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**PRECHAMPIONSHIP  
2025-26 MANUAL**

# NCAA General Administrative Guidelines

## Contents

<b>Section 1 • Introduction</b>	<b>2</b>
Section 1•1 Definitions	2
<b>Section 2 • Championship Core Statement</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Section 3 • Conduct</b>	<b>3</b>
Section 3•1 Certification of Eligibility/Availability	3
Section 3•2 Drug Testing	3
Section 3•3 Honesty and Sportsmanship	3
Section 3•4 Misconduct/Failure to Adhere to Policies	4
Section 3•5 Sports Wagering Policy	4
Section 3•6 Student-Athlete Experience Survey	4
<b>Section 4 • Elite Scholar-Athlete™ Award</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Section 5 • Fan Travel</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Section 6 • Health and Safety</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Section 7 • Logo Policy</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Section 8 • Research</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Section 9 • Travel Party</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Section 10 • Religious Conflicts</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Section 11 • Team Replacement Policy</b>	<b>6</b>

### THE NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

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# Section 1 • Introduction

During the 2025-26 academic year, the Association will sponsor 92 national championships – 43 for men, 47 for women and two for both men and women. Of the men's championships, four are National Collegiate Championships, 13 are Division I championships, 12 are Division II championships and 14 are Division III championships. Of the women's championships, eight are National Collegiate Championships, 12 are Division I championships, 13 are Division II championships and 14 are Division III championships. The combined men's and women's championships are National Collegiate Championships.

The Prechampionship Manual will serve as a resource for institutions to prepare for the championship. This manual is divided into three sections: General Administrative Guidelines, Sport-Specific Information and Appendixes.

Sections one through nine apply to policies applicable to all 92 championships, while the remaining sections are sport specific.

## Section 1.1 Definitions

**Prechampionship Manual.** Resource for institutions to prepare for the championship.

**Administrative Meeting.** Prechampionship meeting for coaches and/or administrators.

**Appendixes.** Any supplemental documents to be provided and distributed through the various resources.

**Championship Manager.** The NCAA staff member(s) responsible for the operational oversight of the championship.

**Games Committee.** The committee assigned to supervise the conduct of each championship session at a specific site. For finals sites, the games committee is typically the NCAA national committee.

**NCAA National Committee.** The sport committee with direct oversight responsibilities for the championship.

**Non-predetermined Sites.** Those sites that are selected to host at the time of the participant/team selections announcement.

**Playing Rules.** The rules under which the competition will be conducted.

**Predetermined Sites.** Those sites that are selected to host before the participant/team selections announcement.

**Preliminary Rounds.** The rounds of the championship before the final or championship round.

**Regional Alignment.** The geographic location of institutions or regional advisory committees.

**Schedule of Events.** Official event schedule – includes all required activities (e.g., practices, banquets).

**Selection Criteria.** Policies and procedures in place to guide the team selection process.

**Site Selection Criteria.** Policies and procedures in place to guide the site selection process.

**Squad Size.** In any championship in which a squad limit has been established by the governing sport committee or by the bylaws, the number of eligible student-athletes in competitive uniform eligible to participate at the start of competition.

**Tournament Physician.** The physician designated by the host institution/conference to serve as the chief medical advisor for the championship event(s) to be hosted at the host venue.

## Section 2 • Championship Core Statement

The championships and alliances staff strives to administer competition in a fair, safe, equitable and sportsmanlike manner so that the experience of the student-athlete is paramount.

This is attained by:

**Ensuring** student-athletes' optimal experience.

**Executing** championship events reflecting appropriate quality and values to/for stakeholders – student-athletes, coaches, administrators, member institutions, sport committees, fans, broadcast partners and corporate champions/partners.

**Coordinating** all aspects of the championship in an efficient, effective manner through common operating policies and practices, using internal and external resources.

**Integrating** championships with broadcast and corporate relationships in a manner that maintains the integrity of the championship.

**Assuring** effective management of the business aspects of the operation.

**Enhancing** the assets of the NCAA and their value by collaborating with internal and external expertise to achieve heightened exposure (e.g., community programs, fan events, banquets, anniversaries).

## Section 3 • Conduct

### Section 3•1 Certification of Eligibility/Availability

*[Reference: Certification of Eligibility/Availability in Bylaws 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 20.2.4, 31.2.1.7.1, 31.2.1.7.1.2 and 31.2.2 in the NCAA Division I Manual, Bylaws 7.3.1.5 and 18.2.1 in the NCAA Division II Manual and Division II Championships Committee Policy and Bylaws 31.2.1.5, 31.2.1.5.2, and 31.2.2 in the NCAA Division III Manual.]*

Only student-athletes eligible under Bylaws 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16 may compete in NCAA championships. Member institutions are required to certify the eligibility of their student-athletes before the beginning of each academic year and to withhold ineligible student-athletes from all intercollegiate competition.

Member institutions are reminded to notify the NCAA national office before the selection date for each championship of any student-athlete who may have participated in regular-season competition but subsequently is determined to be ineligible or unavailable for NCAA championship competition.

#### DISCOVERY OF INELIGIBILITY OF A STUDENT-ATHLETE AFTER SELECTION

If an institution fails to report an ineligible student-athlete and the omission is not discovered until after the institution is selected to participate in the championship, necessitating the institution's withdrawal from the championship, that withdrawal shall be considered as one of the years of ineligibility, provided another institution participates in the championship in place of the disqualified institution. If the discovery of the ineligible student-athlete occurs so near the beginning of the championship that the governing sport committee does not have a reasonable period of time to replace the disqualified institution in the bracket, that fact shall be taken into consideration in determining the number of years the disqualified institution shall be ineligible to participate.

### Section 3•2 Drug Testing

As part of preparation and planning to participate in championship events, member institutions are reminded and encouraged to review all applicable policy and legislative requirements pertaining to banned substances, drug testing and related eligibility requirements with their student-athletes. Student-athletes who compete in NCAA championships may be subjected to drug tests in accordance with legislation and may be determined to be ineligible as a result thereof. Only student-athletes who have consented in writing to such testing are initially eligible for these championships; and thereafter, student-athletes who are tested shall remain eligible only if they test negative.

### Section 3•3 Honesty and Sportsmanship

Individuals employed by (or associated with) a member institution to administer, conduct or coach intercollegiate athletics and all participating student-athletes shall act with honesty and sportsmanship at all times so that intercollegiate athletics as a whole, their institutions and they, as individuals, shall represent the honor and dignity of fair play and the generally recognized high standards associated with wholesome competitive sports.

### Section 3•4 Misconduct/Failure to Adhere to Policies

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#### MISCONDUCT

Misconduct in an NCAA championship is any act of dishonesty, unsportsmanlike conduct, unprofessional behavior or breach of law, occurring from the time the championship field is announced through the end of the championship, that discredits the event or intercollegiate athletics. Each games committee shall hold an administrative meeting with the representatives of participating institutions to review and explain the policies related to misconduct.

#### FAILURE TO ADHERE TO POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

A governing sport committee may assess a financial penalty against an institution for failure of any of its representatives to adhere to the policies and procedures governing the administration of the competition. This includes, but is not limited to, failure to comply with the procedures and deadlines for submitting scores, score sheets, schedules, rosters and entry/march-in forms for qualification and other materials necessary for the efficient administration of the competition. [Click here](#) to see the full misconduct/failure to adhere to policies and procedures online.

### Section 3•5 Sports Wagering Policy

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Sports wagering includes placing, accepting or soliciting a wager (on a staff member's or student-athlete's own behalf or on the behalf of others) of any type with any individual or organization on any intercollegiate, amateur or professional team or contest. Examples of sports wagering include, but are not limited to, the use of a bookmaker or parlay card; internet sports wagering; mobile betting; auctions in which bids are placed on teams, individuals or contests; and pools or fantasy leagues in which an entry fee is required and there is an opportunity to win a prize.

The current NCAA legislation against sports wagering prohibits NCAA student-athletes, member institutions' athletics staff and non-athletics staff with athletics responsibilities, and conference office staff from participating in sports wagering activities or providing information to individuals involved in or associated with any type of sports wagering activities concerning intercollegiate, amateur or professional athletics practice or competition in a sport in which the NCAA conducts championship competition, in bowl subdivision football and in emerging sports for women.

A wager is any agreement in which an individual or entity agrees to give up an item of value (e.g., cash, shirt, dinner) in exchange for the possibility of gaining another item of value.

#### STUDENT-ATHLETES

A student-athlete found in violation of the prohibition against knowingly participating in any sports wagering activities or providing information to individuals involved in or associated with any type of sports wagering activity that involves intercollegiate, amateur or professional athletics competition shall be ineligible for further intercollegiate competition, subject to appeal to the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement for restoration of eligibility.

#### POSTSEASON

In championships in which a bracket format is used, student-athletes, coaches and administrators may not participate in bracket competitions where there is both a required entry fee and an opportunity to win a prize. Student-athletes and administrators may participate under current NCAA rules in bracket contests where there is no entry fee but a possibility of winning a prize. Some NCAA member schools, however, have chosen to ban student-athletes from participating in these types of bracket contests.

#### HOSTING OPPORTUNITIES

It is permissible for NCAA championships to be conducted at locations in states that permit sports wagering.

### Section 3•6 Student-Athlete Experience Survey

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During the NCAA championships, the student-athlete experience is paramount. NCAA staff and hosts dedicate themselves to planning the best experiences for all involved. As part of our commitment to getting better, following the championship, participants will receive a survey to provide feedback on their experience and input on how championships can be improved for future NCAA student-athletes. Institutional administrators and coaches will receive

an email containing a link to the survey and will be asked to forward the survey to student-athletes. Additionally, this survey will be accessible via QR code found on the back of NCAA-issued championship credentials.

We also understand that sometimes certain circumstances or conditions occurring during the events may require real-time consideration. When this is the case, student-athletes may reach out to their site representative or NCAA national office staff on-site.

## Section 4 • Elite Scholar-Athlete™ Award

The Elite Scholar-Athlete award was created to recognize the true essence of student-athletes by honoring individuals who have reached the pinnacle of competition at the national championship level in their sport, while also achieving the highest academic standard among their peers. The award is presented in every sport, every division, and goes to the student-athlete who has the highest cumulative grade-point average of all student-athletes competing at the finals site. One student-athlete per championship will receive the award, and the announcement of the winner will be made at the finals site.

Institutions that wish to nominate a student-athlete must do so through an online nomination process. For more information or to access the online form and submit a nomination, [click here](#).

## Section 5 • Fan Travel

Through support from Marriott International as the Official Hotel Partner of the NCAA, NCAA championships are pleased to provide easy and affordable accommodations for family and fans to follow their favorite student-athlete(s) and team(s) as they participate in NCAA championships competition. Travel arrangements completed through Marriott and NCAA Travel help support NCAA student-athletes. Please direct your fans to [ncaa.com/travel](http://ncaa.com/travel) to search and book online hotel reservations.

## Section 6 • Health and Safety

As part of preparation and planning to host and/or participate in championship events, member institutions are reminded and encouraged to review all applicable health and safety policy and legislative requirements and guidance including, among others, those relating to concussion management, catastrophic injury prevention, inclement weather and independent medical care. These requirements and related information can be found in applicable division manuals, sports playing rules and the materials located on the [Health, Safety & Performance website](#). In addition, a summary of some of the key health and safety considerations related to traveling to championship events can be found in the [NCAA's Guidance for Medical Care and Coverage for Student-Athletes at Away Events](#).

