and World Series).

Tournament: Association, Regional, Regional Qualifiers, National Qualifiers, and World Series Competition.

Roster: Means the official AABC Roster Form.

AABC GENERAL RULES

REGISTRATION DUES

RULE 101

- (a) **National Dues:** National dues are determined annually by the AABC Board of Directors and are assessed on a per team basis. Current dues are for one (1) to six (6) teams, per age division, the fee is \$200 and each additional team is \$28. All registrations must be submitted online or via an approved spread sheet to the National Office.

Teams advancing to a Regional Qualifier (State) tournament, Regional Tournament and National Qualifier tournament, will owe an additional fee of \$50.00 per tournament. The fee is due in the National Office before play begins for the tournament.

Single Age World Series teams will owe an additional \$100.00. The fee is due in the National Office before play begins for the tournament.

- (b) **Umpire Dues:** The registration fee for umpires is \$27.50 before July 1 of the current year and \$50.00 from July 1 through December 31 of the current year.
- (c) **Association & Regional Dues:** Association and Regional dues are determined by the Association and Regional officers and **must** be paid in addition to National Dues. Please contact your respective Association and Regional officers to determine these dues.
- (d) **Deadlines:** The deadline for the payment of National dues is June 15 for ALL age divisions.

SUSPENSIONS

RULE 102

- (a) The President of the AABC shall have the authority to suspend any player, manager, coach, sponsor or official for just cause.
- (b) Suspensions imposed by any AABC member Association shall be upheld by all AABC member Associations.
- (c) Suspensions may be appealed to the National Office, but only upon the grounds that the suspended person's constitutional rights have been violated or that he has not been given a proper hearing. Appeals must be accompanied by a fee of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) and must be received by the National Office no later than seven (7) calendar days following receipt of written notice of such suspension by the person suspended. The appeal shall be heard and ruled upon by the Executive Committee. If the appeal is upheld, the \$100 fee will be returned.

ASSOCIATION CONSTITUTION, BY-LAWS AND ELIGIBILITY RULES

RULE 103

An accounting of all funds of any player, manager, coach, team, League or Association may be requested at any time and in the sole discretion of the AABC.

INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

RULE 104

AABC insurance program administered by K & K Insurance Group is the only acceptable insurance for national tournament play. Teams must provide proof to the tournament committee of coverage with minimums of \$1,000,000 in liability limits.

The AABC has reviewed and pre-approved the AABC insurance coverage provided by K&K Insurance. The cost to purchase a K&K policy is as follows for each Division.

	One Million Liability Limit And Participant	Two Million Liability Limit Accident and Participant Accident
Rod Carew	\$81	\$92
Roberto Clemente	\$85	\$96
Willie Mays	\$92	\$103
Jackie Robinson	\$92	\$103
Pee Wee Reese	\$102	\$115
Gil Hodges	\$102	\$115
Sandy Koufax	\$139	\$153
Nolan Ryan	\$139	\$153
Mickey Mantle	\$162	\$178
Ken Griffey Jr.	\$162	\$178
Connie Mack	\$177	\$193
Don Mattingly	\$177	\$193
Stan Musial	\$517	\$541

NOTE: Certain discounts are available for those leagues registering all of their teams. Please check with K&K Insurance Company for details.

ROSTERS

RULE 105

In National and Association competition, the total number of players per team is limited to twenty-four (24) players in the Stan Musial Division, twenty-two (22) players in the Connie Mack Division, and twenty (20) players in all other Divisions. No team in any Division except Stan Musial may be comprised of more than 10 players whose Permanent Residence is not within their team's Recruiting Area as of July 1 of the current year.

All leagues must require that each of its teams complete an official AABC Roster, which is the **ONLY** roster form that can be utilized for National Tournaments. On or before 24 hours prior to the first game of all Regional and National Qualifying Tournaments, each team qualified for or entering the Regional or National Qualifying Tournament must submit an Official AABC online roster at www.aabc.us. Each Tournament Director must mark the online roster as certified once he has verified and confirmed said certification. These certified rosters will then be available online to the Tournament Director at the next stage of Tournament competition. Teams that have qualified for National Competition may alter their sanctioned roster from their first qualifying event (a State Tournament, a Regional Qualifying Tournament, or a National Qualifying Tournament) any time except during play of any tournament, up to the beginning of their final event by up to 40% of the maximum roster limit of their respective age division, provided the total players on the roster does not exceed the maximum number of players allowed: ten (10) roster spots in Stan Musial, nine (9) roster spots in Connie Mack, Don Mattingly, Mickey Mantle and Ken Griffey Jr. and eight (8) roster spots in all other age divisions. All roster spot additions or changes must come from their region and a Host Team for a World Series shall have first priority of additional or substituted players outside the leagues of the other qualified teams within their region.

PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

RULE 106

Unless otherwise prescribed by a more stringent AABC rule, to be eligible for National competition, a player must:

- (a) Have been under contract to his team continuously since not later than June 15 for the Roberto Clemente, Jackie Robinson, Willie Mays, Gil Hodges, Pee Wee Reese, Nolan Ryan, and Sandy Koufax Divisions, and July 1 for the Ken Griffey Jr., Mickey Mantle, Don Mattingly, Connie Mack and Stan Musial Divisions;
- (b) Have established a temporary or permanent residence within the Recruiting Area of his League no later than June 15th of the current year.

