



The American Legion
P. O. Box 1055
Indianapolis, IN 46206



2017 – 2018 American Legion Baseball Regional Tournament Bid Information

The Americanism Commission is seeking bids from any American Legion post, team, or community within their respective region to host a National Regional Tournament for a two year period (2017 & 2018).

As official host, the local American Legion team will participate in this eight team, double elimination tournament. This is a five day tournament. The current tournament format utilizes a double elimination format in which all eight teams will play four games on day one and two. Three games will be played on day three. Two games played on day four and one or two games on day five (subject to weather related changes).

The host committee shall retain all gate receipt, souvenir sales, concession stand sales, and local sponsorships.

Bid packages must be endorsed by Department Commander and Baseball Chairman. A bid package (and nine copies) shall be due to the national office no later than **February 1, 2016**.

Bids will be reviewed by the staff and forwarded onto the National Americanism Commission for their recommendation and finally approval by the National Executive Committee in May 2016 at their Executive Committee proceedings

Key Tournament Information:

- A two year contract to be signed for 2017 -2018
- Dates of the tournaments will be:
 - **August 2 to 6, 2017**
 - **August 8 to 12, 2018**
- A minimum bid is \$15,000 per year (the annual payment is due 30 days after the final game.)

Suggested Ballpark dimensions:

- Power alley - 350'
- Right field line - 300'
- Left Field line 300'
- 400' Centerfield
- Backstop to home plate - 45' radius
- Outfield grass line to pitching rubber 95' radius
- Sideline fence - 4' high
- Outfield fence - 6' high
- Baselines to grand stand fences or dugouts - 30'



- Two bullpens - preferably outside the playing area
- Dugouts - 40' x 6' with helmet and bat racks
 - Protective screen in front of dugout preferred
- Full tarp for infield – preferred
- Covered grand stand – preferred
- Stadium lighting, 70 candlepower in the infield and 50 candlepower outfield – equal to Class A professional ballpark lighting
- A practice field – that is maintained
- Two batting cages (w/lights)
- Warning track - preferred
- Umpire dressing room (on site showers preferred)

Banquet and Ceremonies:

- For many years, The American Legion required the host to sponsor a banquet and meal expenses for teams were paid for by national office. The banquet is an option of host team; however the national office shall not reimburse the host committee for any expenses connected with the banquet.
- The host committee will coordinate opening and closing game ceremonies with the approval of the tournament director.
- The host committee will provide entertainment for pre-game activities. Reciting the Sportsmanship Code and the National Anthem will be played prior to each game.

Hotel:

- Hotel(s) should be located within 30 miles of the ballpark.
- Hotel should be able to house all teams. (60 rooms per night, 40 double queen beds, and 20 single beds)
- Arrange for additional housing for fans (100 additional rooms) within 30 miles of ballpark. (These are not guaranteed rooms).

Press Box:

- Press box – 18' x 6' (must comfortably hold at least six people)
- High Speed access internet access in press box
 - A local Internet account must be available to the official scorekeeper to allow for scores to be sent to newspapers as well as to the National Headquarters web site.

Stadium Office:

- Tournament Headquarters office – small office (must be located near the ballpark), with desks, chairs, copier, fax machine, and internet access for the tournament director and assistants.

Stadium Seating:

- Permanent seating for 500 (minimum) & temporary seating for an additional 500

Transportation:

- The host committee must provide local transportation for airport pick up and return for those teams that fly into site. Committee will also provide airport shuttle for the regional champions to fly to the World Series.
- The host committee will provide sufficient form of transportation for teams to and from the hotel and stadium, and to other team activities approved by the tournament director.
- The host committee will provide two (2) staff cars for use by National Tournament Staff.

The annual national budget for the eight national American Legion Baseball Regional Tournaments typically exceeds \$750,000. Meals for the 1,280 participants exceed \$125,000. The two thousand hotel rooms cost the national organization over \$250,000. The American Legion provides transportation to the nearest airport or charter bus service to and from the regional site. Players, coaches and staff are provided a souvenir shirt & hat pin. The umpire crew and national staff appointed to work this tournament are provided with hotel room, meals and transportation.

By establishing the tournament for two years, The American Legion will continue the strong tradition of hosting outstanding tournaments and provide for an outstanding experience for teams, fans and volunteers. A two year contract permits The American Legion to increase attendance, improve public awareness, boost sponsorship, reduce expenses, and to improve this marquee event for the host committee and for The American Legion.

The economic impact for communities varies from \$500,000 to over \$1 million.

For a Host Manual or a sample bid package and contract, please contact:

The American Legion
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1926 - El Dorado Post 81 Wildcats
1st Kansas State Champion, Western Regional Champions
World Series appearance Philadelphia, PA

2017 & 2018 Regional Tournament Alignment

Eight Regional Tournament Sites. Under American Legion Baseball policy, the top ten Departments with the most registered teams shall be considered for a second team onto regional play. Only two teams from a department can advance to complete the 64 team tournament pairings.

REGION 1 (Northeast)

1. Connecticut
2. Maine
3. Massachusetts (A)
4. Massachusetts (B)
5. New Hampshire
6. Rhode Island
7. Vermont
8. Host

REGION 2 (Mid-Atlantic)

1. Delaware
2. Maryland
3. New Jersey
4. New York
5. Pennsylvania (A)
6. Pennsylvania (B)
7. West Virginia
8. Host

REGION 3 (Southeast)

1. Alabama
2. Florida
3. Georgia
4. Kentucky
5. North Carolina
6. South Carolina
7. Virginia
8. Host

REGION 4 (Mid-South)

1. Arkansas
2. Kansas
3. Louisiana
4. Mississippi
5. Missouri
6. Oklahoma
7. Tennessee
8. Host

REGION 5 (Great Lakes)

1. Illinois (A)
2. Illinois (B)
3. Indiana
4. Michigan
5. Ohio
6. Wisconsin (A)
7. Wisconsin (B)
8. Host

REGION 6 (Central Plains)

1. Iowa
2. Minnesota (A)
3. Minnesota (B)
4. Nebraska (A)
5. Nebraska (B)
6. North Dakota
7. South Dakota
8. Host

REGION 7 (Northwest)

1. Alaska
2. Hawaii
3. Idaho
4. Montana
5. Oregon
6. Washington
7. Wyoming
8. Host

REGION 8 (Western)

1. Arizona
2. California
3. Colorado
4. Nevada
5. New Mexico
6. Utah
7. Texas
8. Host

**** Alignment is subject to change depending on the number of registered teams ****