



AAU BASEBALL

GRAND NATIONALS

9U and 10U: June 17 – 22, 2013
11U, 12U and 13U: June 23 – 29, 2013

ESPN WIDE WORLD OF SPORTS and
Additional Selected Venues as Needed
Minimum 7 Games Scheduled - \$850 Entry Fee

Leadoffs and stealing allowed in all age groups
13U played on 90' diamond with 60' pitching distance



2013 AAU BASEBALL



ESPN WIDE WORLD OF SPORTS COMPLEX - ORLANDO, FLORIDA ADDITIONAL VENUES AS NEEDED

AAU MEMBERSHIP: All athletes, coaches, scorekeeper and bat-persons must hold a current AAU membership. All non-athletes must request their memberships 10 days in advance to make sure your background check clears in time for check-in. No coach may be admitted without a valid membership. In addition, all teams must hold a current AAU club membership. All athletes and non-athletes, including the team administrator, listed on the roster will receive credentials for entrance into the ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex.

Membership can be obtained at <http://aabaseball.org/Membership/SignUp.aspx>.

DATES: 9U and 10U: June 17-22 2013 (Check-in and Coaches' Meeting June 16, 2013)
11U, 12U, 13U: June 23-29, 2013 (Check-in and Coaches' Meeting June 22, 2013)

ENTRY FEE: \$850 for a minimum 7-game schedule. If paying by credit card, a \$25.50 convenience fee is added. Checks are also acceptable. Entry fee includes tournament patches. It is not required that patches be affixed to the uniform. All tournament registration is online. Visit www.aabaseball.org and click on National Championships, then Full Details, then Tournament Registration.

ENTRY DEADLINE: Monday, May 27, 2013 at 11:59 PM ET. Register early for this popular event. Once the entry deadline passes, teams on the waitlist will be cleared. Teams who have not completed their tournament registration online (including roster) will be removed if the event is full. Team registration is not complete until your roster has been uploaded and entry fees submitted. **An Intent to Participate does not hold a slot for your team.**

QUALIFYING: See the AAU Rules Handbook at www.aabaseball.org for qualifying methods.

TEAM CHECK-IN: A person listed as bench personnel shall register the team at the appointed check in time below. This is a mandatory requirement. All team registration shall occur at **Holiday Inn Lake Buena Vista Downtown** (Disney, 1805 Hotel Plaza Blvd., Lake Buena Vista, FL; across the street from the AAU National Office). The phone number for the Holiday Inn Lake Buena Vista Downtown is 407.828.8888. Players do not come to team check-in.

If a team is unable to check in at their assigned time, the team must contact the AAU Baseball department at the National Office **prior to the event** to make alternate arrangements. *Failure to check in at the designated time or to contact AAU Headquarters in advance to make alternate arrangements may affect your team's eligibility to participate in the National Championship.*

Each team shall present an **"ELIGIBILITY BOOK"** for review at check-in. The **"ELIGIBILITY BOOK"** must contain:

1. Copy of the team AAU Online Roster to be used at the event.
2. Copy of each athlete's Proof of Age.
3. List of AAU membership numbers for all athletes and bench personnel. It is not necessary to print each individual AAU membership card.

The **"ELIGIBILITY BOOK"** may be held at registration for review or requested to be seen by a member of the AAU Staff at any time during the tournament. Always have your Eligibility Book with you during your games. Any book held for review shall be returned to the team. Failure to have proper documentation at registration or during the event may result in athlete or team disqualification.

Credentials and player gifts will be distributed at team check-in. If you have a team administrator (general manager, team mom, team dad, etc. and they have an AAU number, please bring a copy of their AAU membership card. Limit one per team.