Permanent Residence means bona fide continuous habitation and not merely the establishment of a legal address or voting residence.

The Recruiting Area is the AABC Region to which a team's Association belongs, plus a fifty (50) mile buffer outside such Region's border.

These residence requirements do not apply to the Stan Musial Division;

- (c) Appear in at least one game for his team prior to July 1st. Although a player may have this game participation requirement extended if he is still competing in a high school sanctioned state championship tournament or if he is a junior college or four-year college participant in a state, regional or national tournament. Such a player will be permitted to report to his team within five (5) days after the conclusion of their play in the tournament, but in no case later than July 1st of the current year; and

- (d) If during a game, a team has a player who is not on the sanctioned roster enter the game, it will constitute a forfeit.

TEAMS IN MORE THAN ONE LEAGUE

RULE 107

To be determined by each Region

AMATEUR STANDING

RULE 108

No player may receive monetary remuneration, directly or indirectly, for services to any team.

However, a player shall not become ineligible upon signing a professional contract, even if a bonus is involved, until the contract has been promulgated by the professional baseball authority governing in his case and he reports for training or play.

Participation in any baseball program sanctioned as amateur by the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), National Association of Inter-Collegiate Athletics (NAIA) and/or National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) shall be recognized as amateur by the AABC.

Under these rules, any player who is compensated for services as a player or has ever been under contract to a professional team is considered a professional player, i.e., not an amateur, except for the limited exception provided above. As used herein, "professional team" includes, but is not limited to, (i) a Major League Baseball club, (ii) a club operating under the National Association of Professional Baseball Leagues, (iii) an independent professional team, (iv) a team that is not specifically recognized as amateur or that plays in a league not specifically recognized as amateur by the AABC, or (v) one which plays for a stake or in tournaments where there is a division of receipts or fees, other than for expenditures, depending upon the outcome of a game or games.

Players that have played professional baseball will be reinstated as an Amateur, but are only eligible for the Stan Musial Division.

PLAYING UNDER AN ASSUMED NAME

RULE 109

Any player appearing on an AABC Roster and playing under an assumed name, either within or outside of the AABC, shall be suspended for not less than one (1) year, unless the intent to use such assumed name is filed with and approved by the National Office prior to its use. The Executive Committee, upon recommendation of the AABC president, shall have authority to place such a player on probation after the one year suspension is imposed.

ELIGIBILITY OF HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE PLAYERS

RULE 110

A member of a high school or college baseball team shall not be eligible to play in the AABC until after the conclusion of the playing season of the scholastic institution for which he is playing, unless such participation is approved by the scholastic governing authority.

PLAYING WITH MORE THAN ONE TEAM

RULE 111

To be determined by each Region

TOURNAMENT RULES

PLAYING RULE

RULE 201

- (a) The Official Rules of Baseball (“**Major League Rules**”) shall be in force unless an exception is noted in this Handbook.
- (b) Trips to the mound will follow the Major League Rules except that if a pitcher is removed as a pitcher, he may play another position. He may return as a pitcher if he was not removed because of trips to the mound.
- (c) The pitcher must be on the pitching rubber when he takes the signal from the catcher.
- (d) Players and coaches (first and third) must be in uniform. Shorts may be worn by coaches if they are similar to the team uniform and approved by the tournament director.
- (e) The home team will be determined by flip of a coin prior to the game, unless determined at a previously announced time.
- (f) Pregame warm-up rules will vary by tournament. Please consult your designated tournament director or the tournament committee for applicable pregame warm-up rules.
- (g) Dates, times, and sites of tournament games are subject to change at the discretion of the designated tournament director and/or tournament committee.
- (h) Three (3) outs shall constitute an inning; two (2) out, two thirds (2/3) inning; one (1) out, one third (1/3) inning.

However, when a pitcher throws one (1) pitch to a batter beyond the pitching limitation, he is guilty of a violation and penalty shall be forfeiture of the game; provided pitching records (innings pitched) of each pitcher were available to each team prior to the start of the game. Penalty will not be imposed if a pitcher's allowance is exceeded because of a double-play or triple-play.

- (i) The only non-uniformed personnel permitted in the dugouts are certified trainers, other personnel listed on the team's official AABC tournament roster, or an official stationed in the dugout at the direction of the Tournament Committee or Tournament Director.
- (j) Any coach, player or other personnel associated with a team whom is ejected from a game must leave the complex for the remainder of the game and is also ineligible, at minimum, for their next game. Suspension ruling can be protested to the tournament committee.
- (k) Game Changer or IScore will be utilized for all scoring for AABC National Tournaments.

COMPLETION OF REGIONAL TOURNAMENTS

RULE 202

Regional Tournaments must make every effort to complete play on the Sunday prior to the start of any World Series. In the event it becomes necessary for teams to play more than two (2) games in any one day to complete the tournament by the Sunday prior to the start of the World Series, tournament directors **must** request permission from the National Office. Permission to play more than two games in any one day is not likely.

