

NORTHERN ILLINOIS CHRISTIAN CONFERENCE

CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS

As adopted on May 11, 2002 revised on August 2, 2022

The purpose of the Northern Illinois Christian Conference is to foster fellowship and athletic competition among Christian high schools.

NORTHERN ILLINOIS CHRISTIAN CONFERENCE CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE I. Governing Authority

The conference representatives of each school will meet annually to consider all matters pertaining to the conference structure. At such meetings the conference representatives will act as a conference governing board.

ARTICLE II. Voting

Each school will have one vote on conference matters. Each school may vote on matters that pertain to the participation of its own pupils. A fifty percent attendance is required for a majority to approve minutes and discuss policies. Handbook changes will require a two-thirds majority vote (2006). The Commissioner will break a tied vote.

ARTICLE III. Membership

New members may be admitted to the Northern Illinois Christian Conference (NICC) if such school(s) formally expresses an interest in writing. Membership questions will be discussed and settled at the annual governing board meeting. Any member school can veto an application for new membership. A new member can be admitted to the NICC for either a probationary period or on a permanent basis. All members must abide by conference rules or forfeit membership in the NICC.

Members may not be expelled except by a unanimous vote of all other members.

ARTICLE IV. Conference Commissioner

The governing board will elect a commissioner who will have the responsibility of coordinating conference activities, collecting conference dues, paying conference bills and debts with conference monies, and performing other such functions as the governing board suggests. The governing board may additionally designate a conference secretary or treasurer to assist the commissioner with clerical duties.

ARTICLE V. Dues

Dues will be payable by September 1st of each year at the rate of \$75 (2008) per team sport. All monies will be deposited at a financial institution designated by the governing board. Should NICC assets be insufficient to meet all financial obligations for a school year, additional fees may be assessed if a majority of the governing board agrees. A complete financial report of all assets and liabilities will be given at the annual governing board meeting. If the conference commissioner comes from an NICC member school, their school will be exempt from paying conference dues. If however there are insufficient funds to meet financial obligations then the commissioner's school will be required to contribute to meet those financial obligations along with the rest of the member schools. If the NICC account has sufficient funds the commissioner and/or treasurer can propose that team fees not be collected for a season, school year, or other designated length of time.

ARTICLE VI. Bylaws

Bylaws (amendments to the constitution) may be adopted by the NICC by a 2/3 majority vote of the conference members at a governing board meeting.

NORTHERN ILLINOIS CHRISTIAN CONFERENCE BY-LAW

NICC Bylaws – May 11, 2002

1. Sportsmanship

Sportsmanship is to be emphasized and expected at all conference activities. The purpose of the NICC is to provide both competition and fellowship for students and fans of member schools. The conference Sportsmanship Creed should be read before each conference competition. The competition is to be governed by the Philosophy of Christian Athletics as described below:

NICC athletics should clearly reflect the spirit of our Lord Jesus Christ. Each athlete and coach has an obligation to maintain conduct that is pleasing to the Lord.

In the heat of competition players and coaches alike must conduct themselves as Christians in their relationships with game officials, spectators on both sides of the play area and with the opposing team players. Christian athletes should perform with a total release of their mental and physical energies to the glory of God.

In NICC athletic contest the Holy Spirit must supersede individual school and team spirit. Galatians 5:25 says, "If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit." Christian school crowds, coaches and players should remember that Jesus Christ is in the audience at every contest. Beautiful Christian relationships between schools and athletes should be the fruit of competition between schools and players.

"And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him." (Colossians 3:17, NIV)

Sportsmanship Creed*

The Northern Illinois Christian Conference expects its athletes, coaches and fans to encourage the play of athletes regardless of team and respect the decisions of officials. Do not heckle or boo a call that has been made, and respect fans, coaches and participants by being an exemplary role model for your school and Christ. The NICC also prohibits its fans, coaches and athletes from distracting the teams that are playing with noise makers, or comments. At the end of a contest applaud for performances of all participants and encourage surrounding people to display only sportsmanlike conduct. The NICC thanks you for your cooperation. (2018).

