MEMORANDUM

September 21, 2026

VIA EMAIL

TO: NCAA Women's Bowling Conference Commissioners and Head Coaches.

FROM: Jody Fetterhoff, chair
Chair, NCAA Women's Bowling Committee

SUBJECT: National Collegiate Women's Bowling Season and Championship Information.

In preparation for the women's bowling season and championship, please be aware of the items outlined below. For additional updates throughout the year, please check the National Collegiate Women's Bowling landing page, and review the monthly championships newsletter.

1. **Prechampionship Manual**. The Women's Bowling Prechampionship Manual will be posted on the bowling landing page no later than November 27.

2. **Important Dates**. Please pay close attention to the following dates throughout the season.

October – March	Institutions must submit scores by 7 p.m. Eastern each Monday, starting October 12 through March 21.
November 27	Women's Bowling Championship Prechampionship manual posted on the women's bowling landing page.
January 5, February 9, March 9 and March 15	RPI release on NCAA.com.
March 21	Final submission of results via the NCAA statistics website. No later than 5:30 p.m. Eastern.
March 22	Institutions must notify the NCAA national office if any student-athletes are ineligible or unavailable for championship competition.
March 24	National Collegiate Women's Bowling Championship Selections. Selection show on NCAA.com. RPI release on NCAA.com.
April 6-10	National Collegiate Women's Bowling Championship Final Site AMF Mt. Lebanon Lanes- Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

3. **Rules**. The 2026-27 and 2027-28 rules book shall be used for all NCAA competition throughout the season and at the championship. Each head coach and conference office has been sent a hard copy of the new rules book. To download a free digital version of the rules book or to purchase additional physical copies, click HERE. Any additional updates that may occur will be communicated as soon as possible via RefQuest (RQ+) and included in the NCAA Championships monthly newsletter. Questions regarding application of NCAA bowling rules may

be directed to the NCAA Women's Bowling Secretary Rules Editor, Michael Fine at rulesmfine@yahoo.com.

4. **Schedule and Score Reporting**. It is the responsibility of each institution to submit results throughout the season. Each institution must also email score reporting forms to their respective regional chair by 7 p.m. Eastern, each Monday following competition through Monday, March 15. After the final regular season weekend of competition, results must be submitted by 5:30 p.m. Eastern Sunday, March 21.

   Failure to submit scores by the deadline each week will result in the information not being considered for the regional and national ranking process. Failure to submit forms on time shall result in a warning for the first offense and may result in a $200 fine for each offense thereafter.

   Schools will now submit scores through the NCAA statistics portal. Additional information, including proper access and instructions on the new process can be found HERE.

5. **Championship Format.**

   a. Championship competition will be conducted April 6-10 at AMF Mt. Lebanon Lanes in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. All 19 teams will compete at this location.

   b. Four preliminary round pods will be created. Three of these pods will have five teams and on will have four teams. The five-team pods conduct a single-elimination opening round match on April 6 to determine the final spot in their four-team double-elimination brackets.

   c. The six lowest-ranked automatic qualifying teams, as determined by the committee will compete in single-elimination opening round matches.

   d. The remaining teams will be seeded and placed into preliminary round brackets by the committee based on approved selection criteria.

   e. The committee will attempt to avoid conference opponents in the first round of competition. If five or more teams from one conference are selected for the championship, then the integrity of the bracket will be protected (i.e., maintaining the pairing process according to seed will take priority over avoidance of first-round conference matchups).

   f. Each match, other than if-necessary matches in the preliminary round brackets and the championship final, will consist of teams competing in a best-of-three match format, bowled in the following order:
      a. Baker total pin fall,
      b. Five-person team match,
      c. Best-of-seven Baker match play.

   g. If-necessary matches, and the championship final, will be best-of-seven Baker match-play.

   h. Teams advancing from the four preliminary round brackets will compete in a 4-team, double-elimination, bracket on April 9-10 to determine the national champion.

6. **Automatic qualification.** The following 11 conferences will receive automatic qualification (AQ) for the 2026 National Collegiate Women's Bowling Championship:

Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference
Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference
Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association
College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin
Conference Carolinas
Conference USA
East Coast Conference
Great Lakes Valley Conference
Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference
Northeast Conference
Southwestern Athletic Conference

7. **2028 Championship.** Starting in 2028, there will be a National Collegiate Women's Bowling Championship, consisting of Division I and Division III institutions, and the inaugural Division II Women's Bowling Championship. Both events will be held April 11-15 at Royal Scot Golf and Bowl in Lansing, Michigan.

8. **Season and Championship Coaches Videoconference.** A joint videoconference with NCAA staff, committee and the National Tenpin Coaches Association (NTCA) will take place on Sept. 29, at 7 p.m. Eastern. A TEAMS videoconference invitation will be sent to all head coaches and conference administrators. This video conference will cover items referenced in this memo and any additional agenda items provided by the NTCA. Join the video conference using the link below.

Microsoft Teams Videoconference

OR, dial in:

Number: 317-550-5692
Passcode/meeting ID: 219677162#

If you have questions regarding any of the above information, please contact Eric Breece at ebreece@ncaa.org or 317-917-6781

Cc: NCAA Women's Bowling Committee

Select NCAA Staff