## Section 7 • Logo Policy

*[Reference: Bylaws 12.5.4, 31.1.7 and 31.1.8 in the NCAA Division I Manual, Bylaw 17.1.10 in the NCAA Division II Manual and Bylaw 12.5.3 in the NCAA Division III Manual.]*

A student-athlete may use athletics equipment or wear athletics apparel that bears the trademark or logo of an athletics equipment or apparel manufacturer or distributor in athletics competition and pre- and postgame activities (e.g., celebrations on the court, pre- or postgame press conferences), provided the following criteria are met:

1. Athletics equipment (e.g., shoes, helmets, baseball bats and gloves, batting or golf gloves, hockey and lacrosse sticks, goggles and skis) shall bear only the manufacturer's normal label or trademark, as it is used on all such items for sale to the general public; and

## GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE GUIDELINES

2. The student-athlete's institution's official uniform (including numbered racing bibs and warmups) and all other items of apparel (e.g., socks, head bands, T-shirts, wrist bands, visors or hats, swim caps and towels) shall bear only a single manufacturer's or distributor's normal label or trademark (regardless of the visibility of the label or trademark), not to exceed 2-1/4 square inches in area (rectangle, square, parallelogram) including any additional material (e.g., patch) surrounding the normal trademark or logo. The student-athlete's institution's official uniform and all other items of apparel shall not bear a design element similar to the manufacturer's trademark/logo that is in addition to another trademark/logo that is contrary to the size restriction.

### Section 8 • Research

In order to avoid inappropriate and unnecessary participant distraction and disruption of championship events, it is expected any data collection or other research efforts conducted at or during championship events will be coordinated through the national office, with notice and a description of any research proposal to be submitted to the NCAA research staff at least six weeks before the championships event begins.

### Section 9 • Travel Party

Please refer to the NCAA travel policies for all information regarding transportation and per diem expenses. NCAA Travel policies are updated annually and can be found online [here](#). Please reference Appendix A of the travel policies for reimbursable travel party numbers. The travel policies supersede all other documents.

### Section 10 • Religious Conflicts

*[Reference: Bylaws 31.1.4.1 and 31.1.4.2 in the NCAA Division I Manual.]*

**Institutional Policy.** If a participating institution has a written policy against competition on a particular day for religious reasons, it shall inform the NCAA national office on or before Sept. 1 of each academic year in order for it or one of its student-athletes to be excused from competing on that day. The championship schedule shall be adjusted to accommodate that institution. *(Adopted: 4/22/98, Revised: 8/11/98, 10/28/99, 5/2/13)*

**Individual Championships.** In individual championships, an athlete must compete according to the institution's policy regarding Sunday competition (if the institution has no policy against Sunday competition, the student-athlete shall compete on Sunday if required by the schedule).

### Section 11 • Team Replacement Policy

Division I developed a team replacement policy considering the possibility of unforeseen circumstances impacting championship fields. The policy will be implemented in accordance with the terms set forth in the policy document available [here](#) when, despite best efforts, a team within the championship field is impeded or hindered from participating in the championship for reasons beyond its control.

# Division I Baseball

## Contents

<b>Section 1 • General Administration</b> .....	<b>8</b>
Section 1•1 NCAA Tournament Operations Staff Contact Information .....	8
Section 1•2 Division I Baseball Oversight Committee, Championship Subcommittee Members .....	8
Section 1•3 Regional Advisory Committees.....	9
Section 1•4 Important Dates.....	11
Section 1•5 Equipment.....	12
Section 1•6 Rules.....	13
Section 1•7 Uniforms .....	15
<b>Section 2 • Determination of Championship Participation</b> .....	<b>16</b>
Section 2•1 Championship Format .....	16
Section 2•2 Results.....	20
Section 2•3 Selection Information .....	20
Section 2•4 Selection Criteria .....	21
Section 2•5 Site Selection.....	23
<b>Appendix A • Brackets</b> .....	<b>28</b>
<b>Appendix B • Sport Sponsorship</b> .....	<b>31</b>

# Section 1 • General Administration

## Section 1•1 NCAA Tournament Operations Staff Contact Information

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**Jeff Williams (Media Coordinator)**  
Associate Director, Championships and Alliances  
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317-917-6138 / [jswilliams@ncaa.org](mailto:jswilliams@ncaa.org)

## Section 1•2 Division I Baseball Oversight Committee, Championship Subcommittee Members

Current members of the committee are:

### EAST REGION

**Michael Alford, chair**  
Vice President and Director of Athletics  
Florida State University

### SOUTHEAST REGION

**Jon Gilbert, vice chair**  
Director of Athletics  
East Carolina University

### WEST REGION

**Scott Leykam**  
Vice President and Director of Athletics  
University of Portland

### MIDWEST REGION

**Randale L. Richmond**  
Vice President and Director of Athletics  
Kent State University

### SOUTH REGION

**Greg Seitz**  
Vice President for Athletics  
Jacksonville State University

### MIDWEST REGION

**Scott Dolson**  
Vice President and Director of Intercollegiate Athletics  
Indiana University, Bloomington

### MIDWEST REGION

**Tim Johnson**  
Director of Athletics  
Oral Roberts University

### SOUTH REGION

**Jeremy McClain**  
Director of Athletics  
University of Southern Mississippi

### SOUTH REGION

**Casey Scott**  
Executive Associate Director of Athletics  
Kansas State University

### SOUTHEAST REGION

**Scott Stricklin**  
Director of Athletics  
University of Florida

For additional information about the Division I Baseball Championship, contact:

**Randy L. Buhr**  
Director, Championships and Alliances  
317-917-6716 / [rlbuhr@ncaa.org](mailto:rlbuhr@ncaa.org)

**Michael Alford, chair**  
Director of Athletics  
Florida State University

## Section 1•3 Regional Advisory Committees

[Reference: Regional Advisory Committees in the Division I General Section and Bylaw 21.8.1.6 in the Division I NCAA Manual.]

Each conference shall appoint a member of the advisory committee in its respective region to assist in the evaluation of teams throughout the season. Below are the members of the 2026 Division I Baseball regional advisory committees.

NAME	INSTITUTION	CONFERENCE
<b>EAST</b>		
<b>Scott Leykam, chair</b>	<b>Portland</b>	<b>WCC</b>
<b>Scott Dolson</b>	<b>Indiana</b>	<b>Big Ten</b>
<b>Casey Scott</b>	<b>Kansas St.</b>	<b>Big 12</b>
<b>Scott Stricklin</b>	<b>Florida</b>	<b>SEC</b>
Liam Bowen	UMBC	America East
Ethan Bragg	N/A	Patriot
John Delaney	Quinnipiac	MAAC
Chad Dwyer	N/A	America East
Randy Hood	UNCW	CAA
Caitlin Hughes	N/A	NEC
Steve Kanaby	N/A	CAA
Celene McGowan	N/A	Ivy League
AJ Miller	Lafayette	Patriot
Dan Pirillo	LIU	NEC
Jessica Rippey	N/A	ACC
Whitney Swab	N/A	MAAC
Rucker Taylor	Davidson	Atlantic 10
Tom Walter	Wake Forest	ACC
Tom Waterman	N/A	Atlantic 10
John Yurkow	Penn	Ivy League
<b>MIDWEST</b>		
<b>Jeremy McClain, chair</b>	<b>Southern Miss.</b>	<b>Sun Belt</b>
<b>Scott Dolson</b>	<b>Indiana</b>	<b>Big Ten</b>
<b>Tim Johnson</b>	<b>Oral Roberts</b>	<b>Summit League</b>
<b>Randale L. Richmond</b>	<b>Kent St.</b>	<b>MAC</b>
Rob Bishop	South Dakota St.	Summit League
James Greene	N/A	Big East
Mike Kern	N/A	MVC
Kyle Klein	N/A	MAC
Jeff Mercer	Indiana	Big Ten
Bryan Miller	N/A	Summit League
Drew Naumovich	N/A	Horizon
Billy O'Connor	Xavier	Big East
Rob Reinstetle	Toledo	MAC

## DIVISION I BASEBALL

NAME	INSTITUTION	CONFERENCE
Brian Schmack	Valparaiso	MVC
Alex Sogard	Wright St.	Horizon
Katie Stankiewicz	N/A	Big Ten
<b>SOUTH</b>		
<b>Jon Gilbert, chair</b>	<b>East Carolina</b>	<b>American</b>
<b>Jeremy McClain</b>	<b>Southern Miss.</b>	<b>Sun Belt</b>
<b>Casey Scott</b>	<b>Kansas St.</b>	<b>Big 12</b>
<b>Greg Seitz</b>	<b>Jacksonville St.</b>	<b>CUSA</b>
Andrew Bechac	N/A	Southland
Jordan Bischel	Cincinnati	Big 12
Terry Davis	Western Ill.	OVC
Spencer Dodd	N/A	Sun Belt
Johnny Hernandez	Bethune-Cookman	SWAC
Eric Jones	N/A	CUSA
Skylar Meade	Troy	Sun Belt
John Payne	N/A	Big 12
Ryan Shotzberger	UIW	Southland
Reginald Thomas	N/A	SWAC
Greg Walter	N/A	OVC
Rich Witten	FIU	CUSA
<b>SOUTHEAST</b>		
<b>Randale L. Richmond, chair</b>	<b>Kent St.</b>	<b>MAC</b>
<b>Jon Gilbert</b>	<b>East Carolina</b>	<b>American</b>
<b>Scott Stricklin</b>	<b>Florida</b>	<b>SEC</b>
Matt Boyer	N/A	SEC
Mark Bryant	N/A	Big South
Geoff Cabe	N/A	Southern
Tony David	Samford	Southern
Joey Hammond	High Point	Big South
Chris Hayes	Jacksonville	ASUN
Jay Johnson	LSU	SEC
Joseph Kaminski	N/A	ASUN
Jay Uhlman	Tulane	American
Bobby Weygand	N/A	American

NAME	INSTITUTION	CONFERENCE
<b>WEST</b>		
Greg Seitz, chair	Jacksonville St.	CUSA
Tim Johnson	Oral Roberts	Summit League
Scott Leykam	Portland	WCC
Gary Adcock	California Baptist	WAC
Tod Brown	New Mexico	MWC
Doug Drabik	N/A	WCC
Sean Harris	N/A	MWC
Tyler Huntley	N/A	Big West
Eric Newman	UC San Diego	Big West
Drew Speraw	N/A	WAC
Brock Ungricht	San Diego	WCC

## Section 1•4 Important Dates

<b>Monday, April 20</b>	Regional and super regional proposed budget materials available on <a href="http://ncaa.org">ncaa.org</a> .
<b>Monday, May 18</b>	Deadline for submission of proposed budgets for regionals and super regionals.
<b>Friday, May 22</b>	Division I Baseball Oversight Committee, Championship Subcommittee begins meeting to finalize selection of teams.
<b>Monday, May 25</b>	Televised selection show of championship bracket (tentatively noon Eastern time on ESPN2).
<b>Fri.-Mon., May 29-June 1</b>	Regional tournaments.
<b>Tuesday, June 2</b>	Super regional site selection press release (approximately 8 a.m. Eastern time).
<b>Fri.-Mon., June 5-8</b>	Super regional tournaments.
<b>Sat.-Mon., June 6-8</b>	NCAA staff teleconferences with Men’s College World Series (MCWS) participating teams (times TBD).
<b>Monday, June 8</b>	First-round MCWS game dates/times press release (approximately 8 p.m. Eastern time).
<b>Wednesday, June 10</b>	MCWS administrative meeting (7 p.m. Eastern time/6 p.m. Central time).
<b>Friday, June 12</b>	MCWS begins at Charles Schwab Field Omaha in Omaha, Nebraska; hosted by Creighton University, University of Nebraska at Omaha, College World Series, Inc., the Metropolitan Entertainment & Convention Authority, and the city of Omaha.
<b>Sat.-Sun./Mon., June 20-21/22</b>	MCWS finals.

