



**HOST
OPERATIONS
2025-26 MANUAL**

National Collegiate Women's Gymnastics

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INTRODUCTION

Congratulations on being selected as a host for the 2026 National Collegiate Women's Gymnastics Championships. We appreciate your interest in women's gymnastics and are confident your institution will do an outstanding job of administering either regional or national competition.

This manual outlines the responsibilities of an institution/conference hosting this round of an NCAA championship. It is essential that each host institution/conference staff become familiar with the information and policies included in this manual.

The NCAA considers this hosting opportunity a partnership between the host institution/conference, competition site, committee and the NCAA. The primary objective of each individual involved in the administration of the championship shall be to provide a memorable championship experience for each participating student-athlete, coach, institutional staff member and championship attendee.

DEFINITIONS

Championship: Postseason competition conducted by the NCAA in a particular sport, in which eligible student-athletes and teams of active member institutions compete to determine the division champion (or National Collegiate champion in sports that do not have a separate division championship) in that sport.

Governing Sports Committee: The NCAA membership committee responsible for developing policies and procedures governing the administration and conduct of the championship under its jurisdiction, subject to the approval of the applicable division's governance structure and the requirements, standards and conditions prescribed by NCAA Bylaw 31.

Host Institution/Conference: An active NCAA member institution and/or conference selected to serve as host for a championship. The host shall administer the finances of an NCAA championship in accordance with the institutional/conference championship budget, as submitted during the selection process and approved by the governing sports committee.

Local Organizing Committee: A local organization formed in the city where a member institution/conference proposes to host an NCAA championship, to provide to the NCAA services and assistance in connection with the various activities related to the championship. The host institution/conference must be a part of the leadership of the local organizing committee.

NCAA Championships Manager: The staff member(s) representing the NCAA championships and alliances staff assigned to serve as administrator(s) for a championship.

ROLE OF NCAA

The NCAA championships and alliances staff, working in conjunction with the NCAA sport committees and other NCAA partners, will lead the planning efforts, management and execution of all NCAA championships and events. The NCAA will oversee all aspects of the championship and its related activities, including facility operations and space allocations, hotel accommodations, media and team operations, hospitality functions and social events, in venue entertainment, fan and sponsor events, broadcast programming, youth events, as well as many other aspects.

The NCAA will work closely with the host institution/conference, competition venue and local organizing committee to ensure that the championship provides a positive and rewarding experience for student-athletes and fans.

ROLE OF GOVERNING SPORT COMMITTEE

The NCAA's core purpose, values and envisioned future provide the framework for all actions in the committee's administration of the championship and its stewardship of the game. Within the framework and spirit of its charge, the governing sport committee will balance the principle of student-athlete well-being with its efforts to maximize exposure for intercollegiate athletics and revenues from the championship through policies and activities that are subject to the final authority of the NCAA Division II Presidents Council.

2025-26 NCAA WOMEN'S GYMNASTICS COMMITTEE & NCAA STAFF

<p>REGION 1 (CENTRAL)</p> <p>Shaun Richard, chair Executive Associate Athletics Director for Sport Administration The Ohio State University Phone: 315-941-3134 Email: richard.149@osu.edu</p>	<p>REGION 2 (NORTH CENTRAL)</p> <p>Melissa Kutcher-Rinehart Head Women's Gymnastics Coach University of Denver Phone: 303-246-5290 Email: melissa.kutcher@du.edu</p>
<p>REGION 2 (NORTH CENTRAL)</p> <p>George Nelson Senior Associate Athletics Director United States Air Force Academy Phone: 719-333-2798 Email: george.nelson@afacademy.af.edu</p>	<p>REGION 3 (NORTHEAST)</p> <p>Colleen Kelly Senior Associate Director of Athletics Brown University Phone: 401-441-2282 Email: colleen_kelly@brown.edu</p>
<p>REGION 4 (SOUTH CENTRAL)</p> <p>Cindy Harris Compliance Coordinator/ Senior Associate Athletics Director Illinois State University Phone: 309-438-2677 Email: caharri@ilstu.edu</p>	<p>REGION 4 (SOUTH CENTRAL)</p> <p>Lisa Bowerman Head Women's Gymnastics Coach Texas Woman's University Phone: 940-395-9811 Email: lbowerman@twu.edu</p>
<p>REGION 5 (SOUTHEAST)</p> <p>Danna Durante, vice chair Head Women's Gymnastics Coach University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill Phone: 706-202-3289 Email: ddurante@unc.edu</p>	<p>NCAA CHAMPIONSHIPS MANAGER</p> <p>John Baldwin Managing Director, Championships and Alliances Phone: 317-917-6442 Email: jbaldwin@ncaa.org</p> <p>Kelsi Mahoney Assistant Director, Championships and Alliances Phone: 317-917-6455 Email: kmahoney@ncaa.org</p>
<p>NCAA ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT</p> <p>Sami Bogenschutz Assistant Coordinator, Championships and Alliances NCAA P.O. Box 6222 Indianapolis, Indiana 46206-6222 Phone: 317-917-6984 Email: sbogenschutz@ncaa.org</p>	<p>NCAA MEDIA COORDINATOR</p> <p>Trae Straziscar Media Coordination and Statistics NCAA P.O. Box 6222 Indianapolis, Indiana 46206-6222 Phone: 317-917-6589 Email: tstraziscar@ncaa.org</p>

<p style="text-align: center;">NCAA BRANDING</p> <p>Eden Mittelsdorf Intern, Branding NCAA P.O. Box 6222 Indianapolis, Indiana 46206-6222 Phone: 317-917-6183 Email: emittelsdorf@ncaa.org</p> <p>Jessi Faulk Associate Director of Communications, Branding NCAA P.O. Box 6222 Indianapolis, Indiana 46206-6222 Phone: 317-917-6792 Email: jfaulk@ncaa.org</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">CHAMPIONSHIPS PRESENTATION</p> <p>Michael Gett (In-Venue Presentation) Assistant Director, Champs Engagement NCAA P.O. Box 6222 Indianapolis, Indiana 46206-6222 Phone: 317-917-6335 Cell: 317-410-7463 Email: mgett@ncaa.org</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NCAA MARKETING AND TICKETING</p> <p>Kenzie Baker Coordinator, Marketing and Ticketing NCAA P.O. Box 6222 Indianapolis, Indiana 46206-6222 Phone: 317-917-6341 Email: kbaker@ncaa.org</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">NCAA BROADCAST</p> <p>Jarom McLiver Associate Director, Marketing & Broadcast Alliances NCAA P.O. Box 6222 Indianapolis, Indiana 46206-6222 Phone: 317-917-6182 Cell: 317-765-9752 Email: jmcliver@ncaa.org</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">NCAA READERS BECOME LEADERS</p> <p>Matt White Director, Inclusion, Education and Community Engagement NCAA P.O. Box 6222 Indianapolis, Indiana 46206-6222 Phone: 317-917-6097 Cell: 317-907-4342 Email: mwhite@ncaa.org</p>

2026 DATES, SITES AND TOURNAMENT DIRECTORS	
Nationals Texas Woman's University/Knight Eady, hosts April 16-18, 2026 Dickies Arena	Daniel Smith Director of Events Knight Eady 101 12th St. South, Suite 100 Birmingham, Alabama 35233 Phone: 205-307-6660 Email: daniel@knighteady.com
Baton Rouge Regional Louisiana State University April 1, 2 and 4, 2026 Pete Maravich Assembly Center	Bryan Paar Director of Athletic Operations 1 N. Stadium Drive Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70803 Phone: 225-578-9136 Email: bpaar@lsu.edu
Tempe Regional Arizona State University April 1, 2 and 4, 2026 Desert Financial Arena	Whittany Horton Event Manager PO Box 872505 500 E. Veterans Way Tempe, Arizona 85287 Phone: 480-965-9715 Email: whittany.horton@asu.edu
Lexington Regional University of Kentucky April 2, 3 and 5, 2026 Memorial Coliseum	Ella Gobald Assistant Director, Operations 338 Lexington Ave. Lexington, Kentucky 40506 Phone: 859-218-5326 Email: ella.gobald@uky.edu
Corvallis Regional University of Washington April 2, 3 and 5, 2026 Gil Coliseum	Sam Koken / Aaron Haupt Senior Associate Athletic Director, Facilities & Event Operations / Assistant Director of Facilities & Event Operations 145 Gil Coliseum Corvallis, Oregon 97331 Phone: 541-737-3335 / 541-360-2685 Email: sam.koken@oregonstate.edu / aaron.haupt@oregonstate.edu

TOURNAMENT PERSONNEL

The women's gymnastics committee requires that someone other than a member of the gymnastics coaching staff of the host institution be designated as the tournament director and that the tournament director is an employee of the institution. This is to ensure that, in the event the host institution's team is participating in the competition, there will be no conflict of interest should decisions pertaining to the conduct of the competition arise.

Tournament Director. The director of athletics shall appoint a knowledgeable person, preferably with experience in tournament administration and game management, to serve in this position. The function of the tournament director is to ensure that the policies of the committee are applied. Specific responsibilities may include direction and supervision of facility arrangements, ticket sales, and development of participant information, security, lodging, transportation, promotions, financial administration, and adherence to the policies outlined in the NCAA operations manual for hosts.

The tournament director also will provide the NCAA with a postchampionship evaluation including suggestions for future conduct of the championship.

Media Coordinator. The media coordinator, preferably the sports information director of the host institution/conference, shall work with the NCAA media coordinator or championships administrator to ensure that the committee's policies regarding media are applied. Responsibilities shall include planning and supervision of media work areas, coordination of all press conferences, statistical services and communications.

MEET COMMITTEE

A meet committee should be established at the site of regional and national competition to supervise the actual conduct of the events. It should include the director of athletics of the host institution, or a designated representative, the tournament director, the meet referee, the national committee member(s) or site representative staffing the competition (the site representative shall serve as chair of the meet committee at regionals), and any other person deemed necessary. At the site of the nationals, the women's gymnastics committee chair will serve as the chair of the meet committee.

These individuals are responsible for ensuring that the competition is conducted in accordance with NCAA policies and procedures and is administered efficiently.

CHECKLIST FOR TOURNAMENT DIRECTORS

Refer to the appropriate section of the National Collegiate Women's Gymnastics Host Operations Manual and the National Collegiate Women's Gymnastics Prechampionships Manual for more detailed information on each item.

Awards.

- ___ 1. When awards arrive (approximately one month prior to the national championships), check to be sure they are undamaged, are correctly inscribed and are in the appropriate quantities. Save the boxes the awards are shipped in. (NATIONALS only)
- ___ 2. No awards, other than the NCAA awards, may be presented at the site of the championships. Please advise the NCAA championship manager at the national office if any group wishing to do so in conjunction with the competition contacts you.
- ___ 3. At the conclusion of the event, the host institution may announce the names of the gymnasts, coaches and administrators selected for regional awards by the WCGA; however, a formal presentation may not be conducted, nor awards/certificates presented. (REGIONALS only)

Coaches Packets.

- ___ 1. Lineup forms (two). (Appendix)
- ___ 2. Inquiry forms (NCAA Women's Gymnastics Rules Modifications).
- ___ 3. Schedule of events.
- ___ 4. Meet schedule (warmup, rotation and competition).
- ___ 5. March-in procedures.
 - Meet personnel are requested to give a five-minute prompt to teams prior to reporting to the staging area.
- ___ 6. Credentials. (Provided by the NCAA)
- ___ 7. Arena diagram. Please include if the bars are on water weights or floor plates.
- ___ 8. Directions and telephone number for the nearest hospital.
- ___ 9. Program - provide each member of an institution's travel party with one complimentary copy of the program.

Drug Testing.

- ___ 1. If the site is selected for drug-testing, be sure to follow all instructions sent from The National Center for Drug Free Sport, Inc.
- ___ 2. The drug-testing site coordinator manual is located on the NCAA website at ncaa.org/drugtesting under General Information/Site Coordinator Manual.

Facility/Meet Management.

- ___ 1. Provide liability insurance per NCAA Bylaw 31.7.4.1.
NOTE: Host institutions do not have to list the NCAA as an additional insured; however, an institution must submit a certificate of insurance that indicates that the institution carries adequate liability insurance and lists the NCAA as the certificate holder. The host institution must cover the expense for the insurance.
- ___ 2. Equipment setup. Provide volunteers to assist with setup Tuesday, April 14. (NATIONALS only)
- ___ 3. Secure gymnasts (nonparticipating student-athletes or local club gymnasts) to “break in” the uneven bars prior to Thursday morning. (NATIONALS only)
- ___ 4. Provide marked locker or dressing room areas in the facility for the participants and judges, one unmarked meeting room at the competition facility for the committee and one unmarked meeting room for the judges.
- ___ 5. Provide an adequate number of tables, chairs for judges, meet personnel and participants at each event.
- ___ 6. Obtain enough runners (minimal number as possible) to assist the judges and carefully instruct them in their responsibilities. For NATIONALS only, a headset communication system between the Head Judge and scoring table is required.
- ___ 7. At REGIONALS, provide mature and experienced individuals to work as score flashers. Provide start value flip charts (16 – four per event). Provide the vault value chart and post it on back of vault value flasher unit.
NOTE: High school prospects may not be used as score flashers or as gymnasts to break in the bars.
- ___ 8. Arrange for a dedicated person to assist on bars for all teams during practice and competition. If teams decide to remove the low bar for open stretch, ensure a qualified member of the host staff is present to assist with taking the bar out and replacing it safely and correctly.
- ___ 9. Arrange for the playing or singing of the national anthem prior to the start of each session of competition.
- ___ 10. Make signs with the name of each competing team, all-around competitor and individual event specialist for the march-in ceremony). Secure four volunteers to carry these signs as the team's line leader that brings them onto the floor for intros and rotates with them to events.
- ___ 11. Arrange for an athletic trainer and plan access to a physician and medical facility at each practice and competition session.
- ___ 12. Setup of two separate athletic training rooms with all necessary modalities is required at NATIONALS and preferred at REGIONALS. A minimum of one area is required for REGIONALS.
- ___ 13. Be sure the public-address announcer is well versed in the correct pronunciation of participants' names and institutions, how to provide the appropriate scoring updates and how the awards ceremony will be conducted, if applicable.
- ___ 14. Obtain the current version of the scoring program for NATIONALS. Conduct several trial runs of the program and ensure the system is operating properly prior to the start of competition. Be sure to include team, all-around and individual event specialist scores, paying attention to vault nationals. For REGIONALS, report any problems to the NCAA national office. A meeting of the head scorer, NCAA site representative and tournament director shall be held Wednesday before the start of REGIONALS.
- ___ 15. Chosen individuals will be on site to provide technical support for the scoring program. Travel, lodging and per diem shall be provided for these individuals. (NATIONALS only)

NATIONAL COLLEGIATE WOMEN'S GYMNASTICS

- ___ 16. Provide hand-held stopwatches and timers for each event during the competitive sessions: vault (one), bars (one), beam (two) and floor (one). Two different warning devices (whistles, bells or voice) also must be available. These devices must be available during warmups.
- ___ 17. A mechanism for music streaming to be used plus backup systems shall be available. Be sure they are synchronized with the sound system that will be used during competition. Provide options to connect the sound system to the team's digital playback devices to play Floor Exercise music. Provide a graphic equalizer. An individual knowledgeable about the sound equipment must be present for all practices, warmup and competition sessions.
- ___ 18. Develop a security plan for controlled access to the area of competition.
- ___ 19. Develop a system for displaying team and individual scores throughout the competition.
- ___ 20. Provide a copy machine near the scoring table available for exclusive use by the scoring director.
- ___ 21. Provide two 2' x 4' x ½" plywood boards with non-skid surface on both sides for use under the springboard on bars and beam. No logos of any kind are permitted on the boards.
- ___ 22. For each practice, warmup and competition session, prepare complete rotational schedules (provided by the NCAA national office), listing which teams/individuals are on each event for each rotation. Distribute a schedule to teams, individuals and meet personnel (including judges).
- ___ 23. Build corrals at each event for teams and individuals. They should be large enough to hold 30-35 people for REGIONALS and for NATIONALS. Some chairs also need to be provided in these corrals.

Financial Administration.

- ___ 1. Review your approved budget to ensure that it has not been exceeded. If approved expenditures are exceeded without advance permission from the NCAA national office, the host institution accepts responsibility for the increased expense.
- ___ 2. The financial report of the competition must be submitted online to the NCAA within 60 days after the competition.
- ___ 3. File the drug-testing financial report, if applicable.
- ___ 4. Provide concessions (host institution retains revenues). Concession area should be well-stocked, kept neat and clean, and be located near the spectator area. It should be separate from the hospitality area.
- ___ 5. Sell programs and merchandise. (Event 1 and Learfield, Inc. will contact you to provide more information.) Revenue generated from program sales must be returned to Learfield; revenue generated from merchandise sales must be returned to Event 1. According to the agreement, settlement with Learfield must occur within three days after the event, while settlement with Event 1 must be made within 10 days after the conclusion of the event.

Media/Filming/Still Photography.

- ___ 1. Individuals requesting credentials must identify their specific role(s) as they relate to the event such as, media coverage, local television, photographer, videographer, etc. Set an area for the working press and be sure individuals have the proper credentials for admittance to the area.
- ___ 2. Provide an area that will not interfere with the competition for teams wishing to videotape (provided they have received advance permission from the tournament director).

Photographers/videographers from a legitimate media outlet or participating institution will be handled through media relations and deleted from the team list. The photographer can cover the event from an area(s) designated by the host institution. For the videographer to film from the team corral, they will need to be included as part of a team's 25/30 individuals permitted in the corral. Photographs may not be taken from the team corrals.
- ___ 3. Provide a press kit containing pertinent information on each team.

Judges.

- ___ 1. Send each judge assigned to the competition an email confirming the assignment, directions, hotel arrangements, pertinent telephone numbers, the time and site of the meeting prior to the competition, and a reminder regarding score-verification procedures. Copy the NCAA championships manager on this email. A copy of the NCAA Collegiate Rules Modifications should be sent to regional judges prior to regional competition.
- ___ 2. If necessary, follow up with a telephone call to each judge to ensure he or she has received all the information and will attend the meeting.
- ___ 3. Arrange transportation for judges to/from the airport and hotel as well as to/from the hotel to the venue. If possible, provide courtesy cars or a van for judges. Transportation shall be coordinated to minimize the use of rental cars. (REGIONALS only) A hotel shuttle is an appropriate mode of transportation.

Coordinate the travel itineraries of the judges. It is the responsibility of the host institution to arrange transportation for judges from the airport to the hotel, from the hotel to the arena, etc. (NATIONALS only)
- ___ 4. Obtain six volunteer judges (Level 9 rating or above) to serve as timers (four) and line judges (two).

Participant Manual.

- ___ 1. All hosts will receive via email a template of the participant manual. Be sure the participant manual includes the information outlined in the appropriate section of the tournament manual. The participant manual should be sent to the NCAA championship manager for approval. (For both REGIONALS and NATIONALS no later than Feb. 17). Once approved, a copy of the manual will be placed on the NCAA website as well as the host institution's website.
- ___ 2. Provide an arena diagram in the participant manual displaying the floor layout and areas reserved for each team's fans.
- ___ 3. After teams are announced for both REGIONALS and NATIONALS, the host institution shall send each participating team a travel form.

Results.

- ___ 1. After REGIONAL competition, email all results to Shaun Richard, chair of the Women's Gymnastics Committee, and the NCAA championship manager, John Baldwin, at the national office.

Forward a copy of the results of all championships competition to the attention of Trae Straziscar (tstraziscar@ncaa.org) at the NCAA national office; include both first and last names of the participants.
- ___ 2. Provide each head coach two copies of the results before they leave the competition venue. (REGIONALS)
- ___ 3. Disseminate daily results to coaches, news media, wire services and the NCAA website.

An area shall be designated for the distribution of results. Competition rotations, rotation results and final meet results, as well as important announcements, shall be posted in this area.
- ___ 4. REGIONALS only. Ensure any video review issues are handled before having coaches sign the score sheet. Refer to the video review section in this manual for more details.

Tickets/Credentials.

- ___ 1. If fans are permitted, contact participating institutions' ticket managers regarding the number of tickets the institutions wish to purchase and remind them they are financially responsible for tickets not returned to the host institution by the deadline stated in the participant manual.
- ___ 2. The NCAA will create and send color-coded credentials to all REGIONAL and NATIONAL hosts. They shall be distributed to various groups that will need access to the venue and/or competition floor. Wristbands shall be provided to all noncompetitors in an institutions corral (maximum of 25/30 per team).

The following credentials will be produced:

- a. All Access.
- b. Event Management.
- c. Participant.
- d. Medical.
- e. Media.
- f. Photo.

REGIONAL hosts shall place their credential orders with Trae Straziscar (tstraziscar@ncaa.org) at the NCAA national office. He will contact hosts with a due date.

For NATIONALS, the NCAA media coordinator will work with the host to determine specific credential needs.

- ___ 3. Two credentials for on-site American Athletic, Inc. technicians providing equipment setup and support shall be provided. Up to four additional credentials with access determined by the NCAA may be provided.

Other.

- ___ 1. Designate an area off the competition floor (or under the podium) for storage of extra spring boards or other equipment between sessions. (NATIONALS)
- ___ 2. An area for student-athlete hospitality should be in near proximity to the locker rooms, for REGIONALS and NATIONALS. All food must be grab and go and individually packaged.
- ___ 3. Provide a participant packet for each committee member (NATIONALS) or the designee serving as the NCAA site representative. (REGIONALS)
- ___ 4. See scoring procedures supplies.

Section 1 • Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco Products

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

Beer, wine and prepackaged/premixed beverages (in the latter case, with alcohol by volume of not greater than 15%, such as most hard seltzers) may be sold and dispensed at NCAA Division I and National Collegiate championship and ancillary events, provided that the host, venue and/or concessionaire:

- Comply with, and certifies in writing the compliance with, the NCAA Championship and Ancillary Event Alcohol Sales Policy, as amended by the NCAA from time to time, which addresses such matters as:
 - Permissible types of alcoholic beverages;
 - Eligibility for the sale and distribution of alcoholic beverages;
 - Indemnity, warranty and insurance obligations; and
 - Verification.
- Agree to (i) keep and maintain, or cause its designated vendor or concessionaire to keep and maintain, complete and accurate records of all (a) alcohol-related incidents (e.g., expulsions, arrests) and (b) sales transactions related to the sale of concessions at the NCAA Championship and related ancillary events, including gross revenue, cost of goods, allocable overhead, and applicable taxes; (ii) no later than sixty (60) days after the conclusion of the event, provide the NCAA with a report setting forth in reasonable detail such information, together with the corresponding dates of transaction, including (a) alcohol-related revenue generated on each day of the event, (b) the direct cost of selling alcohol at the event (including the cost of goods), and (c) the indirect cost of selling alcohol at the event (including overhead and increased security needs at the event venue site); and (iii) permit the books, records, and accounts of host, venue and vendor/concessionaire pertaining to the sale of concessions at the event to be inspected, audited, and copied by NCAA or its agents at any time during normal business hours upon giving reasonable notice to host, venue and vendor/concessionaire.
- Agree to pay the NCAA an amount of twenty percent (20%) of the gross revenue generated from the sale of alcohol during the event (and any approved ancillary events), less the pro rata applicable sales tax and credit card fees (without deduction of any operating, costs of goods, indirect, or other expenses, such as overhead, marketing, fulfillment, general and administrative, interest, or other expenses), with such agreement to be reflected in a written agreement between the NCAA and the applicable parties (host, venue and/or concessionaire) executed prior to, or simultaneously with, the NCAA's official selection of the host for the applicable championship.
- Following the championship conclusion, provide the NCAA with certain information regarding the concessions activity—including gross sales, direct costs, and applicable taxes—for food, nonalcoholic beverages and alcoholic beverages sold during the event.
- Execute, as part of the bid submission, the applicable policy and agreement documents maintained in the NCAA Championships Bid and Profile System.

General

The NCAA shall determine in its sole discretion whether alcohol will be sold or distributed at the ancillary events.

The venue, LOC/host and/or caterer shall be responsible for any permits unless otherwise directed by the NCAA.

Promotional items (e.g., cups, shakers, flags, signs) with commercial slogans or identification or other unauthorized markings are not permitted inside the practice, competition and/or ancillary event venue(s), inside surrounding areas/facilities that are to be used, or outside on practice, competition and/or ancillary event venue property unless expressly approved in advance by the NCAA. Items such as newspapers, handbills, flyers, memorabilia, T-shirts, caps, etc. (except products sold or authorized by the NCAA or its vendors) may not be distributed on these premises. Demographic or other studies may not be conducted unless approved in advance by the NCAA.

An economic impact study can be executed at an NCAA championship to examine the effect of the championship(s) on the local economy. In some cases, the NCAA will conduct an on-site study and will provide the data to the host once the study is completed. In other cases, the NCAA will support the hosts' efforts to execute a study. This can be done using the hosts' own approach/tools or the NCAA's Economic Impact Study "In-a-Box" tool."

TOBACCO PRODUCTS

Tobacco products shall not be advertised, sold or dispensed at any championship event sponsored by or administered by the NCAA. Smoking is not permitted anywhere in the venue.

Section 2 • Americans with Disabilities Act

The Americans with Disabilities Act, Title III prohibits private places of public accommodation (e.g., sports arenas) from discriminating against individuals with disabilities. The host institution/conference is required to confirm that each facility in which an NCAA championship or ancillary event occurs is in compliance with the ADA. The host institution/conference is responsible for determining if the competition site will be in compliance as of the dates of the championship. If the host institution/conference becomes aware that a competition site hosting an NCAA championship event will not be in compliance, it shall immediately notify the NCAA national office staff member with responsibility for the event in order to discuss the issue.

If the host institution/conference receives a request for an accommodation, which may require input from the NCAA, the host institution/conference shall immediately notify the NCAA national office staff member with responsibility for the event in order to address the request.

Section 3 • Awards

CHAMPIONSHIP AWARDS

Awards Announcement - Regionals

A brief awards announcement should be made the last day of competition. The PA announcer may announce the teams advancing to nationals.

Finals

MTM, Inc., the NCAA national office awards supplier, will send official NCAA awards to the tournament manager approximately two weeks prior to the championship. When the awards arrive the tournament manager should inventory all awards to be sure they are undamaged, are correctly inscribed and are in the appropriate quantities. The awards boxes should then be retaped, closed and secured in a limited-access area.

The following number of awards will be given: team trophies for the top four teams; a maximum of 20 individual awards (the official squad list of up to 15; plus five coaches) for each of the four teams; championship watches to the winning team (the official squad list of up to 15; an additional five watches will be ordered by the NCAA after the event); and 15 "dummy" awards to the top eight place-finishers on each of the four individual events, plus all-around. Official awards for the individual event specialists and all-arounders will be shipped after competition.

Teams may purchase additional awards here: services.mtmrecognition.com/ncaa/

These official NCAA awards are the only awards that may be presented at the site of the championships. Recognition or appreciation awards may be presented to individuals or organizations that have contributed to the development and/or management of the championships, but any such presentation must be made separate from and cannot occur in sequence with the presentation of the NCAA championship awards. Approval must be granted by NCAA staff.

Participation medallions are provided to all student-athletes competing or in uniform at the national championships regardless of whether they receive any other awards (i.e., mini trophies or watches). The participant medallions will be shipped to the tournament director to be distributed on-site.

Any plans for entertainment or exhibitions and any other procedures, presentations or announcements must be submitted to and approved by the Women's Gymnastics Committee prior to the start of the competition .

The host institution must provide a detailed written plan of its awards ceremony to the committee chair and the NCAA championship manager no later than Feb. 13. This plan should include march-in procedures, script, awards presenters, etc. (Applies to both regional and final sites.)

AWARDS CEREMONY - NATIONALS (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

The awards ceremony will be conducted on the awards platform after the conclusion of competition and after the scores have been verified. Personnel must be in place and alert to setting up the tables for the ceremony without undue delay. Four six-foot tables should be used to hold the awards and should be appropriately draped.

Team awards will be presented immediately after the team competition Saturday evening. Thursday, awards will be presented to the top eight all-around award winners and individual event specialists in one ceremony at the conclusion of the second session of competition.

All ties at the national championships should and will remain the same. There will be no tiebreakers - all ties will be honored. The awards will be ordered by and sent to the respective institution's athletics administrative office from MTM after the championships. The "dummy" awards should be either returned to the NCAA or plans should be made to store them for future use.

CHAMPIONSHIP LOCKER ROOM PROGRAM

The NCAA has partnered with select NCAA licensees to celebrate the national champions of each of the 90 NCAA championships. Each team champion shall receive a national champions T-shirt and hat to commemorate the experience of winning a national title. A detailed explanation of the logistics of the locker room program will be provided in championship specific section of the manual. However, listed below is a summary of steps that should be followed when implementing the locker room program at all final championship sites.

- The product is for team champions only. Individual championships are not a part of the locker room distribution.
- Please remove all hangtags and stickers (if needed) on the merchandise before being distributed.
- The merchandise should be distributed to the winning team only immediately after the handshake as soon as the game has officially concluded. Extra product (if any) should be given to the team's equipment manager.
- All winning team inquiries about obtaining additional locker room product should be directed to Jared Hunt with Event 1 for T-shirts (jared.hunt@unrivaledteamwear.com) and Jackie Rivas or Matt Boeke for hats (jacqueline.rivas@blue84.com/matt.boeke@blue84.com). Please contact David Clendenin, director of licensing, at the NCAA national office should you have any questions (dclendenin@ncaa.org, 317-917-6496).

ELITE SCHOLAR-ATHLETE AWARD PRESENTATION

The NCAA Elite Scholar-Athlete Award was created to recognize the true essence of the student-athlete 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 to the student-athlete with the highest cumulative grade-point average participating at the finals site for each of the NCAA's championships. Award winners must meet certain criteria including being a sophomore or above, participating in their sport for at least two years at their school, being an active member of their team, and being a designated member of the squad size at their championship. The member school is responsible for submitting its student-athlete who has the highest GPA and meets all other requirements. Olivia Baumhoer or another member of the NCAA communications staff will determine the winner of this award for each championship and provide the name of the recipient to the NCAA championships manager. The winner's name should not be released to the public until after the student-athlete is publicly recognized. If appropriate, the championships manager can share the information with the coach of the winning student-athlete to make sure of that person's attendance. However, the coach should not inform the student-athlete. Olivia Baumhoer or a member of the NCAA media coordination staff will typically send a template of a release and the logo to the sports information director of the winner's school the morning of the announcement to allow them time to prepare. In addition, the information will be given to the NCAA social media staff to prepare a graphic which will post shortly after the announcement.

Each championship should provide an appropriate forum to adequately recognize and celebrate this award winner among student-athletes and fans at the championship. In addition, information about this award winner may be included in local press releases about the championship and in public address and/or video board announcements during the championship.

Award Presentation

When determining the most appropriate time to present the Elite Scholar Athlete Award, the NCAA and host staff should evaluate the time and venue that will create the greatest impact and amount of exposure for the award winner while also appropriately honoring and celebrating the winner's accomplishments. The presentation should be semiformal in nature and not be rushed or overshadowed by other presentations or events surrounding it. The award winner should be visible, the announcement clearly audible. In addition, the award presentation should receive the full attention and respect of all of those in attendance. The standard award script is listed below:

At this time, we would like to present the Elite Scholar-Athlete Award. This award was instituted to recognize the true essence of the student-athlete by honoring the individual who has 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 to the student-athlete with the highest cumulative grade-point average participating at the finals site for each of the NCAA's championships.

The recipient of the Elite Scholar-Athlete Award for Division **X (sport)** with a GPA of **X.XXX** in (**major**, is **student-athlete and institution**).

Presentation at the Student-Athlete Banquet

This award has traditionally been presented at the student-athlete banquet for most NCAA championships. In many cases the student-athlete banquet provides the best forum for the award presentation and greatest exposure for the winner as it is the one time when all championship participants and administrators are gathered in one place with a controlled, semiformal environment complete with a sound system and set program. Presenting at the student-athlete banquet also alleviates any potential conflicts with the winning student-athlete's participation in or preparation for an NCAA championship event. Guidelines for presentation of this award at the student-athlete banquet are:

- The award should be presented by either the banquet emcee, the NCAA committee chair or the NCAA championships manager.
- The award should be presented near the end of the program and be clearly recognizable as the premier award being given (see student-athlete banquet page for sample run of show).
- The award should be presented after attendees have had a chance to finish their meals.
- If video screens are available, the video slide or footage of the winning student-athlete provided by Van Wagner may be run as the individual is introduced.
- The coach of the winning student-athlete should be informed to help assure the winner's attendance.
- If a photographer is at the student-athlete banquet or championship, a photo of the recipient receiving the award should be taken. This may be used in-venue during competition days to showcase the academic achievement of the student-athlete or provided to the student-athlete as a memento. The host sports information director should arrange to provide the winner's SID with a copy of the photo.
- If the award winner is recognized primarily at the student-athlete banquet, public address and video board announcements should be made whenever possible and applicable at the actual championship for additional exposure to fans who do not have access to the banquet.

