



**Inland Empire Athletic Conference
Softball Supplement**

1. Season

- 1.1 The softball season shall be limited to 40 games, in compliance with 3C2A Constitution By-law 3.11 (Sport Season Chart).
- 1.2 The season begins as prescribed in 3C2A Constitution By-law 3.11.
- 1.3 Rainouts, upheld protests, or tie games will be made up on the next available date agreed upon by both coaches and athletic directors.
- 1.4 If a scheduled site is unplayable, the game may be moved to the other college with approval from both coaches and athletic directors. The next scheduled game between the two teams will then be played at the original site.
- 1.5 Exceptions to the rainout schedule may be made due to extenuating circumstances as determined by the Commissioner.

2. Rules

- 2.1 The NCAA Rulebook shall govern play, with the following additions:
 - a. Starting times: Single games at 2:00 p.m.; doubleheaders at 12:00 p.m., unless otherwise agreed upon by both coaches and athletic directors. Night games determined by mutual agreement.
 - b. Batting practice allowed before a game, but not on the field. Equal access must be granted if facilities exist.
 - c. Infield practice limited to 10 minutes per team; home team takes infield first, no earlier than 30 minutes before game time.
 - d. For afternoon games with lights, lights shall be used to avoid rescheduling.
 - e. Extra innings: International Tiebreaker not enforced for conference games.

3. Players/Coaches

- 3.1 Only 3C2A-eligible players in uniform and coaches may occupy coaching lines.
- 3.2 Only team personnel are allowed in dugouts.

4. Team Personnel

- 4.1 Only eligible coaches may occupy the coaching boxes.

- 4.2 Coaches must be neatly attired, dressed alike, or in team uniform in accordance with team colors.
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5. Equipment

- 5.1 The official Conference softball is the Diamond California Fast Pitch (CFP12).
5.2 Home team must provide a minimum of four softballs per game.
5.3 One hour before game time, home team must provide a game ball to the visiting team.
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6. Protests

- 6.1 Protests allowed only for rule violations, interpretations, or use of an ineligible player.
6.2 Only the head coach may file a protest, which must be declared before the next pitch.
6.3 The plate umpire must inform the opposing coach when a protest is declared.
6.4 The IEAC Protest Form must be completed at the end of the contest, signed by both head coaches and umpires, and submitted to the Commissioner within 48 hours.
6.5 If upheld, the game resumes from the point of protest under identical conditions.
6.6 Decisions made by the Commissioner in consultation with NCAA and/or Umpire in Chief.
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7. Ties

- 7.1 Two-way tie: Co-champions declared. #1 seed determined by series advantage in triple rounds.
7.2 Three-way tie: Tri-champions declared. Seeding determined by combined records against opponents. If tied, total runs against common opponents is used. Lowest-ranked team eliminated, then two-way tiebreak applied.
7.3 Four-way tie: Quad-champions declared. Seeding order determined as above.
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8. All-Conference Awards

- 8.1 Certificates provided by IEAC; plaques awarded for MVP, Pitcher of the Year, Coach of the Year, and Champion.
a. Co-MVPs and Co-Pitchers receive plaques if tied.
8.2 Eligibility: Players must appear in at least 51% of scheduled conference games. Coaches may not vote for their own players.
8.3 All-Conference shall consist of a first team of 12 (including Pitcher of the Year and Player of the Year), a second team of 12, and one Honorable Mention selection from each team.
a. Nominations submitted for Pitcher of the Year, followed by 1-minute presentation from each nominated athlete's coach regarding worthiness. Then an anonymous ranked-choice vote will take place (5 points for 1st choice, 3 points for second choice, 2 points for 3rd choice), with coaches allowed to vote for any nominee.
b. Nominations submitted for Player of the Year (may be someone previously nominated for Pitcher of the Year), followed by 1-minute presentation from each nominated athlete's coach regarding worthiness. Then an anonymous ranked-choice vote will take place (5

points for 1st choice, 3 points for second choice, 2 points for 3rd choice), with coaches allowed to vote for any nominee.

- c. Following selection of Pitcher & Player of the Year, each coach submits their first-team, second-team and honorable mention selections according to the following:

Order of Conference Finish	First-Team Selections	Second-Team Selections	Honorable Mention Selections
First	3	3	1
Second	2	3	1
Third	2	2	1
Fourth	2	2	1
Fifth	1	1	1
Sixth	0	1	1
Seventh	0	0	1

- d. Following the naming of All-Conference teams, an anonymous vote will be taken to award Coach of the Year.
- e. Lastly, voting will occur which will determine which athletes the IEAC will nominate for All-State consideration (Pitcher/Player of the Year are both automatically forwarded).

9. Miscellaneous

- 9.1 Softball adheres to 3C2A Decorum Policy (Bylaw 4.3).
- 9.2 If coaches' vote on Supplement revisions results in a tie, no change is made.
- 9.3 Each coach must send a copy of their schedule to all IEAC softball coaches (include scrimmages, tournaments, and games).
- 9.4 Line-up cards must list all starters and substitutes; copies to umpire and opposing coach.
- 9.5 Official stats: When home team has a qualified statistician using Stat Crew or Presto Sports, their stats are official. Discrepancies resolved by cooperation or, if necessary, IEAC/3C2A sports information professionals. (Adopted 3/30/17; updated 4/25/24).