



2010 DIVISION I WOMEN'S SOFTBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS HANDBOOK

**Updated: 2/8/2010
Second update: 3/23/2010
Third update: 4/15/2010**



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Introduction

During the 2009-10 academic year, the Association will sponsor 88 national championships, of which 41 are for men, 44 are for women, and three are for both men and women. Among the men's championships, three are National Collegiate Championships, 13 are Division I championships, 12 are Division II championships and 13 are Division III championships. Among the women's championships, five are National Collegiate Championships, 12 are Division I championships, 13 are Division II championships and 14 are Division III championships. The combined men's and women's championships are National Collegiate Championships.

A championships handbook is produced for each NCAA championship and posted on the NCAA Online Web site (www.ncaa.org).

How to Use This Publication. The handbook is divided into four sections: (1) General Administration; (2) Determination of Competing Institutions; (3) Instructions to Participants; and (4) General Championship Information. The first three sections pertain only to the respective sport, while the fourth deals with NCAA policies applicable to all 88 championships. [Note: Some policies listed in the general section have been revised by individual sports committees. The revision(s) will appear in the sport-specific section of the handbook.]

Each topic included in the handbook is referenced to other applicable areas in the handbook or in the NCAA Manuals, where appropriate. For example, if you wish to know about regional advisory committees, the basic information for that particular sport would be included in an appendix. However, as referenced under the heading "Regional Advisory Committees," more information concerning general NCAA policy governing regional advisory committees can be found later in the handbook and in the NCAA Manuals.



THE NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

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www.ncaa.org
September 2009

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Women's Softball Championship Information

Important Dates

Monday, February 1—Online score reporting system available.

Monday, March 8—Bid information to host regional and super regional competition available online (ncaa.org).

Friday, April 30—Deadline for submitting proposed budgets for hosting regionals and super regionals.

Monday, May 10—Deadline for submitting online score reporting forms. All subsequent game results must be telephoned to the appropriate regional advisory committee member.

Sunday, May 16—Selection and notification of teams participating in the championship. 10 p.m. Selection Show aired live on ESPNU (between 10:30-11 p.m. on ESPNNews).

Friday-Sunday, May 21-23 Regionals.

Thursday-Friday, Friday-Saturday, or Saturday-Sunday, May 28-29—Super regionals.

Thursday-Wednesday, June 3-9 Finals, ASA Hall of Fame Stadium, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; sponsoring agency—Oklahoma City All-Sports Association; host—University of Oklahoma.

General Administration

Dates and Sites

[Reference: Bylaw 31.1.3 in the Division I NCAA Manual.]

Dates and sites for preliminary rounds are determined by the appropriate committees. Finals dates and sites are recommended by the appropriate committees, with final approval given by the NCAA Division I Championships/Competition Cabinet.

2010 Regionals—Friday through Sunday, May 21-23, on the campuses of competing institutions.

2010 Super regionals—Thursday-Friday, Friday-Saturday, or Saturday-Sunday, May 28-29, on campuses of competing institutions.

2010 Finals—Thursday through Wednesday, June 3-9, ASA Hall of Fame Stadium, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; sponsoring agency—Oklahoma City All Sports Association; host—University of Oklahoma (see Appendix A for a bracket).

Financial Guarantee. Host institutions for preliminary rounds of competition shall guarantee a minimum of \$5,000 for regionals and \$7,500 for super regionals and shall complete bid forms.

Future Dates and Sites. The 2011 finals will be held June 2-8.

Sports Committees

[Reference: Administration and Management in the Division I General Section, and Bylaws 31.1.1 and 31.1.2 in the Division I NCAA Manual.]

The NCAA Women's Softball Championship is under the control, direction and supervision of the NCAA Division I Women's Softball Committee. Current members of the committee are:

Mary Bowman, University of Utah
David Burkhalter, University of Houston
Veronica Dottery-Wiggins, Florida A & M University
Scott Farmer, University of Louisiana, Lafayette
Katie Flynn, James madison University
Robin Petrini, Pennsylvania State University
Maria Roth, New Mexico State University
Alison Sexton, Fairfield University
Jennifer Strawley, Columbia-University-Barmard College
Craig White, University of Georgia, chair

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Regional Advisory Committees

[Reference: Regional Advisory Committees in the Division I General Section and Bylaw 21.4.1.5 and 21.6.1.1 in the Division I NCAA Manual.]

The sports committee shall appoint an advisory committee in each of its respective regions to assist in the evaluation of teams throughout the season. Members of the 2010 regional advisory committees may be found in Appendix F.

Annual Forms

Score Reporting Form. Institutions that wish to be selected are required to enter their game-by-game results weekly to members of the appropriate regional advisory committees via the online score reporting process. Failure to comply with this request may seriously damage the institution's chances of being selected. Appeals because of extending circumstances may be made to the softball committee.

Available on the NCAA Web site	Received by
February 1	May 10

Results of games played after May 14 must be called in to the NCAA liaison (317/966-6451) by noon (Eastern time) Sunday, May 16. It is strongly recommended that games be completed by midnight May 15.

[Reference: Championship Selection in this handbook.]

Facility Evaluation Form. A facility evaluation form will be made available online at the NCAA's Web site to the directors of athletics of all institutions and will be one of the tools used in making this determination. Institutions interested in hosting are to return the form by the indicated deadline to the NCAA national office (electronically).

Preliminary Rounds Proposed Budget Form. The NCAA has implemented an online proposed budget and financial report process. We request that prospective hosts no longer complete hard copies of the proposed budget for this championship. The online version of the proposed budget and financial report form may be accessed on the NCAA Web site at <http://www.ncaa.org/wps/ncaa?key=/ncaa/ncaa/sports+and+championship/general+information/championship+budget/default.htm>. Please note that the online form is password protected. Your institution's athletics director should have the necessary membership database username and password on file. Written instructions on how to complete the automated forms are located at the site referenced above and on each sport specific Web site in the Documents and Forms section. If you have any questions regarding the new process, please contact the appropriate NCAA sport liaison. The softball committee has established a minimum guarantee of \$5,000 for regional host sites and \$7,500 for super regional host sites. Photographs of the field, dugouts, bullpen and warm-up area shall be included in regional and super regional bids.

Available on the NCAA Web site	Due to NCAA
March 8	April 30

[Reference: Dates and Sites in this handbook and Budgets in the Division I General Section.]

Expense Reimbursement Form. Expense reimbursement forms with instructions will be available on the NCAA Web site in the championships administration section (<http://www.ncaa.org/wps/ncaa?key=/ncaa/ncaa/sports+and+championship/general+information/travel/index.html>). Please contact the travel department at the national office (317/917-6222; e-mail; travel@ncaa.org), to receive hard copies of this form.

[Reference: Official Traveling Party in this handbook, Per Diem and Transportation in the Division I General Section, and Bylaw 31.4.6 in the Division I NCAA Manual.]

Financial Report Form. The financial report and proposed budget form from each championship site must be submitted to the NCAA not later than 60 days after the conclusion of the competition. The women's softball committee may assess a financial penalty against an institution that fails to submit the financial report within 60 days after the conclusion of the competition.

[Reference: Bylaw 31.4 in the Division I NCAA Manual.]

Automatic-Qualification Application Form. Applications for automatic qualification will be available on the NCAA Web site for conference commissioners of each NCAA member conference and must be returned to the NCAA national office.

Available on the NCAA Web site	Due at NCAA
December 7	February 8

Determination of Competing Institutions

Championship Structure

The championship provides for a field of 64 teams. Sixteen teams will be seeded and each of the seeded teams will be placed at one of the regional sites. Four teams will participate at each of sixteen regional sites in a double-elimination tournament. The sixteen teams advancing from regional competition will participate in a two-team, best of three super regional at eight sites.

The finals will include the eight super regional winners.

Championship Selection

[Reference: Annual Forms in this handbook and Bylaws 31.01.2, 31.01.3 and 31.3 in the Division I NCAA Manual.]

Selection Requirements

To be considered during the at-large selection process, a team must have an overall won-lost-record of .500 or better.

Bylaw 31.3.3.1 – Countable Competition.