CHECK-IN SCHEDULE:	9U	4:30 - 5:30 PM	Sunday, June 16
	10U	5:30 - 6:30 PM	Sunday, June 16
	11U	3:30 - 4:30 PM	Saturday, June 22
	12U	4:30 - 5:30 PM	Saturday, June 22
	13U	5:30 - 6:30 PM	Saturday, June 22

COACHES MEETING:	9U	7:00 - 8:00 PM	Sunday, June 16
	10U	7:00 - 8:00 PM	Sunday, June 16
	11U	7:00 - 8:00 PM	Saturday, June 22
	12U	7:00 - 8:00 PM	Saturday, June 22
	13U	7:00 - 8:00 PM	Saturday, June 22

The coaches meeting will be held at the Holiday Inn Lake Buena Vista Downtown, 1805 Hotel Plaza Blvd., Lake Buena Vista, FL ,32830. 9U and 10U teams may bring no more than two coaches to the meeting. **11U/12U/13U teams may bring ONE COACH ONLY due to limited space.**

Per AAU rules, if a team does not send a coach to the coaches' meeting or make alternate arrangements in advance if necessary, the head coach will be suspended for the first game following the missed meeting.

OPENING

CEREMONIES:

9U / 10U

Monday, June 17

Behind Champion Stadium

11U / 12U / 13U

Sunday, June 23

Behind Champion Stadium

All players and coaches must be assembled by 7:00 p.m. for staging. Proceed through the main entrance turnstiles, directly across the concourse, and down the stairs.

Any players assigned special roles in the ceremony must be present at 6:00 p.m. for rehearsal on the playing field (Enter the field at the 1st base dugout).

Opening Ceremonies begin promptly at 8:00 p.m.

Tournament passes will grant access to Opening Ceremonies (In order to avoid the long lines of friends and family buying tickets prior to the start of Opening Ceremonies, purchase tournament passes earlier in the day). Please bring a replica of your state's flag or team banner for the Opening Ceremonies.

Players must wear their full baseball uniform (jersey and baseball pants) at Opening Ceremonies, except cleats. Coaches will wear their coaching uniforms and be dressed alike.

Teams may bring team trading pins to exchange during the staging period before Opening Ceremonies and during the week. Trading pins are optional. AAU does not know how many teams will participate in this activity from year to year. Therefore, we recommend your team set a budget for pins, and distribute your budgeted number of pins among your players regardless of the number of teams participating in pin trading. Your players can then decide with which teams they personally want to trade. ESPN pin lanyards are available for purchase if you wish.

SCHEDULES

and FORMAT:

Every attempt will be made to post schedules one week before the first day of competition. Late team cancellations or additions may delay the posting of the schedule. Games will begin daily at 7:30 a.m., *including on the day of Opening Ceremonies*. Each team will play at least one pool play game prior to Opening Ceremonies. After opening day most teams will play two games daily. Single-elimination will begin on day 5 (one or more age groups may begin on day 4), semi-finals and the championship games will be played on day 6. The format and schedule are subject to change due to weather, broadcast schedules, or field needs.

Each team will be scheduled a minimum of seven games. Teams will be placed in pools of four (4). In the event of uneven teams, it is possible that one or more pools may have five (5) teams. In this instance, not all teams will play each other. To group teams according to their exhibited skill level, after the first round of pool

play the first- and second-place teams in the pool will be placed in the Diamond bracket; the remaining teams will be placed in the Gold bracket.

In the event of 5-team pools, first- through third-place will advance to the Diamond division. The next round of pool play in teams' new divisions will determine the seeding for single-elimination. All teams will advance to the single-elimination round.

UNIFORMS:

Uniforms and equipment shall be pursuant to the rules published by NFHS with any exceptions/additions implemented by the AAU.

COACHES' ATTIRE:

Preferred attire for coaches is the full baseball uniform. If coaches are not in full uniform, they must be in appropriate matching athletic attire consistent with the team uniform (i.e. collared shirts, coaches' dress shorts, such as golf shorts, khaki, chinos, etc; baseball caps, and athletic shoes. Open-toed shoes are not acceptable.). Athletic shorts, mesh shorts, etc. are not allowed. Baggy basketball short, shorts that extend well below the knees, and the like will not be allowed. Coaches' shorts with team logos or similar *will* be allowed. The key is that coaches are expected to have a professional and neat appearance. Only baseball caps may be worn on the field and must be worn with the brim in front. No hats other than baseball caps may be worn.

