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2012 NCBA Division I RULES & REGULATIONS INDEX

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Definitions

2012 NCBA Division I RULES & REGULATIONS

NOTE: The National Club Baseball Association follows the [NCAA Div 1 rules of play](#) with the following exceptions listed below.

- 1.00.00 (Conference Play)
- 1.01.0 All NCBA conference play will be broken up into 4-game, 3-game, or 2-game series.
- 1.01.1 While teams are allowed to play triple headers, they can never be forced to play 3 regular season conference games in a single day.
- 1.01.2 When submitting scheduling requests for Conference Play, teams are only permitted to request two of the following off:
- 1.01.2.1 Easter Weekend
- 1.01.2.2 First Weekend of Spring Break
- 1.01.2.3 Last Weekend of Spring Break
- 1.01.3 In Conference Play situations where the home field is swapped (SCHEDULED home team does not have access to a field and has to now travel to SCHEDULED away team), the team who is hosting the field is allowed to play as the home team upon agreement between both teams and the Regional Director.
- 1.01.3.1 However, in the eyes of the NCBA the game will still be viewed and recorded as originally scheduled and the future home/away schedule rotation will remain in tact.
- 1.01.3.2 Example: If in 2011 Team A is schedule to play at Team B but Team B can't get a field and agrees to play the game(s) at Team A's field with Team A being the home field, in 2012 Team B will be scheduled to play at Team A.
- 1.02.0 3- Team Conferences
- 1.02.1 NCBA teams in conferences made up of three or fewer teams will play both a 4-game series and a 3-game series against each conference opponent during a single NCBA season.
- 1.02.2 NCBA teams in conferences made up of three or fewer teams will alternate which series (4-game or 3-game) they play home and away with each conference opponent from one NCBA season to the next.
- 1.02.3 Example: If Virginia Tech played a 4-game series at Radford and hosted Radford for a 3-game series at Virginia Tech during the 2007 NCBA season, Radford will play a 4-game series at Virginia Tech and host Virginia Tech for a 3-game series during the 2008 NCBA season.
- 1.03.0 4 Team Conferences
- 1.03.1 NCBA teams in conferences made up of four teams will play both a home 3-game series and an away 3-game series against each conference opponent during a single NCBA season.
- 1.04.0 5+ Team Conferences
- 1.04.1 NCBA teams in conferences made up of five or more teams will play either a home 3-game series or an away 3-game series (but not both) against each conference opponent during a single NCBA season.

1.04.2 NCBA teams in conferences made up of five or more teams will alternate their home and away 3-game series with each conference opponent from one NCBA season to the next.

1.04.2.1 Example: If Team A played a 3-game series at Team B during the 2011 NCBA season, Team B will play a 3-game series at Team A during the 2012 NCBA season.

1.04.2.2 An exception is if a visiting team forfeits an entire away conference series with out traveling to the opponent, then the following season the team that failed to make the away trip will once again be scheduled away against that particular conference opponent.

1.04.2.2.1 Once the forfeiting team has traveled to the opponent in which they had forfeited to, the conference schedule will return to it's original rotation.

1.04.2.2.2 Example: If in 2011 Team A is schedule to play at Team B but forfeits the entire series and fails to make the trip to Team B, then in 2012, Team A will once again be scheduled to play at Team B. Should Team A actually travel to Team B for their conference series in 2012, then in 2013 the conference schedule would return to the original rotation with Team A once again being scheduled to play at Team B and Team B playing at Team A in 2014.

1.05.0 Rain Outs

1.05.1 In the event that an NCBA conference game(s) would be rained out, the teams have until midnight Thursday of the week following the week that the game(s) were originally scheduled to be played to mutually agree upon a make up date and submit it to their Conference Coordinator for approval.

1.05.2 Should the teams fail to mutually agree upon the make up date, the Conference Coordinator will officially set the make up date at his/her discretion.

1.06.0 Non-Conference Games

1.06.1 All NCBA teams are welcome and encouraged to supplement their conference schedule with non-conference games against: NCBA Member Club Baseball Teams, Non-NCBA Collegiate Club Baseball Teams, and any other Collegiate Baseball Team.

1.06.2 Conference games ALWAYS take top priority over non-conference games, and it is possible non-conference games may need to be bumped from the schedule in order to make up rained out conference games.

1.06.3 In the event that two NCBA teams play a game during a time period in which one team can count it as a "NCBA Sanctioned Baseball Game" and the other team must count it as an "Off Season Baseball Game", the by default the game is automatically considered an "Exhibition Baseball Game".

1.07.0 Conclusion of Conference Play

1.07.1 Conference play officially concludes at midnight of the Sunday prior to the scheduled start of the Regional Playoffs.

1.07.2 No additional conference games may be played after the official conclusion of conference play, even if games that were rained out have not yet been able to be made up.

2.00.00 (Inter-League Play)

