

NORTH SUBURBAN CONFERENCE GUIDELINES

GIRLS' SOFTBALL

I. SEASON LIMITATIONS

Practice may begin Monday of week 35 of the I.H.S.A. standardized calendar. The first contest may be no earlier than Monday of week 37. The season shall end no later than Saturday of week 49.

II. CONTEST LIMITATIONS

The Girls' Softball schedule shall consist of a double round-robin within each Division and a single round of crossovers against the opposite Division.

Varsity - 35 games
Junior Varsity - 35 games
Freshman - 35 games

III. LEVELS OF COMPETITION

There will be three (3) levels of competition:

- A. Varsity
- B. Junior Varsity
- C. Freshman
- D. Participation: Refer to Article IX of the N.S.C. Constitution regarding eligibility.

IV. COACHES' MEETING

The coaches will meet at the conclusion of the season for the selection of the All-Conference team and recommendations for rule changes.

V. CHAMPIONSHIP

- A. The Division Championships shall be determined by the best record within Division play. Crossover contests do not count in Division standings.
- B. The North Suburban Conference Championship trophy will be awarded to the winner of the Conference Championship game rescheduled for the final crossover round. The following is the criteria to break a three team tie in a Division to determine the representative to the Championship game:
 - 1. Head to head among tied teams
 - 2. Conference record (including common crossover opponents)
 - 3. Run differential among tied teams (up to 3 runs per contest)
 - 4. Run differential for all Division contests (up to 3 runs per contest)
 - 5. If two teams are still tied, the team that has not been to the Championship game for the longest period of time will be the representative.

Note: If only two teams remain tied after any criterion is applied, head to head competition between those teams will be the deciding factor. Ties which remain after all criteria have been applied will be broken by a coin flip conducted by the Resource Athletic Director.

VI. CONDUCT OF CONTESTS

A. Conduct of Games

1. Starting times for N.S.C. games: Weekdays - 4:30 p.m., Saturdays - 10:30 a.m. On ACT and SAT test Saturdays, Varsity and Frosh "B" levels will play at 1:30 P.M. JV and Frosh "A" will play at 10:30 A.M., unless a time change is requested by a school. Then, by mutual consent, a different start time can be arranged.
2. In games which are scheduled as double-headers, the home team is designated as the home team in the 1st game and the procedure is reversed for the 2nd game.
3. Games are to be played at opposite site whenever originally scheduled regulation field is unplayable.
4. There will be a minimum of 20 minutes between double-headers and a maximum of 30 minutes to be ready to play.
5. Home teams shall complete pre-game practice 15 minutes prior to scheduled starting time. Visiting schools shall be given 15 minutes warm-up. In case of late arrival, visiting team will be given adequate warm-up time, but this will not exceed 15 minutes from time of arrival.

B. Postponed Games or Transferred Games

1. Order of Play

- a. Order of postponement shall be maintained in rescheduling pending field condition.
- b. Must be rescheduled in preference to any other contest on first available playing date, including Saturday, except for those contests in the State tournament series.

Exceptions: (1) For contests scheduled prior to May 1, the game may be made up on Saturday by mutual agreement; however, if a school has a non-Conference contest or contests scheduled for a Saturday, the Conference game may be rescheduled for the next weekday date, and (2) Prom - Every effort should be made prior to the season to reschedule games which are on a prom weekend. In the event a game is rescheduled to a prom weekend, the preference of the school with the prom conflict to play on Friday, Saturday, or Monday will be honored.

- c. For contests after May 1, if weather postpones a Saturday make-up date, single games will be made up on the next available date, and doubleheader contests will have the option of playing single games (switching home and away sites) or may play a weekday doubleheader with an earlier starting time mutually agreed upon by both schools.

2. Play at opposite site whenever originally scheduled field is unplayable.
 - a. Single game first round
 1. Original home team is responsible for transfer of umpires.
 2. Team on whose field the game is played now becomes the "home" team.
 3. The site of the second round game will also be changed, thus giving both teams a home game.
 - b. Single game second round
 1. Original home team remains the "home" team for game procedure.
 2. Umpires same as in Item 2a above.
 3. When scheduled home field is unplayable, the game is to be played at the opposite site if possible.
 - c. Suspended Games
 1. Only Varsity games that are not an official game will be considered a suspended game and shall be continued from the point of suspension.
 2. Suspended first round Varsity games will be completed on the date and at the site of the second round game and prior to the beginning of the second round game, or on an earlier date by mutual consent.
 3. Suspended 2nd round Varsity games will be made up.

C. Slaughter

1. At all levels, a game shall be called if one team is ten (10) runs ahead after completion of five (5) innings.
2. Below Varsity level, games shall be called if one team is twenty (20) runs ahead after completion of 3 innings.
3. No new inning may start after two (2) hours (from the actual start of the freshmen and JV games).

D. A girl may play at only one level on any day of competition.

E. The host school shall provide the softball equipment necessary to run the game.

1. Two new 12" official National Federation approved cork-center softballs will be provided for each game. In double-headers, provide official balls for both games by the site school.
2. Provide official scorebooks or scoresheets.
3. A double first base must be used for all levels of Conference play.

VII. AWARDS

- A. A team trophy will be awarded to the Division and Conference Championship teams.
- B. The All-Conference team shall consist of forty-two (42) players. A list of nominations will be submitted to the resource athletic director. An Honorable Mention team may be selected of no more than one half the number (21) of All-Conference players.
- C. Each school will receive one (1) selection for each three (3) wins in the Conference.

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