

SECTION 2. BASEBALL

*Updated 10/5/10

A. REGULATIONS FOR ALL CONFERENCE COMPETITION

1. NCAA rules shall be followed except where local ground rules require modification.
2. The local ground rules shall be given to the visiting coach and to the umpires before the game starts.
3. The home team shall determine whether or not a game is to start. Continuation of the game shall be under the absolute jurisdiction of the umpires. Normally, a game shall begin within one hour of the scheduled starting time.
4. Both home and visiting teams should use the same location for batting practice. On days when the home team has no classes, the home team will take batting practice first.
5. It is highly recommended that there be restrooms within one hundred feet of each playing facility.
6. The home team is required to provide the following items to insure the safety of the players:
 - a. a tarp for mound and home plate area.
 - b. a pitcher's protector screen.
 - c. an absorbable material for repair of the field when it becomes wet
It is recommended that the followings items also be provided:
 - d. a batting cage for home plate.
 - e. a first base and middle field screen.
7. The Official Baseball of the GLVC will be used for all conference competition
8. All schools must have a full infield tarp.
9. The fees for the umpires shall be established by the Conference. The contract of employment is the responsibility of the Director of Athletics at the host institution. The fee for umpiring must be established at the fall meeting 12 months in advance of the season in which it takes effect.
10. Starting times for single games may be established up to, but no later, than 3:00 p.m. local time. All doubleheaders must start by noon. Start times may be adjusted for weather and field conditions if mutually agreed upon by both coaches prior to the contest.
11. Coaches are required to evaluate umpires on a conference approved evaluation form and submit their evaluations to the conference office or the GLVC Assignor of Baseball Umpires every Monday during the season by 5 p.m. central time.
12. A copy of the GLVC Lightning Safety Protocol, as spelled out in Section 11.D in the GLVC Handbook, and the GLVC Tobacco Policy, as spelled out in Section 1.A.2.e in the GLVC Handbook must be posted at the site (i.e. dugouts, press box) of competition.

B. REGULAR SEASON COMPETITION

1. A schedule shall be prepared for approval by the conference. The commissioner shall send out a two-year schedule by June 1.
2. Any change in the approved baseball schedule shall be coordinated through the commissioner and approved by the commissioner. On any change the commissioner shall respond in writing to schools involved within 48 hours. Institutions may reschedule baseball games to other days of the week, provided the GLVC Schedule Change Form is signed by the ADs for the game(s) being moved.
3. Rainouts
 - a. Games between teams in the same division canceled due to inclement weather must be made up, as noted in Section 1.B.1.e. These games must be rescheduled in the order originally scheduled. Tie games halted by rain or darkness shall be completed by resuming play at the point at which the game was suspended.
 - b. Prior to their departure for the trip/contest, if the visiting team is notified by a representative (e.g. AD and/or head coach, etc.) of the host institution, that the games

will not be played, the games must be rescheduled on a date mutually agreed upon by the Athletic Directors and coaches from both institutions.

