

Revised Spring 2008



TOURNAMENT PHILOSOPHY

This handbook has been developed in an effort to provide the Intramural Director with a quick and convenient reference to LCIRSA rules and regulations governing state tournament participation.

Knowledge of the rules is a prerequisite to playing any game. The same holds true for involvement in the LCIRSA State Tournament. Therefore it is imperative that everyone becomes knowledgeable of the handbook contents. Further, we must look beyond the written rule and understand the spirit and intent of these rules. With this in mind, let us strive to provide each individual with the opportunity to receive an enjoyable tournament experience, one in which they may participate for the love of the sport.

I. TEAM ROSTERS

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- A. Initial team rosters and individually signed participant Informed Consent/Assumption of Risk forms, **MUST** be submitted to the Tournament Host/Director prior to the team’s first scheduled competition of the tournament. Team rosters will be frozen as of the team’s first schedule competition.
- B. No tournament entries will be accepted after Noon on the Friday prior to the tournament weekend, and all required fees must be paid at this time. Exception: roster addition fees must be paid at the time the change is made.
- C. Each institution may enter four teams in the tournament, with a maximum of two (2) teams per division. The Tournament Host may expand the number of team entries in the Men’s, Women’s and CoRec divisions to two teams per sport, with a maximum of two (2) teams per division.
- D. Teams are allowed to pick up a maximum of four (4) players not originally on their roster.
- E. Team rosters are limited as follows:
 - a. Flag Football: Fifteen (15) (CoRec: 16) *minimum: nine (9) (CoRec: 10)*
 - b. Volleyball: Twelve (12) *minimum: eight (8)*
 - c. Softball: Fifteen (15) (CoRec: 16) *minimum: twelve (12) (CoRec: 12)*
 - d. Basketball: Ten (10) *minimum: seven (7)*
- F. Coaches and managers must be listed as such on the team roster, and shall **NOT** count against the roster limit. However, awards will be distributed according to team roster limits.
- G. No refunds of tournament fees will be given after the noon on the Friday prior to competition.
- H. Each team must have a captain or representative present at the mandatory Captains’ Meeting on the Friday evening prior to the tournament. Information pertaining to this meeting is forwarded to all Intramural Directors.

II. ENTRY FEES

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- A. Team Sports: Entry fees shall be one hundred twenty-five dollars (\$125.00) per team for all State Tournaments.
- B. Participant Fee: The LCIRSA shall assess a five dollar (\$5.00) fee to each participant including officials and coaches/managers of a State Tournament. One dollar (\$1.00) goes to LCIRSA while the remaining four dollars (\$4.00) go to offset Tournament expenses.
- C. Any additional or special fees must be approved by the Executive Committee, and only upon written request and justification from the Tournament Host.
- D. Insurance (personal injury): ***The LCIRSA will not provide personal medical insurance for the participants of State Tournaments. This is to be duly noted in the “Informed Consent/Assumption of Risk” form signed by each participant. It should also be noted that each participant is “strongly recommended” to secure such insurance.***

III. ELIGIBILITY

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- A. All eligibility requirements apply to both participants and coaches.
- B. Institutional participation is restricted to those with paid membership prior to competition.
- C. Only currently enrolled students in on-campus (to include satellite campus’) credit courses may participate in LCIRSA State Tournaments. Students must be enrolled in the at least one-third of the credit hours required of a full time student.
- D. Participants may play in/on only one sport/team per tournament.
- E. Faculty/staff members cannot participate.

- F. Any current or former Intercollegiate athlete is ineligible to participate in his/her sport or its associate.
- G. No more than two (2) club team members may participate on any one team during the tournament. Enforcement of this rule is on the honor of the Intramural Directors.
- H. Any person having signed a professional contract is ineligible to compete in that sport or its associate.
- I. Individuals are not allowed to participate more than 5 (five) calendar years, all sports inclusive, in state tournaments. Enrollment at more than one school does not supersede this rule.
- J. All other eligibility requirements are governed by the respective institution's intramural sports program.