In-Venue Presentation

The NCAA and host staffs are encouraged to look for opportunities for the Elite Scholar-Athlete Award winner to be presented their award in the championship venue during a time when most participants and fans are in attendance. While this may not be appropriate for championships that are spread out over multiple venues, large areas, or have multiple games in one day that disperses the crowd chronologically – it should be explored for championships in which the majority of fans are gathered during a predetermined time frame and can provide their undivided attention to the award presentation. The presentation must also not conflict in any way with the student-athlete's participation or preparation for the championship. Examples could be:

- In a championship with two semifinals played on one day, the award winner could be recognized during the semifinal in which the individual is participating so that the school's fans are in attendance (video board and/or public address read recognition).
- If the award winner is not participating or completes competition in the championship rounds of a sport but is still in attendance, the student-athlete may be recognized during breaks between events, weight classes, heats or during a scheduled break in the game.
- The award winner could be recognized during a scheduled opening or closing ceremony at which all participating student-athletes are in attendance and fans are encouraged to attend.

Other In-Venue Recognition

If the Elite Scholar-Athlete Award winner is not introduced live inside of the competition venue, public address and/or video board announcements recognizing the winner should be played during the championship to recognize this individual. Van Wagner will provide the following standard PA announcement sometimes accompanied by a video board graphic. The championships manager (or champs engagement representative) will need to provide Van Wagner the name of the winning individual and a headshot photo if a video board is used for the championship.

The Elite Scholar-Athlete, an award founded by the NCAA, recognizes the true essence of the student-athlete by honoring the individual who has 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 to the student-athlete with the highest cumulative grade-point average participating at the finals site for each of the NCAA's championships.

The recipient of the Elite Scholar-Athlete Award for the 2026 NCAA National Collegiate Women's Gymnastics Championships, with a cumulative grade-point average of (GPA) in (major of study), is (list winner and school: *Jane Doe of State University*).

Press Release

On the day of/or prior to the winner of the Elite Scholar-Athlete Award being publicly recognized, the NCAA communication staff will send out a template of a standard press release to the sports information director of the winner's school and to the NCAA championships administrator. For selected championships, a press release will be written by a member of the communications or media coordination staff and be provided to national media by the NCAA public relations staff. If appropriate, this press release may also be provided to the host for distribution to local media.

Social Media

The NCAA X account (formerly known as Twitter) will promote the 92 winners after the on-site announcement has been made. Olivia Baumhoer will work with the social media staff to make sure they have the appropriate information, including photo to make the graphic and the timing of when to post.

- The host or NCAA championship manager should ensure a photo of the presentation is taken and emailed to socialmedia@ncaa.org.

For more information on the Elite Scholar-Athlete Award winners, log on to ncaa.org/elitescholarathlete.

PARTICIPATION AWARDS

Regionals

Due to the financial burden on a host institution, to be consistent with NCAA policy, and to provide each student-athlete participating in NCAA preliminary-round competition the same experience, **mementos will NOT be permitted at preliminary rounds.**

Nationals

Participation awards are permissible (one per participant) as long as they meet the conditions outlined in Bylaws 16.1.4.2 and 16.1.4.3 and **are provided by the NCAA selected student-athlete participation awards licensee**. The NCAA championships and alliances group will be responsible for selecting the participation awards that will be provided. All participation awards will be distributed at the site of the championship(s). Hosts should work with the championships manager on award logistics.

At a minimum, one item for each member of the official travel party will be provided: Teams - 15 student-athletes plus five nonathletes. Individuals - One to two individuals - each participant plus two non-athletes; three or more individuals - each participant plus three non-athletes.

Section 4 • Championship Presentation/Fan Engagement

FAN FESTS

The NCAA prohibits host institutions/conferences from conducting special ancillary entertainment activities for fans in conjunction with the championship. Should another entity (e.g., convention and visitor's bureau) elect to stage such activities, the following policies shall apply:

- All plans must be approved in advance by the NCAA.
- NCAA marks, logos, name or references to the championship or tickets may not be used.
- No activity connected with the championship may be sponsored by an entity that is not an NCAA Corporate Champion/Corporate Partner (CC/P).
- Such an activity may not take place on property controlled by the competition venue.

No entity may contact NCAA CC/Ps directly. All such contact shall be directed through the NCAA staff.

NCAA MARKS

The NCAA owns and controls all rights and interests in its name, logo, seal, trademarks and service marks. Use of these marks is prohibited without advance written approval by the NCAA. Host institutions/conferences should review information outlined in NCAA Bylaw 31.6.1. Only official NCAA Corporate Champions/Partners (CC/Ps) and licensees are permitted to use NCAA marks and logos in commercial advertising and promotions, unless written approval is provided by NCAA Branding. All and any proposed commercial advertising and promotions, if not by a CC/Ps, must be reviewed by NCAA Branding team prior to approval and production.

IN-VENUE ENTERTAINMENT

NCAA championship hosts are required to utilize NCAA provided public address announcer scripts, run-of-shows and video board content. Host and participating team messaging or video board content is not allowed. This includes promotion of upcoming events at the championship site, recognitions and sponsorships. Any enhancements that you would like to propose for the event must be approved in advance by the championship manager.

The NCAA will provide video board content to sites that have such capabilities. The video board content is important to the overall championship experience for student-athletes and those in attendance. Please work directly with your NCAA championship liaison to identify if there is a Van Wagner producer assigned to you (final sites) or if content should be downloaded from the Van Wagner box site directly (preliminary rounds).

Questions related to video board content logistics should be directed to:

Brandon Anthony - Senior Producer
Van Wagner
Telephone: 925-354-5721
Email: banthony@vanwagner.com

Break in Action Contests or Promotions

NCAA championship hosts are encouraged to explore in-venue entertainment options during the championship to keep fans engaged, excited, and to enhance the atmosphere for both the fans and student-athletes. Various potential areas of in-venue entertainment and the guidelines associated with them are shared below. Please discuss any forms of in-venue entertainment you would recommend with your NCAA staff point person for approval.

Hosts should consider continuing regular season contests and promotions or creating new, unbiased or nonsponsored versions of these promotions to use during NCAA championships. Entertainment can also include local performance groups or youth scrimmages. Guidelines and ideas for consideration:

- Must not include any commercial recognition (unless approved/provided by an NCAA corporate champion, partner or official equipment supplier and signed off by a member of the NCAA Corporate Relations staff).

- Must be appropriate and in good taste.
- Must fit safely within given time constraints with no chance of interfering with the competition.
- Must not negatively impact the championship playing surface in anyway.
- No connection or resemblance to gambling.
- Participants must be randomly selected.
- No bias toward or against any participating team.
- Campus and venue rules must be considered when developing the contest or promotion.
- NCAA championship merchandise purchased by the host (e.g., extra volunteer apparel, committee or contributor gifts, items or certificates purchased from Event 1) make good prizes for these contests as prizes with commercial recognition would not be permitted.

National Anthem Singers

Hosts are encouraged to explore their resources to bring in local, regional or even nationally-recognized celebrities or groups to sing the national anthem (e.g., recording artists with strong local ties, military, local individuals, choir groups or bands). Guidelines and ideas for consideration are as follows:

- No bias toward or against any participating team (e.g., performers should not wear the apparel of a participating team).
- Performances should not come at a cost and will not be reimbursed by the NCAA.
- A brief description and “thank you” for the performing group or individual may be incorporated into the script, but no commercial recognition, sponsorship, sales or recruitment messages should be included.
- Anthem should take two minutes or less to perform, however please build extra time into the script for introduction and placement of the color guard (if applicable), and introduction/applause for the performer.
- Highly recommend a pre-event rehearsal with the performer(s) and others involved.

Enhanced Team Introductions

Examples of this could include using special music, smoke machines, flame units, on-field fireworks, team banners/flags, youth athletes forming a tunnel or holding hands with student-athletes as they are introduced, etc. Guidelines and ideas for consideration are as follows:

- Must be appropriate and in good taste
- Must fit safely within given time constraints with no chance of interfering with the competition
- No bias toward or against any participating team and should be equally executed for all participating teams
- Should be discussed with the NCAA point person in advance. Michael Gett, who leads the in-venue entertainment area for this championship, will have a Regionals call specific to this area prior to the championship.

Musical Entertainment

Participating school bands will be scheduled into the overall championship presentation when they are available. When they are not, the host institution marching band, other school bands or local bands may be appropriate for entertainment during pregame, halftime or other breaks in the action or for greeting fans in the stadium entrance or other congregating area.

Affiliated Award Recognitions

If appropriate, national award winners for the given sport who are in attendance but not competing at the time of the scheduled recognition may be awarded on field during NCAA championships (e.g., Elite Scholar-Athlete Award winner, coaches’ association player of the year winner, coach of the year). Please consult with the NCAA point person to determine appropriateness. Sponsored awards should not be incorporated without approval from an NCAA Corporate Relations staff member.

Military Involvement

Military involvement in NCAA championships may include national anthem performances (military singer, instrumentalist or band), color guard, band performances of patriotic songs, flyovers, parachute teams, precision drill teams, etc. Please work with the NCAA Corporate Relations and Game Presentation team to finalize military involvement, as some elements may be influenced by partnership agreements. *Please see Military Involvement below for full description and guidelines.*

MILITARY INVOLVEMENT

The NCAA is supportive of inviting the military to participate at NCAA championships if their involvement enhances the championship experience for student-athletes and fans while at the same time honoring the military in an appropriate and unobtrusive manner. At many NCAA championships, local or national military groups have been arranged by the host to perform pregame, during halftime or other breaks in the action. These performances have included, but are not limited to, national anthem performances (military singer, instrumentalist or band), color guard, presentation of large flags, flyovers, parachute teams, precision drill teams, eagle releases, reunions of troops returning from overseas with their families, honorary recognitions, etc. Please discuss any forms of military involvement which you would recommend with your NCAA staff point person who would in turn discuss with the NCAA Corporate Relations and Game Presentation teams as some elements may be influenced by partnership agreements.

Guidelines

- Involvement from military groups often requires substantial government paperwork. Fly-overs and parachute jumps will also require FAA approval to be handled by the host. Please allow adequate lead time to coordinate.
- Host connections with local military bases will be most cost-effective in arranging military involvement
- No messages about military recruitment should be incorporated into on-field performances.
- General messages paying tribute to all military personnel and thanking the particular military unit which has performed are encouraged (e.g., "Let's give a big round of applause for tonight's performance from the United States Air Force Heartland of America Band... and for all of the American military service personnel who they proudly represent.").
- Request for any type of presence on-site (e.g., booth space, interactive elements, inflatables, giveaway items or space within an NCAA fan festival) is not permitted unless discussed with your NCAA point person who would in turn discuss with the NCAA Corporate Relations team.
- Campus and venue rules must be considered when developing the presentation.
- Please discuss with your NCAA point person if providing complimentary access to watch the championship before or after their presentation is appropriate and possible.
- When several military groups are in attendance and recognized during one game/session of a multiday championship, you may want to consider a theme night "Military Appreciation Day/Night." This should be discussed with your NCAA point person. Branding should also be involved if you do a theme night.

STUDENT-ATHLETE BANQUET

To celebrate and welcome all participating student-athletes and championship personnel at the final site, the host may provide a banquet (or other student-athlete recognition event). The number of guests, financial assistance provided by the NCAA and total budget shall be determined after consultation with the NCAA staff. NCAA corporate champions, partners or official equipment suppliers may receive approval to sponsor the banquet, but no local sponsors are permitted. Officials should not be included in this or any social event including the participating coaches and student-athletes. Per NCAA policy, student-athlete banquets (or other celebratory events) are not permitted at preliminary-round sites.

The NCAA may provide a video featuring the teams and student-athletes advancing to the final site depending on the amount of footage available and cost of obtaining. If practical, the NCAA staff will request the video from the NCAA games presentation team and inform the host.

The host will be responsible for coordinating all other details and logistics of the banquet including location, emcee, speakers, transportation, catering, A/V equipment, a printed program, etc. in consultation with the NCAA staff. The exact run-of-show and presentations included can be altered slightly to accommodate the number of student-athletes, teams and guests present as well as unique venue, sport or local elements. However, the run-of-show listed below and the 90-minute time frame should be used as a guiding template. Please note that a 60-minute event is ideal and the event should not last longer than 90 minutes.

Words of reflection or invocation are not required but may be included at NCAA student-athlete banquets. The NCAA supports a flexible policy which allows each host to follow the traditions and protocols of their university. If included, any words of reflection or invocation should be respectful and inclusive of all.

Run of Show

6:30 p.m.	Greet teams and student-athletes, direct to tables or attractions (emcee or NCAA chair)
	Soft A/V presentation (e.g., music, slideshow of participating teams and student-athletes, NCAA tribute video, DII or DIII branding video – optional)
6:45 p.m.	Welcome/comments to student-athletes and guests from the event emcee and/or a city/host institution representative
6:50 p.m.	Dinner buffet lines open or plated dinner served
7:20 p.m.	Guest Speaker (optional)
7:40 p.m.	Comments by Head Coaches or Q&A with selected student-athletes (optional)*
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Team 1 2. Team 2 3. Team 3 4. Team 4
7:50 p.m.	Comments by the NCAA committee chair and the presentation of Elite Scholar-Athlete Award
	Championship Video (if available)
7:55 p.m.	Closing Comments (emcee with talking points from NCAA or NCAA chair)

**Comments by head coaches may not be practical at some championships, especially those with a large number of teams or individual qualifiers.*

Best Practices

While the guidelines above provide a standard framework for the student-athlete banquet, the event should be tailored to suit the needs, size and unique aspects of the championship. The purpose of the event is primarily to congratulate, celebrate and welcome all of the participating student-athletes to the NCAA championship and the host community.

The most successful NCAA student-athlete banquets have often been enhanced by unique venues, décor, interactive features, program enhancements or keepsake items that showcase the uniqueness of the host city or region and their excitement to host the NCAA championship. The NCAA will rely on the creativity of the host for development of these items. The formality of the event, attendee attire, appropriate number and type of speakers, level of interaction between student-athletes, etc., varies from sport to sport. The NCAA point person can help advise the host on sport specific nuances.

The host will assume the lead production role for the student-athlete banquet but should seek the advice and approval of the NCAA point person on such items as location, budget, timing, final run of show, speaker, menu, giveaway items (some may be provided free of charge by NCAA official equipment suppliers) and additional enhancements. Some past student-athlete banquet enhancements that have been well received are listed below. Please note, however, that the potential impact of all possible banquet enhancements on student-athletes should be weighed against appropriateness, available budget and other needs of the overall championship.

Sample Enhancements

- Unique venue – a skybox club overlooking the host university's football stadium; a historical or cultural center; an aquarium or museum where brief tours can be incorporated into the programming; an iconic restaurant, theater or arena in the area; a beach party setting; etc.
- Slideshow – before and/or after the formal presentation, a slideshow of participating team or student-athlete images is shown on video boards or mixed with NCAA branding messages (host would be responsible for collecting images from schools or preliminary round hosts).
- Speakers – relevance to the participating student-athletes is the most important factor. Former NCAA champions or graduating student-athletes who went on to professional or Olympic fame in the given sport are ideal, however other options available at no or little expense to the host should be explored as some speakers transcend their sport or profession. Examples of previous speakers include Todd Martin – Tennis, Dot Richardson – Softball, President of the USGA – Golf, Bill Belichick – Lacrosse (Boston), ESPN personalities, comedians, motivational speakers, well-known football or basketball coaches at the host institution, etc.
- Photo opportunities – opportunities for teams or individuals to pose for a photo in front of a championship backdrop (possibly with the championship trophy) or in conjunction with unique or iconic elements of the area (e.g., with giant hanging shark in Florida, with longhorn steer in Texas, in winners circle at Churchill Downs, overlooking city skyline, football stadium).
- Favors unique to the sport or area – examples include mini soccer balls, mini lacrosse sticks, baseball shaped cheese – Wisconsin, make-your-own beach flip flops – Florida; please check with your championship administrator regarding budget, appropriateness and possibility of items provided by official equipment suppliers before pursuing.
- Special entrances for student-athletes – red carpet into venue, spotlights, limos, local youth teams wearing team colors or with pom poms/signs to greet the student-athletes.
- Band/DJ/Interactive Games – are generally only appropriate in more informal settings with numerous teams of both genders, relaxed time constraints, fun atmosphere, etc.
- Event 1/Championship merchandise – sales booth or display area with order forms on-site.
- Special Olympics Component – speaker, athletes, etc. (recommended for all DIII championships).

Coaches' Association Award Guidelines

The primary purpose of NCAA student-athlete banquets is to honor, celebrate and welcome participating student-athletes in a concise and entertaining manner. Coaches' association awards and other presentations not directly related to the championship itself may be considered for inclusion if they are in the best interest of the attending student-athletes:

- The presentation should be relevant and provide a significant enhancement to the banquet programming for the student-athletes (awards or speakers which have limited relation to the championship or significance to the student-athletes will detract from their enjoyment and the attention they pay to other programming).
- The presentation should be brief (in most cases it should be limited to 5-10 minutes, but should never exceed 30 minutes).
- Awards presented should be limited to those presented to participating student-athletes and coaches or those which have some special significance to the student-athletes in attendance.
- The presentation should be secondary in significance and placement in the programming to any official NCAA championship presentations.
- If these conditions are not met, other championship-related platforms should be explored by the NCAA to assist the coaches' association.
- All final decisions on inclusion of coaches' association awards, other presentations, scripts and presenters should be made by the NCAA staff with their best interest and overall experience of the student-athlete in mind.
- NCAA staff may call on leadership team members to assist in delivering and explaining the specific decisions to the coaches' association as needed.

STUDENT-ATHLETE RED CARPET ARRIVALS/TEAM WALKS

At many NCAA championships, a red-carpet arrival or team walk featuring the participating teams and their band and/or cheer squads can be a significant fan enhancement. A red-carpet arrival/team walk allows fans to feel a greater connection with the student-athletes through brief personal interaction that provides lasting memories for young fans and may help create a greater overall impression of the championship for both fans and participating student-athletes, if conducted properly. Listed below are some elements to consider before deciding to conduct a red-carpet arrival/team walk, a list of guidelines for a red-carpet arrival/team walk, and a checklist of items needed for the event.

Elements to Consider

- Number of fans – will there be an adequate number of fans to support a red-carpet arrival/team walk and make it a positive experience for the participating student-athletes.
- Timing and location – is there a time and place available in which there will be an adequate number of fans, space and the event will not conflict with the student-athletes' preparation for or participation in the championship (e.g., before each semifinal match concludes, during a highly attended ancillary event surrounding the championship or only before the championship game).
- Equitable participation – will all participating teams have equal opportunities to participate (it is permissible to have a red-carpet arrival/team walk only on championship night with the two final teams only versus semifinal day and championship day).
- Team's experience – this should be a positive experience for all participating student-athletes, and it should not interrupt their team's normal schedule for a competition. It should be communicated to the teams that a 5-15-minute window between teams is needed. Depending on the schedule of the teams you can predetermine the arrival times or if they do not have any other commitments prior to the arrival at the venue, you can allow the teams to pick their arrival time as long as they are between the 5-15-minute window of separation, giving them more control of their schedule and not interrupting their normal game day routine.
- Fan's experience – consider the location of the red-carpet arrivals/team walks for the fans as well. Consider using one of the main entrances or going through a fan fest location (if applicable) to the venue so that even if they did not know a red carpet/team walk event was happening, they still might see it and participate.
- Visibility and promotion – is the red-carpet arrival/team walk in a place that will be highly visible and accessible to all fans and/or can it be adequately promoted through social media, ncaa.com, e-blast, push notifications and/or signage? Ask each participating team to send out the red-carpet arrival/team walk times to their ticket holders and on their social media platforms as well.
- Timing of buses – Consider the route that the buses will need to drive in order to arrive on the correct side of the street and the time it will take them to get from the hotel to the location of the red-carpet arrivals/team walk.

Guidelines

- The host staff will have primary responsibility for coordinating and managing the red-carpet arrivals/team walk, as well as all staff, volunteer, equipment and logistical needs associated with them.
- The host staff should work with the NCAA staff point person to determine if red carpet arrival(s) or team walk(s) are appropriate, for advice, approval, look and collateral.
- The host should arrange for a walkthrough of the event with the NCAA point person as well as security, the facility rep, bus drivers, team hosts the event sponsor and/or fire marshal when appropriate.
- If a team has a band and/or spirit squad, communicate to the team that they should also participate in the red-carpet arrivals/team walks. If only one team has a band, ask the other team for a copy of their fight song to play over a speaker, if sound is available at the red-carpet arrival/team walk area.
- Select a time when the most fans can be accommodated and student-athletes will be least inconvenienced, consider what time the venue opens to the fans and what time the teams would normally choose to arrive.
- Student-athletes should wear game apparel or matching team issued warm-up gear.

- Student-athletes should be escorted by staff, volunteers or security to the security check-in area or their locker room.
- Red carpet arrivals/team walks should have stanchions or barricades to create a safe environment for the student-athletes. Security should also be considered.
- No local sponsorship of student-athlete red carpet arrivals/team walks will be permitted.
- A sound system which can be used in conjunction with the red-carpet arrivals/team walks can be effective in communicating which team is arriving, providing fans with additional championship events and for keeping fans entertained with music and/or team statistics.

Checklist

- Carpet – red, blue or black are all acceptable if the venue has one of these colors on hand, otherwise rent red carpet when the budget allows. Carpet is always preferred, but not essential to making this a successful event.
- Stanchions or other form of a barrier between the student-athletes and fans.
- Red carpet arrival/team walk sign or entrance way (e.g., balloon arch), if appropriate.
- Staff or volunteers.
- Security, if appropriate.
- Lighting elements if it is going to be dark out, depending on the time of the arrivals.
- Tents over the carpet if it is raining, unless the location of the red-carpet arrivals/team walk is already under a covered location, consider cancelation plan (notifying the teams and fans if the weather is not conducive to hold the red-carpet arrivals/team walk).
- Announcements for emcee – instructional, NCAA branding, NCAA corporate champion or partner recognition, team stats, if appropriate.
- Radios or cell phone numbers for communication. Essential for either the team host or bus driver to notify someone at the red-carpet arrival/team walk location of the arrival time changes, if appropriate.
- Other entertainment (e.g., DJ/music, local drum line) to keep fans entertained before and in-between team arrivals, if appropriate.

Section 5 • Commercialism/Contributors

SPACE REQUIREMENTS

Activation of Corporate Champion and Corporate Partner Program. The NCAA may request/require that certain areas of the competition site be made available for use by NCAA Corporate Champions or Corporate Partners (CC/Ps) for the purpose of marketing/promotional events/activities. If such requests are made, the host institution will provide requested space or similar accommodations.

Local Organizing Committee Hospitality. If approved by the NCAA, the Local Organizing Committee (LOC) has the option to host specified events during the championship. Commercial identification of any kind at any LOC function is prohibited unless specifically approved by the NCAA. The NCAA must approve all uses of NCAA logos, names, or other graphics (including school logos). The LOC shall submit detailed proposals (e.g., location, date, time, food and beverage, entertainment, budget), to the NCAA for review and approval at least 60 days in advance of the event. Any such events conducted are conducted at the LOC's expense.

Other Functions. To enhance the experience for participating institutions, fans, and alumni during NCAA championships, the NCAA (in conjunction with a third-party agency) may facilitate an official hospitality program in or outside of the competition site.

PREMIUMS GUIDELINES

Competition Venue shall provide to the NCAA a set of guidelines, similar to those outlined below, that identify items that are not permitted in the venue no fewer than 120 days prior to the first NCAA championship related event. The NCAA will then utilize and share that information with its NCAA Corporate Champions and Corporate Partners.

Laser Pointers. No laser pointers of any kind.

Noisemakers. Artificial noisemakers of any kind including but not limited to, air horns, electronic instruments, inflatable noisemakers, etc., are not permissible. Facility personnel are responsible for confiscating prohibited items at the entrance points or removing such items from the facility. Megaphones may be used for voice amplification, but they shall not be used as a distraction.

Promotional Items. Promotional items (e.g., cups, shakers, flags) with commercial slogans or identification, other than those from NCAA corporate champions and partners, are not allowed on the premises. Items such as newspapers, handbills, flyers, memorabilia, T-shirts, caps, etc., except products sold/distributed by the NCAA or its agents, may not be distributed on the premises.

Signs, Flags, Banners. Large signs, flags or banners are not permissible. It is the facility personnel's responsibility to confiscate all prohibited articles. Items that can be held by one individual, reflect good sportsmanship and do not block the view of other ticketed patrons may be permitted. In no case may a sign, flag or banner be affixed to the facility.

Video Camera/Still Camera Policies. Ticketed patrons shall not bring video equipment into the facility on game days. Still cameras with a lens no longer than four inches are permissible on any day.

NCAA CORPORATE CHAMPION AND CORPORATE PARTNER PROGRAM

The NCAA Corporate Champions and Corporate Partners Program (i.e., corporate sponsors of the NCAA), managed by the NCAA along with TNT Sports and CBS Sports, authorizes the exclusive rights to license NCAA trademarks, tickets and taglines in commercial promotions with respect to the NCAA championships.

The host shall not solicit or permit involvement by any corporations or entities whose products may be in competition with any of the NCAA corporate champions or corporate partners. All proposed commercial involvement must receive prior approval of the NCAA.

NCAA Corporate Champions and Corporate Partners are dedicated to emphasizing the role of athletics in higher education, support all 92 NCAA Championships and are granted a wide variety of benefits, including certain category exclusivity around use of NCAA logos, trademarks, designations and championship tickets.

For more information and a current list of corporate champions and partners, please click on the following link:

[NCAA Corporate Champions & Partners](#)

LOCAL CONTRIBUTOR PROGRAM

Currently, local non-CCP corporate entities are not permitted to utilize the NCAA's registered marks, logos, tickets, name or references to the championship in a promotional/commercial manner. If a host institution/conference has an interest in using value-in-kind contributors, the contributor plan must be approved in advance by the NCAA Corporate Relationships staff. The LOC is permitted to involve a local contributor in the championship only as a sponsor of LOC activities or as a ticket package purchaser (pending NCAA approval of said local entities and approval of the arrangement).

Local contributors may only be referred to as "local contributors of the LOC." Local contributors may not use the word "official," "official sponsor of" or "corporate champion/partner" in any manner. Local contributors will not receive any in-venue or on-site recognition/branding/exposure, with the exception of small signage in private hospitality locations; in the souvenir (print or digital) game program, and/or additional digital advertisement space. In being recognized, these local contributors must be referenced as supporters of the local organizing committee, and not of the NCAA. Any recognition, branding and/or exposure creative must be submitted to the NCAA Corporate Relationships staff for review and approval.

Local contributors may be provided an opportunity to purchase an advertisement in the souvenir game program, provided the corporation is not a competitor of any NCAA Corporate Champion. All advertisements must be submitted to the NCAA Corporate Relationships staff for advance approval. As noted above, local contributors who purchase an NCAA-approved ticket package may not receive recognition of any kind without the advanced approval of the NCAA staff.

NCAA TRADEMARKS

NOTE: These general guidelines do not include merchandise designs. All product designs must be submitted through the NCAA's licensing program administered by The Collegiate Licensing Company. Inquiries should be directed to the NCAA licensing staff.

1. ALL uses of NCAA trademarks or logos must be submitted to the NCAA for approval.
2. Downloads of NCAA logos may be obtained through the [NCAA Digital Library](#).
3. The NCAA's position on inclusion of ® and ™ marks is first and most prominent use.

The location of the trademark and how it is used is the primary factor in determining if a trademark symbol should be included in text. If the protected logo location is prominent and the primary focus on the page or product design, an ® or ™ in the text is not necessary. However, if the logo location is placed lower on the page or is secondary to the message being delivered, an ® or ™ in the text or header (first use only) should be inserted.

In the case of NCAA Women's Final Four, an ® is required after NCAA and after Women's Final Four. The NCAA owns "NCAA" and "Women's Final Four", but "NCAA Women's Final Four" is not a registered mark in itself: NCAA® Women's Final Four®.

To further expand, if the NCAA primary logo, which displays the registered mark, is used in a prominent position; NCAA Women's Final Four would require an R-ball only after the Four because the NCAA has already been identified as a registered mark. NCAA Women's Final Four®.

4. In radio and television advertising, NCAA should only be pronounced as N-C-A-A or N-C-double-A. It should not be referenced as "N-C-two-A" or in any other fashion.
5. There may be no registration of or use of NCAA marks within Internet domain names unless advance approval from the NCAA is secured and ownership of the URL is maintained by the NCAA. Such use of NCAA marks in Internet directories is prohibited; however, members may use an NCAA mark within a member URL, provided such NCAA mark does not appear in the domain name portion of the URL. By way of example, members may use the following URL: memberx.edu/ncaa.

Identification of commercially named venues on NCAA materials

- For the purposes of providing information about and promoting the location of an NCAA championship, the venue/competition site of any round of NCAA championships can be printed, in text-only, on any and all pertinent materials bearing NCAA marks (subject to NCAA approval of the graphics).
- The logo of a commercially named venue cannot be used on any materials bearing NCAA logos or trademarks.
- The venue's name and information (without use of logos) will also be included on the dedicated website that the NCAA will provide to sell tickets.

NCAA logo use by commercially named venues

For the purposes of providing information about and promoting the sale of NCAA tickets, the venue/competition site of any round of NCAA championships is permitted to display (subject to NCAA approval of the graphics) the championship site-specific logo as recognition of the event being held in its facility. The NCAA logo must be in the form of a link to a dedicated web page that will be established and/or assigned by the NCAA championship administrator to sell the NCAA tickets.

The following conditions apply to this NCAA logo use:

- The NCAA championship site-specific logo can be used by the venue to communicate the NCAA event as one of the variety of upcoming events at the facility. The NCAA logo must be used only once and only as a part of a group of other logos of events being held at the venue.
- The one-time logo use is limited to the site's "home web page" or "event web page."
- The NCAA logo must be placed in a location on the venue's web page so that there is clear and defined separation between the NCAA logo and any other commercial logos (including that of the commercially named venue). [This is because NCAA Corporate Champions/Corporate Partners and WBD/CBS have graphic exclusivity in the use of NCAA logos and marks.] Logos of the venue's or the website's advertisers/sponsors may be used on the home/event web page even with the NCAA's championship site-specific logo on the same page if those commercial entities are clearly separated from the NCAA logo (e.g., are on a different colored background and are located at the bottom of the website page).
- The venue is not permitted to claim to be "the home," a host or co-host of any session of the NCAA championship.
- The logo provided by the NCAA championship staff cannot be modified in any way.
- ALL uses of NCAA logos must be submitted to the NCAA staff for approval.

NCAA trademarked protection language:

NCAA trademarks benefit from consistent "source identification" to the public through basic legal language attributing ownership.

The legal statement should be used on "printed" materials of all types for all NCAA trademarks, except where there is agreement by key staff stakeholders that aesthetic or space limitations prevent legal language. The legal statement is NOT required when the NCAA blue disk or the word NCAA is used alone and part of NCAA-produced materials without any of the conditions below.

- Printed items that display logos of other business entities/organizations (i.e., corporate champions/corporate partners, network partners, official suppliers, official licensees, local organizing committees and NCAA members).
- Printed items that are produced to be "used" by other business entities/organizations including NCAA members and host institutions.
- Printed items produced for advertisement/promotional purposes (i.e., magazine and newspaper ads, NCAA souvenir publication ads, posters, newsletters).

The NCAA requires protection language as outlined below. This does not have to be prominently displayed language and is expected to be included as some form of “mouse print.”

The examples below are written only to represent the most typical examples. If you are unsure of exact wording for a specific example, please contact Ashley Murray Narracci at amurray@ncaa.org or 317-917-6349.

For blue disc and/or secondary (word) mark, please use:

- NCAA is a trademark of the National Collegiate Athletic Association.

For blue disc/secondary marks plus another NCAA trademark, please use (for example):

- NCAA and March Madness are trademarks of the National Collegiate Athletic Association.
- NCAA, NCAA Sweet Sixteen and Road to the Final Four are trademarks of the National Collegiate Athletic Association.

For blue disc/secondary marks plus another NCAA trademark used with other authorized business entities, please use (for example):

- The NCAA, March Madness, Men’s Final Four and Women’s Final Four are trademarks owned by the National Collegiate Athletic Association. All other licenses or trademarks are property of their respective holders.