### CHAMPIONSHIP DATES

<b>Regionals</b>	May 29-June 1
<b>Super Regionals</b>	June 5-7 or June 6-8
<b>MCWS</b>	June 12-21/22

### DATE FORMULA

**Regionals** begin the Friday after Memorial Day.

**Super Regionals** begin the Friday after regionals.

**Men’s College World Series** begins the Friday after super regionals and concludes on the second Monday after the start of the Series.

## FUTURE DATES

	Regionals	Super Regionals	MCWS
2027	June 4-7	June 11-13 or 12-14	June 18-27/28
2028	June 2-5	June 9-11 or 10-12	June 16-25/26
2029	June 1-4	June 8-10 or 9-11	June 15-24/25

## Section 1•5 Equipment

### BASEBALLS/RUBBING MUD/ROSLIN BAGS

The Rawlings FSR1NCAA baseball has been selected as the official baseball for all games in the regionals, super regionals and Men’s College World Series. Thirty-five (35) dozen game balls will be sent to each regional site and 15 dozen game balls will be sent to each super regional site. The balls will be shipped to the tournament manager at the host institution. Each team must furnish its own practice balls.

Per NCAA Baseball playing rules (Rule 1-11-a), the home team should provide baseballs to the umpires to be rubbed in to remove the glossiness before all games start. The host institution is responsible for having the proper material to “rub up” the baseballs. Moistened river silt (i.e., baseball rubbing mud) makes an excellent material to remove the gloss from the baseballs.

The host institution must provide a rosin bag for use at the pitcher’s mound for all games during the championship.

### CLUBHOUSE USAGE POLICY

**Clubhouse Usage.** The host institution will be allowed to use its clubhouse regardless of being designated as the home or visiting team in any given game in which it participates. 1) If the host venue has a host team clubhouse area and a secondary internal space for the visiting team, both teams will have access to their respective “clubhouse” spaces pregame, in-game and postgame. The restroom facilities section of this manual will take effect at the start of the game and continue through the entirety of the actual game. 2) If the host venue does not have two clubhouses/locker rooms that provide similar standard amenities (e.g., shelter, close access to dugout, functioning heating/cooling, restrooms, showers). Access to their clubhouse/locker room will be provided to the host institution up until the start of their pregame batting practice. The restroom facilities section of this manual will take effect at the start of the home team batting practice through the entirety of the actual game. All teams besides the host institution participating in the championship should come to the venue in uniform. Security shall be provided in any clubhouse/locker room during the pregame, the entire game and the postgame. The intent of this rule is to provide equitable restroom facilities for each participating team during the course of a game. Team members should shower at their hotel after the practice/game, as opposed to at the venue.

**Restroom Facilities.** Restroom facilities must be available and readily accessible for student-athletes during the course of the game (e.g., port-a-johns or permanent restrooms). Both teams participating in a given game must be provided access to comparable restroom facilities in close proximity to the dugout and/or bullpen starting with the beginning of the home team batting practice through the entirety of the actual game.

**Inclement Weather Accommodations.** If there is inclement weather, the host institution may have access to its clubhouse during a game delay regardless of being designated as the home or visiting team in any given game in which it participates; however, the host institution must provide access to adequate comparable space to accommodate the other participating team(s). The intent of this rule is to provide equitable inclement weather facilities for each participating team during the course of any weather delays.

### DUGOUT AND BULLPEN PROVISIONS

The NCAA will provide certain championship-relevant equipment (sidelines hydration, competition playing equipment, etc.) on a sport-by-sport basis that must be used in all championship activity. Each championship will receive information from the NCAA pertaining to any equipment that will be provided. Information will also be requested of each host institution/conference such as a completed inventory sheet (template provided by the NCAA) and pictures for proof of performance. The purpose of the equipment is to hydrate student-athletes for competition.

Drinking cups, water coolers, ice chests, cooler carts and water bottles should be provided at team benches (if applicable) for each scheduled practice or competition of any round of an NCAA championship. Participating teams shall place any premix fluid replacement in the NCAA-issued coolers and water bottles when applicable. No other cups, cans, coolers or water bottles may be used in the dugouts, bullpens or in the media areas during championships in which such equipment is provided by the NCAA. If applicable, the host institution/conference may retain the coolers, cooler carts and ice chests after the competition. Reoccurring institutions/conferences are strongly encouraged to use the same equipment the following year unless otherwise notified by the NCAA. Participating teams may retain the water bottles and bottle carriers after the competition.

Competitors of NCAA Corporate Champion Coca-Cola may not provide product (e.g., beverages, water, isotonic) for any NCAA championship, even if the competition offers product for free or at a reduced cost. The championship budget will cover the purchase of Coca-Cola beverage products.

Teams should use white, unbranded towels during regional and super regional games. As a result, teams may not use towels of any color or that contain any commercial branding (e.g., Gatorade, Powerade) in team dugouts, bullpens or on the field of play during the championship.

## Section 1•6 Rules

Per NCAA Bylaw 17.34 member institutions shall conduct all of their intercollegiate competition in accordance with the playing rules of the Association in all sports for which the NCAA develops playing rules. For those sports in which the Association follows rules that are developed by other governing bodies and modified by the governing sport committee, the adopted playing rules shall be used. The governing sport committee will not consider any results for selection purposes that are not played in accordance with NCAA rules, or those rules adopted by an outside organization. The 2025 and 2026 NCAA Baseball Rules Book shall be used for championship play.

### BALL PERSONS

The host institution should provide a ball person to assist the umpires for all games, and not just the games in which the host institution participates.

### DOUBLE BASE AT FIRST BASE

The host institution must install and have in place a double base at first base for use during regionals and super regionals. The double base at first base will also be used at the NCAA Men's College World Series.

### LENGTH OF GAME – HALTED-GAME RULE

All games shall be nine innings. If play has been stopped before nine innings have been completed, the halted-game rule (Rule 5-9) shall be used. Note: The 10-Run Rule – Rule 5-8-b-(4) – shall not be used for regionals, super regionals or the Men's College World Series.

### OFFICIAL SCORER

Per NCAA Baseball playing rules (Rule 3-5), each championship host site is required to assign an official scorer for each game. The official scorer for each game shall be appointed by the tournament manager, and his or her duties shall be outlined in the 2025 and 2026 NCAA Baseball Rules Book (Rule 10-1).

It is recommended that the Official NCAA Baseball Scorebook be used for all tournament games.

### PROTEST PROCEDURE

The following protest procedure shall be used in all tournaments:

1. Any protest by the coach of a competing team must be made at the time of the action or incident that caused the protest, and before play is resumed;
2. If the game ends (legal contest) in a protestable situation, the offended team has until all fielders have left fair territory to voice its protest intentions;

## DIVISION I BASEBALL

3. All protests must be made to the umpire crew chief; however, if the crew chief is not working the game, the assistant crew chief or the home plate umpire shall receive the protest;
4. No protest shall be allowed that involves a judgment decision by an umpire; and
5. All protests must be ruled upon immediately by the protest committee [NCAA site representative(s), umpire crew chief and/or assistant crew chief]. The protest committee shall make a written report to the chair of the NCAA Division I Baseball Oversight Committee, Championship Subcommittee after making its decision.

### TIMING DEVICES

A visible clock is required in conjunction with the regionals, super regionals and the Men's College World Series. There will be three visible clocks that will be used at the NCAA Men's College World Series. The umpires will be responsible for tracking the time between pitches/innings on the field and also the enforcement of the associated rules with the visible clock available in the stadium. The clock generally will be kept and/or monitored by the third base umpire.

### UMPIRES

Six umpires will be assigned to the regionals and four umpires will be assigned to the super regionals. Four umpires will be assigned to each tournament game. If different umpires are assigned to the continuation of a suspended game, the umpiring fee will be divided equally among the officials.

The umpires must report to the tournament manager one hour before the game they are to work and be on the field 15 minutes before the start of the game.

An umpire shall not work more than two games in one day except in an emergency situation.

It is recommended that the host institution for regional competition provide seats for nonworking umpires.

Umpires for the championship will be selected by the Division I Baseball Oversight Committee, Championship Subcommittee, based on recommendations of conferences and a review of the umpires by the national coordinator of baseball umpires, the baseball umpire advisors, and the Division I Baseball Oversight Committee, Championship Subcommittee (Umpire Subcommittee).

Each umpire will receive \$3,500 for regionals. The regional crew chief will receive \$3,800 and the regional assistant crew chief will receive \$3,500. For super regionals each umpire will receive \$2,000 and the super regional crew chief will receive \$2,300. For the Men's College World Series, each umpire will receive \$10,000 and the two crew chiefs will receive \$10,300. Umpires will also receive coach airfare or round-trip mileage based on NCAA Travel policies if assigned to a site less than 400 miles from the umpire's home. If the umpire is 400 miles or more from the site and chooses to drive, they will be reimbursed their actual mileage per mile, up to the cost of the lowest available coach airline ticket. The mileage reimbursement will be capped at 400 miles one-way. A \$45 per diem also is provided, beginning with the day of arrival and ending with the day of departure. The NCAA will reimburse the umpire for the above expenses. All umpire expenses (game fee, per diem, mileage, etc.) will be paid directly by the NCAA using RefQuest Plus (RQ+), an online officials payment system. All umpires working the championship will be contacted by the NCAA prior to the championship and provided more detailed information regarding RQ+.

The host institution tournament manager should make all hotel lodging arrangements for any umpires working at their regional/super regional site. While the quality of lodging for the umpires should be consistent with that of the student-athletes, the umpires should not be housed in the same property as any of the participating teams. The host institution should be responsible for the umpires' lodging costs (room and tax only). The host institution should work with the hotel to set up a direct bill back to the institution for these charges. The host institution should budget for the umpires' lodging for the maximum number of tournament days as part of its budgeted expenses in its proposed budget.

**Policies.** A sport committee or games committee may not require membership in any specific officials' association as a prerequisite for selection to officiate in an NCAA meet or tournament. Officials shall be selected and assigned by the sport oversight committee, championship subcommittee or games committee, which shall ensure that officials adhere to the Association's policies relating to gambling activities and drug and alcohol use. Furthermore, officials must conduct themselves in a manner befitting intercollegiate athletics. Failure to do so may result in termination of the officiating assignment.