PENALTY - If these requirements are not met, that particular coach(es) ***will not*** be eligible to participate until he is in compliance with the rule. Coach(es) not in compliance will not be allowed to take the field until they are properly attired. Whether a coaches' attire is appropriate is solely a judgment call by the tournament director and may not be appealed.

AAU PATCH:

Included in the National Championship entry fee will be patches for players and coaches. The patches may be worn on the uniform or kept as a memento of the event.

The AAU National Championship patch may be affixed to the left sleeve of the uniform jersey or over the left chest of a sleeveless uniform jersey. Players may also elect to wear the AAU shield (ordered online for \$1.00) on either the left sleeve of the uniform or the center back between the shoulders. Additional tournament patches may be ordered for \$3.00 at www.aabaseball.org.

BASEBALLS:

Official AAU Rawlings baseballs will be provided for all Grand Nationals games.

RULES OF PLAY:

The most current High School Baseball Rules as published by the National Federation of State High School Districts except where modified (see AAU Baseball Handbook:

http://image.aausports.org/handbooks/baseball/Baseball_Handbook.pdf

An abbreviated handbook with tournament rules is posted at

<http://image.aausports.org/dnn/baseball/pdf/2011/2011-Abbreviated.pdf>

It is strongly recommended that coaches print this abbreviated version and have it with them at all times during the Grand Nationals. Note that coaches are responsible to familiarize themselves with all AAU rules and policies as described

in the full AAU Handbook and not just those playing rules highlighted in the abbreviated rules.

EXTENDED

INCLEMENT WEATHER:

In the event of extended inclement weather, at its **sole discretion** the tournament committee may deem it necessary to alter the tournament format by shortening either the time limit for games and/or reducing the number of innings that will constitute an official game, or other means necessary to complete the tournament within the published dates. It is also possible that in these conditions, games may roll to the following day, teams may play more games in one day than originally scheduled, and single-elimination may have to begin on a day that pool play has just finished. The entire rain policy can be found in the AAU Rules Handbook.

REFUNDS DUE TO WEATHER:

Every attempt will be made to complete a minimum of seven games per team. However, in the event of extended, extreme, weather (as determined solely by the tournament committee), 100% refund will be given if the event is totally cancelled, 75% refund will be given if one game is played, 50% refund will be given if two games are played, and no refund will be given if three or more games are played.

ELIGIBILITY:

The National Championship will be subject to monitoring by the National Baseball Executive Committee.

At the Grand National Championships in ALL AGE GROUPS, all team members must be on the roster filed 7 days prior to team check-in. Even though a player(s) may not be physically present at time of team check-in, the player(s) will still be eligible to play if the player(s) check-in with AAU Tournament Director prior to the start of the team's first (1st) game of the second (2nd) round of pool play.

If a player is found to be ineligible prior to the start of the tournament, the player will be disqualified from the tournament. If a player is found to be ineligible after the tournament has begun, upon discovery, that player and head coach will be expelled from the competition. All games in which the ineligible player participated in the most current round will be forfeited, the team will be placed as last seed in that round, and may be subject to future sanctions. Coaches are responsible to see that their team meets all eligibility requirements.

Any questions pertaining to the eligibility of a player or team shall be directed to the Tournament Director or his/her designee in attendance. All claims of an ineligible player must be accompanied by proof, and will be determined by the National Chair, Senior Sports Manager, and AAU Director of Sports.

PLAYER AGE DETERMINATION:

AGE GROUP	BORN ON /AFTER
9U	May 1, 2003
10U	May 1, 2002
11U	May 1, 2001

12U

May 1, 2000

13U

May 1, 1999

Proof of age is required for participation in AAU and must be produced upon request. Acceptable forms of birth documents are listed in the AAU Rules Handbook. No other forms will be accepted.

