

## WIAC FOOTBALL OPERATING CODE

### 2009 Season

[Note: The WIAC Sport Codes consist of those policies, procedures and practices unique or specific to the conduct and administration of each conference championship sport, and are intended as **supplements** to the *NCAA Manual*, *WIAC Handbook on the Governance of Intercollegiate Athletics* and the recognized playing rules of each sport, **not** as replacements for them. In addition, football, volleyball and men's/women's basketball have manuals that include expectations related to the administration of those sports.]

#### I. RULES

##### A. Conference/National Rules

Coaches are expected to be knowledgeable of and abide by all WIAC and NCAA rules. When in doubt, coaches are expected to consult with their athletics directors concerning the application of a rule.

##### B. Contest Rules

NCAA playing rules shall govern football games involving WIAC institutions.

#### II. SQUAD AND TRAVEL SQUAD LIMITATIONS

##### A. Squad Limits [See WIAC Bylaw 16.1]

The number of student-athletes permitted to participate (practice or competition) in football is limited to 100.

##### B. Travel Squad Limits [See WIAC Bylaw 16.2]

Travel squad size is limited to a maximum of 60 players for conference and non-conference games. Any student-athlete appearing on the institution's eligibility list must count toward the travel limit. The host institution can dress an unlimited number of players.

#### III. SPORT SEASON

##### A. Length of Season/Contest Limitations

1. Refer to NCAA Bylaw 17.9 for length of playing season and contest limits.
2. In the sport of football, institutions are limited to playing a maximum of three (3) subvarsity (e.g., junior varsity games). In addition, student-athletes are not permitted to miss class(es) to participate in these contests.

##### B. Scheduling [See also WIAC Article 17]

1. There shall be a round robin schedule of games played on seven consecutive weeks of the season. Institutions are permitted to change dates of conference games by mutual consent. All such schedule changes must be approved by the conference office.

2. The first game played between two WIAC teams is to be designated the conference game whenever WIAC teams are playing each other twice during the same season and the home/away designation for that game shall remain consistent with what had been established for the conference schedule.

#### **IV. GAME MANAGEMENT**

##### **A. Starting Times (See WIAC Cost-Reduction Plan)**

WIAC football games are to be played on Saturday afternoon beginning at 1:05 p.m. Deviations from the adopted start time of 1:05 p.m., including night games, are permissible provided they are agreed upon by both institutions. All games shall start at five minutes after the hour or ½ hour (e.g., 1:05 p.m., 7:35 p.m.).

##### **B. Game Ball**

The official game ball is the Nike 3005 and is to be used in all conference games. The home team must have a minimum of three (3) game balls available with two (2) ball persons on each side of the field. Visiting WIAC team may use their own Nike 3005 footballs. All game balls must be provided to the game officials for approval at least (1) prior to game time. In the event of inclement weather, additional games ball must be made available.

##### **C. Officials**

1. All game officials will be assigned through the conference office for both conference and non-conference games. The conference utilizes seven-man officiating crews. The officials are to be paid directly by the institution at a rate of \$145/official. [Note: This rate will increase to \$150/official for the 2010 season.]
2. Head coaches and neutral observers are expected to complete and forward a written evaluation of the officiating crew to the conference office following each contest via the [www.arbitersports.com](http://www.arbitersports.com) site.
3. Officials working a pre-season scrimmage versus outside competition are to receive ½ of the regular-season game fee.

##### **D. Game Personnel**

The host institution is responsible for ensuring that a minimum of three (and preferably four) trained adults are used for the chain (2) and down box (1), as well as the official timer and public address announcer. All chain crew members are to be attired in the conference supplied vests. [See additional guidelines in the WIAC Football Manual.]

##### **E. Sideline Administration**

1. No persons other than eligible players, coaches, and designated support personnel (e.g., medical staff, equipment staff, statisticians, student managers) are permitted in the team area during the course of a game. With the exception of players in uniform, the team area is limited to fifteen other individuals identified by field passes. The host institution is responsible for removing all persons not authorized to be in the team area.
2. Limit lines, team areas and coaching boxes are to be marked in accordance with NCAA Rule 1, Section 2.
3. Head coaches are to be held responsible for the conduct of all individuals within the team area or coaching box.

4. No media personnel shall be permitted in the team or coaching box nor are media personnel permitted to communicate with persons in the team area or coaching box during the course of a game.