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- 2.01.0 Any game played between an NCBA Division I team and an NCBA Division II team must be played using NCBA Division I Rules of play.
- 2.02.0 Any game between the NCBA Division I team of a College or University and that same school's NCBA Division II team is automatically considered an **Exhibition Baseball Game**.
- 2.03.0 No baseball team holding membership in the NCBA may compete in another baseball league which runs simultaneously as the NCBA season.
- 3.00.00 (Determining Conference Standing/At-Large Bids)
- 3.01.0 Determining Conference Standing
- 3.01.1 For a team to be eligible to win their conference, the total number of conference games they played must equal or exceed 75% of the average number of conference games played by all teams in their conference including forfeits.
- 3.01.2 For a team to be eligible to win their conference or receive an At-Large Bid, they must have played a minimum of 2 non-conference games excluding forfeits.
- 3.01.3 The first criterion for determining conference standing is conference-winning percentage.
- 3.01.4 The first tiebreaker for determining conference standing is conference game head to head results.
- 3.01.5 The next tiebreaker for determining conference standing is conference game results versus the next best conference team.
- 3.01.6 The next tiebreaker for determining conference standing is the lower average of runs allowed per conference game played excluding forfeits.
- 3.01.7 The final tiebreaker for determining conference standing is a coin toss.
- 3.02.0 At-Large Bids
- 3.02.1 On occasion the opportunity arises for one or more teams that do not win their conference to be selected to make the Regional Playoffs as an At-Large Bid.
- 3.02.2 All teams selected to receive an At-Large Bid are chosen at the NCBA's discretion.
- 3.02.3 Factors taken into account by the NCBA when selecting an At-Large Bid consist of but are not limited to:
- 3.02.3.1 Did the team finish in 2nd place in their conference?
- 3.02.3.2 How did the team perform against their conference champion?
- 3.02.3.3 Is the team on probation?
- 3.02.3.4 Has the team forfeited any games?
- 4.00.00 (Game Length)
- 4.01.0 NCBA Spring Training Showcase
- 4.01.1 All **NCBA Sanctioned Baseball Games** played at the NCBA Spring Training Showcase will be played in a 7-inning format.
- 4.01.2 Mercy Rule 4.06.0 will remain in effect during all NCBA Spring Training Showcase games.
- 4.02.0 Regular Season
- 4.02.1 Any Double Header regular season **NCBA Sanctioned Baseball Game** will be played in a 7-inning format.
- 4.02.2 Any single (Non Double Header) regular season **NCBA Sanctioned Baseball Game** will be played in a 9-inning format.
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- 4.02.2.1 An exemption to this is, if a game was previously cancelled due to inclement weather and is being rescheduled to be played mid week, it may be played in a 7-inning format if approved by the NCBA front office.
 - 4.02.2.2 Requests to play a make-up game in a 7-inning format must be received (In writing) by the Conference Coordinator overseeing those games, no less than 48 hours in advance of the games scheduled start time.
 - 4.02.3 Mercy rule 4.06.0 will be in effect during all NCBA Regular Season games.
 - 4.02.4 If a team is winning at the end of five or more full innings and the official declares the game must be stopped due to weather or darkness, the team that is ahead at the end of the last completed inning is declared the winner.
 - 4.02.5 If the score is tied at the end of five or more full innings OR if five full innings have not been played when the official declares the game must be stopped due to weather or darkness, a HALTED GAME RULE will be in effect during NCBA Regular Season play.
 - 4.02.5.1 A regular season game that has been stopped prior to five or more full innings being played OR before a winner can be declared because of inclement weather, darkness, light failure or curfew will be continued at the next available opportunity as set forth by the Regional Director.
 - 4.02.5.2 A halted game must resume play at exactly the point of being halted, with the lineups and batting orders of both teams exactly the same, subject to the rules of substitution; any player (or pitcher) who played, or was announced as a substitute before the game was halted, must be in the lineup when play resumes or be ineligible for the remainder of the game.
 - 4.02.5.3 A halted game, when resumed will be played in the exact game length format in which it was started, and will continue until a winner is declared.
 - 4.02.5.4 Stats from this game will not count until the game is concluded and should not be submitted to the league.
 - 4.03.0 Regional Playoffs
 - 4.03.1 All NCBA Regional post-season playoff games will be planned to be played in a 9-inning format.
 - 4.03.1.1 It is at the discretion of the Regional Director whether it is logistically feasible to host the regional tournament in a 9-inning format. If deemed unfeasible, the Regional Director has the authority to alter the format of all or part of the regional tournament as deemed necessary to a 7-inning format.
 - 4.03.2 Mercy rule 4.06.0 WILL be in effect during Regional post-season play.
 - 4.03.3 A HALTED GAME RULE will be in effect during Regional post-season play.
 - 4.03.3.1 A Regional post-season game that has been stopped at any time after its start because of inclement weather, darkness, light failure or curfew will be continued at the next available opportunity as set forth by the Regional Tournament Director.
 - 4.03.3.2 A halted game must resume play at exactly the point of being halted, with the lineups and batting orders of both teams exactly the same, subject to the rules of substitution; any player (or pitcher) who played, or was announced as a substitute before the game was halted, must be in the lineup when play resumes or be ineligible for the remainder of the game.

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- 4.03.3.3 A halted game, when resumed will be played in the exact game length format in which it was started, and will continue until a winner is declared.
- 4.04.0 National Championship World Series
- 4.04.1 All NCBA World Series post-season games will be played in a 9-inning format.
- 4.04.2 Mercy rule 4.06.0 will NOT be in effect during World Series post-season play.
- 4.04.3 A HALTED GAME RULE will be in effect during National Championship World Series play.
- 4.04.3.1 A World Series game that has been stopped at any time after its start because of inclement weather, darkness, light failure or curfew will be continued at the next available opportunity as set forth by the National Championship Tournament Director.
- 4.04.3.2 A halted game must resume play at exactly the point of being halted, with the lineups and batting orders of both teams exactly the same, subject to the rules of substitution; any player (or pitcher) who played, or was announced as a substitute before the game was halted, must be in the lineup when play resumes or be ineligible for the remainder of the game.
- 4.04.3.3 A halted game, when resumed will be played in the exact game length format in which it was started, and will continue until a winner is declared.
- 4.05.0 All games with the score tied at the end of nine innings (Seven for double headers and Regional post-season games) will continue into extra innings until a winner is declared. If the game is still tied when the official declares the game must be stopped due to weather or darkness, the game remains tied until the game can be completed at a future date.
- 4.06.0 Mercy Rule:
- 4.06.1 7-inning Game: If a team is up by ten or more runs at the end of five or more full innings, that team is declared the winner, and play must be stopped.
- 4.06.2 9-inning Game: If a team is up by ten or more runs at the end of seven or more full innings, that team is declared the winner, and play must be stopped.
- 4.06.3 If the home team does not need to bat in their bottom half of the inning in order to go up by ten or more runs, then they are declared the winner, and play must be stopped.
- 4.06.4 This rule is not in effect during World Series post-season play.
- 5.00.00 (Line Up Cards)
- 5.01.0 Prior to the start of any **NCBA Sanctioned Baseball Game**, a line up card must be submitted to both the opposing team and the home plate umpire.
- 5.02.0 The line up card must designate a manager/head coach for the team for that particular game.
- 5.02.1 In the event that the line up card does not designate a manager/head coach, by default who ever turns the line up card in to the home plate umpire is designated the manager/head coach for that particular game even if it's a player.
- 5.02.2 The designated manager/head coach in a particular game will be charged for mound visits in that game in accordance with NCAA rules. (3 per game, 1 per inning)
- 5.03.0 The line up card must list the last name and number worn during that particular game for all starting players and available substitutes.

