

2016

BASEBALL

PARTICIPANT MANUAL



May 19-22, 2016
Arthur W. Perdue Stadium
Salisbury, MD

Hosted By The University of Maryland Eastern Shore

2016 MEAC Baseball Championship

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KEY CONTACTS

Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference
2730 Ellsmere Avenue | Norfolk, VA 23513
Office Phone: (757) 951-2055 | Office Fax: (757) 951-2076

MEAC Championship Personnel

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Brian Howard, Asst. Director of Media Relations	757-951-2055 brian.howard@themeac.com

University of Maryland Eastern Shore Athletics Department Staff

Keith Davidson, Director of Athletics	Office: 410-651-6496 kdavidons@umes.edu
Neema Connor, Senior Woman Administrator	Office: 410-651-8150 nconnor@umes.edu
Stan Bradley, Assoc. AD for External Affairs/Media Relations	Office: 410-651-6499 gsbradley@umes.edu
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CHAMPIONSHIP INFORMATION

Pre-/Post-Championship Teleconference

A teleconference will be held prior to the championship on Tuesday, May 3, 2016 to give an overview on championship procedures, rules, and policies. A teleconference will be held after the championship on Tuesday, June 7, 2016 to review the championship operations. The MEAC Office shall provide the head coaches with the call information and time at least one week prior to the calls. Head coaches attendance on the teleconferences are mandatory.

Coaches Meeting

A coaches' administrative meeting will be held prior to the start of the championship (Wednesday, May 18, 2016) to review championship procedures, rules and policies. Declarations and packet pick-up shall take place prior to the start of the meeting. The MEAC Office shall provide the head coaches with the meeting location and time by the pre-championship teleconference date. Head coaches attendance at the meeting is mandatory.

Student-Athletes Meeting

A meeting with the track and field student-athletes and a MEAC Office representative will be held prior to the start of the championship (Wednesday, May 18, 2016) to gather feedback from the student-athletes regarding their championship experience. Each head coach shall select two student-athletes from their men's and women's teams to participate in the meeting. The MEAC Office shall provide the head coaches with the meeting location and time by the pre-championship teleconference date. Representation by each team participating in the championship is mandatory.

Event Entry Forms

Championship event entry forms (i.e., MEAC Championship Entry Form and MEAC Academic/Senior Recognition Form) must be submitted to the MEAC Office by the institution's Athletics Compliance Office not later than Tuesday, April 5, 2016.

Entries received after the designated deadline must be approved by the championship games committee. A late fine will be assessed. Any exceptions to the roster policy will only be considered in extraordinary circumstances and should be addressed in writing to the Assistant Commissioner for Championships at the MEAC Office. Each institution should print a copy of its entry forms to take to the championship site.

Squad Size and Travel Party

The squad size shall be a maximum of twenty-seven (27) participants. The travel party shall be a maximum of thirty-five (35) individuals (i.e., coaches, student-athletes, trainers, etc.).

Practice

The MEAC Office shall provide the head coaches with the practice times for the championship at least one week out prior to the start of the championships.

Format

The MEAC Baseball Championship is a six (6) team championship. The championship format is double elimination.

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Protest

All protests must be made to the Games Committee within ten minutes of the completion of the game. There shall be \$50 protest fee for each protest. The head coach submitting the protest regarding an alleged incident or problem must cite the NCAA rulebook.

Games Committee

The games committee shall consist of the Assistant for Championships, Head Official, Co-Chairs of the Softball Championship, and President of the Baseball Coaches Association. The decision of the Games Committee is final.

Awards

Regular season awards for Divisional Champions, All-Conference First Team, Coach of the Year, Rookie of the Year, Pitcher of the Year and Player of the Year will be awarded.

Awards for the Softball Championship are awarded to the champion and runner-up teams and individual awards will be provided for Outstanding Player, Outstanding Coach (coach of champion team) and All-Tournament Team at the conclusion of championship play.

Awards Ceremony

The regular season awards ceremony shall be conducted prior to the start of the opening round games on Thursday, May 19, 2016.

The championship awards ceremony will be conducted immediately following the conclusion of the final championship match. Coaches, student-athletes and team personnel shall be in proper attire (e.g., official team uniform or warm-up suit) for the presentation of awards.