PLAYER ROSTER:

Rosters are limited to a maximum of 20 players. A team advancing from a qualifier shall be allowed to add or replace up to five (5) players on the roster with which the team qualified, provided it does not exceed 20 players. All Grand National rosters must be filed online at least seven days prior to the event. Super Regional winners must file their roster online within 72 hours of winning the event. If the initial roster is not filed within 72 hours, the berth for Nationals will no longer be valid.

COACHES:

Each team is entitled to a maximum of **three (3) bench personnel (head coach and assistants) and (1) one scorekeeper/assistant coach**. Each individual must be a registered as an AAU non-athlete. Please remember non-athlete memberships no longer process immediately due to mandatory background checks. Please allow up to ten days for your membership to be processed. Only those coaches/scorekeepers filed on the online roster will be permitted on the field or in the dugout. Team administrators are not coaches and will not be allowed on the field or in the dugout.

TEAM

ADMINISTRATOR:

Each team may have one rostered team administrator (business manager, team mom, team dad, travel coordinator, etc.). One rostered team administrator will receive credentials but will not be allowed on the field of play or in the dugout.

BATPERSONS:

No more than two (2) bat-persons may be registered by each team. Each bat-person is should be between the ages 8-18 at the time of the tournament and registered as an AAU non-athlete. If a batperson is younger than 8 years old, s/he must have served as a batperson throughout at least one season. Batpersons must wear helmets when in live playing areas.

**AWARDS and
CEREMONIES:**

Award ceremonies will be held for 1st-8th place teams in each the Diamond and Gold divisions. These ceremonies will commence immediately following each game that determines 1st through 8th place. Teams will proceed to the medal ceremony in the designated area of the main complex concourse just outside the stadium seating level. Photos will be permitted.

Team trophies will be awarded to the top four (4) teams in each the Diamond and Gold divisions. Individual medals will be awarded to the top eight (8) teams in each the Diamond and Gold divisions.

A Sportsmanship trophy will also be awarded to a team or individual that exemplifies the award during the tournament. The presentation of awards will be held immediately following the completion of the games for 1st through 8th place.

CONDUCT:

Players' and coaches' conduct should be above reproach, both on and off the diamond. Any misconduct will result in disqualification from the championship without refund. Coaches listed on the official team roster will be responsible for the conduct of their players and fans for any damages incurred to the motel(s) or facilities used by their rostered players. Any player or coach who is ejected from a game will also be disqualified from that team's following game. The second occurrence during the tournament results in suspension for the remainder of the tournament as well as possible imposition of further sanctions.

PROTESTS:

Protests must be made verbally with the umpire by the offended team at the time of the play and before the next pitch. A fee of \$100.00 cash (refunded if upheld) must accompany the protest. All decisions of the protest committee shall be final. Only decisions involving the misinterpretation or misapplication of a specific rule may be protested. No protest shall be allowed in matters involving solely the officials' judgment.

**WITHDRAWAL OF
TOURNAMENT ENTRY:**

Deadline for withdrawal of the tournament will be the tournament entry deadline or when the tournament fills, whichever comes first. If a team does not give notification of withdrawal prior to the tournament deadline date or the tournament filling the team forfeits their entry fee.

SPECTATOR ADMISSION:

Spectator admission is required for all events at ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex. Daily admission will be available for \$TBA per adult and \$TBA per child (ages 3-9). Tournament passes (Length of Event passes) are available for \$64 per adult and \$44 for children. Tickets/Tournament passes are only available at the box office upon arrival at ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex. Advance ticketing is not available.

COOLER POLICY:

Each guest may bring a single cooler of up to one gallon in size for personal use. Coaches may bring a single cooler into the facility of up to five (5) gallons for team use. No alcoholic beverages and/or glass containers will be permitted. Please also note that no lockable storage is available for cooler or other personal belongings. Disney is not responsible for personal items that are lost or stolen.

SHELTER POLICY:

Covered seating is available at all ESPN Wide World of Sports fields. Pop-up tents/shelters are allowed but must be down the foul lines back from the bleacher line of view.

