

FOOTBALL

Section 1. Sports Committee.

- a. The football sports committee officers will be a chair and vice-chair (who will serve as Secretary). Officers are selected every two years during the spring meeting (odd year).
- b. Meetings
 1. The coaches will have a meeting in conjunction with the OAC press preview day. The press preview day will be in early August.
 2. At the end of the season the coaches will meet on the Thursday following the last regular-season game at 10:00 a.m. at the site of the OAC champion representing the OAC in the NCAA playoffs. If two or more schools get into the NCAA playoffs, the meeting site should be in between schools, at a time convenient for the playoff coaches. (Revised 5-15-01)
 3. A spring meeting will be scheduled in late April or early May, prior to the OAC spring meeting. The site will be a central location selected by the football committee chair.
 4. The chair of the football sports committee is responsible for reporting the minutes and concerns of the football coaches to the chairman of the OAC athletics directors before the annual fall and spring OAC meetings.

Section 2. Scheduling Procedures

- a. The Conference schedule will be a single round robin.
- b. All scheduling of league games is done by the Conference office.
- c. Unless the home team has no control over the facility, day games will start at 1:30 p.m. and night games at 7:00 p.m., with the home team making the decision. Any change in these times must be mutually agreed upon by both athletics directors. (Revised 5-13-02)
- d. Each coach is responsible for sending a complete schedule to the OAC office by May 1 (with game times).

Section 3. OAC Services Required.

- a. The Conference office will assign, evaluate, train and recruit officials. The coordinator of officials is responsible for the rules interpretation meeting each year.
- b. The Conference office shall be responsible for gathering and releasing the team and individual statistics each week.
- c. The Conference will declare and publicize the Offensive and Defensive Player of the Week.
- d. The information director is responsible for compiling the ballot from which the all-OAC football team is chosen.
- e. One certificate will be mailed to each selection on the all-OAC team.
- f. The information director is responsible for carrying out the selection procedures by which the all-academic football team is chosen.

- g. One certificate will be mailed to each selection on the all-academic team.
- h. The championship trophy and the plaque for the OAC Coach of the Year will be supplied by the Conference office.
- i. The Conference office will order the Hoernemann, Tressel, Sherman and Edwards MVP Awards and will bill each of the schools which sponsors the awards. The Gregory MVP Awards are ordered by their sponsors.

Section 4. Officiating.

- a. All officials for games hosted by Ohio Conference institutions will be assigned by the OAC Supervisor of Football Officials. The host schools have the responsibility of paying the officials on game day.
- b. Officials will be evaluated by an assigned observer at most games.
- c. On the Monday following each Saturday that a home game is played, OAC institutions are required to send, via overnight mail, a copy of the game tape plus an Officials Rating Report to the OAC Supervisor of Football Officials.

Section 5. Video Exchange. (Revised 5-13-08)

- a. Opponents will receive all game views (endzone & wide) on the 300 GB Hard Drive, to be received on Tuesday the week before the date of their game (excluding current opponent).
- b. **Sunday Exchange.** Exchange must take place by 9:00 a.m. on Sunday the week of the game. Coaches may arrange an exchange before this time if mutually agreed upon. The 40 GB Hard Drive with both an endzone and wide view of Saturday's game will be exchanged at this time.
- c. **Tuesday Exchange.** The 300 GB Hard Drive (and appropriate wiring) with game video (end zone & wide) must be in your opponent's possession no later than 12:00 p.m. (noon) Tuesday, the week before the date of your game. It is the decision of each school which carrier will be used as said carrier has guaranteed arrival before 12:00 p.m. (noon) on Tuesday.
- d. Both Sunday and Tuesday exchanges will be one-file game-sequence intercut, or other format agreed upon by both coaches.
- e. The 300 GB Hard Drive shall have all the games the school has played up to that point in the season in sequenced with an endzone and wide view of each game on the hard drive.
- f. The exchange site for Sunday shall be agreed upon by the coaches involved by Monday the week before the date of their game.
- g. Video Recording Parameters.
 - 1. Each institution's two-deep chart must be sent with the video exchange on Sunday.
 - 2. After each series you must display the scoreboard.

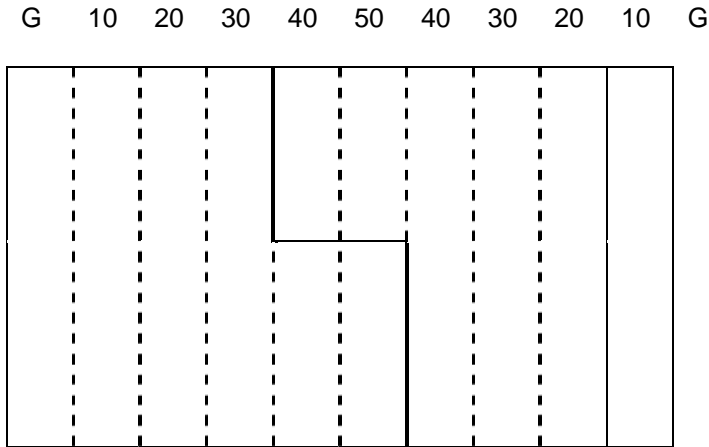
3. **Press box view.** The camera must start with the offensive huddle break, or seven seconds before the snap of the ball (for no-huddle teams) and must include all 22 players at all times during the play, with minimum excess.
 4. **End zone view.** The camera must show two yards outside of the end players on both side of the live scrimmage.
- h. Conference Video Policies.
1. No exchange of video is allowed with non-Conference teams other than the in-season exchanges with opponents.
 2. Live scouting is not permitted, unless it is a non-league game not including an OAC team.
 3. Disputes with video exchange will be resolved between the coaches, or taken to the commissioner if an acceptable resolution cannot be reached.

