



2021 NCAA Division II Men's and Women's Basketball Championships Preliminary-Round Information and Bid Checklist

Introduction

Given current health and safety concerns related to COVID-19, **all winter 2021 preliminary- round competition will be conducted at predetermined sites**, rather than at traditional non-predetermined sites.

The information below outlines details related to the conduct of the championship. Please pay particular attention to the Return to Championship Guidelines document found in the Bid Checklist section below. This document highlights all additional measures that must be taken to ensure a healthy and safe environment for championship competition, and information contained in this addendum will take precedence over that found in the Host Operations Manual, should differences exist. In order to be considered for hosting opportunities, a site must be able to meet these obligations.

Bids for predetermined preliminary round will be accepted beginning January 11, 2021, through January 25, 2021. Predetermined preliminary host sites will be announced the week of February 8, 2021.

Should national health and safety conditions necessitate changes to this plan, the NCAA reserves the right to adjust accordingly. Hosting guidelines and timelines will be updated and communicated as quickly as possible should adjustments be necessary.

Selections

Selections for the 2021 NCAA Division II Men's Basketball Championship will be announced at 10:30 p.m. Eastern time, Sunday, March 7, via web stream on ncaa.com.

Selections for the 2021 NCAA Division II Women's Basketball Championship will be announced at 10 p.m. Eastern time, Sunday, March 7, via web stream on ncaa.com.

It is not a requirement that sites be selected to compete in either championship in order to host.

Preliminary-Round Schedules

Men's Regional Rounds: Quarterfinals: Saturday, March 13, 2021
 Semifinals: Sunday, March 14, 2021
 Finals: Tuesday, March 16, 2021

Women's Regional Rounds: Quarterfinals: Friday, March 12, 2021
 Semifinals: Saturday, March 13, 2021
 Finals: Monday, March 15, 2021

The 2021 Division II Men's and Women's Basketball Championships will have reduced bracket sizes with a maximum of 48 teams each. As such, each regional bracket will consist of six teams, with the top two teams receiving a bye into the regional semifinals. Eight teams will advance to the finals site at each respective championship.

Should you have the necessary venue capacity, lodging accommodations, facility specifications and overall ability and desire to host multiple regionals at your site (e.g., two pods of six teams for a total of 12 teams), please indicate that when completing the facility questionnaire in the bid portal.

Bid Checklist

The following materials must be submitted by institutions or organization that wish to be considered as hosts for preliminary-round competition. All materials are due by **5 p.m. Eastern time, January 25, 2021.**

Each of the online forms listed below may be accessed and submitted through the championships host portal, at <https://championships.ncaa.org>.

To begin the process of submitting a bid, you will need to locate the specific divisional sport and round in the Championships Available for Bidding section and click on Start Bid.

_____ **Return to Championships COVID-19 Hosting Guidelines.** A Return to Championships document featuring all health and safety measures related to hosting in the currently COVID-19 environment, can be found [HERE](#). This document must be reviewed in full and hosts must be able to follow all designated protocols bid in order to be considered for a hosting opportunity. Please pay particular attention to Section E, which outlines the sport-specific requirements for hosting.

_____ **Proposed Budget(s).** 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 in the system and will allow you to copy the budget for another round. 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.

Any necessary COVID-19-related expenses should be included in the proposed budget. These expenses will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and **must** receive approval from NCAA staff in order to be included in the final host budget.

Please note that all COVID-19 testing expenses, including staffing, will be covered directly by the NCAA and should not be included in the host budget. Adequate testing space will need to be made available in order to serve as a host. Please be prepared to give details on available testing space(s) when completing the facility questionnaire in the bid portal.

_____ Please carefully review the 2020-21 NCAA Division II Men’s and Women’s Basketball Pre-Championship Manuals before submitting a proposed budget, and make note of the following for all preliminary-round competition:

- All lodging expenses for officials and site representatives (if needed) must be included in your budget. 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 Profile.** An online facility profile must be completed and/or maintained as necessary by each institution or organization interested in hosting preliminary-round competition. Information regarding video board, LED board and/or ribbon boards should be entered via the “Boards/Control Room” tab of the applicable venue profile.

A facility profile can be maintained and updated on a regular basis. If a facility can host multiple sports, check the appropriate box(es) under the Sports tab of the facility profile to provide the information for that facility.