## VIDEO BOARD REPLAYS

Host institutions with video boards shall adhere to the guidelines set forth in the [2025 and 2026 NCAA Baseball Rules Book](#) (Appendix B). During the championship, all replays (except listed in A-1-a through g) may be shown once, regardless of replay speed. Live video must cease once a student-athlete enters the batter's box and may resume upon contact with the bat after the pitch.

## Section 1•7 Uniforms

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*[Reference: Bylaw 22.4 in the NCAA Division I Manual.]*

Once a team enters the stadium/field, it is required that the team be in full pregame or regular-game uniform. In addition, team representatives must be in appropriate attire, not necessarily in uniform, for all other championship functions (i.e., press conferences, banquets, autograph sessions), which shall include warmups, batting practice and infield practice. As for practice uniforms, shorts are permissible provided they are institutionally issued apparel and all team members are wearing shorts during the practice.

In addition, institutionally issued shorts are permissible during pregame batting practice as long as all team members are wearing shorts.

During all on-site practices and pregame activities (e.g., warmups, batting practice, taking infield/outfield), participating teams are required to wear a jersey/shirt with clearly legible uniform numbers on them. These numbers should be at least six inches in height and be located on the back of the jersey/shirt. Each student-athlete's practice number must be the same number he will wear during the game. All teams are required to wear only institutional apparel during on-site practices and pregame activities. Game uniforms must adhere to Rule 1-14 of the 2025 and 2026 NCAA Baseball Rules Book. Please note that for the 2026 championship, it is the responsibility of the visiting team to wear a contrasting uniform color to the jersey worn by the home team. The home team gets to select their desired uniform color first. Please note that it is also required that the base coaches wear a helmet.

This bylaw will be strictly enforced at all NCAA championships, and the names of individuals and institutions that are not in compliance with this bylaw shall be forwarded to the NCAA enforcement staff.

## LOGOS

[Refer to General Administrative Guidelines, Section 7.](#)

# Section 2 • Determination of Championship Participation

## Section 2•1 Championship Format

### CHAMPIONSHIP STRUCTURE

The championship provides for a field of 64 teams. There are 29 conference champions that qualify automatically; the balance of the field is selected at-large by the NCAA Division I Baseball Oversight Committee, Championship Subcommittee.

Sixteen four-team regionals will be conducted with the winners advancing to eight two-team super regionals. Winners of the eight super regional tournaments will qualify for the Men's College World Series in Omaha, Nebraska. All regional tournaments will be double-elimination. The super regionals will be best-of-three series. The brackets used for the regional competitions as well as the Men's College World Series may be found in [Appendix A](#).

### Regional Format

The procedures outlined below shall be used in the conduct of all 16 regional competitions.

The regionals must start the Friday after Memorial Day and will be conducted over a four-day period. There might not be a game played on Monday, provided the "if necessary" game is not needed. All regional competition should be completed not later than the Monday before the start of super regional competition.

Prospective host institutions must submit preferred starting times for all games and Day 1 game order with the hosting proposal material. However, all starting times and game orders for the first day of competition will be determined by the NCAA and its broadcast partners.

For regional competitions, the following procedure will be observed:

#### Day 1

<b>Game 1</b>	No. 1 vs. No. 4
<b>Game 2</b>	No. 2 vs. No. 3

#### Day 2

<b>Game 3</b>	Loser Game 1 vs. Loser Game 2
<b>Game 4</b>	Winner Game 1 vs. Winner Game 2

#### Day 3

<b>Game 5</b>	Winner Game 3 vs. Loser Game 4
<b>Game 6</b>	Winner Game 4 vs. Winner Game 5

#### Day 4

<b>Game 7</b>	If necessary, same teams as in Game 6.
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It should be noted that the pairings in the bracket may not be altered and the game orders during the remainder of the tournament may not be adjusted.

Please note that the only exception per NCAA Bylaw 31.1.4.1 states that if a participating institution has a written policy against competition on a particular day for religious reasons, the championship schedule shall be adjusted to accommodate that institution. If an institution has a policy against any competition on a Sunday, and it was to make the 2026 championship field, the schedule for that regional site in which the institution would be assigned shall be adjusted as follows:

**Thursday, May 28** - two games

**Friday, May 29** - two games

**Saturday, May 30** - two games

**Sunday, May 31** - no games (please note that the “if necessary” game would only be played on this day if the team being accommodated for religious reasons has already been eliminated from the championship).

**Monday, June 1** - one game (if necessary).

If, for unforeseen circumstances, it becomes impossible to play a regional tournament game(s), the NCAA Division I Baseball Oversight Committee, Championship Subcommittee is authorized to determine which team in a respective regional shall advance to the super regionals. The inclement weather guidelines for regional competition are listed in the preliminary-rounds host operations manual.

**Super Regional Format**

The procedures outlined below shall be used in the conduct of all super regional competitions.

The super regionals will start either the Friday or Saturday after regional competition (four super regionals will begin Friday and the other four super regionals will begin Saturday) and will be conducted over a three-day period (if necessary). Super regional competition should be completed not later than the Monday before the start of the Men’s College World Series. The inclement weather guidelines for super regional competition are also listed in the preliminary-rounds host operations manual.

Prospective host institutions must submit preferred starting times for all games with the hosting proposal material. Please note that the NCAA, in consultation with its broadcast partner, will determine the dates and times of super regional games.

For all super regional competitions, the following procedure will be observed:

**Day 1**

<b>Game 1</b>	Team A vs. Team B
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**Day 2**

<b>Game 2</b>	Team A vs. Team B
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**Day 3**

<b>Game 3</b>	If necessary, Team A vs. Team B.
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Please note that the only exception per NCAA Bylaw 31.1.4.1 states that if a participating institution has a written policy against competition on a particular day for religious reasons, the championship schedule shall be adjusted to accommodate that institution.

If, for unforeseen circumstances, it becomes impossible to play and complete a super regional tournament(s), the Division I Baseball Oversight Committee, Championship Subcommittee is authorized to determine which team(s) shall advance to the Men’s College World Series.

**Men’s College World Series**

The eight winners of the super regional competitions will advance to the Men’s College World Series.

The NCAA and its broadcast partner will determine the order in which the games will be played during a tentative June 8 teleconference. Each four-team bracket then will play a double-elimination tournament to determine the bracket champions. The two bracket champions will play a best two-of-three championship series (MCWS Finals) to determine the national champion. The MCWS Finals format consists of single games Saturday, Sunday and Monday (if necessary), June 20-21/22.

## DIVISION I BASEBALL

Please note that the only exception per NCAA Bylaw 31.1.4.1 states that if a participating institution has a written policy against competition on a particular day for religious reasons, the championship schedule shall be adjusted to accommodate that institution.

The Men's College World Series bracket, including dates, pairings and game times, may be found in [Appendix A](#).

### SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

The following pregame schedule shall be followed for all regional and super regional games that are played on natural grass fields:

#### Before Game

Home batting practice	2:15
Visitor batting practice	1:35
Remove cage	:55
Home infield	:45
Visitor infield	:35
Field preparation	:25
Introductions (visiting team first), if necessary	:14
National Anthem (if necessary)	:09
Umpires/coaches meeting	:06
Home team on field	:02
First pitch	:00

The following pregame schedule may be followed for all regional and super regional games that are played on field turf infields:

#### Before Game

Home batting practice	2:00
Visitor batting practice	1:20
Remove cage	:40
Home infield	:34
Visitor infield	:24
Field preparation	:14
Introductions (visiting team first), if necessary	:13
National Anthem (if necessary)	:09
Umpires/coaches meeting	:06
Home team on field	:02
First pitch	:00

It is recommended that, between the last out of the previous game and the start of the next game, a 55-minute period be allowed, which provides for a minimum of a 10-minute warm-up period before the home team takes infield. Batting practice shall be conducted on the field of competition for teams competing in the first game of a session (weather permitting). At regional sites, if time permits, on-field batting practice for the second game of a day is allowable at the venue/grounds crew's discretion, subject to the ultimate approval of the NCAA site representative(s). The start of the second game cannot be delayed to provide for the batting practice on the game field.

### START TIMES

As a general guideline, no game should start later than 11 p.m. (local time). In addition, a game shall not start on Sundays before noon (local time). As a general guideline, a potential Men's College World Series Championship clinching game (i.e., MCWS Finals Game 2 or 3) should not start later than 9 p.m. (local time). All final determinations on late start times will be made by the Division I Baseball Oversight Committee, Championship Subcommittee and NCAA national office staff in consultation with the NCAA site representatives on site.

**NEW for 2026:** Regionals – minimum overnight turnaround for participating teams.

If a game concludes after 1 a.m. local time, the teams participating in that game shall have a minimum of 12 hours before the first pitch of their next game. This may require an adjustment to the scheduled first pitch time of the game in question.

Example: After a two-hour rain delay, Game 2 of the Indianapolis Regional goes 15 innings and does not end until 2:30 a.m. Team B lost Game 2 and is scheduled to play in Game 3, Saturday at noon. Under the new policy, Game 3 would not be permitted to start until 2:30 p.m. (instead of noon) to allow Team B to have at least 12 hours between their games.

**Regionals**

All regional-round games will be covered on an ESPN platform (ESPN, ESPN2, ESPNU or ESPN+). Prospective hosts shall submit their preferred starting times for all games and Day 1 game order for both games. However, hosts should note that the finalized regional game times and Day 1 game order shall be determined by the NCAA and ESPN. It should be noted that the pairings in the regional bracket may not be altered during the remainder of the tournament. Please note that the Division I Baseball Oversight Committee, Championship Subcommittee, in consultation with ESPN, may adjust the dates and times of regional games. The game times and game order for regionals will be publicized in conjunction with the championship bracket announcement on Monday, May 25.

**Super Regionals**

Prospective host institutions must submit preferred starting times for all games with the hosting proposal material. Please note that the NCAA and ESPN will determine the dates and times of super regional games.

**TICKETS**

Ticket prices for all tournaments shall be in accordance with the minimum prices outlined below as determined by the Division I Baseball Oversight Committee, Championship Subcommittee.

The minimum ticket price for regional and super regional competition may not be less than what the host institution charges for regular-season games. In addition, hosts may sell a single ticket for all games during a day of regional competition if the price of an all-day ticket equals the number of games times the ticket price for a single game. Finally, an all-session ticket may be offered at a discounted rate.

Ticket prices may be scaled according to seat location, but the following minimum prices shall prevail:

	<b>Reserved</b>	<b>General Admission</b>	<b>Students</b>	<b>Box Seat</b>
<b>Regionals</b>	\$8	\$6	\$4	\$9
<b>Super Regionals</b>	\$10	\$7	\$4	--

Two hundred (200) tickets must be held for each visiting regional team for the games in which they will participate. During the regional round, visiting teams shall not be required to purchase all-session ticket packages. They will only need to purchase tickets for the game in which their team is involved. Six hundred (600) all-session tickets must be held for each visiting super regional team. Tickets must be held until 10 a.m. local time on the day of the game for the participating team(s) for the games in which they participate in the regionals and super regionals. These tickets must all be located between first and third base.

**TRAVEL PARTY**

Please refer to the NCAA Travel policies for all information regarding transportation and per diem expenses. Travel policies can be found online at [ncaa.org/championships/travel/championships-travel-information](https://www.ncaa.org/championships/travel/championships-travel-information).