- c. Games between teams in opposite divisions canceled due to inclement weather will not be made up.
4. If circumstances prohibit use of a home field, every attempt shall be made to play elsewhere. The site shall be determined by mutual agreement of both institutions.
5. A minimum of nine innings shall be played in the first game of the Saturday doubleheader and seven innings shall be played in the second game. A minimum of seven innings shall be played in the first game of the Sunday doubleheader. The second game and any scheduled single game will be a nine inning game (or at least a four and one-half inning game if the home team is in the lead). If the first game of a Sunday doubleheader goes extra innings, the second game becomes a seven inning game.
 - a. For Friday or Saturday contests, when it is possible to resume play the following day at the same venue, or for the first meeting between mid-week opponents when a return trip is scheduled,, A halted game must resume play at exactly the point of being suspended, with the lineups and batting orders of both teams exactly the same, subject to the rules of substitution; any player (or pitcher) who played, or was announced as a substitute before the game was suspended, must be in the lineup when play resumes or be ineligible for the remainder of the game.
 - b. Any other contest shortened by decision of the umpire following the completion of 4.5 or 5 innings shall be considered a regulation game pursuant to NCAA rule 5 8.b
6. Umpire selection for all conference and non-conference games shall be the responsibility of the conference Assignor of Baseball Officials.
7. All institutions are required to provide overnight accommodations for umpires working both days of a weekend series, provided the umpires are coming from outside a 100-mile radius of the host site and request a room.
8. Regular season standings are determined as follows:
 - a. Standings are based on the highest percentage of conference games won.
 - b. In case of a tie, the standings shall be determined as follows: (Multiple teams tied see 1.c.4)
 - i. Intradivision Criteria: Ties between teams in the same division broken first using, in order:
 - a. Head-to-head competition
 - b. Overall record versus divisional opponents
 - c. Head-to-head competition with the remaining divisional institutions in order of their divisional standing (each team's record vs. the team occupying the highest position in the regular season divisional standings and then continuing down through the standings until one team gains and advantage)
 - d. Result of first-game in head-to-head series
 - e. Overall record against teams that have clinched a berth in the GLVC Tournament
 - f. Overall record versus common opponents played at the same site
 - g. Result of first-game against common opponents in order of conference standings
 - h. A coin flip by the conference commissioner
 - ii. Interdivision Criteria: After ties between teams in the same division are broken using the intradivision criteria, ties in the standings between teams in different divisions are broken using, in order (Only contests included in the conference schedule will be used in this criteria):
 - a. Head-to-head competition
 - b. Result of first game in head-to-head series
 - c. Overall record against teams that have clinched a berth in the GLVC Tournament
 - d. Overall record versus common opponents played at the same site

- e. Result of first-game against common opponents in order of conference standings
 - f. A coin flip by the conference commissioner
9. An institution may provide a three-umpire crew for home contests. (10/7/08)
 10. Home and visiting teams are to provide the press box/official scorer with a lineup prior to infield practice of the first contest of a doubleheader. The lineups for the second game should be delivered to the official scorer prior to the umpire meeting before the beginning of the second game of the doubleheader.
 11. Home and visiting teams are to provide the press box/official scorer with a lineup prior to infield practice of the first contest of a doubleheader. The lineups for the second game should be delivered to the official scorer prior to the umpire meeting before the beginning of the second game of the doubleheader. (10/7/09)

C. CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIP COMPETITION

1. A conference champion shall be determined on the basis of a season-ending eight-team, double-elimination tournament, utilizing two fields and featuring a single elimination championship game on the final day, to be scheduled one week prior to the NCAA Regional Championship, on the preceding Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. In order to be eligible for the tournament, a team must play a minimum of 60 percent of their conference contests. Times for the tournament games will be set by the GLVC Commissioner at a neutral site or in consultation with the Athletics Director and coach of the host institution. The top three teams from the East Division and the top two teams from the West Division, along with three wild card teams will qualify for the eight-team double-elimination tournament. All conference games may be completed by Tuesday of the week of the conference playoff; conference members must keep Monday and Tuesday of that week open for make-up games, provided the scheduling of make up games does not conflict with an institution's final exam schedule, pursuant to Section C.1 in the Constitution. The championship playoff will be hosted by the regular season first-place team or the Conference if the tournament is played at a neutral site.
2. For first-round games during championship competition the highest-seeded team shall be designated as the home team. In subsequent games, the home team shall be determined according to a formula applied by the games committee. In determining which of two teams in any game will be the home team the games committee shall designate the home team using the following guidelines:
 - a. The institution that has been the home team the fewer number of times in that particular tournament.
 - b. If the two teams are equal in this respect but unequal in the number of times they were the visitor, then the team that has been the visitor more often will be designated the home team.
 - c. If the two teams are equal in the number of times that they have been home and visitor, the games committee shall observe the following procedures in the order stated:
 - i. The team that was visitor in its preceding game shall be the home team, unless both teams were visitors in their preceding games;
 - ii. If the two teams have met previously in the tournament, the visitor in the previous game shall be the home team in the game in question.
 - iii. If the above procedures do not resolve the matter, the home team shall be determined by lot.
3. The home team shall occupy the third base dugout, take infield practice first and wear white uniforms. The visiting team must wear a uniform of contrasting color. The tournament director will resolve any conflict in the selection of uniforms.
4. All playoff games shall consist of nine innings and shall be completed.
5. The NCAA tournament protest procedures shall be used

