

**2009 State Farm Missouri Valley Conference
Baseball Tournament
May 20 – 23
Eck Stadium Wichita, KS**

The following format will be used for this year’s conference baseball tournament, replacing last year’s six-team, double-elimination tournament:

The tournament consists of the top six teams in regular-season league play and is split into two 3-team pools or pods, with the winner of each pod playing in a single championship game. Teams are assigned pods based on seed, which is determined by the order of finish in regular-season conference play.

Each team is guaranteed to play three games. Teams in each pod play two teams in its pod and one team outside its pod. The team with the best composite record in each pod advances to the championship game. Two-way ties in a pod are broken by head-to-head play; the highest seed advances in three-way ties.

The winner of the Missouri Valley tournament earns an automatic berth in the NCAA Division I baseball tournament.

Makeup of the Pods and Schedule of Play.

Pod 1 (Seeds 1, 4 and 5)

1 vs. 4, 5 and 6
4 vs. 1, 3 and 5
5 vs. 1, 2 and 4

Pod 2 (Seeds 2, 3 and 6)

2 vs. 3, 5 and 6
3 vs. 2, 4 and 6
6 vs. 1, 2 and 3

	<u>Day 1</u> <u>Wed., May 20</u>	<u>Day 2</u> <u>Thurs., May 21</u>	<u>Day 3</u> <u>Fri., May 22</u>	<u>Day 4</u> <u>Sat. May 23</u>
Game 1	4 vs. 5	3 vs. 4	3 vs. 6	
Game 2	2 vs. 3	2 vs. 6	2 vs. 5	
Game 3	1 vs. 6	1 vs. 5	1 vs. 4	Championship

Games are played at 11 a.m., 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. the first three days of the tournament, with the championship game Saturday at 7 p.m. Pairings with game times will be announced after seeds are determined following the final league game of the season, either May 16 or May 17.

For financial reasons and the potential for increased ticket sales, Wichita State, as the host school, will play the 7 p.m. game on Days 1, 2 and 3 of the tournament.

Pod Tie-Breakers. Two-way ties in a pod are broken by head-to-head play. In three-way ties, the highest seed advances.

Determination of Home Team. The higher seed is the home team in games on Days 1 and 3 and the championship; teams that were the visitors on Day 1 are the home team on Day 2.

Pod Outcome Scenarios. Of a possible 64 different outcomes in a pod:

- 65.6% One team in a pod finishes with a 3-0 or 2-1 record and no tie breakers are needed
- 28.2% Two teams in a pod finish 2-1 (head-to-head competition used to break two-way ties)
- 6.2% Three teams in a pod finish 2-1 or 1-2 (highest seed advances)