

2016 Bergen County American Legion Baseball League Rules and Bylaws

1 .LEAGUE

The BCAL Executive Committee will have exclusive power on all Bergen County American Legion Baseball League dealings of suspensions, fines, conduct, and sportsmanship of managers, players, and coaches etc.

2. Website – <http://bcnjnl.org/american-legion-baseball/>, Address: BCAL, Inc. 54 Thiem Ave, Rochelle Park, NJ 07762.

3. The BCAL Executive Committee will consist of: (see attached list)

4. ENTRY FEES - Waived for 2016.

5. MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the BCALBL is open to all American Legion Post or County sponsored teams and Independent teams. Deadline to join is the 2016 April meeting. Every team **MUST register** on the National American Legion website and purchase their insurance by May 15, 2016. All teams must go by Plan B for recruiting purposes.

6. LEAGUE GAME RULES

The BCALBL will abide by all American Legion Baseball rules.

7. MEDICAL INFORMATION

It is mandatory that all teams provide a First Aid Kit for all their games. It is mandatory that all players competing in American Legion Baseball have their parent/Legal guardian sign the medical consent form. His manager will distribute the medical consent form to each player. The manager or coach is to have the original Medical Consent Form (Indemnification Agreement Form #2) in his possession at all games. In case of an emergency to a player, a player may refuse medical treatment.

Note: This form gives the manager and/or coach permission to have the player treated medically.

8. REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

The following are to be submitted to the Baseball Committee before the season starts (The May Monthly Meeting is the deadline) May dates are subject to change due to League schedule).

All teams must secure insurance from VD, and register on the national website

Coaches must pass background checks.

Player Indemnification Agreement (Form #2)

Final Roster (Form #1) of 18 Players

A copy of each player's birth certificate (Teams must have original for the district Tournament).

A copy of your insurance certificates for General Liability and Accident – no exceptions.

Player Transfer Forms #76

Team Declaration Forms #77

Costs for baseballs ordered

Signed copies of Team Manager/Coach Code of Ethics & Conduct

****No teams are allowed to play without all their paperwork turned in to the Executive Committee without prior approval. ****

9. UMPIRES

The BCOA will preside over all American Legion games. The following fees have been agreed upon by the BCALBL and the BCOA for 2016 baseball season. Each Umpire per game will be paid \$75. All umpires must be state certified, and wear American Legion patches as appropriate. These patches must be sewn on the shirts of the umpire's uniform. Two umpires will be assigned to each game. Umpire fees are to be paid prior to the start of each game. Each team is responsible for the paying of one umpire at each game. If a game is started and not completed because of rain or wet field, etc. umpires will be paid in full. Teams will pay for their make-up games. In case of a forfeit, the team that forfeits the game will pay for both umpires, plus a \$25 fine to the BCALBL. If a player/manager/coach is ejected from the game, a written report must be submitted to the BCALBL by the BCOA within 48 hours. The umpires are to receive the lineup cards and umpire fees from both teams prior to going over the ground rules. Lineup cards are to include players' name, number and position of starting team. Substitutes should also be shown. White copy goes to the umpire, yellow copy to opponent and pink copy for your team. If the umpires show up for a game that has been postponed without being notified, they shall receive a \$25 traveling fee by the home team. If a scheduled game has been postponed, the Umpires shall be notified at least two (2) hours before the starting time of the game by the home team using Arbiter. If a game is delayed because of rain/lightning etc, the umpires are required to wait a minimum of 20 minutes before calling it. It is an official game if 5 innings have been completed or if the home team is ahead and 4 1/2 innings have been completed. For fields with lights, games would be suspended and picked up at a later date at that point for lights that malfunction. For fields with curfews, the teams should be notified of curfews. If it's an official game, the results stand at that point of stoppage of play. For all game time changes, umpires must be notified 48 hours in advance by the home team using Arbiter. If a problem arises, or for extenuating circumstances contact the League Chairman who will contact BCOA.