NCAA Licensed Trademarks:

College World Series and Women’s College World Series: The NCAA is the exclusive licensee of these marks, registered by Major League Baseball, in connection with the NCAA Division I Men’s Baseball Championship and the Division I Women’s Softball Championship.

All other licenses or trademarks are property of their respective holders.

Helpful Links:

[The NCAA’s Advertising and Promotional Standards](#)

[NCAA Trademarks](#)

[NCAA Trademark Protection Program](#)

[NCAA Digital Library](#)

[NCAA Corporate Champions and Corporate Partners](#)

OFFICIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS/LICENSEE SUPPLIERS

The NCAA licensing program is designed to ensure the quality and consistency of all of the NCAA’s Championship Event merchandise, protect the intellectual property of the NCAA and our member schools, and generate revenue to enhance programs that support NCAA student-athletes.

Any premiums and/or other merchandise that bear NCAA Marks, Brackets, Taglines or other NCAA references must be produced by an official NCAA Licensee or NCAA Official Equipment Supplier. There may be royalties or other related costs associated with such items. If the NCAA is unable to identify a current NCAA Licensee or NCAA Official Equipment Supplier to provide a specific piece of merchandise, the NCAA will work to sublicense (on a short-term basis) a company that can provide the specific item.

For a list of NCAA licensees and official equipment suppliers, visit [NCAA Licensing - ncaa.org](#).

ADVERTISING/SIGNS/“LOOK AND DÉCOR”

- Advertising/Banners/Signs/Displays.** The host shall not permit advertising, marketing identification, banners, signs or displays of any kind to be hung, posted or displayed anywhere within the general public seating/viewing area of the competition, practice and/or ancillary event venue(s) (i.e., any place that can be seen from the playing surface, seats or within broadcast view), including the scoreboard and the playing surface prior to or during the conduct of the championships, other than NCAA, media partner or NCAA corporate champion/partner branding/recognition (e.g., signage, banners, scoreboards, LED scorer’s table, video board, ribbon board, PA announcements) approved by the NCAA. Any permanently affixed (or previously leased) advertising banners, signs, cup holders, select equipment bearing corporate marks (e.g., TVs, computer monitors, stats monitors or displays), product/exhibit displays (e.g., car displays, branding exhibits/kiosks) shall be covered with décor elements or other NCAA

directed elements by the competition, practice and/or ancillary event venue(s) and at the expense of the venue(s) as specified by the NCAA, including costs of production and installation and strike. The NCAA must be notified within 60 days if any signage has changed after the site visit or before the championship. Similarly, for any surrounding areas/facilities that are to be used by the NCAA for official events, no advertising, marketing, identification, banners, signs, decals, sampling, distribution or displays of any kind shall be hung, posted or displayed anywhere within those areas unless authorized by the NCAA. Professional and collegiate signage/marks/pennants/banners/retired numbers/etc. may continue to be displayed. NCAA staff representatives have the discretion, during their site visit or when on-site in advance of the tournament, to have the building staff remove a sign/banner. All usage of marks must follow NCAA brand guidelines and must be approved by NCAA staff in advance.

- b. **Alcohol/Tobacco/Gambling.** All alcohol, tobacco and gambling advertisements/corporate identification within broadcast view or viewable by game attendees in the competition venue bowl must be covered at the expense of the host or venue. Any alcohol, tobacco or gambling advertising that is deemed by the NCAA as not viewable from within the bowl does not need to be covered, whether in the concourse or in ancillary venues. All other advertisements/corporate identification in the noted areas must, at a minimum, not be backlit unless otherwise authorized by the NCAA. This would apply to preliminary rounds and the championship rounds for all 90 NCAA championships.
- c. **External Signs.** All exterior venue corporate signage, other than professional franchise identification, must be covered as specified by the NCAA and must be covered with décor elements as specified by the NCAA at the expense of the competition, practice and/or ancillary event venue(s).
- d. **Commercially Named Venues.** Commercially named competition, practice and/or ancillary event venue(s) may display no more than two preexisting interior signs consisting only of the competition, practice and/or ancillary event venue(s)' name at the top of the venue, with placement designated by the NCAA. The competition, practice and ancillary event venue(s) signage design and placement must be approved by the NCAA. If the commercially named competition, practice and/or ancillary event venue(s) is an existing NCAA corporate champion or corporate partner, the NCAA, in its sole discretion, may allow additional branding of the commercially named venue(s).
- e. **Covering Existing Signage/Product Branding.** In regard to any signage that is to be covered in accordance with these bid specifications, the practice, competition and/or ancillary event venue(s) shall not limit or prohibit the ability of the NCAA to use signage or other elements of its own third-party designees in covering such existing signage/product branding.
- f. **NCAA Corporate Champion and Partner Branding/Recognition.** The NCAA shall have the right to display branding/recognition (e.g., signage, banners, scorer's table, video board, ribbon board, PA announcements, inflatables, projections, kiosks, decals, window clings, lighting, street teams, logos) for the Association, its corporate champions and partners and media partners inside and outside of the competition, practice and/or ancillary event venue(s). These locations, include but are not limited to the concourse, within the competition bowl and venue exterior without limitation.
- g. **Official Stickers and Stencils.** The NCAA shall provide the competition venue with the appropriate stickers/field stencils for the approved playing surface markings for the championship.
- h. **Fan Promotion Materials.** If facility approves, patrons are permitted to bring in small signs and non-noise-making items in accordance with NCAA and venue policies. Items may not include any (non-CCP) commercial identification.
- i. **Digital Inventory.** At no charge, the NCAA will have full access to, and control of, any and all LED and other digital signage inventory, both internal and external to the competition venue. This includes TV monitors, video screens, video walls, LED fascia, and all internal and external signage, digital or otherwise. This includes any and all digital inventory to be made available at the time of the championship, inclusive of any inventory that may be added by the venue after this bid document is signed.

Section 6 • Competition Site Requirements/Diagrams

COMPETITION SITE USE

The competition site must be exclusively available for setup, practice and competitive sessions throughout the competition. The placement of all auxiliary equipment (e.g., chairs, tables, corrals) shall be in place beginning the day before teams are scheduled to arrive in the venue for regionals and Wednesday for nationals (i.e., committee's walk through) and remain in place throughout the competition.

Regionals. The facility shall be reserved for the exclusive use of the NCAA beginning at 10 a.m. two days before competition through the conclusion of the final session (i.e., Tuesday through Saturday OR Wednesday through Sunday). All space shall be available and the facility set up no later than the day before competition.

Nationals. The facility shall be reserved for the exclusive use of the NCAA beginning at 10 a.m. three days before the competition through the conclusion of the final session (i.e., Monday through Saturday). All space shall be available and the facility set up no later than Tuesday prior to practice day.

CONCESSIONS

Food and beverage prices shall be no higher than similar events or primary tenants at the competition site.

No food, beverage or merchandise, of any nature, may be vended or dispensed in the seating areas. During competition, selling is restricted to the competition site concourse and established selling locations.

DIAGRAMS/MAPS

The host shall provide city, campus, facility and competition floor diagrams as requested by the committee for inclusion in the Participant Manual.

OFFICIALS SCORING TABLE

Provide seating at the head table for the following:

- **Regionals.** The head scorer, four assistant scorers, meet referee, alternate judge, tournament director, the NCAA committee/site representative, staff in charge of the scoring system, music technician, TV broadcast coordinator, TV timing coordinator and announcer.
- **Nationals.** The NCAA scoring director and assistant, head scorer, four assistant hand scorers, meet referee, alternate judge, Rules Interpreter, National Coordinator of Officials, NCAA Women's Gymnastics Committee (3), tournament director, NCAA championship administrator and staff (5), music technician and the announcer; as well as four spots reserved for ESPN talent and staff.
- Media representatives shall not be seated next to the meet personnel.

The walkway behind the scoring table should be roped off to preclude spectators, coaches and participants from accessing the area.

NEUTRALITY

Host institutions should keep in mind that an NCAA event is not a home event. Neutrality is important; therefore, such items as the use of student-athletes on host institutional signage should not be used to create a "home" atmosphere. Traditional march-in ceremonies are not permissible.

NCAA SPACE REQUIREMENTS

Venue Specifications. **For nationals**, it is required that the size of the venue be a minimum of 17,325 square feet (165' L x 105' W) and competition be held on the podium. The facility shall have at least 8,000 permanent and/or temporary seats.

Athletic Training Room. Provide an athletic training room stocked with towels and other necessary equipment, and staff it with the appropriate personnel prior to, during and after the competition and practice sessions. Two separate athletic training rooms with all necessary modalities will be required at nationals are preferred at regionals. A minimum of one area is required at regionals.

Backdrop (*Nationals only*). The NCAA will provide a backdrop with the NCAA logos to be hung behind the media dais.

ESPN Interview Room/Area (*Nationals only*). Two areas, one adjacent to the competition floor for ESPN interviews and headshots; and a second area located in a remote area on the competition floor for ESPN interviews.

Bands/Spirit Squad Warm-Up Area. Traditionally, bands and spirit squads have not attended the championships. The host should be prepared to provide instrument storage and spirit squad warm-up area if required.

Entrances. Entrances must be staffed by an adequate number of persons. Signage should be posted to clearly identify all entrances (i.e., team personnel, media, player-guest, and band/spirit squad pass gate).

Interview Room. The interview room should be “dressed” appropriately to reflect the prestige of the event by (a) placing NCAA championship signage and logos on the podium and walls; (b) using draping on tables and other areas as necessary; (c) setting up a platform for the interviewees and moderator; (d) providing a riser for photographers and camera operators at the back of the room; and (e) providing a sound system.

Judges’ Meeting Room. An area large enough to accommodate 26 judges must be reserved. This area will be used as meeting space/meal functions for the judges. A sign reading, “NCAA Use Only” shall be posted on the room.

Locker Rooms/Supplies. Four equitable locker rooms with shower facilities must be provided for each team. The host team will be permitted to use its original locker room. Each locker room must be clean and adequately supplied with towels, toilet paper, water and ice during all competition. The committee or site representative will inspect the locker rooms prior to the first use. Separate locker rooms shall be available for male and female coaching staff members.

For REGIONALS: Designate a securer space for participants in the first session Wednesday/Thursday to gather after leaving the locker rooms so the locker rooms are ready for participants in the second session.

Signs should be posted to identify the teams’ locker rooms. Directional signage as needed also shall be displayed.

Media Areas. The areas used for the media workroom and for press conferences should be near one another and to the locker rooms to facilitate the media’s work and access for coaches and student-athletes. It is preferred that hospitality is in a separate area near the media workroom. Only NCAA, DASANI, POWERADE and/or generic drinking cups (devoid of commercial identification) should be used in the refreshment area.

Workroom. The media workroom should be equipped with an adequate number of work stations, electrical outlets and other necessary supplies. NCAA logos should be displayed appropriately.

Refreshment Area. A refreshment area should be set up adjacent to or in the media workroom to accommodate the working press throughout open practices and competition. Only NCAA, POWERADE and/or generic drinking cups (devoid of commercial identification) should be used in the refreshment area.

Postcompetition Interview Room. Most postcompetition interviews should take place on the competition floor. A standard press conference set-up with a raised stage, seating for four at skirted tables, media backdrop and space for media to sit should be available in a separate space away from the competition floor, if needed.

Backdrop. The NCAA will provide a backdrop with the NCAA logo for the press conference area.

Photo areas. Photographers will be restricted to designated photo areas if there is not a podium. A staff member from the hosting institution should tape off designated photo areas in coordination with the tournament manager, TV and video boards representatives. Exceptions may be made for facilities in which the presence of photographers would not in any way interfere with a competitor's performance. If a podium is used, photographers are not permitted on the podium and cannot rest their equipment on the podium.

Access/Security. A security officer should be stationed outside the media workroom and postcompetition interview room to check credentials; this individual should be instructed that only credentialed individuals may enter the area. Judges specifically are prohibited from this area.

NCAA Committee Meeting Room. The committee meeting room should be large enough to accommodate 10 people comfortably. This area needs to be close to the competition floor and not visible to the public.

Player-Guest Entrance. A gate must be identified to admit patrons holding player-guest tickets.

Team Personnel Entrance. An entrance, near the locker rooms, must be identified for all student-athletes and coaches. This entrance will be used to distribute wrist bands to those coaches and administrative personnel listed on the official entry form. Competing student-athletes will receive credentials to affix to their gym bags.

Recommended Competition Area Setup. Appendix F is to be used as a guide based on what previous hosts have done.

PARKING

There should be enough complimentary parking spaces adjacent to the arena for the committee, team personnel, judges, NCAA staff, media, AAI, scoring program personnel and other personnel designated by the committee. In addition, designate an area for team buses to drop off and pick up passengers.

SIGNAGE

The following is a suggested list of signage which should be produced by the host:

- Team names for locker rooms.
- Signs to designate all rooms (media workroom, hospitality, athletic training, etc.).
- Directional signage (e.g., Competition Gym →).
- Award signage.
- March-in signage on sticks (each of 9 team names).

VIDEOTAPING

Each participating team is permitted to tape competition at the site where it is participating with a single camera and one person (videotape or film).

- Institutions are permitted to videotape championships competition of their teams or their individual student-athletes for archival, coaching or instructional purposes. The videotapes may not be used for any commercial purposes. Each institution is permitted to use one camera and may videotape only that portion of the competition in which it participates from either the designated area provided by the host institution or from its respective corral during regional and national competition. Institutions may videotape from inside their corrals provided the camera is hand-held or on a stationary tripod and does not obstruct fan viewing. For the videographer to film from the team corral, he or she will need to be included as part of the 25/30 permitted in the team corral.
- In most cases, photographers will be restricted to the seating area and will not be allowed on the competitive floor. Exceptions may be made for facilities in which there is enough space for photographers' boxes at each event and where the presence of photographers would not in any way interfere with a competitor's performance.
- Flashes or strobes are not permitted because of the proximity of the photographers to the competitors. Establish rules that are workable in the facility that will allow photographers to take good shots without interference of any kind. The host institution's sports information director is responsible for this area. In addition, photographers should be notified in advance of the ground rules.

Section 7 • Credentials

CREDENTIALS (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

Working credentials may be provided to bona fide working personnel, including media representatives, judges and equipment company representatives who provide equipment for the competition. **For REGIONALS and NATIONALS**, credentials shall be provided by the NCAA. The NCAA media coordinator will work with the national and regional hosts to determine specific credential needs.

General Policies. Credentials must be worn as specified below to gain entry to the arena and for access to designated areas (competition floor, press conferences, locker rooms, etc.).

The information submitted via NCAA forms shall serve as the official credential request form. An issued credential may not be given to another team member or individual. If a participant or staff member loses a credential, a fine will be imposed (the price of an all-session ticket to the event) to replace the credential. Wrist bands will be provided to the coaching staff and support personnel as identified on the official entry form; student-athletes will receive plastic “bag tags” to affix to their gym bags. These credentials will be provided in the Welcome Packet along with the competitor numbers. Different credentials will be provided for each session.

Teams. For REGIONALS, teams shall receive a total of 30 individual credentials, with a maximum 20 for competing student-athletes. If a team does not have 20 student-athletes, the remaining credentials may be allocated to other necessary institutional staff members or noncompeting student-athletes. For the videographer to film from the corral, see policy below. The athletic trainer shall be included as part of the 30. Only 20 athletes will be permitted for warmups and competition. Teams must submit an updated march-in list if any changes are made.

For NATIONALS ONLY, teams shall receive a total of 30 individual credentials for Thursday and 30 credentials for Saturday, with a maximum of 20 for competing student-athletes. If a team does not have 20 student-athletes, the remaining credentials may be allocated to other necessary institutional staff members or noncompeting student-athletes. For the videographer to film from the corral, see the policy below. The athletic trainer shall be included as part of the 30. Teams not advancing to the final day of competition at the championship will receive a wristband to gain entry to the seating areas on day two.

For NATIONALS ONLY, teams advancing to the final day of competition will receive 20 additional color-assigned wristbands that will be distributed to an institutional administrator (not coaches or directors of operations) to distribute to 20 individuals of their choice that will be allowed on the arena floor should they win the national championship. The 20 additional individuals from the nonwinning team are prohibited from accessing the floor after the completion of the championship. Any member of the travel party or institution handing credentials to people in the stands will be removed from the venue. The committee reserves the right to cite a misconduct for that institution.

All-Around and Individual Event Qualifiers. The number of credentials issued will match the travel party number, plus two additional credentials.

For REGIONALS, the number of credentials issued will match the travel party number, plus two additional credentials.

For NATIONALS, where there is enough space to accommodate more people, the number of credentials will match the travel party number, plus three additional credentials.

For 2026, the official **NCAA Travel Party Policy** for individuals for regionals is as follows:

- 1-3 individuals = a credential for each athlete and 2 nonathletes (coaches, ATs, managers, etc.) PLUS the 2 additional credentials listed above equaling a total of up to 4 nonathletes (coaches, ATs, managers, etc.).
- 4-6 individuals = a credential for each athlete and 3 nonathletes (coaches, ATs, managers, etc.) PLUS the 2 additional credentials listed above equaling a total of up to 5 nonathletes (coaches, ATs, managers, etc.).

Team Physician. A medical credential may be issued to a team physician on request. Hosts shall seat team physicians in an area that is easily accessible to the competition floor in the event of an injury or in designated areas approved by the NCAA.

Sports Information Director. One floor-access credential (nontransferable) for purposes of fulfilling media responsibilities and access to the competition floor and locker rooms as needed. This will be requested through and issued by the media coordinator.

Photographers/Videographers from Participating Institutions. Up to two credentials for an institution's photographer and/or videographer may be requested via the media coordinator and removed from the team list. The photographer must cover the event from areas designated by the host institution. *For the videographer to film from the team corral, they must be included as part of the teams 30 individuals permitted in the corral. Photographers are not permitted in the corrals and their credentials will be handled by the media coordinator.*

Drug-Testing Team. In the event of drug-testing, event management badges shall be issued. A minimum of five nonmedia seats shall be reserved for members of the drug-testing team. Individuals serving in this capacity will be identified for the tournament director at each site by the national office staff.

Other Television. Television stations and/or networks will be limited to two credentials (one talent and one temporary television) unless a union contract dictates the presence of a sound technician.

Gambling. NCAA policy prohibits the issuance of media credentials to representatives of any organization that regularly publishes or otherwise promotes the advertising of "tout sheets" or "tip sheets," or other advertising designed to encourage gambling on college sports events. Institutions hosting National Collegiate Championships competition are subject to the Association's enforcement procedures if the media coordinator disregards this policy.

Section 8 • Drug Testing

The NCAA is dedicated to fair and equitable competition throughout each round of NCAA championships and strongly supports the drug-testing program established by its membership, to safeguard the health and safety of the participating student-athletes.

Comprehensive drug testing details for hosts can be found at [NCAA Drug Testing Program - ncaa.org](https://www.ncaa.org/sportscollection/competition/competition-operations/ncaa-drug-testing-program).

Section 9 • Equipment

EQUIPMENT LIST

Equipment List. The tournament director at each host institution must verify by Jan. 12, 2026, that the required equipment has been secured for the competition. The purchase of equipment may not be included as an item of expenses in the host institution's budget. Regional hosts may borrow needed equipment from AAI but will be responsible for shipping costs.

The Women's Gymnastics Committee requires that host institutions provide all AAI equipment. Specific pieces of apparatus are required on the competitive floor (Appendix A). AAI will provide all equipment for NATIONALS, and on request will work with REGIONAL hosts to acquire equipment. Please note that some items may be added or deleted due to future changes to equipment specifications. A one-year waiting period has been implemented for any equipment or matting changes made by the International Gymnastics Federation or USA Gymnastics. This will allow institutions to plan and budget for these items. The WCGA president will share any proposed equipment changes with national office staff and the committee will review/approve/follow up with AAI to ensure compliance at the championships.

REGIONAL hosts have the option of providing the AAI Elite Floor Exercise System - 40' x 40' "Stratum" OR the new Power Elite floor.

The Power Elite floor will be used at NATIONALS. Please confirm which floor you are using by Jan. 12.

Equipment Policies.

1. The purchase of equipment may not be included as an item of expense in the host institution's budget when serving as host for either regional competition or national championships. For the national championships, equipment companies will supply the equipment to avoid a mixture of manufacturers' equipment on the floor. The equipment that will be used in the championships will be provided by AAI. All equipment must meet the specifications as outlined in the USA Gymnastics Women's Artistic Rules and Policies Operating Code (Level 10) and any NCAA collegiate modifications. Copies can be obtained through USA Gymnastics, 132 E. Washington St., Suite 700, Indianapolis, Indiana 46204 (317-237-5050), or on its website. If a regional site needs to secure additional equipment from AAI, they must contact the NCAA by Feb. 1 and AAI will provide a shipping cost. AAI does not charge a rental fee for regionals, but hosts will be responsible for shipping costs.
2. Boards and matting provided by host institutions at REGIONALS, and by the equipment company at NATIONALS, must remain at each assigned event.
3. Beam and floor routines must be timed. Falls from the beam and bars also must be timed. The warning device used to time beam and floor routines may be a bell or whistle, and they must be distinguishable from each other. The gymnasts and coaches should be made aware of the device before the start of the event.
4. AAI will assign a representative to be in attendance at each site to ensure equipment is in proper functioning order and assist with any minor maintenance needed.
5. A representative of the NCAA Women's Gymnastics Committee for NATIONALS but a NCAA site representative for REGIONALS with the representative of the equipment company will be responsible for inspecting the equipment and ensuring that adequate mats and mount and dismount areas are provided. The meet referee is responsible for measuring the equipment and ensuring that all equipment meets specifications.

Each competition area should not overlap another competitive area. There should be enough room for mounting, dismounting and vaulting areas.

6. Representatives of the equipment company that is supplying the apparatus for the meet are entitled to three passes for official company personnel and two to three parking passes, as needed.
7. Equipment used in the REGIONAL and NATIONAL championships must be available for purchase by member institutions Sept. 1 before the championships. In addition, equipment used in the championships must be approved by the NCAA Women's Gymnastics Committee.

8. 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).
9. The rules modifications (Appendix A) contains additional equipment specifications and competition preparation details. Any updates/clarifications after publication of this document are available in the Rules Newsletter posted throughout the season on [NCAA Women's Gymnastics Rules of the Game](#).

Miscellaneous Equipment.

1. The institution needs to provide the score flashers (16 - 4 per event, 5 at vault) for each scoring table. (**REGIONALS only**)
2. Chalk holders and chalk.
3. Spray water bottles and brushes.
4. Tac-10 pads and cleaner.
5. Metal tape measure for vault.
6. Spare parts - turnbuckles, load binders, vaulting springs, etc.
7. Equipment company personnel to staff the competition venue.
8. A way to display the competing student-athletes name at the event.

Handheld Radios.

1. **Regionals.** The tournament director should provide the NCAA site representative with a handheld radio to use throughout the competition for communication with the tournament director, if requested.
2. **Nationals.** The tournament director should provide the NCAA staff with 10 handheld radios to use throughout the competition. Earpieces are preferred to headset, if requested.

LEADERBOARD

Develop a system for displaying team and individual scores throughout the competition. (**Required for NATIONALS; preferred at REGIONALS.**)

Sound System. Provide a mechanism for a music-streaming device to be used plus backup systems and be sure it is synchronized with the sound system that will be used during competition. Floor exercise competition music will be provided by each team, with the host system providing options to connect the sound system to the team's digital playback devices. Playing floor exercise music via bluetooth is not allowed. Provide a graphic equalizer. An individual knowledgeable about the sound equipment must be present for all practices, warmup and competition sessions. It is recommended that the sound system be near the floor exercise area and not at the scoring table. Volume levels of floor exercise music should be consistent for all participating teams.

The host institution will be responsible for providing generic background music containing only inoffensive lyrics during march-in, warm-up periods and rotations. The host institution is subject to a financial fine if this policy is not followed.

TELEPHONES/INTERNET ACCESS

Telephone communication must be available for radio and television (if applicable). ESPN will provide telephone communication between the scoring table and its truck for the committee liaisons. (**Required for NATIONALS; as needed at REGIONAL sites.**) Wireless internet access should be made available for media and committee/staff working the championships.

VIDEO SCREENS

If a site has video boards, they must be used at the facility's expense. All video board content will be provided by the NCAA.

Section 10 • Financial Administration

AUDIT

Sites will be randomly selected for financial and box office audits following the championship.

The NCAA will make every effort to notify sites selected for audits within 30 days after the submission of financial reports, but reserves the right to audit a site up to one year after the championship. Receipts, facility settlements, expense reimbursements and honorariums are subject to change until the audits are reviewed and accepted by the NCAA. If selected for audit, the following documentation will be requested: box office audit reports or sales summaries; ticket purchase invoices or statements; unsold tickets; invoices, contracts or timesheets supporting all expenses; general ledger; bank statements; check copies and reconciliations; and competition venue rental agreement. The documentation should support details reported on the host financial report.

APPROVAL OF THE BUDGET

As part of the site-selection process, each prospective host must submit a proposed budget for approval by the NCAA. All receipts and expenses associated with the conduct of the championship competition shall be included in the proposed budget. This includes lodging expenses for officials and site representatives, if applicable. The proposed budget must be submitted before the selection date in accordance with the schedule set by the sport committee and approved by the NCAA prior to the first date of competition of the championship. Additionally, best efforts should be made by the host to reasonably forecast expected ticket sales from the hosted event due to attendance driving a number of host expenses.

The host institution is responsible for adhering to championship expenses as approved by the NCAA, including (but not limited to) competition site rental, maintenance, insurance, printing of tickets, ushers, maintenance personnel, ticket sellers, ticket takers, minor officials, police and security, promotion, publicity, advertising, meetings, banquets, medical staff. Other expenses not included in the original proposed budget must be approved in advance by the NCAA.

It is also incumbent upon the host to understand and remit all necessary taxes related to the sale of championship tickets made by both the NCAA and the host at their given state and locality. All consideration must be given by the host for certain relief of taxes with respect to the NCAA's not for profit status under 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code. Additionally, certain championships may be required to provide a letter of attestation regarding tax status provided by an outside CPA/accounting firm.

LODGING EXPENSES

Judges. Room and tax shall be direct-billed to the host institution and be reimbursed on the final financial report. Judges will be responsible for their own incidentals. Estimated lodging costs for the judges shall be included as a line item on the initial proposed budget.

NCAA Representative/Women's Gymnastics Committee. Room and tax shall be direct-billed to the host institution and be reimbursed on the final financial report. Committee members/NCAA representative will be responsible for their own incidentals. Estimated lodging costs for site representatives/women's gymnastics committee members shall be included as a line item on the initial proposed budget .

NCAA Affiliates. Will be responsible for their own expenses.

NCAA Staff. Will be responsible for their own expenses.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Host institutions must complete the online financial report, which includes accurately reporting all revenues and expense, and must include payment of the amount due to the NCAA, within 60 days after the final date of competition at the site (if applicable). If requested, the host may be required to provide all supporting documentation to validate the revenues and expenses of their site. As a best practice, hosts are encouraged to upload all appropriate receipts, ticket audits and other supporting documentation to their host report on the "Summary" tab as documentation supporting their revenue and expense figures.

Financial reports showing net receipts are not considered complete until payment is received at the national office. Institutions that fail to meet the 60-day reporting period will be assessed the following penalties: 60-90 days past due (25% reduction in honorarium), 91-120 days (50% reduction in honorarium) and 121 days or more (100% reduction in honorarium). If there is a shortfall in the funds available to reimburse approved expenses and honorariums, the NCAA will make best efforts to reimburse the host within five business days of the report being approved by the NCAA finance and accounting department.

DRUG TESTING EXPENSES

The budget for drug testing expenses should only be completed and returned to Drug Free Sport if the host has been notified that drug testing will occur. The drug-testing budget and expenses are separate from the financial report form. The drug-testing budget form is an appendix in the [drug testing manual](https://ncaa.org/Student-Athlete%20Programs/Health%20and%20Safety) (ncaa.org/Student-Athlete Programs/Health and Safety).

PARTICIPANTS

The NCAA will reimburse the competing institutions for transportation and per diem expenses in accordance with the NCAA travel policies. The competing teams shall be responsible for their local transportation, unless otherwise allowed under NCAA policy. Once the championship is completed, participating institutions should submit reimbursement through the [Travel Expense System \(TES\)](#) to the travel department at the NCAA national office within 30 days of the competition. Please note that if you host a championship, the submission of per diem and/or transportation reimbursement is in addition to the host budgeting and approval process defined above.

SITE REPRESENTATIVES

The NCAA representative's hotel room and tax shall be paid (via direct bill) by the host institution and submitted on the financial report. All other expenses (i.e., per diem, travel) will be paid directly by the NCAA.

TRANSPORTATION

Transportation. The NCAA shall pay for the rental of cars for a predetermined number of game officials and the NCAA committee representative(s). The championships staff will approve the individual to get a rental car and the individual will need to call Short's Travel to book.

Local Transportation for Teams. For team sports eligible for reimbursable ground transportation, you must arrange ground transportation through Short's Travel. Individual sports eligible for reimbursable ground transportation receive mileage reimbursement in accordance with the travel policy.

Air Transportation for Teams. If a school is eligible for air transportation, all air travel must be booked through Short's Travel.

Hotel Room Block for Predetermined Sites. If at an NCAA predetermined championship site, On Location will assist with the management of those hotel room blocks.

NCAA Championship Travel Policies

Section 11 • Health & Safety Considerations

As part of preparation and planning to host and/or participate in championship events, member Institutions are reminded and encouraged to review all applicable health and safety policy and legislative requirements and guidance with event staff and personnel including, among others, those relating to concussion management, catastrophic injury prevention, inclement weather and independent medical care, consulting with institutional legal, medical and risk management personnel as necessary. These requirements and related information are located in applicable division manuals, sports playing rules and the materials located on the [NCAA Sport Science Institute website](#). A nonexhaustive list of some of the key health and safety considerations is provided below. More detailed information on each of these topics is located in the [Interassociation Recommendations: Preventing Catastrophic Injury and Death in Collegiate Athletes](#) and the [NCAA Sports Medicine Handbook](#).

- Blood-Borne Pathogens and Other Biohazards.
- Catastrophic Incidents and Emergency Action Plans.
- Cleaning and Disinfection.
- Inclement Weather, Air Quality and Other Environmental Considerations.
- Independent Medical Care.
- Medical Facilities.
- Medical Disqualification, Removal and Return to Activities.
- Medical Staff: Resources, Communications, Training and Responsibilities.
- Medical Supplies and Equipment.
- Medical Treatment (including for, among others, the following emergency conditions):
 - Asthma.
 - Burners (Brachial Plexus Injuries).
 - Cardiac Emergencies.
 - Cervical Spine Injuries.
 - Concussion and Traumatic Brain Injury.
 - Diabetic Emergency.
 - Head and Neck Injury.
 - Heat Illness and Heat Stroke.
 - Hypothermia.
 - Mental Health Emergencies.
 - Rhabdomyolysis.
 - Sickle Cell and Other Exertional and Nonexertional Collapse.
 - Skin Infections.
- Prescription Medications, Banned Substances and Drug Testing.
- Protective Gear and Equipment.
- Sexual Violence.
- Visiting Team Care and Coverage.

In addition, and as a supplement to the legislative and policy requirements and related guidance described above, the following health and safety considerations and expectations will also apply to all championship events.

Each scheduled practice of regional and national competition of the national collegiate women's gymnastics championships should include the following:

1. The on-site presence of a person qualified and delegated to render emergency care to a stricken participant or spectator.
2. The presence or planned access to a physician for prompt medical evaluation of the situation, when warranted.
3. Planned access to a medical facility, including a plan for communication and transportation between the athletics site and the medical facility for prompt medical services, when warranted. Access to a working telephone or other telecommunications device, whether fixed or mobile, should be assured.
4. All necessary emergency equipment should be at the site or quickly accessible. Equipment should be in good operating condition, and personnel must be trained in advance to use it properly. Additionally, emergency information about the student-athlete should be available both at home and on the road for use by medical personnel.
5. A thorough understanding by all parties, including the leadership of visiting teams, of the personnel and procedures associated with the medical plan.
6. Fully equipped athletic training rooms supported by certified athletic trainers.
7. Ambulance on site for all practices and competition sessions.

Ambulance Service

Planned access to an ambulance shall be provided by the championship host. If it is determined that an ambulance should be provided on site, the championship host shall obtain the ambulance service and the incurred cost is reimbursable by the NCAA. Any ambulance used must be equipped in accordance with all applicable government regulations and industry medical and safety standards.

Coaches, Officials, Event Staff and Spectators

Host institutions should consult as necessary with applicable institutional legal, medical and risk management personnel to determine and appropriately plan for the management of emergency and other health and safety incidents involving individuals other than student-athletes that may occur at the championship event or venue.