For NCAA team-championship selection purposes, competition is countable only when the teams played are varsity intercollegiate teams of four-year, degree-granting institutions that conduct a majority of their competition in that team sport against varsity intercollegiate teams (see Constitution 3.2.4.5) of United States four-year, degree-granting institution. Competition against service teams, professional teams, semiprofessional teams, amateur teams, two-year colleges and club teams shall be excluded.

Selection Criteria

The following criteria shall be employed by a governing sports committee in selecting participants for NCAA championships competition [Bylaw 31.3.3; Criteria for Selection of Participants]:

- Won-lost record;
- Strength of schedule; and
- Eligibility and availability of student-athletes for NCAA championships;

In addition to Bylaw 31.3.3, the softball committee has received approval from the Division I Championships/Competition Cabinet to consider the following criteria in the selection of at-large teams for the softball championship (not necessarily in priority order):

Primary Criteria

- Ratings Percentage Index (25% the institution's winning percentage; 50% opponents' success; 25% opponents' strength of schedule); also bonus points for wins against the top 50 teams and penalty points for losses against the teams 225 and above.
- Head-to-head competition.
- Results of the RPI
 - record against ranked teams 1-25; 26-50, 51-100; 101-150;
 - average RPI win;
 - average RPI loss.
- Results versus common opponents.
- Significant wins and losses.
- End of season results

In making bracket assignments, the closest geographical consideration will be used as well as the ability to separate conference opponents during regional competition.

Selection of teams shall be completed Sunday, May 16.

Championship Format

Four-Team Regionals. The procedures outlined below shall be used in the conduct of all sixteen softball regional competitions.

The regionals will be conducted for a three-day period beginning Friday, May 21. All regional competition should be completed no later than the Sunday prior to super regionals. [Exceptions (i.e., weather) may preclude the completion of competition by Sunday.]

If the regular game schedule is altered because of weather or unforeseen circumstances, the following guidelines may be used and teams will be informed by the NCAA representative: (1) No more than three games by any one team will be scheduled in one day; (2) If possible, games will not be scheduled to begin prior to 9 a.m. or after midnight; (3) If competition cannot be completed Sunday, the last time to start a regional championship game (i.e., Games 6 and "if" 7) to complete regional finals is the Monday immediately preceding the super regional at 11:59 p.m. (4) If play is suspended before games 6 and 7 and the regional competition ceases, see the rain delay advancement formula (page 17) outlined in this handbook

Prospective host institutions must submit recommended starting times for all games with the pre-bid materials for approval by the Women's Softball Committee.

For all regional competitions, the following procedure will be observed (games follow in chronological order – no exceptions to game order will be permitted):

Day 1:	Game 1—No. 2 vs. No. 3 Game 2—No. 1 vs. No. 4
Day 2:	Game 3—Winner Game 1 vs. Winner Game 2 Game 4—Loser Game 1 vs. Loser Game 2 Game 5—Winner Game 4 vs. Loser Game 3
Day 3:	Game 6—Winner Game 3 vs. Winner Game 5 Game 7—Winner Game 6 vs. Loser Game 6 (if necessary)

For additional information regarding the regional bracket, please refer to Appendix A.

In all four-team regional tournaments, Games 1, and 2 will be played on the first day; Games 3, 4 and 5 will be played on the second day; Games 6 and 7 (if necessary), will be played on the third day.

For all super regional competitions, the following procedure will be observed:

Day 1:	Game 1
Day 2:	Games 2 and 3 (if necessary)

In all two-team super regional tournaments, Game 1 will be played on the first day; Games 2 and 3 (if necessary), will be played on the second day. Competition should be completed no later than the Sunday prior to the Women's College World Series. [Exceptions (i.e., weather or television) may preclude the completion of competition by Sunday.]

Automatic-Qualifying Conferences

[Reference: Bylaws 31.3.4 and 31.3.5 in the Division I NCAA Manual.]

Conferences that have been granted automatic-qualification privileges for the 2010 championship are:

- America East Conference
- Atlantic Coast Conference
- Atlantic-10 Conference
- Atlantic Sun Conference
- Big East Conference
- Big South Conference
- Big Ten Conference
- Big 12 Conference
- Big West Conference
- Colonial Athletic Conference
- Conference USA
- Horizon League
- Ivy Group
- Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference
- Mid-American Athletic Conference
- Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference
- Missouri Valley Conference

- Mountain West Conference
- Northeast Conference
- Ohio Valley Conference
- Pacific Coast Softball Conference
- Pacific-10 Conference
- Patriot League
- Southeastern Conference
- Southern Conference
- Southland Conference
- Southwestern Athletic Conference
- Summit League
- Sun Belt
- Western Athletic Conference

Certification of Eligibility/Availability

[Reference: Certification of Eligibility/Availability in the Division I General Section and Bylaws 3.2.4, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16 in the Division I NCAA Manual.]

Only student-athletes eligible under Bylaws 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16 may compete in NCAA championships. In accordance with Bylaw 3.2.4, member institutions are required to certify the eligibility of their student-athletes before the beginning of each academic year and to withhold ineligible student-athletes from all intercollegiate competition. Member institutions are reminded to notify the NCAA national office before the selection date for each championship of any student-athlete who may have participated in regular-season competition but subsequently is determined to be ineligible or unavailable for NCAA championships competition.

For the women's softball championship, the championships liaison must be notified before Sunday, May 16.

Championship Selection

[Reference: Bylaw 31.3.3.1 in the Division I NCAA Manual.]

For NCAA team championship selection purposes, competition is countable only when the teams played are varsity intercollegiate teams of four-year, degree-granting institutions that conduct a majority of their competition in that team sport against varsity intercollegiate teams of United States four-year, degree-granting institutions. Competition against service teams, professional teams, semiprofessional teams, amateur teams, junior colleges and club teams shall be excluded.

Additionally, only games played in the championship segment (e.g., the segment that concludes with the championship) will be counted for the purposes of selection.

Pairings

[Reference: Bylaw 31.1.3 in the Division I NCAA Manual.]

In accordance with Bylaw 31.1.3.2.5, team championships that do not generate revenues, pairings shall be based primarily on the teams' geographical proximity to one another, regardless of their region, in order to avoid air travel in preliminary rounds whenever possible. Teams' seeding relative to one another may be taken into consideration when establishing pairings if such a pairing does not result in air travel that otherwise could be avoided. Additionally, the softball committee has received approval to assign teams from the same conference to different regional competitions when completing pairings and to seed sixteen teams nationally.

Instructions to Participants

All-Tournament Team

At the Women's College World Series (not at regionals or super regionals) an all-tournament team will be selected. Twelve players, including the most outstanding player, will be selected at large with no specific regard to position (i.e., a certain number of outfielders, infielders, etc.). An all-tournament committee comprised of the NCAA Division I Softball Committee, sports information personnel, selected members of the media and any others deemed appropriate by the softball committee will do the balloting. The committee will be designated in writing and members notified by the start of the competition.

Attendance

Please note that in determining the attendance figures to announce for each session of the championship, this number should be derived based on paid attendance. The paid attendance figures are also what should be listed on the online proposed budget and the online final financial report. If no paid attendance is collected, the host institution/conference should provide an estimated attendance figure. The host institution/conference has the option to provide a "turnstile" count [e.g., 34,575 paid attendance (12,456 turnstile attendance)].

Audio Coverage (Radio and Internet)

Please refer to the NCAA Broadcast Manual policies and guidelines that can be found at www.ncaasports.com/broadcast.

Awards

[Reference: Awards in the Division I General Section and Bylaw 31.1.12 in the Division I NCAA Manual.]

Twenty-eight official NCAA individual awards shall be presented to the members of the eight teams competing at the final site. The champion in each championship will receive first-place watches, and the runner-up in each championship will receive second-place awards. All other finals site participants will receive Women's College World Series Finalists awards.

Participation medallions will be provided to the squad size in the championship not advancing to the Women's College World Series. Teams will receive these medallions at their final round of competition (regionals or super regionals).

Ball

The Worth NC12L (.47 COR) is the official softball for the championship. Worth L.L.C. will supply balls for all championship rounds; no other softball shall be used.

