

PRECHAMPIONSHIPS 2026-27 MANUAL

NCAA General Administrative Guidelines

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Section 1 • Introduction

During the 2026-27 academic year, the Association will sponsor 94 national championships — 43 for men, 49 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, 10 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 94 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.

Nonpredetermined 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

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

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

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** 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: Bylaw 22.4.1 in the NCAA Division I Manual, 17.1.10 Bylaw in the NCAA Division II Manual and 12.5.3 Bylaw 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 applicable sports playing rules are satisfied and the following criteria are met. (Adopted: 12/15/22)

(a) 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 (Adopted: 12/15/22)

(b) The student-athlete's institution's official uniform (including numbered racing bibs and warm-ups) 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 four square inches in area (i.e., rectangle, square, parallelogram) including any additional material (e.g., patch) surrounding the normal trademark or logo. (Adopted: 12/15/22, Revised: 7/21/26 effective 8/1/26)

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 • Division II

Section 10•1 Division II Philosophy

In addition to the constitution of the National Collegiate Athletic Association, as set forth in Constitution 1, members of Division II believe that a well-conducted intercollegiate athletics program, based on sound educational principles and practices, is a proper part of the educational mission of a university or college and that the educational well-being and academic success of the participating student-athlete is of primary concern.

Higher education has lasting importance on an individual's future success. As such, Division II supports the educational mission of college athletics by fostering a balanced approach in which student-athletes learn and develop through their desired academic pursuits, in civic engagement with their communities and in athletics competition. Division II athletics programs also are committed to establishing an inclusive culture in which persons of all backgrounds are respected and given the opportunity to provide input and to participate. Division II members abide by the following principles that help define and distinguish the division: (*Adopted: 1/31/22, Revised: 7/19/22 effective 8/1/22*)

(a) Division II colleges and universities are expected to operate their athletics programs with integrity and in a welcoming manner that complies with conference and NCAA rules and regulations. Institutional control is a fundamental principle that supports the institution's educational mission and assumes presidential involvement and oversight; *(Adopted: 1/31/22, Revised: 7/19/22 effective 8/1/22)*

(b) Division II members fund their athletics programs in a manner that aligns with the institution's budget and educational mission. This method of funding features a "partial scholarship" model that allows Division II schools to recognize student-athletes for their skills through athletics-based grants, but student-athletes can accept merit-based aid and academic scholarships as well; *(Adopted: 1/31/22, Revised: 7/19/22 effective 8/1/22)*

(c) Division II believes in a balanced approach that integrates athletics into the college experience and allows students to focus on their academic pursuits and participate in other campus and community activities. This "Life in the Balance" emphasis facilitates learning through: (*Adopted: 1/31/22, Revised: 7/19/22 effective 8/1/22*)

(1) **Academics.** Division II offers exceptional teacher-student ratios that provide student-athletes with a quality

education in the academic curriculum of their choice. The division structures its eligibility requirements to facilitate student-athletes earning their degrees, which is measured in part by an institution's student-athletes graduating at least at the same rate as the institution's student body; (*Adopted: 1/31/22, Revised: 7/19/22 effective 8/1/22*)

(2) **Athletics**. Division II supports athletics achievement through highly competitive programs that strive to participate in the division's 25 national championships, which offer the best access ratio among the NCAA's three divisions. Division II also supports a regionalization model in scheduling that reduces time away from campus and keeps athletics participation in perspective within the educational mission; (*Adopted: 1/31/22, Revised: 7/19/22 effective 8/1/22*)

(3) **Community Engagement**. Division II athletics programs actively engage with their communities to enhance relationships between student-athletes and community members and develop a shared civic experience. Division II promotes engagement at the local, conference and national levels, including at all Division II national championships; and (*Adopted: 1/31/22, Revised: 7/19/22 effective 8/1/22*)

(4) **Postgraduation Success**. Division II supports a higher education model that shapes student-athletes who graduate with the skills and knowledge to be productive citizens. The balanced approach allows student-athletes to focus on their academic pursuits, their internships, and whatever else it takes to prepare them for life after graduation; (*Adopted: 1/31/22, Revised: 7/19/22 effective 8/1/22*)