#### **F. Pre-Game and Half-time Activities**

1. Pre-game activities must conform to the format prescribed by the conference in **Attachment #1** and in the WIAC Football Manual.
2. For pre-game warm-ups, there shall be reserved to the respective teams that half of the playing field, between the 30-yard lines, which is adjacent to their respective benches, as well as the area from the 30 yard-line to the end line which is to the right of their respective bench. With 40 minutes remaining until game time, the warm-up areas shall be divided by the 50 yard line.
3. Administration of half-time activities is the responsibility of the host institution. The half-time is limited to 20 minutes. If the bands of both competing institutions are to perform at half-time, no more than eight (8) minutes shall be allotted to either band for its performance. All bands must clear the field a minimum of five (5) minutes prior to the start of the game and a minimum of three (3) minutes prior to the start of the second half. The half-time period can be extended provided the extension has been approved by the conference office and agreed upon by both institutions prior to the game.

#### **G. Sideline Phones**

Host institutions shall provide two (2) separate, dependable lines of communication to visiting team only upon request. Maintenance personnel should be available during the contest to service communication lines, if a problem arises. If a problem with the communication lines cannot be corrected, steps will be taken to equalize the situation on both sidelines.

#### **H. Tickets**

Tickets and/or passes to visiting teams are to be allocated in accordance with the provisions of WIAC Bylaw 27.1.4. If requested, any number of tickets up to 500 shall be allocated to visiting teams for conference football games.

#### **I. Uniforms**

The home team for all varsity conference football games shall wear dark colored jerseys and the visiting team white jerseys.

#### **J. Suspension, Termination and Resumption of Game**

1. If a game is suspended due to darkness, light failure or inclement weather and cannot be resumed the same day, the game shall be resumed from the point of suspension the following day if:
  - (a) the contest has not progressed past the completion of the third quarter or,
  - (b) the minimum point differential as stipulated in #2 has not been met,
  - (c) the outcome of the game will have a bearing on the determination of the conference championship, AQ, or consideration of an NCAA at-large playoff berth.
2. If a game is suspended due to darkness, light failure or inclement weather and the contest has progressed past the completion of the third quarter, the team ahead shall be declared the winner based on the following:

Time Remaining  
15:00 minutes

Score Differential  
29 points

10:00 minutes	25 points
5:00 minutes	18 points

- Any suspended game is to be resumed within two hours from the point of suspension. If a suspended game cannot be resumed within two hours, a determination on whether the game is to be resumed later that day shall be made in consultation with the commissioner.
- Any suspended game that is resumed the same day shall include a minimum 20-minute warm-up period prior to resumption.

#### **K. Postgame Team Meetings**

Any teams electing to stay on the field following the post game handshake are required to congregate on the same side of the field in which they warmed-up unless otherwise directed by game management.

### **V. SCOUTING AND VIDEO-TAPE EXCHANGE**

#### **A. Scouting [See WIAC Administrative Regulation 27.8]**

#### **B. Film Exchange (Game Tape Exchange)**

- The upload process for all WIAC football games (conference and nonconference) must be “started” by the host institution no later than midnight the day of the game via the conference’s designated film exchange system (*i.e.*, *Game Tape Exchange*). Visiting teams are required to “start” the upload process no later than noon the day following a game.
- The upload must include the data file (offense, defense and special teams) from the coachcom editing system.
- Institutions are required to upload both wide and end zone views of each game.
- Each tape must include a "shot" of the game clock at the end of each quarter and change of possession.
- Uploaded video will be retained on the Game Tape Exchange server as an “open library” to be accessed only by other WIAC institutions, the conference office staff, the WIAC coordinator of football officials and all WIAC football officials.
- Visiting teams wishing to tape are to make arrangements in advance with the host team concerning placement of its video crew/camera.
- It is not permissible to video tape games involving conference opponents, nor obtain such tapes from third parties for scouting purposes.

#### **C. Additional Videotape Requirements**

Videotape crews/personnel are expected to continue taping through the post game handshakes and until both teams have mostly left the field. Anytime an altercation occurs prior to, during, or following a game, the tape should be focused on the incident until order has been restored.

