



REGION III SOFTBALL BYLAWS

Northern Lights Conference

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Section 1: Governing Rules

Softball competition in Region III will follow the guidelines established by the National Federation of State High Schools Association Softball rulebooks and all applicable rules and regulations established by ASAA and Region III.

Section 2: Season

The Alaska Schools Activities Association will determine the softball season.

Section 3: Scheduling

All participating member schools must compete within the designated Region III district. A maximum 22 game schedule in one season, exclusive of post-season tournament play, consists of a home-home schedule unless the game(s) is canceled due to weather and other circumstances beyond the control of the school(s). In the event one or more schools in the district fails to complete their home and home schedule due to the above conditions, the offending school(s) will still be allowed to participate in the state qualifying process. Schedule dates for the Conference Games will be decided in the Fall prior to the Season, with out of conference games scheduled later.

The Northern Lights Conference is composed of Homer, Houston, Kenai, Kodiak, Palmer, Soldotna, Redington

Each school within the division will play each other 2 games, 1 home and 1 away if possible: option to play both conference games at one site, alternating each year. Both games will be played at one site when playing against Kodiak with each team being the home team for one game. Venues for Kodiak games will alternate from year to year.

All JV Games will be either 7 innings or time limited with no new inning after 90 minutes and Drop-Dead after 105 minutes. To increase playing time and participation,

the option of a continuous batting order can be used with free substitutions until the first weekend in May; JV half innings will automatically end after 5 runs are scored, regardless of the number of outs. If an over the fence home run accounts for more than 5 runs in a half inning those runs will all be counted

There will be a Region Tournament on the last weekend of the season that will be Double -Elimination, with seedings decided by Final Conference Standings. Hosting will alternate between the different teams on a regular basis.

Section 4: Conference Tournament Seeding Process

The top two placing teams at the Conference tournament will qualify for state. The following criteria will be used to determine each seed for the Conference tourney.

1. Best overall conference record of the eight (10) games played
2. All regular season Head to Head Competition
3. Record against common opponents with teams within the division
4. Record against common opponents outside the region
5. Toss of a Coin

All ties will be broken by the Region III Board in person or by conference call with the schools involved. The Board member will designate a team “heads” based on the first letter of the school in alphabetical order, and the other team “tails” before flipping the coin. Final team seeding will be faxed to all teams by the tournament director. The highest seed will be designated as the home team during conference tournament play.

Section 5: State Tournament Team Rosters

ASAA has set the final tournament roster at eighteen (18)

Section 6: Trophies/Awards

The trophies and awards for the Softball Season will be purchased by Region III and the costs will be shared by the teams involved. There will be a team award for 1st place, along with individual medals (18) for the team.

Section 7: All - Conference Team Selection

Prior to the end of the season, each head coach will submit names of players to the Tournament Host for consideration of an all - conference team based on that team's final standing in over-all conference competition:

Team(s) finishing first will get 5 nominations

Team(s) finishing second will get 4 nominations

Team(s) finishing third or fourth will get 3 nominations

Team(s) finishing fifth and sixth will get 2 nominations

At the coaches meeting of the region tournament the head coaches will then vote for nine (9) athletes from the list of nominations by sequentially ranking the chosen athletes from 9 to 1 points but may not vote for their own athletes. In order for a school's athletes to be eligible for postseason awards, all schools are required to vote a complete ballot for All-Conference voting. Results of the voting will be determined as follows:

First Team = the nine (9) athletes receiving most votes.

Second Team = any athlete receiving a vote

Honorable Mention = any athlete nominated

Player of the Year will be determined by the player receiving the most votes. Coaches will also vote for Coach of the Year at the end of the Region Tournament.

A "Good Sport Team" will be chosen as follows: At the coaches meeting, each coach will select one athlete on their team who displayed good sportsmanship throughout the entire season. These athletes will be recognized at the awards ceremony with a special medal.

The tournament host will supervise the voting and counting of ballots. Should any discrepancies arise, the Board has the option of nullifying the vote and conducting a revote. In this case, a letter to the Region III President and the principal of the offending school will follow. The tournament host will break all ties.

During the coaches meeting, a discussion should be facilitated by the host school regarding any concerns or changes needed to the bylaws. These concerns will then be presented at the next region meeting.