***The NICC Sportsmanship Creed must be read before conference games.**

2. Host School

The host school will provide the official scorekeeper and timekeeper. The visiting team is to have a competent scorekeeper at the scorer's table bench; scorekeepers will compare scores, fouls, time-outs, etc. at every quarter or game break. All discrepancies are to be settled

immediately. The host is to make every effort to keep the official time and score in a proper manner. Should the host school fail to provide adults or other competent persons to keep the official score and time, the referees may designate the visitor's scorebook as the official scorebook if the visitor meets the above criteria.

If a host school is going to play music at any time during NICC events it must be Christian music or clean pep-band music.

3. Scheduling

Scheduling of conference games is to be done by the Athletic Directors at the conference scheduling meeting in the spring of the year.

4. Varsity/JV

Schools may play both a Varsity and Junior Varsity game, however; only the Varsity game will count in the conference standings. A basketball athlete may play in six (6) quarters at the most when there is a JV/Varsity game scheduled the same day.

5. Contest Rules

The NICC will follow the rules of the National Federation of State High School Associations rule book except where specifically disallowed by governing board vote.

6. Eligibility

Players turning nineteen (19) years old on or before August 15 may not compete on any NICC team. Each player must be enrolled and meet eligibility requirement of his/her NICC school to be eligible to compete in any NICC event. Home school students may be eligible to participate on a school athletic team if the student attends a minimum of one academic class, which can include chapel, on a regular basis or participates in the school's annual achievement testing process, which can include the CLT, PSAT, ACT or SAT. Scores are to be submitted to the school in which they compete for. (2022).

Grade Level: A senior high team may consist of students in grades 7-12 (2005). 6th graders may be able to compete **if and only if** needed to have enough players to fill a roster for a team.. This is evaluated on a case to case basis.

The NICC will honor the Iowa High School Athletic Association rule allowing a private school student to play sports for his/her public school teams and also play sports in our conference. Students are prohibited from participating in the same sport for both schools (2018).

7. Admission

Admission prices for NICC games may not exceed \$4.00 per person or \$12 per family per day (2009).

8. Awards

Volleyball awards include:

6 1st team (including the MVP) ,6 2nd team and up to 6 honorable mention

Soccer awards include:

11 player- 11 1st team (including the MVP), 11 2nd team and up to 11 honorable mention*

8 player- 8 1st team (including MVP) 8 second team and up to 8 honorable

mention. *

Basketball awards include:

6 1st team (including MVP) ,6 2nd Team and up to 6 honorable mention*

First Team All Conference individuals will receive medals.

Second Team All Conference individuals will receive medals.

Honorable Mention winners will receive certificates.

Most Valuable Players will be recognized as well.

One Christian Character will be recognized for each sport. A student may only be awarded this once per year.

Tournament trophies will be awarded for First and Second place. A third place trophy will be awarded if there are seven or more teams participating in the tournament. The conference will purchase all awards. The commissioner will regularly update conference scores/standings for each conference sport.

***In the event when there are only 5 or less conference schools competing during the season, awards will be given for a first team and a second team only. There will be no honorable mention.(2022)**

9. Tournaments

The NICC will have annual tournaments in each sport for which standings are kept. Sites for the tournaments are on a revolving schedule and are set up during the scheduling meetings. (2018)

Tournament teams will be seeded according to the conference standings.

Tournament brackets will be set according to ACSI recommended pairings. In an eight team arrangement, the pairings are: 1v8, 2v7, 3v6, 4v5. If there are less than eight teams, byes will be given to the team(s) with the best record(s) in order to fill the brackets.

The Host Schools will contract officials for the tournament games and order all necessary awards.

All conference teams must participate in the conference tournament if they compete in regular season competition. If a conference team chooses not to participate in the conference tournament, the team will be fined \$500 and their players will not be eligible for all conference awards. (2018)

Each team and school is expected to cooperate in a spirit of sportsmanship and fair athletic competition.

Admission prices for NICC tournaments will be \$5 for adults, \$4 for students (grades K-12) with a max of \$15 per family per day (2009).

Tournament trophies will be awarded for First and Second place. A third place trophy will be awarded if there are seven or more teams participating in the tournament.

