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THE NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION
P.O. Box 6222
Indianapolis, Indiana 46206-6222
317-917-6222
ncaa.org
October 2019

NCAA, NCAA logo, National Collegiate Athletic Association and Elite 90 are registered marks of the Association and use in any manner is prohibited unless prior approval is obtained from the Association.
Section 1 • Introduction

During the 2019-20 academic year, the Association will sponsor 90 national championships – 42 for men, 45 for women, and three for both men and women. Of the men’s championships, three are National Collegiate Championships, 13 are Division I championships, 12 are Division II championships and 14 are Division III championships. Of the women’s championships, six are National Collegiate Championships, 12 are Division I championships, 13 are Division II championships and 14 are Division III championships. The combined men’s and women’s championships are National Collegiate Championships.

The Pre-Championship Manual will serve as a resource for institutions to prepare for the championship. This manual is divided into three sections: General Administrative Guidelines, Sport-Specific Information, and Appendixes.

The first section applies to policies applicable to all 90 championships, while the other two sections are sport-specific.

Section 1•1 Definitions

Pre-championship Manual. Resource for institutions to prepare for the championship.
Administrative Meeting. Pre-championship meeting for coaches and/or administrators.
Appendixes. Any supplemental documents to be provided and distributed through the various resources.
Championship Manager. The NCAA staff member(s) responsible for the operational oversight of the championship.
Games Committee. The committee assigned to supervise the conduct of each championship session at a specific site. For finals sites, the games committee is typically the NCAA national committee.
NCAA National Committee. The sport committee with direct oversight responsibilities for the championship.
Non-predetermined Sites. Those sites that are selected to host at the time of the participant/team selections announcement.
Playing Rules. The rules under which the competition will be conducted.
Predetermined Sites. Those sites that are selected to host before the participant/team selections announcement.
Preliminary Rounds. The rounds of the championship before the final or championship round.
Regional Alignment. The geographic location of institutions or regional advisory committees.
Schedule of Events. Official event schedule – includes all required activities (e.g., practices, banquets, etc.).
Selection Criteria. Policies and procedures in place to guide the team selection process.
Site Selection Criteria. Policies and procedures in place to guide the site selection process.
Squad Size. Number of student-athletes per team allowed to dress in uniform and participate at the championship.
Tournament Physician. The physician designated by the host institution/conference to serve as the chief medical advisor for the championship.

Section 2 • Championship Core Statement

The championships and alliances staff strives to administer competition in a fair, safe, equitable and sportsmanlike manner so that the experience of the student-athlete is paramount.

This is attained by:

Ensuring student-athletes’ optimal experience.

Executing championship events reflecting appropriate quality and values to/for stakeholders — student-athletes, coaches, administrators, member institutions, sport committees, fans, broadcast partners and corporate champions/partners.

Coordinating all aspects of the championship in an efficient, effective manner through common operating policies and practices, using internal and external resources.

Integrating championships with broadcast and corporate relationships in a manner that maintains the integrity of the championship.
Assuring effective management of the business aspects of the operation.

Enhancing the assets of the NCAA and their value by collaborating with internal and external expertise to achieve heightened exposure (e.g., community programs, fan events, banquets, anniversaries, etc.).

Section 3 • Concussion Management

[Reference: Concussion Management in Constitution 3.2.4.20 in the NCAA Division I Manual, Constitution 3.3.4.17 in the NCAA Division II Manual, and Constitution 3.2.4.17 in the NCAA Division III Manual.]

The NCAA has adopted legislation that requires all active member institutions to have a concussion management plan for their student-athletes. Traveling institutions shall follow their concussion management plan while participating in NCAA championships. If a participating team lacks appropriate medical staff to activate its concussion management plan, the host championship concussion management plan will be activated.

The legislation notes, in part, that a student-athlete who exhibits signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with a concussion shall be removed from athletics activities (e.g., competition, practice, conditioning sessions) and evaluated by a medical staff member (e.g., sports medicine staff, team physician) with experience in the evaluation and management of concussions; a student-athlete diagnosed with a concussion is precluded from returning to athletics activity for at least the remainder of that calendar day; and medical clearance for return to athletics activity shall be determined by the team physician or the physician’s designee from the student-athlete’s institution. In the absence of a team physician or their designee, the NCAA tournament physician will examine the student-athlete and will determine medical clearance. Within the rules of the sport and policies established for the championship, medical staff should have access to the injured student-athlete without interference (e.g., coach).

A concussion is a brain injury that may be caused by a blow to the head, face, neck or elsewhere on the body with an “impulsive” force transmitted to the head. Concussions can occur without loss of consciousness or other obvious signs. A repeat concussion that occurs before the brain recovers from the previous one (hours, days or weeks) can slow recovery or increase the likelihood of having more severe and/or long-term problems. In rare cases, repeat concussions can result in brain swelling, permanent brain damage and even death.

For further details, please refer to the NCAA Sports Sport Science Institute website for additional guidance.

Section 4 • Conduct

Section 4•1 Certification of Eligibility/Availability

[Reference: Certification of Eligibility/Availability in Constitution 3.2.4 and Bylaws 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 31.2.1.7.1, 31.2.1.7.1.2 and 31.2.2 in the NCAA Division I Manual, Constitution 3.3.4 in the NCAA Division II Manual and Bylaws 31.2.2 and 31.2.1.5 in the NCAA Division III Manual.]

Only student-athletes eligible under Bylaws 12, 13, 14, 15 and 16 may compete in NCAA championships. Member institutions are required to certify the eligibility of their student-athletes before the beginning of each academic year and to withhold ineligible student-athletes from all intercollegiate competition.

Member institutions are reminded to notify the NCAA national office before the selection date for each championship of any student-athlete who may have participated in regular-season competition but subsequently is determined to be ineligible or unavailable for NCAA championship competition.

DISCOVERY OF INELIGIBILITY OF A STUDENT-ATHLETE AFTER SELECTION

If an institution fails to report an ineligible student-athlete and the omission is not discovered until after the institution is selected to participate in the championship, necessitating the institution’s withdrawal from the championship, that withdrawal shall be considered as one of the years of ineligibility, provided another institution participates in the championship in place of
the disqualified institution. If the discovery of the ineligible student-athlete occurs so near the beginning of the championship that the governing sport committee does not have a reasonable period of time to replace the disqualified institution in the bracket, that fact shall be taken into consideration in determining the number of years the disqualified institution shall be ineligible to participate.

### Section 4.2 Drug Testing

[Reference: Bylaws 18.4.1.4 and 31.2.2 in the NCAA Division I Manual and Bylaws 18.4.1.4 and 31.2.3 in the NCAA Divisions II and III Manuals.]

Student-athletes who compete in NCAA championships may be subjected to drug tests in accordance with Bylaws 18.4.1.4 and 31.2.2 (Division I); 31.2.3 (Divisions II and III), and may be determined to be ineligible as a result thereof. Only student-athletes who have consented in writing to such testing are initially eligible for these championships; and thereafter, student-athletes who are tested shall remain eligible only if they test negative.

