



# Division III Baseball

## Contents

Section 1 • General Administration	9
Section 1•1 NCAA Staff Contact Information	9
Section 1•2 National Committee	9
Section 1•3 Important Dates	10
Section 1•4 Division III Commencement Conflict Policy	10
Section 1•5 Division III Philosophy	11
Section 1•6 Equipment	11
Section 1•7 Rules	11
Section 1•8 Uniforms	12
Section 2 • Determination of Championship Participation	13
Section 2•1 Championship Format	13
Section 2•2 Results	16
Section 2•3 Selections Information	16
Section 2•4 Selection Criteria	18
Section 2•5 Site Selection	18
Appendix A • Bracket	21
Appendix B • Sport Sponsorship	22
Appendix C • NPI Weights	32
Appendix D • Umpires	34

# Section 1 • General Administration

## Section 1.1 NCAA Staff Contact Information

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## Section 1.2 National Committee

The list of current committee members may be accessed [here](#).

## Section 1.3 Important Dates

Tuesday, April 13	Regional Ranking No. 1.
Tuesday, April 20	Regional Ranking No. 2.
Tuesday, April 27	Regional Ranking No. 3.
Tuesday, May 4	Regional Ranking No. 4.
Sunday, May 10	Regional Ranking No. 5.
	Championship Selections.

### CHAMPIONSHIP DATES AND SITES

Regionals: Friday-Sunday, May 15-17 (Thursday-Saturday, May 14-16 if there is a Sunday no-play)

64 teams, 16 regionals with four teams (double elimination)

Super Regionals: Friday-Saturday, May 22-23

16 teams, eight super regionals with two teams (best of three series)

Finals: Friday-Thursday, May 29-June 4 (Eight Teams)

Classic Auto Group Park, Eastlake, Ohio; co-hosted by the North Coast Athletic Conference and the Greater Cleveland Sports Commission

### DATE FORMULA

Regionals (16)	Friday-Sunday the weekend before Super Regionals
Super Regionals (8)	Memorial Day Weekend (Friday and Saturday)
Finals	Friday-Thursday the weekend following Super Regionals

### FUTURE DATES OF COMPETITION (PRACTICE DAYS WILL BE ONE DAY PRIOR TO START OF REGIONALS, SUPER REGIONALS AND FINALS)

Selections	May 10, 2027
Regionals (All sites TBD)	May 14-16, 2027
Super Regionals	May 21-22, 2027
Finals	May 28-June 3, 2027 (Wellspan Park in York, Pennsylvania)

## Section 1.4 Division III Commencement Conflict Policy

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If an institution's commencement conflicts with participation in the championship, it shall inform the NCAA championship manager in writing one week prior to the selection date for the governing sports committee to accommodate a request to alter the championship schedule.

The following guidelines apply to commencement requests:

- Applies to team sports only.
- The governing sports committee, in consultation with participating institutions, would reschedule the game on the nearest possible date if a participating school has a conflict.
- Does not apply to predetermined finals sites.

The governing sports committee shall make a good faith effort to accommodate participating institutions in non-predetermined preliminary-round contests with multiple teams participating at the same site.

## Section 1.5 Division III Philosophy

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The Division III championships philosophy is to field the most competitive teams possible while minimizing missed class time; to emphasize regional competition in regular-season scheduling; and to provide representation in NCAA championship competition by allocating berths to eligible conferences, independent institutions and a limited number of at-large teams, realizing that this may be done at the expense of leaving out some championship-caliber teams.

## Section 1.6 Equipment

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The Rawlings R1NCAA baseball has been selected as the official baseball for all games in the three NCAA championship tournaments.

The appropriate number of balls will be sent to all tournaments. The balls will be shipped to the director of athletics or tournament director at the host institution, or delivered by the NCAA representative.

Each team must furnish its own practice balls for Regional and Super Regional play. Practice balls will be provided at the site of the finals.

## Section 1.7 Rules

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Per NCAA Bylaw 17.30, 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 where the Association follows rules developed by other governing bodies and modified by the governing sports committee, the adopted playing rules shall be used. The governing sports committee will not consider any results for selection purposes not played in accordance with the NCAA rules books, or those rules adopted by an outside organization.

**Speed Guns.** Use of speed guns by participants is prohibited.

**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 5-8) shall be used.

**NOTE:** The 10-Run Rule – Rule 5-7-b-(4) – shall not be used for any round of the championship.

**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 20 seconds to voice its

protest intentions;

3. All protests must be made to the umpire-in-chief; however, if he is not working the game, 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 games committee. The committee shall confer with the umpires before making its decision, and the chair shall make a written report to the chair of the NCAA Division III Baseball Committee.