Section 6. Game Management.

- a. **Crowd control.** Crowd control is the responsibility of the host athletics director. It is desirable to have a sufficient staff of ushers and attendants to aid crowd flow. In addition, uniformed security personnel should be on hand to handle any crowd unruliness. The area immediately surrounding the playing field, particularly the team bench areas, should be kept clear of all unauthorized personnel at all times.
- b. **Game Operating Personnel.** The host school is responsible for providing the following personnel for conducting a football contest:
1. **Timer.** A competent, preferably trained adult to operate the scoreboard clock, which shall indicate the official time of the game. The timer must check with the referee at the officials' dressing quarters to receive necessary instructions from the referee and back judge. The visiting school may have a representative sit with the timer, if desired.
 2. **Chain Men and Box Men.** Four trained adults, preferably local high school officials, should be used. Equipment should be ready and efficient. The shirts or uniforms of the personnel should be white in color. Box and Chain Men are to be absolutely neutral. They are not to relay information either to the bench or players, and they are not to be cheerleaders.
 3. **Team Physician.** It is mandatory that a physician be present to handle emergencies. Officials should know where he or she can be reached.
 4. **Public Address Announcer.** He or she should know the officials' signals, be informative, and be nonpartisan with announcements.
 5. **Ball Boys.** A ball boy should be stationed on each sideline with a ball ready for play. Ball boys should work about 15 yards ahead of the scrimmage line.

c. **Warm-Up Procedures.**

1. The playing field should be available for pregame warm-up 60 minutes before the scheduled starting time of the game.
2. The home team shall designate which side of the field they will use for warm-up. The field will be divided in an "L" for punters and kickers to warm-up. (See below)



d. **Suggested Pregame Agenda.**

| 1:30 P.M. <u>Games</u> | | 7:30 P.M. <u>Games</u> |
|---------------------------|---|---------------------------|
| 1:00 | Officials enter field | 7:00 |
| 1:15 | Playing surface cleared of team personnel. Pre-game band show begins. | 7:15 |
| 1:25 | National Anthem. Umpire and field judge give teams the five minute warning. Introduction of captains and toss of coins. | 7:25 |
| 1:27 | Teams return to runways or bench. Introduction of starting lineups. | 7:27 |
| 1:30 | Kickoff | 7:30 |

Bands must design the pregame show so that the National Anthem can be played no less than five minutes before the scheduled starting of the game. Bands must be off the field before the opening kickoff.

In the event that a school has any special pregame ceremonies, these should also take place prior to the playing of the National Anthem.

- e. **Pregame and Halftime Agenda.** The director of athletics of the host school is required to inform visiting teams of pregame and halftime ceremonies (see agenda) and anything else which has to do with starting times.
- f. **Halftime Forms.** The halftime intermission for all Ohio Conference games in which an OAC school is the host team shall be 20 minutes in length. The director of athletics should relay this information to all non-conference visiting teams well in advance of the game.
- g. **Placement of Bands.** Pep bands and marching bands will be prohibited from sitting in the stands directly behind the bench area of the opposing team.
- h. **Marking the field.** The playing field should be marked clearly according to the instructions and diagrams found in the NCAA Football Rules Book.
- i. **Provisions for officials.** Where physical conditions permit, the host school should provide dressing and shower facilities for the officials separate from the teams' and coaches' facilities.
 - 1. A blackboard and chairs or benches should also be available for the officials' pregame conference.
 - 2. Only authorized personnel are permitted in the dressing room.
- j. **Provisions for the visiting teams.** The visiting team should be provided with separate locker room and shower facilities.
 - 1. Space should also be available for team conferences and blackboard discussions.
 - 2. A place in or on top of the press box for visiting team's movie cameraman and coaches to spot for the bench should be furnished. Wherever possible, the coach spotting and relaying information to the bench should be provided with private facilities.
- k. **Phones.** Ohio Conference institutions shall provide two phones for the visiting teams for communications from the bench to the spotters in the press box. The phone lines in the bench area shall be such that the phones can be stretched the entire length of the area.
 - 1. It is Ohio Conference policy that both home and visiting teams be provided with equal phone facilities. Should mechanical failure prevent one team from using one or more of its phones, the other team shall cease to use the same number of phones.
 - 2. Spotter-coaches shall be privileged to any statistical and lineup information provided to the media in the press box.
- l. **Game balls.**
 - 1. The host team is responsible for providing three game balls, brought to the referee at least 60 minutes prior to the scheduled start of the game for testing.
 - 2. The official ball to be used by all Ohio Conference teams is the Wilson 1005 or the Wilson GTS. (Revised 5-17-04)
 - 3. The visiting team may bring and use its own balls, as long as they are supplied to the referee 60 minutes before the game.