(d) Division II members support the utmost in sportsmanship by committing to a "game environment" initiative that establishes an atmosphere at athletics contests that is both energetic and respectful; and (*Adopted: 1/31/22, Revised: 7/19/22 effective 8/1/22*)

(e) Division II promotes student-athlete involvement in decision-making through campus, conference and national Student-Athlete Advisory Committees that provide leadership opportunities and offer a representative voice in the division's governance structure. (*Adopted: 1/31/22, Revised: 7/19/22 effective 8/1/22*)

Section 10•2 Division II Code of Conduct

CONDUCT POLICY STATEMENT

The NCAA expects each championship to exhibit an experience that represents the highest level of fair play and good sportsmanship. The NCAA and the NCAA Division II Championships Committee expect that student-athletes, coaches and administrators do their best to ensure participation in intercollegiate athletics promotes character development for all participants, enhances the integrity of higher education and promotes civility; therefore, championship events should adhere to such fundamental values as respect, fairness, civility, honesty and responsibility. These values should be manifest not only in athletics participation, but also in the broad spectrum of activities associated with the championship event. Accordingly, the Championships Committee will take strong action in response to any form of misconduct by student-athletes, coaches and/or administrators during the entire championship. This includes criticism of officials and a misconduct incident at the competition.

Any institution that fails to submit the online form required for the sport administrator and have a complete and accurate signature page on file at the institution before the start of the first competition of the championship will be issued a fine of $500, with a private letter of reprimand to be sent to the conference commissioner, institutional chancellor/president, institutional athletics director, senior woman administrator, sports information director and compliance director.

MISCONDUCT

The NCAA Division II Manual Bylaw 18.02.4 defines misconduct as: **"... 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."**

EXPECTATIONS

Each games committee shall hold a pre-championship meeting with the representatives of participating institutions to review and explain the policies related to misconduct (as defined in Bylaw 18.02.4). The Division II Championships Code of Conduct is to be part of the championship(s) packet and delivered to all institutional representatives attending the championship(s) events.

If the act of misconduct occurs during the competition, under normal circumstances, the individual shall be allowed to complete the competition. An administrative hearing shall be held at the conclusion of the day's competition, during a break in the continuity of the championship (e.g., between rounds of a basketball tournament) when no competition is being conducted or at the conclusion of the championship. However, if the act of misconduct is so flagrant that it obviously violates the principles of fair play and sportsmanship, the games committee may immediately withdraw the student-athlete or institutional representative from the competition and conduct the hearing after this action. Other actions of misconduct shall be dealt with in a timely manner by the governing sport committee.

EXPECTATIONS FOR STUDENT-ATHLETES, COACHES AND ADMINISTRATORS

- Have on file at the institution an accurate and complete Division II Code of Conduct signature page before the start of the first competition of the championship(s).
- Cooperate and participate in game ceremonies, team meetings, community engagement and championship competition.
- Discuss misconduct and possible consequences with all institutional personnel traveling with the team (official travel party and additional individuals).
- Have an administrator or designee present at all competitions.
- Communicate issues and concerns in an honest and timely manner with NCAA staff.
- Follow team, university and NCAA guidelines throughout all championship-related activities.
- Be respectful of other participants, spectators, coaches, administrators and other individuals at the championship(s) site.
- Abide by federal, state and local laws and regulations and facility requirements throughout the championship event.
- Display acceptable behavior on and off the playing field to ensure a positive experience for all participants.