5.03.1 Only substitutes listed on the line up card are eligible to compete in that particular game.

6.00.00 (Roster Size)

6.01.0 The official eligible NCBA roster is limited to no more than 33 players.

6.02.0 The 33 players listed on the roster are the **ONLY** players allowed to compete in any **NCBA Sanctioned Baseball Game**.

6.02.1 Any team found playing a player (in an **NCBA Sanctioned Baseball Game**) not on the current official roster will be issued a forfeit for all games that the above-mentioned player has competed in.

6.02.2 Any team found playing any **NCBA Sanctioned Baseball Game** with **ZERO** players on their eligible roster will **AUTOMATICALLY** be forced to forfeit any victories achieved while having no eligible roster.

6.02.2.1 Additionally the team is **AUTOMATICALLY** placed on probation.

6.02.2.2 Player statistics for both teams of a game forfeited due to a participating team having no eligible roster **DO NOT** count.

6.02.2.3 In the event that an **NCBA Sanctioned Baseball Game** is played with neither team having an eligible roster, then the game itself and the player statistics from that game **DO NOT** count and both teams are **AUTOMATICALLY** placed on probation.

6.03.0 Each player, coach and manager on the roster **MUST** have a signed liability waiver on file with the NCBA.

6.03.1 Any team found playing a player (in an **NCBA Sanctioned Baseball Game**) without a liability waiver on file with the NCBA may be removed from the NCBA without reimbursement.

6.04.0 Each team is allowed to add players to their roster at any time up until and including April 15. Once the team's roster has grown to 33 players, no more players may be added.

6.04.1 In a single NCBA season, no more than 3 players can be removed from a team's official NCBA roster.

6.04.1.1 To be eligible to be removed from the roster, it must be documented that the player in question has either: graduated, transferred to another College or University, withdrawn from the College or University, or is studying abroad for the spring semester.

6.04.1.2 Those players being removed from the roster can only be removed between January 25th and January 31st inclusively.

6.04.2 Schools with both an NCBA DI and DII team are permitted to move up to a total of 3 players up or down between the DI and DII team in a given NCBA season.

6.04.2.1 No player can be moved more than once in a single NCBA season.

6.04.2.2 The roster spot that is left by a player who has either moved up to DI or down to DII remains filled by the no-longer-eligible player and cannot be filled by another player.

6.04.2.3 No player can be eligible to play on both the DI and DII teams at the same time.

6.04.2.4 The deadline for players to be moved up to DI from DII is the NCBA Roster Freeze date of April 15th.

6.04.2.5 The deadline for players to be moved down to DII from DI is prior to start of the DI team's 4th played or forfeited conference game of the season.

- 6.04.2.5.1 The deadline remains prior to the 4th conference game even if any or all of the first 3 conference games of the season result in forfeits.
- 6.04.2.5.2 In the event that any or all of the first 3 conference games are rained out, those rained out games no longer count as one of the first 3 played or forfeited conference games unless they are rescheduled to a date that would keep them as such.
- 6.05.0 Players are not deemed eligible to participate in any **NCBA Sanctioned Baseball Game** until their paperwork has been processed with the league. When the player appears on the team's roster, which is available on the Official NCBA Website (www.clubbaseball.org), then that player is then eligible to compete in **NCBA Sanctioned Baseball Games**.
- 7.00.00 (Eligibility)
- 7.01.0 Players are not deemed eligible to participate in any **NCBA Sanctioned Baseball Game** until their paperwork has been processed with the league. When the player appears on the team's roster, which is available on the Official NCBA Website (www.clubbaseball.org), then that player is then eligible to compete in **NCBA Sanctioned Baseball Games**.
- 7.02.0 Any team found playing an ineligible player will be penalized by forfeiting all games that that ineligible player participated in while holding an ineligible status.
- 7.03.0 All players playing in an **NCBA Sanctioned Baseball Game** MUST be a member of the Institution, which that team represents. An example is that no member of the University of Texas may play for the Texas A&M Baseball Club.
- 7.03.1 Students from a school's Satellite campus ARE eligible to participate on the main campus's club baseball team, given that the satellite campus does not have its own NCBA sanctioned baseball team.
- 7.03.2 Players who begin the spring season as a registered student and then graduate in the middle of the season will remain eligible to compete for the remainder of the season.
- 7.04.0 A player with any previous professional experience in the sport of baseball is NOT eligible to play in any **NCBA Sanctioned Baseball Game**.
- 7.05.0 Faculty members are NOT eligible to play in any **NCBA Sanctioned Baseball Game**.
- 7.06.0 A player playing in an **NCBA Sanctioned Baseball Game** MUST hold **Full-Time Status** with that team's College or University.
- 7.06.1 An exception is if a **Final Semester Student** requires less than a Full-Time load in order to graduate.
- 7.06.2 An exception is if a player who begins the spring season as a registered student and then graduates in the middle of the season will remain eligible to compete for the remainder of the season.
- 7.07.0 Any player playing in an **NCBA Sanctioned Baseball Game** MUST have enrolled with **Full-Time Status** before their 25th Birthday.
- 7.07.1 The only exception is if a Student went straight from High School to the Military and then enrolled full time in college during the semester immediately following their discharge from the military.
- 7.07.2 In this case, the student athlete will only be granted the amount of eligibility left had he/she started their freshman year at age 24.

