

**BASEBALL
SEASON OF SPORT**

2010-2012

FIRST CONTEST: February 21, 2011
February 20, 2012
February 18, 2013

LAST CONTEST: May 10, 2011
May 8, 2012
May 7, 2013

| | <u>2011</u> | <u>2012</u> | <u>2013</u> |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| NSCIF CHAMPIONSHIP: 1st Round (Friday) | May 13 | May 11 | May 10 |
| 2nd Round (Tues.) | May 17 | May 15 | May 14 |
| Championship (Sat.) | May 21 | May 19 | May 18 |

Any game or games not on the original schedule by April 1 will not be counted for playoff point.

MAXIMUM NUMBER OF CONTESTS: 24 (A tournament counts as 2 contacts)

MAXIMUM NUMBER OF SCRIMMAGES: 3
(See General Information # 10)

Note: All dates and sites are subject to change

Opting Out of playoffs

If a school does not wish to participate in the Section's post-season playoffs, the school administration must notify in writing the Commissioner and Sport Advisory Chair two days prior to the seeding meeting.

If a school is seeded into the post-season tournament and withdraws the fine will be \$1000. To reduce the fine to \$500, the school administration must present a corrective action plan at the next Executive Council meeting and **must** attend the following years administrative workshop in August.

NSCIF BASEBALL PLAYOFF QUALIFYING GUIDELINES

I. DIVISIONS

The number of schools that play Varsity Baseball in the NSCIF will be divided into six (6) Divisions according to their previous year 9-12 CBEDS enrollment. The divisions will consist of 10 schools in each of the first 5 divisions and the 6th division will be made up of the remaining schools fielding baseball teams.

II. ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Baseball Advisory Committee consists of one representative from each League.

III. SEEDING COMMITTEE

- A. The Seeding Committee shall consist of the NSCIF Commissioner, the Playoff Committee Chair, and the Baseball Committee Chair. A designee may replace any of the committee.
- B. If a school decides that they do not wish to participate in the NSCIF Championships, the school administrator must notify the Commissioner's office by Wednesday, 12:00 Noon, on the Wednesday prior to the first round of the Playoffs. That team will be eliminated and the Commissioner will then notify the next ranked team of their qualification as established by the Playoff Points. This will continue until the vacated spot is filled. In the event that there are no teams available, a BYE will be awarded to the appropriate seed(s).
- C. In case of a tie by points the following Tie Breaker will be used:
 1. League Head to Head competition.
 2. Non-League Head to Head competition.
 3. Common Opponents.
 4. Overall winning percentage.
 5. Play-off (for 8th seed only).

IV. GAME SITES AND TIMES

- A. The highest seed will host throughout the preliminary rounds. The site location may be changed by mutual consent of the participating teams with approval of the NSCIF Commissioner's office.
- B. The Championship games will be held at one or two "central venues."***
- C. The Host School shall recommend game times. If consensus is not achievable, refer to the Commissioner.

V. QUALIFICATION AND SEEDING CRITERIA

- A. Qualification-Each Division shall be single elimination, eight-team tournament. If there are less than eight (8) teams in Division VI, the Seeding Committee has the option to have a four-team tournament.
- B. Seeding Criteria for Qualifying Teams-Teams will be ranked in their Division According to the following point criteria:
 - I. League Record-Divide the number of league games played in to the number of league games won. Multiply that number by ten (10). Then multiply by 2 to give the League Finish its weighted amount.
 2. Non-League Record-Divide the number of non-league games played into the number

of non-league games won. Multiply by ten (10). If a school does not play at least 5 non-league games during the season their record will be adjusted to reflect 5 games. For example: School A is 3-1 in non-league games, their non-league record will be recorded as 3-2 for seeding formula purposes.

3. Divisional Opponents-Divide the number of divisional games played into the number of divisional games won. Multiply the number by ten (10). Then multiply by 2 to give the Divisional opponents its weighted amount. All tie games will be counted as ½ wins and ½ losses.