### Section 4.3 Honesty and Sportsmanship

Individuals employed by (or associated with) a member institution to administer, conduct or coach intercollegiate athletics and all participating student-athletes shall act with honesty and sportsmanship at all times so that intercollegiate athletics as a whole, their institutions and they, as individuals, shall represent the honor and dignity of fair play and the generally recognized high standards associated with wholesome competitive sports.

### Section 4.4 Misconduct/Failure to Adhere to Policies

**MISCONDUCT**

Misconduct in an NCAA championship is any act of dishonesty, unsportsmanlike conduct, unprofessional behavior or breach of law, occurring from the time the championship field is announced through the end of the championship, that discredits the event or intercollegiate athletics. Each games committee shall hold an administrative meeting with the representatives of participating institutions to review and explain the policies related to misconduct.

**FAILURE TO ADHERE TO POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

A governing sport committee may assess a financial penalty against an institution for failure of any of its representatives to adhere to the policies and procedures governing the administration of the competition. This includes, but is not limited to, failure to comply with the procedures and deadlines for submitting scores, score sheets, schedules, rosters and entry/march-in forms for qualification and other materials necessary for the efficient administration of the competition. [Click here](#) to see the full misconduct/failure to adhere to policies and procedures outline.

### Section 4.5 Sports Wagering Policy

Sports wagering includes placing, accepting or soliciting a wager (on a staff member’s or student-athlete’s own behalf or on the behalf of others) of any type with any individual or organization on any intercollegiate, amateur or professional team or contest. Examples of sports wagering include, but are not limited to, the use of a bookmaker or parlay card; internet sports wagering; mobile betting; auctions in which bids are placed on teams, individuals or contests; and pools or fantasy leagues in which an entry fee is required and there is an opportunity to win a prize.

The current NCAA legislation against sports wagering prohibits NCAA student-athletes, member institutions’ athletics staff and non-athletics staff with athletics responsibilities, and conference office staff from participating in sports wagering activities or providing information to individuals involved in or associated with any type of sports wagering activities concerning intercollegiate, amateur or professional athletics practice or competition in a sport in which the NCAA conducts championship competition, in bowl subdivision football and in emerging sports for women.

A wager is any agreement in which an individual or entity agrees to give up an item of value (e.g., cash, shirt, dinner, etc.) in exchange for the possibility of gaining another item of value.
STUDENT-ATHLETES
A student-athlete found in violation of the prohibition against knowingly participating in any sports wagering activities or providing information to individuals involved in or associated with any type of sports wagering activity that involves intercollegiate, amateur or professional athletics competition shall be ineligible for further intercollegiate competition, subject to appeal to the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement for restoration of eligibility.

POSTSEASON
In championships in which a bracket format is used, student-athletes, coaches and administrators may not participate in bracket competitions where there is both a required entry fee and an opportunity to win a prize. Student-athletes and administrators may participate under current NCAA rules in bracket contests where there is no entry fee but a possibility of winning a prize. Some NCAA member schools, however, have chosen to ban student-athletes from participating in these types of bracket contests.

HOSTING OPPORTUNITIES
It is permissible for NCAA championships to be conducted at locations in states that permit sports wagering.

Section 4•6 Student-Athlete Experience Survey
After each championship, institutional administrators, coaches and student-athletes will be asked to participate in a post-event survey intended to capture feedback on their recent championship experience. Institutional administrators and coaches will receive an email containing a link to the survey and will be asked to ensure participation from all student-athletes.

Section 5 • Elite 90™ Award
The Elite 90 award was created to recognize the true essence of student-athletes by honoring individuals who have reached the pinnacle of competition at the national championship level in their sport, while also achieving the highest academic standard among their peers. The award is presented in every sport, every division, and goes to the student-athlete who has the highest cumulative grade-point average of all student-athletes on all teams competing at the finals site. Each institution that has at least one student-athlete qualify for the final round/site is eligible to nominate a student-athlete for the award. One student-athlete per championship will receive the award, and the announcement of the winner will be made at the finals site.

Institutions that wish to nominate a student-athlete must do so through an online nomination process. To receive more information or access the online form and submit a nomination, go to ncaa.org.

Section 6 • Fan Travel
NCAA Travel provides an easy and affordable way for family and fans to follow their favorite student-athlete(s) and team(s) as they participate in NCAA championships competition. Travel arrangements completed through NCAA Travel help support NCAA student-athletes. Please direct your fans to NCAA.com/travel to search and book online hotel, car and air travel, all in one easy transaction.

Section 7 • Logo Policy
[Reference: Bylaws 12.5.4, 31.1.7 and 31.1.8 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.]

A student-athlete may use athletics equipment or wear athletics apparel that bears the trademark or logo of an athletics equipment or apparel manufacturer or distributor in athletics competition and pre- and postgame activities (e.g., celebrations
on the court, pre- or postgame press conferences), provided the following criteria are met:

1. Athletics equipment (e.g., shoes, helmets, baseball bats and gloves, batting or golf gloves, hockey and lacrosse sticks, goggles and skis) shall bear only the manufacturer’s normal label or trademark, as it is used on all such items for sale to the general public; and

2. The student-athlete’s institution’s official uniform (including numbered racing bibs and warmups) and all other items of apparel (e.g., socks, head bands, T-shirts, wrist bands, visors or hats, swim caps and towels) shall bear only a single manufacturer’s or distributor’s normal label or trademark (regardless of the visibility of the label or trademark), not to exceed 2-1/4 square inches in area (rectangle, square, parallelogram) including any additional material (e.g., patch) surrounding the normal trademark or logo. The student-athlete’s institution’s official uniform and all other items of apparel shall not bear a design element similar to the manufacturer’s trademark/logo that is in addition to another trademark/logo that is contrary to the size restriction.

Section 8 • Research

It is essential that all research efforts be coordinated by a single entity within the national office structure in order to ensure maximum efficiency and quality, avoid unnecessary duplication of effort on the part of staff and membership, allow the NCAA to prioritize research efforts given the limited time and resources of our members and adhere to federal guidelines on the responsibilities of researchers to properly protect research participants from harm.

For the purpose of this policy, “research” is defined as any systematic collection of data for the purpose of drawing generalized conclusions.

Any proposal to conduct research must be submitted to the NCAA research staff for review at least six weeks before the project begins. Research to be conducted during NCAA championships or related events, and which involves competing student-athletes or attendees, is also subject to review. This includes all research, including that conducted by or under the direction of any employee, contractor or paid consultant of the NCAA. It also includes any research conducted by other persons, but funded totally or in part by the NCAA. Any research that detracts from the student-athlete experience or requires physical activity may not be permitted at the championships (preliminary rounds and finals sites). The NCAA retains sole discretion as to whether to allow such research.