Each school can enter 2 girls and 2 boys in the conference basketball tournament point contest. Medals will be awarded to the winner (1 boy and 1 girl). (2022)

The conference will purchase all awards. The commissioner will regularly update conference scores/standings for each conference sport.

10. Prayer

Teams should meet after the contest at the center of the court or field for prayer.

11. Officials

NICC teams are required to use registered officials for all NICC games. NICC schools are asked to have two licensed officials for volleyball games and three officials for soccer games, but are required to use a minimum of one licensed official for conference volleyball and two licensed officials for conference soccer games (2005). In the event that two officials cannot be obtained for varsity volleyball, two adult line judges shall be used.(2021)

There shall be two officials for conference volleyball tournaments and two or three for conference soccer tournaments (2005). Championship games require two for volleyball with 2 line judges as well,, three for soccer and three for basketball. (2022)

12. No Press Rule

A team that is ahead by 30 or more points in the second half of a conference game is not allowed to press. Running clock will also begin in the second half while there is a 30 point margin. The clock will stop for free throws and time outs.

13. Protest Procedure

Any school making a protest should first address their protest to the other school in the spirit of Matthew 18. “Moreover if your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he hears you, you have gained your brother.”(NIV)

If it is not resolved at that level the protesting coach or his/her athletic director must use the NICC report form to file a formal report of the incident to the NICC commissioner within seven (7) days.

The commissioner will decide if the protest is justified, the following procedure will be employed:

- a) All NICC conference schools must be notified within ten (10) days of the protested game;
- b) Conference representatives will hear the protest at the next conference meeting; if necessary to resolve the issue before a tournament, a special meeting may be called;
- c) Each NICC member school will have one (1) vote;
- d) The commissioner will break all tie votes;
- e) The decision of the governing board may be appealed to the school administrators;
- f) The commissioner will notify the parties involved in the protest;

- g) Any makeup game must be played before the opening of a conference tournament and in time to allow for seeding.

The decisions of game officials shall be final; the governing board shall not review protests against the decision of a game official.

14. Players Ejected for Unsportsmanlike Conduct

Any player ejected from a contest or receives a red card between conference schools for unsportsmanlike conduct shall be ineligible for the next conference game at that level of competition, in addition to other penalties the player's school may assess.

15. Coaches Ejected for Unsportsmanlike Conduct

Any coach ejected from a contest or receives a red card between conference schools for unsportsmanlike conduct shall be ineligible for the next conference game at the level of competition, in addition to other penalties the coach's school may assess.

SOCCER BY-LAWS

Rules and Regulations

1. All conference games count in the division standings.
2. Regular season champions will be recognized at the awards ceremony at the conference tournament. The conference does not provide a trophy to regular season champions.
3. A serious attempt should be made to reschedule all postponed games.
 - a. A game affecting a first/second place finish must be rescheduled if at all possible.
 - b. If a first/second place game cannot be made up normal tie-breakers will be used to determine the #1 seed.
 - Tiebreakers will be as follows:
 - Head to head competition
 - Record against team at top of standing and then work down the standings
 - Defensive points allowed to the top team (both games)
 - Defensive points allowed between the tied teams
 - Coin flip
 - c. If a conference game cannot be rescheduled the contest will not be counted towards conference standings.
4. Games will begin at 4:30 p.m. By mutual agreement between the schools, start times may be adjusted.
5. Games consist of 40-minute half, 10-minute halftime, 40-minute half--unless weather is an issue (heat, storms, etc.)
6. **11-player** IHSA rules have 2- 10-minute overtime periods during the regular season; and 2- 5-minute overtime periods for tournaments. Both overtime periods are played regardless of the score. A shootout is held if the game is still tied after both overtime

periods are completed. Only players who were in the game at the end of overtime are able to compete in the shootout. Shootout continues until someone wins...