10. TOBACCO RULE

Per National Rule 1, Section L - The use of any form of tobacco by a player, coach, manager or umpire while on the playing field, benches, in the bullpen or dugouts is prohibited. Any Individual violating this rule will be ejected from the game. See Rule 17 for Ejection Policy.

11. PROTESTS

A protest must be lodged with the umpire before the next pitch in an American Legion game. Any protests are to be in writing within 48 hours and in accordance with Department and National rules. A \$25 check made out to the BCALBL must accompany the written protest. The check will be returned if the protest is upheld by the league. Any further appeals must conform to Department and National rules. It must be for a rule interpretation and not an umpire's judgment call.

12. MASTER SCHEDULE I TOURNAMENT BID:

The League schedule is comprised of **xx** regular season games. Teams must complete 12 games to be eligible for tournament play.

The BCAL Baseball League is the Host League for the 2016 District Tournament. The League Champion will receive an automatic bid to the 2016 District 1 Tournament. The League bid will be given to the League Tournament Champion. Additional bids to the League Tournament Runner-up.

The # of State Tournament bids will be determined at the 2016 June State Meeting. Teams must guarantee 12 roster players for all tournament games at the District, State, Regional, and National Tournament.

The schedule is to be finalized at the 2016 May Monthly Baseball meeting. The BCALBL Season will officially begin on Saturday, June 4th. Teams may play earlier dates if approved by the league. Teams that play in AL approved tournaments must notify the league in advance, and in writing (email is acceptable). The Season will conclude on Thursday, July **xx**. Teams may use Saturday, July **XX**, and July **xx** for makeup games. Any changes to the Master Schedule are to be made between teams, but the League and the umpire assigner must be notified 3-days in advance. All teams are responsible for ensuring that the Regular Season schedule is complete by July **xx**. NO EXCEPTIONS.

13. STANDINGS

The winning team will receive 2 points for a win, 1 point for a forfeit win or for a tie. This will be used as a tie breaker should it become necessary. The tie breakers are as follows:

1. Record in Head to Head Play
2. Total runs scored in head to head to head play
3. Points awarded
4. Coin toss (unless it is for League Champion then a one game playoff will be played)

14. ENTERING SCORES

The winning team is responsible for entering scores onto the Pointstreak system on the league website within 24 hours of game conclusion. Instructions will be provided to all coaches by the 2016 May Monthly Baseball meeting.

15. RAIN DATE, MAKE-UPS.

The Home team is responsible for calling a game due to weather, and must notify the umpire assigner. The two teams shall re-schedule a rain out or make up before July **xx**. **NO EXCEPTIONS!**

16. TAUNTING

No players, coaches or managers will be allowed to taunt the opposing players, coaches or manager. The umpire will issue a warning before any ejections are made.

17. DISRESPECTFUL CONDUCT

No American Legion coach or team official can speak poorly in any respect of another American Legion team's members. Any infraction will result in a disciplinary hearing by the Executive Committee and possible suspensions, fines, etc.

18. EJECTION POLICY

First Ejection: One (1) **game automatic** suspension. Second Ejection: Two (2) game automatic suspensions. Third Ejection: Indefinite suspension based on a Baseball Committee hearing. The following penalties will occur for a Manager/Coach ejection: First ejection - A \$50 fine and a two game suspension for coaching on the field, but he cannot remain in the dugout. If no other coach is available the team will forfeit the game unless the other team and umpires agree to allow a player or designated person to coach. In the case of a non-player the person must be on the team roster and insured.

Second ejection – A \$100 fine and a hearing before the Baseball Committee

Third ejection - Penalty determined by Executive Committee hearing.

19. THREATS AND VIOLENCE

Any threats of verbal or physical violence or physical contact by players, coaches and/or umpires will be dealt with by the Executive Committee and punished in accordance with the severity of the incident.