6. NCAA Tournament Representative: the conference champion shall represent the GLVC in the NCAA Tournament. If unexpected termination (see Section 1.C.5.) occurs prior to the conclusion of the GLVC Championship Playoff, the team with the highest percentage of conference games won shall be designated as the GLVC automatic qualifier and be declared the GLVC champion. In case of a tie, the tie breaking procedures of 2.B.7.b, 1.C.4., and 1.C.5. will be applied to determine the GLVC automatic qualifier.
7. Teams are permitted to have 26 players in uniform and available to compete during the GLVC Baseball Tournament.
8. The conference Assignor of Baseball Officials shall select the umpires; the host institution shall appoint a games committee, furnish the baseballs, and provide all facilities necessary, including a second game field available throughout the tournament, for the administration of the playoff.
9. In the event inclement weather or wet field conditions prevent the completion of the regularly scheduled four-day, eight-team, double elimination GLVC baseball tournament, the following contingency plan will be followed:
 - a. Partial Day Policy – if it is not possible to play two games at each site on a particular day with a first-game start time of no later than 6 p.m., then the day will be considered a washout and the tournament will follow the policies in place for a day lost to weather. No game will be allowed to begin later than 10:00 p.m. local on any day of the tournament.
 - b. If the tournament is shortened by rain before it begins.

If days one, two, three, and four of the tournament are rained out completely: If the tournament is rained out prior to its' completion...the GLVC Champion will be determined as in Section 2.C.7 in the GLVC Handbook (i.e. regular season champion / 1 seed).

 - i. If days one, two, and three of the tournament are rained out completely: If three days of the tournament are rained out...the GLVC Champion will be determined by a four-team, single elimination tournament, featuring the #1, #2, #3, and #4 seeds. The #5, #6, 7 and #8 seeds will be eliminated from tournament competition.
 - ii. If days one and two of the tournament are rained out completely: If two days of are rained out and one field is available...the GLVC Champion will be determined by a six-team single elimination tournament featuring the #1, #2, #3, #4, #5, and #6 seeds as follows:
 - a. #3 seed vs #6 seed (Play-in game)
 - b. #4 vs #5 seed (Play-in game)
 - c. Lowest remaining seed vs #1 seed
 - d. Highest remaining seed vs #2 seed
 - e. Winner vs Winner (Championship Game)
 - iii. If days one and two of the tournament are rained out completely: If two days of are rained out and two fields are available...the GLVC Champion will be determined by an eight-team single elimination tournament as follows:
 - a. #8 vs. #1 (primary site)
 - b. #4 vs #5 (primary site)
 - c. #3 vs. #6 (secondary site)
 - d. #2 vs. #7 (secondary site)
 - e. Winner 8v1 vs. Winner 4v5 (primary site)
 - f. Winner 3v6 vs. Winner 2v7 (secondary site)
 - g. Championship Game
 - iv. .if day one is rained out completely; if one day is rained out and two fields are available ,the GLVC Champion will be determined by an eight-team single elimination tournament as follows:
 - a. #8 vs. #1 (primary site)
 - b. #4 vs #5 (primary site)
 - c. #3 vs. #6 (secondary site)

- d. #2 vs. #7 (secondary site)
 - e. Winner 8v1 vs. Winner 4v5 (primary site)
 - f. Winner 3v6 vs. Winner 2v7 (secondary site)
 - g. Championship Game
- v. if day one is rained out completely; if one day is rained out and only one field is available, the GLVC Champion will be determined by a six-team single elimination tournament as follows. The #7 and #8 teams are eliminated:
- a. #3 seed vs #6 seed (Play-in game)
 - b. #4 vs #5 seed (Play-in game)
 - c. Lowest remaining seed vs #1 seed
 - d. Highest remaining seed vs #2 seed
 - e. Winner vs Winner (Championship Game)
- c. If day one is completed and Friday is lost to weather, pick up bracket where left off with Day 2 and Day 3 games being played on Saturday on two fields and the if necessary and championship games played on Sunday.
 - d. If day one is completed and Friday and Saturday are lost to weather, four remaining unbeaten teams play single elimination tournament on Sunday.
 - e. If day one and day two are completed and Saturday is lost to weather, the two unbeaten teams play single championship game on Sunday.
 - f. Game 6 must be completed by Friday and Game 12 must be completed by Saturday to continue with the eight-team double-elimination bracket .
 - g. If game 4 is completed by Friday, but not game six on Friday, the four remaining teams will play a single elimination tournament on Saturday and Sunday.
 - h. Unexpected termination refer to Section 2.C.6

D. AWARDS (See Section 1 ALL SPORTS, part D. AWARDS; the following are specific additions or changes to the general guidelines given there.)