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- 7.08.0 Each student-athlete shall complete his five seasons of participation in intercollegiate baseball within six calendar years from the beginning of the semester or quarter in which the student-athlete first registered for a minimum full time program of studies in a collegiate institution, with time spent in the armed services, on official church missions or with recognized foreign aid services of the U.S government being excepted.
- 7.08.1 For foreign students, service in the armed forces or on an official church mission of the student's home country is considered equivalent to such service in the United States.
- 7.08.2 If a student-athlete enrolls in a regular term of a collegiate institution at the first opportunity following the completion of any one of the commitments described in the exceptions in this bylaw, the elapsed time (i.e. the exact number of calendar days) between completion of the commitment and the first opportunity for enrollment may be added to the exact number of days served on active duty in the armed services or on an official church mission and will not count toward student-athlete's six year eligibility. It is not permissible to extend the six-year period by additional time beyond the first opportunity to enroll; i.e. the opening day of classes of the first regular term at the institution in which the student athlete enrolls as a regular student immediately following the termination of the active duty commitment.
- 7.09.0 For a player to participate in the NCBA using a fifth year of eligibility, that player must NOT have exhausted four years of eligibility at the Varsity Level.
- 7.10.0 If a player is injured and is unable to play any part of a season, he may file an appeal for a medical red shirt. If the appeal is granted, the player may be granted an additional season of competition. All appeals must be filed with the NCBA Commissioner and are granted at the Commissioner's discretion.
- 7.11.0 NCBA rules indicate that any competition, regardless of time, during an intercollegiate baseball game counts as a season of competition. It does not matter how long the player was involved in a particular game (for example, one at bat, one pitch, one pinch running appearance), the player is charged with one season of competition.
- 8.00.00 (Academic Eligibility)
- 8.01.0 At the time of any roster submission, a letter from the academic institution must be submitted to the NCBA listing that each player holds a minimum 2.0 cumulative GPA and is not on academic warning or probation.
- 8.02.0 Teams in the North Atlantic Region are required to submit a 2nd academic eligibility letter prior to the start of the spring portion of their conference season in order to reconfirm that all rostered players remain academically eligible.
- 9.00.00 (Uniforms)
- 9.01.0 Definition
- 9.01.1 The following items have been determined to be considered part of the team uniform and thus must match the rest of the team: Hat, Jersey Top and associated decorations and trim, Pants and associated trim, Belt Color, Sock Color, Exposed Under Sleeve Color.
- 9.01.2 The following items have been determined to be exempt from having to match the rest of team: Sock style, Catchers Gear Color.
- 9.02.0 Penalty
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- 9.02.1 In the event that a player and/or coach is not dressed in uniform with the rest of the team, the umpire is to give that player/coach an opportunity to get into uniform or else is **AUTOMATICALLY** ejected from that game.
- 9.03.0 **Players Uniform**
- 9.03.1 The NCBA will adhere to all NCAA requirements regarding player's uniforms excluding the following exceptions.
- 9.03.1.1 It is **NOT** required that each team have **TWO** sets of uniform jerseys of contrasting colors.
- 9.03.1.1.1 **Effective July 1, 2013 this rule will be revoked and all NCBA DI teams will be required to carry two sets of uniform jerseys of contrasting colors.**
- 9.03.1.2 It is the responsibility of the visiting team to wear a contrasting uniform color to the jersey worn by the home team **ONLY** if a contrasting uniform color is available.
- 9.03.1.2.1 **Effective July 1, 2013 it will be the responsibility of the visiting team to wear a contrasting uniform jersey color to the jersey worn by the home team during any NCBA Sanctioned Baseball Game.**
- 9.03.1.2.2 **Effective July 1, 2013 the penalty for any player/coach of a visiting team that is not wearing a contrasting jersey color to the home team will be as follows:**
- 9.03.1.2.2.1 **The umpire will give any/all players/coaches in violation one opportunity to change their jersey in order to become compliant with the rule.**
- 9.03.1.2.2.2 **Should the player/coach fail to come in to compliance, they will be AUTOMATICALLY ejected from the game.**
- 9.04.0 **Coaches Uniform**
- 9.04.1 The NCBA will adhere to all NCAA requirements regarding coach's uniforms excluding the following exceptions.
- 9.04.1.1 A coach may wear a jacket or windshirt **OVER** the uniform top provided it is a team issued item, which matches the team's colors.
- 9.04.1.2 When coaching the bases, the uniform game jersey must be worn. If a team jacket or windshirt is worn, it **MAY** be worn **OVER** the official uniform provided it is a team issued item, which matches the team's colors and is of a non-distracting nature.
- 9.05.0 **Official Hat of the NCBA**
- 9.05.1 All players and coaches on teams holding membership in the NCBA will be required to wear the officially designated brand of baseball hat (Richardson) during all **NCBA Sanctioned Baseball Games**.
- 9.05.1.1 Failure to comply with this rule will result in a player being deemed "Out of Uniform" and thus ineligible to participate in any **NCBA Sanctioned Baseball Game** while out of uniform.
- 9.05.2 All players and coaches on teams holding membership in the NCBA will be required to wear a hat featuring the official NCBA logo (see 9.05.2.1) during all **NCBA Sanctioned Baseball Games**.

- 9.05.2.2 Teams may choose the color in which the letters N-C-B-A will be embroidered on their hats.
- 9.05.2.3 Failure to comply with this rule will result in a player being deemed “Out of Uniform” and thus ineligible to participate in any **NCBA Sanctioned Baseball Game** while out of uniform.

9.06.0 Dugout Personnel

- 9.06.1 All players, coaches, injured players, managers, trainers, scorekeepers, or other team personnel in the dugout during an **NCBA Sanctioned Baseball Game** are required to wear either the official team uniform or another type of school affiliated team shirt or jacket.

- 9.06.1.1 Failure to comply with this rule will result in the person in violation being forced to leave the dugout.

10.00.00 (Jewelry)

- 10.01.0 Jewelry may be worn during **NCBA Sanctioned Baseball Games**, unless the umpire feels the item is of a direct safety hazard.

11.00.00 (Bat Rules)

- 11.01.0 The NCBA follows NCAA Bat Rules which states that only bats that are BBCOR certified are legal for use.

- 11.01.1 The penalty for a player who uses an illegal bat (per NCAA rules) are as follows:

- 11.01.1.1 If the bat is detected before the first pitch of the at bat, the bat is to be removed from the game and the player must use a legal bat. If the player tries to use an illegal bat again in that game, he is AUTOMATICALLY ejected.

- 11.01.1.2 If the bat is detected after the first pitch of the at bat and prior to the first pitch to the next batter, the bat is to be removed from the game, the batter is declared out, and the runners are not allowed to advance. If the player tries to use an illegal bat again in that game, he is AUTOMATICALLY ejected.

12.00.00 (Official League Ball)

- 12.01.0 The official league ball of the NCBA will be the A.D. Starr AD600N professional baseball featuring the NCBA logo.
- 12.02.0 During **NCBA Sanctioned Baseball Games**, the home team is responsible for providing a sufficient quantity of official league baseballs for each competition.
- 12.03.0 Any game played without the official league ball will result in a forfeit against the home team.

13.00.00 (Medical Personnel)

- 13.01.0 While it is not required for the home team to provide on site medical personnel (i.e., trainer or EMT), the home team is required to provide some sort of communications equipment capable of summoning medical personnel in the event of an emergency (i.e., telephone, cell phone, or CB radio).