- m. **Uniforms.** Players' uniforms shall follow NCAA guidelines. The home school shall wear dark jerseys unless mutually agreed upon by both coaches.

Section 7. Ticket Policies and Media Provisions

- a. **Admission prices and policies.** Each athletics director will inform the Conference office and the director of athletics of all visiting institutions of his or her policies regarding admission prices and noisemakers. It is the responsibility of the visiting athletics director to secure tickets for an advance sale at his school.
- b. **Parent Passes.** Complimentary tickets will not be given. However, each players parents will receive a "Parent Pass" at the beginning of the season that can be used for regular season OAC contests.
- c. **Passes.** The Ohio Athletic Conference shall issue passes to members of the schools' coaching staffs, members of the media and "Parent Passes". These passes shall guarantee the holder admittance to any football game hosted by an Ohio Conference institution.
 - 1. Media Pass holders should make prior arrangements for press box or other special accommodations with the SID.
 - 2. Holders of OAC Lifetime Passes shall also be admitted to all games hosted by Ohio Conference Institutions.

Section 8. Responsibility of Coaches

- a. Comments about officiating, pro and con, should be made in writing to the commissioner's office. Such complaints shall not be released to the public through any news media. Comments to the media concerning officiating is prohibited.
- b. Coaches are responsible for appointing captains and seeing that they report to the officials five minutes before the kickoff for the toss of the coin.
- c. Coaches are responsible for seeing that their players are on the field ready to play in accordance with the pregame and halftime agendas.

Section 9. Championships. The Conference champion will be decided by the team with the best won/lost percentage in Conference games. If two or more teams tie for the best percentage, they will be co-champions.

Section 10. NCAA Automatic Qualifier.

- a. **Two-Team Ties.** If two teams tie for the championship and one beats the other during the regular season, that team is the automatic qualifier. If the two teams tied during the regular season:
 - 1. compare each tied team's record against the team occupying the highest position in the standings and continue down through the standings until one team gains the advantage, thereby drawing the automatic qualification.
- b. **Multiple (3 or more teams) Tie.** Compare the combined record of each of the tied teams against the other teams involved in the tie until an advantage is gained. (Example: Team A's combined record against both Team B and Team C, as compared to Team C's combined record against both Team A and Team B), until the tie is reduced to a two-team tie, at which time revert to the two-team process or until the tie is broken.

- c. In the event the tie cannot be broken by the above, the remaining coaches will vote, confidentially through the OAC office, for the best team they feel should go to the NCAA playoffs. (Adopted 5-13-02)
- d. If multiple teams are tied and the coaches vote, when one team emerges it will be the AQ; or, if one team gets eliminated, compare the remaining teams head to head.
- e. **Coin Toss.** In the event that a tie cannot be broken, the tie shall be broken by a coin toss conducted by the OAC commissioner.

Section 11. Awards.

a. **All-Conference Policy.**

- 1. The first vote taken is for the most outstanding offensive and defensive players. The winners of these awards will automatically be named to the All-Conference first team. The awards are as follows:
 - a. Bob Packard Award (most outstanding offensive back) (Revised 5-13-08)
 - b. Ken Wable Award (most outstanding offensive lineman) (Revised 5-24-08)
 - c. Ed Sherman Award (most outstanding receiver)
 - d. Paul J. Hoernemann Award (most outstanding defensive lineman)
 - e. Gene Slaughter Award (most outstanding linebacker) (Revised 5-24-08)
 - f. Lee Tressel Award (most outstanding defensive back or punter)
- 2. Three teams will be selected: first team, second team and honorable mention. The first and second team offense will be comprised of three running backs, four interior lineman, one center, one tight end, one quarterback, three wide receivers and one placekicker. The first and second team defense will be comprised of five down lineman, four linebackers, four defensive backs, one punter and one special teams player.
- 3. During the first week of November, the OAC office will fax nomination forms for the all-Conference team to each head coach. The nomination forms must be returned to the OAC office no later than the Friday before the last game of the season. The nominations will be compiled and faxed to each head coach prior to the November meeting. Additions and deletions can be made on the day of the meeting. Voting for the all-Conference team will be by a show of hands. Each coach will have as many votes as there are selections for the position. Example: if three linebackers are to be selected, each coach will get three votes. In the event there is a tie in the voting, the players being considered will be included on the team. After the voting is over, each coach will turn in two player's names he would like to be honorable mention.
- b. **Player-of-the-Week.** Nominations for the Player-of-the-Week must be emailed in to the OAC office by 10:00 a.m. Monday following Saturday's game.
- c. The Ohio Athletic Conference All-Sports trophy points will be awarded according to the final league standings.