

Commissioner's Regulations 2019-2020



2019-2020

COMMISSIONER'S REGULATIONS

(Updated: August 15, 2019)

**GOVERNING CONFERENCE COMPETITION,
CHAMPIONSHIPS AND TOURNAMENTS**

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INTRODUCTION

Competition between Conference members during the regular season, as well as in Conference post-season championships and tournaments, is one of the fundamental purposes of the Southeastern Conference. The commitment to Conference competition dates back to 1894 when ten universities organized as members of the Southeastern Intercollegiate Athletic Association. Although the number of member institutions and sports has varied since the turn of the century, the basic principles of equitable competition and achievement of common competitive goals have remained as cornerstones of the Southeastern Conference.

The Commissioner's Regulations governing Conference competition, championships and tournaments are written as a guide for all SEC competition between its members and are considered the standard source of information on policies and procedures for the conduct of Conference competition. These Regulations are divided into two parts: 1) general administrative policies and procedures that apply to all SEC competition generally, and 2) specific regulations for each sport.

These regulations are intended for use in conjunction with current SEC Bylaws. If a policy appears in the SEC Bylaws, it is not reproduced in the Commissioner's Regulations; however, the specific reference to that policy is cited in the regulations under the appropriate topic heading.

These regulations are approved by the appropriate Southeastern Conference governing bodies and reviewed each year.

Access to Competition Area. In all sports, institutions shall limit access to the competition area to participating student-athletes, coaches, officials, support personnel, and properly-credentialed or authorized individuals at all times. For the safety of participants and spectators alike, at no time before, during or after a contest may spectators enter the competition area. It is the responsibility of each member institution to implement procedures to ensure compliance with this policy.

Institutional penalties against individuals who improperly enter the competition area must include, but are not limited to, expulsion from the facility, arrest for trespassing, and the loss of future ticket privileges. In addition to these penalties, violators who are students must be subject to institutional student disciplinary measures.

Each institution shall publicize this policy, as well as the penalties associated with violations, through appropriate means, such as ticket back statements, public address announcements, video/matrix announcements, facility signage, and other means available. In addition, each head coach shall publicly discourage spectators from entering the playing area at any time.

Penalties for Institutional Violations. For the safety of participants and spectators alike, the Commissioner may (in his or her sole discretion) impose the following penalties: 1st offense: an institutional fine of \$50,000; 2nd offense: an institutional fine of up to \$100,000; 3rd or subsequent offense: an institutional fine of up to \$250,000. The Commissioner may also impose additional penalties as he or she deems appropriate.

Amendments. The Commissioner's Regulations may be amended in the following manner: *[Revised: 7/25/17]*

Those regulations that are a part of the SEC Bylaws may only be amended by vote of the Presidents and Chancellors at a regular or called meeting of the Conference.

Those regulations that are not part of the SEC Bylaws, but may have philosophical, financial, and/or competition format implications may be amended by a majority vote of the Athletics Directors or, for items relating to men's and women's Olympic sports and women's basketball that do not have a significant financial impact, by a majority vote of the Senior Woman Administrators. The Athletics Directors may request review of any formal action taken by the Senior Woman Administrators at any future meeting.

Amendments may be proposed by the Commissioner, coaches groups, Senior Woman Administrators, and Athletics Directors. Proposals from coaches of men's and women's Olympic sports and women's basketball will be sent directly to the Senior Woman Administrators, unless the proposal has a significant financial impact in which case it will be sent to the Senior Woman Administrators first, then to the Athletics Directors with a report of action taken by the Senior Woman Administrators. Proposals from coaches of all other sports will be forwarded directly to the Athletics Directors.

Those regulations that are editorial in nature or do not have ramifications as noted above may be amended by a majority vote of the coaches of that sport.

Prior to any revision in Regular Season Competition/Scheduling policies or the adoption of any proposal that may have an academic impact, the Faculty Athletics Representatives group must review the proposal during its next regularly scheduled meeting.

Artificial Noisemakers and Sound Systems (Team). **[SEC Bylaw 30.22.1.5(d)]** Except as otherwise provided in SEC Bylaw 30.22.1.5 and the Commissioner's Regulations of each sport, artificial noisemakers, and sound systems brought to competition sites by participating teams and team personnel are restricted to the locker and training room areas only.

Availability of Alcoholic Beverages at Athletic Events.

Each institution is permitted to determine the permissibility of selling alcoholic beverages in athletics venues and shall establish a policy governing the sale and distribution of alcoholic beverages in its athletics facilities. *[Adopted: 5/31/19, effective 8/1/19]*

Institutions that offer alcohol sales in public areas must incorporate Conference-wide alcohol management expectations, which include:

1. Alcoholic beverages are to be sold and dispensed only at designated stationary locations;
2. Alcoholic beverages may not be sold by vendors within the seating areas;
3. Identification check is required at every point of sale to prevent sales to minors;
4. Alcoholic beverage sales are limited to beer and wine only (no hard liquor or mixed drinks may be sold in

public seating areas);

5. Limits must be established on the number of drinks purchased at one time by an individual;
6. Alcohol must be dispensed into cups;
7. Safe server training and additional training for staff to handle high risk situations is required; and
8. Designated stop times for sale and/or distribution of alcohol must be enforced as follows:
 - A. Football (end of 3rd quarter);
 - B. Basketball (Men's—Second half 12-minute TV timeout; Women's—End of 3rd quarter);
 - C. Baseball (end of the top of 7th inning);
 - D. Softball (end of the top of the 5th inning); and
 - E. Other Sports (At a designated time, no later than when 75% of the event's regulation length competition is scheduled to be completed).

Each year, the Conference membership shall review this policy to determine institutional compliance with established expectations and evaluate fan conduct and alcohol-related incidents for the purpose of determining the need to revise the Conference's alcohol policy.

Implementation of these management expectations does not include suites, clubs or private leased areas.

Each institution shall establish a policy for the admission of outside food and beverage into its facilities.

As with all areas of the stadium, maintaining the safety of patrons and participants and maintaining an atmosphere suitable for families is of utmost importance.

Advertising displays mentioning or promoting alcoholic beverage shall not be permitted in any playing facility with the exception of common point-of-sale signage.

Awards. The Conference sponsors an awards program for each sport, as well as programs for each championship and tournament. General guidelines for the voting processes are outlined below: (See Supplement A of this section for a complete list of sport-specific awards)

1. **Guidelines.** These guidelines are in place to ensure fair treatment of all student-athletes and coaches, and are to be followed in all voting processes. All votes are submitted on behalf of the institution and thus, if a coach does not follow procedure the Athletics Director or his/her designee will replace that coach's vote. Deadlines set by the SEC office must be adhered to in both the nomination process, as well as the final ballot. It is understood that all nominations and ballots are the responsibility of the institution. If the coach misses a specific deadline set by the SEC office, such forms become the responsibility of the athletics director or his/her designee. Institutions that miss nomination and/or voting deadlines set by the SEC office are subject to dismissal of that institution's forms.
 - A. Coaches may not vote for themselves or their student-athletes for awards determined by a vote of the head coaches.
 - B. A ballot must be completely filled out to be counted.
 - C. A coach must vote for post-season awards.
 - D. Only nominated student-athletes may receive votes for post-season awards. In all cases, a coach may only nominate his/her own student-athletes.
 - E. An institution may nominate more than one student-athlete for an individual award, including Scholar-Athlete, Freshman, and Athlete of the Year.
 - F. On a coach's ballot, his/her vote for Player of the Year must be listed among his/her All-SEC votes.
 - G. On a coach's ballot, his/her vote for Freshman of the Year must be listed among his/her All-Freshman votes.
2. **Roy F. Kramer Athlete of the Year Awards.** [SEC Bylaw 30.22.1.4a]
3. **H. Boyd McWhorter Scholar-Athlete of the Year Awards.** [SEC Bylaw 30.22.1.4b]
4. **Brad Davis Community Service Leader of the Year Awards.** [SEC Bylaw 30.22.1.4c]
5. **Michael L Slive Distinguished Service Award.** [SEC Bylaw 30.22.1.4d]
6. **SEC Sportsmanship Awards.** Each institution may nominate one male and one female student-athlete for consideration based on criteria provided by the SEC office. The Athletics Directors will select one male and one female recipient from those nominated at the SEC Spring Meeting.

7. **SEC Academic Honor Roll.** The following criteria will be used to determine recipients of the SEC Academic Honor Roll award:
- A. Any student-athlete who participates in a Southeastern Conference championship sport or a student-athlete who participates in a sport listed on his/her institution's NCAA Sports Sponsorship Form is eligible for nomination to the Academic Honor Roll.
 - B. The following criteria will be followed:
 - (1) A student-athlete must have a grade point average of 3.00 or above for either the preceding academic year (two semesters or three quarters) or have a cumulative grade point average of 3.00 or above at the nominating institution.
 - (2) If a student-athlete attends summer school, his/her grade point average during the summer academic term must be included in the calculation used to determine eligibility for the Academic Honor Roll.
 - (3) Student-athletes eligible for the Honor Roll include those receiving an athletics scholarship, recipients of an athletics award (i.e., letter winner), and non-scholarship student-athletes who have been on a varsity team for two seasons.
 - (4) Prior to being nominated, a student-athlete must have successfully completed 24 semester or 36 quarter hours of non-remedial academic credit toward a baccalaureate degree at the nominating institution.
 - (5) The student-athlete must have been a member of a varsity team for the sport's entire NCAA Championship segment.
 - (6) The SEC Academic Honor Roll shall be compiled and released following each sport's championship event, as follows:
 - a. Cross Country, football, volleyball, soccer – Honor Roll recipients shall be announced by the Conference office during the first week of February, based on the student-athletes' preceding fall, summer, and spring terms. [Revised: 11/18/15]
 - b. Basketball, equestrian, gymnastics, swimming and diving – Honor Roll recipients shall be announced by the Conference office during the third week of April, based on the student-athletes' preceding fall, summer, and spring terms.
 - c. Track and field, golf, tennis, softball, baseball – Honor Roll recipients shall be announced by the Conference office during the third week of June, based on the student-athletes' preceding spring, fall, and summer terms.
 - d. First year student-athletes – First year student-athletes in all sports may be named to the Honor Roll at the conclusion of their first full academic year in residence (spring, fall and summer terms) through an announcement issued by the Conference office during the second week of July.
8. **Scholar-Athlete of the Year.** The recipient in each sport will be determined by vote of the head coaches. Coaches will vote during the All-SEC process for their particular sport. Each vote is worth one point. The criteria for nominating a student-athlete for the Scholar-Athlete of the Year are as follows:
- A. Nominee must be a starter or important reserve with legitimate athletic credentials.
 - B. Nominee must have participated in at least 50 percent of team's games for the nominating year.
 - C. Nominee must have at least a 3.2 cumulative grade point average for his or her collegiate career. A nominee in graduate school must have a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.2 both as an undergraduate and as a graduate student.
 - D. Nominee must have reached sophomore athletic and academic standing at the participating institution (True freshmen, redshirt freshmen and ineligible athletic transfers are not eligible.).
 - E. Nominee must have completed one full academic year at the participating institution.
9. **All-SEC Teams.** Criteria for selection are outlined in the Commissioner's Regulations for each sport.
10. **All-Freshman Teams.** Criteria for selection are outlined in the Commissioner's Regulations for each sport.
11. **Athletes of the Year.** Criteria for selection are outlined in the Commissioner's Regulations for each sport.
12. **Freshmen of the Year.** Criteria for selection are outlined in the Commissioner's Regulations for each sport.

13. **Coaches of the Year.** Criteria for selection are outlined in the Commissioner's Regulations for each sport.
14. **Athletes of the Week.** The Conference Communications staff will select an "Athlete of the Week" from nominations submitted by the sports information offices of the member institutions.
15. **Freshmen of the Week.** The Conference office will select a "Freshman of the Week" from nominations submitted to the Conference office by the sports information directors of the member institutions.
16. **Community Service Teams.** Each institution selects one student-athlete per sport sponsored by the Conference. Selection is based on community service performed by the student-athlete. The cross country, indoor track and outdoor track "Community Service Team" will be selected during the outdoor track season.

Bands, Banners, Cheerleaders and Mascots. Specific policies regarding bands, banners, cheerleaders, and mascots are addressed in the SEC Bylaws or Commissioner's Regulations for each sport.

Coaches Committees and Meetings. [SEC Bylaw 21.8 and 21.9]

Championship Manuals. For on-campus championships, the host institution shall provide appropriate information packets to each participating institution as specified in the Commissioner's Regulations for each sport. The Conference championship staff shall provide appropriate information packets to each participating institution for neutral-site championships.

Championship Sites. The SEC Executive Committee must approve all championship or tournament sites, unless otherwise specified in the Commissioner's Regulations for each sport. Such sites may be proposed by the Commissioner, coaches groups, Senior Woman Administrators, or Athletics Directors. Site proposals from coaches must be reviewed by the Senior Woman Administrators and/or Athletics Directors prior to submission to the SEC Executive Committee. Exceptions to this policy are specified in the Commissioner's Regulations for each sport.

