

## **DIVISION I WOMEN'S GOLF DECEMBER 2022 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 and additional information that may be helpful. If you have any questions regarding this information, please contact Brad Hurlbut, chair of the NCAA Division I Women's Golf Committee and/or a member of the committee, or Mark Bedics or John Baldwin, NCAA staff.

### **2022-23 Committee Members**

**Brad Hurlbut**

Director of Athletics  
Fairleigh Dickinson University, Metropolitan Campus  
East Region  
Term ends: September 2024

**Breanna Jenco**

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

**Jon Kasper**

Senior Associate Commissioner  
Big Sky Conference  
West Region  
Term ends: September 2023

**Sarah Adams**

Deputy Athletics Director/SWA  
Wichita State University  
Central Region  
Term ends: September 2026

**Mary Lou Mulflur**

Head Women's Golf Coach  
University of Washington  
West Region  
Term ends: September 2024

**Patty Post**

Director of Golf  
University of Delaware  
East Region  
Term ends: September 2025



### **2023 Championships Dates and Sites**

**2023 Selection Announcement:** Wednesday, April 26

**2023 Regional Sites: May 8-10**

**Athens, Georgia:** University of Georgia Golf Course;  
University of Georgia, host.

**Westfield, Indiana:** The Club at Chatham Hills;  
Indiana University, Bloomington and Indiana Sports Corp,  
co-hosts.

**Pullman, Washington:** Palouse Ridge Golf Club;  
Washington State University, host.

**Raleigh, North Carolina:** Lonnie Poole Golf Course;  
North Carolina State University, host.

**Palm Beach Gardens, Florida:** PGA National Resort;  
Florida Atlantic University and Palm Beach County Sports  
Commission, co-hosts.

**San Antonio, Texas:** TPC San Antonio;  
University of Texas, San Antonio and San Antonio Sports,  
co-hosts.

**2023 National Championships: May 19-24**

Grayhawk Golf Club; Arizona State University and  
The Thunderbirds, co-hosts.

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**2024 Selection Announcement:** Wednesday, April 24

**2024 Regional Sites: May 6-8**

**Auburn, Alabama:** Auburn University Club;  
Auburn University, host.

**College Station, Texas:** Traditions Club;  
Texas A&M University, host.

**Las Vegas, Nevada:** Spanish Trail Country Club;  
University of Nevada, Las Vegas and Las Vegas Events,  
co-hosts.

**Winston-Salem, North Carolina:** Bermuda Run Country Club  
– East Course; Wake Forest University, host.

**Cle Elum, Washington:** Tumblecreek Club;  
University of Washington, host.

**East Lansing, Michigan:** Forest Akers Golf Club;  
Michigan State University, host.

**2024 National Championships: May 17-22**

Omni La Costa Resort & Spa – Champions Course;  
University of Texas at Austin, host.

**2025 Selection Announcement:** Wednesday, April 23

**2025 Regional Sites: May 5-7**

**Columbus, Ohio:** OSU Golf Club – Scarlet Course;  
The Ohio State University, host.

**Lexington, Kentucky:** University Club of Kentucky;  
University of Kentucky, host.

**Norman, Oklahoma:** Jimmie Austin OU Golf Club;  
University of Oklahoma, host.

**Gold Canyon, Arizona:** Superstition Mountain Golf and  
Country Club; Arizona State University, host.

**Lubbock, Texas:** The Rawls Golf Course;  
Texas Tech University, host.

**Charlottesville, Virginia:** Birdwood Golf Course;  
University of Virginia, host.

**2025 National Championships: May 16-21**

Omni La Costa Resort & Spa – Champions Course;  
University of Texas at Austin, host.

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**2026 Selection Announcement:** Wednesday, April 29

**2026 Regional Sites: May 11-13**

**Chapel Hill, North Carolina:** UNC Finley Golf Course;  
University of North Carolina, host.

**Stanford, California:** Stanford Golf Course;  
Stanford University, host.

**Tallahassee, Florida:** Seminole Legacy Golf Club;  
Florida State University, host.

**Waco, Texas:** Ridgewood Country Club;  
Baylor University, host.

**Owens Crossroads, Alabama:** RTJ Golf Trail at Hampton  
Cove; University of North Alabama, host.

**Ann Arbor, Michigan:** U-M Golf Club;  
University of Michigan, host.

**2026 National Championships: May 22-27**

Omni La Costa Resort & Spa – Champions Course;  
University of Texas at Austin, host.

**Automatic Qualification (AQ)**

The NCAA Division I Competition Oversight Committee awarded the following 27 conferences automatic qualification for the 2023 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 | Southland Conference        |
| Conference USA                | The Summit League           |
| Horizon League                | Sun Belt Conference         |
| The Ivy League                | Western Athletic Conference |
| Metro Atlantic Athletic Conf. |                             |

**Hard Card.** The 2023 Spring Hard Card will be posted on the Division I Women's Golf [landing page](#) on ncaa.org.

**Pre-championships Manual.** The 2023 NCAA Division I Women's Golf Pre-championships Manual will be posted by February 1 on the Division I Women's Golf [landing page](#) on ncaa.org.

