

Form Name: NJCAA Committee Proposal Submission Form  
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## NJCAA Committee Proposal Submission Form

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**Your Name** Mike Saddler

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**Email** mike.saddler@kjccc.org

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**Submitting Committee** DI Baseball

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**Proposal Title/Topic** NJCAA DIVISION I BASEBALL POSTSEASON MODEL PROPOSAL

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**Type of Proposal** Tournament/Championship Format Change

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**Proposed Effective Date of Proposal** August 1, 2027

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**Rationale for Proposal**

Executive Summary  
The NJCAA Division I and Division II Softball and Baseball Committees propose a revised postseason model projected to begin in Spring 2028. The model introduces a Super Regional round for both sports, expands competitive equity, aligns with national championship trends, and provides institutions and host sites sufficient lead time for planning, budgeting, and facility preparation.

Under this proposal, postseason participation will include 32 teams per sport and division, advancing from Regional/District play to Super Regionals, and culminating in the NJCAA World Series.

Guiding Principles & Common Framework

- Improve the student-athlete postseason experience
- Align NJCAA championships with national best practices
- Ensure equitable geographic and regional representation
- Maintain fiscal and logistical responsibility
- Provide predictable timelines for host institutions

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**Please specify the NJCAA Handbook section(s) affected** Baseball - Sport Code Sections 3, 4, 7b

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## Current NJCAA Handbook Language

### Section 3. Qualification of Teams for Competition

A. The qualifying teams shall come from the following 10 districts:

B. The NJCAA DI Baseball Committee adheres to the NJCAA Sport Committee & Poll Process as listed in Section 9 of the NJCAA General Sport Code relating to national tournament seeding.

1. Seeding will be completed no later than the day after the district cutoff date - May 18,2026

2. Only games played against NJCAA, NWAC, or CCCAA programs will be considered using the following criteria (in no order):

i. Record vs. Division I NJCAA teams

ii. Record vs. Division I top 20 teams

iii. Overall record vs Division II & Division III

iv. National Poll

v. Overall record on the road, at a neutral site, at home Strength of Region/District in National Tournament

C. In the event there is a vacancy in the tournament bracket, the runner-up in the district of the vacancy will be the alternate team.

1. If the runner-up from a district of the vacancy is unable to attend the Division I Baseball Committee will be responsible for selecting an alternate team from one of the other district runners-up.

F. Districts will conduct double elimination tournaments to qualify teams for the National Tournament.

G. The scheduled first game of each District Tournament must be no later than the Saturday preceding the NJCAA Tournament. All District Tournaments must be completed no later than midnight on the Sunday prior to the start of the NJCAA Tournament (May 17,2026).

### Section 4. Tournament Rules and Officials

A. The tournament shall be conducted as a ten-team double elimination tournament.

B. NCAA Baseball rules shall be used in all NJCAA Division I tournament games, including district play, with the following exceptions:

1. The maximum allowable number of individuals an institution can have on the field, including the practice field, bullpen, bench, and

dugout is 37. Each team is limited to one head coach, four assistant coaches, recognized by their respective institution, 30 eligible

student-athletes in uniform, one manager and one trainer. The official roster will be signed and turned in at the tournament coaches

meeting. No deletions or additions will be allowed after the roster is turned in.

2. All games are scheduled for nine innings.

3. The 10-run rule shall be in effect after five complete innings.

4. The eight-run rule shall be in effect after seven complete innings.

5. The Championship Game (or games) shall be played for the full nine innings regardless of the score.

6. Any game delayed because of rain, power failure, etc., shall be resumed at the point of suspension and played a full nine innings unless terminated under Rule 3 or 4 above.

7. In the event of unavoidable delays due to weather or other unforeseen causes, the Tournament Co-Chairmen and the NJCAA Representative reserves the right to re-schedule game times, schedule seven inning games, schedule a team(s) for two games in one day, or other arrangements as necessary. Coaches will be kept closely advised of any changes.

8. At the World Series, in any game where there are two undefeated teams, the highest seed team will be the home team. Where

one team is undefeated and another team has a loss, the undefeated team will be the home team, regardless of who was the

highest seed. If both teams have a loss, then there will be a coin flip to determine the home team. In District play, the Districts shall determine how the home team is determined, however it is recommended that if it is a best 2 out of 3 between two teams, then the host would be the home team in game 1, the guest the home team in game 2, and if game 3 is needed, the home team would be determined by a coin-flip,

9. Bat testing will be conducted by an NJCAA representative prior to the start of the National Tournament in accordance with the NCAA bat testing protocols. The process for bat testing at the National Tournament will be clearly spelled out in the pretournament information packet.

C. Diamond DI-PRO Low Seam Baseball is the official baseball of the NJCAA. Baseballs used in the NJCAA Baseball World Series shall be secured through the NJCAA National Office and shipped directly to the host.

D. Championship Bracket - The World Series bracket shall be a 10-team consolation -double elimination.

1. Game times listed below:

2026 NJCAA DI BASEBALL DISTRICTS

DISTRICT REGION(S) DISTRICT REGION(S) DISTRICT REGION(S)

DISTRICT REGION(S) DISTRICT REGION(S)

Appalachian 7, 17 East 10, 15, 20 Mid-South 14 Midwest 4, 11, 24 Plains 6

South 22, 23 South Atlantic 8 South Central 2, 16 Southwest 5 West 1, 9, 18

E. The NJCAA Division I Baseball Committee shall have jurisdiction over the technical aspects of the tournament and officials.

F. If a participating institution has a written policy against Sunday competition, the tournament schedule shall be adjusted to accommodate

that institution and such adjustment shall not require its team to play sooner than when it was originally scheduled. Notice of such written

policy must be filed with the NJCAA National Office prior to September 1st, each academic year. Alternate brackets may be obtained

from the NJCAA National Office.

