# AMERICAN LEGION
# BASEBALL

## MILLIONS OF SUCCESSES

Since 1925, American Legion Baseball has been a key part of the journey to adulthood for millions of young men.

Some have gone on to play the sport professionally, such as Kris Bryant, Bryce Harper, Albert Pujols, Madison Bumgarner and Justin Verlander. More than 80 American Legion Baseball graduates have been inducted into the Major League Baseball Hall of Fame.
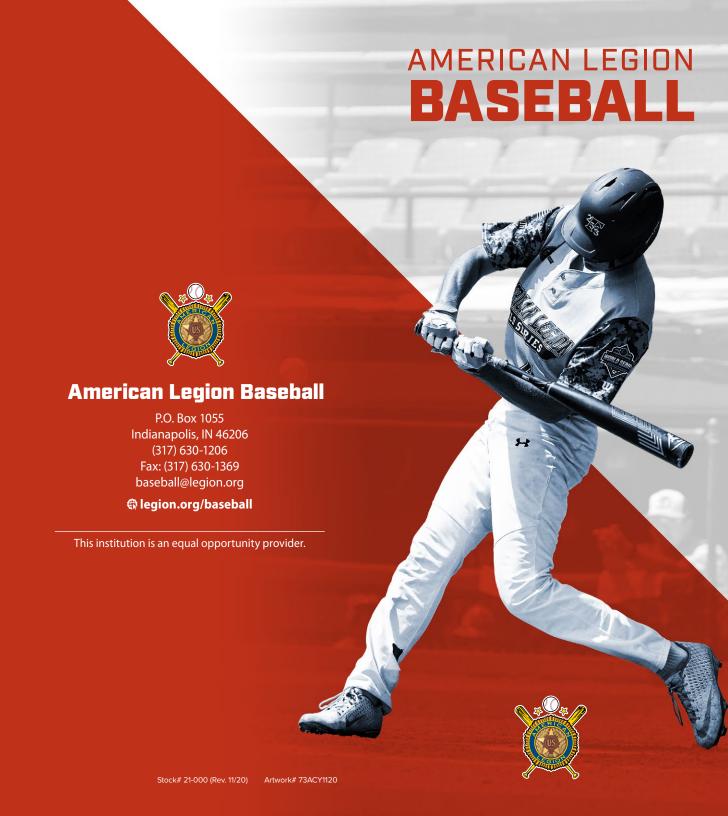
Other American Legion Baseball graduates make their mark in business, politics and other fields. In short, American Legion Baseball alumni are proud contributing members of society and are often among the most successful people in their careers.

Does your team want to belong to the nation's best-organized amateur youth baseball program?

Is your team ready to play other strong competitive teams?

Is your team ready to join a winning tradition?

If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, contact a local American Legion post. Better yet, attend the post's next meeting with a couple of players and ask the members to help sponsor your team.

## American Legion Baseball

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**legion.org/baseball**

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

# A GREAT SUMMER TRADITION

Combine America's national pastime with a winning tradition and you get American Legion Baseball. High-school-aged players are invited to participate in the nation's most competitive youth baseball program, which has taught teamwork, good sportsmanship and physical fitness to generations of young men, along with promoting citizenship in their communities.

With nearly 3,500 teams from all 50 states and Canada, American Legion Baseball is the only program of its kind. American Legion Baseball offers opportunities for quality competition in a structured format and team travel to invitational, state, regional and national tournaments. American Legion Baseball World Series games are live-streamed on ESPN3, with the championship and semi-final games televised live on ESPNU.

Our user-friendly website provides listings for hundreds of invitational tournaments, the latest baseball news, online team registration and more to help your team get started.

*legion.org/baseball*

## WHY AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL?

### NATIONAL TOURNAMENT EXPENSES PAID

Shelby, N.C., has been the official home for The American Legion Baseball World Series since 2011. The American Legion sponsors the only amateur baseball program that provides travel arrangements, which includes airfare, hotel and meal expenses, while participating at a regional tournament and to qualifying teams for the American Legion World Series.

To ensure fairness on the field, the national office makes arrangements for tournament staff, umpires and baseballs at the regional and national tournaments.

### SCHOLARSHIPS

Presented annually to deserving players, scholarships such as the All Academic Team are announced during the national tournament, as well as individual state awards.

*"You represent a post – people who fought in a war for us. It's an honor to be playing for them. When we step out on the field and we're called Brooklawn Legion Post 72, it's representing a really good cause."*

*Eric Grafton, who played for American Legion World Series champion Post 72, Brooklawn, N.J.*

*"(Legion Baseball) had an impact on my career because it was the first time I got to play against older kids. The competition is a step up from high school. The friendships you make through Legion Baseball last a lifetime."*

*Hall of Fame pitcher Greg Maddux, who played for Post 8 in Las Vegas*

### GEORGE W. RULON PLAYER OF THE YEAR

This annual award honors integrity, mental attitude, cooperation, citizenship, sportsmanship, scholastic aptitude and good conduct. Since 1949, it has been given by special arrangement with the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum.

### AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL GRADUATE OF THE YEAR

Each year The American Legion honors a former American Legion Baseball player who is currently playing in the major leagues for his character, leadership, playing abilities and community service. Individuals are recommended by their respective post. View a list of recipients online.

*legion.org/baseball/awards*