

COMMISSIONER'S REGULATIONS

2020-2021



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**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>

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

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

Women's Soccer	<p>1 team award for the Conference Champion.</p> <p>1 team award (pyramid) for the Conference Tournament Champion.</p>	<p>11 All-Tournament Team (trophy).</p> <p>1 Tournament MVP (trophy).</p>	<p>14 First Team All-SEC (crystal award)</p> <p>14 Second Team All-SEC (crystal award)</p> <p>14 All-Freshman Team (crystal award)</p>	<p>Coach of the Year (trophy)</p> <p>Offensive Player of the Year (trophy)</p> <p>Defensive Player of the Year (trophy)</p> <p>Forward of the Year (trophy)</p> <p>Defender of the Year (trophy)</p> <p>Midfielder of the Year (trophy)</p> <p>Goalkeeper 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>Offensive Player of the week (framed certificate)</p> <p>Defensive Player of the week (framed certificate)</p> <p>Freshman of the week (framed certificate)</p>
Softball	<p>1 team award for the Conference Champion.</p> <p>1 team award (pyramid) for the Conference Tournament Champion.</p>	<p>11 All-Tournament Team (trophy).</p> <p>1 Tournament MVP (trophy).</p>	<p>14 First Team All-SEC (crystal award)</p> <p>14 Second Team All-SEC (crystal award)</p> <p>14 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>

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)

Men's & Women's Outdoor Track & Field	1 team award for the Conference Champion.	3 top place finishers for each event given medallions. 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, 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) Community Service Team (framed certificate)	Same criteria for all sports. Certificates are provided by compliance.	Track Athlete of the week (framed certificate) Field Athlete of the week (framed certificate) Freshman of the week (framed certificate)
Volleyball	1 team award for the Conference Champion.	N/A	18 All-SEC (crystal award) 7 All-Freshman Team (crystal award)	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)	Same criteria for all sports. Certificates are provided by compliance.	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)

2020-21 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 (2020-2028)

