

OFFICIAL HANDBOOK



2008 Directory Rules and Regulations

AMERICAN AMATEUR BASEBALL CONGRESS

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THE AMERICAN AMATEUR BASEBALL CONGRESS

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

OUR MISSION

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

OUR WEBSITE

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

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DEFINITIONS

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

Division: One of the following twelve (12) age groups in which the AABC conducts competition:

1. Stan Musial Division (unlimited age);
2. Connie Mack Division (In 2008, players born on or after May 1, 1989);
3. Don Mattingly Division (In 2008, players born on or after May 1, 1990);
4. Mickey Mantle Division (In 2008, players born on or after May 1, 1991);
5. Mickey Mantle 15s Division (In 2008, players born on or after May 1, 1992);
6. Sandy Koufax Division (In 2008, players born on or after May 1, 1993);
7. Sandy Koufax 13s Division (In 2008, players born on or after May 1, 1994);
8. Pee Wee Reese Division (In 2008, players born on or after May 1, 1995);
9. Gil Hodges Division (In 2008, players born on or after May 1, 1996);
10. Willie Mays Division (In 2008, players born on or after May 1, 1997);
11. Jackie Robins 9s Division (In 2008, players born on or after May 1, 1998); and
12. Roberto Clemente Division (In 2008, players born on or after May 1, 1999); and
13. Roberto Clemente 7s Division (In 2008 players born on or after May 1, 2000).

League: Four (4) or more teams with its own government playing a regular schedule of not less than six (6) games per team. Some Associations may require Leagues to embrace more than four (4) teams to qualify for membership. The minimum schedule of six

(6) games per team must be played prior to Tournament competition other than qualifiers.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Roster: Means the official AABC Roster Form.

AABC GENERAL RULES

REGISTRATION DUES

RULE 101

(a) **National Dues:** National dues are determined annually by the AABC Board of Directors and are assessed on a per team basis. The National dues are currently twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) per team within a league and \$100 for teams registering individually in the Clemente through Koufax age divisions and \$200 for teams registering individually in the Mantle through Musial divisions. Teams registering individually are eligible only for AABC Regional Qualifying Tournaments as described in Rule 213 (a).

(b) **Umpire Dues:** The registration fee for umpires is \$27.50 before July 1 of the current year and \$50.00 from July 1 through December 31 of the current year.

(c) **Association & Regional Dues:** Association and Regional dues are determined by the Association and Regional officers and **must** be paid in addition to National Dues. Please contact your respective Association and Regional officers to determine these dues.

(d) **Deadlines:** The deadline for the payment of National dues is June 15th for the Sandy Koufax, Sandy Koufax 13s, Pee Wee Reese, Gil Hodges, Willie Mays, Jackie Robinson, and Roberto Clemente Divisions, and July 1st for the Mickey Mantle 15s, Mickey Mantle, Connie Mack, Don Mattingly, and Stan Musial Divisions.

SUSPENSIONS

RULE 102

(a) The President of the AABC shall have the authority to suspend any player, manager, coach, sponsor or official for just cause.

(b) Suspensions imposed by any AABC member Association shall be upheld by all AABC member Associations.

(c) Suspensions may be appealed to the National Office, but only upon the grounds that the suspended person's constitutional rights have been violated or that he has not been given a proper hearing. Appeals must be accompanied by a fee of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) and must be received by the National Office no later than seven (7) calendar days following receipt of written notice of such suspension by the person suspended. The appeal shall be heard and ruled upon by the Executive Committee. If the appeal is upheld, the \$100 fee will be returned.

ASSOCIATION CONSTITUTION, BY-LAWS AND ELIGIBILITY RULES

RULE 103

Each Association shall submit to the National Office its complete constitution, by-laws and eligibility rules along with the names and addressees of its officers for the current year by April 1 of each calendar year. Year end financial statements for the previous fiscal year shall be submitted by January 31.

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

INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

RULE 104

All teams in National Tournament play must provide proof to the tournament committee of AABC/American Specialty Insurance to include \$1,000,000.00 in liability limits (\$100.00 deductible).

