2023
NATIONAL COLLEGIATE
FENCING
CHAMPIONSHIPS

PRE-CHAMPIONSHIPS 2022-23 MANUAL

National Collegiate Fencing

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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 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

Zachary Moss
Head Fencing Coach
Northwestern University

Kelsie Gory Harkey
Senior Woman Administrator
Cleveland State University

MID-ATLANTIC/SOUTH REGION

Zoltan Dudas
Head Fencing Coach
Princeton University

Elinor Hurt
Assistant Director of Athletics/Ticket Operations
Duke University

NORTHEAST REGION

Michael Matt
Assistant Director of Athletics for Internal Operations
Brandeis University

Bruce Gillman
Head Men's and Women's Fencing Coach
Vassar College

WEST REGION

John Moreau
Head Men's and Women's Fencing Coach
University of Incarnate Word

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 2022-23 regional advisory committees are:

NAME	INSTITUTION	DIVISION
NORTHEAST REGION		
*Michael Matt	Brandeis	III
*Bruce Gillman	Vassar	III
Daria Schneider	Harvard	I
MIDWEST REGION		
*Kelsie Gory Harkey	Cleveland State	I
*Zachary Moss	Northwestern	I
Peter Grandbois	Denison	III
MID-ATLANTIC/SOUTH REGION		
*Elinor Hurt	Duke	I
*Zoltan Dudas	Princeton	I
Jason Henderson	NJIT	I
Jim Carpenter	Stevens	III
WEST REGION		
*Chris Gines	USAFA	I
*John Moreau	Incarnate Word	I
Lisa L. Posthumus	Stanford	I
Juan Ignacio Calderon	UC San Diego	II

*Indicates National Committee Member

Section 1•4 Important Dates

Monday, Oct. 3	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. 25	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.
2023	
Monday, Feb. 20	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, March 1	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 6	Deadline for institutions to submit regional entry forms to their respective regional host, unless given a waiver to compete the first weekend in March. Deadline for an institution's athletics director to submit a waiver of minimum requirements to compete in regional competition.. 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 11/12	Regional competition.
Tuesday, March 14	Selections to the national championships announced and notification of participants.
Wednesday, March 23 (Men) Friday, March 25 (Women)	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.
Thursday-Sunday, March 23-26	National Collegiate Men's and Women's Fencing Championships; hosted by Duke University, Durham, North Carolina.

CHAMPIONSHIPS DATES

Regionals: March 11/12

Mid-Atlantic/South – March 11: Fairleigh Dickinson University

Midwest – March 11: Northwestern University

Northeast – March 12: Harvard University

West – March 11: Stanford University

DATE FORMULA

Regionals	The weekend of the first full week in March (Saturday-Sunday).
Finals	Two weeks after regionals (Thursday-Sunday).

FUTURE DATES

2024	
Regionals	March 9 and/or 10; sites TBD.
Championships finals	March 21-24; hosted by The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio.
2025	
Regionals	March 8 and/or 9; sites TBD.
Championships finals	March 20-23; host TBD.
2026	
Regionals	March 6 and/or 7 sites TBD.
Championships finals	March 18-22; 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 C.

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. These logo restrictions apply to all student-athletes and team personnel.

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 and/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.

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 a student-athlete's uniform.

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.

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 ncaa.org/championships/travel/championships-travel-information.

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 will appoint a head official and assistant head official for the finals of the championships. The head referee and assistant referee will provide recommendations to the national committee for their final approval of 21 referees (seven per weapon). These officials must be ranked USFA officials in good standing, and not have any of the following conflicts:

- 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 six years of attending that institution;
- A former coach of an institution with a varsity fencing team who is within six 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.

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 less than three bouts are fenced, points are 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•2 Roster Submission and Results Reporting

ROSTER SUBMISSION

The deadline for submission of rosters through the online system is Nov. 26. 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 closed after this date and reopened once confirmation of submitted rosters has been completed.

SCORE REPORTING/RESULTS REPORTING

Only institutions that submit individual results online by March 1 (or March 6 for those receiving a waiver), will be considered for the championships. Submissions being reported after the March 1 deadline will result in a fine of $200. No late submissions will be accepted after March 6.

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 NCAA varsity teams; and
2. Win-loss Record. Achieve a 25% win-loss record in scheduled bouts against NCAA varsity opponents.
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 must 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. 25, 2022. 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 6, 2023. More information will be sent by each regional host.

Only institutions that submit individual results online by March 1 (or March 6 for those receiving a waiver) will be considered for the championships. Submissions after the deadline will be considered late and result in a $200 fine being assessed to the institution. Late submission forms after the March 6 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.