Crowd Control and Game Management. The Presidents and Chancellors of the Southeastern Conference member institutions are committed to excellent crowd control at all athletic events. They have passed several resolutions stating their aims and objectives for promoting mutual trust and friendly relations between Conference members and other institutions by emphasizing the need for spectator and student-athlete sportsmanship at athletic contests.

The Athletics Director of the host institution shall assure that crowd control and game management are exercised in the best interests of safety and fair play for the participants, as well as for spectators. The Athletics Director shall designate a full-time staff person (or persons) to serve as game management director; however, ultimate responsibility remains with the Athletics Director. The home institution shall supply the visiting coach and game officials with the name and location of the individual responsible for game management and crowd control.

The Athletics Directors of each institution are expected to communicate with their student-athletes, coaches and fans to encourage enthusiastic support within the confines of good sportsmanship. Host institutions must provide adequate security and ushers, preferably in uniform, for effective crowd management. Attention should be given to seating arrangements that will alleviate crowd-control problems. In addition, evacuation and emergency plans should be in place and reviewed on a regular basis.

Divisional Scheduling. [SEC Bylaw 17.1.9e]

Eligibility. [SEC Bylaws 14.10.1 and 30.22.1.3b] The SEC office will supply an eligibility list for review prior to the start of a Conference championship or tournament.

Equal Access to Locker Rooms. Equal access must be given to all media representatives, regardless of gender, at any time interviews with coaches and/or student-athletes are conducted, including after competition. Equal access is defined as access to coaches and/or student-athletes at the exact same time and at the exact same place. Bringing players to a separate area for reporters of the opposite gender is not considered equal access. The exact method of ensuring equal access shall be determined by the institution.

Financial Responsibilities. [SEC Bylaw 31.20, 31.21, 31.22, and 31.23] The method of distributing net receipts is specified in the SEC Bylaws. Host institutions shall file a financial report with the SEC office not later than 60 days after the event.

Interrupted Game Procedures. All personnel, including Athletics Directors, game management personnel, game officials, coaches, players, and Conference office staff, shall use their best effort to ensure each Conference contest is played to its conclusion. The Conference recognizes, however, emergencies may arise that make a contest's completion impossible or inadvisable. Such circumstances may include, but are not limited to, severe inclement weather, natural or man-made disasters, power failures and spectator interference.

Contests should be delayed, relocated, suspended, canceled, postponed or terminated (see definitions below) when circumstances exist such that commencement or continuation of play would pose a threat to the safety of game participants. The following procedures shall apply to any sport which does not have sport-specific Inclement Weather or Interrupted Game Procedures.

1. **Definitions.**

- A. **Delay** - To delay a contest is to delay the start of a contest until a later time on the same date.
- B. **Relocate** - To relocate a contest is to change the location of the competition.
- C. **Suspend** - To suspend a contest is to temporarily halt play for a short duration after the contest begins.
- D. **Cancel** - To cancel a contest is to nullify it either before or after it begins and to make no provision for rescheduling it or for including its score or other performance statistics in Conference records.
- E. **Postpone** - To postpone a contest is to (a) defer its starting time to a later date, or to (b) suspend it after play has begun and make provision to resume it at a later date with all scores and other performance statistics up to the point of postponement added to those achieved in the resumed portion of the contest.
- F. **Terminate** - To terminate a contest is to end it short of a full-designated duration of play, officially record it as a completed contest, and make no provision to resume it at a later date.

2. **Authority.** Authority to delay or relocate a contest is vested with the home institution's Athletics Director or designated senior level administrator. Authority to suspend a contest is vested with the officials. Authority to cancel, postpone or terminate a contest is vested *only* with the Commissioner or his/her designee.

3. **Guidelines.**

- A. The home institution's Athletics Director or designated senior level administrator shall have the authority to determine whether a contest should, prior to its start, be temporarily delayed until a later time on the same date. Once a contest has started, the decision to suspend play is the responsibility of the game officials.
- B. If extenuating circumstances occur that necessitate the relocation of the contest site within the same city, the home institution's Athletics Director or designated senior level administrator shall have the authority to determine whether and where the contest should be relocated. The decision should be made in consultation with the visiting team. The alternate site must be in full compliance with all NCAA playing rules and regulations governing that particular sport.
- C. If a contest is postponed prior to its start for any reason, the two participating institutions, in consultation with the Commissioner or his/her designee, shall attempt to reschedule the game at a later time or date. If the contest cannot be rescheduled, the Commissioner shall cancel the contest.
- D. If a contest is suspended for any reason after play has begun, the contest must be resumed as soon as conditions are deemed safe by the officials in consultation with the home team game management personnel.
- E. A suspended contest may not be resumed after midnight local time, or two hours following the point of suspension, whichever is later.
- F. If a contest is suspended after play has begun and cannot resume before midnight local time, the two institutions, in consultation with the Commissioner, shall attempt to declare the game postponed, and resume it at a later date.
- G. In the event a contest cannot be resumed at a later date, the following will apply:
 - (1) If the contest is suspended prior to the completion of one half of play (halftime), the Commissioner shall declare the contest ***canceled***.
 - (2) If the contest is suspended after the completion of one half of play (halftime), the Commissioner shall declare the contest ***terminated***.

In the event a contest is delayed or suspended and it does not appear play will be resumed on that date, the Athletics Directors (or designated representatives) of both participating institutions, game management personnel and the Conference office representative (if available) shall meet with the game officials in the officials' dressing room, or another suitable location nearby. The Conference office representative shall communicate with the Commissioner, who has the sole authority to declare a game canceled, postponed or terminated. If the Conference office representative is not on site, the home institution's Athletics Director or designated senior level administrator shall contact the appropriate Conference staff liaison. The home team

game management, in consultation with the Conference office representative, is responsible for disseminating information regarding such a decision to the teams, media and general public.

Lightning Policy. Each member institution must have the capability of determining when lightning strikes are within specified distances of the competition site for all outdoor events.

When lightning is detected within 15 miles of the competition site, the home institution shall notify the head referee-umpire.

When lightning is detected within a minimum of 10 miles from the competition site, home team management shall utilize the public address system to inform those in attendance that inclement weather including lightning is within 10 (or more) miles and that should patrons vacate the facility for safe shelter, they will be allowed to re-enter with a ticket stub.

When lightning is detected within eight (8) miles of the competition site, competition shall be suspended. Competition may be resumed after 30 minutes of no detected lightning strikes within an eight mile radius. A 10 minute warm-up period may be granted following this 30 minute suspension.

In cases of severe weather being detected prior to the start of competition: A maximum of 10 minutes may be used, at the discretion of the home institution, for the marching band, national anthem and introductions, immediately following the 30 minute time period of no detected lightning strikes.

Lodging. It is the responsibility of the host to ensure that adequate housing is available to all participating institutions. Each institution is responsible (unless otherwise noted in the Commissioner's Regulations or championship/tournament manual) for finalizing its own lodging arrangements.

Marketing/Sponsorship Policies. Any agreements and contracts that result in corporate sponsorship of a Conference championship or tournament must be approved by the Commissioner. This does not preclude a host from obtaining nominal sponsorship and trade-outs from local businesses that are interested in supporting the event. The Commissioner has the right of final approval of all commercial sponsorship, exhibitors and merchandisers at a Conference championship or tournament.

Medical Policies. Adequate medical personnel must be present or on call at all sessions of the event (practice and competition). The host is responsible for obtaining the necessary medical staff and supplies. Additional policies may be specified in the Commissioner's Regulations for each sport.

New Coaches Orientation. Upon initial employment at an SEC member institution, each head or assistant coach shall attend a New Coaches Orientation conducted at the SEC office. Attendance at a New Coaches Orientation session should occur as soon as possible following employment of a coach, but is required to occur not later than October following employment of each coach. A coach who fails to attend a New Coaches Orientation session within the prescribed time frame may not participate in any off-campus recruiting activities until the coach attends a New Coaches Orientation session. New Coaches Orientation sessions shall be conducted in May, July and October. A coach who discontinues employment within the SEC shall be required to attend New Coaches Orientation if four calendar years lapse between dates of employment at an SEC member institution.

Officials. [SEC Bylaw 30.20] Officials and officiating fees/travel expenses for all Conference tournaments and championships shall be approved by the Commissioner. Unless otherwise approved and noted in the Commissioner's Regulations, the expenses and fees shall be the responsibility of the host.

Penalties for Violations of Specified NCAA Bylaws. The Conference has established the following minimum penalties for violations of specified NCAA Bylaws. The institution shall apply the minimum penalty upon discovery of the violation and shall report the violations to the Conference in a timely manner. The minimum penalty may be increased at the Commissioner's discretion. In the event that a minimum penalty cannot be fully applied prior to the involved prospective student-athlete's written commitment to the institution, the Commissioner shall impose such other penalties to address the competitive or recruiting advantage gained by the institution (*e.g.*, prohibiting the issuance of a financial aid agreement, restrictions on recruiting activities, etc.).

Prior to application of the minimum penalty, the involved institution may request relief from the minimum penalty if the institution establishes that: 1) the violation was clearly attributable to extenuating circumstances; and 2) the violation did not produce a recruiting or competitive advantage. If an institution that commits a violation seeks relief from the minimum penalty and there is a reasonable basis for consideration of the relief request, the penalty is stayed pending the Commissioner's determination. [Revised: 12/13/16]

Impermissible activity by noncoaching staff member (NCAA Bylaw 11.7.1.1 and 11.7.6) The involved institutional staff member shall be prohibited from attending all countable and required athletically related activities involving student-athletes (e.g. practice, competition, and team meetings involving student-athletes) for a seven-day period following discovery of the violation.

Contact with a prospect during either an evaluation or quiet period. (NCAA Bylaws 13.02.5.2 and 13.02.5.4) The involved institutional staff member(s) shall not be permitted to participate in any off-campus recruiting activity for the 30 calendar days immediately following discovery of the violation. Further in-person contact (on or off campus) with the prospective student-athlete involved in the violation shall be prohibited until 30 days following the discovery of the violation or the first permissible date for in-person off-campus contact with the prospect, as deemed appropriate. In sports that permit off-campus contact prior to the prospect's senior year, the institution shall be permitted to have no more than one additional off-campus contact with the involved prospect during his/her junior year and no more than one additional off-campus contact during the prospect's senior year. In sports that do not permit off-campus contact prior to the prospect's senior year, the institution shall be permitted to have no more than one additional off-campus contact with the involved prospect.

Contact with a prospect during a dead period. (NCAA Bylaw 13.02.5.5) The involved institutional staff member(s) shall not be permitted to participate in any off-campus recruiting activity for the 90 calendar days immediately following discovery of the violation. Further in-person contact (on or off campus) with the prospective student-athlete involved in the violation shall be prohibited for six calendar months. Further telephone calls and electronic correspondence between any institutional staff member and the prospective student-athlete involved in the violation shall be prohibited for the 60 days following discovery of the violation (or the first permissible date for telephone calls/electronic correspondence with the prospect).

Impermissible evaluation of a prospect during a quiet or dead period. (NCAA Bylaw 13.02.5.4 and 13.02.5.5) The involved institutional staff member(s) shall not be permitted to participate in any off-campus recruiting activity for the 60 calendar days immediately following discovery of the violation.

Contact with a prospect prior to the permissible time period. (NCAA Bylaw 13.1.1.1) The involved institutional staff member(s) shall not be permitted to participate in any off-campus recruiting for the 30 calendar days immediately following discovery of the violation. Further in-person contact (on or off campus) with the prospective student-athlete involved in the violation shall be prohibited until 30 days following the first permissible date for in-person off-campus contact. The institution shall be permitted to have no more than one additional off-campus contact with the involved prospect.

Impermissible off-campus contacts with prospective student-athletes by an impermissible recruiter. (NCAA Bylaw 13.1.2.1) The involved institutional staff member(s) shall not be permitted to participate in any recruiting activity (on or off-campus) for the 14 calendar days immediately following discovery of the violation. The involved institutional staff member(s) shall also not be permitted to make or receive telephone calls or send electronic correspondence to any prospective student-athlete for the 14 calendar days immediately following discovery of the violation. Further in-person contact (on or off campus) with the prospective student-athlete involved in the violation shall be prohibited for 30 days following discovery of the violation or the first permissible date for in-person off-campus contact, as deemed appropriate. Further telephone calls and electronic correspondence between any institutional staff member and the prospective student-athlete involved in the violation shall be prohibited for the 30 days following the date of discovery of the violation (or the first date for permissible phone calls/electronic correspondence with the prospect). In sports that permit off-campus contact prior to the prospect's senior year, the institution shall be permitted to have no more than one additional off-campus contact with the involved prospect during his/her junior year and no more than one additional off-campus contact during the prospect's senior year. In sports that do not permit off-campus contact prior to the prospect's senior year, the institution shall be permitted to have no more than one additional off-campus contact with the involved prospect.

Impermissible on-campus contacts with prospective student-athletes by an impermissible recruiter. (Applicable to situations in which the institution fails to demonstrate that it took appropriate steps to prevent such contact or where an institution has a history of similar violations) (NCAA Bylaw 13.1.2.1). In-person contact (on or off campus) with the prospective student-athlete involved in the violation shall be prohibited for 14 days following discovery of the violation or the first permissible date for in-person off-campus contact, as deemed appropriate. Further telephone calls and electronic correspondence between any institutional staff member and the prospective student-athlete involved in the violation shall be prohibited for the 14 days

following discovery of the violation (or the first date for permissible phone calls/electronic correspondence with the prospect).

