



2020
NATIONAL COLLEGIATE
FENCING
CHAMPIONSHIPS

PRE-CHAMPIONSHIPS
2019-20 MANUAL

NCAA General Administrative Guidelines

Contents

Section 1 • Introduction	2
Section 1•1 Definitions	2
Section 2 • Championship Core Statement	2
Section 3 • Concussion Management	3
Section 4 • Conduct	3
Section 4•1 Certification of Eligibility/Availability	3
Section 4•2 Drug Testing	4
Section 4•3 Honesty and Sportsmanship	4
Section 4•4 Misconduct/Failure to Adhere to Policies	4
Section 4•5 Sports Wagering Policy	4
Section 4•6 Student-Athlete Experience Survey	5
Section 5 • Elite 90 Award	5
Section 6 • Fan Travel	5
Section 7 • Logo Policy	5
Section 8 • Research	6
Section 9 • Religious Conflicts	6

THE NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

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Section 1 • Introduction

During the 2019-20 academic year, the Association will sponsor 90 national championships – 42 for men, 45 for women, and three for both men and women. Of the men's championships, three 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, six 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 Pre-Championship 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.

The first section applies to policies applicable to all 90 championships, while the other two sections are sport-specific.

Section 1.1 Definitions

Pre-championship Manual. Resource for institutions to prepare for the championship.

Administrative Meeting. Pre-championship meeting for coaches and/or administrators.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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. Number of student-athletes per team allowed to dress in uniform and participate at the championship.

Tournament Physician. The physician designated by the host institution/conference to serve as the chief medical advisor for the championship.

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, etc.).

Section 3 • Concussion Management

[Reference: Concussion Management in Constitution 3.2.4.20 in the NCAA Division I Manual, Constitution 3.3.4.17 in the NCAA Division II Manual, and Constitution 3.2.4.17 in the NCAA Division III Manual.]

The NCAA has adopted legislation that requires all active member institutions to have a concussion management plan for their student-athletes. Traveling institutions shall follow their concussion management plan while participating in NCAA championships. If a participating team lacks appropriate medical staff to activate its concussion management plan, the host championship concussion management plan will be activated.

The legislation notes, in part, that a student-athlete who exhibits signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with a concussion shall be removed from athletics activities (e.g., competition, practice, conditioning sessions) and evaluated by a medical staff member (e.g., sports medicine staff, team physician) with experience in the evaluation and management of concussions; a student-athlete diagnosed with a concussion is precluded from returning to athletics activity for at least the remainder of that calendar day; and medical clearance for return to athletics activity shall be determined by the team physician or the physician's designee from the student-athlete's institution. In the absence of a team physician or their designee, the NCAA tournament physician will examine the student-athlete and will determine medical clearance. Within the rules of the sport and policies established for the championship, medical staff should have access to the injured student-athlete without interference (e.g., coach).

A concussion is a brain injury that may be caused by a blow to the head, face, neck or elsewhere on the body with an "impulsive" force transmitted to the head. Concussions can occur without loss of consciousness or other obvious signs. A repeat concussion that occurs before the brain recovers from the previous one (hours, days or weeks) can slow recovery or increase the likelihood of having more severe and/or long-term problems. In rare cases, repeat concussions can result in brain swelling, permanent brain damage and even death.

For further details, please refer to the NCAA [Sports Sport Science Institute website](#) for additional guidance.

Section 4 • Conduct

Section 4•1 Certification of Eligibility/Availability

[Reference: Certification of Eligibility/Availability in Constitution 3.2.4 and Bylaws 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 31.2.1.7.1, 31.2.1.7.1.2 and 31.2.2 in the NCAA Division I Manual, Constitution 3.3.4 in the NCAA Division II Manual and Bylaws 31.2.2 and 31.2.1.5 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 4•2 Drug Testing

[Reference: Bylaws 18.4.1.4 and 31.2.2 in the NCAA Division I Manual and Bylaws 18.4.1.4 and 31.2.3 in the NCAA Divisions II and III Manuals.]

Student-athletes who compete in NCAA championships may be subjected to drug tests in accordance with Bylaws 18.4.1.4 and 31.2.2 (Division I); 31.2.3 (Divisions II and III), 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 4•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 4•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 outline.

Section 4•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, etc.) 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 4•6 Student-Athlete Experience Survey

After each championship, institutional administrators, coaches and student-athletes will be asked to participate in a post-event survey intended to capture feedback on their recent championship experience. Institutional administrators and coaches will receive an email containing a link to the survey and will be asked to ensure participation from all student-athletes.

Section 5 • Elite 90™ Award

The Elite 90 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 on all teams competing at the finals site. Each institution that has at least one student-athlete qualify for the final round/site is eligible to nominate a student-athlete for the award. 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. To receive more information or access the online form and submit a nomination, go to ncaa.org.

Section 6 • Fan Travel

NCAA Travel provides an easy and affordable way 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 NCAA Travel help support NCAA student-athletes. Please direct your fans to NCAA.com/travel to search and book online hotel, car and air travel, all in one easy transaction.

Section 7 • Logo Policy

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

A student-athlete may use athletics equipment or wear athletics apparel that bears the trademark or logo of an athletics equipment or apparel manufacturer or distributor in athletics competition and pre- and postgame activities (e.g., celebrations

on the court, pre- or postgame press conferences), provided the following criteria are met:

1. Athletics equipment (e.g., shoes, helmets, baseball bats and gloves, batting or golf gloves, hockey and lacrosse sticks, goggles and skis) shall bear only the manufacturer's normal label or trademark, as it is used on all such items for sale to the general public; and
2. The student-athlete's institution's official uniform (including numbered racing bibs and warmups) and all other items of apparel (e.g., socks, head bands, T-shirts, wrist bands, visors or hats, swim caps and towels) shall bear only a single manufacturer's or distributor's normal label or trademark (regardless of the visibility of the label or trademark), not to exceed 2-1/4 square inches in area (rectangle, square, parallelogram) including any additional material (e.g., patch) surrounding the normal trademark or logo. The student-athlete's institution's official uniform and all other items of apparel shall not bear a design element similar to the manufacturer's trademark/logo that is in addition to another trademark/logo that is contrary to the size restriction.

Section 8 • Research

It is essential that all research efforts be coordinated by a single entity within the national office structure in order to ensure maximum efficiency and quality, avoid unnecessary duplication of effort on the part of staff and membership, allow the NCAA to prioritize research efforts given the limited time and resources of our members and adhere to federal guidelines on the responsibilities of researchers to properly protect research participants from harm.

For the purpose of this policy, "research" is defined as any systematic collection of data for the purpose of drawing generalized conclusions.

Any proposal to conduct research must be submitted to the NCAA research staff for review at least six weeks before the project begins. Research to be conducted during NCAA championships or related events, and which involves competing student-athletes or attendees, is also subject to review. This includes all research, including that conducted by or under the direction of any employee, contractor or paid consultant of the NCAA. It also includes any research conducted by other persons, but funded totally or in part by the NCAA. Any research that detracts from the student-athlete experience or requires physical activity may not be permitted at the championships (preliminary rounds and finals sites). The NCAA retains sole discretion as to whether to allow such research.