**NEW for 2026:** The official travel party for all rounds of the championship is 35. The squad size is 34 student-athletes in uniform eligible to compete. On the field, including the practice field, bullpen, bench and dugout, each team is limited to four official coaches in uniform, 34 eligible student-athletes in uniform and seven additional individuals as determined by the institution. Only uniformed personnel, including coaches and eligible student-athletes, may be permitted between the white lines and in the bullpens. The maximum limit in the dugout is 45 individuals. A bat handler, who must be 13 years of age or older, does not count against the maximum limit of 45 individuals. Nonuniformed personnel in proper attire may participate in pregame warmups. Once a game begins, the athletic trainer or manager is permitted on the field only to perform his/her appropriate duty (e.g., warming up a pitcher is not considered an appropriate duty).

A nonrostered bullpen catcher is permitted but must be included in a team's 45-person dugout limit.

An institution that is advised it is in violation of this regulation and does not conform to it promptly shall be subject to failure to follow procedures and/or misconduct.

## Section 2•2 Results

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### TEAM SCHEDULES AND ROSTERS

**Deadline – Jan. 9:** Team schedules need to be input on the statistics site. Reference the schedule instructions for more information. Rosters should be updated before the team's first contest.

### STATISTICS SOFTWARE

All host schools should use either Presto or Statinput to produce statistics for their contests. As in previous seasons, one of the participating institutions is still required to submit an XML file as soon as possible following each game.

Use of StatCrew on a computer with the system clock manually altered ("clock rolled back") is not an acceptable solution and should not be used for NCAA Championship events.

If you have any questions, please contact Jeff Williams ([jswilliams@ncaa.org](mailto:jswilliams@ncaa.org)).

### RATING PERCENTAGE INDEX (RPI)

The RPI is intended to be used as one of many valuable resources provided to the committee in the selection, seeding and bracketing process. It should never be considered anything but an additional evaluation tool. No computer program that is based on pure numbers can take into account subjective concepts (e.g., how well a team is playing down the stretch, what the loss or return of a top player means to a team, how emotional a specific conference game may be).

Several independent elements are combined to produce the RPI. These elements are part of the statistical information that can be utilized by each member in an objective manner. Each committee member independently evaluates a vast pool of information available during the process to develop individual preferences. It is these opinions – developed after many hours of personal observations (e.g., games watched); review of regional rankings submitted by regional advisory committee members; discussion with coaches, directors of athletics, senior woman administrators and commissioners; and review and comparison of objective data – that dictate how each individual ultimately will vote on all issues related to the selection, seeding and bracketing process.

While the various elements of the RPI are important in the evaluation process, the tournament bracket each year is based on the subjectivity of each individual committee member to select the best at-large teams available and to create a nationally balanced championship.

The results-reporting and statistics-reporting processes are combined for Division I baseball. Schools will submit all schedule and results information to the NCAA statistics site ([stats.ncaa.org/login](https://stats.ncaa.org/login)), and this information will then be transferred into the RPI system for use by the Division I Baseball Oversight Committee, Championship Subcommittee. Specific instructions and reporting deadlines have been communicated to SIDs in a memo from the media coordination and statistics staff. For questions regarding the reporting process, please contact Jeff Williams ([jswilliams@ncaa.org](mailto:jswilliams@ncaa.org) or 317-917-6138).

The 2026 Division I Baseball RPI release will occur Monday, March 2, and daily thereafter (Monday-Friday only), through the remainder of the regular season. A final RPI will be released after the conclusion of the MCWS.

## Section 2•3 Selection Information

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### ALLOCATION OF BERTHS

The championship provides for a field of 64 teams. There are 29 conference champions that qualify automatically; the balance of the field is selected at-large by the Division I Baseball Oversight Committee, Championship Subcommittee.

## AUTOMATIC QUALIFICATION

Conference champions that have been certified as automatic qualifiers for the Division I championship are listed in [Appendix B](#). Conference champions must be determined not later than midnight Eastern time (by 11:59 p.m. Eastern time) on Sunday, May 24.

## AT-LARGE SELECTION

The Division I Baseball Oversight Committee, Championship Subcommittee will follow Bylaw 31.3.3 in selecting at-large participants. To be eligible for at-large selection, a team must have a better than .500 record against Division I competition.

### Bylaw 31.3.3.1 – Countable Competition

For NCAA team-championship selection purposes, competition is countable only when the teams played are varsity intercollegiate teams of four-year, degree-granting institutions that conduct a majority of their competition in that team sport against varsity intercollegiate teams (see Bylaw 20.2.4.6) of United States four-year, degree-granting institutions. Competition against service teams, professional teams, semiprofessional teams, amateur teams, two-year colleges and club teams shall be excluded.

## REGULAR-SEASON CONTESTS

At the time the game is scheduled, both teams shall agree as to whether the game is to be counted for purposes of won-lost records and team and individual statistics. A game will be counted by both teams as an official contest unless both teams agree in writing before the game that it is to be an exhibition contest. If it is an exhibition contest, the team and the individual statistics and records cannot be counted for either team. In any event, the contest or exhibition remains countable as a contest for the purpose of Bylaws 17.02.3 and 17.4.5.1. Further, all games will be of regulation length.

Coaches should be aware of the application of Bylaw 12.6.3.1 (season of competition). Unless a specific exception is applicable, any competition, regardless of time, shall constitute a season of competition.

No games played during the fall will be included in a team's won-lost record and statistics.

Forfeited games shall be categorized separately in considering won-lost records.

## Section 2•4 Selection Criteria

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The Division I Baseball Oversight Committee, Championship Subcommittee will meet to make the final selections, regional and super regional site determinations and pairings.

Announcement of the entire 64-team bracket will be made by the NCAA tentatively at noon Eastern time on Monday, May 25, on ESPN2.

The Division I Baseball Oversight Committee, Championship Subcommittee shall have full authority to select the at-large teams to compete in the respective regional tournaments. The committee will consider other outstanding teams from automatic-qualifying conferences and independent institutions (if applicable) for the at-large selections. The committee shall appoint regional advisory committees to assist it in evaluating teams, but recommendations of the regional advisory committee members are not binding upon the committee.

In addition, the committee also uses the Rating Percentage Index (RPI), a computer program that provides the committee with (1) the institution's Division I winning percentage, (2) opponents' average winning percentage and (3) opponents' average winning percentage. The RPI is an additional tool used in the evaluation of at-large teams. Please note that the adjusted RPI takes into account a bonus/penalty structure. For more specific questions, please contact Jeff Williams at 317-917-6138.

The following criteria shall be employed by a governing sport committee in selecting participants for NCAA championships competition [*Bylaw 31.3.3; Criteria for Selection of Participants*]:

- Won-lost record;
- Strength of schedule; and
- Eligibility and availability of student-athletes for NCAA championships.

## DIVISION I BASEBALL

In addition to Bylaw 31.3.3, the Division I Baseball Oversight Committee, Championship Subcommittee will also consider the following criteria in the selection of at-large teams for the Division I Baseball Championship (not necessarily in priority order). The committee may consider comparative data of individual teams, including, but not limited to:

- Overall record.
- Division I record.
- Overall RPI rank.
- Nonconference record and RPI rank.
- Conference regular-season record and conference tournament results.
- Road record and RPI.
- Results of the RPI in four RPI Quadrants based on the location of the game:
  - Record against Quadrant 1: (Quadrant 1 – home games vs. 1-25, neutral site games vs. 1-40, away games vs. 1-60).
  - Record against Quadrant 2: (Quadrant 2 – home games vs. 26-50, neutral site games vs. 41-80, away games vs. 61-120).
  - Record against Quadrant 3: (Quadrant 3 – home games vs. 51-100, neutral site games vs. 81-160, away games vs. 121-240).
  - Record against Quadrant 4: (Quadrant 4 – home games vs. 101+, neutral site games vs. 161+, away games vs. 241+).
- Last 15 games' record.
- Head-to-head competition
- Results versus common opponents.
- Input from regional advisory committees.

The Division I Baseball Oversight Committee, Championship Subcommittee will also use the following as a resource and consideration by the subcommittee during the selection meeting for the Division I Baseball Championship. These resources will not be used as selection criteria, however, the subcommittee will use these metrics as a resource in the selection meeting when evaluating teams.

- The Kevin Pauga Index (KPI) ranking is a results-based metric that ranks team resumes on a game-by-game basis, quantifying how hard it was for a team to achieve a record given their schedule. KPI ranks every team's win and loss on a positive-to-negative scale with the game values averaged for the team's KPI ranking. The best win possible is worth about +1.0, the worst loss about -1.0, and a virtual tie at 0.0. Adjustments are made to each game's value based on location of the game, opponent quality and percentage of total points scored. KPI rankings are available here: [faktorsports.com](http://faktorsports.com).
- **NEW for 2026:** Diamond Sports Rankings (DSR), is a predictive-based metric which uses a point exchange system to rank teams by their probability of defeating an average team. The DSR ranking is available [here](#).

### PAIRINGS

Fifty percent of the bracket will be seeded in four groupings of 1-8. Published seeding will be in four sets of 1-8 and the pairings will honor a 1-8 assignment. The committee will identify the top 32 teams. The top 16 teams will be identified in rank order and assigned a seed grouping from 1 to 4. The top 16 will also be identified with its overall rank on the published bracket. The balance of the ranked teams, in turn, are assigned to one of the remaining seed groupings (i.e., 5 to 8). Once the seed assignment is finalized, it remains unchanged while placing the teams into the championship bracket.

Except for the 32 seeds, the pairings for the regionals, whenever possible, will be based on closest geographical location of the teams to the tournament sites. Teams may be moved outside their regions, if necessary, to balance the bracket or if the proximity to an opponent outside the region would be comparable and a better competitive matchup would occur. Teams from the same conference will be placed in different regionals. The committee will not reseed the teams once the initial bracket is determined. The committee will be responsible for determining the regional first-round pairings and bracket.

Super regional pairings are determined by the initial placement of teams on the bracket. Two winners of regional competitions will meet in one of eight super regional tournaments. The bracket will be developed such that if all of the top 16 seeded teams (No. 1 seeds) were to advance from the regional to the super regional round, the matchups would be 1 vs. 16, 2 vs. 15, 3 vs. 14, 4 vs. 13, 5 vs. 12, 6 vs. 11, 7 vs. 10, and 8 vs. 9.

Per Bylaw 31.1.3.2.5, seeded teams will have an opportunity to host regional competition provided they meet all hosting requirements and have submitted a bid to host by the May 18 deadline. Selection of teams shall be completed Monday, May 25.

## CERTIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY/AVAILABILITY

*[Reference: Certification of Eligibility/Availability in the Division I General Section and Bylaws 12.8.1 and 31.2.1.7 in the NCAA Division I Manual.]*

Only student-athletes eligible under Bylaws 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16 may compete in NCAA championships. In accordance with Bylaw 12.8.1, member institutions are required to certify the eligibility of their student-athletes before each academic year and to withhold ineligible student-athletes from all intercollegiate competition. Member institutions are reminded to notify the NCAA national office before the selection date for each championship of any student-athlete who may have participated in regular-season competition but subsequently is determined to be ineligible or unavailable for NCAA championship competition. For the Division I Baseball Championship, institutions must notify Randy L. Buhr (317-966-7306; [rlbuhr@ncaa.org](mailto:rlbuhr@ncaa.org)) before May 22.