MERCY RULE

RULE 203

In AABC Tournament competition for the Stan Musial, Connie Mack, Don Mattingly, Mickey Mantle, Ken Griffey Jr., Sandy Koufax, Nolan Ryan, Pee Wee Reese, and Gil Hodges Divisions, shall be legally completed after five (5) innings if the visiting team is ahead by at least eight (8) runs and after four and one-half ($4\frac{1}{2}$) innings if the home team is ahead by at least eight (8) runs. In the Willie Mays, Jackie Robinson, and Roberto Clemente Divisions, shall be legally completed after four (4) innings if the visiting team is ahead by at least eight (8) runs and after three and one-half ($3\frac{1}{2}$) innings if the home team is ahead by at least eight (8) runs.

PROOF OF AGE

RULE 204

Each player participating in AABC Tournament play must be identified by a birth certificate, or a legible copy of same, from a bureau of vital statistics of the city, county or state in which the player was born; or in the case of foreign born players, a Department of Commerce certification upon first entry into the country, or certification of the same by the Department of Commerce. A certified passport is also acceptable. Hospital or baptismal certificates will not be accepted. Where compliance with the foregoing can be shown to be impossible, eligibility shall be determined at the discretion of the governing Tournament committee.

Connie Mack players born between May 1, 1996 and April 30, 1997 must show a copy (original or facsimile) of his 2016 High School diploma to be certified as eligible. Eligibility is granted to graduating seniors only under the exemption. A GED credential certificate is also acceptable.

Mickey Mantle players born between May 1, 1998 and April 30, 1999 must produce an original notarized document signed by a school official showing he was a sophomore in high school during the 2016 school year.

Ken Griffey Jr players born between May 1, 1999 and April 30, 2000 must produce an original notarized document signed by a school official showing he was a freshman in high school during the 2016 school year.

Sandy Koufax players born between May 1, 2000 and April 30 2001 must produce an original notarized document signed by a school official showing he was in the 8th grade during the 2016 school year.

EXTRA PLAYERS FOR TOURNAMENT PLAY

RULE 205

- (a) Where a selected extra player submitted on the Roster but **NOT YET CERTIFIED**, who has not yet actually played, fails to appear with the team, another player eligible under Rule 205 may be selected and substituted for him.
- (b) If a player refuses a valid request to play as an extra player for a team, he may not be added as an extra player by another team.

TOURNAMENT BRACKETS AND BYES

RULE 211

- (a) AABC Tournaments must be completed in compliance with the approved AABC double-elimination bracket; deviations from the approved brackets are not permitted other than in pool play. The AABC approved method of pairings mandates that the Tournament be conducted on a true double-elimination basis. Following the first three (3) or four (4) rounds of a Tournament, pairings may need to be adjusted to comply with the following rules. Bracket drawings for Jackie Robinson, Gil Hodges, Nolan Ryan, Ken Griffey Jr and Don Mattingly World Series shall be done at the pre tournament coaches meeting.

- (b) Where there is a bye in the schedule, all teams – undefeated and defeated – shall share in drawing for the bye except as provided below in (d). No team may receive a second bye until every other team alive shall have had a first bye. This will be adhered to even if it means two (2) teams must meet for the second time when there is a team alive they have not *yet* met. The bye has top priority over anything else and **MUST** be the first consideration. **IT IS VITAL AND ESSENTIAL THAT THE BYE BE DETERMINED FIRST.**
- (c) No team will meet another team for the second time where there remains a different team left to play, **UNLESS:**
i) it would violate (b) above, ii) there are only three (3) teams left as provided below in (d), or iii) all possible combinations of games seeds some pair or pairs of teams against each other for the second time. If there is only one possible group of pairings with the fewest number of teams meeting for the second time, then that group of pairings shall be used. If there is more than one equal possibility, the entire group of games will be selected by lot from those pairings with the fewest number of teams which must meet for the second time.
- (d) When there are only three (3) teams left in the Tournament and each has received an equal number of byes or no team has received a bye and i) one team has played the other two teams and the other two teams have not met, then the teams who have not met must play, and the other team will receive the bye in that round; or ii) one team has not met either of the other two teams, and the other two teams have met, then the team who has not played either of the other two teams will draw its opponent, and the other team will receive a bye in that round.
- (e) Winners will play winners and losers will play losers **UNLESS** it would violate (b), (c) or (d) above.

- (f) A forfeit in Tournament play shall be treated as a win, not as a bye.
- (g) For the National Youth Championships, the AABC World Series Championship team may select players from their respective AABC World Series rosters, as long as they do not exceed the 20 player roster limit.
- (h) Pairings for the first round of all even age World Series will be determined by the National Office and announced at the annual meeting.

POOL PLAY

RULE 212

Pool play as outlined by the AABC may be used in Regional competition if requested and approved in writing by the National Office no later than June 15th of each year. In all cases, pool play must be followed by either single or double elimination. Official AABC rules will apply.

Tie breaker for completed “pool” play shall follow the following order of determination: first, head-to-head competition; second, least total number of runs given up in games involving the tied teams; third, most runs scored in games involving the tied teams; and fourth, draw or flip.

QUALIFYING TOURNAMENTS

RULE 213

- (a) Qualifying tournaments may be played at the Association level or Regional level with the winner advancing to Regional competition. Associations must apply to their Regional Vice President for permission to conduct a qualifier no later than March 1st each year. If a team wins a qualifier, they may not participate in an Association tournament. Official AABC rules will apply. (This is the qualifier for which individually registered teams are eligible.)