**Annual Meeting.** The NCAA Division I Women's Golf Committee annual meeting will be held in June or July 2023.

**Regular Season Results Submission Policy.** 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 2023 championships. Please refer to the memo posted on the Division I Women's Golf [landing page](#) on ncaa.org for information outlined on the tournament registration and the results submission process.

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 is 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.*

**IMPORTANT UPDATES FOR 2022-23:**

*Coaches are encouraged to review the committee's recent meeting reports located on the Division I Women's Golf [landing page](#) on ncaa.org for more detailed information specific to recent committee actions taken.*

- **Finals Site Field Size Expansion:** Beginning with the 2023 postseason, the National Championships will consist of 27 teams and 12 individuals. The Regional format will continue to include six Regional sites consisting of 12 teams and six individuals per site. The top four teams and top two individuals will advance to the National Championships from three sites, while the top five teams and top two individuals will advance to the National Championships from the three remaining sites.

- **Adjustments to Tournament Schedule Submission Requirement:** Beginning in Fall 2023, the schedule submission deadline requirement will be adjusted to reflect an annual submission deadline of August 31 for an institution's full competition schedule for the year, in place of the current annual deadline of October 1.

- **Additional Tournament Formats Available:**

Beginning with the 2022-23 academic year, six-count-four and six-count-five tournament format options are available for use during regular-season and conference championship competition. Additionally, as is allowable within the rules of golf, tournament results can be submitted to Golfstat in nine-hole scoring increments once a minimum of 18 holes have been completed, to be used for selection purposes.

#### REMINDERS FOR 2022-23:

- **Substitution Allowances:** Effective 2022, substitutions are permissible at conference championships, in addition to NCAA Regionals & the National Championships. Substitute student-athletes may use the practice facilities during championships competition.
- **Regional Advancement Policy Adjustment:** Effective 2022, a minimum of 36 holes are required to be completed for Regional advancement, an increase from the prior minimum of 18 holes. This recommendation was supported by 85% of the Division I head coaching membership during an August 2021 survey.

Additional scheduling flexibility has also been approved for Regional sites, who can now begin competition as early as Sunday in worst-case weather scenarios, a recommendation supported by 96% of the Division I head coaching membership during an August 2021 survey.

- **Tie-Breaking Procedures for Regional and Finals:** Ties will be broken during a team sudden-death playoff counting all five players' scores. Continuing in 2023, coaches will have the ability to determine starting hole assignments for their student-athletes, rather than having those hole assignments preassigned based on an individual's starting position at the beginning of the tournament. These selections must be completed no later than 10 minutes following the conclusion of play.

Coaches and student-athletes are encouraged to review the tie-breaking procedures for sudden-death playoffs as well as the non sudden-death tie-breaking procedures located on the Division I Women's Golf [page](#) on ncaa.org.

- **Automatic Qualification Invitations to Individual Conference Medalists:** Conference medalists whose teams are not selected into the NCAA regional fields, will receive an automatic invitation as part of the 36 individuals selected nationally for regional competitions.
- **Finals Site Course Access Policy (Regular Season):** The men's and women's golf committees have adopted an open course access policy for the championships that will be conducted at Grayhawk Golf Club. For the 2023 championships, schools will have access to Grayhawk Golf Club from July 1, 2022, through April 30, 2023. Effective May 1, 2023, no teams or individuals, including the host school, will be allowed at the site. Additional information regarding this policy can be

found on the Division I Women's Golf [page](#) on ncaa.org.

- **Course Access During Regionals and Finals Site Competition.** As a 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, but are not permitted on greens prior to the first tee time for their first player on a given day. When coaches and student-athletes return to the course after each competition round to watch play they become spectators and shall follow all spectator rules, including no carts on the course as well as no access to the greens or within 30 feet of the 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 may impact the playability of the course for the competitors.

- **Pace of Play Checkpoint System:** For the 2023 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 the Division I Women's Golf [landing page](#) on ncaa.org.
- **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.

#### 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.

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."

### **2022-23 Selections**

The committee will select 72 teams for the championships. Each regional site will be allocated 12 teams and six individuals not on a selected team. Twenty-seven (27) team 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 at-large teams would then be selected based on the selection criteria. 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, the top 36 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.

### **Championships 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 six regional tournaments. Additionally, AQ conference individual medalists, if not selected on a participating team, will receive an automatic invitation to compete as part of the 36 individuals selected nationally for regional competition. Each regional tournament will consist of 12 teams and six individuals not on a selected team. All tournament results must be submitted by Tuesday, April 25 for selections.

**REGIONALS.** Six, 54-hole competitions will be conducted to determine the participants in the championship finals. Twelve teams and six individuals, not on those teams, will compete at each regional. The low four teams and the low two individuals not on one of those teams will advance to the finals from three of the sites; the low five teams and the low two individuals not on those teams will advance to the finals from the remaining three sites. Tiebreakers and playoffs will be used to determine advancement to the finals.

**FINALS.** All 27 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.

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 all matches will be determined following the completion of the previous round.