7. **8- player** In the event there is a tie at the end of regulation there will be two 5 minute overtime periods.
 8. If after two 5 minute overtimes there is still a tie a shootout will be held.
 9. 5 players from each team will be chosen to participate in the shoot out. These players must have been on the field at the end of overtime play.
 10. If there is still a tie after the 5 person shoot out, go with the 6th person on the field, sudden death style, then 7th and then 8th until the tie is broken.
 11. If still tied then start over with your first five shooters (sudden death)
12. For 8 on 8 soccer the field shall be 80 x 50. Please note the 9 vs 9 field dimensions that were handed out. (2021) For 11 on 11 soccer the minimum dimensions are 55 x 100 yards and a maximum of 80x 120 yards.
13. For all conference purposes- the following stats shall be submitted to Jana Behr(Unity), Chris Fransman (TSCS) and Marc Nesslerer (QCCS) after each game.
 - Goals
 - Assists
 - Shots on Goal
 - Saves
 - Save percentage

*Note:Boys soccer- The goal is to have a soccer team composed of 7th-12th grade boys. If you are not able to field a team then you will be allowed to use 6th grade boys. If an 11 person roster is still not met then high school girls can be asked to join. This action is to be approved by the conference before the first game of the season is played. Contact the conference commissioner and then a vote will be held by all conference athletic directors. be communicated with the conference. (2022)

VOLLEYBALL BY-LAWS

Rules and Regulations

All conference games count in the division standings.

1. Regular season champions will be recognized at the conference tournament. The conference does not provide a trophy/plaque to regular season champions.
 2. A serious attempt should be made to reschedule all postponed games.
 - a. A game affecting a first/second place finish must be rescheduled if at all possible.
 - b. If a first/second place game cannot be made up normal tie-breakers will be used to determine the #1 seed.
 - Tiebreakers will be as follows:
 - Head to head
 - The team that won the most number of sets played between the tied teams.
 - Record against team at top of standings, then work down the standings.
 - The team that won in the least number of sets played against the teams within the conference, starting at the top and working down the standings.
 - Defensive points allowed to the top team, then work down the standing (both games)
 - Defensive points allowed between the tied teams
 - Coin flip
 - c. If a conference game cannot be rescheduled the contest will not be counted towards conference standings.
3. Games will begin at 5:00 p.m. JV, 6:00 Varsity. By mutual agreement between the schools, start times may be adjusted.
4. The following stats shall be submitted to Jana Behr (Unity) Chris Fransman (TSCS) and Marc Nesslerer (QCCS) after each conference game.
 - Serving percentage
 - Ace Serves
 - Assists (sets to a kill only)
 - Ace Blocks (blocks to a direct point)
 - Digs (this is off an attack only)
 - Kills
5. Game Rules:
 - NICC Varsity:
 - Warm-up 2-6-6- 2 minutes shared passing, 6 minutes visitor, 6 minutes home

- If a tri-meet then you can forfeit your own court time, but that time cannot be taken away from the other team who may need it.
- 3:00 in between games
- Score best of 5 to 25 with the fifth game going to 15...win by 2
- NO cap in season play or in Tournament play
- The teams should meet after the game at center court for prayer.
- No Line Judges are to be used unless there is only one official (see above) (2021) In which case adult line judges shall be provided

NICC JV:

- Warm-up 2-6-6- 2 minutes shared passing, 6 minutes visitor, 6 minutes home
- 3:00 in between games
- Best of 3 (25-25-15)
- NO cap for JV but there is a 1 hour time limit.
- JV plays first if you have enough players for 2 teams.
- No Line Judges are to be used.

BASKETBALL BY-LAWS

Rules and Regulations

1. All conference games count in the division standings.
 2. Regular season champions will be recognized at the awards ceremony at the conference tournament. The conference does not provide a trophy/plaque to regular season champions.
 6. A serious attempt should be made to reschedule all postponed games.
 - a. A game affecting a first/second place finish must be rescheduled if at all possible.
 - b. If a first/second place game cannot be made up normal tie-breakers will be used to determine the #1 seed.
 - Tiebreakers will be as follows:
 - Head to head competition
 - Record against team at top of standing and then work down the standings
 - Defensive points allowed to the top team (both games) and work down
 - Head to head defensive points
 - Coin flip
 - c. If a conference game cannot be rescheduled the contest will not be counted towards conference standings.
3. Games will begin at 5:00 p.m. girls, 6:30 p.m. boys. By mutual agreement between the schools, start times may be adjusted.
4. Games consist of four 8-minute quarters with a 10 minute halftime. The overtime period will be 4 minutes long and will be played until a winner is determined.
5. Twenty minutes of warm-up time should be scheduled.
6. A team that is ahead by 30 or more points in the second half of a conference game is not allowed to press. Running clock will also begin in the second half when there is a 30 or more point margin. The clock will stop for time outs **and** free throws. If the score at any time falls below 30 points in the second half the clock will then stop for normal dead ball whistles.
7. The following stats shall be submitted to Jana Behr (Unity) Chris Fransman (TSCS) and Marc Nesseler (QCCS) after each conference game.
 - Field Goals and attempts
 - Free Throws and attempts
 - Three pointers and attempts
 - Rebounds
 - Assists
 - Steals
 - Total Points