- (b) The National Office may, with the approval of the AABC Board of Directors and the respective host organizations for the World Series, establish and sanction World Series qualifying tournaments for selected age divisions. Eligible entrants include any team duly registered through a League with any Association of the AABC and paying the National AABC and Association dues as of the date of the qualifying tournament. Any qualifying tournament must have a minimum of sixteen (16) teams entered.
- (c) The winner of a World Series Qualifying Tournament may only change their roster used in the tournament by adding “extra” players under AABC Rule 205 and/or replacing players under AABC Rule 105 (a). They may choose to use their “home” AABC registered league or use the Qualifying Tournament as their league. If they choose to use the Qualifying Tournament as their league, their “extra” players must come from a team that participated in the tournament and proof must be provided that said player/s appeared in at least three games in that tournament. Additionally, winners of World Series Qualifying Tournaments may not participate in either an Association tournament or a Regional tournament or another Qualifying tournament.
- (d) Sites hosting a World Series qualifying tournament may charge entry fees of their determination, but must provide for the winning team’s travel and other expenses, to be established by the National Office. Fee can be graduated per age divisions. Once qualifiers are scheduled, they must be played, they cannot be cancelled less than thirty (30) days prior to tournament starting. If not cancelled thirty (30) days prior to the start of the tournament, the monies allocated to travel must be paid.
- (e) Sites hosting a Regional Tournament may charge entry fees with the approval of the Regional Vice President.
- (f) Open qualifying tournaments may be held for Jackie Robinson, Gil Hodges, Don Mattingly, Nolan Ryan, and Ken Griffey Jr. Qualifying tournaments to be determined by Host and National Office, based on registrations by State/Associations. Entry fees may be charged with the approval

of the National Office. Entry fees may be charged only with the approval of the National Office for both Qualifying Tournaments and World Series for these specific age divisions.

TERMINATED AND SUSPENDED GAMES

RULE 214

- (a) In AABC Tournament competition, any game NOT legally completed because of inclement weather or other unforeseen developments shall be a suspended game and play shall resume from the point of suspension. Tournament Committee, with the approval of the National Office, may call a game if due to weather if official game has been reached.

In any suspended game, the pitcher's record for innings pitched shall be considered on a calendar day basis.

NOTE: In Regional Tournament Play, a game shall be legally completed after five (5) innings if the visiting team is ahead and after four and one-half (4½) innings if the home team is ahead in Stan Musial, Connie Mack, Mickey Mantle, Ken Griffey Jr., Sandy Koufax, Nolan Ryan, Pee Wee Reese and Gil Hodges. In Willie Mays, Jackie Robinson and Roberto Clemente a game shall be legally completed after four (4) innings if the visiting team is ahead and after three and one-half (3½) innings if the home team is ahead. In World Series, double elimination format (not in pool play), each game in the Stan Musial, Connie Mack, Don Mattingly, Mickey Mantle, Ken Griffey Jr, Sandy Koufax, Nolan Ryan, Pee Wee Reese, and Gil Hodges divisions must complete at least seven (7) innings or six and one half (6½) innings (five [5] innings or four and one half [4½] under the Mercy Rule) if the home team is ahead; each game in the World Series, double elimination format (not in pool play) for Willie Mays, Jackie Robinson and Roberto Clemente division, must complete six (6) innings or five and one half (5½) innings (four [4]

innings or three and one half [3½] innings under the Mercy Rule) if the home team is ahead. In other words, all games must complete the number of innings designated for their respective age divisions, there shall be no shortened games under Rule 4.12 of the Official Baseball Rules.

TOURNAMENT ALLOWANCES

RULE 215

Association: Tournament allowances for Association competition are at the discretion of each Association.

Regional: Tournament allowances for Regional Tournament Play are negotiated by the Associations involved in the Tournament and may include housing, meal and/or travel allowances, but such allowances are discretionary, not mandatory.

World Series: Tournament allowances at the World Series level vary depending upon the age Division and may include housing, meal and/or travel allowances, but such allowances are discretionary, not mandatory. ***Please contact the AABC National Headquarters for more detailed information regarding World Series Tournament allowances.***

HOST TEAM

RULE 216

When a host team is indicated for Tournament play, it shall be selected at the discretion of the Tournament sponsor subject to the approval of the Association Officer or Regional Vice President, as appropriate for the level of play. In the case of a World Series Tournament, such approval must be received from the National Office. A team selected to play as a host team in a Regional Tournament can not play in an Association Tournament; a team selected to play as a host team in a World Series may not play in an Association Tournament or Regional Tournament. A World Series Qualifier winner may not be a host team of any tournament or participate in an Association or Regional Tournament.

GAME LIMIT

RULE 217

- (a) In Tournament play, no team shall be permitted to play more than two (2) games in one calendar day without direct permission from the National Office.
- (b) There may be a time limit for Regional play of two (2) hours for Roberto Clement, Willie Mays, Pee Wee Reese and Sandy Koufax at the discretion of the Regional Vice President.