G. All NJCAA Baseball Tournament umpires must be recommended to the tournament umpire coordinator.

Recommendations must

include a letter, resume, and references. The coordinator shall check the references and assign acceptable prospects to the available list. The coordinator will check specific availability prior to formal approval by the NJCAA.

H. No umpire will be allowed to work more than two consecutive years at the World Series. Each year a minimum of two umpires will

be rotated out of the tournament. Whenever possible no umpire will be allowed to work behind the plate while the district he is from

is playing. The assignment for the final two games will be at the discretion of the Tournament Executive Committee (including the NJCAA Representative).

I. If there are three teams remaining at Game 18, the team with the most games played shall receive a bye to Game 19. If there is a tie for the most games played, the team that won the head-to-head matchup in the tournament shall receive a bye to Game 19. If the tie is

still not able to be broken, the higher seed shall advance to Game 19

J. Video Review will be allowable during the DI Baseball post-season and the

## **Proposed NJCAA Handbook Language**

### Section 3. Qualification of Teams for Competition

National Tournament Structure: The National Tournament will be a 32-team national tournament consisting of automatic qualifiers determined by Region size with the remaining teams selected based on at-large criteria to fill out the 32 team bracket. Teams will be split into eight 4-team Super Regionals with the 8 winning teams advancing to the World Series.

#### 2028 Important Dates:

Super Regional Host Bid Document Available: October 15

Super Regional Host Bid Document Submission Deadline: April 15

Super Regional Host Sites Awarded: May 1, 2028

Regional Completion Deadline: May 9, 2028

Tournament Qualifiers Notified: May 10, 2028

Bracket Reveal: May 11, 2028

Super Regionals: May 16-19, 2028

NJCAA World Series: May 27-June 3, 2028

#### Automatic Qualification Standards by Region

1-2 teams - Combine with another region

3-12 teams - 1 automatic bid

13+ teams - 2 automatic bids

Regions with automatic qualifiers may be combined with regions that do not have automatic qualifiers based on geography.

Automatic qualifiers will be finalized annually one month after the deadline for NJCAA membership dues.

#### At-Large Selection Criteria

##### 1. Overall Body of Work

a. Overall Record, only to include games vs. NJCAA, NWAC, CCCAA, and Military Preparatory Schools will be considered.

##### b. Strength of Schedule

i. Record vs. teams ranked in the poll in your division

ii. Record vs. teams ranked in the poll outside your division

iii. Record vs. region/conference opponents

iv. Record against non-region/non-conference opponents

v. Overall record on the road, at a neutral site, and at home

c. Overall record for last 20 games to include post season competition

d. Massey Ratings

##### 2. Strength of Region

a. Historical success of region, district, team at the national tournament over the previous 3 seasons

#### Super Regional

A Super Regional Host manual will include additional information required for hosting as well as game times and other venue specific requirements.

Format: Each Super Regional shall be conducted as a four-team double elimination tournament with the champion of each Super Regional site advancing to the NJCAA World Series.

Schedule:

Day 1: Games 1 & 2  
Day 2: Games 3 & 4  
Day 3: Games 5 & 6  
Day 4 Game 7 (if necessary)

Site Selection: There shall be eight Super Regional sites selected by the Sport Committee with input from the Championships & Alignment Committee and the NJCAA National Office. Super Regional sites will be geographically placed throughout the country with no more than two sites being awarded to one region.

World Series:

The NJCAA World Series will be an eight-team double elimination tournament.

Day 1: Games 1-4  
Day 2: Games 5-6  
Day 3: Games 7-8  
Day 4: Games 9-10  
Day 5: Games 11-12  
Day 6: Game 13  
Day 7: Game 14  
Day 8: Game 15\*

\* If necessary

Section 7 NJCAA D1 Baseball Poll

Poll Criteria: The NJCAA Division 1 Baseball Poll shall be conducted using the same criteria as the At-Large Selection Criteria found in section 3 of the Division 1 Baseball Sport Code.

\*\*\*The following sections of the Division I Baseball Sport Code would be deleted for 2028 if this passes:\*\*\*

Section 3: would be replaced entirely by above

Section 4: Delete: A, amend B8, D, I,

**Please include any additional notes for your proposal. (Optional)**

The Division 1 & 2 Baseball & Softball Committees have spent extensive time working together to create a comprehensive proposal that is consistent across for both sports and both divisions. If approved it would create a national tournament format more consistent with other collegiate national tournaments. The attached document provides a detailed look at what the format will look like for both sports and divisions.

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**Please attach any supporting documentation here. (Optional)**

<https://njcaa.formstack.com/admin/download/file/19277101983>

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Form Name: NJCAA Committee Proposal Submission Form  
Submission Time: March 13, 2026 12:48 pm  
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IP Address: 71.54.170.210  
Unique ID: 1441391980

## NJCAA Committee Proposal Submission Form

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**Your Name** Ron Riggle

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**Email** region24sports@gmail.com

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**Submitting Committee** DII Baseball

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**Proposal Title/Topic** NJCAA DIVISION II BASEBALL POSTSEASON MODEL PROPOSAL

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**Type of Proposal** Tournament/Championship Format Change

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**Proposed Effective Date of Proposal** August 1, 2027

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**Rationale for Proposal** The NJCAA Division I and Division II Softball and Baseball Committees propose a revised postseason model projected to begin in Spring 2028. The model introduces a Super Regional round for both sports, expands competitive equity, aligns with national championship trends, and provides institutions and host sites sufficient lead time for planning, budgeting, and facility preparation.

Under this proposal, postseason participation will include 32 teams per sport and division, advancing from Regional/District play to Super Regionals, and culminating in the NJCAA World Series.