Examples of activities considered research include: Conducting surveys of athletics administrators, college presidents, faculty, coaches and student-athletes; leading an organized focus group; funding an outside study under the auspices of the NCAA; conducting market research at championship events; secondary analysis of data originally collected by the NCAA from people for other purposes; any systematic collection of data from the membership or other entities; etc.

Section 9 • Religious Conflicts

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

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

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

National Collegiate Fencing

Contents

Section 1 • General Administration	8
Section 1•1 NCAA Tournament Operations Staff Contact Information	8
Section 1•2 National Committee	8
Section 1•3 Regional Advisory Committees	9
Section 1•4 Important Dates	9
Section 1•5 Eligibility for National Collegiate Championships	10
Section 1•6 Equipment And Apparel Check	11
Section 1•7 Rules	11
Section 1•8 Uniforms	11
Section 2 • Determination of Championship Participation	13
Section 2•1 Championships Format	13
Section 2•2 Roster Submission and Results Reporting	14
Section 2•3 Selection Information	14
Section 2•4 Selection Criteria	19
Appendix A • Regional Map	23
Appendix B • Women's Sport Sponsorship	24
Appendix C • Men's and Mixed Sport Sponsorship	25
Appendix D • NCAA Fencing Meet Procedures	26
Appendix E • Nine Strip Format	29
Appendix F • Power Rating Scale	30
Appendix G • Replacement Process	31

Section 1 • General Administration

Section 1•1 NCAA Tournament Operations Staff Contact Information

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Section 1•2 National Committee

The National Collegiate Men's and Women's Fencing Championships are under the control, direction and supervision of the NCAA Men's and Women's Fencing Committee, which is the operations committee for the championships. It is responsible for the conduct of the championships during actual competition and is in full control of the floor. It is authorized to take any measures necessary to ensure good order.

Current members of the committee are:**MIDWEST REGION****Steve Corder**

Senior Compliance Administrator
University of Detroit Mercy

Guiorgie "Gia" Kvaratskhelia

Head Men's and Women's Fencing Coach
University of Notre Dame

MID-ATLANTIC/SOUTH REGION**David L. Baker, chair**

Associate Athletics Director
Pennsylvania State University

Nikki Franke

Head Fencing Coach
Temple University

NORTHEAST REGION**Christopher Kohuth**

Assistant Athletics Director
Yale University

Jarek Koniusz

Head Men's and Women's Fencing Coach
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

WEST REGION

TBD

Chris Gines

Assistant Athletics Director
U.S. Air Force Academy

Section 1•3 Regional Advisory Committees

[Reference: Bylaws 21.4.1.5, 21.6.1.6 in the NCAA Division I Manual.]

Sports committees shall appoint an advisory committee in each of their respective regions to help evaluate teams and/or individuals throughout the season. Members of the 2019-20 regional advisory committees are:

NAME	INSTITUTION	DIVISION
NORTHEAST REGION		
*Jarek Koniusz	MIT	III
*Michael Matt	Brandeis	III
Bruce Gillman	Vassar	III
MIDWEST REGION		
*Guiorgie "Gia" Kvaratskhelia	Notre Dame	I
*Steve Corder	Detroit Mercy	I
Andy Tulleners	Cleveland State	I
MID-ATLANTIC/SOUTH REGION		
*David L. Baker	Penn State	I
*Nikki Franke	Temple	I
Alex Beguinet	Duke	I
Austin Young	Johns Hopkins	III
WEST REGION		
*Chris Gines	USAFA	I
*Lisa L. Posthumus	Stanford	I
John Moreau	Incarnate Word	II
Juan Ignacio Calderon	UC San Diego	II

*Indicates National Committee Member

Section 1•4 Important Dates

Monday, Sept. 30	Online score-reporting system open for submission of rosters by institutions. The online system can be accessed on the fencing administration page of ncaa.org .
Friday, Nov. 29	Deadline for submission of rosters through the online system. A \$200 fine will be issued to institutions failing to submit their complete rosters (names and power ratings) by this date. The online system will be reopened Dec. 7 for institutions to make updates to their roster throughout the season. Power ratings submitted as of this date shall be used for the remainder of the season. If a power rating designation is made in error, contact the NCAA championships manager.
2020	
Monday, Feb. 17	Deadline for an institution's athletics director to submit a request for an extension to use the first weekend in March as a makeup date for a previously scheduled regular-season competition that was canceled due to unforeseen circumstances
Wednesday, Feb. 26	Deadline for member institutions to submit individual results via the online score-reporting system. A \$200 fine will be issued to institutions failing to submit results by this date.
Monday, March 2	Deadline for institutions to submit regional entry forms to their respective regional host, unless given a waiver to compete the first weekend in March.

NATIONAL COLLEGIATE FENCING

Monday, March 2	Deadline for submission of written requests from athletics directors for a waiver of minimum requirements for regional participation. Deadline for institutions receiving a competition extension to turn in results via the online score-reporting system. Late scores and submissions will NOT be accepted.
Saturday/Sunday, March 7/8	Regional competition.
Tuesday, March 10	Selections to the national championships announced and notification of participants.
Wednesday, March 18 (Men)	Deadline to notify the NCAA liaison that a student-athlete who participated in regular-season competition is ineligible or unavailable for NCAA championships competition. Notification must be submitted by noon Eastern time.
Friday, March 20 (Women)	
Thursday-Sunday, March 19-22	National Collegiate Men's and Women's Fencing Championships; hosted by University of Detroit Mercy and Detroit Sports Commission, Detroit.

CHAMPIONSHIPS DATES

Regionals: March 7/8

Mid-Atlantic/South – March 7: Duke University; Durham, North Carolina.

Midwest – March 7: University of Detroit Mercy; Detroit, Michigan.

Northeast – March 8: Cornell University; Ithaca, New York.

West – March 7: United States Air Force Academy; US Air Force Academy, Colorado.

Finals: March 19-22

TCF Center (hosted by **University of Detroit Mercy and Detroit Sports Commission, Detroit.**)

DATE FORMULA

Regionals The weekend of the first full week in March (Saturday-Sunday).

Finals Two weeks after regionals (Thursday-Sunday).

FUTURE DATES

2021

Regionals March 13 and/or 14; sites TBD.

Championships finals March 25-28; hosted by Pennsylvania State University, University Park, Pennsylvania.

2022

Regionals March 12 and/or 13; sites TBD.

Championships finals March 24-27; hosted by University of Notre Dame, Notre Dame, Indiana.

Section 1•5 Eligibility for National Collegiate Championships

[Reference: Bylaw 20.8 in the NCAA Manual.]

An active member institution in good standing, regardless of division, is eligible for the National Collegiate Championships if a division championship in the respective sport is not offered in its division. Such an institution normally is required to meet only the institutional individual eligibility requirements of its division that govern the sport in question.

Section 1•6 Equipment And Apparel Check

The electric foil, sabre and épée shall be used, as meets United States Fencing Association standards and NCAA logo rules.