If a school does not play at least 4 divisional opponents during their season their record will be adjusted to reflect 4 games. For example:
School A is 2-1 in divisional opponents their divisional record would reflect 2-2 for seeding purposes. (Effective 2007-2008 season)

4. All League Champions will be guaranteed a home game in the first round of the playoffs. After initial seeding is complete, League Champions will move into the top 4 seeds to guarantee a home game.
Exception: If there are more than 4 league champions in one division, all league champions will not receive a home contest in the first round.
5. The total of the above three criteria will determine the school's rank in their respective Divisions.
6. Teams will not be seeded outside their league finish.
7. It is imperative that all schools report their scores to the "MaxPreps.com" so that the information posted on the website is accurate. Schools are responsible for reporting any errors to MaxPreps.com or the Section Office (343-7285, fax 343-5619) before the Section seeding meeting. If information is inaccurate, seeding information must be submitted to the NSCIF office by 10:00 a.m. by schools on or prior to the Wednesday following the final contest date. (See Appendix C).
NOTE: See Appendix A for examples and worksheet.

VI. NORCAL QUALIFICATION

Not Applicable

VII. STATE QUALIFICATION

Not Applicable

VIII. OTHER RULES GOVERNING THE SPORT

A. National Federation Rules apply.

B. Speed Up Rules

1. All or any of suggested speed up rules may be used or not used at the discretion of each coach during the game. During the course of the game, a coach may choose to use the speed up rule one inning and then the next inning may choose not to do so.
2. Runners: The team at bat may use courtesy runners for the pitcher and/or the catcher anytime. The same runner may not be used for both positions, may not have been in the game already as a player, and may not be used twice in the same inning. Neither the pitcher nor the catcher will be required to leave the game under such circumstances.

C. Baseball Pitching Limitation rule is in effect for all playoffs.

D. Ten Run Rule will:

- I. Be mandatory for all preliminary playoff games.
2. Be in effect for the Championship game if:
 - a. Agreed to by mutual consent of both coaches at any point during the game.
 - b. Requested by the trailing team.
- E. Tournament Game Day Format
 1. Infield/Outfield order *determined by coach of home team*. Infield/Outfield warm-ups should not exceed 15 minutes per team.
 2. Umpires and coaches should meet at home plate to discuss ground rules after infield/outfield is taken.
 3. Ground rule format as follows:
 - * The home team coach will cover all ground rules pertinent to the field. Ground rules cannot be in conflict with the rulebook
 - * The home coach states ground rules, if visiting coach disagrees the umpire in chief will make the final decision.
 - * The home plate umpire will cover all rule interpretations pertinent to the game not covered by the High School Federation Rules or NSCIF Guidelines.
 - * As per federation rule ... ground rules at home plate prior to the game will consist of all umpires, both head coaches and any assistant coaches. Team captains are optional
 4. NSCIF guidelines require that umpires remind coaches that good sportsmanship is to be exhibited at all times.

IX Championship game format

- A. Before the start of the game: Host school should make sure of the following:
 - Visiting coach is aware of the game site.
 - Visiting coach is made aware of the size of ballpark and general characteristic & (distance down the lines and in the alleys, type of infield surface, type of backstop.)
 - Make sure visiting team is aware of parking facility and distance to the field.
 - Make sure visiting coach is aware of pertinent information regarding facility, batting tunnel, batting cage, locker room facilities, bathrooms, covered dugouts.
- C. Pre- Game
 - If the home team is going to take batting practice before the game in a cage or tunnel the visiting team must be afforded equal time in this facility.
 - No live batting practice on the field (excluding whiffle balls or soft toss in the outfield)
 - Teams should warm up on their respective foul lines, (centerfield is not an acceptable place for a team to warm up or stretch) No center field circle warm-ups!
 - During the opponents infield/outfield warm up time ... opposing teams must be in the dugout or off the field. (exception — late arrival warm up down the foul line.
- D. Pre-Game Introductions
 - Introduce the umpires for today's game
 - Introduce the tournament director or administrator in charge.
 - Players should be introduced by number then first and last name. Choose from the one of the following:
 - Starters by position and then reserve players
 - Reserve players then starters by position
 - All players in numerical order

