



DIVISION I WOMEN'S GOLF DECEMBER 2019 NEWSLETTER

The NCAA Division I Women's Golf Committee is providing this information to outline key actions taken by the committee during the past year, as well as, future recommendations or information that will be helpful to you. In addition, if you have any questions regarding this information, please contact Ryan Colton, chair of the NCAA Division I Women's Golf Committee and/or a member of the committee or Carol A. Reep, NCAA associate director of championships and alliances.

2019-20 Committee Members

Sarah Adams

Senior Associate Athletic Director/SWA
Eastern Washington University
West Region
Term ends: September 2023

Julie Brooks

Head Women's Golf Coach
University of California, Irvine
West Region
Term ends: September 2020

Ryan Colton, chair

Associate Athletics Director
University of Richmond
East Region
Term ends: September 2020

Jeff Hull

Head Women's Golf Coach
Furman University
East Region
Term ends: September 2021

Breanna Jenco

Head Women's Golf Coach
Xavier University
Central Region
Term ends: September 2023

Julie Manning

Executive Associate Athletics Director/SWA
University of Minnesota, Twin Cities
Central Region
Term ends: September 2022

Sponsorship

The 2019-20 sponsorship lists are located on the ncaa.org site
(Division I/Membership)

Division I	266 (-1)
Division II	201 (+6)
Division III	243 (+20)
Total	710 (+25)

2020 Championships Dates and Sites

2020 Selection Announcement: Wednesday, April 29

2020 Regionals Sites: May 11-13

Athens, Georgia: University of Georgia Golf Course;
University of Georgia, host.
Notre Dame, Indiana: Warren Golf Course;
University of Notre Dame, host.
Pullman, Washington: Palouse Ridge Golf Club;
Washington State University, host.
Raleigh, North Carolina: Lonnie Poole Golf Course;
North Carolina State University, host.

2020 National Championships: (May 22-27)

Grayhawk Golf Club, Arizona State University, host.

Future Sites

2021 Selection Announcement: Wednesday, April 28

2021 Regionals Sites: May 10-12

Baton Rouge, Louisiana: University Club;
Louisiana State University, host
Columbus, Ohio: OSU Golf Club – Scarlet Course;
The Ohio State University, host
Louisville, Kentucky: University of Louisville Golf Club
University of Louisville, host
Stanford, California: Stanford Golf Course
Stanford University, host

2021 National Championships: (May 21-26)

Grayhawk Golf Club, Arizona State University, host.

2022 Selection Announcement: Wednesday, April 27

2022 Regionals Sites: May 9-11

Albuquerque, New Mexico: The Championship Course at
UNM; University of New Mexico, host.
Ann Arbor, Michigan: U-M Golf Course;
University of Michigan, host.
Stillwater, Oklahoma: Karsten Creek Golf Club;
Oklahoma State University, host,
Tallahassee, Florida: Don Veller Seminole Golf Course &
Club; Florida State University, host.

2022 National Championships: (May 20-25)

Grayhawk Golf Club, Arizona State University, host.

2022- 2026 CHAMPIONSHIPS SITE SELECTION. The NCAA is seeking hosts and sites for 86 of the 90 championships each year over four academic years. Specifically, for women's golf the NCAA is seeking host sites for regionals and finals for the 2023 – 2026 championships. More information about the process can be found at www.ncaa.org/bids. The timeline for the bid process is as follows:

- August 26, 2019 – Bid Portal Opened.
- February 3, 2020 – Bid Responses Due.
- March-September 2020 – Committee deliberations, recommendations and approvals.
- October 2020 – Hosts/sites announced.

Automatic Qualification (AQ)

The NCAA Division I Competition Oversight Committee awarded the following 27 conferences automatic qualification for the 2020 championships:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| American Athletic Conference | Mid American Conference |
| Atlantic Coast Conference | Missouri Valley Conference |
| Atlantic Sun Conference | Mountain West Conference |
| Big East Conference | Northeast Conference |
| Big Sky Conference | Ohio Valley Conference |
| Big South Conference | Pac-12 Conference |
| Big Ten Conference | Patriot League |
| Big 12 Conference | Southeastern Conference |
| Big West Conference | Southern Conference |
| Colonial Athletic Association | Soutland Conference |
| Conference USA | The Summit League |
| Horizon League | Sun Belt Conference |
| The Ivy League | Western Athletic Conference |
| Metro Atlantic Athletic Conf. | |

REMINDERS and UPDATES
2020 Division I Women's Golf Championships

Coaches are encouraged to review the committee's July 18-19, 2019, annual meeting report that is posted on the Division I women's golf page on www.ncaa.org for more detailed information specific to the actions that the committee has taken following the conclusion of the 2019 championships.

