

BASEBALL (as of September 11, 2024)

NUMBERS

Teams 2024-25: 14:(UofA, ASU, BU, BYU, UCF, UC, UH, KU, K-State, OSU, TCU, TTU, UU, WVU) – no CU, ISU

SCHEDULING

Scheduling Format (14 teams)

- 2024-25 Format:
 - Play 10 series (3 no plays) in 10 weeks
 - Since at even number of teams, byes no longer necessary
 - Would see everyone at least once over a two-year period.
 - Can designate protected opponent(s).
- 2024-25 Series Dates are Fri/Sat/Sun but series with BYU – and the last series of the season – would be Thurs/Fri/Sat
 - Easter weekend may change by mutual agreement.
- Start Dates for Conference Competition:
 - 2025 (10 weeks) – Friday, March 14 (or Thursday, March 13)
- All series played over the final weekend of the season (weekend prior to Conference championship) will be Thurs/Fri/Sat.

Timeline for 2025-26 Schedules

- **Currently have an approved 2026 schedule, however regular season scheduling direction is being discussed.**
- Will discuss if able to do more than one year at same time.

CHAMPIONSHIP

Championship Format

- **2024-25: Current format is being discussed. Previously approved a 12-team single/double elimination tournament.**
- **Current format Tuesday - Saturday**
- Agreement at Globe Life Field (Arlington, Texas) is currently through 2027 Championship.
- Championship Dates
 - 2025 (Arlington): TBD - Saturday, May 24
 - 2026 (Arlington): TBD – Saturday, May 23
 - 2027 (Arlington): TBD – Saturday, May 29

TECHNOLOGY

- Video Review – Required for Conference games (encouraged for all games). The system used is at institutional discretion. No minimum requirements.
- Video Exchange – None required
- Bat Testing – Required for EVERY game day (Conference to send bat wraps)
- Radar Guns – It is permissible for each team to record games or utilize radar guns from the stands or a location provided by the host institution. Two seats behind home plate will be held for the visiting team radar and/or charting.
- Home team to provide to visiting team after Big 12 game:
 - A copy of the game video from a live television production (i.e., ESPN+, FOX, etc.) or video as recorded by the host team from the centerfield camera view; and
 - Pitching data (velocities, balls and strikes, etc.,) as recorded via stadium radar displays and other analytical recording systems used by the home team such as Trackman, Flight Scope or Hawkeye.
 - Institutions that utilize a pitch tracking system will provide umpires a report for each game at the conclusion of the series. The individual game reports will be provided in a separate envelope for each umpire. A copy of the report will be sent to the Liaison of Umpires.

OFFICIALS

- Liaison to Umpires is Rich Fetchiet.
- Four umpires assigned to each game.
- Officials are paid by the Conference initially with fees prorated back to each institution for reimbursement of regular-season games.
- Officials Fees – Baseball has different payment policies for non-conference and Conference games. The following fees are applicable for the 2022-23, 2023-24 and 2024-25 seasons (same fee all three years):
 - Non-Conference - \$850 fee inclusive of fee and travel. If lodging is necessary, overnight per diem of \$225 will be provided for each night.
 - Conference - \$3,700 flat fee for the entire 3-game series. This includes hotel along with fee and travel. (Institutions must not provide lodging.)

MISC

Official Ball

- The official baseball for the Big 12 Conference is the Rawlings FSR1NCAA-B12 and shall be used for all Conference games and the Conference Championship. Agreement is co-terminus with Rawlings-NCAA agreement.

Baseball Run Rule

NCAA Rule 5-7-b-4 relative to the stoppage of play by a run-rule will be utilized in Big 12 play. **Proposed change** - By Conference rule, however, in Big 12 Conference play, the mercy-rule (10-run lead after the seventh inning) will be enforced **for all Big 12 games**, except the non-championship game of the Big 12 Championship. For non-conference games, this rule will apply only by mutual consent prior to the start of the contest.

Travel Squad

- Competition Limit for Conference regular-season games: 30
 - Home team above 30 may dress in uniform, participate in pregame warm-ups BUT not compete.
- Championship competition squad: 30
- Additional student-athletes may travel to the conference games and the championship at institutional discretion but cannot dress in uniform, participate in pregame warm-ups, or compete in the game.
- See Conference Rule 10.4 for more details and baseball exceptions (in Conference Handbook).

NCAA Automatic Qualifier

- Winner of the Big 12 Championship is the league's automatic qualifier to the NCAA Championship. Sport manual outlines additional information if championship can't be held or isn't completed.

Visiting Team Tickets

- For all sports which charge admission (with the exception of football, basketball): At a minimum, **60 complimentary tickets shall be provided for Baseball**, Softball and Women's Soccer, 50 for Volleyball and Wrestling, and 20 for Tennis. Should more tickets be requested, best efforts will be made, with the visiting team financially responsible. The host institution shall utilize best efforts to locate reserved seats in the area of close proximity to the visiting team bench/dugout. The visiting team will notify the host institution of its desire to utilize these tickets in a timely manner.

Coaches Meetings/Media Day

- Each coaching group has a mandatory annual meeting. Failure to participate will result in a \$10,000 fine for first offense.
 - Baseball coaches annual meeting is typically in September. Has been videoconferences most recently but in-person previously.
 - The next annual meeting is Wednesday, September 17, 2025.
- See Conference Rule 5.6.1 for more information.

Television

- Conference television partner(s) currently select approximately five regular-season baseball games per year plus selected games during the championship. After Conference selections are confirmed, remaining regular-season games are available for third tier.
- Complete television details, including Big 12 Now on ESPN+ obligations, are available from Justin Nusser (jnusser@big12sports.com).

KEY CONTACTS

Sport Liaisons: Lisa Peterson (lpeterson@big12sports.com; 859-230-6757 cell)

Communications Liaison: Matt Ensor (mentor@big12sports.com; 520-565-0526 cell)

Liaison to Umpires: Rich Fetchiet (plateman@umich.edu; 734-637-2861)

LOG-IN INFORMATION FOR BIG 12 WEBSITE (to access manuals):

<https://big12sports.com/sports/manuals>

UN: Big12ConferenceManuals

PW: WeAreTheBig12Conference

Conference Handbook (Conference Rules and Bylaws):

Go to <https://big12sports.com/index.aspx> > About > Conference Handbook

APPROVED BASEBALL CHAMPIONSHIP BRACKET – 2024

^ 2025 being discussed due to expansion

