

## Overview

Aquafina® Major League Baseball® PITCH, HIT & RUN™ provides youngsters across the country an opportunity to participate in an exciting baseball skills competition. This national initiative gives boys and girls, ages 7 – 14, the chance to showcase their pitching, hitting, and running abilities.

PITCH, HIT & RUN™ is intended to encourage youth participation and emphasize the “FUN” element of baseball. Since there is NO registration fee, everyone has the opportunity to participate.

PITCH, HIT & RUN™ tests three of the most fundamental aspects of baseball – pitching, hitting and running. **PITCH:** Participant is tested throwing strikes to a designated “Strike Zone” target. **HIT:** Youngster hits a ball off a stationary tee for distance and accuracy. **RUN:** Youngster is timed, starting from second base, touching third then home. All of the events are individually scored and converted to a total point score through the use of conversion tables. Boys and girls compete together at all levels of competition. Participants will compete in each of the three components of PITCH, HIT & RUN™, and accumulate a total score based on his/her performance.

## Levels of Competition

PITCH, HIT & Run™ is a national grassroots program that has four levels of competition – Local, Sectional, Team Championship and National Finals. The first level is of a **LOCAL** scope. Everyone must participate in a local competition in order to advance to the higher levels. Champions at the local level advance to **SECTIONAL** Competitions. At this level, the Sectional ALL-Around Champions become eligible to advance to the **TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS**, which are held during June in all 30 Major League Baseball® markets. The culmination occurs at the **NATIONAL FINALS**, held in St. Louis, MO at the 2009 MLB™ ALL-Star Game®.

## How To Advance

Each youngster **MUST** first participate at a local competition. The 1<sup>st</sup> place All-Around, Pitching, Hitting and Running Champions in each age group advance to the Sectional competition including those that tie in any category. At the Sectional competition, the youngster must be a 1<sup>st</sup> Place All-Around Champion in his/her age group in order to qualify to advance to the Team Championship. The Sectional All-Around Champions’ scores are compared with the other Sectional Champions’ scores in that respective MLB™ team market. The Top 4 participants in each age group advance to the Team Championship. The Sectional Champion does **NOT** automatically advance to the Team Championship. After the Team Championships, the ALL-Around Champions in each age group are ranked nationally by total score. The champions’ scores from all 30 team markets are compared and the top scorers in each age group nationwide advance to the National Finals in St. Louis, MO at the 2009 MLB™ ALL-Star Game®.

## Competition Rules

- All participants must provide a copy of a valid birth certificate or baptismal record at all levels of competition.
- Each youngster may participate in only one local competition. Competing in more than one local will result in disqualification of that individual.
- No metal spikes are allowed during any portion of the competition.

- In the event of a tie for the ALL-Around Champion, the youngster winning more individual events (Pitching, Hitting or Running), among those involved with the tie, will be named the ALL-Around Champion. If a tie still exists, the youngster with the higher Hitting score among those involved with the tie, will be named the ALL-Around Champion. If a tie still exists, the Running scores of those involved with the tie will be used to determine the ALL-Around Champion. There is no tiebreaker in the individual skill events.
- In the event of threatening weather conditions, cancellations and rescheduling will be determined by the hosting organization at the competition site.
- Major League Baseball®, LEJ Sports Group and state coordinators and organizers of the PITCH, HIT & RUN™ competition reserve the right to make rulings and recommendations regarding the competition events determined to be in the best interest of the program. ALL ruling and recommendations are final.
- Participation in the PITCH, HIT & RUN™ competition authorizes Major League Baseball®, Pepsi-Cola Company®, and LEJ Sports Group to use participant's name, likeness and other personality rights for promotional use without compensation.

### **Age Verification Chart**

Age is determined as of July 17, 2009. The following chart is an age group breakdown for the PITCH, HIT & RUN™ events in 2009.

Age 7/8	July 18, 2000 – July 17, 2002
Age 9/10	July 18, 1998 - July 17, 2000
Age 11/12	July 18, 1996 – July 17, 1998
Age 13/14	July 18, 1994 – July 17, 1996

### **Registration**

Pre-registrations are highly encouraged – [click here](#). You may also register on site, the day of the event. Either way, remember to bring a copy of a valid birth certificate or baptismal record. There is no cost for this event.

### **Contacts**

For further information contact:

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