POSSIBLE PENALTIES FOR MISCONDUCT

In accordance with Division II Championships Committee policy, the governing sport committee (or the games committee authorized to act for it) may impose any one or a combination of the following penalties on an institution or any student-athlete or representative of an institution guilty of misconduct that occurs incident to, en route to, from or at the locale of the competition or practice. The penalties include, but are not limited to:

a. Public or private reprimand of the individual;

b. Disqualification of the individual from further participation in the NCAA championship(s) involved;

c. Banishment of the individual from participation in one or more subsequent championships of the sport involved;

d. Cancellation of payment of the Association's travel guarantee to the institution for the individual involved;

e. Banishment of the institution from participation in one or more future championships in which its team in that sport otherwise would be eligible to participate;

f. Disqualification of an institution for a period of time from serving as host institution for one or more NCAA championships;

g. Cancellation of all or a portion of the honorarium for hosting an NCAA championship(s); and

h. Financial or other penalties different from (a) through (g) above, but only if they have prior approval of the Championships Committee.

All correspondence regarding a violation of the Code of Conduct will be sent to the chancellor/president of the institution, with a copy to the director of athletics and person(s) involved.

Participation in an NCAA championship is an accomplishment and it is expected that individuals and teams are committed to ensuring that the championship is a positive experience for all participants, fans and volunteers. Participation in these championship events is a privilege for the student-athletes, coaches and administrators and should be treated as such.

Section 10•3 On-Site Administrator at Team Championships

All team sports require that a designated individual be identified from each institution participating in the championship as the on-site administrator. This person may be any individual from that school with no on-site responsibilities. The role of the on-site administrator is to be present at the competition site and attend all events that are mandated for the team (e.g., travel from institution to and from the championship site, teleconferences/videoconferences, prechampionship meetings, practices, competition and community engagement, where applicable).

If no one is sent or identified, the site representative is to notify the NCAA championship manager and Division II Championships Committee liaison to administer a fine of $500, with a private letter of reprimand to be sent to the conference commissioner, university chancellor/president university director of athletics, senior woman administrator, sports information director and compliance director. The NCAA championship manager will administer the fine and letter of reprimand to the institution(s).

This policy applies to the following sports: baseball, basketball, field hockey, football, lacrosse, soccer, softball and volleyball.

Section 10•4 Make Game Day Yours

Division II promotes a game environment that is respectful and engaging for everyone through the Make Game Day Yours initiative. The initiative aims to create a positive game environment at Division II contests and promotes excellent customer service among hosts to both teams' fans, student-athletes, coaches and game officials.

Championship hosts should keep in mind the importance of safety, responsiveness and dignity in order to achieve a positive experience. We ask that each participant and fan be personally accountable for their actions and do their part to ensure this event is a positive reflection of Make Game Day Yours.

Section 10•5 Religious Conflicts

[Reference: Division II Championships Committee Policy.]

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 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. *(Revised: 1/12/99, 1/8/01, 1/9/01)*

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

Section 10•6 Lodging Policies

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 via submission of 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 departing from the locale.

Division II Indoor Track & Field

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Section 1 • General Administration

Section 1•1 NCAA Tournament Operations Staff Contact Information

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Section 1•2 National Committee

The Division II Men's and Women's Indoor Track and Field Championships are under the control, direction and supervision of the NCAA Division II Men's and Women's Track and Field Committee. **Current committee members are:**

ATLANTIC REGION

Tabitha Bemis, chair
Assistant Track and Field and Cross Country Coach
Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania

CENTRAL REGION

Shane Drahota
Senior Deputy Athletic Director of Administration & Student Services
Minnesota State University, Mankato

EAST REGION

Katie Rees
Head Track and Field Coach/Assistant Athletic Director
Adelphi University

MIDWEST REGION

James Kearney
Associate Head Coach Men's and Women's Track and Field
Lewis University

SOUTH REGION

Tommy Barksdale
Head Track and Field Coach
University of Montevallo

SOUTH CENTRAL REGION

Jenna Mckinely-Fall
Associate Athletic Director for Compliance and Student-Athlete Development/SWA
Colorado State University Pueblo

SOUTHEAST REGION

TBD

WEST REGION

Pamela Donnely
Senior Associate Athletic Director/SWA/Deputy Title IX Coordinator
California State Polytechnic University, Pomona

For additional information about indoor track and field rules, contact:

