

# Baseball

## A brief playoff history

Save for a playoff in 1949, Sac-Joaquin Section baseball playoffs did not begin in earnest until the mid-1970s. Amazingly, the first playoff was not Division I (as we know it today), but a Division III playoff. Division I did not start until the following year. When playoffs began in the '70s, playoffs were not divided by divisions (I, II, III, etc.) but by classes (A, AA and AAA with AAA being the big boys). It was not until the spring of 1986 that the playoffs were given Roman numerals.

Many different formats have been used over the years including single elimination, double elimination, single elimination (Suicide Saturday) in the first round and then double elimination for the following rounds, a north-south setup with the winners meeting in a 2-out-of-3 final, or a one-game final.

Below is a brief description of how the playoffs were contested by division over time.

### DIVISION I

In 1949 (May 24 @ Grass Valley), Stockton defeated Grass Valley 10-0 to win the first-ever baseball championship. That was discontinued until 1976.

When the playoffs resumed in 1976, the tournament was a double elimination tournament for three years. In 1979, the Section changed to a North-South format with a Subsection winner from each area. The North and South winners meet in a best 2-out-of-3. However, in 1992, Woodland and Downey played in the only one-game final between the North and South winners.

Elk Grove has won the most Division I championships with six. Jesuit follows with five, and Cordova has won four times. Stagg, Del Campo, Merced and Davis Sr. have all won two apiece.

### DIVISION II

Division II has been played out in many variations of double elimination. In the beginning (1980), it was a straight double elimination format.

In the years 1993 and '94, with the tournament featuring only four teams, the two first-round winners met in a two-out-of-three final.

In 1995, single elimination in the first round (Suicide Saturday) and double elimination in the following rounds was adopted and was used through the 2002 season.

Starting in 2003, Divisions II-V utilized a new format. There are eight teams in the tournament with the first-round losers going home. The two sets of winners play each other in a 2-out-of-3 with the two winners meeting in a one-game final.

Mesa Verde and Oakmont (three apiece) have won the most championships.

### DIVISION III:

Other than the 1949 championship, Division III (or Class A as it was then called) is the oldest playoff division in baseball. This division had always been played as a single elimination tournament until 2003 (See D2 above).

Vanden has dominated D3 competition with nine championships, while Yuba City has won the past three titles.

### DIVISION IV:

This division was created in 1995 and was played as a single elimination tournament from inception until 2003 (See D2 above).

Central Catholic has won four of the 14 championships.

### DIVISION V:

Division V was created in the realignment cycle of 2002-06. It is played using the same format as Divisions II-IV. Central Catholic has won the first seven championships.

### DIVISION VI:

Division VI was created in the realignment cycle of 2006-10. It is played using the same format as Divisions II-V. Golden Sierra won the first championship in 2007.

### DIVISION VII:

Division VII was created in the realignment cycle of 2006-10. It is played using the same format as Divisions II-VI. Brookside Christian won the first championship in 2007, and Valley Christian has won the past two.



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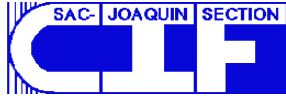




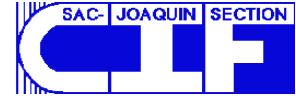








## SAC-JOAQUIN SECTION BASEBALL CHAMPIONS BY DIVISION



Division I Section Titles	Division III Section Titles	Division V Section Titles
6 Elk Grove	9 Vanden	7 Central Catholic
5 Jesuit	3 St. Patrick-St. Vincent	
4 Cordova	3 Yuba City	Division VI Section Titles
2 Stagg	2 Riverbank	1 Golden Sierra
2 Del Campo	2 Folsom	1 Mariposa
2 Merced	2 Argonaut	1 Capital Christian
2 Davis Sr.	2 Amador	
1 Lincoln-S	2 Buhach Colony	Division VII Section Titles
1 Sacramento	1 Benicia	2 Valley Christian
1 St. Mary's	1 Le Grand	1 Brookside Christian
1 Napa	1 Washington	
1 Grant	1 Livingston	
1 Vallejo	1 Ripon	
1 Woodland	1 Rio Vista	
1 Casa Roble	1 Escalon	
1 McClatchy	1 Patterson	
1 Fairfield	1 Justin-Siena	
	1 Dixon	
Division II Section Titles		
3 Mesa Verde	Division IV Section Titles	
3 Oakmont	4 Central Catholic	
2 Roseville	2 Le Grand	
2 San Juan	2 Linden	
2 Folsom	2 Oakdale	
2 Rocklin	1 Victory Christian	
1 Elk Grove	1 Mariposa	
1 Marysville	1 Patterson	
1 Rio Linda	1 Pioneer	
1 Sonora	1 Placer	
1 Ceres		
1 Del Oro		
1 Placer		
1 Los Banos		
1 Rio Americano		
1 East Union		
1 Granite Bay		
1 Casa Roble		
1 Woodcreek		
1 Benicia		
1 Woodland		
1 Ponderosa		