All equipment must be checked and approved by the armorer before competition; approval will be indicated as such by a stamp. This inspection includes weapons, masks, all lamé components, body and mask cords. At the championships, armorers will check all equipment and the fencing committee will check uniforms/team identification for NCAA logo violations.

Section 1•7 Rules

[Reference: Bylaw 31.1.6 in the NCAA Division I Manual.]

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 in which the Association follows rules that are 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 that are not played in accordance with NCAA rules, or those rules adopted by an outside organization.

The current United States Fencing Association (USFA) rules will be used for the championships. Questions regarding the interpretation of USFA rules can be found online at www.usfencing.org. Championships modifications to these rules can be found in [Appendix D](#).

The rules of the United States Fencing Association (USFA) in effect as of Oct. 1 each year (except as expressly noted herein) will be the applicable rules for intercollegiate competition. Changes to the rules by the USFA after Oct. 1 will be reviewed by the NCAA Fencing Committee and considered for possible inclusion into these rules.

Timeouts. Non-injury timeouts are not permitted during the five-touch bouts. During the one-minute break between periods of the direct-elimination bouts in the finals, one person may approach each fencer to give advice.

Language. All conversations between officials, competitors and coaches must be done in English on the competition floor. Any individual on the competition floor using a language other than English may be considered as disturbing the order of competition as ruled in t.82 of the USFA Rules Book.

Competition. The entire National Collegiate Men's and Women's Fencing Championships event is equivalent to the USFA definition of a competition.

Section 1•8 Uniforms

[Reference: Bylaw 12.5.4 in the NCAA Division I Manual.]

All masks, body cords and lamé apparel material must be checked, approved and marked by the official armorer before the competition. The armorer will stamp approved items.

The NCAA participant patch that is provided to each competitor must be worn on the side of the thigh, just above the knee, on the student-athlete's rear leg.

LOGOS

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

All uniforms must comply with logo and identification bylaws as outlined in Bylaws 12.5.4 and 1.1.7 in the NCAA Division I Manual, Bylaw 12.5.4 in the NCAA Division II Manual and Bylaw 12.5.3 in the NCAA Division III Manual.

Institutional Logo. For identification purposes, fencers must wear school colors or institutional names that are clearly visible and distinguishable from their opponents for championships competition. Armbands or socks (both in school colors), or institutional identification, are required. The use of adhesive tape is not an acceptable form of institutional identification. The color on a shoe is not an acceptable form of identification. All team members must be identical in identification. Appropriate institutional identification is required or a \$200 fine will be assessed to the institutions whose student-athlete is not in

compliance. Fines shall be paid to the NCAA at the site of competition before any student-athlete from that institution can compete. No club patches or country affiliation markings are allowed at the final site of the championships. The aforementioned fine will apply if the club logo or country affiliation is not able to be removed from the student-athlete's uniform.

Additional Requirements. The logo restriction on student-athletes' apparel set forth in Bylaw 12.5.4 shall apply during all NCAA National Collegiate Championships to all personnel (e.g., coaches, athletic trainers, managers) who are on the team bench for practice and competition or who participate in news conferences. Please note that those contracts between institutions and apparel manufacturers or distributors that include logo specifications may be honored, provided such contracts were in effect before Aug. 11, 1998. Also, the logo restriction on student-athletes' apparel as set forth in Bylaw 12.5.4 shall apply to commercial logos on uniforms worn by band members, cheerleaders, dance team members and the institution's mascot during NCAA championship events.

Section 2 • Determination of Championship Participation

Section 2•1 Championships Format

CHAMPIONSHIPS STRUCTURE

The National Collegiate Men's and Women's Fencing Championships include individual events in each of the six weapons (women's sabre, women's foil, women's épée, men's sabre, men's foil and men's épée).

COMPETITION

Fencers compete in a round robin of 24 fencers in five-touch bouts. After the round robin, the top four fencers in each event will fence direct elimination, 15-touch semifinals and championship bouts. Absolute ties for the seeding are broken as follows: within the top four by lot; to get into the top four by five-touch fence-off.

For the purpose of conducting the round-robin portion of the championships, fencers will be randomly separated into groupings of four, subject to the following restrictions:

1. In the event that there are siblings representing different schools, these siblings shall be assigned to the same grouping whenever possible, although keeping teammates together shall be the first priority.
2. Whenever possible, fencers competing without teammates in the same event shall be assigned to groupings with other fencers from their region.
3. All teammates must fence each other prior to fencing any other competitor in the event.
4. All siblings must fence each other after fencing their teammates and prior to fencing any other competitor in the event.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

2020 NCAA Men's and Women's Fencing Championships Schedule – Nine Strips

(Men and women rotate schedule order, going first every other year.)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18

3:30-7 p.m.	Armory opens; fencing room open for practice; participant registration
7 p.m.	Mandatory coaches meeting — Headquarters hotel

THURSDAY, MARCH 19

7:30-9 a.m.	Participant registration
7:30 a.m.	Armory, training room and practice area opens
8:30 a.m.	Officials report to strips
8:45 a.m.	National anthem
9 a.m.	Women's Foil, rounds 1-3
11 a.m.	Women's Épée, rounds 1-3
1:30 p.m.	Women's Sabre, rounds 1-3

FRIDAY, MARCH 20

7:30 a.m.	Armory, training room and practice strips open
8:45 a.m.	National anthem
9 a.m.	Women's Foil, rounds 4-5 Women's Épée, rounds 4-5 Women's Sabre, rounds 4-5
1-4 p.m.	Apparel and equipment check; participant registration (men's weapons)

1 p.m.	Women's Championship Bouts (in the order of épée, foil and sabre) The six semifinals bouts and the three first-place bouts will be fenced on one strip. The women's individual awards presentation will take place immediately after the finals.
6:30 p.m.	Championships banquet — Headquarters hotel

SATURDAY, MARCH 21

8 a.m.	Armory, training room and designated practice area open. Participant registration open until 9 a.m.
8:45 a.m.	National anthem
9 a.m.	Men's Foil, rounds 1-3
11 a.m.	Men's Épée, rounds 1-3
1 p.m.	Men's Sabre, rounds 1-3

SUNDAY, MARCH 22

7:30 a.m.	Armory opens; training room opens
8:45 a.m.	National anthem
9 a.m.	Men's Foil, rounds 4-5 Men's Épée, rounds 4-5 Men's Sabre, rounds 4-5
1:30 p.m.	Men's Championship Bouts (in the order of épée, foil and sabre) The six semifinals bouts and the three first-place bouts will be fenced on one strip. The men's individual awards and team awards presentation will take place immediately after the finals.

TRAVEL PARTY

[Reference: Per Diem and Transportation in the Division I General Section and Bylaw 31.1.5 in the NCAA Division I Manual.]

Please refer to the NCAA Travel policies for all information regarding transportation and per diem expenses. Travel policies can be found online at <http://www.ncaa.org/championships/travel/championships-travel-information>.