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

Roberto Clemente	\$86.00
Willie Mays & Jackie Robinson	\$91.00
Pee Wee Reese & Gil Hodges	\$99.00
Sandy Koufax & Sandy Koufax 13s	\$140.00
Mickey Mantle & Mickey Mantle 15s	\$157.00
Connie Mack & Don Mattingly	\$171.00
Stan Musial	\$433.00

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

Teams who do not desire to purchase the AABC/American Specialty Insurance policy may apply for a waiver of the requirement by submitting a copy of their insurance policy to the National Office by **June 1st**. Proper application form must be included with payment of eight (\$8) dollars.

Be sure to check the limits of your policy when applying for a waiver. Your **limits must be equal to or greater** than those of AABC/American Specialty coverage.

ROSTERS

RULE 105

In National and Association competition, the total number of players per team is limited to twenty-four (24) players in the Stan Musial Division, and twenty (20) players in all other Divisions. No team in any Division except Stan Musial may be comprised of more than 10 players whose Permanent Residence is not within their team's Recruiting Area as of May 15th of the current year.

All Leagues must require that each of its teams complete an official AABC Roster. On or before July 15th of each year, each League shall provide to the executive officer of their Association a certified **AABC Roster** for each team in the League which is eligible for Tournament competition. Also, in advance of Tournament competition, the certified Rosters of all participating teams shall be sent to the Tournament Director with a copy to the Regional Vice President. Each Tournament Director shall transmit the certified Roster of any advancing team(s) to the Tournament Director at the next stage of Tournament competition.

Rosters which have been certified for Tournament play may not be changed (no players may be dropped or added) except:

- (a) Any player who is inducted into active Armed Services Duty, including National Guard, or any player who dies, or any player who is signed to a Professional Baseball Contract by a Major League Organization may be replaced, but any replacements must come from that team's League.
- (b) To add extra players under Rule 205.

PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

RULE 106

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

- (a) Have been under contract to his team continuously since not later than June 15 for the Roberto Clemente, Jackie Robinson, Willie Mays, Gil Hodges, Pee Wee Reese, Sandy Koufax 13s, and Sandy Koufax Divisions, and July 1 for the Mickey Mantle 15s, Mickey Mantle, Don Mattingly, Connie Mack and Stan Musial Divisions;
- (b) Have established a temporary or permanent residence within the Recruiting Area of his League no later than June 15th of the current year.

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

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

If a player's residence for the summer is temporary, the player's permanent residence, not temporary summer address, shall be listed on the Roster.

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

- (c) Appear in at least one game for his team prior to June 15th if he/she lives outside the team's recruiting area, although a player may have this game participation requirement extended if he is still competing in a high school sanctioned state championship

tournament or if he is a junior college or four-year college participant in a state, regional or national tournament. Such a player will be permitted to report to his team within five (5) days after the conclusion of their play in the tournament, but in no case later than July 1st of the current year; and

NOTE. Any player under the age of 18 years old, whose residence is changed because of the relocation of his parents or legal guardian, shall be eligible to play immediately, provided his parents or legal guardian relocate on or before June 15th of the current year.

(d) Have played in at least three (3) regularly scheduled league games for his team (post season playoffs and tournaments do not count on this total) except for any player who represents the AABC in the Tournament of Stars and the USA Junior National Team. A player who represents the AABC in the Tournament of Stars and the USA Junior National Team will be credited with the required three (3) games needed for eligibility for Tournament play if participation on the USA Junior National Team required his presence with the USA Junior National Team for the time period from the Tournament of Stars through July 10 or later, or

(e) Qualify as an extra player under Rule 205.

TEAMS IN MORE THAN ONE LEAGUE

RULE 107

Teams may be permitted to play in more than one League within the same Association upon proper registration in each League.

In the event a team which plays in more than one League qualifies for a Tournament from more than one League, it must declare for which League it will compete in the Tournament play. This declaration must be made by a date to be established by the Association to which it belongs, but in no event later than July 1st of the current year.

Note: Some Associations and Leagues prohibit the practice of playing in more than one League. Be sure it is permitted by your Association/League before your team joins a second League. Where teams play in non-AABC leagues, the status of the league and legality of playing in such league without loss of eligibility should be approved by your Association.

