



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA MEN'S GYMNASTICS COMMITTEE
JUNE 23, 24 and 27, 2025, VIRTUAL MEETING**

KEY ITEMS.

- **Rules modifications.** The committee requests approval from the NCAA Playing Rules Oversight Panel for the following eight changes to the Men's Gymnastics Rules Modifications noted below in the Action Items section of this report (see Action Items 2-b through i).

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative items.

- **None.**

2. Nonlegislative items.

a. Automatic qualification.

- (1) Recommendation. That the Eastern College Athletic Conference receives automatic qualification to the 2026 National Collegiate Men's Gymnastics Championships.
- (2) Effective date. September 1, 2025.
- (3) Rationale. The conference meets the requirements of Bylaw 31.3.4 and has completed the automatic-qualification declaration form.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

b. Removal of the NCAA element groups modification (1-B-1). The committee requests approval from the NCAA Playing Rules Oversight Panel for the following change to the Men's Gymnastics Rules Modifications:

- (1) Recommendation. Removal of the NCAA element groups modification (The current NCAA rules modification is listed below for reference).
 1. NCAA Element Group Modification:
 - Each apparatus, except for Floor Exercise, has three Element Groups designated as I, II, III and a Dismount Group designated as IV. Floor Exercise has four Element Groups.

- Each element group requirement fulfilled by C or higher element (inside the 7 (8 on Floor) counting elements) is awarded 0.5 by the D-Jury.
- Each element group requirement fulfilled by A or B element (inside the 7 (8 on Floor) counting elements) is awarded 0.3 by the D-Jury.
- Per FIG, for Element Group 1 on all apparatus, any A, B, C, or higher elements will receive 0.5 for the element group requirement.

(2) Effective date. Immediately.

(3) Rationale. The removal of this medication would bring NCAA element groups in alignment with the FIG Code of Points.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

c. **Attire - Jewelry (8-A-3).** The committee requests approval from the NCAA Playing Rules Oversight Panel for the following changes to the Men's Gymnastics Rules Modifications:

(1) Recommendation. To amend the use of jewelry to permit gymnasts to be able to wear stud piercings noting no other jewelry is permitted. After a warning, a 0.3 deduction will be taken from the gymnast's score for each occurrence for attire violation.

(2) Effective date. Immediately.

(3) Rationale. The current rule in the NCAA men's gymnastics rules modifications does not allow for jewelry, including earrings, to be worn at any time. There is no rule in the FIG Code of Points or Technical Regulations regarding jewelry.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

d. **Attire – Dark pants (8-A-5).** The committee requests approval from the NCAA Playing Rules Oversight Panel for the following changes to the Men's Gymnastics Rules Modifications:

(1) Recommendation. To align with the FIG for colors of pants used during competition, restricting the use of specific colors of dark pants during competition.

(2) Effective date. September 1, 2026.

(3) Rationale. This modification was recommended by the National Gymnastics Judges Association noting judges cannot see the leg form of athletes wearing dark pants. This creates an integrity issue with the competition itself. Delayed implementation for the consideration

of the budget/financial impact.

(4)Estimated budget impact. \$25-\$100 per unit.

(5)Student-athlete impact. None.

- e. **Equipment and handgrip failure (9-D).** The committee requests approval from the NCAA Playing Rules Oversight Panel for the following changes to the Men's Gymnastics Rules Modifications:

(1)Recommendation. To add the following modification for clarification on broken grips during the one-touch warm-up as follows (~~striketrough~~ indicates language deleted; **bold** indicates language added):

D. Should a gymnast break their grip during the one-touch warm-up, the athlete will be expected to replace their grip and perform their exercise in the normal order.

(2)Effective date. Immediately.

(3)Rationale. To provide further guidance and clarification on the broken grips during the one-touch warm-up.

(4)Estimated budget impact. None.

(5)Student-athlete impact. None.

- f. **Apparatus and Mats (11-M).** The committee requests approval from the NCAA Playing Rules Oversight Panel for the following changes to the Men's Gymnastics Rules Modifications:

(1)Recommendation. To add the following modification for clarification on the use of additional matting (~~striketrough~~ indicates language deleted; **bold** indicates language added):

M. During the one-touch warmup period during all competitions, additional matting may be used for the safety of the gymnast. 8" skill cushions, 10 cm matting and sting mats may be used at any event during this period. Following the one-touch warmup period, all additional mats must be removed from the competition area. Any use of these mats during competition will receive the standard FIG penalties.