Bands, Spirit Squads and Mascots

All spirit squads must conform to the guidelines set by the American Association of Cheerleading Coaches and Advisors (AACCA). This includes all guidelines and prohibitions pertaining to partner stunts in indoor facilities (see Appendix A in the general section). Neither the NCAA nor the host institution shall be responsible for supervising or monitoring routines performed by the spirit squad at championship events. Except as noted in this section, supervision of cheerleading squads, their activities, yells and stunts is solely the participating institution's responsibility. The participating institution shall ensure that the squad has sufficient training, supervision and equipment for any and all routines its squad may choose to perform. Tournament managers must inform participating institutions if the host facility has more stringent requirements. If so, the director of athletics at each institution must apprise his or her spirit squad of such requirements and ensure compliance. The spirit squad is allowed to carry an institutional flag, but it may only be displayed during the respective team's timeout or between games. It cannot be used to taunt competitors or block spectators' view. Mascots must stay behind their team's dugout in the bleachers.

Music: No music is permitted to be played between batters whether it is electronic music and/or music provided by a band and only 10 seconds following a score provided it is the team's fight song.

Banners

Competing institutions' banners are not allowed to be affixed anywhere within the stadium. They are allowed in the spectator areas subject to the approval of the games committee. All banners must be hand-held and should not obstruct the view of the fans or contain any corporate identification, and must be tasteful.

Credentials

The host institution is responsible for providing access to the facility for the 28 members of each official travel party, media, NCAA committee representative, umpires and other game personnel. It is recommended that the official travel party be admitted via a pass list at a separate entrance and all others are issued a credential. Anyone traveling with a team over 28 must purchase a ticket.

Participant Seating. If it appears there will be a large crowd during the competition sessions, an area should be roped off for the teams to sit while they are not playing. If a team chooses to sit outside the designated section, it must purchase a ticket for those seats.

Parking. A parking area for the participating teams and tournament officials (i.e., key game personnel, NCAA representative and umpires) should be designated.

Determination of Home Team

For all regional and super regional competition, the home team shall occupy the third-base dugout, warm-up first and wear white uniform jersey if it owns white uniforms.

The visiting team shall wear a contrasting color jersey. The committee or its designee will resolve any conflict in the selection of uniforms. As a reminder, when teams

play back-to-back games, they must be prepared to change uniforms, if necessary. Determination of uniform colors must be approved by the NCAA representative. Noncompliance with this policy may result in misconduct as outlined in the General Section.

Regionals and Finals. The home team for the first round of regionals and finals (four games) will be the higher-seeded team. In subsequent games, the home team shall be determined according to the following formula:

1. The games committee shall designate as home team the institution that has been home team the fewest times (each round is considered separately).
2. If two teams have been home team an equal number of times but visiting team an unequal number of times, the team that has been the visitor most often shall be designated as home team.
3. If two teams have been both home team and visiting team an equal number of times, and if the two teams previously met, the visitor in the initial game shall be the home team in the second game.
4. If games are back-to-back, the home team shall be the visitor in the previous game regardless of the number of times the teams involved were home or visitors.
5. If two teams have been both home team and visiting team an equal number of times, the team that was the visitor in its preceding game shall be the home team, unless both teams were the visitor in their preceding games.
6. If the preceding formula does not prevail, the home team shall be determined by a coin toss (higher seed calls the coin toss).
7. When teams play back-to-back games, they must be prepared to change uniforms and dugouts, if necessary.

Finals. For the Women's College World Series, if one team is undefeated, it will be the home team for the first game. If neither team is undefeated the formula for the finals will be followed to determine the home team.

For super regional competition. The home team for the first game will be the higher seeded team. The second game the home team will switch and game three (if necessary) will be determined by a coin toss (higher seed calls the coin toss).

Drug Testing

[Reference: Drug Testing in the Division I General Section and Bylaws 18.4.1.5 and 31.2.3 in the Division I NCAA Manual.]

Student-athletes who compete in this championship may be subjected to drug tests in accordance with Bylaws 18.4.1.5 and 31.2.3, and may be determined to be ineligible as a result thereof. Only student-athletes who have consented in writing to such testing are initially eligible for this championship; and thereafter, student-athletes who are tested shall remain eligible only if they test negative.

Facility Requirements

Minimum facility requirements may be found in Appendix C.

Length and Schedule of Games

All games shall be seven innings, except that a five-inning, eight-run rule will be used in all rounds of the championship except the Women's College World Series championship games (best of three series) only, (the eight-run rule will not be in effect). If play is stopped before a seven-inning game is completed and the eight-run rule is not in effect, it shall resume at the point of interruption. Every attempt should be made to complete regional and super regional competition by Sunday. Competition may go to Monday when the following occurs: (1) weather or emergency situations occur which prevent completion of competition; (2) any one team has to play more than three games in a day; or (3) in order to complete competition by Sunday, it would be necessary to begin competition after midnight Sunday.

If competition has to be extended to Monday, it must be completed without starting a game after midnight Monday (if the regional final begins before 11:59 p.m. and an "if necessary" game becomes necessary to determine the regional champion, that game will immediately follow).

The committee reserves the right to revise the game schedule because of inclement weather.

Regional. If inclement weather limits play, every effort has been made to complete competition by Sunday and competition cannot be completed by Monday, the team that will advance to the finals will be based on the following:

0 games played	Highest seed
1 games played	Highest seed
2 games played	Highest undefeated seed
3 games played	Highest undefeated seed
4 games played	Highest seed
5 games played	Highest undefeated seed
6 games played	Winner of game 6 unless each team has one loss, therefore the teams are tied, then: 1) Head-to-head competition. 2) Highest remaining seed.

Super Regional. If inclement weather limits play, every effort has been made to complete competition by Sunday and competition cannot be completed by Monday, the team that will advance to the finals will be based on the following:

0 games played	Highest seed
1 games played	Winner of game 1
2 games played	If each team has a loss, the highest seed

Lodging

Eighteen rooms for the official traveling party (28) of the competing teams and officials (four rooms at regionals and Four rooms at super regionals) will be made by the host institution. Additional hotel accommodations may be reserved upon the request of

the participating teams. If an institution does not wish to stay at the designated hotel, it must contact the hotel by 2 p.m. (local time of host) on Monday preceeding competition and obtain a written release of the reserved rooms from the hotel management or utilize the rooms for persons accompanying the official party. Failure to make satisfactory arrangements will result in the room charges being deducted from the team's per diem.

It is strongly recommended that the host institutions for the preliminary competition secure separate housing for competing teams and the officials. (Teams may be housed in the same hotel.)

Media Arrangements

[Reference: Publicity and Promotion in this handbook.]

Media Credentials. The NCAA shall control the issuance of media credentials for each of its championships. Subject to limitations of space, media credentials shall be assigned in accordance with the following priorities: (1) campus media certified by the director of athletics and/or sports information director of each participating and host institution, (2) certified media from the immediate locale of the championship or the immediate locale of the competing teams, and (3) other certified media.

Credentials will not be issued to representatives of any organization that regularly publishes, broadcasts or otherwise promotes the advertising of "tout sheets" or "tip sheets" or other advertising designed to encourage gambling on college sports events. In addition, credentials will not be issued to representatives of telephone reporting services and professional sports organizations.

Other conditions for obtaining media credentials may be implemented, based on the circumstances at the championship site. These conditions must be approved before the competition by Laurie Cannon, NCAA assistant director for media coordination, NCAA, P.O. Box 6222, Indianapolis, Indiana 46206-6222 (317/917-6222).

Microphones. The placement of microphones on a team coach or in team huddles and dugout areas is prohibited at all NCAA championships.

Postcompetition Interviews. Immediately after a 10-minute cooling-off period, the losing coach and requested players will be available to the media in an interview area open to all certified members of the news media; any coach and student-athletes requested by the media will be available for interviews. The winning coach and requested players will follow. If a team or individual is participating in an awards ceremony, the cooling-off period will begin immediately after the presentation.

Regardless of regular-season radio or television contract(s), the coach is obligated to the entire covering media during the championship and must report to the interview room immediately after the 10-minute cooling-off period. The coach cannot delay a postcompetition interview with the covering media to conduct a program for a single newspaper, radio or television reporter, unless requested to remain for a short interview (not to exceed four minutes) by the television entity that has been granted television rights.