The initial round of pools for each fencer will be seeded using the Season Performance Index (SPI). Whenever possible, two or more fencers from the same school shall not be in the same pool in the first round of pool-play.

Each region will have the ability to accept up to 12 entries per gender, per institution, with a maximum of five per weapon. Each region will predetermine these actual numbers.

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.

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.

Tiebreaker. 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 barrage of five-touch bout(s) 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:

((Total number of fencers finishing in the top 16 for the last three years / 48) x 10) x 0.4 = X

((Number of teams in region/total number of teams) x 10) x 0.6 = Y

(X + Y) x 2.2 = 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 2023 championships:

	MID-ATLANTIC/SOUTH	MIDWEST	NORTHEAST	WEST	AT-LARGE
Men's Épée	6	5	8	3	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 of the 22 spots.

CHAMPIONSHIPS SELECTIONS

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

The two primary factors for determining selections into the championships are the SPI and the fencer's placement at NCAA regional competition. The SPI is calculated in accordance to Appendix G.

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 F.
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 Season Performance Index (SPI), 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 SPI. Forty points are given to the competitor with the highest SPI in the regional competition. All other competitors are ranked by the following formula: 40 x SPI/ Highest SPI 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 as direct qualifiers to the championships, the next two fencers in each region will be considered in the national at-large pool. These student-athletes will make up a pool of eight at-large candidates. The two student-athletes with the best regular-season record, as determined by the fencers SPI, shall be selected to compete in the championships. If a student-athlete's selection as an at-large qualifier takes their institution above the maximum of two qualifiers in that weapon, the next qualified student-athlete from the same region will be entered in to the at-large nomination pool and considered for selection.

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.

PARTICIPANT REGISTRATION

Participants beginning competition on Thursday must register between 3:30 and 7 p.m. on Wednesday. Participants beginning competition on Saturday must register between 1 and 4 p.m. on Friday. 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.

Section 2•4 Selection Criteria

EXPLANATION OF SELECTION FORMULAS

Two Primary Factors Determine Selection into the Championships:

1. Season Performance Index (SPI) [Weight = 40%]
2. Placement at NCAA regional competition [Weight = 60%]

Season Performance Index (SPI)

- For explanation on how SPI is calculated, please refer to Appendix G.

Opponents' Power Rating

- Measures the strength of competitors based on past performances.
- Factors that determine the power rating:
  - USFA Rank
  - FIE Rank
  - 2022 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:

  Number of Bouts Won/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.

Total Number of Bouts x 0.60 = Z

25 x 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 (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

Average: 540/6 = 90

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

0.4 x 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 SPI statistic.

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

1. Forty percent weight is placed on SPI + 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

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Appendix A • Women's Sport Sponsorship

2022-23 WOMEN'S FENCING REGIONAL ALIGNMENT

Mid-Atlantic/South Region (13)

Drew University
Duke University
Fairleigh Dickinson University, Metropolitan Campus
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
Temple University
Wagner College

Midwest Region (8)

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

Northeast Region (18)

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

Appendix B • Men's and Mixed Sport Sponsorship

2022-23 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 (12)

Boston College
Brandeis 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

2022-23 MIXED FENCING REGIONAL ALIGNMENT

Mid-Atlantic/South Region (3)

University of California, San Diego
Lafayette College
Stanford University

Appendix C • 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.
    - Language - All conversations between officials, competitors and coaches on the competition floor must be done in English. Any individual on the competition floor using a language other than English may be considered as disturbing the order of competition as rules in t.82 of the USFA Rules Book.
    - The entire National Collegiate Men's and Women's Fencing Championships event is equivalent to the USFA definition of competition.
    - The use of tobacco by student-athletes, or team or game personnel (e.g., coaches, athletic trainers, managers and game officials), is prohibited during competition. Any student-athlete, or team or game personnel, who uses tobacco during competition shall be disqualified for the remainder of that competition.
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.
  - At the NCAA Championships, non-injury timeouts are not permitted during five-touch bouts. During the 15-touch, direct-elimination bouts of the semi-finals and finals, one person may approach each fencer to give advice during the scheduled one-minute break.