Examples of activities considered research include: Conducting surveys of athletics administrators, college presidents, faculty, coaches and student-athletes; leading an organized focus group; funding an outside study under the auspices of the NCAA; conducting market research at championship events; secondary analysis of data originally collected by the NCAA from people for other purposes; any systematic collection of data from the membership or other entities; etc.

Section 9 • Religious Conflicts

[Reference: Bylaws 31.1.4.1 and 31.1.4.2 in the NCAA Division I Manual.]

Institutional Policy. If a participating institution has a written policy against competition on a particular day for religious reasons, it shall inform the NCAA national office on or before September 1 of each academic year in order for it or one of its student-athletes to be excused from competing on that day. The championship schedule shall be adjusted to accommodate that institution. (Adopted: 4/22/98, Revised: 8/11/98, 10/28/99, 5/2/13)

Individual Championships. In individual championships, an athlete must compete according to the institution’s policy regarding Sunday competition (if the institution has no policy against Sunday competition, the student-athlete shall compete on Sunday if required by the schedule).
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Section 1•1 NCAA Tournament Operations

Staff Contact Information

Molly Simons
Assistant Director, Championships and Alliances
P.O. Box 6222 / Indianapolis, Indiana 46206-6222
317-917-6785 / msimons@ncaa.org

John M. Kuzio
Coordinator, Championships and Alliances
P.O. Box 6222 / Indianapolis, Indiana 46206-6222
317-917-6384 / jkuzio@ncaa.org

Section 1•2 National Committee

The National Collegiate Women’s Gymnastics Championships are under the control, direction and supervision of the NCAA Women’s Gymnastics Committee.

Current members of the committee are:

REGION 1 (CENTRAL)
Erin Kido
Senior Associate Athletics Director/SWA
Eastern Michigan University

REGION 2 (NORTH CENTRAL)
Kasey Crawford
Head Women’s Gymnastics Coach
University of Wisconsin-La Crosse

REGION 3 (NORTHEAST)
Jessica Chrabaszcz, chair
Associate Athletics Director
Yale University

REGION 4 (SOUTH CENTRAL)
Maria Woods
Executive Senior Associate Director of Athletics/SWA
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

REGION 5 (SOUTHEAST)
Jenny Rowland
Head Women’s Gymnastics Coach
University of Florida

REGION 6 (WEST)
Randy Solorio
Head Women’s Gymnastics Coach
California State University, Sacramento

For additional information about the Women’s Gymnastics Championships, contact:

Molly Simons
Assistant Director, Championships and Alliances
NCAA
317-917-6785 / msimons@ncaa.org

Jessica Chrabaszcz, chair
Associate Athletics Director
Yale University
334-750-6727 / jessica.chrabaszcz@yale.edu
Section 1•3 Score Verification Coordinators

The national committee appoints a regional score verification coordinator in each of its respective regions to assist in the evaluation of teams and assist with verification of scores throughout the season.

<table>
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<th>REGION</th>
<th>SCORE VERIFICATION COORDINATOR</th>
<th>EMAIL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Region 1 (Central)</td>
<td>Dawn Schueller; Auburn</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dms0001@auburn.edu">dms0001@auburn.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Region 2 (North Central)</td>
<td>Jennifer Green; Iowa</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jennifer-green@iowagymnastics.com">jennifer-green@iowagymnastics.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Region 3 (Northeast)</td>
<td>Kirsten Becker; Pennsylvania</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kstra@upenn.edu">kstra@upenn.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Region 4 (South Central)</td>
<td>Mike Heredia; Nebraska</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mheredia@huskers.com">mheredia@huskers.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Region 5 (Southeast)</td>
<td>Owen Field; Florida</td>
<td><a href="mailto:owenf@gators.ufl.edu">owenf@gators.ufl.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Region 6 (West)</td>
<td>Melissa Genovese; Sacramento State</td>
<td><a href="mailto:genovese@csus.edu">genovese@csus.edu</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Institutional regional alignments are the same in 2019-20 as they were in 2018-19.

The responsibilities of each regional score verification coordinator may include: (1) gathering and sharing of results for teams within their conference or geographical area; and, if requested, (2) service as a sounding board for the NCAA Women’s Gymnastics Committee. Regional coordinators function actively during the competitive season and when needed during the rest of the academic year.

Regional coordinators are recommended and approved by all members of the Women’s Gymnastics Committee. Regions are constituted so as to adequately and fairly represent the institutions in that region. Regional coordinators generally serve for three years, but are evaluated annually by the committee. A former regional coordinator generally is not eligible for reappointment for an additional three-year period once his/her term has expired.

Section 1•4 Important Dates

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, Dec. 1</td>
<td>Deadline for institutions to submit their schedule of meets to the appropriate regional score verification coordinator.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, Feb. 10</td>
<td>Deadline for regional and national participant manuals to be submitted by the tournament director to John Kuzio (<a href="mailto:jkuzio@ncaa.org">jkuzio@ncaa.org</a>).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, March 9</td>
<td>Teams ranked 26-36 on Road to Nationals and all head coaches of potential individual qualifiers must verify scores through Road to Nationals.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, March 9</td>
<td>Regional and national participant manuals posted to NCAA website.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, March 21</td>
<td>Deadline for scores used for qualification purposes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, March 22</td>
<td>Deadline for institutions to verify all scores used for qualification purposes through Road to Nationals (noon Eastern time).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, March 23</td>
<td>Team, all-arounder and individual event specialist selections to regional competition announced via an online selection show on NCAA.com. Time to be announced.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, March 24</td>
<td>Tournament directors to conduct teleconferences with participating head coaches and administrators [teams, all-arounders (AA) and individual event specialists (IES)], site representatives and meet referees at noon Eastern time. (Four separate calls shall be conducted.) The assigned site representative along with the tournament director will lead the call.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, March 25</td>
<td>Deadline for institutions that have qualified for regional competition to accept or decline the invitation to participate. [Note: Not later than noon eastern time.] Accept by submitting the official entry information via PlanningPoint to the appropriate regional tournament director and the NCAA championship manager. All declines must be in writing to the NCAA championship manager.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday-Saturday, April 2-4</td>
<td>First round, second round and regional final competition.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, April 6</td>
<td>Selection to the national championships announced. Selection information will be available on the NCAA website not later than noon Eastern time.</td>
</tr>
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</table>
Tuesday, April 7

National tournament director to conduct teleconference with participating head coaches and administrators (teams, AA and IES), committee chair and meet referee at noon Eastern time. The committee chair will lead this call along with the tournament director and NCAA staff.

Wednesday, April 8

Deadline for institutions that have qualified for the national championships to accept or decline the invitation to participate. [Note: Not later than noon Eastern time.] Accept by submitting the official entry information via PlanningPoint to the national tournament director and the NCAA championship manager. All declines must be in writing to the NCAA championship manager.

Friday-Saturday, April 17-18

National Collegiate Women's Gymnastics Championships.