Mark Kostek
Secretary-Rules Editor
515-208-8300 / kostekmt@gmail.com

Milan Donley
National Coordinator of Officials
785-331-9911 / milandonley@gmail.com

Jay Fitzwater
Assistant Director, Championships and Alliances
NCAA Playing Rules and Officiating
317-917-6819 / jfitzwater@ncaa.org

Section 1•3 Important Dates

Friday, Nov. 27	First date a qualifying mark may be made. Coaches are expected to review qualifying marks on the performance lists throughout the season to ensure that they are accurate. Please see the Performance Challenge section of this manual regarding steps to be taken if there is a qualifying performance that is in question.
Wednesday, Feb. 24	Declarations will be accepted between Wednesday, Feb. 24 (9 a.m. Eastern time) and Monday, March 1 (1 p.m. Eastern time).
Sunday, Feb. 28	Last date a qualifying mark may be made. Results submissions are due on TFRRS by 11:59 p.m. Eastern time. The committee will not accept any results submitted to TFRRS after the deadline.
Monday, March 1	Declarations close (1 p.m. Eastern time). Final declarations will be posted online at ncaa.org by 3 p.m. Eastern time. Coaches are strongly encouraged to view the posted list to verify that the declarations are accurate. **Late declarations will be accepted with a fine of $400 per gender until 6 p.m. Eastern time on March 1. Details outlined later in manual.** Performance challenge period ends at 8 a.m. Eastern time. Challenges must be submitted through the NCAA Track and Field Qualifying Criteria Violation Portal (see page 15 for details). A performance challenge must be filed within 72 hours after the results of the meet have been posted or the challenge deadline for the respective division, whichever is earlier. If there is a change in the performance list due to updated meet results, a challenge may be filed within 72 hours of the posting of the update. Declarations review window will open at 3 p.m. Eastern time and close at 6 p.m. Eastern time. It is the responsibility of each coach to check this list and report any discrepancies by 6 p.m. Eastern time. To report a discrepancy, the coach will need to contact Corey Bray (cbray@ncaa.org). The coach should be prepared to provide a copy of his or her confirmation email.
Tuesday, March 2	Championships fields will be posted online by 4 p.m. Eastern time and institutions will receive information regarding the championships.
Thursday, March 4	Mandatory administrative meeting at 11 a.m. Eastern time. A link will be provided to all selected teams.
Friday, March 5	Code of Conduct attestation due by 5 p.m. Eastern time. **Institutions that have not submitted the Code of Conduct by the deadline will be assessed a $200 fine per gender per team.**
Saturday, March 6	Deadline for medical scratches, 1 p.m. Eastern time. Any scratches must be reported by email to Corey Bray (cbray@ncaa.org). **Details outlined later in manual.**
Monday, March 8	Heat and flight information will be posted online.
Wednesday-Thursday, March 10-11	Mandatory packet pickup at championships host site. Location and times will be communicated in the participant manual.
Friday-Saturday, March 12-13	Championships competition.

CHAMPIONSHIP DATES AND SITES

The indoor track and field championships will be held March 12-13 at the Birmingham CrossPlex in Birmingham, Alabama. University of Montevallo and Birmingham Crossplex will serve as co-hosts.

DATE FORMULA

The Division II Indoor Track and Field Championships will be held each year the second full weekend in March (Friday-Saturday).

FUTURE DATES

The 2028 championships will be held March 10-11 in Spokane, Washington. The Great Northwest Athletic Conference and Spokane Sports Commission will serve as co-hosts.

Section 1•4 Equipment

Gill is the official equipment supplier for NCAA track and field. All student-athletes will be required to use the blocks as supplied by Gill and exclusive for these NCAA championships. It is not required that student-athletes use implements provided by Gill for this championship if their own implements pass inspection and certification.

Section 1•5 Rules

Per NCAA Bylaw 17.32, 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 are 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 that are not played in accordance with the NCAA rules, or those rules adopted by an outside organization.