IV. OFFICIALS

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- A. Each school will be required to send one COMPETENT official for each team sport entered in state competition. When this arrangement cannot be met:
 - a. Arrange with another participating school to provide an official to represent your institution. This may include a financial arrangement.
 - b. Notify the host institution of the unavailability of your official(s) then pay, prior to competition, fifty dollars (\$50.00) per team sport to the host school.
 - c. The members of the Competition, Rules and Officials Development committee will determine the competency of the officials. If an official is deemed to be incompetent, the school supplying the official may be levied the fine post-tournament.
- B. Each official is strongly encouraged to attend all officials’ meeting/clinic on the Friday prior to the tournament. Information pertaining to this meeting is forwarded to all Intramural directors by the Tournament Host.
- C. Officials should be prepared, as needed, to work each day of the tournament. This allows the host to schedule officials in order to avoid any conflicts of interest.
- D. Regardless of the sport, all officials shall be paid a minimum rate of \$8.00 per game/match.
- E. Officials shall be required to furnish the following personal dress and equipment for all state tournaments.
 - a. Football: Black and white striped shirt, black coaches shorts or pants, two (2) whistles, two (2) penalty flags, one set of ball spotters, down indicator.
 - b. Volleyball: Black and white striped shirt, black coaches shorts and pants, two (2) whistles, red/yellow cards.
 - c. Softball: Powder blue shirt, black/blue coaches shorts or pants, indicator.
 - d. Basketball: Black and white striped shirt, black coaches shorts or pants, two (2) whistles.
- F. Officials may refer to the following associations for tournament mechanics:
 - a. Football: NIRSA
 - b. Volleyball: National High School Federation
 - c. Softball: United States Specialty Sports Association (USSSA)
 - d. Basketball: National High School Federation

V. CONDUCT

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- A. Any individual ejected from competition at a state tournament shall be barred from competition for the duration of the tournament. Further action may be determined by the Appeals Committee.
- B. A second incident of ejection on one team in tournament play shall result in the team being barred from further participation. Any institution having a team eliminated under the provision of this Section shall forfeit the privilege of entering one team in the sport/division in question for the following year.

- C. Any team misconduct or problems will be referred to the Appeals Committee for review. Upon completion of the review, the committee may invoke additional sanctions against the team and/or institution.

VI. GROUND RULES

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- A. Game/Match time is forfeit time.
- B. Teams are recommended to be at the playing site fifteen (15) minutes prior to start of the game.
- C. Any team that forfeits a game is automatically out of consideration for the single elimination tournament.
- D. All protests, other than game situations, must be made through an institutional representative. Severe, extenuating circumstances may be addressed by the Appeals Committee.
- E. Alcoholic beverages are prohibited while participating in any LCIRSA tournament.
- F. Any participant determined to be under the influence of any mind altering substance shall be denied the privilege to participate.
- G. Softball
 - a. One-on-one (1-1) court will be in effect for pool play. Regular (0-0) court will be used during single elimination tournament
 - b. A game consists of seven (7) innings with a 65 minute time limit.
 - c. All divisions of softball will utilize a 12” Softball with a .44 core and 375 lbs of compression. It is advisory but not mandatory that the ball be Yellow in color.
- H. Basketball
 - a. Games will consist of two (2) twenty (20) minute halves.
 - b. The clock will run continuously in the first half and for the first eighteen minutes in the second half. The clock will only stop for timeouts, injuries and undetermined delays. During the last two minutes of the second half the clock will stop on out-of-bounds plays, timeouts, fouls and violations.
 - c. Overtime periods will consist of a three-minute period with the clock stopping during the last minute.
 - d. If there is more than a 20 point deficit at or during the last two minutes of the game, the Mercy rule will go into effect. Mercy rule will be in effect during pool play and single elimination playoffs.