Guiding Principles & Common Framework

- Improve the student-athlete postseason experience
- Align NJCAA championships with national best practices
- Ensure equitable geographic and regional representation
- Maintain fiscal and logistical responsibility
- Provide predictable timelines for host institutions

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**Please specify the NJCAA Handbook section(s) affected** Baseball - Division 2 Section 3, 4, 7b

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## Current NJCAA Handbook Language

### Section 3. Qualification of Teams for Competition

A. The qualifying teams shall come from the following 10 districts with 2 At-Large:

B. The NJCAA Division II Baseball Committee has complete jurisdiction over the selection and invitation of teams who are to compete.

C. In the event there is a vacancy in the tournament bracket, the runner-up in the district of the vacancy will be the alternate team. The

DII Baseball committee will be responsible for selecting the replacement if the runner-up is unable to fill the vacancy.

D. The Division II Baseball Committee, in coordination with the Vice-President of Championships and Sport Governance reserves the

right to adjust the district qualification procedures using current declaration numbers. The adjustments must be published no later than November 15th annually. Specific group and district playoff procedures are the responsibility of the respective Region Directors and must be published by December 15th annually.

E. Districts will conduct double-elimination tournaments to qualify teams for the National Tournament.

F. The scheduled first game of each District Tournament must be no later than the Saturday preceding the NJCAA World Series. All District Tournaments must be completed no later than midnight on the Sunday prior to the start of the NJCAA Tournament (May 17, 2026).

### Section 4. Tournament Rules and Officials

A. The tournament shall be conducted as a 12-team double elimination tournament.

B. NCAA baseball rules shall be used in all tournament games, including district play, with the following exceptions:

1. The NJCAA DII Baseball Committee adheres to the NJCAA Sport Committee & Poll Process as listed in Section 9 of the NJCAA General Sport Code relating to national tournament seeding. Seeding will be completed no later than the day after the district cutoff

date – May 18, 2026 Seeding criteria will include National Poll, overall record, emphasis on record last 1/3 of the season, strength

of schedule, quality of wins and losses vs ranked foes and other teams qualifying for DII World Series, and history and results of participating school and district.

2. At-Large Bids: The 12-team World Series will be made up of 10 Districts and 2 At-Large bids. The criteria for selecting the At-Large bids will be emphasis on record the last 1/3 of the season, strength of schedule, quality of wins and losses vs. ranked foes and other teams qualifying for the DII World Series, and history and results of participating school in series and district. (Seeding will take place the day after (May 18) the conclusion of the

post-season)

3. The maximum allowable number of individuals an institution can have on the field, including the practice field, bullpen, bench and

dugout is 37. Each team is limited to one head coach, four assistant coaches, recognized by their respective institution, 30 eligible

student-athletes in uniform, one manager and one trainer. The official roster will be signed and submitted prior to the tournament

coaches meeting. The National Office will provide the Chair with a copy of the 30-man rosters. No deletions or additions will be allowed once tournament play has begun.

4. The 10-run rule shall be in effect after five complete innings; all games must be scheduled for nine-innings.

5. The eight-run rule shall be in effect after seven complete innings.

6. The Championship Game (or games) shall be played for a full nine innings regardless of the score.

7. Any game delayed because of rain, power failure, etc., shall be resumed at the point of suspension and played a full nine innings unless terminated under rule 4 or 5 above.

8. At the World Series, in any pool play game where there are two undefeated teams, the highest seed team will be the home team. Where one team is undefeated and another team has a loss, the undefeated team will be the home team, regardless of who was the highest seed. If both teams have a loss, then there will be a coin flip to determine the home team.

9. In District play, the districts shall determine how the home team is determined, however it is recommended that if it is a best 2 out of 3 between two teams, then the host would be the home team in game 1, the guest the home team in game 2, and if game 3 is needed, the home team would be determined by a coin-flip.

10. Bat testing will be conducted by an NJCAA representative prior to the start of the National Tournament in accordance with the NCAA Bat Testing Protocols.

11. PROTESTS: No protests will be tolerated on judgment calls. Rule interpretation protests will be decided immediately by the Tournament Director, the NJCAA Representative and the Supervisor of Officials. The game shall then proceed immediately.

12. In the event of unavoidable delays due to weather or other unforeseen causes, the Tournament Director, the DII Sport Chair, and the on-sight NJCAA Representative, reserves the right to re-schedule game times, schedule seven inning games, schedule a team(s) for two games in one day, or other arrangements as necessary.

C. Diamond DI-PRO Low Seam baseball is the official baseball of the NJCAA. Baseballs used in the NJCAA Baseball Tournament

shall be secured through the NJCAA National Office and shipped directly to the host.

D. The NJCAA Division II Baseball Committee, in coordination with the NJCAA Vice President of Championships and Sports Governance,

shall have jurisdiction over the technical aspects of the tournament and officials.

#### 2026 NJCAA DII BASEBALL DISTRICTS

DISTRICT REGION(S) DISTRICT REGION(S) DISTRICT REGION(S)

DISTRICT REGION(S) DISTRICT REGION(S)

Central 16, 24 East 3, 15, 19,

21 Great Lakes 12 Gulf 23 Mid-Atlantic 20

Midwest 4 North Plains 11, 13 South 8, 22 South Atlantic 10 West 1, 2

E. Championship Bracket – The World Series Bracket shall be a 12-team tournament consisting of two 6-team double elimination brackets

with the winners of each bracket playing one national championship game.