Telephone calls to prospective student-athletes. (NCAA Bylaw 13.1.3.1) If a coach telephones a prospective student-athlete prior to the first permissible time period, the involved institutional staff member(s) shall not be permitted to make or receive telephone calls or send electronic correspondence to any prospective student-athlete for the 14 calendar days immediately following discovery of the violation. Further telephone calls and electronic correspondence between any institutional staff member and the prospective student-athlete involved in the violation shall be prohibited for the next 30 days following the first date for permissible phone calls. If a coach or coaching staff telephones a prospective student-athlete twice within a period where it is otherwise permissible to call once, the coaching staff is prohibited from making or receiving calls and sending electronic correspondence to the involved prospective student-athlete for a two week period.

Impermissible contact with a prospect on the day of competition. (NCAA Bylaw 13.1.6.2) The involved institutional staff member(s) shall not be permitted to participate in any off-campus recruiting for the 30 calendar days immediately following discovery of the violation. The institution shall be prohibited for 30 days from visiting the educational institution or attending any contests involving a team on which the prospective student-athlete involved in the violation participates. Further telephone calls from any institutional staff member to the prospective student-athlete involved in the violation shall be prohibited for the 30 calendar days immediately following discovery of the violation.

Provision of impermissible benefits to a prospective student-athlete. (NCAA Bylaw 13.2.1)

The involved institutional staff member(s) shall not be permitted to participate in any off-campus recruiting for the 30 calendar days immediately following discovery of the violation. Further in-person contact (on or off campus) with the prospective student-athlete involved in the violation shall be prohibited until 90 days following discovery of the violation or the first permissible date for in-person off-campus contact, as deemed appropriate. In sports that permit off-campus contact prior to the prospect's senior year, the institution shall be permitted to have no more than one additional off-campus contact with the involved prospect during his/her junior year and no more than one additional off-campus contact during the prospect's senior year. In sports that do not permit off-campus contact prior to the prospect's senior year, the institution shall be permitted to have no more than one additional off-campus contact with the involved prospect.

Provision of recruiting materials (including electronic correspondence) to a prospect prior to the permissible date. (NCAA Bylaw 13.4.1) The institution shall be prohibited from providing additional recruiting materials (including questionnaires and general correspondence, but not including a camp brochure) to the prospective student-athlete involved in the violation until 60 days following the first permissible date for distributing recruiting materials.

Provision of impermissible recruiting materials to a prospective student-athlete. (NCAA Bylaw 13.4.1.4)

Telephone calls or electronic correspondence between any institutional staff member and the prospective student-athlete involved in the violation shall be prohibited for the 60 days following the discovery of the violation (or the first permissible date for phone calls/electronic correspondence with the prospect).

Impermissible electronic transmissions/social media communication. (NCAA Bylaw 13.4.1.5 and 13.10.2)

The involved institutional staff member(s) shall not be permitted to make telephone contact with any prospective student-athlete for the 14 calendar days immediately following discovery of the violation. The institution shall not be permitted to make telephone contact, send recruiting materials (per NCAA Bylaw 13.4.1), or send permissible electronic transmissions (per NCAA Bylaw 13.4.1.5) to the prospective student-athlete involved in the violation for the 30 calendar days immediately following discovery of the violation (or the first permissible date for phone calls/electronic correspondence with the prospect).

Provision of impermissible entertainment to a prospective student-athlete or a person associated with a prospective student-athlete. (NCAA Bylaws 13.6.7, 13.7.2 and 13.8) The involved institutional staff member(s) shall not be permitted to participate in any off-campus recruiting for the 30 calendar days immediately following discovery of the violation. Further in-person contact (on or off campus) with the prospective student-athlete involved in the violation shall be prohibited until 90 days following discovery of the violation or the first permissible date for in-person off-campus contact, as deemed appropriate. In sports that permit off-campus contact prior to the prospect's senior year, the institution shall be permitted to have no more than one additional off-campus contact with the involved prospect during his/her junior year and no more than one additional off-

campus contact during the prospect's senior year. In sports that do not permit off-campus contact prior to the prospect's senior year, the institution shall be permitted to have no more than one additional off-campus contact with the involved prospect.

Impermissible public comments made regarding a prospective student-athlete. (NCAA Bylaw 13.10.2) The involved institutional staff member(s) shall not be permitted to participate in any off-campus recruiting for the 30 calendar days immediately following discovery of the violation. Further in-person contact (on or off campus) with the prospective student-athlete involved in the violation shall be prohibited until 90 days following discovery of the violation or the first permissible date for in-person off-campus contact, as deemed appropriate. The institution shall be permitted to have no more than one additional off-campus contact with the involved prospect.

Playing Conditions. [SEC Bylaw 30.22.1.5] Policies regarding playing conditions are addressed in the Commissioner's Regulations for each sport.

Playing Rules. [SEC Bylaw 17.30]

Post-Game Interviews. Following each contest of a Conference tournament or championship, participating institutions shall make coaches and student-athletes available for interviews. These interviews are designed to provide the media with championship or tournament information required for thorough coverage of the event and to limit the demands placed upon coaches and student-athletes. The sports information department of the host institution (unless otherwise designated) shall coordinate and supervise post-game interviews. Interview policies for specific sports are contained in the Commissioner's Regulations for those sports. Also refer to Equal Access to Locker Rooms, as noted above.

Practice and Number of Contests. [See Supplement D of the General Administration section]

Professional Competition. [SEC Bylaws 30.22.1.6]

Programs and Promotional Materials. The Conference shall provide a complete program for the baseball, men's and women's basketball, football, gymnastics, soccer, and softball championships. For other tournaments and championships, host institutions shall produce an informational supplement to be provided to fans.

Results and Statistics. Host institutions shall: (1) record the official results and statistics of all conference and non-conference contests; (2) forward a copy of such official results and statistics to the Conference office immediately following the conclusion of the contest; and (3) forward a copy of such official results and statistics to each participating institution in a timely manner.

Scheduling. Scheduling of Conference competition takes precedence over scheduling of non-conference competition in all sports.

Sponsored Sports. [SEC Bylaw 30.22.1] [See Supplement B of the General Administration section]

Sports Committees. [SEC Bylaw 21.9]

Sportsmanship. Consistent with SEC Bylaw 10.5, all individuals employed by or associated with a member institution, including institutional staff members, student-athletes, boosters, and fans, are expected to conduct themselves with honesty, integrity, and good sportsmanship, and shall therefore exhibit respect and courtesy towards opposing student-athletes, coaches, and game officials. In addition, all individuals shall also adhere to the following principles of good sportsmanship: [Revised: 8/7/18]

- A. **Public Comments.** All individuals shall make every attempt to promote the Conference and its members in a positive manner.
- B. **Media Access.** All individuals shall make every effort to promote a cooperative environment with the media by providing reasonable access to interview student-athletes and staff.
- C. **Student Conduct.** Each institution shall ensure that all students involved in athletics activities, including student-athletes, band members, cheerleaders, mascots, and general students attending as fans, are informed of the appropriate standards of behavior and good sportsmanship.
- D. **Promoting Sportsmanship.** Each institution shall aggressively address the issue of sportsmanship through various forms (e.g., video spots, public address announcements, radio spots, television spots and print ads in game day programs).

- E. **Throwing Items onto the Playing Surface.** Each institution shall adopt a policy prohibiting fans from throwing items onto the playing surface. Such policy must specify (without limitation) that violators who are clearly identified will be ejected from the playing facility.

It is the responsibility of each member institution to establish policies for sportsmanship and ethical conduct in intercollegiate athletics consistent with the educational mission and goals of the institution. Furthermore, member institutions are responsible for educating all constituencies about these policies on a continuing basis.

Squad Sizes. [See Supplement D of the General Administration section]

Television, Radio and Media Services. All television and radio agreements for Conference championships and tournaments must be approved by the Commissioner. The media services associated with the event generally are the responsibility of the sports information department of the host institution, although it is understood that sports information personnel from participating institutions shall assist as needed. Specific policies for each sport are described in the Commissioner's Regulations or championship and tournament manuals.

Tickets. A host institution shall provide the visiting team (at its request) with up to 50 complimentary admissions for any regular-season competitive event for which the host institution charges admission. (Additional information is provided in the Commissioner's Regulations for each sport.)

Tobacco-Related Products. The use of tobacco-related products by players, coaches, support personnel (i.e., managers and trainers), game personnel (officials, chain crews and table crews) and staff in all sports during practice, Conference competition and Conference championships and tournaments (including banquets, press conferences, post-game interviews, and at all stadiums, arena facilities and competition grounds) is prohibited. This prohibition is applicable to all activities at the athletic competition and practice, including press box areas and locker rooms.

Uniforms and Apparel. The uniforms and apparel of all participants in Conference tournaments and championships must conform to appropriate standards of safety and good taste. All student-athletes shall wear uniforms that identify their institution by school name or school colors. This policy applies to regular-season and post-season play. All student-athletes shall conform to NCAA regulations governing the appearance of commercial identification on uniforms, equipment and apparel. Failure to adhere to this policy may result in ineligibility to continue participation in the sport.

SOUTHEASTERN CONFERENCE AWARDS PROGRAM

Sport	Team Awards	Individual Championship Awards	All-Conference Teams	Other Awards & Honors	Academic Honor Roll	Media Honors
Baseball	<p>1 team award for the Conference Champion.</p> <p>2 team awards given for Divisional Champions (trophy).</p> <p>1 team award (pyramid) for the Conference Tournament Champion.</p>	<p>12 All-Tournament Team (trophy).</p> <p>1 Tournament MVP (trophy).</p>	<p>12 First Team All-SEC (crystal award)</p> <p>12 Second Team All-SEC (crystal award)</p> <p>12 All-Freshman Team (crystal award)</p> <p>9 All-Defensive Team (crystal award)</p>	<p>Coach of the Year (trophy)</p> <p>Player of the Year (trophy)</p> <p>Pitcher of the Year (trophy)</p> <p>Freshman of the Year (trophy)</p> <p>Scholar-Athlete of the Year (trophy)</p> <p>Community Service Team (certificate)</p>	<p>Same criteria for all sports.</p> <p>Certificates are provided by compliance.</p>	<p>Player of the Week (framed certificate)</p> <p>Pitcher of the week (framed certificate)</p> <p>Freshman of the week (framed certificate)</p>
Men's & Women's Basketball	<p>1 team award for the Conference Champion.</p> <p>1 team award (pyramid) for the Conference Tournament Champion.</p>	<p>5 All-Tournament Team (trophy).</p> <p>1 Tournament MVP (trophy).</p>	<p>8 First Team All-SEC (crystal award)</p> <p>8 Second Team All-SEC (crystal award)</p> <p>8 All-Freshman Team (crystal award)</p> <p>5 All-Defensive Team (crystal award)</p>	<p>Coach of the Year (trophy)</p> <p>Player of the Year (trophy)</p> <p>6th Man/Woman of the Year (trophy)</p> <p>Defensive Player of the year (trophy)</p> <p>Freshman of the Year (trophy)</p> <p>Scholar-Athlete of the Year (trophy)</p> <p>Community Service Team (certificate)</p>	<p>Same criteria for all sports.</p> <p>Certificates are provided by compliance.</p>	<p>Player of the Week (framed certificate)</p> <p>Freshman of the week (framed certificate)</p>

<p>Men's & Women's Cross Country</p>	<p>1 team award for the Conference Champion.</p>	<p>3 top place finishers for each event given medallions.</p>	<p>7 First Team All-SEC given to finishers 1-7 (crystal award) 7 Second Team All-SEC given to finishers 8-14 (crystal award) 7 All-Freshman Team (crystal award)</p>	<p>Coach of the Year (trophy) Runner of the Year (trophy) Freshman of the Year (trophy) Scholar-Athlete of the Year (trophy) Community Service Team (certificate)</p>	<p>Same criteria for all sports. Certificates are provided by compliance.</p>	<p>Athlete of the Week (framed certificate) Freshman of the week (framed certificate)</p>
<p>Equestrian</p>	<p>1 team award for the Conference Champion.</p>	<p>4 All-Championship Team (one per event) Most Outstanding Performers (16 – one per competition per day)</p>	<p>20 All-SEC (top 5 athletes in each event voted by the coaches) 20 All-Freshman Team (top 5 freshmen in each event voted by the coaches)</p>	<p>Coach of the Year (trophy) 4 Athletes of the Year (trophy) 4 Freshman Athletes of the Year (trophy) Scholar-Athlete of the Year (trophy) Community Service Team (certificate)</p>	<p>Same criteria for all sports. Certificates are provided by compliance.</p>	<p>4 Athletes of the Month given to one athlete from each event (framed certificate)</p>
<p>Football</p>	<p>1 team award for the Conference Champion. 2 team awards given for Divisional Champions (trophy).</p>	<p>1 Championship MVP (trophy).</p>	<p>25 (number varies) First Team All-SEC (crystal award) 25 (number varies) Second Team All-SEC (crystal award) 24 (number varies) All-Freshman Team (crystal award)</p>	<p>Coach of the Year (trophy) Offensive Player of the Year (trophy) Defensive Player of the Year (trophy) Special Teams Player of the Year (trophy) Freshman of the Year (trophy) Scholar-Athlete of the Year (trophy) Community Service Team (certificate)</p>	<p>Same criteria for all sports. Certificates are provided by compliance.</p>	<p>Offensive Player of the Week (framed certificate) Defensive Player of the week (framed certificate) Special Teams Player of the week (framed certificate) Offensive Lineman of the week (certificate) Defensive Lineman of the week (framed certificate) Freshman of the week (framed certificate)</p>