No additional awards, unless otherwise approved by the MEAC Office, may be presented to the student-athletes and coaches of the participating teams.

Rules

NCAA rules shall be followed, except as modified by the Conference Sport Regulations and this manual and where required by local ground rules.

Evaluation Forms

Each head coach shall complete and return the championship evaluation form to the MEAC Office prior to the post-championship teleconference date (Tuesday, June 7, 2016). The evaluation form may be accessed on the MEAC website (MEACSports.com) and submitted electronically.

Uniforms

[Reference: Rules 4-3.1, 4-3.3, 4-3.4, 4-3.5, and 8-8 in the Rules Book and Bylaw 12.5.4 in the NCAA Manual.]

Uniform and logo rules contained in Rules 4-3.1., 4-3.3, 4-3.4, and 4-3.5 shall apply, in addition to the following.

In all events and award ceremonies, competitors must wear the proper uniform (warm-ups included) of the institution they represent in the championships.

Uniforms must comply with the NCAA Softball Rules; however, for each game in the championship the home team (higher seed) must wear a light colored uniform and the away team (lower seed) must wear a dark colored uniform.

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In the loser's bracket, a coin toss will determine who will be home and away as well as uniform colors. The home team in the loser's bracket shall wear light colored uniforms and the away team shall wear dark colored uniforms. Each team must inform the conference office of their uniform selection prior to competition.

Logos

An institution's official uniform and all other items of apparel (e.g., socks, headbands, T-shirts, wristbands, visors or hats, and towels) that are worn by student-athletes in competition may bear a single manufacturer's or distributor's normal trademark, not to exceed 2¼ square inches, including any additional material (e.g., patch) surrounding the normal trademark or logo. The logo or trademark must be contained within a four-sided geometrical figure (i.e., rectangle, square, parallelogram).

In addition, an institution's official uniform cannot bear a design element similar to the manufacturer's that is in addition to another logo or that is contrary to the size restriction.

A student-athlete representing an institution in intercollegiate competition is limited to wearing apparel items that include only the logo (not to exceed 2¼ square inches) of an apparel manufacturer or distributor. The student-athlete may not wear any apparel that identifies any other entity, other than the student-athlete's institution/conference.

These restrictions apply to all apparel worn by student-athletes during the conduct of competition, which includes pre-race or post-race activities.

This bylaw will be strictly enforced at all MEAC Championships and the names of individuals and institutions that are not in compliance with this bylaw shall be forwarded to the MEAC Office.

The logo restriction on student-athletes' apparel set forth in Bylaw 12.5.4 shall apply during MEAC Championships to all personnel (e.g., coaches, trainers, managers) for practices and competition or who participate in news conferences.

Russell Athletic. All teams must wear Russell Athletic apparel at all times when representing their institution and/or the MEAC to include but not limited to regular season competition, the conference championship and post-season competition. Breach of Contract with Russell can result in the following fines.

- 1st Infraction - \$500
- 2nd Infraction - \$1,000
- 3rd Infraction - Institution removed from contract.

Cups, Coolers, Water Bottles and Hydration Products

Participating teams shall place any premix fluid replacement in the MEAC-issued coolers and water bottles when applicable. No other cups, cans, coolers or water bottles may be used during championships in which such equipment is provided by the MEAC.

Competitors of MEAC Corporate Partner Coca-Cola may not provide product (beverages, water, isotonic) for any MEAC championship, even if the competition offers product for free or at a reduced cost.

Participating teams may use other items. These items, however, must not display any commercial marks (e.g., logos and graphics of commercial products such as Gatorade), or

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such marks must be covered completely (this requirement applies on the sidelines and in competition areas, media areas or any other back-of-house areas).

Dugouts

The home team shall occupy the third-base dugout. Teams waiting to play are expected to stay clear of the dugouts until the teams in the preceding game have had an opportunity to remove their equipment and teams vacating the dugouts shall be encouraged to depart as soon as possible. All players and substitutes for both teams must be in their team's dugout area or bullpen and remain there until the ball has been declared dead or the side has been retired. This excludes the batter, the on-deck batters, base runners, base coaches and nine defensive players. No one except players in uniform, coaches, managers, trainers, physicians, scorekeepers and bat persons shall occupy a team's dugout. All loose equipment must be kept in the dugout or in a clearly marked dead-ball area.

