



Frequency of Contests

Division II

Frequency of Contests

SECTION A. GENERAL INFORMATION

The following guidelines for frequency of play and scheduling pertain to all NCCAA Division II member institutions. NCCAA institutions that are dually affiliated with NAIA and/or NCAA should abide by the guidelines for frequency of play and scheduling required by those associations. All other institutions, whether or not dually affiliated with any other national organization, should abide by the guidelines listed below, which were taken from NAIA.

SECTION B. FREQUENCY OF PLAY AND SCHEDULING

1. The maximum number of varsity games, contests or playing dates an institution may schedule is listed below. The number of junior varsity or freshman games, contests or playing dates scheduled during a given term may not exceed the number of varsity games, contests or playing dates scheduled during that term. Further, no student may compete in a sport in a given term in more than the number of games, contests or playing dates listed below (this includes varsity, junior varsity, freshman, etc.), excluding NCCAA, NAIA, and NCAA approved postseason participation.

<u>Sport</u>	<u>Number of Games/Contests/Playing Dates</u>
Baseball	55 contests
Basketball (M & W)	30 games (A student who participates in a varsity contest and a junior varsity contest on the same day, and at the same location, is considered to have participated only in one game. A student limited to participating in no more than 40 games.)
Cross Country (M & W)	8 meets
Football	11 games, with a student limited to participating in no more than 15 contests (This includes varsity, junior varsity, freshman games, and scrimmages)
Golf	14 matches/tournaments
Soccer (M & W)	18 games played at any time during the sport season. Three additional dates to be played only after the fall term has concluded. The three additional dates may be played only during weekends and other nonscheduled class dates, according to the academic calendar.
Softball	28 dates
Tennis (M & W)	24 matches/tournaments and/or scrimmages (except for ITA exception*)
Indoor Track (M & W)	10 meets
Outdoor Track (M & W)	10 meets or 12 meets if indoor track is not sponsored
Volleyball (M & W)	28 dates)

In all sports listed above (except basketball) an institution is allowed one exhibition competition per season. The competition must meet the definition of an exhibition. The exhibition competition will count as one varsity game, contest, or playing date within the limits stated above.

For the sport of basketball, an institution is allowed one or more exhibition competitions per season so long as the total number of games, exhibitions and scrimmages does not exceed 32. For the sport of basketball, an exhibition competition will not count as a varsity game.

***EXCEPTION:** In the sport of tennis, the Fall ITA regional and national singles and doubles tournaments shall not count towards the student's playing limits.

2. The following number of scrimmages per sport shall be allowed in addition to the maximum number of allowable varsity games, contests or playing dates which an institution may schedule or in which a student may compete:

<u>Sport</u>	<u>Number of Scrimmages</u>
Baseball	2
Basketball (M & W)	2
Cross Country (M & W)	0
Football	1
Golf	0
Soccer (M & W)	2

Softball	2
Tennis (M & W)	1
Track & Field (M & W)	0
Volleyball (M & W)	2

3. In those sports where scrimmages are allowed, an institution which does not schedule or participate in the maximum number of allowable varsity contests or playing dates may conduct additional scrimmages, of up to the NCCAA's limits. In no case can the combined number of scheduled contests and scrimmages exceed the maximum number listed.
4. A maximum of two contests against teams from foreign countries (excluding Canada and Mexico) played in the United States and/or Canada/Mexico shall be permitted without counting against the maximum allowable number. Contests held in a country other than Canada/Mexico shall not apply to the limitation.
5. Each sport shall have a maximum 24-week practice and competition season established by each member institution. Frequency of play, practice and scheduling policies shall be applied only during the period of August 1 to May 15. Frequency of play, practice, and scheduling outside of this period is governed by each member institution and will not be regulated by the NCCAA.

There shall be no more than three break periods during the 24 weeks. NCCAA approved postseason participation shall not be counted as part of the 24-week period. A week is defined as Sunday (12:01 a.m.) through Saturday (11:59 p.m.). Any practice or competition during this period shall constitute one of the 24 weeks permitted.

6. Practice shall be defined as follows: An activity organized and/or directed by an identified member of the coaching staff of that sport in which appropriate equipment is used or instruction and/or evaluation of the athlete takes place.
7. For selection of team members, tryouts (during current academic year) may be conducted and such tryouts shall be limited to five days. After selection of team members, the 24-week practice/competition limit is applied.
8. Tryouts conducted for the purpose of recruiting may be done on an individual basis.
9. At no time, can a contest (scrimmage or game/meet) be added to the schedule to allow for the serving of any suspension by a student-athlete or coach. Should a contracted opponent drop a program during the season, thus necessitating a replacement contest, then the replacement game would not be impacted by the above restriction.
10. Conference tournaments held at the end of the season are considered post-season (NAIA, NCAA, ACCA, and others approved in writing by the NCCAA National Office). Such tournaments do not count in the maximum number of scheduled contests/dates allowed. Conference or other tournaments held prior to the end of the season shall count against the allowable schedule limitation.
11. The NCCAA recommends that all schools implement the use of game contracts for all contests. These contracts should include the dates played (home and away), what penalties should occur if failure to meet the conditions of the contract, signatures by both schools AD's, etc. Samples can be provided by contacting the Director of Member Relations.