

BASEBALL OPERATING CODE

I. ORGANIZATION

A. Divisional Alignment

Eastern Division

Bloomsburg
East Stroudsburg
Kutztown
Mansfield
Millersville
Shippensburg
West Chester

Western Division

California
Clarion
Gannon
IUP
Lock Haven
Mercyhurst
Slippery Rock

B. Baseball Executive Committee

The baseball executive committee, shall be composed of the athletics administrator who serves as the baseball sport committee chair and three baseball coaches (president, vice president, and secretary). The term of office for all coaches shall be six years. Each shall serve successively, for two years, as secretary, vice president, and finally president. A secretary shall be elected at the annual meeting and shall represent alternately the Eastern and Western divisions.

Term – 2007-2009

President – Chris Blum, Kutztown, East

Vice President – Jeff Ditch, IUP, West

Secretary – Matt Jones, Shippensburg East

C. Meetings

The meeting of the PSAC Baseball coaches will be made at the discretion of the conference office.

II. SCHEDULE

A. Mandated Schedule

1. The mandated schedule requires that each team play four 7 - inning games (two home and two away) against each team in its division.
2. The conference schedule must be strictly adhered to. Teams are expressly prohibited from altering the mandated schedule, the only exception being final examinations and/or at the discretion of the commissioner. In such cases, an alternative date must be mutually agreeable.
3. Should the final regular season mandated date on the original schedule be reached and make-up games still remain to be completed only those contests that have a bearing on the outcome of the conference tournament seeding will be completed.

B. Called Games

All unfinished conference games are considered halted games (NCAA Baseball Rules) unless considered a regulation game - under the official NCAA rulebook, and must be completed from point of being called. If this involves the second game of a double-header during the teams' initial meeting, it must commence at the point of being halted prior to the start of the second set of games between the two teams. (NOTE: If the called game meets the definition of a regulation game, then the game may not be completed during the second meeting of the two teams) If it was impossible to begin the second game of the initial double header, that game will be played as the first game of a triple-header at the site of the second meeting. In all cases, the home team will be responsible for paying the officials for all games played at its site.

If during a second meeting of two teams a halted game should occur, the visiting team must return to the site to complete the contests, unless the game meets the definition of a regulation game. Ties may occur in regular season contests as defined by NCAA Rule.

C. Postponement Due to Rain

Games which are postponed because of rain must be rescheduled in the following order:

1. For games scheduled the first weekend of the season in 2009, if the March 13th doubleheader is postponed it will be played March 24th. If the March 14th doubleheader is postponed, it will be played on April 7th.
2. The next day following the mandated game and each subsequent date thereafter. If a team has a non-conference opponent scheduled in advance for that date, the opponent should be aware of the policy which requires that the non-conference game be canceled or rescheduled.
3. If Friday's games are postponed, Saturday's site and games will remain the same and Friday's games rescheduled for Sunday.
4. All games, including make-ups, must be scheduled before the last date of the original mandated schedule.
5. It is understood that if a conference game cannot be made up and another mandated date has been reached, the day after the second date is the rain date for that second game, not the first one. If possible, and in consultation with the Administrators, teams may switch home/away sites if field conditions permit a switch.
6. Rainout make-ups must be played in original order.
7. If a university has concerns due to academics, the two coaches should turn the rescheduling of rained out games over to the respective athletic directors.

III. Game Administration

A. Conference Ball

The Rawlings R1-NCAA baseball shall be used in all Conference games and at the PSAC Championship.

B. Crowd Control

The Conference endorses (and each member institution shall be expected to enforce) the NCAA policy on crowd control (see IX).

C. Umpires

1. All PSAC schools shall contract with the Chesapeake Bay Collegiate Baseball Umpires Association (CBCBUA) on a permanent basis for all games.
2. The Assignor's fee is \$250/school. (This fee will be billed by the PSAC.)
3. CBCBUA Fee Structure:
2010: \$165 single; \$240 DH
4. Additional Fee Structure:
 - a. Doubleheader rained out in 1st game – single game fee
 - b. Doubleheader rained out in 2nd game – doubleheader fee
 - c. 2-man crew in tripleheader - \$405/man (2010)
 - d. 3-man crew in tripleheader - \$345/man (2010)
 - e. Home team will pay all officials in triple-headers.
5. Post-season selection of officials will be conducted through the conference office.