CHAMPIONSHIP DATES

2020 Regionals: April 2-4

Denver Regional
University of Denver

Los Angeles Regional
University of California, Los Angeles

Norman Regional
University of Oklahoma

University Park Regional
Pennsylvania State University

2020 Finals: April 17-18

Fort Worth, Texas
Texas Woman's University and Knight Eady, hosts.

FUTURE DATES

Regional and National Competition

April 1-3, 2021, and April 16-17, 2021

March 31-April 2, 2022, and April 15-16, 2022

March 30-April 1, 2023, and April 14-15, 2023

April 4-6, 2024, and April 19-20, 2024

DATE FORMULA

Regional competition will conclude the first Saturday in April and will be conducted over three days (Thursday, Friday and Saturday); the national championships will be two weeks later, either the third Friday and Saturday or the third Saturday and Sunday in April.

ANNUAL FORMS

Reporting Forms. The reporting form used by institutions to submit their schedule of meets to the appropriate regional score verification coordinator is due Dec. 1. If changes need to be made to the form, please submit a written request to the NCAA championship manager and Jessica Chrabaszcz.

Judges Evaluation Form. Coaches will submit the online judges’ evaluation form within 72 hours of each meet. Host institutions shall provide each coach with the judges’ names, event and state of residence. The online judges’ evaluation form is available at http://judges.troester.com/. Hard copies of the evaluation form will not be accepted.

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. 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

American Athletic, Inc. (AAI), will furnish the equipment that will be used at the National Collegiate Women’s Gymnastics Championships. Teams, all-around competitors and individual event specialists may bring one vaulting board and one small beam pad (not a sting or suede mat) to be used at regional competition and the national championships. The small beam pad may not be left on the floor during the competition (both regionals and nationals). All other equipment and matting (e.g., sting mats, vault entry pads, plywood, etc.) will be provided by the host institution and/or equipment manufacturer.

Equipment Specifications. All equipment must conform to USA Gymnastics equipment specifications as outlined in the USA Gymnastics Women’s Rules and Policies, Operating Code (Junior Olympic-Level 10). Copies may be obtained from USA Gymnastics, 132 East Washington Street, Suite 700, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204 (317-237-5050). It also can be downloaded at https://usagym.org/pages/women/pages/rules_policies.html. Additionally, NCAA rules modifications will be used as referenced in Section 1.7.

Foreign Substance. Foreign substances may NOT be placed on the hands and/or feet of the gymnasts or any piece of equipment (e.g., honey and sugar, tuff skin, etc.).

Grips. A broken or completely torn hand-grip will be treated as equipment failure, and the gymnast has the right to repeat the exercise. Loose grips, unraveled wrist straps, etc., do not constitute broken grips. Note: If an injury or equipment failure occurs and competition is halted for 20 minutes or more, a 30-second touch per student-athlete will be allowed.

The gymnast will repeat her routine as the last team competitor or after the all-around competitor/individual event specialist. If this does not allow for a sufficient amount of time to change grips or enough time to prepare, the gymnast will repeat the routine as soon as safely possible. The time should not exceed five minutes (common sense and safety must prevail).

Regional Mat Color. Regional hosts may use any solid color floor exercise carpet, provided any corporate logos are covered. If the host institution rents or borrows a mat for regional competition, then a blue AAI mat shall be used.

Vault Height. The vault table may be raised to the maximum height specified by the equipment manufacturer.

Vault Table. Institutions and individuals must compete using the vault table apparatus that is approved by USA Gymnastics for Level 10 JO competition in order for the scores from a meet to be used in the calculation of national qualifying scores (NQS). Please note that the TAC/10 LZT vault table will be used at NCAA regional and national competition.

Section 1•7 Rules

[Reference: Bylaw 31.1.6 in the NCAA 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 National Collegiate Women’s Gymnastics Championships, and all meets used to qualify for them, will be conducted according to USA Gymnastics Junior Olympic Women’s Code of Points (Level 10 Rules) and the NCAA Women’s Gymnastics Rules Modifications.

Section 1•8 Uniforms

[Reference: Bylaw 12.5.4 in the NCAA Manual.]

For all sessions of the National Collegiate Women’s Gymnastics Championships, an institution’s official uniform and all other items of apparel (i.e., tights, T-shirts, warmups, tennis shoes) must be identical if worn on either practice or competition day. During the march-in and awards ceremony, team members must be in identical warmup apparel.
For NCAA women’s gymnastics competition, the following uniform policies must be followed:

All competitors are required to be in identical team-issued uniforms for all official practices, warmups and competitions, including the awards ceremony.

1. Gymnasts must wear one-piece leotards that include briefs and sports bra that are the same color as the leotard or are skin-tone in color.

2. Leotard straps must be a minimum of 2 centimeters (7/8”) in width.

3. Swimsuit apparel is permitted during practice and warmup only, provided the apparel meets all other requirements.

4. The meet referee will instruct a gymnast who does not meet the uniform policies that she is “out of uniform.” The gymnast must comply with the uniform rules or a .30 team deduction will be taken during team competition or a .30 deduction off the individual’s score during individual competition.

When a team (or individual qualifiers from the same school) is on the competition floor, the competitors must be in identical team uniforms. Individual qualifiers may wear their own team leotards.

**LOGOS**

Refer to General Administrative Guidelines, Section 7.
Section 2 • Determination of Championship Participation

Section 2•1 Championships Format

Championships Regionals. The top 36 teams based on national qualifying score (NQS) will be selected for regional competition. The committee will identify the top 16 teams and seed them in the bracket. Standard bracketing procedures will be followed with teams seeded 1, 4, 5, 8, 9, 12, 13 and 16 placed on the left side of the bracket and teams seeded 2, 3, 6, 7, 10, 11, 14 and 15 placed on the right side of the bracket. Seeding determined at the time of regional selections will be maintained throughout the championships. Teams 17-36 will be placed geographically at one of the four regional sites. All host teams stay home to compete, whether they are a top-16 seed or not. The top 12 all-around competitors and top 16 event specialists will be selected based on national qualifying scores and will be placed geographically, keeping individuals from the same team together.

Regional sites will host first round, second round and regional final competition over a three-day period. The first round will consist of two teams, second round will consist of eight teams and the regional final will consist of four teams. Regional competition consisting of nine teams, three all-around competitors and four individual specialists per event (all of whom are not on a qualifying team) will be conducted in each of four regions to determine the participants in the national championships. Note: The number of all-arounders and event specialists assigned to each region may vary depending on the number of individuals qualifying from a given school. Overall, 12 all-arounders and 16 event specialists for each event will be selected nationwide.

Championships Finals. The National Collegiate Women’s Gymnastics Championships will consist of eight teams, four all-around competitors and 16 event specialists. The top two teams and the top all-around competitor (who is not on an advancing team) from each regional will receive an automatic berth to the national championships. In addition, the top event specialist in each event (not on an advancing team or an all-arounder) advances to the national championship (in that event only).

Semifinals, all-around and individual event specialist competition will be conducted in two sessions Friday, April 17. The top two teams from each semifinal will advance to finals competition Saturday, April 18. The individual event and all-around champions will be determined on Friday during semifinal competition.