- **NEW FOR 2020:** Automatic qualification invitation – individual conference medalists. AQ conference medalists whose teams are not selected into the NCAA regional fields, will receive an automatic invitation as part of the 24 individuals selected nationally for regional competitions.

- **2019-20: Course Access Policy During Regular Season – Finals Site.** Student-athletes and coaches are prohibited from walking, playing or practicing at the championship finals course (i.e., practice facilities and any additional golf course at the venue) beginning August 1 of the championship academic year other than those student-athletes and coaches who are members of the course or who are competing in sanctioned events of the state's amateur or professional golf associations, the USGA, LPGA and PGA. Violations of this policy may result in sanctions listed under NCAA misconduct provisions or disqualification for a team or an individual(s), with no substitution permitted. The host institution will be prohibited from walking, playing or practicing on the championship finals course beginning 10 days prior to the men's championship.

- **NEW FOR 2021 and 2022. Course Access Policy During 2021 and 2022 Regular Season – Finals Site:** The men's and women's golf committees have agreed to retain the current course access policy for the 2020 championships but change it to an open course access policy for the 2021 and 2022 championships. Specifically, for the 2021 championships, schools will have access to Grayhawk Golf Club beginning on July 1, 2020 and continuing through April 30, 2021. Effective May 1, 2021, no teams or individuals will be allowed at the site, including the host school. The corresponding conditions and dates of July 1, 2021 until April 30, 2022, along with the May 1, 2022 date as noted above would apply for the 2022 championships. The committees have developed an FAQ document that has been distributed to their respective memberships and posted on www.ncaa.org that addresses questions and outlines in more detail as to how schools will be able to work with the Grayhawk staff to secure access to the venue prior to the 2021 and the 2022 championships, respectively

NEW FOR 2020-2021. Selection Criteria – Tournament Schedule Submission Requirement. Effective for the 2020-21 regular season, institutions will be required to submit their playing schedules for the regular season (both fall and spring) by October 1 to Golfstat as part of the yearly registration process for selections.

Regionals/Finals

- Per NCAA Bylaw 31.1.4.1, the Division I Women's Golf Committee will adjust accordingly the competition schedule along with the pairings and tee times in order to accommodate a team/individual(s) representing a school that has a written policy against competition on a particular day for religious reasons.

Coaches should review the 2020 Participant Manuals for their assigned regionals/final sites once posted on www.ncaa.org for the specific pairings, tee times and the schedule of events for each site.

• **Pace of Play – Checkpoint System.** For the 2020 championships (regionals and finals), the USGA checkpoint system will continue to be used to monitor pace of play. Coaches and student-athletes are encouraged to review the pace of play information posted on www.ncaa.org.

• **Practice Facility Access – Regionals/Finals Host Sites.** Non-competing student-athletes from participating institutions may use the practice facilities during championships competition.

• **Course Access – Regionals/Finals.** As a friendly reminder, student-athletes are not allowed on the course prior to or after their practice round. However, coaches have access to the course prior to and through the end of their championships practice round either by walking or using their institutionally assigned golf cart. At the conclusion of the institution's practice round, coaches may go back onto the golf course only as a spectator, which includes no carts on the course as well as no access to the putting greens or within 30 feet of the putting greens.

Additionally, prior to the start of each day of a competing institution's competition round, coaches may either walk or access the course by using their institutionally assigned golf cart. Furthermore, when coaches and student-athletes return to the course after each competition round to watch play they become spectators at this point and shall follow all spectator rules, including no carts on the course as well as no access to the putting greens or within 30 feet of the putting greens.

Coaches who violate this policy will not be permitted to coach the following day and the number of permissible coaches for that team the following day will be reduced by the number of offending coaches. The committee reserves the right to adjust course access if it deems that weather conditions and/or outside circumstances could impact the playability of the golf course for the competitors.

