

BYLAW 4

Playing Rules

4.1 BASIC PLAYING RULES

4.1.1 The basic playing rules governing competition for colleges, conferences, and postconference competition in each of the sports sanctioned by the COA shall be those stated in the sport championship handbook. The sport championship handbook must be approved by the MC and may include exceptions to the basic playing rules. The following rulebooks apply:

FALL SPORT	RULEBOOK	SPRING SPORT	RULEBOOK
Cross Country	NCAA	Badminton W	USAB
Football	NCAA	Baseball	NCAA
Golf W	USGA	Golf M	USGA
Soccer	FIFA	Softball	NCAA
Volleyball W	NCAA	Swimming	NCAA
Water Polo	NCAA	Tennis	ITA
Wrestling	NCAA	Track & Field	NCAA
Basketball	NCAA	Volleyball M	USVA

Note: Please refer to Bylaw 4.2 for adopted sport rule modifications.

4.1.2 Individual conferences and sport coaches associations wishing to modify playing rules in a sport may submit a request for rules changes to the MC sport representative and COA Executive Director. Such requests shall be directed through the Office of the COA Executive Director and shall be presented to the appropriate COA/CCCAA committee using FORM 5A.

4.1.3 When a sport rule is to be changed outside of the official COA timelines, the change will be made by a caucus of two (2) representatives from the MC (the MC Chair and the MC sport representative) and the COA Executive Director or designee.

4.2 PLAYING RULE MODIFICATIONS

This bylaw contains the playing rule modifications (see Bylaw 4.1.2) adopted for each sport.

4.2.1 BADMINTON

- A. Team line ups are to be exchanged 15 minutes prior to team introductions.
1. All singles and doubles are to be listed in order of ability as determined by team ladder competition.
 2. A player not entered in the same event may substitute for another player. However, once the event has started, no substitutions are allowed.
 3. Two (2) copies of the line up are required. One (1) is to be exchanged with the opposing team and the second is for the tournament committee and/or media.
- B. SHUTTLE CHANGES:
1. In matches played without an umpire, shuttles may be changed whenever requested by a player. If only one (1) player requests a change, she must go to the official referee for a ruling.
 2. If an umpire is assigned to the court, the umpire shall make the determination.
- C. TIME BETWEEN MATCHES: Participants are allowed a maximum of 12 minutes between matches.
- D. TIME OUTS
1. Injury time outs. Play may be suspended one (1) time during a match at the discretion of the umpire, but may not exceed five (5) minutes. A second injury time out during the same individual match will result in an immediate default.
 2. Uniform/Equipment time outs. Time outs to repair or replace uniforms or equipment shall be at the discretion of the umpire and shall not exceed five (5) minutes.
- E. DEFAULTS: Defaults shall be declared by the event manager 15 minutes after the match has been announced. The event manager has the option to change posted match times upon notification of players and coaches involved.
- F. MISCONDUCT:
1. When there is no official assigned to the match, misconduct penalties shall be ruled on by the tournament referee.
 2. **INDIVIDUAL:** USA Badminton rules for misconduct shall be followed.
TEAM: When an official is calling a match, USA Badminton rules shall be followed.

G. COACHING:

INDIVIDUAL: On court coaching is allowed only during the 90-second break between games 1 and 2. A maximum of two (2) coaches are allowed on the court. Off-court coaching is allowed during the five (5)-minute break between games 2 and 3.

TEAM: Coaching is allowed between games 2 and 3 only.

4.2.2 **BASEBALL**

- A. All postconference competition shall be played under NCAA rules, unless otherwise amended with the approval of conferences, the Office of the COA Executive Director, and the COA.
- B. At a postconference competition event, the MC Baseball Representative, after consultation, may impose additional penalties to event participants who are found to have violated appropriate *Constitution and Bylaws* behavior policy.
- C. In addition to the COA Decorum Policy (Bylaw 4), the onsite Tournament Protest Committee shall be responsible for evaluating standards of behavior. When standards are considered to need attention, the Committee is empowered to interrupt any game or tournament proceeding to ensure adherence to appropriate standards.
- D. If a postconference competition game is halted prior to completion, Rule 5, Section 8b, of the NCAA rule book shall apply.