SLIDING

RULE 218

- 1. Any runner is out when the runner does not slide legally.
 - a. On a “force play”, a legal slide shall be a slide in which the runner is capable of touching the bag from the runner’s sliding position.
 - b. Notwithstanding Subsection (a), a runner shall be deemed to have made an illegal slide if the runner contacts or attempts to contact the fielder:
 - i. Above the fielder’s knee with the runner’s spikes.
 - ii. By either “rolling” or “leg whipping” the fielder; or
 - iii. In a manner that the umpire deems to be unsafe and not a legitimate baseball play.
- 2. Any runner is out when the runner does not attempt to avoid contact with a fielder who has possession of the ball and is attempting to make a tag.
 - a. For Subsection 2, a fielder who is in the process of eminently receiving a ball shall be considered a fielder in “possession” of the ball.

3. Penalty for 1 & 2. The ball is dead and no runners shall advance beyond the last base attained prior to the illegal slide or contact. If the slide or collision is flagrant, the runner shall be ejected from the game.

PROTESTS

RULE 219

Protests resulting from Tournament competition shall be decided by the governing Tournament committee. An appeal may be filed with the designated Tournament committee and/or the President of the AABC, but only if the appeal is made at the time of the original ruling and is based upon a matter of eligibility. Such appeal must be accompanied by a fee of one hundred dollars (\$100.00). If the appeal is upheld, the one hundred dollar (\$100.00) fee will be returned. A protest filed on a game ending play must be filed within thirty (30) minutes of the official ending time of the game.

UMPIRES

RULE 220

All umpires working in AABC Tournaments must be registered with the AABC for the current year.

EQUIPMENT

RULE 221

- (a) Players and coaches must be in uniform at all Regional and World Series Tournament games. Shorts may be worn by coaches if they are similar to the team uniform only if permitted by the tournament committee.
- (b) The use of NOCSAE approved protective headgear (hardhat) with double flaps while batting and running the bases is mandatory. In the Stan Musial Division only, single flap helmets may be used.

- (c) The use of NOCSAE approved protective headgear (hardhat) and a throat protector by the catcher or “hockey style” while catching is mandatory.
- (d) The use of NOCSAE approved protection headgear (hard hat) must be worn by base coaches while in the field of play.
- (e) In AABC Stan Musial, Connie Mack, Don Mattingly, Mickey Mantle and Ken Griffey Jr. division tournaments, one wood stick may be used. The bat must not exceed forty-two (42) inches in length and 2.61 inches in diameter.
- (f) In AABC Sandy Koufax (14) Division Tournaments, wood or non-wood BBCOR bats only may be used. The bat may not exceed minus three (-3) in differential between length and weight and must not be larger than 2 $\frac{5}{8}$ inches in diameter.
- (g) In AABC Nolan Ryan, Pee Wee Reese, Gil Hodges, Willie Mays, Jackie Robinson, and Roberto Clemente Division Tournaments, wood or non-wood bats may be used and must not be larger in diameter than 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches. There is no restriction with regard to the differential between length and weight. All bats must have the certification of BPF of 1.15 or less in 2012. All Bats must have the certification and stamp of USA Baseball beginning in 2018.
- (h) An altered or tampered bat will be subject to 6.03 (4) of Official Baseball Rules. Exception – If a bat is determined by the umpire to be merely dented or damaged, it shall be removed and a team warning issued. Each subsequent offense will result in the batter being called out.
 - 1. If the batter has reached base on a base hit and runners have advanced because of the hit, all runners shall return to their base occupied at the time of the pitch and the batter will be called out. The appeal must be made before the next
- (i) The official AABC logo must appear on every player and coaches baseball hat for National competition.

OFFICIAL BALL

The Official ball of the Stan Musial, Connie Mack and Don Mattingly division shall be the “low or flat seam” ball.

ASSOCIATIONS ELIGIBLE FOR TOURNAMENT PLAY

RULE 222

Associations which fail to register eight (8) teams or two (2) Leagues with the AABC, whatever the age Division, may be reduced Regional Tournament competition at the discretion of the respective Regional Vice President, except that Associations in their first year of membership in the AABC may be exempt from said provision. The decision of the respective Regional Vice President shall be final and may not be appealed. Notification of this decision must be made in writing by the Regional Vice President to the Association, the Divisional Vice President and the President of the AABC no later than June 20. Regions which fail to register 50 teams in an age division or at least 1,000 teams in total may have reduced World Series travel monies for that age division, at the discretion of the President.

RULE 223

The Regional Vice President will be allowed to eliminate Regional Tournaments and replace them with qualifiers for National Tournaments for any age division with the approval of the National Office.

DIVISION RULES:

STAN MUSIAL

GAME LENGTH

RULE 701

In Regional Stan Musial tournament play, each Region may elect to have games of either seven (7) or nine (9) innings in length. In the Stan Musial World Series, game length shall be seven (7) innings or nine (9) innings in length at the discretion of the tournament sponsor, provided that determination be made and announced by June 1 of each year.

NOTE: In 2007 all World Series games shall be (9) innings in length.

DESIGNATED HITTER RULE

RULE 702

The designated hitter rule of the American League of Professional Baseball is permitted in Stan Musial.

SUSPENDED PLAYERS

RULE 703

No player on the suspended or disqualified list of Organized Baseball shall be eligible for competition in the AABC, under any circumstances.

