

Regulation 6

FOOTBALL

6.1 General Rules. Conference football competition shall be conducted in accordance with the rules of the NCAA and the Bylaws and Operating Handbook of the Conference.

6.2 Championship Determination. The regular season champion shall be determined based on Conference winning percentage. In the event of a tie between two or more teams, such teams shall be considered co-champions. (Revised April 2006)

6.3 Tie Breaking Procedures. Tie-breaking procedures are to be used only for the purpose of identifying order of finish for bowl selection consideration. The MWC's bowl partners are not bound by the final standings and may select participants at their discretion, except as specified in the contractual agreements, in consultation with the Conference office. Co-champions and other ties in the standings will remain unchanged for Conference awards, records and revenue-distribution purposes. (Revised April 2006)

6.3.1 Comparison. In the event of a tie for the Conference championship (or any of the remaining place finishes), the primary tie-breaking procedure shall be a comparison of head-to-head competition among the tied teams. If multiple teams are involved in a tie, the head-to-head records among the tied teams as a group shall be compared until the tie is resolved or it is reduced to a two-team tie where the winner of the head-to-head contest would gain the advantage. (Revised April 2006)

6.3.2 Order. All ties shall be broken in the order in which they occur, from top to bottom, in the standings. Tied teams in the higher position shall be considered as separate positions based upon their finish (e.g., Team A and Team B are tied for first place in the standings. By using the established tie-breaking procedures, it is determined that Team B is the No. 1 finisher and Team A is the No. 2 finisher. Team C and Team D are tied for fifth place in the standings. When using the tie-breaking formula to break the tie, Teams C and D are compared separately against Team B first, then Team A). When comparing tied teams against positions lower in the standings that are also tied, those lower-tied positions shall be considered a single position for purposes of comparison. (Revised April 2006)

6.3.3 Two-Way Tie. If two teams tie for a position, the one that holds the head-to-head advantage during regular season play is declared the champion. (Revised April 2006)

6.3.4 Ties Between Three or More Teams. If three or more teams tie for a position, the combined record of each of the tied teams against the other teams involved in the tie shall be compared until an advantage is gained. If the multiple tie still exists, each of the tied teams' records against the team occupying the highest position in the standings shall be compared, continuing down through the standings until the tie is reduced to a two-team tie, at which time the procedure shall revert to the two-way tie breaking procedure, until the tie is broken. (Revised April 2006)

6.3.5 Unresolved Tie. In the event none of the above procedures resolves the tie, the teams involved in the tie shall be considered equal. (Revised April 2006)

6.4 Scheduling.

- a. Home and away designation between Conference opponents shall alternate each year (4/3);

- b. No institution shall have more than two consecutive Conference road games;
- c. No institution shall have more than three consecutive weeks away from home during Conference play (an open date is considered a road game);
- d. No institution shall have more than one consecutive open week in its schedule;
- e. Whenever possible, known traditional rivalry games shall appear (if possible) near their traditional dates on the calendar;
- f. Whenever possible, teams should have similar preparation schedules prior to a contest. Specifically, every effort shall be made to ensure that both teams participating in games on days other than Saturday (e.g., ESPN Thursday night contests) have similar preparation time with both having played the preceding Saturday or both having an open date.

6.5 Arrival at Game Site – Conference Competition. The visiting team shall at the game site prepared to compete at the scheduled start time. A visiting team that does not arrive at the game site prepared to compete at the scheduled time shall incur the following penalties:

- a. Forfeiture of the contest at the moment the scheduled start time is reached; subject to the approval of the Conference office.
- b. A financial penalty equal to the amount of documented losses incurred by the host institution and the Conference, including, but not limited to, ticket refunds, concession losses, facility rental, personnel expenses, television contract rebates, officiating fees and game operations costs. (Revised October 2002 and October 2003)

6.6 Artificial Noisemakers. The use of artificial noisemakers or other devices (e.g., cannons) may not be used during game action, particularly at a time that could disrupt the performance of a player.

6.7 Squad-Size Limitations. Football traveling squads shall be limited to 64 student-athletes in all Conference competition. If a team exceeds the squad-size limitation, the team shall decrease its travel party size by one full-time coach for the next away-from-home regular season competition after the violation has been reported. There shall be no limit on the squad-size for the home team.

6.8 Tickets.

6.8.1 Complimentary Tickets. The host institution shall provide 300 complimentary, maximum priced tickets to the visiting institution.

6.9 Videotape Exchange. If one institution should play fewer games than the institution with which it is exchanging videotape, it shall be the option of the institution with the fewer number of games to select which opponent videotapes they wish to receive. Out-of-season exchange is permitted by mutual agreement.