**Tobacco Products.** The use of all tobacco products is prohibited by student-athletes and game personnel (e.g., coaches, umpires, trainers, managers) during practice sessions and game competition. The use of tobacco products during other championship activities, such as banquets, autograph sessions, press conferences and postgame interviews, is prohibited. Violations of this regulation shall be dealt with by the appropriate sports committee in accordance with Rule 3-10 of the NCAA Baseball Rules and the misconduct provisions of Bylaw 31.1.10.

**Films and Still Photographs.** The videotaping or filming of an opponent's game is not permitted. If in-person scouting occurs, the individual(s) shall pay the regular admission price. Institutions are permitted to videotape championship competition by their teams or the individual student-athletes for archival, coaching or instructional purposes. Each institution is permitted to use one camera and may videotape only that portion of the competition in which it participates. The videotapes may not be used for any commercial purposes. An institutional representative shall contact the event coordinator at the host site to arrange for camera space at that site. The host institution shall provide a comparable location for both competing teams.

## Section 1•8 Uniforms

Competing teams shall have both light- and dark-colored jerseys and light- and dark-colored stockings available. In preliminary-round competition, the home team must wear a uniform in clear contrast with the visiting team. In case of conflict, the home team must wear white- or light-colored uniforms. For the semifinals and final, the games committee will determine the home teams. Student-athletes competing in the championship shall wear the official uniform of their institution in competition and related ceremonies. This applies to warmups and competitive uniforms.

### LOGOS

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

### DETERMINATION OF HOME TEAMS AT REGIONALS AND NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

During the Regionals and the Finals pods, the higher seed will be the home team until there are two teams remaining. When there are two teams remaining, the undefeated team (2-0 team) will be the home team. In the event of an 'if necessary' game, the home and away designations will be switched but teams will remain in the same dugout and uniforms.

### DUGOUT DESIGNATION

During the prechampionship meeting for regionals and super regionals, the host institution must designate whether the first or third base dugout will be designated the home team dugout during the tournament. For the "if necessary" game, teams will reverse home and away designation, but remain in the same dugout and uniforms.

### DETERMINATION OF HOME TEAMS AT SUPER REGIONALS AND CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES (BEST-OF-THREE SERIES)

During the Super Regionals and the Finals championship series, the higher seed will be the home team in game one; the lower seed will be the home team in game two. At the administrative meeting prior to the Super Regional and Championship series, there will be a coin flip to determine the home team in the Game 3 "if necessary" game. Teams will remain in the same dugout and uniforms in the "if necessary" game.

# Section 2 • Determination of Championship Participation

## Section 2.1 Championship Format

**Championship Structure.** The championship provides for a maximum field of 64 teams. Sixteen regional sites will have four teams competing. The four-team regionals will use a double-elimination format. Eligible conference champions shall qualify automatically.

The 16 teams advancing from regionals will compete in a two-team, best-of-three tournament at eight super regional sites.

Winners of the eight super regionals tournaments will qualify for the double-elimination championship in Eastlake, Ohio. The final two teams will compete in a best-of-three series to determine the national champion ([Appendix A](#)).

**Regionals.** All regional tournaments will be conducted for a two- or three-day period. Regionals will begin Friday, May 15. (Competition will be conducted Thursday-Saturday at regional sites with a team that has a no-Sunday play policy and the inclement weather formula will be adjusted accordingly.) Every attempt should be made to complete regional competition by the Sunday before super regionals. Competition may be scheduled one additional day if: (1) weather or unforeseen circumstances prevent the completion of competition on the originally scheduled final day of competition; or (2) completing competition would require a team to play three games in one day. (Note: A team may be required to complete a halted game and play up to two additional games in the same day.) A team may be required to play three games in one day on the rain date (Monday) to complete competition. If exceptions (e.g., weather) preclude the completion of competition by Monday, the advancing team will be determined based on the inclement weather formula in this section. If the regional representative cannot be determined on the field of play by Monday, May 20, one team will be selected by the committee.

### REGIONAL FORMATS – FOUR-TEAM (THREE DAYS)

Day 1: Game 1	No. 1 seed vs. No. 4 seed
Game 2	No. 2 seed vs. No. 3 seed
Day 2: Game 3	Loser Game 1 vs. Loser Game 2
Game 4	Winner Game 1 vs. Winner Game 2
Game 5	Winner Game 3 vs. Loser Game 4
Day 3: Game 6	Winner Game 4 vs. Winner Game 5
Game 7	Winner Game 6 vs. Loser Game 6 (if necessary)

Game times for four-team regionals:

DAY 1	WITH LIGHTS	WITHOUT LIGHTS	DAY 2	WITH LIGHTS	WITHOUT LIGHTS	DAY 3	WITH LIGHTS	WITHOUT LIGHTS
G – 1	11 A.M.	10 A.M.	G – 3	11 A.M.	8:30 A.M.	G – 6	11 A.M.	11 A.M.
G – 2	2:30 P.M.	1:30 P.M.	G – 4	2:30 P.M.	NOON	G – 7	45 MIN. FOLLOWING	45 MIN. FOLLOWING
			G – 5	6 P.M.	3:30 P.M.			

