

CONSTITUTION BY LAWS TOURNAMENT RULES



NATIONAL AMATEUR
BASEBALL FEDERATION



®

NABF
Celebrating
over 100 years
of Sandlot
Baseball

NATIONAL AMATEUR
BASEBALL FEDERATION



The National Amateur Baseball Federation (NABF) has partnered with the Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) Association in the fight against this horrific disease, and in spreading knowledge and awareness of the disease as well. The ALS Association is the only national nonprofit organization fighting **Lou Gehrig's disease** on every front – supporting cutting edge research, enhancing access to clinical care, and promoting better public policies.

Our nationwide network of Chapters comprise one team with a single mission: to discover treatments and a cure for ALS, and to serve, advocate for, and empower people with ALS. ALS (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis) is a progressive neurodegenerative disease that affects nerve cells in the brain and the spinal cord. Eventually, people with ALS lose the ability to initiate and control muscle movement, which often leads to total paralysis and death within two to five years of diagnosis.

Visit ALSA.org to learn more about the tremendous work being done throughout the Association. We will continue our work to help people with ALS live their lives to the fullest while we search for new treatments and a cure.

www.ALSA.org

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2023-2024 NABF Officers

President

Paul Wolf
Buffalo, New York

3rd Vice President

William Bellenger
Lyndhurst, New Jersey

1st Vice President

Robert Chiara
Malverne, New York

Executive Director

Derek J. Topik
Brandon, Mississippi

2nd Vice President

Fred LeSage
Bourbonnais, Illinois

Immediate Past President

Connie Brown
Troy, Ohio

Executive Director Emeritus

Charles M. Blackburn, Jr.
Bowie, Maryland

2023-2024 NABF Directors

Charles Avery
New City, NY

Richard Brown
Fort Wayne, IN

Pat Eaken
Perrysburg, OH

Bob Mingo
Youngstown, OH

Jason Booth
Ontario, Canada

John Cannistra
West Islip, NY

John Mengelkamp
Willoughby, OH

Terry Newton
Battle Creek, MI

Connie Brown
Troy, OH

Rick DiMuzio
Poland, OH

Glenn McNish
Knoxville, TN

Scott Ruark
Struthers, OH

2023-2024 Chairman of Standing Committees

Ways and Means

John Mengelkamp
Willoughby, OH

Awards

Robert Chiara
Malverne, NY

Public Relations

Jack Butler
South Euclid, OH

Franchise Membership

Derek Topik
Brandon, MS

Rules and Regulations

Greg Reddington
Louisville, KY

Lifetime Members and Past Presidents

Charles Blackburn (Maryland) – 1967
Lou Tiberi (Ohio) – 1989
Robert Frellick (Michigan) – 1991-92
Frederick Feaver III (Ohio) – 1995-96
Dino Costanzo (Ohio) – 2005-06

David Jerome (Michigan) – 2008-10
Greg Reddington (Kentucky) – 2011-12
Derek J. Topik (Mississippi) – 2017-18
Bob Mingo (Ohio) – 2019-20
Connie Brown (Ohio) – 2021-22

Past Executive Directors

Frank P. "Doik" Novario (Ohio) – 1914-1964
Ron McMinn (Michigan) – 1964-1987
Charles M. Blackburn, Jr. (Maryland) – 1987-2021

2023-2024 NABF Division Directors

Charles M. Blackburn Major Division (Unlimited Age)

Robert Chiara
25 Scarcliff Drive
Malverne, NY 11565
516-599-6694 (home)
516-510-9289 (cell)
bronxchamps61@aol.com

College Division (22 & Under)

John Mengelkamp
38255 Westminster Lane
Willoughby, OH 44094
440-725-9293 (cell)
diamondleaguebaseball@gmail.com

Senior Division (18 & Under)

Connie Brown
703 West Market Street
Troy, OH 45373
937-339-4383, 937-474-7344
ibrown@woh.rr.com

Freshman Division (12 & Under) Rookie Division (10 & Under)

Charles Avery
13 Cortland Drive
New City, NY 10956
845-222-6928 (cell)
chucker54@aol.com

High School Division (17 & Under)

Glenn McNish
924 View Harbour Road
Knoxville, TN 37934
865-766-7818 (cell)
buzz.mcnish@gmail.com

Junior Division (16 & Under)

Scott Ruark
65 Main Street
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Sophomore Division (14 & Under)

Aaron Myers
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Special Events Director

NABF National Classic Championship of Tournaments

Connie Brown
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ibrown@woh.rr.com

Special Committees

NABF Tournament News

Jack Butler, Editor
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South Euclid, OH 44121
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NABF History

Charles M. Blackburn, Jr.
Robert Frellick
Greg Reddington

NABF Background Information

The National Amateur Baseball Federation was founded at an organizational meeting in Louisville, Kentucky in 1914. It is the oldest national amateur baseball organization in existence and the first amateur baseball group to require membership by league, rather than by individual teams.

Year after year since 1914, in times of peace and prosperity despite two World Wars, the Great Depression and several recessions, the National Amateur Baseball Federation has operated continuously, providing the on-field excitement of the **NABF** national tournament games.

The **NABF** is a nonprofit organization run by a number of Officers and Directors from all parts of the United States. These volunteers help keep the organization running smoothly while regional and national championship tournaments are held coast to coast. The **NABF** hosts area regional tournaments and eight national championship series a year.

Tournaments for league members range from 10 and under through unlimited age divisions. Below is a list of our eight age groups and their classifications:

(10 and under)	Rookie Division
(12 and under)	Freshman Division
(14 and under)	Sophomore Division
(16 and under)	Junior Division
(17 and under)	High School Division
(18 and under)	Senior Division
(22 and under)	College Division
(Unlimited age)	Charles M. Blackburn Major Division*

NABF National Invitational Classics

(Ages Seven and Under through Unlimited [Charles M. Blackburn Major] Division)

The **NABF** is offering unprecedented competitive opportunity to athletes throughout the world. The **NABF** will host national invitational baseball tournaments for individual teams in various age divisions. The **NABF** National Invitational Classics are in addition to the Regional and World Series Championship games already being conducted by the **NABF** and do not replace existing programs. The Classics are organized in a pool play format leading up to a final four Olympic-style Championship.

* At the 2015 NABF Annual Meeting in Baltimore, MD, the Board of Directors moved to change the name of the Major (Unlimited) Division to the Charles M. Blackburn Major (Unlimited) Division. The Delegates approved the motion on November 7, 2015.

Note: Additional Classics Tournament Sites may be offered at a later date this year. Please review our website at www.nabf.com and future **NABF** Newsletters for updated information.

Special Events/National Classic Championship Tournaments Director

Connie Brown

937-474-7344 • ibrown@woh.rr.com

703 West Market Street • Troy, OH 45373

Register your team online at www.nabf.com for the 2023 season. Registration fee is required to participate in **NABF** Classic World Series Qualifiers and **NABF** Classic World Series Tournaments.

NABF

2023 REGIONAL and WORLD SERIES DATES

(NABF Franchise League Programs)

Approved by NABF Board of Directors, November 12, 2022

Age	Registration	Play Begins
Rookie Division (10U) Sloatsburg, NY Knoxville, TN	Fri, June 16 Thurs, July 13	Fri-Sun, June 16-18 Fri-Thurs, July 14-20
11U Sloatsburg, NY	TBA	TBA
Freshman Division (12U) Sloatsburg, NY Troy, OH Knoxville, TN	Fri, June 16 TBA Thurs, July 13	Fri-Sun, June 16-18 TBA Fri-Thurs, July 14-20
13U Troy, OH (Classic)	TBA	TBA
Sophomore Division (14U) World Series, Struthers, OH Toledo, OH (Classic)	Wed, July 12 TBA	Thurs-Sun, July 13-16 TBA
15U Classic World Series O'Fallon, IL	Wed, July 12	Thurs-Sun, July 13-16
Junior Division (16U) World Series, Struthers, OH	Wed, July 12	Thurs-Sun, July 13-16
High School Division (17U) World Series, Knoxville, TN	Wed, July 19	Thurs-Sun, July 20-23
Senior Division (18U) World Series, Struthers, OH	Wed, July 19	Thurs-Sun, July 20-23
College Division (22U) World Series, Sandusky, OH	Wed, July 26	Thurs-Sun, July 27-30
Major Division (Unlimited) Regional, Buffalo, NY Regional, Fort Wayne, IN Regional, Hackensack, NJ Regional, Kankakee, IL Regional, Manistee, MI Regional, Youngstown, OH World Series, Battle Creek, MI	Wed, July 26 Wed, July 26 Wed, July 26 Wed, July 26 Wed, July 26 Wed, July 26 Wed, July 26 Wed, Aug 2	Thurs-Sun, July 27-30 Thurs-Sun, July 27-30 Thurs-Sun, July 27-30 Thurs-Sun, July 27-30 Thurs-Sun, July 27-30 Thurs-Sun, July 27-30 Thurs-Sun, July 27-30 Wed-Sun, Aug 2-6

Note: Some Regional and World Series dates may be scheduled to start on dates other than those shown due to local conditions and availability of playing fields. (Review assignment information packet for each respective tournament site.) World Series and Regional Tournaments may utilize the Modified Round Robin Schedule as described under Official **NABF** Tournament Rules when practical in place of the double elimination bracket system.

NABF Registered Trademark



NABF registered trademark(s) and tradename(s) of the National Amateur Baseball Federation, Inc. may not be used without the written consent of the Executive Director of The National Amateur Baseball Federation, Inc. The right to use **NABF** marks and logo in advertising and promotions of **NABF** events is limited and in no way shall be extended for marketing services, products, properties, trade promotions, sale of souvenir shirts, hats and novelty items without the written consent of the National Amateur Baseball Federation, Inc.

The logo patch or shoulder emblem of the **NABF** may be worn on the uniform shirts or hats of all teams participating in an **NABF** Regional or National Championship Tournament series. (Rule 9.04) **NABF** franchise member associations may use the **NABF** logo on their letterhead in conjunction with the name of their organization and their logo trademark. **NABF** member organizations hosting an event under contract agreement with the National Baseball Federation, Inc. may use the **NABF** emblem (trademark) for the promotion of an **NABF** tournament as described in the event agreement only.

Constitution and By-Laws

Constitution, By-Laws and Tournament Rules

2023

Revised November 12, 2022, by the Board of Directors and Delegates after receiving recommendations from the Franchise Holders and the Rules and Regulations Committee.

The National Amateur Baseball Federation has a proud history of helping sandlot baseball grow. This book is published in the hope that it will prove helpful to those who are interested in the promotion, organization and administration of amateur baseball leagues. The experiences and knowledge the **NABF** has gained from over one hundred years of continuous operation are passed on to you with the hope that it will benefit you in operating a program in the nation's number one sport, baseball.

We welcome your requests for further information and will be happy to assist you on matters pertaining to **NABF** baseball.

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Constitution and By-Laws

Article I

Name and Object

Section 1. Name. This organization shall be known as the National Amateur Baseball Federation, Incorporated.

Section 2. Object. Its object is to promote, promulgate, and perpetuate Amateur Baseball throughout the United States; to surround it with proper safeguards; to aid and assist in the fostering, developing and regulating of local associations in accordance with the spirit of Sportsmanship, Honesty and Fair Play; to aid and assist in the furthering of annual tournaments; and to foster an Annual Convention for friendly, open discussion for the purposes outlined in the foregoing.

Section 3. Dissolution. Upon the dissolution of the National Amateur Baseball Federation, the Board of Directors after paying or making provisions for payment of all the liabilities of the National Amateur Baseball Federation, dispose of all of the assets of the National Amateur Baseball Federation exclusively for the purposes of the National Amateur Baseball Federation in such manner, or to such organization or organizations organized and operated exclusively for charitable, educational, religious, or scientific purposes as shall at the time qualify as an exempt organization under 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law) as the Board of Directors shall determine.

NOTE: The National Amateur Baseball Federation was incorporated as a Non-Profit Corporation on the ninth day of December, 1966 in conformity with Act 327 Public Acts of 1931 amended in the State of Michigan.

Section 3A. Net Earnings. No part of net earnings of the National Amateur Baseball Federation shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its members, Directors, Officers, or other private persons, except that the National Amateur Baseball Federation shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of purposes set forth in the Articles of Incorporation of the National Amateur Baseball Federation.

Article II

Membership and Fees

Section 1. Who May Be Members. The membership of this Federation shall be composed of associations supporting and fostering Amateur Baseball Leagues, and operating one (1) or more active league association(s).

NOTE: To qualify as an active Franchise Member of the NABF, a Franchise must have at least one league of four or more teams in their age class, hereinafter provided for and which conducts a regular schedule of interlocking games to determine their local champion. In addition, each franchise must pay both their annual Franchise Membership Fee and Tournament Fee(s) to continue their membership in good standing. An association not taking part in annual NABF League Competition will be considered a non-voting association member eligible for associate member status. (See Article II Section 6.)

Constitution and By-Laws

Section 2. Player Classification. The classification of players by affiliated associations shall conform to this Federation's Rules for tournament play.

Section 2A. Application and Fees. Application for membership must be sent to the Executive Director with full and specific details relative to the petitioning organization, with names of its officers, a copy of its Constitution and Bylaws, together with such information as would give a general survey of the baseball situation in the petitioning city, and must be accompanied by the franchise fee of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00).

Section 2B. Tournament Fees. All franchise holders must pay a tournament fee of three hundred seventy-five dollars (\$375.00) for each regional tournament in which they intend to participate. The tournament fee for a champion team representing a franchise holder assigned directly to a World Series must pay six hundred seventy-five dollars (\$675.00) for each World Series in which they have approval to participate.

All tournament fees shall be due and payable to the **NABF** on or before May 15th of the current year. After May 15th, a late penalty of twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) will be added to each tournament fee.

NOTE: Tournament fees received after May 15th are subject to rejection in cases of administrative or tournament site restrictions for the various age division tournament events (see rule 6.01 tournament eligibility and restriction of tournament fee refunds).

Section 2C. Additional Team Option. Franchise holders having a league in the Major Division having eight (8) or more teams in their class, conducting a regular series of games or two (2) designated divisions of four (4) or more teams may have the option to enter a second team in **NABF** tournament play with approval of the franchise committee chairman. Franchise holders having a league in Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, High School, Senior, and College Divisions having eight (8) more more teams in their class, conducting a regular series of games may have the option to enter two (2) or more teams in **NABF** tournament play with approval of the franchise committee chairman.

Section 2D. Tournament Site Fees. During the Annual Meeting of the **NABF**, the Board of Directors may approve additional special fee(s) to be collected by the host organization, under contract with the **NABF**, hosting an annual regional or national championship event. Such fee(s) may be team or player registration fee(s) or playing field access fee(s) necessary to offset the expenses for conducting a tournament on playing field having local government restrictions on solicitation for contributions/donations, concession sales, etc. The Board of Directors shall designate limitations on the amount permitted for such fee(s). (The Executive Director shall notify all regional and national championship series tournament host organizations the annual approved fee(s) permitted under Article II, Section 2D, above.)

Section 3. Dispute of Franchise. No association may be represented by more than one franchise. The Board of Directors of this Federation shall determine in case of a dispute the proper representation from an **NABF** franchise member organization.

Constitution and By-Laws

Section 4. Continuation of Franchise. Franchise member organizations shall signify their intention to continue the operation of their **NABF** franchise by notifying the **NABF** Executive Director in writing, on or before May 15 of the current year. The annual franchise fee shall be two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00) payable before May 15. After May 15 the franchise fee shall be increased to two hundred seventy five dollars (\$275.00) payable and due not later than June 1 of the current year. Members in good standing may be granted an extension for renewal of their franchise. Membership shall be terminated not later than May 15 of the current year.

