



OPERATIONAL POLICIES FOR SPORTS

2011-2012

Executive Committee

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Dr. William Greer -- President -- Milligan College
Mr. Ed deRosset -- President -- Union College
Dr. Thomas Isherwood -- President -- Reinhardt University

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Sports Information Director -- Jay Stancil -- Union College
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Jim Thompson, Chair -- Tennessee Wesleyan College
Nikki Stewart -- Virginia Intermont College
Larry Inkster -- Union College
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I. Standard Operating Procedures

- A. Duard Walker All Sports Trophy Criteria: Points earned by place finish at completion of regular season and Conference tournament (where applicable). Points are assigned as follows:
- Baseball: 1=50 pts, 2=40 pts, 3=30 pts, 4=25 pts
 - Basketball: 1=50 pts, 2=40 pts, 3=30 pts (semifinalists in tournament receive 30 points each)
 - Cross Country: 1=50, 2=40, 3=30, 4=25 (team finish)
 - Golf: 1=50, 2=40, 3=30, 4=25 (team finish)
 - Soccer: 1=50, 2=40, 3=30 (semifinalists in tournament receive 30 points each)
 - Softball: 1=50, 2=40, 3=30 (semifinalists in tournament receive 30 points each)
 - Tennis: 1=50, 2=40, 3=30, 4=25 (team finish)
 - Track & Field: 1=50 pts, 2=40 pts, 3=30 pts, 4=25 pts (team finish)
 - Volleyball; 1=50, 2=40, 3=30, 4=25
- B. All-Academic Team Criteria: Students meeting all three criteria will be named to the All-Academic Team:
1. 3.25 GPA or higher
 2. Sophomore status
 3. All nominees must have verification from the institutions' registrar.
- C. Athletic training coverage (in-house or contract) will be provided by member institutions for all home events.
- D. All member institutions will use the NAIA eligibility software to prepare and submit eligibility forms to the Conference Eligibility Chair.
- E. Seating for visitors at home events will be behind the visitor's bench or directly across from it when seating is confined to one side of the court/field.
- F. When two or more teams tie for the regular season championship in any sport, each will be designated as "Regular Season Champion." Tournament winners will be designated "Tournament Champion."
- G. The home team is responsible for reporting scores on the day a contest is played using the Conference website reporting system. This will post the result on the Conference website, update the standings, and report the result to the national NAIA Scoreboard. When a Conference member team plays a non-conference away opponent, the member is required to report the results as soon as practical. Every week during their season,

each team will web synch their entire DakStats by 12:00 noon on Monday. Web synching immediately after each game is encouraged.

- H. Awards for each sport provided by the Conference will be: Tournament Champion, Tournament Runner-Up, Regular Season Champion (including ties if applicable), Champion of Character, and Coach of the Year, unless otherwise requested. The Conference will also provide certificates for the All-Conference, All-Academic, and All-Freshman Teams. The names of award winners must be submitted immediately to the Conference Commissioner by the applicable sport chair.
- I. When a Conference Tournament Championship generates a net profit, once all outstanding bills are paid, those funds will be distributed equally among the teams representing the Conference in that sport's next level of post-season competition.
- J. The deadline for notification to member institutions of an intention to add a new sport will be the first date of the post-season tournament of that sport in the previous year.
- K. Individual teams or member institutions placed on *probation* by the NAIA National Conduct and Ethics Committee may not earn points in the affected sport(s) toward the All-Sports Trophy while on probation.
- L. Individual teams or member institutions placed on *suspension* by the NAIA National Conduct and Ethics Committee will not be eligible for Conference individual awards or earn points in the affected sport(s) toward the All-Sports Trophy while on suspension.
- M. If a member institution sponsors a sport they must participate in Conference competition within 3 years of their declaration of intent to participate with the NAIA.
- N. Teams participating in post-season tournaments/meets may not travel with or dress out more athletes than the maximum number allowed on the post-season roster for that sport.
- O. "Pass lists" to Conference contests will not be permitted.
- P. A Conference-wide Letter of Intent will be effective beginning with the 2006-2007 academic year. Student-athletes who complete a Letter of Intent will be barred from subsequently competing at another AAC member institution during the first eligible collegiate academic year after the date of signing. The Letter of Intent becomes effective once it is posted on the AAC website.
- Q. Conference Raters for those sports that require them will be recommended by the Coaches' Committees to their Sport Chair and appointed by the Commissioner for a two-year term. Raters may be appointed to successive terms with the recommendation

of the Sport Chair. Raters will be guided by the policies in their Coach's Manual and the AAC Rater's Oversight Protocol.

- R. Each sponsored sport will have a Conference athletics director assigned as sport liaison. The sport liaison will act as an advisor and intermediary between the sport coaches' committee, the CAA/FAR and the Commissioner.

II. Sport Chair Responsibilities

Overview. The sport committees consist of the head coaches from member institutions that coach a specific sport. The members will elect a Sport Chair who will serve for one year. Sport chairs may be reelected. Specific duties of the Sport Chair are defined below:

In accordance with the Conference Constitution and Bylaws, the Sport Chair will:

1. Bring recommendations to the Conference at its spring Council of Athletic Administrators and FARs meeting on the respective sport policies and tournament procedures (e.g., dates, qualification plans, site, etc.) (Article VI, Section 3);
2. File a complete written report of championship events including an accurate statement of income/expenses of the event to the secretary/treasurer within 14 days of the completion of the championship event (Article VI, Section 3);
3. Submit a request for awards to the Executive Committee prior to the annual meeting (Article X, Section 3);
4. Submit for signature or counter-signature of the Commissioner all contracts for sport product sponsorship (Article IV, 2).

Additionally, the respective Sport Chairs will:

5. Call and chair meetings of the sport committee.
6. Coordinate establishment of the sport Conference schedule.
7. Obtain nominations for a rater (if applicable) and forward the nominee to the Commissioner for appointment. Normally, sport chairs are ineligible to serve simultaneously as raters.
8. Forward for resolution to the Commissioner any disputes irresolvable at their level.
9. Make player-of-the-week selections (if applicable) and enter the names on the SIDHelp website.
10. Coordinate selection of the sport all-conference team (if applicable) and submit the All-Conference Team form for signature to the Commissioner in accordance with the NAIA deadline for each sport.

Tournament Responsibilities

If the sport championship tournament is held at *member institutions*, the Sport Chair will:

1. Coordinate the playoff schedule and location.
2. Coordinate assignment of officials.
3. Arrange for a Tournament Director, Tournament Sports Information Director, and a committee, with the approval of the sport coaches and the Commissioner.
4. Coordinate with the host member institution's Athletics Director regarding site preparation and contest support including webcasting facilities (broadband Internet).
5. Arrange for awards presentation to tournament champions, runner up, champion of character, and coach of the year, as applicable.
6. FAX or email the NAIA Conference Championship Results Form to the Commissioner and the NAIA National Office within 48 hours of tournament completion. (Available on the NAIA website: <http://naia.cstv.com/member-services/pubs/ChampionshipsForms.htm>)

If the tournament is held at a *non-member institution's* facility, the Sport Chair will:

1. Coordinate with the facility/agency regarding tournament dates and expectations including webcasting facilities (broadband Internet).
2. Submit for signature or counter-signature of the Commissioner all contracts for Conference sponsored contests (Article IV, 2).
3. Coordinate commercial sponsorship (if applicable).
4. Coordinate assignment of officials.
5. Arrange for a Tournament Director, Tournament Sports Information Director, and a committee, with the approval of the sport coaches and the Executive Committee. If the Tournament Director is assigned by the host facility/agency, the tournament committee will assist the Director as needed.
7. Complete and return to the Commissioner for signature the NAIA All-Conference Team Form prior to its stated deadline. (This applies to all team sports. Normally, the form will be sent to you by the Commissioner.)
6. Arrange for awards presentation to tournament champions, runner up, champion of character, and coach of the year, as applicable.
7. FAX or email the NAIA Conference Championship Results Form to the Conference Commissioner and the NAIA National Office within 48 hours of tournament completion. (Available on the NAIA website: <http://naia.cstv.com/member-services/pubs/ChampionshipsForms.htm>.)