Section 2•2 Roster Submission and Results Reporting

ROSTER SUBMISSION

The deadline for submission of rosters through the online system is **Nov. 29**. A \$200 fine will be issued to institutions failing to submit their complete rosters (names and power ratings) by this date. The online system will be reopened Dec. 9 for institutions to make updates to their roster throughout the season.

SCORE REPORTING/RESULTS REPORTING

Only institutions that submit individual results online by Feb. 26 (or March 2 for those receiving a waiver), will be considered for the championships. Submissions being reported after the Feb. 26 deadline will result in a fine of \$200. **No late submissions will be accepted after March 2.**

Section 2•3 Selection Information

REGIONAL QUALIFICATION

Member institutions will not be able to submit a petition for a fencer to compete in the NCAA fencing championships without competing in the regional competitions. All fencers must compete in the scheduled regional tournament to be considered for the national championships. Individual bouts against teams that field fewer than five fencers can count toward the minimum requirement of 21 bouts for both competing fencers. To be eligible to compete in the regional tournament, a fencer will be required to meet the following:

1. **Minimum Bouts.** Compete in a minimum of 21 bouts, in the same weapon, against varsity teams of four-year, degree-granting institutions; and
2. **Win-loss Record.** Achieve a 25% win-loss record in scheduled dual meets in the same weapon against varsity teams of four-year, degree-granting institutions.
3. **Countable Contests.** A team may compete against another team more than twice in the same season. However, only two team results may be used for NCAA championships selection. If two teams fence each other more than twice, the two coaches may agree on which two team results will be used for NCAA championships selection; in the absence of an agreement, the two team results closest in time to the NCAA championships will be the results used for championships selection.

REGIONAL ENTRY PROCEDURE

All teams must submit the following information by the deadlines listed for each:

1. Online preseason roster form with power rating due not later than Nov. 29, 2019. A \$200 fine will be issued to institutions failing to submit their complete rosters by this date.
2. Regional Entry Form sent to the respective regional host contact by March 2, 2020. More information will be sent by each regional host.

Only institutions that submit individual results online by Feb. 26 (or March 2 for those receiving a waiver) will be considered for the championships. Submissions after the Feb. 26 deadline will be considered late and result in a \$200 fine being assessed to the institution. Late submission forms after the March 4 deadline will NOT be accepted.

REGIONAL COMPETITION FORMAT

All regional competition will be conducted using a pool format that includes a minimum one round of pools. The minimum number of finalists must be at least equal to the number of regional allocations plus two. Each region will have the ability to accept *up to* 12 entries per gender per institution, with a maximum of five per weapon (actual number predetermined by the region). The initial round of pools for each fencer will be seeded using the fencers' seeding factor (FSF). Whenever possible, two or more fencers from the same school shall not be in the same pool in the first round of pool-play.

Injury Replacement and Withdrawal Rule. When a competitor does not complete a scheduled bout already in progress, that bout will be considered as not having been fenced. In the event of a withdrawal by a competitor due to a verified injury, all bouts fenced against him/her in that round will be erased as if the withdrawn competitor had not participated in the pool. In an elimination round of pools, the withdrawn competitor will take the bottom place of that round. In the final round of pools, the withdrawn competitor's ranking will be determined as though all unfenced bouts were lost by a score of 5-0; however, these are only applied to the withdrawn competitor's records and not those of the opponents.

Member institutions must submit the required entry form by the required deadline to the tournament director and chair of their region. Member institutions will be fined or not permitted to compete in the regional tournament for submitting entries after the deadline. Petitions will not be accepted for student-athletes to miss the regional championships in order to attend World Cup competition. Petitions will only be accepted if an individual or institution does not meet the minimum requirements to enter into the regional tournament. A letter must be forwarded by the athletics director with supporting documentation to the national committee by the required deadline.

Tie-breaker. Any ties for individual standings in a final pool will be determined by indicators. Indicators include the use of winning percentage, hits scored and hits received. The first indicator is determined by the ratio of the number of victories and the number of bouts (winning percentage). The second indicator is determined by the number of hits scored minus the number of hits received. The third indicator is determined by the greater number of hits scored. In the case of an absolute tie for first place, in which all indicators are the same, a five-touch fence-off will take place. All other ties will remain and the student-athletes will each be awarded the full points for that place.

Black Cards. Any student-athlete who is excluded from regional competition for receiving a black card shall not be eligible to compete at the championships.

Black Card issued to a member of a coaching staff. If a member of a coaching staff of a competing institution receives a black card, he/she will be issued a group-3 yellow card (warning for disturbing order) at the start of competition at the championships final site.

CHAMPIONSHIPS REGION ALLOCATIONS

The NCAA Men's and Women's Fencing Committee will annually determine the number of positions to be allocated to each of the four regions. The formula for determining regional allocations is as follows: 132 of the 144 participants in the six events (22 per weapon) are selected using the formula described below, and the remaining 12 participants (two per weapon) are selected by the fencing committee on an at-large basis.

Sixty percent of the allocation is determined by the number of NCAA member institutions within a region that sponsor men's and women's fencing at the time of the previous year's NCAA championships. The remaining 40% is based on the performance of the top 16 finishers from each of the three previous championships using the following formula:

$$((\text{Total number of fencers finishing in the top 16 for the last three years} / 48) \times 10) \times 0.4 = X$$

$$((\text{Number of teams in region} / \text{total number of teams}) \times 10) \times 0.6 = Y$$

$$(X + Y) \times 2.2 = \text{Regional Allocation}$$

A region will have as a minimum the ordinal number derived in this formula.

If the total of the ordinal numbers for all four regions is less than 22, the region with the highest numbers after the decimal point will have an additional allocation. This method will be followed until the number 22 is reached.

***The individual champion from each region will be automatically considered part of the region's allocation for recommendation** to the championships. If an institution has more than two qualifiers, it will be an institutional decision as to who will be recommended.

The following allocations have been approved for the 2020 championships:

	MID-ATLANTIC/SOUTH	MIDWEST	NORTHEAST	WEST	AT-LARGE
Men's Épée	6	4	8	4	2
Men's Foil	7	4	8	3	2
Men's Sabre	7	4	9	2	2
Women's Épée	7	4	9	2	2
Women's Foil	7	5	8	2	2
Women's Sabre	7	4	9	2	2

NOTE: If a region goes below two, it will automatically receive two spots of the 22 spots.

CHAMPIONSHIPS SELECTIONS

[Reference: Bylaws 31.01.2, 31.01.3 and 31.3 in the NCAA Division I Manual.]

Participants in the 2020 National Collegiate Men's and Women's Fencing Championships will be selected by the NCAA Men's and Women's Fencing Committee. Member institutions are required to submit all scores online not later than Feb. 26 (or March 2 for those receiving a waiver). Submissions after the Feb. 26 deadline will be considered late and result in a \$200 fine being assessed to the institution. Late submission forms after the March 2 deadline will NOT be accepted.

The two primary factors for determining selections into the championships are the FSF and the fencer's placement at NCAA regional competition. The FSF is calculated in accordance to Section 2.4 Selection Criteria. Power Ratings are determined using the ranking categories listed in [Appendix F](#).