CONNIE MACK and DON MATTINGLY

SIGNING PROFESSIONAL CONTRACT

RULE 801

A player who signed a professional contract, as described in Rule 108, and who participated in professional baseball shall not be eligible for reinstatement in the any Division of the AABC other than Stan Musial.

GAME LENGTH

RULE 802

In AABC tournament play, seven (7) innings shall constitute a game in the Connie Mack Division. The Mercy Rule, which is set forth in the Basic AABC Tournament Rules and Regulations on page 16, shall be enforced.

DESIGNATED HITTER RULE

RULE 803

The designated hitter rule of the American League of Professional Baseball is permitted in Connie Mack.

LIMITATION ON PITCHING

RULE 804

- (a) For the safety and well being of the players, no player may pitch more than a total of twelve (12) innings within a period of two (2) consecutive days, **UNLESS:** he is pitching at a

time when the game goes into extra innings; in which case, he may continue to pitch until the conclusion of the game or until relieved.

- (b) When a pitcher “appears” on two (2) consecutive days as a pitcher, he may not pitch on the third consecutive day, **UNLESS** he pitched no more than three (3) innings on each of the first two (2) days; in which case he may pitch no more than three (3) innings on day three. ***Please note that (i) a pitcher may not pitch any number of pitches past three (3) innings in any of the three days, and (ii) the throwing of one pitch constitutes an appearance.***
- (c) A pitcher relying upon Rule 804 (b) may not pitch on four consecutive days.
- (d) Please see Rule 201 (h), page 16 for calculation of innings and penalties for violation of this rule.
- (e) AABC recommends Pitch Smart be utilized for local league play.

MICKEY MANTLE and KEN GRIFFEY JR.

GAME LENGTH

RULE 901

In AABC tournament play, seven (7) innings shall constitute a game in the Mickey Mantle Division. The Mercy Rule 203, which is set forth in the Basic AABC Tournament Rules and Regulations on page 17, shall be enforced.

DESIGNATED HITTER RULE

RULE 902

The designated hitter rule of the American League of Professional Baseball is permitted in Mickey Mantle.

LIMITATION ON PITCHING

RULE 903

- (a) For the safety and well-being of the players, no player may pitch more than a total of twelve (12) innings within a period of two (2) consecutive days, **UNLESS** he is pitching at a time when the game goes into extra innings; in which case, he may continue to pitch until the conclusion of the game or until relieved.
- (b) When a pitcher “appears” on two (2) consecutive days as a pitcher, he may not pitch on the third consecutive day, **UNLESS** he pitched no more than three (3) innings on each of the first two (2) days; in which case he may pitch no more than three (3) innings on day three. ***Please note that (i) a pitcher may not pitch any number of pitches past three (3) innings in any of the three days, and (ii) the throwing of one pitch constitutes an appearance.***

- (c) A pitcher relying upon Rule 903 (b) may not pitch on four consecutive days.
- (d) Please see Rule 201 (h) page 16 for calculation of innings and penalties for violation of this rule.
- (e) AABC recommends Pitch Smart be utilized for local league play.

SANDY KOUFAX and NOLAN RYAN

GAME LENGTH

RULE 1001

In AABC Tournament play, seven (7) innings shall constitute a game in the Sandy Koufax Division. The Mercy Rule, which is set forth in the Basic AABC Tournament Rules and Regulations on page 17, shall be enforced.

RE-ENTRY

RULE 1002

Any of the starting players may be withdrawn and re-entered once, provided such player occupies the same batting position whenever in the lineup. A substitute who is withdrawn may not re-enter. If a starting pitcher leaves the field of play, he may re-enter the game in the same batting position but not as a pitcher. *Please note that discovery of an illegal player by an umpire shall result in that player being restricted to the dugout for the duration of the game.*

LIMITATION ON PITCHING

RULE 1003

- (a) For the safety and well-being of the players, no player may pitch more than a total of ten (10) innings within a period of two (2) consecutive days, **UNLESS** he is pitching at a time when the game goes into extra innings; in which case he may continue to pitch until the conclusion of the game or until relieved.

- (b) When a pitcher “appears” on two (2) consecutive days as a pitcher, he may not pitch on the third consecutive day. *Please note the throwing of one pitch constitutes an appearance.*
- (c) Please see Rule 201 (h), page 16 for calculation of innings and penalties for violation.
- (d) AABC recommends Pitch Smart be utilized for local league play.

BASES, PITCHING AND OUTFIELD FENCE DISTANCE

RULE 1004

In AABC Tournament play for the Nolan Ryan Division, the distance between the bases shall be 80 feet and the pitching distance shall be 54 feet with the pitching plate eight (8) inches above home plate. In AABC Tournament play for the Sandy Koufax (14 and under Division), distance between the bases shall be 90 feet and the pitching distance shall be 60 feet 6 inches with the pitching plate ten (10) inches above home plate. If outfield fences are utilized, it is recommended that they be not more than 320 feet down each foul line and not over 380 feet in straight center field.

NOTE: The Designated Hitter is not allowed in Sandy Koufax or Nolan Ryan.