4.2.2.1 CODE OF CONDUCT FOR GAMES

- A. In the regional tournament, host teams shall have their choice of dugouts. In the super-regional tournament, home teams shall occupy the third-base dugout.
- B. Only uniformed players and coaches, assigned trainer(s), scorekeeper, and bat boys/girls shall be allowed in the dugout and bullpen areas.
- C. Players must remain in the dugout at all times, except when on deck or assigned to the bullpen area.
- D. All baseball gear (bats, gloves, balls, etc.) will be housed in the dugout and will not appear on the steps or any area surrounding the dugout.
- E. Players shall not argue with an umpire's decision. Only one (1) coach may discuss a disputed play with an umpire.
- F. Players and coaches shall refrain from abusive language towards opposing players, umpires, or fans. Excessive verbal abuse by any player or coach will be cause for ejection from the game. (See COA Decorum Policy, Bylaw 4.)

4.2.2.2 GAME PROCEDURES (*Adopted & effective November 13, 2006.*)

- A. At the start of the game, pitchers shall be allowed ten (10) warm-up pitches. This rule shall also be in effect for relief pitchers entering games.

B. Between innings, pitchers shall be allowed six (6) warm-up pitches.

C. Teams shall be encouraged to hustle on and off the field.

4.2.2.3 HOME TEAM/VISITING TEAM DESIGNATION DURING THE REGIONAL AND STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENTS

A. For games #1 and #2, the home team shall be the highest seeded team.

B. The home team shall have the third-base dugout.

C. For games #3 and #4, teams shall reverse their home/visitor role from the previous day. If both teams were home or visitors, then the team with the highest seed shall be the home team.

D. For games #5 and #6, the following criteria shall apply in rank order:

1. If the game is a rematch of the two (2) teams, the home team/visiting team designation shall be the reverse of the first game they played.

2. If a team has not yet been a home or visiting team, it shall assume the role that applies.

3. If "b" does not apply, the team with the fewest home/visiting team games between the two (2) teams will be home or visitor.

4. If a, b, or c does not apply, then the team with the highest seed shall be the home team.

E. For game #7, reverse from game #6.

4.2.3 BASKETBALL

A. At a postconference competition event, the MC Basketball Representative, after consultation, may impose additional penalties to event participants who are found to have violated appropriate *Constitution and Bylaws* behavior policy.

B. Any men's or women's basketball team that forfeits five (5) or more contests during the season (non-conference and conference combined) are ineligible for postconference competition that season.

C. Any women's basketball team that forfeits a postconference competition due to the use of an ineligible player shall not be permitted to compete in the following year's postconference competition.

4.2.4 CROSS COUNTRY

A. A scoring team will consist of no less than five (5) individuals and no more than seven (7) individuals from the same college. The meet shall be conducted in accordance with the rules set forth in the current NCAA Track and Field/Cross Country Rules and the Division I Cross Country Championship Handbook with exceptions as stated in the CCCAA Cross Country Championship Handbook.

B. TEAM COMPETITION PENALTIES

A cross country team is defined as all athletes from a college that compete in a race. Regional and state championships allow for a maximum of seven (7) athletes in each team competition. Conference competition allows for unlimited athletes in team championship competition unless stated otherwise in conference rules.

If a team competes in the conference championships, regional championships, or state championship with an ineligible athlete, that team will be disqualified from that competition and from any further competition that season, and the next team in line would move into the qualifying position. A disqualified team cannot qualify more than four (4) individual athletes to the next round. Any individuals that would have qualified under the individual qualifying procedures on their own merit may be allowed to qualify to the next round. An individual athlete from a disqualified team cannot qualify to the next round if they displace an individual athlete that has already qualified. The number of individual qualifier is a set number and this number will not be exceeded.