Section 5. Termination of Membership. The membership of any association may be terminated by:

- (A) Resignation.
- (B) Failure to comply with this Constitution and By-Laws.
- (C) Failure to pay franchise fee on or before May 15 of the current year.
(See Section 2B and Section 4.)
- (D) Act of the Board of Directors.
- (E) Failure to fulfill any commitments, or by acts detrimental to this Federation.
- (F) Failure to pay tournament fee(s) as an active franchise member.

Section 6. Non-Voting Associate Membership. The **NABF** may extend non-voting patron membership to individuals, organizations and independent teams not directly affiliated with any **NABF** franchised member association. Annual dues are thirty-five dollars (\$35.00) for an associate member. Non-franchised teams participating in **NABF** Classic, Regional or World Series events will pay a fee, to be determined by the National Office and the Host Site (Contract), in addition to the entry fee.

Section 7. Umpire Member. The **NABF** shall extend non-voting membership to those who have registered and have been approved as tournament umpires for the **NABF**. These individuals shall be listed on the roster of the "Umpires Bureau". Approved umpires shall receive a Certificate of Membership and an official uniform patch each year. Annual dues, to be determined by the Board of Directors, shall be renewed by June 1 of each year.

Section 8. Honorary Lifetime Member. A Past President having ten or more years service with the **NABF**, and eligible under the conditions set forth in Article IV, Section 1C, may be admitted to this distinguished group.

Article III Officers and Their Duties

Section 1A. Officers. The officers shall be President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Third Vice President, Executive Director, and shall rank in this order.

Section 1B. Elected Officer Restrictions. No one may hold office, as an elected officer in the **NABF** who is connected in any capacity with a professional or

Constitution and By-Laws

amateur baseball club, (excluding high school, college or international/national amateur team) without the approval of the **NABF** Board of Directors. Further, no one may hold office as an elected officer in this federation who holds another elected or appointed office with any other professional or amateur national organization other than the **NABF** and/or a local amateur baseball organization which is a franchised member of the **NABF**. Officers may hold appointed or elected positions with national or international baseball organizations provided such membership has the approval of the Board of Directors, with the understanding such association is for the benefit of the **NABF**. In addition, an elected officer also serving his respective **NABF** franchise league/team having a team competing in an **NABF** sanctioned tournament shall be excused from the tournament protest committee.

Section 2A. Term of Office. The President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, and Third Vice President shall hold office for two years or until their successors are elected and qualified. No member shall serve more than one consecutive elected term (two years) as President. All elected officers shall be members of the Board of Directors.

Section 2B. Executive Director. The Executive Director shall serve at the will of the membership and once elected may be removed by a three-quarters (75%) majority vote of the membership at any meeting, annual or special, provided that all members are given sixty (60) days notice that a vote for removal will be held.

Section 3. Duties of Executive Director. The Executive Director shall keep a true record of all the proceedings of this Federation and the Board of Directors and such records and accounts as the Board of Directors may determine. He shall receive all monies or other property paid or donated to this Federation and shall disburse said funds. He shall keep a true and accurate account of all receipts and disbursements and submit a report at any regular meeting. He shall furnish a bond for the faithful performance of his duties in such a sum as named by the Board of Directors, the premium to be paid by this Federation. He may be compensated for his services, the amount to be determined by the Board of Directors.

Section 4. Nominations, Elections. The nomination of Officers (as named in Article III, Section 2A) and Board of Directors shall be made by a committee of five (5), appointed by the President. The nominating committee shall report their list of candidates to the general meeting of delegates, and after the reading of said report, additional nominations may be made from the floor. Whenever more than one person is nominated for any office, the election shall be held separately and by secret ballot.

Section 5. Officers Functions. The function of the Officers shall be prescribed in Robert's Rules of Order, Revised.

Section 6. Vacancies. In the event a vacancy occurs in any executive office, the President shall have the authority to fill such vacancy for the duration of the term of office.

Constitution and By-Laws

Article IV Board of Directors

Section 1A. Board of Directors. The Board of Directors shall consist of the elected officers of this Federation, twelve members elected at large, the Chairman of each standing committee, the immediate Past President and Past Presidents in good standing. Any member of the Board of Directors absent for two (2) consecutive annual meetings shall immediately default his/her membership on the Board of Directors at the second missed meeting, except for extenuating circumstances, as approved by the majority of the Board of Directors. The Executive Director is responsible for recording their attendance records.

Section 1B. Past Presidents. A Past President absent for two (2) consecutive annual meetings shall immediately default his/her membership on the Board of Directors at the second missed meeting, except for extenuating circumstances, as approved by the majority of the Board of Directors. The Executive Director is responsible for recording their attendance records.

Section 1C. Honorary Lifetime Members. If a Past President has ten (10) or more years of service with the **NABF**, and not a member of the Board of Directors, he/she is eligible for membership in a distinguished group known as “Honorary Lifetime Members”. A Past President, not on the Board of Directors, may be nominated for this award at any regular or special meeting of the Board of Directors. Admission to this group shall be by a majority vote of those Directors present. Honorary Lifetime Members shall:

- (A) Enjoy the privilege of attending any board meeting;
- (B) Be presented a plaque appropriately awarded bearing the inscription “Honorary Lifetime Member **NABF**” and the year elected. The plaque shall be at least 9x12 inches and shall be uniform in every respect;
- (C) The plaque will be presented at the annual meeting.

However, they will:

- (D) Not have voting privileges, nor hold elected office;
- (E) Not be counted in the maximum count required for a quorum.

Section 2. Board of Directors and Their Duties. The Board of Directors shall have general charge of the affairs, funds, policies, property and membership of this Federation.

Section 3. Division and Regional Directors. The Executive Director of the **NABF** shall appoint a Divisional Director for each **NABF** Age Division and a Regional Director for each **NABF** State Region.

Section 3A. Division Directors. Division Directors shall report directly to the Executive Director. Specifically they will be responsible for:

- (A) Supervising their respective age division National Championship (World Series).
- (B) Assure the Regional Tournament Directors are following all rules and procedures required to conduct an **NABF** National Regional Tournament.
- (C) Assure all administrative reports required are completed on schedule and forwarded to National Headquarters.

Constitution and By-Laws

Section 3B. Regional Directors. Regional Directors are responsible for the promotion of our **NABF** program in the best image to the public, in order to encourage interest needed in carrying out the **NABF** goals, benefits, and operations. Regional Directors are expected to assist potential member organizations or leagues in their assigned state(s) in becoming members of the **NABF**. Regional Directors report to the Executive Director.

Section 4. Membership in Local Association. All members of the Board of Directors may be, but do not have to be, members of an organization holding an **NABF** franchise.

Section 5. Special Events Director (NABF National Classics Baseball Tournaments). The Executive Director of the **NABF** shall appoint a Director of Special Events. The Special Events Director will report directly to the Executive Director and shall be responsible for the management and coordination of all activities required to conduct a **NABF** National/International events program(s) including baseball seminars, coaches clinics, and invitational tournaments.

Article V Meetings

Section 1. Annual Meeting. The annual meeting of this Federation shall be held on the second Friday and Saturday of November, unless otherwise determined by the Board of Directors. A notice of the time and place of the annual meeting shall be sent to each member of this Federation, at least forty-five (45) days prior to the date of such meeting. Officers so elected are to take office immediately following the adjournment of such meeting.

Section 2. Special Meetings. Special meetings of this Federation may be held at the call of the President upon the written request of five members of this Federation in good standing. Four (4) days notice shall be required.

Section 3. Quorum. Ten franchise members shall constitute a quorum for any regular or special meeting of this Federation.

Section 4. Who May Vote. Each association that has qualified for membership under Article II and that has been accepted by the Board of Directors of this Federation shall be entitled to two (2) votes which may be divided equally by no more than two (2) delegates, provided, however, each President shall be entitled to active participation in the annual meeting, provided, however, that he shall not have a vote unless he is a delegate of some association. Delegates may represent one franchised member only.

Section 5. Annual Meeting of Directors. The Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors shall be held preceding the Annual Meeting of Franchise Delegates of this Federation.

Constitution and By-Laws

Article VI Standing Committees

Section 1. Committees Listed. There shall be five (5) standing committees and the members of these committees shall be appointed by the President each year.

The committees shall be:

- (A) **Franchise Committee.** The Franchise Committee shall consider applications for franchises and make recommendations to the proper officers.
- (B) **Rules and Regulations Committee.** The Rules and Regulations Committee shall consider changes in the rules and matters of interpretation and the eligibility of players submitted to it by the members, and prepare and propose amendments to the Board of Directors at the Annual Meeting.
- (C) **Public Relations Committee.** A Public Relations Committee shall contact organizations and other persons interested in Amateur Baseball for the promotion of leagues, tournaments, etc., and such other duties which may be directed by the President.
- (D) **Awards Committee.** The Awards Committee shall consider applications for specific awards in recognition of service to the **NABF** and amateur baseball and will determine the recipients of **NABF** Scholarship Awards.
- (E) **Ways and Means Committee.** The Ways and Means Committee shall consider methods and resources for raising the necessary revenues for the expenses of the NABF and accomplishment of defraying expenses. Members of the Ways and Means Committee may be considered to serve on the Audit Committee by the President, annually.

Article VII Rules and Interpretations

Section 1. Playing Rules. The playing rules of the National Association of Professional Leagues shall be the official rules of this Federation and tournament play, except when they may conflict with Federation rules. The interpretation of playing rules shall be that as defined by the 2022 Official Rules of Major League Baseball.

Section 2. Rules of Order. Robert's Rules of Order, revised, shall govern all meetings and parliamentary proceedings of the National Amateur Baseball Federation.

Section 3. Who Shall Interpret? The President shall interpret the Constitution and By-Laws and Tournament Rules of this Federation.

Article VIII Local Government

Section 1. Local Associations. The Constitution and By-Laws for the governing and regulation of the respective associations shall not be at variance with the Constitution of this Federation or the spirit thereof as interpreted by the Board of Directors.

Constitution and By-Laws

Article IX Proviso

Section 1. Temporary By-Laws and Tournament Rules. Temporary By-Laws and Tournament Rules not inconsistent herewith, may be adopted by the Officers of this Federation to facilitate the carrying out of the spirit of this Constitution when there is no specific written rule to handle a situation.

Article X Proposed Changes

Section 1. Procedure. The Constitution and By-Laws and Tournament Rules of this Federation may be amended, altered, or repealed by the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of the members present at the Annual Meeting, provided however, that no action may be taken on any proposal unless it shall have been submitted in writing to the Executive Director of this Federation at least forty-five (45) days before the Annual Meeting and copies of such proposals distributed by the Executive Director to all franchise holders prior to the Annual Meeting.

Tournament Rules

0.00 - NABF

0.01 Federation and NABF. Federation and **NABF**, as used in this Constitution and By-Laws and Tournament Rules, stands for National Amateur Baseball Federation, Incorporated.

0.02 Non-Profit Corporation. The National Amateur Baseball Federation was incorporated as a Non-Profit Corporation on the Ninth day of December, 1966 in conformity with Act 327 Public Acts of 1931 amended in the State of Michigan.

0.03 The Pronoun “He”. The use of the pronoun “he” or other forms such as “his”, “him”, “himself”, etc., throughout this Constitution, ByLaws and Tournament Rules, is to be construed to mean either sex, male and female.

0.04 Verbal or Written Decisions. All tournaments under the jurisdiction of the **NABF** shall be conducted under the rules as set forth on the foregoing pages, and no Officer and/or member of the **NABF** shall have the authority to change, alter or make any decision, verbal or written, that is contrary to these rules. Any change in the Tournament Rules of the **NABF** must be in compliance with Article X, Section 1 of the Constitution of the National Amateur Baseball Federation.

0.05 Playing Rules. The playing rules of the National Association of Professional Leagues (Official Baseball Rules) shall be the official rules of this Federation and tournament play except when they may conflict with Federation rules. The interpretation of playing rules shall be that as defined by the 2022 Official Rules of Major League Baseball.

1.00 Annual Tournaments

1.01 Annual Tournaments for College, Senior, Junior, Sophomore, and Freshman Divisions. The National Amateur Baseball Federation shall conduct annual tournaments for those affiliated associations having:

1. four (4) or more teams in their class, hereinafter provided for, and which conduct a regular series of games to determine their local championships in each class, and
2. which four (4) or more teams finish the season.
3. And for non-voting associate members
4. **NABF** franchise members have priority

1.02 Annual Tournaments for Rookie Division. The National Amateur Baseball Federation shall conduct annual tournaments for those affiliated associations having four (4) or more teams in this division in order to qualify for a bid to the regional and/or World Series.

1.03 Annual Tournaments for College Division. The National Amateur Baseball Federation shall conduct annual tournaments for those affiliated associations having:

1. at least one team playing a complete regular season schedule in a Major Division League and

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2. four (4) or more teams in this division, hereinafter provided for, and which conduct a regular series of games to determine their local championships and in which four (4) or more teams finish the season.

1.04 Annual Tournaments for High School Division. The National Amateur Baseball Federation shall conduct annual tournaments for those affiliated associations having:

1. at least one team playing a complete regular season schedule in a Senior Division League and
2. four (4) or more teams in this division, hereinafter provided for, and which conduct a regular series of games to determine their local championships and in which four (4) or more teams finish the season.

1.05 NABF Special Events Program(s). The National Amateur Baseball Federation, with approval from the Board of Directors, shall conduct National and International Invitational Tournaments for affiliated associations in good standing. Such special event tournament(s) shall not be in conflict with the approved dates of the **NABF** annual National Regional or National Championship series of games for those age groups described under **NABF** Rules 1.01 thru 1.04.

1.06A NABF Classics World Series - Special Events. The official playing rules of the National Amateur Baseball Federation (official baseball rules) shall be the general playing rules for the **NABF** Classics, except when they may conflict with special **NABF** Classics Rules, as may be utilized for various age groups (i.e., player substitution rules, number of innings played, time limits, etc.). Such rules must be approved by the **NABF** Special Events Committee and made known to managers/coaches of team participants.

1.06B NABF Classic Champions. **NABF** Classic winners will get a direct bid to the **NABF** World Series in the assigned age group. The winning team or **NABF** Classic host must pay the six hundred fifty dollar (\$650.00) World Series fee. This will be addressed and explained in the **NABF** Classic agreements prepared by the **NABF** Executive Director (National Office).

Section 2. Player Classification. The classification of players by affiliated associations shall conform to this Federation's Rules for tournament play.

2.00 - Sites, Conditions, Hosts, and Rules

2.01 Sites and Conditions. The Board of Directors shall determine the place and conditions under which the tournaments shall be conducted.

2.02 Assignment to Regional Sites. The Executive Director shall assign each franchise members league/team to a designated National Regional tournament site. Once the franchise has been assigned to a designated Regional tournament site, no change may be made without the written approval from the Executive Director. A team assigned to a National Regional tournament by the Executive Director must contact tournament Director two days in advance of tournament starting date with the following:

- A. Team Name
- B. Manager's Name
- C. Intent to participate in assigned tournament

Tournament Rules

2.03 Local Elimination Series. The officials of each association affiliated with the **NABF**, shall have complete charge prior to and during the Local Elimination Series conducted by the association, and all arrangements for hosting any **NABF** tournament under the auspices of the Federation.

2.04 Tournament Host Contract. All franchises agreeing to host a National or Regional Tournament must formally agree through a written contract with the **NABF**.

2.05 Special Tournament Rules. Special Tournament Rules, from the point of necessity, may be set up by the Tournament Committee subject to the approval of the Executive Director.

2.06 Association's Transportation Responsibilities. Associations participating in all **NABF** tournaments shall provide for the transportation to their respective teams to and from the point of housing in communities holding the tournaments.

2.07 Host City Responsibilities.

(A) Free Housing and Meals. It shall be optional for the association hosting any **NABF** tournament to provide free housing and/or meals for visiting teams.