	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	2025-2026	2026-2027	2027-2028
BASEBALL	Hoover, AL <i>May 25-30, 2021</i>							
MEN'S BASKETBALL	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 3-7, 2021</i>	Nashville, TN <i>March 2-6, 2022</i>						
CROSS COUNTRY	LSU	Missouri	Ole Miss	South Carolina	MSU	Tennessee	Texas A&M	Vanderbilt
EQUESTRIAN	Auburn	South Carolina	Texas A&M	Georgia	Auburn	South Carolina	Texas A&M	Georgia
FOOTBALL	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 21-25, 2021</i>							
WOMEN'S GOLF								
GYMNASTICS	New Orleans, LA <i>March 20, 2021</i>	Birmingham, AL						
SOCCER	Orange Beach, AL							
SOFTBALL	Florida	Arkansas	Georgia	Auburn	Kentucky	LSU	Missouri	Ole Miss
SWIMMING/ DIVING	Missouri	Tennessee	Texas A&M	Georgia				
MEN'S TENNIS	Georgia	Auburn	Kentucky	LSU	Tennessee	Vanderbilt	Alabama	
WOMEN'S TENNIS	Florida	Arkansas	Georgia	Auburn	Kentucky	LSU	Missouri	
INDOOR T/F	Arkansas	Texas A&M	Birmingham, AL	Arkansas	Texas A&M	Arkansas	Birmingham, AL	Texas A&M
OUTDOOR T/F	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.</p> <p>A visiting team is limited to a travel squad size of 27 travel-eligible student-athletes, except during the final Conference series of the regular season when 35 travel-eligible student-athletes may travel and dress. A student-athlete who has suffered a season ending injury and will no longer participate may travel without counting towards the visiting team's limit. Only 27 may participate in the final Conference series of the regular season.</p> <p>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>Only 30 student-athletes will be allowed to participate but 35 travel-eligible student-athletes will be permitted to receive expenses to attend the SEC Championship event. Nonparticipating student-athletes will not be permitted to access the competition area immediately prior to and during any of their team's Championship contests and will not be eligible for Championship participation awards.</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.</p> <p>A visiting team is limited to a travel squad size of 15 travel-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. A student-athlete who has suffered a season ending injury and will no longer participate may travel without counting towards the visiting team's limit.</p>	<p>Only 15 student-athletes will be allowed to participate but all travel-eligible student-athletes will be permitted to receive expenses to attend the SEC Championship event. Nonparticipating student-athletes will not be permitted to access the competition area immediately prior to and during any of their team's Championship contests and will not be eligible for Championship participation awards.</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.</p> <p>A visiting team is limited to a travel squad size of 12 travel-eligible student-athletes. A student-athlete who has suffered a season ending injury and will no longer participate may travel without counting towards the visiting team's limit.</p>	<p>Only 10 men's and 12 women's student-athletes will be allowed to participate but all travel eligible student-athletes will be permitted to receive expenses to attend the SEC Championship event. Nonparticipating student-athletes will not be permitted to access the competition area immediately prior to and during any of their team's Championship contests and will not be eligible for Championship participation awards.</p>
Equestrian	<p>All eligible student-athletes may participate in a Conference contest. There is no travel squad size limit.</p>	<p>Only 28 student-athletes (20 competitors and eight noncompeting alternates) will be allowed to participate but all travel-eligible student-athletes will be permitted to receive expenses to 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 and will not be eligible for Championship participation awards.</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. Nonparticipating 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.)</p> <p>The visiting team is limited to a travel squad size of 70 travel-eligible student-athletes. A student-athlete who has suffered a season ending injury and will no longer participate may travel without counting towards the visiting team's limit.</p> <p>The squad size limit for neutral site games (no more than one game annually) is 70 travel-eligible student-athletes for both participating teams. A student-athlete who has suffered a season ending injury and will no longer participate may travel without counting towards the participating team's limit.</p> <p>The squad size for junior varsity teams is 55 eligible student-athletes.</p>	85
Golf	<p>The home team may dress all eligible student-athletes in uniform, but only 6 student-athletes may participate in a Conference contest.</p> <p>A visiting team is limited to a travel squad size of 6 travel-eligible student-athletes. A student-athlete who has suffered a season ending injury and will no longer participate may travel without counting towards the visiting team's limit.</p>	Only 6 student-athletes will be allowed to participate but all travel-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 and will not be eligible for Championship participation awards.
Gymnastics	<p>The home team may dress all eligible student-athletes in uniform, but only 18 student-athletes may participate in a Conference contest.</p> <p>A visiting team is limited to a travel squad size of 18 travel-eligible student-athletes. A student-athlete who has suffered a season ending injury and will no longer participate may travel without counting towards the visiting team's limit.</p>	Only 18 student-athletes will be allowed to participate but all travel-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 and will not be eligible for Championship participation awards.
Soccer	<p>The home team may dress all eligible student-athletes in uniform, but only 24 student-athletes may participate in a Conference contest.</p> <p>A visiting team is limited to a travel squad size of 24 travel-eligible student-athletes. A student-athlete who has suffered a season ending injury and will no longer participate may travel without counting towards the visiting team's limit.</p>	Only 24 student-athletes will be allowed to participate in each Championship contest but all travel-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 and will not be eligible for Championship participation awards.
Softball	<p>The home team may dress all eligible student-athletes in uniform, but only 22 student-athletes may participate in a Conference contest.</p> <p>A visiting team is limited to a travel squad size of 22 travel-eligible student-athletes. A student-athlete who has suffered a season ending injury and will no longer participate may travel without counting towards the visiting team's limit.</p>	Only 22 student-athletes will be allowed to participate but all travel-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 and will not be eligible for Championship participation awards.