Field

The host shall provide a reliable rain tarp for the entire infield in case of inclement weather (i.e., rain).

Ball

The Spalding TF Pro ball is the official softball for the championship. The MEAC Office will supply balls for all championship rounds; no other softball shall be used. Umpires shall rub and examine balls prior to the start of each game

Radar (Speed) Guns

The use of radar (speed) guns by personnel from competing institutions is permissible. The host institution also may display on the scoreboard or video board the speed of each pitch in stadiums where the technology is available.

Scouting

The videotaping or filming of an opponent's game is not permitted. Institutions are permitted to videotape championship competition by their teams or their individual student-athletes for archival, coaching or instructional purposes. Each institution is permitted to use one camera and may videotape only that portion of the competition in which it participates. The videotapes may not be used for any commercial purposes.

Medical Procedures

Institutions shall use their own athletic trainers for the championship. An athletic training area will be available for student-athletes during the championship. The MEAC Office shall provide EMS for the championship.

Inclement Weather

The games committee shall have the authority to cancel a game and start a game. Umpires may only halt play once the game has started. Continuation of the game shall be under the jurisdiction of the MEAC Assistant Commissioner for Championships in consultation with the MEAC Supervisor of Officials and Championship Co-Chairs.

Lighting Policy

The host institution's lighting policy shall be followed provided it is at least as stringent as NCAA Guidelines. If the host institution does not have a lighting policy, NCAA guidelines shall be followed. If a lighting policy will be used that differs from NCAA guidelines, this policy will be communicated by the Conference Office to the participating teams prior to that start of the championship.

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Critical Incident Response/Emergency Plan

The host facility's Critical Incident Response/Emergency Plan shall be used for the MEAC Softball Championship.

MEDIA RELATIONS

Media Credentials

Credential applications will be available online via the conference website at www.MEACsports.com. To receive additional information regarding the application process, contact Brian Howard, Assistant Director of Media Relations, at 757-951-2055 (office) or brian.howard@themeac.com. Approved credential requests will be available for pick up each day one (1) hour prior to competition.

Results

Results will be updated on the conference website, www.MEACsports.com, immediately following each game. Results will also be posted on the results board following each race. The results and heat sheets will be available for each team at the conclusion of the day.

Post-Championship Interviews

Post-championship interviews will take place in a designated media area immediately following the championship photos and announcements.

Press Release

On the day of the championship, the awards will be publicly recognized, the MEAC Media Relations staff will send out a standard press release to the sports information directors of the conference. This release will also be provided to national and local media by the MEAC Media Relations.

Media Obligations

At the conclusion of the championship, the head coach and two members of champion teams are required to participate in a post-game interview.

SPORTSMANSHIP AND CONDUCT

Sportsmanship

The MEAC proposes to promote mutual trust and friendly relations among its members by controlling athletic competition and keeping such competition within the bounds of sound educational activity; by promoting clean sportsmanship; and by developing public appreciation for the educational values that accrue from participation in intercollegiate athletics.

The officers and administrators of the MEAC place a high premium on professionalism, sportsmanship, and ethical conduct. As such, there are significant penalties for any breach of conduct during the course of regular season competition and to an even greater extent during the conduct of MEAC Championships.

For the purposes of general definition, misconduct in a MEAC Championship is any act of dishonesty, unsportsmanlike conduct, unprofessional behavior or breach of law on the part

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of any recognized University representative, occurring incident to, en route to, from or at the locale of the competition or practice that discredits the event or intercollegiate athletics.

Misconduct Incident to Competition

If the act of misconduct occurs during the competition, under normal circumstances, the individual shall be allowed to complete the competition in which he or she is participating at the time of the incident. An administrative hearing shall be held at the conclusion of the day's competition, during a break in the continuity of the championship (e.g., between rounds of basketball tournament) when no competition is being conducted, or at the conclusion of the championship. However, if the act of misconduct is so flagrant that it obviously violates the principles of fair play and sportsmanship, the games committee may immediately withdraw the student-athlete or institutional representative from the competition, and conduct the hearing after this action. Other acts of misconduct may be dealt with at the sports committee's convenience.

Penalty for Misconduct

The sports committee (or games committee authorized to act for it) may at its sole discretion impose any one (1) or a combination of the following penalties on an institution or any student-athlete or representative of any institution, guilty of misconduct occurring incident to, en route to, from, or the locale of the competition or practice.