<p>Men's and Women's Golf</p>	<p>1 team award for the Conference Champion.</p>	<p>2 top finishers given trophy. (Stroke Play Champion and Runner Up)</p> <p>Each member of winning team receives medal (5)</p>	<p>8 First Team All-SEC (crystal award)</p> <p>8 Second Team All-SEC (crystal award)</p> <p>5 Male All-Freshman Team 8 Female All-Freshman Team (crystal award)</p>	<p>Coach of the Year (trophy)</p> <p>Player of the Year (trophy)</p> <p>Freshman of the Year (trophy)</p> <p>Scholar-Athlete of the Year (trophy)</p> <p>Community Service Team (certificate)</p>	<p>Same criteria for all sports.</p> <p>Certificates are provided by compliance.</p>	<p>Athlete of the Week (framed certificate)</p> <p>Freshman of the week (framed certificate)</p>
<p>Gymnastics</p>	<p>1 team award for the Conference Champion.</p>	<p>3 top place finishers for each event given medals.</p>	<p>All-SEC team given to top 2 scores (including ties) in each event and top 2 scores (including ties) in the all-around from each session. (crystal award)</p> <p>All-Freshman Team given to the freshman with the top score (including ties) in each event and top score (including ties) in the all-around from each session. (crystal award)</p>	<p>Coach of the Year (trophy)</p> <p>Gymnasts of the Year (trophy)</p> <p>Freshman of the Year (trophy)</p> <p>Event Specialist of the Year (trophy)</p> <p>Scholar-Athlete of the Year (trophy)</p> <p>Community Service Team (certificate)</p>	<p>Same criteria for all sports.</p> <p>Certificates are provided by compliance.</p>	<p>Gymnast of the Week (framed certificate)</p> <p>Event Specialist of the Week (framed certificate)</p> <p>Freshman of the week (framed certificate)</p>

<p>Women's Soccer</p>	<p>1 team award for the Conference Champion. 1 team award (pyramid) for the Conference Tournament Champion.</p>	<p>11 All-Tournament Team (trophy). 1 Tournament MVP (trophy).</p>	<p>11 First Team All-SEC (crystal award) 11 Second Team All-SEC (crystal award) 11 All-Freshman Team (crystal award)</p>	<p>Coach of the Year (trophy) Offensive Player of the Year (trophy) Defensive Player of the Year (trophy) Forward of the Year (trophy) Defender of the Year (trophy) Midfielder of the Year (trophy) Goalkeeper of the Year (trophy) Freshman of the Year (trophy) Scholar-Athlete of the Year (trophy) Community Service Team (certificate)</p>	<p>Same criteria for all sports. Certificates are provided by compliance.</p>	<p>Offensive Player of the week (framed certificate) Defensive Player of the week (framed certificate) Freshman of the week (framed certificate)</p>
<p>Softball</p>	<p>1 team award for the Conference Champion. 1 team award (pyramid) for the Conference Tournament Champion.</p>	<p>11 All-Tournament Team (trophy). 1 Tournament MVP (trophy).</p>	<p>14 First Team All-SEC (crystal award) 14 Second Team All-SEC (crystal award) 14 All-Freshman Team (crystal award) 9 All Defensive Team (crystal award)</p>	<p>Coach of the Year (trophy) Player of the Year (trophy) Pitcher of the Year (trophy) Freshman of the Year (trophy) Scholar-Athlete of the Year (trophy) Community Service Team (certificate)</p>	<p>Same criteria for all sports. Certificates are provided by compliance.</p>	<p>Player of the week (framed certificate) Pitcher of the week (framed certificate) Freshman of the week (framed certificate)</p>

Swimming & Diving	1 team award for the Conference Champion	3 top place finishers for each event given medallions. Swimmer of the Meet Diver of the Meet Commissioner's Trophy	First Team All-SEC given to winner in each event (crystal award) Second Team All-SEC given to 2 nd and 3 rd place winner in each event (crystal award) All-Freshman Team given to top Freshman finisher in each event (crystal award)	Swimming Coach of the Year (trophy) Diving Coach of the Year (trophy) Swimmer of the Year (trophy) Diver of the Year (trophy) Freshman Swimmer of the Year (trophy) Freshman Diver of the Year (trophy) Scholar-Athlete of the Year (trophy) Community Service Team (certificate)	Same criteria for all sports. Certificates are provided by compliance.	Swimmer of the week (framed certificate) Diver of the week (framed certificate) Freshman of the week (framed certificate)
Men's & Women's Tennis	1 team award for the Conference Champion. 1 team award (pyramid) for the Conference Tournament Champion.	6 All-Tournament Team (trophy). 1 Tournament MVP (trophy).	12 First Team All-SEC (crystal award) 12 Second Team All-SEC (crystal award) 6 All-Freshman Team (crystal award)	Coach of the Year (trophy) Player of the Year (trophy) Freshman of the Year (trophy) Scholar-Athlete of the Year (trophy) Community Service Team (certificate)	Same criteria for all sports. Certificates are provided by compliance.	Player of the Week (framed certificate) Freshman of the week (framed certificate)
Men's & Women's Indoor Track & Field	1 team award for the Conference Champion.	3 top place finishers for each event given medallions. Cliff Harper Trophy (MVP of Meet)	First Team All-SEC given to winner in each event (crystal award) Second Team All-SEC given to 2 nd and 3 rd place winner in each event (crystal award) All-Freshman Team given to top Freshman finisher in each event, excluding relays (crystal award)	Coach of the Year (trophy) Runner of the Year (trophy) Field Athlete of the Year (trophy) Freshman Runner of the Year (trophy) Freshman Field Athlete of the Year (trophy) Scholar-Athlete of the Year (trophy)	Same criteria for all sports. Certificates are provided by compliance.	Track Athlete of the week (certificate) Field Athlete of the week (certificate) Freshman of the week (certificate)

<p>Men's & Women's Outdoor Track & Field</p>	<p>1 team award for the Conference Champion.</p>	<p>3 top place finishers for each event given medallions. Commissioner's Trophy</p>	<p>First Team All-SEC given to winner in each event (crystal award) Second Team All-SEC given to 2nd and 3rd place winner in each event (crystal award) All-Freshman Team given to top Freshman finisher in each event, excluding relays (crystal award)</p>	<p>Coach of the Year (trophy) Runner of the Year (trophy) Field Athlete of the Year (trophy) Freshman Runner of the Year (trophy) Freshman Field Athlete of the Year (trophy) Scholar-Athlete of the Year (trophy) Community Service Team (framed certificate)</p>	<p>Same criteria for all sports. Certificates are provided by compliance.</p>	<p>Track Athlete of the week (framed certificate) Field Athlete of the week (framed certificate) Freshman of the week (framed certificate)</p>
<p>Volleyball</p>	<p>1 team award for the Conference Champion.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>18 All-SEC (crystal award) 7 All-Freshman Team (crystal award)</p>	<p>Coach of the Year (trophy) Player of the Year (trophy) Defensive Player of the Year (trophy) Freshman of the Year (trophy) Scholar-Athlete of the Year (trophy) Community Service Team (framed certificate) Libero of the Year (trophy)</p>	<p>Same criteria for all sports. Certificates are provided by compliance.</p>	<p>Player of the Week (framed certificate) Offensive Player of the week (framed certificate) Defensive Player of the week (framed certificate) Setter of the Week (framed certificate) Freshman of the week (framed certificate)</p>

2019-2020 INSTITUTIONALLY SPONSORED VARSITY SPORTS

	ALA	ARK	AUB	UF	UGA	UK	LSU	MISS	MSU	MIZZ	USC	UT	TAMU	VU	TOTAL
Number M/W Sports	9/11	8/11	9/12	9/12	9/12	10/12	9/12	8/10	7/9	9/11	9/12	9/11	9/11	6/10	
MEN'S SPORTS															
Baseball	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	14
Basketball	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	14
Football	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	14
Golf	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	14
Swimming	X	----	X	X	X	X	X	----	----	X	X	X	X	----	10
Tennis	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	----	X	X	X	X	13
Track -- Cross Country	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	----	X	----	X	X	X	12
Track – Indoor	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	----	13
Track – Outdoor	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	----	13
WOMEN'S SPORTS															
Basketball	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	14
Equestrian	----	----	X	----	X	----	----	----	----	----	X	----	X	----	4
Golf	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	14
Gymnastics	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	----	----	X	----	----	----	----	8
Soccer	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	14
Softball	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	----	13
Swimming	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	----	----	X	X	X	X	X	12
Tennis	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	14
Track -- Cross Country	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	14
Track – Indoor	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	14
Track – Outdoor	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	14
Volleyball	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	----	13
Women's Rowing*	X											X			2
Women's Lacrosse*				X										X	2
Men's/Women's Rifle*						X		X							2
Men's Soccer*						X					X				2
Women's Sand Volleyball*							X				X				2
Women's Bowling*														X	1
Men's Wrestling*										X					1

* Denotes varsity sports not sponsored by the Conference

SEC CHAMPIONSHIP SITES BY SPORT (2019-2028)

	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026	2026-2027	2027-2028
BASEBALL	Hoover, AL <i>May 19-24, 2020</i>	Hoover, AL <i>May 25-30, 2021</i>							
MEN'S BASKETBALL	Nashville, TN <i>March 11-15, 2020</i>	Nashville, TN <i>March 10-14, 2021</i>	Tampa, FL <i>March 9-13, 2022</i>	Nashville, TN <i>March 8-12, 2023</i>	Nashville, TN <i>March 13-17, 2024</i>	Nashville, TN <i>March 12-16, 2025</i>	Nashville, TN	Nashville, TN	Nashville, TN
WOMEN'S BASKETBALL	Greenville, SC <i>March 4-8, 2020</i>	Greenville, SC <i>March 3-7, 2021</i>	Nashville, TN <i>March 2-6, 2022</i>						
CROSS COUNTRY	Kentucky <i>November 1, 2019</i>	LSU	Missouri	Ole Miss	South Carolina	MSU	Tennessee	Texas A&M	Vanderbilt
EQUESTRIAN	Georgia <i>March 27-28, 2020</i>	Auburn	South Carolina	Texas A&M	Georgia	Auburn	South Carolina	Texas A&M	Georgia
FOOTBALL	Atlanta, GA <i>December 7, 2019</i>	Atlanta, GA <i>December 5, 2020</i>	Atlanta, GA	Atlanta, GA	Atlanta, GA	Atlanta, GA	Atlanta, GA	Atlanta, GA	
MEN'S GOLF	Sea Island Golf Club St. Simons Island, GA <i>April 22-26, 2020</i>	Sea Island Golf Club St. Simons Island, GA <i>April 21-25, 2021</i>							
WOMEN'S GOLF	Greystone Golf & Country Club Birmingham, AL <i>April 15-19, 2020</i>								
GYMNASTICS	Duluth, GA <i>March 21, 2020</i>	New Orleans, LA <i>March 20, 2021</i>	Birmingham, AL						
SOCCER	Orange Beach, AL <i>Nov. 3-10, 2019</i>	Orange Beach, AL							
SOFTBALL	Alabama <i>May 6-9, 2020</i>	Florida	Arkansas	Georgia	Auburn	Kentucky	LSU	Missouri	Ole Miss
SWIMMING/ DIVING	Auburn <i>Feb. 18-21, 2020</i>	Missouri	Tennessee	Texas A&M	Georgia				
MEN'S TENNIS	Arkansas <i>April 15-19, 2020</i>	Georgia	Auburn	Kentucky	LSU	Tennessee	Vanderbilt	Alabama	
WOMEN'S TENNIS	Alabama <i>April 15-19, 2020</i>	Florida	Arkansas	Georgia	Auburn	Kentucky	LSU	Missouri	
INDOOR T/F	Texas A&M <i>Feb. 28-29, 2020</i>	Arkansas	Texas A&M	Birmingham, AL	Arkansas	Texas A&M	Arkansas	Birmingham, AL	Texas A&M
OUTDOOR T/F	Texas A&M <i>May 14-16, 2020</i>	Ole Miss	Georgia	Florida	Kentucky	Auburn	Missouri	LSU	
VOLLEYBALL	Tournament not Conducted								