The 2026 and 2027 NCAA Men's and Women's Track and Field and Cross Country Rules book will be followed for the 2027 Indoor Track and Field Championships.

SCORING

The championships will use the eight-place scoring system (10-8-6-5-4-3-2-1) in individual and relay events (i.e., first place earns 10 team points, second place earns eight team points, etc.).

Section 1•6 Uniforms

[Reference: Bylaw 17.1.10.4 in the NCAA Division II Manual]

All uniforms must comply with Rule 6-4 in the 2026 and 2027 NCAA Men's and Women's Track and Field and Cross Country Rules Book.

LOGOS

Refer to General Administrative Guidelines, Section 7.

Section 2 • Determination of Championship Participation

Section 2•1 Championships Format

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

The following events will be conducted at the NCAA Division II Indoor Track and Field Championships:

60 Meters	**Distance Medley Relay**
200 Meters	**High Jump**
400 Meters	**Pole Vault**
800 Meters	**Long Jump**
Mile	**Triple Jump**
3,000 Meters	**Shot Put**
5,000 Meters	**Weight Throw**
60-Meter Hurdles	**Pentathlon (Women)**
4x400 Meter Relay	**Heptathlon (Men)**

The full schedule of events for the 2027 Division II Indoor Track and Field Championships is available at **ncaa.org**.

TRAVEL PARTY

Please refer to the NCAA Travel policies for all information regarding transportation and per diem expenses. Travel policies can be found on the **NCAA website**. Student-athletes selected to participate in the indoor track and field championships must actually participate to receive travel and per diem. Those declared student-athletes who attend the meet with a preexisting injury that prohibits the student-athlete from giving an honest effort may be denied travel and per diem, and those who are injured at the championships and cannot continue to participate must report to the host sports medicine staff for clearance. **Institutions choosing to bring individuals that were not selected to the championships as relay alternates will not be reimbursed for travel or per diem for those individuals.**

Travel Party. The official travel party for participating institutions is as follows: institutions qualifying one to four individuals will be reimbursed for the participating student-athletes and one nonathlete; institutions qualifying five or more individuals will be reimbursed for the participating student-athletes and two nonathletes.

CREDENTIALS

Credentials will be provided for each participating team as follows:

- Institutions qualifying one to four student-athletes will receive credentials for the participating student-athletes and two nonathletes.
- Institutions qualifying five to eight athletes will receive credentials for the participating student-athletes and three nonathletes.
- Institutions qualifying nine or more athletes will receive credentials for the participating student-athletes and four nonathletes.
- Institutions qualifying a relay will receive up to two additional participant credentials.
- Each participating institution will have the ability to request an administrator and his/her designee be added to a pass list. The list will be located at will call and photo identification will be required for free admission. Administrator passes must be requested through this **link**.
- Each participating institution will receive up to one medical credential for a certified athletic trainer. Medical credentials should be requested through the host. A photo identification and proof of Board of Certification are required to pick up a medical credential.

- Any additional coaches attending the championships will have to purchase tickets to the venue.
- Media credential requests must be made online at **ncaa.com/media**.
- It will be the cost of an all-session ticket to replace a lost team personnel credential.

NOTE: The official travel party is different from the credential allotment noted above. Only members of the official travel party will receive expense reimbursement and complimentary student-athlete gifts.

NOTE: Any misuse of a credential can result in a misconduct toward the involved institutions.

Section 2•2 Qualifying Information

QUALIFYING PROCEDURES

Student-athletes qualify to the Division II Indoor Track and Field Championships by meeting performance standards during the regular season. Qualifying standards must be met during the current season in indoor competition from Friday, Nov. 27, 2026, through Sunday, Feb. 28, 2027. Qualifying performances must be made during a regularly scheduled indoor track and field meet. Qualifying standards for the 2027 championships are available at **ncaa.org**.

QUALIFYING CRITERIA

Qualifying performances are only eligible if achieved in meets that adhere to the qualifying criteria for NCAA indoor and outdoor track and field. The qualifying criteria is available online at **ncaa.org**.

