



## CONFERENCE USA SPORT FORMATS FOR 2011-12

### BASEBALL

- 2012 Teams (9):** East Carolina, Houston, Marshall, Memphis, Rice, Southern Miss, Tulane, UAB, UCF
- Divisions:** One
- Scheduling Format:** 24 conference games. Eight three-game series. Each school will play one series against another.
- 2012 Championship:** May 23-27, Jackson, Miss.
- Championship Format:** Top eight finishers in regular season standings qualify for pool-play tournament with the winner gaining the league's automatic bid to the NCAA Championship.
- Reg. Season Awards:** Hitter of the Week and Pitcher of the Week. Chosen by the conference office.
- Postseason Awards:** Keith LeClair Coach of the Year Award, Player of the Year, Pitcher of the Year, Freshman of the Year, Newcomer of the Year, First and Second Team All-Conference and All-Freshman Team. Chosen by each head coach, each Baseball SID and one media member per league city. In addition there will be an All-Academic Team selected by the SIDs. All are announced prior to championship.
- Championship Awards:** All-Tournament Team (13 players) and Tournament MVP, as selected by the media covering the tournament. The first and second place teams will receive trophies and the first place team will receive individual awards.

### MEN'S BASKETBALL

- 2011-12 Teams (12):** East Carolina, Houston, Marshall, Memphis, Rice, SMU, Southern Miss, Tulane, Tulsa, UAB, UCF, UTEP
- Divisions:** One
- Scheduling Format:** 16 conference games. Each team will play a home-and-home with same teams in respective East or West region and a single game (home or away) against the other six teams.
- 2012 Championship:** March 7-10, Memphis, Tenn. (FedExForum)
- Championship Format:** Each team qualifies for the tournament. The top four seeds earn first-round byes with the winner gaining the league's automatic bid to the NCAA Championship.
- Reg. Season Awards:** Player of the Week and Freshman of the Week. Chosen by a panel consisting of one media member in each league city.

- Postseason Awards:** Player of the Year, Sixth Player of the Year, Defensive Player of the Year, Freshman of the Year, Newcomer of the Year, Three All-Conference Teams, All-Defensive Team and All-Freshman Team. Chosen by each head coach and two media members per league city. The Coach of the Year Award is administered by Kevin Scarbinsky of the Birmingham News and sponsored by The Birmingham Tipoff Club. The coaches' votes are submitted to Scarbinsky. The selection is named during championship week. In addition there will be an All-Academic Team selected by the SIDs.
- Championship Awards:** An All-Tournament Team of five players, which includes the Tournament MVP, as selected by the media covering the tournament. The first and second place teams will receive trophies and the first place team will receive individual awards.

## WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

- 2011-12 Teams (12):** East Carolina, Houston, Marshall, Memphis, Rice, SMU, Southern Miss, Tulane, Tulsa, UAB, UCF, UTEP
- Divisions:** One
- Scheduling Format:** 16 conference games. Each team will play a home-and-home with same teams in respective East or West region and a single game (home or away) against the other six teams.
- 2011 Championship:** March 7-10, Memphis, Tenn. (Hosted by Memphis)
- Championship Format:** Each team qualifies for the tournament. The top four seeds earn first-round byes with the winner gaining the league's automatic bid to the NCAA Championship.
- Reg. Season Awards:** Player of the Week and Freshman of the Week. Chosen by the conference office.
- Postseason Awards:** Player of the Year, Sixth Player of the Year, Defensive Player of the Year, Freshman of the Year, Newcomer of the Year, Two All-Conference Teams, All-Defensive Team and All-Freshman Team. Chosen by each head coach, each Basketball SID and one media member per league city. Announced prior to championship. The coaches votes are weighted three points, while the media and SIDs are worth one point each. In addition there will be an All-Academic Team selected by the SIDs.
- Championship Awards:** All-Tournament Team (five players) and Tournament MVP, as selected by the media covering the tournament. The first and second place teams will receive trophies and the first place team will receive individual awards.

## MEN'S AND WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

**2011 Teams (8M, 12W):** East Carolina, Houston, Marshall, Memphis, Rice, Tulane, Tulsa, and UTEP each have a men's and women's team. SMU, Southern Miss, UAB and UCF have women's teams only.

