



## MEN'S AND WOMEN'S WATER POLO SUPPLEMENT-2009/10 (Approved 3/12/09)

### Article 1 Section 1

#### GENERAL INFORMATION

##### Conference Eligibility

##### A. General Guideline

1. All Conference colleges will recognize and abide by the State Athletic Constitution and the decisions of the California Community College League of California and the Commission on Athletics.

##### B. Eligibility

1. To be eligible to participate in all non-conference and conference contests all student athletes must be registered in classes according to the requirements set forth in the State Athletic Constitution and By-Laws and the BIG 8 CONFERENCE Constitution and By-Laws.
2. Conferences shall require each college to certify athletic eligibility by submitting Form 1, Student Eligibility, and Form 3, Team Eligibility, to the conference commissioner's office postmarked or emailed prior to the first game, meet, or match. Addendums to Form 3 may be submitted at a later date, but the athletes listed on the addendums are not eligible until the postmarked date.
3. An ineligible player is defined as a player who has not completed or adhered to all the requirements of the State Athletic Constitution and Conference By-Laws.
  - a. Any college that allows an ineligible player to participate in a contest, whether team or individual shall forfeit the contest and/or are subject to disciplinary action by the conference commissioner. Such disciplinary action may include sanctions as described in Article 7.4.3 of the State Athletic Constitution.
  - b. During the season of competition, all member colleges shall check the eligibility status of student athletes at a minimum of once per week. Per COA requirements, each student athlete must meet eligibility requirements before competing in any contest.

### Section 2

#### Sport Chairperson

- A. Elected from among the respective coaches of each men's and women's sport for an appropriate term starting July 1.
- B. The duties of the sports chairperson shall be to:
  1. Establish coaches meeting dates in conjunction with the sports administrative representative. The end of season meeting of the conference coaches shall take place immediately after the completion of conference play.
  2. Attend and chair all said coaches meetings for the purpose of developing a conference schedule, outlining procedures to be recommended to the conference for consideration, developing and modifying the sport supplement, and selecting all-conference and MVP recipients.
  3. Compile a master contest schedule and sports supplement to be forwarded to the sports administrative representative for presentation at the appropriate conference meeting.
  4. Collect league standings, and other relevant information, and communicate them to fellow coaches and the sport administrative representative on a minimum of once per week.

### Section 3

#### Sport Administrative Representative

- A. Appointed by the president, in consultation with the conference commissioner, from among the conference assembly athletic directors.
- B. The duties of the sports administrative representative shall be to:
  1. Set coaches meeting dates in conjunction with the sports chairperson;

2. Attend all such meetings for the purpose of developing a conference schedule, outlining procedures to be recommended to the conference for consideration, facilitating the development and modification of the sport guide, report all-conference selections and MVP information to the conference commissioner.
- C. Present conference contest schedules and sports supplements at the appropriate conference meeting for approval. Fall sport schedules and supplements should be presented at the regular spring meeting. Spring sport schedules and supplements should be presented at the regular fall meeting.
- D. Maintain records of league standings and all other matters pertaining to each sport.
- E. Submit a year-end report to the conference commissioner no later than two weeks after the State Championship for that specific sport.

#### Section 4 Meetings

- A. Coaches will meet a minimum of two times each year.
  1. Post-conference – at the completion of conference competition
  2. Off-season – at least 3 weeks prior to the Big 8 Assembly meeting.
- B. Meeting times and locations should facilitate attendance by all coaches of the Big 8, including hosted colleges.
- C. Hosted college will be invited to send representation to the coaches' meetings.
- D. The post-conference meeting shall address the following issues:
  1. All-conference awards, MVP, etc.
  2. Post conference information
  3. Completion of statistics
  4. Recommendations for substantive Big 8 Sport Supplement changes
  5. Input for COA/Big 8 legislative issues
  6. Election of next Sport Chair
- E. The off-season meeting shall address the following issues:
  1. Competitive schedule (complete with dates & times)
  2. Specific amendments to the sport supplement
  3. Input for COA/Big 8 legislative issues

