

CHAMPIONSHIP SEEDING FORMULA

Overall Conference record, at the conclusion of the regular season, is used to seed teams numbering 1 through 16. All teams qualify for the Conference Championship. The following procedures are set up to establish seeding for the championship and to break ties. Follow the appropriate steps in order.

TIE-BREAKING PROCEDURE FOR SEEDING

TWO-TEAM TIE

1. Regular season head-to-head results (one or two games).
If the tied teams split their two games, then proceed to Step 2 below.
2. Each team's record vs. the team or tied teams occupying the highest position in the standings. Continue down through the standings until one team gains an advantage. When comparing records against a single team or collective tied teams (before ties are broken), the following may apply:
 - a. If the games played against the team or group are equal, winning percentage prevails.
 - b. If the games played against the team or group are unequal, the following scenarios apply:
 - i. Most wins do prevail only if the team with fewer wins could not equal that win total if they played the same number of games. Two examples of many scenarios that do provide an advantage:

1) Team A 2-0	2) Team A 3-0
Team B 0-1	Team B 1-1
 - ii. Most wins do not prevail if the team with fewer wins could equal or surpass the win total of the other team. Two examples of many scenarios that do not provide an advantage:

1) Team A 1-1	2) Team A 2-0
Team B 0-1	Team B 1-0
 - iii. Fewer losses do not prevail if the teams have the same number of wins and if the team with fewer games could equal or surpass the loss total of the other team. Two examples of many scenarios that do not provide an advantage:

1) Team A 1-0	2) Team A 0-1
Team B 1-1	Team B 0-2
 - c. If an advantage is not determined, proceed to the next team or group in the standings for comparison.
 - d. If the tie cannot be broken after continuing down through the last team or teams in the standings, revert back to comparing records against the top teams in order and allow winning percentage to prevail even if there is a comparison of unequal games. Only then, if the percentages are both 1.000, is 2-0 better than 1-0. However, the reverse is not true - no team gains advantage when all have a .000 winning percentage (0-1 is never better than 0-2).

MULTIPLE-TEAM TIE (3 or more teams)

1. Teams are viewed as a “mini-conference” when comparing head-to-head results.

The team with the best record (as determined by winning percentage, even if unequal games) vs. the other teams in the mini-conference gains the advantage. The team with the worst record (as determined by winning percentage, even if unequal games) vs. the other teams in the mini-conference is seeded the lowest.

- a. If only two teams have the same best winning percentage in the mini-conference, the higher seed goes to the team winning the head-to-head series.
 - b. If the two teams split their two games, then proceed to Step 2 under Two-Way ties. To seed the remaining team(s) in this mini-conference, proceed to (e) below.
 - c. If three or more (but not all) teams have the same best winning percentage in the *original* mini-conference, then those tied teams create a new mini-conference and follow this same procedure beginning of Step 1 (Multiple Team Tie).
 - d. If all teams in the mini-conference have the same mini-conference record, proceed to Step 2 below.
 - e. After the top or bottom teams in a mini-conference are determined, the remaining teams are ranked by their record in the original mini-conference.
 - i. If there are any remaining teams tied by their record in the mini-conference, then head-to-head results will determine the higher seed.
 - ii. If the teams split two games, then proceed back to the two-way tie breaking procedure.
 - iii. If there are at least three teams remaining tied by their record in the mini-conference, they would then form a new mini-conference and follow the procedure again at the beginning of Step 1 (Multiple-Team Tie).
2. Compare each team’s record vs. the team or group of tied teams occupying the highest position in the standings. Continue down through the standings until one or more teams gain an advantage. If two teams have the exact same advantage (i.e., having the same and better record against a compared team relative to their mini-conference), they are separated at that point by the two-way tiebreaker procedure. The next step would take you back to Step 1 (e) (Multiple-Team Tie). When comparing records against a single team or collective tied teams (before ties are broken), the following may apply:

- a. The games played against the team or group are equal, winning percentage prevails.
- b. If the games played against the team or group are unequal, the following scenarios apply:
 - i. Most wins do prevail only if the team(s) with fewer wins could not equal that win total if they played the same number of games. Two examples of many scenarios that do provide an advantage:

1) Team A 2-0	2) Team A 3-1
Team B 1-1	Team B 1-2
Team C 0-1	Team C 1-2

- ii. Most wins do not prevail if the team(s) with fewer wins could equal or surpass the win total of the other team. Two examples of many scenarios that do not provide an advantage:

1) Team A 2-1	2) Team A 1-2
Team B 1-1	Team B 0-2
Team C 1-1	Team C 0-2

- iii. Fewer losses do not prevail if the team(s) have the same number of wins, but the team with fewer games could equal or surpass the loss total of the other tied teams. Two examples of many scenarios that do not provide an advantage:

1) Team A 2-0	2) Team A 0-2
Team B 2-1	Team B 0-3
Team C 2-1	Team C 0-3

- c. If an advantage is not determined, proceed to the next team or group in the standings for comparison.
- d. If the tie cannot be broken after continuing down through the last team or teams in the standings, revert back to comparing records against the top teams in order and allow winning percentage to prevail even if there is a comparison of unequal games. Only then, if the percentages are both 1.000, is 2-0 better than 1-0. However, the reverse is not true – no team gains advantage when all have a .000 winning percentage (0-1 is never better than 0-2).

COIN FLIP

If any ties still exist after implementing all of the above tie-breaking procedures, a coin flip is required. The procedure takes place at The BIG EAST Conference office immediately following the conclusion of the last regular season conference game. Commissioner John Marinatto or his designee will administer this procedure. This session is open to the media and to athletic department representatives of the tied teams.