AMATEUR STANDING

RULE 108

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

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

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

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

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

PLAYING UNDER AN ASSUMED NAME

RULE 109

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

ELIGIBILITY OF HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE PLAYERS

RULE 110

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

PLAYING WITH MORE THAN ONE TEAM

RULE 111

(a) No player may play with more than one (1) AABC team unless his respective Association or League has an AABC-approved rule permitting such play. The player is responsible for determining if such rule exists. In such case, if more than one (1) of the teams for which the player is playing qualifies for Tournament play, the player must play with the team for which he first participated in League play.

NOTE: This rule does not prohibit a player from playing with a team in another approved program. HOWEVER, many

Associations and Leagues do NOT permit this. The player should check with his Association and/or League officer before committing an act that may make him ineligible.

(b) No player may play or retain membership on two (2) teams in Tournament competition, whether or not the Tournaments are played at the same time, except as an Extra Player as provided in Rule 205.

SERVICEMEN

RULE 112. Servicemen who are actually separated from active duty, including terminal leave, may return to the team of their latest contract prior to enlistment, provided they have maintained their amateur status while in the Armed Services, but they shall not be eligible as extra players under Rule 205.

TOURNAMENT RULES

PLAYING RULE

RULE 201

(a) The Official Rules of Baseball (“**Major League Rules**”) shall be in force unless an exception is noted in this Handbook.

(b) Trips to the mound will follow the Major League Rules except that if a pitcher is removed as a pitcher, he may play another position. He may return as a pitcher if he was not removed because of trips to the mound.

(c) The pitcher must be on the pitching rubber when he takes the signal from the catcher.

(d) Players and coaches (first and third) must be in uniform. Shorts may be worn by coaches if they are similar to the team uniform and approved by the tournament director.

(e) The home team will be determined by flip of a coin prior to the game, unless determined at a previously announced time.

(f) Pregame warm-up rules will vary by tournament. Please consult you designated tournament director or the tournament committee for applicable pregame warm-up rules.

(g) Dates, times, and sites of tournament games are subject to change at the discretion of the designated tournament director and/or tournament committee.

(h) Three (3) outs shall constitute an inning; two (2) out, two-thirds (2/3) inning; one (1) out, one third (1/3) inning. (However, when a pitcher throws one (1) pitch to a batter beyond the pitching limitation, he is guilty of a violation and penalty shall be forfeiture of the game; provided each team has been officially notified of the pitching records (innings pitched) of each pitcher, prior to the start of the game. Penalty will not be imposed if a pitcher’s allowance is exceeded because of a double-play or triple-play.

COMPLETION OF REGIONAL TOURNAMENTS

RULE 202

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

MERCY RULE

RULE 203

In AABC Tournament competition for the Stan Musial, Connie Mack, Don Mattingly, Mickey Mantle, Mickey Mantle 15s, Sandy Koufax, Sandy Koufax 13s, Pee Wee Reese, and Gil Hodges Divisions, a game other than one in which a champion may be determined, shall be legally completed after five (5) innings if the visiting team is ahead by at least eight (8) runs and after four and one-half (4½) innings if the home team is ahead by at least eight (8) runs. In the Willie Mays, Jackie Robinson, and Roberto Clemente Divisions, a game other than one in which a champion may be determined, shall be legally completed after four (4) innings if the visiting team is ahead by at least eight (8) runs and after three and one-half (3½) innings if the home team is ahead by at least eight (8) runs.

PROOF OF AGE

RULE 204

Each player participating in AABC Tournament play must be identified by a birth certificate, or a legible copy of same, from a bureau of vital statistics of the city, county or state in which the

player was born; or in the case of foreign born players, a Department of Commerce certification upon first entry into the country, or certification of the same by the Department of Commerce. A certified passport is also acceptable. Hospital or baptismal certificates will not be accepted. Where compliance with the foregoing can be shown to be impossible, eligibility shall be determined at the discretion of the governing Tournament committee.

NOTE: Certified copies with a raised seal on Birth Certificates for all participants traveling to and from Puerto Rico are required.