Swimming	<p>A home team may dress all eligible student-athletes in uniform, but only 24 student-athletes may score in a Conference contest.</p> <p>A visiting team is limited to a travel squad size of 24 travel-eligible student-athletes. A student-athlete who has suffered a season ending injury and will no longer participate may travel without counting towards the visiting team's limit.</p> <p>For invitational meets, the host shall determine squad size.</p>	<p>Only 22 student-athletes will be allowed to participate but all travel-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 and will not be eligible for Championship participation awards.</p>
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.</p> <p>A visiting team is limited to a travel squad size of 8 travel-eligible student-athletes in men's tennis (10 in women's tennis). A student-athlete who has suffered a season ending injury and will no longer participate may travel without counting towards the visiting team's limit.</p>	<p>Only 10 student-athletes will be allowed to participate but all travel-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 and will not be eligible for Championship participation awards.</p>
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.</p> <p>A visiting team is limited to a travel squad size of 27 travel-eligible student-athletes. A student-athlete who has suffered a season ending injury and will no longer participate may travel without counting towards the visiting team's limit.</p>	<p>Only 27 student-athletes will be allowed to participate but all travel-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 and will not be eligible for Championship participation awards.</p>
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.</p> <p>A visiting team is limited to a travel squad size of 30 travel-eligible student-athletes. A student-athlete who has suffered a season ending injury and will no longer participate may travel without counting towards the visiting team's limit.</p>	<p>Only 30 student-athletes will be allowed to participate but all travel-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 and will not be eligible for Championship participation awards.</p>
Volleyball	<p>The home team may dress all eligible student-athletes in uniform, but only 17 student-athletes may participate in a Conference contest.</p> <p>A visiting team is limited to a travel squad size of 17 travel-eligible student-athletes. A student-athlete who has suffered a season ending injury and will no longer participate may travel without counting towards the visiting team's limit.</p>	<p>Only 17 student-athletes will be allowed to participate but all travel-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 and will not be eligible for Championship participation awards.</p>

Conference Office Liaisons. The following SEC staff members are the designated liaisons for baseball: Sport Administrator – Herb Vincent; Communications – Ben Beaty/Chuck Dunlap; Officiating – Paul Guillie/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.

Penalties for Violations – The game umpires shall enforce the Conference ban on artificial noisemakers.

The first time the home plate umpire detects the significant use of artificial noisemakers by those in the crowd, the umpire shall call a timeout and request that the public address (PA) announcer make a verbal warning through the public address system.

Thereafter, the home plate umpire will work with home game management to enforce the SEC Artificial Noisemaker policy and report any violations to the conference office.

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. The coaches select 12 players for the first team and 12 for second team. Each squad consists of the following - a first baseman, second baseman, third baseman, shortstop, catcher, three outfielders, designated hitter/utility and three pitchers (one must be a relief pitcher). Each player receives two points for a first-team vote and one point for a second-team vote. The student-athlete with the most votes at each position will be named first-team All-SEC; while the next highest at each position will be named second-team All-SEC. The student-athletes selected for the designated hitter/utility positions must meet at least one of the following criteria; 1) play at least a total of 50 percent of the team's conference games at two or more positions, 2) play at least 50 percent of the team's conference games as the designated hitter, or 3) play at least 50 percent of the team's conference games at DH and a position. [Revised: 9/27/18]
2. **All-Freshman Team.** The recipients will be determined by vote of the head coaches. The coaches select 12 players for the team. The 12 student-athletes receiving the highest number of votes, regardless of position, will be named to the All-Freshman Team. [Revised: 9/27/18]
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 for Player of the Year during All-SEC process. The player they vote for must be listed on their first-team All-SEC team ballot. Each vote is worth one point.
5. **Pitcher of the Year.** The recipient will be determined by vote of the head coaches. Coaches vote for Pitcher of the Year during All-SEC process. The player they vote for must be listed on their first-team All-SEC team ballot. Each vote is worth one point.
6. **Freshman of the Year.** The recipient will be determined by vote of the head coaches. Coaches vote for Freshman of the Year during All-SEC process. The player they vote for must be listed on their All-SEC ballot. Each vote is worth one point.
7. **Coach of the Year.** The recipient will be determined by vote of the head coaches. Coaches vote for Coach of the Year during All-SEC process. Each vote is worth one point.
8. **Scholar-Athlete of the Year.** See General Administration section of Commissioner's Regulations.
9. **Community Service Team.** See General Administration Section of Commissioner's Regulations.
10. **Player of the Week.** See General Administration Section of Commissioner's Regulations.
11. **Pitcher of the Week.** See General Administration Section of Commissioner's Regulations.
12. **Freshman of the Week.** See General Administration Section of Commissioner's Regulations.