- 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 D • Nine Strip Format

NCAA Fencing Championships Schedule — Nine Strips

WEDNESDAY	
3:30-7 p.m.	Participant registration, equipment check and open practice (Men).
7 p.m.	Mandatory coaches meeting - Headquarters hotel (when permitted)
THURSDAY	
7-9 a.m.	Participant registration
7 a.m.	Armorer and training room open. All strips available for warm-up.
8 a.m.	Officials meeting
8:30 a.m.	Officials report to strips.
8:45 a.m.	National anthem
9 a.m.	Men's Épée, rounds 1-3
11 a.m.	Men's Foil, rounds 1-3
1:30 p.m.	Men's Sabre, rounds 1-3
FRIDAY	
7 a.m.	Armorer and training room open. All strips available for warm-up.
8:45 a.m.	National anthem
9 a.m.	Men's Épée, rounds 4-5 Men's Foil, rounds 4-5 Men's Sabre, rounds 4-5
9:30 a.m.-1 p.m.	Participant registration, equipment check and open practice (Women).
1 p.m.	Men's Championship Bouts (in the order of épée, foil and sabre) The six semifinal bouts and the three first-place bouts will be fenced on one strip. The men's individual awards presentation will take place immediately after the finals.
6:30 p.m.	Championships banquet (when permitted)
SATURDAY	
7 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.	Women's Épée, rounds 1-3
11 a.m.	Women's Foil, rounds 1-3
1 p.m.	Women's Sabre, rounds 1-3
SUNDAY	
7 a.m.	Armory and training room open. All strips available for warm-up.
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
1:30 p.m.	Women's Championship Bouts (in the order of épée, foil and sabre) The six semifinal 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.

Appendix E • Power Rating Scale

2022-23 MEN'S AND WOMEN'S FENCING POWER RATING SCALE

Power Rating	Qualification
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	USFA "A" Ranking / USFA Junior 13-16 / NCAA 13-16
70	USFA Junior 17-24 / NCAA 17-24
60	USFA "B" Ranking
40	USFA "C" Ranking / 49.9999-40 SPI
20	USFA "D" Ranking / 39.9999-25 SPI / Qualified for Regionals
10	USFA "E" Ranking / 24.9999-12 SPI
1	USFA "U" Ranking / First year novice / 11.9999-0.0 SPI

*** Freshmen Foreign Athletes should be evaluated by their respective coaches and ranked comparably to the USFA ranking.

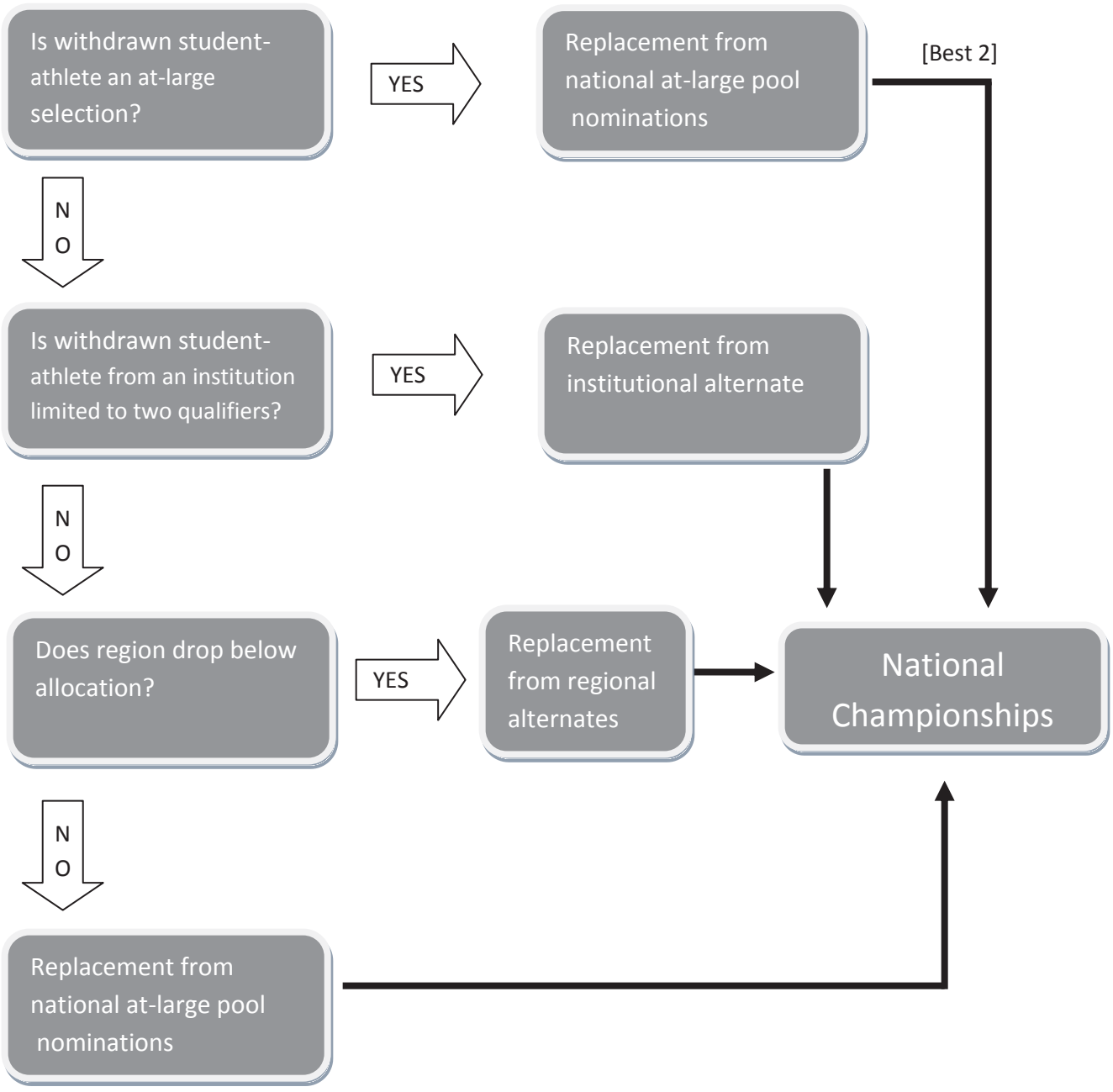
*** If there is a discrepancy in a student-athlete's power rating, contact the head coach of the student-athlete directly. If further assistance is needed, contact the NCAA championships manager.