PEE WEE REESE and GIL HODGES

GAME LENGTH

RULE 1101

In AABC Tournament play, seven (7) innings shall constitute a game in the Pee Wee Reese and Gil Hodges Division. The Mercy Rule, Rule 203, which is set forth in the Basic AABC Tournament Rules and Regulations on page 17, shall be enforced.

LIMITATION ON PITCHING

RULE 1102

- (a) For the safety and well-being of the players, no player may pitch more than a total of seven (7) innings within a period of two (2) consecutive days.
- (b) If a pitcher's allowance expires under Rule 1102 (a), or he pitches any number of innings in two (2) consecutive days, he may not pitch at all the next day. ***Please note the throwing of one pitch constitutes an appearance.***
- (c) Please see Rule 201 (h), page 16 for calculation of innings and penalties for violation.
- (d) AABC recommends Pitch Smart be utilized for local league play.

BASE STEALING

RULE 1103

Base stealing shall be permitted in accordance with Major League Rules.

EQUIPMENT

RULE 1104

Metal spikes shall not be permitted.

BASES, PITCHING AND OUTFIELD FENCE DISTANCE

RULE 1105

In AABC Tournament play, the distance between the bases shall be 70 feet and the pitching distance shall be 50 feet, 6 inches. At all Regional and World Series play, the pitching mound shall have a pitching plate that is approximately six (6) inches above home plate and the batter's box shall be three (3) feet by five (5) feet. If outfield fences are utilized, it is recommended that they not exceed 260 feet.

RE-ENTRY

RULE 1106

Any of the starting players may be withdrawn and re-entered once, provided such player occupies the same batting position whenever in the lineup. A substitute who is withdrawn may not re-enter. If a starting pitcher leaves the field of play, he may re-enter the game in the same batting position but not as a pitcher. *Please note that discovery of an illegal player by an umpire shall result in that player being restricted to the dugout for the duration of the game.*

NOTE: The Designated Hitter is not allowed in Pee Wee Reese or Gil Hodges Division.

WILLIE MAYS and JACKIE ROBINSON

GAME LENGTH

RULE 1201

In AABC tournament play, six (6) innings shall constitute a game in the Willie Mays Division. The Mercy Rule, Rule 203, which is set forth in the Basic AABC Tournament Rules and Regulations on page 17, shall be enforced.

LIMITATION ON PITCHING

RULE 1202

- (a) For the safety and well-being of the players, no player may pitch more than a total of six (6) innings within a period of two (2) consecutive days.
- (b) If a pitcher's allowance expires under Rule 1202 (a), or he pitches any number of innings in two (2) consecutive days, he may not pitch at all the next day. ***Please note the throwing of one pitch constitutes an appearance.***
- (c) Please see Rule 201 (h), page 16 for calculation of innings and penalties for violation.
- (d) AABC recommends Pitch Smart be utilized for local league play.

BASE STEALING

RULE 1203

Base stealing shall be permitted in accordance with Major League Rules.

EQUIPMENT

RULE 1204

Metal spikes shall not be permitted.

BASES, PITCHING AND OUTFIELD FENCE DISTANCE

RULE 1205

In AABC tournament play, the distance between the bases shall be 65 feet, and the pitching distance shall be 46 feet. At all Regional and World Series play, the pitching mound shall have a pitching plate that is approximately four (4) inches above home plate and the batter's box shall be three (3) feet by five (5) feet. If outfield fences are utilized, it is recommended that they be not less than 175 feet down each foul line and not over 225 feet in straight center field.

RE-ENTRY

RULE 1206

Any of the starting players may be withdrawn and re-entered once, provided such player occupies the same batting position whenever in the lineup. A substitute who is withdrawn may not re-enter. If a starting pitcher leaves the field of play, he may re-enter the game in the same batting position but not as a pitcher. *Please note that discovery of an illegal player by an umpire shall result in that player being restricted to the dugout for the duration of the game.*

NOTE: The Designated Hitter is not allowed in Willie Mays or Jackie Robinson Divisions.

ROBERTO CLEMENTE & ROBERTO CLEMENTE 7S

GAME LENGTH

RULE 1301

In AABC tournament play, six (6) innings shall constitute a game in the Roberto Clemente Division. The Mercy Rule, Rule 203, which is set forth in the Basic AABC Tournament Rules and Regulations on page 17, shall be enforced.

LIMITATION ON PITCHING

RULE 1302

- (a) For the safety and well-being of the players, a player may pitch no more than three (3) innings in one (1) day. A player may pitch on two (2) consecutive days with a maximum of three (3) innings per day.
- (b) If a pitcher's allowance expires under Rule 1302 (a), or he pitches any number of innings or appears on two (2) consecutive days, he may not pitch at all the next day. Please note the throwing of one pitch constitutes an appearance.
- (c) Please see Rule 201 (h), page 16 for calculation of innings and penalties for violation.
- (d) AABC recommends Pitch Smart be utilized for local league play.

BASE STEALING

RULE 1303

Base stealing is not permitted in the Roberto Clemente Division.

