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 J)
   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 Region XIX/GSAC to provide umpires for the sport of softball. The Region XIX/GSAC softball assignor must attempt to secure the highest rated officials available.

Section C – Reporting of Scores
1. Team schedules and rosters must be entered, prior to the start of the season, on the Region XIX and NJCAA websites.
2. Teams are responsible for inputting scores on both the Region XIX and NJCAA websites immediately after the completion of their contests.
3. Colleges that fail to update their respective sport rosters, schedules, statistics and/or scores will be referred to the Standards and Ethics committee.

4. Individual statistics must be up-to-date in order to nominate a student-athlete for various Player of the Week awards.

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 (1), Infielders (4), Outfielders (3) 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. The number of All-GSAC teams will be determined by the minimum varsity team threshold as set by the Region.

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. If a coach is ejected from a Region XIX contest and there is no college approved representative designated by the Athletic Director present, then the game is terminated and forfeited at that point. Also the coach must sit the next scheduled contest. If the ejection occurs in the last game of the season the ejection will carry into the following year.
2. An athlete ejected from any Region XIX contest for any reason must sit the next game. If the ejection occurs in the last game of the season and/or playoff game the suspension will carry into the following season of eligibility used in this sport.
3. Any player ejected for fighting or violent act, will sit the next two (2) contests. If the ejection occurs in the last game of the season and/or playoff game the suspension will carry into the following season of eligibility used in this sport. A second ejection for fighting in a season will result in that player suspended from competition in that sport.
for the remainder of the season. Reminder: NJCAA and NCAA rules may allow for more severe penalties. Region XIX will impose the most severe penalty allowable.

4. In the event of any ejection, an ejection report must be filed with the Region Director. The AD's of both colleges should file the appropriate NJCAA ejection form to the Region Director.

5. Personnel and athletes suspended under the NJCAA rules shall not be allowed in the facility/gym/field complex before or during the contest and may not coach or participate before the game, during play or at halftime. Suspended coaches may travel with the team, but only to drive a van, they are not allowed in the venue. Suspended athletes may not travel with the team while serving a suspension.

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.

3. Visiting teams utilizing home team training services must provide athletic tape and other sports medicine related items.

Section J – GSAC Divisional Breakdown

Division II (4)
Burlington
Morris
Mercer
Raritan Valley

Division III (10)
Atlantic Cape
Bergen
Brookdale
Camden
Cumberland
Rowan College at Gloucester County
Middlesex
Ocean
Sussex
Union