**Super Regional.** Super regionals will be conducted for a two-day period beginning Friday, May 22. Game 1 will be played on the first day; Game 2 (and Game 3, if necessary) will be played on the second day. Every attempt should be made to complete super regional competition by the Saturday before the NCAA Division III Baseball Championship. Competition may be scheduled one additional day if: (1) weather or unforeseen circumstances prevent the completion of competition on the originally scheduled final day of competition; or (2) completing competition would require a team to play three games in one day.

NOTE: A team may be required to complete a halted game and play up to two additional games in the same day. Teams may be required to play three games in one day on the rain date to complete competition.

Game times for super regionals:

DAY 1	WITH & WITHOUT LIGHTS	DAY 2	WITH & WITHOUT LIGHTS
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G - 1	NOON	G - 2	11 A.M.
		G - 3	45 MIN. FOLLOWING

NOTE: Game times cannot be changed without approval from the Division III baseball committee.

### METHOD OF DETERMINING REGIONAL/SUPER REGIONAL CHAMPION IF PLAY CANNOT BE COMPLETED

The committee reserves the right to revise the game schedule because of inclement weather or unforeseen circumstances.

Four-team Regionals. If inclement weather limits play, every effort has been made to complete competition by Sunday and competition cannot be completed by Monday, the team that will advance to the super regional will be based on the following:

0 games played	Highest seed
1 game played	Highest seed
2 games played	Highest undefeated seed
3 games played	Highest undefeated seed
4 games played	Highest undefeated seed
5 games played	Highest undefeated seed
6 games played	Winner of Game 6 unless each team has one loss (i.e., the teams are tied), then: 1) Head-to-head competition 2) Highest remaining seed

Super Regional. If exceptions (e.g., weather) preclude the completion of competition by Sunday, the advancing team will be determined based on the inclement weather formula in this section.

0 games played	Highest seed
1 game played	Winner of Game 1
2 games played	If each team has a loss, the highest seed

For all rounds of competition, the committee will do its best to make sure that no team plays more than two games in a day, barring unforeseen circumstances.

Championship Finals. The eight winners of the competitions will advance to the championship series. The championship finals bracket, including dates and game times, may be found in [Appendix A](#).

### CHAMPIONSHIP SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Eastlake, Ohio – All times Eastern

#### Wednesday, May 27

	Teams arrive
6:30 p.m.	Coaches meeting

#### Thursday, May 28

8-9:30 a.m.	Administrative meeting
9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.	Team practices
6-7 p.m.	Team barbecue
7-8:30 p.m.	Championship ceremony

#### Friday, May 29

10 a.m.	Game No. 1
1:15 p.m.	Game No. 2
4:45 p.m.	Game No. 3

## DIVISION III BASEBALL

8 p.m.	Game No. 4
Saturday, May 30	
10 a.m.	Game No. 5
1:15 p.m.	Game No. 6
4:45 p.m.	Game No. 7
8 p.m.	Game No. 8
Sunday, May 31	
11 a.m.	Game No. 9
3 p.m.	Game No. 10
Monday, June 1	
10 a.m.	Game No. 11
11:15 a.m.	Game No. 12
4:45 p.m.	*Game No. 13 (If-necessary)
4:45/8 p.m.	*Game No. 14 (If-necessary)
Tuesday, June 2	
TBD	Team practices
Wednesday, June 3	
Noon	Championship Series Game No. 1
Thursday, June 4	
11 a.m.	Championship Series Game No. 2
45 min. following	*Championship Series Game No. 3 (If-necessary)

### TRAVEL PARTY/SQUAD SIZE

[Reference: Official Traveling Party, Per Diem and Transportation in the General Section.]

Travel party is 30. Each team will be permitted a maximum roster of 50 (25 student-athletes eligible to play, 25 additional personnel including but coaches, medical, additional student-athletes, etc.) in the dugout/bullpen, including 25 eligible players in uniform, coaching staff in uniform and other personnel performing game functions, including medical personnel (doctor, trainer, etc.). If two medical personnel are not used, nonmedical personnel may not be substituted. All student-athletes within the 50 may be in uniform, but only the 25 listed on the roster are eligible to compete in that game. Nonuniformed personnel may not participate in pregame warmups or game-type functions.

An institution that is advised it is in violation of this regulation and does not conform to it promptly automatically shall forfeit the competition. This is not an "appeal play;" further, there shall be no inordinate delay of the contest to allow the institution to conform to the rule. There will be no exceptions regarding the "Squad Size" section.