## VI. CONFERENCE CHAMPION/AWARDS

### A. Conference Champion/NCAA Automatic Qualifier

In the sport of football, the conference champion and automatic qualifier into the NCAA playoffs shall be decided on a percentage basis. If two or more teams are tied for the conference championship, they shall be considered co-champions and the tie-breaker criteria listed below shall be used to determine the conference's automatic qualifier into the NCAA playoffs. A championship award (plaque or trophy) will be awarded to the championship team(s). Each member of the championship team will receive a certificate.

1. Head-to-head results between all tied teams.\*
2. Tied teams are to be eliminated in reverse order of their last playoff appearance beginning with the 1991 season.
3. Random selection by the commissioner.

If two teams remain after a third or more teams are eliminated, the tie-breaker reverts back to criteria #1.

### B. Athlete-of-the-Week

Each week during the regular season, the football sport committee will select (i.e., vote) an offensive, defensive, and special teams athlete-of-the-week from among nominations submitted by each institution. Head coaches will vote on the weekly nominations with the stipulation that a coach may not vote for his own player(s). The recipients will receive a plaque in recognition of their selection.

### C. Coach-of-the-Year

A coach of the year will be selected at the conclusion of the season in accordance with the criteria established in WIAC Administrative Regulation 25.6. In football, the coach-of-the-year award shall be entitled the “**George Chryst Coach-of-the-Year Award**”.

### D. Scholar-Athlete Award

A football scholar-athlete will be selected at the conclusion of the regular season in accordance with the criteria established in WIAC Administrative Regulation 25.5. In men's sports, the award shall be entitled the “**Max Sparger Scholar-Athlete Award**”.

### E. All-Conference Team/Player of the Year

The WIAC All-Conference Football Team and WIAC Player-of-the-Year will be selected by the coaches at their meeting following the regular season as follows:

- Coaches may nominate only players from their team. (**See Attachment #2**)
- Coaches may nominate the same player for more than one position. However, a player nominated for more than one position may receive all-conference recognition (i.e., first or second team) for only one position. Once the determination is made as to the position in which the player will be recognized, the other position will require a re-vote of the coaches.
- If there are fewer than two players nominated for any one position, coaches may then submit additional nominations at the selection meeting. If no other nominations are forthcoming, the slot (either first or second team) may be transferred to another position by majority vote of the coaches.
- Nominated players must have competed in at least half of the conference games played.
- Coaches may not vote for their own players.
- Only conference statistics will be used in determining placement on the all-conference team.
- Any player not selected to the first or second teams, but receiving at least one vote, will be given honorable mention recognition and will receive a certificate.

- The WIAC Player of the Year will be selected via a ballot completed by each head coach and will receive an award from the conference.
- First-team all-conference selections will receive a plaque. Second-team selections will receive a certificate.
- The first and second all-conference teams will each consist of 29 players in accordance with the following positional breakdown:
- Each coach shall be permitted to nominate an additional honorable mention player.

<u>Offense</u>	<u>Defense</u>
(1) Tight End	(5) Linemen
(4) Linemen	(4) Linebackers
(1) Center	(4) Defensive Backs
(1) Quarterback	
(3) Running Backs	
(2) Wide Receivers	
(1) Punter	
(1) Place Kicker	
(1) All-Purpose Back *	
(1) Return Specialist	

\* The all-purpose back is a designation for a player that is utilized in a variety of capacities (e.g., ball carrier, receiver, blocker) in plays from scrimmage.

#### **F. All-Sportsmanship Team**

An All-Sportsmanship team will be named at the conclusion of the football season. The team will consist of one member from each team (as selected from that team) who displays exemplary sportsmanship throughout the season. Each member of the All-Sportsmanship team will receive a certificate from the conference.

### **VII. SPORT CHAIR/SPORT COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

#### **A. Sport Chair/AD Liaison/Regional Representative**

The chair of the football sport committee will be rotated alphabetically by institution. The term of the chair shall be from July 1 to June 30. [See WIAC Administrative Regulation 24.2 for duties and responsibilities of sport chairs.]

Sport Chair: John Miech, UW-Stevens Point  
July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010

Athletics Directors' Liaison: Al Ackerman, UW-Oshkosh  
NCAA Regional Advisory Committee Representative: DUEY NAATZ, UW-STOUT (term expires 9-2011)

#### **B. Football Sport Committee Meetings**

The football sport committee shall conduct two regular meetings each year: one immediately following the completion of the regular season and one in conjunction with the annual Fall Media Day. An additional meeting may be held in conjunction with the annual Wisconsin Football Coaches Association clinic.