C. INDIVIDUAL COMPETITION PENALTIES

An individual is defined as any athlete that is not on a qualifying team.

If an individual athlete is ineligible and competes in the conference championship, regional championship, or state championship, that athlete will be disqualified from that competition and will not be allowed to qualify to the next round of competition.

D. CCCAA CROSS COUNTRY SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA REGIONAL EXCEPTIONS:
(Adopted October 17, 2008, effective July 1, 2009.)

1. Each athlete has the option of wearing flat or spiked shoes in competition following NCAA code. However, the meet manager, for the safety of the runners, may designate that spiked shoes may not be worn.
2. Athletes leaving the finish chute without having their finish tag or label pulled or handed a finish card will be disqualified and not added back into the team scoring.
3. The rules for community college cross country shall follow the NCAA rules except in the tie-breaking rule when qualifying for the CCCAA Cross Country State Championship.
4. All guidelines for the conduct of the meet shall be supervised by the Southern California Track and Field Rules Committee.

4.2.5 FOOTBALL

- A. Regulations governing the field of play (Rule 1, Section 2 of the NCAA Rulebook), such as exact line striping or size of the goal posts, may be waived if the home team has no control over the physical venue.
- B. A "traditional" 25-second count will be used once the official determines the ball has been set and is ready for play. The NCAA 40-second timing rules (NCAA Rule 3,

Section 2, Article 4.b and c) will not be used. (Adopted April 3, 2009; effective July 1, 2009.)

- C. At a postconference competition event, the MC Football Representative, after consultation, may impose additional penalties to event participants who are found to have violated appropriate *Constitution and Bylaws* behavior policy.
- D. PRE-GAME AND HALF-TIME—There shall be a 15-minute pre-game and 20-minute half-time for ceremonies. Whenever feasible, a band festival should be developed and included in the pre-game and half-time ceremonies. No game expenses may be allowed for this.
- E. NO TOLERANCE SPORTSMANSHIP POLICY—The “NO TOLERANCE POLICY” shall be in force for all football competition, including postconference competition. (*Adopted & effective November 21, 2005.*)

The “NO TOLERANCE POLICY” is directed toward unsportsmanlike actions by players/coaches/participants and is in effect before, during, and after all postconference football games. Berating officials; continued sideline negative demeanor/complaining directed at officials; verbal abuse; profanity/vulgar language directed either at officials, opposing team personnel, or toward one’s own teams members; taunting, ridiculing, or demonstration of or baiting of opponents, all come under the “NO TOLERANCE POLICY” rule. “NO” means don’t do it again, but an official has the authority to eject a player/coach/participant in severe first unsportsmanlike actions. Common sense should prevail.

4.2.6 MEN’S GOLF

- A. Only the head coach or his/her designee may confer with his/her own players, only to the extent he/she not interfere with the other players in the tournament.
- B. It is required that each player walks and carries his own bag of clubs throughout the tournament. Exceptions to this portion of Bylaw 4.2.6 and the Men’s Golf Championship Handbook must be submitted to the MC Men’s Golf Representative in the form of an appeal ten (10) days prior to the regional tournament. Each appeal shall include:
 1. Verification of enrollment at the community college (current semester classes enrolled).
 2. A signed letter requesting specific accommodations for a physical disability submitted by the student.
 3. A letter from the men’s head golf coach on school letterhead supporting the requests for physical accommodations with approval of the athletic director.
 4. Verification of disability and identification of educational limitations due to disability from a licensed medical physician.

The appeal will be presented to the Men’s Golf Coaches Executive Committee for approval. The MC Men’s Golf Representative will also vote on the appeal. An appeal must receive a majority of the votes cast.

- C. Following the start of the state tournament, there shall be no substitutions.
- D. The regional and state tournament managers shall meet with the host site course professional prior to their event in order to establish fair and equitable tee and pin placement throughout the tournaments.