EXTRA PLAYERS FOR TOURNAMENT PLAY

The following Rule allows for the addition of players to a team's Roster for Tournament play. However, in no event can a team's Roster exceed the limits set forth in Rule 105. Also, please remember substitutions for players on a Roster may only be made under limited circumstances under Rule 105 (a).

RULE 205

(a) Each team in AABC Tournament play may after regular season play add to its roster three (3) extra players from other teams in its League. No players may be dropped from the certified Roster except rule 105 (a). Where a League plays its regular season schedule in "divisions," the division in which a team plays shall be interpreted as its League and extra players for Tournament play must be selected from that division, unless the divisions play an interlocking regular season schedule, in which case the extra players for Tournament play may be selected from any of the divisions.

NOTE: Some Associations and Leagues have more stringent rules governing extra players. Since their rules have priority over National rules, you should be familiar with the rules of your association and League.

(b) In addition to the extra players permitted under Rule 205 (a), teams from Leagues drawn from an area embracing a civil population averaging less than 20,000 per team (2000 census), may, with the written approval of the National Office, add up to two (2) additional players for a total of five (5) extra players for AABC Tournament play. These two (2) additional players may only come from other teams in the League. To add additional players under this section: (1) the Association director must apply in writing to the National Office and the Regional Vice President on or before June 1st of the given year (an application form will be provided); and (2) individual Leagues must secure written permission from the Association director no later than June 1st of the given year. Such certification must be on file in the National Office no later than June 1st of the given year.

(c) In addition to the extra players permitted in Rules 205 (a) and 205 (b), teams advancing to National Competition may select up to two (2) extra players from any team in its respective Association. One or both of these selections may be deferred until completion of the Regional Competition, but at that time the host team for the AABC World Series shall have priority of choice.

(d) The host team in an AABC World Series may select their two (2) extra players from any team in their respective Region.

(e) Any team in Regional or [National Competition; Definition includes Regional Play] may defer the selection of their extra players under Rule 205 (a), 205 (b) and 205 (c) until after other teams from their League have been eliminated in Association competition.

(f) Where a selected extra player submitted on the Roster but **NOT YET CERTIFIED**, who has not yet actually played, fails to appear with the team, another player eligible under Rule 205 may be selected and substituted for him.

(h) If a player refuses a valid request to play as an extra player for a team, he may not be added as an extra player by another team.

NOTE: Regional Qualifier & National Qualifier winners shall make their choices of extra players only after all other advancing teams have made their selections unless otherwise prescribed by the respective region.

TOURNAMENT BRACKETS AND BYES

RULE 211

(a) AABC Tournaments must be completed in compliance with the approved AABC double-elimination bracket; deviations from the approved brackets are not permitted other than in pool play. The AABC approved method of pairings mandates that the Tournament be conducted on a true double-elimination basis. Following the first three (3) or four (4) rounds of a Tournament, pairings may need to be adjusted to comply with the following rules.

(b) Where there is a bye in the schedule, all teams – undefeated and defeated – shall share in drawing for the bye except as provided below in (d). No team may receive a second bye until every other team alive shall have had a first bye. This will be adhered to even if it means two (2) teams must meet for the second time when there is a team alive they have not *yet* met. The bye has top priority over anything else and **must** be the first consideration. **It is vital and essential that the bye be determined FIRST.**

(c) No team will meet another team for the second time where there remains a different team left to play, **UNLESS**: i) it would violate (b) above, ii) there are only three (3) teams left as provided below in (d), or iii) all possible combinations of games seeds some pair or pairs of teams against each other for the second time. If

there is only one possible group of pairings with the fewest number of teams meeting for the second time, then that group of pairings shall be used. If there is more than one equal possibility, the entire group of games will be selected by lot from those pairings with the fewest number of teams which must meet for the second time.

(d) When there are only three (3) teams left in the Tournament and each has received an equal number of byes or no team has received a bye and i) one team has played the other two teams and the other two teams have not met, then the teams who have not met must play, and the other team will receive the bye in that round; or ii) one team has not met either of the other two teams, and the other two teams have met, then the team who has not played either of the other two teams will draw its opponent, and the other team will receive a bye in that round.