(B) Umpires, Scorers, Fields, Baseballs, Headquarters, Trophies, Meeting Rooms and Lodging Information. The franchise hosting any **NABF** tournament will be required to provide the location of and rates for suitable living quarters for participating teams, a pre-tournament meeting room, whatever trophies are required by the **NABF** Executive Director, at least two (2) competent umpires per game, competent official scorers, sufficient tournament maintained fields, sufficient new top quality identical baseballs and headquarters for the Tournament Committee. (Tournament Headquarters includes complete motel and food accommodations for the Tournament Committee.) The **NABF** may agree, if funds are available, to assist in tournament expenses.

2.08 Teams From Franchise Hosting Tournaments.

(A) Teams from a Franchise Hosting a Regional Tournament

A Franchise conducting a Regional tournament may elect to enter up to two (2) teams providing that each team meets all eligibility requirements. Only one of the two (2) teams will be known as the Host Team.

(B) Teams from a Franchise Hosting a National Tournament

A Franchise conducting a National Tournament may elect to enter one team in the tournament providing that the team meets all eligibility requirements and originates from the franchise conducting the tournament. If the National Tournament has twelve or more teams registered, then the host team may elect to enter a Second team providing that the second team meets all eligibility requirements and originated from the franchise conducting the tournament. Only one of the two (2) teams will be known as the Host Team.

2.09 Special Event Contract Agreement. Any organization or association agreeing to host and/or conduct any **NABF** Special Event Program and/or license agreement, to do so must formally agree through a written contract with the National Amateur Baseball Federation, Inc.

Tournament Rules

2.10 Franchise Member Responsibilities. Once a franchised member of the **NABF** is assigned to a designated tournament site under rule 2.02, it is the responsibility of the officers of the respective organizations to assure all **NABF** tournament rules, special instructions and any **NABF** sanctions are reviewed, understood and complied with by the team(s) representing their organization at **NABF** events. Further, it is the responsibility of each franchise member to assure the team(s) representing their organization in an **NABF** event will advance to the next level of play if they win and qualify for the National Championship Series. Failure of an **NABF** Franchised Member to comply with this rule shall subject such franchise and/or team(s) to sanctions by the Board of Directors. Such sanctions may include (but not limited to) suspension of the franchise membership and/or team(s). In addition, any monetary loss by the host tournament organization, as determined by the Board of Directors, paid prior to future participation in any **NABF** event. Prior to the tournament the team manager must complete an intent agreement form declaring they will advance their team to the next level of **NABF** tournament play, representing their **NABF** franchise member organization in the National Championship Series, if their team earns the right to advance. Failure to complete the form will disqualify such teams from participation in the assigned **NABF** tournament.

3.00 - Player Eligibility

3.01 Charles M. Blackburn Major Division (Unlimited). Players of unlimited age are eligible for participation in the Major Tournament.

3.02 College Division (22 & Under). Players who have not reached their twenty-third (23rd) birthday prior to January 1 of the current year are eligible for participation in the College Tournament.

3.03 Senior Division (18 & Under). Players who have not reached their nineteenth (19th) birthday prior to January 1 of the current year are eligible for participation in the Senior Tournament. In addition, current high school graduates are eligible. No player who has reached age twenty (20) is eligible. No more than three (3) players who have reached their nineteenth (19th) birthday shall be allowed on any team roster.

3.04 High School Division (17 & Under). Players who have not reached their eighteenth (18th) birthday prior to January 1 of the current year are eligible for participation in the High School Tournament.

3.05 Junior Division (16 & Under). Players who have not reached their seventeenth (17th) birthday prior to May 1 of the current year are eligible for participation in the Junior Tournament.

3.06 Sophomore Division (14 & Under). Players who have not reached their fifteenth (15th) birthday prior to May 1 of the current year are eligible for participation in the Sophomore Tournament.

3.07 Freshman Division (12 & Under). Players who have not reached their thirteenth (13th) birthday prior to May 1 of the current year are eligible for participation in the Freshman Tournament (see rule 9.01).

3.08 Rookie Division (10 & Under). Players who have not reached their eleventh (11th) birthday prior to May 1 of the current year are eligible for participation in the Rookie Tournament.

Tournament Rules

3.09 May Play in Other Tournaments. Players may participate in tournaments other than those under the jurisdiction of the **NABF**, provided such dual participation has the approval of the local governing **NABF** franchise holder.

3.10 Players Must Appear on Team Roster. No player will be permitted to compete in any **NABF** tournament whose name does not appear on his team's roster on or before July 15 of the current year.

3.11A Players In More Than One Association. A player registered to teams in more than one (1) association shall be eligible to participate in a tournament for whichever team he signs his "Tournament Player Contract". If he signs more than one Tournament Player Contract, he shall be ineligible for any **NABF** tournament play that season.

3.11B Teams Competing in More Than One NABF Franchise League(s). Any team registered with more than one **NABF** franchise, playing in an interlocking schedule of games as described under Rules 1.01, 1.02, 1.03 and 1.04 must notify the **NABF** national office and the Franchise Member(s) in writing (Form Letter) which league they will compete in to qualify for **NABF** tournament play. Notification, in writing, must be provided by the team manager to the **NABF** and respective league(s) officers by June 1st of the current season. Failure to comply will make such team(s) ineligible for participation in an **NABF** Regional or National Championship Tournament during the current season.

NOTE: A team, regardless of the team name(s), is defined under Rule 12.02 authorized team personnel (see Rule 4.02 and 6.09).

PENALTY: Failure to comply with Rule 3.11B and 6.09 will result in forfeiture of **ALL** games played, and the suspension of the team manager and team for one year.

3.12 Playing in an NABF Tournament in More Than One Age Division.

Any player will be permitted to play on more than one (1) team representing his franchise in the same age division once his initial team has completed **NABF** tournament play. Player(s) will be permitted to play on more than one (1) team representing his **NABF** franchise association league, only in any **NABF** tournament, provided such player(s) comply with age restrictions set forth under Player Eligibility Rules 3.01 through 3.21 and Certification of Players Rules 4.01 through 4.10, i.e. Junior, High School, Senior, College, Major.

PENALTY: Forfeiture of all games in which the player participated in the second tournament or any tournament thereafter that season.

3.13 Dropping to a Lower Classification. Players certified under Rule 4.02 who have played in the Major, College, Senior, High School, Junior, Sophomore or Freshman Age Divisions of this Federation may participate in a lower age classification within one **NABF** franchise organization only during the current season. All players must comply with age eligibility Rules 3.01 through 3.08.

3.14 Player Tournament Eligibility. All players must be bona fide members of an eligible team in a league that played throughout the current season under the jurisdiction of an **NABF** franchise holder. In addition, all team personnel must be eligible under the rules of the **NABF** to participate in a **NABF** Tournament or sponsored event.

Tournament Rules

PENALTY: Forfeiture of the game(s) in which the ineligible player, coach or manager participated.

3.15 Playing Under an Assumed Name. The full bona fide name of each player must be given, and if necessary that he play under another name, the name under which he plays must also be given and reason therefore. Any player playing under an assumed name, or one who plays or attempts to play under the name of an eligible player of any team entitled to take part in the elimination of the final tournament series games of the **NABF**, or who shall himself be eligible, shall subject himself individually to immediate disqualification from further right to play in such series, and all persons connected with the affair shall be disqualified for one (1) year from playing games with any team or player under the jurisdiction of the **NABF**.

3.16 No Pay Permitted. Any player who receives monetary remuneration or the promise of such for any services under an Amateur Classification shall be deemed ineligible to participate in any league and/or tournament affiliated with the **NABF**.

3.17 Accepting Pay for Play. Any team paying or player accepting remuneration for playing baseball in any classification under the jurisdiction of the **NABF**, upon conviction thereof shall be suspended, with the Board of Directors of the **NABF** determining the penalty for this violation.

3.18 Eligibility is Local Association's Responsibility. Each association shall be responsible for the eligibility of its team personnel, but no act of an association shall be construed to bar another association from protesting the right of any players, coach or manager to participate in an **NABF** tournament or sponsored event.

PENALTY: Forfeiture of the game in which the player, coach or manager participated.

3.19 Team Personnel Under Suspension. No team member(s) under suspension by the **NABF** for violations of **NABF** rules or sanctions by the **NABF** Board of Directors can be eligible to participate in an **NABF** tournament or sponsored event. Failure of any team, league or franchised member organization to comply shall result in further sanctions by the **NABF**.

PENALTY: Forfeiture of the game in which the team member(s) participated.

3.20 Player Residence Requirement. Teams participating in High School Division (Seventeen and Under), or any age group less than Seventeen and Under, must comply with the following residential requirements::

- (A) A resident according to **NABF** Rules is someone showing proof of permanent legal residence from February 1st of the current year.
- (B) A team may not have more than 50 percent of its total player roster who are out of state residents.

PENALTY: Forfeiture of the game(s) in which the team member(s) participated.

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3.21 Participating in a higher classification. College Division team(s) registered under rule 1.03(1) taking part in a Major Division league and High School Division team(s) participating in a Senior Division league under rules 1.04(1) may participate at the next higher age classification **NABF** tournament or sponsored event, without restriction. All team personnel must be eligible under the rules of the **NABF**. (NOTE: Tournament playing restrictions in Rule 3.12).

4.00 - Certification of Players

4.01 Investigation of Players Eligibility. The Board of Directors at its Annual Meeting may appoint a representative in each association holding a franchise in the **NABF**, whose duty it shall be to investigate the eligibility of players on each team of his association eligible to play in the tournament, and who shall certify by affidavit that each and every player on said team is eligible under the rules of this Federation.

4.02 Certification List Due. The secretary of each association must certify an eligibility list from each team in his league. All eligibility lists are due by July 1 of the current year (season), or not less than 15 days prior to the start date of the **NABF** Tournament assigned. Only players on the certified eligibility list shall be eligible for **NABF** tournament play. An association may not register a team or player in more than one (1) division. Players certified by each association (franchise member) must have played with his/her team in a minimum of four (4) games in the league which his team represents. This rule includes the extra players, who must be selected from teams in the same league as the representing team. Any violation of this rule will cause the player(s) to be dropped from competition and the previous games played will be forfeited. The minimum penalty for violation of this rule by a franchise shall be one hundred dollars (\$100.00) to be imposed on the franchise; the maximum penalty shall be forfeiture of the **NABF** franchise held by the association which sent the team.

4.03 Team Registered in More Than One Age Division League.

An association may not register a team in more than one (1) age division with the following exceptions: In a combination age league having both High School Division teams and Senior Division teams as described under Rule 1.04 and/or College Division teams and Major Division teams as described under Rule 1.03 playing in the same **NABF** sanctioned league. Player(s) registered in such a sanctioned league will be permitted to participate in either **NABF** division tournament(s) on team(s) representing their league only, certified under Rules 4.02 and 6.09 without restriction or penalty under Rules 3.12, 4.08 and 4.09; provided, however, that all other **NABF** rules are met, including age requirements.

4.04 Certification of Extra Players. Only players registered and certified under Rule 4.02 by each respective **NABF** association league will be considered for extra players. Before the first day of the tournament the Secretary or Representative of the local association shall certify to the Executive Director or Tournament Director of the **NABF**, the names of six (6) additional players. These players may be used by the team with which they are certified as extra players allowed by these rules. The eligibility of such extra players shall be the same as that of the players on the championship team.

Any team that advances *from a sanctioned member league of NABF* to either Regional or World Series Play, whose submitted roster is not at the maximum number of players and who advances to the next level of tournament play, would be allowed to add extra players, which shall not exceed a total of six (6) players from their franchise and such players could play for more than one team. No team shall drop players and add replacement players.

Tournament Rules

4.05 NABF Executive Director to List Certified Players. The Executive Director of the **NABF** must furnish a printed team roster of all players certified to him as eligible for the Major, College, Senior, High School, Junior, Sophomore, Freshman and Rookie Division Tournaments, to each association of the **NABF** participating, before the opening round of that tournament. The Executive Director may delegate this responsibility to the Tournament Director.

NOTE: Each league's certified list of players for each team registered under rule 6.09 must be submitted to the national office of NABF or as designated in the tournament instruction packet fifteen days before the start of the respective tournament assigned (see Rule 4.02). Failure to comply with rules 4.02 and 6.09 will result in disqualification from tournament play.

4.06 Must Play Games. Player(s) certified by each association (franchise member) must have played with his/her team in a minimum of four games in the league which his/her team represents. This rule includes the extra players who must be selected from teams in the same league as the representing team. Any violation of this rule will cause the player(s) to be dropped from competition and the previous games played will be forfeited. The minimum penalty for violation of this rule by a franchise shall be one hundred dollars (\$100.00) imposed on the franchise; the maximum penalty shall be forfeiture of **NABF** franchise held by the association which sent the team.

4.07A Limit of 21 Players—Rookie, Freshman, and Sophomore Divisions. Teams participating in **NABF** tournaments shall be limited to twenty-one (21) players, which shall not include more than six (6) extra players.

4.07B Limit of 27 Players—Junior, High School, Senior, College and Major Divisions Only. Teams participating in **NABF Junior, High School, Senior, College** and **Major** tournaments shall be limited to twenty-seven (27) players, which shall not include more than six (6) extra players from their respective league.

4.08 Roster and Extra Players for College Division Teams Playing in a Major Division League. A College Division team playing in a Major Division League must have at least twelve (12) players who are eligible for the College Division tournament play.

All ineligible (over-age) players who played for the team during the season must be removed from the College Division Team's Eligibility List. The ineligible players will be on the team's roster in the Major Division and eligible, therefore, for Major Division **NABF** tournament play as extra players. Up to six (6) eligible extra players may be selected from Major Division teams as well as other College Division teams in the League.

NOTE: The manager must realize that the extra players will be ineligible for additional **NABF** tournament play with his/her or any other team in his/her League during the current season.

4.09 Roster and Extra Players for High School Division Teams Playing in a Senior Division League. A High School Division team playing in a Senior

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Division League must have at least twelve (12) players who are eligible for the High School Division tournament play.

All ineligible (eighteen [18] year old) players who played for the team during the season must be removed from the High School Division Team's Roster List. The ineligible players will be on the team's roster in the Senior Division and eligible, therefore, for Senior Division **NABF** tournament play as extra players. Up to six (6) eligible extra players may be selected from Senior Division teams as well as other High School Division teams in the League.

NOTE: The manager must realize that the extra players will be ineligible for additional **NABF** tournament play with his/her or any other team in his/her League during the current season. (NOTE: Tournament Playing Restriction in Rule 3.12.)

4.10 Player Agreement/Contract. Each player registered to participate in any **NABF** tournament is required to sign the agreement located on the reverse side of the Official **NABF** Tournament Roster; confirming he/she is a bona fide member under the rules of the **NABF**; and all information pertaining to him/her is accurate, including full name, date of birth, complete home address and contact information.

PENALTY: If Player Agreements/Contracts are not completed or are not clearly typewritten, a fifty dollar (\$50.00) fine must be paid prior to that team's participation in any **NABF** tournament game.

5.00 - Professional and Semi-Professional Players

5.01 Professional or Semi-Professional Experience. Each franchise holder must submit a complete list of all players with professional or semi-professional experience under their jurisdiction to the Executive Director of the **NABF** on or before July 20 of the current year. Failure to submit a list of all players with professional or semi-professional experience on or before July 20 of the current year will make a player and the team representing a franchise ineligible for tournament competition.

5.02 Replacement for Players Taken in Military Service. Players taken into the armed forces in any nation through draft, enlistment, or other means, and thereby reducing the number of players on a team's eligibility list, may be replaced by the local association. Proper credentials or letters must be presented to show the reason and date of leaving. Any changes made after July 15 must be made from the credentials lists of teams in the league in which the player was playing.

5.03 Players With Professional Experience. A player signing a contract to play professional baseball shall be ineligible for **NABF** regional or national tournaments. Any team using such ineligible players will forfeit all games such player participated in. A player with professional experience may make application for reinstatement after he is given his Unconditional Release, placed on the Voluntary Retired or Military List of a professional team.