- Coaches before players
 - Coaches after players
- The championship game is not a time to honor senior players or their parent.
 - National Anthem
- E. Post Game Presentations:
- An official from the host school, CIF Commissioner, athletic director, CIF Playoff Chairperson, Championship Game Director will present the Runner up plaque and then the championship plaque at home plate at the conclusion of the game.
 - The awards presentation will include the championship and runner up plaques only, and presented to the head coaches respectively.
 - The awards presentation is not a time to honor senior players or their parents.

NSCIF GAME MANAGEMENT INFORMATION

I. UMPIRES

- A. The host school is responsible to contact their officials association to notify them of the date and time of their playoff game. *Umpires* fees will be billed and paid directly through the Section office.
- B. It is recommended that three (3) *umpires* will be assigned from the host school's assigning area for *all playoff games*.
- Umpires should be made aware of the 3-man system and it's mechanics prior to the start of the playoffs.
 - Coaches may be involved in the selection process of playoff umpires.

II. OFFICIAL BALL

The Diamond baseball will be used exclusively for all Northern Section CIF Playoff and Championship events. The Northern Section will provide a minimum of six (6) baseballs to the host schools in each Division. The Diamond sponsorship contract is valid until May 30, 2012.

III. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

Any player whose name appears on the official Varsity, Junior Varsity, or Freshman roster for the last league game and who is currently eligible under CIF guidelines is eligible to participate.

IV. UNIFORMS

The National Federation Rulebook shall be followed. Changes regarding visiting and home jerseys may be made by mutual consent.

V. GAME SUPERVISION

- A. The host school shall provide an administrator or designee to serve in an official capacity and help with the basic operations and needs of the game.
- B. The host school shall be responsible for security personnel as needed.

VI. ENTRY FEES (All entry fees are subject to change)

The entry fee for the playoffs will be a one-time fee of \$75.00 per team. (Total of \$600 per

Division). Please submit entry fees directly to the Section Office. Do not include fees on financial report. Checks made payable to NSCIF.

VII. ADMISSION FEES (All admission prices are subject to change)

Admission will be charged for all Championship Playoff Games leading up to and including the Finals.

| | |
|------------------------------|---------|
| Adult | \$ 5.00 |
| Senior Citizen (60 and over) | \$ 4.00 |
| Student (w/A.S.B. card) | \$ 4.00 |
| K-8 Student | \$ 4.00 |

Note: No Section CIF, League, or school passes will be honored. The host school will arrange to admit the following: Supervisory personnel, pep bands, cheerleaders, and credentialed media. Gold Lifetime Passes, State CIF Courtesy Cards, Board Member/Superintendent Passes, and Official Playoff passes are the only passes that will be honored.

VIII. HALF-TIME ACTIVITIES

Not applicable.

IX. FINANCIAL REPORT

Following each game the host school will forward a financial report to the NSCIF Commissioner's office within 30 days. A 10 % penalty will be imposed on the host school for reports not received within 30 days. (See Financial Report form in the General Information Section of these Guidelines). This report shall include:

- I. Gate Receipts
2. Itemized list of all permissible expenses.
3. A check for the net amount after all expenses has been paid. Make checks payable to NSCIF.
4. The host school retains program and concession revenues. (Costs for producing programs will not be reimbursed).
- S. Do not include entry fees on financial report. Submit all entry fees directly to Section Office.

X. PERMISSIBLE GAME EXPENSES

- A. The host school, while following season customs, is expected to hold expenses to a minimum. A \$100 maximum allowance for expenses is allowed excluding umpires. Umpires will be paid through the Section office.
- B. All support personnel will be assigned and paid by the host school and indicated on the Financial Report.

