

## KIAC BASEBALL BYLAWS

APPROVED BY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 9/21/10

Sport Chair: Ryan Hess, Berea College

### REGULAR SEASON

- A. One week prior to the start of the conference schedule, each participating conference member will play in a conference tournament. The location and schedule for the tournament will be determined by the baseball chair, in consultation with the other conference baseball coaches. The schedule will have each participating conference member playing every other participating conference member one time, with no team playing more than two games per day. All games played in this tournament will count toward the conference standings. Completion of any game in this tournament will require that all subsequent tournament games either be played or rescheduled in accordance with item F below. If weather becomes a factor and causes the cancellation of the entire tournament, no games will be rescheduled.
- B. Each participating conference member must schedule and play every other conference team four times during the regular season.
- C. Scheduled competitions will include seven inning games in a four-game series of doubleheaders on Fridays and Saturdays.
- D. The baseball chair, in consultation with the conference baseball coaches and the KIAC commissioner, will determine the schedule at least one year in advance.
- E. Competitions will be scheduled on consecutive weekends up to the week before the post-season conference tournament. The week prior to the post-season conference tournament will be used to make up any necessary games not yet completed. The availability of this week for make-up games does not mean that coaches should wait until this week to reschedule games not completed.
- F. Every exhaustive effort must be made to reschedule games not completed because of inclement weather or other unforeseen circumstances. In fact, as soon as games are unable to be completed, the coaches involved should immediately begin looking at when the game(s) could be rescheduled. It should be noted that conference teams should cancel scheduled non-conference games in order to open dates for rescheduling conference games. Contracts with non-conference schools should include language which allows the option of doing so.
- G. Games which are called will be considered complete if five full innings have been played, and one team is ahead (four and one-half innings if the home team is ahead). If, after more than five innings of play, a game is called in the top half of an inning, the game will be considered complete from the point of the previously completed inning.

H. If a game is tied and called prior to the official completion of the game as described in item G, the game will be considered suspended and will be replayed in its entirety. If a game is tied and called after the number of innings normally considered to be a regulation game, the game is considered suspended and is to be rescheduled to begin at the point the game was called.

I. However, if the last scheduled game of a series is tied when the game is called, the game will not be rescheduled, regardless of the inning completed prior to the game being called. This prevents a team from having to forego extravagant travel expenses for rescheduling purposes. All other games should be rescheduled at every exhaustive effort as mentioned in item F.

J. To be eligible for tournament play, member schools must complete at least 75% of the scheduled conference games. This rule does not mean that once a team reaches the completion of 75% of their conference games that any less exhaustive effort is to be made to reschedule incomplete games.

K. Each school will assign its own umpires from approved umpire associations. All umpires must be certified.

L. The team with the most wins in regular season conference play will be declared the conference regular season champion, and, therefore, given the top seed in the post-season conference tournament. This is true even in the unlikely event that teams may have played an unequal number of games. Winning percentage will not be used for determining the conference regular season champion. In the event two or more teams have the same number of conference wins, the resulting tie will be broken by:

1. Head-to-Head competition
2. Records against the next highest conference seed not involved in the tie; this process will be repeated against the next highest seed until the tie is broken
3. A one-game, nine inning playoff, with a coin toss determining the home field location

Disputed seedings will be resolved by the baseball chair in consultation with the commissioner.

## **CONFERENCE POST SEASON CHAMPIONSHIP**

A. Post-season play will consist of one double elimination tournament.

B. All participating conference members will play in the conference post-season tournament.

- C. All post-season tournament games will be scheduled as nine inning contests. Any non-elimination game is subject to the “mercy rule” after seven innings of play (six and one-half innings if the home team is leading by ten runs or more).
- D. In the event of severe weather, the conference post-season tournament director, in consultation with the sport chair and commissioner, may declare the tournament a single elimination tournament in order to ensure the completion of the tournament and avoid the necessity of playing on Sunday; particularly if Sunday participation is not allowed by a team remaining in the tournament.
- E. Seeding for the conference post-season championship will be determined by total conference wins. In the event two or more teams have the same number of conference wins, this resulting tie will be broken in the same manner previously described for tie breakers for the conference regular season champion (item L above), except number three will be determined after a coin toss by the commissioner. The nine inning playoff game will be used only if there is a tie for the conference regular season champion.
- F. The home team opening round tournament games will be determined by a coin toss, with the team winning the toss gaining the ability to choose home or visitor. The team losing the coin toss will have their choice of dugout and uniform. Home teams for subsequent games will be based on previous results, with a coin toss deciding any ties.
- G. If the conference post-season championship cannot be completed due to weather, the conference regular season champion will be awarded the KIAC’s berth to the national tournament.
- H. The sports chair, in consultation with the conference baseball coaches and the conference commissioner, will determine, at or by the KIAC meeting each spring, the specific beginning and ending dates of the conference tournament.
- I. The conference post-season championship will be held at a site determined by the chair, in consultation with the other coaches and the commissioner. Any site hosting the post-season tournament should have a tarp and lights. The tarp and lights requirement can be overridden by a majority vote of the baseball coaches and the approval of the commissioner. The commissioner reserves the right to change the venue of the post-season conference baseball tournament to another conference site or to a neutral site if weather at the host site is ominous to the point of threatening the completion of the tournament.
- J. The sport chair, in consultation with the commissioner, will be responsible for assigning umpires for the tournament. Coaches will also have input into the selection of umpires.
- K. Fees for umpires will be paid for by the Conference.

L. Because of the April 2008 Executive Committee change in the way tournament receipts are treated, the host site will be required to pay the Conference a \$2,000 fee to host the tournament. In addition, the host site will keep all receipts collected in the management of the tournament, including but not limited to, gate receipts, advertising revenue, concession receipts, program sales, etc.

M. The baseball chair is responsible for completing proper paperwork to pay umpires. Umpire vouchers must be sent to the conference treasurer within 48 hours of the completion of the tournaments.

N. The baseball chair is responsible for providing scorers, scoreboard operators, statisticians, sports information personnel, ball boys, and other auxiliary officials.

### **STATISTICAL REPORTS**

A Regular season scores must be reported to the KIAC website within 24 hours of a contest. Statistics must be reported within 72 hours

B. Player of the Week nominations must be submitted to the NAIA administration website before noon each Monday.

C. Four levels of penalties will be created for missing the reporting of scores and statistics.

1. First miss – reminder letter
2. Second miss – probation letter from conference commissioner
3. Third miss – student athletes ineligible for post-season awards
4. Fourth miss – team ineligible for post-season competition.

D. The conference sports information director shall be responsible for reporting violations to the commissioner. The commissioner is responsible for the enforcement of the policy.

### **AWARDS**

A. The KIAC provides the following awards for baseball. Awards will be ordered by the conference commissioner in time to ship the awards to the host sites. It is the responsibility of the baseball chair to give the list of award winners to the commissioner and conference SID by immediately after the selections have been made.

1. An All-Conference team of 17 (according to NAIA regulations) members to be elected by a vote of the coaches. Coaches may choose a second team All-Conference, but no awards, plaques, or certificates will be provided.

2. One Player of the Year as determined by the coaches.
3. One Pitcher of the Year as determined by the coaches.
4. One Coach of the Year as determined by the coaches.
5. One regular season champion trophy.
6. One tournament champion trophy.
7. One tournament runner-up trophy.

### **OFFICIAL BASEBALL**

Diamond will be the official ball. The official ball may be changed prior to the beginning of any season by a majority vote of the coaches.