6.9.1 Number of Videotapes. The number of videotapes to be exchanged shall be an equal number.

6.9.2 Requests for Videotapes. The entire season (or fewer games by mutual consent) shall be exchanged 12 days prior to the same. All video shall be shipped on Monday to be received Tuesday by the fastest means of transportation to arrive no later than noon on Tuesday. Each coach in charge of videotape shall be required to furnish all shipping details. In all cases, the sending team's video coordinator shall provide the waybill number plus flight number and arrival time to the receiving team's videotape coordinator.

6.9.3 Play-by-Play Forms. Two complete play-by-play forms, flipcards and programs shall be sent with the most recent game videotape. For all other game tapes, flip-cards and depth charts are required. All containers should have a copy of the depth chart attached.

6.9.4 Providing Videotape to Visiting Team. By mutual agreement, the home team may provide the visiting team with either an end zone or tight sideline videotape, or provide space for the visiting team to videotape.

6.9.5 Returning Videotapes. All videotapes shall be returned at the game site prior to the start of the game, unless mutually agreed upon.

6.9.6 Video Exchange Policies and Procedures. Beginning with the 2007 football season, each Conference game shall be videotaped and exchanged electronically according to Mountain West Conference standards. Institutions will be required to provide videotapes as directed by the MWC Coordinator of Football Officials for evaluation purposes. The Coordinator of Football Officials will notify the institutional video coordinators as to which individuals need to receive tapes of which games. Video exchange arrangements for non-conference games shall be determined on a case-by-case basis between the two participating institutions. The video crews from visiting institutions (especially those in the Mountain West Conference) shall be afforded every possible courtesy and professional assistance with regard to moving equipment, camera positions and the like. For specifics on the video exchange process, please refer to Appendix C of the Mountain West Conference Football Game Management Handbook. (Revised April 2007)

6.9.7 Videotape/Scouting Report Exchange. An athletics department representative shall not send a film, videotape or scouting report or give a written scouting report on a Conference team to any non-conference institution.

6.9.8 Violations of Videotape Exchange Policy. A member institution that exchanges videotapes or scouting reports in the sport of football with institutions outside the Conference shall be subject to the following:

- a. **First Offense.** Private reprimand of the head coach and the individual who sent the tape to the institution outside the Conference.
- b. **Second Offense.** Written notice to the Conference of the second offense. A copy of the notice shall be kept in the personnel file of the individual in the office of the institution's director of athletics.
- c. **Third Offense.** The Commissioner shall suspend the head coach for one game/competition. Such suspension shall occur immediately following receipt of notice by the Commissioner.

6.10 Visiting Bands. A visiting band and or spirit squad (e.g., cheerleaders) shall notify its opponent no later than June 1 of its intent to perform at the football game. Upon timely receipt of such notice, the band/spirit squad shall be admitted to the game at no cost and shall be permitted to perform. The tickets for the band/spirit squad shall come from the visiting team's allotment of tickets. Performance on the playing field shall be determined by the home team's game management.

6.10.1 Timing of Performances. Bands performing at Conference football games shall not play from the time the offensive team breaks from the huddle until the completion of the play. If a team plays a no-huddle offense, the band shall not play at any time during the offensive possession.

6.10.2 Homecoming. Visiting bands shall be permitted to perform at halftime of an opponent's homecoming, only if the visiting team was invited by its opponent to participate in the homecoming activities.

6.11 Coaches Television Shows – Video Reciprocity. Institutions may use highlight footage from Conference games for their respective coaches shows, subject to the provisions agreed upon with the Conference television partners. Institutions shall be responsible for making such arrangements with non-conference opponents.

6.12 Bowl Games. In-person, on-site (site of bowl officials) meetings by institutional staff members with officials of bowl games with which the Conference has a guaranteed relationship (e.g., Liberty Bowl, Las Vegas Bowl, San Francisco Bowl and any additional tie-ins) is prohibited.

6.13 Awards. The Conference football coaches and media as selected by the conference office shall select recipients for all awards.

6.13.1 All-Conference Team. The All-Conference team shall consist of 25 first team and 25 second team players. There shall be 11 offensive players by position, 11 defensive players by position, one place kicker, one punter and one special teams player on the first team and second team. Each shall be provided an award from the Conference.

6.13.2 Individual Awards. Individual awards shall be provided to the Coach of the Year, the Offensive Player of the Year, the Defensive Player of the Year and the Freshman of the Year.

6.14 Meetings of Coaches. There shall be an annual in-person meeting of the football coaches to be held in conjunction with the Football Media Day. Attendance by each head coach at the in-person meeting and media day is mandatory.