NICC Member Schools and Contact Information

Faith Falcons

Main Campus and Mailing Address: 7571 S. Ridge Rd. Dixon, IL 61021 (Volleyball and Basketball games are played here)

Elementary Campus: 7772 S. Clinton Street, Dixon, IL 61021

(Soccer games are played here)

www.fcsfalcons.com

School- 815-652-4806

Principal- Aaron Fassler

afassler@fcsfalcons.com

Athletic Director-Tyler Halfacre

fcsathletics@fcsfalcons.com

Galesburg Lions

Bethany Baptist Church

590 S Academy St Galesburg IL 61401 (BB and VB)

1881 E Fremont St. Galesburg, IL 61401(Soccer)

309-343-8008

www.galesburgchristian.org

Principal- Bob Nutzhorn

Athletic Director- Amber Reynolds

AD@galesburgchristian.org

Cell- (314)239-6515

Morningstar Mustangs

1426 Tanglefoot Lane

Bettendorf, IA 52722

School- 563-359-5700

<http://www.morningstaracademy.org/>

Head of School-Elisa Wingerd

Athletic Director- Elisa Wingerd- elisa.wingerd@msa-qc.org

Cell - (785) 200-0118

Games at Beyond the Baseline 1540 W. 12th St Davenport, IA

Pathway Christian School- Panthers

319-656-5443

5764 Hwy 1

Kalona, IA 52247

<http://pathwaychristian.net/>

Principal- Lawrence Schlabach

Athletic Director-Wanda Stutzman

Email-athletics@pathwaychristian.net

Cell-319-936-0892

pathwaychristian.net

Quad Cities Eagles

4000 11th st. Moline, IL 61265

School 309-762-3800

www.qcchristian.com

Principal-Beth Vedvik

AD- Marc Nesseler qccsathleticdirector@gmail.com

4444ness@gmail.com 309-721-1711

VB/BB Games at 1st Church of Nazarene- 2921 38th St. Rock Island, IL

Soccer at the school

TriState Huskies

5025 Saratoga Rd. Asbury IA 52002

563-231-3701

www.tscs.org

Gym address:

5630 Saratoga Rd

Asbury, IA 52002

Soccer Field:

Dubuque Soccer Complex

12896 John F Kennedy Rd

Dubuque, IA 52002

Principal- Amy Rush arush@tscs.org

Chris Fransman -AD [815-281-2385](tel:815-281-2385) athletics@tscs.org

Unity Knights

711 10th St Fulton, IL 61252

815-589-3912

www.unitychristian.com

Head of School- Jessica Hollewell

Athletic Director- Jana Behr- 319-981-6408 jbehr@unitychristian.com

Games at the school

Soccer at Drives Field in Fulton

Signature Page

We have read the NICC Constitution with revisions and addendum and agree with the principles and provisions set forth by the NICC. We desire to be members of the NICC and will abide by the Constitution.

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| School Faith Christian | Athletic Director(s) _____ | Date: _____ |
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| School Galesburg Christian | Athletic Director(s) _____ | Date: _____ |
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| School Morning Star Academy | Athletic Director(s) _____ | Date: _____ |
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| School Pathway Christian | Athletic Director(s) _____ | Date: _____ |
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| School Quad Cities Christian | Athletic Director(s) _____ | Date: _____ |
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| School Tri-State Christian | Athletic Director(s) _____ | Date: _____ |
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| School Unity Christian | Athletic Director(s) _____ | Date: _____ |
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