

## American Legion Virginia State Baseball Tournament • July 25-28, 2023

Umpire Notes #2:

Guys — a few things as we get ready for the week. I assume everyone is okay with their assignments ... if you have any issues, please let me know ASAP.

Along with this note is a link for the Zoom call we had last night, July 23. It's under 30 minutes, and we went over a few things. I do need to correct one thing that we said last night ...

**Re-Entry Rule:** I indicated that Legion uses the re-entry rule; while this is true – it is only permitted in the Junior Division tournament. We are the Senior Division, so we should not use the Re-Entry rule in our games.

Some other items ...

**Crew Chiefs:** On the schedule, I am sure you noted the “cc” by your name or a crew member. Here are the primary responsibilities of the game Crew Chief:

- Confirm with your crew your game and where you will meet; everyone should be at the game site *at least one hour before game time.*
- Conduct a pre-game, ensuring the crew is on the same page. As I mentioned before, we will use our standard 3-umpire system mechanics. I am okay with a crew making “crew adjustments.”
- If there is a situation on the field (manager asking for help on a possible misapplication of a rule); make sure all crew members get together. Crew Chief is the final decision maker if the crew is not in agreement (but I know crews will be in agreement).
- Everyone on the crew is responsible for ensuring a rule is not misapplied; our job is to get the call right ... not to make sure our egos aren't hurt.
- All other normal crew chief responsibilities.
- Crew Chiefs, at the end of the game, please send me a text/call to advise of the winner and score.

**Bat Check:** Before Games 1 thru 4 on Tuesday, we check the bats of each team. Field umpires will check the dugout on the side of the field they will be on. (On page 5 of the Senior AL Baseball Rule Book is their Bat Rule to provide guidance. Over the weekend, I sent a PDF of the rule book.

*Please note: While we are checking bats, we should also give the helmets a check. Any cracked helmets or helmets that do not have inside padding should be removed.*

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**Ejection:** If you have an ejection, the ejecting official and crew chief must provide a written report to me. Also, call me right after the game and let me know the team, personnel (name/number), and a brief synopsis. Review Tournament Rules for what is expected behavior and guidance. Also, review the AL rules book. In addition:

- anyone directing profanity at an umpire is cause for immediate ejection without warning
- throwing equipment in disgust/anger/displeasure is cause for immediate ejection without warning

We aim to keep players/managers in the game, so be professional – but don't enable or ignore abhorrent behavior like the one described above.

**Weather/Reschedule:** If we have a weather issue or another issue that forces the tournament director to reschedule games ... I will keep you on the game you are assigned. If your game gets rescheduled to a day/time you cannot work, please let me know ASAP.

**Group Text:** I will set up a group text to help our communication.

### **Reminders:**

The game fee is \$95. I plan to pay you before or right after your game. If we miss each other, I can VENMO your fee.

Our uniforms will be the standard college MAC ... blue/black panel shirts, MAC hats, etc.

Games are 7 innings; 10-run mercy rule after 5 innings; extra innings will start with a man on second (last legal batter from the previous inning; coaches may sub if desired). Official Baseball Rules with DH for pitcher only. (See AL Baseball Rules)

Note: Their Force-Play Slide rule is based on the college version

Mound Visits: Old OBR visits; must substitute pitcher on the second trip in the same inning.

FYI: Tournament Rules take precedence over AL Rules if there is a discrepancy.

I have sent the following items/PDFs in previous emails. If you need any of these, I have put a download link (with last night's video) on this page –

<https://claytondesigngroup.com/2023-state-umpires/>

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- ALB Department Tournament Policies - these are the ones we had from last year; they are still valid for this year (please review; there is information about protests, conduct on the field, general tournament rules, etc.) – any questions, let me know.
- ALB VA Senior Tournament Bracket - Updated with teams
- Team Rosters & Pairings
- 2023 AL Baseball Rule Book Senior Division (sent separately via email)
- Umpire roster – list of all umpires working during the week
- Umpire rotation for the week; please review and let me know if you have any issues with your assignment.

Any questions, please let me know.

Jim :)