### TEAM ROSTER

Teams will submit a roster prior to each game of competition (i.e., regionals, super regionals and the finals). Only 25 eligible players may be included on the roster. Once the game begins, no changes may be made to a team roster for any reason. Coaches may change the designated 25 individuals for each game in each round; however, the number of eligible players per game shall not exceed 25.

## Section 2•2 Results

### SCORE REPORTING

Schools will submit all schedule and results information to the NCAA statistics site ([web1.ncaa.org/stats/StatsSrv/login](http://web1.ncaa.org/stats/StatsSrv/login)), and this

information will then be imported into the score-reporting system for use by the sports committees. Specific instructions and reporting deadlines will be communicated to SIDs in a memo from the media services staff. For questions regarding the reporting process, please contact Sean Straziscar ([sstraziscar@naaa.org](mailto:sstraziscar@naaa.org) or 317-917-6122).

## Section 2.3 Selections Information

Pairings and Site Selection. Once automatic qualifiers are identified and the At-Large teams are selected, the following guidelines should be followed:

- Once selected, teams will be grouped in clusters according to natural geographic proximity. Teams will then be paired according to geographic proximity. A team may be moved to numerically balance the bracket if geographic proximity is maintained. Teams should be paired and eligible sites should be selected according to geographic proximity (within 500 miles).
- Teams may be seeded on a regional basis using the regional selection criteria. However, geographic proximity takes precedence over seeding.
- Teams from the same conference do not have to play one another in the first round as long as geographic proximity is maintained.

[Reference: Annual Forms in this handbook and Bylaws 31.01.2, 31.01.3 and 31.3 in the Division III NCAA Manual.]

The NCAA Baseball Committee will follow Bylaw 31.3.3 in selecting at-large participants.

Regular-season conference standings and/or conference postseason competition shall be considered by the committee when selecting at-large teams.

Regular-Season Contests. At the time the game is scheduled, both teams shall agree 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 Bylaw 17.2.1. Further, all games will be of regulation length.

Coaches should be aware of the application of Bylaw 14.2.4.1 (seasons of competition). Any participation by a student-athlete against outside competition, however limited, shall constitute a season of competition.

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

### ALLOCATION OF BERTHS

Pool Information. As required by the selection principles, the following berths have been allocated for the 2025-26 championship:

Automatic Qualifiers – 41, At-Large - 23

The 64-team field will consist of two selection pools: AQs and at-large berths. AQ berths will be allocated to automatic qualifying conferences. The criteria for receiving automatic qualification are outlined in Bylaw 31.3.4 of the 2024-25 NCAA Division III Manual. At-large berths will be reserved for all remaining institutions not receiving an AQ.

### AUTOMATIC QUALIFICATION

The 41 conferences granted automatic qualification for the 2025-26 championship are as follows:

Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference	New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference
American Rivers Conference	New Jersey Athletic Conference
American Southwest Conference	North Atlantic Conference
Atlantic East Conference	North Coast Athletic Conference
Centennial Conference	Northern Athletics Collegiate Conference
College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin	Northwest Conference
Collegiate Conference of the South	Ohio Athletic Conference
Commonwealth Coast Conference	Old Dominion Athletic Conference
Empire 8	Presidents' Athletic Conference

Great Northeast Athletic Conference	Skyline Conference
Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference	Southern Athletic Association
Landmark Conference	Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference
Liberty League	Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference
Little East Conference	St. Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference
Massachusetts State Collegiate Athletic Conference	State University of New York Athletic Conference
Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association	United East
Middle Atlantic Conference Commonwealth	University Athletic Association
Middle Atlantic Conference Freedom	USA South Athletic Conference
Midwest Conference	Upper Midwest Athletic Conference
Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference	Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference
New England Small College Athletic Conference	

### AT-LARGE SELECTION/IN-REGION COMPETITION

To be considered during the at-large selection process, an institution must play at least 70% of its competition against Division III in-region opponents, unless a waiver has been approved by the Division III Championships Committee. In-region competition consists of the following:

- All competition within an institution’s defined sports region.
- All competition within an institution’s geographical region (Constitution 4.13.1).
- All competition within a 500-mile radius from one institution to another.
- All conference competition.
- All out-of-region contests conducted during one institutional vacation period (i.e., spring break) for sports with a spring NCAA championship (Bylaw 31.3.2.3).

The NCAA Travel Expense System mileage calculator will be used to confirm distance from campus to campus. ([web1.ncaa.org/TES/exec/TES/exec/miles](http://web1.ncaa.org/TES/exec/TES/exec/miles)).

#### 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 Constitution 3.2.4.4) 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.