#### Section 5 Sport Supplement Revisions

- A. *Recommended* revisions of the sport supplement shall be finalized and distributed to the administrative representative for that sport two weeks prior to the scheduled assembly meeting.
  1. Fall semester sport supplements shall be presented at the spring conference meeting.
  2. Spring semester sport supplements shall be presented at the fall conference meeting.
  3. *Proposed changes to the sport supplement that affect the competition format and scheduling be presented 1 full year prior to their proposed implementation.*
  4. If conference or COA hosting problems occur-must have emergency consent of commissioner.
- B. All proposed changes should be provided on a cover sheet attached to the revised sport supplement. The administrative representative shall distribute the cover sheet and revised sport supplement to all member or hosted colleges that sponsor that sport one week prior to the scheduled assembly meeting.
- C. The administrative representative will make sure the supplement and schedule are included on the consent agenda at the designated conference meeting.
- D. Once approved by the conference assembly, final approved copies of the sport supplement shall be distributed to all member or hosted colleges that sponsor that sport.
- E. *All sections of the supplement and cover sheet must be dated and identified as draft/approved in the upper right hand corner.*

#### Section 6 College/Competition Venue Information

- A. *It is the responsibility of the host college athletic director to distribute /competition venue information to all conference and hosted colleges.*
- B. The following items should be addressed:
  1. directions to campus/competitive venue
  2. map
  3. parking regulations/permits or other campus site regulations
  4. dressing room accommodations
  5. equipment and supplies provided
  6. contest supervision specifics
  7. athletic training services
  8. emergency contact information

Section 7

Decorum

- A. General decorum, including playing within the rules, showing good sportsmanship, treating players, coaches, officials and fans with respect, and conducting all activities with “class” and professionalism, is the responsibility of all participants of both the host and visiting colleges. Decorum at California community college events is the responsibility of all participants. Decorum rules apply to all conference and non-conference contests. Individual sport supplements may be more strict, but not more lenient, than the decorum rules listed in Article IX of the Big 8 Constitution/By-Laws.
- B. The responsibility for the on-site enforcement of decorum shall be specifically addressed within each sport’s supplement.

Article 2

**WATER POLO**

Section 1

Personnel and dates for upcoming season

- A. Sport chair
  - 1. The water polo coaches shall elect the sport chairperson for a period of two years with no limit on successive terms. If the Chair leaves his/her coaching position, a new chair will be elected for the remainder of the term. Any changes in chairperson(s) shall be reported to the conference water polo administrative representative.
 

Men’s Sport Chairs-Eric Fisher (Modesto)  
Women’s Sport Chairs-Jill McCormack (Santa Rosa)
  - 2. Fall meeting date/location- The Fall meeting will take place on the last Thursday of August each year at rotating sites.
  - 3. Winter meeting date/location- The Winter meeting will take place on the first Tuesday in December each year at rotating sites.
  - 4. Season start dates
    - a. Practices or scrimmages may begin no earlier than August 15 **of the current season of sport.**
    - b. The first game will be scheduled no earlier than August 28 **of the current season of sport.**
  - 5. Maximum of 21 contact dates, per COA Constitution.

Section 2

Schedule/competition format

- A. Conference
  - 1. **Women’s Conference**  
American River, Diablo Valley, Fresno City, Modesto, Sacramento City, San Joaquin Delta, Santa Rosa, and Sierra.
    - o The Women’s Conference is responsible for 7 conference games.
  - 2. **Men’s Conference:** American River, Diablo Valley, Modesto, San Joaquin Delta, Santa Rosa, and Sierra.
    - o The Men’s Conference is responsible for 5 Conference games.
- B. Game Days
  - 1. Men’s and Women’s Conference/Division Games will be played on Wednesdays and Fridays. The first game of a doubleheader will alternate with men’s and women’s teams each year. On even years the women will play the first game and on odd years the men will play the first game.
- C. Schedule
  - 1. The schedule for a new season will follow the formula where the last date in each round of the previous season moves to the top. The approved schedule will be for a two year period with home sites switching each year.
- D. Pre-game activity
  - 1. The home team must have the facilities ready for warm-up one (1)

hour prior to game start. All single games will begin at 3:30 p.m.  
The first game of doubleheaders will begin at 3:30 p.m. before daylight savings time and at 3:00 p.m. after daylight savings time. If a doubleheader, the second game will start no less than 15 minutes after the conclusion of the 1<sup>st</sup> game.