(2)Effective date. Immediately.

(3) Rationale. To provide further guidance and clarification on the use of additional matting during regular-season competition. While the rules modifications document pertains to the regular-season competition, the men's gymnastics committee may permit similar policies for the championship.

(4)Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

- g. Judges and Judging the Event – Inquiry/Protest System Clarification (13-H).** The committee requests approval from the NCAA Playing Rules Oversight Panel for the following changes to the Men's Gymnastics Rules Modifications:

(1) Recommendation. Amend the inquiry/protest system clarification as follows (~~strikethrough~~ indicates language deleted; **bold** indicates language added):

H. Inquiry/Protest System Clarification

(1) Inquiry Process:

- a. **At the beginning of each competition, each team will be given three (3) inquiry cards.**
 - b. The event announcer will address the teams at the conclusion of each rotation to ensure they are ready to rotate to the next event. If an institution is preparing an inquiry, the head coach shall indicate to the head judge that they are not ready to rotate as they are submitting an inquiry.
 - c. **A coach will present an inquiry card to the head judge.**
 1. **An inquiry card must be presented for each inquiry.**
 2. Each team will be allowed up to three (3) denied inquiries per meet inclusive of video inquiries. **Note: It is possible to use more than one (1) inquiry on an event.**
 3. An inquiry must be presented by only one (1) coach per institution.
 4. For an inquiry to be honored, an inquiry form including any potential supporting video, along with the inquiry card, must be submitted and reviewed by the judges prior to the start of the next rotation and not at the conclusion of the meet.
 - d. **An announcement (e.g., public address or videoboard announcement, etc.) shall be made once an inquiry has been submitted. Note: This procedure may vary for each host institution.**
 - e. **The judge will then make an evaluation on the inquiry.**
 1. **If the inquiry is approved, the judge will return the team's inquiry card to the coach.**
 2. **If the inquiry is rejected, the judge will keep the team's inquiry card.**
 3. **If a coach loses three (3) inquiries, they will no longer have inquiry cards and therefore will no longer be able to inquire during the competition.**
 - f. **An announcement (e.g., public address or videoboard announcement, etc.) shall be made once the outcome of the inquiry has been determined. Note: This procedure may vary for each host institution.**
- (2) An inquiry can be based on D jury content, all neutral deductions and NCAA stick bonus for team members start value for your team. **Note: Score(s) may be adjusted up or down.**
- (3) **Etiquette to be followed during inquiry process:**
- a. The Technical Director may not initiate an inquiry on a score;
 - b. The only verbal communication allowed with the head judge is to notify them of an impending inquiry;

- c. **The coach shall briefly explain what they are inquiring and be prepared to show video proof, if necessary;**
- d. **The coach shall also provide a routine sheet with the correct routine performed;**
- e. **The coach shall not stand by the table, pressure the judge or carry on a conversation.**

(2) Effective date. Immediately.

(3) Rationale. Currently, there is not an official process for the presentation of inquiries by which the judges, coaches or meet directors need to follow for the inquiry process. This process will improve the inquiry process in the following ways: 1) this process will be a better system for tracking and enforcing the three missed inquiries rule; 2) this process will help inform opposing teams and the audience of score adjustments to keep things transparent and understandable; 3) this process creates a visible display of an inquiry submission; and, 4) this process will help tell the story of what is happening on the competition floor.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

h. Competition Formats (Rule 6).

- (1) Recommendation. The following touch warmup rules modification would be permitted for use by conference rule or mutual agreement. The suggestion is for a new option: a touch, beginning prior to the second and occurring before each subsequent event. The touch would be split into two 90-second touches, for each team to have the event unencumbered by the other team. The one-minute transition periods will remain, so no changes to that are necessary. Since the touch would be split into two 90-second touches, the head judge on that event must time to ensure athletes are getting the proper amount of time and not extending their allotted time on the apparatus. As a note and after a verbal warning of the first instance, this modification would include a deduction of 0.3 team neutral deduction for a team's failure to follow the established time block.

	Prior to FX	Prior to PH	Prior to SR	Prior to VT	Prior to PB	Prior to HB
Home Team	No Touch	Second 90	First 90	Second 90	First 90	Second 90
Away Team	No Touch	First 90	Second 90	First 90	Second 90	First 90

(2) Effective date. Immediately.