1. Game times listed below:

#### 2026 NJCAA DII BASEBALL WORLD SERIES SCHEDULE

##### SATURDAY - DAY ONE

10:00 AM Game 1 - #7 vs #10

1:00 PM Game 2 - #6 vs #11

4:00 PM Game 3 - #8 vs #9

7:00 PM Game 4 - #5 vs #12

##### SUNDAY - DAY TWO

10:00 AM Game 5 - #3 vs. W2

1:00 PM Game 6 - #2 vs. W1

4:00 PM Game 7 - #4 vs. W4

7:00 PM Game 8 - #1 vs. W3

##### MONDAY - DAY THREE

10:00 AM Game 9 - L2 vs. L6

1:00 PM Game 10 - L1 vs. L5

4:00 PM Game 11 - L4 vs. L8

7:00 PM Game 12 - L3 vs. L7

##### TUESDAY - DAY FOUR

10:00 AM Game 13 - W9 vs. W10

1:00 PM Game 14 - W11 vs. W12

4:00 PM Game 15 - W5 vs. W6

7:00 PM Game 16 - W7 vs. W8

##### WEDNESDAY - DAY FIVE

3:00 PM Game 17 - W13 vs. L15

7:00 PM Game 18 - W14 vs. L16

##### THURSDAY - DAY SIX

3:00 PM Game 19 - W15 vs. W17

7:00 PM Game 20 - W16 vs. W18

##### FRIDAY - DAY SEVEN\*

3:00 PM Game 21 - TBD

7:00 PM Game 22 - TBD

SATURDAY - DAY EIGHT (IF NECESSARY)

7:00 PM Game 23 - TBD

\*If a one-loss team wins either bracket's semifinal, those teams will play again on Friday. If there is one game, it will be at 7 p.m. If there are two

games, they will be at 3 and 7 p.m. If there are two undefeated teams after the semifinals, the winner-take-all championship game is Friday at 7 p.m.

If an if-necessary game is played on Friday in either bracket final, the winner-take-all championship game will be played at 7 p.m. on Saturday.

F. If a participating institution has a written policy against Sunday competition, the tournament schedule shall be adjusted to accommodate that institution and such adjustment shall not require its team to play sooner than when it was originally scheduled.

Notice of such written policy must be filed with the NJCAA National Office prior to September 1, each academic year.

Alternate

brackets can be obtained from the NJCAA National Office.

G. All NJCAA Baseball Tournament Umpires must be recommended to the Tournament Umpire Coordinator.

Recommendations

must include a letter, resume, and references. The coordinator shall check the references and assign acceptable prospects to the available list. The coordinator will check specific availability prior to formal approval by the NJCAA.

H. No umpire will be allowed to work more than two consecutive years at the Division II Championship. Each year a minimum of two

umpires will be rotated out of the tournament. Whenever possible, no umpire will be allowed to work behind the plate while the

district he is from is playing. The assignment for the final two games will be at the discretion of the Tournament Executive Committee (including the NJCAA Representative).

I. All districts with inter-regional play and national tournament games shall be played with a minimum of three officials.

## **Proposed NJCAA Handbook Language**

### Section 3. Qualification of Teams for Competition

National Tournament Structure: The National Tournament will be a 32 team national tournament consisting of automatic qualifiers determined by Region size with the remaining teams selected based on at-large criteria to fill out the 32 team bracket. Teams will be split into eight 4-team Super Regionals with the 8 winning teams advancing to the World Series.

2028 Important Dates:

Super Regional Host Bid Document Available: October 15

Super Regional Host Bid Document Submission Deadline: April 15

Super Regional Host Sites Awarded: May 1, 2028

Regional Completion Deadline: May 9, 2028

Tournament Qualifiers Notified: May 10, 2028

Bracket Reveal: May 11, 2028

Super Regionals: May 16-19, 2028

NJCAA World Series: May 27-June 3, 2028

Automatic Qualification Standards by Region

1-2 teams - Combine with another region

3-12 teams - 1 automatic bid

13+ teams - 2 automatic bids

Regions with automatic qualifiers may be combined with regions that do not have automatic qualifiers based on geography.

Automatic qualifiers will be finalized annually one month after the deadline for NJCAA membership dues.

At-Large Selection Criteria

## 1. Overall Body of Work

a. Overall Record, only to include games vs. NJCAA, NWAC, CCCAA, and Military Preparatory Schools will be considered.

### b. Strength of Schedule

i. Record vs. teams ranked in the poll in your division

ii. Record vs. teams ranked in the poll outside your division

iii. Record vs. region/conference opponents

iv. Record against non-region/non-conference opponents

v. Overall record on the road, at a neutral site, and at home

c. Overall record for last 20 games to include post season competition

d. Massey Ratings

## 2. Strength of Region

a. Historical success of region, district, team at the national tournament over the previous 3 seasons

## Super Regional

A Super Regional Host manual will include additional information required for hosting as well as game times and other venue specific requirements.

Format: Each Super Regional shall be conducted as a four-team double elimination tournament with the champion of each Super Regional site advancing to the NJCAA World Series.

## Schedule:

Day 1: Games 1 & 2

Day 2: Games 3 & 4

Day 3: Games 5 & 6

Day 4 Game 7 (if necessary)

Site Selection: There shall be eight Super Regional sites selected by the Sport Committee with input from the Championships & Alignment Committee and the NJCAA National Office. Super Regional sites will be geographically placed throughout the country with no more than two sites being awarded to one region.

World Series:

The NJCAA World Series will be an eight-team double elimination tournament.

Day 1: Games 1-4

Day 2: Games 5-6

Day 3: Games 7-8

Day 4: Games 9-10

Day 5: Games 11-12

Day 6: Game 13

Day 7: Game 14

Day 8: Game 15\*

\* If necessary

Section 7 NJCAA DII Baseball Poll

Poll Criteria: The NJCAA Division II Baseball Poll shall be conducted using the same criteria as the At-Large Selection Criteria found in section 3 of the Division II Baseball Sport Code.

\*\*\*The following sections of the Division II Baseball Sport Code would be deleted for 2028 if this passes:\*\*\*

Section 3: would be replaced entirely by above

Section 4: Delete: A, B1, B2, B9, E, I

**Please include any additional notes for your proposal. (Optional)**

The Division 1 & 2 Baseball & Softball Committees have spent extensive time working together to create a comprehensive proposal that is consistent across for both sports and both divisions. If approved it would create a national tournament format more consistent with other collegiate national tournaments. The attached document provides a detailed look at what the format will look like for both sports and divisions.

