

WEST SUBURBAN CONFERENCE: Girls' Softball: Sport Guidelines

Revised 7/1/2008

I. Season Limitations

- A. Practice may be held on Monday, March 2, 2009.
- B. First contest may be held on Monday, March 16, 2009.
- C. Season ends on Saturday, June 13, 2009.
- D. Other levels (Freshman and Junior Varsity) of competition shall end on Saturday, May 24, 2009 (following the last regularly scheduled league contest).

II. Contest Limitations (Exclusive of the IHSA State Series)

- A. Varsity - thirty-five (35) games.
- B. Junior Varsity and Freshman - thirty-five (35) games.
- C. Any non-conference contest, which is rained out or canceled after the start of the regular league schedule will be canceled and not re-scheduled until the completion of that school's Conference schedule. However, on a given day when a Conference school cannot play a make-up game with another Conference school, it may play a non-league contest. (NOTE: This is to be done on a last minute basis).
- D. Non-divisional weekday contests shall be scheduled prior to the start of the Division schedule, with the exception of tournaments. Saturdays will be available for non-divisional games.

III. Levels of Competition

- A. Varsity, Junior Varsity, and Freshman

IV. Coaches Meeting

- A. Pre-season meeting will be held on Monday, February 23, 2009, 7:00 P.M., Glenbard West High School, Athletic Conference Room in Beister Gym.
- B. Post season meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 26, 2009, 7:00 P.M., Glenbard West, Athletic Conference Room in Beister gym.

V. Championships and Awards

- A. Division Standing
 - 1. The Division Championship will be determined by the best won/loss record within Divisional play.
 - 2. A championship plaque shall be awarded to the winner at the Varsity level only of each Division.
- B. Individual Awards
 - 1. The All-Conference Team is to consist of twenty-four (24) players from each Division. The selection system will be as follows:
 - a. Every school has the right to have one (1) All Conference athlete, if they so choose.
 - b. For every two (2) divisional wins, a school will receive one (1) All Conference selection.

- c. Every school gets one (1) at-large nomination. If a school has an odd number of Division victories, they get an additional at-large nomination.
 - d. Coaches may not vote for their at-large nominations.
2. An All-Academic Team shall be recognized composed of Varsity senior award winners from each Conference school who have received a Grade Point Average of "B" or above in grades accumulated at the conclusion of the sixth semester.

VI. Conduct of Contests

A. Time of Contests

- 1. Weekday Contest
 - a. All levels starting time is to be 4:30 P.M. or a time agreed upon by mutual consent. This time must be established before the start of the Conference season.
 - b. Schools having identical spring vacations may mutually agree to conduct games at 11:00 A.M. and/or 2:00 P.M.
- 2. Saturday Contest (Doubleheaders)
 - a. Freshman level - Starting time 11:00 A.M.
 - b. Sophomore level - Starting time 11:00 A.M.
 - c. Varsity level - Starting time 11:00 A.M. or 2:00 P.M. (to be used when ACT, SAT or other needs arise).

B. Scoring

- 1. National Federation official Softball scoring rules will be in effect for all contests for scoring and record keeping.
- 2. The home team scorebook is official.
- 3. Freshman level games shall consist of a maximum of six (6) runs per inning through the fourth (4th) inning. The inning ends when the play is completed. Starting the fifth (5th) inning, regular rules apply. The ten (10) run rule will apply. (The game may be complete after 5, 6, or 7 innings for the team which is behind.)

C. Protests, Forfeits, Cancellations and Re-Scheduling

- 1. The National Federation of High School Association Softball Rule Book will prevail.
- 2. An incomplete Varsity game (less than 4 1/2 or 5 innings) called because of weather shall be rescheduled and played over.
- 3. An incomplete Varsity game (less than 4 1/2 or 5 innings) called because of darkness shall be a suspended game:
 - a. First round suspended game shall be played on the the date of the second round game preceding the second round game.
 - b. Second round suspended game shall be rescheduled at the original site.
- 4. If a game cannot be played at the site because of inclement weather, with mutual consent, the contest can be played at the opposite site with the home team designation staying the same.
- 5. By mutual consent of the schools involved, a first round lower level suspended game may be made up preceding the second round game.
- 6. Any game scheduled on a prom date shall be moved to the next available playable date.
- 7. Officials are to note in both scorebooks the reason for cancellation or suspension of a game after it has been started but not yet completed.
- 8. Filing a Conference protest should follow the procedure set forth in the IHSA handbook.

D. Home School Responsibilities

1. The host school shall be responsible for providing all regulation field and game equipment.
2. The host school must relinquish the game field at least fifteen (15) minutes before game time to allow visitors the maximum fifteen (15) minute warm-up privileges.
3. The host school will be responsible for notifying the visiting school of any schedule changes due to inclement weather, unplayable facilities, etc. by 2:00 PM on the day of the game.
 - a. In case of postponement of a game or games, they must be re-scheduled and played on the first available date for both schools involved.
 - b. The host school must notify the assignment chairperson and/or umpires of any postponed games and dates of re-scheduled contests.
 - c. Division games do not supersede previously contracted scheduled non-division games.
4. The host school shall provide the softball recommended by the IHSA for all WSC level contests.

E. Visiting School Responsibilities

1. The visiting school should make every effort and arrange to arrive at the site of the contest at least fifteen (15) minutes before the scheduled game time.
2. The visiting school must complete batting practice prior to arrival at the game field as there shall be no privilege extended to conduct official batting practice for the visiting team.
3. The visiting team shall get a maximum of fifteen (15) minutes on the game diamond if they arrive in time to use it before the scheduled starting time of the game. In the event the visiting team arrives after the designated time, they shall be given a minimum of fifteen (15) minutes to warm-up. The coach is to inform the officials of the ruling.

VII. Officials

A. Number

1. Two (2) officials shall be employed for each Varsity contest.
2. One (1) official shall be employed for all Junior Varsity and Freshman levels.

B. If two (2) umpires are assigned to work a contest, they should determine who will be behind the plate and who will work the field. If they cannot decide, the home team will make the decision.

C. Special Considerations

1. If only one (1) umpire reports for a Varsity contest, the game must be played.
2. If no umpire reports for a lower level game, each coach will officiate when their team is in the field.
3. If only one (1) umpire shows up for the two (2) lower level baseball games, that official should work the game he/she was contracted to umpire.

VIII. Reporting Results

A. The home team's designated representative should report contest results to the Resource Athletic Director the day following the contest.

IX. Miscellaneous Information

A. Schedules

1. Each team will play every other team in its Division two (2) times with all games counting in the standings.
2. The schedule will be rotated every year with the Gold Division rotating bottom to top and the Silver Division rotating top to bottom.
3. Freshman and Junior Varsity levels play at sites opposite the Varsity.

B. Playing Sites - Junior Varsity and Freshman play at opposite sites of Varsity

1. Leyden - East Campus
2. Lyons Twp. - South Campus
3. Morton - East Campus
4. Glenbard West Freshman – Ackerman Park