

Appendix F – Rule Modifications

NAIA baseball will follow NCAA Baseball Playing Rules with approved NAIA modifications. The modifications listed below are the only current modifications to the NCAA Baseball Rules that will be in effect for the 2011-12 baseball season. Any future modifications to the NCAA Rules must be passed by the NAIA Baseball Coaches Association (NAIA-BCA) and approved by the NAIA National Administrative Council (NAC).

NCAA RULE 5-5 – NAIA RE-ENTRY RULE MODIFICATION

Any of the starting players, with the exception of the pitcher and the designated hitter, may withdraw from the game and re-enter once, provided such players occupy the same batting position whenever they re-enter the lineup. Starting pitchers and designated hitters who change positions later in the same game are NOT eligible to re-enter; because their original starting position was either pitcher or designated hitter. A defensive substitution cannot be made unless the team wanting to make the substitution is playing defense at the time.

NCAA RULE 5-5 – NAIA COURTESY RUNNER RULE MODIFICATION

Teams have the option to use a courtesy runner for the pitcher/designated hitter or catcher at any time. For speed-up purposes, it is recommended that the courtesy runner be used with two men out in all games. The courtesy runner, although never officially in the game, will be credited with the following:

- A. Run scored
- B. Stolen base
- C. Caught stealing

The courtesy runner rule does not apply to a pinch-hitter for the catcher unless the catcher has been re-entered. However, it is permissible to re-enter a catcher for his pinch-hitter and subsequently use the courtesy runner. A team may not use the same runner for the pitcher/designated hitter and catcher in the same inning. The courtesy runner may not be removed from a base to become a pinch hitter. A player removed from the game may not be used as a courtesy runner. Should the courtesy runner pinch hit, pinch run or enter the game at any position, he will no longer be eligible to be a courtesy runner.

NCAA RULE 5-8.A – NAIA 7-INNING GAME OPTION

Teams may adopt a rule providing that one or both games shall be seven (7) innings in length. In such games, any of these rules applying to the ninth inning shall apply to the seventh inning. The 9-inning rule may be waived and shortened to 7 innings prior to the game if both coaches agree to the waiver. If both coaches do not agree, the 9-inning rule will be in effect. This applies to regular season games only.

CURRENT MODIFICATION (MLB RULE 6.08) FOR INTENTIONAL WALK – NOT LISTED IN NCAA RULES

On an intentional walk, the batter is waved to first base (no pitches to be thrown).
A batter must be on deck when his turn at bat comes around.

NCAA RULE 9-4 – NUMBER OF TRIPS TO THE MOUND – MLB RULE IN EFFECT

The following rule pertains to the visit of the manager or coach to the pitcher:

- a. This rule limits the number of trips a manager or coach may make to any one pitcher in any one inning;
- b. A second trip to the same pitcher in the same inning will cause this pitcher's automatic removal;
- c. The manager or coach is prohibited from making a second visit to the mound while the same batter is at bat, but
- d. If a pinch-hitter is substituted for this batter, the manager or coach may make a second visit to the mound, but must remove the pitcher.

A manager or coach is considered to have concluded his visit to the mound when he leaves the 18-foot circle surrounding the pitcher's rubber.

If the manager or coach goes to the catcher or infielder and that player then goes to the mound or the pitcher comes to him at this position before there is an intervening play (a pitch or other play) that will be the same as the manager or coach going to the mound. Any attempt to evade or circumvent this rule by the manager or coach going to the catcher or an infielder and then that player going to the mound to confer with the pitcher shall constitute a trip to the mound. If the coach goes to the mound and removes a pitcher and then the manager goes to the mound to talk with the new pitcher, that will constitute one trip to that new pitcher that inning. In a case where a manager has made his first trip to the mound and then returns the second time to the mound in the same inning with the same pitcher in the game and the same batter at bat, after being warned by the umpire that he cannot return to the mound, the manager shall be removed from the game and the pitcher required to pitch to the batter until he is retired or gets on base. After the batter is retired, or becomes a base runner, then this pitcher must be removed from the game. The manager should be notified that his pitcher will be removed from the game after he pitches to one hitter, so he can have a substitute pitcher warmed up. The substitute pitcher will be allowed eight preparatory pitches or more if in the umpire's judgment circumstances justify.