Tournament Rules

5.04 Reinstatement.

- (A) Application for Reinstatement. All franchise holders must submit a complete list of all players under their jurisdiction with professional experience, not previously reinstated by the **NABF** to the Executive Director of the **NABF** on or before July 20 of the current year, listing player names and dates of birth, city and state of residence, dates of signing, dates of release, and the names of professional teams releasing the players. A copy of each players Unconditional Release, notice of being placed on the Voluntary Retired or Military List must accompany each application.
- (B) Reinstatement Fee. A Reinstatement Fee of fifteen dollars (\$15.00) must accompany each player's request, payable to the **NABF**.
- (C) Failure to Obtain Reinstatement. Players failing to obtain reinstatement to amateur status from **NABF** shall be ineligible to participate in regional or national tournaments.

5.05 NABF Executive Director Shall Keep Player Reinstatement Records. The Executive Director of the **NABF** shall keep a file of all previous players reinstatement records so as to facilitate the annual classification of Players.

5.06 Limit of Reinstated Players. No team competing in the **NABF** Tournaments shall be allowed more than five (5) reinstated players with professional experience above class A Baseball on its roster, except under the following condition: A player released from professional baseball for five (5) or more consecutive years and reinstated as an amateur player by the **NABF**, will not fall within the provisions of this rule.

5.07 Ineligible for Reinstatement. No player under contract to, or reservation by, a professional baseball team shall be eligible for reinstatement, except a player on the Voluntary Retired or Military List of a professional baseball team.

5.08 Try-Out Only. A player who has signed a professional contract, but has never played in a regular season, playoff or World Series game of professional baseball may be reinstated as an amateur, and will not fall within the provisions of Rule 5.06 with respect to the five (5) reinstated players, if and only if, said player has a letter from his professional team so stating.

5.09 Semi-Professional. A team on which a member receives compensation for his services as a player or a team playing in a league or class recognized as semi-professional by the **NABF**.

5.10 Semi-Professional Players. Rules 5.03 through 5.08 and inclusive in their entirety shall apply to all players classified as semi-professional.

6.00 - Tournament Eligibility

6.01 Fees Must Be Paid. No association will be permitted to compete in any **NABF** tournament unless the franchise fee has been paid and all other obligations to the **NABF** have been complied with. Franchise fee is non-refundable except under conditions set forth under Article II, Section 2-A-5. Tournament fees are non-refundable.

Tournament Rules

6.02 Must Pay Bills. No member will be eligible to enter regional or national tournament competition until it has paid all bills or penalty obligations incurred at previous **NABF** tournaments. This shall include any claim against a member or franchise holder for breakage or acts of vandalism. The franchise holder must be notified of any delinquency within thirty (30) days of the close of the tournament and all bills must be paid within ninety (90) days of notification.

6.03 Tournament Player Contracts and Team Rosters. Three (3) copies of each team's player roster and contract for each player who plans on participating in any **NABF** tournament must be clearly typewritten on official **NABF** roster/contract forms prior to registration at the pre-tournament meeting. The contracts must be signed on the back by each and every player who plans on participating in an **NABF** tournament. The roster of each team must be certified correct by an official of the local association and the team manager.

PENALTY: If the requested player/team information has been submitted in handwriting and not clearly typewritten, a seventy-five dollar (\$75.00) fine must be levied against the offending team and must be paid prior to the team's participation in any game.

6.04 Certification of Tournament Team. Once a team has been certified to participate in a regional tournament, the Tournament Director shall mail one (1) copy of each team's roster to the **NABF** Headquarters and one (1) copy to the World Series Tournament Director. The third copy will be retained by the Regional Tournament Committee for the duration of the regional competition. Immediately upon the completion of the Regional Tournament, the Tournament Director will provide the champion team's manager with the third copy of each participating team's roster/contract forms and a copy of each participating **NABF** League's Eligibility List of players. The winning team's manager shall deliver these rosters and eligibility lists to the World Series Tournament Director. Once a teams players have been certified for play, no changes are permitted. (See Rule 6.05)

6.05 Credentials Required. No team shall participate in any **NABF** tournament until credentials have been presented, certified by an accredited franchise representative, and approved by the Tournament Committee. Once a team has had its list of tournament players approved by a Tournament Committee, no additional players may be added to that list for any reason, nor may any ex-professionals on this approved list be reinstated as amateurs if the players failed to receive such reinstatement prior to the approval of credentials. All ex-professional players must be reinstated with the **NABF** to play in **NABF** tournament games.

6.06 Proof of Age Required. Only proof of birth from the Bureau of Vital Statistics or drivers' licenses with pictures and birth dates included will be accepted as proof of age in Rookie, Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, High School, Senior and College tournaments.

6.07 National Tournament Host Team's Credentials. The Host Team of an **NABF** National Tournament shall be assigned by the **NABF** Executive Director to a Regional Tournament Committee to which it must submit, for credential approval, its **NABF** Tournament Roster. The player roster must be submitted prior to any Regional Tournament play in that division.

Tournament Rules

6.08 Liability Insurance. All teams participating in **NABF** regional and national championship play are required to have a one million dollar (\$1,000,000.00) general liability protection plan. All teams participating must have a copy of their policy with them at the tournament to be eligible to participate. In addition, the **NABF** must be named as one of the insured on the policy. Coverage should include public bodily injury, property damage liability per each occurrence.

6.09 Certification of League Teams. On or before June 1 of the current year, the Officer of each franchise holder responsible for the certification of their teams shall send to the Executive Director of the **NABF** the complete names, addresses and phone numbers of all managers of all respective teams. The Executive Director will then provide the manager of each team scheduled to represent its franchise in **NABF** tournament play with a copy of the Tournament Rules. Team(s) from any age group may qualify for post season **NABF** Regional or National Championship series events through one (1) **NABF** franchise organization only.

NOTE: A team, regardless of team name, name change is defined under Rule 12.02. Any modification of team personnel, or team name for the purpose of circumventing this rule shall not be accepted or permitted.

PENALTY: Disqualification from tournament play and/or forfeiture of all tournament games played to the opposing team(s).

6.10 Franchise Representative Responsible at Tournament. Teams must be accompanied to the tournament city by an accredited representative from the franchise holder, who shall be the spokesman and responsible for the team to the Tournament Committee.

6.11 Player Under Suspension. No player or team under suspension by the **NABF** for violation of the franchise tournament rules can be eligible to compete in an **NABF** tournament.

6.12 Expense Fees Forfeited. If a team is declared ineligible for further competition in a regional or national tournament, it shall forfeit all rights or claims to expenses normally allowed participating teams.

6.13 League Playing Schedule. Each team participating in a Regional or World Series must provide their league playing schedule or website with access to the league schedule, at the tournament meeting.

PENALTY: Failure to present a verifiable season schedule will result in the league being ineligible for tournament play.

6.14 Official Team Photograph. Each team participating in a **NABF** national tournament shall present a clear photograph of their respective team, (not less than 8x10 inches) to the tournament committee, providing identification of their authorized team personnel by first and last name, in sequence, left to right, front row through back row. Players not pictured must provide individual picture identification to the tournament committee. Failure of a team to provide an official team photograph as described in this rule will disqualify said team from tournament play.

Tournament Rules

7.00 - Tournament Committee and Reports

7.01 Tournament Committee. The Tournament Committee must consist of three (3) members appointed by the Executive Director, or failing him, by the franchise hosting the tournament; one appointed member must be from the franchise hosting the tournament.

7.02 Duties of Tournament Committee. It shall be the duty of this Committee to conduct the annual tournaments in accordance with the rules of this Federation and the agreement of the association holding the tournament. This Committee shall arrange schedules, determine standings, investigate and determine matters of protest arising during the tournament.

7.03 Tournament Receipts and Reports. The franchise which hosted a tournament shall within thirty (30) days, or not later than September 1 of the current year (whichever period of time is first), submit a complete and detailed financial report of all receipts and expenditures for conducting the tournament to the Office of the Executive Director. The combined reports shall be presented to the Board of Directors by the Executive Director at the annual meeting.

Penalty for Failure to Submit the reports within thirty (30) days of completion of the tournament (to be determined by postmark) shall be forfeiture of any and all host expense funds due to the franchise host organization. Under extenuating circumstances the Executive Director may permit an extension of time to submit the reports, not to exceed sixty (60) days after the completion date of the tournament.

7.04 Registration of Authorized Team Personnel. The tournament committee will sit as registrars at the scheduled team registration meeting one day before the start date for tournament play. At the same time, each team manager or designated representative shall submit three copies of the completed official tournament team rosters with players' signatures and proof of age for limited age division players. In addition, a copy of team insurance must be presented with the **NABF** named as the additional insured under the liability insurance policy. Failure of any team to appear for registration of their authorized team personnel will disqualify such team(s) from tournament play. No individual player will be eligible for tournament play if he/she fails to provide positive identification to the committee and at any time prior to and during tournament play. The tournament committee shall determine compliance with the rule in each individual case. Refer to **NABF** rules 4.02, 4.04, 6.01, 6.03, 6.04, 6.05, 6.06, 6.08, 7.01, 7.02, 7.03, and 8.11.

7.05A Regional Post Tournament Duties: At the conclusion of any regional tournament, the tournament committee will meet with the manager of the winning team to review all administrative requirements to assure the team advancing to the World Series has proper credentials for World Series certification.

- (1) Official team roster(s) of all participating regional teams.
- (2) Player certification rosters from all participating leagues.
- (3) Team insurance policies.

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- (4) Copies of picture IDs from Regional winners.
- (5) Proof of age for limited age teams (birth certificates).
- (6) Final standing from the respective Regional Tournament.
- (7) Financial Report due Sept. 1st of current year, refer to rule 7.03
- (8) League Schedules

NOTE: The Regional winning team manager must hand deliver the above named items (1-6) to the respective World Series Tournament Director and Committee in a sealed box or packet. No travel contribution will be distributed to any team failing to comply. See Rules 6.04 and 6.05.

In addition, the tournament director must contact both the World Series Director and **NABF** National Office with the results of the final game, including name, address, and telephone number(s) of winning team manager. Refer to **NABF** rules 6.03, 6.04, 6.05, 6.06, 6.08, and Rule 2.10.

7.05B National Championship Series (World Series) Post Tournament

Duties: At the conclusion of any National World Series tournament, the Tournament Director will immediately submit the final results of the Championship Series to the National Office; together with team pictures, a coverage store of the final game(s), picture of the Most Valuable Player from the championship team, and the tournament batting champion. In addition, the tournament committee will select the All Tournament Team of 21 (25 for Senior, College and Major Division) players as requested in the tournament instruction packet, provided to the tournament committee by the **NABF**.

- (1) Official team roster(s) of all participating regional teams.
- (2) Player certification rosters from all participating leagues.
- (3) Team insurance policies.
- (4) Team picture (8x10 inch) of winning World Series teams.
- (5) Proof of age for limited age teams (birth certificates).
- (6) Final standing from the respective World Series Tournament.
- (7) Financial Report due Sept. 1st of current year, refer to rule 7.03
- (8) League Schedules

NOTE: The tournament director is responsible for the return of all proprietary information to the **NABF** National Office within seven (7) days following the conclusion of the World Series.

8.00 - Tournament Pairings, Brackets and Byes

8.01 Double Elimination. The double elimination draw system shall be used in pairing teams for play. Two (2) losses eliminates a team. After the first round, defeated teams play defeated teams and undefeated teams play undefeated teams whenever possible.

In the event a Regional Tournament cannot be completed within 24 hours prior to the start date for the World Series due to inclement weather or other natural causes, the champion team shall be determined in one of the following sequence of team accomplishments:

- (1) Best record based upon the competition of an equal number of completed bracket rounds by all remaining teams.

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- (2) Two-way tie will be determined by the result of the head to head game previously played in the respective tournament.
- (3) Lowest total runs allowed in all games played.
- (4) Total runs scored in all games played.
- (5) Coin toss.

Note: If item 1 above qualifies a champion team, then items 2 through 5 will not be required as in all other sequence of team accomplishment.
Once a two-game elimination has begun, a one-game elimination cannot be placed into effect for any reason.

8.02 Bracket System. The Tournament Committee shall have the power to substitute the double elimination **NABF** Bracket System for the Draw System after the first round of play.

8.03 Bracketing for National Tournaments. All National Tournaments shall be bracketed. The Regional Champions and the Host Team shall be placed in the bracket by June 1 of each year by the **NABF** Executive Director.

8.04 Established Bracket Must Be Followed. Once the bracket system has been established showing the rounds, game numbers, dates and times of games, it must be followed throughout the elimination process. This includes predetermined byes in the bracket schedule. The bracket schedule must be followed during the elimination process except for inclement weather or field conditions that might cause changes in field locations and game times. Play each **NABF** double elimination bracket round by round until all remaining teams alive are required to take part in a draw for all remaining rounds/games. Each bracket will indicate the beginning of the draw/round(s) required to complete the schedule. Refer to **NABF** rule 8.05 sections A and B.

Note: Tournament Directors will be provided with brackets, schedules, instructions and procedures for conducting **NABF** tournaments.

8.05 Byes.

(A) Byes in a Draw System.

- (1) No more than one (1) team shall remain idle in any round.
- (2) Any team is eligible to have a bye except that no team shall be permitted to have a second or third bye unless all teams then alive have had an equal number of byes.
- (3) Whenever any round contains an odd number of both defeated and undefeated teams, the bye shall be drawn first, except as noted in 8.05(A)(5), with both defeated and undefeated teams participating in the drawing.
- (4) Defeated teams play defeated teams and undefeated teams play undefeated teams whenever possible.
- (5) When the drawing of the bye or conditions of play produce both defeated and undefeated teams, pairings of all remaining teams will be determined in the following manner:

NOTE: All team(s) are required to take part regardless of their win/loss record from previous games played.

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- (a) Five (5) teams remaining: One (1) team gets the bye either by the draw between teams who have not had a bye or the fact that it is the only team without a bye.
 - (b) Four (4) teams remaining: If it is possible to pair up teams which have not played each other, then do so, otherwise draw to see who plays whom.
 - (c) Three (3) teams remaining: If one (1) team has not had a bye then that team gets the bye; If two (2) teams have not had a bye then draw to see which of the two teams gets the bye; If all three (3) teams have had a bye and two of the teams have not played each other, than those two (2) teams are to be paired to play and the third team gets the bye. If a natural two (2) teams have not played each other pairing is not possible, then a draw is to be made to determine who gets the bye. If three (3) teams remain and no one has had a bye, teams who have not played each other then play each other and the third team gets the bye, otherwise draw for the bye.
- (B) Byes in a Bracket System. Whenever a bye for a particular game winner or loser is not predetermined by the **NABF** bracket itself, then the system for determining a bye in a draw system, as defined and described in Rule 8.05A, goes into effect for the remainder of the Bracket System Tournament. (See Rule 8.08.)

8.06 Special Bye Restrictions. In a Draw or Bracket System, if any team is awarded a forfeit without actually playing in the forfeited game, the victory will be considered as a bye and those teams shall not be permitted to receive another bye unless all teams then alive have had an equal number of byes. The victory will be recorded in the tournament standings as a win.

Note: Under rule 8.06, if the bracket system is in place, all teams alive must follow the **NABF** bracket schedule as indicated, including any predetermined bye provided in the bracket schedule. However, if a team is awarded a victory as described under rule 8.06 and the bracket provides such team a bye in the following round (only) the tournament committee shall exercise the option of a draw system as permitted under rule 8.02. (Also refer to rules 8.05 B, 8.08 E and 8.08 F for additional information).