Barrel Compression Testing. The regular season and the Conference tournament will be governed by a Barrel Compression Testing Protocol, which will be maintained at the Conference office.

Baseballs. The home team shall deliver a supply of official SEC baseballs to be prepared by the umpires prior to the start of the game. The official SEC baseball is an SEC stamped baseball that is consistent with the specifications used for NCAA Championship competition.

Batting Practice. No team or any member of a team is permitted to take batting practice in any location while a game is in progress.

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

Coaches Meeting Chair. The chair of the annual coaches meeting will be an alphabetical rotation with Arkansas serving as the chair for 2020-21. Subsequent years will be as follows: Auburn (2021-22), Florida (2022-23), and Georgia (2023-24). A chart listing the complete rotation will be maintained by the Conference office.

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. The team in each division with the highest percentage of wins during regular-season Conference competition will be declared division champions. If two or more teams are tied with the highest percentage of wins, they will be declared division co-champions and/or Conference co-champions. Final division standings will be determined by the won-loss percentage in regular-season Conference competitions.
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.

Contests - Maximum. There shall be no more than 56 scheduled games during the traditional season, excluding play-off games in the Conference tournament and the NCAA Tournament, but including all other games played at both varsity and junior-varsity levels. The teams participating in the Conference tournament may have the option of scheduling additional games (within the NCAA limits and within the playing and practice session) prior to the NCAA Tournament, provided they are not scheduled on days when classes or final examinations are regularly scheduled.

Departure Time. 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.

Prior to the start of the regular season schedule, the visiting team shall notify the proper game management official (who will notify the umpire in chief) at the competition site and the Conference office of the visiting team's designated departure time from the competition site following the final game of each Conference series. If the visiting team is utilizing air travel and has set a departure time, a Sunday game may start no later than 1 p.m. local time unless dictated by television. If a contest is called due to travel arrangements, the following procedures will be used:

1. No half-inning shall start with less than 15 minutes remaining until the designated departure time.
2. If the contest is called and is a regulation game according to NCAA Rule 5.8, the contest and all averages shall count in the final playing record.
3. The contest will be considered a regulation tie game if it meets the conditions set forth in NCAA Rule 5.10 and all averages shall count in the final playing record.
4. If the contest is called prior to reaching regulation game status per NCAA Rule 5.8, the contest shall be considered "No Game" (NCAA Rule 5.12).
5. Teams shall not stay over Sunday night, in order not to miss classes on Monday, except during the final weekend of the regular season. A school may request a waiver from the Conference office in a situation when school is out of session. [Revised: 2/5/18]

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

Dugouts. During a game, no one except players in uniform, coaches, managers, trainers, physicians, scorekeepers and bat persons shall occupy a team's dugout.

The visiting team shall have the right to utilize its choice of isotonic beverage (product and equipment) in the dugout area during SEC regular season competition. If the visiting team does not arrange to have its own product and equipment at a contest, the home team shall supply the isotonic beverage (product and equipment) of its choice in the visiting team dugout area. Equipment utilized in the visiting team dugout area must be standard size.

Electronic Equipment. The use of telephones, cellular telephones, walkie-talkies, etc., is permitted for two-way communication between a team's dugout/bench and bullpen. Electronic communication between a coach in the dugout and the catcher shall also be permitted in accordance with NCAA rules. Any other form of communication and any other communication between other areas shall not be allowed.

Game Clock. The SEC follows the NCAA Game Clock protocol, with the exception that the clock will be located on the outfield wall in each SEC stadium. In addition, thirty (30) minutes prior to the start of each game, the individual responsible for the operation of the game clock must meet with the umpiring crew to review the protocol. Emphasis should be placed on in-game communication (signals, etc.) from the field to the individual operating the clock.

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 one hour 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 one hour 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. Length of Games
 - A. All games played on Friday and Saturday should be scheduled for nine innings. If a postponed game is resumed on Sunday, the regularly scheduled game shall be seven innings.
 - B. If weather prevents playing both the Friday and Saturday games, or if the Saturday game does not begin because of rain, there shall be two seven-inning 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 seven-inning game.
 - C. If a postponed game is unable to be completed because of inclement weather and has reached official

game status (five innings or more per NCAA Rule 5.8), 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 10 or more runs after seven innings of play (NCAA Rule 5.8).

