

# Golden Valley Conference Softball Policies, Procedures, & Guideline 2007

## Rules

1. Current NCAA rules will be followed except for changes stated in these policies. All league games will be governed by the eight run rule.
2. Headwear: Team players may wear caps, visors, or headbands of similar color. Caps and visors are to be worn in an appropriate manner (not backward).
3. Shoes: NCAA regulations state that shoes with metal spikes may be worn.
4. Uniforms: Uniforms must have numbers.

## Game Management

1. Games will begin at 12:00 noon and 2:00 pm for doubleheaders.
2. Unless unusual circumstances prevail, infield practice will be available for the home team first, 25 minutes before game time. The field is to be available to the visitors 15 minutes before game time.
3. The host team has the choice of dugouts.
4. Each college shall be responsible for providing to all visiting colleges the following:
  - a. A copy of their schedule
  - b. Location and directions to their playing field
  - c. Instructions for parking vehicles
  - d. A roster of your team: include numbers, year in sport, positions, and hometown.
5. Ice, water and plastic bags must be available on the field, supplied by the home team.
6. Each school will be responsible for providing their own towels at all games.
7. The host school shall provide an official scorer.
8. The host school is responsible for calling the results of all home games to the conference seeding representative, **Sonny Stupek**. **Please call the day following competition, (530) 225-4717.**
9. **Each school is responsible for entering stats on jcscores.com within five days of competition.**
10. Diamonds must be well groomed and free of obstacles.
11. Bases must be installed securely.

## **Equipment**

1. Ball used in conference play must be COA approved. The Diamond 12 CALCC is the official Cal JC ball and must be used for conference play.
2. The host team will provide the game balls (two) per game.

## **Officials**

1. The *umpire assigner* will provide two rated NCAA umpires.
2. If only one umpire shows for a scheduled game, the home coach may select someone present for the second umpire, providing that the visiting coach is in agreement. If a substitute umpire cannot be found, and the scheduled umpire does not arrive within 30 minutes after the game is scheduled to be played, the game can be played with one umpire provided both coaches are in agreement. If both coaches do not agree the game(s) must be rescheduled.
3. The umpire in charge will be announced before the start of the season.

## **Competition Rules**

1. Teams competing in California Community College Fast pitch Softball are organized under the jurisdiction of the COA, State Athletic Code, and the CCCFCA.
2. The CCCFCA is accountable to the COA. The policies and procedures shall not be in conflict with those established by the COA.
3. Teams shall compete within an assigned conference in the state: 5 conferences in the south and 6 conferences in the north. They may participate with other teams outside of conference play.
4. Changes cannot be made in the conference schedule after all coaches have approved the schedule without permission from all of the coaches and athletic directors in the conference.
5. The game(s) shall be subject to forfeit if the home team has not been notified of any unforeseen problems (i.e. car problems, flat tires, traffic tie-ups, etc.) within 30 minutes after the scheduled game time. Circumstances preventing phone contact will be considered in determining the appropriateness of forfeiture.
6. In situations where a game or games must be rescheduled due to transportation problems or the failure of umpires to show, the rescheduling will not be treated the same as a rain out. The offended team (i.e. the home team if the visitors don't show, visiting team if umpires don't show) shall have preference in rescheduling games.

## **State Decorum Rule**

Refer to the California Community Colleges Commission on Athletics Constitution, 4.3 Decorum

## **Contests**

1. A contest is any type of game or encounter with an opponent.
2. There are a maximum of **50** total games allowed during the legal sport season.

A scrimmage is a game played without keeping score and which cannot exceed 7 innings. All other game conditions may be the same. Scrimmages must be played prior to any scheduled game.

### **Make-ups**

1. When the make-up of rainouts are necessary, the two colleges involved will make the necessary arrangements and reschedule the game(s) on the first available date within a two week period. ***The schedule change will be determined by the two Coaches and Athletic Directors involved within 48 hours.*** It may be necessary to schedule a make-up game the day before or after a scheduled game, creating back-to-back doubleheaders, in order to complete the game within the two week period. Rainouts on Friday may be made up on Saturday only if both coaches and athletic directors agree. Otherwise Monday would be the next available day.
2. In the event a game cannot be scheduled within two weeks, coaches should contact the executive representative, John Wissmath, and administrative representative, Craig Rigsbee who will contact the GVC Commissioner, Clar Appledoorn, to arrange scheduling alternatives.
3. The home team will have the authority to make the decision as to the playability of the field up until the game begins, then the decision will lie with the umpires.
4. Coaches have the responsibility of immediately reporting scheduling changes to John Wissmath.

### **Softball Season**

1. Practice and scrimmages shall begin in accordance with COA Guidelines.  
Exception: The team scheduled a college class.
2. Games shall not begin before stated COA Guidelines.
3. All games played shall terminate on stated dates in COA Guidelines.
4. Postseason competition shall terminate on stated dates in COA Guidelines.

### **Hosting Tournaments**

Colleges wishing to sponsor and administer tournaments may do so but the Form G is no longer required. Games played in tournaments count game for game towards the Maximum of **50 games** allowed by the COA Constitution.

### **Determining the Conference Champion**

Whoever wins or ties for the conference title will be declared the conference champion or co-champion.

### **Tie Breaker System**

For purposes of identifying first, second, and third place teams for State Tournament Competition.

1. Head-to-head competition is the first criteria:

- A. Two-way tie team who won conference season series (GVC games only) gets the nod. If this does not break the tie, go to the record against the next highest team in the final standings until tie is broken. (For second place, compare conference record against first place team and work down).
  - B. Three-way tie (same as above) if one of the teams has won the conference season series (GVC games only) against the other two, then the two remaining teams use head-to-head (GVC games only) as the determining factor. If this will not break the tie, then use conference record (GVC games only) against the champion. If this doesn't break the tie, use the record (GVC games only) against each team directly below in order of finish, until it is broken.
  - C. Four-way tie: Head-to head first (GVC games only), then if not applicable, use the four teams' conference record against the team finishing next highest in the standings.
2. If head-to-head competition cannot break a tie to determine the first place seed, a coin flip will be used to determine higher seed. The coin flip will either take place at the GVC Softball Coaches Meeting at the close of conference competition or will be conducted by Clar Appledorn, Conference Commissioner.
  3. If head-to-head competition cannot break a tie between two teams in which a potential play-off berth is at stake, a one game tiebreaker will be held in lieu of a coin flip. The game will be held at a neutral conference school. Winner of the tiebreaker game will be given the higher seed. Results of a tiebreaker game will not affect the outcome of conference play.

### **All Conference Awards**

The fourteen (14) players selected first team all conference will receive a medal from the conference.

### **Selection of All Conference Teams**

1. The first team will consist of fourteen (14 players) receiving the most votes in balloting.
2. All others nominated will receive Honorable Mention.
3. The individual player receiving the most votes will be the Conference M.V. P.
4. The individual pitcher receiving the most votes will be the Conference Most Valuable Pitcher.
5. Coaches or their representatives must attend the meeting to have players nominated for all conference.
6. Coaches or their representatives must also bring with them to the meeting, the final conference statistics in order to nominate their players. Overall season statistics or guesses are not acceptable.

## **Softball Coaches Meeting**

There are two required coaches meetings. One will take place in the fall and the other at the end of the regular season. Items to be considered are:

- A. Selection of all conference teams
- B. Discuss the schedule for the succeeding year
- C. Review these policies and umpire performance
- D. Vote on seeding and executive representatives when necessary***
- E. Discuss any problems we may have
- F. Discuss any other matters pertinent to softball