



COLONIAL VALLEY CONFERENCE

RULES AND REGULATIONS

FOR ATHLETIC CONTESTS

August 16, 2005

By-laws of the CVC

GENERAL STATEMENT

- A. The Board of Control of the Colonial Valley Conference recognizes the importance of supporting Interscholastic and School related activities organized within the Conference.
- B. Member Schools must participate in Conference sponsored competitive activities if a team is sponsored. A majority of member schools must engage in an activity to have the activity recognized by the Conference for a Championship.
- C. All activities sponsored by the Conference will be governed in accordance with the Constitution and adopted By-laws of the Colonial Valley Conference.
- D. The organizational structure of each Conference sponsored activity shall be determined by the Member Schools in accordance with the Constitution and Bylaws of the Colonial Valley Conference, and such other State or National regulations which may apply.
- E. An Athletic Director shall be assigned to each Conference sponsored activity for coordinative purposes.
- F. Member schools must declare their intention to compete on a Varsity level in any sport at the end of that sport season in the previous year. If a member school feels it is necessary to compete only on a Sub-varsity level, that school must petition the Conference prior to the start of that season. Said request is to be reviewed annually.
- G. A member school that is either initiating a new program, or restarting a program that has not existed for at least one year, must enter competition on the JV level for at least one year unless it petitions the Conference to enter on the Varsity level. This applies only to those sports that traditionally compete on more than one level.

COLONIAL VALLEY CONFERENCE

ATHLETIC BY-LAWS

Article 1: General Organization

- Section 1. The Colonial Valley Conference recognizes the Athletic Directors' Committee as agent of the Board of Control to implement and oversee all Athletic Programs.
- Section 2. The Athletic Directors' Committee will be governed by the Colonial Valley Constitution and By Laws affecting athletics.
- Section 3. The officers of the Athletic Directors' Committee will be determined by its membership, and will be approved by the Board of Control.
- Section 4. All Athletic Directors' meetings will be governed by Robert's Rules of Order as stated in the Colonial Valley Conference Constitution.

Article II: League Structure and Scheduling

- Section 1. All members of the Colonial Valley Conference will participate in the full athletic schedule as adopted by the Board of Control. All athletic schedules will be developed on a two year basis. A review will be conducted during the second year of each cycle, in preparation for the approval of the next two year schedule.
- Section 2. The Colonial Valley Conference will function as a single conference, but will be separated into three divisions – The Colonial Division, the Valley Division and the Patriot Division.
- Section 3. Divisions will be determined on the NJSIAA enrollment figures based on the October 15, enrollment of the previous year as outlined in attachment A. These figures will govern the scheduling format for the next two school year cycle.
- Section 4. Schools will be listed in descending NJSIAA enrollment figures, with the largest schools placed in the Colonial Division the next largest in the Valley and the remaining schools in the Patriot.
- Section 5. There will be three (3) Divisional Championships in those sports with a minimum of three teams participating in each Division. Sports not meeting this requirement will declare a Single (1) Conference Champion.

Section 6.

Schedules will be developed as follows:

- A. In the following sports, each team will play everyone in their Division twice and everyone in the other Divisions once. All contests counting towards Championships.

Baseball Golf Ice Hockey Softball

- B. In the following sports, each team will play everyone in all Divisions once. All Contests counting towards the Championships.

Cross Country	Track	Field Hockey
Swimming	Winter Track	Soccer
Wrestling	Basketball	

Section 7.

In football and Ice Hockey divisional placement will be determined by strength of program – as outlined in specific sports regulations.

In football, since each school cannot play every team in all Divisions because of NJSIAA game limitations, the following format will be used to determine Conference schedules. Only games in their own Division will count toward a championship.

The Conference will be divided into three (3) divisions determined by strength of program base on a two year CVC winning percentage. The Colonial will be schools 1-4, the Valley will be schools 5-8, and Patriot will be schools 9-13.

Section 8.

Home and Away sites will alternate on succeeding years as the schedule allows.

Section 9.

Any deviation from scheduling procedure in Section 6 may be done through Athletic Director and Board of Control approval.

Section 10.

There will be mandatory participation in all post season tournaments approved by the MCT/CVC.

Section 11.

Preseason and Post-season meetings for each sport will be held as needed.