## Section 2•5 Site Selection

Any institution or conference interested in hosting a preliminary round of the 2026 NCAA Division I Baseball Championship must submit a proposed budget, facility evaluation form, key contacts form, proof of insurance, video board questionnaire (if applicable), and alcohol agreement forms (if applicable) to be considered to host. A separate proposed budget and key contacts form must be submitted for each round that an institution or conference is interested in hosting. Please respond to sport-specific questions and ensure the institution's key contacts and facility information are up to date via the Championships Bid and Host Profile portal. To submit a bid, first search for the desired championship under "championships available for bid" and select "add bid."

All member institutions are allowed to regularly and easily access their profiles by visiting [championships.ncaa.org](http://championships.ncaa.org). For profile issues, user access or to reset a password, please email [championshipbid@ncaa.org](mailto:championshipbid@ncaa.org) or contact the respective championship manager.

Committee/site representative per diem, mileage and luggage fees will be paid directly by the NCAA and not the host institution. Game officials will be reimbursed via the RefQuest (RQ+) system for their game fee, per diem, mileage and luggage fees. Hosts do not pay these fees.

For both the game officials and committee/site representatives, hosts will pay for their lodging expenses and be reimbursed by the NCAA through the budget process. However, if the NCAA manages the hotel block for the game officials, the officials' lodging expenses shall be directly billed to the NCAA. The NCAA typically manages the officials' hotel block only at the finals site for the NCAA Division I Baseball Championship.

If your institution wishes to bid to host a preliminary round of the championship, please take the information in Section 2.1 of this manual into account for accommodations that may be needed if a participating institution has a written policy against competition on a particular day for religious reasons (e.g., housing arrangements for each visiting team at your regional site, stadium availability, staffing needs).

All bid-related forms can be accessed via the following website: [web1.ncaa.org/champsBidV20/exec/login](http://web1.ncaa.org/champsBidV20/exec/login). The deadline to submit all materials for hosting preliminary rounds is Monday, May 18.

## FINAL FINANCIAL REPORT

*[Reference: Bylaw 31.4 in the NCAA Division I Manual.]*

A final financial report from each championship site must be submitted via the Championships Bid and Host Profile portal (online host reporting system) under the "budget" tab not later than 60 days after the last date of competition.

### CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have any questions regarding the bid process, please contact either Chad Tolliver (317-917-6706 or email at [ctolliver@ncaa.org](mailto:ctolliver@ncaa.org)) or Randy L. Buhr (317-917-6716 or email at [rlbuhr@ncaa.org](mailto:rlbuhr@ncaa.org)).

### PROSPECTIVE HOSTS

Regarding the regional tournaments, with the criteria listed in Bylaw 31.1.3, the Division I Baseball Oversight Committee, Championship Subcommittee also follows the additional criteria below:

1. Regional competition shall take place at on-campus sites or alternative sites approved by the Division I Baseball Oversight Committee, Championship Subcommittee.
2. The subcommittee shall attempt to place regional tournaments so that maximum national balance can be obtained, preferably at least one regional in each of the five Division I baseball regions.
3. Prospective host institutions must submit a minimum financial guarantee of \$75,000, which shall be 75% of the estimated net receipts as submitted on the hosting proposal (online proposed budget).
4. Once that guarantee is met, the committee shall consider the additional criteria as listed in Bylaw 31.1.3.2.1.
5. Lights are highly recommended at all prospective regional sites. These lights should meet the NCAA standards found by clicking on the “NCAA Broadcast Manual and Policies” link at [ncaa.com/media](http://ncaa.com/media).
6. Host sites are required to have permanent restrooms for fans to be considered to host.
7. The subcommittee will consider previous crowd control and behavior of the prospective host institution.

Regarding the super regional tournaments, with the criteria listed in Bylaw 31.1.3, the Division I Baseball Oversight Committee, Championship Subcommittee also follows the additional criteria below:

1. Super regional competition shall take place at on-campus sites or alternate sites approved by the Division I Baseball Oversight Committee, Championship Subcommittee.
2. Prospective host institutions must submit a minimum financial guarantee of \$50,000, which shall be 75% of the estimated net receipts as submitted on the hosting proposal (online proposed budget). The \$50,000 minimum applies to both two-day and three-day super regional competitions.
3. Consideration for hosting shall be given to the higher seed if a suitable hosting proposal has been received (e.g., meets financial guarantee and quality of facility criteria). If the higher seed has not submitted a proposal, the lower-seeded team will host if its proposal is acceptable.
4. If the super regional matchup is between equally seeded teams, the committee shall review the hosting proposals according to the site selection criteria (e.g., quality and availability of the facility, revenue potential and other available accommodations) to determine the host. If only one of the teams has submitted a proposal, that team shall host if the proposal is acceptable.
5. Lights are highly recommended at all prospective super regional sites. These lights should meet the NCAA standards found by clicking on the “NCAA Broadcast Manual and Policies” link at [ncaa.com/media](http://ncaa.com/media).
6. Host sites are required to have permanent restrooms for fans to be considered to host.
7. The subcommittee will consider previous crowd control and behavior of the prospective host institution.

### LODGING

Host tournament managers will make local reservations for the competing teams and advise them of the arrangements. All hotels used for team lodging should be of equal quality. A minimum of 25 double-double rooms should be reserved for each team for all regional and super regional round games. It is ideal and recommended to have all teams housed in separate properties. The selected hotel properties are expected to be located within 30-45 minutes of travel time from the venue, with a preference for 30 minutes, and be priced at a fair and reasonable market room rate. Hotels beyond 45 minutes may be considered by the Division I Baseball Oversight Committee, Championship Subcommittee as part of an acceptable bid, but additional information and rationale is required with the bid, and hosts should also ensure that the locations of the hotels for all visiting teams are equitable to the greatest extent possible. The host institution is not allowed to use university housing (e.g., dormitories) as an option to house the participating team(s) in a regional and/or

super regional. There would be no exceptions to this policy that would be reviewed by the Division I Baseball Oversight Committee, Championship Subcommittee. The selection of a competition site may be dependent on availability and quality of rooms for participating institutions/student-athletes.

Hotel rooms should be reserved for all participating teams, umpires and the NCAA site representative(s) through the final possible night of competition at the site. All participating team rooms should be held until the team(s) checks out and then, and only then, should they be made available to the general public. It should be understood by the hotel that any rooms released by a participating team after it has been eliminated from the tournament should not be the financial responsibility of that team or the host institution. Please note that if accommodations need to be made for a participating institution because of religious reasons, please take this into account when making tentative housing arrangements for each visiting team (as the teams assigned to such a regional site may arrive on Tuesday instead of a possible Wednesday arrival for a traditional Friday-Monday regional format). This potential change in the schedule also needs to be taken into consideration when making housing arrangements for the NCAA site representatives and the umpires.

Participating institutions are expected to stay at the hotel assigned by the host and are responsible for confirming with the hotel the number of rooms they will require and the rooming lists. If an institution prefers to stay in another hotel, the institution must use the rooms for persons accompanying the official travel party or will be charged a financial penalty as follows: 1) If the event is one to three nights, the institution will be required to pay for one night; 2) If the event is four or more nights, the institution will be required to pay for two nights. The participating institution is expected to pay the penalty to the impacted hotel prior to departing from the locale. In either case, the institution is responsible for securing arrangements at another property.

Unless approved by the NCAA in advance, an institution is precluded from relocating to a hotel where another institution or the umpires have been assigned.

Please review the 2026 NCAA Division I Baseball Championship Preliminary Rounds Host Operations manual for more lodging details.

## CHAMPIONSHIPS BID AND HOST PROFILE PORTAL (ONLINE HOST REPORTING SYSTEM)

The Championships Bid and Host Profile portal can be accessed at [championships.ncaa.org](https://championships.ncaa.org). The deadline to submit all bid materials for this championship is Monday, May 18.

The proposed budget form is now an expandable/collapsible tree format with the ability to upload supporting documents. Please note the unbudgeted expenditures section has been removed in the budget form. As part of the bid, prospective hosts must enter a budgeted amount for the following items that previously were considered unbudgeted expenditures:

- Committee/site representative lodging.
- Game officials lodging.
- State and city taxes/fees.
- Ticket fees.

**As a reminder, prospective hosts' budgets should include committee/site representative's lodging expenses, game officials' lodging expenses, state and city taxes/fees, if applicable, and any ticket fees.** Committee/site representative's per diem, mileage and luggage fees will now be paid by the NCAA instead of the host institution. Game officials will be reimbursed via the RQ+ system for their game fees, per diem, mileage and luggage fees. Hosts will no longer pay these fees.

**An online proposed budget must be completed for each round of competition you wish to host.** For those institutions submitting bids for multiple rounds, a "copy" function is available and will allow you to transfer budget information between rounds. The appropriate round and date of competition must be indicated on each budget.

**Please be sure to include projected ticket sales in the Receipts section.**

**As a result of the restructuring of the online budget system, there no longer is an "unbudgeted disbursements" section.** Therefore, all lodging expenses for officials and site representatives must be included in your budget. As a reminder, officials' fees, per diem and travel expenses do not need to be included, nor do per diem and travel expenses for site representatives. The NCAA will pay those expenses directly.

### FACILITY EVALUATION FORM

A facility evaluation form must be completed by each institution interested in hosting preliminary-round competition. If you submitted a facility evaluation form for this championship last year, the responses to a number of questions will auto-populate with information you submitted last year. Please verify or edit those responses as needed, and provide responses to all blank questions.

Institutions interested in hosting preliminary-round competition of the NCAA Division I Baseball Championship must add (or ensure accuracy of) facility information for the applicable competition venue. This information is located at [championships.ncaa.org](https://championships.ncaa.org). Any supporting information (e.g., facility diagram, pictures) may be uploaded and attached to that facility's profile. This information will be made available to the Division I Baseball Oversight Committee, Championship Subcommittee to aid in their deliberations of prospective host sites.

### KEY CONTACTS FORM

The key contacts form and instructions are available online. Each institution should list and then maintain its key contacts associated with each sport and the institution. Individuals can be added via the Championships Bid and Host Profile portal at [championships.ncaa.org](https://championships.ncaa.org). Please complete a key contacts form for each round of competition you wish to host, and a "copy" function is available for the key contacts form, allowing you to transfer this information between rounds. The appropriate round and date of competition must be indicated on each key contacts form.

Personnel who will administer the competition should be listed on the key contacts form. Please pay close attention to contact names and addresses listed for receivables. Items such as signage, game balls, awards, hydration equipment, etc., will be shipped to the listed address(es). In order to receive all supplies and equipment in a timely manner, it is imperative that this information is accurate. Please include the proper shipping address for overnight deliveries. P.O. Box addresses are not acceptable.

### SAFETY AND SECURITY PLAN

Based upon a review of current and future championships competition venues, discussions with safety and security experts, and its own expertise and knowledge, the NCAA has established a Safety and Security Advisory Group (SSAG) to develop a compilation of Best Practices for NCAA championships. We urge each competition venue to take these Best Practices into account when developing its safety and security program. As part of your bid, please submit a safety and security plan for your venue using the document upload in the championship bid portal, which would be inclusive of the NCAA Championships Safety and Security Team contact information form, located in Appendix A of the Best Practices document.