The team championship will be awarded to the team with the highest cumulative team score, with five scores counting per event. The all-around and individual event champions will be awarded to the individuals with the highest cumulative score during semifinal competition.

REGIONAL FORMAT AND SCHEDULE

There will be a total of four sessions of four rotations. The first-round meet will start at 3 p.m. For the second round, the two meet times are 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. The regional final will start at 7 p.m. All-arounders and event specialists will compete after the teams in each event. The order of events will be as follows:

Vault — Bars — Beam — Floor

Regional team, all-around and event specialist competition and warmups will be conducted in the same manner as at the championships.

The Women’s Gymnastics Committee conducted a random draw for 2020 regional competition and all regions will follow the same draw.

First Round: No draw for dual meet. The higher NQS team receives Olympic order. The lower NQS team follows bars, vault, floor, beam.
Second Round:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>TEAM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vault</td>
<td>Team NQS 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bars</td>
<td>Team NQS 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beam</td>
<td>Team NQS 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Floor</td>
<td>Team NQS 3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Regional Final:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>TEAM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vault</td>
<td>Session 2, Team 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bars</td>
<td>Session 1, Team 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beam</td>
<td>Session 1, Team 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Floor</td>
<td>Session 2, Team 2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Thursday, April 2: Competition Day - First Round

11 a.m. Administrative meeting and lookthrough for teams participating in first round
Noon Training room opens
1-1:20 p.m. Open stretch
1:20-1:22 p.m. Transition
1:22-1:37 p.m. Warmup Rotation I
1:37-1:39 p.m. Transition
1:39-1:54 p.m. Warmup Rotation II
1:54-1:56 p.m. Transition
1:56-2:11 p.m. Warmup Rotation III
2:11-2:13 p.m. Transition
2:13-2:28 p.m. Warmup Rotation IV
2:48 p.m. March-ins and National Anthem
2:54 p.m. March to first event
2:56 p.m. Touch warmup start
3 p.m. Competition begins
7:30 p.m. Administrative meeting and lookthrough for teams participating in second round.

Friday, April 3: Competition Day - Second Round

11 a.m. Training room opens
Noon-12:20 p.m. Open stretch for Session I
12:20-12:22 p.m. Transition
12:22-12:37 p.m. Warmup Rotation I*
12:37-12:39 p.m. Transition
12:39-12:54 p.m. Warmup Rotation II
12:54-12:56 p.m. Transition
12:56-1:11 p.m. Warmup Rotation III
1:11-1:13 p.m. Transition
1:13-1:28 p.m.  Warmup Rotation IV
1:48 p.m.  March-ins and National Anthem
1:54 p.m.  March to first event
1:56 p.m.  Touch warmup start
2 p.m.  Competition begins for Session I
5-5:20 p.m.  Open stretch for Session II
5:20-5:22 p.m.  Transition
5:22-5:37 p.m.  Warmup Rotation I*
5:37-5:39 p.m.  Transition
5:39-5:54 p.m.  Warmup Rotation II
5:54-5:56 p.m.  Transition
5:56-6:11 p.m.  Warmup Rotation III
6:11-6:13 p.m.  Transition
6:13-6:28 p.m.  Warmup Rotation IV
6:48 p.m.  March-ins and National Anthem
6:54 p.m.  March to first event
6:56 p.m.  Touch warmup start
7 p.m.  Competition begins for Session II

*Tie on clock may not reflect actual time on each warmup rotation due to individuals competing with teams. Timing subject to change. Refer to regional participant manual for detailed schedule.

Saturday, April 4: Competition Day - Regional Final
4 p.m.  Training room opens
5-5:20 p.m.  Open stretch for Regional Final
5:20-5:22 p.m.  Transition
5:22-5:37 p.m.  Warmup Rotation I
5:37-5:39 p.m.  Transition
5:39-5:54 p.m.  Warmup Rotation II
5:54-5:56 p.m.  Transition
5:56-6:11 p.m.  Warmup Rotation III
6:11-6:13 p.m.  Transition
6:13-6:28 p.m.  Warmup Rotation IV
6:48 p.m.  March-ins and National Anthem
6:54 p.m.  March to first event
6:56 p.m.  Touch warmup start
7 p.m.  Competition begins for Regional Final

Ties — Regionals. In regional team competition, ties for second place will be broken by counting six scores per event. If a tie still exists, the team score will be determined by using six scores per event, dropping the high and the low scores and adding the four middle scores. Ties for the advancing all-arounder will be broken by evaluating the highest event score, then the next highest, and will continue until the tie is broken. If not broken, all four judges’ scores will be counted for all four events. Ties for advancing event specialists will be broken by counting all four scores on the event. If not broken, the head judge score will be the tiebreaker. If a tie still exists, the advancing individual will be the one with the higher NQS.
NATIONAL FORMAT AND SCHEDULE

Order of Events. Semifinal team, all-around and individual event specialist competition will be conducted in two sessions Friday, April 17. The top two teams from each semifinal will advance to national championship competition Saturday, April 18. The event order for each session is as follows:

Vault — Bars — Beam — Floor

Thursday, April 16: Practice Day

Two practice sessions will be conducted jointly for the teams, all-arounders and individual event specialists (11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.). All practices will be one hour and 48 minutes — one 20-minute stretching period and four 20-minute rotations. A two-minute transition period will be allotted after open stretch and between events. Bars and beam will be timed in the same format as the competitive warmup with any remaining time shared between the team and the individual. Since a team’s/all-arounder’s semifinal placement and starting event is determined by random draw, a team’s/all-arounder’s practice session will be based on its semifinal placement and starting event, as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SEMIFINAL &amp; STARTING POSITION</th>
<th>PRACTICE SESSION</th>
<th>PRACTICE STARTING EVENT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Semifinal I Vault</td>
<td>Session 1</td>
<td>Vault</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semifinal I Bars</td>
<td>Session 1</td>
<td>Bars</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semifinal I Beam</td>
<td>Session 1</td>
<td>Beam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semifinal I Floor</td>
<td>Session 1</td>
<td>Floor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semifinal II Vault</td>
<td>Session 2</td>
<td>Vault</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semifinal II Bars</td>
<td>Session 2</td>
<td>Bars</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semifinal II Beam</td>
<td>Session 2</td>
<td>Beam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semifinal II Floor</td>
<td>Session 2</td>
<td>Floor</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Friday, April 17: Semifinals, All-Around and Individual Event Specialist Competition

Team. The top two teams from each of the four regionals advance to semifinal competition. The host team and its corresponding group will compete in the assigned session based on maintaining the integrity of the bracket. If the host does not qualify or the championships are held at a neutral site, a random draw will be used to determine which group is placed in semifinal I or II. A random draw will be conducted to determine event rotation.

All-Around. The gymnast with the top all-around score from regionals will be placed with the top seed and so forth.

Individual Event Specialists. All event specialists will be placed by committee discretion.