ARTICLE III: Eligibility

- Section 1. Eligibility for players in Conference competition shall be governed by the NJSIAA eligibility rules or additional rules as approved by the Colonial Valley Conference.
- Section 2. Protests against eligibility of any player shall be valid at any time. If ineligibility is established after a championship is awarded, said championship shall be vacated and awarded to that member school next highest in the Conference standings.

Article IV: Awards and Championships

- Section 1. A Conference trophy shall be awarded each season to the team successful in winning the League/Division Championship on the Varsity level. This trophy is to become the permanent possession of the winning school.
- Section 2. The value of the trophy shall be one that is moderately priced.
- Section 3. The championship awards will be made by the Executive Committee upon recommendation of the Championship Committee based upon the records of the teams. In case of a tie, Co-champions will be declared.
- Section 4. Conference Championships will be determined in the various activities through dual meet competition. Results of all dual meets, matches, or games will be translated into a point award system as follows:
a. Two (2) points for a win.
b. One (1) point for a tie.
c. Zero (0) points for a loss.
- Section 5. No Championships will be recognized on the Sub-varsity level in any sport.

ARTICLE V: Game Postponements and Rescheduling

- Section 1. It shall be the duty of the home team to notify opponents, officials, and news media as early as possible about the postponement of a contest. Postponed games shall be played on the next day (except Sundays). If conflicts exist, the game must be played on the next available date.
- Section 2. After the Conference schedule has been approved by the Scheduling Committee, the date of any game may be changed only by mutual agreement of the schools concerned and within the framework of the scheduling philosophy of the league, and the NJSIAA.
- Section 3. Procedure for forfeiture will follow NJSIAA Policy. Forfeits must be approved by the Conference Board of Control, following the recommendation of Athletic Directors.

Section 4. Any case in which a game is terminated prematurely will be handled as per NJSIAA regulations.

ARTICLE VI: Rules Governing Contracts and Officials

Section 1. Officials

A. NJSIAA registered officials should be used in all Varsity contests in accordance with NJSIAA Rules and Regulations.

B. If contracted officials do not appear, the Administrator of the Home school shall attempt to secure officials. If that attempt fails, the coaches of both teams shall agree on another official. If said official is connected with either of the contesting schools, both parties shall be so informed. In the event mutual agreement cannot be reached on the substitute official, said contest shall be rescheduled, however, if the game is played, there shall be no protest based upon the use of the substitute official.

C. At the Sub-varsity level, every attempt should be made to play the contest; even if a substitute official is present.

D. The officials' judgments shall be final in all matters that concern the game, except as to the interpretation of the rules.

E. Officials fees should be consistent within the Conference. However, the determination of fees should be under control of and paid by the home schools.

F. The NJSIAA rule regarding player disqualification and suspension will be strictly enforced by the Colonial Valley Conference. Coaches must report all infractions to their respective Athletic Director, who will report the incident to the Building Principal.

G. Prior to the end of a game all information necessary for a pay voucher should be obtained from the official and/or a check should be issued.

Section 2. Miscellaneous

A. The visiting school shall pay their own expenses.

B. It is recommended that each member school send to every other member school copies of their complete schedules for all sports prior to the beginning of that sports' season.

C. Each school must make at least 200 tickets available to the visiting team upon request.

D. Admission prices and procedures shall be under the control of the home school.

E. Faculty of the visiting school shall be admitted by the school identification.

F. The following starting times are recommended:

1. Fall Sports "School Days"
 - 3: 45 pm during Daylight Saving Time
 - 3: 30 pm during Standard Time
 - 7: 30 pm during Evening
2. Winter Sports "School Days"
 - 3: 45 pm during Afternoon
 - 6: 00 pm during Evening
3. Spring Sports "School Days"
 - 3: 45 pm during Afternoon
 - 7: 00 pm during Evening
4. Adjustments to time can be made by mutual agreement.
5. In revenue sports, the Home team shall determine the starting time.

Section 3.