Coaches cannot make themselves available to selected media representatives before the conclusion of the 10-minute cooling-off period (i.e., no one-on-one interviews before

the postgame interview session). They may, however, open their dressing rooms and/or report to the interview area before the cooling-off period ends, and make themselves available to all media representatives staffing the championship. Should a coach permit one media agency to enter the cooling-off area before the 10-minute cooling-off period has ended, the area shall be opened to all other media representatives desiring access. The NCAA championships have an “open locker room policy,” which is administered by the media coordinator on site.

Photographers/videographers. Photographers/videographers are not permitted in front of the dugout any time after the competition begins. Photographers/videographers may be allowed (provided there is space) on the field (in foul territory beyond first and third bases and not obstructing play in any way). Photographers/videographers may work unrestricted on the playing field and in the dugout area after a game but must quickly clear the playing field to permit the next teams to begin warm-up preparations. No hand-held strobe lights are permissible. Any special request for the placement of a camera or working position at a finals site shall be made to the media coordinator.

Women’s College World Series. All requests from the media for working press and photography credentials for the Women’s College World Series shall be made to Laurie Cannon, NCAA assistant director of communications, NCAA, P.O. Box 6222, Indianapolis, Indiana 46206-6222 (317/917-6222). Working credentials will not be mailed but will be distributed at the competition site.

Medical Arrangements

As the event sponsor, the NCAA has valid authority to ensure that all student-athletes are physically fit to participate in its championships and that a student-athlete’s team physician can determine whether an individual with an injury, an illness or other medical condition should continue to participate or is disqualified. In the absence of a team physician, the NCAA tournament physician, as designated by the host school, has the unchallengeable authority to examine the student athlete and make a decision of continued participation or medical disqualification. If, in the opinion of the tournament physician, continued participation by the injured student-athlete may expose others to a significantly enhanced risk of harm, or life threatening risk to himself or herself, the tournament physician has the final decision regarding participation by the student-athlete.

Each scheduled practice or contest of any round of an NCAA championship should include the following:

1. The presence on site of a person qualified and delegated to render emergency care to a stricken participant.
2. The presence or planned access to a physician for prompt medical evaluation of the situation, when warranted.
3. Planned access to a medical facility, including a plan for communication and transportation between the athletics site and the medical facility for prompt medical services, when warranted. Access to a working telephone or other telecommunications device, whether fixed or mobile should be assured.
4. All necessary emergency equipment should be at the site or quickly accessible. Equipment should be in good operation condition, and personnel must be trained in advance to use it properly. Additionally, emergency information about the student-

athlete should be available at home and on the road for use by medical personnel.

5. A thorough understanding by all parties, including the leadership of the visiting teams, of the personnel and procedures associated with the medical plan.

Meetings

[Reference: Meetings (see pages in sports-specific handbooks) and Bylaws 31.1.1.2 and 31.1.10 in the NCAA Manual.]

Coaches/Administrators Meeting. A mandatory meeting of the head coaches, umpire-in-chief and members of the games committee will be held before the start of the tournament. It is mandatory that each institution’s athletics director or senior woman administrator (or designated administrator other than a member of the coaching staff) head coach and sports information director attend the meeting at all rounds of the competition. A \$200 fine will be assessed for noncompliance with this policy.

At the pretournament meeting, the chair of the games committee shall acquaint the head coaches of the competing teams with the provisions of Bylaw 31.1.10, which governs misconduct by student-athletes and/or representatives of competing institutions.

Umpires Meeting. The umpire-in-chief will conduct an umpires meeting immediately after the coaches/administrators meeting.

Games Committee and Meeting. Please refer to Administration and Management in the Division I General Section of this handbook for a complete description of the games committee. This meeting may include but is not limited to the tournament director, sports information director, umpire-in-chief, umpires, grounds crew director, sports medicine staff and NCAA representative.

Sports Information Directors Meeting. A mandatory meeting for sports information directors will be held the day before competition begins at the Women’s College World Series.

Merchandise

Teams selected to participate in NCAA championships will be given the opportunity to preorder first-round event merchandise online through the official NCAA souvenir merchandiser, Event 1, Inc. Upon selection, teams will be given the information to place orders. These team orders will be shipped directly to the institution the week after first-round competition. Questions regarding the online team ordering process may be directed to Gina Taylor at Event 1 at 888/745-3058.

Misconduct

[Reference: Misconduct in the Division I General Section, and Bylaw 31.1.10 in the Division I NCAA Manual.]

Misconduct in an NCAA championship is any act of dishonesty, unsportsmanlike conduct, unprofessional behavior or breach of law occurring incident from the time of the selection announcement to, en route to, from or at the locale of the competition or practice that discredits the event or intercollegiate athletics.

Criticism of Officials. Members of the coaching staff or other representatives of participating institutions or conferences shall not make public statements critical of officiating in any NCAA championship event. Failure to comply with this policy may subject the individual, institution or conference to the misconduct provisions of Bylaw 31.1.10.

Coaches Meeting. Each games committee shall hold a pretournament meeting with the coaches of participating institutions to review and explain the policies related to misconduct.

Hearing Opportunity. An act of misconduct may be found upon an administrative hearing granted to the student-athlete or the institutional representative involved by the governing sports committee or the games committee authorized to act for it.

Misconduct Incident to Competition. If the act of misconduct occurs during the competition, under normal circumstances the individual shall be allowed to complete the competition in which he or she is participating at the time of the incident. An administrative hearing shall be held at the conclusion of the day's competition, during a break in the continuity of the championship (e.g., between rounds of a softball tournament) when no competition is being conducted or at the conclusion of the championship. However, if the act of misconduct is so flagrant that it obviously violates the principles of fair play and sportsmanship, the games committee may immediately withdraw the student-athlete or institutional representative from the competition and conduct the hearing after this action. Other acts of misconduct may be dealt with at the governing sports committee's convenience.

Penalty for Misconduct. In accordance with Bylaw 31.1.10.3, the governing sports committee (or the games committee authorized to act for it) may impose any one or a combination of the following penalties on an institution or any student-athlete or representative of an institution guilty of misconduct that occurs incident to, en route to, from or at the locale of the competition or practice:

1. Public or private reprimand of the individual;
2. Disqualification of the individual from further participation in the NCAA championship involved;
3. Banishment of the individual from participating in one or more subsequent championships of the sport involved;
4. Cancellation of all or a portion of payment to the institution of the Association's transportation and/or per diem allowance for the individuals involved;
5. Withholding of all or a portion of the institution's share of revenue distribution;
6. Banishment of the institution from participation in one or more subsequent championships in which its team in that sport otherwise would be eligible to participate;
7. Disqualification of an institution for a period of time from serving as host institution for one or more NCAA championships;
8. Cancellation of all or a portion of the honorarium for hosting an NCAA championship; and
9. Financial or other penalties different from Nos. 1 through 8, but only if they have prior approval of the Division I Championships/Competition Cabinet.

Ban From Subsequent Championship. When a student-athlete or institutional representative is banned from participation in a subsequent championship, such penalty shall be applied to the next tournament(s) in which the individual's team is involved and the individual otherwise is eligible to participate. In the case of an individual event, the penalty shall be applied to the next meet(s) or tournament(s) for which the individual qualifies and otherwise is eligible to participate.

Review of Action. Any action related to misconduct may be reviewed by the governing sports committee upon request of any institution participating in the championship.

National Anthem

The "Star-Spangled Banner" shall be played before each session; if there is more than one session per day, then the "Star-Spangled Banner" shall be played once per day (before the first session of the day).

News Conferences and Interviews

Prechampionship News Conference. A prechampionship news conference will be held the day before competition begins at the finals site. The head coach and one student-athlete from each of the eight finalists are required to attend.

Postgame Interviews. See Media Arrangements on page 19 for information concerning postgame interviews.

News, Media, Press Conferences and Satellite Feeds

Please refer to the NCAA Broadcast Manual policies and guidelines that can be found at www.ncaasports.com/broadcast.

News Feeds and Game Recording

Please refer to the NCAA Broadcast Manual policies and guidelines that can be found at www.ncaasports.com/broadcast.

Official Scorer

The tournament director shall appoint the official scorer for each game (the duties are outlined in the NCAA Softball Rules). The official scorer will receive \$25 per game.