SEC Squad Size Policies

Sport	In all sports other than football, the home team shall have the ability to determine (under NCAA Bylaws) pre-game and post-game expenses provided to student-athletes permitted to dress, but not participate in a contest. The home and visiting squad size limits apply only to SEC-sponsored competition, rather than applying to any competition in which two SEC teams participate. SEC squad size limitations are not applicable to NCAA Championship events.	SEC Championship Squad Size Limits
Baseball	<p>The home team may dress 35 eligible student-athletes in uniform, but only 27 student-athletes shall be allowed to participate in a series. A visiting team is limited to a travel squad size of 27 eligible student-athletes, except during the final Conference series of the regular season when 35 eligible student-athletes may travel and dress. Only 27 will be allowed to participate in the final Conference series of the regular season. The 27 participating student-athletes for both the home and visiting team must be declared prior to the first game of a Conference series and may not be changed during the course of the series.</p> <p>Practice Limitations—NCAA Bylaw 17.2.1 Minimum Contest Requirement—NCAA Bylaw 20.9.6.3 Maximum Contest Limit—NCAA Bylaw 17.2.5</p>	<p>Only 30 student-athletes will be allowed to participate but 35 eligible student-athletes will be permitted to receive expenses to attend the SEC Championship event. Non-participating student-athletes will not be permitted to access the competition area immediately prior to and during any of their team’s Championship contests.</p>
Basketball	<p>The home team may dress all eligible student-athletes in uniform, but only 15 student-athletes may participate in a Conference contest. A visiting team is limited to a travel squad size of 15 eligible student-athletes, except during an institutional vacation period when there shall be no limit on the number of eligible student-athletes who may travel.</p> <p>Practice Limitations—NCAA Bylaw 17.3.1 Minimum Contest Requirement—NCAA Bylaw 20.9.6.3 Maximum Contest Limit—NCAA Bylaw 17.3.5</p>	<p>Only 15 student-athletes will be allowed to participate but all eligible student-athletes will be permitted to receive expenses to attend the SEC Championship event. Non-participating student-athletes will not be permitted to access the competition area immediately prior to and during any of their team’s Championship contests.</p>
Cross Country	<p>The home team may dress all eligible student-athletes in uniform, but only 12 student-athletes may participate in a Conference contest. A visiting team is limited to a travel squad size of 12 eligible student-athletes.</p> <p>Practice Limitations—NCAA Bylaw 17.5.1 Minimum Contest Requirement—NCAA Bylaw 20.9.6.3 Maximum Contest Limit—NCAA Bylaw 17.5.5</p>	<p>10 in men’s cross country 12 in women’s cross country</p>
Equestrian	<p>All eligible student-athletes may participate in a Conference contest. There is no travel squad size limit.</p> <p>Practice Limitations—NCAA Bylaw 17.6.1 Minimum Contest Requirement—NCAA Bylaw 20.9.6.3 Maximum Contest Limit—NCAA Bylaw 17.6.5</p>	<p>Only 28 student-athletes (20 competitors and eight non-competing alternates) will be allowed to participate but all eligible student-athletes will be permitted to receive expenses to the SEC Championship event.</p>
Football	<p>The home team may dress all eligible student-athletes in uniform, but only 80 student-athletes may participate in a Conference contest. (The non-participating student-athletes shall dress out at no additional cost to the institution. Non-participating student-athletes shall not receive pre-game meals, overnight lodging or additional game tickets, but may receive a post-game meal provided the post-game meal is served at the stadium. No cash stipend may be provided to non-participating student-athletes for post-game meals away from the stadium.) The visiting team is limited to a travel squad size of 70 eligible student-athletes. The squad size limit for neutral site games (no more than one game annually) is 70 eligible student-athletes for both participating teams. The squad size for junior varsity teams is 55 eligible student-athletes.</p> <p>Practice Limitations—NCAA Bylaw 17.9.1 Minimum Contest Requirement—NCAA Bylaw 20.9.6.3 Maximum Contest Limit—NCAA Bylaw 17.9.5</p>	<p>85</p>
Golf	<p>The home team may dress all eligible student-athletes in uniform, but only 6 student-athletes may participate in a Conference contest. A visiting team is limited to a travel squad size of 6 eligible student-athletes.</p> <p>Practice Limitations—NCAA Bylaw 17.10.1 Minimum Contest Requirement—NCAA Bylaw 20.9.6.3 Maximum Contest Limit—NCAA Bylaw 17.10.5</p>	<p>6</p>
Gymnastics	<p>The home team may dress all eligible student-athletes in uniform, but only 18 student-athletes may participate in a Conference contest. A visiting team is limited to a travel squad size of 18 eligible student-athletes.</p> <p>Practice Limitations—NCAA Bylaw 17.11.1 Minimum Contest Requirement—NCAA Bylaw 20.9.6.3 Maximum Contest Limit—NCAA Bylaw 17.11.5</p>	<p>Only 18 student-athletes will be allowed to participate but all eligible student-athletes will be permitted to receive expenses to attend the SEC Championship event. Non-participating student-athletes will not be permitted to access the competition area immediately prior to and during any of their team’s Championship contests.</p>

Soccer	<p>The home team may dress all eligible student-athletes in uniform, but only 24 student-athletes may participate in a Conference contest. A visiting team is limited to a travel squad size of 24 eligible student-athletes.</p> <p>Practice Limitations—NCAA Bylaw 17.19.1 Minimum Contest Requirement—NCAA Bylaw 20.9.6.3 Maximum Contest Limit—NCAA Bylaw 17.19.5</p>	<p>Only 24 student-athletes will be allowed to participate in each Championship contest but all eligible student-athletes will be permitted to receive expenses to attend the SEC Championship event. Institutions must designate 24 student-athletes who will participate in a specific Championship contest prior to such contest. Non-participating eligible student-athletes may access the competition area immediately prior to and during any of their team's Championship contests but may not dress out.</p>
Softball	<p>The home team may dress all eligible student-athletes in uniform, but only 22 student-athletes may participate in a Conference contest. A visiting team is limited to a travel squad size of 22 eligible student-athletes.</p> <p>Practice Limitations—NCAA Bylaw 17.20.1 Minimum Contest Requirement—NCAA Bylaw 20.9.6.3 Maximum Contest Limit—NCAA Bylaw 17.20.5</p>	<p>Only 22 student-athletes will be allowed to participate but all eligible student-athletes will be permitted to receive expenses to attend the SEC Championship event. Non-participating student-athletes will not be permitted to access the competition area immediately prior to and during any of their team's Championship contests.</p>
Swimming	<p>The home team may dress all eligible student-athletes in uniform, but only 24 student-athletes may participate in a Conference contest. A visiting team is limited to a travel squad size of 24 eligible student-athletes. For invitational meets, the host shall determine squad size.</p> <p>Practice Limitations—NCAA Bylaw 17.21.1 Minimum Contest Requirement—NCAA Bylaw 20.9.6.3 Maximum Contest Limit—NCAA Bylaw 17.21.5</p>	22
Tennis	<p>The home team may dress all eligible student-athletes in uniform, but only 8 student-athletes in men's tennis (10 in women's tennis) may participate in a Conference contest. A visiting team is limited to a travel squad size of 8 eligible student-athletes in men's tennis (10 in women's tennis).</p> <p>Practice Limitations—NCAA Bylaw 17.22.1 Minimum Contest Requirement—NCAA Bylaw 20.9.6.3 Maximum Contest Limit—NCAA Bylaw 17.22.5</p>	10
Track – Indoor	<p>The home team may dress all eligible student-athletes in uniform, but only 27 student-athletes may participate in a Conference contest. A visiting team is limited to a travel squad size of 27 eligible student-athletes.</p> <p>Practice Limitations—NCAA Bylaw 17.23.1 Minimum Contest Requirement—NCAA Bylaw 20.9.6.3 Maximum Contest Limit—NCAA Bylaw 17.23.5</p>	27
Track – Outdoor	<p>The home team may dress all eligible student-athletes in uniform, but only 30 student-athletes may participate in a Conference contest. A visiting team is limited to a travel squad size of 30 eligible student-athletes.</p> <p>Practice Limitations—NCAA Bylaw 17.23.1 Minimum Contest Requirement—NCAA Bylaw 20.9.6.3 Maximum Contest Limit—NCAA Bylaw 17.23.5</p>	30
Volleyball	<p>The home team may dress all eligible student-athletes in uniform, but only 17 student-athletes may participate in a Conference contest. A visiting team is limited to a travel squad size of 17 eligible student-athletes.</p> <p>Practice Limitations—NCAA Bylaw 17.24.1 Minimum Contest Requirement—NCAA Bylaw 20.9.6.3 Maximum Contest Limit—NCAA Bylaw 17.24.7</p>	<p>Only 17 student-athletes will be allowed to participate but all eligible student-athletes will be permitted to receive expenses to attend the SEC Championship event. Non-participating student-athletes will not be permitted to access the competition area immediately prior to and during any of their team's Championship contests.</p>

Conference Office Liaisons. The following SEC staff members are the designated liaisons for softball: Sport Administrator – Byron Hatch; Communications – Jill Skotarczak; Officiating – Christie Cornwell/Sylvia Hagan.

REGULAR-SEASON COMPETITION

Artificial Noisemakers. [SEC Bylaw 30.22.1.5e] Artificial noisemakers shall not be brought into or used in any sports venue during games between member institutions. Each institution must have statements printed on tickets and notices to the effect that such noisemakers will not be permitted inside its competition areas.

Awards. The General Administration section of the Commissioner's Regulations provides a complete list and guidelines for all Conference awards. In addition, the recipients of the sport-specific awards listed below will be selected as follows:

1. **All-SEC Team.** The recipients will be determined by vote of the head coaches. Two weeks before the end of the regular season, the SEC office will send out nomination links for All-SEC online voting, which are due back the following week. In order to nominate a player, she must have played in a minimum of 50 percent of the team's conference games at the position nominated. Nominees for position players must have played in a minimum of 50 percent of the team's conference games at the position nominated. Nominees for the pitching position must have played in a minimum of 25 percent of the team's conference games. Nominees for DP/Utility must have played at least a total of 50 percent of the team's conference games at two or more positions, with at least 33 percent of the total games being played at one position.
On Sunday following the last competition of the regular season, a list of nominees, a voting ballot and final SEC stats will be sent to all head coaches. The final ballots will be due on Monday afternoon.
The first and second teams will consist of 14 players each: infielders (5), outfielders (4), pitchers (3), catcher (1), and DP/utility (1). Ties will not be broken. Announcement of the All-SEC Teams will be made one day prior to the start of the SEC Softball Tournament.
2. **All-Freshman Team.** The recipients will be determined by vote of the head coaches. Coaches vote during the All-SEC process.
3. **All-Defensive Team.** The recipients will be determined by vote of the head coaches. SEC coaches will only participate in balloting conducted through the Conference office.
4. **Player of the Year.** The recipient will be determined by vote of the head coaches. Coaches vote during the All-SEC process. Player of the Year must be an All-SEC nominee and not a pitcher.
5. **Pitcher of the Year.** The recipient will be determined by vote of the head coaches. Coaches vote during the All-SEC process. Pitcher-of -the-Year must be an All-SEC nominee.
6. **Freshman of the Year.** The recipient will be determined by vote of the head coaches. Coaches vote during the All-SEC process. Freshman of the Year must be an All-Freshman Team nominee.
7. **Coach of the Year.** The recipient will be determined by vote of the head coaches. Coaches vote during the All-SEC process and are not permitted to vote for themselves. The following criteria shall be considered for Coach of the Year: success of the team, improvement of the team from the previous season, ability to fully use the talents of the team, and professional manner and attitude.
8. **Scholar-Athlete of the Year.** See General Administration section of the Commissioner's Regulations.
9. **Community Service Team.** See General Administration section of the Commissioner's Regulations.
10. **Player and Pitcher of the Week.** See General Administration section of the Commissioner's Regulations.
11. **Freshman of the Week.** See General Administration section of the Commissioner's Regulations.

Barrel Compression Testing. The regular season and the SEC Tournament will be governed by the annually approved Barrel Compression Testing Protocol attached as Supplement A.

Coaches Meeting [SEC Bylaw 21.8] Each head coach is required to attend the annual coaches meeting in September at the SEC Office.

Coaches Meeting Chair. The chair of the annual coaches meeting will be an alphabetical rotation with Texas A&M serving as the chair for 2019-20. Subsequent years will be as follows: Alabama (2020-21) and Arkansas (2021-22). A chart listing the complete rotation will be maintained by the Conference office.

Conferences. NCAA rules will govern the number of conferences a team is permitted.

Conference Championship/Tournament. [SEC Bylaw 30.22.1.3]

1. The team with the highest percentage of wins during regular-season Conference competition will be declared the Conference champion. If two or more teams are tied with the highest percentage of wins, they will be declared Conference co-champions.
2. There will be a Conference tournament at the conclusion of the Southeastern Conference regular season in order to determine the Conference's automatic qualifier to the NCAA Championship. The Conference tournament will be conducted under the guidelines outlined in these Commissioner's Regulations.

Departure Times. The visiting team shall make arrangements to depart the locale of the competition site following the final game of each Conference series via the last available flight, bus, etc., leaving that day and connecting to the visiting team's final destination.

The visiting team shall complete and return a Conference Departure Form to the proper game management official at the competition site and to the Conference office by January 10th each year. This form will indicate the visiting team's designated departure time from the competition site facility following the final game of each Conference series. Once the departure time is established, the host institution will set a game time that provides a reasonable amount of time for completion of a seven inning game. If the visiting team is utilizing air travel, the final game of the series may start no later than 4 p.m. local time. A visiting team's departure time as designated on the Conference Departure Form may not be modified without approval by the Conference office.