[Note: If a gymnast qualifies in more than one event, she will compete in only one event. An additional two-minute warmup will be added to accommodate these individuals (2:10 added to beam).]

Each semifinal will include four teams, two all-arounders and eight individual event specialists. The last competitor will be the all-arounder unless an individual event specialist also is competing. If injuries or scratches result in a team having fewer than five gymnasts in an event, it still shall compete as a team with a zero being included for each missing score.

The Women’s Gymnastics Committee conducted a random draw for 2020 semifinal competition:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>TEAM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vault</td>
<td>Second-place teams from regions with seeds 1 and 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bars</td>
<td>Winners from regions with seeds 1 and 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beam</td>
<td>Winners from regions with seeds 4 and 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Floor</td>
<td>Second-place teams from regions with seeds 4 and 3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The warmup rotation is as follows:

SEMIFINAL I — NOON

10-10:20 a.m. Open stretch for Semifinal I
10:20-10:22 a.m. Transition
10:22-10:37 a.m.* Warmup Rotation I
10:37-10:39 a.m. Transition
10:39-10:54 a.m. Warmup Rotation II
10:54-10:56 a.m. Transition
10:56-11:11 a.m. Warmup Rotation III
11:11-11:13 a.m. Transition
11:13-11:28 a.m. Warmup Rotation IV
11:50 a.m. March-ins and National Anthem
11:57 a.m. March to first event
12:01:30 p.m. Touch warmup start
12:06 p.m. Competition begins for Semifinal I

SEMIFINAL II - 5 P.M.
3:30-3:50 p.m. Open stretch for Semifinal II
3:50-3:52 p.m. Transition
3:52-4:07 p.m. Warmup Rotation I
4:07-4:09 p.m. Transition
4:09-4:24 p.m. Warmup Rotation II
4:24-4:26 p.m. Transition
4:26-4:41 p.m. Warmup Rotation III
4:41-4:43 p.m. Transition
4:43-4:58 p.m. Warmup Rotation IV
4:58-5:00 p.m. March-ins and National Anthem
5:00 p.m. March to first event
5:06 p.m. Competition begins for Semifinal II

Post Competition Award ceremony for AA/IES

All times listed are local (Central) and are subject to change.

*Warm-up timing subject to change. Refer to detailed schedule in the participant manual.

Saturday, April 18: National Championship - 2:30 p.m.*
The top two teams from each semifinal will advance to the national championship competition. The draw for the 2020 National Championship is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EVENT</th>
<th>TEAM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vault</td>
<td>Semifinal II, Team 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bars</td>
<td>Semifinal II, Team 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beam</td>
<td>Semifinal I, Team 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Floor</td>
<td>Semifinal I, Team 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The warmup rotation is as follows:
12:30-12:50 p.m. Open stretch for National Championship
12:50-12:52 p.m. Transition
12:52-1:07 p.m. Warmup Rotation I
1:07-1:09 p.m. Transition
1:09-1:24 p.m.  Warmup Rotation II
1:24-1:26 p.m.  Transition
1:26-1:41 p.m.  Warmup Rotation III
1:41-1:43 p.m.  Transition
1:43-1:58 p.m.  Warmup Rotation IV
2:22 p.m.  March-ins and National Anthem
2:26 p.m.  March to first event
2:32 p.m.  Touch warmup start
2:36 p.m.  Competition begins for National Championship

Post Competition  Award ceremony

*All times listed are local (Central) and are subject to change.

Ties — Nationals

- Day 1 — Semifinals (team competition): Ties for second place in each semifinal will be broken by counting six scores per event. If a tie still exists, the team score will be determined by using six scores per event, dropping the high and low scores, and adding the four middle scores.
- Day 2 — Team Finals: Ties will not be broken.

WARMUPS

Practice Day. Teams will use the matting surrounding their first event on competition day for open stretch. Gymnasts warming up on vault, bars and beam may use the apparatus for stretching purposes without mounting the equipment. Individuals, regardless of first event, may share the floor with the team starting on the floor. There are no restrictions on flight or inverted skills for the duration of the open stretch.

Competition Day. Teams will use the matting surrounding their first event for open stretch. Gymnasts warming up on vault, bars and beam may use the apparatus for stretching purposes without mounting the equipment. Individuals, regardless of first event, may share the floor with the team starting on the floor. There are no restrictions on flight or inverted skills for the duration of the open stretch.

After a 20-minute stretch and two-minute transition, each rotation will be 15 minutes plus two minutes for transition between events. An additional two minutes (or 2:10 if beam) will be added if an event specialist is in the rotation. Bars and beam will be timed as indicated below* and the warmup will begin when all four green flags are raised. Each team or group will begin the warmup session on the same event on which it begins the competitive rotation and will follow Olympic order.

The rotation of teams, all-around competitors and specialists (if applicable) during warmup sessions must be as follows:

**BARS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Team</td>
<td>3:15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All-around competitor</td>
<td>0:30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specialist</td>
<td>0:30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Team</td>
<td>3:15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All-around competitor</td>
<td>0:30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specialist</td>
<td>0:30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Team</td>
<td>3:15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All-around competitor</td>
<td>0:30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specialist</td>
<td>0:30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**BEAM**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Team</td>
<td>6:25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All-around competitor</td>
<td>1:05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specialist</td>
<td>1:05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Team</td>
<td>6:25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All-around competitor</td>
<td>1:05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specialist</td>
<td>1:05</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note: Timing is subject to change. Refer to detailed schedule in the participant manual.
TOUCH

During NCAA postseason competition, as competitors arrive at each event for competition there will be a 4:00 touch warmup on each event. At the NCAA regionals and national championships, 0:30 will be added for each all-around and individual competitor. All participants on each event may use the entire touch warmup time and all warmups will begin at the same time, regardless of duration. At the NCAA regionals and national championships, the two-minute transition between events will begin at the conclusion of the march-in ceremony, when all teams reach their respective corrals. After each rotation and the initial score is flashed, the PA announcer will announce the beginning of the two-minute transition period. This protocol is also recommended for regular-season events. For the NCAA regionals and national championships, the 2:00 transition will be announced and any adjustments may be made to extend the time, as necessary, for an orderly processional between events. [Note: During the competition, all participants and coaches must remain in uniform and on the competition floor (or in team seating) until the completion of the awards ceremony.]

(Note: For all competition, if an injury or equipment failure occurs and competition is halted for 20 minutes or more, a 30-second touch warmup per student-athlete will be allowed.)

Section 2•2 Qualifying Procedures

CRITERIA

To qualify for regional competition and the national championships, each institution must comply with the following criteria. Failure to do so may result in the assessment of a financial penalty in accordance with Bylaw 31.1.11.1:

1. Schedule of Meets. Each institution’s schedule of meets (refer to 2020 schedule of meets form) must be sent to the appropriate regional score verification coordinator by Dec. 1, 2019. Meets not listed on the schedule will not be accepted for qualification purposes. In extenuating circumstances, meets rescheduled and approved by the national office may be accepted for qualification purposes. The regional score verification coordinator must be notified.