Medical Staff Credentials and Access

Travel party credentials for participating institutions will include credentials for medical personnel; provided it is the responsibility of the participating institution to include medical personnel in their normal credential numbers. Institutions may include medical staff beyond travel party limits provided they pay for the additional numbers with institutional funds. Competition site access can be secured by acquiring session tickets through purchase or an institutional pass list.

Any medical staff traveling with participating teams will have access to their team participants with the assistance of host medical staff, should an injury occur. If medical staff are not to be seated with the team during any championship event for any reason, they should communicate to host medical staff their seat locations and host medical staff should be prepared to provide all participant medical staff with the necessary credentials to access and provide necessary escort to the team locker room or athletic training room in the event of an emergency. Typically, an access point from the stands supervised by security will allow access by medical personnel to student-athletes.

Portable Immersion Tubs

Portable immersion tubs (hot or cold) are permitted at championship events only where use is a component of an established emergency or other health and safety plan and managed under the direction of sports medicine staff, an athletic trainer or physician in accordance with all applicable institutional and government health regulations and requirements.

Section 12 • Hydration Program

BODYARMOUR (NATIONALS ONLY)

Equipment Information

The NCAA will provide certain championships relevant equipment (sideline hydration product, sideline hydration equipment, etc.) on a sport-by-sport basis that must be used in all championship activity. The purpose of the product and equipment is to hydrate student-athletes for competition. Each championship will receive information from the NCAA pertaining to any product and equipment that will be provided. Following the championships, each host site will be required to provide the NCAA with a completed inventory sheet (template provided by the NCAA) and pictures for proof of performance.

Cups, Coolers and Water Bottles

Drinking cups, water coolers, ice chests, cooler carts and water bottles should be provided for each scheduled practice or competition of any round of an NCAA championship. Participating teams shall place any premix fluid replacement in the NCAA-issued coolers and water bottles when applicable. Only cups, cans, coolers or water bottles may be used during championships that are provided by the NCAA. If applicable, the host may retain the coolers, cooler carts and ice chests after the competition. Reoccurring host sites are strongly encouraged to use the same equipment the following year unless otherwise notified by the NCAA. Participating teams may retain the water bottles and bottle carriers after the competition.

Hydration Program

Coca-Cola will provide a bottled water product (e.g., Dasani), BODYARMOR powder, and when applicable, BODYARMOR in bottles. Participating teams and student-athletes in NCAA championships continue to be free to use/consume permissible hydration beverage(s) of their own choice in the NCAA-provided equipment. Equipment carrying any branding other than BODYARMOR, however, will not be permitted on the sidelines during NCAA championships.

If a championship also receives BODYARMOR-branded squeeze bottles, they should be provided to student-athletes. Non-BODYARMOR-branded squeeze bottles brought by teams/student-athletes will not be allowed.

If the host must provide and/or purchase product for any NCAA championship use (e.g., student-athlete banquet, committee tent/suite, hospitality areas, media areas), the host must purchase and provide only Coca-Cola products (e.g., Dasani, BODYARMOR, Coca-Cola, Sprite).

Competitors of NCAA Corporate Champion Coca-Cola may not provide product (beverages, water, isotonic) for any NCAA championship, even if the competition offers product for free or at a reduced cost. The championship budget will cover the purchase of Coca-Cola beverage products.

Use of NCAA-Provided Coolers from Previous Years

The host may use previously supplied equipment from the NCAA, specifically BODYARMOR equipment with approval from the NCAA; however, unless approved by the NCAA (which is often possible), they must be used in areas not within television or photographer view [they may not be used on the sidelines or within the competition area(s)].

If you have any questions regarding any of this information, please contact John Baldwin (317-917-6442; jbaldwin@ncaa.org).

Preliminary-Round Sites NOT Receiving BODYARMOR-Branded Equipment and Product

The host institution may use items other than BODYARMOR-branded equipment. These items, however, must not display any commercial marks (e.g., logos and graphics of commercial products such as Gatorade), or such marks must be covered completely (this requirement applies on the sidelines and in competition areas, media areas or any other back-of-house areas).

If the host must provide and/or purchase product for any NCAA championship use (e.g., student-athlete banquet, committee tent/suite, hospitality areas, media areas), the host must purchase and provide only Coca-Cola products (e.g., Dasani, BODYARMOR, Coca-Cola, Sprite). Participating teams and student-athletes in NCAA championships continue to be free to use/consume permissible hydration beverage(s) of their own choice; however, equipment carrying any branding other than BODYARMOR, as referenced above, must be absent of any commercial marks.

If you have any questions regarding any of this information, please contact the NCAA championship manager.

Section 13 • Insurance

If event is held on-campus:

Host institution must maintain and provide proof of at least \$1 million of Commercial General Liability (CGL) insurance on an occurrence form for Bodily Injury and Property Damage, including Products Liability (including completed-operations coverage), coverage for contractual liability, independent contractors, and personal and advertising injury. Coverage cannot exclude liability arising from athletic participation, spectators, alcohol or food-borne illness. Certificate must be submitted to NCAA prior to competition. State institutions subject to state governing tort laws are permitted to provide proof of limited liability under state laws instead of CGL coverage. (This is the minimum requirement per NCAA bylaws).

If event is held off-campus:

Host institution must maintain and provide proof of at least \$1 million of Commercial General Liability insurance on an occurrence form for Bodily Injury and Property Damage, including Products Liability (including completed-operations coverage), coverage for contractual liability, independent contractors, and personal and advertising injury. Coverage cannot exclude liability arising from athletic participation, spectators, alcohol or food-borne illness. Certificate must be submitted to NCAA prior to competition. State institutions subject to state governing tort laws are permitted to provide proof of limited liability under state laws instead of CGL coverage. (This is the minimum requirement per NCAA bylaws).

Venue must maintain and provide a minimum of \$1 million in Commercial General Liability insurance on an occurrence form for Bodily Injury and Property Damage, including Products Liability (including completed-operations coverage), coverage for contractual liability, independent contractors, and personal and advertising injury. Coverage cannot exclude liability arising from athletic participation, spectators, alcohol or food-borne illness. NCAA must be named as an additional insured.

NOTE: All insurance must be provided by an insurance company with an A.M. Best Rating of A-, VII or higher.

Section 14 • Judges

CONFIDENTIALITY

Participating teams will be advised of the judges assigned to their competitions at the administrative meeting. The committee representative will meet with the judges (separately from the administrative meeting) to review their responsibilities and distribute the NCAA patches.

The names of the officiating judges must be protected and removed from any publicly available material published in relation to NCAA competitions in order to avoid dissemination of their names, wherever possible. The judges' names may, however, be included in official documents behind the administration wall on the Road to Nationals website. Refer to Rules Mod 8.3.C.5 for more information on this.

COMMUNICATION

Immediately upon receipt of the list of judges assigned to the competition, hosts shall send an email to each official with the following information (and copy the NCAA championship administrator):

1. Confirmation of travel expense, fee and per diem policy. (*NOTE: These reimbursements will be handled directly by the NCAA.*)
2. Name, telephone number and directions to hotel and institution.
3. Time and site of judges meeting prior to the competition.
4. Time and date(s) of competition.
5. Information on whether the host will provide local transportation.
6. Attendance at the judges meeting is mandatory.
7. Telephone numbers for key meet personnel. (Suggest cell phone number be provided for travel delays.)

NOTE: Aside from communicating with each judge regarding the above information, the tournament director is responsible for maintaining the confidentiality of the list of judges. The committee or site representative will release the list of judges during the administrative meeting.

EQUIPMENT CHECK

Regionals. The meet referee must be present to check equipment the day prior to teams arriving at the venue for practice, look throughs or competition, and must attend the administrative meetings to review judging issues.

Nationals. The meet referee must be present to check equipment Tuesday not later than 1 p.m. and must attend practice sessions and the administrative meeting to review judging issues. Coaches may inspect equipment Tuesday during the designated time.

FEES

The NCAA will pay for judge's fees directly. The host should not list those expenses in the host financial report.

MEET REFEREE - REGIONALS AND NATIONALS

Meet referee is required to be on site during the designated practice day and day of rest to be available to coaches and staff for questions or comments.

JUDGES PER EVENT - REGIONALS

Four judges will judge each event during the competition.

One alternate judge with a minimum Level 10 rating will be selected and assigned by the Women's Gymnastics Committee for each regional.

JUDGES PER EVENT - NATIONALS

Six judges will judge each event. The high and low score will be dropped and the four scores in the middle will be averaged.

One alternate judge with a minimum Level 10 rating will be selected and assigned by the Women's Gymnastics Committee for the NATIONALS.

LINE JUDGES

Provide two line judges for the floor exercise competition. Each line judge needs a yellow flag and line judges slip.

TIMERS

It is preferred that local volunteer judges are secured to serve as timers for each practice session – beam (2), bars (1) and floor (1).

DEDICATED INDIVIDUALS FOR BARS

The Women's Gymnastics Committee requests that all hosts provide a dedicated individual to assist on bars for all teams during practice and competition. This individual will assist with moving mats and bar settings. If a team decides to remove the low bar during open stretch, this individual must ensure the bar is safely and correctly replaced. AAI personnel will perform this function at NATIONALS.

MEETINGS

Regionals. The tournament director shall schedule a virtual judges meeting the day of the competition at least two hours before the published start time. The hotel expenses (excluding incidentals) for judges required to stay overnight at the championships site shall be paid by the host institution and later reimbursed by the NCAA. Judges will receive a \$45 per diem allowance for meals and incidentals for each day of the championships, beginning with the day of arrival and ending with the day of departure. Judges not required to remain overnight at the site also shall receive a \$45 a day per diem.

Nationals. The meet referee must be advised that his or her attendance is mandatory to measure equipment Tuesday not later than 1 p.m. and at Wednesday's practice sessions and administrative meeting.

Schedule a virtual judges meeting at least two hours prior to the start of the competition. Be prepared to clear up any questions regarding the per diem, fee and travel expense policy. The hotel expenses (excluding incidentals) for judges required to stay overnight at the championships site shall be paid by the host institution and later reimbursed by the NCAA. Judges will receive a \$45 per diem allowance for meals and incidentals for each day of the championships, beginning with the day of arrival and ending with the day of departure. Judges not required to remain overnight at the site also shall receive a \$45 a day per diem.

PATCHES

NCAA patches will be sent to the host institution by the NCAA national office for judges to affix to their uniforms.

SELECTION - NATIONALS

The NCAA Women's Gymnastics Committee will select all judges (26 judges, a meet referee and an alternate). The NCAA national office will provide the list of judges assigned to the championships. In the event a judge already contracted must withdraw, please notify the NCAA national office immediately; a replacement will be obtained.

If possible, obtain the volunteer services of six local judges (Level 9 rating or above preferred) to serve as timers and line judges.

TRANSPORTATION

Judges who are approved to fly to the site must make their travel arrangements through the NCAA travel service, Short's Travel at 866-821-8547, or ncaachampstvl@shortstravel.com. The NCAA will not be responsible for payment of airline tickets purchased through other sources. Judges who use ground transportation to the host site will be reimbursed round-trip mileage from their home to the site (but not including local mileage while at the site).

Judges who travel by air to the REGIONAL site must arrive at the locale the night before the day of competition. Several weeks prior to the competition, you may wish to provide a form for the judges to return to you, indicating their method of travel, time of arrival/departure, etc., for your information.

NATIONAL COLLEGIATE WOMEN'S GYMNASTICS

Regionals. The host institution will arrange transportation for judges from the airport to the hotel, from the hotel to the institution, etc. The meet referee and NCAA representative may each rent a car.

Nationals Only. The host institution in conjunction with the NCAA will coordinate the travel itineraries of the judges and shall arrange for transportation to and from the airport but is not required to make transportation arrangements to and from the site of competition. However, the four chief judges and meet referee may rent cars (arrangements must be made through Short's with coordination from the NCAA national office) to assist in transporting judges.

Section 15 • Lodging

NCAA Predetermined Preliminary-Round Competitions and Predetermined Championships

For select NCAA predetermined preliminary-round competition and final sites, On Location acting on NCAA's behalf shall contract hotel accommodations for the participating institutions/student-athlete(s). Hotels are expected to be located within 30-45 minutes of travel time from the venue, with a preference for 30 minutes. Hotels beyond 45 minutes, but no more than 60 minutes, may be considered by the sport committee. The selection of a competition site may be dependent on availability and quality of rooms for participating institutions/student-athlete(s). Teams must stay at an NCAA contracted hotel unless otherwise noted. Hosts are no longer required to secure the rooms. On Location, the official hotel management provider of the NCAA, will solicit, negotiate and contract all hotel rooms at these sites.

The participating institution may use the rooms for persons accompanying the official traveling party.

Participating institutions are expected to stay at the hotel assigned by the host and are responsible for confirming with the hotel the number of rooms they will require and the rooming lists. If an institution prefers to stay in another hotel, the institution must use the rooms for persons accompanying the official travel party or will be charged a financial penalty as follows:

1. If the event is one to three nights, the institution will be required to pay for one night.
2. If the event is four or more nights, the institution will be required to pay for two nights.

The participating institution is expected to pay the penalty to the impacted hotel prior departing from the locale.

MINIMUM NUMBER OF ROOMS

On Location will reserve a minimum of 20 nonsmoking hotel rooms (12 double-doubles) per team at the headquarters hotel, a minimum of four rooms for two individuals from the same team and six rooms for three or more individuals from the same team. If possible, a suite or upgraded room will be reserved for each head coach.

For REGIONALS, rooms will also be reserved for the judges (17) and NCAA site representative (1), but in a separate hotel from the participants.

For NATIONALS, the NCAA and its partner, On Location, will secure rooms for participants, committee, judges, media and other affiliated individuals. The breakdown of rooms is as follows: in addition to the rooms secured for the teams and individual participants, rooms for NCAA staff and committee (15), judges (26) and media (20). The hotel recommended for ESPN must have an on-site 24-hour full-service restaurant. Note: ESPN will secure its own reservations.

JUDGES/NCAA REPRESENTATIVE HOTEL

Make arrangements for the room and tax charges for the NCAA site representative (women's gymnastics committee) and the judges to be billed directly to your institution. Initially, your institution will be responsible for the hotel bill(s). However, the expenses should be reported on the financial report that is submitted after the championships and the NCAA will provide reimbursement. Hosts must include estimated lodging expenses for judges in their proposed budgets. Hotel bills do not need to be submitted with the financial report; however, it is strongly advised that they be kept on file by the host institution. The NCAA site representative (women's gymnastics committee) and the judges are responsible for their incidentals. NCAA staff members are responsible for their own expenses.

MERCHANDISING

The hotel understands that the NCAA exclusively will have first right of refusal to sell products licensed by the NCAA for merchandising at the selected hotels, unless otherwise noted in the hotel agreement. If the NCAA executes this right, the hotel agrees to provide space in its lobby, tables, electricity, dedicated phone line and a secure storage location for such sales at no charge to the NCAA merchandising agent. The NCAA guarantees that the merchandise will be displayed in a neat, professional manner.

In return, the NCAA merchandising agent will pay to the hotel a percentage of the net sales from the hotel location. Net sales are defined as gross sales minus sales tax and credit card fees. The percentage rate will be a predetermined, nonnegotiable rate included in the contract between the two parties, except as specified in the following sections.

TEAMS, ALL-AROUNDERS AND EVENT SPECIALISTS

For all NCAA final-site competition, On Location shall make reservations for the participating institutions and advise them of the arrangements. The selection of a competition site may be dependent on availability and quality of rooms for participating institutions/student-athletes. Each participating institution/student-athlete is obligated to confirm or cancel the accommodations.

An institution is obligated to stay at the assigned hotel property. If an institution prefers to relocate, which is generally not approved by the NCAA, to a different hotel the following must occur: The participating institution will obtain a release for the rooms from the hotel manager in writing and approval from the NCAA. Please note, that the institution is responsible for the first night's room charges even if it fails to use those rooms.

The participating institution may use the rooms for persons accompanying the official traveling party if relocating the team only. If a team chooses to relocate to a different hotel, the team is not permitted to move to a hotel (if applicable) where another team or the game officials and designated headquarters hotel.

Additionally, if an institution fails to make satisfactory arrangements for use of assigned rooms with the hotel, full charges for the rooms will be billed to the institution. If an institution chooses not to stay at one of the designated hotels, the participating institution must notify both the hotel and the tournament manager by 5 p.m. on practice day or specified date. The NCAA shall provide final approval.

In the event an institution obtains a release from the team hotel as prescribed above, it must notify the tournament director of the property at which it is staying, in case it is necessary to reach the institution during the competition.

On Location shall secure a hotel and the corresponding number of rooms to accommodate both teams and individual competitors. Ideally, head coaches shall be provided with a suite and/or team meeting room.

In the event more than one hotel must be used, teams and individual competitors shall be assigned to the hotels by the NCAA national office. Each hotel shall provide comparable amenities. Every effort shall be made to split both teams and individuals equally between the hotels.

Section 16 • Marketing

CONTACTS

The host institution should designate a marketing contact or marketing team for the championship. This person should be familiar with marketing strategies that have worked in the community where the championship will be held to sell tickets and drive attendance. It is the primary responsibility of the marketing contact to work closely with the NCAA Championships Marketing contact to create and implement the championship marketing plan. While many host institutions may have a marketing contact in the athletics department, this individual may also be from the local organizing committee, convention and visitor's bureau, sports commission or a combination thereof. Contact information for the designated marketing contact(s) should be submitted through the Key Contact portion of the Host Reporting System.

EXPECTATIONS

- Know the marketing budget. The NCAA championship tournament manager on your campus or the NCAA Tournament Operations point person can communicate your marketing budget.
- Develop marketing goals. The primary focus should be driving ticket sales and attendance at the championship by developing inclusive promotion and awareness opportunities and utilizing diverse targeting strategies.
- Map out the time frame to market the championship.
- Determine how to best use the marketing materials provided by the NCAA.
- Establish grassroots initiatives to implement in your local and regional communities by creating and promoting messaging that resonates with people of all race, sex, class, national origin, creed, education background, religion, gender identity, disability, gender expression, geographical location, income, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation and which appeals to diverse communities.
- Explore opportunities with traditional media (print, radio and television) in your area.

MARKETING PLAN

Host institutions/conferences shall establish a marketing plan in coordination with the NCAA championships marketing contact. The marketing should reflect the host's commitment to creating an environment where all guests feel welcome and see themselves represented throughout the championship experience. All marketing plans, marketing budgets and collateral must be approved by the NCAA Championships Marketing contact prior to implementation.

MARKETING COLLATERAL

NCAA Marketing Portal. The NCAA Marketing Portal is a comprehensive tool designed to help hosts create marketing products which will generate awareness, drive ticket sales and promote attendance at championship events. The [NCAA Marketing Portal](#) can be accessed at sproutloud.com/cn/ncaachampspromotions.

Championship hosts should customize and download all necessary artwork to promote the championship from the website. Hosts should utilize imagery from the artwork provided, produce the items locally and obtain reimbursement for production costs, up to the reimbursable allocation provided for the championship round you are hosting.

Each NCAA Championships host marketing contact and tournament manager will receive an email with the marketing website address, username, password and specific marketing budget allocated for the championship you are hosting. The reimbursement amount is separate from the marketing/promotions budget allocated by host institutions through the championship bid process. Please contact ncaachampspromotions@ncaa.org if you are unable to locate this information.

Customizable artwork templates and marketing resources available on the NCAA Marketing Portal include, but are not limited to:

- PRINT
 - Poster
 - Flyer
 - Print ad
 - Table Tent
- Video Board
- DIGITAL
 - Email blast
 - Banner
 - Social media graphics
- OUTDOOR
 - Billboard
 - Banner
- RESOURCES
 - Marketing best practices
 - Social media guidelines
 - Special artwork requests

If you have artwork needs and/or sizing which may not be available on the NCAA Marketing Portal, you may submit a special request through the website. Any additional questions can be directed to ncaachampspromotions@ncaa.org.

All requests must be approved by the national office staff before you proceed. Artwork requests and approvals will be managed through the website. If you do not have a local print vendor, we have listed NCAA preferred vendors on the website.

Collateral should not be created outside of the NCAA Marketing Portal. The website ensures proper usage of NCAA logos and trademarks, as well as ensures consistent branding across each championship round and all 90 NCAA Championships.

NOTE: A limited number of Division I predetermined hosts will create all marketing collateral by coordinating directly with the NCAA Championship Marketing contact; they will not have access to the NCAA Marketing Portal.

Television/Video and Radio Ticket Spots. The marketing website allows hosts of select predetermined championship sites to download TV, video, and radio spots for immediate use. Questions regarding the availability of these spots for your championship event should be directed to your NCAA Championship Marketing contact.

SOCIAL MEDIA GUIDELINES

Host institutions/conferences may use already established social media accounts (e.g., Facebook, X) as a place to promote the hosting of an NCAA championship. However, host institutions/conferences should use marketing messages and assets supplied from or approved by the NCAA (links, web banners, flyers, updates, etc.). If the championship does not have an official NCAA social media page, a host is NOT permitted to create a social media page. The NCAA will make efforts to promote this championship on the established pages, as necessary. Please refer to ncaa.org/socialmedia for a listing of official NCAA social media accounts.

APPLICABLE MARKETING BYLAWS

NCAA Division I Bylaws - Pertaining to NCAA Championship Promotions

12.5.1.1.1 Promotions Involving NCAA Championships, Events, Activities or Programs. The NCAA [or a third party acting on behalf of the NCAA (e.g., host institution, conference, local organizing committee)] may use the name or picture of an enrolled student-athlete to generally promote NCAA championships or other NCAA events, activities or programs. (Adopted: 8/7/03)

12.5.1.8 Promotion of NCAA and Conference Championships. The NCAA [or a third party acting on behalf of the NCAA (e.g., host institution, conference, local organizing committee)] may use the name or picture of a student-athlete to generally promote NCAA championships. A student-athlete's name or picture may appear in a poster that promotes a conference championship, provided the poster is produced by a member that hosts a portion of the championship or by the conference. (Adopted: 1/11/89, Revised: 8/7/03)

12.6.1.8 Reciprocal Marketing Agreements – Sports Other Than Football and Men's Basketball. In sports other than football and men's basketball, an institution's marketing department may enter into a reciprocal contractual relationship with a professional sports organization for the specific purpose of marketing and promoting an institutionally sponsored sport. (Adopted: 4/29/04 effective 8/1/04, Revised 2/17/12)

13.4.3.3 NCAA or Conference Championship Posters. An institution hosting an NCAA or conference championship may produce a poster promoting the championship and send it to a high school coach and/or his or her educational institution. It is not permissible to send such a poster to a prospective student-athlete. (Adopted: 10/28/99, Revised: 4/6/00, 1/10/05 effective 8/1/05)

13.4.3.3.1 NCAA or Conference Championship Promotional Materials. The NCAA or member conference [or a third party acting on behalf of the NCAA or member conference (e.g., host institution, host conference, or local organizing committee)] may produce and provide championship-promotional materials to any individual or group, provided the materials: (Adopted: 1/10/05)

- (a) Are solely for the purpose of promoting the championship event rather than the host institution, and use factual information (e.g., date, time, location, identification of host school/conference, ticket information, photos of previous championships);
- (b) Are not sent exclusively to prospective student-athletes;
- (c) Are available to the general public; and
- (d) Do not promote the institution's athletics program.

13.1.8.5 NCAA Promotional Activities Exception. An institution's coach may participate in NCAA promotional activities (e.g., autograph sessions, fan festivals and opening ceremonies) at NCAA championship events, provided contacts with prospective student-athletes are not prearranged and recruiting activities do not occur. (Adopted: 4/28/05)

Section 17 • Media Services

The NCAA considers this hosting opportunity a partnership between the host school/conference, facility and the NCAA. The primary objective of everyone involved in the administration of the championship, shall be to provide a memorable championship experience for each participating student-athlete, coach, administrator and tournament attendee.

Note that health and safety protocols related to preparedness, response and protocols might have an effect on the media services detailed below, with any changes provided to all hosts in advance of each championship.

BROADCASTING/INTERNET

Please log on to ncaa.com/media for information regarding broadcast/internet rights.

CHAMPIONSHIP RECORDS

NCAA championship records are available in PDF format at ncaa.org - ncaa.org/championships/statistics/ncaa-records-books.

CREDENTIALS

All media credentials are authorized and issued by the host or NCAA media coordinator. The NCAA provides credentials for all final championship sites and selected preliminary rounds sites. Hosts should contact the NCAA media coordinator or championships administrator to confirm who will produce credentials for preliminary sites. **PDF templates are available for preliminary round credentials if desired. Please contact Jenn Rodgers (jrodgers@ncaa.org) for more information.** If you are producing your own credentials, the “Conditions Placed on Use of Credentials” should be placed on the back of all credentials. That text, located at ncaa.com/credentialterms, should also be visible at credential pickup.

The following is a sample of the types of credentials that can be produced, if applicable:

- All Access – For event management-type people who need access to every area, including game surface.
- Event Management – For event management staff who does not need all access (based on space and demand, it may not be necessary to produce an event management and an all-access pass).
- Media – For members of the media to provide them access to press areas (press box, media room, interview room, locker rooms (postgame only)).
- Participant – For student-athletes, coaches, equipment managers (anyone in the official travel party).
- Photo – For still photographers and television camera operators (if the contest is not going to be televised) to allow them access to appropriate areas [playing surface, locker rooms (postgame only), press box and media room].
- SID – For sports information directors of the participating teams (may allow access to media areas and locker rooms as needed).
- Television Network – If the game is going to be televised by ESPN, Turner Sports, etc., those entities should have their own credential to allow them to specific places such as the truck compound.

It is up to the tournament director to determine which areas may be accessed with each credential type.

CREDENTIAL QUALIFICATION AND ACCEPTANCE

NATIONALS - Approximately one month before the start of final site competition, the site media coordinator should send credential application information to media representatives who regularly cover intercollegiate athletics in their markets. The information should direct media to ncaa.com/media, which includes credential application instructions, credential criteria and links to the NCAA media policies. The site media coordinator will approve or deny all credential requests in the online credentialing system (Sport Systems) Credential system training sessions will be conducted. The system will notify via email all media members who apply for credentials whether their request has been approved or denied. If a media member is granted a credential, the site media coordinator is responsible for sending that member of the media information regarding game times, press conference schedules, credential pickup times and location, parking and any other pertinent information.

REGIONALS – Preliminary-round/site media coordinators should send a credential request form to members of the local media to determine who will be covering the event.

****** Working credentials will not be mailed. The media coordinator should issue credentials individually at an appropriate site at the venue or at the designated headquarters hotel. A government-issued photo ID is required to pick up credentials. Credentials are nontransferable and will only be issued to the person whose name appears on the credential. Credential pickup for others is not allowed.

CREDENTIAL BOARDS

The NCAA will provide credential boards to all final sites. These are for public display and to advise security personnel at the competition venue which credentials are allowed into specific areas of the venue. For credentials that are not allowed into a specific area, use a black marker to cross out the credentials not permitted.

FINAL RESULTS BOOKS AND STATISTICS

The final results book for team championships should include, at a minimum, final statistics, play-by-play summary and results, as well as a cover sheet, event recap and postgame notes/quotes.

The host institution shall provide complete statistics of all NCAA championships competition.

FLIP CARDS

Flip cards should be provided to all media members for easy reference to participating team information, where applicable. The flip cards should include all players on the roster and a minimum of their uniform numbers along with the head coach and any assistants. The flip card should include team results as well as standard information regarding the game, such as date, location and opponent.

INTERNET POLICY

The NCAA website, ncaa.com, serves as the official online resource for NCAA championships.

The NCAA and its partners own the Internet rights to all of its 90 championship events. Rights include live statistics, video and audio streaming, electronic commerce, and postevent footage use. The NCAA and its partners own all game action, practice footage, press conferences, one-on-one interviews or any other content on the NCAA website.

Internet Live Statistics

The current live statistics policies can be found at the following link: ncaa.com/media-center/coordination-statistics

MEDIA GUIDES AND POSTSEASON GUIDES

The NCAA or host media coordinator should notify each school that qualifies for the championship how many media guides and/or postseason guides should be sent to the championship site and/or if media guides and postseason information should be uploaded to the NCAA box library. If wanting to provide a printed version, the media coordinator should provide an overnight address where the schools can send the information (their office or the facility) and a deadline as to when it should arrive. Consider security when selecting the location where these materials will be shipped.

MEDIA ACCOMMODATIONS

Hotel. If necessary, the media coordinator should arrange for a block of rooms to be set aside for media, preferably at the headquarters hotel. Media members should be given a contact/link at the hotel whom they can call or link to make reservations; this can be listed on the credential application form along with the room rate and deadline for making reservations.

Meals. Media meals are not required at all championships. Disbursements should be guided by the budget which was originally submitted by the tournament manager and approved by the NCAA national office.

Parking. Media parking should be provided at all championship host sites. The media coordinator should determine if it would be more effective to use parking passes or a parking list. If passes are used, the host institution must generate them. Media shuttle systems may also be used provided any costs are approved in advance by the specific sport committee and NCAA championships staff liaison.

Media Workroom. If necessary, a media workroom should be designated at each site, where media members can be provided a workspace. The workroom should provide an adequate amount of media seating, electrical outlets, complimentary wireless internet access and a pool of high-speed internet lines, if possible. Each school's media guides and/or postseason guides, along with any materials the host institution distributes (statistics, game notes, quotes, etc.), should be located in this area.

NEWS FILM AND MINI-CAMS

Please visit ncaa.com/media for updated information related to television, video and ENG policies.

OFFICIATING QUESTIONS/POOL REPORTER

The host media coordinator shall appoint one member of the media to serve as the pool reporter at the competition site and must be approved in advance by the NCAA staff.

Pool reporters may request an officiating and/or rules interpretation via the NCAA committee and staff members on site, when a game includes a potential fighting situation that results in a technical foul and/or ejection of a participant; if a rules interpretation is needed; or there is a clock/timing issue. Additionally, if a member of the respective sport committee deems it in the best interest of the championship for broadcast partners and members of the media to receive an interpretation pertaining to another specific situation, the officiating crew shall return to its locker room and conduct a conference call with the NCAA's national coordinator of officiating for interpretation. No one other than the game officials, members of the committee and the NCAA staff representatives assigned to the site are permitted in the locker room during this meeting.

Upon completion of the meeting and if competition is continuing at the host site, staff will communicate with the pool reporter and the sideline reporter from the broadcast entity (without camera or microphone) to share the officiating crew's interpretation to help enhance the public's understanding of what transpired.

The NCAA will issue a statement and will distribute it to its broadcast partners, on social media and to media covering tournament games at that site.

PERSONNEL

Each media coordinator is responsible for organizing workers to assist in the media operations of the championship. It is important to remind volunteers that they may see very little of the championship competition because of their responsibilities and the NCAA will not pay any expenses. All volunteers should be a minimum of 16 years or older. It is preferred that all media coordination volunteers have experience with media relations or championships.

The number of workers will depend upon the media demand for the games at the site. Communication with the participating SIDs and the media coordinator's knowledge of the area media will help with advance planning.

The following is a basic list of duties for volunteers (if applicable):

- Copy Machine Personnel - Photocopies materials (stats, notes, quotes, etc.).
- Credential Distribution - Pass out credentials to the media; check government-issued photo ID.
- External PA - Announcer for fans.
- Internal PA - Announcer for the media.
- Locker Room Attendant - Person to identify when the locker room is open and closed to the media.
- Mixed Zone Coordinator - Coordinates interviews in the mixed zone in events such as track and field and swimming and diving. Depending on the number of participants, this individual may need several assistants.
- Note Takers - Compiles worthy notes during and after the game or day.
- Photo Marshall - Makes sure photographers work in approved event coverage locations. Hands out photo armbands, if necessary.
- Press Conference Moderator - Introduces players and coach; directs questions from media.

- Quote Takers – Records postgame quotes from the press conferences/locker rooms. A minimum of one person should be designated to take quotes for each team. They should get quotes from the head coach and student-athletes.
- Results Disseminator – Transmits stats, notes, quotes, through appropriate delivery means (i.e., website, email, social media).
- Runner(s) – Distributes photocopied materials (stats, notes, quotes, etc.).
- Spotter – Helps the official scorer identify assists and any other assistance for official scorer.
- Stat Crew – Records the official stats. Note that when applicable, NCAA LiveStats software must be used at all NCAA championships.
- Team Escorts – People to escort the coaches and student-athletes to the postgame press conference.