**Divisions:** One

**Scheduling Format:** N/A

**2011 Championship:** Oct. 29, Houston, Texas (Hosted by Rice)

**Championship Format:** The women compete in a 5,000-meter race, while the men run 8,000 meters.

**Reg. Season Awards:** Athlete of the Week. Chosen by the conference office.

**Postseason Awards:** The first 15 finishers at the conference championship will be designated as All-Conference. The men's and women's Coach of the Year Awards will be selected by the head coaches following the championship meet. A plaque will be awarded to the Freshman of the Year -- highest-placing freshman, men and women. A male and female Athlete of the Year award shall be selected following the NCAA Championship based on final NCAA ranking. The first and second place teams will receive trophies and the first place team will receive individual awards. In addition, an All-Academic Team will be selected by the SIDs.

## FOOTBALL

**2011 Teams (12):** East Carolina, Houston, Marshall, Memphis, Rice, SMU, Southern Miss, Tulane, Tulsa, UAB, UCF, UTEP

**Divisions:** Two. East Carolina, Marshall, Memphis, Southern Miss, UAB and UCF in the East. Houston, Rice, SMU, Tulane, Tulsa and UTEP in the West.

**Scheduling Format:** Eight conference games. Each school will not play three schools each season, based on a two-year rotation.

**2011 Championship:** Dec. 3, Site TBD. Hosted by the East or West champion school with best winning percentage in conference games.

**2011 Bowl Tie-ins:** AutoZone Liberty (champion), Beef'O'Brady's St. Petersburg, Bell Helicopter Armed Forces, R+L Carriers New Orleans, Sheraton Hawai'i and Ticket City Bowls are primary agreements.

**Reg. Season Awards:** Offensive, Defensive and Special Teams Players of the Week. Chosen by a panel consisting of one media member in each league city.

**Postseason Awards:** Player of the Year, Offensive Player of the Year, Defensive Player of the Year, Special Teams Player of the Year, Freshman of the Year, Newcomer of the Year, Coach of the Year, First and Second Team All-Conference and All-Freshman Team. Awards are chosen by each head coach and announced following the C-USA Championship Game. The first and second place teams will receive trophies and the first place team will receive individual awards. In addition there will be an All-Academic Team selected by the SIDs.

## MEN'S GOLF

- 2011-12 Teams (11):** East Carolina, Houston, Marshall, Memphis, Rice, SMU, Southern Miss, Tulsa, UAB, UCF, UTEP
- Divisions:** N/A
- Scheduling Format:** N/A
- 2012 Championship:** April 22-24, Texarkana, Ark.
- Championship Format:** The championship shall be three days, with 18 holes scheduled for play each day. Playing partners for the first day will be determined by a blind draw. For every succeeding round, team scores will determine pairings. The winner gains the league's automatic bid to the NCAA Championship.
- Reg. Season Awards:** The conference office will select an Athlete of the Week for the fall and spring seasons.
- Postseason Awards:** A first and second All-Conference team and an All-Freshman team (all five players each) is selected by the coaches based on season-long performance. The Golfer of the Year is the athlete that receives the most votes. The Freshman of the Year is the athlete that receives the most votes on the All-Freshman ballot. Newcomer of the Year and Coach of the Year are also selected by coaches and all are announced the week after the championship. In addition there will be an All-Academic Team selected by the SIDs.
- Championship Awards:** The top individual finisher at the championship will be the individual champion and the top five finishers will be the All-Tournament team. The first and second place teams will receive trophies and the first place team will receive individual awards.

## WOMEN'S GOLF

- 2011-12 Teams (10):** East Carolina, Marshall, Memphis, SMU, Southern Miss, Tulane, Tulsa, UAB, UCF, UTEP
- Divisions:** N/A
- Scheduling Format:** N/A
- 2011 Championship:** April 22-24, Gulf Shores, Ala.
- Championship Format:** The championship shall be three days, with 18 holes scheduled for play each day. Playing partners for the first day will be determined by a blind draw. For every succeeding round, team scores will determine pairings. The winner gains the league's automatic bid to the NCAA Championship.
- Reg. Season Awards:** The conference office will select an Athlete of the Week for the fall and spring seasons.
- Postseason Awards:** A first, second and third team All-Conference team (all five players each) is selected by the coaches based on season-long performance. The Golfer of the Year is the athlete that receives the most votes in the all-conference voting. Freshman of the Year, Newcomer of the Year and Coach of the Year are selected on a separate ballot. All awards are announced the week after the championship. In addition there will be an All-Academic Team selected by the SIDs.