III. Champion of Character Awards

Overview. Nominations for the Champion of Character Institutional Award and the Male and Female Individual Awards will be submitted by member institutions to the Chair of the Awards Nominating Committee by March 15. Nominations will be reviewed by the Committee and the top 2-3 nomination packages in each category will be sent to the member CEOs by April 10. CEOs may vote for one nominee in each category. All votes must be received by the Chair of the Awards Nominating Committee by May 1 to be considered. Award winners will be announced at the Annual Meeting in May.

AAC Champion of Character Institutional Award

A. Nomination Procedure

1. Member institutions that participate in the NAIA Champions of Character Scorecard are automatically nominated.

B. Criteria for Selection

1. Institutions that accumulate at least sixty points by August 15 on the Scorecard are eligible.

C. Selection Procedures

1. The member institution that scores the highest total number of points on the Scorecard will be declared the AAC Champion of Character Institution.
2. The deadline is August 15.
3. The AAC Champion of Character Institutional Award winner will be announced at the Fall Meeting of the CAA/FAR.

D. Nature of Award

1. The recipient will receive a perpetual plaque with the institution's name engraved upon it as that year's award winner.
2. The plaque will remain at the institution until the following year's Annual Meeting.

AAC Champion of Character Individual Award

A. Nomination Procedure

1. Any AAC member institution in good standing may submit a nomination package for one male and one female student-athlete to the Chair of the Awards Nominating Committee.
2. Complete nomination packages must be signed by the Chief Executive Officer and postmarked no later than March 15 each year.
3. The required supporting materials must include:
 - a. How the student-athlete demonstrates the Champion of Character core values on and off the campus.
 - b. A description of the leadership role(s) played by the nominee in the campus athletic program and in the community.
 - c. Any supporting letters from on- or off-campus entities.

B. Criteria for Selection

1. The nominee demonstrates clearly the true spirit of competition by living out the five core values of respect, responsibility, integrity, servant leadership, and sportsmanship.
2. The nominee demonstrates outstanding involvement in the community, which results in positive character development through sport.

C. Selection Procedures

1. Nominations should be sent to the Chair, Awards Nominating Committee no later than March 15.
2. The Awards Nominating Committee will review all nominations and choose the most outstanding male and female packages.
3. The top nominations will be sent to the Chief Executive Officers for review and selection.
4. Each CEO will have one vote for each award winner.
5. The deadline for voting by CEOs will be May 1.
6. The AAC Champion of Character Individual Award winners will be announced at the Annual Meeting of the Conference the third week in May.

D. Nature of Award

1. The recipient will receive a plaque with his or her name engraved upon it as that year's award winner.

IV. Individual Sport Policies

Baseball

Sport Liaison: Tim Curry, Union College

Chair: Nathan Meade, Milligan College

Rater: Bart Osborne, Union College

1. Roster: A minimum of nine players shall constitute a team. Maximum team size shall be determined by NAIA rules.
2. Scheduling: The season will begin the first weekend in March. The matrix will be adjusted to ensure that Bluefield plays at southern schools the first two Conference weekends. Each Conference team will play every other Conference team in a 3-game series with games scheduled for Friday/Saturday or Saturday/Sunday with a makeup date on Monday. One nine inning game and two seven inning games will be played. Makeups must be scheduled on the first available Sunday or Monday following the cancelled games. Bryan will not have games scheduled on Sunday. Games may be switched to the opponent's site if both coaches agree and the field is playable. All Conference games must be played and take precedence over non-conference games. Scheduled non-conference games will be cancelled in order to play makeup Conference games. If all games are not played before the start of the Conference Tournament, each team will be assessed one loss per game missed. Coaches unable to agree upon acceptable makeup dates are to contact the Sport Chair/Liaison for resolution.
 - Dates may not be moved due to spring break dates.
 - Dates may be moved due to school-mandated policies such as exams, graduation, Easter, and the Bristol race weekend.
 - The Conference Sport Chair, with concurrence from the Coach's committee and approval by the Commissioner, will establish the AAC Conference Scheduling Matrix for two-year periods.
 - Home and Home Switching – In order to play the games as scheduled but also to not give any team an advantage in the schedule, switching of home games will be permissible only under the following conditions:
 - (1) Conditions on the home field that would make the games hazardous to play such as water break, wind damage to fencing, playing surface damage or construction, and scheduling problems with the field that is used for home games.

- (2) Switching of home dates is permitted where both coaches involved agree to the switch.
 - (3) The Sport Chair will resolve any scheduling conflicts where coaches are unable to agree.
3. Officials: Officials for all games will be assigned by the AAC Baseball Assignor. The Baseball Chair will serve as the associate supervisor of officials. The visiting team has the right to have an umpire excluded from a game by written request to the Assignor at least two weeks before the game in question. All games will be governed by NCAA Baseball Rules with NAIA approved modifications.
4. Equipment & Site Criteria: Rawlings is the official ball. Teams not using the Rawlings official ball will forfeit the Conference games. All teams must furnish a bullpen mound for visitors. All Conference teams will have and use a full infield tarp. The home team makes the decision on field conditions. Each head coach is encouraged to do everything in their power to see that games are played including working on their own field. Each team must have drying compound or hardener available. Batting practice should be available for the visiting team at the scheduled time, if field conditions allow.
5. Forms & Reports: The home team is responsible for reporting scores on the day a contest is played using the Conference website reporting system (aacsports.com/admin). This will post the result on the Conference website, update the standings, and report the result to the National Scoreboard. When a Conference member team plays a non-conference away opponent, the member is required to report the results as soon as practical. Every week during the season, each team will web synch their entire DakStats by 12:00 noon on Monday. Web synching immediately after each game is encouraged.
6. Coaches Meeting: An all-coaches meeting will be called prior to the AAC Tournament for selection of All-Conference honors in accordance with NAIA guidelines. Any team not represented by its coach at the meeting will not be eligible for Conference honors.
7. Awards:
 - Tournament Champion, Runner-Up, Champion of Character Team
 - Coach of the Year
 - Player of the Year
 - Pitcher of the Year
 - True Freshman of the Year

- All-Conference Team (nominations by position)

8. Conference Championship Tournament:

1. Date: May 1-4, 2012
2. Backup dates: May 5, 2012
3. Number of schools sponsoring and participating: 9
4. Number of schools in event: 8
5. If there are two berths to Nationals: NA
6. Method team selection for event: All teams participate except for Point University who is not eligible for post season play.
7. Method of seeding: Regular season standings determine an A & B bracket (i.e., 1 to A, 2 to B, 3 to A, 4 to B, etc.); double-elimination within the bracket then one game between bracket winners for championship
8. Selected Site: Hunter-Wright Stadium, Kingsport, TN
9. Host Institution: Kingsport Convention & Visitors Bureau/Milligan College
10. Contingency Plan: If tournament cannot be played the #1 seed will be declared the winner, if the tournament starts and rain is an issue the team with the best overall record will get the berth. For example if Bracket A has a team with a record of 2-1 and Bracket B has a team with a record of 3-0, Bracket B team is considered the winner.
11. Athletic Trainer coverage provided by each team.
12. Tournament SID: Jay Stancil, Union College.
13. Tournament Fee: \$400 for teams that do not travel and stay and \$100 for traveling teams.
 - NCAA Baseball rules, with NAIA-specific modifications, are to be used during regular season and postseason play.
 - All protests will be submitted immediately to the Sport Chair/Liaison, and then if not satisfactorily resolved, to the Commissioner.
 - During post-season, only the players listed on the 24-man roster will be allowed to dress and play.

