

STATE VFW BASEBALL TOURNAMENT CHECKLIST 2015

(changes highlighted in yellow)

1. The United States Flag must fly at all games.
2. Color Guards will present the "Colors" the first game of each day and before the Championship game.
3. The National Anthem will be played at the beginning of each session or at least once a day.
4. A Tournament official announcer for all sessions will introduce the players for each game. (He will introduce all players along baselines and then the National Anthem will play. Where there is multiple games on multiple fields there may be changes in tournament criteria.)
5. The Pledge of Allegiance and the Sportsmanship Code will be said before each game after the team introductions.
6. The official scorekeeper for the tournament will assign a scorekeeper for each session.
7. Field care will be provided before each session, with freshen-up maintenance between games.
8. Gate keeper and ticket takers will be provided by the Host City. Admission charge can be a maximum of \$5.00 per day or \$15 for a three day tournament.
9. Baseballs, umpires and groundskeepers will be furnished and paid by the host team. All umpires for state tournament must be registered and an umpire in chief shall be certified. (Questions call state VFW Headquarters) All games will have 2 umpires with the exception of the championship game which may have 3 umpires if so decided at the coaches meeting prior to the start of the tournament. This rule excluded 10 and under tournaments and 12 and under tournaments.
10. Baseball umpires and officials are to be on duty at least 20 minutes before each game starts.
11. All VFW Baseball State Tournament games are to be governed by official VFW Baseball Rules.
12. Host City will provide a team-housing chairman who will assist all teams with accommodations and also act as a liaison in case of team damage.
13. Emergency Medical care must be available, telephone to emergency services or EMT on duty with beeper for medical needs or beeper on grounds connected to emergency services.
14. Concession stand facility will be available for all fans and players with all proceeds going to the host team.
15. Host team will be responsible for contacting local and statewide TV, radio and newspapers with tournament results.
16. All South Dakota State VFW Officials and Commissioners, who wish to attend a State Tournament at their own expense, are entitled to a Tournament Pass at Tournament Headquarters.
17. The tournament book or program should include the names of VFW State Officers, State Baseball Chairman and Regional Commissioners. Also the program and sportswear will be required to use the following wording; "South Dakota VFW Baseball Tournament"
18. Game times for tournament games: determined by the VFW Baseball State chairman and/or the Department VFW Headquarters and the host team. For eight team tournaments the times are 12:00 noon, 2:30 pm, 5:30 pm and 8:00 pm. Host team should contact State Headquarters to get time changes. On Sundays the first game usually starts at 12:00 noon and the other games usually follow at the normal times. If you want an earlier start, you must get permission from the State Chairman or State Headquarters. Pool tournaments usually start earlier in the day, usually it is determined by the number of fields and number of teams in the tournament.
19. Host City will provide a facility and leadership for a team meeting in the morning before the afternoon tournament kick-off. All rules, regulations and check of team member's date of birth, team rosters and team insurance forms will be covered and checked at this time. The umpire-in-chief, all other umpires, tournament announcer, tournament scorekeeper, tournament grounds keeper, tournament chairman and team coaches should be present.
Items that should be discussed or completed at this meeting:
 1. Date of Birth for each player checked.
 2. Check team roster check to see player was registered for the season.
 3. Regional and State Tournaments Rule #8. All teams, including coaches, shall be in baseball uniforms for tournament play. If a coach or team player is not in uniform, they will not be allowed on the field. This is optional for 12 and 10 under tournaments but appropriate attire is required, no cut off shorts.
 4. The following rules should be read at this meeting:
Regional and State Tournaments: Rules #4, #7, #12, #14, #19, and #20. **Equipment:** Rules #2 and #3.
Regulations: Rules #4, #5, #6 and #8.
 5. Tournament officials and team coaches should decide the method of how home and guest teams for each game will be chosen, except when a four region format is used. See Rule #6 Regional and State Tournaments.
20. Trophies will be furnished for state tournaments by the Department of South Dakota Veterans of Foreign Wars. Trophies for all eight team tournaments shall be awarded to the winner, runner-up, third and fifth place winner. Individual medals will also be given to the members of all the teams in the tournament. Trophies for all pool play tournaments shall be awarded to the winner, runner-up and third place winner. Individual medals will also be given to the members of all the top four teams in a pool play tournament. Team Sportsmanship Awards will be presented by the State Umpires Association for Varsity State Tournaments and the State VFW for 13-14 Year Old Division. No awards for MVP or Batting champion are allowed at a State Tournament.
21. Host Committee should read and be familiar with all VFW Baseball rules.
22. It is the responsibility of the tournament host team to take a picture of the championship team and mail it to Department Headquarters.
23. All South Dakota VFW State Officers or State Officials are entitled to a Tournament Pass at all State Tournaments.
24. Host tournament teams will pay an appropriate fee to the State VFW Headquarters for hosting a State VFW Tournament. Fee shall be paid to the State VFW Headquarters within 30 days prior or 30 days after the tournament is completed.
25. All teams are required to participate in opening ceremonial functions.