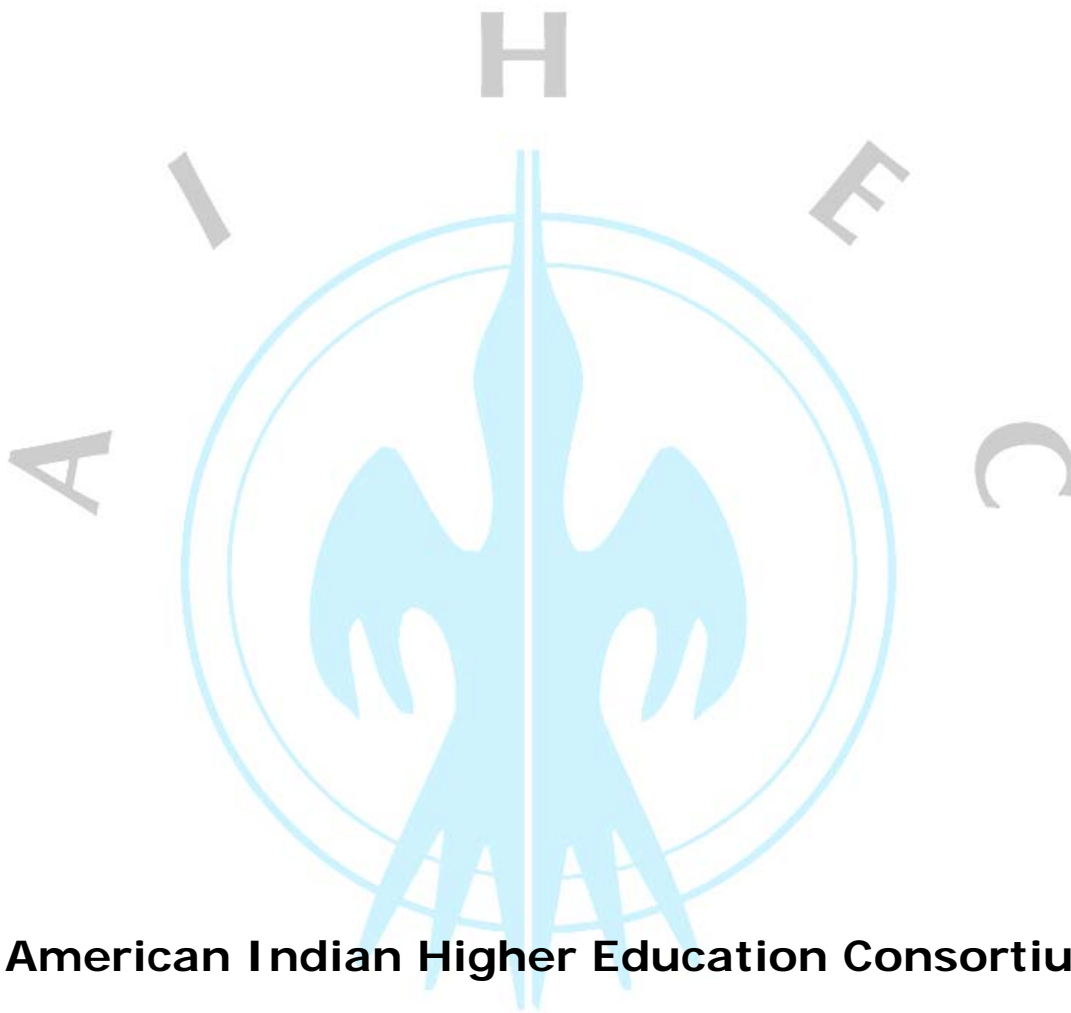


# **AIHEC Athletic Competition Policies & Guidelines**



**American Indian Higher Education Consortium**

## **Philosophy Statement**

Tribal Colleges and Universities endorse the value of athletics as part of a holistic education program. AIHEC-sanctioned athletic competition is a privilege with academics acknowledged as a first priority for our students.

## **AIHEC Athlete Committee & Athletic Commission**

**Purpose** -- The AIHEC Athletic Commission was established in 2003 for the purpose of formalizing and governing the AIHEC athletic events. The Athletic Commission is a subcommittee which reports to the AIHEC Athletic Committee.

**Athletic Committee Role & Responsibilities** – The role of the AIHEC Athletic Committee is to develop proposed policy and procedures for the oversight of all AIHEC-sponsored athletic activities including the governing of AIHEC sanctioned or sponsored events. This includes the responsibility to set competition level, assure compliance for eligibility, recommend policies to the AIHEC Board, review and sanction national AIHEC athletic events.