NEWS CONFERENCES - NATIONALS (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

1. The host institution is responsible for setting up in the arena an area for the working press, if space allows. Provide for strict policing of the area to ensure that only representatives of the media with credentials are allowed in the area.
 - a. Prechampionships Media Information. Each head coach of a team or individual advancing to the national championship is asked to provide a written quote, not to exceed one paragraph, to NCAA Media Coordinator Trae Straziscar (tstraziscar@ncaa.org) no later than 5 p.m. on Tuesday, April 7.
 - b. Postchampionships Press Conference.
 - (1) There will be a press conference after each session of competition during the championships, which should be conducted virtually. A press room should be set up accordingly and media can participate virtually, but may not be in the press room.
 - (2) Each coach whose team/individual has competed in the session is required (if requested by the media) to attend the press conference to be held either 10 minutes after the conclusion of the competition or immediately following the presentation of awards. The coach will be escorted to the pressroom by an athletics administrator from his or her institution.
 - (3) Student-athletes who are requested by the media will be expected to attend. The sports information director from the host institution will be responsible for escorting the student-athletes to the pressroom.
 - (4) Each head coach shall make an opening statement. Media then will be directed to ask their questions of the student-athletes first. The student-athletes then will be released, and the press conference continued with the head coach only.
2. All coaches and student-athletes must be made available for postcompetition interviews after the “cooling-off” period. This not only applies to formal press conferences, but also to any interview requests made to coaches and/or student-athletes not involved in the press conference. Failure to do so may result in possible misconduct, as determined by the women’s gymnastics committee.
3. Moderator. The media coordinator shall identify a moderator for each news conference who shall keep the conference moving on schedule.
4. Obligation of Coach. Regardless of any personal regular-season radio or television contract(s), the coach first is obligated to the entire media staffing the tournament and must report to the interview room immediately after the 10-minute cooling-off period expires. The coach cannot delay a postcompetition interview with the covering media to conduct a program for a single newspaper, radio or television reporter unless requested to grant a short interview (not to exceed four minutes) by the television network that has purchased rights. (The media coordinator or designee shall have the responsibility to terminate the four-minute interview period, not the network that has purchased rights.) After fulfilling this commitment to the media staffing the championships, the coach and student-athletes may participate in a special interview.
5. Student-Athletes and Coach. The sports information director representing each participant shall escort the coach and student-athletes to the interview area.

6. Quotes. Typed quotes shall be distributed to the media immediately after each news conference. It is recommended that one person be assigned to each team so that news conferences are covered in their entirety.
7. "Selected Media" Policy. Should a coach permit any single media agency to enter the locker room before the cooling-off period has expired, the locker room shall be opened to all other media representatives desiring access to the area.

PHOTOGRAPHER/VIDEOGRAPHER (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

1. Photo marshals shall be present to help manage/restrict photographers from accessing areas that are off limits. Be sure that photographers' boxes are marked on the competition floor.
2. Photographer. Commercial use of any still photographs is prohibited unless permission is obtained from the NCAA. Specific areas will be designated for photographers, and these areas will be limited by priority and space.
3. Photography Area Policies. The media coordinator shall be prepared to designate "photographer positions," should media requests warrant it. "Prime" positions should be rotated among members of the media. All special requests (i.e., placing a remote camera on the backboard) must be approved by NCAA staff or site representatives.
4. Before competition begins, be sure to have fans conduct a flash test.
5. During television taping, cameras must remain in the designated media areas. Other in-house video also may be used with prior approval of the NCAA championship administrator. (Nationals Only)
6. On approval from the NCAA media coordinator, institutional media representatives (sports information director or assistant sports information director) may videotape portions of their competition/warmups/award ceremonies from designated areas. Those serving in dual roles will be issued a media credential and photographer armband.

(NATIONALS ONLY) NCAA Photos (also known as Clarkson-Creative/Clarkson) will be on site for the final day of competition, unless otherwise specified. Hosts institutions are not required to have a photographer when Clarkson is not on site. An additional photographer may be hired by NCAA or host staff to shoot additional days and ancillary events, if the staff so chooses. For those instances, it is necessary to have the hired photographer(s) complete the photography services agreement.

All photographers will agree to the NCAA Championship Photography Terms and Conditions upon requesting a credential. Photo sales are strictly prohibited.

Images for use by NCAA member institutions are available at a special rate and are bound by the following rights:

"For official NCAA member institution athletic department website and publications only. Other reproduction, distribution, and/or display print production is prohibited unless specified in writing."

For internal member institution use, please contact Clarkson-Creative at info@ncaaphotos.com with the name of the image(s) you would like to purchase, and an online transaction will be set up to download the image(s). All images should be credited, where it appears, to: ©Photographer's Name/NCAAPhotos. For all other uses, please contact Maxx Wolfson (maxx.wolfson@gettyimages.com).

Any other entity, with the exception of the NCAA membership, seeking a championship event photo must license it through Getty Images. To license an NCAA championship event photo, please visit on.ncaa.com/NCAAonGetty.

For additional questions regarding championship photography, please contact Nate Flannery (nflannery@ncaa.org; 317-917-6222).

WORKING PRESS ROOM

The media coordinator is responsible for the working press room at the arena.

1. Ethernet. At each site, there should be a minimum of two Ethernet connections or wireless (preferred) access.

Wireless internet access must be available at all championship rounds for media use. The host institution may NOT assess an additional "hookup fee" to any media agency. Any wireless charges should be charged to the host or reflected in the proposed budget.

2. **Sports Information Needs.** The media coordinator shall contact each SID representing a participating team at the site and request a shipment of media guides, statistics and other updated information to place in the pressroom prior to the team's arrival.
3. **Copier.** One photocopy machine with capabilities for reproducing statistics and other material on bond paper with a minimum per copy speed of 75 per minute. The facility will be responsible for the installation, service costs and paper for these machines for the competition. Each machine will also include a collator and automatic stapler, with an additional collator available capable of handling 12 separate sheets of paper. Equipment operators and technicians also shall be provided and available for all days of competition as scheduled by the NCAA.
4. **Transmitting Copy.** Media may inquire about the availability of communications at each facility for transmitting copy. Inquiries should be directed to the NCAA media coordinator.
5. **Printers.** At least one high-speed printer shall be available in the media area.

PROGRAMS

Championships will feature either a printed or digital game program, which the NCAA and LEARFIELD Publishing has the exclusive right to post/distribute at the competition venue during the championship. No competing publications, whether sold or free of charge, are permitted at NCAA events where printed programs are available. Any publications delivered to the venue are the property of LEARFIELD before, during and after the event.

LEARFIELD will be responsible for all program production, including editorial content, layout and design, advertising and printing. Championship media contact should provide LEARFIELD with text and photos for editorial pages about host institution/venue/city, if requested by LEARFIELD. Any pages promoting the host institution/venue/city will not be display advertisements; those interested in purchasing advertising space for sponsors, etc., should contact Clerrinda Queen (clerrinda.queen@learfield.com).

LEARFIELD encourages the host institution/venue to distribute supplemental handouts (i.e., updated statistics and notes), provided any such materials:

- Are only distributed with the purchase of a program.
- Do not include information available in the program.
- Do not include advertisements.

The host should not include expenses for such supplements in the championship budget and/or financial report. All supplemental content is subject to NCAA and LEARFIELD approval.

RADIO/INTERNET AUDIO COVERAGE

Radio broadcast rights and made for internet audio at any NCAA championship may take place only through advance written request and permission of the NCAA media services group. (Refer to ncaa.com/media.)

All stations broadcasting any round of an NCAA championship shall be required to fill out the NCAA Championship Radio/Internet Streaming form online. To access the form, log onto ncaa.com/content/audio-policies-0.

SCOUT VIDEO COORDINATOR

A scout video coordinator is permitted to film the game from an upper video position. A credential also may be issued to a team videographer. The scout video coordinator will receive a media credential and may only film the game of the team represented by the video coordinator. Representatives of participating institutions may record the network telecast of any game at the site, using a video distribution outlet in the video distribution area. The institution must provide its own recording equipment.

SEAT ASSIGNMENTS

Media coordinators should provide preferred seat locations for media agencies that regularly staff games played by the participating and host institutions.

SECURITY

Security personnel should be instructed to protect the working media areas and interview area, especially before and after each game, and to limit access in all restricted areas to individuals wearing credentials.

1. Security personnel (police, ushers or other attendants) should be stationed at the entrances onto the floor during both practice and competition sessions. Credentials must be checked. Security also shall be stationed to assist the Women's Gymnastics Committee with the distribution of wrist bands/Bag Tags each day of competition.

The only individuals with credentials permitted on the competition floor during actual competition will be the following:

- a. Meet referee and judges.
 - b. Timers, line judges, event scorers, flashers, runners and the official scorer/staff.
 - c. Student-athletes.
 - d. Coaches.
 - e. NCAA gymnastics committee or site representative.
 - f. Tournament director/event management staff/host personnel.
 - g. Athletic trainers/team physicians.
2. To ensure the safety of and best competitive atmosphere for the competitors, floor credentials should be provided to only participants, judges and other authorized personnel. No one should be allowed to enter the floor without a credential (Refer to CREDENTIALS).
 3. Security should be prepared to keep media representatives in the area(s) reserved for them and out of the stands.
 4. If a participant or staff member loses a credential, a fine will be imposed (the price of an all-session ticket to the event) to replace the credential.

STATISTICS REPORTING TO THE NCAA

The host sports information director, media coordinator or designee is responsible for reporting official championship results to the Association's website, ncaa.com, with the NCAA providing delivery information. At the conclusion of each championship contest or session (preliminary rounds and finals), please forward information that specifies the division, sport, round, date and official results, and provide a brief game/event summary.

Institutions should send all information as follows:

- Email the information to NCAA-Editorial@warnermedia.com. Specify the division, sport, round and region in the subject area.
- Paste the text (official results, including date of competition, round, etc.) directly into the message box.
- Attach HTML box score, if available.

TEAM VIDEOGRAPHER

Institutions are permitted to videotape championships competition by their teams or their individual student-athletes for archival, coaching or instructional purposes. Each institution is permitted to use one camera and may videotape only that portion of the competition in which it participates. The videotapes may not be used for any commercial purposes. An institutional representative shall contact the event coordinator at the host site to arrange for camera space at that site. For the latest information and policies in regard to team content, go to "Team Content Policy" link at ncaa.com/media-center/broadcast-services.

INTERNET

Complimentary wireless internet access must be available at all championship rounds for media use. The host institution may NOT assess an additional “hookup fee” to any media agency. Any wireless charges should be charged to the host or reflected in the proposed budget.

TELEVISION

If an NCAA championship is to be televised, the media coordinator will be notified by the NCAA championships liaison, media coordinator or member of the broadcast staff. This person will relay any needs specific to television, such as power, press row space, etc., to the host media coordinator. Information about NCAA broadcasts can be found online at ncaa.com/media.

LIVE SCORING/STREAMING

For final sites of all nontelevised championships, ncaa.com will provide live streaming of the contest. For all other nontelevised rounds, the NCAA encourages all hosting institutions to provide a live stream or statistics of the event.

Apply for NCAA internet streaming rights online at ncaa.com/rights-request. Questions about Internet streaming can be directed to Nate Flannery (317-917-6523; nflannery@ncaa.org).

For additional broadcasting and media information visit: ncaa.com/media.

HOST CITY/NCAA CHAMPIONSHIPS MICROSITE GUIDELINES

NCAA championship hosts and local organizing committees are welcome to build a city-specific microsite to house local information regarding things to do, travel tips, restaurants, volunteer info, ticket sales, etc. The primary purpose of the microsite should welcome fans to enhance their experience in preparation for traveling to your city. The following information should assist you with the creation of a local microsite.

Travel and Transportation Information

It is permissible, and encouraged, to share travel information such as local hotel options, car rental, public transportation, etc., within the microsite for consumer knowledge. Links should direct away from the microsite and no mention of company names are to be included within the copy of the microsite.

EXAMPLE: "For hotel options within the (CITY NAME) area, please click here" (link can be to city tourism page or visitor's bureau, etc.).

Dining, Shopping and Local Attractions

The following topics are permissible and encouraged to house within your microsite, but must link away from the main page:

- Local fan gathering and entertainment locations.
- Shopping and dining options.
- Special attractions unique to city.

Selections, Preliminary Rounds and Broadcast Schedule

All information regarding the details of selections, all preliminary rounds and broadcast schedules should be linked to ncaa.com. The championship manager can provide this information.

Local News

The microsite can contain story modules to promote local press releases or additional information pertaining to hosting the event. This should not include national information about the competition that is covered by the NCAA. You should link back to the official NCAA championship page, when applicable. The championship manager can provide this information as needed.

Volunteer Information

The microsite can contain additional details to recruit and register volunteers. A general overview, schedule and registration information are commonly found details within this section.

Ticket Information

If ticket sales apply to the championship, please link away from the microsite to the official ticket landing page. If images of student-athletes are present on any of the microsite pages, please do not use verbiage that includes “ticket sales,” “purchase your tickets” or anything alike, but rather use language such as “ticket information,” “ticket details,” etc. and link directly to the official ticket landing page from there. The ticket landing page should be free of student-athlete imagery, institutional markings and abide by NCAA championships guidelines. Those guidelines include the championship logo used for every icon listed, correct naming convention of the championship (Year, NCAA division sport championship – e.g., 2026 NCAA National Collegiate Women's Gymnastics Championships) and use of NCAA hex code (#009CDE) for button and color scheme of ticketing site.

Copyrights, photos, Licensing, Trademarks and Corporate Marks

The following are guidelines for use of NCAA trademarks and the process for requesting licensing for photos:

- Host corporate partner marks or any commercial advertising are prohibited from being displayed on the microsite.
- The NCAA primary logo must be displayed more prominently than any other logo and must precede or be placed above any other identification marks.
- Photos from previous years' championships can be accessed by submitting a request form here: ncaaphotos.photoshelter.com/contact
 - All imagery must be owned by the NCAA or host city.
- The microsite must adhere to fair and equitable treatment for ALL participating student-athletes and schools.
- Trademark script must be included on the homepage of the microsite. This text can be in a mouse print format at the bottom of the page as follows: *NCAA is a trademark of the National Collegiate Athletic Association.*
- A complete list of NCAA trademarks and trademark protection can be found by [clicking here](#).

NOTE: If the microsite is built within an existing site's framework, exceptions will be made at the NCAA's discretion, as needed.

Logo Usage

For official NCAA blue disk and championship logos, please submit a request to access the NCAA Digital Library to Nathan Arkins at narkins@ncaa.org.

Social Media

All social media icons should link to the appropriate NCAA-hosted platforms for the specific championship. The official list of NCAA social media pages and hashtags is located at ncaa.com/social.

Local Contributor Recognition

The hosts can recognize their local contributors under the following guidelines:

- This page should be titled, "Local Contributors."
 - Do not use any other reference such as "sponsors" or "partners."
- Contributor name can be listed in text format only. No corporate logo usage is permitted.
- The NCAA logos should not be included within this specific page.
- Include text at the bottom of the page indicating that the Local Contributors are not official sponsors of the NCAA.

Examples

If you would like to review an approved championship microsite, please reference the following pages:

- Visit Oklahoma City / Women's College World Series: <https://www.visitokc.com/wcws/>
- University of Wisconsin / Division I Cross Country Championships: <https://app.bucky.uwbadgers.com/NCAA-Cross-Country-Page>

NOTE: The website should be clean of any and all corporate sponsor marks. Additionally, the information provided regarding local travel accommodations, restaurants, or the like must link away from the microsite completely. Final approval of the city-specific microsite will come from the NCAA event marketing, ticketing and/or branding team. Prior to the microsite URL going live, please share with the championship manager to begin the official approval process.

NCAA SOCIAL MEDIA GUIDELINES FOR CHAMPIONSHIP HOSTS

The official NCAA social media pages and official hashtags are located here: on.ncaa.com/sociallinks

Host Promotion of Championships

A lot of hosts already have an established presence in social media. Examples are a school, local organizing committee, sports corporation, venue or city pages/accounts. These pages/accounts are all acceptable places to promote hosting of an NCAA championship through the use of marketing messages and products supplied from the NCAA (links, web banners, fliers, etc.). The NCAA also promotes the championships (and the host involvement) on the appropriate NCAA social media pages/accounts. If the championship does not have an official NCAA account on a social media site, a host is still not permitted to create a page for it. The NCAA will make efforts to promote this championship on the other established methods, as necessary. Collaboration is encouraged through the use of cross-posting on Facebook (@ linking within text to drive fans to each other's pages) and mentions on Twitter (@ links to show coordination in posts). In addition to collaboration, idea-sharing is also encouraged and can be coordinated with the NCAA social team through the championship's contact.

A host should not create a social media account or page (Facebook page, Twitter feed, Instagram, TikTok, Snapchat, etc.) **solely devoted to promoting an NCAA championship.** These pages become outdated, distract fans from established pages and fracture the NCAA message.

Please send direct questions, ideas or news to Jeffrey Donely at jdonely@ncaa.org.

Section 18 • Meet Management

COMPETITION DATES/TIMES

The committee will approve all starting times and practice, warm-up and rotation schedules.

COMPETITION INFORMATION

For information relative to seeding of teams, qualification scores, draws, team groupings, order of competition within a group, warm-up procedures, competition order, awards and ties, please refer to the 2025-26 National Collegiate Women's Gymnastics Championships Prechampionships Manual posted on ncaa.org and the host information site, and the 2025-26 National Collegiate Women's Gymnastics Participant Manual posted on the host information site.

COMPETITION ROTATION ORDER

New for 2026: All Teams will select their competition rotation order based on their NQS ranking. The team with the highest NQS in each session will select their starting event, then so on and so on, until all four teams have chosen their starting event for each session. Competition rotation format will remain in Olympic order: vault, bars, beam and floor. After all teams have selected their starting event, the NCAA Women's Gymnastics Committee will add all IESs and AAs into the rotation order. Competition rotation selection will happen on tournament director's teleconferences. A team coach, administrator or designee must be present on the competition rotation selection teleconference to choose their starting event. In the event a team coach, administrator or designee is not present on the teleconference at the time of rotation selection that team forfeits their opportunity to choose and the team with the next highest NQS moves forward to select. The missing team will automatically be assigned to the last remaining event.

DECORATING AND ADVERTISING

Banners Inside Competition Site. The following banners are permissible inside the competition site:

- NCAA provided banners and signage (These may used to cover nonpermissible signage).
- Team banners (one per team in location approved by the committee).

Covering. See Advertising/Signs/"Look and Décor" in Commercialism/Contributors section.

Directional Signs. Directional signs should be posted in all areas used by the participants and the media. Please use the signage templates provided by NCAA championship manager.

Video Boards and Electronic Messages. No electronic board advertising of any kind or messages promoting non-NCAA events in the competition site may be displayed during practice or competition. The following kinds of messages are permissible: announcements of results from other NCAA competition; reminders that NCAA championship merchandise and concessions are on sale on the concourse; or any public-services announcements or promotional messages specifically provided by the NCAA. The NCAA will provide programming for all video boards. The host must provide an individual to load and play all content during practice and competition sessions.

Table Banner (site specific for all rounds). The NCAA will provide one banner for the scoring table for regionals and one banner at the national site. The NCAA staff will consult with the tournament director to determine the dimensions for the banners. No other ornamentation or signage is allowed on the scoring table. Cover the scoring table with drape or other appropriate material if the banner does not cover the entire table.

DASANI/POWERADE EQUIPMENT (NATIONALS ONLY)

Equipment Information. The NCAA will provide certain championships relevant equipment (sidelines hydration, competition equipment, etc.) on a sport-by-sport basis that must be used in all championship activity. The purpose of the equipment is to hydrate student-athletes for competition. Each championship will receive information from the NCAA pertaining to any equipment that will be provided. Following the championships, each host site will be required to provide the NCAA with a completed inventory sheet (template provided by the NCAA) and pictures for proof of performance.

If you have any questions regarding any of this information, please contact the NCAA championship manager.

DASANI/POWERADE EQUIPMENT (REGIONALS ONLY)

Preliminary-Round Sites NOT Receiving POWERADE-Branded Equipment and Product. The host institution may use items other than POWERADE-branded equipment. These items, however, must not display any commercial marks (e.g., logos and graphics of commercial products such as Gatorade), or such marks must be covered completely (this requirement applies on the sidelines and in competition areas, media areas or any other back-of-house areas).

If the host has to provide and/or purchase product for any NCAA championship use (e.g., student-athlete banquet, committee tent/suite, hospitality areas, media areas), the host must purchase and provide only Coca-Cola products (e.g., Dasani, POWERADE, Coca-Cola, Sprite). Participating teams and student-athletes in NCAA championships continue to be free to use/consume permissible hydration beverage(s) of their own choice; however, equipment carrying any branding other than POWERADE, as referenced above, must be absent of any commercial marks.

MARCH-IN CEREMONY

The host should select appropriate music for the production of the championships (opening music, warmup, marches, chimes, awards ceremony, etc.).

For all sessions, judges march-in first.

For all sessions, teams will march-in and line up on the floor in Olympic order. The all-around and event specialists will be included at the end of each team.

The teams will be announced in Olympic order as they enter the arena along with the name of the head coach and following individuals and their head coach. The host institution should prepare signs with each competing team, to be used to by line leaders to lead the competitors.

Team intro videos will be played prior to each team marching in. The teams will be announced in Olympic order as they enter the arena along with the name of the head coach. At the end of each individual team, the individual athletes competing with each team will be announced along with their head coach. The host institution should prepare signs with each competing team, to be used to lead competitors.

The national anthem will be played after introductions at all sessions.

MEETINGS

Mandatory coaches meeting. (NATIONALS ONLY) A mandatory prechampionships meeting for coaches of participating teams, individuals and games committee members will be held Tuesday night on the arena floor as an equipment check, review of the format, opening ceremonies, meet procedures and any other pertinent information.

The head coach must submit the Phonetic Pronunciation Sheet and Order of Competition forms at this meeting. Precompetition forms may also be submitted but are not a requirement.

Judges meetings. Judges will conduct daily meetings. Please refer to the Schedule of Events for meeting schedules. A room for 35 people is needed.

Rotation Selection Videoconference. Hosts will be responsible to coordinate a teleconference of advancing team coaches on visualization day for advancing teams to select their competition rotation order.

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION

Admittance to Competition Site. Credentials labeled with names and institution are to be provided to all competitors, as well as their coaches, athletic trainers, managers and other official and necessary personnel. Please see the Credentials section of this manual for more information.

Participant Manual. In cooperation with the NCAA championship manager, the host shall prepare a Participant Manual. This manual will be finalized in early March and each host will receive a final PDF version to distribute to teams upon selection. Participant manuals (REGIONAL and FINALS) will also be posted on the Selection Information Page by the NCAA office staff.

Team Hosts. Each team may be assigned a host or hostess to assist during its stay.

Designated Team Area (Corrals). Team participants must remain in their designated event seating area during the championships competition. Sixteen to 20 chairs will be provided in the team corrals. Only competitors performing or preparing to perform (the next competitor) will be exempt. There should be four team corrals, one at each event, and each should be large enough to accommodate 30-35 people.

Seating. Arrange for lower-arena seating off the competitive floor for the gymnasts not actually competing. The seating for the gymnasts should be properly roped off and controlled, if necessary.

PRACTICE

At NATIONALS, equipment should be set up the day before the first practice the Wednesday before the competition. See Schedule of Events for all practice times.

Timer. A designated timekeeper should be assigned to direct the change of events and begin new warm-up sessions. The venue should have a visible countdown clock to display the time left in each timed warm-up rotation.

Section 19 • Meet Structure

MEET STRUCTURE AND TIES (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

1. **Regionals.** The top 36 teams based on national qualifying score will be selected for regional competition.

Nine teams, three all-around competitors and four individual specialists per event (all of whom are not on a qualifying team) will be assigned to one of four regions. The number of all-arounders and event specialists assigned to reach 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.

The first round will consist of two teams, the second round will consist of eight teams and individuals and the regional final will consist of four teams. At each regional, the top team in round one qualifies to round two; the top two teams in each session in round two qualify to round three; and the top two teams in round three qualify to the national championship. The top all-arounder and event specialist at each regional (who is not on an advancing team) qualify to the national championship in their respective event(s).

2. **Nationals.** The National Collegiate Women's Gymnastics Championships will consist of eight teams, four all-around competitors and 16 event specialists. Semifinals and individual competition will be conducted in two sessions April 17. The top two teams from each semifinal will advance to the final competition April 19. The individual all-around and event champions (considering all competitors) will be awarded to the individuals with the top scores considering scores from both semifinal competitions. The team champion will be awarded to the team with the highest cumulative team score from the final competition.

ALTERNATES

At selections for regionals and the announcement of national qualifiers, the next highest individual competitor in each event and the all-around will be named as an alternate. If a qualifier declines the invitation within the 24-hour period following the announcement of qualifiers, the alternate will be informed and given the opportunity to accept. The alternate must then accept within 24 hours of notification.

COMPETITIVE ROTATIONS

Refer to the prechampionships manual for competitive rotation information.

LINEUP CHANGES AND SUBSTITUTIONS

Before the start of an event, changes in the lineup may be made by notifying the NCAA scoring coordinator, who will notify the scoring table personnel, meet referee and chief judge at the event (via the chief judge's headset person).

After the event starts, the head coach must notify the chief judge on the event. The chief judge's headset person will notify the scoring table.

Once a team begins an event (chief judge raises the flag for the first student-athlete), a substitute may replace a gymnast in that same position in the lineup; the order of competition may not be changed. A gymnast who is removed from one event lineup may compete in other events.

MARCH-IN CEREMONY (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

1. **Regionals and Day One of Nationals.** Teams will be introduced in competitive order (vault, bars, beam, floor exercise). An intro video will be played for the first team and they will be introduced shortest to tallest (followed by the name of the head coach), followed by the all-around competitor, and then any event specialists assigned to rotate with the team. Once all individuals have been introduced, the team may proceed to the corral for their first event and may move around to stay warm while other teams are introduced.

Once the competitors have entered the arena and have been introduced, the national anthem shall be played.

The states which the judges represent, rather than each judge's name and state of residence, shall be announced as the student-athletes are being led to the corral for their first event. By including this announcement, spectators and fans will be aware that judges represent the entire country and not simply the state of the championships site. No further announcement should delay the start of the competition.

2. Final Team Competition (NATIONALS ONLY). Teams will be introduced in competitive order (vault, bars, beam, floor exercise). An intro video will be played for the first team and they will be introduced shortest to tallest (followed by the name of the head coach), followed by the all-around competitor, and then any event specialists assigned to rotate with the team. Once all individuals have been introduced, the team may proceed to the corral for their first event and may move around to stay warm while other teams are introduced.

Once the competitors have entered the arena and have been introduced, the national anthem shall be played.

The states which the judges represent, rather than each judge's name and state of residence, shall be announced as the student-athletes are being led to the corral for their first event. By including this announcement, spectators and fans will be aware that judges represent the entire country and not simply the state of the championships site. No further announcement should delay the start of the competition.

CORRALS (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

Arrange for corrals to be large enough (approximately 8' x 20') to accommodate 30-35 individuals and provide four to six chairs since participants mostly stand. The front and two sides of the corral shall be constructed of a secure material with the back open and used for entrance/exit. Coaches or other representatives are not allowed to photograph student-athletes from the floor or corral during competition.

If floor space allows, please set up a separate corral for AA/IES in the second round and semifinals.

Teams and individual competitors shall be instructed that they are required to take their personal belongings with them as they move from corral to corral on both practice and competition days, if moving corrals is permitted.

ATHLETIC TRAINERS/ACCESS OUTSIDE OF CORRALS

One athletic trainer per competing institution will be permitted in a designated area near the vault landing area in instances where the vault corral is located at the beginning of the vault runway. The athletic trainer is there to observe and must refrain from engaging in any communication and/or cheering with the student-athlete, coach or other team personnel while in the vault landing area.

Section 20 • Meetings

The purpose of the meetings listed below is to review playing rules and any other administrative matters pertaining to the event and to acquaint the head coaches with the provisions of NCAA Bylaw 31.02.4, which prescribes conditions under which a student-athlete or representative of an institution may be disqualified from further participation in the competition for reasons of misconduct. Those not meeting the requirements above or not in attendance shall be subject to the assessment of a financial penalty.

ADMINISTRATIVE MEETINGS - REGIONALS

The host institution is responsible for making arrangements for and scheduling the meetings outlined below, and for notifying the participants in the participant manual. All meetings should include the NCAA site representative to the regional site, the tournament director and the director of athletics of the host institution or designee. The NCAA site representative, assisted by the tournament director, should chair the meetings.

1. Participants' Videoconference (Tuesday, March 24). Each regional tournament director shall conduct a teleconference with the participating head coaches and administrators (teams, AA and IES), site representative and meet referee.
2. Championships Organizational Meeting. A morning meeting the day prior to competition, to include the tournament director, NCAA site representative, meet referee, sports information director, promotions manager, facility manager and other host personnel should take place to review meet procedures. This can be done in person or virtually.
3. Administrative Meeting. A meeting of the coaches of the participating teams, all-around competitors and event specialists will be held to review the format, opening ceremonies, meet procedures and any other pertinent information. Coaches must be notified that their attendance is mandatory, subject to a financial penalty.
 - a. The administrative meeting for teams will be conducted at noon, Monday, March 30, or Tuesday, March 31.
 - b. The administrative meeting is to be held virtually.
 - c. All head coaches (assigned to the respective practice/competition session) shall plan to be available for a brief on-site meeting conducted 30 minutes before each session on practice/competition days to address any issues, if needed. These meetings will not replace the administrative meeting referenced above. The site representative will conduct these meetings.
4. Judges. A meeting with the judges should be scheduled for one hour and fifteen minutes prior to the start of competition to review meet procedures, scoring system, handling of score inquiries, etc. The judges meeting should not be conducted the day prior to the competition, inasmuch as judges would be required to remain overnight an additional night. The meet referee will conduct this meeting; however, the tournament director and NCAA site representative should attend the beginning of the judges meeting to answer any question.
5. Meet Personnel. At least two hours prior to competition, the tournament director and scoring coordinator will conduct a meeting with the scorers, flashers, announcers, etc.
6. **NEW FOR 2026:** Competition Rotation Selection. All Teams will select their competition rotation order based on their NQS ranking. The team with the highest NQS in each session will select their starting event, then so on and so on, until all four teams have chosen their starting event for each session. Competition rotation format will remain in Olympic order; vault, bars, beam and floor. The competition rotation selection for round three will happen via teleconference on visualization day (Friday, April 3, or Saturday, April 4) at 9 a.m. local time. A team coach, administrator or designee must be present on the competition rotation selection teleconference to choose their starting event. In the event a team coach, administrator or designee is not present on the teleconference at the time of rotation selection that team forfeits their opportunity to choose and the team with the next highest NQS moves forward to select. The missing team will automatically be assigned to the last remaining event.

ADMINISTRATIVE MEETINGS - NATIONALS (VIRTUAL MEETINGS)

The host institution is responsible for making arrangements for and scheduling the meetings outlined below, and for notifying the participants in the participant manual.

1. Participants' Videoconference (noon Eastern time, April 7). The tournament director shall conduct a videoconference with the participating head coaches and administrators (teams, AA and IES), NCAA committee chair, meet referee and NCAA championship administrator.
2. Administrative Meeting. A mandatory meeting of the head coaches and institutional administrators of the competing teams, all head coaches of individual competitors, the tournament director, NCAA women's gymnastics committee and meet referee will be held at noon, Monday, April 13. Teams competing at the national championships are required to be represented at the administrative meetings, all practices, warmups and throughout the competition by an athletics director, senior woman administrator or other designated administrator other than the head coach or assistant coach. Institutions that have only all-around or individual-event qualifiers competing at the championships are not required to have an administrator present.
3. Mandatory Coaches Meeting. A mandatory prechampionships meeting for coaches of participating teams, individuals and games committee members will be held Tuesday night on the arena floor as an equipment check and review of the format, opening ceremonies, meet procedures and any other pertinent information.
4. Judges Meeting. A judges meeting will be held the morning of Thursday, April 16, to review meet procedures, scoring system and other applicable matters.
5. **NEW FOR 2026:** Competition Rotation Selection. All Teams will select their competition rotation order based on their NQS ranking. The team with the highest NQS in each session will select their starting event, then so on and so on, until all four teams have chosen their starting event for each session. Competition rotation format will remain in Olympic order; vault, bars, beam and floor. The competition rotation selection for Finals will happen via teleconference on visualization day (Friday, April 17) at 9 a.m. local time. A team coach, administrator or designee must be present on the competition rotation selection teleconference to choose their starting event. In the event a team coach, administrator or designee is not present on the teleconference at the time of rotation selection that team forfeits their opportunity to choose and the team with the next highest NQS moves forward to select. The missing team will automatically be assigned to the last remaining event.

NCAA REPRESENTATIVE(S)

The women's gymnastics committee/site representative(s) at each site will meet the day before competition begins with the tournament director, meet referee, media coordinator and facility manager. If requested by the women's gymnastics representative, additional personnel may participate.