2. Regular-Season Scoresheets. Complete, electronic scoresheets must be submitted and uploaded to Road to Nationals within 72 hours of the meet. Only results that have been submitted on either a typed NCAA scoresheet or a computer printout will be accepted. The scoresheet must include the judges’ names and ratings, all judges’ scores, neutral deductions, the all-around scores, the final team score, attendance figures and the coach’s signature. Each judge also must sign the scoresheet verifying the accuracy of each gymnast’s average score.

3. Score Verification through Road to Nationals. Teams ranked in the top 25 do not need to verify individual scores. Teams ranked 26-36 and all scores used for individuals and/or all-arounders must be verified. Head coaches (or designee) must verify all scores used for qualification purposes on Road to Nationals by March 9. (Scores from meets between March 9 and March 21, the cut-off date, must be verified through Road to Nationals by noon Eastern time, March 22.) Score verification coordinators are responsible for ensuring all schools in their regions have submitted scores by the appropriate deadlines. Institutions not adhering to the deadline are subject to a financial penalty (up to a maximum of $600).

(Note 1: The NQS must be carried out to four digits.)

4. Scores from meets conducted between Jan. 1 and March 21, 2020, may be used for qualification purposes. Meets that may be used for qualification purposes are as follows: (a) Dual meets — only those against varsity intercollegiate teams of four-year, degree-granting institutions; (b) quadrangular, triangular or other invitational meets — only those in which at least half of the competing teams are varsity intercollegiate teams of four-year, degree-granting institutions; and (c) conference championship meets. (Note: A conference championship held at an institution’s home facility counts as a home score for that institution.) All-around meets and any meets in which gymnasts from private clubs compete may not be used for qualification.

PROCESS

For regional competition, the top 36 teams based on the NQS will be selected, with the top 16 teams seeded. Qualification for regional competition is based on a team’s, an all-around competitor’s and an individual event specialist’s six best regular season meet scores, three of which must be contested away. To obtain the NQS, the high score is eliminated and the remaining five scores are averaged. Meet officials must be assigned using the Judges Assigning System (JAS).

In case of ties for the last berth into the regional competition and for seeding purposes, the team, all-around competitor or event specialist with the highest score, not including the six used for the regional qualifying score, will qualify. If a tie still exists, the process is continued until the tie is broken.
The top 12 all-arounders and top 16 event specialists based on national qualifying score and not on a qualifying team will be selected. The list of top 12 all-arounders and top 16 individual event specialists will include individual qualifying scores from the teams competing in the first round to ensure those individuals compete in the individual competition, regardless of whether their teams advance from the first round. Individuals will compete in the second round at regionals. Scores achieved in the second round will be used to determine advancing individuals once the regional final is finished (to account for individuals on teams that are eliminated in the regional final) and then the top all-rounder (not on an advancing team) and top specialist for each event (not on an advancing team) will advance to the national championship, in that event only. This method ensures 4 all-arounders and 16 specialists advance to the championship.

Ties for the advancing all-rounder will be broken by evaluating the highest event score, then the next highest, and will continue until the tie is broken. If not broken, all four judges’ scores will be counted for all four events. Ties for advancing event specialists will be broken by counting all four scores on the event. If not broken, the head judge score will be the tiebreaker. If a tie still exists, the advancing individual will be the one with the higher NQS.

**ALTERNATE**

**Regional.** No alternates will be named for regionals for individual qualifiers. For regionals, if a team declines, then the team with the next highest NQS meeting the selection criteria will be selected.

**National Championships.** No alternates will be named for the national championships.

**TRAVEL PARTY**

*Reference: Per Diem and Transportation in the Division I General Section and Bylaw 31.1.5 in the NCAA Manual.*

Participating teams are limited to a maximum of 15 student-athletes plus five non-athletes; and a maximum of six gymnasts per event may compete. Institutions qualifying one to three student-athletes are permitted two non-athletes and those qualifying four to six student-athletes are permitted three non-athletes.

**TRAVEL INFORMATION**

Please refer to the NCAA Travel policies for all information regarding transportation and per diem expenses. Travel policies can be found online at [http://www.ncaa.org/championships/travel/championships-travel-information](http://www.ncaa.org/championships/travel/championships-travel-information).

Transportation expenses and per diem shall be paid only for competition at the site of the national championships; reimbursement is not provided at regional competition.

**Section 2•3 Seeding and Pairing Guidelines**

When seeding/pairing teams for regional competition, the NCAA Women’s Gymnastics Committee will seed 16 teams. The recognized format for 16 seeded teams is as follows:

```
1  2  3  4
8  7  6  5
9 10 11 12
16 15 14 13
```

Teams will be seeded 1-16 on a national basis, based on NQS, and placed in the bracket. Standard bracketing procedures will be followed with teams seeded 1, 4, 5, 8, 9, 12, 13 and 16 placed on the left side of the bracket and teams seeded 2, 3, 6, 7, 10, 11, 14 and 15 placed on the right side of the bracket (Appendix A). Seeding determined at the time of selections will be maintained throughout the championships. Seeds in the bracket will not always correspond to NQS ranking due to pre-determined host sites.

1. Each of the four host sites will consist of four seeded teams (i.e., 16 seeds).
2. Because of pre-selected hosts, the following guidelines will be used to place seeded teams into regional sites:
   - Pair according to the recognized 16-seed format.
   - Identify hosts.
   - All host teams stay home to compete, whether they are a top-16 seed or not.
- If two or three host teams are paired, the lowest-seeded host in the group will be adjusted with respect to a non-host that holds a spot not greater or less than two seeded positions (and preferably one position), when possible in order to maintain the integrity of the bracket.

- When teams are paired or when a seeded pairing does not have a seeded host, every effort will be made to maintain geographic proximity for the higher-seeded team, when possible.

- Teams 17-36 will be placed geographically at one of the four regional sites, while at the same time trying to avoid, when possible, pairing conference rematches of the teams.

- Hosts will be placed into the bracket based on NQS to maintain the integrity of the bracket.

- All-around competitors and event specialists will be placed geographically at one of the four regional sites. All-arounders and individuals from the same team will be placed at the same regional, but not necessarily in the same session.

- To ensure the top-seeded teams have the least number of individuals competing with them, the committee will pair the highest-ranked all-arounder at the site with the lowest-seeded team (or lowest NQS team at the site first, then proceed to the seeded teams), the next highest all-arounder with the next lowest-seeded team, etc. to ensure the top-seeded teams have the fewest number of individuals competing with them, which maintains integrity of the bracket and fairness for both teams and individuals.

- The committee reserves discretion with individual and all-arounder pairings since part of the process is dependent on how many individuals are selected from teams placed at each regional and on what events those individuals are competing.

**Notification.** All teams, all-around competitors and event specialists will be notified of their selection and competitive rotation for regionals and the national championships via email from the NCAA March 23 and April 6, respectively. An online selection show on ncaa.com will air March 23 announcing all teams and individual competitors for regional competition. Selection show time will be announced.