2009-10 Meeting Dates: Suspended for 2009—Madison (Football Media Day)  
November 16, 2009—Black River Falls, WI  
March 25, 2010—Madison (WFCA Convention) # # # # #

## Pre-Game Format

The following is the standard format to be followed for pre-game activities for home football games at each WIAC institution:

<u>Real Time</u>	<u>Game Clock</u>	<u>Activities</u>
12:00	65:00	Officials meet with home team coach
12:10	55:00	Officials meet with visiting team coach Teams enter field when they wish
12:35	30:00	Officials enter the field
12:45	20:00	Timer/chain gang available for conference with officials. Field cleared of team personnel Pre-game band show begins
12:57	08:00	Introduction of teams – visiting team first. (Note: The visiting team has the option of having its players run-out on field as part of the introductions. If they choose not to do so, they may remain in the locker room or on the sidelines and the players will simply be introduced.)
1:00	05:00	Both teams <u>must</u> be on the field.
1:02	03:00	National Anthem
1:04	01:00	Coin Flip (Captains)
1:05	00:00	Kick-off

A comparable schedule will be in effect for all games and remains relative for any alternative start time (e.g., 7:00 p.m.). It is extremely important that all games begin on time.

### NOTES:

- ◆ The pre-game schedule is to be posted in both team's locker rooms, the officials' dressing area, and in the press box.
- ◆ Teams may enter the field to warm-up whenever they wish and remain until 20 minutes prior to game time at which time the field must be cleared of team personnel for the pre-game activities.
- ◆ Bands may enter the field 20 minutes prior to the start of the game. The performing band (or bands) must design their pre-game show to be completed 8 minutes before game time at which time the player introductions shall begin. The National Anthem is to begin at 3 minutes prior to game time following the player introductions. If two bands are involved, the time must be divided to conform to the allotted time.
- ◆ At the coin flip, the PA announcer will introduce the captains of the two teams. This is in case the captain is not in one of the starting offensive or defensive lineups.
- ◆ Deviations from the prescribed pre-game activities format must be communicated beforehand to the commissioner and will be deemed acceptable only upon mutual consent of the participating institutions. In the event a school has any special pre-game ceremonies, these should take place prior to 12:57.
- ◆ Each school should have a coordinator of the pre-game and half-time ceremonies to insure proper timing, etc. This coordinator should check with each coach on the tentative starting offensive and defensive lineups before the game and relay the proper lineups to the PA announcer.

Final format decisions should be relayed to:

Conference Office  
 Host and Visiting Athletics Directors  
 Host and Visiting Sports Information Directors  
 Referee (crew chief)  
 Head Football Coaches  
 Radio/TV Stations  
 Participating Band Directors

NOMINATIONS (DEFENSIVE) FOR **WAC** ALL CONFERENCE FOOTBALL TEAM

**REMINDER - Please list CONFERENCE ONLY Stats**

Nominate players from your team only -- including player's jersey number.

(Defensive Team - Page 1 of 2)

Position	Player	No	Yr	Hgt	Wgt	Hometown & High School
Line						
Comments:						
Line						
Comments:						
Line						
Comments:						
Line						
Comments:						
Line						
Comments:						
Linebacker						
Comments:						
Linebacker						
Comments:						

Linebacker						
Comments:						
Linebacker						
Comments:						
Defensive Back						
Comments:						
Defensive Back						
Comments:						
Defensive Back						
Comments:						
Defensive Back						
Comments:						

Coach \_\_\_\_\_ Institution \_\_\_\_\_

## NOMINATIONS (OFFENSIVE) FOR **WAC** ALL CONFERENCE FOOTBALL TEAM

**REMINDER - Please list CONFERENCE ONLY Stats**

Nominate players from your team only -- including player's jersey number.

(Offensive Team - Page 1 of 2)

Position	Player	No	Yr	Hgt	Wgt	Hometown & High School
Tight End						
Comments:						
Line						
Comments:						
Line						
Comments:						
Line						
Comments:						
Line						
Comments:						
Center						
Comments:						
Quarterback						
Comments:						

Running Back						
Comments:						
Running Back						
Comments:						
Fullback						
Comments:						
All-Purpose Back (Yards gained by rushing, receiving, INT returns, punt returns, KO returns)						
Comments:						
Wide Receiver						
Comments:						
Wide Receiver						
Comments:						
Kicker						
Comments:						
Punter						
Comments:						