Finals Site

OPTIONAL: Course Access the Day Before the Practice Round – Wednesday. Teams/individuals that advance to the finals site will continue to have the opportunity to walk the course on Wednesday but will not be allowed to walk on greens, in bunkers or take equipment (except for distance-measuring devices) with them when walking the course. Coaches who violate this policy will not be permitted to coach the following day and the number of permissible coaches for that team the following day will be reduced by the number of offending coaches.

NOTE: Schools will not be allowed to practice at the venue prior to Thursday morning but will be able to locate shipped equipment (push carts) and secure yardage books.

• **Tie-Breaking Procedures for Determining the 15th team/nine individual spots** – Ties for the top 15 teams, as well as the top nine individuals, will be broken by use of a sudden-death playoff (time and course conditions permitting). Otherwise, the use of the established non-sudden-death tiebreaking procedures will be used for determining advancement.

• **Player Substitutions – Match Play Only at Championships Finals.** Prior to a match play round (quarterfinals, semifinals or finals), a team may substitute a sixth player for any member of the team provided that:

a. The NCAA Division I Women's Golf Committee or the NCAA Rules Committee is notified of the substitution at least 30 minutes prior to that team member's starting time.

b. The sixth player is an eligible member of the institution's team.

***Note 1:** When a team has substituted a sixth player, no further substitutions may be made by the team for that round. The team member that was substituted for becomes the sixth player and the team is limited to that player if the team wishes to substitute a player prior to any subsequent match play round.

***Note 2:** Unless a team chooses to substitute a sixth player prior to a match play draw, the team's five players that played in the previous round will be used for the draw.

Should institutions bring a sixth player as a substitute for match play, that player may use the practice facilities during the women's championships but would not be allowed to participate in the team's practice round.

Refer to www.ncaa.org for additional information on player substitution conditions specific to the team match play only portion of the championships.

Championship Format

• Teams that qualify via conference automatic qualification (27) and teams that are selected at-large (45) by the committee will comprise each of the four regional tournaments. Additionally, **effective for 2020**, AQ conference individual medalists, if not selected on a participating team, will receive an automatic invitation to compete as part of the 24 individuals selected nationally for regional competition. Each regional tournament will consist of 18 teams and six individuals (not on the selected team).

A team or individual desiring to participate in the championships must complete all tournaments and have their results submitted to Golfstat by Tuesday, April 28.

REGIONAL COMPETITION. Four, 54-hole competitions will be conducted to determine the participants in the championships finals. Eighteen teams and six individuals, not on those teams, will compete at each regional. The low six teams and the low three individuals, not on one of those teams, will advance to the finals. Tie-breakers and playoffs will be used to determine advancement to the finals.

FINALS. All 24 teams and 12 individuals will complete 54 holes of stroke play. Following 54 holes of competition, the top 15 teams along with the top nine individuals not on an advancing team will advance for one additional day of stroke play to determine the top eight teams for match-play competition and the 72-hole stroke-play NCAA individual champion. The top eight teams after 72 holes of play will be placed into a bracket with the No. 1 seed playing the No. 8 seed, the No. 2 seed playing the No. 7 seed, the No. 3 seed playing the No. 6 seed and the No. 4 seed playing the No. 5 seed in match play. Ties for the top 15 teams, as well as the top nine individuals not on an advancing team, will be broken by use of a sudden-death playoff (time and course conditions permitting). Otherwise, the use of the established non-sudden-death tiebreaking procedures will be used for determining advancement. Additionally, ties for the top eight teams and the NCAA individual champion will be broken by a sudden-death playoff or, if necessary, by the established non-sudden-death tiebreaking procedures.

A total of five points will be available with one point being awarded for each individual match. Winning teams will advance to the semifinals and subsequently the finals. The first team to win three points within the team match will advance or in the case of the final match be declared the national champion. Once a team has won three individual matches, any remaining individual matches will be halted at that point with the individual match recorded as it currently stood.

The Division I Women's Golf Committee will determine match-play lineups using the same method employed at the President's Cup matches.

Pairings for the quarterfinals will be determined following the completion of the 72-hole stroke-play competition and the crowning of the NCAA individual champion. Pairings for the team semifinals and finals will be determined following the completion of the previous round. Refer to information provided on Player Substitutions for use during the match play only portion of the championship finals.

- **President's Cup Match Play Pairings Process.** A link to view an example of the team match play pairings process that will continue to be used during the 2020 women's championships is available on the sport specific page on www.ncaa.org.