If a contest is called due to travel arrangements, the following procedures will be used:

1. If the contest is called and is a regulation game according to NCAA Softball Playing Rules, the contest and all averages will count in the final playing record.
2. The contest will be considered a regulation tie game if it meets the appropriate conditions set forth in NCAA Softball Playing Rules and all averages will count in the final playing record.
3. If the contest is called prior to reaching regulation game status per NCAA Softball Playing Rules, the contest will be considered a "No Game".

In no case shall departure time of umpires be a factor in completing games.

Double-Header Warm-Up. Access to the batting cages must be split equally between both teams during the time between games of a double-header. [Adopted 12/15/15]

Examination Schedule. If a team is scheduled to play "away" during the week of its final examination period, the game will be rescheduled in advance by the two teams involved.

Facilities. All facilities should meet NCAA requirements insofar as possible. Both teams should have equal access to facilities and equipment as defined in the NCAA rules under Pre-game Practice.

Inclement Weather. The inclement weather policy is as follows:

A. Friday through Sunday Series

1. If a game is postponed on Friday or Saturday due to inclement weather, the game shall be completed from the point of interruption on the following day prior to the regularly scheduled game.
2. In the event the regularly scheduled game is televised, the postponed game may be rescheduled, in consultation with the conference office, prior to, or following, the regularly scheduled game, whichever allows the best opportunity to complete such game without interruption.
3. Televised Games Affected by Weather
 - A. For games televised on ESPN, ESPN2 or ESPNU
 - (1) If a game is postponed on Friday, and the regularly scheduled Saturday game is televised by ESPN, ESPN2 or ESPNU, the regularly scheduled televised Saturday game must start at its published start time. If a postponed game is resumed/started prior to the start of the regularly scheduled televised game on Saturday, that game must be stopped after the completion of a full inning 45 minutes prior to the start of the scheduled televised game and resumed following the completion of the regularly scheduled televised game.
 - (2) If a game is postponed on Saturday, and the regularly scheduled Sunday game is televised by ESPN, ESPN2 or ESPNU, the regularly scheduled televised Sunday game must start at its published start time. If a postponed game is resumed/started prior to the start of the Sunday regularly scheduled televised game, that game must be stopped after the completion of a full inning 45 minutes prior to

the start of the scheduled televised game and resumed following the completion of the regularly scheduled televised game.

- B. For games televised on the SEC Network
 - (1) If a game is postponed on Friday, and the regularly scheduled Saturday game is televised by the SEC Network, institutions must use their best efforts to start the regularly scheduled televised Saturday game on the SEC Network at its published start time. (The postponed game should be scheduled at a time which provides the regularly scheduled televised game a reasonable chance of starting at its published time.) If a postponed game is resumed/started prior to the start of the regularly scheduled televised game, the postponed game must be completed without interruption.
 - (2) If a game is postponed on Saturday, and the regularly scheduled Sunday game is televised by the SEC Network, institutions must use their best efforts to start the regularly scheduled televised Sunday game on the SEC Network at its published start time. (The postponed game should be scheduled at a time which provides the regularly scheduled televised game a reasonable chance of starting at its published time.) If a postponed game is resumed/started prior to the start of the regularly scheduled televised game, the postponed game must be completed without interruption.
 - (3) A postponed or regularly scheduled game may begin or end on the SEC Network Alternate Channel or on SEC Network+.
 - 4. If weather prohibits a game from occurring on the date scheduled and cannot be played during the weekend series, then the game(s) will not be rescheduled.
 - 5. Length of Games
 - A. All games played should be scheduled as a regulation game.
 - B. If weather prevents playing both the Friday and Saturday game, or if the Saturday game does not begin because of rain, there shall be two regulation games on Sunday. If a Friday game is postponed and no games are played on Saturday, the postponed game shall be resumed on Sunday, followed by a regulation game.
 - C. If a postponed game is unable to be completed because of inclement weather and has reached official game status per NCAA Softball Playing Rules, it shall be declared a game.
 - D. Once a postponed game is resumed, the game shall be complete if one team has a lead of eight or more runs per NCAA Softball Playing Rules.
 - 6. Restart Times
 - A. In the event of rain, no game may start after 10:00 pm local time or resume after midnight local time.
 - B. In the event of a rain-delay prior to the beginning of play on Sunday, the game must begin at least two hours prior to the visiting team's scheduled departure time from the field, but no later than 4:00 pm local time to avoid a rain out of the game.
 - C. If the game begins and is postponed (Sunday game), it must resume by 6:00 pm local time to avoid a rain out of the game.
 - 7. Travel Considerations
 - A. In all instances, departure time takes priority. A team may not stay over until Monday to begin or complete a game or series.
 - B. In the event the visiting team is not scheduled to leave the host city until Monday and there are no prior travel limitations for the game's umpires that would dictate departure to enact these deadlines, with Conference approval, it would be permissible to waive the 4:00 pm deadline for the start of a game and a 6:00 pm deadline for the resumption of the game.
 - 8. Authority to Play Doubleheaders
 - A. If weather forecasts on Friday and Saturday morning call for a high occurrence of inclement weather on Saturday or Sunday (80 percent or higher), the home team in consultation with the visiting team may request permission from the Conference Office to play a doubleheader on Friday or Saturday provided the teams are already in the locale and there is no television involved.
 - B. Approval of a prospective doubleheader shall be limited to circumstances where there is a high likelihood that weather will not permit a game to be played on one of the days in the series.
- B. Thursday through Saturday Series**
- 1. If a game is postponed on Thursday or Friday due to inclement weather, the game shall be completed from

- the point of interruption on the following day prior to the regularly scheduled game.
2. In the event the regularly scheduled game is televised, the postponed game may be rescheduled, in consultation with the conference office, prior to, or following, the regularly scheduled game, whichever allows the best opportunity to complete such game without interruption.
 3. Televised Games Affected by Weather
 - A. For games televised on ESPN, ESPN2 or ESPNU
 - (1) If a game is postponed on Thursday, and the regularly scheduled Friday game is televised by ESPN, ESPN2 or ESPNU, the regularly scheduled televised Friday game must start at its published start time. If a postponed game is resumed/started prior to the start of the regularly scheduled televised game, that game must be stopped after the completion of a full inning 45 minutes prior to the start of the scheduled televised game and resumed following the completion of the regularly scheduled televised game.
 - (2) If a game is postponed on Friday, and the regularly scheduled Saturday game is televised by ESPN, ESPN2 or ESPNU, the regularly scheduled televised Saturday game must start at its published start time. If a postponed game is resumed/started prior to the start of the regularly scheduled televised game, that game must be stopped after the completion of a full inning 45 minutes prior to the start of the scheduled televised game and resumed following the completion of the regularly scheduled televised game.
 - B. For games televised on the SEC Network
 - (1) If a game is postponed on Thursday, and the regularly scheduled Friday game is televised by the SEC Network, institutions must use their best efforts to start the regularly scheduled televised Friday game on the SEC Network at its published start time. (The postponed game should be scheduled at a time which provides the regularly scheduled televised game a reasonable chance of starting at its published time.) If a postponed game is resumed/started prior to the start of the regularly scheduled televised game, the postponed game must be completed without interruption.
 - (2) If a game is postponed on Friday, and the regularly scheduled Saturday game is televised by the SEC Network, institutions must use their best efforts to start the regularly scheduled televised Saturday game on the SEC Network at its published start time. (The postponed game should be scheduled at a time which provides the regularly scheduled televised game a reasonable chance of starting at its published time.) If a postponed game is resumed/started prior to the start of the regularly scheduled televised game, the postponed game must be completed without interruption.
 - (3) A postponed or regularly scheduled game may begin or end on the SEC Network Alternate Channel or on SEC Network+.
 4. If weather prohibits a game from occurring on the date scheduled and cannot be played during the weekend series, then the game(s) will not be rescheduled.
 5. Length of Games
 - A. All games played should be scheduled as a regulation game.
 - B. If weather prevents playing both the Friday and Saturday game, or if the Saturday game does not begin because of rain, there shall be two regulation games on Sunday. If a Friday game is postponed and no games are played on Saturday, the postponed game shall be resumed on Sunday, followed by a regulation game.
 - C. If a postponed game is unable to be completed because of inclement weather and has reached official game status per NCAA Softball Playing Rules, it shall be declared a game.
 - D. Once a postponed game is resumed, the game shall be complete if one team has a lead of eight or more runs per NCAA Softball Playing Rules.
 6. Restart Times
 - A. In the event of rain, no game may start after 10:00 p.m. local time or resume after midnight local time.
 - B. In the event of a rain-delay prior to the beginning of play on Sunday, the game must begin at least two hours prior to the visiting team's scheduled departure time from the field, but no later than 4:00 p.m. local time to avoid a rain out of the game.
 - C. If the game begins and is postponed (Sunday game), it must resume by 6:00 p.m. local time to avoid a rain out of the game.

7. Travel Considerations
 - C. In all instances, departure time takes priority. A team may not stay over until Monday to begin or complete a game or series.
 - D. In the event the visiting team is not scheduled to leave the host city until Monday and there are no prior travel limitations for the game's umpires that would dictate departure to enact these deadlines, with Conference approval, it would be permissible to waive the 4:00 p.m. deadline for the start of a game and a 6:00 p.m. deadline for the resumption of the game.
8. Authority to Play Doubleheaders
 - A. If weather forecasts on Thursday and Friday morning call for a high occurrence of inclement weather on Friday or Saturday (80 percent or higher), the home team in consultation with the visiting team may request permission from the Conference Office to play a doubleheader on Thursday or Friday provided the teams are already in the locale and there is no television involved.
 - B. Approval of a prospective doubleheader shall be limited to circumstances where there is a high likelihood that weather will not permit a game to be played on one of the days in the series.

C. Saturday through Monday Series

1. If a game is postponed on Saturday or Sunday due to inclement weather, the game shall be completed from the point of interruption on the following day prior to the regularly scheduled game.
2. In the event the regularly scheduled game is televised, the postponed game may be rescheduled, in consultation with the conference office, prior to, or following, the regularly scheduled game, whichever allows the best opportunity to complete such game without interruption.
3. Televised Games Affected by Weather
 - A. For games televised on ESPN, ESPN2 or ESPNU
 - (1) If a game is postponed on Saturday, and the regularly scheduled Sunday game is televised by ESPN, ESPN2 or ESPNU, the regularly scheduled televised Sunday game must start at its published start time. If a postponed game is resumed/started prior to the start of the regularly scheduled televised game on Sunday, that game must be stopped after the completion of a full inning 45 minutes prior to the start of the scheduled televised game and resumed following the completion of the regularly scheduled televised game.
 - (2) If a game is postponed on Sunday, and the regularly scheduled Monday game is televised by ESPN, ESPN2 or ESPNU, the regularly scheduled televised Monday game must start at its published start time. If a postponed game is resumed/started prior to the start of the Monday regularly scheduled televised game, that game must be stopped after the completion of a full inning 45 minutes prior to the start of the scheduled televised game and resumed following the completion of the regularly scheduled televised game.
 - B. For games televised on the SEC Network
 - (1) If a game is postponed on Saturday, and the regularly scheduled Sunday game is televised by the SEC Network, institutions must use their best efforts to start the regularly scheduled televised Sunday game on the SEC Network at its published start time. (The postponed game should be scheduled at a time which provides the regularly scheduled televised game a reasonable chance of starting at its published time.) If a postponed game is resumed/started prior to the start of the regularly scheduled televised game, the postponed game must be completed without interruption.
 - (2) If a game is postponed on Sunday, and the regularly scheduled Monday game is televised by the SEC Network, institutions must use their best efforts to start the regularly scheduled televised Monday game on the SEC Network at its published start time. (The postponed game should be scheduled at a time which provides the regularly scheduled televised game a reasonable chance of starting at its published time.) If a postponed game is resumed/started prior to the start of the regularly scheduled televised game, the postponed game must be completed without interruption.
 - (3) A postponed or regularly scheduled game may begin or end on the SEC Network Alternate Channel or on SEC Network+.
4. If weather prohibits a game from occurring on the date scheduled and cannot be played during the weekend series, then the game(s) will not be rescheduled.
5. Length of Games
 - A. All games played should be scheduled as a regulation game.