VII. UNIFORMS/EQUIPMENT

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****NOTE:** Please see additional requirements as described under specific sport headings.

- A. All teams members must wear matching shirts. The display of offensive materials as determined by the Appeals Committee may be prohibited.
- B. Teams must have permanently affixed numbers on the back of jerseys that can be clearly seen (Minimum of 4”).
- C. All participants must wear shoes while participating in LCIRSA state tournaments.
- D. No screw in or metal cleats are permitted.
- E. A picture ID must be shown by all participants before the start of each competition.
- F. The Tournament Host shall supply pennies in the event that both teams have the same color jerseys. A coin toss shall determine which team will wear the pennies.

VIII. APPEAL PROCESS

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- A. Any disciplinary sanctions imposed by the Appeals Committee may be appealed, in writing, to the Executive Board.
- B. All such appeals must be filed with the Chairperson of the Executive Board within thirty (30) days following imposition of the sanctions.
- C. The Executive Board may either uphold the decision of the Appeals Committee or modify the sanctions at their discretion.
- D. Within forty-five (45) days of receipt of an appeal, the Executive Board shall forward their ruling, in writing, to both the persons filing the appeal and the chair of the Appeals Committee.
- E. Final appeal may be made to the general membership of the LCIRSA within these guidelines:
 - a. The intentions to file such an appeal must be made in writing to the Chairperson of the Executive Board a minimum of thirty (30) days prior to the next schedule meeting of the LCIRSA at a state tournament.
 - b. A letter of support for appeal must be submitted to the Chairperson of the Executive Board from a professional member of the LCIRSA from at least two (2) members institutions not involved in the appeal.
 - c. The appeal shall be placed on the agenda of the next schedule LCIRSA meeting.
 - d. Fifty percent (50%) of the members present must vote to hear the appeal on the floor.
 - e. A two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present must vote to hear the appeal on the floor.
 - f. All voting shall be by secret ballot and controlled by the Executive Director. Should a conflict of interest exist with the Executive Director, the Chairperson of the Executive Board shall appoint another person to this responsibility.
 - g. No further appeals shall be possible.

IX. COMPETITION SCHEDULING

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- A. When possible, any returning semi-finalist from the previous tournament shall be separated for pool play.
- B. Two teams from the same school shall not be placed in the same pool.
- C. Pool positions for championship play will be determined by “blind draw” with the #1 and #2 teams from the same pool being placed on opposite sides of the bracket.
- D. Whenever possible, a #1 team shall receive a “bye” or play a #2 team in its first round assignment.
- E. Whenever possible, teams shall be assigned to three team pools for the first day round robin competition, with the top two teams advancing to the single elimination tournament. If four team pools exist, the top two teams will advance to the tournament.
- F. Tie breaker:
 - Football, Basketball, Softball:
 - a. If a two-way ties exists, it will be decided by who beat whom in head-to-head competition.
 - b. If a team forfeits, they will automatically be dropped from the single elimination tournament.
 - c. Order of tie-breaker Procedure: 3 or more teams:
 - Defensive points in Head-to-head competition.
 - Offensive points in Head-to-head competition.
 - Defensive points all competition.
 - Volleyball:
 - a. Head-to-head competition.
 - b. Games played in a match (lower the better).
 - c. Point differential.
 - d. Defensive points given up.

X. INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES

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- A. All participant schools must have a representative at the tournament and at that school’s game sites. Allowances should be made for extenuating circumstances. If a Director must be absent, he/she should be prepared to call on and have a colleague present on his/her behalf.
- B. The university representative is solely responsible for investigating questions raised by its teams concerning protestable actions by another team or officials. The representative is the only person who may file a protest with the Tournament Host.
- C. The institution or its representative is responsible for securing all entry fees and informed consent/assumption of risk forms for the tournament. No team will be allowed to participate until all financial obligations are met. Please remember that no personal checks will be accepted.