4.2.7 WOMEN'S GOLF

- A. Postconference competition shall be played under United States Golf Association (USGA) rules and local course rules (Note: Local course rules supersede the USGA). *(Adopted & effective April 5, 2007.)*
- B. Each event manager shall be responsible for contacting the area NCGA/SCGA office to request qualified referees. If NCGA/SCGA referees are not available, a rules committee shall be established to act in their place. The rules committee shall consist of the host PGA professional in conjunction with a representative of the CCCLGCA, who cannot be a representative from the host conference. The event manager shall fill unforeseen vacancies to the Protest and the Rules Committee by appointment at the coaches information meeting prior to the tournament. (See COA Bylaw 6.13 and the USGA Rule Book.) *(Adopted & effective April 7, 2007.)*
- C. Regional and state participants shall be accompanied and supervised throughout the competition by a certified employee from the college. Lacking this supervision, participation shall be denied. Each certified employee shall be allowed the use of one (1) golf cart per college, for this purpose. *(Adopted & effective April 5, 2007.)*
- D. Participants in all regional and state championship events, including practice rounds, shall dress in proper golf attire—in slacks or appropriate length shorts/skirts according to course regulation, and shirts with a collar. Players will be disqualified from that day of competition in which they do not wear the proper attire or if they alter their uniform. *(Adopted & effective April 7, 2006.)*
- E. It is required that each player walk and carry/pull her own bag of clubs throughout the tournament.
- F. There shall be no substitutions after the start of each postconference tournament.
- G. The regional and state event managers shall meet with the host site course professional prior to their event in order to standardize the tee lengths for all regional and state championship competition.
- H. If a second round of competition is used, pin placements shall be changed prior to the start of the second round consistent with G above.
- I. No electronic devices (i.e., cell phones, pagers, beepers, mp3s, etc.) are allowed on the golf course at any time. Players will be warned about this rule by the event manager prior to the start of competition. Failure to comply will be immediate removal from the course. The Tournament Committee may grant special permission for the use of a cell phone. *(Adopted & effective April 5, 2007.)*
- J. One (1) designated coach can coach players from tee to green, excluding hazards, bunkers, and putting green.

- K. Spectators, if allowed on the tournament course, must remain on the cart path only or a reasonable distance off the fairway. Spectators interfering with play will be removed from the site.

4.2.8 SOCCER

- A. All postconference competition contests shall be played under current Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) laws with the following modifications:
1. Unlimited substitutions are permitted and shall be made only during the following: kickoffs, goal kicks, your own throw-ins, your own corner kicks, cautions (yellow cards), injuries, or any time the other team substitutes.
 2. An unlimited number of players are permitted on the team roster. For soccer, all disqualifications (including those not covered under Bylaw 4) are subject to a one (1)-game suspension.
 3. Fields must be a minimum width of 70 yards and a minimum length of 110 yards for postconference competition. Maximum dimensions of the soccer field are 80 yards by 120 yards.
 4. A game shall include two (2) 45-minute halves.
 5. Once an official halts play due to an injury, the attending medical personnel will assume authority regarding the disposition of the injured player.
 6. Referees shall show yellow and red cards issued to coaches for misconduct. *(Adopted & effective April 4, 2007.)*
 7. The center official is required to notify both coaches as to the amount of stoppage time added for both halves. *(Adopted April 2, 2009; effective July 1, 2009.)*
- B. All games that end in a tie shall use the procedures as follows:
1. In case of a tie after 90 minutes of play, two (2) extra periods of 15 minutes shall be played.
 2. If a tie persists after playing two (2) extra periods of 15 minutes, kicks shall be taken from the penalty mark according to FIFA instructions to the National Associations and Continental Federations described in FIFA Laws of the Game and Universal Guide for Referees (page 45).
 3. It is the responsibility of the referee to monitor such procedures with the help of the assistant referees.
 4. There will be no golden goal.