Section 21 • Merchandise/Licensing

ADMINISTRATION

The NCAA licensing department has oversight into the event merchandising program at all rounds and sites of NCAA championships. All licensing and merchandising questions should be directed to David Clendenin (317-917-6496; dclendenin@ncaa.org).

AVAILABILITY

An online ordering system will be available to participating institutions interested in ordering Event 1, Inc., merchandise in advance of the championship. Orders will be shipped by Event 1 directly to the participating institution's campus.

GENERAL POLICIES

The NCAA retains the exclusive right to sell souvenir products at all rounds and sites of the 90 championships; host institutions/conferences and sponsoring agencies for all NCAA championships are required to sell items provided by the official NCAA event souvenir merchandiser. The official NCAA event souvenir merchandiser is Event 1.

Event 1, Inc. will enter into an agreement with the official vendor of the host institution/conference or sponsoring agency and will supply merchandise and inventory reconciliation forms to the official vendor. The official vendor of the host institution/conference or sponsoring agency at the site of the championship(s) is responsible for complete retail vending accountability, including full responsibility for inventory. When the requirements listed below are met, the host institution/conference will receive a 20% commission fee for providing these services. The 20% commission fee will be from net sales, which is defined as gross sales minus taxes and credit card fees. The following is a list of the requirements that must be met to qualify for the 20% commission fee:

- a. Receive and count in all merchandise upon arrival from Event 1, Inc., as well as receiving all reorders required to meet customers demand. Reorders could arrive any day of the week and could be as early as 8 a.m. Saturday or Sunday.
- b. Locked and supervised storage adequate to accommodate all championship merchandise.
- c. Immediate notification (within 24 hours of receipt) to Event 1, Inc. of any discrepancies in initial inventory counts. Nonnotification will represent host or vendor acceptance of initial inventory provided by Event 1, Inc.
- d. Total management, control and accountability of the merchandise. If goods are lost, stolen or damaged, those goods are the responsibility of the host institution/conference or vendor.
- e. Everything sent must be returned to Event 1 within two days of the conclusion of the event.
- f. An appropriate number of selling locations and sellers throughout the facility in order to meet the demands of the projected crowds.
- g. Selling locations that are well displayed and fully stocked prior to the public's access to them.
- h. Strict adherence to the merchandising and display standards as outlined below:
 - Merchandise made available for sale at all times during the event.
 - Each item neatly displayed with correct prices clearly marked.
 - Merchandise should be neatly folded at all times.
 - Neatly dressed personnel that are customer-oriented.
 - Skirted tables for display and checkout.
 - Display boards and grids to properly display product at all selling locations.
 - Selling locations located in high traffic and easily located locations.
 - Vendor shall be responsible for hanging any display or signage material provided by concessionaire.
 - Keeping selling areas clean and neat at all times.

- Restocking of back-up inventory in a fast and efficient manner.
 - Transferring merchandise between the slower and higher volume stands to meet the demands of the consumers.
 - Providing electricity and either hard internet lines or dedicated secured Wi-Fi network connection to support the merchandise sales effort at no extra cost.
 - Calling Event 1, Inc. to request reorders should sales warrant.
- i. A complete inventory accounting of all merchandise sold with a final inventory count and merchandising report supplied to Event 1, Inc., no later than 24 hours after the conclusion of the event.
 - j. Total gross sales revenues and a final copy of the inventory report must be sent to Event 1, Inc., within two business days of the conclusion of the event.
 - k. The remaining inventory forwarded to Event 1, Inc., or the next event site as determined by Event 1, Inc., within two days of the conclusion.
 - l. Having met each of the above requirements, Event 1, Inc. will pay to the host institution/conference, sponsoring agency or its assigned vendor, a commission equal to 20% of sales net of taxes and credit card service fees. The host institutions will keep commissions earned and the remaining money owed to Event 1 must be sent within seven days of the conclusion of the event.

The host institution/conference may not sell or allow for sale any merchandise that infringes upon the exclusive rights of Event 1, Inc.

Institutional Merchandise. A buy-out option can be made with Event 1/NCAA when the host institution/conference wants to sell merchandise that features the host mark or logo at the NCAA competition. This can only be done when the host institution/conference agrees to purchase the entire product that Event 1 provides. The host institution/conference will receive a 20% commission fee of net sales, gross sales minus credit card fees and taxes, on product supplied by Event 1. The host institution or official vendor will provide the NCAA 15% of sales (net of taxes and credit card service fees) of all non-NCAA championship merchandise. The quantity of NCAA merchandise available for sale shall not be less than a comparable shipment to a comparable site of the previous year's championship.

Reordering Process. The host institution/conference may contact Event 1 to place an order for additional merchandise during the event. The concessionaire must contact Event 1 no later than the conclusion of each day to evaluate inventory levels. The more time Event 1 has to react to the request, the better the chance a reorder can be processed and shipped in a timely manner. Event 1 cannot guarantee that additional merchandise will be available.

Event 1 will provide an event manual, which will include the contact information for the event coordinator assigned to the event as well as additional merchandising guidelines.

DIVERSE SUPPLIERS

The NCAA encourages and requests local organizing committees/hosts diversify the pool of qualified businesses and select the best vendor(s) that can provide necessary goods and services for awarded championships.

Section 22 • Neutrality

Host institutions should keep in mind that an NCAA event is not a home event. Neutrality is important; therefore, such items as the use of athletes on host institutional signage should not be used to create a "home" atmosphere. Traditional precompetition or between-competition activities are not permissible (e.g., tossing items to the crowd, permitting mascots to lead "trains" through the stands).

Section 23 • Official Entry Form/ Participants Information

ENTRY AND MARCH-IN FORM

March 25 (noon). Deadline—REGIONAL entry information due to NCAA championship manager. Deadline for qualifying institutions to decline invitation in writing to NCAA national office

April 8 (noon). Deadline—NATIONAL entry information due to the NCAA championship manager. Deadline for qualifying institutions to decline invitation in writing to NCAA national office

PARTICIPANT MANUAL

The host institution is responsible for the creation of a participant manual for all institutions selected to the championships. The NCAA will send a manual template via email to each host. The participant manual must be placed on the host institution's website in addition to it being available at ncaa.org.

IMPORTANT: A copy of the participant manual must be sent via email to the NCAA championship manager, for approval by Feb. 16.

The manual should include a reminder of the items with which each institution must comply to qualify (refer to prechampionships manual). The manual should only include information pertaining to the championships. Information regarding events to be conducted in conjunction with the championships should not be included.

The participating institutions are responsible for their own meal arrangements and expenses. However, it would be helpful to include a link to restaurants or on-campus eating facilities in the participant manual. In the event there is not an adequate number of restaurants in the area where the teams are staying, consideration should be given to special arrangements through the campus cafeteria and/or hotel or motel restaurants.

Section 24 • Practices

The committee believes it is important to adhere to the following practice and warmup schedules and procedures to establish consistency for coaches and gymnasts. The practice and warmup schedules and procedures should be provided in advance to the competing teams and individuals (i.e., included in the participant manual).

If deviating from the schedule, you must receive approval from the Women's Gymnastics Committee chair and the NCAA championship administrator at least two months prior to the championships.

Establish a security plan for controlled access to and from the competitive areas.

Dedicated Individual for Bars. Arrange for a dedicated person to assist on bars for all teams during practice.

After a 20-minute stretch and two-minute transition, each rotation will be 17 minutes plus two minutes for transition between events. There will be no pausing of the timer on bars to make adjustments; bar changes must be made within the time allotted. 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. **TEAMS ARE NOT PERMITTED TO WARM UP MORE THAN EIGHT INDIVIDUALS.**

For all events, individual event specialists and all-arounders must be interwoven in the team's warmup rotation starting after the first turn. For example, team rotation followed by individual event specialist and repeat.

Teams will not rotate until 17 minutes expires, regardless of early finishes.

Championship Practices. Per NCAA Bylaw 17.1.6.6.2.1 (Exception). At any conference or NCAA championship, student-athletes from the team representing the host institution shall be permitted to miss class time to attend practice activities conducted the day before the competition.

LOOK THROUGH - REGIONALS

All regional participants will have a designated time for a look through at the arena. Look throughs are for visualizations only. Gymnasts may not touch or mount equipment. There is not a practice day at regionals. All Look Through times need to be assigned in advance by the tournament director. Times will be assigned in 20-minute intervals. Teams will get to choose their 20-minute window based on their NQS ranking beginning at 5 p.m. local time. IES & AAs will go during the team they are rotating with assigned time slot.

PRACTICE - NATIONALS

Practices held the day before the competition shall NOT be open to the public. Teams are required to practice at the competition site the day of open practice. All media and tournament personnel will be required to wear the appropriate credential to access the competition floor; accordingly, enough security should be on hand to check credentials. Judges assigned to the competition may not attend any of the open practice sessions.

GENERAL/OPEN STRETCH

Generally, teams will use the matting surrounding their first event for open stretch. In REGIONALS round two and NATIONALS semifinals, individuals may share the floor with the team starting on the floor regardless of their first event. In REGIONALS round one, both teams will be permitted to warm up on each half of the floor. **New for 2026:** In all rounds, the team that starts on vault will be permitted to warm up on half of or one-third of the floor exercise if desired. Gymnasts warming up on vault, bars and beam may use the apparatus for stretching purposes without mounting the equipment. There are no restrictions on flight or inverted skills for the duration of the open stretch.

Practice Day (Nationals). Teams will use the matting surrounding their first event on practice day for open stretch. Individuals may share the floor with the team starting on the floor regardless of their first event. **New for 2026:** The team that starts on vault will be permitted to warm up on half of or one-third of the floor exercise if desired. There are no restrictions on flight or inverted skills for the duration of the open stretch.

Day of Rest (Regionals/Nationals). Teams will have the option for open stretch, if a team is not going to attend, they must notify the host (Regional/National) on the participant call. Twenty-minute open stretch on the floor exercise (as stated in NCAA prechampionships manual) and 25-minute visualization (as stated in the NCAA rules modifications).

Visualization may be done on the competition area or in the stands by any gymnast. Matting surrounding each event (including FX itself and VT runway only) may be used for visualization, provided the equipment itself is not mounted or used for gymnastics-specific or inverted skills. After the 20-minute open stretch, make the following announcement: "Open stretch is complete. The 25-minute visualization period begins now. You may sit or stand on the competition floor, the vault runway, the mats surrounding each event, or in the stands for visualization. You may not mount any equipment and you may not perform gymnastics skills in any area. All athletes, please remove yourselves from the floor exercise and provide room for visualization."

Competition Day. Teams will use the matting surrounding their first event for open stretch. In regionals round two and nationals semifinals, individuals may share the floor with the team starting on the floor regardless of their first event. In regionals round one, both teams will be permitted to warm up on each half the floor. **New for 2026:** The team that starts on vault will be permitted to warm up on half of or one-third of the floor exercise during all rounds, if desired. Gymnasts warming up on vault, bars and beam may use the apparatus for stretching purposes without mounting the equipment. There are no restrictions on flight or inverted skills for the duration of the open stretch.

WARMUP SCHEDULE - REGIONALS (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

DAY PRIOR TO COMPETITION.

The competition venue should be set up for the participants to have a look through the day prior to competition.

DAY OF COMPETITION.

1. After the open stretch and two-minute transition, each rotation will be 15 minutes (17 minutes with individual competition) plus two minutes for transition between events. There will be no pausing of the timer on bars to make adjustments; bar changes must be made within the time allotted. 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. TEAMS ARE NOT PERMITTED TO WARM UP MORE THAN EIGHT INDIVIDUALS.

For all events, individual event specialists and all-arounders must be interwoven in the team's warmup rotation starting after the first turn. For example, team rotation followed by individual event specialist and repeat.

Teams will not rotate until time expires, regardless of early finishes.

During NCAA postseason competition, as competitors arrive at each event for competition there will be a four-minute touch warmup on each event. At the NCAA regionals and national championships, 30 seconds 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. For the NCAA regionals and national championships, the two-minute transition will be announced, and 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.]

If an injury or equipment failure during the four-minute touch warmup prohibits gymnasts from warming up, those who have not had the opportunity to warm up will be given 30 seconds (per gymnast), with a minimum of two vaults.

If an injury or equipment failure during the 15-minute warmup prohibits a team from completing its warmup, the team will be given the time that is "owed" (e.g., if an injury occurs five minutes into the warmup, the team will be given the remaining 10 minutes) at the end of the warm-up period.

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, with a minimum of two vaults.

NOTE: The time required to set the bars between the team and individual competitor as well as the time required to prepare the balance beam area is NOT included in the timed warmup.

2. The regional schedule and timing sheet will be shared separately.

PRACTICE AND WARMUP - NATIONALS (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

The host institution is responsible for providing generic background music during all warm-up periods. Competitors' music will be permitted only during their rotation for floor exercise.

Tuesday, April 14

The competitive facility (including judges and team seating areas) must be set up by 1 p.m. At this time the committee will do a walk-through and the meet referee will measure the equipment.

Wednesday, April 15

Two practice sessions will be conducted jointly for the teams, all-arounders and individual event specialists (approximately 11 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. local time). 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.

A team's/all-arounder's practice session will be based on its semifinal placement and starting event, that will be selected by team coaches and provided in a separate document by the NCAA. Rotation shall be by Olympic order and will follow the same schedule as for the actual competition.

WARMUP PROCEDURE - NATIONALS (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

At both semifinal rounds of the NATIONAL championships, after the open stretch and two-minute transition, each rotation will be 15 minutes (17 minutes with individual competitors) plus two minutes for transition between events. There will be no pausing of the timer on bars to make adjustments; bar changes must be made within the time allotted. Each team or group will begin the warm-up session on the same event on which it begins the competitive rotation and will follow Olympic order. **TEAMS ARE NOT PERMITTED TO WARM UP MORE THAN EIGHT INDIVIDUALS.**

For all events, individual event specialists and all-arounders must be interwoven in the team's warm-up rotation starting after the first turn. For example, team rotation followed by individual event specialist and repeat.

Teams will not rotate until time expires, regardless of early finishes.

2. During NCAA postseason competition, as competitors arrive at each event for competition there will be a four-minute touch warmup on each event. At the NCAA regionals and national championships, 30 seconds 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. For the NCAA regionals and national championships, the two-minute transition will be announced, and 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.*

Please refer to the national participant manual for specific timing of warmups in the semifinals and final. The internal/operational schedule of events will also be shared separately.

Section 25 • Programs

REGIONALS

Regionals will feature a digital game program that can be viewed online or downloaded at no charge. This program will be available online generally no later than two days prior to the first day of the event.

All digital programs are available at ncaa.com/gameprograms.

NATIONALS

Nationals will feature a printed program, which the NCAA and LEARFIELD Publishing have the exclusive right to distribute at the competition venue during the championships. No competing publications, whether sold or free of charge, are permitted at NCAA events where printed programs are available. Any publications delivered to the venue are the property of LEARFIELD before, during and after the event.

CONTENT/EDITORIAL (REGIONALS AND NATIONALS)

LEARFIELD Responsibilities

Responsible for all program production, including editorial content, layout and design, advertising and printing.

Host Responsibilities

Media contact should provide LEARFIELD with text and photos for editorial pages about host institution/venue/city, if requested by LEARFIELD.

Any pages promoting the host institution/venue/city will not be display advertisements; those interested in purchasing advertising space for sponsors, etc., should contact Clerrinda Queen (clerrinda.queen@learfield.com).

PROMOTION (REGIONALS ONLY)

The NCAA will provide a PDF including a QR code that links to the digital program, a URL where the digital program can be accessed and imagery of the NCAA's Corporate Champions and Partners. This PDF, or digital handout, is also shared with participating schools for their promotional use.

If you would like this information ahead of time, please contact your NCAA administrator.

Best Practices. Below are a few best practices for promoting the championship digital program.

- Distribute the digital handout to fans.
- Create signage to direct fans to the digital program by using elements on the digital handout.
- Post the link on athletics and school-affiliated websites.
- Share the link on athletics and school-affiliated social media outlets.
- Share the link with student-athletes, faculty, alumni organizations and local media outlets, and any other group that may have interest.

SUPPLEMENTAL HANDOUTS

REGIONALS

At championships sites where a digital program is available, LEARFIELD allows the host institution/venue to distribute supplemental handouts (i.e., updated statistics and notes) provided any such materials:

- Do not include any advertisements, local sponsor logos, etc.
- Include the QR code and URL to the digital program.
- Include the NCAA Corporate Champions and Partners imagery.

Printed supplements may be distributed free or sold, with all proceeds retained by the host. The host should not include expenses for such supplements in the championship budget and/or financial report.

All supplemental content is subject to NCAA and LEARFIELD approval.

NATIONALS

LEARFIELD encourages the host institution/venue to distribute supplemental handouts (i.e., updated statistics and notes), provided any such materials:

- Are only distributed with the purchase of a program.
- Do not include information available in the program.
- Do not include advertisements.

The host should not include expenses for such supplements in the championship budget and/or financial report. All supplemental content is subject to NCAA and LEARFIELD approval.

PROGRAM VENDING AND COMPLIMENTARY PROGRAMS (NATIONALS)

LEARFIELD will enter into an agreement with the official program vendor of the host institution or sponsoring agency listed on the key contacts form, and will supply programs and settlement sheets to the official vendor. The official vendor of the host institution or sponsoring agency at the site of the championship(s) is responsible for complete vending accountability, including full responsibility for inventory. When the requirements listed below (Program Vending Standards) are met, the host institution will receive a 20% commission of net sales for providing these services. Below are the program vending responsibilities of both LEARFIELD and the host, or official program vendor.

LEARFIELD Responsibilities

- Reserves the right to manage vending/fulfillment in-venue.
- Will email a vending agreement and settlement sheet to the vending contact and tournament manager prior to championship.
- Will ship and manage shipment of programs to arrive no later than the day prior to the start of the event, unless otherwise communicated by LEARFIELD.
- Within one week postchampionship, will provide the host with instructions for returning or destroying the remaining programs (if applicable).
- Will pay sales tax to the proper taxing authority.

Host Responsibilities

- Prior to the event, the program vending contact listed on the host's online key contacts form will need to confirm they are the contact and that the shipping information is correct, when requested by LEARFIELD.
- The host venue will provide all vendors unless otherwise prearranged with LEARFIELD.
- Return a signed vending agreement to LEARFIELD prior to the event.
- If requested and approved by the NCAA, the tournament manager shall issue credentials and provide the necessary parking passes to administrative personnel representing LEARFIELD. All program vendors shall receive standard facility credentials.
- Distribute the allotted number of complimentary programs as specified below:
 - Regionals - 316 for participants; 30 for media/other.
 - Nationals - 200 for participants; 60 for media/other.
- Meet the "Program Vending Standards" (listed below) to receive 20% commission of the net program sales.

- After meeting the “Program Vending Standards,” LEARFIELD will pay the vendor 20% commission of net sales. The vendor is to keep the commissions earned and cut a check to Learned IMG College for the amount due listed on the LEARFIELD provided settlement sheet within two weeks after the event.
- Email and mail the completed settlement sheet provided by LEARFIELD, after the event within the time frame specified in the vending agreement

Program Vending Standards

- Receive and take inventory of the programs upon arrival. Notify LEARFIELD of any discrepancies in the quantity received or damages to the programs within 24 hours.
- Provide total management, control and accountability of the programs. If programs are lost, stolen or damaged, the programs are the responsibility of the vendor.
- Keep programs in locked and supervised storage.
- Provide an appropriate number of sellers throughout the facility in order to meet the demands of the projected crowds. The appropriate number of sellers should ensure that every fan entering the event will pass one person actively and exclusively selling programs, as well as placing multiple sellers in high-traffic areas to provide a quick transaction for all fans.
- Sellers should be either at designated program stands and/or stationed in high-traffic areas of the facility that are easily located (such as ticketed entrances).
- Ensure program stands and/or sellers are prepared to sell prior to the gates being opened. If using program stands or tables, the programs should be neatly displayed at all times. If using tables, please make best effort to make table presentable.
- Ensure that sellers are neatly dressed and are customer-oriented.
- Keep selling areas clean and neat at all times.
- Programs can be available at merchandise stands (i.e., along with apparel) but should not be sold exclusively in this manner.
- Sell programs throughout the event for a mutually agreed upon time with LEARFIELD.
- Display signage in a professional manner, if provided by LEARFIELD.
- Make sure vendors have necessary materials for selling throughout the event, i.e., appropriate number of programs and change. Replenishing sellers with programs and providing change should be done in a fast and efficient manner. This may include transferring merchandise between the slower and higher volume selling areas to meet customer demands.
- Below are a few best practices for vending programs:
 - Designate individuals to sell programs and pay them a commission for each program they sell; or
 - Recruit volunteers to sell programs as a fundraiser for their nonprofit organization and pay them commission for each program they sell.
 - Encourage vendors to walk through the stands to sell programs during the event.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact your NCAA administrator or Chad Laytham (chad.laytham@learfield.com) at Learfield.

Section 26 • Safety and Security

The NCAA is committed to supporting a safe and secure environment for championship events and is appreciative of the many federal, state and local partners who aid in maintaining safe events for all athletes, coaches, officials, fans and staff.

The NCAA has established a Safety and Security Advisory Group to develop Best Practices for all NCAA championships. The SSAG developed these Best Practices based on a review of current and future championships competition venues, discussions with safety and security experts, and their own experience and knowledge. All hosts and competition venues are strongly encouraged to refer to the [Safety and Security Best Practices](#) when developing a safety and security Event Action Plan.

The suggestions outlined in the [Safety and Security Best Practices](#) are based on practices that are employed by competition venues across the nation. The need and ability to implement them at each facility and event will vary. Properly trained and equipped personnel constitute the primary element of implementing a successful safety and security plan.

Best Practices for championships competition venue safety are intended for guidance purposes only; they are not a requirement under NCAA or other regulations or legislation. In addition, because of the wide variety of designs and sizes of competition venues; and composition and profile of particular events, not all Best Practices will be reasonable or applicable.

The Best Practices should not be viewed as a complete or primary source of information for developing or implementing the safety program for the competition venue hosting an NCAA championship. Rather, facility managers and local public safety personnel should consider an all-hazards approach in doing a threat assessment and developing an Event Action Plan to utilize appropriate resources and support the NCAA championship event.

Please submit your final safety and security plan with your bid materials. In addition, you will be prompted to provide information for the Critical Incident Response Team form when completing our bid via the NCAA Championships Bid Portal. Please be as specific as possible when providing emergency contacts and numbers.

Unless otherwise expressly authorized by applicable law, no firearms or weapons are permitted on these premises for NCAA championships and events, excluding authorized sworn law enforcement officers. Failure to abide may subject you to ejection as well as other applicable discipline or action. The foregoing shall not limit the applicable equipment used in and for fencing and rifle competitions in accordance with NCAA rules, at the venues for such competitions.

Fan Seating. Fans should not switch their seat locations during competition to follow a team during rotations

GENERAL SECURITY GUIDELINES

Preparation. Competition site management is reminded of its responsibility to provide an environment that is safe and secure for all student-athletes, coaches, officials, and fans. This includes sufficient security and/or law-enforcement personnel to ensure that access to the competition and surrounding areas is restricted to players and credentialed individuals. The championship manager and host institution staff shall review with the local law-enforcement agencies their procedures for circumstances requiring emergency evacuation of the competition site or interruption of the game. In the event of a critical incident, contact the NCAA championship manager immediately before making any decisions.

Resources. [Safety and Security Best Practices](#) is available for hosts to reference and use as needed in helping set up an Event Action Plan with appropriate partners.

Each host will be asked to provide the following:

1. Local authorities and critical incident response team contact information.
2. Review emergency protocol before the start of the event.
3. Identify chain of authority.
 - a. Incident commander (second in command).
 - b. Decision-making personnel/team.

4. Identify incident command center.
5. Identify incident communication plan.
6. Review evacuation plan – review plan with competition site manager.
7. Review emergency response plan for typical emergencies, severe weather, and potential criminal actions.
8. Connect with the closest protective security advisors for your area and notify them of the event to receive security notifications and instructions. For more information about this program [go here](#).

Disruption. Building security and/or law enforcement personnel shall be responsible for the restoration of order in the event unauthorized individuals occupy the competition area or if competition is otherwise disrupted. Under no circumstances are student athletes, coaches, officials or NCAA representatives to become involved in the removal of such persons.

Interruption of Competition. The officials have the authority to interrupt the championships. If competition is interrupted because of events beyond the control of the committee, it shall be continued from the point of interruption at a time determined by the committee. If necessary, the remaining competition schedule also shall be adjusted by the games committee. The committee should review the following procedures for interruption of competition:

- **Head Table.** Assure that the timing devices are operational and manual times are accurately recorded.
- **Officials.** Assure that the officials know the exact situation when competition was halted.
- **Student-Athletes and Coaches.** On instruction from the NCAA staff or committee members, participants should retire to the locker rooms or outside the building to await further instructions.

Power Source/Public Address. Facility management should protect the power source and the public-address system. If an alternate public-address location is available (i.e., away from the competition area) it should be used so communication is not interrupted.

Spokesperson. The committee chair or his or her designee, working with the facility management, the NCAA and, when appropriate, local, state and federal law enforcement agencies, will serve as spokesperson in the event of an emergency.

Communication. A senior member of the facility management and the senior law-enforcement officer at the site must proceed immediately to the previously identified location with means of communication to and from other facility staff and security officers. The public-address announcer should keep spectators informed of the conditions, if possible. Participants, coaches and officials must be kept informed throughout the delay.

Meeting. The committee chair, NCAA staff and meet management staff (facility manager, meet director and senior law-enforcement officer) should assemble immediately at a predetermined location to assess the situation.

Normal Conditions. The committee shall determine when conditions have returned to normal.

Resumption of Competition. As soon as possible, competition shall be resumed from the point of suspension. The event staff shall determine the revised schedule after consultation with the committee. If possible, the competition should be resumed in the primary facility. If necessary, the games committee has the authority to limit attendance to credentialed individuals, those on each institution's pass list, other individuals designated by each institution's director of athletics, and required facility operations personnel. Also, the committee has the authority to reschedule the competition in a nearby facility (e.g., on campus or elsewhere in the city) provided the alternate facility meets the provisions of NCAA rules.

PERSONNEL

Adequate uniformed security (not necessarily uniformed police) must be provided around the competition floor, teams' and judges' locker rooms, press conferences and working press areas, postcompetition interview room, hospitality areas, and any other area for which a credential is required or where crowd control is necessary. The tournament director is responsible for reviewing all credentials with security personnel.

DISTRIBUTION OF MATERIALS

No person or group may distribute the following materials in the facility or adjacent areas that fall under the control of the arena management without the advance written permission of the NCAA: handbills, flyers, newspapers, memorabilia or promotional materials for other events or activities.

WEATHER

If the tournament director and/or site representative determine that weather conditions could alter the approved championship event schedule, they should promptly contact the NCAA championship administrator manager with a summary and details of the anticipated weather/environmental issue and proposed alternative schedule prior to before making or announcing any formal changes.

Section 27 • Scoring Procedures

SCORE PROCEDURES

See the [Scoring Guidelines Manual](#) on [ncaa.org](#).

RUNNERS, SCORE FLASHERS, ETC.

Age Restrictions. College-age or older is preferred for score flashers and wipers for matting surrounding beam and bars. Seventh or eighth grade is the next choice, but NOT grades 9-12 to avoid potential problems with them as prospective student-athletes.

Qualifications. The tournament director should emphasize to the crew the importance of the event and review their duties and responsibilities. Runners and score flashers must refrain from cheering for any team or participant. They are considered "neutral" and must behave in such a manner.

Uniforms. Championships T-shirts should be provided for the individuals serving in these positions. This can be included as an expense on the financial report. They will be asked to provide their own pants/skirts; however, they should be dressed in the same color. All apparel shall be neutral (nonhost) attire.

VIDEO REVIEW AND INQUIRY

The video review and inquiry process will mimic the process used in the regular season. Please refer to Section 7 of the NCAA Women's Gymnastics Rules Modifications and Meet Procedures for more details. For regionals, it must be communicated how that footage can be used for video review. If that footage is not available, coaches must rely on footage they have captured.

The NCAA contracts DVSport to provide video review services for nationals

Section 28 • Sustainability

The NCAA encourages the host to develop initiatives that will positively impact the championships and the environment.

Section 29 • Ticketing

TICKET POLICIES/OPERATIONS

1. **Ticket Design/Printing.** The NCAA prefers the use of mobile tickets for all championship events. If mobile ticketing is not feasible, the NCAA will manage the design and printing of the tickets, assigning specific duties to the LOC/host and competition venue as needed. The NCAA will forward artwork of the proposed ticket design to the LOC/host and competition venue for review and input. The NCAA logo shall be the only logo used on the front or back of the tickets unless specifically authorized by the NCAA. The name of the host institution/conference may be printed on the front of the ticket(s) and/or on the cover of the ticket booklet. The NCAA will coordinate the printing of the tickets unless the NCAA directs the LOC/host or competition venue to coordinate the printing. The LOC/host shall incur all expenses associated with ticket printing, unless directed otherwise by the NCAA.
2. **Ticket Pricing.** With input and a recommendation from the LOC/host, the NCAA shall establish all ticket prices, including tickets for suites and standing room only. One hundred percent of the revenues from ticket sales shall be included in the championships receipts to help offset the NCAA guarantee (if applicable), championship expenses, and further revenue sharing opportunities. Revenue from the sale of championship tickets and championship-related event tickets will be exempt from sales, amusement, entertainment taxes and other surcharge obligations to the extent possible. The NCAA is a 501c(3) tax exempt organization. If a tax exemption is not applicable, then all applicable taxes and rates shall be disclosed (disclose in the sport-specific facility questionnaire) and any increases in the tax rates from the time the bid was submitted shall be absorbed by the bid respondent or rebated back to the NCAA.

Minimum ticket prices shall be \$25 for reserved seating at regional competition. A minimum of \$3 general admission ticket for grade school, high school and college students is recommended. Children two years of age and younger may be admitted free of charge (if facility policy allows) if accompanied by a ticketed adult.

Ticket prices will be proposed by the host and mutually agreed upon by the NCAA.

Applicable taxes and fees may be assessed in addition to ticket prices.

Any special ticket plans (e.g., local contributor/sponsorship packages) must be approved in advance by the NCAA national office.

The NCAA does not allow complimentary tickets to its championships. However, the NCAA will permit the purchase of tickets to use for championship promotional efforts. All ticket promotions must be approved in advance by the NCAA.

3. **Control of Ticket Sales.** The NCAA shall control all ticket sales for the championship, assigning specific duties to the LOC/host and competition venue as needed. The LOC/host and competition venue shall cooperate fully with the NCAA's official ticketing vendors and/or ticketing partners (e.g., primary ticket sales system provider, official ticket and hospitality package provider, official ticket exchange). The NCAA shall not be responsible for securing an exemption to any exclusive contracts the LOC/host, competition venue or surrounding areas/facilities might have, nor will the NCAA be responsible for any buyout or other means necessary to secure such an exemption.

Admittance to the competition venue on game days will be by ticket or NCAA-issued credential only. Every individual, regardless of age, must have a game ticket for admission, unless specified by the NCAA or venue policy. Unless specifically granted an exception, the NCAA requires that the competition venue utilize a ticket scanning system at all general public access points into the competition venue. The host venue system will be used for access control, box office walk-up sales and day of event issue resolution in the box office.

4. **Control of Venue Seating.** The NCAA shall control all seating assignments within the competition venue, including club seating, press boxes, hospitality clubs and restaurants.

The NCAA shall be responsible for determining the allocation and the location of all ticket allotments.

The LOC/host or competition venue may not resell allotted championship game tickets at any price, nor may enter into a sponsorship agreement or hospitality/travel package agreement with any ticket broker, tour packager or other secondary ticket marketer to provide championship tickets in return for other considerations unless specifically authorized by the NCAA.

5. Suites.

- a. The competition venue shall stipulate a quantity of private viewing suites available for the sole use of the NCAA or its designees at the time of the bid. All revenue from such suites will belong to the NCAA.
- b. The NCAA will provide tickets, as necessary to the LOC/host and/or competition venue for those suite holders displaced to fulfill the NCAA suite seat requirements.
- c. Subject to NCAA approval, suites not made available to the NCAA or its designees shall remain under the control of the competition venue, but the face value ticket revenue for such suite seats will belong to the NCAA.
- d. Suite holders will have the opportunity to purchase tickets for the suite to which they have purchased tenant rights. The venue's box office staff if assigned by the NCAA, shall solicit and confirm suite purchases by suite holders. At that time, suites not purchased by suite holders will be made available to the NCAA for additional use/sales opportunities in accordance with the agreed upon financial parameters.