**Championship Awards:** The top individual finisher at the championship will be the individual champion and the top five finishers will be the All-Tournament team. The first and second place teams will receive trophies and the first place team will receive individual awards.

#### **MEN'S AND WOMEN'S INDOOR TRACK**

**2012 Teams (7M, 12W):** East Carolina, Houston, Memphis, Rice, Southern Miss, Tulsa and UTEP each have a men's and women's team. Marshall, SMU, Tulane, UAB and UCF have a women's team only.

**Divisions:** N/A

**Scheduling Format:** N/A

**2012 Championship:** February 25-26, Birmingham, Ala., Birmingham Crossplex (Hosted by UAB)

**Championship Format:** The championship shall be a two-day meet, (Saturday/Sunday) held two weeks prior to the NCAA Indoor Track and Field Championships.

**Reg. Season Awards:** The conference office will choose a Male and Female Athlete of the Week.

**Postseason Awards:** Following the championship meet, the coaches will vote on Coach of the Year and Freshman of the Year. A High Point Scorer of the Meet award will be given to the top-scoring male and female athlete at the Conference Championship. A Performance of the Meet award will be given to a Male and Female athlete as voted on by the coaches. The top three finishers in each event are considered All-Conference. A male and female Freshman of the Week will also be selected at the championship. A male and female Track Athlete of the Year and Field Athlete of the Year will be selected by the coaches following the NCAA Championship. The first and second place teams will receive trophies and the first place team will receive individual awards.

#### **MEN'S AND WOMEN'S OUTDOOR TRACK**

**2012 Teams (8M, 12W):** East Carolina, Houston, Memphis, Rice, Southern Miss, Tulane, Tulsa and UTEP each have a men's and women's team. Marshall, SMU, UAB and UCF have a women's team only.

**Divisions:** N/A

**Scheduling Format:** N/A

**2012 Championship:** May 11-14, New Orleans, La. (Hosted by Tulane)

**Championship Format:** The championship shall be a four-day event (Friday-Monday) held two weeks prior to the NCAA Outdoor Track and Field Championships.

**Reg. Season Awards:** The conference office will choose a Male and Female Athlete of the Week.

**Postseason Awards:** Following the championship meet, the coaches will vote on Coach of the Year and Freshman of the Year. A High Point Scorer of the Meet award will be given to the top-scoring male and female athlete at the Conference Championship. A Performance of the Meet award will be given to a Male and Female athlete as voted on by the coaches. The top three finishers in each event are considered All-Conference. A male and female Freshman of the Week will also be selected at the championship. A male and female Track Athlete of the Year and Field Athlete of the Year will be selected by the coaches following the NCAA Championship. The first and second place teams will receive trophies and the first place team will receive individual awards. In addition there will be an All-Academic Team selected by the SIDs.

## WOMEN'S ROWING

**2011-12 Teams (9):** Alabama, Kansas, Kansas State, Oklahoma, SMU, Tennessee, Texas, Tulsa, UCF

**Divisions:** N/A

**Scheduling Format:** N/A

**2012 Championship:** May 12, Oak Ridge, Tenn. (Hosted by Tennessee)

**Championship Format:** The championship shall be one day, with a day built in for inclement weather. Preliminary races will be held in the morning, with grand and petite final flights set for the afternoon. Scoring will be done based on final results from the Varsity 8, Second Varsity 8 and Varsity 4 races.

**Reg. Season Awards:** Coaches select a Boat of the Week during the spring season from a ballot compiled by the conference office.

**Postseason Awards:** An All-Conference team (15 student-athletes) is selected by the coaches based on season-long performance. The Rower of the Year is the athlete that receives the most votes in the all-conference voting. Newcomer of the Year and Coach of the Year are selected on a separate ballot. All awards are announced the week after the championship. In addition there will be an All-Academic Team selected by the SIDs.