4.2.9 SOFTBALL

- A. For CCCAA regional round one (1) and regional round two (2), the home team shall be the higher seeded college for game one (1). In subsequent games, a coin flip will determine home team. *(Adopted & effective November 18, 2007.)*
- B. DUGOUTS
 - 1. CCCAA REGIONAL GAMES: Dugouts shall be assigned. During CCCAA regional games, the higher seeded college shall have the choice of dugouts for each game, except for games played on consecutive fields. Dugouts shall not be changed when one (1) team plays on the same field for consecutive games; the new team shall occupy the empty dugout.
 - 2. CCCAA STATE CHAMPIONSHIP GAMES: the team on top of the bracket shall occupy the third base dugout. *(Adopted & effective November 18, 2007.)*
- C. In case of inclement weather: During the first and second round of CCCAA regional competition, the event may be extended up to two (2) days after the originally-scheduled date of completion. If the event cannot be completed, the highest seeded team left in the winners bracket of completed games will advance. If there have not been any games completed, the highest seeded team will advance. *(Adopted & effective April 5, 2007.)*
- D. In case of a tie at the end of seven (7) innings, play shall continue until a winner is determined

4.2.10 SWIMMING & DIVING

- A. Events will run as they appear in the “Schedule of Events” as listed in the CCCAA Swimming & Diving Championship Handbook. The women’s events will precede the approved men’s NCAA order.
- B. PARTICIPATION LIMITS—In a three (3) day championship meet, competitors are permitted to participate in a maximum of seven (7) events of which no more than three (3) may be individual events.
- C. Meet entry information packets are due in the hands of the state swim coaches no later than one (1) month prior to the start of the state meet. Entry requirements will be mailed by the event manager to all participating schools. *(Adopted & effective April 7, 2006.) (Adopted & effective October 13, 2006.)*

4.2.11 TENNIS**4.2.11.1 REGIONAL AND STATE INDIVIDUAL**

- A. The Regional Individual Tournament Committee will follow the Tennis Championship Handbook and ITA rules to assist with the administration of tennis competition.

- B. All matches shall be the best two (2)-out-of-three (3) sets. New balls shall be provided for the third set. There shall be a maximum of a five (5)-minute break between the second and the third sets.
- C. TIME BETWEEN MATCHES
 - 1. Participants are allowed 30 minutes between matches.
 - 2. Participants are allowed one (1) hour between the end of singles and the start of their first doubles match.
- D. Defaults shall be called at 15 minutes by the event manager. The event manager has the option to change posted match times upon notification of players and coaches involved.
- E. CONDUCT—The point penalty system shall be enforced at all times.

4.2.11.2. REGIONAL AND STATE TEAM

The regional team championship committee will follow the CCCAA Tennis Championship Handbook and ITA rules to assist with the administration of tennis competition.

- A. All matches shall be the best two-(2)-out-of-three-(3) sets. New balls shall be provided for the third set.
- B. The singles matches shall be played first. A maximum of a 15-minute break is allowed between completion of a singles match and the start of the doubles match.
- C. Defaults shall be called at 15 minutes. The event manager has the option to change posted match times upon notification of participants and coaches involved.
- D. CONDUCT—The point penalty system shall be enforced at all times.

4.2.12 TRACK & FIELD

- A. The meets shall be governed by the NCAA rules for both the men’s and women’s events except where provided by the 5CTCA with approval of the COA. Uniform tops shall have one of the following forms of identification placed on the front of the school-issued uniform: college initials, college name, college mascot name, college logo or symbol.
- B. All coaches, spectators, and non-competing athletes shall remain off the infield and track during the regional and state meets.

For the CCCAA Track and Field Southern California Regional Championships: All coaches, spectators, and non-competing athletes shall remain off the infield and track during the regional and state championships unless he/she has been asked to help as an official or in some meet management capacity/responsibility. (Adopted & effective October 16, 2008.)

C. CCCAA TRACK AND FIELD SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS
(Adopted & effective October 16, 2008.)

1. In the horizontal jumps, all jumps should be recorded with a wind gauge reading. This wind gauge must be certified for the present year or a second wind gauge should also be used.