8.07 Refusing a Bye. In a Draw or Bracket System, a team may not refuse a bye for any reason.

8.08 Pairings for Regional and World Series Tournaments:

- (A) The double elimination system shall be utilized in all **NABF** tournaments. Two (2) losses eliminates a team from further play in any **NABF** tournament.
- (B) In all Regional Tournaments, the Tournament Committee shall make the decision prior to the tournament to conduct the tournament on a draw or bracket basis. The draw for the first-round play must be made, regardless if the tournament is to be on a draw or a bracket basis. The first-round draw must be made at a meeting of all managers on the evening prior to the scheduled beginning of the Regional Tournament. The site and game time of this first round of play only may be determined by the Host franchise

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team. All World Series Tournaments must be bracketed. The Regional Championship and the Host franchise team must be placed in a bracket by June 1 of each year by the **NABF** Executive Director.

- (C) The bracket schedule showing the rounds, game numbers, dates and times of games must be followed throughout the elimination process except for inclement weather or field conditions that might cause changes in field locations and game times.
- (D) The two teams from the host organization must not be paired together in the first round. It is suggested that the first team be placed in Game #1 and the second team be placed in the last game number of the first round.
- (E) All **NABF** tournaments conducted on a bracket basis must utilize **NABF** official brackets. When beginning the tournament with an uneven number of teams, the bye is determined by the draw in the first round of play, there after, follow the bracket as indicated. For the next bye drawn both defeated and undefeated teams will participate but no team is eligible for a second bye until all teams have at least one bye.
- (F) Defeated teams play defeated teams and undefeated teams play undefeated teams whenever possible. **HOWEVER**, when the drawing of the bye or conditions of play produce an uneven number of both defeated and undefeated teams, pairings of all remaining teams must be drawn. If any of the remaining teams have played each other in a previous round, whenever possible the same teams do not play each other a second time. But remember, the bye is the first consideration at all times. The following procedures must be followed by the Tournament Committee:
 - (1) Draw for all first-round games.
(This applies for **REGIONAL TOURNAMENTS ONLY**.)
 - (2) When there is an uneven number of teams, the bye is drawn first.
 - (3) No team will have a second bye until all teams have had an equal number of byes.
 - (4) Defeated teams play defeated teams and undefeated teams play undefeated teams whenever possible.

8.09 Two Games in 24 Hours. No team in all divisions shall be required to play more than two games, which start between and including 12:00 a.m. and 11:59 p.m. in any single day, without a written affidavit from the managers of the teams agreeing to play more than two games.

8.10 Field and Game Time Assignment. The assignment of playing fields and times of games shall be at the discretion of the Tournament Committee, except that no team shall be scheduled to play their first game one or more days prior to the remaining teams in the tournament. The site and game times for the first round of play only for the host team and the franchise's other representative in the tournament may be determined prior to the first round draw; in such cases the two teams shall not be paired in the first round of play only. At all times the Tournament Committee shall have the option to schedule the games involving the host or host's teams at field locations and times that are to the best advantage to the tournament sponsoring association.

8.11 Pre-Tournament Team Manager's Meeting. All Regional and World Series Tournament teams must have a representative at the scheduled managers meeting the day before the start of the tournament. Failure of a team representative to appear at the designated time and meeting for player registration, rules and Regional/World Series draw for the first round of opponents and game times will/can

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disqualify such team from **NABF** tournament play, as determined by the Tournament Committee.

(A) A team representative may arrange to meet with the Tournament Committee before 9:00 pm the day prior to the start of a tournament if there are travel restrictions or undue circumstances.

(B) The Franchise (League) will be fined \$100.00 for failure to have a manager or team representative at the manager's meeting. The penalty must be paid prior to the first game scheduled.

8.12A NABF Modified Round Robin Bracket System. The **NABF** Modified Round Robin Bracket System may be utilized for **NABF** National Championship World Series play, and may be used in all age divisions or in specific age divisions as approved by the Board of Directors and Executive Director. The **NABF** Modified Round Robin Bracket will be for a minimum of eight (8) teams only (seven (7) regional winners and a host team), and must be restricted to multiples of two (2) teams if future growth necessitates expansion of regional playing sites. (See Rules 8.12B, 8.12C and 8.13 for Round Robin Schedules.)

8.12B The **NABF** Modified Round Robin bracket system may be utilized at the regional level of play, by the tournament committee, provided the number of sanctioned teams are within the following limits of four or eight teams, five or ten teams, or six or twelve teams. Any odd number of teams or numbers of teams that would prevent an even number of teams to be scheduled in multiple groups of two, should not be scheduled under the **NABF** Modified Round Robin Schedule

8.12C Round Robin Schedule for Four, Five and Six Teams. When a Round Robin schedule for four (4), five (5), or six (6) teams is utilized to determine a regional champion team and the first runner-up team then, the best win/loss record of completed games as described under Rule 8.14 shall determine the winner and the runner-up teams. NOTE: The preferred schedule for regional play is the **NABF** double elimination tournament schedule. The tournament committee may use the straight Round Robin schedule to determine a champion. The draw for the Round Robin schedule pairing shall be conducted as described under Rule 8.11.

8.13 NABF Round Robin Bracket Format. The **NABF** Executive Director will assign the host team and regional champion teams to Group A and Group B of the Round Robin Bracket schedule. If in the event an odd number of teams qualify for the championship series for whatever reason, the **NABF** double elimination bracket must then be utilized in place of the Round Robin Bracket System. Under such conditions, the Tournament Committee shall require teams to draw for bracket pairings prior to the start of the World Series. The **NABF** Modified Round Robin Schedule may include multiples of four, five or six team groups extended by multiples of two (2) groups in a schedule of games to determine the winner and runner-up of each group; advancing to a single elimination semi-final and final series of games to determine the champion team.

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8.14 Tie Breaker for Round Robin. In the event teams are tied with identical win/loss records at the conclusion of group pairings in the **NABF** Round Robin Bracket Format that determines the participant teams in the semi-final games, the team standings will be determined in the following sequence of team accomplishments:

- (1) Best record based upon the completion of games among tied teams.
- (2) Ties will be determined by the result of head-to-head game previously played in the respective Round Robin Series between the teams tied for position.
- (3) Lowest total runs allowed in games played among tied teams in the Round Robin Series.
- (4) Total runs scored in games played among tied teams in the Round Robin Series.
- (5) Coin Toss.

Note (A): If item one (1) above qualifies a team for the semi-final, then items two through five will not be required. Once a Round Robin series of games has begun, no other elimination series of games will be placed into effect. A forfeit game is an official game and will be included to determine the standings.

Note (B): When three or more teams are tied for the position with identical records, advancing teams will be determined in the following manner:

- (i) Any team that has defeated all of the other tied teams in head-to-head competition will advance as the pool's top seed.
- (ii) If two or more teams remain tied after item (i) is assessed for all teams with identical records, any remaining team that has defeated all other remaining teams will advance as the pool's second seed.
- (iii) If no team among all tied teams has defeated all other tied teams in head-to-head competition, the tied teams will be ranked in order of runs allowed in pool play games involving head-to-head competition between the tied teams. The team that allowed the fewest runs in those games will be the pool's top seed and the team that allowed the second fewest runs will be the pool's second seed. Note that if items (i) or (ii) determine the top seed, then item (iii) will determine only the pool's second seed.
- (iv) If two or more teams remain tied after item (iii) is assessed, the remaining tied teams will be ranked in order of runs scored in games involving the remaining tied teams. The team that has scored the most runs will be the pool's top seed and the team that has scored the second most runs will be the second seed. Note that if items (i), (ii) or (iii) determine the top seed, then item (iv) will determine only the pool's second seed.
- (v) If two or more teams remain tied after item (iv) is assessed, the remaining seed(s) will be determined by head-to-head competition.
- (vi) If two or more teams remain tied after item (v) is assessed, the remaining seed(s) will be determined by coin toss.

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Note (C): Wild Card Team Selection: At the conclusion of all scheduled round robin play, the standings for each pool shall be determined from first (1st) place to last place. After determination of the first (1st) and second (2nd) place finishers in each pool, the tournament committee shall select the required number of Wild Card Team(s) from all third (3rd) place teams only. This will be done by following the sections below to determine the Wild Card Team(s) qualified for single elimination finals.

- (1) Best record based on the completion of games
- (2) N/A (head-to-head does not apply in Wild Card selection.)
- (3) Lowest total runs allowed in games played in the Round Robin series.
- (4) Total runs scored in games in the Round Robin Series.
- (5) Coin Toss.

Wild Card team selections are only required for **NABF** Round Robin tournament schedules that produce an uneven number of team(s), not conducive for single elimination semi-final play, eliminating the need for byes in the championship finals.

9.00 Playing Rules

9.01 Playing Field Dimensions.

(A) Rookie Division Playing Field Dimensions – Bases will be 65 feet apart. Pitchers mounds will be 46 feet from home plate. Rookie Division – No metal spikes will be allowed.

(B) Freshman Division Playing Field Dimensions – Bases will be 70 feet apart. Pitchers mounds will be 50 feet, 6 inches from home plate. Freshman Division – No metal spikes will be allowed.

9.02 Protective Headgear.

(A) All players must wear protective helmets (inside liners are not acceptable) while batting and base running in all **NABF** tournaments. Refusal to wear the protective helmet will result in the player's immediate removal from the game, and a player substituted for him/her at the plate or on the base. The protective helmets must have a double earflap and protector for the base of the skull.

(B) All base coaches must wear protective helmets that meet NOCSAE standards or would meet NOCSAE standards if they were equipped with earflaps as mandated by the NOCSAE batters helmet standard. Refusal to wear protective helmet will result in the coach's removal from the game.

9.03 Catcher's Equipment. Rookie, Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, High School, and Senior Division catchers must wear helmets that meet NOCSAE standards. College and Major Division catchers must wear helmets that meet NOCSAE standards or would meet NOCSAE standards if equipped with ear and face protection as mandated by the NOCSAE standard for catcher's helmets.

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9.04 Uniforms.

- (A) **Complete uniform.** All players and coaches must be in complete and matching uniforms to participate in any **NABF** Regional or World Series game. All players and coaches must have a unique number, prominently displayed on the back of their shirts to assist game officials in identifying the team personnel.

Coaching staff team members participating in Sophomore Division **NABF** tournaments and any age bracket below the Sophomore Division may wear coaches pants or coaches shorts, provided all coaches are attired alike and uniformed identically in same color and trim as their fully uniformed players.

- (B) **Logo Patches.** Teams participating in **NABF** championship games at the regional and national level may display, on a uniform shirt front or sleeve, the **NABF** logo patch or the **NABF** patch may also be displayed on the uniform cap, front or side.
- (C) Logo patches representing other national organizations shall not be permitted.

PENALTY: Failure of players and/or coaches to comply with 9.04 (A) and/or 9.04 (C) will result in immediate removal of the players and/or coaches from the game. Teams failing to field a team in compliance with Rule 9.04(A) and 9.04(C) shall forfeit their game to the opposing team.

9.05 Bats.

- (A) **Metal Bats.** Magnesium and aluminum bats and other metallic substance bats which conform to weight and size standards as described in the Playing Rules as defined in Article VII, Section 1 of the **NABF** Constitution and By-Laws shall be acceptable in **NABF** tournament play. All bats must conform to USA Baseball bat standards in the Rookie, Freshman and Sophomore Divisions. (The **NABF**-approved list of certified bats can be researched at <http://USABat.com>.)
- (B) **Wooden Bats.** The following rule will apply to **NABF** Regional and National Championship Tournament Games. The bat shall be a smooth round stick not more than 2 3/4 inches in diameter at the thickest part and not more than 42 inches in length. The bat shall be one piece of solid wood.

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Cupped Bats – Forming an indentation in the end of the bat up to one inch in depth is permitted and may be no wider than two inches and no less than one inch in diameter. The indentation must be curved with no foreign substance added.

The Bat Handle – For not more than 18 inches from its end may be covered or treated with any material or substance to improve the grip. (See official MLB Rule 1.10A, B, C and D).

- (C) Major, College, Senior, High School, and Junior Age Division Bats.** Wooden Bats as described under Rule 9.05(B) – Wooden Bats must be used in all Major, College, Senior, High School, and Junior Division National Regional and National Championship Series Games with **NO** exceptions.

(1) Permitted Wood Species:

Aodamo (Japanese Ash)	Hickory	Tamo (Japanese Ash)
Ash	Maple (Hard)	Yellow Birch
European Beech	Red Oak	

- (2)** Bats can be one solid color or can be two-tone with the handle being one color and the barrel being of a second color. The color white can only be used on the handle. The color white will NOT be permitted on the barrel of the bat.
- (3)** The bat's entire grain must be visible to permit visual grading to detect defects in the wood.

PENALTY: If the umpire discovers that the bat does not conform to any of the above rules, when the batter comes to bat or while he is batting or after he has completed his at bat, he is declared out and the batter and team manager (head coach) will be ejected from the game.

NOTE: If so designated, Metal bats may be used in **NABF National Classics** tournament events (see **NABF Rule 9.05 (A) Metal Bats**).

- (D) Bats - Sophomore Age Division Only.** The bats for the Sophomore Division must meet the USA Baseball bat standards. All bats must be labeled with a silkscreen or other permanent certification marking of the bat in any contrasting color. Teams are allowed to use bats that meet the Batted Ball Coefficient of Restitution (BBCOR), bat also labeled with a permanent certification marking located on the bat, in any contrasting color. All other specifications are as stipulated in Section 9.05.

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PENALTY: If the umpire discovers that the bat does not conform to any of the above rules, when the batter comes to bat or while he is batting or after he has completed his at bat, he is declared out and the batter and team manager (head coach) will be ejected from the game.

NOTE: If so designated, Metal bats may be used in NABF National Classics tournament events (see NABF Rule 9.05(A) Metal Bats).

9.06 Determining Home and Visiting Teams. Before all NABF tournament games, the home team and visiting teams must be determined by a toss of the coin. Except in the Rookie, Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, High School, and Senior Divisions the quarterfinal, semi-final and championship game, the higher seed shall be the home team.

9.07 Designated Hitter (DH). The designated hitter rule as defined by the 2022 Official Rules of Major League Baseball may be utilized in all NABF tournaments. (See Rule 9.08.)

9.08 Designated Hitter Rule. A hitter may be designated to bat for the starting pitcher and all subsequent pitchers in any game without otherwise affecting the status of the pitcher(s) in the game.

- (A) A Designated Hitter for the pitcher must be selected prior to the game and must be included in the lineup cards presented to the umpire-in-chief. The starting player listed in the batting order as the Designated Hitter must bat at least once before he can be substituted for, unless the opposing team changes the pitcher.
- (B) It is not mandatory that a club designate a hitter for the pitcher, but failure to do so prior to the game precludes the use of the Designated Hitter for that game.
- (C) Pinch hitters for the Designated Hitter may be used. Any substitute hitter for the Designated Hitter himself/herself becomes the Designated Hitter. A replaced Designated Hitter shall not re-enter the game in any capacity.
- (D) The Designated Hitter may be used defensively, continuing to bat in the same position in the batting order, but the pitcher must then bat in the place of the substituted defensive player, unless more than one substitution is made, and the manager then must designate their spots in the batting order.
- (E) A runner may be substituted for the Designated Hitter and the runner assumes the role of the Designated Hitter.
- (F) A Designated Hitter is “locked” into the batting order. No multiple substitutions may be made altering the batting rotation of the Designated Hitter.
- (G) Once the game pitcher is switched from the mound to a defensive position, this move shall terminate the Designated Hitter role for the remainder of the game. Once a defensive player is switched from a field position to the pitcher’s position, this move shall terminate the Designated Hitter role for the remainder of the game.