**Athletic Commission Role and Responsibilities** -- Commission is to serve as the overseer of AIHEC-sponsored athletic events including conflict resolution to any challenged decisions *relative to implementation of policy only. All other issues are referred to the local tournament committee.*

**AIHEC Athletic Commissioners** -- The number of Commissioners shall be nine (9). Such number shall not be increased or decreased without prior written approval of the AIHEC Board of Presidents. The terms of office of the Commissioners shall be three (3) years, and shall be staggered. At the AIHEC Board of Presidents annual meeting, three (3) Commissioners shall be appointed to a three (3) year term; three (3) Commissioners shall be appointed to a two (2) year term; and three (3) Commissioners shall be appointed to a one (1) year term. Upon the expiration of the terms of office of such Commissioners, their successors shall be appointed by the AIHEC Board of Presidents in terms of three (3) years each. Appointments will be made in the Fall of each year with the terms beginning at the annual basketball tournament.

### **Commissioners**

James Sluys ('06-07,'07-08, '08-09)

Phil Baird (05-06, 06-07, 07-08)

Judy Gipp ('04-05, 05-06, 06-07)

Juan Perez ('06-07,'07-08, '08-09)

Roxy Hunt ('06-07,'07-08, '08-09)

Michelle Spang ('05-06, 06-07, 07-08)

Kevin Finley ('05-06, 06-07, 07-08)

Gerald Gipp (04-05, 05-06, 06-07)

Devona Lonewolf (04-05, 05-06, 06-07)

### **Institution**

Northwest Indian College

United Tribes Technical College

Haskell Indian Nations University

Salish Kootenai College

Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute

Chief Dull Knife College

Sitting Bull College

American Indian Higher Education Consortium

Oglala Lakota College

**AIHEC Staff** - Deborah His Horse is Thunder

**Quorum** – Five (5) Commissioners shall be necessary to constitute a quorum of the Commission for the transaction of business at any meeting. A majority vote of the Athletic Commissioners present at the meeting is necessary for any official Commission action.

**Compensation** – No expenses will be paid and cost for services will be contributed by the each Commissioner's college.

**Officers** – The officers of the Commission shall be a Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and such other officers as the Commission may direct. Any two officers, except the offices of the Chair and Secretary/Treasurer, may be held by the same person.

**Conflict of Interest** – No contract or transaction entered into by the Commission shall be affected by the fact that a Commissioner was personally interested in it, if, at the meeting making, authorizing, or confirming such contract or transaction, the interested Commissioner discloses his/her interest therein and refrains from voting on such contract or transaction, and such contract or transaction is adopted or ratified by the majority of a quorum of Commissioners.

**Indemnification** – The AIHEC Board of Presidents shall indemnify any and all persons who may serve as Commissioners or Officers against any and all expenses, including amounts paid upon judgment, attorneys fees, and amounts paid in settlement (before or after suit is commenced) actually and necessarily incurred by such persons in connection with the defense or settlement of any claim, action, suit, or proceeding in which they, or any of them, are made parties, or a party, or which may be asserted against them or any of them by reason of being or having been a Commissioner or Officer, except in relation to matters as to which any Commissioner or officer, or former Commissioner or officer or person shall be adjudged in any action, suit or proceeding to be liable for hi/her duty, or when such Commissioner or Officer was acting without authority or contrary to law. This indemnification shall only apply to Commission actions taken after the date of AIHEC Board of Presidents initial appointment of Commissioners or to actions expressly ratified by the AIHEC Board of Presidents.

**Removal** – Any Commissioner of the Commission may be removed by the AIHEC Board of Presidents.

**Vacancy** – In the event of a vacancy for any cause, **the AIHEC Board of Presidents may** appoint a successor to hold office for the unexpired portion of the term of the Commission whose seat on the Commission shall remain vacant until the appointment.