- (A) Public or private reprimand to the individual;
- (B) Disqualification of the individual from further participation in the Conference Championship (s) involved;
- (C) Banishment of the individual from participating in one (1) or more subsequent championships of the sport involved;
- (D) Withholding all or a portion of the institution's share of revenue distribution;
- (E) Banishment of the institution from participation in one (1) or more subsequent championships in which its team in the sport otherwise would be eligible to participate;
- (F) Financial Penalties shall be as follows:
 - (1) First Offense - \$500 institutional fine and letter of reprimand
 - (2) Second Offense - \$1,000 institutional fine
 - (3) Third Offense - \$2,000 institutional fine and one (1) game suspension for the offending coach, institutional staff member and/or student-athletes.

Ban from Subsequent Championship

When a student-athlete or institutional representative is banned from participation in a subsequent championship, such penalty shall be applied to the next Conference Championship events in which the individual's team is involved and the individual otherwise is eligible to participate. In the case of an individual event, the penalty shall be applied to the next Conference Championship event(s), meet(s), or tournament(s) for which the individual qualifies and otherwise is eligible to participate.

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SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Wednesday, May 18, 2016

8:00 AM – 3:00 PM	Teams Practice
5:00 PM	Coaches Meeting
	Head Coach Attendance Mandatory

Thursday, May 19, 2016

Game 1	9:00 AM	South 2-Seed vs North 3-Seed
Game 2	12:30 PM	North 2-Seed vs South 3-Seed
Game 3	4:00 PM	North 1-Seed vs Winner Game 1
Game 4	7:30 PM	South 1-Seed vs Winner Game 2

Friday, May 20, 2016

Game 5	9:00 AM	Loser Game 2 vs Loser Game 3
Game 6	12:30 PM	Loser Game 1 vs Loser Game 4
Game 7	4:00 PM	Winner Game 3 vs Winner Game 4

Saturday, May 21, 2016

Game 8	10:00 AM	Winner Game 5 vs Winner Game 6
Game 9	2:00 PM	Loser Game 7 vs Winner Game 8

Sunday, May 22, 2016

Game 10	1:00 PM Winner	Game 7 vs Winner Game 9
Game 11	5:00 PM Winner	Game 10 vs Loser Game 10
<i>(If Necessary)</i>		

Monday, May 23 – Rain Date

** Teams will only be able to utilize the bull area for their bullpen work.

** The main mound will only be used for pitchers fielding practice.

The awards ceremony will immediately follow the conclusion of the championship game.

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PRE-GAME PROTOCOL

Thursday, May 19

7:00AM - 7:30AM
7:35AM – 8:05AM
8:15AM – 8:25AM
8:25AM – 8:35AM
8:55AM – 8:58AM
8:58AM – 9:00AM

9:00AM

Batting Practice (Home Team)
Batting Practice (Visiting Team)
In-Field Practice (Home Team)
In-Field Practice (Visiting Team)
Introduction of teams/Ground Rules
National Anthem

Game 1

10:30AM – 11:00AM
11:05AM – 11:35AM
11:45AM – 11:55AM
11:55AM – 12:05PM
12:25PM – 12:30PM

12:30PM

Batting Practice (Home Team)
Batting Practice (Visiting Team)
In-Field Practice (Home Team)
In-Field Practice (Visiting Team)
Introduction of teams/Ground Rules

Game 2

2:00PM – 2:30PM
2:35PM – 3:05PM
3:15PM – 3:25PM
3:25PM – 3:35PM
3:55PM – 4:00PM

4:00PM

Batting Practice (Home Team)
Batting Practice (Visiting Team)
In-Field Practice (Home Team)
In-Field Practice (Visiting Team)
Introduction of teams/Ground Rules

Game 3

5:30PM – 6:00PM
6:05PM – 6:35PM
6:45PM – 6:55PM
6:55PM – 7:05PM
7:25PM – 7:30PM

7:30PM

Batting Practice (Home Team)
Batting Practice (Visiting Team)
In-Field Practice (Home Team)
In-Field Practice (Visiting Team)
Introduction of teams/Ground Rules