National Championships Qualification

1. A maximum of 144 fencers (24 participants in each event) will qualify to participate in the combined-scoring championships.
2. The number of individuals selected from a region for an event will be based on the regional allocation formula.
3. Not more than two fencers in each weapon will be selected from one institution. If the institution has more than two qualifiers, it will be an institutional decision as to who will be selected.
4. If a qualified fencer is unable to compete, the institution must notify the NCAA liaison as soon as possible and he/she will be replaced according to [Appendix G](#).

5. If the next qualified fencer is not available, the national committee will determine and notify the next available qualified fencer.
6. The best combined statistic, among all the fencers entered per gender/weapon, that is comprised of the sum of the student-athlete's season record [i.e., the student-athlete's Fencer's Seeding Factor (FSF), valued at 40% of the sum] and the student-athlete's placement in the NCAA regionals, relative to the number of entries in the field at the NCAA regionals (valued at 60% of the sum).
 - Sixty percent is determined by allotting the first-place finisher 60 points. Subsequent points are determined by dividing 60 by the number of participants to produce interval points between each subsequent place finish. In the event of a tie in placement, the student-athletes will each be awarded the full points for that place.
 - Forty percent is determined by the FSF. Forty points are given to the competitor with the highest FSF in the regional competition. All other competitors are ranked by the following formula: $40 \times \text{FSF} / \text{Highest FSF In Region}$.
7. An absolute tie in the combined statistic of two fencers for the final allocated spot will be decided by the highest regional finish rank.

At-Large Selections. After selecting the student-athletes with the best combined statistic in the NCAA fencing regionals as direct qualifiers to the championships competition, the next two fencers in a region, not part of the actual regional allocation, and not from an institution already limited to two qualifiers, will be considered in the national at-large pool for their region. They will comprise the pool of eight for at-large nominations and two of them with the best regular-season record, as determined by the fencer's FSF, shall be selected to compete in the championships. If two student-athletes from the same institution make up the at-large nominees from a region, and the selection of one of them makes the other ineligible due to the institution reaching its maximum student-athletes in that weapon (two), then the next qualified student-athlete from the region will be entered in to the at-large nomination pool.

Regional Alternate. Any fencer whose combined finish places them below the actual regional allocation, will be considered a regional alternate.

Institutional Alternate. If an institution has more than two fencers under consideration prior to the regional allocation being fulfilled, the institution will be considered as having an institutional alternate.

Injury Replacement and Withdrawal. For the championships, in order for a replacement to be made for a student-athlete who is unable to compete due to injury, an injury withdrawal notification must be submitted to the committee and NCAA staff liaison by noon the day before the start of competition for the gender of the injured individual. For competition on Thursday and Friday, the deadline is noon on Wednesday. For competition on Saturday and Sunday, the deadline is noon on Friday. Any other circumstances after this deadline would be considered on appeal by the national committee.

ADJUSTED PLACE STANDINGS

[Reference: Bylaw 31.2.2.4-(a) in the NCAA Division I Manual.]

If a student-athlete is found to be ineligible, that individual's performance shall be stricken from the championships record, the points the student-athlete has contributed to the team's total shall be deleted, the team standings shall be adjusted accordingly and any awards involved shall be returned to the Association. Further, the placement of other competitors shall be altered and awards presented accordingly.

BOUT COMMITTEE

The head official shall serve as chair of the bout committee and he/she will assign two non-involved referees. A member of the fencing committee shall observe but have no voting rights.

OFFICIALS

The Men's and Women's Fencing Committee shall obtain a list of qualified officials from the designated head official. The committee then will approve a maximum of 24 officials for the national championships (one head official, one assistant head official, 21 referees, one video replay technician, two armorers, and one statistician).

Ranked USFA officials, preferably from the local area, will be obtained.

An official may not be:

- An employee of an institution with a varsity fencing team;
- A student at an institution with a varsity fencing team;
- An alumnus of an institution with a varsity fencing team who is within five years of attending that institution;

- A former coach of an institution with a varsity fencing team who is within five years of coaching at that institution; or
- An immediate family member of a current coach or student-athlete of an institution with a varsity fencing team.

The above criteria apply to all rounds of competition, including regionals. It is acceptable for an official to work in a region where the above criteria do not apply. For example, an employee of an institution in the Midwest region may not work the Midwest regional, but it is acceptable for he or she to be an official in the Northeast, Mid-Atlantic/South or West regions.

Officials are assigned by the head official. Officials must be at the bout table 30 minutes before the time they are scheduled to work.

Officials should be dressed in a dark blazer, dark slacks or skirt, and white shirt and tie or white blouse while refereeing a bout. All officials must wear the NCAA official's patch that is provided at the site.

PARTICIPANT REGISTRATION

(Women) Participants beginning competition on Thursday, March 19, must register between 3:30 and 7 p.m. on Wednesday, March 18. (Men) Participants beginning competition on Saturday, March 21, must register between 1 and 4 p.m. on Friday, March 20. All participants must check in before participation. The registration site will be determined by the host and included in the participants manual. See pages 13 and 14 for a tentative schedule of events.

PROTESTS

Only the involved fencer or coach may register a protest (see USFA rule T 172-175). If a decision initially made by the bout committee is protested, the protest will be adjudicated by the NCAA Men's and Women's Fencing Committee. A protest that is initially addressed by an authorized official and then brought to the bout committee will not be brought to any higher authority if the bout committee upholds the official who made the initial ruling.

Any protest brought to the Men's and Women's Fencing Committee will require a \$100 deposit. The deposit will be returned if the protest is determined by the fencing committee not to be frivolous.

No protest as to participants at the championships may be made after noon of the day before the championships.

SCORING

An institution's final place in the final round of the championships will be based on points earned by each individual. Each team is awarded one point for each individual's five-touch bout victory fencing in the round robin of 24. Results from the top-four finals bouts and any barrage bouts do not count toward team standings. Team ties for place will be broken using total indicators and total touches scored by all of the student-athletes competing for the relevant teams.

Injury Replacement and Withdrawal Rule. If a fencer withdraws during the round robin due to a verified injury, the results for each fencer and team that competed against him or her will be calculated as if the injured fencer had not fenced. If the injured fencer had won at least three bouts prior to withdrawing, the team of the injured fencer will retain his/her victories, minus two. If fewer than three bouts are fenced, they are not retained. A fencer who withdraws may not return to the competition. The injured fencer's results will be retained for the purpose of calculating his or her individual placement. A fencer who withdraws during the round robin may not place higher than fifth place.

Black Card or Exclusion. If a fencer is excluded from the round-robin portion of the competition, all results (individual and team) will be tabulated as if that fencer had not fenced. If a fencer is excluded during the top-four finals bouts, the place that the fencer would have otherwise taken will remain vacant. Results from the round-robin portion of the event will be retained as part of the team competition point totals. Additional NCAA misconduct penalties outlined in the Division I Manual also may be imposed.

If a fencer(s) who has already qualified for the top-four finals bouts is forced to withdraw before the start of the top-four table, that fencer will be ranked below those who compete, and his/her place in the final direct-elimination table will remain blank (i.e., if one fencer withdraws, the No. 1 seed will have a bye).