Wind gauges at the CCCAA Track and Field Southern California Regional Championship Trials:

In the CCCAA Track and Field Southern California Regional Trials, a wind gauge must be properly placed and operated for the 100, 200, and 100 and 110 hurdles. It is recommended that each wind gauge be certified for the present year. It is required that the Chief Official record the wind gauge reading from each heat or event onto each event sheet recorded into the official results.

2. All competitors must wear bib numbers when in the area of competition.

4.2.13 MEN'S VOLLEYBALL

- A. Twelve (12) unlimited substitutions per game permitted.
- B. Coaching from sidelines permitted—providing it is not disruptive.
- C. May use a different Libero each game; however, the coach must indicate his number for each game lineup.
- D. Switch sides at eight (8) points during the fifth game. *(Adopted & effective May 4, 2007.)*
- E. Libero may serve in one (1) rotation in the proper serving order.
- F. Games one (1) through four (4) will be played to 30, game five (5) to 15. The entire match will be played using rally scoring. Teams must win by two (2) points.

4.2.14 WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL

No exceptions.

4.2.15 WATER POLO

No exceptions.

4.2.16 WRESTLING

- A. Student athletes weighing in at a weight class in which they are not certified to compete would be considered a not-certified participant and the following sanctions shall be applied.
 1. FIRST VIOLATION
 - a. Forfeiture of scheduled event

- i. DUAL: forfeiture of the entire dual meet.
 - ii. TOURNAMENT: classified as flagrant misconduct—The offending wrestler shall be disqualified from the tournament and all points earned by the wrestler deducted from the team score.
 - b. Letter sent to the offending college’s athletic director.
 - c. Offending student athlete declared not-certified for the next scheduled event.
 - d. Offending head coach required to sit out the next scheduled event.
- 2. SECOND VIOLATION
 - a. Same student athlete—Section A (1) shall apply and the athlete shall be declared not certified for the remainder of the season.
 - b. Different student athlete: Section A (1–4) shall apply.
 - c. Letter sent to athletic director (c.c. division dean).
 - d. Head coach shall be removed for the remainder of the sport season.
- B. The required initial weight certification information must be in the office of the MC Wrestling Representative by 4:00PM the day before a college’s first scheduled competition. Certification of additional student athletes shall follow the same guidelines prior to participation of the athlete. Noncompliance would result in forfeiture of scheduled contest involving non-certified student athletes. *(Adopted April 2, 2009; effective July 1, 2009.)*
- C. An NCAA official weigh-in form will not have to be used for all competition (NCAA Rulebook, Rule 9.1.1), but each head coach shall have in his possession his team’s weight descent information at every event. Upon request, he shall present the information. Teams not complying with the aforementioned guideline shall forfeit the scheduled contest or be declared not eligible for participation in the scheduled tournament. *(Adopted April 2, 2009; effective July 1, 2009.)*
- D. Final certification information shall be presented at the regional championships prior to weigh-ins. Teams not complying with this guideline will be declared ineligible for participation in the regional championships.
- E. At least one (1) coach for each wrestling team will be CPR certified and will be re-certified annually prior to the start of competition.

4.3 CONDITIONS FOR CONTESTS

- 4.3.1 College representatives may only photograph by still, motion, video tape, or film methods any game, meet, or match in which their college is a participant.

4.3.2 There shall be a licensed physician present and prepared to administer medical care at all California community college football games. No football game shall begin without a licensed physician present.

(4.3.1 moved to 4.5.E, 4.3.2 and 4.3.3 renumbered accordingly. (Adopted April 3, 2009; effective July 1, 2009.)

4.4 DECORUM

4.4.1 DECORUM—Is the COA/CCCAA code of behavior for all participants in sponsored athletic events. For the purpose of this policy, the following definitions apply:

A. PARTICIPANT—is a player, coach, team member, team attendant, official or college staff member.

B. EVENT—is defined as the time a team or participant arrives at the event site, until the time the team or participant leaves the event site.

