



2026 NIAA 3A Northern Region Baseball Championship

The 2026 Nevada Interscholastic Activities Association Class 3A Northern Region baseball championship is scheduled for May 1-2 at host sites and May 7-9 at Dayton High School. The tournament bracket is posted on the baseball main page and available by following the link below.

TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

[Class 3A Northern Region Baseball Tournament bracket](#)

TOURNAMENT FORMAT

The quarterfinal round will consist of four best-of-3 series at the higher seed's host May 1-2. The remainder of the 2026 NIAA Class 3A Northern Region baseball championship is a four-team, double-elimination tournament to be played over three days.

REGION QUALIFYING

The top eight teams in the Northern League (based on regular-season standings) will qualify for the region tournament. The top four seeds will host a best-of-3 quarterfinal series on May 1-2. The winners of those four series will advance to the double-elimination tournament.

STATE QUALIFYING

The top two (2) teams (champion and runner-up) from the Northern League tournament and the top two (2) teams from the Southern Region tournament qualify for the state tournament.

HOME TEAM

In all postseason baseball brackets, the higher seed will be the home team with the exception that the undefeated team, regardless of seed, will be the home team in the championship final. The home-visitor roles will switch in the case of an if game.

If like seeds meet in the tournament, the home team will be the team listed on the top line of the game on the bracket.

NATIONAL FEDERATION RULES

All rules according to the National Federation's rule book (game rules), the NIAA Reference Manual, the NIAA Handbook and this tournament information packet will apply. No protests will be permitted. Questions relating to rules interpretation and procedures will be resolved by the umpire-in-chief and tournament staff. This tournament information packet is a binding document for this tournament.

The 15-run mercy rule will be in effect after 2½ innings for all games. The 10-run mercy rule will be in effect after 4½ innings for all games.

PITCHING RULES

The NIAA pitch count rules allow for a pitcher to throw no more than 110 pitches in any one day, and no more than 150 pitches during any four (4) consecutive days of postseason play. A pitcher may finish a batter if either of the above limits are reached during the at-bat, but may no longer continue to pitch after the conclusion of the at-bat and/or the half-inning, whichever concludes first.

Additional pitch count rules and explanations can be found on the baseball page on the NIAA website.

GAME BALL

The official baseball in all NIAA postseason games is Wilson.

UMPIRES

All umpires will be selected and assigned by the commissioner of officials in the game's area and as directed by the NIAA.

PRE-GAME PROCEDURES

The home team may take an infield session of up to 15 minutes, followed by the visiting team taking an infield session of up to 15 minutes. The remaining pregame time will be used for the playing of the National Anthem (if applicable) and the introduction of starting lineups.

The visiting team's lineup should be introduced first. The National Anthem (if played) will follow the introduction of both lineups.

Games should not start earlier than the posted time unless approval has been received from the NIAA office.

PLAYER CONDUCT

The NIAA reminds coaches to review with their players NAC 386.835-386.847, the NIAA's regulations regarding sportsmanship and ethics on pages 87-92 of the NIAA Handbook.

WEATHER

If a postseason game cannot be played or completed because of nature, weather, a major catastrophe or any other unforeseeable and/or unavoidable cause, the following procedure will be followed:

1. The director of the game/tournament shall attempt to complete the remainder of the schedule by using any means available. Such means may include delay, a brief postponement or a shortened format of the schedule, but in no case may the remainder of the schedule be held on Sunday.
2. If the director is unable to complete the schedule by the indicated finishing date on the original schedule, the tournament and/or its completion may be rescheduled within a reasonable time and at a site convenient to all competing schools so long as the superintendents of the school districts involved in the completion of the schedule approve such a rescheduling by a unanimous vote.

SUSPENDED GAME

A game called for any reason and where a winner cannot be determined will be treated as a suspended game. If the game is to be completed, it will be continued from the point of interruption with the lineup and batting order of each team the same as at the moment of the interruption, subject to the rules of the game.

TICKETS/ADMISSION

All postseason tickets will be sold through HomeTown Ticketing, the NIAA's official partner for postseason ticket sales. Tickets are available both through the ticket page on the NIAA website (niaa.com/tickets/index) and the HomeTown Ticketing app.

Admission prices for NIAA postseason region and state events (per event per day) are:

Adults: \$12

Students with a valid high school or younger ID: \$5

Children age 8 and younger are admitted free.

