

# 2025-26 GSC REGULATIONS, POLICIES & PROCEDURES

## ARTICLE VII | BASEBALL

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**7.1 General Policy Statement.** NCAA Rules apply to all GSC Baseball games unless otherwise specified herein.

**7.2 Participation.** All GSC members compete.

**7.3 Official Ball.** GSC schools shall use Diamond baseballs for all games. The GSC shall use the D1-WS Low Seam or D1-CL Low Seam baseball (Year 4 of 4 | Expires June 30, 2026).

**7.4 Schedule.** Member institutions shall play a single round robin, three-game series schedule. All regular season contests must be completed on or before the Sunday preceding the start of the GSC Championship. The Commissioner will issue the conference schedule. 6/2017

**7.4.1 Series Format.** Each conference series shall be three games played over two days. Standard scheduling will be a Friday single game and Saturday doubleheader. Single games shall be nine innings. The doubleheader shall feature a nine-inning first game and a seven-inning second game. All games must be played during the originally scheduled weekend unless approved through process outlined in 7.4.2. Tripleheaders are not permitted.

**7.4.1.1 Weather Related Schedule Changes.** Institutions may request schedule changes related to weather by mutual agreement of the participating institutions. Teams may request the series change to Saturday-Sunday and/or move the doubleheader to another day of the series. Requests shall be made at least 48 hours prior to the start of the series. Once a series begins, institutions may agree to move the doubleheader day and game times by mutual agreement between teams and umpires. 6/2022

**7.4.1.2 Mandatory Rain Date.** Sunday must be used as a mandatory rain date for all series that begin on Friday. Any series moved to Saturday-Sunday pursuant to 7.4.1.1 shall have no mandatory rain date. Host shall be responsible for additional night hotel for umpires and \$100 per umpire extra day fee. 6/2025

**7.4.1.3 Easter Weekend Exception.** Conference competition is prohibited on Easter Sunday (NOTE: See 8.7 | p. 15). By mutual agreement and approval by the conference office [SEE 7.4.2], participants may utilize Thursday as a play date on Easter Weekend only. 6/2019

**7.4.2 Schedule Changes Prior to Start of Season.** Member institutions may request schedule changes by mutual agreement of the participating institutions. The request shall be sent from the Director of Athletics (or designated administrator) via email from both institutions including any additional information necessary for consideration. The Commissioner will consider the effect of the request and either approve or not approve the request. [NOTE: See 8.6 | p.16 for details on site switch requests.]

**7.4.3 Cancellation.** Any decision to cancel baseball competition must be made between administrators of the competing institutions. Any decision on cancellation should be delayed as late as possible. Every effort must be made to complete the competition, even if only a portion of the series may be played. The conference office should be notified of any decision to cancel a portion of a conference series.

**7.4.3.1 Result of Cancelled Games.** Games that began but did not finish due to cancellation are subject to NCAA rules with three potential outcomes: No Game; Shortened Game; Tie Game.

**7.4.4 Halted Game.** Conference series play will use the Halted Game rule (*NOTE: See 7.4.4.1 for exceptions*). Halted games shall be completed before the final day's regularly scheduled game begins. No more than one additional game may be played after the conclusion of the halted game.

**7.4.4.1 Exception | Halted Game.** If game one or game three of a series may be declared a complete game (with winner and loser) subject to NCAA rules, that game would be considered a complete shortened game and not subject to the Halted Game rule. 6/2015; 6/2019

**7.5 Standings.** Only games listed as official league games count in the standings. Standings shall be determined by winning percentage.

**7.6 Dress-Out Limits.** *There are no travel squad, dress out, or participation limits for regular season conference competition.* 6/2016; 6/2025

**7.7 Crowd Control.** The head coach and athletic director at the host institution are responsible for crowd control and security. It is recommended that the area behind the visiting team's dugout be reserved for the visiting team's fans or left empty unless the attendance requires the sale/use of those seats.

**7.8 Bat Testing.** Bat testing shall occur prior to each GSC series. Each institution shall maintain a working G4 SSL baseball bat tester (barrelcompression.com) and stickers for identification of approved bats. Opposing coaches shall conduct bat testing in the presence of each other prior to the first game of each series. If there is a bat in question after the initial testing, the umpire crew chief shall conduct an independent test upon arrival at the facility. Specific procedures shall be outlined in a conference distributed preseason memo. 6/2019

**7.9 Umpires.** The conference shall assign three-person umpire crews for all GSC games. Institutions shall select their own assignor for non-conference games which may also be the GSC Supervisor of Umpires. For 2025-26, the fee schedule is \$630.00 per series per umpire and two hotel room with two beds for one night. Coaches may not "scratch" any official. For series that extend to a third day of play, an additional fee of \$100.00 per umpire will be provided. 6/2019; 6/2020; 6/2021

**7.10 Ten-Run Rule.** The NCAA 10-run rule is in effect for the regular season and the entire GSC Tournament.

**7.11 Facilities.**

**7.11.1 Infield Warm-Up Screens.** Host teams shall place an extra screen in front of second base during pre-game practice.