14.00.00 (Umpires)

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- 14.01.0 During **NCBA Sanctioned Baseball Games**, the home team is responsible for providing umpires for each competition.
- 14.02.0 It is the responsibility of the home team to provide the umpires with a copy of the Official NCBA Rules prior to the start of each game.
- 14.03.0 The umpires **MUST** be of High School certified or higher.
- 14.03.1 It is **RECOMMENDED** that umpires be Junior College certified or higher.
- 14.03.2 It is **RECOMMENDED** that umpires be NCBA **CERTIFIED** if available.
- 14.03.3 Legion certified umpires are acceptable.
- 14.03.4 An umpire is deemed unqualified to umpire an **NCBA Sanctioned Baseball Game** if he/she is currently registered as a student at one of the schools scheduled to compete in that game.
- 14.04.0 It is required that the home team schedules two umpires to officiate each competition.
- 14.04.1 The game may be played provided that at least one approved umpire is present.
- 14.05.0 If no umpires have arrived within 15 minutes after the competition is officially scheduled to start, the game is forfeited to the visiting team.
- 14.06.0 If a second game of double-header is scheduled, the home team has an additional 45 minutes from the time that the first game was declared a forfeit to get NCBA approved umpires to the field or the second game is also forfeited to the visiting team.
- 15.00.00 (Field Requirements)
- 15.01.0 The NCBA encourages the use of fields with bullpens available, but acknowledges that they are not a requirement.
- 15.02.0 The NCBA encourages any home team who wishes to use a field with a portable artificial mound, to notify their opponent of such a mound at least 72 hours prior to the start game.
- 15.03.0 The NCBA encourages the use of chalked or painted Out of Play lines, but acknowledges the use of "Imaginary" Out of Play lines to be acceptable.
- 15.04.0 In the event that a home team desires to secure a home field for use during any **NCBA Sanctioned Baseball Game** that is more than 75 miles from their campus, they must seek and be granted approval by their scheduled opponent and Conference Coordinator in advance.
- 15.04.1 In this case, the home team must submit their request for approval to their scheduled opponent and Conference Coordinator (via email AND phone call) no less than 14 days prior to the first day of the scheduled week in which the respective game(s) are scheduled to be played.
- 15.04.2 In this case, the visiting team has 5 days from the date of requested approval to respond to the home team and Conference Coordinator, otherwise, the home team is granted approval by default.
- 15.04.3 In the event that the home team fails to request approval in a timely manner or is not granted approval by their scheduled opponent, they will be forced to find a field closer to campus or forfeit the game(s).
- 15.04.4 However, in the event that the home team fails to request approval in a timely manner and/or the visiting team has denied the home team approval to use the field in question, yet the visiting team travels to this field in question regardless, then the NCBA will automatically assume that the visiting team approves of the use of the field in question.

- 15.05.0 In the event that a home team desires to secure a home field for use during any **NCBA Sanctioned Baseball Game** that is between 25 and 75 miles from their campus, they must notify their scheduled opponent and Conference Coordinator in advance.
- 15.05.1 In this case, the home team must submit their notification to their scheduled opponent and Conference Coordinator (via email AND phone call) no less than 7 days prior to the first day of the scheduled week in which the respective game(s) are scheduled to be played.
- 15.05.2 In the event that the home team fails to notify their opponent in a timely manner, they will be forced to find a field closer to campus or automatically be placed on probation.

16.00.00 (Reentry)

- 16.01.0 There is NO REENTRY allowed in any Division I **NCBA Sanctioned Baseball Game**.

17.00.00 (Designated Hitter)

- 17.01.0 The NCBA follows NCAA Designated Hitter Rules which state that the designated hitter may only be used for the pitcher. The NCAA rule is listed below for convenience:
- 17.02.0 The designated hitter (DH) is a player designated to bat for the starting pitcher and all subsequent pitchers. The DH may bat in any position in the lineup, and this position cannot be changed. The DH must be so designated before the game and included in the lineup cards presented to the umpire-in-chief. In this case, the team actually is using 10 players, with the pitcher not listed in the batting order.
- 17.03.0 It is not mandatory that a player be designated to bat for the pitcher. If the pitcher is listed in the starting batting order, the pitcher automatically becomes the DH. In this case, the pitcher is to be considered as two players, both pitcher and DH, and can be substituted for as such.
- 17.03.1 Note: For substitution purposes, the pitcher is not to be considered a defensive position.
- 17.04.0 The designated hitter is subject to the following conditions:
- 17.04.1 Pitcher or DH is moved to a defensive position (10-player lineup)
- 17.04.1.1 If the DH is not the pitcher and the DH or the pitcher is moved to a defensive position (this change may be made at anytime):
- 17.04.1.1.1 The DH is terminated for the remainder of the game.
- 17.04.1.1.2 The pitcher being placed at a defensive position must bat in place of the defensive player removed, unless more than one substitution is made. The coach must designate their positions in the batting order at that time.
- 17.04.1.1.2.1 If two or more substitute players of the defensive team enter the game simultaneously, the coach or a representative immediately shall designate to the umpire-in-chief the position of each in the team's batting order. If this is not done immediately, the umpire shall place them in the batting order.
- 17.04.1.1.2.2 **A.R.**—When the pitcher is not the designated hitter, moving the pitcher to a defensive position and bringing in only one new substitute player does not constitute multiple substitution for the purpose of batting-order changes. The

pitcher moved to the defensive position must bat in the spot of the defensive player replaced and the new pitcher must bat in the DH position.

17.04.1.1.3 If only one substitution is made, the new pitcher must bat in the previous spot of the DH.

17.04.1.1.4 **A.R. 1**—Multiple substitution, used for the purpose of changing the batting order, does not occur unless two new players (not including the pitcher going to a defensive position) are brought into the game.

17.04.1.1.5 **A.R. 2**—The DH is moved to a defensive position and the pitcher remains in the game as the pitcher. If the DH is placed at a defensive position, the DH is terminated. The former DH, who now is a defensive player, must continue to bat in the original DH spot. The pitcher must bat in the lineup spot of the removed defensive player).

17.04.1.1.6 **A.R. 3**—When the designated hitter and the pitcher both enter on defense at the same time, the coach must designate the positions in the batting order of the new pitcher and the previous pitcher.

17.04.2 Game pitcher is not the DH (10-player lineup)

17.04.2.1 If the game pitcher is not the DH and is replaced as the pitcher, the replaced pitcher may:

17.04.2.1.1 Upon removal from the pitching position, he may be immediately inserted as the DH; the pitcher may not re-enter the game in any other capacity.