Official Traveling Party

Transportation expenses will be provided for an official traveling party of 28 persons.

Reimbursable ground transportation. For team championships, if the institution is located more than 50 round trip miles from the site of competition or the departure airport, or if the arrival airport is located more than 50 round trip miles from the site of competition, the institution is eligible for reimbursement of ground transportation costs. The NCAA will not reimburse actual costs for ground transportation. Instead, a flat rate will be given to all eligible institutions. This amount may vary by championship, so please refer to the NCAA travel policies for specific details. The travel policies can be found at: <http://www1.ncaa.org/finance/travelindex.html>

Practice Schedule

It is suggested that batting practice be arranged on a field other than the tournament field in the event that more than one game is to be played on a given day. All teams should have access to practice facilities of equal quality beginning with the day immediately preceding the tournament and during the tournament. Each team will be permitted a maximum of five minutes for warm-up on the competition field before each game.

For preliminary rounds competition, each team should receive one hour on the competition field the day prior to competition (weather permitting). Practices prior to the initial competition are open to the general public and media. Representatives of other participating institution's travel party may not attend other teams' practices.

For finals competition, the field adjacent to the playing field will be used for one-hour practices; however, it will be used mainly for warm-up before competition. Note: At closed, pre-game practices during the WCWS, an administrator must be available to assist with monitoring closed-practice sessions.

No media will be allowed at closed practices other than the NCAA broadcast partner. See pregame protocol outlined in Appendix E.

Programs

[Reference: Publicity and Promotion in this handbook and Advertising in the Division I General Section and Bylaw 31.6.3 in the Division I NCAA Manual.]

Protest Procedure

Please refer to the 2010 NCAA Softball Rules Book, Rule 7.2 on page 88, which outlines protest procedures for NCAA championships play.

Rules Per NCAA Bylaw 17.32, member institutions shall conduct all of their intercollegiate competition in accordance with the playing rules of the Association in all sports for which the NCAA develops playing rules. For those sports where the Association follows rules developed by other governing bodies and modified by the governing sports committee, the adopted playing rules shall be used. The governing sports committee will not consider any results for selection purposes not played in accordance with the NCAA rules books, or those rules adopted by an outside organization.

The NCAA Softball Rules shall be followed, with the following changes or modifications:

1. The complex must be enclosed so that admission can be charged.
2. The field must have a skinned infield. There must be 25 feet (maximum 30 feet) from home plate to the backstop. The backstop, sideline fence and outfield fence must completely enclose the playing field.
3. At the preliminary rounds, the distance to the outfield fence may not exceed 220 feet. It is preferred that outfield fences be a minimum of 190 feet in left and right fields, and 220 feet in center field. If the center field fence is not 220 feet, then a minimum of 200 feet in left, right and center is preferred. If a portable fence is used in any round of the championships, it must be placed at a distance of 190 feet in left and right fields and 220 feet in center field. All portable fencing must be secured so as to prevent balls from

rolling under. A breakaway fence is acceptable except at the championship finals site. Top of the fence should have appropriate padding.

4. For finals, the outfield fences shall be 190 feet in left and right fields, and 220 feet in center field.
5. The eight-run rule will not be in use for the Women's College World Series Championship games (best of three series) only.
6. The international tiebreaker will not be used in championships play.
7. Additionally, as a reminder per NCAA softball rules, all equipment used in intercollegiate competition should be of a nature commonly available to the general public through retailers. Uniforms and protective equipment must be worn properly and as designed. Defective equipment must be repaired or replaced immediately.

Scouting Seats

Two seats for each team per session should be reserved behind home plate for scouting purposes.

Squad Size

[Reference: Official Traveling Party in this handbook, Per Diem and Transportation and Uniforms in the Division I General Section.]

Each team is limited to 20 eligible players in uniform and an official traveling party of 28, including one sports information director.

After a regional or super regional has begun, no changes may be made in a team roster for any reason. This procedure also will be followed at the finals, although the same players need not be designated for preliminary rounds and finals competition.

The number of individuals in the dugout shall not exceed 27; if the host institution provides bat handlers, 28 individuals shall be permitted.

An institution that is advised it is in violation of this regulation and does not promptly conform to it automatically shall forfeit the competition. There shall be no inordinate delay of the contest to allow a competing institution to conform to the rule.

Starting Times

Starting times for regionals and super regionals will be predetermined by the host institutions, subject to the approval of the NCAA softball committee. Game times should be set 2 hours apart and must follow the championship format on page 11 of this handbook.

Regional and super regional game time policies:

Friday Games shall be scheduled between noon-8:30 p.m.

Saturday games shall be scheduled between 10 a.m. and 8:30 p.m.

Sunday games shall be schedule between noon and 8:30 p.m.

The committee shall determine game times for the finals.

Note: Game 7 only of regional competition and game 3 of super regional competition will begin 35 minutes after the conclusion of previous game or earlier by mutual consent of both teams.

Tobacco Ban

The use of tobacco products by student-athletes, managers, coaches and athletic trainers is prohibited while on site for practice and competition. For the purpose of this rule, the field, bullpens, dugouts, and the press box (or officials scoring area) is considered to be on site—as well as during other championship activities such as banquets, autograph sessions, press conferences and postgame interviews. Student-athletes, managers, coaches, and athletic trainers who use tobacco products during practice or competition shall be ejected for the remainder of that practice or competition. Violations of this policy may also be dealt with by the appropriate sports committee in accordance with the misconduct provisions of Bylaw 31.1.10.

Television Rights and Footage Licensing

Please refer to the NCAA Broadcast Manual policies and guidelines that can be found at www.ncaasports.com/broadcast.

Tickets

[Reference: Tickets in the Division I General Section and Bylaw 31.1.11 in the Division I NCAA Manual.]

Ticket prices may be scaled according to seat location, but the following minimum prices shall prevail:

Regional and Super Regional Tournaments

	Reserved	General Admission	Student/ Sr. Citizen Special Groups	Children 1 and Under
Single session	\$10	\$7	\$5	Free
All tournament	\$25	\$20	\$15	Free

Each participating institution is guaranteed a minimum of 50 tickets. The host institution must contact each institution with instructions for purchasing and obtaining the tickets. The deadline for institutions to notify the host of the tickets it will use is 5 p.m. the Tuesday preceding the start of regional championship competition. Additionally, host institutions must provide an “open” block of 50 seats behind each dugout that is available for use by fans of each institution participating in that game. Hosts should provide each team with 50 passes for that section, color-coded for each team that may be distinguished by accompanying fans. Fans must have a ticket and a pass for access to that “open” area and must move out of that block to their purchased seat when their team is not participating.

Women’s College World Series

	Reserved	General Admission	Student/ Sr. Citizen Special Groups	Children 1 and Under
Single session	\$7	\$6	\$4	Free
Reserved	\$40	\$35	\$25	Free

Each participating institution is guaranteed a minimum of 50 tickets. The host institution must contact each institution with instructions for purchasing and obtaining the tickets. The deadline for institutions to notify the host of the tickets it will use is 5 p.m. the Tuesday preceding the start of WCWS competition. Additionally, host institutions will be provided with an “open” block of 84 seats behind each dugout that is available for use by fans of each institution participating in that game. Hosts will provide each team with 84 passes for that section, color-coded for each team that may be distinguished by accompanying fans. Fans must have a ticket and a pass for access to that “open” area and must move out of that block to their purchased seat when their team is not participating.

Umpires

Three qualified umpires will be assigned to all games. The umpire-in-chief and the NCAA representative will assign regional umpires.

If different umpires are assigned to the continuation of a suspended game, the umpiring fee will be divided equally among the officials.

The umpiring crew shall be dressed alike in powder blue, short-sleeve, pullover shirts (major league baseball style button placket with navy and white trim); navy blue slacks and socks; and a plain navy cap. The ball bag and jacket and/or sweater must be completely navy blue, and shoes and belt must be black. A T-shirt is optional to wear under the powder blue shirt; however, if one is worn it must be white.

Four umpires (one of which will be designated as the umpire-in-chief) will be chosen for regional and super regional sites. All of the umpires and the umpire-in-chief may use air travel or ground transportation, not to exceed jet coach airfare. The Women’s Softball Committee (or its designee) will select all umpires. The regional umpires will receive a flat fee of \$1025 (UIC \$1125) and the super regional umpires will receive a flat fee of \$800 (UIC \$800), each.

