

# BASEBALL

*All business conducted by sport committees must be submitted as recommendations to the Administrative Committee.*

## I. Regular Season

### A. Schedule

1. Commissioner will release the spring 2011 baseball schedule.
2. No contracts will be required for conference games. Non-conference games will be managed by contract as normal.
3. Once all schedules are obtained by the Commissioner, he will release the final schedules to the Supervisor of Umpires. The Supervisor of Umpires will then assign umpires to each of those games.
4. Starting times for MCC games will be 1:00 p.m. (or by mutual agreement) up until the date of Daylight Savings Time. After that date, weekday games will start at 2:00 p.m.
5. Four opponents to play four doubleheaders (home and away) and play the other four opponents in one doubleheader. This results in a 24-game season. Game sites to be determined on a rotation basis.
6. A conference series must be completed prior to the start of the next conference series. If not completed in this time frame, games will be lost.
7. Pre-Game Schedule:

Home Batting:	90 minutes prior to game time
Visitor Batting:	60 minutes prior to game time
Home Infield:	30 minutes prior to game time
Visitor Infield:	20 minutes prior to game time

  - a. Batting practice should take place on the game field whenever possible.
  - b. Any changes made to the above pre-game schedule should be communicated to the visiting team prior to game day.
  - c. It is suggested that each coach send out their pre-game schedules prior to the start of regular season play.
  - d. Coaches agree to exchange lineups 30 minutes prior to game time.

### B. Rainout Policy

If games are postponed, cancelled or rescheduled the following communication process will apply:

1. Both coaches must come to an agreement on the status of the game.
2. Home coach will e-mail (and call if necessary) the Supervisor of Umpires to advise of the change.
3. Home coach will call umpires originally assigned to advise of the change. Current policies continue for the priority of the assignments.
4. Supervisor of Umpires will reassign and advise accordingly.

5. The responsibility for communicating with opposing coach, Supervisor of Umpires, and umpires is that of the home coach.
6. A game that is called due to rain or darkness before it is a complete game, i.e. before the losing team has batted 5 times, will be resumed from the point where play was suspended. If a game is called due to rain or darkness after the fifth inning of play, the game outcome will revert back to the final outcome of the last completed inning – five or higher. The deadline for games to be completed is Friday, April 29.
7. Make-up conference games should take priority over non-conference games.

**II. Rules Governing Play** – NAIA rules will govern all games, including tournament play.

**III. Official Balls** – In regular season play, MCC schools may use the ball of their choice, but the official NAIA championship ball (Rawlings) is recommended. For the MCC postseason Tournament, Eight dozen baseballs are to be provided by the home team and will be the official NAIA championship ball (Rawlings), to be paid for by the conference or donated by Rawlings.

**IV. Umpires**

A. Rich Fetchiet will be responsible for assigning umpires for the 2011 season.  
(734) 647-4016  
[plateman@umich.edu](mailto:plateman@umich.edu)

B. Please note the MCC schools will be using a voucher system for umpire payment.

**V. Play-In Series and Conference Tournament**

The teams that finish 1, 2, and 3 in regular season play will receive an automatic bid into the six team double-elimination conference tournament as the 1,2, and 3 seeds respectively. Place of finish will be determined by conference winning percentage.

### **PLAY-IN SERIES GUIDELINES**

- A. The teams that finish 4 through 9 in the regular season will play a best 2-out-of-3 series for qualification into the six-team conference tournament using this format: The higher of the two seeds will host each play-in series. The play-in series will take place April 30 and May 2, 2011. The rain date will be May 3.
 

4 vs. 9
5 vs. 8
6 vs. 7
- B. Winners of the play-in series will receive the 4, 5, and 6 seeds in the conference tournament. Of the play-in series winners, the highest remaining seed will receive the #4 seed and the lowest remaining seed will receive the #6 seed in the MCC Tournament.
- C. The official postseason roster must be handed into the conference chair prior to the first game of each play-in series. The postseason roster will be handed to the six team double elimination tournament director prior to the first competition of play. (Use Appendix H in the NAIA Baseball Coaches Manual)
- D. All games will be 9 innings.
- E. All games for the play-in series will use the 10-run rule after 7 innings.

- F. Gate fee is not required for the play-in series. Host team will pay umpire fees for the play-in series.

#### **INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICIES**

- G. Suspended games due to weather or darkness will resume from the exact situation and inning the game is suspended.
- H. If the weather does not allow the first two games to be played on Day #1 (Saturday), there will be one 9-inning game played on Day #2 (Monday) or Day #3 (Tuesday) (first priority is Day #2) for the right to move on to the six team double-elimination tournament.
- I. If game one is started on Day #1 and weather becomes an issue (i.e. suspended game), the series is still a best 2-out-of-3 up until Day #3. The suspended game must be completed prior to the start of game two. If suspended game is completed before Day #3, there could be two games played on Day #3 to complete the series for the right to move on to the six team double-elimination tournament.
- J. If the series is tied 0-0 or 1-1 and cannot be completed by the end of Day #3, the highest seed will move on to the six team double elimination tournament.
- K. Host team site will be only site considered for Day #1 or Day #2. Both sites will be considered for Day #3 if needed.

