

### **III. UNIVERSAL TIE-BREAKER**

1. The win-loss records of the teams in league/region play shall determine seeding into the league/region tournament. The league's administrators will determine win-loss records based on previously approved schedules. In the event of a tie, the tie shall be broken using the following procedures:
2. Tie between two (2) teams
  - A. Head-to-head competition in league play among tied teams.
  - B. If the tie remains after head-to-head, each tied team shall receive one (1) point for each game won in league play by their defeated opponents. The team with the most points receives the higher seed.
  - C. If the tie remains, the team that won the last/final league game scheduled between the two teams will be the higher seed.

EXCEPTION: This step is only to be used for seeding. A team shall not be eliminated from league or region competition by the use of step 'C.' If the tie is not broken in step 'A' and/or 'B' and a team will be eliminated, a playoff game will be played following the end of the regular season. The NIAA Executive Director will select a neutral site for this contest.

3. Tie between three (3) or more teams
  - A. In all cases of ties involving more than two teams, as each team is removed from the tie, all other tied teams revert back to head-to-head competition based on the number of teams remaining in the tie.
  - B. Head-to-head competition in league play among tied teams.

Example of multiple team ties:

    - i. Games
      - Team A defeated Team B twice and split with Team C
      - Team B lost to Team A twice but defeated Team C twice
      - Team C lost to Team B twice and split with Team A
    - ii. Mini Standings
      - Team A is 3-1
      - Team B is 2-2
      - Team C is 1-3

- iii. Results
  - Team A is awarded highest seed
  - Team B is awarded second highest seed because of its head-to-head record against Team C

C. Seven (7) run system

If the tie remains, all tied teams will compare their margin of victory with each other in league play. Each team will total their margin of runs against the other tied teams with marginal runs being the difference in the scores of a game. Winning teams will add the margin of runs while losing teams will subtract the margin of runs. No more than seven (7) runs will be added or subtracted in any league game. The team with the highest number of marginal runs will receive the highest seed. If there is a tie for highest marginal runs, then those tied teams shall revert back to the respective tie-breaking procedure based on the number of teams remaining in the tie. Once a team is eliminated, the remaining teams will always refer back to head-to-head competition based on the number of teams remaining.

Example of point system:

- i. Games
  - Team A defeated Team B, 8-0
  - Team B defeated Team C, 11-6
  - Team C defeated Team A, 4-3
- ii. Mini Standings
  - Marginal points for Team A is +6
  - Marginal points for Team B is -2
  - Marginal points for Team C is -4
- iii. Results
  - Team A is awarded highest seed
  - Team B is awarded second highest seed because of its head-to-head record against Team C

D. If the tie remains, each tied team shall receive one point for each game won in league play by their defeated opponents. The team with the most points will receive the highest seed.

E. If a tie still exists and all tied teams, by virtue of the number of teams accepted into the league/region tournament, are guaranteed entrance into the tournament, then a coin toss will be used to determine seeding. The winner of any coin toss will receive the highest seed. Remaining teams would revert back to head-to-head competition based on the number of teams remaining in the tie.

- F. If a tie still exists and one or more of the tied teams must, by virtue of the number of teams accepted into the league/region tournament, be eliminated, playoff game(s) will be played following the end of the regular season. The NIAA Executive Director will select a neutral site for the event.

NOTE: In the event of a multiple team tie as outlined in step 'F,' the tied teams will draw numbers. The team drawing #1 will have a bye and will play the winner of the first playoff game. All games will be scheduled as soon as possible. Seeding will be established by the results of this playoff.