Guidelines for Reporting a Qualifying Criteria Violation. One role of the NCAA Track and Field Committee is to review and act upon performance challenges throughout the indoor and outdoor track and field seasons. Coaches and student-athletes are afforded the opportunity to monitor effective meet management and officiating by following the challenge/protest process outlined in **Rule 5-7** in the NCAA Cross Country and Track & Field Rules Book. Challenges of qualifying marks made after the completion of a meet must be made according to the Performance Challenge Guidelines, which are available online at **ncaa.org**.

Violations may only be reported by a coach at an NCAA institution and must be submitted to the NCAA Track and Field Qualifying Criteria Violation Portal. The Portal can be accessed at **forms.ncaa.org/qcvp/new**. Coaches must log in to the Portal using the following username and password:

Username: violation@ncaa.org
Password: ncaa!!

For additional information, see Section 1.3 (“Important Dates”) of this manual.

CONVERSIONS

Altitude conversions, track indexing conversions and track event conversions are each based on a formula and will be done as results are submitted. Information regarding altitude adjustments, track indexing conversions, event conversions and the Indoor Track Facility Indexing Calculator can be found online at **ncaa.org**.

Section 2•3 Selection Information

SELECTION REQUIREMENTS

In order for student-athletes to be eligible for selection to the Division II Indoor Track and Field Championships, his or her institution must adhere to the following requirements:

Team Rosters. NCAA track and field programs will be required to register and maintain their official team roster with the Track and Field Results Reporting System (TFRRS) at **tfrrs.org** before entering their first competition. Each student-athlete will be assigned a unique TFRRS tracking ID that will identify the student-athlete throughout his or her collegiate career. This ID will not change from season to season; however, institutions will be required to register their roster each season to confirm eligibility status. Access to and instructions for roster submission can be found at **tfrrs.org**.

Results Reporting. All institutions must ensure that the electronic submission of results from any competition in which their student-athletes compete is reported by the meet host to TFRRS. Only official electronically reported meet results as submitted by the meet host in TFRRS will serve as proof of performance for all NCAA Division II track and field times and marks. Season-best descending-order lists by event, as approved by the NCAA Division II Track and Field Committee, will be made available on a real-time basis at **tfrrs.org**.

It will be the responsibility of the meet HOST to submit meet results, inclusive of specific names of athletes on relays, to TFRRS by midnight Eastern time, one day after the completion of a competition. Marks may not be considered for championships selection if meet results are not received from the host within the designated time period. Participating institutions must ensure that the electronic submission of results from any competition in which their student-athletes compete is reported by the meet host within five days of the performance and not later than midnight Eastern time, Sunday, February 28. Additionally, it is the responsibility of the meet HOST and INSTITUTION to collect and report in results the names of all relay members. It is recommended that meet hosts require relay cards at check-in to assist in this process. Results will be accepted only for student-athletes on the institution's TFRRS roster form. The submission of incorrect performances (false marks) may result in the disqualification of the student-athlete. **Late or incorrect results submissions that are the basis for championships selections will result in a fine of $200 per team per gender, with potential additional fines for repeated violations.**

Detailed account information and instructions to set up meets and download team rosters in preparation for uploading 2026-27 indoor track and field results are available for meet hosts, meet directors and timers at **tfrrs.org** (select the login/register button and see the Meet Director/Timer information). Effective Dec. 7, 2023:

- Meet hosts may use their method of choice to manage meet entries, however TFRRS IDs are available only via DirectAthletics' meet entry system at **directathletics.com**.
- There is no cost to use DirectAthletics' meet entry services for college and junior college meets.
- It is the responsibility of the meet directors/timers to download valid TFRRS IDs for their entering teams, regardless of the meet entry method.
- All TFRRS IDs are single-meet IDs and not transportable from meet to meet; entry downloads for each meet will contain valid IDs for tracking results for that meet only. TFRRS IDS are available at no cost to any meet director/timer at **directathletics.com** via the DirectAthletics entry system.
- If you have problems using the TFRRS system, please contact DirectAthletics (**support@directathletics.com**; phone: 347-674-3002) and notify the NCAA national office (**cbray@ncaa.org**; or 317-917-6076) if the difficulty will trigger a late fine.