The committee (or its designees) will select six umpires to officiate at the finals competition of the Women’s College World Series. All of the umpires may be reimbursed for air travel, or ground travel to the site, not to exceed jet coach airfare. In addition to the six umpires, an umpire-in-chief will be named to coordinate the umpires. The umpire-in-chief and umpires will receive a fee of \$3,000 each plus per diem reimbursement.

Travel/Per Diem. Travel expenses for the officials will be paid according to the actual mode of transportation, not to exceed jet coach airfare or 50 cents per mile, but not including terminal or other local transportation. Officials who receive approval for air

transportation must make flight arrangements through the NCAA travel service, Shorts Travel, 866/821-8547.

Hotel expenses (excluding incidentals) for officials required to stay overnight at the championship site shall be paid by the host institution and later reimbursed by the NCAA. Officials will receive a \$45 per diem allowance for meals and incidentals for each day of the championship, beginning with the day of arrival and ending with the day of departure. (Officials not required to remain overnight at the site also shall receive a per diem of \$45.)

Policies. A sports committee or games committee may not require membership in any specific officials association as a prerequisite for selection to officiate in an NCAA meet or tournament. Officials shall be selected and assigned by the sports committee or games committee, which shall ensure that officials adhere to the Association's policies relating to gambling activities and drug and alcohol use. Furthermore, officials must conduct themselves in a manner befitting intercollegiate athletics. Failure to do so may result in termination of the officiating assignment.

Uniforms

[Reference: Bylaw 12.5.4 in the Division I NCAA Manual.]

Each competing team selected for the NCAA championship must bring two sets of uniforms of different colors. The home team shall wear white uniforms if it has white uniforms (see page 16). The two teams must wear contrasting colors. As a reminder, when teams play back-to-back games, they must be prepared to change uniforms, if necessary. Determination of uniform colors must be approved by the NCAA representative. Noncompliance with this policy may result in "failure to follow procedures" as outlined in the general section of this handbook. On the field, including the practice areas and the bench and dugout, each team is limited to eligible players in uniform and coaches, trainers and managers, all of whom shall be in appropriate team colors.

Logos. An institution's official uniform and all other items of apparel (e.g., socks, headbands, T-shirts, wristbands, visors or hats, swim caps and towels) that are worn by student-athletes in competition, practice and official championship functions may bear a single manufacturer's or distributor's normal trademark, not to exceed 2¼ square inches, including any additional material (e.g., patch) surrounding the normal trademark or logo. The logo or trademark must be contained within a four-sided geometrical figure (i.e., rectangle, square, parallelogram).

In addition, an institution's official uniform cannot bear a design element similar to the manufacturer's that is in addition to another logo or that is contrary to the size restriction.

These restrictions apply to all apparel worn by student-athletes during the conduct of competition, which includes any practice, pregame or postgame activities.

The logo restrictions on student-athletes' apparel set forth in Bylaw 12.5.4 shall apply during NCAA championships to all personnel (e.g., coaches, trainers, managers) who are on the team bench for practices and games or who participate in NCAA news conferences. Please note that contracts between institutions and apparel manufacturers

or distributors that include logo specifications may be honored, provided such contracts were in effect before August 11, 1998. The logo restrictions on student-athletes' apparel set forth in 12.5.4 shall apply to commercial logos on uniforms worn by band members, cheerleaders, dance team members and the institution's mascot during NCAA championship events.

This bylaw will be strictly enforced at all NCAA championships, and the names of individuals and institutions that are not in compliance with this bylaw shall be forwarded to the NCAA enforcement staff.

Videotaping

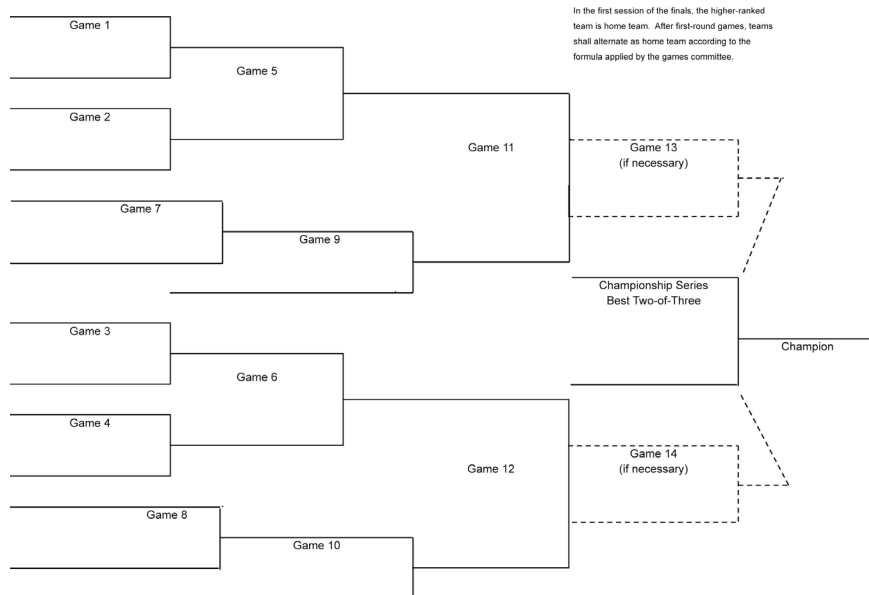
Participating teams may videotape only games in which they are a participant from centerfield. If centerfield is not available, the host institution will provide an area in which all teams have equal access. Teams may videotape any game at the site of competition from the video truck if the game is being broadcast. Teams, however, may not videotape and tape their own games from the video truck; they must choose one or the other. (See the NCAA Softball Rules Book).

Recording from the dugout is PROHIBITED during NCAA postseason play. (See the NCAA Softball Rules Book).

Appendix A



2010 NCAA Women's College World Series



* Denotes home team
Finals played at ASA Hall of Fame Stadium, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Bracket note:
1. If the winner of Game 9 defeats the winner of Game 5, then Game 13 is necessary.
2. If the winner of Game 10 defeats the winner of Game 6, then Game 14 is necessary.
3. If only one if necessary game is needed, it will be played at 6 p.m.

*Note: The NCAA Division I Softball Committee reserves the right to revise the schedule (i.e. game times) in the event weather conditions and/or media/television commitments require such.