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**Please attach any supporting documentation here. (Optional)**

<https://njcaa.formstack.com/admin/download/file/19277166547>

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# NJCAA DIVISION I AND II SOFTBALL AND BASEBALL POSTSEASON MODEL PROPOSAL

Abstract

Propose a revised postseason model projected to begin in Spring 2028

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6. Super Regional Hosting & Bid Requirements
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## **Appendices**

Appendix A – Softball Super Regional Schedule

Appendix B – Softball World Series Bracket Format

Appendix C – Baseball Super Regional Schedule

Appendix D – Baseball World Series Bracket Format

# NJCAA Division I & II Softball and Baseball Postseason Model Proposal

Projected Implementation: Spring 2028

## **Executive Summary**

The NJCAA Division I and Division II Softball and Baseball Committees propose a revised postseason model projected to begin in Spring 2028. The model introduces a Super Regional round for both sports, expands competitive equity, aligns with national championship trends, and provides institutions and host sites sufficient lead time for planning, budgeting, and facility preparation.

Under this proposal, postseason participation will include 32 teams per sport and division, advancing from Regional/District play to Super Regionals, and culminating in the NJCAA World Series.

## **Guiding Principles & Common Framework**

- Improve the student-athlete postseason experience
- Align NJCAA championships with national best practices
- Ensure equitable geographic and regional representation
- Maintain fiscal and logistical responsibility
- Provide predictable timelines for host institutions

## **Postseason Structure**

Regional / District → Super Regional → World Series

- 32 total teams
- 8 Super Regional sites
- 4 teams per site

## **Softball Postseason Model**

### Division I & II

- Regional completion: May 7, 2028
- Qualifier notification: May 8, 2028
- Bracket reveal: May 9, 2028
- Super Regionals: May 13–15, 2028 \*See Appendix A for schedule
- World Series: Tuesday, May 23 – Saturday, May 27, 2028
- 4-team pods with best of 3 championship series (5 days) \*See Appendix B for bracket
  - Division I: Oxford, AL
  - Division II: Spartanburg, SC

### **Automatic Qualifiers (AQs) & At-Large Bids**

The Division 1 and Division 2 Softball Committees approved adjustments to the AQ system to support equitable representation across the country.

### ***Automatic Qualifier Structure***

<b>Region Size</b>	<b>New AQ Allocation</b>
<b>1–2 teams</b>	Combine with another region
<b>3–12 teams</b>	<b>1 automatic bid</b>
<b>13+ teams</b>	<b>2 automatic bids</b>

Regions with automatic qualifiers may be combined with regions that do not have automatic qualifiers based on geography.

### ***Softball Regional Team Counts & AQ Distribution***

#### Division I Softball Summary

- Total Teams: 140
- Total AQs: 18
- AQ Ratio: 13%
- At Large Bids: 14
- Total: 32

#### Division II Softball Summary

- Total Teams: 166
- Total AQs: 19
- AQ Ratio: 11%
- At Large Bids: 13
- Total: 32

### **Regional Breakdown: Team Counts & Auto Qualifiers Distribution**

#### Division I & Division II Summary Table

<b>Region</b>	<b>D1 Teams</b>	<b>D1 Bids</b>	<b>D2 Teams</b>	<b>D2 Bids</b>
1	6	1	8	1
2	7	1	12	1
3	-	-	-	-
4	-	-	22	2
5	17	2	-	-
6	9	1	11	1
7	11	1	-	-
8	15	2	8	1
9	9	1	-	-
10	5	0.75	11	1
11	5	1	10	1
12	-	-	21	2
13	-	-	5	1
14	14	2	-	-
15	-	-		
16	8	1	4	1
17	6	1	-	-
18	5	1	-	-
19	-	-	7	1
20	1	0.25	14	2
21	-	-	-	-
22	9	0.75	10	1
23	1	0.25	16	2
24	12	1	7	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>19</b>

#### Notes:

- Division I: Regions **10 & 20** combine; Regions **22 & 23** combine
- Summary table will be evaluated on an annual basis

## **Baseball Postseason Model**

### Division I & II

- Regional completion: May 9, 2028
- Qualifier notification: May 10, 2028
- Bracket reveal: May 11, 2028
- Super Regionals: May 16–19, 2028 \*See Appendix C for schedule
- World Series: Saturday, May 27 – Saturday, June 3, 2028
- 8-Team Double-Elimination Bracket \*See Appendix D for bracket
  - Division I: Grand Junction, CO
  - Division II: Enid, OK

### **Automatic Qualifiers (AQs) & At-Large Bids**

The Division 1 and Division 2 Baseball Committees approved adjustments to the AQ system to support equitable representation across the country.

### ***Automatic Qualifier Structure***

- | <b>Region Size</b> | <b>New AQ Allocation</b>    |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>1-2 teams</b>   | Combine with another region |
| <b>3-12 teams</b>  | <b>1 automatic bid</b>      |
| <b>13+ teams</b>   | <b>2 automatic bids</b>     |

Regions with automatic qualifiers may be combined with regions that do not have automatic qualifiers based on geography.

***Baseball Regional Team Counts & AQ Distribution***

Division I Baseball Summary

- **Total Teams:** 155
- **Total AQs:** 20
- **AQ Ratio:** 13%
- **At Large Bids:** 12
- **Total:** 32

Division II Baseball Summary

- **Total Teams:** 163
- **Total AQs:** 20
- **AQ Ratio:** 12%
- **At Large Bids:** 12
- **Total:** 32

**Regional Breakdown: Team Counts & Auto Qualifiers Distribution**

Region	D1 Teams	D1 Bids	D2 Teams	D2 Bids
1	7	1	9	1
2	6	1	15	2
3	-	-	1	0.25
4	5	0.67	17	2
5	19	2	-	-
6	18	2	-	-
7	11	1	-	-
8	16	2	7	1
9	8	1	-	-
10	6	0.67	15	2
11	2	0.33	11	1
12	-	-	22	2
13	-	-	6	1
14	13	2	-	-
15	-	-	-	-
16	8	1	4	1
17	5	1	-	-
18	4	1	-	-
19	-	-	6	0.5
20	2	0.33	15	2
21	-	-	1	0.25
22	10	1	10	1
23	4	1	15	2
24	11	1	9	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>20</b>