Minimum Contests. In order for student-athletes to be eligible to participate in the Division II Men's and Women's Indoor Track and Field Championships, his or her member institution must first meet all sport-sponsorship requirements and also compete in a minimum of four contests with a minimum of 10 participants in each of those contests. If teams have the minimum number of athletes compete on one day, at two different meets/sites, that will count as one contest. Teams are not permitted to use double-duals to meet the minimum requirements for selection purposes. The TFRRS system will track institutions' minimum contests and participation requirements, so institutions are not required to submit a form before championships selections. Any questions regarding minimum contest requirements must be settled with the committee by 1 p.m. Eastern time, Monday, March 1.

NOTE: Minimum participation requirements for championships consideration are separate from the requirements for sponsorship.

Declarations. At the end of the season's qualifying period, the final descending-order lists will be posted at **tfrrs.org** and coaches must declare student-athletes for the championships. Member institutions must adhere to the following guidelines when declaring student-athletes:

1. Declarations must be made online at **directathletics.com**.
2. Declarations for all institutions whose student-athletes meet provisional qualifying standards, regardless of position on the descending-order lists, will be accepted starting at 9 a.m. Eastern time, Wednesday, Feb. 24, through 1 p.m. Eastern time, Monday, March 1.

3. Access to the declaration form is controlled through the use of the same username and password assigned for team roster form submission. Any coach unable to access the online declaration form by 9 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 24, must notify DirectAthletics.

4. Coaches must complete and submit the online declaration form by 1 p.m. Eastern time, Monday, March 1. All student-athletes must be declared or scratched in every event in which they qualified by the deadline. Student-athletes not declared by the deadline will be scratched from consideration for the championships. **If a student-athlete has met at least a provisional standard in one or more events but does not want to compete in all if he/she is selected in multiple events, the coach must clearly state a preference on the declaration form or the student-athlete will be selected for all events declared and will have to compete in all events in order to not be disqualified from the championships.** *NOTE: Preferences apply to invited events only. If a student-athlete is invited in one event and is then brought into the meet as the next student-athlete on the descending-order list in another event, he/she cannot scratch out of the invited event regardless of the stated preference, but may scratch out of the "next-in" event. Also, preferences are for individual/institutional events only and may NOT be made based on other teammates or field competitors.*

5. Coaches must notify Corey Bray via email (**cbray@ncaa.org**) if a student-athlete may not be able to compete because of injury, illness or change in eligibility status. Failure to notify the committee could result in a fine or a misconduct. Student-athletes will not be added after the Saturday prior to the championships at 1 p.m. Eastern time.

6. Coaches are responsible for including a telephone number (preferably cell phone) on the declaration form at which the games committee can reach him or her, or his or her representatives, if questions arise.

7. Relay Declarations.
   - Only one qualified relay team per institution may be declared. That relay team's performance will be used for seeding purposes. All other teams on the descending-order list from that institution must be scratched.
   - The alternates must be declared separately and not later than the close of packet pick-up at the championships. An alternate is a student-athlete not already in the championships in any event. Please see Rule 7-7.2 for further information on relay replacement policies.
   - The four members who actually compete and earn a qualifying position will be the 'declared' relay team for that institution and will be the only individuals for which NCAA championship travel reimbursement will be provided. NCAA travel reimbursement will not be provided to alternates, even if they compete in the championships. **INSTITUTIONS MUST NOTIFY COREY BRAY (cbray@ncaa.org) IF THEY DO NOT INTEND ON BRINGING ONE OF THE FOUR STUDENT-ATHLETES WHO ACHIEVED THE MARK. FAILURE TO DO SO COULD RESULT IN A MISCONDUCT.**
   - An athlete on a declared relay, who is replaced with an alternate or substitute, may still compete in any event(s) in which he/she had previously been accepted into the meet.