E. Lightning Policy

The host institution's certified athletic trainer will have the unchallengeable authority to postpone or suspend competition in the event of lightning during PSAC regular season or championship play. The certified athletic trainer and game official or game administrator must consult and all agree as to when play is to be resumed.

F. Lineups – Coaches are requested to submit game lineups to host SIDs by 15 minutes prior to the start of each game.

IV. DETERMINATION OF DIVISION CHAMPION AND RUNNER-UP

- A. The division champion shall be the team with the best won-loss record at the end of the mandated schedule. The runner-up shall be the team with the second best won-loss record at the end of the mandated schedule. A division championship cannot be declared until it has been determined mathematically. There will be no playoff games to determine post-season participants.

B. Division Ties (Ties to determine tournament seeding and/or participants)

1. If teams are tied the following tie-breaker will be used:
 - a. Head to head competition (tied teams' record against one another).
 - b. Record vs. conference division teams progressing down until the tie is broken or reach last place. (Higher ties must be broken first in determining seeding)
 - c. Coin toss

C. Non-Completed Mandated Schedule and Play-in Games

If because of weather or other natural causes it becomes impossible to complete the mandated schedule by the 48 hours prior to the PSAC Championship, the Baseball Executive Committee shall select the participating teams in accordance with the following criteria:

1. Winning percentage in mandated league play
2. Winning percentage in head-to-head league play
3. Winning percentage versus divisional champion
4. Winning percentage of opponents in mandated league play in rank order of finish
5. Coin Toss

D. The PSAC does not permit mandated/tournament play from Sunday through Saturday of the PASSHE semester finals.

V. CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT

A. Participants

The top four finishers in each division as determined by won-loss records or by the selection criteria set forth in IV C shall be selected to participate in the baseball championship.

B. Site

1. On Campus

If the tournament is to be played on campus, it shall be played at the site of a division champion and shall be rotated from Eastern Division to Western Division on an annual basis.

2. Off Campus (Neutral Site)

If the tournament is to be played off campus at a neutral site, such site selection shall be at the recommendation of a majority of the baseball coaches and approved by the athletics administrators and board of directors.

C. Date

The tournament shall be played on the first weekend following the conclusion of the mandated schedule, except in those years when the championship would conflict with Spring Semester finals of the State System.

D. Squad Size

No more than 32 players and coaches may be in uniform on the bench during the PSAC tournament (no more than 6 non uniformed personnel permitted).

E. Format (See Appendix A)

The PSAC baseball champion shall be determined by a two pool double elimination tournament involving eight teams. Each game shall consist of nine innings and shall be played in accordance with NCAA championship rules. The home team for the first round games will be determined by the highest seed, thereafter in accordance with the NCAA Baseball Championship Handbook.

The tournament shall be played in four days according to the schedule as shown below:

Adjustments in the schedule shall be made by the commissioner.

F. If the PSAC Championship can not be completed, the PSAC representative will be selected as follows:

- A. If six or more games have been played – best record remaining in tournament.
- B. If less than six games have been played – ties broken between divisional #1 seeds
 1. Record in divisional play in regular season
 2. Record versus divisional opponents by rank order of finish.
 3. Coin Toss

G. Management

If the tournament is played on campus, the host Athletics Administrator shall be responsible for the efficient and effective management of the tournament including the financial report. If the tournament is played off campus at a neutral site, the Baseball Liaison shall be responsible.

H. Umpires

Umpires will be assigned by the CBUA in conjunction with Commissioner's Office.

I. Awards

Team and individual awards shall conform with the current Conference policy.

VI. LETTER OF INTENT

Each Conference member agrees to abide by the regulations and procedures outlined in the National Letter-of-Intent Program.

VII. ALL-CONFERENCE AWARDS

A. Team Composition

1. Each Division shall select an All-Conference team consisting of first and second teams with fourteen players on each.

2. Positions selected shall be: catcher, first base, second base, shortstop, third base, three (3) outfielders, designated hitter, three (3) starting pitchers, relief pitcher and utility player.

A utility player shall be defined as one who has played at least 60% of his team's games at a field position, including those played as pitcher. A player who meets the criterion of playing less than 50% of his games at one position, but has played 40% or more of his games as a designated hitter/player may be nominated as a designated hitter/player, but not as a utility player.