Men's and Women's Basketball

Sport Liaison: (M) Sandy Zensen, Bryan College – (W) Peter Dryer, Bluefield College

Chair: (M) Jeff Pourchier, Reinhardt University – (W) Rich Aubrey, Milligan College

Rater: (M) Don Rekoske, Bryan College – (W) Tim Curry, Union College

1. Roster: Five players will constitute a team.
2. Scheduling: The scheduling format for Conference play will consist of a double round-robin. Weekday game times will begin at 5:30 p.m. for women and 7:30 p.m. for men. Saturday game times may be changed with the agreement of all coaches involved. Weeknight games for women against Columbia can be adjusted by agreement of both coaches.
 - The perpetual rotating game schedule consists of the following requirements: teams will play all opponents once before beginning a second round of games in the same order.
 - If a double-header (women and men) is scheduled and the first game ends more than 20 minutes before the contracted time for the second game to begin, both coaches must agree to an early start for the second game.
 - By mutual agreement of the coaches involved, teams may move scheduled games within their window (e.g., Wednesday games may be moved within the window of Sunday to Friday of that same week. Saturday games may be moved from Thursday to Tuesday of that same six-day period.)
 - Conference games may not be cancelled.
 - If a game is postponed due to severe weather, a makeup date is determined by:
 - Mutual consent of all coaches
 - If coaches unable to agree - Sport Chair/Sport liaison
 - If still no agreement – Conference Commissioner
 - If a game is postponed by one team due to extenuating circumstances such as illness, a makeup date will be determined by:
 - Mutual consent of coaches
 - Selection of date by opposing coach
3. Officials: The Assignor of Officials shall be charged with the responsibility for assigning officials for all conference games. The Assignor of Officials will also :

- Notify the appropriate Athletic Directors of any changes in officials at least 24 hours prior to game time.
- Observe each official's performance during at least one Conference game each season, and will submit a written report to the Conference Commissioner within six weeks of the observation.
- Will develop an evaluation form to be used by each head coach for the purpose of evaluating each assigned official for each game. The Assignor will use the evaluation as the basis for selecting officials for the post-season tournament. The Assignor will summarize results of the coaches' evaluations of each official and send same to the Conference Commissioner at the close of the season.
- Will recommend to the Conference Commissioner an Associate Supervisor for that sport.
- Women's Basketball ONLY: Each coach will be able to scratch one official. The name will be submitted at the beginning of the season. Individual officials will not be privy to this information.

4. Equipment & Site Criteria:

- The Rawlings Franchise ball is the official basketball for men's and women's conference regular season and tournament play. Teams will be fined \$100 for not having the official ball. A minimum of 6 Rawlings balls shall be made available by the home team to each visiting team for warm-ups. At least two of those will be the Rawlings Franchise ball.
- The NCAA scorebook will be used showing the running time for baskets made in the last minute of play. A seat must be provided for the visiting scorekeeper next to the home scorekeeper.
- Practice time may be provided upon request of the visiting coach.
- The warm-up period for the visiting team will be one hour prior to game time for the first game and for 30 minutes prior to a second game.
- The home team will assist in lining up post-game meals, upon request.
- Noisemakers cannot be used during live ball situations, which include free throws.
- No Conference game may begin with an administrative (book) technical foul being assessed against either team.
- The home team shall video all games and will provide the visiting team with a copy of the DVD before the visitors depart.
- No Conference member shall provide videotape or scouting reports, either written or verbal, to any non-conference opponent.

- Coaches and their representatives may scout other conference members in person when they play each other or when they play other opponents. This scouting shall not include videotaping or listening for a coach's instruction in the team huddle or in individual conferences with players. Scouts may listen or watch for any calls, cues or instructions directed from the bench to the court. Any violations of these rules should be reported to the AAC Commissioner. If confirmed, these violations should be treated as unsportsmanlike conduct and penalized accordingly by the Conference.
 - In order to have media timeouts, broadcast media (TV, radio, internet) must be present. Timeouts will be at stop in play under the 14:00 minute and 7:00 minute marks. A full timeout within one minute of the media timeout will cancel that media timeout. Coaches will still have the full allotment of timeouts (4 full timeouts, 2- 30 sec. timeouts). The home team must provide the visiting team with a detailed description of the media timeout procedure when they arrive for the game.
5. Forms & Reports: The home team is responsible for reporting scores on the day a contest is played using the Conference website reporting system. This will post the result on the Conference website, update the standings, and report the result to the national NAIA Scoreboard. When a Conference member team plays a non-conference away opponent, the member is required to report the result as soon as practical. Every week during the season, each team will web synch their entire DakStats by 12:00 noon on Monday. Web synching immediately after each game is encouraged. Information packets consisting of COSIDA Fact Sheet schedule and numerical rosters will be sent to each conference coach by October 15th. Failure to provide this information will count as a missed statistical report.
6. Coaches Meeting: The meeting of the men's and women's basketball coaches will be held prior to the annual meeting of the Conference in May and will include confirmation of the perpetual rotating game schedule.
7. Awards:
- Men's & Women's Tournament Champion, Runner-Up, Regular Season Champion, Champion of Character Team
 - Coach of the Year: use 3-2-1 format with points accordingly
 - Player of the Year: will be the top vote getter in the All-Conference selection.
 - All-Freshman Team: Will consist of 7 members with the top vote getter designated as Freshman of the Year. (will use same format as All-Conference)

- All-Defensive Team: Will consist of 5 players with the top vote getter named the Defensive Player of the Year.
- All-Conference Team: Will consist of 15 players. The top 5 will be the 1st Team, next 5 will be 2nd Team, and next 5 will be 3rd Team. The top vote getter will be Player of the Year.
- Selection process for All-Conference is as follows:
 - Awards nominations will be gathered and distributed the last week of the regular season. Votes will be due by 4:00 p.m. Thursday during the last week of the regular season. There is not maximum number of nominees per team.
 - Players will be voted on in descending order with points given accordingly.
 - A coach may not vote for his or her own player.
 - Copies of ballots are to be mailed to the Conference Commissioner.
 - The Sport Chairs will be responsible for the rating of players for All- American purposed for the Conference.

8. Conference Championship Tournament:

1. Date: Feb. 22-25, 2012: Women and men alternating nights.
 2. Backup dates: NA
 3. Number of schools sponsoring and participating in sport: 8, 10 (women)
 4. Number of teams in event: 8, 9 (women)
 5. If there are two berths to the national tournament: NA
 6. Method of team selection: All teams participate
 7. Method of seeding: Regular season final standings
 8. Selected Site: Higher seed hosts all the way through
 9. Host Institution: Highest seed all the way through
 10. Contingency plan: Regular season champion will advance if unable to complete the Conference Tournament
 11. Athletic Trainer Coverage: Host school will provide
 12. Tournament SID: Host school
 13. Tournament Fee: No fee; host team will be responsible for the officials.
9. Tie-Breaker System: For all ties the following system will be used:
1. Conference record
 2. Head-to-head
 3. Common conference opponents- broken from the top- down.
 4. Conference road wins
 5. 2nd half conference record

6. Coin flip

- In the event of a three-way tie, the normal tie-breaker system would be used to eliminate one team and determine the two teams that will play in the play-off game.
- When using the tie breaking system the above criteria are applied in order with the process ending when the tie is broken. A tie occurring in more than one position requires that the highest tie be broken first.