- (3) Rationale. The rationale for 90 seconds per team as compared to the old, five up, five count format, would provide a two-minute (120-second) touch, which was 24 seconds per athlete. The 90 seconds per team equals 22.5 seconds per athlete, near the amount that was offered before, while reducing the overall time added to the competition that offering two minutes per

team, per event would add. Additional rationale for the use of this competition format is related to addressing the opportunity to have a touch warmup prior to events 2-6. As noted, this format may increase competition time.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

i. Competition Formats (Rule 6).

(1) Recommendation. The following touch warmup rules modification would be permitted for use by conference rule or mutual agreement. The suggestion is for a new option: a touch, beginning prior to the second and occurring before each subsequent event. The touch would be split into two 90-second touches, for each team to have the event unencumbered by the other team. The one-minute transition periods will remain, so no changes to that are necessary. Since the touch would be split into two 90-second touches, the head judge on that event must time to ensure athletes are getting the proper amount of time and not extending their allotted time on the apparatus. As a note and after a verbal warning of the first instance, this modification would include a deduction of 0.3 team neutral deduction for a team's failure to follow the established time block.

	Prior to FX	Prior to PH	Prior to SR	Prior to VT	Prior to PB	Prior to HB
Home Team	No Touch	First 90	Second 90	First 90	Second 90	First 90
Away Team	No Touch	Second 90	First 90	Second 90	First 90	Second 90

(2) Effective date. Immediately.

(3) Rationale. The rationale for 90 seconds per team as compared to the old, five up, five count format, would provide a two-minute (120-second) touch, which was 24 seconds per athlete. The 90 seconds per team equals 22.5 seconds per athlete, near the amount that was offered before, while reducing the overall time added to the competition that offering two minutes per team, per event would add. Additional rationale for the use of this competition format is related to addressing the opportunity to have a touch warmup prior to events 2-6. As noted, this format may increase competition time.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

- 2024 committee meeting report.** The committee approved the 2024 annual meeting report as written.

2. **Strategic plan.** The committee reviewed and approved the short- and long-term goals in its strategic plan.
3. **NCAA Rules Modifications.** The committee reviewed the NCAA Rules Modifications document and recommended changes for the 2025-26 academic year (See Action Items 2-b through i). NCAA staff will update the rules modification document for membership by September 15. The committee also provided additional clarification of the following rules:
 - a. **Ring height conversion (Rule 11).** Correct conversion of centimeters for rings to 290 cm +/- 1 cm (113.78" – 114.57") from the top of the ring grip to the floor OR 270 cm +/- 1 cm (105.91" – 106.69") from the top of the ring grip to the top of the 20 cm base mat.
 - b. **Remove reference to range table (Rule 1).** Amend judging and score posting protocol as follows (~~strikethrough~~ indicates language deleted; **bold** indicates language added):
 - The head judge (D1+E1) is the judge sitting farthest left as viewed from the front. In all meets, the E judges arrive at their score independently. ~~but can adjust their scores according to the grid below after a brief conference.~~
 - c. **Exhibition and all-around qualifiers (Rule 4).** Amend verbiage as follows (~~strikethrough~~ indicates language deleted; **bold** indicates language added):

A gymnast may compete for an All-Around (AA) score outside the event lineup ~~for NCA~~ if they represent the team on at least three (3) events, as long as no more than one (1) additional athlete is allowed on any one (1) event. For events for qualification to Winter Cup and for AA competitions at conference championships and USAG Collegiate Championship, a gymnast may compete for an AA score outside the event lineup ~~for NCA~~ if they represent the team on at least three (3) events, as long as no more than two (2) additional athletes are allowed on any one (1) event, either as an exhibition or AA qualifier.
 - d. **Competition formats (Rule 6).** Remove tables and update verbiage as follows (~~strikethrough~~ indicates language deleted; **bold** indicates language added):

C. All head coaches must agree on any deviation from the following formats:

 - Tri-meet 3 events alternately
~~(In rounds one, two and three, the last competitors of the round must perform in order on floor exercise, pommel horse and rings. In rounds four, five and six, the last competitors of the round must perform in order on vault, parallel bars and horizontal bar.)~~
 - **When competing in the first 3 events, each rotation will begin with FX and follow Olympic order.**
 - Quad-meet 3 events alternately
~~(In rounds one, two, three, and four, the last competitors of the round must perform in order on floor exercise, pommel horse, and rings. In rounds five, six, seven, and~~