Notes:

- Division I: Regions **4 & 11** combine; Regions **10 & 20** combine
- Division II: Regions **3 & 19 & 21** combine
- Summary table will be evaluated on an annual basis

## **Super Regional Hosting & Bid Requirements**

- Super Regional sites will be geographically placed across the country with no more than two sites being awarded to one region
- All games will be broadcasted on the NJCAA Network
- Streaming capabilities (minimum one camera, score/inning display)
- Neutral broadcast standards when applicable
- Facility signage packages
- Staffing: Public Address individual, Scoreboard Operator, Live Stats/Official Scorer, Athletic Trainer, Security, Grounds Team, Concession (preferred), Onsite Administrator (cannot be directly affiliated with institution hosting)
- Umpire crews (3-person crews+ UIC)
- Field and facility standards must meet with NCAA postseason requirements
- Facilities with field tarps, artificial turf and lights will be given preference during bid process with build in consideration for average precipitation during the month of May
- Hotel room blocks for participating teams

### ***Bid Hosting Timeline-***

#### **Softball:**

Bid Document Available: October 15, 2027

Bid Document Submission Deadline: April 8, 2028

Host Sites Awarded: April 24, 2028

#### **Baseball:**

Bid Document Available: October 15, 2027

Bid Document Submission Deadline: April 15, 2028

Host Sites Awarded: May 1, 2028

## **DI & DII Baseball and Softball Regular Season Rankings & Post Season Seeding Protocols**

### 1. Overall Body of Work

a. Overall Record, only to include games vs. NJCAA, NWAC, CCCAA, and Military Preparatory Schools will be considered.

#### b. Strength of Schedule

i. Record vs. teams ranked in the poll in your division

ii. Record vs. teams ranked in the poll outside your division

iii. Record vs. region/conference opponents

iv. Record against non-region/non-conference opponents

v. Overall record on the road, at a neutral site, and at home

c. Overall record for last 20 games to include post season competition

d. Massey Ratings

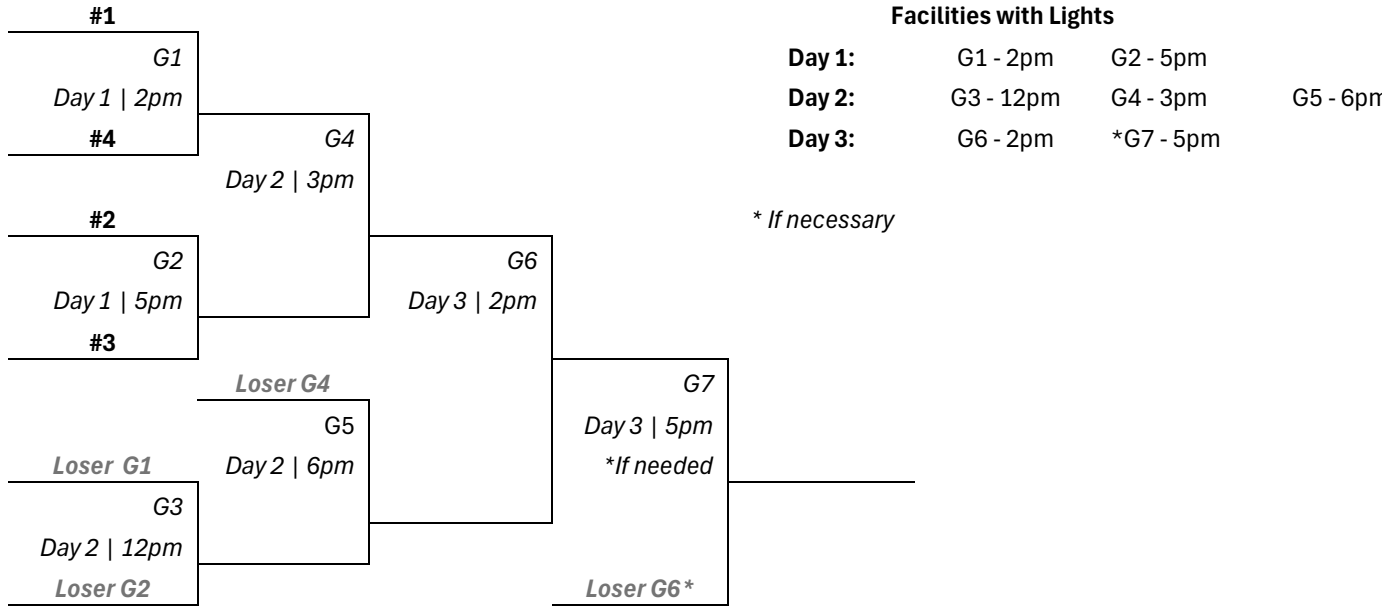
### 2. Strength of Region

a. Historical success of region, district, team at the national tournament over the previous 3 seasons