3. Each Division shall select a Player of the Year, Pitcher of the Year, Coach and Freshman of the year. A Freshman player shall be defined as one who is playing in his first year of intercollegiate competition.

B. Nomination Procedure

1. A coach may nominate no more than the total number of players selected on a first team (14) from his team only.

2. A player must have played in at least 66% of his team's games in order to be nominated.

3. A player must have played at least 50% of his total games played at a particular position in order to be nominated for that position.

4. A player not meeting #3 above may be nominated as a utility player.

5. Pertinent statistics must be included with each player's nomination

6. A coach may only nominate an athlete or freshman of the year from his team.

C. Voting Procedure

1. A coach may **not** vote for his own players or himself.

2. A coach must cast votes equal to the total number of players selected on the first and second teams (28).

3. A coach must rank his votes at each position selected

4. A ballot must be completed fully in order to be counted.

5. Ties shall be broken by a revote of uninvolved coaches.

D. Miscellaneous

1. A tournament most valuable player shall be selected by the games committee

2. The all-conference team shall be released during the week following the conference championship.

VIII. PERSONNEL

1 head coach

1 full-time assistant (coaching contract with benefits) or part-time assistant or volunteer

1 paid part-time assistant (half time or less) or graduate assistant or volunteer

1 volunteer

4 TOTAL COACHES

Baseball Notes: In addition to the above limitations, an institution is permitted to utilize an unlimited number of full-time undergraduate students with no limitation of duties. In addition to the above limitations, an institution is permitted to utilize a maximum of four (4) social equity positions with a maximum of one (1) per sport. These positions shall be determined by the President and reported to the Commissioner.

IX. CROWD CONTROL - REGULAR SEASON AND CHAMPIONSHIP PLAY

The responsibility for crowd control rests with the director of athletics or the designated representative of the home (host) institution. The directors of athletics of the competing institutions are expected to communicate with their students and other fans to encourage enthusiastic support within the confines of good sportsmanship. If home or host institution is unable to control the situation, a uniformed security officer for effective crowd control should be hired.

The host athletics director shall be prepared to utilize the public address system at the first sign of unsportsmanlike crowd behavior and request cooperation in maintaining proper playing conditions.

Profanity, racial comments, or other intimidating actions directed at officials, student athletes, coaches or other team representatives will not be tolerated. Individuals making such remarks should be removed from the site of competition.

Only participants, coaches, officials, and authorized personnel shall be allowed in the competition area before, during and at the conclusion of competition.

Artificial noisemakers are permitted at outdoor athletic events except those devices (i.e. whistles, air horns) that would interfere with the conduct of the contest or those already prohibited by NCAA regular season playing rules. The director of athletics or the designated representative is responsible for removing such instruments and tapes from the competition area. Bands or any component thereof are not allowed to play while the competition is in progress.

No alcoholic beverage shall be sold or otherwise be made available for consumption on or near the baseball facility, nor shall any such beverage be brought to the site during play. Play is intended to include the period from the time access to the site is made by teams until all players and spectators have left the facility.

X. SCOUTING

No member institution is permitted to exchange scouting reports about another member institution with an institution outside the conference.

PSAC Baseball Tournament Format – Appendix A

Pool A

DAY 1

4:00 PM Game 1: East 4 vs. West 1
7:00 PM Game 2: East 2 vs. West 3

DAY 2

12:00 PM Game 3: Loser Gm 1 vs. Loser Gm 2
3:00 PM Game 4: Winner Gm 1 vs. Winner Gm 2
7:00 PM Game 5: Winner Gm 3 vs. Loser Gm 4

DAY 3

1:00 PM Game 6: Winner Gm 4 vs. Winner Gm 5

30 mins after conclusion of Game 6

Game 7: If Necessary

DAY 4

4:00 PM Game 8: Championship Game

Pool B

DAY 1

East 1 vs. West 4
East 3 vs. West 2

DAY 2

Loser Gm 1 vs. Loser Gm 2
Winner Gm 1 vs. Winner Gm 2
Winner Gm 3 vs. Loser Gm 4

DAY 3

Winner Gm 4 vs. Winner Gm 5

If Necessary