5. Restart Times

- A. In the event of rain on Friday or Saturday, 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 and thirty minutes prior to the visiting team's scheduled departure time from the field, but no later than 5:00 p.m. local time to avoid a rain out of the game. (See Departure Time of this section.) *[Revised: 10/10/19]*
- C. If the game begins and is delayed (Sunday game), it must resume by 7:00 p.m. local time to avoid a rain out of the game. *[Revised: 10/10/19]*

6. 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 p.m. deadline for the start of a game and a 6:00 p.m. deadline for the resumption of the game.

7. Authority to Play Doubleheaders

- A. If weather forecasts on Friday or Saturday morning call for a high occurrence of inclement weather on Sunday, the home team with approval of the visiting team may request permission from the Conference office to play a doubleheader on Saturday.
- B. Approval of a prospective Saturday doubleheader shall be limited to circumstances where there is a high likelihood that weather will not permit a game to be played on the final day of the series. *[Revised: 10/10/19]*
- C. Approval of a prospective Friday doubleheader will be granted by the Conference Office only if there is a chance of rain of 80 percent or higher according to weather.gov for both Saturday and Sunday as of no earlier than 5 p.m. local time on Thursday and it is agreed upon by both head coaches. (This is not applicable to Thursday through Saturday series.) *[Adopted: 10/10/19]*

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 one hour 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 one hour 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. Length of Games
 - A. All games played on Thursday and Friday should be scheduled for nine innings. If a postponed game is resumed on Saturday, the regularly scheduled game shall be seven innings.
 - B. If weather prevents playing both the Thursday and Friday games, or if the Friday game does not begin because of rain, there shall be two seven-inning games on Saturday. If a Thursday game is postponed and no games are played on Friday, the postponed game shall be resumed on Saturday, followed by a seven-inning game.
 - C. If a postponed game is unable to be completed because of inclement weather and has reached official game status (five innings or more per NCAA Rule 5.8), 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 10 or more runs after seven innings of play (NCAA Rule 5.8).
 5. Restart Times
 - A. In the event of rain on Thursday or Friday, no game may start after 10:00 p.m. local time or resume after midnight local time.
 - B. On Saturday, all curfew times will be waived in order to play the game on Saturday. No games will be continued to Sunday for the first nine weeks of the conference season, however, teams can stay over until Sunday to get the game completed on Saturday. On the final weekend of the conference season, if a game is postponed or interrupted on Saturday and weather does not allow its completion, the participating teams shall stay over until Sunday to play or complete the postponed or interrupted game if its outcome may affect the seeding of the SEC Tournament and/or the regular season Conference Champion. [Revised: 2/5/18]
 - C. In the event of Saturday doubleheaders, games will be seven innings each.
 - D. In the event of a rain-delay prior to the beginning of play on the final Sunday of the season (if necessary), the game must begin no later than 4:00 p.m. local time to avoid a rain out of the game. If the game begins and is delayed (Sunday game), it must resume by 6:00 p.m. local time to avoid a rain out of the game.
 6. Authority to Play Doubleheaders
 - A. If weather forecasts on Thursday or Friday morning call for a high occurrence of inclement weather on Saturday, the home team with approval of the visiting team may request permission from the Conference office to play a doubleheader on Friday.
 - B. Approval of a prospective Friday doubleheader may be given no earlier than Friday morning and shall be limited to circumstances where there is a high likelihood that weather will not permit a game to be played on the final day of the series. This does not apply for possible inclement weather on Thursday or Friday of a weekend series.
- C. Other**
1. Authority to Rule on Game Stoppage. The umpire-in-chief has sole authority to suspend, postpone, or cancel the game if conditions become unfit for play.
 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, 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. Competition may be resumed after 30 minutes of no detected lightning strikes within an eight mile radius.
- C. A 10 minute warm-up period may be granted following this 30-minute suspension.

Lights. After a game has been started, the crew chief is to be the sole judge as to when field lights are to be turned on. In the event that the crew chief is not the plate umpire, and if the plate umpire so needs the lights turned on to avoid hazardous play, he may do so. The turning on of lights should be called for before the beginning of a full inning unless some extraordinary condition or abnormally long inning prompts otherwise.