ALL TIMES ARE LOCAL (CENTRAL) TIME

CONSULT WWW.NCAA.COM/BROADCAST UNDER 'TV SCHEDULE' FOR ESPNHD & ESPN2HD LISTINGS AND GAME TIMES

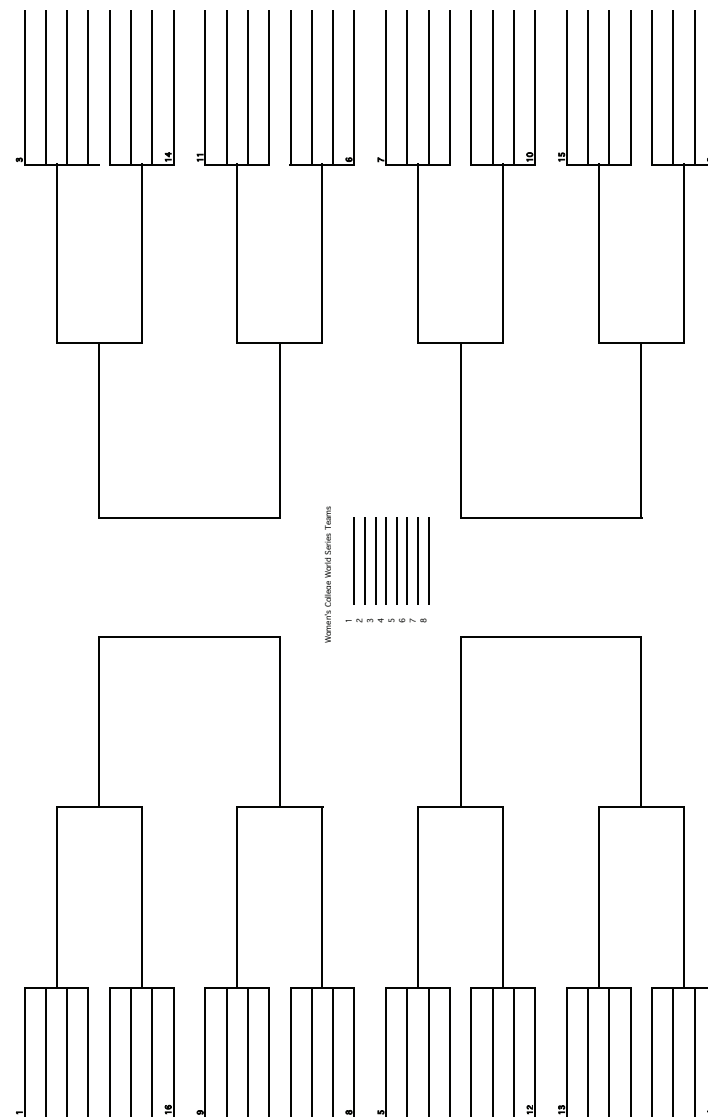


2010 NCAA Division I SOFTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

REGIONALS
May 21-23

SUPER REGIONALS
May 24-25

SUPER REGIONALS
May 24-25



Appendix B

Participating Conferences

AMERICA EAST CONFERENCE

University at Albany	University of Maine, Orono
State University of New York at Binghamton	University of Maryland, Baltimore County
Boston University	Stony Brook University
University of Hartford	

ATLANTIC COAST CONFERENCE

Boston College	University of North Carolina
Florida State University	North Carolina State University
Georgia Institute of Technology	University of Virginia
University of Maryland	Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

ATLANTIC 10 CONFERENCE

University of Dayton	University of Rhode Island
Fordham University	St. Bonaventure University
George Washington University	Saint Joseph's University
La Salle University	Saint Louis University
University of Massachusetts, Amherst	Temple University
University of North Carolina, Charlotte	

ATLANTIC SUN CONFERENCE

Belmont University	Mercer University
Campbell University	North Florida
East Tennessee State University	South Carolina Upstate
Florida Gulf Coast University*	Stetson University
Jacksonville State University	
Kenessaw State University*	
Lipscomb University	

*not eligible for championship

BIG EAST CONFERENCE

University of Connecticut	Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, New Brunswick
DePaul University	St. John's University (New York)
Georgetown University	Seton Hall University
University of Louisville	University of South Florida
University of Notre Dame	Syracuse University
University of Pittsburgh	Villanova University
Providence College	

BIG SOUTH CONFERENCE

Charleston Southern University	Liberty University
Coastal Carolina University	Presbyterian
Gardner-Webb	Radford University
	Winthrop University

BIG TEN CONFERENCE

University of Illinois, Champaign	Northwestern University
Indiana University, Bloomington	Ohio State University
University of Iowa	Pennsylvania State University
University of Michigan	Purdue University
Michigan State University	University of Wisconsin, Madison
University of Minnesota, Twin Cities	

BIG 12 CONFERENCE

Baylor University	University of Oklahoma
Iowa State University	Oklahoma State University
University of Kansas	University of Texas at Austin
University of Missouri, Columbia	Texas A&M University, College Station
University of Nebraska, Lincoln	Texas Tech University

BIG WEST CONFERENCE

University of California, Davis	California State University, Fullerton
University of California, Riverside	California State University, Northridge
University of California, Santa Barbara	Long Beach State University
California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo	University of the Pacific

COLONIAL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

University of Delaware	Hofstra University
Drexel University	James Madison University
George Mason University	University of North Carolina, Wilmington
Georgia State University	Towson University

CONFERENCE USA

University of Alabama at Birmingham	University of Memphis
University of Central Florida	University of Southern Mississippi
East Carolina University	University of Texas, El Paso
University of Houston	University of Tulsa
Marshall University	

HORIZON LEAGUE

Butler University	Loyola University (Illinois)
Cleveland State University	University of Wisconsin, Green Bay
University of Detroit Mercy	Wright State University
University of Illinois at Chicago	Valpariso University
	Youngstown State University

IVY GROUP

Brown University	Harvard University
Columbia University-Barnard College	University of Pennsylvania
Cornell University	Princeton University
Dartmouth College	Yale University

METRO ATLANTIC ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

Canisius College	Niagara University
Fairfield University	Rider University
Iona College	St. Peter's College
Manhattan College	Siena College
Marist College	

MID-AMERICAN CONFERENCE

University of Akron	Kent State University
Ball State University	Miami University (Ohio)
Bowling Green State University	Northern Illinois University
University at Buffalo, the State University of New York	Ohio University
Central Michigan University	University of Toledo
Eastern Michigan University	Western Michigan University

MID-EASTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

Bethune-Cookman College	University of Maryland, Eastern Shore
Coppin State College	Morgan State University
Delaware State University	Norfolk State University
Florida A&M University	North Carolina A&T State University
Hampton University	South Carolina State University
Howard University	

MISSOURI VALLEY CONFERENCE

Bradley University	Indiana State University
Creighton University	Missouri State University
Drake University	University of Northern Iowa
University of Evansville	Southern Illinois University at Carbondale
Illinois State University	Wichita State University

MOUNTAIN WEST CONFERENCE

Brigham Young University	University of New Mexico
Colorado State University	San Diego State University
University of Nevada, Las Vegas	University of Utah

NORTHEAST CONFERENCE

Bryant*	Quinnipiac University
Central Connecticut State University	Robert Morris University
Fairleigh Dickinson University, Metropolitan Campus	Sacred Heart University
Long Island University-Brooklyn Campus	St. Francis University (Pennsylvania)
Monmouth University	Wagner College
Mount St. Mary's College	*not eligible for championship

OHIO VALLEY CONFERENCE

Austin Peay State University	Southeast Missouri State University
Eastern Illinois University	Southern Illinois, Edwardsville*
Eastern Kentucky University	University of Tennessee at Martin
Jacksonville State University	Tennessee State University
Morehead State University	Tennessee Technological University
Murry State	*not eligible for championship

PACIFIC COAST SOFTBALL CONFERENCE

California State University, Bakersfield	St. Mary's University
California State University, Sacramento	University of San Diego
Idaho State	Santa Clara University
Loyola Marymount University	University of Seattle*
Northern Colorado	
Portland State University	*not eligible for championship

PACIFIC-10 CONFERENCE

University of Arizona	University of Oregon
Arizona State University	Oregon State University
University of California, Berkeley	Stanford University
University of California, Los Angeles	University of Washington

PATRIOT LEAGUE

Bucknell University	Lafayette College
Colgate University	Lehigh University
College of the Holy Cross	U.S. Military Academy

SOUTHEASTERN CONFERENCE

University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa	Louisiana State University
University of Arkansas, Fayetteville	University of Mississippi
Auburn University	Mississippi State University
University of Florida	University of South Carolina, Columbia
University of Georgia	University of Tennessee, Knoxville
University of Kentucky	

SOUTHERN CONFERENCE

Appalachian State University	University of North Carolina, Greensboro
College of Charleston (South Carolina)	University of Tennessee at Chattanooga
Elon University	Samford University
Furman University	Western Carolina University
Georgia Southern University	

SOUTHLAND CONFERENCE

Central Arkansas*	Texas A&M-Corpus Christi
McNeese State University	Texas State University-San Marcos
Nicholls State University	Stephen F. Austin State University
Northwestern State University	University of Texas at Arlington
Sam Houston State University	University of Texas at San Antonio
Southeastern Louisiana University	

*not eligible for championship

SOUTHWESTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

Alabama A&M University	Jackson State University
Alabama State University	Mississippi Valley State University
Alcorn State University	Prairie View A&M University
University of Arkansas, Pine Bluff	Southern University, Baton Rouge
Grambling State University	Texas Southern University

SUMMIT LEAGUE

Centenary College (Louisiana)	Oakland University
Indiana University-Purdue University, Fort Wayne	South Dakota State*
Indiana University-Purdue University at Indianapolis	Southern Utah University
University of Missouri, Kansas City	Western Illinois University
North Dakota State*	

*not eligible for championship

SUN BELT CONFERENCE

Florida Atlantic University	Middle Tennessee State University
Florida international University	University of North Texas
University of Louisiana-Lafayette	University of South Alabama
University of Louisiana-Monroe	Troy University
	Western Kentucky University

WESTERN ATHLETIC CONFERENCE

Boise State University	New Mexico State University
California State University, Fresno	San Jose State University
University of Hawaii, Manoa	Utah State University
Louisiana Tech University	
University of Nevada, Reno	

Conferences listed above receive automatic qualification.

