NCAA

MEMORANDUM

October 22, 2025

VIA EMAIL

TO: Athletic Directors, Senior Woman Administrators and Head Coaches of Institutions Sponsoring Men's and/or Women's Fencing.

FROM: NCAA Fencing Committee.

SUBJECT: NCAA Fencing Season and Championship Information.

In preparation for the season and the championships, please be aware of the items outlined below. For additional updates throughout the year, including committee meeting reports, please check the NCAA Fencing Administration Page.

1. <u>Pre-Championships Manual.</u> The National Collegiate Men's and Women's Fencing Championships Pre-Championships Manual will be posted on the fencing administration page on NCAA.org no later than November 21.

2. Important Dates and Timeline.

November 21	Deadline for coaches to submit rosters through the online system. A fine of \$200 will be issued to institutions failing to submit this
	information by the deadline.
February 16	Deadline for an institution's athletics director to submit a request for extension to use the first weekend in March as a makeup date for a previously scheduled competition.
February 27	Deadline for institutions to submit individual results via the online score reporting system, <u>late scores will not be accepted, unless granted an extension</u> .
March 2	Deadline for institutions receiving a competition extension to turn in results via the online score reporting system. <i>Late scores will not be accepted.</i>
March 2	Deadline for an institution's athletics director to submit a waiver of minimum requirements to compete in regional competition.
March 7/8	Regional Competition.
March 10	Championships Selections.
March 19-22	National Collegiate Men's and Women's Fencing Championships- Notre Dame, Indiana.

3. <u>Rules</u>. The current USA Fencing rules will be used for the championships. *ALL* rules adopted by USA Fencing prior to <u>October 1</u> of each year will be automatically adopted for use, *unless* otherwise informed by the committee. An updated USA Fencing Rule Book, as well as other rules-

related policies, can be found on the NCAA Fencing Rules of the Game page on NCAA.org.

- 4. <u>Score Reporting and Power Ratings.</u> More information regarding the score reporting system and power ratings for the 2025-26 season will be shared with head coaches in the coming weeks.
- 5. <u>Regional Competition.</u> Below are the locations of the 2026 regional competitions. Regional locations still being determined will be communicated as soon as possible.
 - a. Northeast Region Vassar College March 8.
 - b. Mid-Atlantic/South TBD March 7.
 - c. Midwest Cleveland State University March 8.
 - d. West University of the Incarnate Word March 7.
- 6. <u>2026 Regional Allocations</u>. The NCAA men's and women's fencing committee has approved a new regional allocation formula, effective for the 2025-26 season. The new formula, explained in greater detail here, relies heavily on a region's current year performance inclusive of regional results. Because of this, regional allocations will not be known until after the conclusion of regional competition. For more information on the change, please review the meeting report from the committee's September meeting, available here. The committee is planning on providing an educational opportunity for coaches to learn more about the new formula. This meeting will be 1 p.m. Eastern, Friday, October 31. Additional details, including a meeting link, will be sent directly to head coaches at the start of next week.
- 7. <u>Regional Qualification.</u> For a student-athlete to compete at their respective regional, they must **compete in a minimum of 21 bouts**, as well as **achieve a 25-percent win-loss percentage** in scheduled bouts.
- 8. <u>Separation of Championships.</u> New for the 2026 championships, separate men's and women's team champions will be crowned. There will no longer be a combined gender national champion. This change does not impact the format of the championship.
- 9. <u>2026 Championships.</u> The 2026 championships will be held in Notre Dame, Indiana and hosted on the campus of the University of Notre Dame. Additional information, including hotel information, will be sent in the coming months via the NCAA monthly newsletter, as well as posted on the fencing administration page on NCAA.org.

If you have questions regarding any of the above information, please contact Zach Christopher at zchristopher@ncaa.org or 317-917-6112.

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