Fencers are ranked according to the following indicators:

1. Total number of victories;
2. Percentage of victories (V/B);

3. Net touches (TS - TR); and
4. Most touches scored.

For seeding into the top-four individual finals, in case of absolute equality between two or more fencers, their seeding order will be decided by drawing lots. However, if there is equality between two or more fencers to qualify for the top-four individual finals, there will be a barrage of five-touch bout(s) to enter the finals table.

Section 2•4 Selection Criteria

EXPLANATION OF SELECTION FORMULAS

Two Primary Factors Determine Selection into the Championships:

1. Fencer's Seeding Factor (FSF) [Weight = 40%]
2. Placement at NCAA regional competition [Weight = 60%]

Selection Formula. Fencer's Seeding Factor = (Total Number of Bout Victories/Total Number of Bouts Fenced x Season Strength Factor) + (0.4 x Individual Victories Strength Factor)

Fencer's Seeding Factor (FSF)

- The FSF measures a fencer's performance versus his/her opponents during regular-season competition. Therefore, performance during the regular season will have consequences.
- FSF is used to rank/seed competitors for NCAA regional competition.
- FSF is based on three variables:
 - Winning Percentage: Total Number of Bout Victories/Total Number of Bouts Fenced
 - Season Strength Factor (SSF)
 - Individual Victories Strength Factor (ISF)
- Important factors of the FSF:
 - Opponents' power ratings.
 - Victory bouts.

Opponents' Power Rating

- Measures the strength of competitors based on past performances.
- Factors that determine the power rating:
 - USFA Rank
 - FIE Rank
 - 2019 NCAA championships placement
- Head coaches must submit power ratings of their fencers to the NCAA by Nov. 28 of the current fencing season. Power ratings entered by this time are used for the duration of the season, unless a verified error has been made.

Winning Percentage

- A fencer's winning percentage is calculated in the following way:

$$\text{Number of Bouts Won} / \text{Number of Bouts Attempted}$$
- All bouts fenced during the regular season are considered.
- Rationale for taking into consideration a fencer's winning percentage: The fencer who wins more bouts should be rewarded rather than one who wins fewer bouts.

Season Strength Factor (SSF)

For selection purposes, a fencer's season will be characterized by how he/she does against opponents who comprise the first 60% of the most difficult bouts fenced (i.e., highest-rated opponents by power rating).

- The SSF statistic is multiplied by the winning percentage for all bouts fenced during regular-season competitions.
- This provides some incentive for teams to schedule approximately 40% of their bouts against opponents with lower power ratings.

Example. If a fencer had a total of 25 bouts, 60% of those bouts equals 15 bouts (round up to the nearest whole number). The power rating points of the top 15 opponents are then added (regardless of who won) and that number is then divided by 15 for the SSF.

$$\text{Total Number of Bouts} \times 0.60 = Z$$

$$25 \times 0.60 = 15$$

Opponents' Power Ratings:

1.	40
2.	60
3.	40
4.	80
5.	100
6.	120
7.	60
8.	80
9.	40
10.	20
11.	120
12.	1
13.	60
14.	80
15.	40

Total = 941

Sum of Power Rating Pts. of Top 60% Opponents/Z = Season Strength Factor

$$941/15 = 63 \text{ (62.73) SSF}$$

SSF IS USED IN THE FIRST PART OF THE EQUATION: (Total Number of Bout Victories/Total Number of Bouts Fenced x Season Strength Factor)

Individual Victories Strength Factor (ISF)

- The ISF measures the strength of the opponents against whom victories were gained.
- Victory bouts against opponents with the highest power rating will be ranked first.
- After the bouts are ranked as indicated above, the ISF will be based on the best 50% of all the (ranked) victory bouts. If the number of victories exceeds 32, only the top 16 victories will be taken into account. If an odd number of bouts exists, then the better bout down should be used.

Example. If a fencer won 11 bouts, then the top five or six (50% of 11) power ratings of opponents from those bouts won should be used. Take the average of those top five or six power ratings and you have the ISF.

1.	60
2.	80
3.	100
4.	80
5.	120
6.	100

Total = 540

$$\text{Average: } 540/6 = 90$$

ISF IS USED IN THE SECOND PART OF EQUATION: (0.4 x Individual Victories Strength Factor)

$$0.4 \times 90 = 36$$

36 should be entered into the second part of the equation.

Results

Fencers qualify for the NCAA regionals on the basis of the following factors:

1. A win-loss percentage of .250 or better.
2. Minimum of 21 bouts.
3. Each school can qualify up to 12 fencers per gender (maximum of five per weapon).
4. Fencers qualify in order of priority based on their FSF statistic.

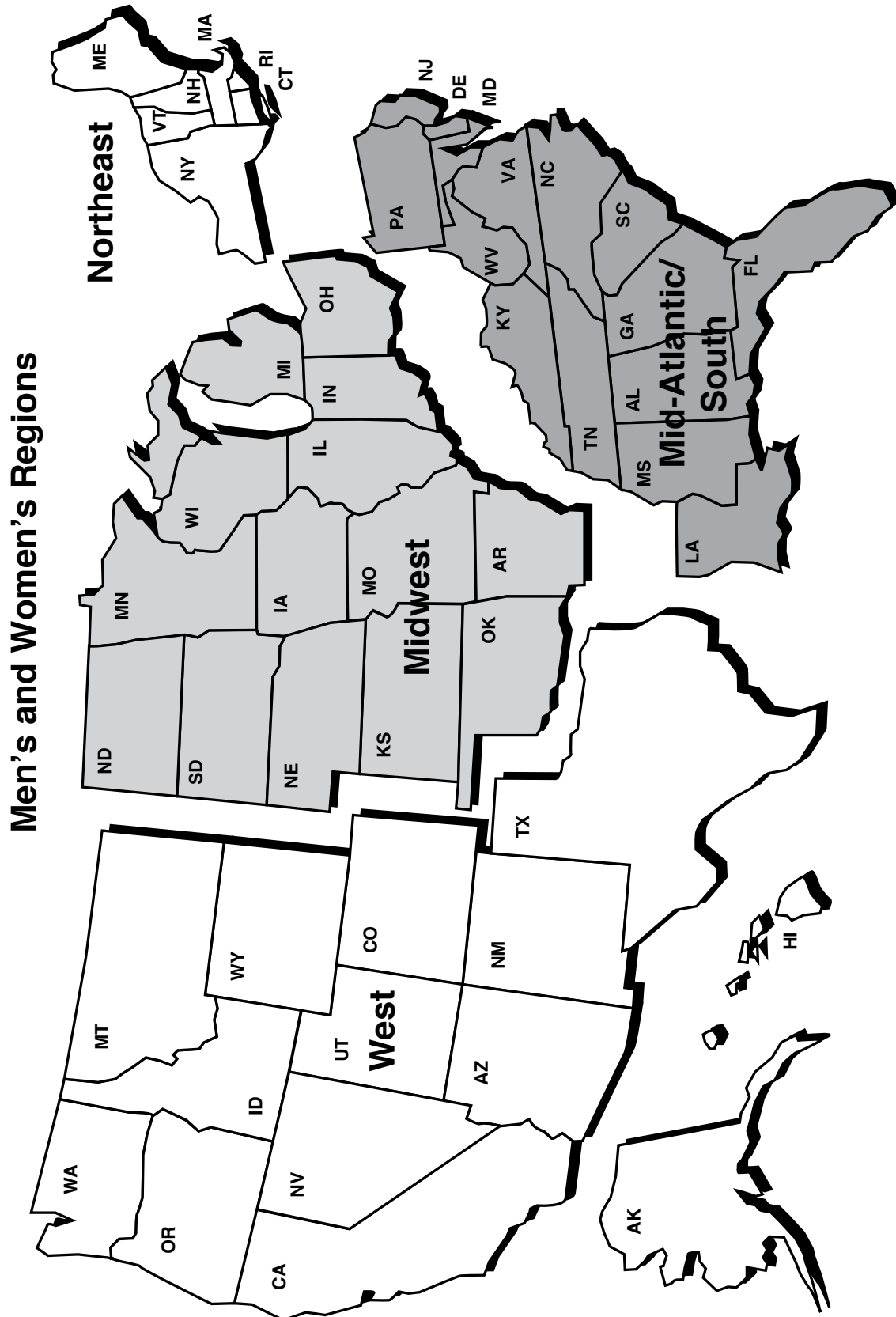
Fencers qualify for the NCAA championships on the basis of the following factors:

