

Bethlehem Hilltop League

41st Annual Pinto World Series

Dear Mountaineer Baseball Association Pinto Members:

The Bethlehem Hilltop League cordially invites each of your organizations' Pinto Division teams to the **41st Annual Bethlehem Pinto World Series**, a great area tradition. We hope to see all teams represented at this year's Pinto World Series, which serves the Mountaineer Baseball Association as its unsanctioned Pinto Division Championship Tournament.

The information, which follows, outlines the general format of the tournament, as well as qualifications for entry.

Dates of Play: Play is scheduled to begin on **Tuesday, June 25th and could continue**

Wednesday, July 3rd (Weather Permitting). To avoid work conflicts for busy parents and coaches, weekday evening games will try to be scheduled for at 5:30 pm and 6:45 pm.

If play is delayed into the weekend following the 4th of July, we will resume the tournament the following week.

Tournament Format: There will be two (2) double-elimination tournament fields – Division I (*The Championship Bracket*) and Division II (*The Future Champions Bracket*). The Division I tournament winner is declared the 2024 Pinto Division Overall Tournament Champion.

Suspension: Any player or coach that is ejected from a game will be subject to suspension upon review by the tournament committee. Sportsmanship: In the interest of maintaining a quality event, the tournament committee reserves the right to eject any person from the site for unruly or unsportsmanlike behavior.

Batting The Entire Lineup: Teams will bat the entire lineup, each player is considered a starter and the team has free defensive substitution for that game. If a player is injured during the game in which a team is batting the entire lineup, their spot in the lineup is skipped with no penalty. Once the spot in the lineup is skipped due to an injury, that player is not eligible to return to the game in any capacity. If a player is ejected from a game that spot in the lineup will be recorded as an out for the rest of the game. *It is the responsibility of the opposing team to verify the accuracy of the other team's lineup prior to the start of each game. Managers must bring any issues to the attention of a Tournament Official before the game. **If a lineup issue is discovered during the game, the ruling will be that the lineup is corrected at that point for the rest of the game. If it is brought to our attention after the game – there will be no penalty. There will not be a forfeit in this situation since the opposing team** is responsible for verifying the other team's lineup prior to the start of the game.

2024 MBA regular-seasons Pinto rosters are the rosters for all teams.

Organizations may not, under any circumstance, laterally move players between MBA Pinto teams. However, teams may move Shetland level players up within their organization ONLY to fill roster spots left vacated by unavailable Pinto players. Once the regular-season Pinto player becomes available for play, the Shetland player must be removed from the active tournament roster. The exception to this rule will be for the Shetland competitive teams will be allowed to combine to form one eligible team. If a Shetland player from that team is needed for their home organization they

will be allowed to play for said team but each player will only be allowed for 1 established Pinto team. They will not be a roving player for multiple teams. The Shetland team will be added to the Futures Bracket.

Games that are suspended are restarted from the point where the game left off. Games that are called after the trailing team has had 12 outs at bat (after 3 ½ innings for away team or 4 innings for home team) are considered completed games, with the exception of championship and/or trophy games which will be played to completion.

Time Limit: No inning shall begin after **1 Hour, 15 Minutes**. Except for, if game is tied at the end of six innings, it shall go into extra innings until a winner is declared. There is no time limit for Semi-Final or Championship games.

Mercy Rule: For all games – 15 runs after 3 innings; 10 runs after 4 innings; and 8 runs after 5 innings.

Illegal Bat Penalty: If the umpire discovers that a batter enters the batter's box with an illegal bat, the batter will be called out (even if a pitch has not been thrown). If the illegal bat is discovered after the ball is put into play (but before the next pitch is thrown to the next batter), the defensive team will have the choice of the result of play or the batter being called out and all runners returning to the base occupied before the pitch. An appeal on the legality of the bat must be made prior to the next pitch thrown to the next batter or the result of the previous at-bat will stand.

Second Offense – If a team is found in violation of this rule a second time (either in the same game or in any other game throughout the tournament), in addition to the previous penalty, the manager will be immediately ejected and could face further suspension.

Courtesy Runner/Speed Up Rule: Teams may pinch run for the pitcher and catcher at any time. The last recorded out will be the runner. If the pitcher or catcher is the last recorded out, the next spot in the lineup will be the runner.

Seeding: Seeding in each tournament will still be primarily based upon regular season records during 2023 MBA regular season play.

Seeding in Bracket play will be determined by pool play records, if pool play is adapted by the tournament committee for the current season.

Seeding Tie-Breakers: 1) Win Percentage 2) Total Wins 3) Runs against 4) Runs for 5) Coin Toss

2024 MBA Pinto Rules are employed except as amended herein and/or at the Manager's Meeting rules review.

A strong team with winning record could, in the discretion of the Tournament Director, be placed in the Division I tournament if the Tournament believes it is in the best interests of the Division II tournament.

Cost: **\$250.00 (Per Team)**. This fee must be paid by the Manager's Meeting. Please make all checks payable to "Bethlehem Hilltop League" and please designate the team name(s) on the check's memo line. Checks may also be mailed to Bethlehem Hilltop League, c/o Ryan Kempkens, President, P.O. Box 6863, Bethlehem, WV 26003. Online payment can also be made at <https://bethlehembaseballwv.com/sites/BethlehemBaseball/home>

Register on our website @- bethlehembaseballwv.com

Mandatory Manager's Meeting: Will be held at Bethlehem Community Park on Monday, June 24th at Bethlehem Community Park (**Someone representing your team MUST ATTEND**). Bring a copy of your tournament roster to the meeting.

Awards: Championship rings Awarded D I 1st place Medals to D I 2nd and 3rd Medals Awarded to DII 1st, 2nd, and 3rd.

For More information:

Contact: Ryan Kempkens @ 304-650-9938

Please mail Check for \$250.00 entry fee to:

Bethlehem Hilltop Baseball
C/O Ryan Kempkens, President
P.O. Box 6863
Wheeling, WV 26003