Game 4

Friday, May 20

7:00AM – 7:30AM
7:35AM – 8:05AM
8:15AM – 8:25AM
8:25AM – 8:35AM
8:55AM – 8:58AM
8:58AM – 9:00AM

9:00AM

Batting Practice (Home Team)
Batting Practice (Visiting Team)
In-Field Practice (Home Team)
In-Field Practice (Visiting Team)
Introduction of teams/Ground Rules
National Anthem

Game 5

10:30AM – 11:00AM
11:05AM – 11:35AM
11:45AM – 11:55AM
11:55AM – 12:05PM
12:25PM – 12:30PM

12:30PM

Batting Practice (Home Team)
Batting Practice (Visiting Team)
In-Field Practice (Home Team)
In-Field Practice (Visiting Team)
Introduction of teams/Ground Rules

Game 6

2:00PM – 2:30PM

Batting Practice (Home Team)

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2:35PM – 3:05PM
3:15PM – 3:25PM
3:25PM – 3:35PM
3:55PM – 4:00PM
4:00pm

Batting Practice (Visiting Team)
In-Field Practice (Home Team)
In-Field Practice (Visiting Team)
Introduction of teams/Ground Rules
Game 7

Saturday, May 21

8:00AM - 8:30AM
8:35AM – 9:05AM
9:15AM – 9:25AM
9:25AM – 9:35AM
9:55AM – 9:58AM
9:58AM – 10:00AM
10:00AM

Batting Practice (Home Team)
Batting Practice (Visiting Team)
In-Field Practice (Home Team)
In-Field Practice (Visiting Team)
Introduction of teams/Ground Rules
National Anthem
Game 8

12:00PM – 12:30PM
12:35PM – 1:05PM
1:15PM – 1:25PM
1:25PM – 1:35PM
1:55PM – 2:00PM
2:00PM

Batting Practice (Home Team)
Batting Practice (Visiting Team)
In-Field Practice (Home Team)
In-Field Practice (Visiting Team)
Introduction of teams/Ground Rules
Game 9

Sunday, May 22

11:00AM – 11:30AM
11:35AM – 12:05PM
12:15PM – 12:25PM
12:25PM – 12:35PM
12:55PM – 12:58PM
12:58PM – 1:00PM
1:00PM

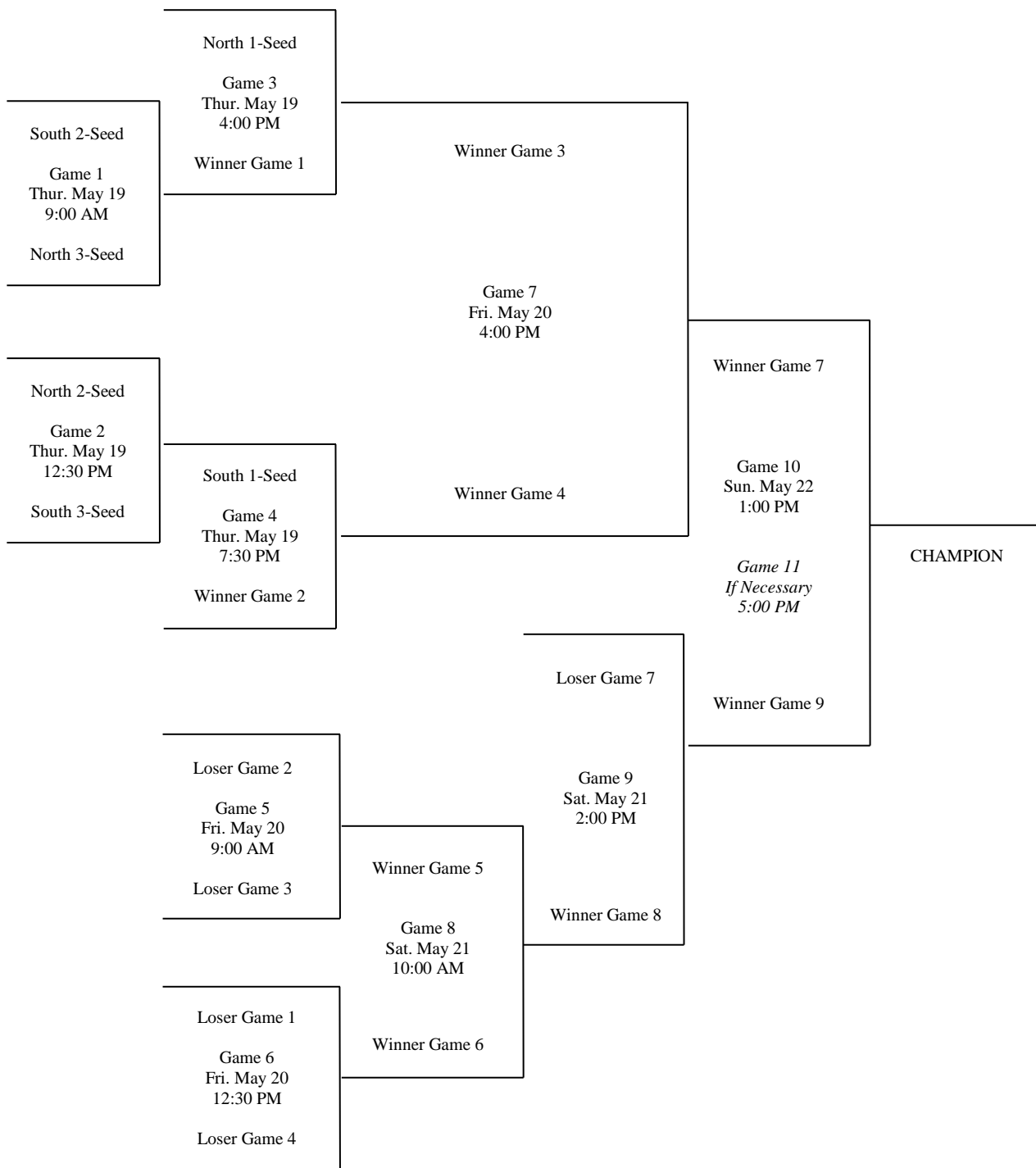
Batting Practice (Home Team)
Batting Practice (Visiting Team)
In-Field Practice (Home Team)
In-Field Practice (Visiting Team)
Introduction of teams/ Ground Rules
National Anthem
Game10