1. Forty percent weight is placed on FSF + 60% weight is placed on placement in NCAA regionals.
2. Each school can qualify up to two fencers per gender per weapon up to the region's limit of allocations per gender per weapon.
3. The regional champion at each regional will automatically be considered for allocation for recommendation to participate in the championships (if put forth by the institution).
4. If the institution has more than two qualifiers, it will be an institutional decision as to who will be selected.

Appendixes

Contents

Appendix A • Regional Map	23
Appendix B • Women's Sport Sponsorship	24
Appendix C • Men's and Mixed Sport Sponsorship	25
Appendix D • NCAA Fencing Meet Procedures	26
Appendix E • Nine Strip Format	29
Appendix F • Power Rating Scale	30
Appendix G • Replacement Process	31

Appendix A • Regional Map

Appendix B • Women's Sport Sponsorship

2019-20 WOMEN'S FENCING REGIONAL ALIGNMENT

Mid-Atlantic/South Region (13)

Drew University	University of Pennsylvania
Duke University	Pennsylvania State University
Fairleigh Dickinson University, Metropolitan Campus	Princeton University
Haverford College	Stevens Institute of Technology
Johns Hopkins University	Temple University
New Jersey Institute of Technology	Wagner College
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill	

Midwest Region (8)

Cleveland State University	Northwestern University
Denison University	University of Notre Dame
University of Detroit Mercy	The Ohio State University
Lawrence University	Wayne State University (Michigan)

Northeast Region (18)

Boston College	Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Brandeis University	New York University
Brown University	Sacred Heart University
The City College of New York	St. John's University (New York)
Columbia University-Barnard College	Tufts University
Cornell University	Vassar College
Harvard University	Wellesley College
Hunter College	Yale University
Long Island University	Yeshiva University

West Region (4)

University of California, San Diego	Stanford University
University of the Incarnate Word	U.S. Air Force Academy

Appendix C • Men's and Mixed Sport Sponsorship

2019-20 MEN'S FENCING REGIONAL ALIGNMENT

Mid-Atlantic/South Region (10)

Drew University
Duke University
Haverford College
Johns Hopkins University
New Jersey Institute of Technology

University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
University of Pennsylvania
Pennsylvania State University
Princeton University
Stevens Institute of Technology

Midwest Region (6)

Cleveland State University
University of Detroit Mercy
Lawrence University

University of Notre Dame
The Ohio State University
Wayne State University (Michigan)

Northeast Region (13)

Boston College
Brandeis University
Brown University
Columbia University-Barnard College
Harvard University
Hunter College
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

New York University
Sacred Heart University
St. John's University (New York)
Vassar College
Yale University
Yeshiva University

West Region (4)

University of California, San Diego
University of the Incarnate Word

Stanford University
U.S. Air Force Academy

2019-20 MIXED FENCING REGIONAL ALIGNMENT

Mid-Atlantic/South Region (1)

Lafayette College

Appendix D • NCAA Fencing Meet Procedures

NCAA Procedures for Conducting Men's and Women's Intercollegiate Fencing Meets

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 in which the Association follows rules that are 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 that are not played in accordance with the NCAA rules, or those rules adopted by an outside organization.

Introduction

The NCAA Men's and Women's Fencing Committee has established the following intercollegiate rules for conducting uniform regular-season dual or multiple-meet competitions and regional championships. Effective as of May 23, 2001.

The rules of the United States Fencing Association (USFA) in effect as of Oct. 1 each year (except as expressly noted herein) will be the applicable rules for intercollegiate competition. Changes to the rules by the USFA after Oct. 1 will be reviewed by the NCAA Fencing Committee and considered for possible inclusion into these rules.

Specific rules for the NCAA championships are identified in the National Collegiate Men's and Women's Fencing Pre-Championships Manual, which is published annually by the NCAA.

Rules In Addition To USFA Rules

1. General

- The host coach is responsible for having a current USFA rule book and these rules available at all matches.
- These rules shall apply unless an exception(s) is agreed upon in writing by the participating coaches and/or the constituted governing authority before the start of any bout.
- Where USFA rules state the words "team captain," this will be the coach or designee.

2. Organization of Competitions

- Dual Meet: A three-weapon meet between two teams, each having three fencers in each of the three weapons for a total of nine fencers. Each of the fencers of one weapon squad will meet each of the fencers of the other weapon squad in one bout, for a total of nine bouts. The same procedure is followed for each weapon squad for a total of 27 bouts.
- Multiple Meet: Is more than one dual meet involving more than two teams at one site on the same date.
- Bout Committee: It shall be appointed by the head referee and shall be comprised of referees. (If an appropriate authority has not appointed a head referee, the referees will select a head referee.)
- NCAA Official Scoresheet: It is to be provided by the host and is to be used for all intercollegiate varsity meets.
- Dual-Meet Format:

- All three weapons of the same team will be scored on the same half of the scoresheet. ("Team A" remains "Team A" in all three weapons; if the men's team and the women's teams from both schools are fencing concurrently, this applies to all six weapons.)
- It must be determined before a dual meet which system of fencing will be used. The host will determine the system used unless both coaches agree on a different system. The following are suggested systems:

System 1: A dual meet conducted on two strips. Épée/foil and sabre will start simultaneously and épée/foil will start as soon as one of the two strips is available.

System 2: A dual meet conducted on two strips. The order of bouts is three bouts sabre, then three bouts foil and three épée simultaneously. Repeat the sequence until all bouts are fenced.