(e) Winners will play winners and losers will play losers **UNLESS** it would violate (b), (c) or (d) above.

(f) A forfeit in Tournament play shall be treated as a win, not as a bye.

POOL PLAY

RULE 212

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

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

and fourth, draw or flip.

QUALIFYING TOURNAMENTS

RULE 213

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

(b) The National Office may, with the approval of the AABC Board of Directors and the respective host organizations for the World Series, establish and sanction World Series qualifying tournaments for selected age divisions. Eligible entrants include any team duly registered through a League with any Association of the AABC and paying the National AABC dues as of the date of the qualifying tournament. Any qualifying tournament must have a minimum of sixteen (16) teams entered.

(c) The winner of a World Series qualifying tournament may draft players in accordance with AABC rules. The winner of a World Series qualifying tournament may not participate in either an Association tournament or a Regional tournament or another Qualifying Tournament.

(d) Sites hosting a World Series qualifying tournament may charge entry fees of their determination, but must provide for the winning team's travel and other expenses, not to exceed \$5,000.00 payable to the National Office per contract.

e) Sites hosting a regional tournament may charge each team a "gate fee" not to exceed \$150.00.

(f) Qualifying tournaments may be held for Jackie Robinson, Gil Hodges, Don Mattingly, Sandy Koufax 13s and Mickey Mantle 15s. Qualifying tournaments to be determined by Host and National Office, based on registrations by State/Associations.

TERMINATED AND SUSPENDED GAMES

RULE 214

(a) In AABC Tournament competition, any game NOT legally completed because of inclement weather or other unforeseen developments shall be a suspended game and play shall resume from the point of suspension. Any game legally completed shall be *subject* to Rule 4.12 of the Official Baseball Rules

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

NOTE: In National competition, a game shall be legally completed after five (5) innings if the visiting team is ahead and after four and one-half (4½) innings if the home team is ahead in Stan Musial, Connie Mack, Mickey Mantle, Mickey Mantle 15s, Sandy Koufax, Sandy Koufax 13s, Pee Wee Reese and Gil Hodges. In Willie Mays, Jackie Robinson and Roberto Clemente a game shall be legally completed after four (4) innings if the visiting team is ahead and after three and one-half (3½) innings if the home team is ahead.

TOURNAMENT ALLOWANCES

RULE 215

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

Regional: Tournament allowances for Regional competition are negotiated by the Associations involved in the Tournament and may include housing, meal and/or travel allowances, but such

allowances are discretionary, not mandatory.

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

HOST TEAM

RULE 216

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

GAME LIMIT

RULE 217

In Tournament play, no team shall be permitted to play more than two (2) games in one calendar day without direct permission from the National Office.

SLIDING

RULE 218

Any runner is out when the runner does not slide or attempt to avoid a fielder who has the ball and is waiting to make a tag or is

in the process of fielding the ball.

PROTESTS

RULE 219

Protests resulting from Tournament competition shall be decided by the governing Tournament committee. An appeal may be filed with the designated Tournament committee and/or the President of the AABC, but only if the appeal is made at the time of the original ruling and is based upon a matter of eligibility. Such appeal must be accompanied by a fee of one hundred dollars (\$100.00). If the appeal is upheld, the \$100 fee will be returned.

UMPIRES

RULE 220

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

EQUIPMENT

RULE 221

(a) Players and coaches must be in uniform at all Regional and World Series Tournament games. Shorts may be worn by coaches if they are similar to the team uniform only if permitted by the tournament committee.

(b) The use of NOCSAE approved protective headgear (hardhat) with double flaps while batting and running the bases is mandatory.

(c) The use of NOCSAE approved protective headgear (hardhat) and a throat protector by the catcher while catching is

mandatory.

(d) In AABC Stan Musial Division Tournaments, only wood, laminate or composite wood bats may be used. The bat must not exceed 42 inches in length and 2³/₄ inches in diameter.