The best practices for venue safety and security along with the safety and security contact form is located at: [ncaa.org/sites/default/files/Best\\_Practices\\_for\\_Venue\\_Safety\\_and\\_Security.pdf](https://ncaa.org/sites/default/files/Best_Practices_for_Venue_Safety_and_Security.pdf)

# Appendixes

## Contents

Appendix A • Brackets.....	28
Appendix B • Sport Sponsorship.....	31

# Appendix A • Brackets



## 2026 NCAA Division I Baseball Championship

**Regionals**  
May 29 - June 1  
Campus or Neutral Sites  
Double Elimination  
First-Round Pairings

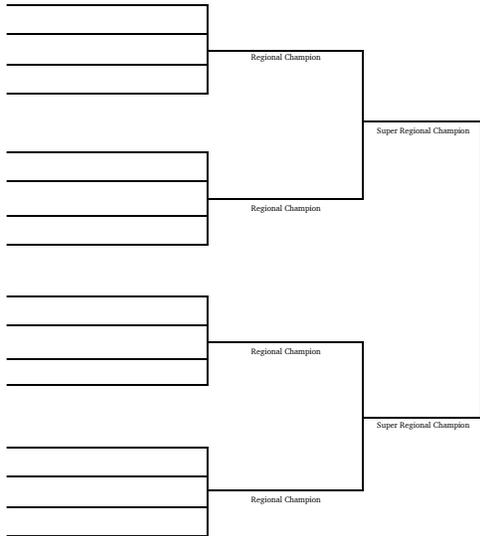
**Super Regionals**  
June 5-7 or June 6-8  
\*Campus or Neutral Sites  
Best-of-Three Games

**Men's College World Series (MCWS)**  
June 12-21/22  
Omaha, Nebraska  
Double Elimination  
First-Round Pairings  
Best-of-Three MCWS Finals

**Men's College World Series (MCWS)**  
June 12-21/22  
Omaha, Nebraska  
Double Elimination  
First-Round Pairings  
Best-of-Three MCWS Finals

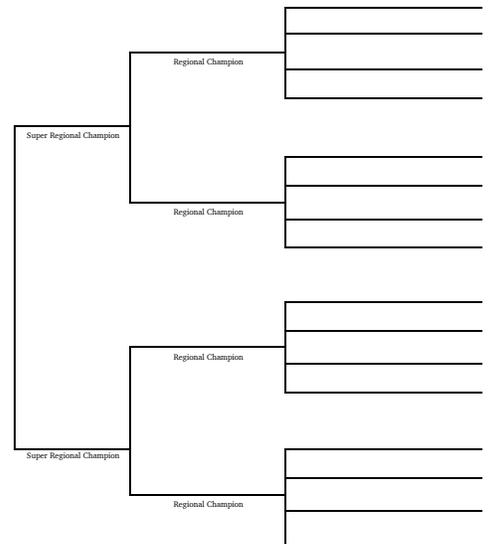
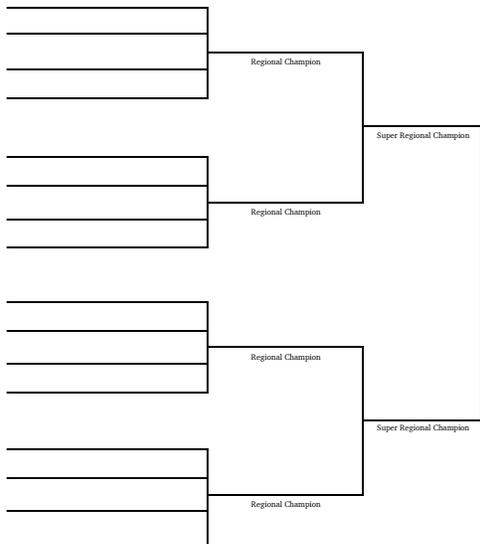
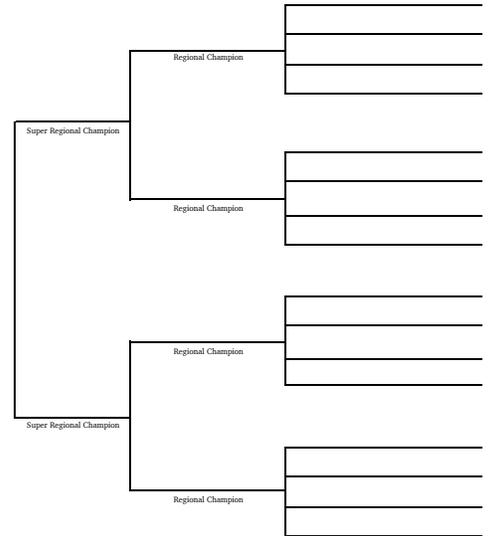
**Super Regionals**  
June 5-7 or June 6-8  
\*Campus or Neutral Sites  
Best-of-Three Games

**Regionals**  
May 29 - June 1  
\*Campus or Neutral Sites  
Double Elimination  
First-Round Pairings



National Top 16 Seeds

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.
- 11.
- 12.
- 13.
- 14.
- 15.
- 16.



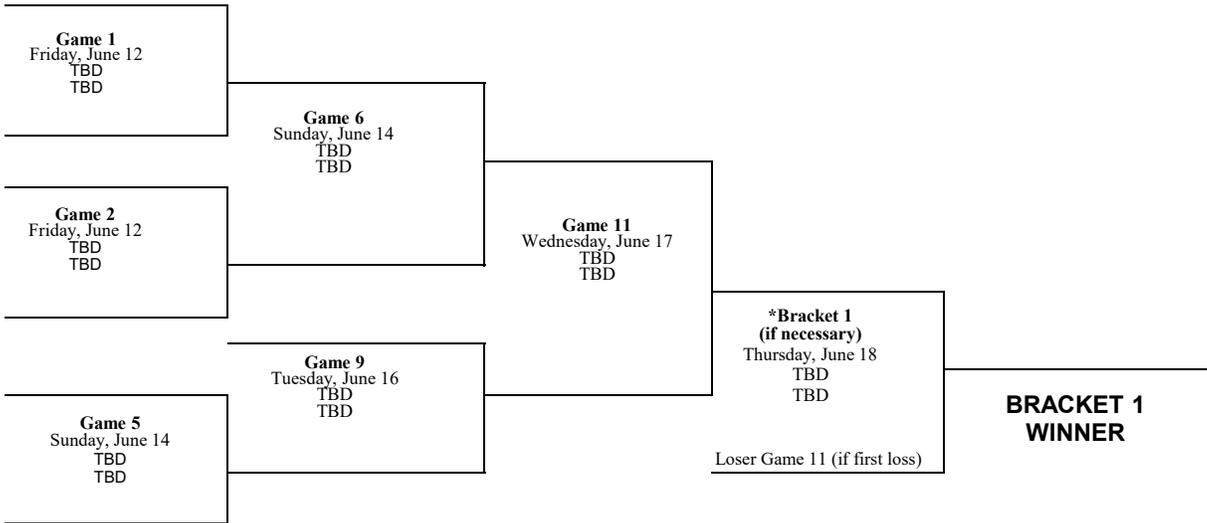
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\* Host Institution

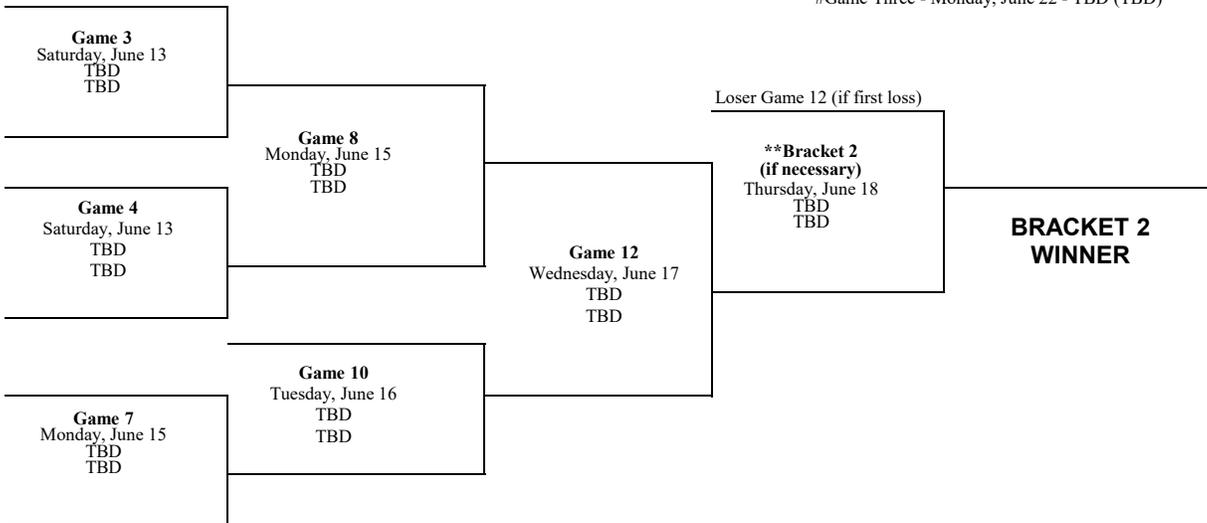


**2026 NCAA Men's College World Series**  
 Charles Schwab Field Omaha - Omaha, Nebraska  
 June 12-21/22

**BRACKET 1**



**BRACKET 2**



**MCWS Finals**  
**(Best two-of-three)**  
 Game One - Saturday, June 20 - TBD (TBD)  
 Game Two - Sunday, June 21 - TBD (TBD)  
 #Game Three - Monday, June 22 - TBD (TBD)