10. Tournament Playoff Policies:

- All conference teams who have filed a declaration of intent to participate with the NAIA are eligible to host tournament games.
- Officials for the tournament will be selected by the Sport Chairs and Assignor of Officials using the coaches' ratings.
- Tournament ticket prices will be: \$7 for adults, \$5 for all students (NAIA minimums)
- Only official NAIA Membership Cards will be honored for free admission at tournament games. All others will be required to pay full price.
- Game expenses shall not exceed \$270 per game to support personnel and a maximum of \$500 per date paid for facility rental of a neutral site.
- Host teams shall make a minimum of 20% of capacity seating available to the visiting teams.
- The host institution will file with the Conference Commissioner a Conference Income/Expense form within 7 days following the completion of the tournament or the NAIA Basketball Tournament Financial Summary, as appropriate.
- Women's tournament dates will be February 20, 22, 24, and 27. Higher seeds will host all games.
- Men's tournament dates will be February 21, 23, and 25 Higher seeds will host all games.

Men's and Women's Cross Country

Sport Liaison: Craig Jackson, Montreat College

Chair: Rodney Stoker, Bryan College

Rater: Rodney Stoker, Bryan College

1. Roster: A scoring team consists of a minimum of five eligible runners. While more than seven eligible runners may compete in a race, only a maximum of the first seven runners from a single team may be scored.
2. Scheduling: Coaches will meet at the Conference Tournament meet to schedule the following year. Should an institution declare its intent to participate in the NAIA Men's and Women's Cross-Country National Championship it must honor that commitment if the team qualifies through the Conference Championship Meet. If the institution does not honor its declaration of intent commitment, it shall be automatically suspended in that sport for the next academic year. The Official NAIA Handbook for coaches will be used as the guidelines for conducting all meets of the Conference and individual member schools
3. Officials: Meet officials will comply with and enforce all NAIA rules and regulations.
4. Equipment & Site Criteria: The men's course must be 5 miles or 8 km and must be clearly marked and mapped. The women's course must be 3.1 miles or 5 km and must be clearly marked and mapped.
5. Forms & Reports: Coaches shall post race results or highlights on the Conference website following each meet. Reports should include: team place, individual places and times, course rating, 1-5 gap, 1-7 gap, and if possible, team time 1-5 and team average time.
 - Sport Chairs shall complete the Conference Tournament Results form and FAX/mail it to the NAIA National Office and Conference Commissioner within 48 hours of completion of the Conference Championship Meet.
 - Sport Chairs shall file a complete Conference Income/expenses form within 14 days of the tournament with the Conference Commissioner.
6. Coaches Meeting: The annual meeting will be held in conjunction with the Conference Championship Meet.
7. Awards:
 - Men's & Women's Team Champion, Runner-Up, Champion of Character Team
 - Coach of the Year: The coach of the Championship team.
 - All-Conference Team: The top 10 male and top 10 female finishers at the Conference meet.
 - Runner of the Week: Shall be nominated for each gender by the coach/SID based on each week's results. The AAC Runner of the Week will be selected by the designated selector/coach of the AAC, using the data provided in the nominations.

- Runner of the Year: The individual conference champion from both the men's and women's AAC Championship race.
- All-Academic: In addition to the Conference criteria, athletes must also finish in the top 7 of their respective teams in at least one meet.
- Conference Champion: Will be determined by the best team finish at the Conference Championship Meet.

8. Conference Championship Meet:

1. Date: November 5, 2011
2. Backup date: November 6, 2011
3. Number of schools sponsoring and participating in sport: 7
4. Number of teams in event: 7
5. If there are two berths to national tournament: NA
6. Method of team selection: All teams participate.
7. Method of seeding: NA
8. Selected Site: Bryan College
9. Host Institution: Bryan College
10. Contingency plan: The highest ranking team in the conference pole will get the automatic bid.
11. Athletic Trainer Coverage: Scott Landis
12. Tournament SID: Jordan Mattheiss
13. Tournament Fee: \$200 per college or \$100 per team. The fee will cover course preparations, timing service fee, and rental usage fee for lead vehicle/golf cart.

Men's and Women's Golf

Sport Liaison: (M) Ray Smith, Milligan College; (W) Kelly Cox, Columbia College

Chair: (M) Eric Wyrick, Union College; (W) Tony Wallingford, Milligan College

Rater: (M) Anthony Carruba, Union College; (W) David Pennell, Montreat College

1. Roster: If an institution declares in the sport of golf, it must field a team (minimum of 4 players) for postseason competition. Should an institution undeclare from the sport in the manner above, the institution may still send an individual(s) to participate in postseason competition by including written notification to the national office at the

time it undelcares (3 weeks prior to postseason). If the institution fails to undeclare from the sport in the manner above, but then sends an individual(s) to participate in postseason competition, they are in violation of their declaration of intent.

2. Scheduling: All schools are encouraged to have their schedules prepared by the time of the conference tournament the year prior, especially if they are going to be hosting an event the following year.
 - Inclement Weather Policy: In case of inclement weather, at least 18 holes must be played at each site for a Regular Season Champion to be crowned. At least 27 holes must be completed at Conference Tournament for a champion to be crowned. The committee will be responsible for halting and restarting play. Options for suspension of play due to inclement weather, to be determined prior to the match, will be: (1) Round one will be completed prior to round 2 starting. If play is interrupted, the golfer chooses to spot the ball or complete the hole (if there is lightening, play does not continue). When play is interrupted in the final day, the 9 holes, which all participants finished in Day 2, will be counted. If there are not 9 holes which all completed, scores are counted from Day 1. (2) If all participants complete the same 9 holes on Day 1, scores are counted for the 9 holes. If Day 1 is completely rained out, the coaches will vote to decide the number of holes to be played (18, 27, or 36) on Day 2.
3. Officials: USGA rules govern all play. For interpretation of these rules the golf chair will have a committee set up through the host golf course to make all decisions. A rules sheet and NAIA Golf Hardcard is to be given at all events before play begins.
4. Equipment & Site Criteria:
 - Scoring for Individual Ties: Sudden death playoff starting on the first hole until the tie is broken. If a Co-Medalist situation occurs and one is from the winning team and one is not, the Medalist from the losing team would represent the Conference at the National Tournament.
 - Scoring for Team Ties: In the case of a team tie for first place, a sudden death playoff will occur. Play will begin on the hole #1 with the 5 players of the participating teams. The sum of the four lowest scores will be used to determine a champion. If the tie still exists, play continues in the same fashion on the next hole and continues until the tie is broken. All other team ties will be decided by the 5th man score on the last day. If the tie still remains, go back to the first day scores.

- In the case that there is a team tie for first place and the tie cannot be broken by sudden death playoff due to darkness or inclement weather, the following sequence will be used to resolve the issue. The format will follow the order of the sequence listed below until the tie is broken.
 1. Score of the 5th player on the last day of competition
 2. Score of the 5th player on the first day of competition
 3. Scorecard play-off adding the total strokes on all 5 players beginning with the 18th hole and continuing backward.
5. Forms & Reports: Regular season hosts are to register the event with Golfstat and report all scoring to Golfstat within 24 hours after completion of play. This host will also report results to the Conference SID. The golf chair will be responsible for registering and reporting the Conference Tournament to Golfstat and to the Conference SID.
 6. Coaches Meeting: Meeting will be held in conjunction with the Conference Tournament. Chair and Rater will be elected during this time by a vote of the coaches present. Regular season event sites will be voted on by coaches present. It is recommended that each school in the conference have the opportunity to host before a school hosts for the second time.
 7. Awards:
 - Tournament Champion, Runner-Up, Regular Season Champion, Champion of Character Team
 - All-Conference Team: Will be the low 10 individuals and ties from the two Regular Season events.
 - All-Tournament Team: Will be the low 5 individuals and ties from the Conference Tournament.
 - Player of the Year: Will be the low individual from combining the two Regular Season events and the Conference Tournament (126 holes total). In case of a tie, a sudden death playoff will take place at Conference Tournament.
 - Coach of the Year: Will be the coach whose team qualifies for the National Tournament.
 8. **Conference Championship Tournament:**
 1. Date: (M) April 15-16, 2012; (W) April 22-24, 2012
 2. Backup dates: (W) April 25-26, 2012, (M) April 17-18, 2012