In AABC Connie Mack, Don Mattingly, Mickey Mantle, Mickey Mantle 15's and Sandy Koufax (14) Division Tournaments, wood or non-wood bats may be used. The bat may not exceed minus three (-3) in differential between length and weight and must not be larger than 2 ⁵/₈ inches in diameter.

In AABC Sandy Koufax 13s, Pee Wee Reese, Gil Hodges, Willie Mays, Jackie Robinson, and Roberto Clemente Division Tournaments, wood or non-wood bats may be used and must not be larger in diameter than 2 ⁵/₈ inches. There is no differential.

ASSOCIATIONS ELIGIBLE FOR TOURNAMENT PLAY

RULE 222

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

DIVISION RULES:

STAN MUSIAL

GAME LENGTH

RULE 701

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

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

DESIGNATED HITTER RULE

RULE 702

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

SUSPENDED PLAYERS

RULE 703

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

CONNIE MACK and DON MATTINGLY

SIGNING PROFESSIONAL CONTRACT

RULE 801

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

GAME LENGTH

Rule 802

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

DESIGNATED HITTER RULE

RULE 803

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

LIMITATION ON PITCHING

RULE 804

(a) For the safety and well being of the players, no player may pitch more than a total of twelve (12) innings within a period of two (2) consecutive days, **UNLESS:** he is pitching at a time when the game goes into extra innings; in which case, he may continue to pitch until the conclusion of the game or until relieved.

(b) When a pitcher “appears” on two (2) consecutive days as a pitcher, he may not pitch on the third consecutive day, **UNLESS** he pitched no more than three (3) innings on each of the first two (2) days; in which case he may pitch no more than three (3) innings on day three. *Please note that (i) a pitcher may not pitch any number of pitches past three (3) innings in any of the three days, and (ii) the throwing of one pitch constitutes an appearance.*

(c) A pitcher relying upon Rule 804 (b) may not pitch on day four.

(d) Please see Rule 201 (h), page 16 for calculation of innings and penalties for violation of this rule.

MICKEY MANTLE and MANTLE 15S

GAME LENGTH

RULE 901

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

DESIGNATED HITTER RULE

RULE 902

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

LIMITATION ON PITCHING

RULE 903

(a) For the safety and well-being of the players, no player may pitch more than a total of twelve (12) innings within a period of two (2) consecutive days, **UNLESS** he is pitching at a time when the game goes into extra innings; in which case, he may continue to pitch until the conclusion of the game or until relieved.

(b) When a pitcher “appears” on two (2) consecutive days as a pitcher, he may not pitch on the third consecutive day, **UNLESS** he pitched no more than three (3) innings on each of the first two (2) days; in which case he may pitch no more than three (3) innings on day three. *Please note that (i) a pitcher may not pitch any number of pitches past three (3) innings in any of the three days, and (ii) the throwing of one pitch constitutes an appearance.*

(c) A pitcher relying upon Rule 903 (b) may not pitch on day four.

(d) Please see Rule 201 (h) page 16 for calculation of innings and penalties for violation of this rule.

SANDY KOUFAX and SANDY KOUFAX 13S

GAME LENGTH

RULE 1001

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

RE-ENTRY

RULE 1002

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

LIMITATION ON PITCHING

RULE 1003

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

(b) When a pitcher “appears” on two (2) consecutive days as a pitcher, he may not pitch on the third consecutive day. *Please note the throwing of one pitch constitutes an appearance.*

(c) Please see Rule 201 (h), page 16 for calculation of innings and penalties for violation.

BASES, PITCHING AND OUTFIELD FENCE DISTANCE

RULE 1004

In AABC Tournament play for the 13s Division, the distance between the bases shall be 80 feet and the pitching distance shall be 54 feet with the pitching plate eight (8) inches above home plate. In AABC Tournament play for the Sandy Koufax (14 and under Division), distance between the bases shall be 90 feet and the pitching distance shall be 60 feet 6 inches with the pitching plate ten (10) inches above home plate. If outfield fences are utilized, it is recommended that they be not more than 320 feet down each foul line and not over 380 feet in straight center field.

NOTE: The Designated Hitter is not allowed in Sandy Koufax or Koufax 13s.