### REGIONAL ALIGNMENT

Each Division III baseball team is assigned to one of 10 geographic “evaluation” regions. The primary criteria used for ranking and selection is based on how a team performs against other Division III “in-region” teams. In addition, results versus Division III opponents within 500 miles or less of a team’s campus, but outside its assigned geographic region, will be considered “in-region” and part of the primary selection/ranking criteria. All conference competition is considered in-region. And finally, the championships committee has expanded the definition of an in-region contest to include “all competition within an institution’s membership geographical region (Bylaw 4.13.1.1).” The country is divided into four membership regions. For most institutions, the change in definition should result in an expanded list of potential in-region opponents.

### TRAVEL INFORMATION

Information about the Division III travel policies for baseball can be found on the NCAA membership website at: [ncaa.org/championships/travel/championships-travel-information](http://ncaa.org/championships/travel/championships-travel-information).

## Section 2.4 Selection Criteria

At-large teams will be selected using the NCAA Power Index (NPI), the system that houses the division's statistical data and objectively applies the selection criteria to the data based on the sport committee's established weighted criteria. NPI is a combination of the following: winning percentage; strength of schedule; home-away multiplier; quality win bonus; and overtime results (when applicable). Teams will be selected not later than Sunday, May 11. NPI will determine the at-large teams selected to the championship after the Automatic Qualifiers (AQ) have been designated. See Appendix C for the NPI weights and data procedures.

## Section 2.5 Site Selection

Any institution or conference interested in hosting a preliminary round of the 2026 NCAA Division III Baseball Championship must submit a proposed budget, facility evaluation form, key contacts form and video board questionnaire (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. The highest-ranked teams will be given consideration as regional and super regional sites, assuming they meet the requirements of Bylaw 31.1.3.2.1. Institutions that do not qualify for the regional or super regional rounds of the championship will not be required to host.

Note the proposed budget form has changed slightly to allow us to collect more detailed information when relevant. The 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 new budget form. As part of the bid, prospective hosts must enter a budgeted amount for both the game officials and committee/site representatives; hosts will pay for their lodging expenses and be reimbursed by the NCAA. 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 at the final site for our championships.

All bid-related forms can be accessed via the following website: [championships.ncaa.org](https://championships.ncaa.org).

### FINAL FINANCIAL REPORT

[Reference: Bylaw 31.4 in the NCAA Manual.]

A final financial report from each championship site must be submitted via the online host reporting system to the NCAA not later than 60 days after the competition.

### FACILITY EVALUATION FORM

An online 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. Please refer to the Baseball Rules book for minimum field dimensions and specifications.

### KEY CONTACTS FORM

A key contacts form must be submitted for each round of the Division III Baseball Championship. The online form is available in the host reporting system.

### SAFETY AND SECURITY PLAN

Based upon a review of current and future Championships competition venues, discussions with safety and security experts, and their 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, which can be found in the "Help/Other Resources" tab in the championship host portal. 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, which would be inclusive of the NCAA Championships Safety and Security Team contact information form, located in Appendix A of the [Best Practices document](#). This information should be submitted to JP Williams at the NCAA ([jpwilliams@ncaa.org](mailto:jpwilliams@ncaa.org)) as part of your bid to be considered for championship site selection.



# Appendixes

## Contents

Appendix A • Bracket.....	21
Appendix B • Sport Sponsorship.....	22
Appendix C • NPI Weights.....	32
Appendix D • Umpires.....	34



## Appendix B • Sport Sponsorship

### REGION I

#### Great Northeast Athletic Conference (11)

Albertus Magnus College  
Colby-Sawyer College  
Dean College  
Elms College  
Lasell University  
Mitchell College

New England College  
Norwich University  
Rivier University  
Saint Joseph's College (Maine)  
University of Saint Joseph (Connecticut)

AQ – Postseason

#### New England Small College Athletic Conference (10)

Amherst College  
Bates College  
Bowdoin College  
Colby College  
Hamilton College

Middlebury College  
Trinity College (Connecticut)  
Tufts University  
Wesleyan University (Connecticut)  
Williams College

AQ – Postseason

#### New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference (9)

Babson College  
Clark University (Massachusetts)  
Emerson College  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
Salve Regina University

Springfield College  
U.S. Coast Guard Academy  
Wheaton College (Massachusetts)  
Worcester Polytechnic Institute

AQ – Postseason

#### North Atlantic Conference (7)

Husson University  
Lesley University  
University of Maine, Farmington  
University of Maine, Presque Isle

State University of New York at Cobleskill  
Thomas College  
Vermont State University-Lyndon

AQ – Postseason

REGION II

Conference of New England (10)

Curry College  
Endicott College  
Gordon College  
University of Hartford  
Johnson & Wales University (Providence)