**NATIONAL CHAMPION**

All times Central and subject to change. \*Home Team

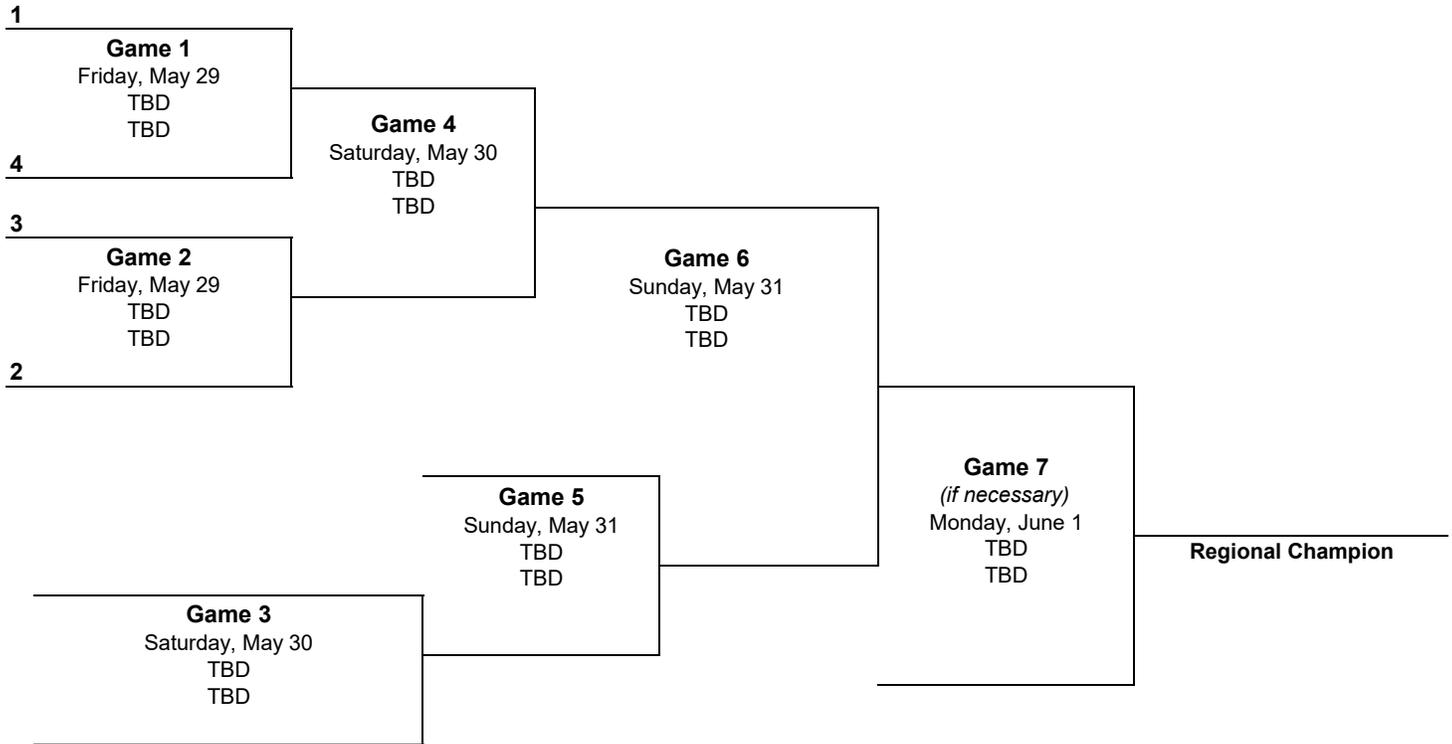
\*Bracket 1 will be necessary if the winner of Game 9 also wins Game 11.

\*\*Bracket 2 will be necessary if the winner of Game 10 also wins Game 12.

#MCWS Finals Game 3 will be necessary if the winner of MCWS Finals Game 1 loses MCWS Finals Game 2.



2026 NCAA Division I Baseball Championship  
Regional  
May 29 - June 1, 2026



\*Home team  
All times are local and subject to change.

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## Appendix B • Sport Sponsorship

### EAST REGION

#### America East Conference (7)

University of Albany  
Binghamton University  
Bryant University  
University of Maine, Orono

University of Maryland, Baltimore County  
University of Massachusetts Lowell  
New Jersey Institute of Technology

#### Atlantic 10 Conference (12)

Davidson College  
University of Dayton  
Fordham University  
George Mason University  
George Washington University  
La Salle University

University of Rhode Island  
University of Richmond  
St. Bonaventure University  
Saint Joseph's University  
Saint Louis University  
Virginia Commonwealth University

#### Atlantic Coast Conference (16)

Boston College  
University of California, Berkeley  
Clemson University  
Duke University  
Florida State University  
Georgia Institute of Technology  
University of Louisville  
University of Miami (Florida)

University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill  
North Carolina State University  
University of Notre Dame  
University of Pittsburgh  
Stanford University  
University of Virginia  
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University  
Wake Forest University

#### Coastal Athletic Association (11)

Campbell University  
College of Charleston (South Carolina)  
Elon University  
Hofstra University  
Monmouth University  
North Carolina A&T State University

University of North Carolina Wilmington  
Northeastern University  
Stony Brook University  
Towson University  
College of William and Mary

#### The Ivy League (8)

Brown University  
Columbia University-Barnard College  
Cornell University  
Dartmouth College

Harvard University  
University of Pennsylvania  
Princeton University  
Yale University

#### Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (13)

Canisius College  
Fairfield University  
Iona College  
Manhattan College  
Marist College  
Merrimack College  
Mount St. Mary's University

Niagara University  
Quinnipiac University  
Rider University  
Sacred Heart University  
Saint Peter's University  
Siena College

## DIVISION I BASEBALL

### Northeast Conference (9/12\*)

Central Connecticut State University  
Coppin State University  
Delaware State University  
Fairleigh Dickinson University, Metropolitan Campus  
\*LeMoyne College (not eligible)  
Long Island University-Brooklyn Campus

University of Maryland, Eastern Shore  
\*Mercyhurst University (not eligible)  
\*University of New Haven (not eligible)  
Norfolk State University  
Stonehill College  
Wagner College

### Patriot League (6)

Bucknell University  
College of Holy Cross  
Lafayette College

Lehigh University  
U.S. Military Academy  
U.S. Naval Academy

*\*Please note the first figure in parentheses lists the number of eligible teams in the conference for the 2026 championship.*

## MIDWEST REGION

### Big East Conference (8)

Butler University  
University of Connecticut  
Creighton University  
Georgetown University

St. John's University (New York)  
Seton Hall University  
Villanova University  
Xavier University

### Big Ten Conference (17)

University of California, Los Angeles  
University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign  
Indiana University, Bloomington  
University of Iowa  
University of Maryland, College Park  
University of Michigan  
Michigan State University  
University of Minnesota, Twin Cities  
University of Nebraska, Lincoln

Northwestern University  
The Ohio State University  
University of Oregon  
Pennsylvania State University  
Purdue University  
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, New Brunswick  
University of Southern California  
University of Washington

### Horizon League (5)

Northern Kentucky University  
Oakland University  
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Wright State University  
Youngstown State University

### Mid-American Conference (12)

University of Akron  
Ball State University  
Bowling Green State University  
Central Michigan University  
Eastern Michigan University  
Kent State University

University of Massachusetts, Amherst  
Miami University (Ohio)  
Northern Illinois University  
Ohio University  
University of Toledo  
Western Michigan University

### Missouri Valley Conference (9)

Belmont University  
Bradley University  
University of Evansville  
University of Illinois at Chicago  
Illinois State University

Indiana State University  
Murray State University  
Southern Illinois University at Carbondale  
Valparaiso University

**The Summit League (6)**

University of Nebraska at Omaha  
 North Dakota State University  
 University of Northern Colorado

Oral Roberts University  
 University of St. Thomas (Minnesota)  
 South Dakota State University

**SOUTH REGION****Big 12 Conference (14)**

University of Arizona  
 Arizona State University  
 Baylor University  
 Brigham Young University  
 University of Central Florida  
 University of Cincinnati  
 University of Houston

University of Kansas  
 Kansas State University  
 Oklahoma State University  
 Texas Christian University  
 Texas Tech University  
 University of Utah  
 West Virginia University

**Conference USA (12)**

Dallas Baptist University  
 University of Delaware  
 Florida International University  
 Jacksonville State University  
 Kennesaw State University  
 Liberty University

Louisiana Tech University  
 Middle Tennessee State University  
 Missouri State University  
 New Mexico State University  
 Sam Houston State University  
 Western Kentucky University

**Ohio Valley Conference (10)**

University of Arkansas at Little Rock  
 Eastern Illinois University  
 Lindenwood University  
 Morehead State University  
 Southeast Missouri State University

Southern Illinois University Edwardsville  
 University of Southern Indiana  
 University of Tennessee at Martin  
 Tennessee Technological University  
 Western Illinois University

**Southland Conference (11)**

Houston Christian University  
 University of the Incarnate Word  
 Lamar University  
 McNeese State University  
 University of New Orleans  
 Nicholls State University

Northwestern State University  
 Southeastern Louisiana University  
 Stephen F. Austin University  
 Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi  
 The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

**Southwestern Athletic Conference (12)**

Alabama A&M University  
 Alabama State University  
 Alcorn State University  
 University of Arkansas, Pine Bluff  
 Bethune-Cookman University  
 Florida A&M University

Grambling State University  
 Jackson State University  
 Mississippi Valley State University  
 Prairie View A&M University  
 Southern University, Baton Rouge  
 Texas Southern University

## DIVISION I BASEBALL

### Sun Belt Conference (14)

Appalachian State University  
Arkansas State University  
Coastal Carolina University  
Georgia Southern University  
Georgia State University  
James Madison University  
University of Louisiana at Lafayette

University of Louisiana at Monroe  
Marshall University  
Old Dominion University  
University of South Alabama  
University of Southern Mississippi  
Texas State University-San Marcos  
Troy University

## SOUTHEAST REGION

### American Conference (10)

University of Alabama at Birmingham  
East Carolina University  
Florida Atlantic University  
University of Memphis  
The University of North Carolina at Charlotte

Rice University  
University of South Florida  
University of Texas at San Antonio  
Tulane University  
Wichita State University

### ASUN Conference (11/12\*)

Austin Peay State University  
Bellarmine University  
University of Central Arkansas  
Eastern Kentucky University  
Florida Gulf Coast University  
Jacksonville University

Lipscomb University  
University of North Alabama  
University of North Florida  
Queens University of Charlotte  
Stetson University  
\*University of West Georgia (not eligible)

### Big South Conference (9)

Charleston Southern University  
Gardner-Webb University  
High Point University  
Longwood University  
University of North Carolina Asheville

Presbyterian College  
Radford University  
University of South Carolina Upstate  
Winthrop University

### Southeastern Conference (16)

University of Alabama  
University of Arkansas, Fayetteville  
Auburn University  
University of Florida  
University of Georgia  
University of Kentucky  
Louisiana State University  
University of Mississippi

Mississippi State University  
University of Missouri, Columbia  
University of Oklahoma  
University of South Carolina, Columbia  
University of Tennessee, Knoxville  
University of Texas at Austin  
Texas A&M University, College Station  
Vanderbilt University

### Southern Conference (8)

The Citadel  
East Tennessee State University  
Mercer University  
The University of North Carolina at Greensboro

Samford University  
Virginia Military Institute  
Western Carolina University  
Wofford College

*\*Please note the first figure in parentheses lists the number of eligible teams in the conference for the 2026 championship.*

**WEST REGION****Big West Conference (11)**

University of California, Davis  
 University of California, Irvine  
 University of California, Riverside  
 University of California, San Diego  
 University of California, Santa Barbara  
 California Polytechnic State University

California State University, Bakersfield  
 California State University, Fullerton  
 California State University, Northridge  
 University of Hawaii, Manoa  
 Long Beach State University

**Mountain West Conference (9)**

California State University, Fresno  
 Grand Canyon University  
 University of Nevada, Las Vegas  
 University of Nevada, Reno  
 University of New Mexico

San Diego State University  
 San Jose State University  
 U.S. Air Force Academy  
 Washington State University

**Pac-12 Conference (1)**

Oregon State University (*playing an independent schedule*)

**West Coast Conference (10)**

Gonzaga University  
 Loyola Marymount University  
 University of the Pacific  
 Pepperdine University  
 University of Portland

Saint Mary's College of California  
 University of San Diego  
 University of San Francisco  
 Santa Clara University  
 Seattle University

**Western Athletic Conference (7)**

Abilene Christian University  
 California Baptist University  
 California State University, Sacramento  
 Tarleton State University

University of Texas at Arlington  
 Utah Tech University  
 Utah Valley University

*\*Please note the first figure in parentheses lists the number of eligible teams in the conference for the 2026 championship.*