Mascots. If a home or visiting team has a mascot, the following guidelines shall be observed:

- 1. Mascots may be on the field prior to the start of the game, but only when such action involves the team represented by said mascot.
- 2. Mascots may not be on the field at any time once the game begins, with the exception of between-inning promotions and only allowed to be in front of the team dugout that the mascot represents, or to participate in a seventh inning stretch promotion such as running the bases.
- 3. At no time are mascots allowed to direct uncomplimentary attention toward the opposing team, its fans, players, coaches or the umpires.
- 4. Mascots are not allowed in the dugout, once the game begins.
- 5. Mascots are allowed to be on top of the dugout (team mascot represents) as long as mascot's actions conform to policy.
- 6. If mascot's actions do not conform to SEC guidelines, the umpires have the authority to remove the mascot from the playing field area.

Mounds. At the beginning of each series, the umpires' crew chief shall measure the mound on the playing field, to ensure compliance with NCAA Baseball Playing Rules. Any variation from the required height must be reported immediately to the SEC office.

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

Officials. The Conference office will assign umpires for all home Conference and non-conference contests. [Revised: 8/18/15]

- 1. Each institution shall provide a dressing room for umpires closely located to the baseball facility. 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) shall be admitted. The officials' dressing room shall be set up with towels and soap, soft drinks and water and cups.
- 2. Once the line-up cards are exchanged at home plate, the umpires will then have all authority for cancellation or postponement due to weather. The crew chief will make the decision with input from the other umpires, coaches and game management director.
- 3. Criticism of officials or the officiating program by institutional personnel is prohibited. Comments on 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 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, and all matters pertaining to officials or officiating will 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 a conference-developed pay system. Each institution will be invoiced for their 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. *[Revised: 6/3/16]*
8. *Tickets* – Each official assigned to a game is entitled to a maximum of two complimentary tickets to that game. Officials shall contact the ticket offices directly. The deadline for ticket requests is ten days prior to the game.
9. Four umpires shall be assigned to each Conference and non-Conference regular season contest. *[Revised: 6/3/16]*

Practice during Conference Series. Weather permitting, visiting teams shall be permitted to practice on the field used for competition on either the night prior to, or the morning of, the first game of a conference series. It is the responsibility of the visiting team to notify the host institution prior to the start of a series to arrange for such a practice. The host institution shall determine whether weather and/or field conditions are acceptable for practice and the visiting team may be required to assist in the field preparation (e.g., removal or placement of the tarp). A practice the night before the first game of a series may last no more than two hours. A practice on the morning of the first game of a series may last no more than 30 minutes, must be concluded by no later than 12pm (noon) local time, and players may not wear spikes during the practice. *[Revised: 12/13/16]*

Public Address. The public address announcer plays a vital role in the management of a game. The following policies should be followed by the public address announcer:

1. Once the pitcher takes his place on the rubber, there shall be no P.A. announcements, music or other amplified sounds.
2. Once the hitter takes his place in the batters' box, there shall be no P.A. announcements, music or other amplified sounds.
3. The P.A. system is allowed to utilize encouraging music, supportive sounds and other positive P.A. responses between pitchers and hitters assuming their ready positions. Also, these actions are allowable after a play in the field, a hit ball or other plays that occur in a game.
4. At no time shall music, sounds or announcements on the P.A. be made that will incite or reflect negative actions towards players, coaches or umpires.
5. It is recommended that the host team's game management director, prior to the first game of a series (or game), meet with the umpire crew chief in the umpires dressing room. At this time, the game management director has an opportunity to preview the program, to be utilized during the game. If the material is deemed inappropriate at this time, it can be altered prior to the beginning of the game.

The SEC also follows NCAA policies for scoreboard, video board and audio operations (Appendix B of NCAA Rulebook).