Appendix C

Facility Requirements for Softball Championship Hosts

1. Field dimensions: The distance of the outfield fences shall not exceed 220 feet. Outfield fences shall be a minimum of 190 feet in left and right fields. If a portable fence is used, it must be placed at a distance of 190 feet in left and right fields, and 220 feet in center field. All portable fencing must be secured so as to prevent balls from rolling under. B
2. Backstop, sideline and outfield fences must enclose the playing field.
3. The infield must be skinned; the outfield must be natural grass or grass-like synthetic surfaces.
4. There must be a minimum of 25 feet from home plate to the backstop.
5. The facility must be enclosed in order to charge admission and minimum seating should be not less than 500 of unobstructed vision.
6. Concessions and an athletics training facility must be available on site. If permanent facilities are not available, tents may be used to meet this requirement.
7. Restrooms must be on site (portable or permanent). Note: Starting in 2010 portable restrooms as the only option will not satisfy this requirement.
8. An electronic scoreboard, public address system (including backup, if possible) and press box telephone must be available.
9. A warm-up area must be provided for the two non-playing teams. Minimally, designated restricted areas for throwing and stretching only must be provided to teams in the immediate proximity to the playing field.
10. On-site parking must be provided for teams, tournament personnel and umpires.
11. A covered interview area must be provided separate from spectator and hospitality areas.
12. A tarp must be available for inclement weather.
13. Dugouts must be covered and enclosed from spectators.
14. A minimum of six phone lines and internet access must be available for use at press row (radio, Internet, phone, fax).
15. Press Box: Institutions are required to have minimally a three-sided, covered press box with internet access.
16. Two separate bullpen areas of comparable composition to the competition field (dirt is preferred) and distance from dugouts must be provided. Bullpens must be separated from the spectator access area. Dirt bullpens are required at the Women's College World Series.
17. A full compliment of grounds crew personnel must be on site at all times during practice and competition.
18. Umpire facilities: A private dressing area (to accommodate both males and females) must be provided. Portable locker rooms, recreation vehicles, etc. may be used; however, a tent does not fulfill this requirement.
19. In order to host preliminary rounds competition, a lighted facility is required. (Minimum lightening requirement for television is 150 footcandles).
20. Hosts must provide, in its participant manual, a list of equipment available to all teams (i.e., screens, pitching machines, etc.) and a list of off-campus and/or rainy day/ indoor facilities.

Appendix D

Regional Members

NORTHEAST REGION

America East Conference	Ivy Group
Atlantic 10 Conference	Patriot league
Colonial Athletic Association	

SOUTH REGION

Atlantic Coast Conference	Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference
Atlantic Sun Conference	Southern Conference
Big South Conference	

MIDEAST REGION

Big Ten Conference	Mid-American Conference
Horizon League	Summit League

MIDWEST REGION

Big 12 Conference	Southland Conference
Missouri Valley Conference	Sun Belt Conference

CENTRAL REGION

Conference USA	Southeastern Conference
Ohio Valley Conference	Southwestern Athletic Conference

WEST REGION

Big West Conference	Western Athletic Conference
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PACIFIC REGION

Mountain West Conference	Pacific Coast Softball Conference
Pacific 10 Conference	

EAST REGION

Big East Conference	Northeast Conference
Metro-Atlantic Athletic Conference	

Appendix E

Non Television Timing Sheet With National Anthem

vs.

GAME TIME NOON

	Score clock	Time
Grounds crew field prep	24:00	11:42
Line drills	17:00	11:49
Umpires and coaches at home plate	12:00	11:54
Team introductions	6:00	11:56
1. Visiting team (lines up on baseline in front of dugout, facing dugout; first player lines up nearest home plate, with last person named lining up nearest home first base).		
2. Home team (lines up on baseline in front of dugout, facing dugout; first player lines up nearest home plate, with last person named lining up nearest third base).		
3. Introduction of umpires (stand behind home plate).		
National anthem	3:00	11:57
Ceremonial first pitch	1:00	11:59
Game begins	00:00	12:00

Non Television Timing Sheet Without National Anthem

vs.

GAME TIME: NOON

	Score clock	Time
Grounds crew field prep	24:00	11:42
Line drills	17:00	11:49
Umpires and coaches at home plate	12:00	11:54
Team introductions	10:00	11:56
1. Visiting team (lines up on baseline in front of dugout, facing dugout; first player lines up nearest home plate, with last person named lining up nearest home first base).		
2. Home team (lines up on baseline in front of dugout, facing dugout; first player lines up nearest home plate, with last person named lining up nearest third base).		
3. Introduction of umpires (stand behind home plate).		
Game begins	00:00	2:30

TelevisionTiming Sheet With National Anthem

vs.

GAME TIME: 12:06 p.m.

	Score clock	Time
Grounds crew field prep	24:00	11:42
Line drills	17:00	11:49
Umpires and coaches at home plate	12:00	11:54
National Anthem	10:00	11:56
Team Introductions	6:00	12:00
1. Visiting team (lines up on baseline in front of dugout, facing dugout; first player lines up nearest home plate, with last person named lining up nearest home first base).		
2. Home team (lines up on baseline in front of dugout, facing dugout; first player lines up nearest home plate, with last person named lining up nearest third base).		
3. Introduction of umpires (stand behind home plate).		
Teams take the field	2:00	12:04
Game begins	00:00	12:06

Television Timing Sheet Without National Anthem

vs.

GAME TIME: 2:25 p.m.

	Score clock	Time
Grounds crew field prep	24:00	2:01
Line drills	13:00	2:12
Umpires and coaches at home plate	8:00	2:17
Team introductions	6:00	2:19
1. Visiting team (lines up on baseline in front of dugout, facing dugout; first player lines up nearest home plate, with last person named lining up nearest home first base).		
2. Home team (lines up on baseline in front of dugout, facing dugout; first player lines up nearest home plate, with last person named lining up nearest third base).		
3. Introduction of umpires (stand behind home plate).		
Teams take the field	2:00	2:23
Game begins	00:00	2:25

Appendix F

2009-10 REGIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEES

CENTRAL REGION

David Burkhalter, University of Houston
Jana McGinnis, Jacksonville State
Wilbert Early, Grambling State
Craig White, University of Georgia, chair

EAST REGION

Al Dirschberger, Niagara University
Germaine Fairchild, Quinnipac University
Deanna Gumpf, University of Notre Dame
Alison Sexton, Fairfield University, chair

MIDEAST REGION

Karen Baird, Eastern Michigan
Joanna Lane, South Dakota State
Angie Nicholson, Cleveland State University
Robin Petrinri, Pennsylvania State University, chair

MIDWEST REGION

Keri Blaylock, Southern Illinois
Scott Farmer, University of Louisiana, Lafayette
Joan Joyce, Florida Atlantic
Glenn Moore, Baylor
Natalie Poole, McNeese State

NORTHEAST REGION

Terri Adams, St. Joseph's University
Katie Flynn, James Madison University, chair
Joe French, UMBC
Heather Rakosik, Bucknell University
Trina Salcido, Princeton University
Jennifer Strawley, Columbia University-Barnard College

PACIFIC REGION

Mary Bowman, University of Utah, chair
John Rittman, Stanford University,
Kathy Strahan, California State University, Sacramento
Heather Tarr, University of Washington
Tobin Echo-Hawk, Portland State University
Kathy Van Wyk, San Diego State University

SOUTH REGION

Veronica Dottery-Wiggins, Florida A & M University, chair
Mickey Dean, Radford University
Frank Griffin, Stetson University
Jennifer Herzig, University of North Carolina at Greensboro
Lisa Navas, North Carolina State University

WEST REGION

Bob Coolen, University of Hawaii
Jenny Condon, California Polytechnic State University
Sarah Dawson, Louisiana Tech
Janet Pinneau, California State University, Northridge
Maria Roth, New Mexico State University, chair