

1. Assign staff to monitor local weather conditions before and during events.
2. Develop an evacuation plan, including identification of appropriate nearby shelters.
3. Develop criteria for suspension and resumption of play:
  - a) When thunder is heard or a lightning bolt is seen within 8 miles, the thunderstorm is close enough to strike your location with lightning. Suspend play and take shelter immediately.
  - b) Thirty-minute rule. Once play has been suspended, wait at least 30 minutes after the last thunder is heard or flash of lightning is witnessed prior to resuming play.
  - c) For any subsequent thunder or lightning after the beginning of the 30-minute count, reset the clock and start another 30-minute count.
4. If available, electronic detection devices should be used as additional tools to determine the severity of the weather. However, such devices should not be used as the sole source when considering terminating play.
5. Hold periodic reviews for appropriate personnel.

**Q. National Senior Tournament Rules.** The Americanism Division may prescribe such rules for the playing of any national tournament as it considers necessary. Copies of these rules are available from the tournament director.

**R. On-Deck Equipment.** Equipment permitted in the on-deck area includes bats, weighted and unweighted, and devices designed to attach to and remain part of the bat, such as weights and wind-resistant foils. Sledge hammers, weighted pipes and other “homemade” heavy items are not permitted. Devices deemed unsafe by the umpires and/or tournament director cannot be used.

**S. Pitching Rule.** No player may pitch more than a total of 105 pitches per day. A pitcher will be allowed to finish a batter if he reaches or exceeds the maximum limit during an at-bat, but must exit the position after that hitter. No player may enter the game as a pitcher without having fulfilled the required rest days as mandated in the chart below. No player may make more than two appearances as a

pitcher during any consecutive three-day period. PENALTY – The pitcher is removed from the pitcher’s position and head coach shall be ejected from the game and serve an additional game suspension.

1. Any player may be removed from the pitching position and remain in the game at another position. However, a pitcher will be automatically removed from the position when a coach makes a second trip to the mound in the same inning, and that player cannot return as a pitcher in that game. PENALTY – Forfeiture of the game if a protest is filed with the umpire-in-chief before the last out of the game.

### CLARIFICATION

At all national, regional and World Series tournaments, any game suspended by the on-site tournament director will become a suspended game and will be completed from the point of suspension.

2. If a player returns as a pitcher in the same game, he will be charged with another appearance.

3. If a team has multiple games on the same day, a pitcher who pitches more than 45 pitches in Game 1 may not pitch in a subsequent game that day and will be required to follow the rest protocol listed.

4. A day is defined as 8 a.m. to 8 a.m.

	Daily max (pitches in game)	Required rest (pitches)				
		0 day	1 day	2 days	3 days	4 days
ALB Senior Program	105	0-30	31-45	46-60	61-80	81+

## POINT OF EMPHASIS

American Legion Baseball adopts the philosophy and principles of the MLB/USA Baseball Pitch Smart initiative of practical, age-appropriate guidelines to educate parents, players and coaches to avoid overuse injuries and foster long, healthy careers for youth pitchers. Learn more online at [pitchsmart.org](https://pitchsmart.org).

American Legion Baseball is fully Pitch Smart compliant for the 2023 season.

The following are recommendations and suggested guidelines:

- Consideration should be given to not exceed 100 combined innings pitched in any 12-month period.
- Take at least four months off from competitive pitching every year, including at least two to three continuous months off from all overhead throwing.
- Coaches should consider the pitcher's age and recommended guidelines for that age group (i.e., a 15-year-old pitcher on a senior team should be limited to 95 max pitches, although 105 is allowed).
- Once a pitcher is removed, consideration should be given to what position he is assigned once he is done pitching, as well as the throwing requirement of the fielding position once the pitcher vacates the mound. Make sure to properly warm up before pitching.
- Avoid playing for multiple teams at the same time.
- Avoid playing catcher while not pitching.
- Avoid pitching in multiple games on the same day.
- Make sure to follow guidelines across leagues, tournaments and showcases.
- Monitor for other signs of fatigue.

**T. Re-entry Rule.** Departments may use the following re-entry rule for their respective department baseball program during regular season play only: "Any of the starting players may be withdrawn and re-enter once, including a player who was the designated hitter, provided such player occupies the same batting position whenever he is in the lineup. A substitute who is withdrawn may NOT re-enter."