

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 2012 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. Each team will play every other team in the conference in a home and home doubleheader on consecutive conference dates. This results in a 36-game conference season.
6. Each series must be completed by the beginning of the next conference series. The first doubleheader of the series may not be moved up. Once the series begins, coaches may move dates for the second series based on the weather and mutual consent.
7. Locations of the games may be changed or flipped based on mutual consent of both coaches.
8. 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 Monday, April 30.
7. Make-up conference games will 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 2012 season.
(734) 647-4016
plateman@umich.edu
- B. Please note the MCC schools will be using a voucher system for umpire payment.

V. Conference Tournament

- A. The MCC Tournament will mirror the format used for the NAIA Opening Round Tournament in number of teams, bracket, tournament guidelines, and inclement weather procedures. The coaches will determine the rotation of the tournament and specifications at the 2011 fall meeting. The order of hosting the MCC Baseball Tournament is as follows starting with the 2012 tournament: Huntington, Bethel, Marian, IWU, Goshen, MVNU, Saint Francis, Taylor, Spring Arbor.
- B. The format for the 2012 season MCC Tournament will be a five-team double elimination tournament for the teams that finish 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 in regular season play. Place of finish will be determined by conference winning percentage. If ties need to be broken, refer to the section titled “Tiebreakers to Determine Final Conference Standings”.
- C. Tournament Dates: May 2, 3, 4 (May 5 is the rain date)
- E. The tournament will be played on one field.
- F. The official postseason roster must be handed in to the conference chair and tournament director prior to each team’s first tournament game.

- G. All games will be 9 innings.
- H. The 10-run rule will be used for first round games only (Games #1, #2, #3)
- I. 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.
- J. **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. Final decisions on weather and field conditions will be made by the tournament director in conjunction with the host school representative and the conference commissioner.
- B. If the tournament cannot be played at all, the No. 1 seed is the champion. The No. 2 seed will be the runner-up.
- C. If day one (games 1-3) is started but cannot be completed before the completion date, letter B above still applies.
- D. If day one (games 1-3) is completed but the rest of the tournament cannot be completed, the champion will be the highest seeded team that is undefeated. The runner-up will be the second highest seeded team that is undefeated.
- E. If day two (games 4-6) is completed by the rest of the tournament cannot be completed, the champion will be the undefeated team (winner of game #5). The runner-up will be the last team to lose a game (loser of game #5).
- F. If day three (games 7-8) is completed AND a game 9 is necessary but cannot be played before the completion date, the champion will be the winner of game 8. The runner-up will be the loser of game #8.
- G. If the first three days cannot be played but the last day is available, the tournament will revert to a single elimination tournament. (games 1, 2, 3, 5). The champion will be the winner of game #5 and the runner-up will be the loser of game #5.
- H. If the first two days cannot be played by the last two days are available, then games 1-4 will be played on the first available day and games 5-8 will be played on the second available day. The champion will be the winner of game 8. The runner-up will be the loser of game #8.
- I. A team may be required to play three games on one day to complete the tournament on the final day.

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 regular season (No. 1 seed in the tournament) and the winner of the MCC Tournament will receive automatic bids to the NAIA Opening Round. If the winner of the regular season (No. 1 seed in the tournament) and the winner of the MCC Tournament are the same team, the second place team from the tournament will be awarded the second automatic bid.

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.

Revised 9/21/2011

**MID-CENTRAL COLLEGE CONFERENCE
2012 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.