**Title IX Compliance** – Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 prohibits discrimination based on sex in education programs and activities that receive federal financial assistance. The U.S. Department of Education gives grants of financial assistance to schools and colleges. The Title IX regulation describes the conduct that violates Title IX. Examples of the types of discrimination that are covered under Title IX include sexual harassment, the failure to provide equal opportunity in athletics, and discrimination based on pregnancy. As applied to athletics, Title IX has three basic parts: A) Participation - requires that women be provided an equitable

opportunity to participate in sports as men (not necessarily the identical sports but an equal opportunity to play. B) Scholarships - requires that female athletes receive athletic scholarship dollars proportional to their participation (e.g., if there are 100 male athletes/100 female athletes and a \$200,000 scholarship budget, then the budget must be split \$100,000 to men/\$100,000 to women. C) Other Benefits - requires equal treatment in the provision of (1) equipment and supplies, (2) scheduling of games and practice times, (3) travel and daily allowance, (4) access to tutoring, (5) coaching, (6) locker rooms, (7) practice and competitive facilities, (8) medical and training facilities and services, (9) publicity and promotions, (10) recruitment of student athletes, and (11) support services. The Title IX regulation is enforced by OCR and is in the code of federal regulations at 34 CFR Part 106.

## **Team Competition**

Only one men's team and one women's team per Tribal College and University is allowed to compete. Furthermore, AIHEC membership dues must be current and paid in full in order to participate in AIHEC-sanctioned championship sports.

AIHEC supports the eligibility rulings and sanctions by national athletic associations pertaining to Tribal Colleges and Universities that are members of these organizations.

## **Athlete Eligibility**

The following athletic eligibility standards must be met or exceeded by each student athlete. The student athlete:

1. Must be enrolled in a minimum of 9 semester/quarter credits at the respective tribal college or university.
2. Must have earned a minimum cumulative grade point average at the end of the academic semester for that credit level.
  - o 6-12 credits .....1.50
  - o 12 – 24 credits ..... 1.75
  - o 24-36 credits ..... 1.95
  - o 36-60 credits ..... 2.00

Students must successfully complete (with a passing grade) a minimum of 67% of the credits attempted. ATTEMPTED CREDITS are defined as the number of credits for which a student is registered (which includes any courses added, dropped, or repeated), for that term. Any course from which a student withdraws or receives grades of (F) failed, (U) unsatisfactory, or (I) incomplete, count as credits attempted, but not completed. Any course that a student repeats will count in the calculation of hours attempted and completed.

3. Must be making satisfactory progress toward a degree program
4. New in-coming freshmen students (first term) must submit a grade check form with a “C” or better in each class to be eligible to play
5. There is no age limit for student athletes to compete. Students under the age of 18 years old must have written parental consent to compete
6. A student may represent the institution while enrolled and seeking a certificate, associate, or first baccalaureate degree an AIHEC member institution
7. A student athlete cannot be a full-time TCU employee.
8. Students must maintain amateur status in the specific sport in which he/she is competing.

Student eligibility must be verified by the Registrar and a Representative of the institution designated by the president.

Note: Student athletic eligibility is based on tribal college enrollment and standing and does not require the student to be American Indian.

### **Team Supervision**

Teams must be supervised by someone designated by the TCU President and cannot be a player.

Student players cannot serve as coaches but can serve as assistants.

Coaches must be present during the games in which their teams are competing.

### **Student Athlete Behavior**

The AIHEC Athletic Commission supports institutional policies regarding the behavior of students. The Commission supports responsible behavior of students, coaches, other participants, and fans at all AIHEC sanctioned events.

## **AIHEC Athletic Competitions and Tournaments**

The AIHEC Athletic tournaments rotate from region to region each year. For the purpose of seeding teams for play, the local coordinating committee will develop a proposal in consultation with the Athletic Commission to determine the means of addressing these teams. For example, the local coordinating committee can host a pool play competition prior to the tournament.

### **Athletic Fee**

A one hundred dollar (\$100.00) annual membership fee is required of each Tribal College and University (TCU) that sends sports teams to participate in AIHEC-sponsored/sanctioned athletic events. The \$100 fee must be paid to AIHEC by *October 1* of the academic year in which the athletic competitions would take place. In the event, that the host institution suffers a loss due to the tournament(s), this fund would assist them in recovering justifiable losses up to 75% of the total fund. The fund will also provide meeting costs for the Commission. (Travel costs would not be included as meeting costs.

## **AIHEC-SANCTIONED BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT**

### **Declaration of Intent**

The declaration of intent to participate in the basketball tournament and a non-refundable entry fee is ***due by February 1*** to the host tournament manager's office.

*Each participating institution must identify their team members and submit their official roster, team photograph, eligibility verification form, and completed liability waiver forms **30 days prior to tournament date** to the tournament manager's office with a fax copy to the AIHEC Athletic Commission's office (703.838-0388). Eligibility in the tournament may be forfeited if the information is late.*

Students must present photo identification at the tournament.