NIAA Courtesy Cards and Lifetime Passes will be honored for the legitimate pass holder and one guest.

INDIVIDUAL RECOGNITION

The NIAA does not recognize nor permit the selection of all-league/region nor all-state tournament teams. The NIAA's philosophy is that the tournaments are team competitions. Recognizing a small group of individuals often creates animosity among the large group of individuals, many of whom were not selected for this type of honor.

BASEBALL TIE-BREAKER (qualifying for the postseason)

1. The win-loss records of the teams in league/region play shall determine seeding into the league/region tournament. The league's administrators will determine win-loss records based on previously approved schedules. In the event of a tie, the tie shall be broken using the following procedures:
 2. Tie between two (2) teams
 - A. Head-to-head competition in league play among tied teams.
 - B. If the tie remains after head-to-head, each tied team shall receive one (1) point for each game won in league play by their defeated opponents. The team with more points receives the higher seed.
 - C. **(only used for seeding)** If the tie remains, the team which allowed the fewer runs in the two league contests between the tied teams becomes the higher seed.

NOTE: All forfeits will result in a +7 run margin of victory for the non-forfeiting / winning team.

- D. **(only used for seeding)** If the tie remains, the team that won the last/final league game scheduled between the two teams will be the higher seed.

EXCEPTION: Steps 'C' and 'D' are only to be used for seeding. A team shall not be eliminated from league or region competition by the use of steps 'C' and/or 'D'. If the tie is not broken in steps 'A' and/or 'B' and a team will be eliminated, a playoff game will be played following the end of the regular season. The NIAA Executive Director will select a neutral site for this contest.

3. Tie between three (3) or more teams
 - A. In all cases of ties involving more than two teams, as each team is removed from the tie, all other tied teams revert back to head-to-head competition based on the number of teams remaining in the tie.

B. Head-to-head competition in league play among tied teams.

Example of multiple team ties:

Team A defeated Team B twice and split with Team C
Team B lost to Team A twice but defeated Team C twice
Team C lost to Team B twice and split with Team A

Team A is 3-1; Team B is 2-2; Team C is 1-3

Team A is awarded the highest seed among the tied teams. Team B is awarded second highest seed because of its head-to-head record against Team C

C. Seven (7) run system

If the tie remains, all tied teams will compare their margin of victory with each other in league play. Each team will total their margin of runs against the other tied teams with marginal runs being the difference in the scores of a game. Winning teams will add the margin of runs while losing teams will subtract the margin of runs. No more than seven (7) runs will be added or subtracted in any league game. The team with the highest number of marginal runs will receive the highest seed. If there is a tie for highest marginal runs, then those tied teams shall revert back to the respective tie-breaking procedure based on the number of teams remaining in the tie. Once a team is eliminated, the remaining teams will always refer back to head-to-head competition based on the number of teams remaining.

Example of point system:

Team A defeated Team B, 8-0
Team B defeated Team C, 11-6
Team C defeated Team A, 4-3

Marginal points for Team A is +6; Marginal points for Team B is -2
Marginal points for Team C is -4

Team A is awarded highest seed among the tied teams. Team B is awarded second highest seed because of its head-to-head record against Team C.

NOTE: All forfeits will result in a 7-run margin of victory for the winning team and a -7 run differential for the forfeiting/losing team.

D. If the tie remains, each tied team shall receive one point for each game won in league play by their defeated opponents. The team with the most points will receive the highest seed.

- E. If a tie still exists and all tied teams, by virtue of the number of teams accepted into the league/region tournament, are guaranteed entrance into the tournament, then a coin toss will be used to determine seeding. The winner of any coin toss will receive the highest seed. Remaining teams would revert back to head-to-head competition based on the number of teams remaining in the tie.
- F. If a tie still exists and one or more of the tied teams must, by virtue of the number of teams accepted into the league/region tournament, be eliminated, playoff game(s) will be played following the end of the regular season. The NIAA Executive Director will select a neutral site for the event.

NOTE: In the event of a multiple team tie as outlined in step 'F,' the tied teams will draw numbers. The team drawing #1 will have a bye and will play the winner of the first playoff game. All games will be scheduled as soon as possible. Seeding will be established by the results of this playoff.