3. Number of schools sponsoring sport: 7 (M) ; 6 (W).
 4. Number of teams in event: 7 (M); 6 (W).
 5. If two berths to national tournament: NA
 6. Method of team selection: All teams participate.
 7. Method of seeding: Pairings will be based on how teams finished in the regular season.
 8. Selected Sites: TBD (Bear Trace Tims Ford, Winchester, TN (M); Link Hills Golf and Country Club, Greeneville, TN (W).
 9. Host Institution: Union College (M); Milligan College (W).
 10. Contingency Plan: Regular season champion will advance if unable to play Conference Tournament.
 11. Athletic Trainer Coverage: Host Institution
 12. Tournament SID: Host Institution
 13. Tournament Fee: \$500 per team, will cover green fees and officials.
9. Conference Tournament Format:
- 54 Holes, 36 on Monday and 18 on Tuesday
 - Champion will be low team score from the 54 holes
 - Champion will be the AAC representative to the NAIA National Tournament. The low individual from the Conference Tournament will qualify for the National Tournament if the individual is not on the qualifying team. In case of a tie for low individual, there will be a sudden death playoff on course.
 - In case of a team tie, a sudden death course playoff will decide the champion with the following group assignments:
 - Group 1: 5's from each team
 - Group 2: 3's and 4's from each team
 - Group 3: 1's and 2's from each team
10. Regular Season Format:
- 72 Holes, 36 in Fall event and 36 holes in Spring event.
 - Champion will be low combined score from these two events.
 - In case of a tie, they will be crowned Co-Champions.
11. Regular Season Play Dates:
- Fall: Men**
- Date: September 12-13, 2011
 Site: Glen Cannon CC
 Host: Montreat College

Women

Date: October 17-18, 2011

Site: Glen Cannon CC- Brevard, NC

Host: Montreat College

Spring: Men

Date: TBD

Site: TBD

Host: Reinhardt University

Women

Date: April 9-10, 2012

Site: Bear Trace Cumberland Mountain, Crossville, TN

Host: Bryan College

Men's Soccer

Sport Liaison: Sandy Zensen, Bryan College

Chair: Adam Laney, Milligan College

Rater: Tyler Brock, Union College

1. Roster: All rosters are to be exchanged at conference matches and posted on the AAC website. Rosters must include the following: players name, players #, players year in terms of eligibility, # and dates of cautions, # and dates of suspensions, and dates of served suspensions.
2. Scheduling: Normally men's and women's soccer will play on the same dates, at the same sites with a matrix schedule effective the 2010-2011 season. Men and women's games can be scheduled on separate dates within the matrix system, provided both institutions are in full agreement.
 - Each team must play every other team in the Conference once.
 - If a team plays a Conference opponent more than once, only the first game will count towards the Conference record. This rule excludes any games played in a pre-season or season tournament.
 - Coaches are required to complete their AAC schedule by the end of September; conference games are to be scheduled prior to non-conference games.

- Start time for all matches will be determined by the home team. Coaches are encouraged to consider travel distance, day of the week, facilities, number of matches (men/women) and institutional traditions.
 - The last conference game that will be counted to conference standings must be played seven days prior to the AAC Tournament play-in date. Any exceptions must be approved by the Chair/Liaison and the Commissioner. Exceptions may be made for make-up games or other scheduling conflicts and unforeseen conflicts that may arise. Conference games will take precedent over non-conference games in any decision or change.
 - If a match is cancelled for reasons other than inclement weather and it cannot be made-up, it will be recorded as a forfeit to the team responsible for the cancellation.
 - Matches canceled for inclement weather, must be re-scheduled at the earliest available date, as agreed upon by both teams involved.
3. Officials: Each host team will schedule certified game officials for regular season games through the AAC Soccer official assignor. The host team will be responsible for the cost of the officials.
4. Equipment & Site Criteria:
- Field dimensions for all fields built after 1995: maximum 120 yards x 75 yards, minimum 115 yards x 70 yards.
 - The NAIA Soccer Handbook and the NCAA Soccer Rules shall guide other policies not specified by the conference.
5. Forms & Reports: The home team is responsible for reporting scores on the day a contest is played using the Conference website reporting system. This will post the result on the Conference website, update the standings, and report the result to the national NAIA Scoreboard. When a Conference member team plays a non-conference away opponent, the member is required to report the results as soon as practical. Every week during their season, each team will web synch their entire Dakstats by 12:00 noon on Monday. Web synching immediately after each game is encouraged.
- No scouting reports are to be given to non-Conference schools.
6. Coaches Meeting: The official men's soccer coaches' meeting will be held in conjunction with the Conference Tournament. Additional meetings may be called by the Chair as the need arises. All coaches will be notified a minimum of two weeks in advance of any called official meeting.
7. Awards:

- Tournament Champion, Runner-Up, Regular Season Champion, Champion of Character Team
- Coach of the Year
- Player of the Year – A ballot will be made from the All-Conference 1st Team and voted on by coaches within one week of the Conference Tournament.
- Player of the Week – Coaches make nominations directly on the NAIA website by 1:00 p.m. on Mondays. The Sport Chair (or his designee) will then make the selection for POW by 3:00 p.m. Mondays. If the Sport Chair does not make their selection within the stipulated time frame, the selection is made by the Conference SID.
- All- Conference awards will be presented at the Tournament Banquet. Members of the All-Conference and All-Academic teams will receive certificates, the Coach of the Year and Player of the Year, a plaque. The Regular season Champion and the Tournament Champion and the Tournament Runner-up shall be awarded a plaque.
- All-Conference Team Selection: First Team All-Conference selections will be made by vote of the conference couches. Each coach will nominate their respective players. A ballot of nominations will be distributed among the conference coaches. Conference goalkeepers will be nominated separately and placed on a ballot. A vote will be taken to determine the 1st team GoalKeeper.
- A slotting system will be used to determine the 2nd and 3rd All-Conference Teams. Each coach will select his own players and determine their placing. The number of selections for the 2nd and 3rd teams will be determined by the final seeding of the regular season. Any coach may waive nominations. Any waived nominations will be open to a vote. The nomination deadline is one week prior to the start of the Conference Tournament.
- Selection Criteria:

Seeding	2 nd Team	3 rd Team
#1	2 selections	2 selections
#2	2 selections	2 selections
#3	2 selections	2 selections
#4	1 selection	1 selection
#5	1 selection	1 selection
#6	1 selection	1 selection
#7	1 selection	1 selection
#8	1 selection	1 selection
#9	1 selection	1 selection

8. Conference Championship Tournament

1. Date: November 5, 11-12, 2011
2. Backup date: November 8, 2011

3. Number of schools sponsoring sport: 8
 4. Number of teams in event : 8
 5. If there are two berths to the National tournament: NA
 6. Method of team selection for event: All teams participate
 7. Method of seeding: Regular season final standings
 8. Selected Site: At highest remaining seed following quarter final matches.
 9. Host Institution: Highest remaining seed following quarter final matches.
 10. Contingency Plan: Regular season champion will advance
 11. Athletic Trainer Coverage: Host team
 12. Tournament SID: Host team
 13. Tournament Fee: Proposed fee is \$300.
9. Conference Tie-Breaker System:
1. Win/loss record – Points will be awarded for each Conference game played. Win= 3 points, Tie = 1 point, Loss = 0 points
 2. Head to – head competition within the Conference
 3. Goal differential within the Conference (4 goal max per match)
 4. RPI Rating System – as described in the NAIA Handbook
10. Conference Tournament Games:
- Three neutral officials are required at the playoff site(s).
 - The soccer chair and an official (non-coach) from each participating institution is required to attend the Conference Semi-finals and Championship.
 - The host school or site must provide security for each post-season game.
 - The Conference official, Sport Chair and the non-coach official representative from each participating institution shall be responsible for the awards presentation if the Conference Commissioner is not present.