17.04.2.1.2 At any time, 1) be moved to a defensive position and must bat in place of the defensive player removed. The DH is terminated, or 2) be removed as a pitcher but remain in the game and bat for the DH. This change must be announced at the time the pitcher is removed. There is no loss of the DH but the player may not re-enter the contest in any other capacity.

17.04.2.1.3 **A.R.**—At any time, before the pitcher's removal as the game pitcher, he may pinch run or pinch hit for only the DH and become the DH.

17.04.3 DH is not the pitcher (10-player lineup)

17.04.3.1 If the DH is not the pitcher and is replaced offensively, the original DH may replace the pitcher at the time of substitution.

17.04.3.1.1 The individual may not return as the DH or in any other capacity.

17.04.3.1.2 There is no loss of the DH.

17.04.3.1.3 Once a player leaves the offensive lineup, that player cannot return offensively.

17.04.3.1.4 **A.R.**—The DH may go in to pitch, then subsequently be relieved as the pitcher and still remain the DH.

17.04.4 Replaced as a DH (nine-player lineup)

17.04.4.1 When the P/DH, whether as the starting P/DH or a subsequent one, is replaced as the DH, the individual may remain in the game as a pitcher. However:

17.04.4.1.1 The P/DH cannot subsequently move to a defensive position.

- 17.04.4.1.2 The P/DH cannot return as the designated hitter.
- 17.04.5 P/DH replaced as a pitcher (nine-player lineup)
 - 17.04.5.1 When replaced as the pitcher, the P/DH may:
 - 17.04.5.1.1 Remain as the DH and bat only in the DH spot. If remaining a DH, the individual or a subsequent DH cannot enter the game in any other capacity (i.e., as the pitcher, defensive player or pinch runner).
 - 17.04.5.1.2 The DH may be moved to a defensive position at the time, but:
 - 17.04.5.1.2.1 The DH is terminated for the remainder of the game.
 - 17.04.5.1.2.2 The P/DH being placed at the defensive position must bat in the original DH spot.
 - 17.04.5.1.2.3 The new pitcher must bat in the spot of the replaced defensive player.
 - 17.04.5.1.2.4 If the P/DH goes to a defensive position, the individual may return as a pitcher once since the P/DH originally was considered as two different players. If the P/DH was removed as a pitcher on the second trip of an inning or after the third free trip, the player cannot return to pitch.
 - 17.04.5.2 At the time the coach makes the pitching change, he shall indicate to the plate umpire the playing status of the removed pitcher.
 - 17.04.5.3 PENALTY—Once the coach has reached the dugout, the coach may not move the pitcher to a defensive position or have the pitcher remain as the DH.
- 17.04.6 Defensive player becomes the pitcher (nine- or 10-player lineup)
 - 17.04.6.1 If a defensive player becomes the pitcher:
 - 17.04.6.1.1 The DH is terminated for the remainder of the game.
 - 17.04.6.1.2 The DH may assume the defensive player's position.
 - 17.04.6.1.3 Any substitute player who comes in for the defensive player must bat in the DH spot.
- 17.04.7 Runner or batter substituted for the DH (nine- or 10-player lineup)
 - 17.04.7.1 A runner or batter may be substituted for the DH and then become the DH.
 - 17.04.7.1.1 A replaced DH may remain in the game only as a pitcher and the change must be announced at the time of substitution.
 - 17.04.7.1.2 The DH may not run for any other player in the lineup at any time.
- 17.04.8 Pinch hitter enters the game to pitch (nine- or 10-player lineup)
 - 17.04.8.1 Once the pinch hitter bats for any player in the batting order and then enters the game to pitch, the DH's role is terminated for the remainder of the game.
 - 17.04.8.2 A player who is removed from the game cannot re-enter in any capacity.
- 17.04.9 Pitcher as a pinch hitter or pinch runner (10-player lineup)
 - 17.04.9.1 If the lineup change is made while the pitcher's team is on offense, the pitcher may pinch hit or pinch run only for the DH and be both. The pitcher then may be replaced as the DH and remain as the pitcher.
 - 17.04.9.2 PENALTY—A violation of this rule requires that the pitcher be disqualified from the game.
- 17.04.10 DH ejected from game (nine- or 10-player lineup)

17.04.10.1 If ejected from the game, the DH may be replaced by another DH. The DH position is not terminated by the ejection.

17.04.10.2 **A.R.**—If the DH also was the pitcher (P/DH), the DH may be replaced by two players—a pitcher and a DH—or by one player, a P/DH.

18.00.00 (Courtesy Runners)

18.01.0 There are NO COURTESY RUNNERS allowed in any Division I NCBA Sanctioned Baseball Game.

19.00.00 (Slide Rules)

19.01.0 Bases

19.01.1 During all NCBA Sanctioned Baseball Games, any player forced into a base may slide within one arm's length on either side of the bag in order to break up the play.

19.01.1.1 It is at the umpire's discretion on ruling if a base runner slides with an attempt to injure rather than aggressively trying to break up the play. An example would be the base runner raising his spikes to injure the fielder.

19.01.1.2 If the umpire rules that the base runner's slide is in fact with an attempt to injure, the base runner is automatically ruled OUT and ejected from the game.

19.02.0 Home Plate

19.02.1 During all NCBA Sanctioned Baseball Games, the NCBA has adopted the NCAA Collision Rule regarding contact at the plate:

19.02.1.1 When there is a collision between a runner and a fielder who clearly is in possession of the ball, the umpire shall judge: (1) Whether the collision by the runner was avoidable (could the runner have reached the base without colliding) or unavoidable (the runner's path to the base was blocked); (2) Whether the runner actually was attempting to reach the base (plate) or attempting to dislodge the ball from the fielder; or (3) Whether the runner was using flagrant contact to maliciously dislodge the ball.

19.02.1.1.1 PENALTY—If the runner attempted to dislodge the ball, the runner shall be declared out even if the fielder loses possession of the ball. The ball is dead and all other base runners shall return to the last base touched at the time of the interference.

19.02.1.1.1.1 If the fielder blocks the path of the base runner to the base (plate), the runner may make contact, slide into, or collide with a fielder as long as the runner is making a legitimate attempt to reach the base or plate.

