

**Section 11. Selection and Seeding of Participants** *(Revised 10/99, 4/00, 10/10, 2/13, 10/13, 2/20, 2/23, 10/24; Effective 10/24)*

- A. The tournament shall consist of twelve (12) teams.
- B. If a team is on suspension, it shall not be eligible to participate in the conference tournament. If a suspended team is among the top twelve finishers in the final regular season standings, all teams shall move up one place in the final standings for the purpose of determining the automatic qualifying teams.
- C. The top twelve teams in the final regular season standings based on winning percentage of scheduled conference games shall automatically qualify for the tournament. Tie games shall be counted in the standings as one-half win and one-half loss. These top twelve teams will also earn seeds #1-#12 based on the final regular season standings and using the below tiebreaking procedures, if necessary. The criteria will be applied one step at a time and shall be complete once a team(s) emerges from the top, middle or bottom of the group; any remaining teams would then restart the process at the first step.
  - 1. If two teams are tied in the final regular season standings, the following tiebreaker shall be used to determine the automatic qualifier and/or higher seed in the conference tournament:
    - a. If the tied teams have not played each other as part of the conference schedule, move to the next step in the tiebreaker process. If the two teams played each other as part of the conference schedule, the winner of the game or series of the games between the two tied teams shall automatically qualify for the tournament and/or earn the higher seed.
    - b. If the teams are still tied, the team with the best winning percentage against Big Ten common opponents within the conference schedule shall automatically qualify for the tournament and/or earn the higher seed.
    - c. If the teams are still tied, the team with the best overall RPI, per warrenolan.com at the conclusion of NCAA Baseball competition on the Saturday prior to the start of the conference tournament, shall automatically qualify for the tournament and/or earn the higher seed.
  - 2. If three or more teams are tied in the final regular season standings, the following tiebreaker procedure shall be implemented to determine the automatic qualifier(s) and/or higher seed in the conference tournament:
    - a. If all the tied teams have not played each other as part of the conference schedule, the tie may be considered broken if a team has swept all other teams within the tie. If three or more teams are tied and they have all played each other as part of the conference schedule, the team(s) with the best winning percentage(s) in these head-to-head games shall automatically qualify for the tournament and/or earn the higher seed.

- b. If three or more teams are still tied, the team(s) with the best winning percentage(s) against Big Ten common opponents within the conference schedule shall automatically qualify for the tournament and/or earn the higher seed.
- c. If three or more teams are still tied, the team(s) with the best overall RPI, per [warrennolan.com](http://warrennolan.com) at the conclusion of NCAA Baseball competition on the Saturday prior to the start of the conference tournament, shall automatically qualify for the tournament and/or earn the higher seed.