Women's Soccer

Sport Liaison: Bill Popp, Reinhardt University

Chair: Mark Sauve, Bryan College

Rater: Naomi Clarke, Tennessee Wesleyan College

1. Roster: All rosters are to be exchanged at conference matches and posted on the AAC website. Rosters must include the following: players name, players #, players year in terms of eligibility, # and dates of cautions, # and dates of suspensions, and dates of served suspensions.

2. Scheduling: Normally men's and women's soccer will play on the same dates and the same sites with a matrix schedule effective the 2010-2011 season. Men and women's games can be scheduled on separate dates within the matrix system, provided both institutions are in full agreement. Columbia College will be slotted in place of Virginia Intermont since they will not be fielding a team.
 - Each team must play every other team in the Conference once.
 - If a team plays a Conference opponent more than once, only the first game will count towards the Conference record. This rule excludes any games played in a pre-season or season tournament.
 - Coaches are required to complete their AAC schedule by the end of September; conference games are to be scheduled prior to non-conference games.
 - Start time for all matches will be determined by the home team. Coaches are encouraged to consider travel distance, day of the week, facilities, number of matches (men/women) and institutional traditions.
 - The last conference game that will be counted to conference standings must be played seven days prior to the AAC Tournament play-in date. Any exceptions must be approved by the Chair/Liaison and the Commissioner. Exceptions may be made for make-up games or other scheduling conflicts and unforeseen conflicts that may arise. Conference games will take precedent over non-conference games in any decision or change.
 - If a match is cancelled for reasons other than inclement weather and it cannot be made-up, it will be recorded as a forfeit to the team responsible for the cancellation.
 - Matches canceled for inclement weather, must be re-scheduled at the earliest available date, as agreed upon by both teams involved.
3. Officials: Each host team will schedule certified game officials for regular season games through the AAC Soccer official assignor. The host team will be responsible for the cost of the officials.
4. Equipment & Site Criteria:
 - Field dimensions for all fields built after 1995: maximum 120 yards x 75 yards, minimum 115 yards x 70 yards.
 - The NAIA Soccer Handbook and the NCAA Soccer Rules shall guide other policies not specified by the conference.
5. Forms & Reports: The home team is responsible for reporting scores on the day a contest is played using the Conference website reporting system. This will post the result on the Conference website, update the standings, and report the result to the national NAIA Scoreboard. When a Conference member team plays a non-conference away opponent, the member is required to report the results as soon as practical. Every

week during their season, each team will web synch their entire Dakstats by 12:00 noon on Monday. Web synching immediately after each game is encouraged.

- No scouting reports are to be given to non-Conference schools.
6. Coaches Meeting: The official women's soccer coaches' meeting will be held in conjunction with the Conference Tournament. Additional meetings may be called by the Chair as the need arises. All coaches will be notified a minimum of two weeks in advance of any called official meeting.
7. Awards:
- Tournament Champion, Tournament Runner-Up, Regular Season Champion, Champion of Character Team
 - Coach of the Year
 - Player of the Year. A ballot will be made from the All-Conference 1st team and voted on by the coaches within one week of the Conference Tournament.
 - Defensive Player of the Year
 - Offensive Player of the Year
 - Newcomer of the Year
 - Golden Boot Award
 - Player of the Week – Coaches will make nominations for offensive and defensive player of the week on the NAIA SIDHelp website by 12:00 noon on Mondays. The Sport Chair (or his/her designee) will then make the selection for POWs by 3:00 p.m. Monday. If the Sport Chair does not make the selection within the stipulated time frame, the selection will be made by the Conference SID.
 - All-Conference awards will be presented at the Tournament Banquet.
 - All-Conference Team Selection: First and second Team All-Conference selections will be made by vote of the conference coaches. Each coach will nominate their respective players. A ballot of nominations will be distributed among the conference coaches for voting. Conference goalkeepers will be nominated separately and placed on a ballot. A vote will be taken to determine the First and second team Goalkeeper.
 - A slotting system will be used to determine the 3rd All-Conference Team. Each coach will select his own players and determine their placing. The number of selections for the 3rd team will be determined by the final seeding of the regular season. Any coach may waive nominations. Any waived nominations will be open to a vote. The nomination is one week prior to the start of the Conference Tournament.
 - Selection Criteria:

Seeding	3 rd Team
#1	2 selections
#2	2 selections

#3	2 selections
#4	1 selection
#5	1 selection
#6	1 selection
#7	1 selection
#8	1 selection
#9	1 selection

8. Conference Championship Tournament:

1. Date: November 5, 10,12, 2011
 2. Backup date: November 7,11, 12, 2011
 3. Number of schools sponsoring sport: 8
 4. Number of teams in event : 8
 5. If there are two berths to the National tournament: NA
 6. Method of team selection for event: All teams participate
 7. Method of seeding: 1 v 8, 2 v7, 3 v 6, 4 v 5.
 8. Selected Site: First round at highest seed, final four at regular season champion.
 9. Host Institution: Regular season conference champion.
 10. Contingency Plan: Regular season champion will advance
 11. Athletic Trainer Coverage: Home team
 12. Tournament SID: Home team
 14. Tournament Fee: Proposed fee is \$300.
9. Conference Tie-Breaker System:
1. Win/loss record – Points will awarded for each Conference game played. Win= 3 points, Tie = 1 point, Loss = 0 points
 2. Head to – head competition within the Conference
 3. Goal differential within the Conference (4 goal max per match)
 4. NAIA RPI score
10. Conference Tournament Games:
- Four neutral officials are required at the playoff site(s).
 - The soccer chair and an official (non-coach) from each participating institution is required to attend the Conference Semi-finals and Championship.
 - The host school or site must provide security for each post-season game.
 - The Conference official, Sport Chair and the non-coach official representative from each participating institution shall be responsible for the awards presentation if the Conference Commissioner is not present.

Softball

Sport Liaison: Chris Holt, Virginia Intermont College

Chair: Glen Crawford, Reinhardt University

Rater: Eric Senter, Virginia Intermont College

1. Roster: A team consists of a minimum of nine players.
2. Scheduling: All conference team will play the other member institutions in a double-header one date per year using the matrix schedule. All games must be played. If a team travels and the games are not played, the home school must make up the trip as an away game. The international tiebreaker will be used in all regular season conference games. This will start in the eighth inning. The last date to complete Conference games is April 25, 2011. No conference game will be originally scheduled after April 23. If games are not completed by then they will count as losses to both teams for seeding purposes.
3. Officials: The Conference Softball Assignor will schedule all officials for Conference games.
4. Equipment & Site Criteria: All conference schools must play with an outfield fence not less than 200 ft. and not to exceed 230 ft. in distance from home plate. The official conference softball shall be the Worth RFP 47.
5. Forms & Reports: The home team is responsible for reporting scores on the day a contest is played using the Conference website reporting system. This will post the result on the Conference website, update the standings, and report the result to the national NAIA Scoreboard. When a Conference member team plays a non-conference away opponent, the member is required to report the results as soon as practical. Every week during their season, each team will web synch their entire DakStats by 12:00 noon on Monday. Web synching immediately after each game is encouraged.
6. Coaches Meeting: Meeting will be held in conjunction with the Conference Tournament.
7. Awards:
 - Tournament Champion, Runner-Up, Regular Season Champion, Champion of Character Team
 - Coach of the Year- Will be voted on at the Conference Tournament
 - Player of the Year – Will be voted on before the Conference Tournament

- All-Conference Team – Will be selected at the end of the season before the Conference Tournament. Only conference stats will be used.
- Honorable Mention All-Conference Team – Selected by coaches.