If an institution misses the on-time declaration deadline, it will have until 6 p.m. Eastern time on Monday, March 1, to submit the declarations and be assessed a fine of $400 per gender, with potential additional fines for repeated violations. Declarations received after the 6 p.m. late deadline will NOT be accepted.

The final list of declarations will be available on **ncaa.org** by 3 p.m. Eastern time, Monday, March 1. The challenge period will begin with the first performance list and continue through Monday, March 1, at 6 p.m. Eastern time. All challenges must be submitted in writing to the committee chair (Tabitha Bemis: **tabitha.bemis@sru.edu**) and the NCAA championships manager (Corey Bray: **cbray@ncaa.org**).

Seed Marks for Combined Events. Coaches will **NOT** be asked to enter seed marks for combined events through the preferences during declarations. A report will be generated through TFRRS listing all seed marks for combined-events student-athletes. Coaches will receive an email after selections with a list of all seed marks to review, but coaches are expected to check results throughout the season to ensure that seed marks will be correct on the report. If a student-athlete starts a combined-event competition but does not finish, those results must still be reported in order for those marks to be used for seeding at the championships. The following procedures will be used to determine seed marks:

- The best mark from the current season for each event will be used. Marks may be achieved in combined-events competition or during an open event.

Code of Conduct Attestation. All institutions that qualify student-athletes to the championships must complete the electronic attestation form acknowledging the DII Code of Conduct policy by 5 p.m. Eastern time on Friday, March 5. **INSTITUTIONS THAT DO NOT ATTEST TO THE CODE OF CONDUCT BEFORE THE DEADLINE WILL BE ASSESSED A $200 FINE PER GENDER PER TEAM.** Additional information will be provided to those selected to the championships.

AT-LARGE SELECTION

Eligible student-athletes meeting a provisional standard will be placed on a descending-order list for each event. The national committee will select student-athletes from the declared descending-order list to fill the fields. For each event the top 18 in individual events, top 16 in combined events and top 12 relays will be accepted into the competition. Only student-athletes declared properly during the designated declaration period will be considered when filling fields.

Ties. The stated maximums are absolute and will not be extended as a result of ties.

- Any descending-order list ties (with the exception of combined events), by mark, for the next position to be accepted will be resolved by examining, of those tied, the second-best valid qualifying meet performance submitted during the season on another day of competition and so on until there is no basis for a mark comparison. If one of the student-athletes tied does not have a next-best valid mark, the tie will be awarded to the student-athlete who does have a next-best valid mark.
- For a tie not resolved after available mark comparisons, acceptance will be awarded to the competitor who achieved the original tying mark later in the season. If both student-athletes achieved the original tying mark on the same date of competition, the dates of each of the next-best valid marks will be compared until there is no basis for a mark comparison.
- As a last resort, the tie for the last qualifying position will be decided by a random draw.
- Any descending-order list ties for combined event student-athletes will be broken using Rule 5-6.2.

Alternates. If a student-athlete becomes injured after selections and must medically scratch from the meet, every effort will be made by the committee to maintain the event field size by allowing the next eligible individual into the event. No additional participants will be added to the field for championships competition after the scratch deadline.

SCRATCH

Medical. If a student-athlete becomes injured after selections and prior to arriving on site, the NCAA championships manager (Corey Bray: **cbray@ncaa.org**) must be notified immediately via email and documentation from a doctor or athletic trainer must be submitted with scratch notification. No additional participants will be added to the field for the championships competition after the medical scratch deadline.

If a student-athlete arrives on site and becomes injured prior to competing, that student-athlete must be medically scratched by the designated trainer/physician. The medical scratch is all-inclusive and not selective by event. At that point, no alternates would be added.

If a student-athlete becomes injured during competition, that student-athlete must be cleared by the designated trainer/physician to compete in other events.

Nonmedical. If a student-athlete is scratched for a nonmedical reason following selections, the committee will review the circumstances provided for that scratch and a fine or misconduct could be assessed.