



Baseball Operating Codes

2020-21

Jan. 26, 2021

Coach Liaison: Jamie Detillion-GVSU
 AD Liaison: Dave Marsh – NU
 Conference Liaison: Linda Bouvet

A. Baseball Rules

The GLIAC will play by the NCAA rulebook. **Note:** Regular-season bat testing has been delayed until the 2021-22 season, but all schools must comply with ring test standards.

B. Game Ball

The GLIAC will use the **Diamond D1-CL LS** NCAA baseballs for all conference games and conference tournament games. Effective through 2020-21 season.

C. Pre-Game Warm-up Protocol

To be used only before the first game

<i>Time prior to first pitch</i>	<i>Action</i>
<i>2 hr</i>	<i>Home Team Batting Practice</i>
<i>1 hr 20 min</i>	<i>Visiting Team Batting Practice</i>
<i>40 min</i>	<i>Clear Field</i>
<i>35 min</i>	<i>Home Team Field</i>
<i>25 min</i>	<i>Visitors Field</i>
<i>15 min</i>	<i>Field Maintenance</i>

D. Championship Qualifications (Regular Season)

1. If at least half of league teams have played 75% of scheduled conference games, the championship team will be the team which has the highest GLIAC winning percentage and completed at least 67% of all scheduled conference games.
2. If less than half of league teams complete 75% of all conference games, the championship team will be the team with the highest conference winning percentage that has completed at least 33% of scheduled conference games. If no teams have completed 33% of scheduled conference games, the GLIAC Tournament champion will be declared GLIAC champion.
3. All places in the final conference standings will be based on conference winning percentages.
4. Should two or more teams finish the season on top of the standings with identical conference winning percentages, they will be named co-champions.

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E. Playing Dates and Times

1. Mid-Week doubleheaders will be scheduled **to start between 1 p.m. and 2 p.m.**
2. Saturday doubleheaders will be scheduled **to start between 1 p.m. and 2 p.m.**
3. Sunday doubleheaders will be scheduled to start **between noon and 1 p.m.**

F. **Make-up Policy**

Approved Feb. 22, 2018

1. Weekend series are scheduled, with the exception of Easter weekend, for Friday (1 – 9 inning game), Saturday (2 – 7 inning games), and Sunday (1 – 9 inning game).

Games may be moved to be played on any 3 consecutive days ranging from Thursday – Monday of the weekend of the scheduled games.

2. If weather or other circumstances will not allow for play on 3 consecutive days, the series can be played in a 2 day format (7/9 inning doubleheader each day) on any two consecutive days ranging from Thursday – Monday of the weekend of the scheduled games. If the two day format is used, should the first game of a doubleheader go 9 or more innings, the second game will become a 7 inning game.

3. If weather will not allow for the playing of 2 or 3 consecutive days, 1 doubleheader (7/9 innings) can still be played.

4. Any games not played on consecutive days on the Thursday – Monday of the scheduled series weekend cannot be made up as conference games without approval from the conference commissioner and the AD's of both institutions. Every effort must be made to play the entire series in the 5 day window provided.

5. Should a home team's field not be playable, or the home team cannot secure a playable "nearby" alternate field, during any conference weekend (Thursday – Monday), and the expected visitor's field is playable, the originally scheduled home team is to travel to the visitor's site and would remain the home team even at the new venue. As a consequence, the home team now traveling will be reimbursed for: transportation and a maximum of fifteen (15) hotel rooms per each night. Also, the institution now traveling to the new host site, will be responsible for the cost of umpires and baseballs. Each team is responsible for their own meals.

6. All contracts between GLIAC baseball teams and non-conference opponents must include a clause that states that the game(s) may be cancelled or postponed, without penalty, for the purpose of rescheduling conference games. It is expected that regularly scheduled games will be played unless conditions necessitate cancellation. Regularly scheduled games will never be cancelled or rescheduled in an effort to gain a competitive advantage.