8. Conference Championship Tournament:

1. Date: April 24-27, 2012
2. Backup date: May 1-4, 2012
3. Number of schools sponsoring in sport: 10
4. Number of teams in event: 9 Point Univ. is not eligible for post season.
5. If there are two berths to the national tournament: NA
6. Method of team selection: All teams participate
7. Method of seeding: Based on regular season conference record. If tied, head to head; runs allowed against each other; record against conference teams starting at the top; coin flip.
8. Selected Site: Domtar Park, Kingsport, TN
9. Host Institution: Reinhardt University
10. Contingency Plan: Regular season champion will advance
11. Athletic Trainer Coverage: Milligan College and Virginia Intermont College
12. Tournament SID: Union College
13. Tournament Fee: \$400 for non-traveling schools, \$100 for traveling schools.

9. Conference Tournament Format:

- There will be no international tiebreaker system in tournament games.
- No team may dress more than the NAIA allows for post-season play.
- The direct qualifying team will be the tournament champion.
- Other policies will follow the current NCAA rulebook with NAIA modifications.
- Tie-breaker system for seeding purposes will be:
 1. Head to head
 2. Fewest runs allowed among teams tied
 3. Results versus Conference opponents starting at the top
 4. Coin toss
- Double –elimination tournament
- Higher seed is home team in the winner’s bracket of the tournament. Loser’s bracket will go with the coin flip.

Men's and Women's Tennis

Sport Liaison: Ray Smith, Milligan College

Chair: Donny Mayfield, Tennessee Wesleyan College

Rater: Johnny Thornton, Tennessee Wesleyan College

1. Roster: A match shall consist of six to eight players and nine matches (6 single matches, 3 doubles matches). Less than six players may be used only if a player is injured or sick.
2. Scheduling: Coaches of each team are responsible for contacting one another to agree on home and away matches. One of these is to be designated for "Standing and Seeding." If a team travels to the site of a match and the match must be cancelled because of weather, a make-up must be agreed upon if it is the "Standing and Seeding" match. The non-designated match may serve as the make-up. Otherwise, there will be no make-up unless agreed to by both coaches. Coaches must communicate before travel. If a team wishes to seek a forfeit of a cancelled match because of what they deem as the lack of honest effort on the part of the opponents to reschedule, a request must be made in writing to the NAIA National Office within 10 days of the originally scheduled match date. Notice must also be given to the Conference Commissioner.
3. Officials: Certified officials are not be required at home matches. Coaches will serve as officials, as needed.
4. Equipment & Site Criteria:
 - Two coaches may be designated for men's matches and 3 for women's matches
 - Coaching is allowed at all times while the ball is not in, not to disrupt the flow of the match.
 - Follow ITA "Code" except where the differences provided in writing by the coaches' committee.
 - Home coach shall provide the visiting team with at least two practice courts 30 minutes before the match time. Other warm-ups should be limited to 10 minutes.
 - Written contracts are required for all matches.
 - Singles and doubles line-ups are to be exchanged simultaneously prior to the match. The line-ups are to be "fair" with the strongest player at number one, and so on.
 - The home team will provide 3 new balls for each match. New balls will be used for a third set if both coaches are in agreement. Teams will use the NAIA official ball
 - Conduct: It is the responsibility of the coaches to set standards for his/her team and take appropriate disciplinary action when these standards are violated. The conduct warning will be given during the introduction of the line-ups. After that, coaches or

assistant coaches may issue a point penalty, followed by game, then match on subsequent violations.

- Scoring: 9 point matches (6 singles, 3 doubles each counting one point). Playing doubles first and play 8 game pro sets for doubles. Singles will be best of 3 sets. Regular add scoring, 12 point tie-breaker at 6-all in singles and 8-all in doubles.
5. Forms & Reports: Coaches shall email their lineup for conference matches to the conference chair at least two days prior to the scheduled match. Coaches are to report match results using the Conference website reporting system weekly including team and individual results. All Conference award results will be emailed or FAXed to the Conference Commissioner, Conference SID and the NAIA National office within 48 hours of the tournament's completion.
 6. Coaches Meeting: Coaches will meet at the Conference Tournament to decide on the next year's schedule.
 7. Awards:
 - Tournament Champion, Runner-Up, Regular Season Champion, Champion of Character Team
 - Coach of the Year: Will be determined by a vote from the head coaches at the tournament meeting.
 - Singles Player of the Year: Will be the player receiving the most votes under the criteria noted above.
 - All-Conference Team: Each coach at the seeding meeting will nominate players of their choosing for All-Conference then vote for 10. The top 10 vote getters will be named to the All-Conference Team and the remaining vote getters will be awarded All-Conference Honorable Mention Team.
 - Duard Walker Sportsmanship Award: Each team will nominate a player to be voted on by coaches for the Sportsman/ Sportswoman of the Year. The remaining nominees will comprise the AAC Sportsmanship Team. This will be done for both men and women.
 8. **Conference Championship Tournament:** (subject to change)
 1. Date: April 20-21, 2012
 2. Backup date: April 22, 2012
 3. Number of schools sponsoring sport: 4 (M), 5 (W)
 4. Number of teams in event: To be determined after non-affiliation inclusion is verified or not necessary.
 5. If there are two berths to the Nationals: NA
 6. Method of team selection for event: All teams participate
 7. Method of seeding: Regular season finish with head-to-head to resolve a tie.
 8. Selected Site: Champions Club, Chattanooga, TN (subject to change)

9. Host Institution: Tennessee Wesleyan College
10. Contingency Plan: Highest National Ranking will advance
11. Athletic Trainer Coverage: TBA
12. Tournament SID: Tournament Director and Jay Stancil
13. Tournament Fee: \$150 per squad, \$300 if both the men and women are represented.

9. Conference Tournament Format:

- Men's and women's tennis have been assigned to an NAIA Unaffiliated Group for the Conference Tournament. Dates, location and format are TBA.
- The championship team from the Unaffiliated Group Tournaments will advance to the NAIA National Tournament.
- Tournament Committee is appointed annually to work out the details such as; dates (preferable 3rd or 4th week of April), site director, expenses, local housing, possible corporate sponsorship, possible indoor facilities, and seeding meeting.
- Seeding is determined by the team record for the “designated” conference matches.
- Schedule will be: Day 1 –Quarter and Semi-finals, Day 2 – Finals, Day 3 – Rain day.
- Scoring: Best of 3 sets for singles. 8-game pro sets for doubles, 12-point tiebreaker if needed. After a team has scored 5 points the match is complete. Play is halted for all other matches underway. Add scoring will be used in all matches.
- Local institutions will equally share the provision of tennis balls.
- There will be new balls for each match.
- Coaching is allowed at all times when the ball is not in play, not interrupting the flow of the match. Coaches may sit on the court, outside the doubles alley near the net post. Each team may have a maximum of 2 coaches, designated in writing to the director before play begins.
- Warm-up is limited to 10 minutes, including practice serves. Players are to avoid returning practice serves.
- Default time: Teams/players failing to report for a match 10 minutes after the match is called will forfeit the match.
- Teams/players may have 30 minutes rest period between matches.
- Winning players report scores and return used balls immediately to the director.
- ITA rules are to be followed. English will be the spoken language on the courts.
- Injury time out is 3 minutes and the player must stay on the court. Only 2 injury time outs per match.