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- (H) Once a pinch hitter bats for any player in the batting order and then enters the game to pitch, this move shall terminate the Designated Hitter role for the remainder of the game.
- (I) Once the game pitcher bats for the Designated Hitter this move shall terminate the Designated Hitter role for the remainder of the game.
- (J) **Starting Pitcher as Designated Hitter.** It is not mandatory that a Club designate a hitter for the pitcher. However, in the event the starting pitcher will bat for himself, the player will be considered two separate people for the purposes of this rule. In such cases, the manager should list 10 players on his team's lineup card, and this player should be named twice - once as the starting pitcher and once as the Designated Hitter. Thus, if the starting pitcher is replaced, he can continue as the pitcher (but can no longer hit for himself). If the player is simultaneously replaced both as a starting pitcher and Designated Hitter, he cannot be replaced by another two-way player filling both roles as separate people (this can be done only on the initial lineup card by identifying that the starting pitcher will bat for himself). (If the player is replaced as a starting pitcher, he can continue as the Designated Hitter, and if the Designated Hitter is replaced, he can continue as the starting pitcher but can no longer bat for himself).

9.09 Trips to the Mound. If a manager or coach goes to the mound twice in one (1) inning to the same pitcher, that pitcher must be removed. He/she may finish the game in any other position, but cannot return to the mound for the duration of the game. Note: On the first trip to the mound by the manager, the pitcher may be moved to a defensive position and the pitcher may return to the mound at anytime during the game. However, this move terminates the designated hitter role for the remainder of the game. (See Official Baseball Rule 6.10)

9.10 Game Umpires. Not less than two (2) umpires shall be assigned to work any tournament game, and no team shall be required to play a tournament game without at least two qualified umpires working the contest unless the managers of both teams agree to do so in writing.

9.11 Pitching Requirements. Each **NABF** team shall follow the pitching guidelines as described under Rule 9.13, providing the maximum number of pitches thrown per game and the required number of days rest each respective pitcher must have between games he/she is scheduled to pitch. Such pitcher(s) observing the rest period may participate at any other playing position during the rest period. Pitching restrictions outlined in Rule 9.12 for the 22U age group and younger age groups (Major/Unlimited excluded) shall be observed by the managers, coaches, and players representing their association during any **NABF** National or Regional or National Championship series of games. No manager, coach, League Director, player, or anyone else shall waive any pitching requirements. The responsibility for the players' safety shall be with the managers and/or the coaches of the competing team(s).

9.12 Pitching Restrictions.

- (A) An illegal pitcher (under Rule 9.13) must be protested by an opposing manager prior to a pitcher leaving the mound for a substitute pitcher. No protest shall be allowed after the pitcher is replaced or after the game is complete.
- (B) If an illegal pitcher is protested during a game. The penalty shall be the removal of the pitcher immediately.

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- (C) Major League balk rules shall be used in Series games.
- (D) Pitchers shall not be allowed to return to the game as a pitcher once removed from the mound but may play in another defensive position if eligible under the substitution rules. While 9.09 allows a pitcher to return to pitch after moving to a defensive position, this will not be permitted for the 22U age group and younger age groups.

9.13 Pitching Guidelines for 22 Years of Age and Younger.

The **NABF** will follow MLB/Pitch Smart/USA Baseball’s recommendations on pitch count limits and required rest as found on MLB’s website (m.mlb.com/pitchsmart/pitching-guidelines).

Age	Daily Max (Pitches in Game)	Required Rest (Pitches)					
		0 Days	1 Day	2 Days	3 Days	4 Days	5 Days
7-8	50 pitches	1-20	21-35	36-50	N/A	N/A	N/A
9-10	75 pitches	1-20	21-35	36-50	51-65	66+	N/A
11-12	85 pitches	1-20	21-35	36-50	51-65	66+	N/A
13-14	95 pitches	1-20	21-35	36-50	51-65	66+	N/A
15-16	95 pitches	1-30	31-45	46-60	61-75	76+	N/A
17-18	105 pitches	1-30	31-45	46-60	61-80	81+	N/A
19-22	120 pitches	1-30	31-45	46-60	61-80	81-105	106+

No pitcher shall appear in a game as a pitcher for three (3) consecutive days, regardless of pitch counts in the Freshman and Rookie Division.

Penalty for Violation of Rule 9.13: Manager is removed from the game and the remainder of the tournament. The game where the violation occurred is forfeited.

9.14 NABF Slide Rule (Nine and Under through Twenty-two and Under groups). A legal slide can be either feet first or head first. If a runner slides feet first, at least one leg and buttock shall be on the ground. If a runner slides, he must slide within reach of the base with either a hand or a foot.

A slide is illegal if:

- (A) The runner uses a rolling, cross-body or pop-up slide into the fielder, or
- (B) the runner’s raised leg is higher than the fielder’s knee when the fielder is in a standing position, or
- (C) the runner goes beyond the base and then makes contact with or alters the play of the fielder, or
- (D) the runner slashes or kicks the fielder with either leg, or
- (E) the runner tries to injure the fielder, or
- (F) the runner, on a force play, does not slide on the ground and in a direct line between the two bases.

Tournament Rules

EXCEPTION: A runner may slide or run in a direction away from the fielder to avoid making contact or altering the play of the fielder.

PENALTY: (1) With less than two outs, the batter-runner, as well as the interfering runner, shall be declared out and no other runner(s) shall advance. (2) With two outs, the interfering runner shall be declared out and no other runner(s) shall advance. (3) If the runner's slide or collision is flagrant, the runner shall be ejected from the contest.

9.15 Collision Rule. When there is a collision between a runner and fielder who clearly is in possession of the ball, the umpire shall Judge:

- (A) A runner attempting to score may not deviate from his direct pathway to the plate in order to initiate contact with the catcher, or otherwise initiate an avoidable collision. If, in the judgment of the umpire, a runner attempting to score initiates contact with the catcher in such a manner, the umpire shall declare the runner out (regardless of whether the catcher maintains possession of the ball). In such circumstances, the umpire shall call the ball dead, and all other base runners shall return to the last base touched at the time of the collision. If the runner slides into the plate in an appropriate manner, he shall not be adjudged to have violated this rule.

NOTE: The failure by the runner to make an effort to touch the plate, the runner's lowering of the shoulder, or the runner's pushing through with his hands, elbows, or arms, would support a determination that the runner deviated from the pathway in order to initiate contact with the catcher in violation of Rule 9.15 or otherwise initiated a collision that could have been avoided. A slide shall be deemed appropriate, in the case of a feet first slide if the runner's buttocks and legs should hit the ground before contact with the catcher. In the case of a head-first slide, a runner shall be deemed to have slid appropriately if his body should hit the ground before contact with the catcher. If a catcher blocks the pathway of the runner, the umpire shall not find that the runner initiated an avoidable collision in violation of this rule.

- (B) Unless the catcher is in possession of the ball, the catcher cannot block the pathway of the runner as he is attempting to score. If, in the judgment of the umpire, the catcher without possession of the ball blocks the pathway of the runner, the umpire shall call or signal the runner safe. Notwithstanding the above, it shall not be considered a violation of this rule if the catcher blocks the pathway of the runner in a legitimate attempt to field the throw (e.g., in reaction to the direction, trajectory or the hop of the incoming throw, or in reaction to a throw that originates from a pitcher or drawn-in infielder). In addition, a catcher without possession of the ball shall not be adjudged to violate this rule if the runner could have avoided the collision with the catcher (or other player covering home plate) by sliding.

NOTE: A catcher shall not be deemed to have violated the rule unless he has both blocked the plate without possession of the ball (or when not in a legitimate attempt to field the throw), and also hindered or impeded the progress of the runner attempting to score. A catcher shall not be deemed to have hindered or impeded the progress of the runner if, in the judgment of the umpire, the runner would have been called out notwithstanding the catcher having blocked the plate.

Tournament Rules

In addition, a catcher should use best efforts to avoid unnecessary and forcible contact while tagging a runner attempting to slide. Catchers who routinely make unnecessary and forcible contact with a runner attempting to slide (e.g., by initiating contact using a knee, shin guard, elbow, or forearm) may be subject to disciplinary action(s).

All references to “the catcher” in this Rule 9.15 shall apply equally to other players covering home plate. In addition, Rule 9.15 shall not apply to force plays at home plate.

9.16 Extra Innings. With extra inning of play in pool play only, both the Visitor and Home team shall begin their respective half inning at bat with a runner at second base. The runner at second base will be the player in the batting order position previous to the lead-off batter for the inning (or a substitute player).

Example: If the number five hitter in the batting order is due to lead off the 10th inning, the number four hitter in the batting order (or a pinch runner for such player) shall begin the inning at second base. Any runner or batter removed from the game for a substitute shall be ineligible to return to the game, as is the case in all circumstances under the Official Baseball Rules.

9.17 Player Re-entry:

- (A) Any player in the starting line-up who has been removed for a substitute may re-enter the game one (1) time in the Rookie, Freshman, Sophomore, Junior, High School, and Senior Divisions.
- (B) The starter shall return to their original place in the batting order. No substitutions may be made that shall alter the original batting rotation of any of the starting or substitute players.
- (C) If a starting pitcher is removed from the game and is not in the original batting order, he becomes a substitute and can pinch hit or be a defensive substitute for anyone in the line-up. The starting pitcher cannot assume the pitcher position once removed from the game as a pitcher.

10.00 - Completed and Suspended Games

10.01 Regional Tournaments Completed and Suspended Games.

- (A) **Suspended Games:** All incomplete games shall be continued from the exact point of suspension.
- (B) **Completed Games:**
 - (1) If a game is called for any reason it is a regulation game: if five (5) or more innings have been completed with one team ahead, or if the home team has scored more runs in four (4) or four (4) and a fraction half-innings than the visiting team has scored in five (5) completed half-innings.
 - (2) Freshman and Rookie Division If a game is called for any reason it is a regulation game: if four (4) or more innings have been completed with one team ahead, or if the home team has scored more runs in three (3) or three (3) and a fraction half-innings than the visiting team has scored in four (4) completed half-innings.

Tournament Rules

(C) Mercy Rule:

(1) **Major and College Division.** During play in any 9-inning game, Regional or World Series tournament game, a team reaching an eight (8) or more run lead over another team and completed seven (7) innings or 6 ½ innings, shall be awarded a victory. During play in any seven (7) inning game, Regional or World Series tournament game, a team reaching a ten (10) or more run lead over another team and completed five (5) innings or 4½ innings shall be awarded a victory. A team reaching an eight (8) or more run lead over another team and completed six (6) innings shall be awarded the victory.

(2) **Senior, High School, Junior and Sophomore Divisions.** During play in any regional or world series tournament game, a team reaching a 15 or more or run lead after the completion of 4 innings (or the home team reaching a 15 run lead in 3 and a half-innings) shall be awarded a victory. In addition, a team reaching a 10 or more run lead in any completed inning after the completion of at least 5 innings (or in the case of the home team reaching a 10 run lead in 4 or four and a fraction of half innings) shall be awarded a victory.

(3) **Freshman and Rookie Divisions.** During play in any regional or world series tournament game, a team reaching an eight (8) or more run lead over another team in any completed inning after the completion of at least four (4) complete innings (or in the case of the home team reaching an eight (8) run lead in three (3) or three (3) and a fraction of half-innings) shall be awarded a victory.

(CI) Length of Games:

* **Major Division . . . 9 (7) innings	Junior Division 7 innings
* **College Division . . 9 (7) innings	Sophomore Division . . 7 innings
**Senior Division 7 innings	Freshman Division . . . 6 innings
High School Division..7 innings	Rookie Division 6 innings

* The length of games shall be seven (7) innings for the first three (3) rounds of regional play in the College and Major Divisions. Remaining games will be nine (9) innings **under the double elimination bracket schedule.**

** The College and Major Divisions when participating in a **Round Robin format at the Regional and World Series level** play seven (7) innings in pool play. In single elimination games the semifinal and final games shall be nine (9) innings. Quarterfinal games can be either seven (7) or nine (9) innings as determined by the tournament director prior to the beginning of play.

10.02 World Series completed and Suspended Games.

(A) All Major and College games must be played until a minimum of nine (9) or seven (7) innings have been completed. (See exception in Note.)

NOTE: During play in any nine (9) inning World Series game, a team reaching an either eight (8) or more run lead over another team in any completed inning after the completion of at least seven (7) complete innings (or in the case of the home team reaching an eight (8) run lead in six (6) and a fraction of half innings) shall be awarded a victory.

During play in any seven (7) inning World Series pool play game, a team reaching a ten (10) or more run lead over another team in any completed inning after the completion of at least five (5) complete innings (or in the case of the home team reaching a ten (10) run lead in 4 ½ innings), shall be awarded a victory. A team reaching an eight (8) or more run lead over another team and having completed six (6) innings shall be awarded the victory. (OR in the case of the home team reaching an eight (8) run lead in 5 ½ innings, shall be awarded the victory.)

Tournament Rules

- (C) All Senior, High School, Junior and Sophomore games must be played until a minimum of seven (7) innings have been completed.
- (D) All Freshman Division games must be played until a minimum of six (6) innings have been completed.
- (E) All Rookie Division games must be played until a minimum of six (6) innings have been completed.
- (F) All incomplete games shall be continued from the exact point of suspension.
- (G) In World Series tournaments, the mercy rule in Rule 10.01C shall apply in pool play and bracket play.

11.00 - Forfeits and Protests

11.01 Forfeit for Non-Appearance. Any team failing to arrive for a scheduled tournament or a team forfeiting an **NABF** Regional or National Tournament game for nonappearance (insufficient players) shall be barred from further play in that tournament. The minimum penalty for such a forfeiture shall be one hundred dollars (\$100.00) imposed on the team's franchise; the maximum penalty shall be forfeiture of the **NABF** franchise held by the association which sent the team.

11.02 Failure to Appear for Tournaments. Any team intentionally failing to appear or abandoning an **NABF** Regional or National Tournament in progress will be subject to **NABF** sanctions. Such sanctions may include one or more years suspension for the team and/or team's supervisors and/or fines levied on the team's supervisors or the **NABF** franchise held by the association which sent the team.

11.03 Protests on Interpretation of Playing Rules and/or NABF Tournament Rules. Protests on matters involving the interpretation of playing rules and/or NABF tournament rules must be made in writing to the Official Scorer at the time of the alleged infraction of the rules. The manager must notify the chief umpire and official scorer that the game is being played under protest from that point on. A duplicate of the written protest must be presented, along with a fee of one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00), to the Chairman of the Tournament Committee within one (1) hour after the protested game has been completed. Protests shall contain the date, time and place of game; name of the teams; name of the chief umpire and official scorer; and the rule or section of the rule or rules violated; and all the essential facts involved in the matter under protest. The chief umpire must also make out a signed statement of the official scorer at the time of the alleged infraction of the rules, and it is the manager's responsibility to inform the chief umpire of his obligation to do so. The original score sheet with all the written information on it shall be presented to the Chairman of the Tournament Committee at the hearing of said protest. The chief umpire and the official scorer must attend the hearing. Should the protest be upheld, then the fee shall be returned, otherwise, it shall be forfeited to the treasury of the **NABF**.

NOTE: No Protest of **NABF** Tournament Rules can be made after the fact.

11.04 Eligibility Protests. Protests on the eligibility of any team player or players must be made in writing and accompanied by a fee of one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00). The written protest and fee must be presented to the Chairman of the Tournament Committee within one (1) hour after the completion of the game under protest in which the team player or players participated. Proof of ineligibility must be presented by the protesting team. If the protest is upheld the fee shall be returned and the game awarded to the protesting team. The team player or players proven guilty of violating Rules of Eligibility shall be immediately suspended. If the protest is denied, then the one hundred fifty dollars (\$150.00) fee shall be forfeited to the treasury of the **NABF**.

Tournament Rules

12.00 - Conduct

12.01 Gambling Prohibited. It is hereby declared to be the policy of the National Amateur Baseball Federation, that any and all forms of gambling in or upon the grounds of any club or any association member of this Organization conducting games, whether in the preliminary elimination or final series, shall be absolutely prohibited and condemned. Therefore, any and all persons, players and managers in particular, are hereby prohibited from engaging in or conducting in or upon the grounds any bookmaking, pool selling, betting or gambling in any form upon the result of the game or innings. It is hereby made the duty of those in charge of such games to secure a strict enforcement of the rules, and eject from the grounds any and all persons violating its provisions.