~~eight, the last competitors of the round must perform in order on vault, parallel bars, and horizontal bar.)~~

- **When competing in the second 3 events, each rotation will begin with VT and follow Olympic order.**

- e. **Attire (Rule 8).** Amend verbiage as follows (~~strikethrough~~ indicates language deleted; **bold** indicates language added):

(2) Official team clothing, including shirts (all team colors accepted), must be worn by all participants during warm ups as well as in competition. Official team bags should be used to improve the meet appearance. **The above rule does not apply on "open practice" days at championship competitions.**

- f. **Judges and judging the event (Rule 13).** Update 3 judge panel in chart to D1 + E1 + E2.

- g. **Warm-up (Rule 2).** Amend verbiage as follows (~~strikethrough~~ indicates language deleted; **bold** indicates language added):

- A. A 90-minute warm-up period (**open or timed**) on the meet equipment plus a minimum of 30 minutes of general warm up must be provided for the visiting team(s) prior to the competition. All head coaches must agree on a shorter warm-up period. The warm-up period must be consistent for the competing teams. Only the eligible participants, including substitutes, may warm-up on the meet apparatus.
- B. Only six (6) student-athletes at a time per competing institution are permitted to warm up at each apparatus during ~~regular-season~~ competition. A warning will be issued followed by a one (1.0) point deduction if more than six (6) gymnasts are warming up at an apparatus.

- h. **Equipment and handgrip failure.** Amend verbiage as follows (~~strikethrough~~ indicates language deleted; **bold** indicates language added):

E. In the event of broken apparatus during a competition (i.e., broken rail or ring, stripped turnbuckle, etc.), all gymnasts who have not competed prior to the failure, will be permitted a 90-second one-touch on the replacement equipment. PB = 50 seconds.

- i. **Warmup (Rule 2).** Amend verbiage as follows (~~strikethrough~~ indicates language deleted; **bold** indicates language added):

4. **Other rules proposals.**

- a. **Minimum number of contest requirement.** The committee voted to table a proposal to increase the minimum contest requirement from eight to nine, noting that institutions already have the option to exceed the current minimum. The committee also felt the timing was not ideal given potential changes to the governance structure.

- b. Championship format.** The committee voted to table a proposed championship format change as the committee wants to engage in more conversation with stakeholders before putting forward a formal recommendation.
- c. Judging deduction ranges.** The committee tabled a proposal to change judging deduction ranges to provide the opportunity to get additional feedback from the coaches' association.
- d. Element values.** The committee rejected the proposal to change the value of elements noting the desire to align with FIG.
- e. Team makeup.** The committee rejected the proposal to increase team limits and move to a five-up-four-count, noting this is in direct conflict of proposals past last year to decrease team limits to 12 and move to a four-up-four-count.
- f. Virtual meets.** The committee rejected the proposal to reject the virtual meet competition format but added a note in the rules modification document that in person meets are recommended.

5. Championship policies.

- a. NQA date adjustment.** The committee approved amending the NQA formula as follows (~~strike through~~ indicates language deleted; **bold** indicates language added) to lengthen the first segment allowing more time for teams to get competition results reflected in the Road to Nationals system:

All meet scores through Feb. 1	Average of all scores to date, including all home and away.
Feb. 3 All meets through March 1	Average of three highest regular season scores, regardless of competition location. Average of all scores to date, including all home and away.
March 2 through March 29	Select the four highest scores, counting not more than two home meets, and drop the highest score. Average the three remaining scores.
March 30 through April 5	NCAA National Qualifying Average (NQA). Select the four highest scores, counting not more than two home meets. The highest of these four scores will be replaced with the conference team championship meet score. These four scores will be averaged to determine the NQA. For conference meets with event finals, the individual score from event finals may replace one of the three remaining scores used to calculate the individual NQA. The highest of the four initial scores must be replaced with the individual score attained during the conference meet team competition.

Institutions may participate in a maximum of two virtual competitions during a single season.

