

## Today's five games will determine final four in Junior League Baseball World Series in Taylor

TAYLOR, MICHIGAN – Today is the final day of round-robin pool play at the Junior League Baseball World Series at Heritage Park in Taylor, Michigan. Five games will determine the finalists for the International and USA championships:

- Taoyuan, Chinese Taipei vs. Willemstad, Curacao, 9 a.m.
- Massapequa, New York vs. Bedford, Indiana, Noon
- Brno, Czech Republic vs. Willemstad, Curacao, 2:45 p.m.
- Calgary, Alberta, Canada vs. Taoyuan, Chinese Taipei, 5:30 p.m.
- Lafayette, Louisiana vs. Rio Rico, Arizona, 8:15 p.m.

On Wednesday night, Goodlettsville, Tennessee became the first team to qualify for the USA Championship game. A walk-off bases-loaded single to right field by Dylan Kelly scored Terron Smith in the bottom of the eighth inning to beat Massapequa, New York 5-4.

New York had the bases loaded with one out in the top of the eighth, but an attempted suicide squeeze bunt was foiled when Tennessee pitcher Drew Cummings caught a pop-up and threw to third baseman Dalton Hall, who tagged third base to double off the runner who had charged home.

"That was a momentum changer right there," said Tennessee Manager Tommy Biggerstaff.

The victory gave the USA Southeast champions from Tennessee a 3-1 win and a spot in the USA championship game at 7 p.m. Friday. Tennessee will play the winner of today's final game between Lafayette, Louisiana and Rio Rico, Arizona. Both teams are 2-1.

Arizona had two come-from-behind wins on Wednesday in the World Series. The USA West Region champions defeated New York and Bedford, Indiana, each by a 2-1 score.

In the first game, Arizona's Samuel Legleu Jr. and Angel Chavez scored in the bottom of the sixth to erase a 1-0 New York lead. In the nightcap, Legleu scored in the top of the eighth to break a 1-1 tie. Oscar Lechuga Jr. earned the win in the early game. Brian Garcia picked up the victory in the second game with Miguel Escobar earning the save.

The Asia-Pacific champions from Taoyuan, Chinese Taipei scored 13 runs in the second inning and rolled to a 15-0 win over Manati, Puerto Rico, in the day's opening game. Chinese Taipei and Willemstad, Curacao, are 2-0 and on top of the World Series International Pool. They play at 9 a.m. Thursday.

Puerto Rico recovered for a 3-2 win over Brno, Czech Republic when Christian Velez doubled home Hector Torres and Oscar Figueroa to break a 1-1 tie in the fourth inning. A solo home run by Ondrej Furko in the sixth wasn't enough for the European champions, who fell to 1-2. Puerto Rico finished pool play at 2-2.

### USA Pool

Goodlettsville, Tennessee	3-1
Lafayette, Louisiana	2-1
Rio Rico, Arizona	2-1
Bedford, Indiana	1-2
Massapequa Park, New York	0-3

### International Pool

Willemstad, Curacao	2-0
Taoyuan, Chinese Taipei	2-0
Manati, Puerto Rico	2-2
Brno, Czech Republic	1-2
Calgary, Alberta, Canada	0-3

### Friday's schedule

International Championship Game, 4 p.m.  
USA Championship Game, 7 p.m.

### Saturday's schedule

World Championship Game, 2 p.m.

Games are played on World Series Field at Taylor's Heritage Park, 12111 Pardee Road. Admission is \$5 per day per carload – or \$10 for a weeklong pass. Both prices include parking.

The 33rd annual world tournament for 13- and 14-year-old ballplayers is the "older brother" of the more famous Little League World Series for 12-year-olds played in South Williamsport, Pennsylvania. When players turn 13 and 14, they can compete in Taylor.

Games are streamed on the Internet at [www.justin.tv/jlws\\_mi](http://www.justin.tv/jlws_mi). Fans also can follow the games at [www.gamechanger.io](http://www.gamechanger.io). Search for "Junior League World Series."

The World Series finale will be broadcast live by ESPN on its website [www.ESPN3.com](http://www.ESPN3.com). The game will be replayed on television on ESPN2 at 2 p.m. Wednesday, August 21.

For more information on the Junior League World Series, visit the website [www.cityoftaylor.com/worldseries](http://www.cityoftaylor.com/worldseries) or follow all year long on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/juniorleagueworldseries](http://www.facebook.com/juniorleagueworldseries).

