

# **OCCAC BASEBALL GUIDELINES**

## **I. MEMBERS**

Division II  
Cuyahoga Community College  
Lakeland Community College  
Owens Community College  
Sinclair Community College

## **II. OCCAC CHAMPION DETERMINATION**

The conference baseball champion will be determined by the team that wins the regular season with the best winning percentage. A team must have played all conference games by the Wednesday preceding the sub district tournament to either qualify as conference champion OR determine their conference final place. If games that can determine the conference champion or runner up have not been played by the Wednesday preceding the sub district tournament, then all conference teams must play in the sub district tournament to be able to qualify for the district tournament. If this happens the highest place tournament finisher will be the conference champion and all other team conference places will be determined by the tie breaker described in this rule. If the sub district is rained out the conference champion and all places will be determined by the conference games played up to the sub district. In case of a tie the tie breaker will be first, head to head against tied teams, second, highest run differential against tied teams, third, fewest runs allowed in the conference, and fourth, most runs scored in the conference.

## **III. CONFERENCE GUIDELINES**

- A. NCAA Baseball rules will be used.
- B. Speed-up rules will be in effect for all conference games.
- C. All games will be seven (7) innings. The 10-run rule is in effect after the losing team has batted five times. The home team must bat if it is the losing team when visiting team takes 10-run lead.
- D. The home team will be responsible for all game expenses, including two officials and NJCAA approved baseballs.
- E. Official tie games will not be counted in the standing.
- F. Official protests must be registered with OCCAC commissioner by phone during the first business weekday following the game in question. The OCCAC commissioner will carefully review the protest and a decision made within 48 hours after the commissioner has received the written protest.
- G. Makeup Games
  - 1. All makeup games must be determined between each school's Director of Athletics and his/her designee.

2. Conference games should be played on Friday-Monday with Tuesday and Wednesday of that week being back-up dates. At the very minimum, two games should be played every weekend.
3. Conference makeup games take priority over non-conference games at all times. Every attempt should be made to get games in over the weekend. If a team must play as late as Wednesday, the next conference series will automatically start no earlier than Saturday, giving the team a chance for a few days to rest their pitchers before the next series.
4. On Thursday morning, the teams playing will discuss the weather for the weekend and determine which two days out of the four give them the best opportunity to play.

- H. Halted Games – The NCAA halted game rule will be used.
- I. Conference Baseball chairperson will develop a two year schedule.
- J. The conference will follow the NCAA regulations regarding bat specifications.
- K. The approved ball for all conference games and Sub District tournament games will be official NJCAA approved ball.
- L. It is highly recommended that a certified athletic trainer be present at each game.
- M. Ejections – any player or coach ejected from a conference game must sit out the next conference game that their team plays.
- N. Videotaping is permitted for any conference game.

#### **IV. OCCAC AWARDS AND PROCEDURES**

- A. Each college will nominate a certain number of players for all conference based on their schools conference finish. (First place 5 nominations, second place 4 nominations, third place 3 nominations, fourth place 2 nominations and fifth place 2 nominations.
- B. Each college can also nominate a Player of the Year, Pitcher of the Year and Coach of the Year. The conference baseball chair will coordinate this process and send out the awards after the spring season.
- C. All nominations, which must include statistics from conference games only, must be sent to the conference sports chair that will coordinate the process and send out the results and awards.
- D. The conference baseball chair will coordinate and distribute the following OCCAC Baseball awards:
  1. Certificates to the 16 members OCCAC All Conference Team
  2. Plaque to the OCCAC regular season champion
  3. Plaque to the OCCAC Coach of the Year
  4. Plaque to the OCCAC Player of the Year
  5. Certificate to the OCCAC Pitcher of the Year
  6. Certificates for Player of the Week
- E. Final conference statistics will use 30-plate appearances and 18 innings pitched as minimums.

## V. DIVISION II BASEBALL DISTRICT QUALIFIER – SOUTHER REGION

- A. Team Selection
  - 1. The champion of the Ohio conference will receive an automatic berth to the District tournament.
  - 2. The remaining schools will play in a double elimination Sub District tournament to determine the second southern berth to the District tournament.
  
- B. The sub district tournament will be a double elimination tournament played at the site of one of the competing schools. The following will be the annual host site location order:
  - Lakeland
  - Vincennes
  - Owens
  - Sinclair
  - CuyahogaRepeat order unless new college is added.
  
- C. If the year the host school for the tournament gets an automatic berth to the District Tournament and does not compete in the Sub District tournament, the next school in the rotation will host the tournament for that year.
  
- D. If the above happens, the school who receives this automatic berth will lose their host school status until the next time around in the rotation.
  
- E. Division II Sub-District Qualifier Regulations
  - 1. **There will be a blind draw of the bracket done by the OCCAC Commissioner.** Games will be scheduled as follows for a three team tournament.

<u>Day 1</u>	<u>Day 2</u>
Game 1 – team 1 vs. team 2	Game 4
Game 2 – team 2 vs. team 3	Game 5
Game 3 – team 1 vs. team 3	
  - 2. If all teams are 1-1 after the first day the Tournament Director will flip a coin to determine the draw for the second day.
  - 3. Two Team Format
    - a. If two teams are competing for the Sub District berth then they will play a best of three game series.
    - b. The OCCAC Commissioner will determine the host school.
    - c. The remaining Sub District regulations will be used.
  - 4. Four or More Team Format – If four or more teams are competing in the Sub District qualifier then a double elimination bracket will be followed.
  - 5. Sub District Tournament Procedures

- a. Tournament director is the Director of Athletics at the host school. The tournament director has final say in all matters pertaining to the qualifier, but it is strongly encouraged to consult the OCCAC commissioner when necessary.
- b. If the tournament director determines a double elimination, format is not feasible due to inclement weather; he/she may declare a single elimination tournament is implemented.
- c. If the qualifier tournaments championship game is rained out and cannot be made up, the tournament director and the OCCAC commissioner will determine the qualifier champion.
- d. The host school must provide the following:
  - Two umpires per game
  - It is highly recommended one certified athletic trainer be at each game.
  - One official scorekeeper per game.
  - One dozen official NJCAA balls available per game.
  - Sufficient supplies to handle inclement weather including a mound and plate tarp.
  - Sufficient supply of water and ice to each team.
  - The tournament director or his designee must be present at all games.
- e. The entry fee for Sub District Division II Qualifier will be \$250.00 per school.

Revised 11/2011