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G. Halted Game Policy:

1. For the first 3 games of a 4 game series, the NCAA Halted Game rule (Rule 5, Section 9) will be in effect.
2. For the last game of a conference series, usually game #4, but could be different if earlier game rained out, the NCAA Regulation Game rule (Rule 5, Section 8) will be in effect.
3. The modified Halted Game rule is for **regular season** games only. All tournament games will be played to completion (Halted Game Rule, NCAA Rule 5, Section 9)

H. All-Conference Selection

A first and second All-GLIAC team will be selected in the following manner:

1. The **First and Second All-GLIAC** teams will **each** consist of one designated hitter, one catcher, one first baseman, one second baseman, one short stop, one third baseman, one utility infielder, four outfielders, four starting pitchers, and **two relief pitchers**.
2. Each coach may select two players from his team as Honorable Mention regardless of position.
3. Coaches will select a Player of the Year, Pitcher of the Year, **Freshman Player of the Year, Freshman Pitcher of the Year** and Coach of the year. **All ties for these awards must be broken.**

Beginning in 2015, Coaches will select the "Troy Berry" award that is presented annually to the baseball student-athlete who combines outstanding character and leadership on the field and in the classroom. The candidate is a role model for his teammates, school and community. The candidate should be an upper-classman. Each member school that sponsors varsity baseball can nominate one candidate for the award. Nominations would be done in conjunction with All-GLIAC voting

4. Coaches will nominate players on the All-GLIAC voting web site by 10 a.m. on the Monday before the final weekend of the regular season. The Conference Office will compile overall GLIAC-only stats for each nominated player and compose a ballot that will be e-mailed to the coaches at least 24 hours before All-GLIAC voting begins.
5. The coaches will conduct a conference call in conjunction with All-GLIAC voting to give the coaches an opportunity to speak about nominated players. The conference call and All-GLIAC voting will take place on the Tuesday morning following the final weekend of regular season play.
6. Coaches will vote for (3) each infield position including (2) catcher, (8) outfielders, (8) starting pitchers and (2) relief pitchers. Any ties will be broken on the conference call.
7. The Coach of the Year, Player of the Year, Pitcher of the Year, Freshman of the Year awards, along with the utility infield positions, will be determined on the conference call. The first-team utility infield position will be determined by voting among the second-team infielders, while the second-team utility infield position will be selected from the third team infielders; their positions filled by the player receiving the third most votes at that position. All ties for these awards must be broken.

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I. Use of Tobacco

GLIAC will follow NCAA policy on tobacco use.

J. Live Scouting

Effective with the 2001 season, live scouting is permitted.

K. Assignor of Umpires/Fees

Effective 2010 season, the conference office will hire a supervisor to **assign** umpires.

2020-21 Assignor Fee: \$6,400 - \$825.00 per school

Umpires' fees will be as follows:

2020-21 Doubleheader \$400.00 Single game \$275.00

J. Infield Tarpaulin

Any new member who plays baseball must have a full infield tarpaulin.

K. Tarpaulin policy

The home team must cover their infield the night before each conference game, unless both head coaches agree there is no need to cover it. The penalty for failure to cover the infield, is, that if as a result the games cannot be played the next day, the home team must forfeit any games not played.

L. Conference Schedule

1. The conference schedule will consist of a 4-game series (two nine-inning single games and a seven-inning double-header. **Note:** In 2020-21, teams will play a 9, 7/9, 9 format.
2. The first and fourth games of each GLIAC series will be nine-inning single games, preferably on a Friday and Sunday. The two seven-inning games will be scheduled on Saturday.
3. If, during a 7/9 inning make-up double header, Game 1 extends to nine or more innings, Game 2 will be shortened to seven innings.

M. Pre-season Poll

The conference **office** will conduct a pre-season poll among the coaches of each school.

N. Post Season Tournament

1. The conference will conduct a post season tournament consisting of the top six teams **based on conference winning percentage in the final regular season standings**.
2. The GLIAC Baseball Tournament would be seeded based on GLIAC Records.
3. It will be a four-day, (Thursday to Sunday) double elimination tournament with the winner being named the GLIAC **Tournament** champion and receiving the automatic qualifier into the NCAA tournament.

4. The six GLIAC tournament berths and seeding order will be determined in the following manner:

- a. A minimum of 75% of all GLIAC games must be played **to qualify for the tournament**, if at least half of league teams have played 75% of all GLIAC games, **unless there are extenuating circumstances (to be determined by the Commissioner)**. If less than five teams complete 75% of all GLIAC games, then a minimum of 50% of all GLIAC games must be played **to qualify for the tournament**.
- b. Use the six-team, double-elimination format for the GLIAC Baseball Tournament outlined at the end of this document.