E. Changes in Schedule

1. The Director of Athletics at each college involved shall be notified and must approve the change. The coaches involved must be notified of the change by their respective Athletic Directors.  
The Commissioner must be notified of the change and must be given the rationale for that change.

Section 3

Rules of competition

A. Rules

1. Current NCAA rules will be followed except for changes stated in this supplement.
2. Scoring shall follow the current NCAA Water Polo Rulebook.
3. Protest procedure shall follow the current NCAA Water Polo Rulebook.
4. Equipment - according to the NCAA Water Polo Rulebook.
5. Forfeits and Schedule Commitment
  - a. The reason for a forfeit is the inability of a team to begin a game with a minimum of seven players (NCAA Rules). The penalty for a forfeit is the loss of the game (NCAA Rules).
  - b. Forfeits are to be avoided; therefore, a scheduled contest may be rescheduled to avoid a forfeit.
  - c. A team knowing a forfeit is imminent must make every effort in reasonable time to notify its opponent so that it may be rescheduled and cancellation arrangements for travel, officials, facilities, etc. as they apply may be made.
  - d. Conference games shall be played on the scheduled date and time. The date and/or time may be changed with prior agreement between the involved coaches and athletic directors. The Commissioner must be notified of all changes and must be given the rationale for changes.
  - e. A game scheduled for a holiday may be rescheduled by mutual agreement between opponent coaches and shall be played on the day prior to the holiday, or on the Saturday, or on the first weekday following the holiday.
6. Host School will provide:
  - Directions to campus
  - Map
  - Parking permits and other campus rules
  - Dressing room accommodations
  - Three balls per NCAA rule for the game
  - Contest supervision
  - Host school is the official book.
    - a. Hosted School will be provided by visiting school a roster of names and cap numbers, and host school will provide their roster to visitor with names and cap numbers.
  - Host school will provide warmup balls if requested.

Section 4

Decorum

- A. Decorum shall be governed by the NCAA Rulebook and of the COA Constitution. When a participant is ejected in an event as a result of abusive verbal or physical behavior the following punishment applies:
- First offense: in addition to immediate ejection from the contest, the individual shall be suspended from the following game.
  - Second offense (same individual): in addition to immediate ejection from the contest, the individual shall be suspended from all remaining contests including post conference competition.

Within 24 hours after a contest where there has been an ejection of a player or a participant, the coach of the team shall report the names and circumstances to the athletic director, using the Big 8 Conference Decorum Violation Report Form who, in turn shall immediately inform the conference commissioner. Failure by a coach to report shall be

penalized as in the COA Constitution. Failure of an athletic director to report maybe referred to the conference for disciplinary action. Conference commissioners shall report ejections to the next team on the College's schedule.

Section 5 Championship/Tournament/Playoff procedures

A. Determination of champion

1. The Women's Conference and the Men's Conference will participate in a Conference Tournament. The Conference Tournament shall be completed by the Saturday before the beginning of the Nor Cal Tournament. Seeding for the Conference Tournament is based on Conference finish.
2. The conference champion shall be determined by tournament finish.

Men's tournament points: 1<sup>st</sup> = 10 points, 2<sup>nd</sup> = 8 points, 3<sup>rd</sup> = 6 points, 4<sup>th</sup> = 4 points, 5<sup>th</sup> = 2 points, and 6<sup>th</sup> = zero points.

Women's tournament points: 1<sup>st</sup> = 14 points, 2<sup>nd</sup> = 12 points, 3<sup>rd</sup> = 10 points, 4<sup>th</sup> = 8 points, 5<sup>th</sup> = 6 points, 6<sup>th</sup> = 4 points, 7<sup>th</sup> = 2 points, 8<sup>th</sup> = 0 points.

B. Ties

1. The following tiebreaker formula will be used:
  - a. Head to Head Competition in Conference.
  - b. All other ties will be broken following the written (not "example of") tie breaking formula used in the Nor Cal Seeding Process. This formula is located in the COA Water Polo Sport Guide, under the Seeding and Challenge Formula for Nor Cal Regional Tournament. (Section 4.2.c) The common opponent language found in Section 4.2.c will refer to Conference opponents only. If this does not break the tie then common opponents outside of Conference will be used in the tie breaking formula. If this does not break tie, then a coin flip will occur.