System 3: A dual meet conducted on one strip. The order of fencing is three bouts sabre, three bouts foil and three bouts épée until all 27 bouts are fenced.

System 4: A dual meet conducted on two strips. Épée and foil will start simultaneously and sabre will start as soon as one of the two strips is available.

System 5: A dual meet conducted on three strips, with all weapons fenced simultaneously.

- Lineups
 - An institution's men's or women's team must include a minimum of five fencers. If an institution does not have the minimum of five fencers, individual bout results may still count toward individual student-athlete results and potential qualification for the championships.
 - Which team gets which side (left or right) of the scoresheet is determined either by agreement of the coaches and host, or by coin toss.
 - Starting lineups shall be submitted, in writing and without knowledge of the opposing team's lineup, to the referee.
 - The scoresheet is folded and each team writes the order without being able to see the opponent's lineup. Said lineups may not be changed until after the first complete round in each weapon has been fenced.
 - A fencer may not compete in more than one weapon in a dual meet.
 - If a team consists of fewer than nine fencers, the opposing team shall record as a "FV" (forfeited victory) any bouts not fenced. Bouts won by forfeit must not be recorded on individual NCAA report forms.
- Substitutions
 - It is the responsibility of the coach or designee to substitute within the rules.
 - A substitute is a fencer who does not fence in the first three bouts.
 - In the course of a match, the coach or designee of a team must notify the referee before replacing a fencer with a substitute. The request for a substitution may be made only at the end of a bout.
 - The announcement that a fencer is to be substituted, which should be made by the referee to the opposing team coach or designee, must be made before the beginning of the previous bout in which the substitute is to fence.
 - After a dual meet has been decided (14 wins for one team), a substitution may be made at the time a bout is called; however, once both fencers have hooked up, no substitution may be made.
 - When a substitute has been entered into the lineup, and that bout has been called, that fencer must be on the strip and ready to fence within two minutes or the fencer will receive a warning for delay of bout.
 - A substitute may not be replaced once the bout is called.
 - An exception to substitutions rules can be made in case of injury as allowed by USFA rules.
 - Two or more fencers may fence in the same numbered position. A fencer who has been replaced may return to the lineup, but only in the numbered position originally occupied.
 - After the outcome of the meet has been decided (14 wins for one team), a substitute may fence two or more bouts, consecutive or otherwise, provided it is not against the same opponent. The first right of two consecutive bouts is given to the team that lost. However, the team that won may have the same option unless the substitutes will fence each other twice. In this instance, the team that lost has the option.
 - The scorer must accept instructions only from the presiding referee when writing a substitute onto the scoresheet.
 - A substitution made without informing the referee as stipulated above in accordance with the rules results in that bout being forfeited by the team that attempted the illegal substitution.
- Bout Commenced Out of Order

If a bout is fenced out of order, it should be moved to the proper place in the bout order. If a bout is started but not completed when the error is detected, the bout is completed and moved to the proper place in the order.
- Timeouts
 - In regular-season meets only, the referee, when requested and when a halt has been called for some other reason, should grant permission to a coach or designated team representative on the strip (as appointed by the coach) to take one timeout per bout of a maximum duration of 30 seconds. Only one person may confer with his or her respective fencer during this timeout. Such permission may be granted once for each contestant during a bout. The opposing team also may confer during this timeout.
- Black Cards
 - Level one black card indicates exclusion of the match in which it occurs even if the bout is concluded. No substitutions are permitted and no other results are affected. The bout, even if concluded and won by the athlete black carded, is recorded as a 5-0 defeat for that fencer.

- Level two black card indicates that in addition to the above penalties, the fencer will be excluded from remaining scheduled dual meets at the event.
- If a member of a coaching staff of a competing institution receives a black card at regional competition, he/she will be issued a group-3 yellow card (warning for disturbing order) at the start of competition at the championships final site.

Appendix E • Nine Strip Format

Sample NCAA Fencing Championships Schedule — Nine Strips

(See actual schedule on [pages 13-14.](#))

WEDNESDAY	
2 p.m.	National committee meeting and site inspection
3:30-7 p.m.	Equipment check; open practice Participant registration
7 p.m.	Mandatory coaches meeting
THURSDAY	
8-9 a.m.	Participant registration
8 a.m.	Training room opens; open practice Armory opens
9 a.m.	Officials meeting
9:15 a.m.	National anthem
9:30 a.m.	Referees report to strips
9:30 a.m.	Women's Foil, rounds 1-3
11:30 a.m.	Women's Épée, rounds 1-3
2 p.m.	Women's Sabre, rounds 1-3
FRIDAY	
7:30 a.m.	Armory opens/equipment check Training room opens
8:45 a.m.	National anthem
9 a.m.	Women's Foil, rounds 4-5 Women's Épée, rounds 4-5 Women's Sabre, rounds 4-5
1-4 p.m.	Apparel and equipment check Participant registration
1 p.m.	Women's Semifinals and Championship Bouts The six semifinals and three first-place bouts will be fenced on one strip. Women's individual awards presentation (immediately after finals)
6:30 p.m.	Championships banquet
SATURDAY	
8 a.m.	Participant registration (until 9:30 a.m.) Training room opens Armory opens
9:15 a.m.	National anthem
9:30 a.m.	Men's Foil, rounds 1-3
11:30 a.m.	Men's Épée, rounds 1-3
2 p.m.	Men's Sabre, rounds 1-3
SUNDAY	
7:30 a.m.	Armory and training room opens
8:45 a.m.	National anthem
9 a.m.	Men's Foil, rounds 4-5 Men's Épée, rounds 4-5 Men's Sabre, rounds 4-5
1 p.m.	Men's Semifinals and Championship Bouts The six semifinals and three first-place bouts will be fenced on one strip. Men's individual awards presentation (immediately after finals) Team awards presentation

Appendix F • Power Rating Scale

2019-20 MEN'S AND WOMEN'S FENCING POWER RATING SCALE

150	FIE	Senior	1-8
	FIE	Junior	1-3
140	FIE	Senior	9-32
	FIE	Junior	4-8
120	FIE	Senior	33-64
	FIE	Junior	9-24
	USFA	Senior	1-8
	NCAA		1-4
110	USFA	Senior	9-16
	USFA	Junior	1-4
	FIE	Senior	65-96
	FIE	Junior	25-48
	NCAA		5-8
100	USFA	Senior	17-24
	USFA	Junior	5-8
	NCAA		9-12
90	USFA	Senior	25-36
	USFA	Junior	9-12
80	A Ranking		
	USFA	Junior	13-16
	NCAA		13-16
70	USFA	Junior	17-24
70	NCAA		17-24
60	B Ranking		
	Previous Year FSF		59.99-50
40	C Ranking		
	Previous Year FSF		49.99-40
20	D Ranking		
	Previous Year FSF		39.99-25
	Qualified for Regionals		
10	E Ranking		
	Previous Year FSF		24.99-12
	First Year		
1	U Ranking / Novice		
	Previous Year FSF		11.99-0

Appendix G • Replacement Process

National Qualifier Replacement Process

Committee notified of withdrawal of national qualifier (use eligibility order as available):