**Championship Awards:** The top three finishers in the Varsity 8, Second Varsity 8 and Varsity 4 competitions will receive gold, silver and bronze medals for rowers and coxswain. Additionally, the team with the most points will receive a team trophy and second place receives a runner-up trophy.

## MEN'S SOCCER

**2011 Teams (9):** Marshall, Memphis, SMU, Tulsa, UAB and UCF are joined by affiliate members Florida International, Kentucky and South Carolina.

**Divisions:** One

**Scheduling Format:** Eight conference games. Each school will play each other once per season.

**2011 Championship:** Nov. 9-13, Tulsa, Okla.

- Championship Format:** Top six finishers in regular season standings qualify for single-elimination tournament with the winner gaining the league's automatic bid to the NCAA Championship.
- Reg. Season Awards:** Offensive and Defensive Player of the Week -- Chosen by the conference office.
- Postseason Awards:** Player of the Year, Offensive MVP, Defensive MVP, Freshman of the Year, Newcomer of the Year, Coach of the Year, first, second and third team All-Conference and All-Freshman Team. Selections are made based on a vote by the head coaches and announced the day prior to tournament. In addition there will be an All-Academic Team selected by the SIDs.
- Championship Awards:** All-Tournament Team (11 players) and Tournament MVP, as selected by the head coaches following the tournament. The champion coach will select four members, the runner-up selects three members and the two semifinal coaches each select two members for the All-Tournament team. The first and second place teams will receive trophies and the first place team will receive individual awards.

## WOMEN'S SOCCER

- 2011 Teams (12):** East Carolina, Houston, Marshall, Memphis, Rice, SMU, Southern Miss, Tulsa, UAB, UCF, UTEP. Colorado College competes as a temporary affiliate member.
- Divisions:** One
- Scheduling Format:** Eleven conference games. Each school will play each other once per season.
- 2011 Championship:** Nov. 2-6, Memphis, Tenn.
- Championship Format:** Top eight finishers in regular season standings qualify for single-elimination tournament with the winner gaining the league's automatic bid to the NCAA Championship.
- Reg. Season Awards:** Offensive and Defensive Player of the Week -- Chosen by the conference office.
- Postseason Awards:** Player of the Year, Defensive Player of the Year, Freshman of the Year, Midfielder of the Year, Coach of the Year, first and second All-Conference Teams, All-Freshman Team. Chosen by each head coach and announced the day prior to tournament. In addition, there will be an All-Academic Team selected by the SIDs.
- Championship Awards:** All-Tournament Team (11 players) and Tournament MVP, as selected by the head coaches following the tournament. The champion coach will select four members, the runner-up selects three members and the remaining four slots will be open and selected by vote of coaches. The first and second place teams will receive trophies and the first place team will receive individual awards.

## SOFTBALL

- 2012 Teams (9):** East Carolina, Houston, Marshall, Memphis, Southern Miss, Tulsa, UAB, UCF, UTEP
- Divisions:** One
- Scheduling Format:** 24 conference games. Eight three-game series.
- 2012 Championship:** May 10-12, Birmingham, Ala. (Hosted by UAB)
- Championship Format:** The top eight teams qualify for a single-elimination tournament with the winner gaining the league's automatic bid to the NCAA Championship.
- Reg. Season Awards:** Hitter and Pitcher of the Week -- Chosen by the conference office.
- Postseason Awards:** Coach of the Year, Player of the Year, Pitcher of the Year, Freshman of the Year, Newcomer of the Year, first and second team All-Conference and All-Freshman Teams are chosen by head coaches and announced prior to championship. In addition, an All-Academic Team of 11 players will be selected by SIDs.
- Championship Awards:** All-Tournament Team (11 players) and Tournament MVP, as selected by a media panel. The first and second place teams will receive trophies and the first place team will receive individual awards.