19.02.1.1.1.2 If the flagrant or malicious contact by the runner was before the runner's touching the plate, the runner shall be declared out and also ejected from the contest. The ball shall be declared dead immediately. All other base runners shall return to the bases they occupied at the time of the pitch.

19.02.1.1.1.3 If the contact was after a preceding runner had touched home plate, the preceding runner will be ruled safe, the ball

becomes dead immediately and all other base runners will return to the base they had last touched before the contact.

19.02.1.1.1.4 If the runner is safe and the collision is malicious, the runner shall be ruled safe and ejected from the game. If this occurs at any base other than home, the offending team may replace the runner.

19.02.1.2 If the defensive player blocks the base (plate) or base line clearly without possession of the ball, obstruction shall be called. The umpire shall point and call, "That's obstruction." The umpire shall let the play continue until all play has ceased, call time and award any bases that are justified in Rule 2. The obstructed runner is awarded at least one base beyond the base last touched legally before the obstruction.

19.02.1.2.1 If the base runner collides flagrantly, the runner shall be declared safe on the obstruction, but will be ejected from the contest. The ball is dead.

20.00.00 (Hit By Pitch)

20.01.0 A batter has the right to his position in the batters box and is not required to make an attempt to get out of the way of a pitch.

20.02.0 If the umpire feels that the batter intentionally moves into the path of the ball in order to be hit by the pitch, the batter is not awarded first base and the pitch is called a ball or strike at the umpire's discretion.

21.00.00 (Tobacco/Drug Use)

21.01.0 Smokeless Tobacco Use

21.01.1 Smokeless Tobacco use is permitted during **NCBA Sanctioned Baseball Games**, both on the field and in the dugout.

21.01.2 The home team may request that Smokeless Tobacco not be used in the dugouts/field and both teams must honor the request.

21.02.0 Smoking

21.02.1 Smoking is prohibited by players, coaches, and managers before, during, and after any **NCBA Sanctioned Baseball Game** while at the field or in the dugout.

21.03.0 Drug Use

21.03.1 By signing the liability waiver each player agrees that the use of drugs, alcohol, or any other substances that could cause danger or detrimental effects upon the participant's performance as a member of this organization is strictly prohibited during NCBA Sanctioned Competition.

21.03.2 Random drug testing will not occur at any point during the NCBA sanctioned season.

22.00.00 (Ejections)

22.01.0 In the event that a player or coach should be ejected from an **NCBA Sanctioned Baseball Game**, it is required that the team's primary representative complete an NCBA Ejection Report and submit it via email to both the appropriate Regional Director and NCBA Commissioner.

22.01.1 The team's primary representative has 72 hours from the time of the ejection to complete and submit the Ejection Report.

22.01.2 If a team fails to report an ejection within 72 hours of the ejection, the team is automatically placed on probation for the remainder of the season.

22.01.3 Upon reviewing the Ejection Report, the NCBA may determine that a further suspension is necessary.

22.02.0 Player Ejections

22.02.1 In the event that a player is ejected for any of the following reasons, he is AUTOMATICALLY suspended for an addition 1 game: Arguing Balls/Strikes, Arguing Safe/Out Calls, Bench Jockeying, Violating ANY Slide Rule.

22.02.2 In the event that a player is ejected for threatening or making physical contact with an opposing player, coach, or umpire, that player is AUTOMATICALLY suspended for an additional 3 games.

22.02.3 In the event that a pitcher is ejected for intentionally throwing at a batter, that pitcher is AUTOMATICALLY suspended for an additional 3 games.

22.02.4 In the event that a player is ejected for any of the following reasons, he is NOT automatically suspended for any additional games: Uniform Violation, Use of an Illegal Bat, Use of Foul Language.

22.03.0 Coach Ejections

22.03.1 In reference to ejections, a "coach" is defined as anyone on the bench or on the field dressed in uniform with the team who is not listed on the teams roster or on the line up card for that particular game AND includes the acting manager for that game as determined by the line up submitted to the umpire at the start of the game even if this manager is also a player (i.e. the a player/coach).

22.03.1.1 There may only be one player/coach during a particular game.

22.03.2 In the event that a coach is ejected for threatening or making physical contact with an opposing player, coach, or umpire, that coach is AUTOMATICALLY suspended for an additional 3 games.

22.03.3 In the event that a coach is ejected for any of the following reasons, he is NOT automatically suspended for any additional games: Arguing Balls/Strikes, Arguing Safe/Out Calls, Uniform Violation, Use of Foul Language, Bench Jockeying, Pitcher Intentionally Threw at a Batter.

22.04.0 Automatic Suspensions

22.04.1 If a player, coach, or manager who is ejected fails to leave the premises peacefully and without further incident, they are AUTOMATICALLY suspended for 1 additional game on top of any other suspension they may have earned based upon the reason for their ejection.

22.04.2 Suspensions that can not be fully served during the NCBA season in which they were accrued will carry over and be served at the beginning of the following NCBA season.

22.05.0 Post Game Ejections

22.05.1 Ejections taking place after the final out of the game DO NOT require the ejected player or coach to sit out the next game UNLESS the reason for the ejection stipulates an automatic suspension as per Rules 22.02.0, 22.03.0, or 22.04.0.

23.00.00 (Forfeitures)

23.01.0 In the event that a visiting team should forfeit any NCBA Sanctioned Baseball Game to the home team; the visiting team is required to inform the home team via telephone of

their intent not to play at least 48 hours in advance of the predetermined start of the first game.

23.02.0 Should the visiting team not provide the home team with sufficient notice to cancel umpires and/or field rentals for the game(s) in question, the visiting team assumes financial responsibility for the payment of those umpires and/or field rentals should any cancellation fees be incurred.

23.03.0 In the event that a home team should forfeit any **NCBA Sanctioned Baseball Game** to the visiting team; the home team is required to inform the visiting team via telephone of their intent not to play at least 48 hours in advance of the predetermined start of the first game.

23.04.0 Should the home team not provide the visiting team with sufficient notice to cancel their transportation and/or lodging arrangements for the game(s) in question, the home team assumes financial responsibility for the payment of those transportation and/or lodging costs should any cancellation fees be incurred.

23.05.0 Should a team forfeit even a single game during the last week of the NCBA regular season, that team will **AUTOMATICALLY** be placed on probation for the next full NCBA season.

