

Regulation 14

MEN'S AND WOMEN'S TRACK AND FIELD

14.1 General Rules. Men's and women's Conference track and field competition shall be conducted in accordance with the rules of the NCAA and the Bylaws and Operating Handbook of the Conference.

14.2 Conference Schedule. There shall be no required regular season Conference schedule in the sports of men's and women's track and field.

14.3 Championship Determination. The team and individual Conference champion in men's and women's track and field shall be determined at a Conference championship meet. Indoor track and field and outdoor track and field shall be considered separate sports and a Conference championship shall be held in each sport.

14.4 Conference Championship.

14.4.1 Date and Site.

14.4.1.1 Indoor. The Conference Indoor Track and Field Championship shall be conducted two weeks prior to the start of NCAA Championship competition. The site shall be at least a 200-meter six-lane track with adequate area for field events.

14.4.1.2 Outdoor. The Conference Outdoor Track and Field Championship shall be conducted two weeks prior to the start of NCAA Championship competition. The site shall rotate among member institutions with facilities of sufficient quality to host the Conference championship.

14.4.2 Minimum Number of Participants.

14.4.2.1 Indoor. Member institutions that sponsor the sport of indoor track and field shall take a minimum of 14 participants to the Conference Indoor Track and Field Championship. Institutions that do not meet the minimum number of participants requirement shall be assessed a fine of \$5,000 plus the cost associated with the team traveling to the championship site. The Conference office shall determine the cost of traveling to the championship site. If failure of the member institution to bring the minimum number of participants to the Conference Indoor Track and Field Championships results in a loss to the host institution, the fine shall be used to cover the expenses incurred by the host institution. If the failure to bring the minimum number of participants to the Conference Indoor Track and Field Championships does not result in a loss to the host institution, the fine shall be included in the Conference championships budget. Waivers of the minimum number of participants rule may be granted by the Commissioner.

14.4.2.2 Outdoor. Member institutions that sponsor the sport of outdoor track and field shall take a minimum of 14 participants to the Conference Outdoor Track and Field Championship. Institutions that do not meet the minimum number of participants requirement shall be assessed a fine of \$5,000 plus the cost associated with the team traveling to the championship site. The Conference office shall determine the cost of traveling to the championship site. If failure of the member institution to bring the minimum number of participants to the Conference Outdoor Track and Field Championships results in a loss to the host institution, the fine shall be used to cover the expenses incurred by the host institution. If the failure to bring the minimum number of participants to the Conference Outdoor Track and Field Championships does not result in a loss to the host institution, the fine shall be included in the Conference championships budget. Waivers of the minimum number of participants rule may be granted by the Commissioner.

14.4.3 Pre-Championship Conference Call. A mandatory pre-championship conference call shall be conducted on Tuesday prior to the Championship in indoor track and Monday prior to the Championship in outdoor track. The head coaches of all participating institutions are required to participate on the conference call. A head coach who fails to participate on the mandatory pre-championship conference call shall be suspended from the next regular season contest or date of competition. In date of competition sports, the suspension may not exceed one day. Appeals should be forwarded to the appropriate designated governance group (e.g., athletics directors, senior woman administrators). Conference office staff and an institutional representative also shall participate on the conference call. (Adopted October 2006; revised February 2008 and April 2009)

14.5 Playing Rules. The Conference championship shall be conducted according to the NCAA Men's and Women's Track & Field/Cross Country Rules, except as modified by Conference regulations.

14.6 Squad-Size Limitations. The squad-size shall be limited for the track and field championships to a maximum of 28 men and 28 women for each institution. 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.

14.7 Awards.

14.7.1 Coach of the Year. The Coach of the Year shall be voted on by the coaches at the conclusion of the championships. A coach shall not vote for himself or herself.

14.7.2 High Point Award. The High Point Award shall be awarded to the individual scoring the most points during the championship.

14.7.3 Outstanding Performance Award. The Outstanding Performance Award shall be awarded to that individual displaying the outstanding performance of the meet as determined by the Nielson Tables.

14.7.4 Athlete of the Year. The Athlete of the Year shall be selected by MWC track and field coaches. Should a coach fail to complete the entire ballot, the student-athletes from that team shall not be eligible to receive an award. Additional awards policies and procedures can be found in the championship handbook. (Revised December 2004, Revised January 2007)

14.8 Meeting of Coaches. There shall be an annual in-person meeting of the men's and women's track and field coaches held in conjunction with the USTFCCCA Annual Convention. Attendance by each head coach is mandatory. (Revised July 2006)