**7.11.2 Tarps.** The dirt areas of the infield must be tarped the night before a conference game.

**7.12 Lightning Policy.** A warning must be issued to the coaches, game administrator and umpires when lightning is detected within a 20-mile radius of the site. It is recommended that the field be tarped at that point. Teams must be pulled off the field when lightning is detected at the 8-mile mark. There must be a 30-minute lightning-free interval before teams may return to the field.

**7.13 Lineups.** Lineups for single games and first games of doubleheaders must be submitted to the press box at least 30 minutes prior to the scheduled game time. Lineups for the second games of doubleheaders must be submitted at least 15 minutes prior to the start of the game.

**7.14 Action Clocks.** All GSC venues shall have at least one action clock 12/2024

**7.15 Video Replay Review.** *Institutions shall provide video replay review for umpires. Parameters for video replay review include:*

**A.** *Must follow protocols outlined in NCAA Rule Book Appendix E;*

- B.** System for video review and camera angles available must be demonstrated to the umpires and visiting team at least 45 minutes prior to first pitch each day;
- C.** A minimum of two (2) camera angles must be provided. One must be from behind home plate which captures the width of the field. The second must have a clear view of first base. If camera system has a zoom feature on first base from other angles, the second camera may be deployed at institutional discretion;
- D.** Video review will be provided at field level at a location to be determined by the host;
- E.** Video review assistant shall be provided by the host institution and may not be a member of the coaching staff, shall be proficient in operating video review equipment, will assist umpires on accessing all available camera angles during review;
- F.** The two non-calling umpires shall review each play. 6/2025

**7.16 Consumer Video Camera Requirements.** Institutions shall use a stationary center field camera capturing the pitcher, hitter, catcher, and home plate umpire in all consumer video productions with a producer to utilize this angle in conjunction with a high home plate view. 6/2025

**7.17 Awards.** The following awards are provided for Baseball: Player of the Week, Pitcher of the Week, Freshman of the Week, All-Conference (All-GSC) First Team and Second Team, Player of the Year, Pitcher of the Year, Freshman of the Year (as defined in 16.2), Coach of the Year, Gold Glove Team, All-Tournament Team, Tournament Most Outstanding Player and All-Academic Team. No other awards are permitted. 6/2025

**7.17.1 Selection Process | Regular Season.** The All-GSC process will be conducted at [sidearmvoting.com](http://sidearmvoting.com). Coaches may only nominate their own players and they cannot vote for their own players. All-GSC Team consists of 17 First Team players (4-SP, 1-RP, 1-C, 4-OF, 1-1B, 1-2B, 1-3B, 1-SS, 1-DH, 1 UTL and the next highest voted infielder) and 16 Second Team players (4-SP, 1-RP, 1-C, 4-OF, 1-1B, 1-2B, 1-3B, 1-SS, 1-DH, 1 UTL). Nominees for Utility may not be nominated for any other position and must appear in 50% of their team's scheduled contests and no less than 20% of their team's scheduled contests at a minimum of two positions. A student-athlete may be nominated for either Starting Pitcher or Relief Pitcher and one other position except Utility. 6/2023

Date	Action   Baseball Regular Season Awards Timeline
April 15	All-GSC nominations open.
April 22	All-GSC nominations due at 5:00ET/4:00CT. Coaches are allowed to nominate two candidates for Player and Pitcher of the Year and one candidate for Freshman of the Year. Nominations for Gold Glove Team are outlined in 7.17.4. Nominations are not needed for Coach of the Year which are part of the final ballot process.
April 27	All-GSC ballots open. Coaches should vote in rank order for 8-SP, 2-RP, 8-OF, 2-C, 2-1B, 2-2B, 2-3B, 2-SS, 2-DH, 2-UTL. Coaches should vote for two nominees in rank order for Player, Pitcher, Freshman and Coach of the Year. Voting for Gold Glove Team is outlined in 7.17.4.
April 28	All-GSC ballots due at 1:00ET/NoonCT.
April 30	All-GSC teams announced.

**7.17.2 Selection Process | Weekly Awards.** The GSC will honor a "Player of the Week", a "Pitcher of the Week" and "Freshman of the Week" (as defined in 16.2). The institutions will submit nominations at [sidearmvoting.com](http://sidearmvoting.com) by 1:00ET/NoonCT on Monday and the designated committee will select the Weekly Award winners. Early notification of the winners will be distributed on Monday afternoon and winners will be released on Tuesday by NoonET/11:00CT.