12.02 Authorized Team Personnel. A team shall have no more than one manager, three coaches, one scorekeeper, two bat boys, and one trainer along with the maximum of twenty-one (21) players in the Rookie, Freshman, and Sophomore Divisions. Twenty-seven (27) players in the Junior, High School, Senior, College, and Major Divisions.

All Authorized Team Personnel shall conduct themselves in a sportsmanlike manner at all times. Failure of any team or individual team member(s) to observe **NABF** rules of conduct shall subject such individual team member(s) or the entire team to **NABF** sanctions by the **NABF** Board of Directors. Such sanctions may include one or more years suspension for the team and/or individual team member(s) or suspension of the **NABF** franchise held by the association which sent the team.

12.03 Permitted on Field. Authorized Team Personnel are the only members of the team permitted on the bench, in the dugout, or on the playing field during the game.

12.04 Conduct. Any member of a team's authorized team personnel making any untrue verbal or written disparaging remarks about **NABF** officials, umpires, scorers, tournament committee members and/or the authorized team personnel from his/her own or any other team may be suspended from tournament play. Any member of a team's authorized personnel conducting themselves in such a manner so as to violate local, city, county, state and/or federal criminal and/or civil laws off the field during a tournament may be suspended from tournament play. It is the duty of the team manager or head coach to be in control of players at all times. Any team or member(s) of a team's authorized personnel responsible for damages or non-payment of hotel/motel facilities will be barred from participation in any **NABF** tournament until full restitution is made.

12.05 Discipline of Team Personnel. Managers and coaches are to prohibit any unsportsmanlike act toward opponents, umpires, officials or spectators. Managers are to prohibit bench jockeying, including personal and malicious remarks and obscene language toward opponents, umpires and spectators. Any umpire shall remove from the game any manager, coach, player or other team personnel for unsportsmanlike conduct. The umpire may first warn any violators before removing them from the game. After a manager, coach, player or other team personnel have been removed from the game, they shall leave the field immediately. They shall leave the ball park and shall not communicate with their team or the umpires. Failure to abide by this ruling will result in forfeiture of the game to the opposing team and suspension from all remaining tournament games.

12.06 Intentional Contact With Umpire. Any manager, coach, player or other authorized team personnel making intentional contact with an umpire in any manner shall be suspended from all remaining tournament games that season.

Tournament Rules

12.07 Team Leaving the Playing Field. Under no circumstances whatsoever shall a team leave the field in a Tournament Series Game, under the penalty of forfeiture of the membership of the team's association in the **NABF**.

12.08 Do Not Sign or Dicker with Contracted Players. No association, club or individual affiliated with either, shall have the right to sign, dicker with, or in any manner approach a player or players of any club which is a member of an association affiliated with the **NABF** while such a player is under contract to said member association. A violation to this clause shall subject any association, club, or individual to suspension.

12.09 Use of Drugs, Tobacco and Alcohol Prohibited. It is hereby declared to be the policy of the **NABF** that any and all use of illicit drugs be prohibited in or upon the grounds of any club or association in this organization. The use of tobacco products and alcoholic beverages are prohibited from the playing field and dugout areas of any **NABF** series of games. Offenders of this policy shall be ejected from the game and grounds. Failure to comply with this ruling will result in forfeiture of the game to the opposing team and suspension from all remaining games.

12.10 Inappropriate Physical Conduct (Fighting)

Any manager, coach or player involved in inappropriate physical conduct (**fighting**) is to be immediately disqualified from both regional and world series/national tournament play. Any manager, coach or player retaliating will also be disqualified. Anyone entering the melee and retaliating will also be disqualified.

NABF Awards

Ronald E. McMinn Award of Merit Recipients

2010	Frederick Feaver III	Galloway, Ohio
2011	Vince “Vin” Di Lauro	New Haven, Connecticut
2012	Glenn “Buzz” McNish	Knoxville, Tennessee
2013	Aaron Myers	Toledo, Ohio
2014	Connie Brown	Troy, Ohio
2015	Charles Avery	New City, New York
2016	John Mengelkamp	Willoughby, Ohio
2017	Sam Hamstra, Jr.	Downers Grove, Illinois
2018	Greater Toledo Amateur Sports Foundation	Toledo, Ohio
2019	Paul Wolf	Buffalo, New York
2020	Terry Newton	Battle Creek, Michigan
2021	Charles M. Blackburn, Jr.	Bowie, Maryland
2022	Robert Frellick	Fairview, North Carolina

NABF Award of Merit

2010	Robert Chiara	Malverne, New York
2011	Joseph M. Victor	Brooklyn, New York
2012	Larry Redwine	Mainville, Ohio
2013	Scott Ruark	Struthers, Ohio
2014	Bob Cene, Jr.	Canfield, Ohio
2015	Gil Vieira	Fairhaven, Massachusetts
2015	Robert Wolfe	Zanesville, Ohio
2016	William “Butch” Bellenger	Lyndhurst, New Jersey
2017	Jim Kosmerick	Grand Blanc, Michigan
2018	Joe Cooper	Marshall, Michigan
2019	John Cannistra	West Islip, New York
2020	Dave & Debbie Cook	Valparaiso, Indiana
2021	Gregory Reddington	Louisville, Kentucky
2022	Charles M. Blackburn, Jr.	Bowie, Maryland

John Benedict Sports Journalism Award

2010	Adam Greene, Sports Writer, Knoxville News – News Sentinel
2011	Sean McGuire & Camelot Media Group, Birmingham, Alabama
2012	Veronica Pinciotti & Buckeye Cable Sports Network, Toledo, Ohio
2013	Bill Broderick, Columnist and Nick Buckley, Sports Reporter & Battle Creek Enquirer, Battle Creek, Michigan
2014	Chris Van Tuyl, Sports Journalist Assistant with The DeSoto Appeal, Southaven, MS
2015	Greg Gulas, Boardman, Ohio
2016	Will Kowalski, Sports Editor / Assistant Editor, Battle Creek Shopper News, Battle Creek, Michigan
2017	Art Frith, Nashville, Michigan
2018	B. Colin Smith, Las Vegas, Nevada
2019	Jim Shovlin, Grabill, Indiana
2020	J. Patrick Eaken, Perrysburg, Ohio
2021	Mason Schweizer, Bourbonnais, Illinois
2022	Roy LaFountain, Battle Creek, Michigan

NABF “Women of the Year” Awards

2010	Mary Adkins	Lavalette, WV
	Sherrie Shipman	Toledo, OH
2011	Darlene Herwat	Toledo, OH
	Deb Wallace	Millbury, OH
2012	Tina Bashore	Toledo, OH
	Mandy Bello	Cincinnati, OH
2013	Carrie Slominski	Northville, MI
2015	Annie Newton	Battle Creek, MI
2016	Tammi Nuber	Cincinnati, OH
2017	Nancy Mikos	Canfield, OH
	Chelsey Labadie	Toledo, OH
2018	Abbie Brennan	Battle Creek, MI
2019	Laurel-Anne Blasso	Arnold, MD
2020	Brittaney Mingo	Youngstown, OH
2021	(None awarded)	
2022	Caitlin Barbour	Youngstown, OH

NABF “Men of the Year” Awards

2010	Glenn “Buzz” McNish	Lenoir City, TN
	Michael “Jay” Tewell	Louisville, KY
2011	Scott Baldwin	Northville, MI
	Scott Ruark	Struthers, OH
2012	Michael Dorsey	Hebron, MD
	Michael Ross	Parsonsurg, MD
	Shawn Sobel	Toledo, OH
2013	Charles Avery	New City, NY
	John Mengelkamp	Willoughby, OH
2014	Fred LeSage	Bourbonnais, IL
2015	Terry Newton	Battle Creek, MI
	Robert “Bubba” Boughner	Boardman, OH
2016	Richard Brown	Fort Wayne, IN
	Al DiLeonardo	Stratford, CT
2017	Mike Rupert	Battle Creek, MI
	Ike Ranger	Battle Creek, MI
2018	William “Butch” Bellenger	Lyndhurst, NJ
	John Cannistra	Brooklyn, NY
2019	Steve Leslie	Youngstown, OH
	Charles Avery	New City, NY
	Joe Clemente	New City, NY
	Paul Gutzman	Battle Creek, MI
2020	Ricky DiMuzio	Poland, OH
2021	Larry Kurkowski	Elmhurst, IL
2022	John “Jack” Butler	South Euclid, OH

Record of NABF Presidents

2008-2010	David Jerome	Northville, Michigan
2011-2012	Greg Reddington	Louisville, Kentucky
2013-2014	Thomas Stout	Altoona, Pennsylvania
2015-2016	Vin DiLauro	New Haven, Connecticut
2017-2018	Derek J. Topik	Brandon, Mississippi
2019-2020	Bob Mingo	Youngstown, Ohio
2021-2022	Connie Brown	Troy, Ohio
2023-2024	Paul Wolf	Buffalo, New York

NABF Meeting Places

2010.	Altoona, PA
2011.	Kissimmee, FL
2012.	Annapolis, MD
2013.	Jackson, MS
2014.	Ft. Lauderdale, FL
2015.	Baltimore, MD
2016.	Youngstown, OH
2017.	Tinley Park, IL
2018.	Battle Creek, MI
2019.	Flowood, MS
2020.	Youngstown, OH
2021.	Annapolis, MD
2022.	Florence, KY
2023.	Florence, KY

NABF Graduates of the Year

2010	David Price	-	Tampa Bay Rays
2011	Johnny Damon	-	Tampa Bay Rays
2012	David Freese	-	St. Louis Cardinals
2013	Michael Lance Lynn	-	St. Louis Cardinals
2014	Sonny Gray	-	Oakland Athletics
2016	Pedro Alvarez	-	Pittsburgh Pirates
2016	Logan Forsythe	-	Tampa Bay Rays
2017	James Anthony "Jay" Happ	-	Toronto Blue Jays
2018	Luke Gregerson	-	St. Louis Cardinals
2019	Willie Bloomquist	-	(Retired from MLB in 2016)
2020	Tommy Hunter	-	Philadelphia Phillies
2021	Curtis Granderson	-	(Retired from MLB in 2020)
2022	Kyle Wright	-	Atlanta Braves

NABF Ronald and Irene McMinn and Germaine and Edward “Red” Carrington Scholarship Fund

The National Amateur Baseball Federation has a history of helping sandlot baseball to grow. The organization was brought into existence in 1914. Since then, in times of peace and prosperity, despite wars and recessions, there has always been the year-after-year on-field excitement of NABF National Tournaments.

In 1984 an **NABF** Scholarship Fund was established, and the first scholarship was presented in 1985. Named after the **NABF** Executive Director emeritus and his wife, the Ronald and Irene McMinn Scholarship is an annual **NABF** award. In 1988, Mr. McMinn, in memory of his late wife Irene, generously endowed the fund so that several **NABF** Scholarship Awards could be made each year.

In 2000 Edward “Red” Carrington, Past President of **NABF** and longtime President of Ft. Wayne Baseball Federation, bequeathed a generous scholarship fund in memory of both he and his wife Germaine. The Germaine and Edward “Red” Carrington Scholarship Fund and the McMinn Fund are the basis for the overall **NABF** Scholarship program. Red Carrington had a remarkable durable and effective relationship with the **NABF** which he joined after the conclusion of World War I.

To be eligible for an **NABF** scholarship, *all* applicants (*i.e. ballplayers and/or volunteers*) must be enrolled in an accredited college or university and be in good standing. *All applicants* must also be current participants in a league properly sanctioned and sponsored by a National Amateur Baseball Federation member association.

Selection of the award winner will be made by the federation’s scholarship awards committee. It will be based on grades, financial need, and previous awards to candidate from a sponsoring association. Scholarship Applications are available through your local franchise member.

2022 NABF \$1,500.00 Scholarship Finalist

Mason Decker

Baldwin Wallace University

Western Reserve Collegiate League (OH)

NABF Scholarship Award History

2010	Ethan Blumenthal	Oberlin College	Chicago Northwest
2010	Brendyn Dabrowski	Metropolitan Community College	St. Louis Amateur Baseball Association
2010	Michael Fermin	N.Y. Institute of Technology	Parade Ground League
2010	Christopher Graurin	Canisius College	Buffalo Muny
2010	Colin Henneberger	Hamilton College	Long Island Connie Mack League
2010	Ryan Kelly	Clark University	Skyscraper Baseball League
2010	Benjamin Klimek	Wabash College	Ft. Wayne Baseball Federation
2010	Michael Michon	University of Virginia	Skyscraper Baseball League
2010	Nicholas Pupo	Philadelphia University	Continental Collegiate League
2010	Alexander Rothstein	State University of N.Y., Stony Brook	Long Island Connie Mack League
2010	Michael Scarcello	University of Buffalo	Buffalo Muny
2011	Edward A. Bryner	Johns Hopkins University	MSBA – Frank Riley League
2011	James Cauchi	Fordham University	Long Island Connie Mack League
2011	Frank A. Cordio	Boston College	Long Island Connie Mack League
2011	Matthew Focella	Georgetown University	Long Island Connie Mack League
2011	Peter E. Krysztof	St. John Fisher College	Buffalo Muny
2011	Aaron M. Mills	Lebanon Valley College	Blue Ridge League
2012	Nicholas Pedriata	Molloy College	Long Island Connie Mack League
2012	Chris Harrell	University of Cincinnati	Diamond League
2012	Kaylan Pratt	North Carolina Wesleyan College	Greensboro Pride
2013	James Ahlrich	Hinds Community College	Mississippi NABF (MS)
2013	Joshua Beams	Indiana University Southeast	Derby City Baseball (KY)
2013	Stephen Bove	Adelphi University	Parade Ground League (NY)
2013	Lucas DiFabbio	Washington College	West Haven Twilight League (CT)
2014	Brian Hakes	Indiana Institute of Technology	Ft. Wayne Baseball Federation (IN)
2014	Peter Cady	Valencia College	Orlando Baseball League (FL)
2014	Joseph Walsh	State University of NY/Old Westbury	Federation of Amateur Baseball Leagues (NY)
2014	Colton Mears	Mississippi College	Mississippi NABF (MS)

NABF Scholarship Award History

2015	Auguste Leach	Wheaton College	Parade Ground League (NY)
2015	Chance Brewer	Seminole State College of Florida	Orlando NABF
2015	Christopher Jelicic	Rochester Institute of Technology	Greenbelt Post 136 (MSBA)
2015	Korey Keyser	Pennsylvania College of Technology	Chaney Baseball (MSBA)
2016	Sean McCracken	Johns Hopkins University	St. Louis Metro Collegiate Baseball League, St. Louis, MO
2016	Timothy Dold	Hofstra University	Maryland Monarchs (MSBA), Bowie, MD
2016	Gregory Walsh	State Univ. of NY/Purchase College	Federation of Amateur Baseball Leagues, Kings Park, NY
2016	Matthew Borrelli	University of Missouri	St. Louis Amateur Baseball Association, St. Louis, MO
2016	Tanner Gaerke	Washington & Jefferson College	OH Ind. Wooden Bat Baseball League, Columbus, OH
2017	Collin Affolder	Bethel College	Portland Rockets/Heartland League (IN)
2017	David Hamrick, Jr.	Wittenberg University	Diamond League (OH)
2017	Christopher Neuhaus	Kings College	Metropolitan Baseball League (NJ)
2017	Scott Seymour	The Ohio State University	Greater Toledo Amateur Sports Foundation (OH)
2017	John David Topik	Hinds Community College	Mississippi NABF (MS)
2017	Annie Newton	Aquinas College	Battle Creek City League (MI)
2018	Jameson Cambell	Washington & Jefferson College	Diamond League (OH)
2018	Kyle Dixon	Sinclair Community College	Diamond League (OH)
2018	Alexander Jackson	Washington & Jefferson College	Diamond League (OH)
2018	Paul Liccardi	The University of Akron	Diamond League (OH)
2019	Joseph Toth	Adrian College	Diamond League (OH)
2019	Luke Chappie	Wilmington College	Southwest Ohio League (OH)
2019	Matthew McGrath	Walsh University	Diamond League (OH)
2020	William Shaffer	Youngstown State University	Youngstown Class B League
2021	Danny King	Northwestern Ohio	Ohio Prospects League
2021	Robert Riggan, Jr.	Hinds Community College	Mississippi NABF
2021	John Bufford	Mercyhurst University	Diamond League
2021	Annie Newton	University of St. Thomas	Battle Creek City League
2021	John "Jack" Butler	Mercyhurst University	Diamond League
2022	Mason Decker	Baldwin Wallace University	Western Reserve Collegiate League