- (a) Runners on base cannot advance when the pitcher is on the pitching rubber with the ball in possession and the catcher is set and ready to catch.
- (b) After the ball passes the home plate, the runner can advance on their risk.
- (c) If the runner tries to advance before the ball passes the home plate, the following rules apply:
 - 1. If he arrives safe, he is returned to the original base.
 - 2. If he is tagged before he arrives at the base, the runner is out.
 - 3. If at the same time the batter hit a fair ball, the runner is awarded with one base more than the batter.
- (d) No runner may advance from third to home unless he is batted home or forced by a base on balls. The runner on third cannot advance on a wild pitch or passed ball.
- (e) After a missed third strike, the batter cannot advance to first.

Please note that when a player hits the ball, all runners can advance and score and the play continues until the umpire calls time or the ball is dead.

EQUIPMENT

RULE 1304

Metal spikes shall not be permitted.

BASES, PITCHING AND OUTFIELD FENCE DISTANCE

RULE 1305

In AABC tournament play, the distance between the bases shall be 60 feet, and the pitching distance shall be 40 feet. At all Regional and World Series play, the pitching mound shall have a pitching plate that is approximately four (4) inches above home plate and the batter's box shall be three (3) feet by five (5) feet. If outfield fences are utilized, they shall not exceed 140 feet down each foul line and 150 in straight center field.

PITCHING CIRCLE

RULE 1306

An eighteen foot circle (diameter from the mound) shall be marked on each diamond. A pitcher can go down to the edge of the circle to take a throw from the catcher. The runner cannot advance if the pitcher has the ball in the circle, except when the ball is returned after a hit and time is not called.

BALK RULE

RULE 1307

The balk rule does not apply in the Roberto Clemente Division.

RE-ENTRY

RULE 1308

Any of the starting players may be withdrawn and re-entered once, provided such player occupies the same batting position whenever in the lineup. A substitute who is withdrawn may not re-enter. If a starting pitcher leaves the field of play, he may re-enter the game in the same batting position but not as a pitcher. *Please note that discovery of an illegal player by an umpire shall result in that player being restricted to the dugout for the duration of the game.*

NOTE: The Designated Hitter is not allowed in Roberto Clemente.

ROD CAREW DIVISION

The 6 and under division of the AABC will be known as the Rod Carew Division.

Please remit your requests for potential rules for this division throughout the year to the AABC National Office.

2016 WORLD SERIES DATES

STAN MUSIAL..... August 4 – 7 Farmingdale, NY
Arrival Date: Aug 3

Contact: John Nesi 914-227-5106
jtnn@aol.com 903 Highland Ave., Pelham, NY 10803

CONNIE MACK..... July 29 – Aug 5Farmington, NM
Arrival Date: July 28

Contact: Brad Campbell 505-947-0327
bvcampbell@hotmail.com C/O City of Farmington
901 Fairgrounds Rd., Farmington, NM 87401

DON MATTINGLY July 15 – 20Suprise, AZ
Arrival Date: July 14

Contact: Ron Benham 602-369-6744
rbenham@americanbaseballinc.com 9842 S. Grandview Dr.,
Tempe, AZ 85284

MICKEY MANTLE July 27 – 31 Waterbury, CT
Arrival Date: July 26

Contact: Tony Santoro 203-757-5037
adsantoro@aol.com PO Box 1709, Waterbury, CT 06721

KEN GRIFFEY JR.... July 22 – 27Surprise, AZ
Arrival Date: July 21

Contact: Ron Benham 602-369-6744
rbenham@americanbaseballinc.com 9842 S. Grandview Dr.,
Tempe, AZ 85284

SANDY KOUFAX .. July 27 – 31 Bartlesville, OK
Arrival: Date July 26

Contact: Debbie Mueggenborg 918-440-5649
debbie@archambofinancial.com 302 S. Osage, Bartlesville, OK 74003

PEEWEE REESE ... August 4 – 7Toa Baja, PR
Arrival Date: Aug 3

Contact: Hector Ralat 787-691-4856
ralat2000@hotmail.com Paseo Calamar B-3033
Levittown, PR 00949

2016 WORLD SERIES DATES

CONNIE MACK QUALIFIERS

..... July 3-9Troy, NY

Arrival Date: July 2

Contact: George Rogers

518-858-4633

southtroydodgers@earthlink.net

..... June 24 – 29.....Surprise, AZ

Arrival Date: June 23

Contact: Ron Benham

602-369-6744

rbenham@americanbaseballinc.com

Check www.aabc.us for current dates and locations for additional qualifiers.

GEOGRAPHICAL WORLD SERIES

NOLAN RYAN

GIL HODGES

WILLIE MAYS

JACKIE ROBINSON

ROBERTO CLEMENTE

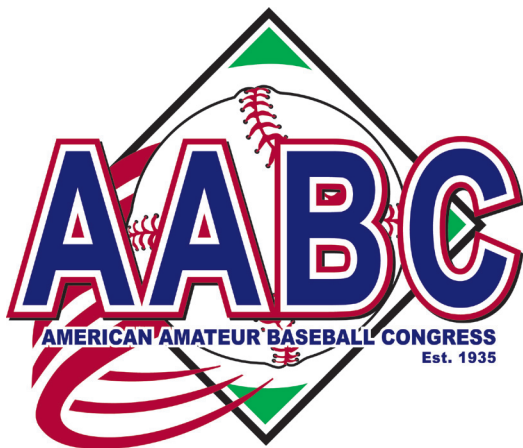
Check www.aabc.us for current dates and locations.

-NOTES-



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