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c. Ties will be broken according to this formula:

5. If two teams end up with the same winning percentage, the higher seed will go to the team that holds the most wins over the other team in their meetings that season.
6. If the tie still remains, then compare each tied team's record against the team occupying the highest position in the standings (NOTE: All ties will be broken in the order in which they occur, from top to bottom in the standings), and continue down through the standings until an advantage is gained, thereby receiving the higher seed. NOTE: If one tied team went 4-0 against team A and the other tied team went 3-0 or 0-0 against team A, the tie has not been broken. Also, if one tied team went 2-2 against team A and the other tied team went 1-1 against team A, the tie has not been broken. However, if one tied team went 2-0 against team A and the other tied team went 0-1, then the tie has been broken.
7. If more than two teams end up with the same winning percentage, the won-loss record of each team vs. all the other tied teams will be considered. The team within the tied group with the most wins will receive the highest seed, the team with the 2nd most wins receives the 2nd highest seed, etc. If a tie still exists within this group, only games played against the other still-tied team(s) will be considered.

Example:

	vs.				vs	vs
	W	X	Y	Z	WXYZ	XY
W	----	2-0	1-1	1-1	4-2	----
X	0-2	----	2-0	1-1	3-3	2-0
Y	1-1	0-2	----	2-0	3-3	0-2
Z	1-1	1-1	0-2	----	2-4	----

Therefore, within this group, team W would be the #1 seed, team X the #2, team Y #3 and team Z #4.

8. If this tie-breaking procedure reduces the group to a two-team tie, then the two-team tie-breaking procedure is used.
 9. When a tie cannot be settled by the use of the aforementioned procedures, the GLIAC office will determine the seeding order by computing the runs scored differential average of the teams involved in the tie, in games against all conference opponents. The maximum differential of runs scored and allowed in any game shall be seven runs. The team(s) with the highest average will receive the higher seed.
 10. If item E does not resolve the tie, the tie will be broken by a coin flip from the conference office.
- d. If the entire tournament is rained out or rained out before the top-seeded team has been eliminated, ***the remaining top seeded team shall be declared the Automatic Qualifier into the NCAA Tournament.***
 - e. If the tournament is rained out after the top-seeded team has been eliminated, the highest remaining seed shall be declared GLIAC Tournament champion. Unless there was a tie in the regular season and the tie-breaker was used for seeding, then the team with the best tournament record shall be declared the GLIAC Tournament champion.

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- f. All games will be nine inning games. If a team is winning by 10 or more runs and darkness or inclement weather forces game stoppage, the game will be official if the losing team has batted in the seventh inning or later.
- g. The pairings are as follows (unless games 3, 4, and 5 are not played on the same day, then the losers should play first). The home team will be the higher seeded team throughout the tournament. The #1 seed in the tournament will have the option of playing the #6 seed in game #1 or game #2.

***The tournament game format should be as follows with recommended game times:
(see page 9)***

Thurs.	Game #1	(10:30am)	#1 Seed vs #6 Seed
	Game #2	(2:00pm)	#2 Seed vs #5 Seed
	Game #3	(5:30pm)	#3 Seed vs #4 Seed
Fri.	Game #4	(10:30am)	Loser of Game #1 and Loser Game #2
	Game #5	(2:00pm)	Winner of Game #1 and Loser of Game #3
	Game #6	(5:30pm)	Winner of Game #2 and Winner of Game #3
Sat.	Game #7	(10:30am)	Winner of Game #5 and Winner of Game #6
	Game #8	(2:00pm)	Winner of Game #4 and Loser of Game #6
	Game #9	(5:30pm)	Winner of Game #8 and Loser of Game #7

(If five teams remain after Game 6, and two after Game 9)

- Game #7** Loser of Game #5 and Loser of Game #6
- Game #8** Winner of Game #5 and Winner of Game #4
- Game #9** Winner of Game #7 and Winner of Game #6

(If five teams remain after Game 6, and three after Game 9)

- Game #9** Winner of Game #7 and Winner of Game #6
- Game #10** Loser of Game #9 and Winner of Game #8
- Game #11** Winner of Game #9 and Winner of Game #10