_____ **Key Contacts.** The key contacts for your institution or organization should be entered and/or maintained as necessary within your profile. Please enter the information for the key personnel associated with running a championship at your site.

When starting a bid, you will be prompted to enter new key personnel, or edit or confirm your existing key personnel. In addition, you will be asked to designate individuals who should receive the various host shipments (e.g., sport equipment, merchandise, awards, etc.). Please include the proper mailing address for overnight deliveries. P.O. box addresses will not be accepted.

Personnel who will administer the competition also will be listed and can be edited within the Profile section of the Championships Bid and Host portal. When entering individuals in this manner, information must be entered on both the General tab and the Role/Titles by Sport or Facility tab.

_____ **Safety and Security Plan.** Based on 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 [here](#). 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. You must **also submit the NCAA Championships Safety and Security Team contact information form**, located in Appendix A of the *Best Practices* document. These documents should be uploaded in the document section of the facility profile. Both documents can be uploaded under the Safety and Security tab.

_____ **Lodging.** The host institution/agency shall recommend hotel properties for the participating institutions/student-athlete(s) and NCAA partner Anthony Travel will contract these properties on behalf of the NCAA and host institutions.

Recommended hotel properties shall be within 30 miles of the competition site and be priced at a fair and reasonable market room rate.

Liability Insurance. Host institutions must maintain and provide proof of at least \$1 million of general liability insurance on an occurrence form for Bodily Injury and Property Damage, including Products Liability (including completed-operations coverage), coverage for contractual liability, independent contractors, and personal and advertising injury. Coverage cannot exclude liability arising from athletic participation, spectators, alcohol, or food-borne illness. The certificate must be submitted to NCAA prior to competition. State institutions subject to state governing tort laws are permitted to provide proof of limited liability under state laws instead of general liability coverage. (This is the minimum requirement per NCAA bylaws).

If applicable, off-campus venues must also maintain and provide a minimum of \$1 million in general liability insurance on an occurrence form for Bodily Injury and Property Damage, including Products Liability (including completed-operations coverage), coverage for contractual liability, independent contractors, and personal and advertising injury. Coverage cannot exclude liability arising from athletic participation, spectators, alcohol, or food-borne illness. The NCAA must be named as an additional insured.

All insurance must be provided by an insurance company with an A.M. Best Rating of A-, VII or higher.

Host institutions must provide the national office with the appropriate certificates of insurance or documentation of self-insurance. This information must be provided via the Certificate of Insurance link in the bid portal. As this is a new feature in the portal, all prospective hosts must upload their documentation once. Depending on the coverage, users must subsequently verify their documentation is still valid, or upload a new certificate once the previous version has expired.

Additional Host Information/Resources

Host Operations Manual. The 2020-21 NCAA Division II [Men's](#) or [Women's](#) Basketball Championship Host Operations Manual will assist your institution in all stages of the bidding and hosting process.

Drug Testing. Drug testing may occur at any round of the championship and the assistance of the host institution will be a vital part of the testing. You will be notified in advance if the round you are hosting has been selected for drug testing. Please review the [drug testing site coordinator manual](#) and note that Drug Free Sport, LLC will provide materials to assist in the program.

Americans with Disabilities Act. The Americans with Disabilities Act requires that public establishments offer equal access and services to people who are physically and mentally challenged. The host institution/conference is required to confirm that each facility in which an NCAA championship or ancillary event occurs is in compliance with the Act by the various facilities hosting NCAA championship events. The host institution/conference is responsible for determining if the competition site will be in compliance as of the dates of the championship. If the host institution/conference becomes aware that a competition site hosting an NCAA championship event will not be in compliance, it shall immediately

notify the NCAA national office staff member with responsibility for the event in order to discuss the issue.

NCAA Bylaw 31. Please review Bylaw 31 of the NCAA Division II Manual as it contains policies regarding the administration of an NCAA event.

Contact Information. If you have any questions regarding the bid process, please contact: Donnie Wagner at 317-917-6813 or dwagner@ncaa.org; John Baldwin at 317-292-0464 or jbaldwin@ncaa.org; or Roberta Page at 317-966-6489 or rpage@ncaa.org.