Men's and Women's Outdoor Track & Field

Sport Liaison: Craig Jackson, Montreat College

Chair: Chris Layne, Milligan College

1. Roster: There is no minimum roster to constitute a team.
2. Scheduling: All teams that sponsor track & field must compete in the Conference Championship. Should an institution declare its intent to participate in the NAIA Men's and Women's Track National Championship, it must honor that commitment if the team qualifies through the Conference Championship meet. If the institution does not honor its declaration of intent commitment, it shall be automatically suspended in that sport for the next academic year. The official NAIA Handbook for coaches will be used as the guidelines for conducting all meets of the Conference and individual member schools.
3. Officials: Officials for the Conference Championship will be provided by the host institution.
4. Equipment & Site Criteria: To be determined by coaches in the fall. Scoring for individual events will be 5-3-2-1 for the top four places and for relay events 5-3-1 for the top three teams.
5. Forms & Reports: National qualifying marks are to be reported to the NAIA through the POP system. Coaches will report meet results using the Conference website reporting system including team and individual results.
6. Coaches Meeting: The annual coaches' meeting will be held at the Cross-Country Championship or at the Track Championship.
7. Awards:
 - Men's & Women's Team Champion, Runner-Up, Champion of Character Team
 - Coach of the Year – The coach of the Championship Team
 - All-Conference Team – The top 3 male and the top 3 female Conference finishers in each event at the Conference Championship meet.
 - Most Outstanding Athlete – to be voted on by the coaches for both men and women.
 - Academic All-Conference
8. **Conference Championship Meet:**
 1. Date: April 19, 2012
 2. Backup dates:

3. Number of schools sponsoring and participating: 4
 4. Number of schools in event: 4
 5. If there are two berths to Nationals: NA
 6. Method team selection for event: All teams participate.
 7. Method of seeding: NA
 8. Selected Site: Tipton Stadium, Johnson City, TN
 9. Host Institution: Milligan College
 10. Contingency Plan: NA
 11. Athletic Trainer coverage provided by each team.
 12. Tournament SID: Milligan College.
 13. Tournament Fee: \$200 per team
- Total number of scored events for both men and women will be 24: 100m, 400m, 800m, 1500m, 5K, 400m hurdles, discus throw, shot put, long jump, high jump, 4x1 relay, 4x4 relay
 - Four athletes may entered per event and 4 scoring

Volleyball

Sport Liaison: Kevin Porter, Point University

Chair: Doneva Bays, Milligan College

Rater: Brian Solomon, Columbia College

1. Roster: A team must have a minimum of six players and maximum of 16 players on their official roster each game. More players may dress out and play during regular season matches, but no more than 16 during the Conference Tournament.
2. Scheduling: Coaches will meet in August (first Tuesday) to schedule home and away matches for the following season, with every team playing every Conference team at home and away. The host school must pay the visiting team the officials' fee if the officials fail to show. The host team must travel to the visiting team to make-up and pay for the officials. If the host team chooses not to travel to play again, the host team must take a forfeit. Coaches will make the decision whether to play or reschedule.
3. Officials: Each coach must send in their regular season schedule to the Conference official's assignor. The official's assignor is responsible for selecting officials for all AAC matches. Regular season and tournament officials must be USA or PAVO rated officials.

Certified high school officials can be used as down officials when a USA of PAVO official cannot be secured or in an emergency situation.

4. Equipment & Site Criteria: The Tachikara is the official NAIA volleyball. The Tachikara S5W Gold white ball or the Red/White/ Blue balls are the official balls to be used by the conference. The Red/White/Blue ball will be used for post-season play.
 - All conference schools must provide at least 12 (good) balls for the opponents to use during their warm-up for matches.
 - The home team will provide water, cups, and ice for matches.
 - The home team is required to provide statistics to the visiting team at the end of the match.
 - The host school must provide a trainer for all home matches. If the visiting team needs a trainer, the home team should be advised in advance of the match.
5. Forms & Reports: The home team is responsible for reporting stats and game scores to DakStats and SIDHelp. Coaches and statisticians may discuss stats at the end of the game to determine the official stats. Every week during their season, each team will web synch their entire DakStats by 12:00 noon on Monday. Web synching immediately after each game is encouraged. Coaches may nominate Player of the Week, Setter of the Week, and Libero of the Week by using the web-based form on the NAIA website by noon on Mondays. The sport chair or Conference SID will make the final selection based on weekly nominations.
6. Coaches Meeting: Meeting will be held twice a year, in August (first Tuesday) and in November at the Conference Tournament. All volleyball coaches should attend both meetings.
7. Awards:
 - Tournament Champion, Runner-Up, Regular Season Champion, Champion of Character Team
 - Coach of the Year - voted on by all conference coaches at the Conference Tournament.
 - Player of the Year – The player of the Year will be voted on separately from the All-Conference Team. Nominees must be members of the first team All-Conference Team to be considered for Player of the Year. If there is a tie, both players will be recognized as Co-Players of the Year. This also applies to Libero, Setter and Freshman of the Year.
 - Libero of the Year
 - Setter of the Year
 - Freshman of the Year
 - All-Freshman Team

- All-Conference Team – Players are nominated by their coach and voted on by all coaches, with each coach not voting for his or her own players. Each coach must vote for fourteen players. Voting is based on power ranking with the first player on the ballot receiving fourteen points, the second player receiving thirteen points, etc. There will be a fourteen member First Team and a six member Second Team.
- All-Academic Team – Nominations must comply with the requirements outlined in Standard Operating Procedures. Nominations must be received by the Sport Chair by the Monday before the Conference Tournament. An official transcript or Registrar’s official form must accompany each nomination. Voting to confirm the nominations will be by the coaches at the Tournament.
- All-Tournament Team – Each coach of the final four teams chooses two players for the team. An additional player from the Championship team will be chosen as the MVP.
- Nominations and supporting statistics for the above awards must be sent to each conference volleyball coach by the nominating coach by 5:00 p.m. on the Sunday prior to the Conference Tournament. Voting forms (provided by Conference Chair) must be submitted to the conference chair by 5:00 p.m. on Monday before the conference tournament. Conference Chair and rater will tally votes, and the results will be confirmed by verbal affirmation at the tournament coaches’ meeting.
- Players will not be eligible for conference awards if the coach fails to report weekly statistics more than two times during the season. The coach must be present at the coaches’ meeting in order to nominate his/her players.
- Coaches may nominate a Player of the Week directly on the NAIA website by 2:00 p.m. on Mondays. Three positions are available for POW nominations. The Sport Chair, or if he/she is not available, the Conference SID will select the POW by 3:00 p.m. on Mondays.
- Conference Awards will be announced on Wednesday of the Tournament at 1:00 p.m.

8. Conference Championship Tournament:

1. Date: November 9-11, 2011
2. Backup date:
3. Number of schools sponsoring sport: 9
4. Number of teams in event: 9
5. If two berths to the national tournament: NA
6. Method of team selection: Final seeding from regular season
7. Method of seeding: Final rating determines seeding. Single elimination first round and then double-elimination tournament.
8. Selected Site: Meadowview Marriott Resort, Kingsport, TN
9. Host Institution: Kingsport Convention & Visitors Bureau
10. Contingency Plan: Regular season champion will advance
11. Athletic Trainer coverage: Milligan College, Bryan, Reinhardt

12. Tournament SID: Matt Laws, Milligan College, Katie Welsh, Columbia College
 13. Tournament Fee: Traveling teams \$100; non-traveling teams \$400.
9. In the event of a tie for Regular Season Champion, both teams will be declared Co-Champions.
 10. Tournament Tie Breaker System: Seeding will be based on the Conference win/loss record. In case of a tie, the following procedure will be followed:
 1. Head-to-head in their matches between themselves
 2. Head-to-head in the number of games won and lost against each other
 3. Total points scored against
 4. Coin toss by a neutral coach
 11. Tournament Officials: The Conference Assignor will secure the tournament officials. An attempt will be made to secure officials from various geographic areas. The tournament sponsor (Kingsport C & VB) will pay for travel, lodging, and meals in addition to the appropriate match fee. Coaches of conference teams should tell the assignor if she/he does not want a particular official to call at the tournament (with valid reason). All officials should be National or Jr. National officials, or the best officials that the assignor can secure.