Once an institution has been notified that a team or individual(s) has qualified for the competition, it must submit the following materials to the host institution or NCAA national office, as designated:

1. Official Entry Information to the regional tournament director at the host institution and the NCAA championship manager by Wednesday, March 25 (noon Eastern time).

2. Official Entry Information to the national tournament director at the host institution and the NCAA championship manager by Wednesday, April 8 (noon Eastern time).

Teams will be allowed to make modifications to the roster (15 gymnasts) from an established competitor list of 18 gymnasts between each day of competition in the postseason. Any changes to the 15-student-athlete roster must be made before 10 p.m. Eastern time the day before competition. All changes should be made in writing to the meet director, NCAA committee chair, and NCAA championships manager. For both regionals and national championships, if an institution declines an invitation to participate, the NCAA championship manager at the NCAA national office must be notified in writing immediately.
Appendixes

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Women's Regions

Appendix B • Regions

1. The University of Michigan is included in the Northeast Region.

2. As a point of information, it is not uncommon for sports committees to move institutions out of their natural geographic boundaries to better balance competitive strengths and numbers. The sports committees will conduct periodic reviews to monitor strengths and numbers.

3. The map was reconstituted in an effort to balance both numbers of institutions in each region and the competitive strengths within those regions.
# Appendix C • Sport Sponsorship

## REGION 1 (CENTRAL)

### Division I (12)
- University of Alabama
- Auburn University
- Ball State University
- Bowling Green State University
- Central Michigan University
- Eastern Michigan University
- Kent State University
- University of Kentucky
- Louisiana State University
- Michigan State University
- The Ohio State University
- Western Michigan University

### Division II (0)

### Division III (1)
- Centenary College (Louisiana)

## REGION 2 (NORTH CENTRAL)

### Division I (9)
- Brigham Young University
- University of Denver
- University of Iowa
- Iowa State University
- University of Minnesota, Twin Cities
- Southern Utah University
- U.S. Air Force Academy
- University of Utah
- Utah State University

### Division II (0)

### Division III (8)
- Gustavus Adolphus College
- Hamline University
- Winona State University
- University of Wisconsin-La Crosse
- University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh
- University of Wisconsin-Stout
- University of Wisconsin-Whitewater
### REGION 3 (NORTHEAST)

**Division I (10)**
- Brown University
- Cornell University
- University of Michigan
- University of New Hampshire
- University of Pennsylvania
- Pennsylvania State University
- University of Pittsburgh
- Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, New Brunswick
- Temple University
- Yale University

**Division II (3)**
- University of Bridgeport
- Southern Connecticut State University
- West Chester University of Pennsylvania

**Division III (6)**
- College at Brockport, State University of New York
- State University of New York at Cortland
- Ithaca College
- Rhode Island College
- Springfield College
- Ursinus College

### REGION 4 (SOUTH CENTRAL)

**Division I (10)**
- University of Arizona
- Arizona State University
- University of Arkansas, Fayetteville
- Illinois State University
- University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
- University of Missouri, Columbia
- University of Nebraska, Lincoln
- Northern Illinois University
- University of Oklahoma
- Southeast Missouri State University

**Division II (2)**
- Lindenwood University
- Texas Woman's University

**Division III (0)**
## REGION 5 (SOUTHEAST)

### Division I (9)
- University of Florida
- George Washington University
- University of Georgia
- University of Maryland, College Park
- North Carolina State University
- University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
- Towson University
- West Virginia University
- College of William & Mary

### Division II (0)

### Division III (0)

## REGION 6 (WEST)

### Division I (10)
- University of Alaska Anchorage
- Boise State University
- California State University, Sacramento
- University of California, Berkeley
- University of California, Davis
- University of California, Los Angeles
- Oregon State University
- San Jose State University
- Stanford University
- University of Washington

### Division II (1)
- Seattle Pacific University

### Division III (0)
Appendix D • Judges’ Selections

GENERAL POLICIES

The committee will attempt to assign, for both regional competition and the national championships, judges who have judged at least four regular-season collegiate meets during the preceding year.

No judge with an affiliation with an NCAA member institution that sponsors women’s gymnastics will be assigned to the national championships; however, a judge may be assigned to a regional competition where she/he is not affiliated. Examples of affiliation would be, but are not limited to, coaching-staff member, works for spouse or relative of a coach, former team member, relative of a gymnast or parent of a team member, an athletics-related booster club member, gymnastics alumni and/or coach that has been away from the program for less than five years. Any individual with a current financial interest in a coach or team is not eligible.

All officials must have a Brevet, National or Level 10 rating. All chief judges and the meet referee must have at least a National rating. At regional competition, four judges will judge each event. At the national championships, six officials will judge each event in the team and all-around competition. Judges will judge a different event during team finals than they judged during the semifinals. At regionals, days one and two will be the same panels. Day three will be a different panel.

REGIONAL COMPETITION

1. The meet referee from each region will be selected first. This selection will be based on experience, recommendations from coaches and regional chairs, and approval by the committee. A regional meet referee will serve not more than two consecutive years. An alternate meet referee will be selected and will serve as a panel judge at regionals (and count for one of the in-region judges).

2. This selection will be based, in part, on experience and recommendations from the coaches, submitted to the NCAA after each regular-season meet.
   - Six judges, one from each region, will be assigned to each regional site.
   - All remaining judges will be selected and assigned based on geographic proximity. The committee will consider number of meets judged the previous year and coach input. The committee will also remove judges’ names when making selections to remove bias and ensure all quality judges are considered. Best efforts will be made to assign not more than two judges from the same state to a regional.
   - The state of California will be divided into two regions: north and south. Two judges from the north or two judges from the south can be assigned to a regional. However, not more than three judges from the state will be assigned to one regional.
   - Alternate judges will be selected from the remaining names in the pool, with emphasis on obtaining the most qualified judges.

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS COMPETITION

1. An official must judge regional competition to qualify to judge at the national championships.

2. Meet Referee: The selection of the national meet referee will rotate regionally. The meet referee will serve a two-year term. Additionally, an alternate meet referee will be selected. In years in which this occurs, the committee will switch the predetermined judges’ rotation (see below) with the subsequent year (e.g., 2015 becomes 2016 and 2016 becomes 2015).

3. Chief Judges: The remaining regional meet referees will judge at nationals. The four regional meet referees will be the chief judges at nationals.

4. Panel Judges: The remaining panel judges will be selected from each of the four regionals. The selection will be based on experience and input from coaches.

5. Alternate Judges: A local alternate judge will be identified for the host region.

6. Every attempt will be made to select only one judge per state (excluding the meet referee and the state of California). The rotation of judges selection (nationals) will be as follows:
MEET | REFEREE 1
--- | ---
2020 & 2021 | Region 6
2022 & 2023 | Region 2
2024 & 2025 | Region 4
2026 & 2027 | Region 1

The one additional panel judge will come from this region at nationals.