*** Power ratings provided at the beginning of the season (per the November deadline) must be used throughout the entire season, unless it is determined that it is a misinterpretation of the fencer's ability level at the time of submission. In this case, please contact the NCAA championships manager for further assistance.

Appendix F • Replacement Process

National Qualifier Replacement Process

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



Appendix G • Season Performance Index Fencing Formula

Season Performance Index Fencing Formula

The formula for computing the Season Performance Index (SPI) for individual fencers becomes effective for the 2022-2023 season.

It is calculated using the following steps:

Step 1 – Separating bouts fenced:

Take all bouts fenced and divide into 3 categories according to the current NCAA's Power Rating Scale.

High: 80 and above

Medium: 40-70 level

Low: 30 and below

Step 2 – Win percentage:

Determine win % in each category

Including the starting constant, divide bouts won by bouts fenced.

Step 3 – Modified Win percentage:

Add a starting constant to bouts won and bouts fenced in each category. This does two things:

1. **Makes the win percentage to be always less than 100%. A win percentage less than 100% causes the win percentage to always increase with a victory.**
2. **It creates a beginning win/loss record that varies among the categories. This creates an *arithmetic mean* fencer from which good fencers will deviate above and poor fencers will deviate below.**

Low category: add 3 bouts fenced and 2 bouts won.

Medium category: add 2 bouts fenced and 1 bout won.

High category: add 2 bouts fenced and 0 bouts won.

Step 4 – Controlling Win percentage:

If higher category has higher modified win %, allow higher to govern.

This provides a correction in case of low or aberrant data in the lower categories.

For example, if the high category modified win percentage is 70% and the medium or low is 67%, the 67% would be raised to 70%.

Step 5 - Category Strength:

Assign a strength value to each category. These will be a constant for the low and medium categories and a strength adjusting value to the high category. The power is adjusted most for the high category because this is the area of greatest variety and importance.

Low category = 30.

Medium category = 40.

High category = Average power rating of actual bouts fenced minus 30.

Step 6 – Adjusted Category Strength:

Make an adjustment to low and medium category strengths. This makes victories against higher power rated fencers within the low and medium categories more meaningful. (The high category already adjusts by the high category averaging in step 5)

Low Category:

Opponents with power rating of 1 adjust low category by a multiplier of .95.

Opponents with power rating of 10 adjust low category by a multiplier of 1.0.

Opponents with power rating of 20 adjust low category by a multiplier of 1.05.

The starting constants are adjusted with a multiplier of 1.0.

Medium Category:

Opponents with power rating of 40 adjust medium category by a multiplier of .95.

Opponents with power rating of 60 adjust low category by a multiplier of 1.0.

Opponents with power rating of 70 medium low category by a multiplier of 1.05.

The starting constants are adjusted with a multiplier of 1.0.

Step 7 - Category Calculations:

Multiply Category Strength Value by Category Win %:

Low category: Low adjusted category strength x Low modified win % = **L.**

Medium category: Medium adjusted category strength x Medium modified win % = **M.**

High category: High category strength x High modified win % = **H.**

Step 8. Power Rating Credit (PRC):

This credit for each Fencer's Power Rating offsets the advantage lower power rated fencers have due to their bouts being worth less to their opponents.

Take the fencers own Power Rating and multiply it by 5%.

Fencer's PR x 5% = PRC

Step 9 Final Calculation:

Add Category results and PRC to create a Season Performance Index (SPI).

L + M + H + PRC = SPI.