- **Golf Channel Partnership.** For the sixth year, the Golf Channel will broadcast the 2020 Division I Women's and Men's Golf Championships that will be conducted during back-to-back weeks at Grayhawk Golf Club. Additionally, the Golf Channel provides year-round coverage of women's and men's collegiate golf through its multiple platforms, with greater emphasis in the months leading up to the championships, which will include live multiple-day coverage at the finals with tape-delayed rebroadcasts provided each evening of the live coverage.

Selection Criteria

In the interest of developing and promoting women's collegiate golf throughout the country, the best teams and individuals, based on the selection criteria, will be selected. Teams and individuals must play a minimum of 15, 18-hole stroke-play rounds including a minimum of eight stroke play, Division I rounds in the spring in order to be considered for selection to the championships.

The following criteria shall be employed by a governing sports committee in selecting participants for NCAA Championships competition [NCAA Division I Bylaw 31.3.3; Criteria for Selection of Participants];

- Won-lost record;
- Strength of schedule; and
- Eligibility/availability of student-athletes for NCAA championships;

The Division I Women's Golf Committee will consider the following criteria in the selection of at-large teams and individuals (not on a selected team) for the women's golf championships in priority order:

Primary Criteria:

- NCAA/Golfstat ranking;
- Head-to-head results;
- Head-to-head stroke differential;
- Results versus common opponents;
- Overall won-loss record;
- Adjusted scoring average; and
- Strength of schedule.

The Women's Golf Committee does not use coaches' polls or any other outside polls or rankings for selection purposes.

Schools are required to compete as a team if they enter four or more players in a tournament using one of the approved designated formats. Schools that enter three or less players in a tournament or would like to enter players in an event beyond those required for team participation in one of the approved designated formats may participate as individuals.

Additionally, an institution may not compete in separate tournaments on the same date of competition with the opportunity to count both events towards team selections.

Should an institution choose to do this, one team must be declared an "A" team while the other would be designated as a "B" team. The "B" team results will not count towards selections as an at-large team."

2019-20 Selection Process

The committee will select 72 teams based on the selection criteria. Each regional site will be allocated 18 teams and six individuals not on a selected team. Twenty-seven (27) conference champions will receive automatic qualification, with the remaining 45 teams selected on an at-large basis. The committee will select and seed the top 18 teams nationally, based on the selection criteria and place them in an S curve with limited movement (no more than two spots) to maintain the integrity of the draw. The remaining teams would then be selected based on the selection criteria. One of the primary goals will be to keep the strength of each regional field as equitable as possible. The committee will be sensitive to geographic proximity and travel concerns in attempting to attain this goal. If a selected team is hosting a regional site, they will be allowed to compete at their site. Once all 72 teams have been identified then the top 24 individuals (including AQ conference medalists as automatic qualifiers) who are not selected on a participating team shall be selected nationally based on the selection criteria. Individuals will be placed on the board and when possible, the committee will be sensitive to geographic proximity and travel concerns when assigning individual participants to a regional site.

REMINDER: Golfstat Tournament Registration and Results Submissions

Golfstat serves as the computer service used by the NCAA Divisions I, II, and III Women's and Men's Golf Championships to process regular-season results for selection purposes for the 2020 NCAA Divisions I, II and III Women's and Men's Golf Championships. Please refer to the memo posted on the sport specific page of www.ncaa.org for information outlined on the tournament registration and the results submission process.

Regular Season Results Submission Policy. The Division I men's and women's committees require that host institutions of regular season events must submit scores to Golfstat according to the following policy:

"The host institution of a regular season event are required to submit results from their tournament into Golfstat by no later than 5 p.m. (Eastern time) two days following the conclusion of the event. *For example, if a tournament ends on Tuesday, the host institution will be required to submit its results into Golfstat by no later than 5 p.m. (Eastern time) on Thursday.*

Host institutions that fail to submit tournament results within the established timeframe will be assessed a financial penalty of \$500 per occurrence, up to a maximum penalty of \$750."

Rules. The 2020 Spring Hard Card will be posted by January 10 on the sport specific page on www.ncaa.org.

Pre-championships Manual. The 2020 NCAA Division I Women's Golf Pre-championships Manual is posted on the sport specific page on www.ncaa.org.

Annual Meeting. The NCAA Division I Women's Golf Committee annual meeting is June 29-30, 2020, in Indianapolis.