Regular-Season Competition/Schedule. Regular-season competition and scheduling are subject to the following:

1. Each institution will play a 30-game Conference schedule. This schedule will include 3-game series with all six division members each year and five non-division members on a two-year rotation basis. The dates and sites for the 30-game Conference schedule shall be set by administrative action of the Conference.
2. Each game shall be scheduled for nine innings and shall be played at least nine innings except when inclement weather or travel constraints are taken into account. There is no 10-run rule in effect for Conference vs. Conference games. In non-conference games, by mutual consent of both head coaches, a game may be stopped only after seven innings if a team is ahead by at least 10 runs.
3. Conference series will be played with single games on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, unless the stadium does not have lights, and in which case there will be two games on Saturday and a single game on Sunday. The final Conference series of the season shall be played with single games on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, unless the stadium does not have lights, and in which case there will be two games on Friday and a single game on Saturday. One series during the second weekend of the Conference season will be a Thursday-Saturday series. Two series per weekend beginning on the third weekend of the Conference season will be a Thursday-Saturday series. All inclement weather and curfew policies will remain for these series with the exception of the following:

- A. On Saturday (get-away day), all curfew times will be waived in order to get the game in on Saturday. No games will be continued to Sunday, however, teams can stay over until Sunday to get game completed on Saturday.
- B. On Saturday, game start times may be set for evening based on request from SEC and institutional television partners.
- C. In the event of Saturday doubleheaders, these will continue to be seven innings each.
4. A team may not stay over to Monday to start or complete a Conference game or series, except on the final weekend of the regular season, if necessary. *[Revised: 2/5/18]*
5. Conference doubleheaders may only be played on Saturday and Sunday. Sunday doubleheaders shall be seven inning games and shall only be played if games on Friday and/or Saturday are rained out.
6. For regular season contests scheduled by the Southeastern Conference, when the visiting team will be 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. Revisions to a Conference schedule that are associated with spring break require the approval of the Commissioner.
7. Non-Conference games, which are not played because of inclement weather, may be rescheduled by the member institution, or a different non-Conference opponent may be scheduled, provided all NCAA minimum scheduling requirements are met.
8. Non-Conference games may be scheduled to replace Conference games not played due to inclement weather, provided all NCAA minimum scheduling requirements are met. These games shall not count as Conference games in league standings.

Seating Behind Dugouts. The home institution shall not seat its students closer than four rows behind the visiting team's dugout.

Starting Times. The home team shall establish the starting time for all Conference games. Friday games shall start no earlier than 6 p.m. local time, unless approved by the Conference Office. Sunday games shall start no later than 2 p.m. local time unless dictated by television. If the visiting team is utilizing air travel and has set a departure time, a Sunday game shall start no later than 1 p.m. local time unless dictated by television.

Squad Size. The home team may dress 35 eligible student-athletes in uniform, but only 27 student-athletes shall be allowed to participate in a series. The participating squad for the series must be declared prior to the first series game and shall not be changed during the course of the series. A visiting team is limited to a travel squad size of 27 travel-eligible student-athletes, except during the final Conference series of the regular season when 35 travel-eligible student-athletes may travel and dress. A student-athlete who has suffered a season ending injury and will no longer participate may travel without counting towards the visiting team's limit. Only 27 may 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. *[Revised: 10/4/18, 7/10/20]*

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 that 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 head coach 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 head coach 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 that 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 that 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 to the visiting team for each game in a Conference series. The visiting team must notify the home team of its needs no later than 3 p.m. on the Monday prior to the weekend series.

Uniforms.

1. Only eligible student-athletes and members of the baseball coaching staff (in accordance with NCAA Bylaws 11.01.5 (Student-Assistant), 11.01.6 (Volunteer Coach), and 11.7.6 (Countable Coaches)) may wear a team uniform prior to, during, or following conference and non-conference baseball contests. Non-coaching staff, managers, operations personnel and others not designated as a coach under NCAA rules shall not wear the team uniform prior to, during or following conference and non-conference baseball contest.
2. All student-athletes must wear numbers on batting practice tops. [*Adopted 12/13/16*]

Video Boards/Replays. Institutions are not limited in the use of replays (including number of replays shown), except as set forth in NCAA Baseball Rules (See Appendix B - Rules for Scoreboards, Video and Audio). The time during which permissible replays may be shown is from the end of a play until the next batter enters the dirt area around home plate. Replays may also be shown at a later time 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 Replay. Video replay shall be used in all games (Conference and Non-Conference) that are produced for either digital or linear broadcast in accordance with NCAA rules. The policies and procedures for administering such replay will be maintained by the Conference Office. [*Adopted 8/17/16*]

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.