2022 National Championship Results

<u>Age Group</u>	<u>Champion</u>	<u>Runner-up</u>
Charles M. Blackburn Major Division	Buffalo Battistoni Diesel 4	Lombard Orioles 3
College Division	Stark County Terriers 9	Grand Rapids Brewers 5
Senior Division	OH Longhorns – DeMarino 5	Knightline 3
High School Division	Jackson 96ers Blue 6	Knoxville Tribe 2
Junior Division	Astro Falcons 11	FTB Mid-Atlantic 6
Sophomore Division	Fielder's Choice 9	Astro Falcons 14U 2
Freshman Division	(No Tournament)	
Rookie Division	(No Tournament)	

Charles M. Blackburn Major Division World Series Tournament Results

<u>Year</u>	<u>Champion</u>		<u>Runner-up</u>	<u>Score</u>
2010	Beecher, IL Beecher Muskies	vs	West Haven, CT A-Plus Plumbing	8-4
2011	Buffalo, NY, Buffalo West Herr	vs	Pittsburgh, PA Pittsburgh River Bandits	7-4
2012	Chicago, IL Chicago Clout	vs	Pittsburgh, PA Pittsburgh St. John	8-2
2013	Pittsburgh, PA St. John's Leftys	vs	Bridgeport, CT Fedell's Mechanics	10-1
2014	Stratford, CT Stratford Storm	vs	Pittsburgh, PA St. John's Leftys	4-0
2015	Buffalo, NY Battistoni Diesel	vs	Chicago, IL Lombard Orioles	7-3
2016	Brooklyn, NY-Brooklyn Sports Fever	vs	Buffalo, NY-Battistoni Diesel	12-2
2017	Buffalo, NY-Buffalo Battistoni Diesel	vs	Buffalo, NY-Buffalo Orville's	8-5
2018	Lombard, IL Lombard Orioles	vs	Brunswick, MD Brunswick Orioles	16-5
2019	Berea, OH Berea Blue Sox	vs	Brunswick, MD Brunswick Orioles	10-6
2020	(No Tournament – Coronavirus Pandemic)			
2021	Berea Blue Sox	vs	Buffalo Battistoni Diesel	16-8
2022	Buffalo Battistoni Diesel	vs	Lombard Orioles	4-3

College Division World Series Tournament Results

<u>Year</u>	<u>Champion</u>		<u>Runner-up</u>	<u>Score</u>
2010	Toledo, Ohio Monarchs Gold	vs	St. Louis, MO Alton Indians	13-5
2011	Utica, NY, Utica Brewers	vs	Crystal Lake, IL, Crystal Lake Cardinals	10-1
2012	Livonia, MI Michigan Bulls	vs	Toledo, OH Toledo Hawks	14-4
2013	St. Louis, MO St. Louis Dodgers	vs	Sparta, MI Peppino's Pizza	9-5
2014	Crystal Lake, IL Cardinals	vs	Caledonia, MI River City Rapids	*
2015	St. Louis, MO St. Louis Dodgers	vs	Jackson, MI Michigan Monarchs	8-1
2016	Toledo, OH-Toledo Hawks	vs	St. Louis, MO-St. Louis Bandits	5-4
2017	Cleveland, OH-Blaze Black	vs	Mt. Pleasant, MI-Oil City Stags	6-2
2018	Mount Pleasant, MI Oil City Stags	vs	Columbus, OH Columbus Braves	7-2
2019	Youngstown, OH Creekside Crocodiles	vs	Canton, OH Stark County Terriers	7-2
2020	(No Tournament – Coronavirus Pandemic)			
2021	Grand Rapids Brewers	vs	Stark County Terriers	11-2
2022	Stark County Terriers	vs	Grand Rapids Brewers	9-5

* Crystal Lake Cardinals determined by NABF tie breaker rule.
Tournament suspended after pool play due to state of emergency.

Senior Division World Series Tournament Results

Year	Champion		Runner-up	Score
2010	Houston, TX Houston Raiders	vs	Gambrills, MD Maryland Monarchs	9-2
2011	Toronto, ON, Toronto Mets	vs	Houston, TX Houston Raiders	6-1
2012	Struthers, OH Astro Falcons	vs	Houston, TX Houston Raiders	8-7
2013	Gambrills, MD Maryland Monarchs	vs	Youngstown, OH Creekside Fitness	7-6
2014	Youngstown, OH Ohio Glaciers	vs	Youngstown, OH Creekside Fitness	8-1
2015	Ellicott City, MD HCYP Raiders	vs	Novi, MI Michigan Bulls	7-5
2016	Struthers, OH-Youngstown Astro Falcons	vs.	Hyattsville, MD-Crab University	5-4
2017	Jackson, MS-Jackson 96ers	vs	Youngstown, OH-Astro Falcons	3-2
2018	Salem, OH Baird Brothers	vs	Birmingham, MI Michigan College Connect	8-2
2019	Queens, NY New York Nine	vs	Youngstown, OH Creekside Fitness	5-0
2020	(No Tournament – Coronavirus Pandemic)			
2021	Brooklyn Bonnie Jays	vs	Troy American Legion Legends	12-0
2022	Ohio Longhorns – DeMarino	vs	Knightline	5-3

High School Division World Series Tournament Results

Year	Champion		Runner-up	Score
2010	Burke, VA Virginia Barnstormers	vs	Huntington, WV Huntington Hounds	6-4
2011	Gambrills, MD, Maryland Monarchs	vs	Houston, TX, Allen Baseball	6-0
2012	Chicago, IL Top Tier Baseball	vs	Allen, TX Allen Baseball	7-5
2013	Ronkonkoma, NY Marucci Titans	vs	Gambrills, MD Maryland Monarchs	8-2
2014	Toronto, ON Toronto Mets	vs	Ellicott City, MD HCYP 17s	7-6
2015	Greenbelt, MD Greenbelt Post 136	vs	Gambrills, MD Maryland Monarchs	7-4
2016	Ellicott City, MD-HCYP Raiders	vs	Springfield, VA-Metro Senators	4-1
2017	Jackson, MS-Jackson 96ers	vs	Pontotoc, MS-North Mississippi Indians	13-1
2018	Bonnie Cougars Brooklyn, NY	vs	Brooklyn, NY Brooklyn Cougars	10-0
2019	Bonnie Cougars Brooklyn, NY	vs	Jackson, MS Jackson 96ers White	4-2
2020	(No Tournament – Coronavirus Pandemic)			
2021	Jackson 96ers 17U	vs	Jackson 96ers 16U	3-0
2022	Jackson 96ers Blue	vs	Knoxville Tribe	6-2

Junior Division World Series Tournament Results

Year	Champion		Runner-up	Score
2010	Rotterdam, NY Rotterdam Rangers	vs	West Islip, NY West Islip Lions	10-0
2011	Youngstown, OH, Ohio Glaciers	vs	Bloomington, IL BNBA Gold	3-1
2012	Youngstown, OH Creekside	vs	Brooklyn, NY SAYO Grays	7-5
2013	Fitness Hamilton, OH Team Cincinnati	vs	Brooklyn, NY SAYO Grays	11-4
2014	Brooklyn, NY SAYO Grays	vs	Struthers, OH Youngstown Astro Falcons	9-3
2015	Youngstown, OH Creekside Fitness	vs	Ontario, Canada Toronto Mets	4-3
2016	Brandon, MS Jackson Diamond 96ers	vs	Albany, NY-Frozen Ropes Outlaws	9-1
2017	Youngstown, OH Astro Falcons	vs	Ellicott City, MD-HCYP Raiders	3-0
2018	Youngstown, OH Astro Falcons	vs	Brooklyn, NY Brooklyn Bonnie Rockets	13-3
2019	University Heights, OH Release Baseball	vs	Youngstown, OH Creekside Fitness	5-1
2020	(No Tournament – Coronavirus Pandemic)			
2021	Ohio Longhorns – Piscara	vs	Astro Falcons	4-0
2022	Astro Falcons	vs	FTB Mid-Atlantic	11-6

Sophomore Division World Series Tournament Results

Year	Champion		Runner-up	Score
2010	Lynchburg, VA Liberty Christian Academy	vs	Long Island, NY L.I. Titans	4-3
2011	Frederick, MD, Frederick Hustlers	vs	Long Island, NY Long Island Storm	8-2
2012	Gambrills, MD Maryland Monarchs	vs	Youngstown, OH Ohio Glaciers	9-8
2013	Saratoga, NY Saratoga Stampede	vs	Ronkonkoma, NY Suffolk's PAL Rangers	1-0
2014	Youngstown, OH Creekside Fitness	vs	Brandon, MS Diamond Elite Jackson 96ers	4-1
2015	Youngstown, OH Rizer Group	vs	Lake Erie, OH Warhawks	4-2
2016	Struthers, OH Youngstown Astro Falcons	vs	St.Louis, MO-St. Louis Naturals	9-7
2017	Brooklyn, NY-Brooklyn Bonnie Paws	vs	Youngstown, OH-Baird Brothers	2-0
2018	Youngstown, OH Roth Brothers	vs	Youngstown, OH Astro Falcons	6-2
2019	Youngstown, OH Astro Falcons	vs	University Heights, OH Release Baseball	11-6
2020	(No Tournament – Coronavirus Pandemic)			
2021	Release Baseball	vs	Astro Falcons	4-1
2022	Fielder's Choice	vs	Astro Falcons 14U	9-2

Freshman Division World Series Tournament Results

Year	Champion		Runner-up	Score
2010	Tomball, TX Banditos Black	vs	Orlando, FL Chet Lemon's Juice	5-4
2011	Ringgold, GA, Bandits Baseball	vs	Memphis, TN, Memphis Outlaws	6-0
2012	Orange Park, FL Central Florida Gators	vs	Oxford, MS Snowden Grove Park	13-0
2013	Indianapolis, IN Lids Indiana Bulls	vs	Raleigh, NC Evosfield Canes	6-3
2014	Oklahoma City, OK Team Oklahoma	vs	Conway, AR Arkansas Express	21-5
2015	Brooklyn, NY Bonnie Robins	vs	Brooklyn, NY NYCYSO Rays	18-0
2016	Brooklyn, NY Brooklyn Blue Storm	vs	Chestnut Ridge, NY DB Razorbacks	9-2
2017	Hawthorne, NJ New Jersey Axemen	vs	Clarkstown, NY Clarkstown Stars	9-6
2018	Troy, NY Devil Cats	vs	Queens, NY New York Phenoms	11-3
2019	Paterson, NJ	vs	Brooklyn, NY Bonnie Robins	3-1
2020	Clarkstown Stars Black	vs	Bergen Crush	5-2
2021	(No Information Provided)			
2022	(No Tournament)			

Rookie Division World Series Tournament Results

Year	Champion		Runner-up	Score
2010	Conway, AR Dairy Queen Crushers	vs	Tomball, TX Banditos Black	4-3
2011	Brandon, MS Mississippi Athletics	vs	Covington, TN Fultz Prospects	6-0
2012	CANCELLED/INCLEMENT WEATHER			
2013	(No Tournament)			
2014	(No Tournament)			
2015	(No Tournament)			
2016	Ozone Park, NY New York Phenoms	vs	Elmhurst, New York Bandits	4-2
2017	New York, NY New York Bluebirds	vs	New York, NY NYC Titans	8-4
2018	Wyckoff, NJ New Jersey Renegades	and	Troy, NY New York Devil Cats	*
2019	Troy, NY New York Devil Cats	vs	Rock Tavern, NY North Atlantic Select	6-4
2020	Brooklyn Bonnies	vs	Bergen Cyclones	2-1
2021	Pelham, NY	vs	New Rochelle, NY	(No Final Score Provided)
2022	(No Tournament)			

* Declared co-champions after multiple run-in with bad weather.

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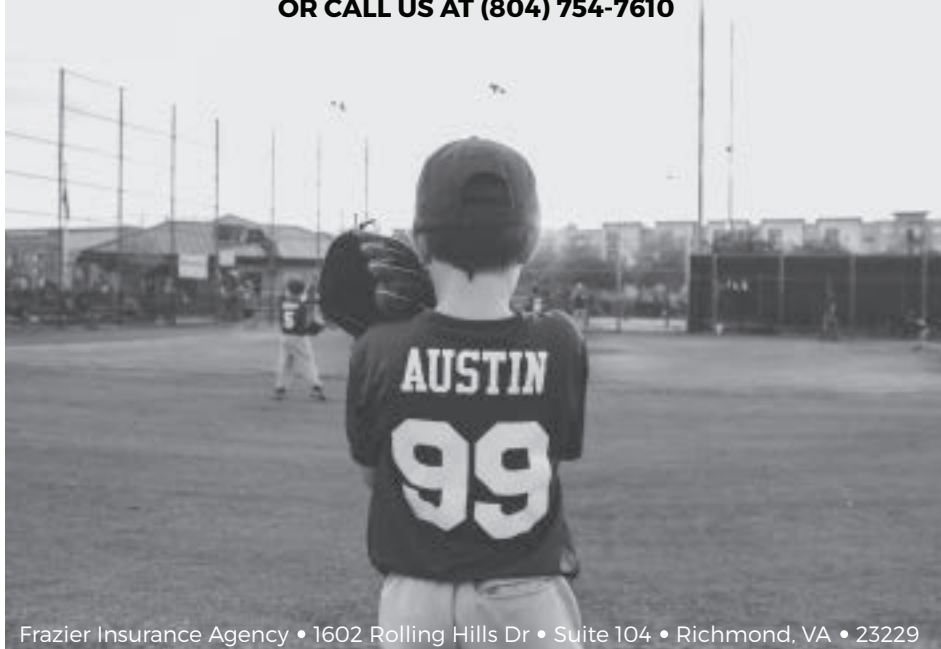
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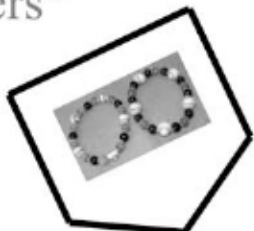


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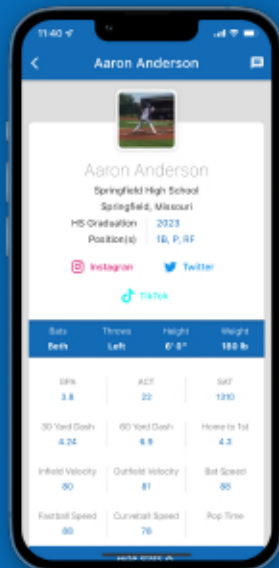
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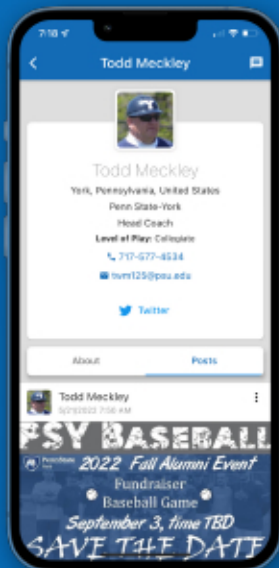
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