

GARDEN STATE ATHLETIC CONFERENCE | SOFTBALL CODE**Section A – Regular Season Playing Regulations**

1. All teams must schedule all other teams within their division twice.
2. All GSAC divisional games must be played. Scheduling priorities when there is no available make-up date should be:
 - a. GSAC division opponent (**SEE SECTION K**)
 - b. GSAC opponents
 - c. Other opponents
 - a. In the event a game is postponed, it should be rescheduled on a mutually agreeable date. In the event no such date exists, the game must be rescheduled at the next available date when both teams do not have a region divisional game scheduled. This includes canceling or rescheduling a non-regional divisional contest to allow a regional game within the division to be played. Failure by one team to adhere to this rule will count as a forfeit for seeding purposes. The region divisional team that was willing to play the date decided receives a win for seeding purposes. In the event all avenues have been exhausted to the satisfaction of the region director, a “no contest” shall be declared.
3. All games must be scheduled for seven (7) innings, including double-headers. If the game is tied after the 7th inning the approved tie breaker rule goes into effect immediately. The tie breaker rule states: *“During each half inning of the innings used to enforce the tie breaker rule, the offensive team shall begin its turn at bat with the player who is scheduled to bat in the ninth position in that respective inning starting the inning at second base.”*
4. An eight (8) run mercy rule will be in effect for all GSAC games, after the 5th inning. At this point the game is declared an official game.
5. When a visiting school arrives late late (after 30 minutes prior to contracted start time) to an away contest, and notifies the appropriate hosting administrator, the team will receive a 25 minute period of time once the team, in its entirety, enters the building/playing site and meets with the on-site administrator. (as per Winter 2011 meeting.)
6. Any College fielding a club team must follow all NJCAA, NCAA, and GSAC regulations specifically including, but not limited to, filing the NJCAA Club Team form, paying region dues, report game results to your respective service bureau, adhere to uniform rules as per the sport operating code, follow ejection policies for coaches and players (including the reporting of these ejections), follow the home game management requirements and use game umpires which are under contract with GSAC.
7. GSAC will follow the playing rules of the NCAA/NJCAA unless otherwise indicated.

Section B – Officials

1. All umpires must be certified and be members of the organization approved by GSAC to provide umpires for the sport of softball. The GSAC softball assignor must attempt to secure the highest rated officials available.

Section C – Reporting of Scores

1. All scores and statistics must be entered on the NJCAA and Region XIX websites.
2. All service bureau reports must be emailed/called/faxed in by the appropriate deadline set forth by the Service Bureau Director. If the reports are not received by the deadline your team will be fined \$50. Such fine(s) must be paid in full five (5) days prior to the seeding meeting for the tournament. Colleges not reporting to their respective service

bureau director by the due time because of emergency closures will have 24 hours (next working day) from the due time and date to submit their report. If it is known that the institution will be closed at the reporting time – the report should be sent prior to the closing and before the due time. If at this time no report is received by the service bureau director, a fine of \$50 will be assessed (invoice sent by the service bureau director w/ copy to the respective region director, men's or women's and payment sent to respective region director). If no payment is received by respective region director five (5) days prior to the seeding meeting the offending college(s) will be reported to the Standards and Ethics committee

Section D - GSAC Conference Championship

1. A conference champion in each division will be determined by best won-lost record..
2. In case of ties, a champion will be determined using a tie break formula developed by the membership of the GSAC.

Section E– All Conference Selections

1. An All-Region / All-GSAC nomination form will be sent to all coaches in mid-April by the Region Softball Committee Chair with specific deadlines for completion and return by the coaches.
2. Coaches may nominate up to six (6) players. The players must be nominated in the positions they have played in the majority of the season.
3. An All-Region / All-GSAC voting ballot will then be sent to all coaches by the Region Softball Committee Chair after all nominations have been collected, with specific deadlines for completion and return.
4. If a college does not return their voting ballot by the established deadline, their team nominations will be dropped from the voting ballots.
5. Players must be voted on in the following positions: Pitchers (2), Catchers (2), Infielders (5), Outfielders (4) and the utility player will automatically be the next player with the highest number of votes received. Coaches may not vote for their own players.
6. Division II and Division III will each have a first and second All-GSAC Team. Each player receiving the most votes for their position will be selected to the first team and the next vote getter will earn second team honors.

Section F – Coach of the Year

1. The Coach of the winning GSAC team will be named GSAC Coach of the Year.
2. A certificate will be awarded to the Coach of the Year.

Section G – Code of Conduct

1. All members of teams including players, coaches, trainers, scorekeepers, and spectators will follow the Code of Conduct enforced by the National Junior College Athletic Association throughout all games.

Section H– NJCAA / Region XIX/GSAC Ejection Policy

1. An athlete in any contest involving a Region XIX College who is ejected for violent conduct or fighting shall not be allowed to participate in the next two played contests as determined by the schedule of that institution. (Ejections are for both single and doubles matches). If this ejection occurs in the last contests of a given season, the suspension shall be in effect the first regular game of the player's next season.
 - i. Players and coaches will be ejected for the following:

- Vulgar language
 - Tobacco products/smoking
 - Dress code violations
- ii. If a player or coach is ejected, an ejection report must be filed with the Region Director.

Section I – Health and Safety

1. In regard to an open wound, under circumstances when constant or profuse bleeding occurs, the participant shall be immediately removed from that contest by the coach or official and cannot return until the bleeding has stopped.
2. The use of all tobacco products by any coach, player, official, or other individual involved in the conducting of any NJCAA sanctioned or sponsored regular season or post season play is prohibited within the confines of the playing area. Any individual not in compliance shall be disqualified from further participation in that contest.

Section J – Tobacco Use

1. The use of all tobacco products by any coach, player, official, or other individual involved in the conducting of any NJCAA sanctioned or sponsored regular season or post season play is prohibited within the confines of the playing area. Any individual not in compliance shall be disqualified from further participation in that contest.

Section K – GSAC Divisional Breakdown

Division II (5)

Burlington
Morris
Mercer
Raritan Valley
Salem

Division III (10)

Atlantic Cape
Bergen
Brookdale
Camden
Cumberland
Gloucester
Middlesex
Ocean
Sussex
Union