

Let's Go Bowling

The Big 12 Conference and Iowa State University are very excited about the conference's new bowl line-up for 2006. With the addition of the Gator, Sun and Insight.com bowls, the Big 12's bowl lineup includes, several of the top bowl sites in college football. The new arrangements for the Big 12 have raised the league's post-season profile by adding marquee games against the Big Ten, SEC, Pac-10 and ACC and also includes another Jan. 1 bowl game two out of every four years. Read on for more information.



2006 Big 12 Conference Bowl Games

Pick	Bowl	Date	Time	Opponents	Location
1	BCS*	TBA	TBA	BCS	TBA
2	AT&T Cotton Bowl	Jan. 2	11:30 a.m.	SEC	Dallas, Texas
3	Pacific Life Holiday Bowl	Dec. 28	8 p.m.	Pac-10	San Diego, Calif.
4	MasterCard Alamo Bowl	Dec. 30	4:30 p.m.	Big Ten	San Antonio, Texas
5	Brut Sun Bowl	Dec. 29	2 p.m.	Pac-10 / Big East	El Paso, Texas
6	Insight.com Bowl	Dec. 29	TBA	Big Ten	Phoenix, Ariz.
7	Independence Bowl	Dec. 28	4:30 p.m.	SEC	Shreveport, La.
8	Texas Bowl	Dec. 28	7 p.m.	Big East	Houston, Texas
**Toyota Gator Bowl		Jan. 1		ACC	Jacksonville, Fla.

* -- BCS bowls include the Rose, Sugar, Orange and Fiesta

** -- The Gator Bowl replaces the Sun Bowl twice every four years as a Big 12 bowl destination

What are the new Big 12 Conference bowl sites?

Joining the list of Big 12 bowl partners in 2006 are the **Insight.com Bowl** in Phoenix (a highly popular Iowa State attraction in 2000 when more than 30,000 Cyclone fans made the trip), the **Toyota Gator Bowl** played on Jan. 1 in Jacksonville, Fla. and the **Brut Sun Bowl** in El Paso, Texas. The Gator Bowl and Sun Bowl will take turns as Big 12 bowl partners (two appearances

each over four years). The Big 12 no longer has relationships with the Champs Sports Bowl (Orlando, Fla.) or the Ft. Worth Bowl (Ft. Worth, Texas).

How does eight bowl bids for the Big 12 Conference compare to other leagues?

The Big 12, along with the SEC and the ACC, have eight slots available for schools that qualify for bowls. The Big 12 could also gain an additional bowl entry

if two league teams qualify for Bowl Championship Series play.

What is the pecking order of the bowls as it relates to which Big 12 school is chosen for which game?

The normal selection order would be: Fiesta, Cotton, Holiday, Alamo, Sun, Insight.com, Independence and Texas. If a second Big 12 school was an at-large selection to the BCS, that choice would be made after the



Fiesta Bowl and the other bowl partners would slide up one position.

How does the relationship between the Gator and Sun Bowls work?

The Gator Bowl pits an ACC team against either the Big 12, Big East or Notre Dame. The Sun Bowl hosts a Pac-10 institution vs. either a Big 12, Big East school or Notre Dame.

Over a four-year span, a Big 12 institution will play in the Gator Bowl twice. In the other two seasons a Big 12 school will participate in the Sun Bowl.

In the two years that the Gator Bowl hosts a Big 12 team, its selection will be considered in relation to the Cotton and Holiday bowls. The three bowls and the Conference will work together on the placement of the teams based upon several factors, including preferences of the parties, match-ups and recent appearances in certain bowls.

What are the major gains from adding the Gator Bowl as a destination?

The addition of the Gator Bowl keeps the Big 12 in the running for a Florida appearance (replacing the Champs Sports Bowl). More importantly, the Gator Bowl is played on Jan. 1, the most-prestigious day of post-season action.

How many victories does Iowa State need to be eligible in 2006?

The Cyclones must win at least six games to become bowl eligible. With a 12-game regular season in 2006, a 6-6 overall record would be bowl eligible.

Do games against Division I-AA teams count for bowl consideration?

Yes. Iowa State's game against Northern Iowa (the defending NCAA Division I-AA national runner-up) on Sept. 30 does count in the team's overall record and as part of the bowl eligibility equation.

What is the television coverage for each of the Big 12 bowl contests?

There is a good mixture of networks committed to carry

Big 12 teams in bowl games. FOX will televise both the Fiesta and Cotton Bowls (along with the national championship game); ESPN has the rights to the Holiday, Alamo and Independence Bowls; CBS continues its relationship with the Sun; and the NFL Network will show the Insight.com and Texas Bowls. The Gator Bowl, when a part of the Big 12 package, will be televised by CBS.

Is the Houston Bowl certified after defaulting on their payments to the conference in 2005?

The Houston Bowl, which was renamed the Texas Bowl in August, remains a part of the Big 12 bowl menu. The game will, once again, be staged at Reliant Stadium, widely recognized as one of the elite facilities in the National Football League.