Nichols College  
Roger Williams University  
Suffolk University  
Wentworth Institute of Technology  
Western New England University

AQ - Postseason

Little East Conference (9)

Eastern Connecticut State University  
Keene State College  
University of Massachusetts, Boston  
University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth  
Plymouth State University

Rhode Island College  
University of Southern Maine  
Vermont State University Castleton  
Western Connecticut State University

AQ – Postseason

Massachusetts State Collegiate Athletic Conference (9)

Anna Maria College  
Bridgewater State University  
Fitchburg State University  
Framingham State University  
Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts

Massachusetts Maritime Academy  
Salem State University  
Westfield State University  
Worcester State University

AQ – Postseason

At-Large (1)

\*\*Brandeis University

## REGION III

## Empire 8 (9)

Alfred University  
 State University of New York at Brockport  
 Elmira College  
 Houghton College  
 Keuka College

State University of New York Polytechnic Institute  
 Russell Sage College  
 St. John Fisher College  
 Utica College

AQ – Postseason

## Liberty League (11)

Bard College  
 Clarkson University  
 Hobart College  
 Ithaca College  
 Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute  
 University of Rochester

Rochester Institute of Technology  
 Skidmore College  
 St. Lawrence University  
 Union College (New York)  
 Vassar College

AQ – Postseason

## Skyline Conference (11)

Farmingdale State College  
 Manhattanville College  
 State University of New York Maritime College  
 Mount Saint Mary College (New York)  
 College of Mount St. Vincent  
 Purchase College, State University of New York

St. Joseph's College (Brooklyn)  
 St. Joseph's College (Long Island)  
 State University College at Old Westbury  
 U.S. Merchant Marine Academy  
 Yeshiva University

AQ – Postseason

## State University of New York Athletic Conference (7)

State University of New York at Canton  
 State University of New York at Cortland  
 The State University of New York at Fredonia  
 State University of New York at New Paltz

State University of New York at Oneonta  
 State University of New York at Oswego  
 Plattsburgh State University of New York

AQ – Postseason

REGION IV

Middle Atlantic Conference - Freedom (8)

Arcadia University  
Delaware Valley College  
DeSales University  
Fairleigh Dickinson University, Florham

King's College (Pennsylvania)  
Lebanon Valley College  
Misericordia University  
Stevens Institute of Technology

AQ – Postseason

New Jersey Athletic Conference (10)

Kean University  
Montclair State University  
New Jersey City University  
The College of New Jersey  
Ramapo College

Rowan University  
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, Camden  
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, Newark  
Stockton University  
William Paterson University of New Jersey

AQ – Postseason

United East (14)

Cairn University  
Keystone College  
Lancaster Bible College  
Notre Dame of Maryland University  
Penn State University, Abington  
Penn State Berks College  
#Penn State Brandywine

Penn State Harrisburg  
Pennsylvania College of Technology  
Rosemont College  
Saint Elizabeth University  
St. Mary's College of Maryland  
University of Valley Forge  
Wilson College

AQ – Postseason

At-Large Institutions/Non-AQ (5)

Baruch College  
The City College of New York  
John Jay College of Criminal Justice

Lehman College  
\*\*New York University

## REGION V

## Atlantic East Conference (6)

Centenary University (New Jersey)  
 Gwynedd Mercy University  
 Immaculata University

Marymount University (Virginia)  
 Marywood University  
 Neumann University

AQ – Postseason

## Centennial Conference (10)

Dickinson College  
 Franklin & Marshall College  
 Gettysburg College  
 Haverford College  
 Johns Hopkins University

McDaniel College  
 Muhlenberg College  
 Swarthmore College  
 Ursinus College  
 Washington College (Maryland)

AQ – Postseason

## Landmark Conference (9)

Catholic University  
 Drew University  
 Elizabethtown College  
 Juniata College  
 Lycoming College

Moravian College  
 University of Scranton  
 Susquehanna University  
 Wilkes University

AQ – Postseason

## Middle Atlantic Conference Commonwealth (8)

Albright College  
 Alvernia University  
 Eastern University  
 Hood College

Messiah University  
 Stevenson University  
 Widener University  
 York College (Pennsylvania)

AQ – Postseason

## At-Large Institutions/Non-AQ (1)

Salisbury University

REGION VI

Collegiate Conference of the South (7)

Asbury University  
Belhaven University  
Covenant College  
Huntingdon College

LaGrange College  
Maryville College (Tennessee)  
Piedmont College

AQ – Postseason

Old Dominion Athletic Conference (11)

Averett University  
Bridgewater College (Virginia)  
Eastern Mennonite University  
Guilford College  
Hampden-Sydney College  
University of Lynchburg