Sun.	Game #10	Winner of Game #7 and Winner of Game #9
	Game #11 (if game)	Winner of Game #10 and Loser Game #10

(If five teams remain after Game #6, and two after Game #9)

- Game #10** Winner of Game #9 and Winner of Game #8
- Game #11** (if game) Winner of Game #8 and Winner of Game #10

(If five teams remain after Game 6, and three after Game 9)

- Game #10** Loser Game #9 and Winner Game #8
- Game #11** Winner Game #9 and Winner Game #10
(Effective 2012)

- h. Each team will limit its GLIAC tournament roster to the NCAA roster limit **(25)**.
- i. Tournament play will be scheduled for the weekend prior to the NCAA regionals, starting on Thursday and designed for completion on Sunday.

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- j. The Conference Office will notify the GLIAC Assignor of Umpires of the tournament schedule. A six-person umpire crew will be used to cover the four-day tournament. These six umpires must commit to all four days or not work at all. The six umpires will rotate using three umpires each game.

Each team participating in the Conference Tournament will be responsible for providing one dozen Diamond D1-CL LS balls, if requested by the Conference Office.

- i. Tournament played on Campus

If the situation arises that a neutral site location cannot be found to host the GLIAC Tournament, the top seeded team will host the GLIAC tournament, if it so desires and their facility meets all standards. If the #1 seeded team chooses not to host the tournament, the #2 seed will have the option to host, etc. The requirements to host include the following:

1. A full infield tarpaulin (unless the field has synthetic turf)
2. Minimum dimensions of 300 feet down the lines, 350 feet in the alleys, and 380 feet in center field.
3. Dugouts that include a roof.
4. Batting practice facility
5. Media facility with phone lines and internet access

- m. Tournament Expenses

The Conference Office will be responsible for all "game expenses" (umpires, programs, ticket sellers and takers, etc.). Each school's travel, lodging and meal expenses will be the responsibility of that school. All tournament income beyond the "game expenses" will go to the Conference Office.

- n. Games Committee

A games committee will oversee the playoff tournament. The chairman of the games committee will be tournament director. The tournament director will be the GLIAC Commissioner or his/her appointed representative. The GLIAC commissioner or his/her appointed representative will also serve on the games committee and his/her presence at the playoffs is strongly urged. The umpire-in-chief will also be on the games committee, along with the facility director.

- o. Tournament Awards Ceremony

A trophy recognizing the GLIAC champion will be presented at a banquet the evening before the start of the tournament, in conjunction with the All-GLIAC awards ceremony. ***Participating teams will be required to pay a \$500 fee for the banquet to help offset the cost of the dinner.***

- p. Bat Testing

Beginning in 2019, bats used in the GLIAC Baseball Tournament will be subjected to barrel compression testing daily. A league administrator or umpire will test bats used in competition to ensure they pass the barrel ring test and barrel compression testing.

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GLIAC Baseball Tournament Game Format

If four teams remain after Game 6			
Day One	Day Two	Day Three	Day Four
Game 1, 2 & 3	Game 4, 5 & 6	Game 7, 8 & 9	Game 10 & 11
No. 1			
Game 1	W G1		
No. 6	Game 5	W G5	
	LG3	Game 7	W G7
No. 2			
Game 2	W G2		
No. 5		W G6	Game 10
	Game 6		W G7
No. 3			
Game 3	W G3	LG7	
No. 4		LG6	Game 9
	LG1	Game 8	W G9
	Game 4	W G4	
	LG2		W G9
			Game 11 (If Necessary)
			Champion
If five teams remain after Game 6, and two after Game 9			
Day Three		Day Four	
Games 7, 8 & 9		Games 10 & 11 (If Necessary)	
LG 5			
Game 7	W G7		
LG6	Game 9	W G9	
	W G6	Game 10	W G10
W G5			
Game 8		W G8	Game 11 (If Necessary)
W G4			W G8
			Champion
If five teams remain after Game 6, and three after Game 9			
Day Three		Day Four	
Games 7, 8 & 9		Games 10 & 11 (If Necessary)	
W G7		W G9	
Game 9	LG9	Game 11	
W G6	Game 10	W G10	Champions
	W G8		