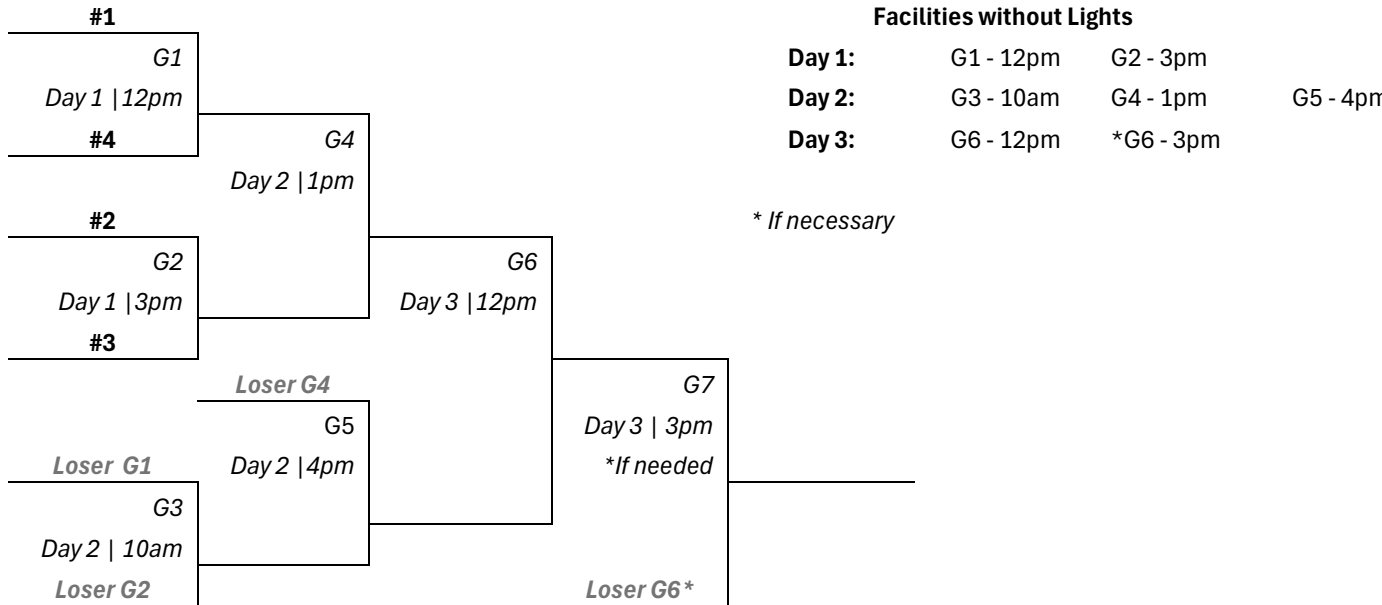
# Appendices

## Appendix A – Softball Super Regional Schedule

### Super Regional Bracket



### Super Regional Bracket

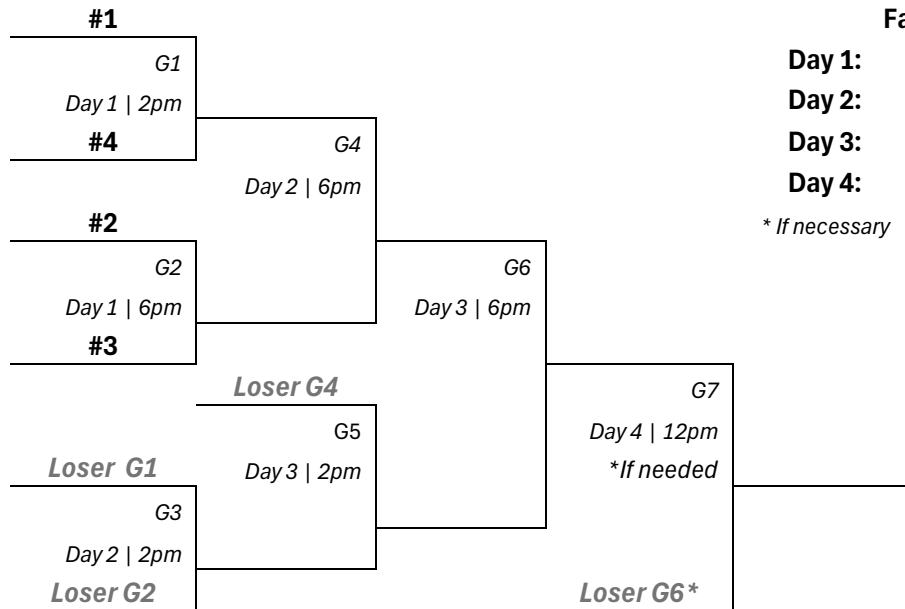


## Appendix B – Softball World Series Bracket Format

Two 4-Team Double Elimination Brackets									
<b>Bracket A</b>					<b>Option 1</b>				
#1									
	Day 1 G1								
#8									
	Day 2 G7								
#4									
	Day 1 G2								
#5									
			Day 3 G11						* If necessary
		<b>Loser G8</b>		Day 3 12					
<b>Loser G1</b>				*If needed					
		Day 2 G9							
	Day 2 G5								
<b>Loser G2</b>				<b>Loser G11*</b>	Winner A	Winner A		Winner A	
					Day 4 C1	Day 5 C2			Day 5 C3
									*If Needed
<b>Bracket B</b>					<b>Championship Series</b>				
#2					Winner B	Winner B		Winner B	
	Day 1 G3								
#7									
	Day 2 G8								
#3									
	Day 1 G4								
#6									
			Day 3 G13						
		<b>Loser G7</b>		Day 3 G14					
<b>Loser G3</b>				*If needed					
		Day 2 G10							
	Day 2 G6								
<b>Loser G4</b>				<b>Loser G13*</b>					