#### **SIX TEAM DOUBLE-ELMINATION TOURNAMENT GUIDELINES**

- A. Tournament Dates: May 4, 5, 6 (May 7 is the rain date)
- B. All games will be 9 innings.
- C. For the first round only, the 10-run rule after 7 innings will be used.
- D. Tournament Director will be the host school representative. The host coach of the tournament may fill this role as Tournament Director only after his/her team has been eliminated from the tournament.
- E. **Financial Report Form** - Host school(s) for all MCC Postseason contests will use the supplied Financial Report Form to report expenses and gate revenues to the Conference Commissioner. Revenue (net) and the Financial Form are to be forwarded to the Conference Office one week after the MCC postseason is complete.

#### **INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICIES**

- A. Suspended games due to weather or darkness will resume from the exact situation and inning the game is suspended.
- B. If the tournament cannot be played, the No. 1 seed will be declared the conference tournament winner.
- C. If day one is started but cannot be completed during the tournament, then the No. 1 seed will be declared the conference tournament winner.
- D. If day one can be completed, then the winner of the tournament will be the highest seeded

team that is undefeated in the tournament.

- E. If day two is completed, then the winner of the tournament will be the highest seeded team that is undefeated.
- F. If day three is completed, then the winner of the tournament will be the highest seeded team that is undefeated.
- G. If five teams remain after Game 6 and three teams after Game 9, then the highest seeded team that is still undefeated in the tournament will be the winner.
- H. If the tournament has to be played on limited days, and taking into consideration the number of fields available, the tournament director (in conjunction with the sport chair and the Conference Commissioner) reserves the right to declare the tournament a single elimination tournament with the following format: The winner of Game 1 receiving a bye in the second day when the winner of Games 2 and 3 play. Then winners of Games 2 and 3 will play the winner of Game 1 for the tournament championship. The NAIA is firm that NO CONTESTS will be allowed after the Thursday, May 13, 2010 deadline.

#### **VI. Tiebreakers to Determine Final Conference Standings**

In the event of ties, the following tie breakers will be used to determine conference finishing place:

- A. Head-to-head competition (if 2 teams). In the event of a tie between 3 or more teams, the first tie breaker is win percentage against those teams involved in the tie.
- B. Win percentage against MCC opponents in descending order of conference standings.
- C. Win percentage against common opponents. (Conference and Non-Conference)
- D. Win percentage against all NAIA opponents
- E. Win percentage against all competition
- F. Coin toss between teams, to be administered by the baseball sport chair.

**VI. NAIA Postseason Qualification** – The winner of the MCC Tournament will receive an automatic bid to the NAIA National Championship Opening Round.

#### **VII. All-Conference Teams**

- A. Each coach will have the opportunity to nominate his best players for consideration on the All-Conference team. Each coach will fax their nominations to the baseball chair by the date and time decided upon at the fall coaches meeting. The baseball chair will compile a list and fax it back to all coaches. A coaches' meeting will be held to determine the All-Conference team.
- B. Players should be nominated at their normal position and each nomination must be accompanied by overall statistics
- C. Coaches or designated representatives must be available for a meeting and will be permitted to vote for their own players.
- D. Failure to send nominations on time or to have a representative at the All-Conference meeting will disqualify institution's players from All-Conference consideration
- E. A seventeen-player All-Conference team will be selected consisting of two catchers, four infielders, four outfielders, four starting pitchers, one relief pitcher, one designated hitter,

and one utility infielder. In addition, a Coach of the Year and a Player of the Year will be chosen.

F. The *Rawlings NAIA Gold Glove Award* will be awarded, based on NAIA guidelines.

G. Voting results for All-Conference teams will be made available to all MCC Baseball coaches. If votes are taken by ballot, the ballot results will be shown to all MCC Baseball coaches. If the votes are taken verbally, the verbal results will be documented for all MCC Baseball coaches to see.

**VIII. Sport Chair** - The position of Sport Chair will be voted upon every two years. No term limitations will be set, but individuals must be nominated and voted into the position of Sport Chair every two years.

**MID-CENTRAL COLLEGE CONFERENCE  
2011 BASEBALL TOURNAMENT  
FINANCIAL REPORT FORM**

**DATE:**

**LOCATION:**

**OPPONENTS:**

**SESSION: Finals**

**INCOME**

**Students: \_\_\_\_\_ (Number of students) @ \$2.00 each      \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**Adults: \_\_\_\_\_ (Number of adults) All-Day pass @ \$5 each day or \$5 each location      \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**TOTAL INCOME      \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**EXPENSES**

**Umpires: 3 @ \$120.00 per game      \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**TOTAL EXPENSES      \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**REVENUE (Net)      \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**Host schools are responsible for all expenses other than umpires.**

**Gate receipts and the financial report form are to be forwarded to the Conference Office one week after the tournament is completed.**