TAPING POLICY:

Taping is free if athletes bring their own tape and pre-wrap. Athletes that do not bring their own taping kit and are seeking preventative taping may purchase a taping kit (one roll each of pre-wrap and tape) at D-Sports between the hours of 10am-5pm. The receipt is taken to the trainer to receive the kit and to be taped.

After hours, you may purchase the kit directly from the Athletic Trainer, but exact change will be required. Additional rolls of tape may also be purchased. There is no fee for taping related to injuries sustained during competition, IF the injury has been evaluated and logged at the time it occurred by the Athletic Trainer.

TRANSPORTATION and PARKING:

Teams are responsible for their own transportation to and from ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex. Teams are also responsible for their own transportation to/from the off-site venues. Transportation is not provided to/from offsite venues. If using Disney busses for transportation to/from ESPN Wide World of Sports, be sure to ask about the bus schedule. The busses last run may be earlier than the end of your game(s).

Parking at ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex is complimentary. Please plan to arrive early. If the parking lot is full you may need to be shuttled to and from ESPN Wide World of Sports Complex.

HOUSING and THEME PARKS:

AAU has selected Anthony Travel as the Official Housing Provider for all AAU Orlando events beginning in 2013. This partnership has been put in place to help streamline your travel management efforts and provide competitive hotel rates, specially-priced theme park tickets, and amenities for you in the Orlando area. Although there is no requirement to book with Anthony Travel, we highly recommend their services for the following reasons listed below.

Anthony Travel offers discounted accommodations, outstanding customer service and an overall greater travel experience than in years past!

Hotel accommodations are now available and guests can book online (<https://www.anthonytravel.com/aau/baseball/>), 24 hours a day, or by calling (866) 796-5222, Monday through Friday from 8:30 AM to 5 PM CT.

Deeply discounted Walt Disney World theme park tickets are available for those guests who are attending AAU Baseball events. For information about park tickets, contact Anthony Travel as per above.

AAU, Disney and Anthony Travel look forward to serving you in 2013!

COACHES' EDUCATION:

The AAU National Office is happy to announce to its members, FREE Coaches' Education for all **AAU Non-Athletes**. This exciting program is **MANDATORY** for all AAU Non-Athletes and will be administered by **Positive Coaching Alliance (PCA)**. Please visit www.aausports.org and click on JOIN NOW in order to enter and take the MANDATORY AAU/PCA coaches educational course. Membership may be revoked from non-athletes who do not complete course prior to competition.

**NEW ERA NATIONAL
YOUTH BASEBALL
CHAMPIONSHIP
TOURNAMENT:**

In the 12U age group the winner of the Diamond Division Grand National Championship will represent the AAU at the New Era Youth Baseball Championship Tournament in Memphis, Tennessee. This tournament is to determine the “best of the best” in youth baseball. The national champions of all the major national travel baseball programs leave it all on the field and one champion emerges.



FOR MORE GRAND NATIONALS INFORMATION:

Visit <http://www.aabaseball.org/> or contact:

AAU National Headquarters
Debra Horn
Senior Sport Manager
debra@aausports.org
407.828.3459

FOR COMPLETE AAU RULES:

Rules listed in this package are excerpts from the AAU Handbook. It is the responsibility of every coach to review the rules in their entirety prior to the Grand National Championships. It is also recommended coaches print a copy of these rules and bring them to the Grand Nationals, or have internet access while at the event. Complete rules can be found at www.aabaseball.org under the AAU Rules/Info tab, or by clicking on this link:

http://image.aausports.org/handbooks/baseball/baseball_handbook.pdf

The AAU can not and does not guarantee the appearance and/or participation of specific participant(s) and/or teams (as applicable) in this event, nor can it guarantee the number of teams that will participate. The AAU has sanctioned (approved) this Event as an official AAU Event (competition), but the AAU is not and shall not be responsible for any participant's or spectator's expenses related to this Event (nor reimbursements for same) in case of dissatisfaction of any participant, friend, family, or spectator. This includes, but is not limited to, all travel, hotel (lodging), food, entry fees and/or any other expenses related to the event.