- B. If weather prevents playing both the Saturday and Sunday game, or if the Sunday game does not begin because of rain, there shall be two regulation games on Monday. If a Friday game is postponed and no games are played on Sunday, the postponed game shall be resumed on Monday, followed by a regulation game.
 - C. If a postponed game is unable to be completed because of inclement weather and has reached official game status per NCAA Softball Playing Rules, it shall be declared a game.
 - D. Once a postponed game is resumed, the game shall be complete if one team has a lead of eight or more runs per NCAA Softball Playing Rules.
6. Restart Times [*Revised: 6/3/16*]
- A. In the event of rain, no game may start after 10:00 p.m. local time or resume after midnight local time.
 - B. In the event of a rain-delay prior to the beginning of play on Monday, the game must begin at least two hours prior to the visiting team's scheduled departure time from the field, but no later than 8:00 p.m. local time to avoid a rain out of the game.
 - C. If the game begins and is postponed (Monday game), it must resume by 9:00 p.m. local time to avoid a rain out of the game.
7. Travel Considerations
- A. In all instances, departure time takes priority. A team may not stay over until Tuesday to begin or complete a game or series.
 - B. In the event the visiting team is not scheduled to leave the host city until Tuesday and there are no prior travel limitations for the game's umpires that would dictate departure to enact these deadlines, with Conference approval, it would be permissible to waive the 8:00 p.m. deadline for the start of a game and a 9:00 p.m. deadline for the resumption of the game.
8. Authority to Play Doubleheaders
- A. If weather forecasts on Saturday and Sunday morning call for a high occurrence of inclement weather on Sunday or Monday (80 percent or higher), the home team in consultation with the visiting team may request permission from the Conference Office to play a doubleheader on Saturday or Sunday provided the teams are already in the locale and there is no television involved.
 - B. Approval of a prospective doubleheader shall be limited to circumstances where there is a high likelihood that weather will not permit a game to be played on one of the days in the series.
- D. Other**
1. Authority to Rule on Game Stoppage
The Plate Umpire has sole authority to suspend, postpone or cancel the game if conditions become unfit for play per NCAA Softball Playing Rules.
 2. Lightning Strikes
 - A. Each member institution shall be responsible for having the capability to determine when lightning strikes are within specified distances from the competition site. When lightning is detected within 10 miles of the competition site (or, at a minimum, that by the time the monitor observes 30 seconds between seeing the lightning flash and hearing its associated thunder), home team game management shall utilize the public address system to inform those in attendance that inclement weather including lightning is within 10 miles and that should patrons vacate the facility for safe shelter, they will be allowed to re-enter with a ticket stub. When lightning is detected within eight miles of the competition site, the competition shall be suspended.
 - B. To resume athletics activities, lightning safety experts recommend waiting 30 minutes after both the last sound of thunder and last flash of lightning. See also NCAA Softball Rule, Appendix G Safety Guidelines/Lightning Guidelines.
 - C. A 10-minute warm-up period may be granted following the 30-minute suspension.

NCAA Automatic Qualification. The Conference tournament champion will be the Conference's automatic qualifier to the NCAA Championship.

Officials. [SEC Bylaw 30.20.1] The Conference office shall assign umpires for all home Conference and non-conference contests. Notification of game officials and all information pertaining to officiating can be found on www.spotfoul.com. Access to the website can be obtained by contacting Sylvia Hagan.

The following procedures shall be utilized regarding umpires at all Southeastern Conference softball games:

1. Each institution will provide a dressing room for umpires closely located to the softball facility. When male and female umpires are assigned, two separate dressing rooms should be provided, if possible. Admittance to this room shall be limited to game officials and conference office representatives. No guests, visitors or institutional personnel (other than a trainer or manager upon request or conference office representative) shall be admitted. The officials' dressing room shall be set up with towels, soap, soft drinks, water, and cups.
2. Security escorts for umpires should be provided from the dressing room to the field and back to the dressing room at the conclusion of each game.
3. Criticism of officials or the officiating program by institutional personnel is prohibited. Comments about officiating are to be directed to the Conference office only. All reports or comments pertaining to officiating or game management responsibilities, or concerning players, coaches or officials, shall be directed to the Conference office only. Public comments related to officiating by officials, coaches or institutional personnel are prohibited.
4. Films, videotapes, and DVD's shall not be used by coaches or other institutional personnel for public criticism of officials or officiating (e.g., the use of game films to produce clips for television or newspapers depicting officiating calls). No reference to officiating matters shall be permitted on coaches' radio and/or television shows.
5. Coaches shall not contact officials directly through correspondence or telephone. All matters pertaining to officials or officiating must be directed to the Conference office only. Likewise, this policy precludes officials from contacting coaches in a similar manner.
6. The list of game officials assigned to a game shall not be announced to the media and/or public prior to the distribution of pre-game information packets before a game.
7. *Compensation* – Payment of the game officials will be handled by the conference office. Each institution will be invoiced for its share of the compensation and travel/expense reimbursements for the game officials. The Conference office and Athletics Directors shall set the fees and travel/expense policies.
8. *Tickets* – Each official assigned to a competition is entitled to a maximum of two complimentary tickets to that competition. Officials shall contact the ticket offices directly. The deadline for ticket requests is ten days prior to the competition.

Playing Rules. During conference games, umpires shall administer and address the NCAA Softball Playing Rules as written without requiring the opposing coach to bring the issue to the umpire's attention.

Practice. The visiting team representative is responsible for contacting the home team's representative to coordinate practice time on the field the day before the series begins. Visiting teams shall be limited to two hours of practice time; weather permitting, no other restrictions shall apply, other than a coach, administrator, or trainer from the visiting team must be on-site during the practice. Due to field preparations on the day of the game, game day field access may be limited or restricted. [Revised: 12/15/15, 10/27/16]

Pre-Game Protocol.

- A. All contests shall follow the Pre-Game Protocol as specified in Supplement B of this section that allows both the home team and the visiting team a 35-minute batting practice/warm-up period and a seven-minute field period. The pregame protocol will also include a period for player and coach introductions and the National Anthem. Coaches are required to turn in line-ups 30 minutes prior to the start of the game. [Revised: 10/4/18]
- B. The home team shall designate the space provided for home and visiting teams to conduct its 35-minute batting practice/warm-up. Home and visiting teams shall be permitted to do offensive and defensive drills, or any combination thereof, during its designated 35-minute batting practice/warm-up. If the home team designates the playing field as the batting practice/warm-up area, they must provide a suitable and convenient alternative site for the visiting team to stretch and throw during the home team's batting practice/warm-up period. This site will be available for stretching and throwing only. During a team's seven-minute field period, the team shall have access to the entire playing field (infield and outfield). [Revised: 10/4/18]
- C. Each institution may establish field rules related to permissible activities for a team not in a designated warm-up period. This will assist the home team with implementing a policy that is respectful of the grounds' crew time to prepare the field for play. As an example, if Team A (home) is in the designated 35-minute batting practice/warm-up at one hour and 45 minutes prior to first pitch, then Team B (visitor) will follow Team A's established protocol for what activities may or may not occur on the field, inside/outside the lines, etc. However, during a team's

seven-minute field period, the opposing team may warm-up on the playing field in foul territory. *[Revised: 10/4/18]*

- D. There shall be a two minute "turnover" period that occurs between home and visiting team warm-up. The home team must be free and clear of the field and batting cages following this two-minute warm-up period in order for the visiting team to receive a full 35 minute warm-up period.

Post-Game Protocol. Participating coaching staff members (head coach, full-time assistant coaches, and the volunteer coach only) shall shake hands at home plate following the conclusion of games one and two of a conference series. Participating student-athletes and coaching staff members shall shake hands via a handshake line following the conclusion of the third game of the series. *[Adopted 10/4/18]*

Public Address Announcer. A public address announcer shall be present at all Conference games. The announcer must be impartial and give only necessary information in good taste and acceptable language.

Regular-Season Competition/Scheduling. The regular-season Conference schedule shall be a revolving schedule with each team playing eight, three game series for a total of 24 games. Unless otherwise permitted by administrative action of the Conference, the three-game series will be played on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. When the visiting team is on spring break during the weekdays immediately prior to a series, the participating teams may mutually request the series begin on Thursday and conclude on Saturday. The Conference schedule is set by administrative action of the Conference. Institutional administrators may change the date of a Conference game with mutual consent and upon approval by the Conference staff liaison. Revisions to a Conference schedule that are associated with spring break require the approval of the Commissioner. In no case shall a team stay over on Monday to start or complete a Conference game or series (unless otherwise permitted by administrative action of the Conference). There must be a minimum of 20 minutes between games in a double header and game management personnel shall be available to escort umpires during this interval period. *[Revised: 12/12/17]*

Rosters. For each series and prior to the first game of the series, teams shall submit a roster designating its 22 players. This roster is submitted to the home plate umpire prior to the first game and cannot be changed during the series. *[Revised: 8/18/15]*

Scouting. *[Revised: 10/27/16]*

Non-Conference Opponents. Coaches shall be required to share scouting information relating to non-conference opponents with other SEC programs.

Conference Opponents. Coaches shall not share scouting information relating to other SEC programs with anyone.

Squad Size. The home team may dress all eligible student-athletes in uniform, but only 22 student-athletes may participate in a Conference contest. *[Revised: 8/18/15]*

Suspension/Ejection Policy.

1. Any game official may eject a student-athlete, coach or team representative for misconduct or unsportsmanlike conduct.
2. If an individual is ejected from the contest, the ejected individual shall leave the dugout and field area immediately without further communication with the teams or game officials. The ejected individual shall remain out of sight and sound of the contest for the remainder of the contest. "Out of sight and sound" means that the ejected individual(s) may not view the contest, communicate with his or her team, or be in a location where the game officials can hear him or her. The ejected individual may not return to the dugout, field, or grandstands until all game officials are escorted to their dressing area by security or game management. In the event an ejected individual does not comply with the ejection policy set forth in this subparagraph 2 in a timely manner (as determined in the game officials' sole discretion), the game will be forfeited.
3. Upon first offense, a student-athlete, coach, or team representative ejected for misconduct or unsportsmanlike conduct shall receive a written warning cautioning further like conduct. Upon second and subsequent offense(s) in the same academic year, a student-athlete, coach, or team representative ejected for misconduct or unsportsmanlike conduct shall be suspended for the team's next previously scheduled and completed contest. If a previously scheduled contest is postponed or halted, that make-up contest against the originally scheduled opponent will count as a regularly scheduled contest. Contests may not be added after the incident in order to fulfill the requirements of this policy. End of season suspensions will be carried forward to the next season.

4. A suspended individual shall remain out of sight and sound of the applicable contest (as defined in subparagraph 2). Additionally, a suspended individual may not:
 - A. Be dressed in game uniform;
 - B. Communicate with any team personnel or umpires;
 - C. Take part in any pregame activities at the site of competition; or
 - D. Be in the stadium or on the field once pregame activities have started.

In the event a suspended individual does not comply with the suspension policy set forth in this subparagraph 4 in a timely manner (as determined in the game official's sole discretion), the game will be forfeited. In the event a suspended individual participates in a game during the prescribed suspension, the game will be forfeited.

5. This policy is in effect for all regular season games and the Southeastern Conference Tournament only.

Tickets. The home team shall provide up to 75 complimentary tickets/admissions to the visiting team for each game in a Conference series.

Tie-breaker. In regular season Conference games, the NCAA tie-breaker rule, as defined by NCAA Softball Rules will not be utilized.

Uniforms. During Conference series, the home team shall wear its light/white uniform on the first day of the series, its dark uniform on the second day, and its light/white uniform on the final day. The visiting team will wear its dark uniform on the first day of the series, its light/white uniform on the second day, and its dark uniform on the final day. Head coaches will verify the color of uniform to be worn when they discuss practice times.

Video Boards/Replays. Institutions are not limited in the use of replays (including number of replays shown), except as set forth in NCAA Softball Playing Rules (See Appendix H - Rules for Video, Audio, or Matrix Boards). The time during which permissible replays may be shown is from the end of a play until the next batter enters the batter's box. Replays may also be shown later during the game as part of a package of highlights during a middle-of-inning or end-of-inning break. In no circumstances will the in-stadium video system be used to embarrass, humiliate, or disgrace an umpire or visiting team members or coaches, incite the crowd or distract a participant or coach. Each school must designate a full-time staff member with a high degree of accountability to be responsible for determining what video appears on the stadium video board.

Video and Electronics Equipment.

- A. An institution may only videotape its own contests.
- B. The home and visiting teams may video the contest from a centerfield camera location. The home team may also video the contest from any location outside the team area. If the home team elects to video from a location or angle other than centerfield, the home team must video the game in its entirety from that location or angle.
- C. The home team shall provide the same video including all angles (centerfield and non-centerfield locations) to the visiting team. The home team shall provide a video feed from its equipment to the visiting team or, if providing the video feed is not possible, a DVD or external drive copy of the video captured during the contest to the visiting team. *[Revised: 10/4/18]*
- D. If the home team does not utilize a camera angle or a camera is not operating properly, the home team must cover the camera to indicate that the angle is not available and neither team has access.
- E. When the visiting team elects to video from a centerfield camera location, the visiting team shall provide a video feed from its equipment to the home team, or, if providing the video feed is not possible, a DVD or external drive copy of the video captured during the contest to the home team if this video is requested by the home team. *[Adopted: 10/4/18]*
- F. Cameras may not be manned during play.
- G. Teams may only access such cameras during warm-up and between innings.
- H. Under no circumstances may institutional videographers capture film for scouting purposes.
- I. The home team must provide video produced on the digital platform to the visiting team, when available.
- J. No electronic equipment (*e.g.*, phones, tablets, palm pilots, iPhones, iPads, etc.) is permitted inside the dugout. Exceptions shall be limited to medical personnel for medical necessity and credentialed media (*e.g.*, television cameras). Information (*e.g.*, tagging video, etc.) from training programs such as Right View Pro and Dartfish may only be gathered from outside the team areas.

K. There is absolutely no evaluating of video or other technology devices during the game.

CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIP

Administrative Teleconference. Coaches and administrators from each institution competing in the Conference tournament shall participate in a mandatory teleconference prior to the start of the tournament to review policies and procedures.