XI. PUBLICITY/REPORTING RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. The host school should provide local newspapers with advance publicity of the teams involved in the play-offs, including tournament times and locations as well as any admission prices.
- B. The host school should provide the local newspapers with a summary and highlights of the play-off tournament.
- C. Play-off teams should provide their own local newspaper with summaries, details, and outcome of the tournament.

D. It is imperative that all schools report their scores to the “MaxPreps.com” so that the information posted on the website is accurate. Schools are responsible for reporting any errors to MaXPreps.com or the Section office (528-9300, Fax 528-9333) before the Section seeding meeting.

XII. RADIO/TV

The Section Commissioner must approve all commercial radio and TV coverage of section play-off contests. The broadcast fee is \$ 100.00 payable to NSCIF prior to the contest.

XIII. VENDORS

A fee of \$100 at 10% will be charged per vendor payable to prior to any Section Playoff contests where vendors will be present. The Fee will include all Divisional and Section Championships. The fee DOES NOT include Regional and State CIF contests if applicable. Any and all display materials are to be provided by the vendor.

XIV. AWARDS (Baseball)

The following awards have been approved by the Northern Section. Any additional awards must be approved by the Section office. Additional awards may not have any financial impact on member schools.

I Championship Shadow Boxes (Divs. I, II, III, IV, V, and VI) I Runner-up Shadow Boxes (Divs. I, II, III, IV, V, and VI)

18 Individual Championship Patches* (108 total)

18 Individual Pins* (108 total)

Note: Maximum of 18 individual awards per team. Additional patches and pins may be purchased from the Section Office.

APPENDIX B ANNOUNCER SCRIPT

The following are guidelines for the Announcer:

I. Welcome

“Good afternoon (evening) ladies and gentlemen, and welcome to (Field, Park, High School, etc.) the site for the Division _____ Baseball Section Championship Game.

Today’s game features the visiting (mascot) of _____ (High School) versus the home team (mascot) of _____ (High School).

2. Introductions (check w/coaches prior to introductions format).

A. Introduce non-starting players, then starting players, then coaches. Have them line up on the foul lines from home to first and home to third.

B. “And now for the starting lineups: First, for the visiting (school and mascot).

Leading off and playing _____ (position), # _____ (name)

Batting 2nd and playing _____ (position), # _____ (name)

Batting 3rd and playing _____ (position), # _____ (name)

Batting 4th and playing _____ (position), # _____ (name)

Batting 5th and playing _____ (position), # _____ (name)

Batting 6th and playing _____ (position), # _____ (name)

Batting 7th and playing _____ (position), # _____ (name)

Batting 8th and playing _____ (position), # _____ (name)

Batting 9th and playing _____ (position), # _____ (name)

NOTE: Players don’t play pitcher or catcher. Announce “pitching today, and/or catching today is _____ (name). OR, the pitcher is _____ (name) and/or the catcher is _____ (name).

3. Umpires

“The umpires for today’s game:

Behind the Plate is _____ (name). On the bases are _____ (name),

And _____ (name)

4. National Anthem-Please ask for all to stand and remove their hats.

5. Introductions of Batters

A. Introduce each hitter as they come to the plate. “Now batting, _____ (name). May also include either /both position and number.

B. In order to minimize repetition for “now batting” the following may be used:

1) At the Plate

2) Coming to Bat

- 3) The Batter
- 4) Now Hitting/Batting

Field Criteria

Your school site will meet the following criteria for the NSCIF Championship Game:

1. Traditional Field (grass outfield, infield grass with traditional dirt infield)
2. Foul Poles
3. Outfield fence connecting foul pole to foul pole
4. Covered dugouts
5. Two separate bull pen areas
6. Ball park completely fenced (if not; well marked "out of play lines")
7. Bleachers for spectator seating
8. Restrooms located at the field; use of portables if needed
9. Public Address System
10. Scoreboard, electric or manual