Randolph-Macon College  
Roanoke College  
Shenandoah University  
Virginia Wesleyan University  
Washington and Lee University

AQ – Postseason

Southern Athletic Association (8)

Berry College  
Centre College  
Millsaps College  
Oglethorpe University

Rhodes College  
University of the South  
Southwestern University (Texas)  
Trinity University (Texas)

AQ – Postseason

USA South Athletic Conference (8)

Brevard University  
Greensboro College  
Mary Baldwin University  
Methodist University

North Carolina Wesleyan College  
Pfeiffer College  
Southern Virginia University  
William Peace University

AQ – Postseason

At-Large Institutions/Non-AQ (4)

#\*Bob Jones University  
Christopher Newport University (C2C)

\*\*Emory University  
University of Mary Washington

## REGION VII

## Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference (8)

Alfred State College  
 Hilbert College  
 La Roche University  
 Mount Aloysius College

Penn State University, Altoona  
 Pennsylvania State University Erie, the Behrend College  
 University of Pittsburgh, Bradford  
 University of Pittsburgh, Greensburg

AQ – Postseason

## Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association (8)

Adrian College  
 Albion College  
 Alma College  
 Calvin University

Hope College  
 Kalamazoo College  
 Olivet College  
 Trine University

AQ – Postseason

## North Coast Athletic Conference (9)

Denison University  
 DePauw University  
 Hiram College  
 Kenyon College  
 Oberlin College

Ohio Wesleyan University  
 The College of Wooster  
 Wabash College  
 Wittenberg University

AQ – Postseason

## Ohio Athletic Conference (9)

Baldwin Wallace University  
 Capital University  
 Heidelberg University  
 Marietta College  
 University of Mount Union

Muskingum University  
 Ohio Northern University  
 Otterbein University  
 Wilmington College (Ohio)

AQ – Postseason

## Presidents' Athletic Conference (12)

Allegheny College  
 Bethany College (West Virginia)  
 Chatham University  
 Franciscan University of Steubenville  
 Geneva College  
 Grove City College

Hiram College  
 Saint Vincent College  
 Thiel College  
 Washington and Jefferson College  
 Waynesburg University  
 Westminster College (Pennsylvania)

AQ – Postseason

## At-Large Institutions/Non-AQ (1)

\*\*Case Western Reserve University

REGION VIII

College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin (9)

Augustana College (Illinois)  
 Carroll University (Wisconsin)  
 Carthage College  
 Elmhurst University  
 Illinois Wesleyan University

Millikin University  
 North Central College  
 North Park University  
 Wheaton College (Illinois)

AQ – Postseason

Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference (10)

Anderson University (Indiana)  
 Berea College  
 Bluffton University  
 Earlham College  
 Franklin College

Hanover College  
 Manchester University  
 Mount St. Joseph University  
 Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology  
 Transylvania University

AQ – Postseason

Northern Athletics Collegiate Conference (13)

Aurora University  
 Benedictine University (Illinois)  
 Concordia University Chicago  
 Concordia University Wisconsin  
 Dominican University (Illinois)  
 Edgewood College  
 Illinois Institute of Technology

Lakeland University  
 Marian University (Wisconsin)  
 Milwaukee School of Engineering  
 Rockford College  
 St. Norbert College  
 Wisconsin Lutheran College

AQ – Postseason

St. Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (9)

Blackburn College  
 Eureka College  
 Greenville University  
 Lyon College  
 Mississippi University for Women

Principia College  
 Spalding University  
 Webster University  
 Westminster College (Missouri)

AQ – Postseason

At-Large Institutions/Non-AQ (4)

\*\*University of Chicago  
 Maranatha Baptist University

\*\*Washington University in St. Louis  
 #Mississippi University for Women

REGION IX

American Rivers Conference (9)

Buena Vista University  
 Central College (Iowa)  
 Coe College  
 University of Dubuque  
 Loras College

Luther College  
 Nebraska Wesleyan University  
 Simpson College  
 Wartburg College

AQ – Postseason

Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (11)

Augsburg College  
 Bethel University (Minnesota)  
 Carleton College  
 Concordia College, Moorhead  
 Gustavus Adolphus College  
 Hamline University

Macalester College  
 Saint John's University (Minnesota)  
 Saint Mary's University of Minnesota  
 St. Olaf College  
 The College of St. Scholastica

AQ – Postseason

Midwest Conference (8)

Beloit College  
 Cornell College  
 Grinnell College  
 Illinois College

Knox College  
 Lawrence University  
 Monmouth College (Illinois)  
 Ripon College

AQ – Postseason

Upper Midwest Athletic Conference (8)

Bethany Lutheran College  
 Crown College (Minnesota)  
 Martin Luther College  
 University of Minnesota, Morris