Conduct

- A. The home team shall be responsible for the conduct of the spectators, except when the misconduct is clearly shown to be by a member of the visiting student body or their followers.
- B. Visiting school officials should fully cooperate with the home officials to insure the best in good sportsmanship.
- C. Visiting schools should be contacted to provide a representative if problems are anticipated.
- D. In situations where schools are not satisfied with the conduct of an opposing school and where the matter cannot be settled by the schools involved, it will be resolved by the Board of Control.
- E. The Conference will establish a good conduct code for their spectators and make certain that all spectators are informed as to the provisions of said code.
- F. Every school should establish a security plan for all contests which best protects the property and person of those attending a contest.
- G. Banners, posters, etc. of any type will not be permitted at athletic contests. (This does not include banners or signs of a permanent nature that have been part of the School's decor for years, team run-thru Mascot signs, or Homecoming activities of a positive nature that have traditionally been used by some schools in the past.
- H. Noisemakers, musical organizations, radios, tape players, etc. will not be permitted at any athletic events. (This does not include bands at football games and home team bands or team radios at pre-game warm-up).

Article VII: Specific CVC Rules and Regulations for Athletic Contests

Section 1.

NJSIAA Rules and Regulations (based on the National Federation) will be followed in all Conference contests.

- Section 2. Mutual consent is required if a non-conference opponent is invited to participate as part of a CVC contest.
- Section 3. Postponements for all contests should be made at least three hours prior to the starting time of a scheduled contest.
- Section 4. Balls used in CVC contests will comply with NJSIAA tournament regulations.
- Section 5. It is recommended that Timers, Chair-crew, etc. for all Varsity contests be adults.
- Section 6. The following additional regulations pertain to these specific sports:

A. BASEBALL

- A printed list of ground rules should be given to the visiting team upon arrival and an additional copy given the umpires. Rules will be reviewed by the Coaches and Umpires prior to starting the game.
- Each team is entitled to ten (10) minutes of infield practice prior to the game. The Home Team takes infield twenty-five (25) minutes prior to the game. The Home Team must clear the field fifteen (15) minutes prior to the game and the Visiting team must clear the field five (5) minutes prior to the game.
- A ten (10) run rule will be in effect on all levels of play
- Pitching limitations as established by the NJSIAA will be strictly enforced.

B. BOYS AND GIRLS BASKETBALL

- For afternoon contests, it is recommended that the Varsity game be played at 3:45 pm with the JV game to follow.
- For evening games, it is recommended that the JV game be played first, followed by the Varsity game.
- Banners, loud speakers, noisemakers, and signs are not permitted at the facility for spectator use.
- Music played over the public address system for pre-game warm-up, half time entertainment, or during the game is permitted, but must not provide interference for either team.

C. CROSS COUNTRY

- Starting time for the Varsity meet should be 4:15 pm
- The starting time for walking the course should be no later than 3:45 pm

- Clarification of CVC Cross Country scoring will be that the first seven runners are placed each cross country meet. The first five runners from each team are the scored runners. Runners six (6) and seven (7) are awarded a place, but are not given team points for their place. A 6th or 7th runner, if finishing ahead of a scoring runner from the opposing team, will take a place, blocking a scoring runner and the scoring runner will fall one place back.
- Ties are broken as detailed in the High School Federation Rulebook.

D. FIELD HOCKEY

- The NJSIAA tie-breaking procedure will be used in all CVC contests.
- When the Varsity and JV games are played simultaneously, the visiting school must be informed.

E. FOOTBALL

Pre-game and Halftime Regulations

- The Visiting Band will go on the field twenty (20) minutes prior to the kick-off and may perform for a maximum of fifteen (15) minutes (the Band must be off the playing field five (5) minutes before the game).
- The Home Band will perform the National Anthem, from off the playing field, three (3) minutes before game time.
- The Home Band will perform promptly at the beginning of halftime for a maximum of fifteen (15) minutes (the Band must be off the playing field five (5) minutes before the start of the second half).
- The scoreboard clock will be set for fifteen (15) minutes and will be the official time for pre-game and halftime performances. Bands must be on and off the field in that time.
- Football coaches must complete pre-game warm-up and be off the playing field twenty (20) minutes prior to game time.
- Football teams returning to the field prior to game time are not to enter the playing field or sideline area while the band is performing.
- Bands are encouraged to play in the stands during the game to promote enthusiasm. However, playing should stop as soon as the quarterback comes under the center or at other appropriate times.

