

FIELD HOCKEY OPERATING CODE

I. STRUCTURE

- A. Only PSAC institutions with Division II field hockey programs are included in the PSAC field hockey structure for purposes of representation and committee membership.
- B. Only Division II field hockey programs shall be eligible for the PSAC Field Hockey Championship.
 - 1. All Division II field hockey teams within the PSAC shall play in a double round robin within their division to identify the top two teams from each to participate in the championship.
 - 2. Teams will also play a single round cross over game with teams in opposite division.

II. COACHES MEETINGS

- A. The annual meeting of field hockey coaches shall be at the discretion of the conference office.
- B. Additional meetings of the field hockey coaches shall be called as they are deemed necessary.

III. REGULAR SEASON COMPETITION

- A. Play among Division II field hockey teams within the PSAC shall be conducted on a double round robin basis with limited cross-over play (full cross-over adopted for play in 2010) as per the mandated schedule. Single game dates may be altered by mutual agreement of the opponents with approval from athletic directors and commissioner.
- B. Games postponed due to weather MUST be rescheduled for the first common open date. All regularly scheduled conference games must be completed by Sunday, prior to championship Saturday. The Sunday prior to the conference championship must be left open in the event a make-up date is needed.
- C. In the event of inclement weather, every effort should be made to play on the originally schedule mandated date by switching playing sites (first half of season only), if possible. If a switched site is not possible, the original site of competition will be the site of competition.
- D. Games terminated by officials as a result of inclement weather and/or hazardous field conditions shall be resumed at the point of termination and shall be completed as specified by NCAA for in-season competition. The completion of the game shall take place on the field on which it was originally being played either later on the same date or at a future date.
- E. Regular season games shall be conducted under the rules for field hockey as adopted by the NCAA Field Hockey Committee.
- F. The ball used for PSAC regular season and championships shall be the official ball of the NCAA championship. The color of the ball shall be white or optic orange and shall be determined by the home team.
- G. On natural grass fields the height of the grass shall be no greater than 1½ inches, weather permitting.
- H. A visible clock is required for all games.
- I. No member institution is permitted to exchange a scouting report about another member institution with an institution outside the conference.
- J. The certified athletic trainer from the host institution 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 agree as to the play is to be resumed.
- K. Officiating assignments will be made by the contracted PSAC Officiating Supervisor.

IV. PROTESTS AND FORFEITS

- A. Protests and forfeits shall be handled by the Commissioner after being reported to the sport liaison.
- B. Decisions of the Commissioner may be appealed to the Executive Committee of the Athletics Administrators.

V. CHAMPIONSHIP PROCEDURE

A. Championship Selection and Seeding

1. The PSAC Field Hockey Championship format shall consist of three games, two semi-final games and the Championship final game.
 - a. The Championship will be conducted in a four team, single-site tournament at the highest seed (alternating divisions) that has an on-campus artificial surface; #1E vs. #2W and #1W vs. #2E. (home team plays second match)
 - b. The Championship final shall be played on the Saturday, one week prior to the NCAA Division II Championship. Recommended Championship game times: Noon and 2:30 with a minimum of 45 minutes between first and second game. Championship game will be played at 1PM on Saturday unless semi final games are evening events. In that event the commissioner, liaison and host AD will determine game time.
 - c. The start times for the semi-finals and championship matches should be conducted no earlier than 1:00 pm and no later than 2:30 pm. On lighted facilities, the host institution must consult with the commissioner regarding start times.
2. Game sites shall be confirmed by the commissioner.
3. The championship participants shall consist of two teams in each division based on:
 - a. Win/loss record within the division
 - b. Head to head competition results between tied teams within the division
 - c. Record against divisional opponents not involved in the tie, working from highest to lowest ranked.
 - d. Weighted wins against divisional opponents giving the following descending credit for: regulation time wins (4 pts.); 1st overtime win (3 pts); 2nd overtime win (2 pts); penalty strokes (1 pt)
 - e. Weighted wins between tied teams
 - f. Win/Loss record against mutual opponents outside PSAC
 - g. Conference road wins within the division
 - h. Highest ranked team based on NCAA regional ranking system

B. Conduct of the Championship

1. A total of 30 personnel will be permitted in the bench area, including players and coaches. Not more than six (6) non-playing personnel will be permitted in the bench area from the compliment of 30.
2. Official F.I.H. field hockey rules with NCAA modifications shall be used in the championship.
3. Championship site shall have a visible scoreboard clock with horn.
4. Host institution shall provide a minimum of four (4) ball persons per game.
5. Championship tie breaking procedures shall be those prescribed for the NCAA Field Hockey Championships.
6. A seventy-five minute practice time shall be allotted to competing institutions on the championship field the day prior to the championship (field conditions permitting). Forty-five minutes shall be allotted to competing teams day of the championship.

C. Officials

1. USFHA National and Sectional officials shall be used.
2. Officials shall be contracted by the PSAC Commissioner through the Field Hockey Assignor.
3. Three officials shall be available for the games. Two shall be assigned field duties and the third shall serve as alternate official and official timer.

D. Protest Committee

1. The Championship Director (or his/her designee);
2. PSAC Field Hockey liaison (or his/her designee).
3. Alternate official
 - a. Questions of officials' judgment are not subject to protest.
 - b. When a question pertaining to an interpretation of the rules has not been settled, the game shall be stopped and the protest resolved.

E. Awards

1. Awards shall be those approved by the PSAC.
 - a. Team Trophies – Championship and Runner-up
 - b. Championship Member Plaques – 30

VI. LETTER OF INTENT

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

VII. 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

Field Hockey 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. Division I sports are exempt from these limitations.

VIII. CONFERENCE HONORS SELECTION PROCEDURES

A. Selections

1. All Conference Team
 - a. All conference team shall consist of first and second team each comprised of eleven players; 3 forwards, 4 midfielders, 3 backs and 1 goalie.
2. Athlete of the Year - any player
3. Coach of the Year - any coach
4. Freshman of the Year - an individual playing in her first season of competition

B. Nomination Procedure

1. Coaches may nominate up to 11 players from his/her own team, in ranked order by position.
2. A player must have played in 66% of her team's games in order to be nominated.
3. A player must have played at least 50% on her total games at a particular position in order to be nominated for that position.
4. Statistics pertinent to the player's performance must be included with each nomination.
5. Coaches may only nominate Athlete and Freshman of the Year from his/her own team.

C. Voting Procedure

1. A coach may **not** vote for his/her own players or for his/herself.
2. A coach must cast votes equal to the total number selected on the first and second teams (26); incomplete ballots will be invalid.
3. A coach must rank his/her votes at each position selected.
4. Ties shall be broken by a re-vote of coaches eligible to vote for players tied.

D. Miscellaneous

1. A Tournament Most Valuable Player shall be selected by the tournament committee.
2. The All Conference Team plus the Athlete, Coach and Freshman of the Year selections shall be released to the media during the week following the PSAC Championship.