Dates & Sites. The tournament will be played in late May, one week prior to the start of the NCAA championship. The site of the tournament will be determined by a vote of the Athletics Directors. See [Supplement C](#) in General Administration for Future Championship Dates and Sites.

Format. There will be a 12-team, Conference tournament, which includes the two top teams from each division (as determined by winning percentage) and the next ten teams from either division with the best winning percentage in Conference play at the conclusion of the Southeastern Conference regular season. The top four seeds shall receive opening round byes. The tournament shall begin on Tuesday and conclude with a single championship game on Sunday. Games played Tuesday are single elimination, while games Wednesday through Friday shall be double elimination. The remaining four teams following Friday's play (fourth round) shall play a single-elimination format.

Length of Game. All games shall be nine innings, unless a team holds at least a 10-run lead after seven innings of play, at which time the game shall be declared complete. This provision shall apply to all games of the tournament, including the championship game. [Revised: 12/13/16]

Manual. The Conference office shall distribute a tournament manual, outlining the policies and procedures for the tournament, as well as information specific to a tournament site, to each institution no later than May 1 each year.

NCAA Automatic Qualification. The Conference tournament champion will be the Conference's automatic qualifier to the NCAA Championship. In the event that 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. [Revised: 5/5/16]

Seeding. The two division champions shall be automatically seeded number one and number two based on winning percentage in Conference competition. The remaining teams shall be seeded numbers three through twelve based on winning percentage without regard to division. Ties will be broken in the following manner:

1. **Two-Team Tie.** The following procedure will be used in the following order until the tie is broken:
 - A. Won-lost results of head-to-head competition between the two tied teams.
 - B. If two-teams are divisional opponents:
 - (1) Won-lost percentage within their division (over the 15-game SEC division schedule).
 - (2) Won-lost percentage of the two teams versus the No. 1 team in their division (and proceeding through the No. 7 team, if necessary).
 - C. If two teams are not divisional opponents:
 - (1) Won-lost record of the two teams versus the No. 1 seed using common opponents only (and proceeding through the No. 12 seed, if necessary).
 - (2) Coin flip by the Commissioner.
2. **Three-Team Tie (or more).** The following procedure will be used in the following order until the tie is broken: (Note: If the three 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 tiebreaker procedure will be used.
 - A. If all three teams are common opponents: Total won-lost percentage of games played among the tied teams.
 - B. Won-lost percentage of the tied teams versus the No. 1 seed and proceeding through the No. 12 seed, if necessary, using common opponents only.
 - C. If three or more teams still are tied, the Commissioner will conduct a draw.

Squad Size. Only 30 student-athletes will be allowed to participate but 35 travel-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 and will not be eligible for Championship participation awards. [Revised: 12/12/17, 7/10/20]

Team Expenses and Allowances. Each participating institution will be provided a per diem of \$75 per day for 30 individuals for each day the institution plays a game plus two per diems. (Note: Institutions in the winner's bracket that have an "off" day will receive a per diem for that day.) A travel allowance of \$30 per mile (one-way) or \$5,000, whichever is greater, will be paid to each participating institution.

Tickets. No participating institution shall be required to purchase a set amount of reserved or general admission tickets. An early opportunity to purchase tickets will be made available to each SEC institution. The institution on-site may purchase general admission tickets as it advances in the tournament.

Uniforms.

1. Only eligible student-athletes and members of the baseball coaching staff (in accordance with NCAA Bylaws 11.01.5 (Student-Assistant), 11.01.6 (Volunteer Coach), and 11.7.6 (Countable Coaches)) may wear a team uniform prior to, during or following conference and non-conference baseball contests. Non-coaching staff, managers, operations personnel and others not designated as a coach under NCAA rules shall not wear the team uniform prior to, during or following conference and non-conference baseball contest.
2. All student-athletes must wear numbers on batting practice tops. [*Adopted 12/13/16*]