C. EJECTION—Removal from a scrimmage/game/meet/match of a participant for the remainder of the event.

1. Sport rulebook infraction. Removal from the event for actions not under the jurisdiction of this policy, but are covered by the rules of the sport.

2. Decorum violation: Removal of a participant for verbal or physical misconduct, or unsportsmanlike conduct.

a. Verbal misconduct or unsportsmanlike conduct is defined as, but not limited to, unsportsmanlike tactics, such as using profanity or vulgarity, taunting, spitting on an opponent, ridiculing, finger pointing, making obscene gestures, throwing gang signs, baiting an opponent, inciting undesirable crowd reactions, persistent arguing with officials, or aggressive behavior toward officials.

b. Physical misconduct is defined as, but not limited to, any attempt by a participant to contact another participant in a combative manner unrelated to the sport. Such acts include striking or attempting to strike a participant whether or not there is contact.

3. All ejections will be reviewed by the conference commissioner, who will determine if the ejection was a sport rulebook infraction or a decorum violation.

a. A decision that a decorum violation has occurred may be appealed to the conference appeals board.

b. An appeal does not set aside the sanction while the appeal is being deliberated.

c. All decorum violations will result in at least a next event suspension.

(Adopted April 3, 2009; effective July 1, 2009.)

4.4.2 Where official rule books (see Bylaw 4.1.1) and the COA/CCCAA decorum rules differ, the most stringent rules shall apply. (Adopted April 3, 2009; effective July 1, 2009.)

4.5 SANCTIONS FOR DECORUM VIOLATIONS

4.5.1 The following are minimal sanctions. Other sanctions may be imposed by the college, the conference commissioner, the conference, or the conference appeals board:

A. FIRST VIOLATION: Suspension from the next event.

B. SECOND VIOLATION (in the same season): Suspension from all events for the remainder of the sport season, including postconference competition.

C. LEAVING THE BENCH AREA OR POSITION: Participants entering the field of play, or leaving their position in the field of play, in reaction to a confrontation shall be ejected and sanctioned as outlined in Bylaw 4.4 and Bylaw 4.5.

If, in the judgment of the official(s), a coach entering the field of play was helpful in the effort to control participants; the sanctions against the coach may be waived by the conference commissioner. Otherwise, sanctions are mandatory.

D. PHYSICALLY ASSAULTING AN OFFICIAL(S): Physically assaulting or attempting to physically assault an official shall result in immediate ejection, and the participant shall be suspended from participation in COA/CCCAA athletic events for a period of sixty (60) months.

E. TOBACCO AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE: The use or possession of any form of tobacco, alcohol, or other controlled substances by any participant during a COA/CCCAA event shall result in an ejection. (See Bylaw 4.4.1.B for when an event begins and ends.)

1. Tobacco or substance abuse violations shall be considered decorum violations.

2. Sanctions shall be applied as in this bylaw.

F. Coaches or team attendants sanctioned by any of the above bylaws are prohibited from participation in the event only, not from carrying out assigned non-event responsibilities.

(Adopted April 3, 2009; effective July 1, 2009.)

4.6 REPORTING OF REMOVALS

4.6.1 Each removal must be reported to the athletic director within 24 hours.

A. The athletic director shall immediately inform the conference commissioner.

B. Failure by the coach to report within 24 hours shall result in an automatic one (1)-game suspension.

- C. Failure to report by the athletic director shall result in disciplinary action against the athletic director or the sports program by the conference commissioner.

(Adopted April 3, 2009; effective July 1, 2009.)

4.7 DECORUM UNDERSTANDING

- 4.7.1 Each person participating in a COA/CCCAA event shall receive a copy of the decorum policy, and provide written acknowledgment of understanding the rules contained therein.

- 4.7.2 Failure of the institution to conduct decorum training for all coaches shall result in the entire sports program being placed on probation.

(Adopted April 3, 2009; effective July 1, 2009.)

4.8 PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION OF BYLAW 4

- 4.8.1 See Article 7.4.12.

(Renumbered April 3, 2009; effective July 1, 2009.)