6. LOC/Host Ticket Policies.

- a. **Allocation.** For all championships accepting bids, the NCAA may allocate to the LOC/host a number of the saleable competition venue seats. These tickets shall be used to accommodate LOC/host guests, including but not limited to local contributors.
- b. **Ticket Allocation Limitation.** No more than 20 tickets shall be made available from the LOC/host or competition venue to any one entity without NCAA approval.
- c. **Assignment Information.** The LOC/host shall provide the NCAA with the names of those individuals assigned to each seat within the LOC/host's ticket allocation.

Subject to NCAA approval, the assignment of general public seats is the competition venue box office's responsibility, unless directed otherwise by the NCAA. The seat locations shall be designated by the NCAA. The competition venue must be in compliance with all applicable city, state or federal laws and regulations including those concerning access and seating for individuals with disabilities and their companions and assist with inquiries from ticket purchasers or holders in need of accessible seating or companion seating. Additionally, the box office shall assist with all lost, stolen or misdirected ticket issues. The competition venue shall be responsible for the labor necessary, as well as costs incurred, to process and distribute lost, stolen or misdirected tickets.

7. Competition Venue Responsibilities.

- a. **Seating Manifest.** The competition venue shall forward the NCAA a complete ticket manifest with a PDF or CAD drawing of the venue's configuration and cooperate fully with any NCAA ticketing partners.
- b. **Broadcast Partner Site Survey.** The NCAA's broadcast partner, in conjunction with the NCAA and the competition venue, may conduct a site survey approximately nine months in advance of the championship to determine the host set location, camera locations and determine the need for "seat kills."
- c. **Final Manifest.** Upon completion of the site survey and determination of "kill" seats, the competition venue shall provide the NCAA with a final seating manifest, reflecting all saleable seats, available suites and available hospitality/party suites.
- d. **General Public Assignments.** Subject to NCAA approval, the assignment of general public seats is the competition venue box office's responsibility, unless directed otherwise by the NCAA. The seat locations shall be designated by the NCAA. The competition venue must comply with all applicable city, state or federal laws and regulations including those concerning access and seating for the disabled and assist with inquiries from ticket holders in need of disabled tickets. Additionally, the box office shall assist with all lost, stolen, or misdirected ticket issues. The competition venue shall be responsible for the labor necessary, as well as costs incurred, to process and distribute lost, stolen, or misdirected tickets.

- e. **Participating Institutions' Tickets.** The competition venue's box office shall send the paper or mobile tickets allocated to the participating institutions by a date designated by the NCAA, unless directed otherwise by the NCAA. An invoice, manifest, seating diagram, instructions and payment deadline information shall be sent with the participating institution's tickets. The competition venue shall be responsible for the labor necessary, as well as costs incurred, to ship paper tickets.
- f. **Sales Reports.** The competition venue's box office shall be responsible for providing the NCAA with timely and accurate sales reports. Reports should be provided on a regular basis, as directed by the NCAA. The competition venue's box office shall cooperate fully with the NCAA's official ticketing vendors and/or ticketing partners in providing the reports.
- g. **Final Ticket Database.** Each host conference, institution and/or venue must provide ticket purchaser information to the NCAA upon request, as well as, at the conclusion of the competition. Collecting purchaser information is essential for marketing efforts and postevent purchaser surveys which allow the NCAA to improve the championships experience. All relevant purchaser information must be submitted in an Excel or CSV file. The information should include, but not be limited to: last name, first name, address, city, state, zip code, email, phone number and purchase information such as total seats purchased and total purchase price.

2025-26 STANDARD TICKET BACK DISCLAIMER LANGUAGE

The NCAA's standard ticket back language is posted online at ncaa.com/ticket-terms.

The ticket back language should be placed on the back of all ticket stubs, but if it cannot be done (e.g., no new ticket stock is produced), this language must at a minimum be posted at all ticket windows for patrons to see, be included as an insert with the ticket mailing, etc. Patrons must be put on notice regarding the restrictions.

TEAM ALLOCATIONS (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

REGIONALS AND NATIONALS

1. The location of all team allocations must be approved by the NCAA national office prior to tickets going on sale.
2. The number of tickets allocated to each institution will vary depending on the seating capacity restrictions at each venue. NCAA will work with each host to determine ticket allotments for each participating institution and individuals selected.
3. The host institution is responsible for contacting each participating institution's ticket manager by telephone to determine how many tickets the institution wishes to purchase; those tickets should then be held at the will-call window to be picked up by the visiting institutions on their arrival. The visiting institutions must notify the host no later than noon the day prior to the competition as to whether all the tickets held at will call will be used or whether additional tickets are requested. If the host institution is not notified, the visiting institution must purchase those tickets.
4. All participating teams' unsold tickets will be pooled for equal distribution among the institutions that wish to purchase additional tickets.
5. Medical personnel not included in a team's official party should be permitted to purchase a ticket that provides seating near the competition floor or easy access from the seat to the competition floor.
6. The host institution is responsible for the administration of the competitors' pass gate.

Player-Guest Tickets. Participating institutions may purchase tickets for their student-athletes in accordance with the regulations specified in Bylaw 16.2. A pass gate should be established at the arena to administer the student-athletes' tickets. A designated individual from each participating institution will be responsible for submitting the names of the individuals who will use those tickets to the tournament director (or his or her designee). Individuals using those tickets will proceed through the pass, where they will be identified by the appropriate institution's designee and given a ticket to their seats.

NATIONALS ONLY

- The host shall determine seats or a viewing location for noncompeting teams (20 per team) and 20 total for AA/IES. The location of seats to be approved by NCAA staff.

TICKET BLOCKS (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

2026 National Collegiate Women's Gymnastics Championships 2,070 SEATS/TICKET ALLOCATION BREAKDOWN	
GROUP	TICKETS
NCAA	50 tickets
NCAA Partners	50 tickets
Trade	50 tickets
FW Sports Commission	25 tickets
Conferences	50 tickets
Teams	150 per team, plus 50 extra per team upon request
IES/AA Individual	8 per individual, 10 individuals per session (Thursday sessions only)
Medical/Drug testing	50 tickets (25 each for 2 teams)
Nonparticipating team seating	150 all-session

NCAA. The host shall set aside 80 premium seats to be used at the discretion of the NCAA. The location for a minimum of 20 of those tickets should be in the first or second rows directly behind the head table. The remaining tickets should be placed in other lower level locations in two to four different blocks.

Teams. The host shall reserve 150 tickets per team and eight tickets for each AA/IES competitor. Team blocks should be assigned based on seed order and to create balance between the teams in each session. The highest seed (#1) should receive the most premium seat locations. Locations should then move down seed order and should alternate sides so that not all teams from the same session are on the same side.

Section 30 • Transportation

PARTICIPATING INSTITUTIONS (NATIONALS)

Teams eligible for air travel must arrange make arrangements through Short's Travel. Short's can be reached at 866-655-9215 or by email at ncaaalo@shortstravel.com.

Institutions that fly, and are eligible for NCAA paid transportation on-site, will be required to use Short's Travel (STM Driven) to book on-site ground transportation. Short's Travel (STM Driven) can be reached at 844-814-3939 or at ncaachamps@stmdriven.com.

The home side ground transportation will be arranged by the institution in accordance with NCAA safety standards. Institutions that are eligible to drive to the championship will book ground transportation independently in accordance with the NCAA safety standards and seek reimbursement through the NCAA Travel Expense System (TES).

Expense reimbursement for participation in championships will be filed through our online system. The TES can be found at travel.ncaa.org.

All NCAA championship travel information is located [here](#).

PARKING

The host institution is responsible for securing complimentary parking at team hotels for team buses and any courtesy vehicles provided, if possible. The competition venue shall provide a designated complimentary parking area for team buses and courtesy cars at the competition venue.

Section 31 • Volunteers

GOAL AND RECRUITMENT

A volunteer program for the championship should be implemented to accomplish the following goals:

- Provide an enthusiastic and warm welcome to participants and guests.
- Answer questions and provide information to visitors.
- Contribute to the general excitement surrounding the championship.
- Assist the LOC with championship operations.

Championship volunteer programs should represent the student-athletes and communities we serve, embrace diversity and be inclusive of individuals from all backgrounds and identities. The NCAA and the LOC shall encourage recruitment and participation of volunteers from a talent pool of individuals that reflect diversity across all aspects, including race, age, sex, class, national origin, creed, educational background, religion, gender identify, disability, gender expression, geographical location, income, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation and work experiences. The LOC/host institution should keep the NCAA's commitment to diversity top of mind as they assign volunteers to the various roles and responsibilities throughout the championship.

Volunteers must be 18 years of age or older and must sign a volunteer release waiver. Individuals with driving responsibilities MUST be 25 years of age or older.

Student-athletes or prospect-aged individuals MAY NOT be recruited in any way different than general public volunteers. The Local Organizing Committee (LOC) cannot make a specific volunteer presentation to student-athletes of the host institution/conference. Student-athletes and prospect-aged individuals may apply to volunteer in the same manner as individuals from the general public. Student-athletes and prospect-aged individuals must be selected by the same criteria as the general public applicants.

The NCAA may request additional volunteers from the LOC as necessary.

WAIVERS

Each volunteer must sign a waiver of liability before the start of the championship (Appendix D). If there is a written agreement governing volunteer service, a release component must be added if one does not already exist. After the championship, all waivers shall be collected and kept on file, in case requested.

APPAREL (NATIONALS)

The NCAA will coordinate ordering and production of the apparel through the NCAA volunteer apparel program. BDA Sports and Event 1 have been selected as the official NCAA volunteer apparel providers for all 2025-26 championships. The NCAA will offer its Corporate Champions/Partners the opportunity to help offset the cost. The champion/partner would be permitted to place one logo on each apparel item, if a separate apparel item is provided for these volunteers.

The championship logo and the licensee's mark will be embroidered on the apparel. The licensee's logo may appear on the right chest or sleeve. The licensee's logo may be no larger than 2¼ inches square.

The LOC will distribute apparel during the required volunteer training sessions to ensure each volunteer's commitment. When ordering apparel, the LOC will ensure that apparel includes women's styles and sizes.

The games management staff, media coordination staff and host media operations staff should be included in overall volunteer numbers and should receive volunteer apparel.

NOTE: Hosts shall work in collaboration with the championship administrator on the selection, ordering and distribution of volunteer apparel.

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**Appendix A • NCAA Women's Gymnastics Rules
Modifications and Meet Procedures**



***WOMEN'S
GYMNASTICS***

UPDATED SEPT. 2025

***2025-26 RULES
MODIFICATIONS***

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WOMEN'S GYMNASTICS

Official NCAA Women's Gymnastics Rules Modifications

Questions regarding interpretations of NCAA Rules Modifications shall be submitted in writing to:

NCAA Women's Gymnastics, Rules Interpreter

Janette Doucette

Email: wgym.ncaa.rules@outlook.com

Reminder: The USAG Women's Development Program Code of Points can be purchased at <https://usagym.org/women/rules/>.

NCAA Women's Gymnastics Committee, chair

Shaun Richard

Executive Associate Athletics Director for Sport Administration
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2025 - 2026 NCAA RULES MODIFICATIONS

* CHANGES ARE IN **BOLD AND HIGHLIGHTED** *

** CLARIFICATIONS ARE IN **BOLD** **

GENERAL INFORMATION

1 – RULES OVERVIEW

- 1.1 *This document lists the NCAA Special Requirements and Compositional Deductions in total. No other Special Requirements or Compositional Deductions are applicable to collegiate competition unless listed in this document. Please note that the NCAA rules modifications are in effect for both regular and postseason competition unless otherwise noted.*
- 1.2 The National Collegiate Women's Gymnastics Championships and all competition used to qualify for the championships will be conducted according to USAG level 10 rules as of November 1, 2025. The rules written in this Rules Modifications document take precedence over the USAG Development Program Level 10 rules, when different.
 Note: If the value of a USAG element on events other than vaulting is raised after November 1, 2025 (11/1/25), the value will be effective immediately. In contrast, if an element value is lowered after November 1, 2025 (11/1/25), then it will remain at the higher value for collegiate competition until the change is reviewed by the NCAA Women's Gymnastics Committee.
- 1.3 For vaults not listed on the NCAA Vault Chart, institutions must submit the vault(s) with a video and description of the vault(s) to the WCGA Board of Directors to receive a start value.
- 1.4 If an element is not found in the USAG Code of Points, the official USAG New Element Evaluation form must be submitted to the respective USAG Regional Technical Committee Chairperson and Regional Development Program Committee Chairperson in order to be evaluated for Value-Part Credit.
 - a. The RTCC will return the signed element evaluation form to the coach indicating final decision as to the value to be awarded.
 - b. A copy of this evaluation must be presented to the Meet Referee or Chief Judge prior to competition to ensure proper awarding of difficulty.
 - c. A copy of this evaluation must be sent electronically to the Rules Interpreter.
 - d. The link to this form is:
<https://static.usagym.org/PDFs/Forms/Women/NewElementEval.pdf>
- 1.5 All rules and guidelines for execution deductions as applied to the USAG Level 10 rules will be used with the following collegiate modifications:
 - a. 9.4 Start Value on Uneven Bars, Balance Beam and Floor Exercise.

WOMEN'S GYMNASTICS

General Information / 1 – Rules Overview

NCAA is eligible to earn bonus points for both Connection Value (CV) and “D/E” Bonus, with a minimum of +0.1 “D/E” and a minimum of +0.1 for CV. The remaining +0.4 may be earned by “D/E” Bonus or CV. The maximum Start Value is 10.00.

- b. Choice of elements “up to the competitive level” (UTL) is defined for each event. The UTL deduction is standardized at a flat 0.1. **If an element receives zero Value Part, it is not eligible to fulfill UTL.**
 - c. On Vault, Uneven Bars and Balance Beam - Failure to hold finishing position (legs straight, arms up) for 1 second at completion of exercise = -0.05.
 1. The finish position must be held facing the direction in which the gymnast landed the vault/dismount.
 2. If the gymnast falls upon landing, the hold deduction is NOT taken.
 3. All applicable landing deductions will be taken until the gymnast shows a controlled finish position. Closing of heels is considered a separate landing deduction, not part of the finish position. The gymnast may close their heels either before or during the transition from landing to finish position.
 4. The finish position is held without movement (i.e., no active arm gestures, arms above the shoulders).
- 1.6 Technical Verbal cues by a coach to their own gymnast (Applied after one warning is given) will incur a 0.2 **team neutral** deduction (TND).
- 1.7 INJURY ASSESSMENT.
- a. When an injury occurs, the coach and athletic trainer **may approach the athlete and use up to two (2) minutes to assess the injury to determine if the athlete is able to resume her routine.** **The Chief Judge is responsible for monitoring the injury assessment time. A “30-seconds remaining” warning to the injury assessment time will be given by the CJ to the Head Coach. If the injury assessment time is exceeded, the exercise is terminated.**
 - b. If the athlete is deemed able to resume her routine after the injury assessment is complete (anytime within the 2 minutes), the Head Coach notifies the CJ, and **the 45-second fall time for that routine will begin.** If the 45-second fall time is exceeded, the exercise is terminated.
 - c. Vault – with a fall and injury on a BALK, the fall time starts when the injury assessment is complete, and ends when the athlete salutes for her next vault attempt. This process does not apply to a fall on a landing of a vault.
 - d. Uneven Bars – the fall time ends when the athlete remounts the Uneven Bars to resume her routine. The coach may not give verbal coaching cues without penalty (0.2) once the athlete has mounted the bars.
 - e. Balance Beam – the routine time stops when the athlete falls off the Balance Beam. The fall time ends when the athlete remounts the beam. The routine time resumes when the athlete resumes the routine. The coach may not give verbal coaching cues without penalty (0.2) once the athlete has mounted the beam.
 - f. Floor Exercise – When the fall with injury occurs, and the athlete does not resume the routine immediately, the routine time and music stops. The fall time ends when the team personnel have left the floor exercise mat, and the athlete is prepared to resume her routine from the point of interruption (with continuation of music). The routine time resumes with the first movement of the athlete.

1.8 COMPETING OUT OF ORDER.

There will be a 0.1 deduction for competing out of order, taken from team score.

- a. Coaches may change their line-up order prior to the event beginning (flag raised by Chief Judge for first competitor in the competition line-up). The coach must notify the scorer's table and the event Chief Judge.
- b. Once the event has started, coaches may remove and substitute an athlete in the identical line-up position by notifying the Chief Judge.
- c. Once a student-athlete signals the Chief Judge to begin her routine on any event, she **MAY NOT** be substituted with another student-athlete regardless of what occurs following the signal.

1.9 OPEN SCORING AND SCORING RANGE.

- a. Open scoring will be used during the regular season, regional competition, and the national championship.
- b. Judges are to sit apart. When using a six (6) judge panel on Uneven Bars and Vault, the judges shall **sit separately with a gap between them, or with a volunteer assistant sitting between them.**
- c. All scores will be flashed and rotated **or otherwise prominently displayed on a flashing unit.**
- d. Each judge will give their final score to the flasher. Then both judges will flash their start value, final score and UTL card (if applicable) simultaneously.
- e. Score verification procedures will be in place at regionals and for each session at nationals.
- f. The range of scores is determined by the average of the two (or four) counting scores. If the average score is between those listed below, then the two (or four) counting scores must be within the range of:

9.8 – 10.0	regular season 0.1 (0.2 in post season)
9.5 – 9.775	0.2
9.0 – 9.475	0.3
8.0 – 8.975	0.5
Below 8.0	1.0

Example: Judge 1's score is 9.5 and Judge 2's score is 9.8, the average is 9.65. Since the average (9.65) falls in the 9.5 – 9.775 range, the two scores must be no more than 0.2 apart. Since they are 0.3 apart, a conference between the judges is warranted.

- g. **Either the Chief Judge or the Panel Judge** may call a conference **ONLY** under any of the following circumstances:
 1. The counting scores are out of range.
 2. There is an impossible Start Value.
 3. A UTL deduction was/was not applied that can have an impact on the average score.
 4. **An impossible score is identified, as a result of an obvious flat execution or composition deduction that was not applied, yet the counting scores are within range and/or the Start Values are the same. For example, both judges have 10.0 SV, their scores are 9.3 and 9.6 – and one had obviously not deducted for a fall that had occurred. Examples of obvious flat deductions that may impact an impossible score include, but are**

not limited to: 0.5 fall, 0.5 spot, 0.3 grasp of apparatus, 0.3 extra swing, or 0.5 third approach for a mount.

5. A scoring input error had occurred.
6. The MR calls an inquiry conference when bringing a Routine Inquiry form to the panel.
- h. When a gymnast has performed an incomplete routine, the judges calculate their Start Values and submit their scores to the Chief Judge (CJ), as usual. However, if the SVs are impossible or the counting scores are out of range and the CJ determines that the resulting conference may take a considerable amount of time, the CJ may postpone calling the conference for the routine until all remaining athletes in the rotation have completed their performances.
 1. The CJ posts a “Delayed Conference” red card on their table so that judges, coaches, and announcers would know that the scoring for this routine is being put aside until the end of the rotation. The CJ will then signal the next athlete.
 2. The judging panel will convene at the end of the rotation to conduct the conference for the partial routine and post the score when the conference has completed. The transition period and warm-up periods would provide 5-7 minutes, depending on the competition, for judges to complete their conference.
- i. The Meet Referee, at the earliest convenience, must notify all Head Coaches in the competition if there is any change to a score after its initial flashing or input to the scoring system, due to a clerical error, technical issue, or if there is an application of a team neutral deduction (TND).

1.10 UNIFORMS.

- a. An institution's official uniform and all other items of apparel (i.e., tights, t-shirts, warm-ups, tennis shoes) must be identical when worn on either practice or competition day. Any combination of apparel may be worn by any team athlete; but whatever is chosen, it must conform to the school's official uniform and must match with the same apparel worn by another teammate. However, during the march-in and awards ceremony, team members must be in identical warmup apparel (footwear excluded). During the individual competition in postseason, those athletes on the same team must wear identical uniforms and leotards.
- b. In addition, the athletes may have a name and/or number on her warm-up apparel and leotard as long as all team members use a similar font type and color. No nicknames or other words are permitted. The following are acceptable options for names on uniforms:
 1. All uniforms with just the last name.
 2. All uniforms with first name initial and last name.
 3. If the team has chosen just last names on the uniforms, an exception is permitted for when two/more athletes have the same last name, the first name initial may be added to only their specific uniforms.
 4. If two/more athletes have the same last name and the first name initials are also the same, an exception is permitted to spell out the first names, regardless of what the rest of the team does.
- c. The athletes must wear **matching** one-piece leotards (long sleeve or a sleeveless tank leotards), and are allowed to wear any undergarments that are the same color of the leotard or are skin tone in color. No bathing suits are permitted.

- d. Athletes are permitted to wear spandex shorts or long leggings/tights during competition. Any combination of shorts, tights, and leotard are acceptable under this ruling, as long as it conforms to the school's official uniform. If more than one athlete is wearing spandex shorts or tights, they must match. For example: 2 athletes wearing spandex shorts, 3 athletes wearing long leggings, and 12 athletes wearing leotards only.
- e. The Meet Referee will **inform the Head Coach** of a gymnast who does not meet the uniform policies. The gymnast must comply with the uniform rules, or a **0.2 team neutral deduction (TND)** will be applied during team competition, or a **0.2** neutral deduction applied to the individual's score during individual competition.

1.11 JEWELRY.

Gymnasts are only permitted to wear stud piercings. No other jewelry is permitted. After a warning, a 0.2 deduction will be taken from the gymnast's score for each occurrence. **A stud piercing is a style of earring or jewelry that sits directly on the earlobe or body part without dangling, as a decorative element that appears to "float" on the ear or body part.**

1.12 UNSPORTSMANLIKE CONDUCT.

Any Panel Judge, Chief Judge or the Meet Referee (MR) can issue a Yellow Card for an instance of unsportsmanlike conduct using the following procedures:

- a. The Yellow Card is a warning that can be issued to any coach, student-athlete or staff member, and the team's Head Coach will be informed of the issuance of the Yellow Card. Reference Appendix II B.1 for list of Yellow Card behavior offenses.
- b. If a second Yellow Card is issued to the same or different member of the team, this will result in a 0.1 deduction from the team score. For example, if two different staff members receive a **first** Yellow Card, the 0.1 **TND** is incurred.
- c. A coach that receives **BOTH** a first and second Yellow Card may remain on the competition floor for safety purposes only (i.e. spotting, equipment adjustment).
- d. The MR will submit a Yellow Card Incident Report to document all Yellow Card warnings/infractions to the National Assigner and the Chairperson of the WCGA Ethics Committee (refer to the "Supplemental Procedures and Forms" document for the reporting form). Reference Appendix II B.2 for Ethics Committee procedures.

1.13 TEAM NEUTRAL DEDUCTIONS (TND)

Process for application of a team neutral deduction (TND) is as follows:

- a. Judging panel determines deduction (may request counsel by the Meet Referee).
- b. CJ notifies the MR of the deduction.
- c. MR takes deduction to scorer's table for application to the team score.
- d. MR notifies Meet Director of the deduction.
- e. MR notifies the Head Coach of EACH of the competing teams of the TND application.
- f. Coach may submit an inquiry (written or video) if the TND is in question.
- g. Officials verify the TND on the final score sheet.
- h. MR submits any required reporting forms (Yellow Card, etc).

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- i. Since exhibition routines are not eligible to count in the team score, any TND for a violation during an exhibition routine would not be applied (exception: any Yellow Card infraction).

EVENT SPECIFIC MODIFICATIONS

2 – VAULT

- 2.1 The USAG Vault Bonus Rule IS NOT in effect for NCAA competition.
- 2.2 Vault numbers will be flashed. (See Appendix I, Vault Value Chart)
- 2.3 The gymnast will perform one vault, the score of which will count. A gymnast is allowed three attempts to complete one vault.
 - a. If a gymnast touches the board and/or vault apparatus or inverts on the approach or vault table without going over the vault apparatus, then this counts as one of her three attempts. It is not considered a vault.
 - b. If a gymnast hits the board and goes over the vault apparatus, then this would be considered an executed vault and must be scored.
- 2.4 1.00 deduction for touching the vault table with only one or with no hands is taken by each judge.
- 2.5 1.00 deduction for failure to land on the soles of feet first (includes fall) is taken by each judge.
- 2.6 1.00 deduction for spotting assistance during the vault is taken by each judge.
Note: For items 2.4, 2.5 and 2.6, if the scores are not in range, then a conference is called.
- 2.7 If a gymnast vaults prior to the judge's hand or flag signal, the gymnast must repeat the vault for a score and would receive a 0.5 deduction.
- 2.8 White lines (taped or screened) shall be applied in a funnel shape on the vault landing mat, whether a 20 cm competition landing mat (CLM) or a 4-inch bi-fold mat (reference diagram in Appendix I). These lines act as a visual guide for officials regarding the direction deduction (up to 0.3).
 - a. The lines are 2 inches wide, using the same tape product as used for the floor exercise boundary lines (per AAI equipment supplier specifications).
 - b. The lines are measured and applied in the following manner:
 1. Identify the mat center point at the table edge and the far edge of the landing mat.
 2. The width of the landing corridor at the table end of the mat is 38 inches +/- 1 inch, measured as 19 inches from the center point to the outside of the white line in each direction. This corridor is centered with the vault table.
 3. For the 20 cm CLM (15' 6" length): the width of the landing corridor at the far end of the CLM is 58 inches +/- 1 inch, measured as 29 inches from the center point to the outside of the white line in each direction.
 4. For the 4-inch bi-fold mat (15' length): the width of the landing corridor at the far end of the mat is 56 inches +/- 1 inch, measured as 28 inches from the centerline to the outside of the white line in each direction.
 - c. Any accessory mats placed on top of the marked vault landing mat (sting, second 4-inch, or an 8" mat) must have replicated marked lines on its landing surface (may use chalk or tape), centered with the vault table.

3 – UNEVEN BARS

3.1 UNEVEN BAR SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS (.20 each, taken off Start Value).

One element may fulfill more than one Special Requirement, unless specified.

- Minimum of two (2) bar changes.
- Two (2) different flight elements, one valued a minimum of a D and the second a minimum of a C (not to include dismount).
- One (1) element with longitudinal axis (LA) turn, minimum of C (not to include mount and dismount).

Note: The USAG compositional deduction of “insufficient change of direction” DOES NOT apply to NCAA.

- C dismount preceded by a minimum of a C element, OR a D/E dismount.

3.2 UNEVEN BAR SPECIFIC COMPOSITIONAL DEDUCTIONS.

- Insufficient distribution of elements flat 0.05

Consider:

- Level of difficulty not maintained throughout the exercise.
- Most difficult elements placed in the same section of the exercise.

- More than one squat/stoop on LB with/without sole circle to grasp high bar . .each .10

- EXCEPTION: Following fall from UB, gymnast is allowed to perform cast squat/pike-on to resume the routine without receiving 0.10 deduction.
- Once a gymnast has performed a planned squat/stoop-on, only additional planned squat/stoop ons would be subject to the 0.10 each deduction.

- Uncharacteristic elements. each 0.1

Examples:

- Squat on LB bar and ½ turn on feet to grasp high bar.
- Swing forward on HB, place feet on LB to stand with or without ½ turn unless followed by a circling move.

- ¾ giant circle forward with/without grip change each flat 0.1

Note: This is not considered an element and will break a connection.

- Choice of elements not up to the competitive level (UTL) flat 0.1

UTL is defined by the following basic standards:

- A single bar release with a minimum of D value
 - OR a release element valued as an E
 - OR minimum of two (2) D releases
 - OR minimum of two (2) E level elements (excluding dismounts).
- Exercise must have minimum of a D dismount or C dismount with Connection Value (CV) Bonus.

3.3 ELEMENT VALUES DIFFERENT FROM LEVEL 10.

Number	Element Description	Value
	1½ pirouette (turn is in handstand, not a Healy): 2.401 Cast Handstand 1 ½ pirouette; 4.403 Back Giant 1½ pirouette	E
	All elements that include a 1/1 (360 degree) turn completed on one arm after handstand phase in the descent phase (Healy technique): 2.301 Cast Healy; 2.303 Uprise Healy; 3.305 Clear Hip Healy; 4.303 Back Giant Healy; 5.302 Front Giant Healy; 6.304 Back Stalder Healy; 7.308 Front Sole Circle Healy; 7.309 Back Sole Circle Healy (6.401 Front Stalder Healy already D)	D
2.303	Uprise backward to handstand on HB with ½ turn	D
3.401	From LB facing outward, Clear Hip Circle through HS with flight to HB (Shaposhnikova)	E
6.304	Stalder backward, straddled, to handstand with or without ½ turn	D
6.405	From LB facing outward, Stalder backward through HS with flight to HB (Chow)	E
8.301	From HB, Clear Support Front Tuck ½ Twist	D
8.303	Flyaway Double Full Twist	D
8.307	Front Flyaway 1½ Twist	D
8.407	Front Flyaway 2/1 Twist	E
8.404	Double Tuck Flyaway ½ Twist	E

3.4 CONNECTION VALUE (CV) BONUS EXCEPTIONS.

- #7.410 Maloney (from LB facing outward, Pike sole circle backward thru HS with flight to HB) connected to #4.406 Pak salto = D + D, receives +0.1 CV & +0.2 "D/E" Bonus.
- #7.410 Maloney connected to #4.404 Underswing ½ turn and flight to HS on LB (Overshoot HS) = D + D, receives +0.1 CV & +0.2 "D/E" Bonus.
- In an instance when an unsuccessful attempt (fall) on a combination is repeated, the gymnast will be eligible for appropriate CV Bonus on a successful second attempt. However, no VP would be awarded for those elements that are performed a third time in the routine.

Example: Cast handstand (2.202 B) + giant circle backward to handstand ½ turn (4.303 C) + Straddle Jaeger salto (5.405 D) – FALL.

- No touch of hands** = no D/E VP, no D/E Bonus (Jaeger), no CV Bonus (C+D), no UTL awarded.

Repeat with cast handstand + giant ½ + Jaeger, + Overshoot ½ turn to LB (4.304 C) = receives:

- D/E Bonus +0.1 for Jaeger D,

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Event Specific Modifications / 3 – Uneven Bars

- b. CV Bonus for Jaeger D + Overshoot ½ C only,
 - c. Additional D/E Bonus +0.1 for single bar release (Jaeger),
 - d. UTL is awarded.
- 2. Touch hands = D VP awarded, UTL awarded, no D/E Bonus, no CV Bonus.
Repeat same as in #1 above = receives:
 - a. D/E Bonus +0.1 for Jaeger D,
 - b. CV Bonus for Jaeger D + Overshoot ½ C only,
 - c. Additional D/E Bonus +0.1 for single bar release (Jaeger).
 - d. UTL was already awarded.

3.5 ADDITIONAL DIFFICULTY "D/E" BONUS.

Any E release element or Single Bar D release element will receive an additional +0.10 "D/E" Bonus.

4 – BALANCE BEAM

- 4.1 BEAM SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS (.20 each taken off the Start Value).
- a. Acro series:
 - 1. Minimum of two (2) flight elements, one (1) element must be a minimum of C with/without hand support (this may include mount)
 - OR - an "A" non-flight element from Group 7 (walkovers/cartwheels) connected to an E acro element (example: back walkover + back tucked full twisting salto).
 - 2. The acro series requirement may not be connected to the dismount and must stop on the beam.
 - b. Dance/Dance OR Dance/Acro series with a minimum of two (2) elements. The dance element must be valued a C or higher and the series may not be connected to the dismount.
 - c. A leap or jump requiring 180° split (this may be part of the dance series or acro/dance series).
 - d. Minimum of 360° turn from Group 3 (no hand support permitted).
 - e. Minimum of C dismount.
- 4.2 BEAM SPECIFIC COMPOSITIONAL DEDUCTIONS.
- a. Lack of variety in choice of Acro elements
 - 1. Missing a backward Acro element with a minimum of "A" value flat 0.1
 - 2. Missing a forward/sideward Acro element with a minimum of "A" value flat 0.1
 - 3. The following notes apply to both backward and forward/sideward Acro requirements:
 - Must be from Group 1-Mounts, 6-Rolls, 7-Walkovers/cartwheels or 8-Saltos.
 - A round-off is considered a sideward element.
 - A BHS ¼ or ¾ to handstand is considered a backward element.
 - A jump backward BHS with ½ twist to walkover forward (Arabian walkover or salto) is considered a forward element.
 - A tic-toc can be considered either a forward or backward element (to the advantage of the gymnast).
 - b. Insufficient distribution of the elements. flat 0.05
- Consider:
- Level of difficulty not maintained throughout the exercise.
 - Most difficult elements placed in the same section of the exercise.

