

Select NCAC Baseball Policies and Procedures

1.3 Conference Scheduling

Each team shall play a round-robin schedule. The schedule and comparable dates remain intact for two years, with the second year being a “flip” if the first.

There shall be no more than two playing dates in any one week (M-F) that would include regular conference games, rescheduled makeup conference games and non-conference games.

Teams shall be allowed to request one additional non-conference contest date during the week due to extraordinary circumstances, Monday through Friday, through the approval of the NCAC. The expectation is that this would be used sparingly by each team.

Conference games may be played at a neutral site during spring break. The conference office must be notified, in advance, should two teams want to use this option.

Conference games must be played on Sunday, taking precedence over non-conference games if a Saturday is cancelled. If a conference game is being rescheduled during the week [M-F], teams shall not travel more than three hours one-way to attempt a makeup date.

Teams at a distance longer than three hours may arrange for a neutral site under three hours from each team's campus. Teams should also investigate neutral fields with lights available during midweek makeups.

All regular season and allowable makeup games must be played by Tuesday prior to the first day (Thursday) of the NCAC Tournament.

3.2 Umpire Fees

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| Conference doubleheader | \$220 |
| Conference single game | \$125 |

3.4 Communication With Officials/Coordinator of Officials

Public criticism of officials by coaches, players and/or administrators will not be tolerated. Violation of this rule will result in disciplinary action.

No direct contact from coaches or athletic administrators should be made to game officials regarding performance. All communication should be made to the NCAC Coordinator of Officials, or the NCAC Office.

The NCAC encourages feedback from coaches and athletic directors.

4.3 Makeups

Teams are permitted two dates to get one date of competition in, during both weekends and weekdays.

For example: A team may stay over on a Friday or Saturday to finish/play a doubleheader, provided the team gets approval from their school. A team that travels for a doubleheader and one or more of the games gets rained out – that team has one more opportunity to travel to finish/play the series. Ideally, return trips, if necessary, would be made on weekends, unless teams are in close geographic proximity.

Saturday games must be made up on Sunday. If a contest is rained out, it should be made up at the earliest date possible available to both teams, with a deadline of Tuesday prior to the first day of the conference tournament (Thursday).

If a non-conference game is scheduled on a Sunday or a weekday where an conference game is trying to be made up, that non-conference game shall be moved or cancelled to accommodate the conference makeup attempt.

If a conference game is being rescheduled during the week [M-F] teams shall not travel more than three hours one way to attempt a makeup date. Teams at a distance longer than three hours may arrange for a neutral site under three hours from each campus.

There shall be no more than two playing dates in any one week [M-F] that would include regular conference games, rescheduled makeup conference games and non-conference games.

Teams shall be allowed to request one additional non-conference contest date during the week due to extraordinary circumstances, Monday through Friday, through approval of the NCAC Office. The expectation is that this exception would be used sparingly by each team.

4.4 Starting Times

All games will start at 12:00 p.m. on both weekends and weekdays unless both coaches mutually agree to a different time.

4.7 Length of Games

All regular-season conference matchups shall be played as part of nine-inning doubleheaders with NO run-rule applied.

All games shall follow NCAA rules. [See NCAC Baseball Rules Book for more information.]

4.10 Tobacco Products

The use of tobacco products (by coaches, players, umpires, etc.) is prohibited during practice and competition.

4.11 Severe Weather

Due to the unpredictable and rapidly changing nature of adverse weather and the potential catastrophic consequences of participation during threatening weather, the following policy is to be followed explicitly and without delay.

1. All athletic participation shall be stopped immediately in the event of lightning or thunder. All participants shall be instructed to take shelter under cover in the nearest safe area.

It is extremely important to plan ahead and identify the nearest safe area. Thunder is the result of atmospheric disturbance caused by lightning; therefore, if thunder is heard, lightning is occurring.

2. Participants shall be allowed back on the playing field when no lightning has been observed for at least 30 minutes or observed within a 10-mile radius for at least 30 minutes using a weather detection system and no thunder is heard for at least 30 minutes. Many victims of lightning strikes are injured or killed when they return to the outside too quickly after "the

storm has passed" and are struck by lightning from the trailing edge of the storm.

3. These guidelines are to be followed during all practices, contests and events. Institutions may utilize this policy at their discretion for sports camps and other facility activities.
4. The host institution shall make the decision whether or not to start or re-start a game. Any decisions should involve athletics directors or their designee (i.e., game management staff), athletic trainers/medical staff and officials. Unilateral action taken by a trainer is not permitted. Once a contest starts, the game is under the control of the officials, where applicable by rule.
1. Each institution may utilize the best method for determining lightning safety at each institution or site. If the host institution has a weather detection device/service then that institution may follow NCAA recommendations and utilize the minimum of a 10-mile radius of the playing site for lightning detection and the sound of thunder for implementation of the play/practice restriction plan. Institutions without a weather detection device/service are to implement the sight of lightning and sound of thunder plan as previously indicated.

4.12 Game Suspension

In the event of extraordinary weather conditions (primarily thunder and lightning), it shall be NCAC policy to suspend a conference game already in progress. The decision makers shall be the athletic directors (or designated representatives) of the teams involved, along with the umpire working the game, and the trainer/medical staff.

The following procedure shall be used:

1. Umpire stops game if there is concern regarding the weather.
2. Umpire sends teams to their locker rooms and notes the score, the inning, who is at bat, runners on base and the count on the batter.
3. Umpire meets with athletic directors (or designated representatives), trainer/medical staff and coaches to decide whether to continue the game. If an agreement can't be reached, the umpire shall make the decision.
4. If the game is resumed, it shall do so under the same terms that existed at the point of suspension.
5. Follow NCAA policy for halted games. Follow championship policy for tournament games.

4.13 NCAC Ejection Policy

In the event of ejections for coaches, staff, student-athletes and/or spectators from NCAC contests, the following procedures should be followed:

Coach/Staff – Ejection from the game by officials of a coach or staff member requires said individual to be removed from sight or sound of the contest. It is recommended best practice to provide an area for an ejected coach or staff member. This location may be the team bus for a visiting team, as long as the

bus it out of sight from the venue. It is also recommended that a game administrator or designee escort the coach to the appropriate location.

Student-Athlete – The ejections of a student-athlete will be treated the same as a coach or staff member. They will be removed from the venue and escorted to a designated location (i.e. locker room) until the conclusion of the contest. It is recommended that a member of the coaching staff escort the individual as well. All efforts should be made to remove the individual in a controlled situation that is not accessible by fans or opposing teams. It is recommended that a game administrator or other team representative remain with the ejected participant when applicable.

Fan/Spectator – The ejection of a fan or spectator from the venue will be up to the discretion of the home institution. If applicable, the assistance of a visiting team administrator may be requested if the individual is from that institution. It is further recommended that any individuals that have been removed from the contest venue, not be permitted into other contests or venues that day.

4.14 NCAC Security Policy

All Institutions must secure and provide adequate security for all athletic contests. Institutions should consider the needs of each sport (e.g. securing a cross country course versus a basketball game in the gymnasium), as well as the needs of specific contests within each sport (i.e. rivalry games, weekend vs. weekday contests, night games versus day games, etc.). Cooperation with campus law enforcement/security, student affairs and other departments, as necessary, is encouraged.