### **Host Institution**

The host institution is responsible for the organization of the tournament, the collection of all entry fees, and providing a full accounting of all resources.

The host institution is responsible for providing safe, secure, and appropriate facilities for all events including liability insurance coverage.

A final report of all tournament results will be filed with the AIHEC Central Office within 30 days upon the completion of the tournament by the host institution.

### **Entry Fee**

The entry fee will be ***a minimum of \$500 per team and non-refundable***, such fee may be increased by the Athletic Commission upon approval of the AIHEC Board Directors.

### **Tournament Proceeds**

Seventy-five (75) percent of the profits of the net proceeds of the AIHEC-sanctioned tournament will go back to the host Tribal Colleges or Universities and 25% of the profits go to an AIHEC Tournament account.

### **Officials**

Two officials will be required from a certified pool of referees for all games except for the championship round, which will require three officials. American Indian preference is encouraged.

### **Team Players**

Teams must have a minimum of six eligible players on their roster with a maximum of 15 players.

### **Uniforms**

Teams must have two sets of uniforms of contrasting colors – home (light) and away (dark) with screen printed numbers. The numbers shall be at least 6 inches high on the back and at least 4 inches high on the front and not less than  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch in width. An option to this requirement is a reversible, numbered (as specified), mesh jersey with contrasting colors can be used as well. NCAA rules for attire apply.

### **Bracketing**

Bracketing is determined by the number of teams entered by the deadline. The seeding of teams will be determined by pool play.

### **Length of Games**

Pool play games will be played in 20 minutes halves with a running clock. The clock will be stopped the last two minutes of each half. Pool play is defined as such:

Teams entering the tournament are placed in several groups. The teams in each group play other teams in the same group to establish win-loss records for seeding purposes in the tournament bracket. For example, 16 teams would be divided into four (4) pools of four (4) teams each.

Bracket games will be played in 20 minute halves. The clock stops through out on all whistles. Bracket play is defined as such:

Teams win-loss record from “pool play” will be used for placing teams in the bracket. A team from pool play will not play another team from the same pool in the first round. The number one team from each pool will be placed in different first round brackets. For example a number one team from one pool will play the number four team from another pool.

Half times will be limited five (5) minutes.

Warm up time will be limited to ten (10) minutes.

The coach has to be on court, with all players in uniform, at game time or the game will be forfeited. If all team members are not prepared to play at the end of warm-up, the game will be forfeited.

It is recommended that teams be available 30 minutes prior to scheduled game time.

### **Basketball Tournament Rules**

Tournaments will use NCAA sports rules. The exceptions are the new provisional rules for the 2003-04 season with regard to the width of lane and distance of three (3) point arc for men and women. It is recommended that coaches be provided with information and an orientation about the major differences between the collegiate level rules in comparison with high school rules.

The players' names, numbers, and starters must be submitted ***ten minutes prior*** to tip off. No players can be added after the first game begins. The game will be forfeited if this deadline is missed.

Each team will have four full time outs (60 seconds) and two 30 second time outs per game. Unused 30 second time outs can be carried over into overtime play. One full time out will be allotted in the event of overtime play. In the event of a double overtime, the additional allotted time out will be allowed to carryover if unused.

Player receiving a technical foul must come out of the game. The ball has to be live for one play before re-entry is allowed.

Dunking rules are subject to approval of the local tournament committee. Dunking during warm ups is subject to a technical foul. A player may hang on the rim only to protect him/herself from injury, (at the official's discretion). If you break the rim you will pay for it, hanging on the rim is a technical foul.

Technical fouls count toward personal and team fouls.

Two technical fouls on a player will result in the player's ejection from the game.

A technical foul on a coach counts as a team foul.

Two technical fouls on a coach will result in the coach's ejection from the game.

Student athletes engaged in fighting will result in ejection from the tournament and not be eligible for any individual awards. Fighting is defined as any intentional physical force, i.e., thrown punch, kick and any bench clearing by either team.

All decisions of the officials are final.

## ***Enforcement & Sanctions***

The Athletic Commission has the authority to review all alleged infraction of the rules. Findings of infractions will result in imposing sanctions in accordance with the Commission recommendations including fines, suspensions, or both.

All decisions by the AIHEC Athletic Commission are final.

## ***Forms Attached***

Release waiver for all players to sign for liability (pending)

Roster

Player Eligibility Verification Form

Host Institution Financial Liability Form (pending)