## Appendix C – Baseball Super Regional Schedule

### Super Regional Bracket

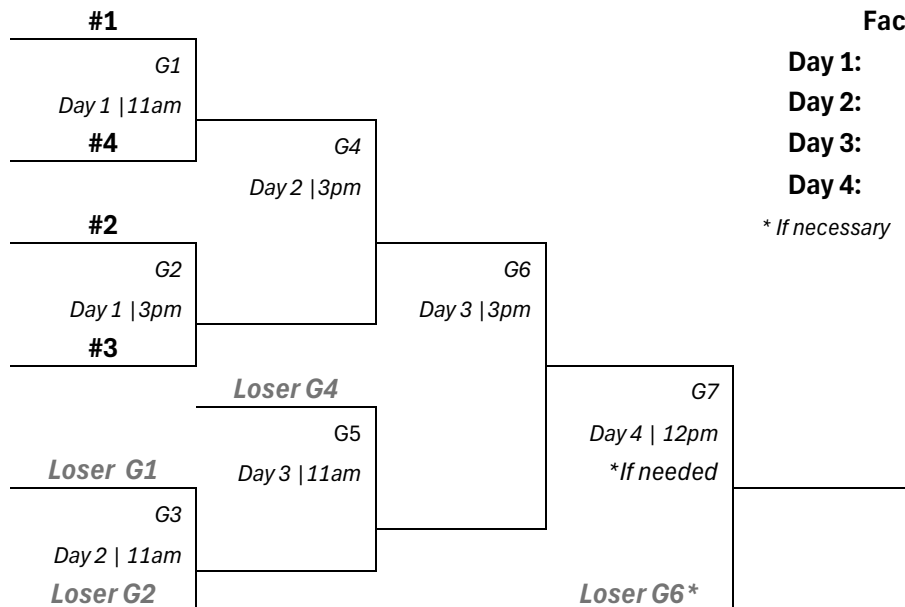


#### Facilities with Lights

**Day 1:** G1 - 2pm G2 - 6pm  
**Day 2:** G3 - 2pm G4 - 6pm  
**Day 3:** G5 - 2pm G6 - 6pm  
**Day 4:** \*G7 - 12pm

\* If necessary

### Super Regional Bracket



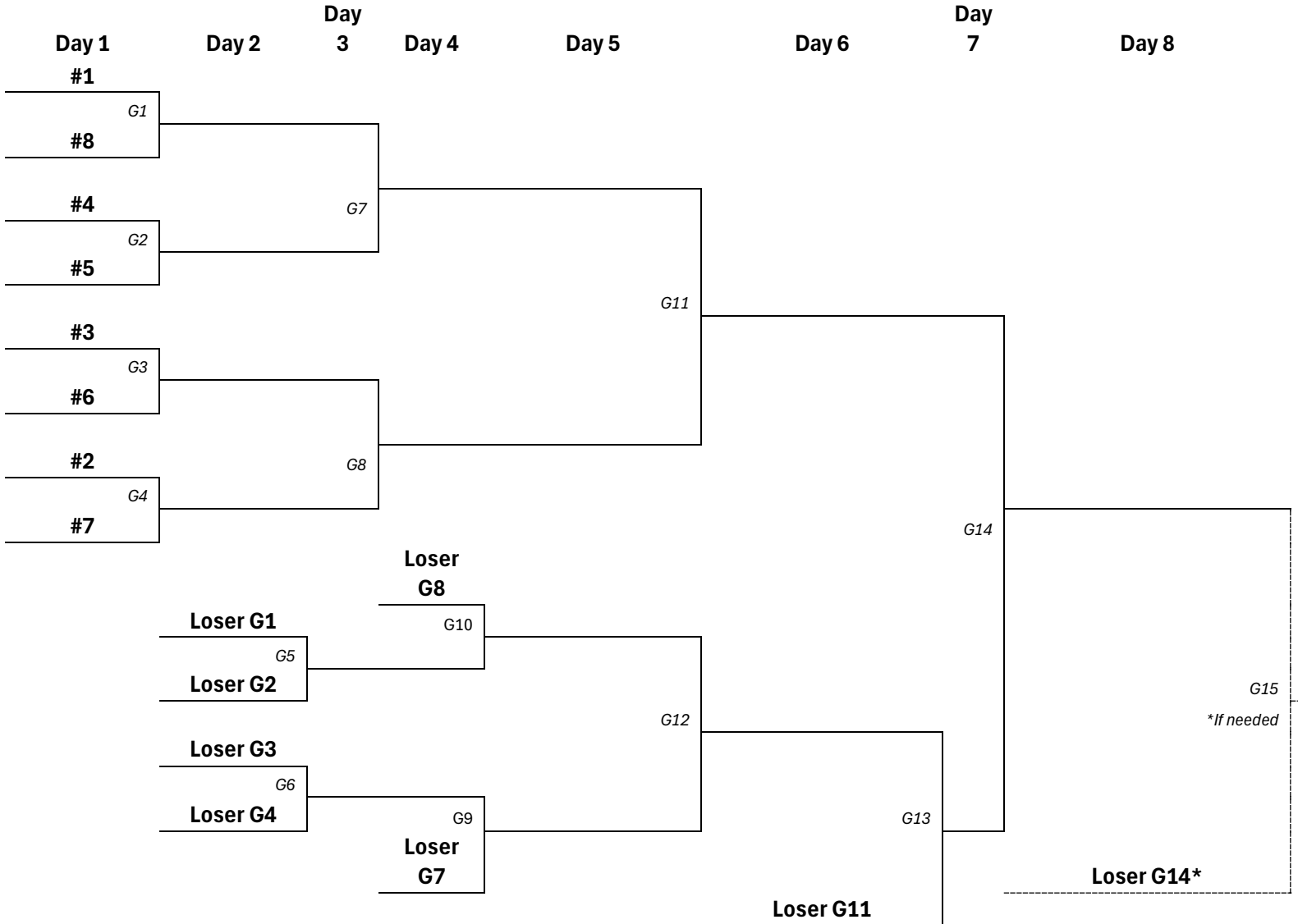
#### Facilities without Lights

**Day 1:** G1 - 11am G2 - 3pm  
**Day 2:** G3 - 11am G4 - 3pm  
**Day 3:** G5 - 11am G6 - 3pm  
**Day 4:** \*G7 - 12pm

\* If necessary

# Appendix D – Baseball World Series Bracket Format

## 8-Team Double Elimination Bracket



- Day 1:** G 1-4
- Day 2:** G 5-6
- Day 3:** G 7-8
- Day 4:** G 9-10
- Day 5:** G 11-12
- Day 6:** G 13
- Day 7:** G 14
- Day 8:** G 15\*

\* If necessary