## WOMEN'S SWIMMING AND DIVING

- 2011-12 Teams (6):** East Carolina, Houston, Marshall, Rice, SMU, Tulane
- Divisions:** N/A
- Scheduling Format:** N/A
- 2012 Championship:** Feb. 15-18, Houston, Texas, CRWC Natatorium (Hosted by Houston)
- Championship Format:** Three-and-a-half-day event. Prelims are conducted in the morning with finals taking place in the evening.
- Reg. Season Awards:** The conference office will select a Swimmer of the Week and a Diver of the Week.
- Postseason Awards:** Swimmer of the Meet, Diver of the Meet and Coach of the Year will be selected by the coaches following the championship. Swimmer of the Year, Diver of the Year, Freshman Swimmer of the Year, Freshman Diver of the Year and Newcomer of the Year will be selected by the coaches following the NCAA Championship. In addition, an All-Academic Team will also be selected by the SIDs.
- Championship Awards:** The top three finishers in each event are considered All-Conference. The first and second place teams will receive trophies and the first place team will receive individual awards.

## MEN'S TENNIS

- 2011-12 Teams (9):** East Carolina, Memphis, Rice, SMU, Southern Miss, Tulane, Tulsa, UAB, UCF
- Divisions:** N/A
- Scheduling Format:** N/A
- 2012 Championship:** April 19-22, Orlando, Fla. (Hosted by UCF)

- Championship Format:** All nine teams play a single-elimination tournament. Matches shall consist of six singles and three doubles. Doubles should be played first, followed by singles. Singles matches are two out of three sets, while doubles are an eight-game proset. The winner gains the league's automatic bid to the NCAA Championship.
- Reg. Season Awards:** Athlete of the Week will be chosen by the conference office.
- Postseason Awards:** Coach of the Year, Player of the Year and Freshman of the Year selected after the championship. All-Conference selections shall include six (6) First Team all-Conference and six (6) Second-Team all-Conference selections. These 12 spots will come directly from the most current ITA top 125 rankings. If there are remaining spots available, they will be filled by student-athletes who are nominated and voted on by the coaches. There will also be an All-Conference doubles Team consisting of six (6) athletes. These will also come from the most current ITA rankings (the top three doubles teams). An All-Academic Team will also be selected by the SIDs.
- Championship Awards:** Outstanding singles and doubles players of the championship. The first and second place teams will receive trophies and the first place team will receive individual awards.

## WOMEN'S TENNIS

- 2011-12 Teams (12):** East Carolina, Houston, Marshall, Memphis, Rice, SMU, Southern Miss, Tulane, Tulsa, UAB, UCF, UTEP
- Divisions:** N/A
- Scheduling Format:** N/A
- 2012 Championship:** April 19-22, Memphis, Tenn. (Hosted by Memphis)
- Championship Format:** The format will be a four-day single elimination tournament featuring all 12 teams, with the top four receiving a bye. Matches shall consist of six singles and three doubles. Doubles should be played first, followed by singles. Singles matches are two out of three sets, while doubles are an eight-game proset. The winner gains the league's automatic bid to the NCAA Championship.
- Reg. Season Awards:** Athlete of the Week will be determined by the conference office.
- Postseason Awards:** All-Conference selections should include six singles players and a doubles tandem each for the first, second and third teams. Nominations are due to the conference office on the Tuesday following the championship. Ballots are distributed Wednesday and due by 12 p.m. CDT on Thursday. Coaches may not vote for their own players. Coach of the Year, Player of the Year, Freshman of the Year, Newcomer of the Year, Outstanding Singles Player and Outstanding Doubles Team of the championship will also be determined at this time. An All-Academic Team will also be selected by the SIDs.
- Championship Awards:** The first and second place teams will receive trophies and the first place team will receive individual awards.

## **VOLLEYBALL**

<b>2011 Teams (12):</b>	East Carolina, Houston, Marshall, Memphis, Rice, SMU, Southern Miss, Tulane, Tulsa, UAB, UCF, UTEP
<b>Divisions:</b>	One
<b>Scheduling Format:</b>	20 conference games, scheduled in travel partners with no divisions. The regular season champion receives the league's automatic bid to the NCAA Championship.
<b>2011 Championship:</b>	None
<b>Reg. Season Awards:</b>	Player, Setter and Defensive Player of the Week are chosen by the conference office.
<b>Postseason Awards:</b>	Player of the Year, Coach of the Year, Freshman of the Year, Setter of the Year, Defensive Player of the Year and the first and second all-conference teams (11 players each, including one Libero and one Setter) will be voted upon by the coaches. In addition, an All-Academic Team of 11 student-athletes will be selected by the SIDs.
<b>Championship Awards:</b>	N/A