

PACIFIC COAST CONFERENCE

Softball Supplement

.00 **Softball**

.01 **Season Limit on Contests**

The Softball season may officially begin as stated January 15 in the CCCAA Constitution and concludes with the state tournament.

.02 **Schedule**

- A. League games will be Wednesdays and Fridays, unless otherwise agreed upon by coaches, Athletic Directors, and Commissioner.
- B. The starting time for conference games scheduled Monday through Friday shall be 3:00 pm, unless otherwise agreed upon by both Coaches and Athletic Administrators. Saturday games and any games played at night will start at a mutually agreed upon time.
- C. The starting time for conference doubleheaders shall be 1:00 or unless otherwise agreed upon by Coaches and Athletic Administrators. Both games are to be regulation games.
- D. Make-up and rain-out schedule is as follows:
 - Wednesday – make-up on the following Tuesday
 - Friday – make-up on following Thursday
 - *Or another date agreed upon by both Coaches and Athletic Administrators.The make-up games will be played in the same sequence as they occurred.

Conference games that are rained out take precedence over all scheduled Non-Conference games.

- E. The conference commissioner must approve schedule changes. All member colleges must be informed of any approved schedule changes.

.03 **Playing Rules**

- A. The NCAA Official Rulebook shall be the rulebook used by this conference, plus any exception contained in the State supplements.
- B. The two scorekeepers will be available for team consultation between innings during the game. If the traveling team does not have an official scorekeeper, the home team will send a Xerox copy of the scorebook to the visiting team within three days of completion of the game.
- C. If batting practice is desired and conditions allow, the visiting team must be allowed a minimum of 30 minutes of batting practice beginning not less than 60 minutes and not more than 90 minutes before the game. The host team will use the cages 90 minutes before the game and the visiting team will have the cages 60 minutes before the game. Whether the game field or alternate facilities are used, the visiting team shall be given equal access to these areas (for example, batting cages, field space) along with the use of screens and tees as are available to the home team. Live pitching, front toss, soft toss, and tees may all be permitted during pre-game warm-up. It will be determined at the preseason meeting each year which schools will be offering batting cages for that year.

- D. The home team is to take no more than 10 minutes field practice starting 25 minutes before game time. The visiting team is to take no more than 10 minutes field practice.
- E. The same pre-game as described in .03-E is to be followed before doubleheaders. A 20 minute intermission will follow the conclusion of any game. No batting practice or fielding practice is to be allowed between games on the playing field.
- F. At the completion of 5 innings or 4.5 innings if the home team is ahead, and either team has an 8 run lead over their opponent, the game shall be considered ended and complete. The score shall stand.
- G. If a homerun fence is established that it be no more than 235 feet from home plate, once the fence distance is determined the distance cannot be changed during conference season after the start of the first conference game and before the completion of the last conference game. For an unfenced field, an out-of-bounds line shall be used to define dead-ball areas.

.04 **Forfeited Games**

- A. A softball game is automatically forfeited if either team fails to appear on the diamond, ready to play 15 minutes after the designated starting time. An exception will be made when the home team has been notified of late arrival at least 1 hour before game time or when circumstances beyond control, such as an accident, prevent arrival on time.

.05 **Coaching Lines**

- A. All coaches are expected to be in their dugout or in their designated coaching box during games.

.06 **Equipment**

- A. The home team shall provide at least 3 official league softballs.
- B. The official ball shall be the state contracted ball for that season.
- C. Caps, visors and headbands are optional. They must be the same color.

.07 **Protests**

- A. Protests shall be considered only when based upon the violation or interpretation of a playing rule or the use of a playing rule or the use of an ineligible player. No protests shall be considered on a decision involving an umpire's judgment.
- B. Protests shall be made in conjunction with current by-laws.
- C. The head coaches of contesting teams only shall have the right to protest a game. The head coach must make the protest to the plate umpire. Such a protest must be made before any succeeding play. The coach shall notify the plate umpire, who, at that time, shall inform the opposing head coach that the game is being played under protest and the reason shall be stated. The plate umpire and the protesting coach shall notify the commissioner in writing and be post-marked within 48 hours of the protest, setting forth the situation in detail with code and rule book provisions noted. Rulings and decisions on protested games will be acted upon by the protest committee, which will consist of the commissioner as chairman, the athletic directors of the two colleges involved, and the conference representative for softball. If a protest is allowed, the game will be replayed from the point where the protest was entered.

- D. Protest and tie games are not to be made up until the end of the season and only if they will have an effect on the final conference championship standings. Protest and tie-breaking games will be played at their original sites.

.08 **Tie Determination for Regional**

- A. Two-way tie for First place
If there is a two-way tie for first, co-champions will be declared. Head to head competition will be used to determine first place berth to Regional. The co-champions of the conference will both receive the conference championship award.
- B. Three-way tie for First place
Tri-champions will be declared.
 - 1. Head to head competition will be used to determine first, second, and third place berths to Regional.
If head to head competition does not determine a clear winner the following criteria will be used:
 - 2. Runs allowed between tied teams.
 - 3. Runs allowed against next placed team.

.09 **Officials**

- A. Two umpires will be assigned to all conference contests. Officials will be assigned by the conference assignor. Fees paid by the home team. If only one official shows, the contest will be played. After two complete innings the late umpire will-not be paid
- B. Host college will be responsible for payment scheduling on 3 way events.

.10 **All-Conference Team**

- A. The head coaches or their representative shall meet following the last scheduled conference game to select an all conference team, Most Valuable Player and Most Valuable Pitcher. The meeting shall be chaired by the conference softball representative.
- B. Each school can nominate their athlete but may not vote for their own player.
- C. All-conference team will consist of a first and second team and shall receive conference certificates. The 2 teams shall consist of 24 players.
- D. Wild Card selection will be made using same point system as in 1st team selection after each coach has made one nominee from their school from the 2nd team list.
- E. Final selections will be made by secret ballot and the results shall be forwarded immediately to the Conference Commissioner.
- F. There will be one athlete of the Year trophy awarded.
- G. If the Athlete of the Year is a position player, she will be the PCC Nominee to the All-Regional, All-State team at that position.
- H. Nominations forms are due to the Head coaches the Wednesday prior to the conference meeting. These must be sent electronically.
- I. See attached forms.

.11 **Softball Awards**

- A. Championship plaque.....1
- B. Athlete of the Year.....1
- C. Conference certificates.....24