23.06.0 Effective July 1st, 2012 a \$300 performance bond will be added to the NCBA DI Annual Dues.

23.06.1 For every UNPLAYED CONFERENCE game that is forfeited, \$100 is deducted from the team's performance bond and that money is used to supplement the regional playoff budget of the region that the team is affiliated with.

23.06.1.1 This performance bond penalty does not apply to non-conference games or forfeited conference games there were PLAYED.

23.06.1.2 Since the performance bond is \$300 a team can lose no more than \$300 through forfeits in a single season.

23.06.2 At the end of the NCBA season, each team will have the option to have the remainder of their performance bond returned to them or have it roll over to the next season.

24.00.00 (Protests)

24.01.0 No protest ever shall be permitted on judgment decisions by the umpire.

24.02.0 On Field Protests

24.02.1 On Field Protests consists of protests regarding Uniform Violations, Equipment Violations, Umpire decisions believed to be in violation of NCBA rules, Umpire qualifications, and **ALL Roster Violations**.

24.02.2 Any On Field protest by the coach of a competing team must be made at the time of the action or incident that caused the protest and before play is resumed.

24.02.2.1 If the game ends (legal contest) in a protest able situation, the offended team has until all fielders have left fair territory to voice its protest intentions.

24.02.2.2 All On Field protests must be made to the umpire-in chief.

24.02.2.3 All On Field protests must be reported to the NCBA (via the NCBA GAME PROTEST FORM) no later than midnight E.S.T. of the Tuesday following the "NCBA Week" in which the protested game occurred.

24.02.3 When a coach claims that an umpire's decision violates NCBA rules, the umpire-in-chief must: (1) allow the coach the right to file a protest; (2) announce to each

coach, to the official scorer and to the public-address announcer that the game is being played under protest, and (3) note and record the game situation at the time of the protest. No replay of any part of a game will be allowed even if the protest is proven to be legitimate, if the play in question did not directly affect the outcome of the game. If the protest is proven to be legitimate and could have had a bearing upon the game, then it is upheld and play resumes from the point of the protest.

24.02.4 When a coach questions the validity that an opposing player is actually the player on the roster who he claims to be, that coach may request that the umpire-in-chief have the player in question produce a photo ID.

24.02.4.1 In the event that the player in question is unable to produce a photo ID, then the game may be played under protest by the opposition as an On Field Protest.

24.03.0 Off Field Protests

24.03.1 Off Field Protests consists of protests regarding Failure to secure fields or Failure to schedule qualified umpires.

24.03.2 All Off Field protests must be reported to the NCBA (via the NCBA GAME PROTEST FORM) no later than midnight E.S.T. of the Tuesday following the "NCBA Week" in which the protested game occurred.

24.04.0 Lost Protests

24.04.1 In the event that a team loses 4 protests during a single NCBA season, that team loses the right to protest again during that particular season.

24.04.1.1 A "lost protest" is defined as a protested game in which no penalty or disciplinary action is assessed against the team or umpire accused of violating NCBA rules in that particular protest.

25.00.00 (Team Probation/Expulsion)

25.01.0 A team can be placed on probation if they forfeit 3 or more NCBA scheduled conference games in a single season, forfeit to 2 or more conference opponents in a single season, or if they conduct the baseball operations of their team in a manner not considered acceptable by NCBA standards.

25.02.0 Should a team forfeit even a single game during the last week of the NCBA regular season, that team will AUTOMATICALLY be placed on probation for the next full NCBA season.

25.03.0 A team can be expelled from the league if they forfeit 2 or more NCBA scheduled conference games or if they conduct the baseball operations of their team in a manner not considered acceptable by NCBA standards during a probationary season.

25.04.0 Probations and Expulsions are not automatic and are evaluated on a case-by-case basis by the NCBA.

25.05.0 The NCBA will publicize to all member teams if, when, and why a team is placed on probation.

25.06.0 A team placed on probation will NOT be eligible for the early payment discount off the annual dues.

25.07.0 A team placed on probation will be required (Upon request from their opponent) to provide their opponents with field, umpire, and game contracts prior to each scheduled conference series.



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25.08.0 Players and Coaches on a team that is currently on probation are **INELIGIBLE** for any Conference, Region, or National award recognition of either the weekly or seasonal variety. (I.e. All American, All Region, All Conference, MVP, Player/Pitcher of the Week, etc.)



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Definitions:

Any baseball game featuring one or more teams holding membership in the National Club Baseball Association can be classified in to one of three categories: “**Off Season Baseball Game**”, “**Exhibition Baseball Game**”, and “**NCBA Sanctioned Baseball Game**”.

“**Off Season Baseball Game**” is defined as any baseball game featuring one or more teams holding membership in the NCBA, which takes place between July 1st and January 31st inclusively. (July 1st – September 14th & Monday following the 2nd Sunday of November – February 28th for North Atlantic Region teams) “**Off Season Baseball Games**” are not sanctioned by the NCBA.

“**Exhibition Baseball Game**” is defined as a baseball game featuring one or more teams holding membership in the NCBA, which is played for the purpose of practice and training rather than for competition. An “**Exhibition Baseball Game**” may take place between February 1st and June 30th inclusively. (September 15th – 2nd Sunday of November & March 1st – June 30th for North Atlantic Region teams) For a baseball game to be deemed “**Exhibition**”, it must be declared in writing by participating teams holding membership in the NCBA to their respective Conference Coordinators no less than 48 hours before the scheduled start time. “**Exhibition Baseball Games**” are not sanctioned by the NCBA.

“**NCBA Sanctioned Baseball Game**” is defined as any and all baseball game featuring one or more teams holding membership in the NCBA, which is played for the purpose of competition, and takes place between February 1st and June 30th inclusively. (September 15th – 2nd Sunday of November & March 1st – June 30th for North Atlantic Region teams) Scores, Results, and Statistics from “**NCBA Sanctioned Baseball Games**” are recorded and tabulated.

“**Full-Time Status**” is defined as a minimum 12.0 Credit Hours for Undergraduate students at 4 Year Colleges/Universities and 9.0 Credit Hours for Undergraduate students at 2 Year Colleges. For Graduate students, there is no definitive number of Credit Hours required to be considered Full-Time as long as the player is considered Full-Time in the eyes of the Institution that he represents.

“**Final Semester Student**” is defined as a student who will be graduating at the end of the spring semester.

“**Malicious Contact**” is defined as any contact to the neck, head, or face of an opposing player.