C. Tournament information

1. All Tournament games will be played in a minimum NCAA regulation pool.
2. **The Men's and Women's Conference Tournaments will be played at San Joaquin Delta College, Friday, November 6 and Saturday, November 7, 2009.**
  - a. Hosting the Conference Tournaments will be done on a yearly rotation. A school has the option to decline hosting. If a school declines, the option goes to the next school in the rotation. The option to decline is utilized until a school accepts the bid.

3. Format

Men's Tournament

- o The tournament format will be as follows:

Friday Schedule

Game 1 #4 vs # 5

Game 2 #3 vs # 6

Game 3 Loser #1 vs loser #2(5<sup>th</sup> Place)

Saturday Schedule

Game 4 #1 vs Winner Game 1

Game 5 #2 vs Winner Game 2

Game 6 Loser Game 4 vs Loser Game 5(3<sup>rd</sup> Place)

Game 7 Winner Game 4 vs Winner Game 5(1<sup>st</sup> Place)

Women's Tournament

- o The tournament format will be as follows:

Friday Schedule:

Game 1 #1 vs #8

Game 2 #2 vs #7

Game 3 #4 vs #5

Game 4 #3 vs #6

Saturday Schedule:

Game 5 Loser 1 vs Loser 3

Game 6 Loser 2 vs Loser 4

Game 7 Winner 1 vs Winner 3

Game 8 Winner 2 vs Winner 4  
Game 9 Loser 5 vs Loser 6 (7<sup>th</sup> Place)  
Game 10 Winner 5 vs Winner 6(5<sup>th</sup> Place)  
Game 11 Loser 7 vs Loser 8(3<sup>rd</sup> Place)  
Game 12 Winner 7 vs Winner 8 (1<sup>st</sup> Place)

3. Cost

- a. The cost per team for the tournament will be determined by the host institution and not exceed \$300.

Section 6

Officials

- A. Conference games shall be played with two referees certified and assigned by the Northern California Water Polo Referees Association; for conference schools outside the NCWPRA assigning area, by an approved association.
- B. Should only one official appear for a game, the involved teams have the responsibility to play the contest. The home school will attempt to obtain an acceptable substitute referee. If not successful, the game will be played with only one official.
- C. If there is a conference official's contract it must be approved by the Conference Commissioners.

Section 7

Statistics

- A. The water polo chairperson for each Conference will compile end of season statistics sent in by each school in their respective division.

Section 8

Awards

A. All-Conference Team Selection

1. There shall be an All-Conference Team for the Men's and Women's Conference.
2. The All-Conference Team will consist of a first and second team each with nine field players and a goalkeeper. An All-Conference Most Valuable Player will be selected.

B. Most Valuable Player

1. The MVP is one of the nine players on the first team.
2. The MVP is the athlete selected to the first team with the most votes.

C. Nomination Procedures

1. Each sport chairperson shall prepare a preliminary ballot. The ballot will request that each coach name eighteen all-opponent players, including two goalkeepers. Each coach shall also nominate his/her top nine players. The ballot will serve as a basis for the discussion at the November coaches meeting.
2. The preliminary ballot will be faxed to all Conference coaches for nominations by each Conference sports chairperson at the end of Conference play.
3. All schools must submit by fax their final nominations for All-Conference awards to the sport chairperson(s) by **Wednesday, November 4, 2009.**
4. The sport chairperson(s) will then compile the official ballot and fax to all Conference coaches by **Friday, November 6, 2009.**
5. Only players of All-Conference quality should be nominated.
6. Any player nominated for All-Conference consideration must be eligible and in good academic standing at the conclusion of the conference season.
7. All-Conference players are eligible for all Nor-Cal and All-American consideration.

D. Voting Procedures

1. The voting will be done for first team first, then the second team. Only players on the official ballot may receive votes. No additions to the ballot will be accepted at the meeting.
2. Voting will take place at the Conference Tournament, **Saturday, November 7, 2009.**

E. Conference Academic Awards

1. To be granted to student athletes who have completed their second season of participation in the same sport and who have a cumulative 3.0 G.P.A. This shall include any transfer work done since first participation.