North Central University  
 Northland College  
 University of Northwestern-St. Paul  
 University of Wisconsin-Superior

AQ – Postseason

Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (8)

University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire  
 University of Wisconsin-La Crosse  
 University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh  
 University of Wisconsin-Platteville

University of Wisconsin-River Falls  
 University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point  
 University of Wisconsin-Stout  
 University of Wisconsin-Whitewater

AQ – Postseason

REGION X

American Southwest Conference (4)

East Texas Baptist University  
Hardin-Simmons University

Howard Payne University  
University of Mary Hardin-Baylor

AQ – Postseason

Northwest Conference (9)

George Fox University  
Lewis & Clark College  
Linfield College  
Pacific Lutheran University  
Pacific University (Oregon)

University of Puget Sound  
Whitman College  
Whitworth University  
Willamette University

AQ – Regular Season

Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (9)

California Institute of Technology  
California Lutheran University  
Chapman University  
Claremont McKenna-Harvey Mudd-Scripps Colleges  
University of La Verne

Occidental College  
Pomona-Pitzer Colleges  
University of Redlands  
Whittier College

AQ – Postseason

Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference (11)

Austin College  
Centenary College (Louisiana)  
Concordia University Texas  
University of Dallas  
Hendrix College  
LeTourneau University

McMurry University  
University of the Ozarks (Arkansas)  
Schreiner University  
University of St. Thomas (Texas)  
Texas Lutheran University

AQ – Postseason

\* = Not eligible to compete in the 2026 Championship

\*\* = Member of the multi-region University Athletic Association

# = Reclassifying

## Appendix C • NPI Weights



**NCAA POWER INDEX**  
**Division III Baseball**

NPI WEIGHTS					
Win%/SOS	H/A Win/Loss	QWB	QWB Multiplier	Overtime	Minimum Wins
25/75	1.0/1.0	58.5	.700	100/0	12

**Rationale.**

- **Winning Percentage/Strength of Schedule.** The committee utilized data from the past four seasons, 2021-2024, to determine the appropriate balance of winning percentage versus strength of schedule. The committee worked to ensure that a high winning percentage was balanced with an appropriate strength of schedule resulting in a 25/75 ratio of weight.
- **Home/Away – Win/Loss Weights.** The committee discussed the uniqueness in the sport of baseball, and consulted with softball, as it relates to scheduling. There are many contests played at neutral sites, as well as doubleheaders at one institution's location where a team serves as the away team one game and then the home team in the next game. The designation as home team does not require the institution to be playing at its home field. Therefore, the committee voted to weigh a home or away win the same despite the location of the game.
- **Quality Win Base (QWB.)** The committee relied heavily on the previous year's data to establish an appropriate QWB. The committee worked to define a quality win base number that took into consideration approximately the top 25% of all Division III teams each year over the past four years and defined that a quality win is a win over a top 25% team. This weight would reward teams appropriately based off an important win against a top 25% team. As a result, a win over an institution around the QWB cut line had a smaller impact on the NPI number, while winning a game against teams at the top of the 25% had a larger impact of reward for that win.
- **Quality Win Base Multiplier.** The committee felt .700 provided the appropriate range of rewarding a quality win based off the QWB that was determined. The .700 multiplier gives an appropriate reward for a quality win within the overall context of a team's complete season. The committee was cognizant of wanting to reward a quality win, but not significantly enough that a single game result would overwhelm or skew the institution's overall postseason result.
- **Overtime Weight.** The committee voted wins in extra innings should not impact the overall NPI number differently than a win in regulation. Similar to home/away rationale, there are too many factors that determine who the home team is and who has the advantage during extra innings. Therefore, the committee decided to weigh a win in regulation or extra innings equally.
- **Minimum Wins.** The committee voted a minimum of 12 wins to evaluate an institution's complete season. The committee felt that evaluating a team's 12 best wins was the best most equitable method to allow teams to balance the philosophy of conference and non-conference

**Division III Baseball**  
**NCAA Power Index**  
**Page No. 2**

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play. Having to play games and potentially gaining wins that could potentially be viewed as harmful to a team's NPI ranking should not serve as a detriment to their NPI while also understanding a critical mass of games is needed to evaluate a team's overall best games for potential post-season seeding purposes.

**Resources.**

- [NPI Frequently Asked Questions and Reference Guide.](#)

## Appendix D • Umpires

1. Four umpires shall work every championship game (regionals, super regionals and finals).
2. Five umpires shall be assigned to the regional.
3. Four umpires shall be assigned to the super regionals.
4. 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 supervisor 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 and finals competition provide seats for nonworking umpires.

For the championship, the games committee shall select eight umpires.

**Policies.** A sports 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. All umpires will be selected by the national committee in cooperation with the national umpire coordinator, who 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.