1. All Conference Team: A first, second and third team shall be selected by the coaches prior to the GLVC Tournament. Each team shall consist of 5 infielders (by position; 1B, 2B, 3B, SS, Utility), 4 outfielders, 1 designated hitter, 1 catcher, 4 starting pitchers and 1 relief pitcher.)
2. All Sports Points Places 3 and higher will be determined by regular season overall conference standings, with ties broken as in B.7.b above.
3. Weekly awards will include a Player-of-the-Week and Pitcher-of-the-Week, to be selected by the SID for the sport.
4. Postseason honors shall include a Pitcher-of-the-Year Award.

E. COACHES ASSOCIATION

1. Each Coaches Association shall meet at least once annually, either in person or by conference call. Such meetings shall be scheduled by the conference commissioner.
2. A Chairman is to be selected annually.
3. A report of the minutes and the championship event shall be filed with the conference through the commissioner before July 1st.

F. PUBLICITY AND STATISTICS

1. The NCAA statistics on conference and non-conference games shall be kept by the conference teams and reported to the conference SID. Statistical reports must be made weekly beginning with the final Monday of March through the conclusion of the season. The conference SID shall compile the conference statistics and release to the commissioner and each SID in the

conference weekly coverage of the GLVC's baseball activity. The release will include summaries of all categories reported by the NCAA and will be posted on the GLVC's official web site.

2. A designated software package will be the official statistical reference for baseball. The specific package will be selected by a majority vote of the conference SID's.
3. Each institution's SID shall provide an updated numerical roster, and a media list for the next week's conference opponents by Monday of each week.
4. A Player of the Week will be chosen and released to Conference members by the conference SID. The SID of each institution is responsible for nominating one person each week as necessary for Player of the Week consideration.
5. The conference SID will compile a composite schedule to be released to the commissioner and all conference SIDs one week before the season begins. Conference members are encouraged to provide updates to schedules as necessary due to cancelled or postponed contests.

GLVC Baseball Tournament Bracket (NOTE: See all three brackets)

Thursday:

Site 1 – Primary

Game 1 - #4 vs. #5

Game 2 - #1 vs. #8

Game 5 – Game 1 Loser vs. Game 2 Loser (one team eliminated)

Friday:

Game 7 – Game 1 Winner vs. Game 2 Winner

Game 9 – Game 5 Winner vs. Game 7 Loser (second team eliminated)

Thursday:

Site 2 – Secondary

Game 3 - #3 vs. #6

Game 4 - #2 vs. #7

Game 6 – Game 3 Loser vs. Game 4 Loser (one team eliminated)

Friday:

Game 8 – Game 3 Winner vs. Game 4 Winner

Game 10 – Game 6 Winner vs. Game 8 Loser (second team eliminated)

Saturday:

Site 1 – Primary

Game 11 – Game 7 Winner vs. Game 9 Winner (third team eliminated, maybe)

Game 12 – Game 8 Winner vs. Game 10 Winner (third team eliminated, maybe)

Game 13 (what if) - Game 7 Winner vs. Game 9 Winner (third team eliminated) or

Game 14 (what if) – Game 8 Winner vs. Game 10 Winner (third team eliminated)

Sunday:

Game 14 (what if) - Game 8 Winner vs. Game 10 Winner (third team eliminated)

Game 15 – GLVC Championship Game

* Game times to be determined by the conference office.

In this variation, the unknown factor comes into play when Games 11 & 12 are played. If neither “what if” game is necessary then only Games 11 & 12 are played at the primary site on Saturday with both winners returning for a single championship game on Sunday. If only one “what if” is necessary then that game (Game 13 or 14) can also be played on Saturday with the single championship game being played on Sunday. If both “what if” games are necessary, then Game 13 will be played on Saturday (both teams having a rest from their earlier Game 11) and Game 14 will be played on Sunday to be followed by the single championship game.