**7.17.3 Selection Process | All-Tournament.** The All-Tournament Team consists of 10 players plus a Most Outstanding Player (11 total members). The ballot will be distributed to voters before the start of the Championship Game.

**7.17.4 Selection Process | Gold Glove Team.** The Gold Glove Team consists of nine (9) award winners recognized by position (1-P; 1-C; 1-1B; 1-2B; 1-3B; 1-SS; 3-OF). The institutions may submit one nominee at each infield position with coaches voting for their top-3 nominees in rank order for each position. The institutions may

submit three nominees at the outfield position with coaches voting for their top 9 nominees in rank order for the outfield position. Nominees with the highest point total shall earn the award. If there is a tie in the voting, the nominee with the highest number of first place votes shall earn the award. 6/2025

**7.17.5 Selection Process | All-Academic.** The Baseball All-Academic Team consists of 10 student-athletes. GSC All-Academic Teams will be selected jointly by the FARs and SIDs. Complete details of the All-Academic process can be found in the GSC Awards Manual.

Date	Action   Spring All-Academic Awards Timeline
June 1	Spring All-Academic nominations open.
June 4	Spring All-Academic nominations due at 1:00ET/NoonCT; ballots open
June 10	Spring All-Academic ballots due at 1:00ET/NoonCT.
June 11	Spring All-Academic honors announced.

## CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT

**7.18 Tournament Format.** The conference tournament will utilize an eight-team bracket featuring single elimination opening round games between #5/#8 and #6/#7 with following rounds following a six-team, double elimination bracket. A sixth day shall be available should inclement weather postpone the tournament. [NOTE: Bracket is available on the GSC Baseball Championship Web Page.] 6/2016; 6/2018; 6/2025

**7.18.1 Schedule.** The schedule shall be as follows with the conference office and games committee determining the order of play and start times: 6/2016; 6/2018; 6/2025

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5
Game 1	Game 3	Game 6	Game 9	Game 12
Game 2	Game 4	Game 7	Game 10	Game 13 (if necessary)
	Game 5	Game 8	Game 11	

**7.19 Tournament Dates.** The dates for the championship shall begin the second Friday preceding the earliest starting date for the NCAA Region Tournament. 6/2014

**7.20 Tournament Site.** A neutral site approved by the membership shall host the GSC Championship. 6/2014; 6/2018

**7.21 Game Times.** All start times shall be recommended by the host and approved by the conference office. 6/2014

**7.22 Tournament Participants.** The top eight (8) teams in the final regular season standings will qualify for the Championship and be seeded according to their standing. 6/2016

### 7.22.1 Ties for Final Tournament Spot.

- A. If two teams are tied for the final playoff berth, their record against each other in the League games is the first criteria. If they split, or did not play, then they shall play one nine-inning tiebreaker game the Monday preceding the start of the Championship Tournament. Tuesday and Wednesday will be the rain dates. A coin toss determines the home team. The game is played at that team's field if it is available; if not, the game is played at the other team's field, but the coin toss winner will be the home team. If rain prevents the tiebreaker from being played before Thursday, apply the tiebreakers in "C" below.
- B. If three teams tie for the final playoff berth, and one team has a better record against the other tied teams, that team shall get the final berth. If that does not break the tie, examine the records against the first-place team and down through the standings until one team has the advantage or one team is eliminated; if this eliminates one team, break the tie between the remaining two teams as if it were a two-way tie (See "A" above). If that fails, the three teams are placed in a hat and a random draw team will

have the choice of playing at home on both tiebreaker dates OR taking a first day bye and playing at the winner of the first day.

- C. If two teams are tied for first place, use head-to-head in-league results as the tiebreaker. If that fails, the team with a better record in common site/common opponent league games versus the highest team that is not involved in the tie gets first place. If that fails, continue down the standings until one team has the advantage. If that fails, consider the record against all common opponents at common sites. If that fails, toss a coin.

**7.23 Seeding.** Teams are seeded based on their finish in the regular season standings

**7.24 Tiebreaker.** The tiebreaker format shall be as follows:

**A. Two-way Ties.** The following methods (in order) will be used to break the tie:

- 1) Head-to-head results from league games;
- 2) If the teams split their league games, or did not play any league games against each other, their records against the first-place team in their Division determines the tiebreaker.
- 3) If they are still tied, then their record against the second-place team (and continuing straight down through the standings, if necessary) shall break the tie.
- 4) If those records are identical, then their records against common opponents from the other Division, played at common sites, will be examined.
- 5) If that fails, then their record against common opponents from the GSC, regardless of site, will be used.
- 6) The final tiebreaker is a coin toss by the Commissioner.

