

SOFTBALL

1. The NJCAA Code of Conduct (Article XX) and the NJCAA Sportsmanship Policy (Article XVIII) will apply to all MCCAAC Contests.
2. Statistics
 - A. Statistics for **ALL** games played prior to one week before voting must be entered and up to date on the NJCAA website (or website designated by the NJCAA) for players to be eligible for MCCAAC Post-Season awards.
 1. Statistics must be up to date for **ALL** players not just players nominated for awards.
 2. It is the job of each athletic director with the assistance of the softball sport chairs to ensure that all stats are kept up to date through out the season
3. Lightning Policy
 - A. At the first visible sign of lightning all play shall be suspended.
 - B. While play is suspended for lightning, both teams shall leave the playing area and seek safe shelter.
 - C. Play shall be resumed thirty (30) minutes after the last visible lightning flash and accompanying thunder clap. The thirty (30) minute clock shall reset on each flash of lightning and accompanying thunder clap. Game management and officials shall order the resumption of play.
 - D. It is strongly recommended that all schools have a lightning detector at the field.
4. All games are to be played in accordance with the official NCAA Fast Pitch rules.
 - A. An 8 run mercy rule shall be used for all MCCAAC games
 - B. Tiebreaker will **not** be used in the MCCAAC games.
 - C. Pre-game fielding, if conditions allow, each team will have a maximum of 10 minutes on the game field. The home team will have the choice of taking infield first or last. The first team shall have the field from 2:35 to 2:45. The second team shall have the field from 2:45 to 2:55. At 2:55 the pre-game meeting will commence at home plate.
5. Home and away double headers must be played with each member in the Conference.

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6. All postponed conference games **MUST** be rescheduled within 48 hours of the cancellation and communicated to the sport chair and Publicity Director. The game must be scheduled for play on the first available date and not to exceed 10 days of the cancelled game. Conference games take precedence over non-conference games, and non-conference games may have to be canceled in order to get the conference game played in the 10 day window. Any deviation for the 10 day policy must be approved by the sport chair. **All conference games MUST be completed prior to the MCCA Softball Tournament unless approved by the sport chair.**
7. Officials for all contests will be scheduled by the director of officials as supervised by the MCCA softball chairperson.
 - A. Eastern and Western Conference games must have two umpires to start the game unless mutually agreed upon. Teams must wait a minimum of one hour while attempting to secure umpires on the approved list.
8. The home team will be responsible for the following:
 - A. Official scorebook
 - B. Payment of two qualified NCAA registered umpires (Neither may be a student or employee of the college.)
 - C. A minimum of four balls per doubleheader. The official softball shall be the official ball of as declared by the NJCAA.
 - D. Providing of water to the visiting team bench. Ice availability is recommended (For Treatment of injuries)
 - E. A list of approved officials and phone numbers must be at the game site.
 - F. Copy of the NCAA Rule book.
9. Teams will submit rosters the following information to the MCCA Publicity Director by the noted dates.
 - A. Team schedule is due by January 10.
 - B. Team roster one week prior to the first scheduled game with the following information: Number, Name, Position, Bats/Throws, Height, Year, Hometown and High School. (including spring trip games)
 - C. A Digital Team picture as soon as possible after the start of the season
10. Schedules should be drawn on year in advance at the annual meeting. All games will be played at 3:00 PM on weekdays and 1:00 PM on weekends.

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11. The final standings in a conference shall be based on win/loss percentage. All Conference games must be completed in accordance with the MCCA Constitution.
12. Tie Breaker Procedure for conference places:
 - A. Head to Head win/loss record
 - B. Win/Loss with teams in the conference starting with the top position and moving down through the conference
 - C. If a tie still exists use the same format but use the differential in number of runs scored and runs allowed. Start with the top team in the conference and move down until the tie is broken.
 - D. If a tie still exists, a coin flip will be conducted by the state chairperson.
13. **MCCA CHAMPIONSHIP**
 - A. The MCCA Tournament will be a single elimination tournament with the first and second place teams in each conference advancing to the tournament.
 - B. The Tournament will take place on the Sunday prior to Districts. If inclement weather or other circumstances occur the tournament must be completed by **Tuesday** of that week.
 - C. Seeding for the tournament is as follows
 1. The Eastern Conference Champion will play the Western Conference Runner Up.
 2. The Western Conference Champion will play the Eastern Conference Runner Up.
 3. Ties for places would use the tie breaking rules now in place (see above).
 4. The number one seed would be the Conference Champion with the highest winning percentage.
 5. In case of a tie, a coin flip will determine the number one seed.
 - D. Playing times
 1. Where two fields are available the semi-final games shall start at 12:00 noon with the finals 30 minutes after completion of the last semi-final.
 2. Sites with only one field is available, the game with the number one seed will take place at noon. The second semi-final will take place 30 minutes after the completion of the first semi-final. The finals will take place 30 minutes after the end of the second game.

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3. The championship game will have three umpires.
 - E. The MCCA Softball Director will contact the umpire assignor with the site of the game
 - F. The Championship site will be rotated each year with Even Years being hosted by a Western Conference school and Odd Years and by an Eastern Conference school. The site of the tournament will be determined by bid at the MCCA Summer Meeting at Shanty Creek.
 - G. The Champions in each conference will be designated the home teams for the semi-final games. The home team for the championship game will be decided by a coin flip prior to the game.
14. Awards: Each conference will select seven (7) All-MCCA players. Selection as follows:
- A. The Conference softball director will send out forms no later than the two Friday's before the MCCA Tournament
 - B. Western Conference: the top four teams can nominate eight (8) players; the rest of the teams can nominate five (5). Each Eastern Conference coach may nominate up to (5) five players.
 - C. All forms must be completed and turned in the Friday, before the MCCA Tournament.
 - D. The Monday following the MCCA Tournament the conference director will send out a ballot and a form with all players nominated with stats and comments from that player's coach.
 - E. Each coach will vote for (12) twelve players (Coaches may not vote for their own). On the ballot each coach will list from best player to 12th best. (The best player will receive 12 pts, the next 11 pts., etc, down to 1 pt for the 12th player on the ballot.
 - F. The top (12) twelve point getters will be First Team All-Conference. The top seven (7) will be All-MCCA and All-Region.
 - G. The next (10) ten will be Second Team All-Conference.
 - H. In both conferences anyone receiving a vote but not on First or Second Team will be Honorable Mention.
 - I. Coaches will also vote for Eastern Conference Coach of the Year on this ballot. The Western Conference Coach of the year will be the coach of the Western Conference Softball Champion(s).
15. A Coach of the Year will be award to the coach of the State Championship Team.

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16. Officials pay

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>SINGLE GAME</u>	<u>DOUBLEHEADER</u>
2012	\$80	\$120

17. Cancellation Policy

A. Cancellations before game date.

1. School Administration will cancel contest through Director of Officials. Director of Officials will contact umpires.

B. Cancellation on Contest Date

1. School Administration must notify each umpire directly and notify the Director of Officials.

C. Game Fees

1. Notifying the Director of Officials prior to contest date – No game fee due
2. Umpires cancelled prior to leaving home or work – No game fee due
3. Umpires notified after leaving home or work – Single Game fee due
4. Cancellation after a pitch being thrown – Full Doubleheader fee due.
5. Umpires arrive at site and no games are played – Full Doubleheader fee due.