- b. Student-athlete limits.** The committee reviewed the current championship policy, which limits open warmups and practices to 12 rostered student-athletes and voted to allow up to six additional student-athletes with “floor access only” credentials to participate. The committee also clarified that no more than six student-athletes from each competing institution may warm up on a given apparatus at one time. Once controlled warmups begin, student-athletes with floor access only credentials will be required to leave the floor and move into the stands.
- 6. ESPN Championship recap.** ESPN staff joined the meeting to provide feedback on the 2025 National Collegiate Men's Gymnastics Championships. The committee voiced interest in maintaining collaboration with ESPN to further grow both the championship and the overall men's gymnastics audience.
- 7. 2025 championship review.** The committee discussed this year's championship noting this year appeared to be very efficient and a great showing for men's gymnastics with the addition of ESPN coverage.
- a. Judges.** Craig Nesbitt, NCAA technical director, and Nat Hammond, NCAA assistant technical director, provided the committee with an overview of this year's championship along with areas of improvement for future championships.
- b. Feedback.** The committee reviewed the championship survey results and discussed enhancements that can be made for future championships.
- 8. Joint meeting with the Women's Gymnastics Committee.** The Men's and Women's Gymnastics Committees met jointly to collaborate and discuss topics impacting both sports.
- 9. Vendors.**
- a. American Athletic, Inc.** The committee met with representatives from official equipment supplier AAI who answered equipment questions from the committee and provided information on updates to the AAI equipment.
- b. ProScore.** The committee supports continuing its longstanding relationship with ProScore to provide scoring services at the championships.
- c. Road to Nationals.** The committee supports the continued use of Road to Nationals and has found it to be very responsive and a great resource.
- 10. 2026 championships.** The committee made recommendations for the 2026 championships at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign:
- a. Schedule of events.** The committee recommended returning to the same schedule of events as the 2024-25 championships.

- b. Site visit.** The committee chair and NCAA championships liaison will plan a site visit to Illinois in the early fall.
 - c. Hotels.** NCAA staff shared headquarter and team hotel information with the committee.
 - d. Broadcast.** The 2026 Men's Gymnastics Championships will be aired on an ESPN platform. The exact platform(s) has not yet been determined.
- 11. Manual review.** The committee directed NCAA staff to make the necessary updates for the pre-championships, committee operations, participant and host operations manuals.
- 12. Committee.** The committee reviewed and approved the committee timeline and roster for the 2025-26 season, noting three new committee members will begin service on September 1, 2025.
- a. Conference liaisons.** Michael Powell will continue serving as the liaison for the Eastern College Athletic Conference. Rustam Sharipov will continue serving as the liaison for the Big Ten Conference, and a newly appointed committee member from the West region serve as the liaison for the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation.
 - b. Committee chair.** The committee voted unanimously to appoint Mike Powell as the committee chair.
- 13. Future meetings.** The 2026 annual meeting will take place in Indianapolis on June 9-10.

Committee Chair: Mike Powell, William & Mary.
Staff Liaison: Alyssa Rice, Championships and Alliances.
Raymon Gaddis, Championships and Alliances.

NCAA Men's Gymnastics Committee June 23, 24 and 27, 2025, Virtual Meeting	
Attendees:	
Thom Glielmi, Stanford University.	
Mike Juszczuk, NCAA Rules Interpreter.	
Mike Powell, William & Mary.	
Daniel Riberio, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.	
Rustam Sharipov, The Ohio State University.	
Guests in Attendance:	
Lisa Bowerman, Texas Woman's University.	
Danna Durante, University of North Carolina.	
Steve Hass, American Athletic, Inc.	
Colleen Kelly, Brown University.	
Melissa Kutcher, University of Denver.	
Craig Nesbitt, NGJA Technical Vice President.	
Shaun Richard, The Ohio State University.	
Tony Smith, American Athletic, Inc.	

Andy Timm, American Athletic, Inc.
Jennifer White, NCAA consultant.
Terry Williams, American Athletic, Inc.
NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:
Alyssa Rice, Championships and Alliances.
Ryan Richardson, Championships and Alliances.
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:
John Baldwin, Championships and Alliances.
Sami Bogenschutz, Championships and Alliances.
Stanley Broaden, Championships and Alliances.
Lucas DuMars, Championships and Alliances.
Julie Kimmons, Championships and Alliances.
Jarom McLiver, Championships and Alliances.
Natalie Steger, Championships and Alliances.
Liz Sucha, Championships and Alliances.