**B. Three-way Ties: (if breaking the tie leaves a two-way tie, handle that two-way tie as above)**

- 1) If one team has a better record in head-to-head competition against the other tied teams, that team is placed ahead of the other tied teams and any remaining tie that needs to be broken will be resolved using the two-way tiebreakers above.
- 2) If "1" does not work, the team with the best record against the highest team in the standings in your own division that is not involved in the tie gets the advantage; if that does not work, continue down the standings until the tie is broken.
- 3) If "2" does not work, then the team with the best record against common GSC opponents in league games at common sites gets the advantage; if that fails, then the team with the best record against common non-GSC opponents at common sites will be used to break the tie.
- 4) If "3" does not work, then the Commissioner will put the names in a hat and conduct a blind draw. The first team drawn receives the higher seed. Any remaining two-way tiebreakers will be broken using the two-way tie formula above.

**C. Four-way Ties:** Will be treated like three-way ties. Once the four-way tie is broken, the resultant three- or pair of two-way ties are broken using the process in "A" or "B", above. If the remainder was a three-way tie, when that three-way tie is broken, use "A" for the remaining two-way tie.

**7.25 Practice Opportunities.** Teams shall be allowed to practice on the day prior to the start of the GSC Championship on the championship field. During the Tournament, either the host organization or the host team will provide all participating teams with a practice field and/or opportunity for one hour prior to competition on each day of the Tournament, provided such facilities are available either on- or off-campus, and not the actual competition field.

6/2017

**7.26 Home/Visiting Team Selection.** The top four teams based on the final regular season standings are the home teams in the first round. For succeeding rounds, the NCAA Baseball Handbook format will be followed. Uniform colors, practices, etc., will follow the NCAA Baseball Handbook, except that the host team will remain in its normal home dugout regardless of whether it is "home" or "away."

**7.27 Umpires.** The GSC Supervisor of Baseball Umpires shall select the umpires for the Tournament based upon his evaluations. The Commissioner negotiates their fees, which will not exceed the game fee paid to umpires working the NCAA D-II Regionals. The Conference houses the umpires and may provide a per diem. Three-umpire crews will be used for the first three days; four-umpire crews will work the final two days.

**7.28 Athletic Trainers and Other Support Services.** The host organization or institution is responsible for providing a certified athletic trainer at all practices and games associated with the Championship, even if the event is at a neutral site. The host organization or institution is also responsible for field maintenance, housekeeping, drinking cups, water, retrieval of game balls, telephone/press box services, etc., unless prior arrangements have been made with the GSC. At neutral sites, the sponsoring organization may require the assistance of the participating teams and/or the host institution with tarping the field and other game operations. The phone number for emergency medical services shall be posted in both dugouts during all practices and games.

**7.29 Finances.** The Conference pays all of the costs associated with the umpires.

- A.** If a GSC institution serves as the host, the Conference reimburses the host institution up to \$1800 for pre-approved costs incurred hosting the tournament; additional reimbursement is subject to pre-approval by the Commissioner and will not exceed the gross income from the tournament. A championship budget must be submitted to the Commissioner and approved at least two weeks before the championship begins; failure to do so will result in no reimbursements to the host team. If there is a net profit, it will be divided into nine equal shares and distributed back to the participating teams and one share to the GSC Office.
- B.** The host organization (or the GSC school hosting the tournament if a neutral site is not used) retains the concession rights and keeps all income earned there EXCEPT that the Conference reserves the right to sell GSC logo and Championship Tournament Merchandise (i.e., T-shirts), or license the host institution or organization to do so. If a licensing agreement is worked out, the design(s) must be pre-approved by the Commissioner and a licensing fee paid to the GSC.

**7.30 Balls.** Each team shall bring two dozen game balls in case they are needed.

**7.31 Rain or Other Problems.** There will be one designated rain day for the championship. If the entire week's weather is likely to make the designated site unplayable, the Commissioner may relocate the tournament after consultation with the participating coaches and athletic directors. Every attempt to stay within a reasonable distance of the original site will be made. Rainouts after the tournament begins will be handled on a case-by-case basis. If no games can be played, the Commissioner will determine the champion after consultation with the baseball liaison and GSC Executive Committee. Criteria will include record against all GSC teams; record against regionally ranked teams; record against non-GSC opponents at common sites; pitching depth and statistics; record in the second half of the season; and any other statistics or results available.

**7.32 Tarps.** The host team(s) or organization is (are) responsible for removing the tarps at the start of the day. A representative of the host team shall supervise all tarping and removals for the remainder of the day/night. If the tarping is required during pre-game or while the game is in progress, the two competing teams are responsible for tarping and removing the tarp (and rolling it up). If it needs to be put on between games, the teams scheduled to compete in the next game shall do it. The teams that play the final game of the day/night shall tarp the field at the conclusion of all activity, unless the host organization contracts to handle this.

**7.32 Dress-Out Limits.** TBD by Membership by December 2025.

1/2026