PEE WEE REESE and GIL HODGES

GAME LENGTH

RULE 1101

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

LIMITATION ON PITCHING

RULE 1102

(a) For the safety and well-being of the players, no player may pitch more than a total of seven (7) innings within a period of two (2) consecutive days.

(b) If a pitcher's allowance expires under Rule 1102 (a), or he pitches any number of innings in two (2) consecutive days, he may not pitch at all the next day. ***Please note the throwing of one pitch constitutes an appearance.***

(c) Please see Rule 201 (h), page 16 for calculation of innings and penalties for violation.

BASE STEALING

RULE 1103

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

EQUIPMENT

RULE 1104

Metal spikes shall not be permitted.

BASES, PITCHING AND OUTFIELD FENCE DISTANCE

RULE 1105

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

RE-ENTRY

RULE 1106

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

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

WILLIE MAYS and JACKIE ROBINSON

GAME LENGTH

RULE 1201

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

LIMITATION ON PITCHING

RULE 1202

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

BASE STEALING

RULE 1203

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

EQUIPMENT

RULE 1204

Metal spikes shall not be permitted.

BASES, PITCHING AND OUTFIELD FENCE DISTANCE

RULE 1205

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

RE-ENTRY

RULE 1206

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

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

ROBERTO CLEMENTE and **ROBERTO CLEMENTE 7S**

GAME LENGTH

RULE 1301

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

LIMITATION ON PITCHING

RULE 1302

(a) For the safety and well-being of the players, a player may pitch no more than three (3) innings in one (1) day. A player may pitch on two (2) consecutive days with a maximum of three (3) innings per day.

(b) If a pitcher's allowance expires under Rule 1302 (a), or he pitches any number of innings or appears on two (2) consecutive days, he may not pitch at all the next day. *Please note the throwing of one pitch constitutes an appearance.*

(c) Please see Rule 201 (h), page 16 for calculation of innings and penalties for violation.

BASE STEALING

RULE 1303

Base stealing is not permitted in the Roberto Clemente Division.

(a) Runners on base cannot advance when the pitcher is on the pitching rubber with the ball in possession and the catcher is set and ready to catch.

(b) After the ball passes the home plate, the runner can advance on their risk.

(c) If the runner tries to advance before the ball passes the home plate, the following rules apply:

1. If he arrives safe, he is returned to the original base.
2. If he is tagged before he arrives at the base, the runner is out.
3. If at the same time the batter hit a fair ball, the runner is awarded with one base more than the batter.

(d) No runner may advance from third to home unless he is batted home or forced by a base on balls. The runner on third cannot advance on a wild pitch or passed ball.

(e) After a missed third strike, the batter cannot advance to first.

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

EQUIPMENT

RULE 1304

Metal spikes shall not be permitted.

BASES, PITCHING AND OUTFIELD FENCE DISTANCE

RULE 1305

In AABC tournament play, the distance between the bases shall be 50 feet, and the pitching distance shall be 40 feet. At all Regional and World Series play, the pitching mound shall have a pitching plate that is approximately four (4) inches above home plate and the batter's box shall be three (3) feet by five (5) feet. If outfield fences are utilized, they shall not exceed 140 feet down each foul line and 150 in straight center field.

PITCHING CIRCLE

RULE 1306

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

BALK RULE

RULE 1307

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

RE-ENTRY

RULE 1308

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

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

2008 World Series Dates

Stan Musial	August 13-17	Huntsville, TX
Connie Mack	August 1-8	Farmington, NM
Don Mattingly	TBA	Albuquerque, NM
Mickey Mantle	August 6-10	McKinney, TX
Mickey Mantle 15s	August 5-10	Owasso, OK
Sandy Koufax	July 31 - Aug. 3	Douglasville, GA
Sandy Koufax 13s	July 29 - Aug. 3	Battle Creek, MI
PeeWee Reese	August 7-10	Toa Baja, PR
Gil Hodges	August 1-5	Brooklyn, NY
Willie Mays	July 31 - Aug. 3	Cantano, PR
Jackie Robinson	July 15-20	Tulsa, OK
Roberto Clemente	July 23-27	McDonough, GA



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