Awards.

1. **All-Tournament Team.** After each semifinal game, the losing coach will submit two individual players from their team for selection on the All-Tournament Team. Three players will be submitted from the losing team in the championship game and four players will be submitted by the winning team in the championship game for a total of 11 players.
2. **Tournament MVP.** The Tournament MVP will be chosen by the championship winning coach.

Credentials. Each team will receive 28 participant credentials for the official members of their travel party.

Dates and Sites. The Conference tournament shall be conducted the week prior to the first round of the NCAA Division I Women's Softball tournament. The 2020 tournament will be hosted by the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa, AL on May 6-9. See [Supplement C](#) in General Administration for Future Championship Dates and Sites.

Dugouts/Home Team Determination. The home team shall occupy the third base dugout, warm-up first and wear light uniforms. The visiting team will wear a contrasting color.

The higher seed in each game of the tournament will be designated the home team.

Format. The tournament shall be a 13-team, single-elimination format, beginning on Wednesday and concluding with the championship game on Saturday. The tournament champion shall be the Conference's automatic qualifier to the NCAA Championship. *[Revised: 1/30/19]*

Game Times. The Conference administrator, in consultation with the broadcasting television network and the host institution will determine the game times. The host institution will have first choice of the available times it prefers to play its first game of the tournament and the bracket will be adjusted accordingly throughout the remainder of the tournament unless the host is the 12th or 13th seed. The 12th and 13th seeds shall play each other in the first game of the tournament, and the start time of this game shall be determined by the Conference administrator in consultation with the television network. When the host is the 12th or 13th seed, the host will have a choice of the available times that the winner of game one will play their second game and the bracket will be adjusted accordingly throughout the remainder of the tournament. All times are local to the host institution. Start times may be adjusted to accommodate television schedule, weather delays or other unforeseen situations. *[Revised: 1/30/19]*

Host Institution Responsibilities. The responsibilities of the host institution's tournament director and sports information contact are listed in the On-Campus Hosting Manual that is produced by the Conference staff and is under separate cover.

Lodging. Each institution is responsible for arranging its own lodging for the tournament.

Length of Game. All games shall be seven innings, unless a team holds at least an eight-run lead after five innings of play, at which time the game shall be declared complete. If play has been stopped before a seven-inning game has been completed, it shall be resumed at the point of interruption, except for the eight-run rule. If the eight-run rule does not apply, at least five innings must be played for the game to be considered regulation or complete.

Manual. The tournament host shall distribute a tournament manual outlining the policies and procedures for the tournament, as well as information specific to the host site, to each institution no later than four weeks prior to the tournament.

NCAA Automatic Qualification. The Conference tournament champion shall be the Conference's automatic qualifier to the NCAA Championship. In the event inclement weather or other factors prevent the completion of the championship prior to the date and time when the NCAA requires notification for selection to the NCAA tournament, the highest remaining seed in the tournament at the time of suspension shall be designated as the automatic qualifier. *[Adopted: 4/27/17]*

Practices.

E. **Practice Times.** Each of the top four seeds shall be assigned the practice time on Wednesday of tournament

week that is immediately prior to the tournament game involving the team they would face as their first tournament opponent to allow the team to scout their future opponent. [Adopted: 10/4/18]

- F. **Bullpen Access During Tuesday Practice.** Pitchers shall have access to a bullpen during the team's field and batting practice times (both). Pitchers shall use the bullpen closest to their assigned batting cage during their team's cage time and shall use the other bullpen during their team's field practice time. [Adopted: 10/4/18]

Pre-Game Warm-up. The tournament field shall be available (weather permitting) two and a half (2.5) hours prior to each team's game and may be available for throwing and stretching. Each team will have 35 minutes in the batting cages.

Seeding. The team with the highest percentage of wins during the regular season Conference competition will be the No. 1 seed; the remainder of the tournament field will be seeded 2-13 based on the Conference winning percentage. Ties shall be broken in the following manner: [Revised: 1/30/19]

1. **Two-Team Tie.** The following procedure will be used in the following order until the tie is broken:
 - A. Won-lost record of head-to-head competition between the tied teams.
 - B. Won-lost record of the two teams versus the highest seeded common opponent.
 - C. Fewest runs allowed in head to head competition. If head to head competition between two tied teams did not occur, then fewest runs allowed against all common opponents.
 - D. Fewest runs allowed versus all opponents.
 - E. Coin flip by the Commissioner.
2. **Three-Team Tie (or more).** If three or more tied teams have three different records against each other, they shall be seeded in best percentage order. Otherwise, once the tie has been reduced to two teams, the two-team tie breaker procedure shall be utilized. The following procedure will be used in the following order until the tie is broken:
 - A. Total won-loss percentage of games played among the tied teams.
 - B. Won-loss percentage of the tied teams versus the highest seed common opponent.
 - C. Fewest runs allowed in head to head competition. If head to head competition between the tied teams did not occur, then fewest runs allowed against all common opponents.
 - D. Fewest runs allowed versus all opponents.
 - E. If three or more teams are still tied, the Commissioner will conduct a draw.

Squad Size. Only 22 student-athletes will be allowed to participate but all eligible student-athletes will be permitted to receive expenses to attend the SEC Championship event. Non-participating student-athletes will not be permitted to access the competition area immediately prior to and during any of their team's Championship contests. [Revised: 8/18/15]

Tickets. The host institution of the tournament may decide whether to charge for ticketed admission. If an institution chooses to charge for admission, ticket prices shall be set by the host institution, but must be approved by the Conference office. In addition, if admission is charged, the host institution must contact each participating school to communicate the ticket policy for the tournament, including payment instructions and player/pass gate information. Institutions are not required to purchase a specific number of tickets.

Uniforms. Teams must be prepared to wear light and dark uniforms. The higher seeded team in each game will wear light uniforms.

**SOUTHEASTERN CONFERENCE
SOFTBALL BARREL COMPRESSION TESTING (BCT) PROTOCOL**

GENERAL PRINCIPLES

1. Southeastern Conference institutions shall follow the NCAA Bat Compliance Testing Program. The SEC Barrel Compression Testing (BCT) protocol is meant to work in concert with the NCAA Bat Compliance Testing program except where policies are specific to the SEC.
2. Coaches and administrators of Conference institutions are obligated by the NCAA Softball Rules to play with legal equipment and to remove any illegal equipment from play.
3. Barrel compression testing will be conducted prior to each Conference game in the SEC regular season. Testing will occur prior to each game in the SEC Tournament.
4. Each SEC institution is required to use the LV Sports (formerly WSU) bat testing machine for the SEC softball season.

BCT EQUIPMENT TO BE USED

1. The home team's machine is used for testing.
2. If home team does NOT have a working BCT machine but the visiting team does have a working BCT machine – the visiting team will travel with machine to the series and the visiting team's machine shall be used for testing.
3. If neither the home team nor visiting team has a working BCT machine –the home team will make every attempt to borrow a machine.
4. If neither team has a working BCT machine AND the home team cannot borrow a machine – the home team will notify the softball sport administrator at the SEC office and the visiting team's head coach and SWA (or softball sport administrator) no later than 48 hours prior to the first game of the series. In this instance, bat testing will not take place. However, institutions are reminded that all NCAA softball playing rules (including playing with legal equipment) must be followed.

LOCATION AND TIME OF TESTING [Revised: 1/25/18, 10/4/18]

1. The home team shall designate the sport administrator, event manager or other administrative designee to oversee the administrative process of the testing (e.g., overseeing the meeting and filling out the form).
2. The crew chief will be responsible for testing both team's bats (e.g., physically placing the bats in the machines). The home team's administrator will serve as the observer and record the results.
3. Both coaches (or appointed designee(s)) will bring all bats to the testing location, as well as their logo stickers provided by the SEC. Each team's logo stickers must be available in the testing location prior to the start of the home team's testing.
4. Bat testing for the visiting team shall begin 90 minutes (one hour and 30 minutes) prior to the scheduled start time of each game of the series. Bat testing for the home team shall begin after the home team completes its initial 35-minute batting practice/warm-up. In the event of a doubleheader, BCT will only be conducted prior to the first game of the doubleheader. [Revised: 10/4/18]
5. Location of the testing will be determined by the home team and communicated via email to the visiting team's head coach no later than 48 hours prior to the first game of the series.
6. The crew chief must be present during testing and shall be made aware of when/where testing will take place. Each team has the option to have a designated staff member present during their opponent's testing.
7. Testing shall not be conducted in public view or near fans/media.

TESTING PROCEDURE

1. On the WSU or LV fixture, 1550psi shall be the lowest (softest) passing score except as noted on the current NCAA Approved Softball Bat List for specific models granted a lower passing score.
2. Each bat will be tested until it receives two pass results or two fail results whichever comes first.
3. Each bat will be tested approximately 6 inches from the end of the barrel. The bat will then be rotated 90 degrees and tested again.
4. If after the first two tests:
 - A. The bat has two pass results, the bat receives the appropriate sticker and is ready to be used in competition;
 - B. The bat has two fails, the bat is surrendered and will not be returned for use; or
 - C. The bat has one pass result and one fail result after the second test, the bat will be removed from the machine and inspected for cracks. If none is found, the bat will be inserted into the machine and tested the third and final time.
 - (1) If the bat has a second pass result, the bat will be identified as passed and the sticker affixed.
 - (2) If the bat receives a second failed result, the bat will be deemed unacceptable and surrendered to the testing team.
5. Bats passing both tests will receive a tamper-proof sticker to be placed on the taper of the bat so that it is easily visible.
6. The opponent's sticker will be placed on bats that have passed. (e.g., if Arkansas is playing Georgia, the Arkansas sticker is placed on the passing Georgia bat and the Georgia sticker is placed on the passing Arkansas bat.)
7. The visiting team shall always travel with its own stickers to be used during the testing. The home team is not responsible for stickers of the opposing teams.
8. The stickers should be removed after the series has been completed.
9. The SEC staff will purchase each institution's stickers and ship to each head coach prior to the start of SEC play.

PROCEDURES FOR FAILED BATS

1. A bat that fails the BCT testing during a series will be deemed illegal and remain in the immediate possession of the home team's event manager until the end of the series.
2. If a bat fails testing, the bat is dead for that series and cannot be re-tested for that series.
3. The home team's sport administrator, event manager or appointed administrative designee will return a visiting team's illegal bat to the visiting team head coach at the conclusion of the last game of the series.
4. The home team's sport administrator, event manager or appointed administrative designee will give a home team's illegal bat to the home team's SWA.
5. For each failed bat, the home team event manager (or administrative designee) will complete the SEC Failed Bat Form and submit the form via email ***no later than 48 hours after completion of bat testing for the series*** to the SEC office, with copies of the form sent to the head coach and SWA of the affected institution.
6. It is the responsibility of the head coach to give the failed bat to his/her SWA upon the team's return to campus.
7. All failed bats shall not be used in any subsequent game.
8. The SEC office will submit failed bat information to the NCAA Bat Testing Administrator.

SUPPLEMENT B

SOFTBALL PRE-GAME TIMING PROTOCOL

Revised: 10/4/18

1:00 p.m. Start		Time Prior to Game
11:15 A.M.	HOME TEAM BP/WARM-UP (35 MINUTES)	1 HOUR, 45 MINUTES
11:50 A.M.	TURNOVER (2 MINUTES)	1 HOUR, 10 MINUTES
11:52 A.M.	VISITING TEAM BP/WARM-UP (35 MINUTES)	1 HOUR, 8 MINUTES
12:27 P.M.	FIELD PREP (3 MINUTES)	33 MINUTES
12:30 P.M.	HOME TEAM FIELD (7 MINUTES)	30 MINUTES
12:37 P.M.	VISITING TEAM FIELD (7 MINUTES)	23 MINUTES
12:44 P.M.	FIELD CREW PREP (6 MINUTES)	16 MINUTES
12:50 P.M.	UMPIRE/COACHES MEETING (2 MINUTES)	10 MINUTES
12:52 P.M.	NATIONAL ANTHEM (3 MINUTES)	8 MINUTES
12:55 P.M.	INTROS (5 MINUTES)	5 MINUTES
12:59 P.M.	HOME TEAM FIELD WARM-UP (1 MINUTE)	1 MINUTE
1:00 P.M.	FIRST PITCH PLAY BALL!	

- When the competition venue has two separate batting cages that are of similar size, a team may begin its initial 35-minute batting practice/warm-up at any time prior to the initial field prep. The initial field prep begins 33 minutes prior to game time.
- If possible, institutions should combine field crew prep and umpire meeting.
- As a reminder, intro videos are limited to 60 seconds in length.
- If televised game, media relations and marketing will work with producer to adjust pre-game timing protocol to accommodate timing of requested first pitch.
- Weather issues may dictate a need to adjust the recommended protocol. For example, if there is rain or has been rain, then the field crew may need more than 5 minutes to get the field ready. Coaches, umpires, field crew, media and marketing will need to work together to coordinator any adjustments to the pre-game protocol.
- If mutually agreed upon, senior day or other special activities may occur prior to the start of intros. The timing sheet will need to be adjusted to account for these activities.