- All plans for special programs must be cleared through the Home Athletic Director who must inform the Visiting Athletic Director at least five (5) days in advance of the game. Under no circumstances may a program extend beyond an additional five (5) minutes.
- Infractions shall be reported to the appropriate Principal for His/Her action.
- Band Directors should communicate with each other to verify performances and activities. This contact is to be initiated by the Home Band Director.

General Regulations

- Starting time for Saturday games shall be at the discretion of the Home Team (on PSAT and SAT dates the game shall begin at 2:00 PM).
- Postponed varsity games will be rescheduled on the following Monday unless a mutually agreed upon change is made.
- Video tapes or films will be exchanged between teams, if possible, with the details to be worked out by individual coaches prior to each contest. If coaches cannot come to some mutual agreement, then no films are to be exchanged.
- Both schools must have equal access to the press box. Each school should provide a desirable vantage point from which the visiting team may film.
- Sideline passes should be issued to both teams for all varsity games.
- For all varsity level games, an on-field physician should be supplied by the home team. It is also recommended that a First Aid Squad attend all varsity games.
- It is recommended that all persons operating sideline markers wear vests to be supplied by the home team.
- Junior varsity and freshmen teams will play ten (10) minute quarters.
- Teams opposing each other opening day will make their last scrimmage films available to each other.

F. GOLF

- USGA Rules and Regulations will govern all CVC matches.

- Scoring will be Medal Play. The team score will be the total Medal score of the five (5) best individual scores. The next deciding factor is the match Medalist.
- Each team will play six (6) players, with the five (5) best scores counting for the match. In case of a team fielding only five (5) players, all scores will count.
- In the event a team has less than five (5) players (that it has fewer than five (5) players due to disqualification, etc.), the team that is short will forfeit the match.
- See attached

G. ICE HOCKEY

- See attached addendum.

H. SOCCER

- The following will be the length of games:

a. Varsity	forty (40) minute halves
b. Junior varsity	thirty-six (36) minute halves
c. Freshmen	thirty (30) minute halves
d. Overtime	as per State Regulations
- The home team will supply two (2) sideline runners to help keep the ball in play.
- An adult timer is recommended.

I. SOFTBALL

- Each team is entitled to ten (10) minutes of infield practice prior to the game. The Home team is entitled to take twenty-five (25) minutes prior to the game. The Home team must also clear the field fifteen (15) minutes prior to the game and the Visiting team shall clear the field five (5) minutes prior to the game
- Only players in uniform are permitted to coach on the baselines.
- Coaches do not have to be in uniform. Hats are optional.
- A ten (10) run rule will be in effect at all levels.

J. BOYS AND GIRLS SWIMMING

- All dual meets in the Conference will begin at a prearranged time determined by pool availability and mutual agreement.
- Competition will be Double-dual meets with separate Boys and Girls Championships. Co-ed teams will be considered as boys teams.
- For Double-dual meet competition, Girls events will alternate with Boys events, with Girls events beginning first. Diving will be conducted in a co-ed format, but will be scored separately.
- It is recommended that team swimsuits be of uniform color and panels for Conference meets.
- Diving teams will be declared before the first meet of each season.
- If one school has a diving team and their opponent does not, no diving will take place and no points will be awarded for diving.
- Two officials are permitted to be used for CVC swimming contests.
- Separate Boys and/or Girls teams may compete against Co-ed teams as a Co-ed team for that meet only. The win or loss will be applied to the Boys team record.
- Teams with diving shall be governed by the National Federation Dive of the Week.

K. BOYS AND GIRLS TENNIS

- USTA Rules will govern all matches.
- Each school will rate the top three (3) players according to an established ladder and the Coach will have a copy of the up-to-date ladder results with Him/Her at all matches.
- Substitutions can be made after the match has been decided as to a winner.

L. BOYS AND GIRLS TRACK AND FIELD

- It is recommended that four officials be utilized for all dual meets, but a minimum of three are required.
- At least one of the Official's should possess an Official's Card and will mediate all disputes (refer to NJSIAA Regulations).

M. WRESTLING

- All Wrestlers (Varsity, Junior Varsity and Freshman) will weigh in at the same site one hour prior to the first bout of the evening.
- Home team scales will be official and must be properly certified each year and stamped by the Bureau of Weights and Measures.
- Schools should contact each other prior to the match to determine the number of JV bouts.
- The weigh-in period will last a maximum of thirty (30) minutes.