3:00PM – 3:30PM
3:35PM – 4:05PM
4:15PM – 4:25PM
4:25PM – 4:35PM
4:55PM – 5:00PM
5:00pm

Batting Practice (Home Team)
Batting Practice (Visiting Team)
In-Field Practice (Home Team)
In-Field Practice (Visiting Team)
Introduction of teams/Ground Rules
Game 11 (If Necessary)

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CHAMPIONSHIP BRACKET



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DRIVING DIRECTIONS

Delmarva Shorebirds
Arthur W. Perdue Stadium
6400 Hobbs Road or PO BOX 1557
Salisbury, MD 21804



From the NORTH (Dover)

Take 13 South toward Salisbury; Merge onto US 13 S/ US 50 E / Salisbury BYP toward Norfolk; Merge on to US 50 E toward Ocean City; Turn Right onto Hobbs Road

From the SOUTH (Virginia)

Take US 13 North; Take US 50 E toward Ocean City; Turn Right onto Hobbs Road

From the EAST (Ocean City)

Take US 50 West; Turn Right onto Hobbs Road at intersection

From the WEST (Baltimore / Washington)

Take 295 South ; Merge onto I-695 East; Merge on I-97 South at Exit 4 toward Annapolis; Merge onto US- 301/ US-50East exit on left toward Annapolis/ Bay Bridge; Merge onto US 50 East toward Ocean City; Turn Right onto Hobbs Road

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RESTAURANTS

Red Lobster
2314 N Salisbury Blvd
Salisbury, MD 21801
(410) 546-6454

Long Horn Steakhouse
2312 N Salisbury Blvd
Salisbury, MD 21801
(443) 736-1140

Fratelli's Restaurant
1309 S Salisbury Blvd
Salisbury, MD 21801
(410) 341-0807

Ruby Tuesday
413 N Fruitland Blvd
Salisbury, MD 21801
(410) 860-8212

Golden Corral
301 E Naylor Mill Rd
Salisbury, MD 21804
(410) 219-5100

Fuddruckers
2715 N Salisbury Blvd
Salisbury, MD, 21801
(406) 677-3391

Buffalo Wild Wings
2734 N Salisbury Blvd
Salisbury, MD 21801
(443) 736- 7052

Applebee's
2703 N Salisbury Blvd
Salisbury, MD 21801
(410) 546-2713