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Event Specific Modifications / 4 – Balance Beam

- c. Insufficient use of entire beam apparatus
1. Insufficient level of changes throughout the exercise. flat 0.05
Consider:
 - Level changes by the performance of elements and/or connections [look for movements that are high off the beam, standing, semi-low and low (kneel, squat, sit, lying)].
 - The gymnast is not required to touch the beam with a part of the torso and/or head.
 2. Spatially (use the entire length of the beam) flat 0.05
 3. Failure to show movement/choreography in **all** different directions (fwd/bwd/swd) flat 0.05
Consider:
 - **Choreography permitted in any level (standing, semi-low or low to the beam).**
- d. Choice of element not “up to the competitive level” (UTL) flat 0.1
UTL is defined by the following basic standards:
1. If a flight series **that fulfills Special Requirements** is performed on the beam **WITHOUT** CV Bonus (consider only those elements performed and stopped on the beam), then an additional D/E Acro element (including mounts and dismounts) **OR** E dance element (including mounts) is required.
 2. D/E Acro element directly connected to the dismount **CANNOT** fulfill the up to the level requirement.
 3. If an Acro Series is completed but not awarded CV due to a **FALL**, the UTL deduction will not be applied.
 4. If a gymnast breaks an acro series on beam due to a balance error, extra steps, or stop in the connection of the elements, she would not receive CV and loses acro series Special Requirement. If there is not another D/E acro element or E dance element in her routine, she would receive a UTL deduction.

4.3 ELEMENT VALUES DIFFERENT FROM LEVEL 10.

Number	Element Description	Value
2.202	Straddle pike or straddle split jump performed with a ¼ turn	C
2.307	Ring or Stag-ring leap or jump (rear leg at head height)	D
2.404	Tourjete with ¼ turn	E
2.405	Switch side Leap with ¼ turn	E
3.401	Double turn on one foot	E
3.406	Double Wolf turn (Humphrey/Swartzentruber)	E
8.301	Salto forward take off from one or two legs to a sit (Puloin/Portocarrero)	D

Number	Element Description	Value
8.304	Salto backward stretched with step-out	D
8.304	Salto backward stretched through vertical and then pike down with legs together	D
9.304	Salto forward tucked or stretched with a 1 ½ twist (off two feet) (Rudi)	D
9.306	Double Full Dismount	D
9.308	Gainer salto tucked or stretched with 1 ½ twist to side of beam	D
9.309	Gainer salto tucked with 1/1 twist off end of beam	D
9.404	Salto forward stretched with 2/1 twist (off two feet)	E
9.408	Gainer salto backward stretched with 2/1 or 2 ½ (Khorkina) twist to side of beam	E

4.4 CONNECTION VALUE (CV) BONUS EXCEPTIONS.

- NO BONUS: 2-Acro Flight Element connection B+C Salto WILL NOT receive CV BONUS.
- B+D Acro Flight: BHS + Layout, stretched then pike down with feet together = +0.1 CV (not +0.2 CV)
- Back Salto layout Step-out AND Aerial Walkover will receive "D/E" Bonus but will be considered as C value for purposes of awarding Connection Value in Back Handspring Series only (Step-out BHS, BHS to 2 Feet, Gainer BHS, or BHS Swing down to cross straddle sit; in any order).

Examples:

- BHS + Layout Step-out = B+D, receives +0.1 "D/E" & no CV (B+C)
- Split Jump + Layout Step-out = B+D, receives +0.1 "D/E" & +0.2 CV (B+D, not a BHS Series)
- Round-off + Layout Step-out = B+D, receives +0.1 "D/E" & +0.2 CV (B+D, not a BHS Series)
- Aerial Walkover + BHS = D+B, receives +0.1 "D/E" & no CV (B+C)
- Aerial Walkover + Back Tuck = D+C, receives +0.1 "D/E" & + 0.2 CV

4.5 ADDITIONAL CONNECTION VALUE (CV) BONUS

- Connection of at least 3 acro flight elements (excluding dismount connections) that includes a minimum of one C element will receive an additional +.1 CV.

Examples:

- BHS + BHS + Layout-Step-out = B+B+D receives +0.1 "D/E", +0.1 CV, & +0.1 additional CV
- RO BHS Mount + BHS + Layout-Step-out = D+B+D, +0.2 "D/E", +0.2 CV & +0.1 additional CV
- BHS + Layout Step-out + Layout Step-out = B+D+D, +0.1 "D/E", +0.2 CV & +0.1 additional CV
- Aerial Walkover + BHS + BHS = D+B+B, +0.1 "D/E", +0.1 CV, & +0.1 additional CV

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5. Aerial Walkover+ BHS + Layout Step-out = D+B+D, +0.2 "D/E", +0.2 CV & +0.1 additional CV
- b. B or higher acro element + C or higher valued dismount = additional + 0.1 CV.

Examples:

1. Back handspring + back layout salto 1½ twist dismount = B + C, +0.1 CV
 2. Roundoff + double back dismount = B + E, +0.1 CV & +0.2 "D/E"
 3. Front handspring + gainer front layout salto full twist dismount off the side = B + C, +0.1 CV
- c. C or higher dance element + C or higher valued dismount = additional + 0.1 CV.

Examples:

1. Switch leap + gainer back salto full *off the end* of the beam = C + D, +0.1 CV, +0.1 "D/E"
2. Full turn w/leg at horizontal + gainer back layout salto full twist off the side of the beam = C + C, +0.1 CV
3. Straddle ½ + back layout salto 1½ twist Dismount = D + C, +0.1 CV, +0.1 "D/E"

5 – FLOOR EXERCISE

- 5.1 An Acro Pass is defined as one or more acro elements, one element must be a salto valued at a C or higher.
- A salto is defined as a flight element (fwd/bkwd/swd) that takes off from two feet and lands on one or two feet, and may also lower in control to one knee.
 - NOT a salto for SR: a flight element that takes off from one foot (aerials, or a “toss” in a tucked position), or takes off two feet but lands in a sitting, prone (front or back), or sit-split position.
- 5.2 FLOOR EXERCISE SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS (.20 each taken off Start Value).
- One acrobatic pass with two (2) saltos (same or different), OR one acrobatic pass with two (2) directly connected saltos. An acrobatic pass is defined as above in 5.1. Aerials are NOT considered saltos.
 - Three (3) different saltos within the exercise.
 - The salto performed as the last isolated salto or within the last salto connection must be minimum “C” and must be an acro pass.
 - Dance passage with a minimum of two (2) different Group 1 elements, directly or indirectly connected, one of which is a leap (one-foot take-off) requiring a 180° cross or side split position. An indirect connection would allow for running steps, small leaps, hops, chassés, assemblés, or any kind of turn on 1 or 2 feet between the two dance Value Part elements.
 - A minimum of two (2) acro passes performed on two (2) different diagonals.
- 5.3 FLOOR SPECIFIC COMPOSITIONAL DEDUCTIONS.
- Lack of variety in choice of elements:
 - Lack of variety in dance elements:
 - Lack of Dance Bonus from Groups 1 or 2 (minimum of +0.1 Dance CV Bonus - OR - + 0.1 "D/E" Dance Bonus is required)... flat 0.1
 - Lack of variety in choice of Acro elements.
 - Missing backward salto with a minimum of “A” value... flat 0.1
 - Missing forward/sideward salto with a minimum of “A” value... flat 0.1
 - Insufficient distribution of elements ... flat 0.05
Consider:
 - Level of difficulty not maintained throughout the exercise.
 - Most difficult elements placed in the same section of the exercise.
 - Insufficient use of the floor area Spatially (floor pattern)... flat 0.05
 - Choice of elements not “up to the competitive level.” (UTL) ... flat 0.1
 UTL is defined by the following basic standards:
 - One (1) E valued element (Acro or Dance).
 - OR - Two (2) different D elements (one of which must be an Acro element).
 - An acro dismount (last acro pass) with a minimum C salto in bonus combination or a minimum D salto.

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3. In addition to the above, a two (2)-acro pass routine must include a minimum of a D element in one pass and a minimum of a D or +.20 CV in the other pass (may be in any order).

5.4 ELEMENT VALUES DIFFERENT FROM LEVEL 10.

#6.201 Front salto piked = A

#1.310 Ring jump or stag-ring jump with 1/1 turn (360) = D

#1.305 Switch Side ½ or ¾ turn = D

5.5 ADDITIONAL CONNECTION VALUE (CV) BONUS

- a. Turn + Jump:
 - A turn on one (1) foot followed by a jump with a two-foot take-off WILL be eligible for CV Bonus (if directly connected with no stop, extra steps, hops, or repositioning of the foot).
 - Example: 2/1 turn + Popa, C + C = + 0.1 CV.
- b. Bonus combination B+B must be two (2) different elements to receive +0.1.
 - Example: Front layout + front layout receives no connection bonus.
 - Example: Front layout + front layout ½ receives + 0.1 connection bonus.
- c. C + C directly connected Acro elements = +0.3 Connection Value.

5.6 ADDITIONAL DIFFICULTY "D/E" BONUS.

- a. A double flipping salto in a direct or indirect acro connection -OR- an E acro in the last pass of a two (2) acro pass routine will receive an additional +0.1 "D/E" Bonus.
- b. A double flipping salto -OR- an E acro in the last pass of a three (3) or more acro pass routine will receive an additional +0.1 "D/E" Bonus.

COMPETITION PROCEDURES

6 - EQUIPMENT SPECIFICATIONS AND PENALTIES

6.1 EQUIPMENT SPECIFICATIONS.

- a. The only allowable hand placement mats are the TAC-10 RO pads. The RO pad may be used only for RO entry vaults or front handspring onto the board entry vaults.
- b. Athletic tape or Velcro strips (NO CHALK) may be placed on the vault runway, provided that such markings are removed no later than the end of the rotation. The tape measure is to be used to determine where to begin the approach for vault. Chalk may be used only on the student-athlete as needed (e.g., hands, feet, legs).
- c. 1 3/8" padded vault runway is required for all competitions and must extend a minimum of 82 feet from the base of the apparatus. The gymnast may use the entire length of a manufactured runway (beyond 82 feet if available). Exceptions to the minimum requirement will be made in cases where a host institution cannot provide 82 feet of runway due to venue limitations. In such cases, the host institution must notify visiting team(s) in writing of the distance that will be provided before meet contracts are signed. No deduction will be taken if a gymnast starts off the runway to begin her approach.
- d. Low bar must be adjustable to 165 cm (AAI 155cm-185cm from floor to top of rail +/- 1cm) and the high bar adjustable to 245 cm (AAI 235-265cm from floor to top of the rail +/-1cm) without the bar height adapters.
- e. The uneven bars should be set so that the low bar and the high bar lean at the same angle when the bars are set at the maximum width according to AAI specifications (192 cm +/- 1cm).
- f. The minimum run distance must be provided for mounts on uneven bars and balance beam during competition is 27'-6" from the base or leg of the respective apparatus. If more than 27'-6" of matting exists, the maximum run distance may be used.
 1. A minimum of 15'-6" length of matting must be available on the dismount end of the beam.
 2. The host institution need not provide more than the minimum allowable length of matting provided at NCAA regional and national competition.
- g. If a gymnast has a broken/torn grip, it is considered equipment failure. The gymnast may repeat all or a portion of her routine as the last team competitor or after the all-around competitor (specialist). Judging will begin at the point of interruption, with no fall penalty applied **due to the broken/torn grip**. If this does not allow for enough time to change grips or to prepare, the gymnast will repeat the routine as soon as it is safe to do so. However, the time should not exceed five minutes.
- h. If a gymnast knocks off the beam end cap with her foot during her dismount, this is NOT considered as equipment failure. All performance deductions will be taken. If she falls, the gymnast may repeat her dismount (series) and would be eligible for value part credit and bonus, as would occur with any fall off the beam.

- i. If a plywood board is used under the springboard for mounting bars and beam, then it must be a ½" plywood board with a non-skid surface on both sides.
- j. A chalk arc line may be placed on the corners of the floor exercise mat.
- k. Floor Exercise Field of Play: 12m x 12m **with allowance up to +3cm (meaning 1200 – 1203cm on each side, or 39' 4.5" – 39' 5.5"). The diagonals are measured at 1697cm – 1702cm (55'8" – 55'10").** These measurements are made from the outside of the tape lines, or on the border where a two-tone carpet changes color. Tape may not be placed in the center area of the floor exercise mat. **However, small pieces of tape are permitted on the inside of the corners of a two-tone carpet boundary to provide tactile awareness of the actual boundary. The tape must be the same color as the Floor Exercise area carpet.**
- l. The Balance Beam and Vault Table are measured from the top of the beam and vault table to the floor. The Balance Beam measures 125cm +/- 1 cm. The Vault table height may be adjusted up to 135cm +/- 1 cm.
- m. It is allowable to mount off of a 4" mat on top of a sting mat on Uneven Bars and Balance Beam.
- n. A total of two (2) alternate skill cushions (pit pillow-style throw mats, 4' x 6' x 8") are on the required list of provided postseason matting, and are permitted (but not required) for regular season competitions. If available, the alternate skill cushions may be used on any event during the warm-up and touch periods. During competition, use of this mat will be allowable only for bar releases, not for dismounts. **The alternate skill cushion may be placed on top of an 8-inch skill cushion for bar releases, and both mats must be removed for the rest of the routine.**
- o. **The coach/team members (not the competing athlete) are permitted to apply water or chalk to the uneven bars after a fall and within the allotted 45-second fall time. Only a spotter(s) and/or persons moving boards or mats should be within the judges' viewing area of the equipment during a routine performance. Once their effort is complete, these persons should vacate the area with minimal impact of the view of the judges, if possible.**

6.2 EQUIPMENT PENALTIES

- a. All equipment must be used as intended by the manufacturer. An institution that does not adhere to the policies and procedures during NCAA championships competition may be subject to further disciplinary action and/or a financial penalty up to a maximum of \$600 per offense by the NCAA Women's Gymnastics Committee. Note: A 0.2 team neutral deduction (TND) may be incurred for improper use of equipment per manufacturing specifications. Examples include placing springboard on top of the vault table, scratching marks into the beam, using mats while folded improperly, or other improper use that may damage the equipment.
- b. 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.). Water, Chalk, AAI solutions and AAI hand Tac/10 towels are the only acceptable substances. Use of foreign substances will incur a one time 0.2 TND.
- c. Failure to correctly apply the Vault landing lines on the top landing mat surface per 2.8 on page 5 of the Rules Modifications will incur a 0.2 TND for each occurrence.
- d. If a **supplemental** mat used on floor exercise exceeds the boundary lines, the mat must be clearly marked with tape (not chalk) to indicate the actual boundary lines. Failure to correctly mark the mat will result in a 0.2 TND for each occur-

rence. If the supplemental mat is relocated during the routine so that the boundary lines taped on the mat are no longer in alignment with the floor exercise boundary lines, and it is used by the athlete during the routine in this configuration, then the 0.2 TND will be applied.

1. There is no deduction for a coach to step within the boundaries of the Floor Exercise to place, adjust or remove a supplemental mat, or to remove any object which may impede or endanger the athlete.
- e. No more than two supplemental mats are permitted on the Floor Exercise at one time. Only one sting mat or 4-inch supplemental mat may be used per tumbling pass/leap combination (i.e. a gymnast may not punch off one mat and land on another). A sting mat may be placed on top of or under a 4-inch mat, and these stacked mats count as the two supplemental mats permitted on the Floor Exercise at one time. Two sting mats cannot be stacked. Incorrect use of supplemental mats on Floor Exercise will incur a 0.2 TND for each occurrence.
- f. The following equipment deductions will incur a 0.2 TND for each occurrence on the applicable event:
 1. Incorrect use of tape/chalk on equipment, to include:
 - a. using chalk on Vault runway (tape/velcro allowed).
 - b. use of tape on BB.
 - c. using tape or velcro within the boundary lines on FX (exception: small tape placed inside the boundary of two-tone carpet).
 - d. tape on the hand placement mat (RO pad).
 2. Use of unauthorized supplemental mats. On Vault, Balance Beam and Uneven Bars, no more than 10" total matting stack on top of competition landing mat is permitted. This total means a maximum stack of two 4-inch landing mats with a 1-2 inch sting mat, OR an 8-inch skill cushion with a 1-2 inch sting mat.
 3. Use of hand placement mat for traditional forward approach vaults.
 4. Use of a springboard on an unauthorized surface (such as an 8-inch skill cushion).
 5. Failure to remove the board/mounting apparatus after a mount.
 6. Failure to remove an authorized spotting device after use.
 7. Using incorrect apparatus specifications (includes springboard configuration).

7 – ROUTINE INQUIRY PROCESS

7.1 ROUTINE INQUIRIES.

- a. Routine inquiries (written or video) are allowed throughout regular and postseason competition based on the following criteria:
 - Start value - Special Requirements, Value Parts, Bonus
 - UTL
 - Specific (flat) compositional deductions
 - Neutral deductions or unusual performance occurrences/fall
 - **Scores are out of range.**

When all Start Values are 10.0, only inquiries about UTL, compositional requirements and clarification of neutral deductions, unusual performance occurrences/falls, **or scores out of range** are permissible.

- b. Inquiries (written or video) must be submitted in writing before the beginning of the next event, **or within 6 minutes from the posting of the last competitor's score on the final event**. There is no limit to the number of inquiries submitted during a meet.
- c. A video may accompany the written inquiry form, and must be indicated on the form as a video inquiry. A coach may not submit both a video inquiry and a written inquiry for the same routine. The coach considering submitting an inquiry may consult with the Meet Referee.
- d. If the Meet Referee had not previously observed the routine, they may view the video as a replay, only one time and in regular speed, and refrain from commenting to the Coach.
- e. The judging panel may evaluate the routine only pertaining to the categories in question on the inquiry form. The element or connection under review may be subject to additional deductions for incompleteness or rhythm if an inquiry results in a changed Start Value. An inquiry may result in a score that is raised, stays the same, or is lowered.
- f. While processing a video inquiry, the video may be viewed by the judging panel in regular speed or in slow motion to the advantage of the gymnast, and it may be viewed multiple times.
- g. Judges must process all inquiries prior to the start of the next event. The Meet Referee may offer counsel to the judging panel. If there is a split decision, the Meet Referee will make the final decision.
- h. The Meet Referee returns the completed response of the inquiry to the Coach. **If the coach is unsatisfied with the results of the inquiry (written or video), then they may submit a request for a Video Review (using the Video Review form, see Supplemental Procedures and Forms).**

7.2 VIDEO REVIEW.

The following Video Review process will be used during all NCAA competitions.

A coach must complete the inquiry process on a routine before submitting a request for a Video Review as an additional review of the issue identified in the inquiry. If the results of the written or video inquiry are unsatisfactory to the Coach (the score was changed or stayed the same), the Coach may submit a Video Review form with a video under the following conditions:

- a. Each team is allowed one review per meet.

- b. When an equipment failure may have occurred, the Meet Referee may use video (both real time or slow motion) to determine if, and when, the failure occurred and how to proceed.
- c. An institutional team video or television production footage must be used for the review. The video may be taken from any vantage point. **If a video was used during the inquiry process, the same video or a different video may be submitted for the Video Review.**
- d. All reviews must be specific to the performance or nonperformance of a particular Special Requirement VALUE PART, combination of elements, UTL or neutral deductions (i.e., out of bounds).
- e. Reviews may not be used to evaluate a question of execution deductions or composition. These requests will result in a 0.1 TND.
- f. Reviews should be viewed in the speed that is to the advantage of the student-athlete. If necessary, the video may be viewed in multiple speeds. Judges may use the zoom function if needed to see the video presented for review.
- g. The review must be submitted to the Meet Director or host institution designee within five (5) minutes following the conclusion of the meet (as determined by the final score posted OR the return of the final inquiry, whichever is later). During this time, the scores are being verified by the judging panel and the head scorer's table.
- h. The coach requesting the review must provide a signed Video Review Form (VRF), cued video and team camera to the Meet Director (or host institution designee). The Meet Director (or host institution designee) will be responsible for delivering this information to the Meet Referee and event panel (the judges who judged the particular event) for their review on the competition floor following the conclusion of the meet. The coaches may not be present during the review.
- i. Reviews must be conducted in the presence of the Meet Referee and the event panel ONLY. If the Meet Referee is on the panel, the next highest rated official must participate. A simple majority of the review panel will determine success or failure of the review. If the review is successful, the individual's score will be adjusted accordingly and team score if it is a counting score.
- j. The results of the review will be noted on the VRF by the Meet Referee and returned to the Meet Director (or host institution designee) who will take the VRF to the score table. The official score will be adjusted (up or down). Then the judges will sign the official score sheet and the Meet Director will deliver the VRF to the coach.
- k. If a score is changed during an inquiry or video review, the skill or connection under review may be subject to additional deductions for incompleteness or rhythm.
- l. Decisions rendered by the judges' review panel are final and cannot be overturned.

7.3 ROUTINE SUMMARIES.

- a. The Routine Summary is a method for a coach to obtain information from the judges in order to clearly understand the deductions applied. It is intended as an educational tool for the student-athlete and coaching staff. Regardless of the comments written by the judge, no scores will change as a result of the Routine Summary.
- b. Each institution is permitted to submit up to a total of six (6) Routine Summary forms per competition. The coach has the option to provide a video to accompany only one (1) Routine Summary request. **The Routine Summary Forms must be**

- submitted to the Meet Referee within 5 minutes following the conclusion of the competition (the last score is posted, or the last routine inquiry has been processed if applicable).
- c. It is the responsibility of the coach to provide the element information and two copies of the Routine Summary form for each routine (or four copies for four-judge panels).
 - d. The Routine Summaries are distributed by the Meet Referee to the judges after they have signed the official score sheets. All judges in the panel should complete the Routine Summary independently while sitting apart, and not use element shorthand. **The judges may view the video provided by a team on the same device, but the routine must be viewed by each judge separately.**
 - e. The Meet Referee may communicate general feedback to coaches of any areas of uncertainty in the routines based on the observations of either the judging panels or as observed by the Meet Referee.

Refer to the "Supplemental Procedures and Forms" document for the Inquiry and Routine Summary Form and the Video Review Form.

8 – REGULAR SEASON MEET PROCEDURES

The NCAA Women's Gymnastics Committee has accepted the following procedures for regular-season competition. Coaches may agree, in writing, to alter the warm-up and competition format. If coaches do not agree, then the established format outlined below will be followed. *Note: For further meet procedures, please refer to the current USAG Women's Artistic Rules and Policies.*

- 8.1. **JUDGING.** A minimum of two judges per event must be used, and all must have a minimum Level 10 rating. **No current coach or staff member of an NCAA women's gymnastics program, or parent of a current gymnast on the roster of an NCAA program, may serve as an NCAA judge (see Appendix III for affiliation policies).**
 - a. Judges may enter the competition floor to prepare for the meet **after the athletes have completed timed warm-ups and have cleared the competition area.**
 - b. Coaches are permitted to formally acknowledge and greet judges in a cordial manner prior to the start of the competition. Conversations with a Chief Judge or Meet Referee for purposes of changing a lineup or discussing an inquiry, after initiated by the judge, are permissible.
 - c. **Judges must be seated separately at different tables on the competition floor, unless impractical due to the equipment placement. For meets where judges must sit at the same table, the judges must be separated with a person (such as a score flasher or volunteer) between them.**
 - d. One judge on each event must be designated as the Chief Judge.
 - e. One judge must be designated as the Meet Referee to respond to inquiries during the meet.
 - f. Open scoring must be used. All scores and start values will be flashed simultaneously and rotated, but only the average score will be raised and rotated. First, the judge will give his or her final score to the flasher. When all scores are posted to their respective score flash unit, judges will simultaneously display their start values, scores and UTL card (when applicable). The runner will pick up all judges' score slips and present them to the Chief Judge only **AFTER** the scores have been displayed. The Chief Judge will tally the average score and it will be raised and rotated **or otherwise prominently displayed on a flashing unit.**
 - g. Judges are required to leave the **competition** floor immediately **after competition is completed (which includes the processing of any remaining inquiries or conducting any Video Review)** to sign score sheets off the competition floor in a neutral area.
 - h. **If a judge is late or missing from the competition, adjustments of the judging panels are made to maintain the same panel of judges on each event throughout the competition to provide scoring consistently within the competition. The Meet Referee, in consultation with the Meet Director, would determine how the judging panels are adjusted to proceed with the competition. See Section 8.8 for additional details.**
- 8.2. **MEET PREPARATIONS.** The following preparations apply to all meets, regardless of the number of participating teams:
 - a. The host team must let the visiting team know what spring boards are available, the length of the vault runway, **and other equipment details.** There should be a sufficient number of landing mats and boards for warm-ups and competition, according to the number of teams and events occurring simultaneously (regular

- season). For regular season, the host institution selects the Visitor slot for each team within the competition format (see meet format tables in Sections 8.4 – 8.7).
- b. Institutions shall require a system (not necessarily a scoreboard) to post each team's running score updated after each routine during every competition.
 - c. Computing scores:
 - Two judges — by averaging the two scores.
 - Four judges — by dropping the highest and lowest scores and averaging the other two judges' scores.
 - Six judges — by dropping the highest and lowest scores and averaging the other four judges' scores.
 - Event scores are computed by totaling the five highest individual scores for each team.
 - All-around scores are computed by totaling an individual competitor's score from all four events.
 - Team scores are computed by totaling all four event scores.
 - d. Squad size is limited to a maximum of six gymnasts per event per team.
 - e. Lineups must be handed in to the scorer's table at least 1½ hours before the start of the competition. Changes may be made before the start of the event by notifying the scorer's table and Chief Judge.
 - f. Substitution(s) may be made after an event begins (i.e., flag raised for team's first competitor on that event) by notifying the Chief Judge at that event. The substitute must replace the teammate in the same lineup position.
 - g. Timing devices and volunteers are provided by the host institution to manage the following event timing requirements:
 - Beam routines and falls on beam and bars must be timed. There will be a 45-second fall time for beam and a 45-second fall time for bars.
 - Floor routines must be timed.
 - Sounding devices may be voice, bell or whistle.
 - Injury timing – refer to page 2, Rules Overview Section 1.7.
 - h. To manage open scoring requirements, the host institution provides start value and score flashing devices and "UTL" cards at each judging table, with a "Delayed Conference" card at each CJ table.
 - i. The vault numbers must be flashed during regular season meets. A mechanism for coaches/athletes to display the vault numbers is provided by the host institution.
 - j. A maximum of **one Video Review form** and six Routine Summary forms may be requested per competition per team. The coach has the option to provide a video to accompany only one (1) Routine Summary request.
 - k. A maximum of two exhibitions per event will be permitted after the official lineup has completed competition on that event. It shall be the responsibility of the host institution to inform visiting team(s) not later than one week before competition whether or not exhibitions will be permitted and, if so, how many.
 - l. The host institution will provide audio connection options for the playing of floor exercise music.
 - m. One athletic trainer per competing institution will be permitted in a designated area in close proximity to the vault landing area in instances where the vault corral is located at the beginning of the vault runway. The athletic trainer is there to

observe and must refrain from engaging in any communication and/or cheering with the student-athlete, coach or other team personnel while in the vault landing area.

8.3. **REGULAR SEASON MEET PROCEDURES.** *The following governs only from the time the athletic training room opens for all teams at the competition venue the day of the competition to the conclusion of that competition.*

All teams must make an effort to ensure the integrity of the competition by respecting the rules below and allowing all aspects of the warm-up and competition to move at a consistent and steady pace.

- a. **Prior to Competition:** Visualization and/or stretching activities are allowed when the athletic training room opens for the event and may occur on the competition area by any gymnast prior to the 20-minute open stretch & warm-up period listed in a.1. Matting surrounding each event (including FX itself & VT runway only) may be used for visualization, provided the equipment itself is not mounted or used for gymnastics-specific or inverted skills. Any event not used by a team during the allowable periods listed in a.1 and a.2 below may be used by any gymnast.

The following periods must start at the same time and be provided for all teams prior to the start of competition:

1. A 20-minute open stretch, in which athletes may stretch on the Floor Exercise mat and matting around the other equipment, as desired. The low bar may be removed during open stretch. Athletes may not mount the Vault table, the Uneven Bars, the Balance Beam, or tumble on the Floor Exercise mat during this time. This period is immediately followed by a 2-minute transition period.
2. A 15-minute event warm-up on each event in each team's competitive order. During the 15-minute event warm-up period, any event not designated as an institution's rotation event (thus is considered "open") may be used by any gymnast. This period is immediately followed by a 2-minute transition period for each of the event warm-up rotations. After the last event rotation, athletes leave the competitive floor to prepare for the march-in ceremony.
3. A 2-minute transition as listed in a.1. and a.2., during which gymnasts are allowed to use matting around the apparatus to stretch, invert and prepare as needed; however, the apparatus must not be mounted or used for gymnastics skills during this time. On floor exercise, jumping, bouncing, running, stretching type of warm-up activity is allowed; however, gymnastics skills are not allowed on the floor exercise apparatus. Gymnasts may use the vault runway to prepare for the warm-up on vault.
4. A minimum of 15 minutes and a maximum of 20 minutes is required between the completion of the event warm-up and the march-in ceremony. After a team has completed their march-in introduction, while waiting for completion of introductions of other teams, athletes may perform warm-up activity on the mats surrounding the equipment of their first event (same activity limits as with waiting for the 2-minute transition in 8.3.b.1.a). At the conclusion of the march-in ceremony, a 2-minute transition will begin when all teams have arrived at their first event area.
5. A 4-minute touch warm-up immediately after the march-in ceremony and 2-minute transition, as specified in a.4 above, and prior to each team's ini-

- tial competitive event. During the 4-minute touch warm-up, athletes may NOT warm-up on the equipment at an “open” event (not being used by a competing team).
- b. **During Competition:** The following periods must start at the same time and be provided for all teams during competition:
 1. A 2-minute transition at the conclusion of each remaining competitive event, to begin when the final competitor's initial score is flashed (to include exhibition competitors) or when teams arrive at the corral for podium style competition. Teams must transition immediately to their next event after the last score is flashed and allowable activity may be performed only at the next competitive event.
 - a. During the waiting period after completing an event competition but before the 2-minute transition, athletes may perform warm-up activity on the matting surrounding the team's current event area. On Floor Exercise, gymnastics skills are not permitted on the floor exercise apparatus (carpeted area within the boundary lines), but athletes may use any surrounding matting for warm-up while awaiting the 2-minute transition. This activity does not apply to postseason.
 2. During the 2-minute transition, gymnasts are allowed to use matting around their next competitive apparatus to stretch, invert and prepare as needed for the 4-minute touch; however, the apparatus must not be mounted or used for gymnastics skills during this time, yet may be touched to make small chalk marks or to stretch. On floor exercise, jumping, bouncing, running, stretching type of warm-up activity is allowed; however, gymnastics skills are not allowed on the floor exercise apparatus (within the boundary lines). Gymnasts may use the vault runway to prepare for the 4-minute touch warm-up on vault.
 3. A 4-minute touch warm-up immediately after the 2-minute transitions provided in b.1 above and prior to the start of competition on each remaining competitive event. During the 4-minute touch warm-up, athletes may NOT warm-up on the equipment at an “open” event (not being used by a competing team).
 4. The start of time periods designated in a.1, a.2, a.4, a.5, b.1 and b.3 above must be announced by the competition's PA announcer.
 5. The athlete who is next up to compete (awaiting signal from CJ) may invert or perform a gymnastics element on the mats surrounding the Beam, Uneven Bars, Floor Exercise (not within boundaries), or on the Vault runway prior to the signal. If the gymnast performs an element after the CJ signal, it is a deduction for exceeding warm-up time (0.2). Only the next competitor may run down the Vault runway following her predecessor's vault before the signal, which would not warrant a deduction for exceeding warm-up time.
 - c. **After Competition:** Once competition is completed, the official score sheets are to be signed by the officiating judges and attending head coaches.
 1. While in their judges' room off the competition floor, judges review the official scores listed on the score sheet, make any corrections, and each judge signs the official copy.
 2. It is the responsibility of the host institution to issue two formal announcements, both over loudspeaker, indicating that score sheets have been signed

by judges and are ready to be signed by head coaches. There will be 5 minutes between the first and second announcement. **The host institution will record the time of these announcements.**

3. From the second formal notice, head coaches have 20 minutes to verify and sign the official score sheet.
 - a. If a discrepancy occurs between the scores on the official score sheet and what the Head Coach has recorded, the Head Coach should notify the Meet Director. The Meet Director will then check the score in question. The official score sheets may need to be corrected and re-certified by the judges before the Head Coach signs the score sheet. This process may take longer than the designated 20 minutes; however, the coach/Meet Director should make every effort to resolve the discrepancy within a reasonable time to allow the competition to be concluded as soon as feasible.
4. If the scoresheet is not signed in the allotted time, the coach will be referred to the Ethics Committee and the scoresheet will be officially verified and e-signed by the host institution's scorer's table personnel. The team has forfeited the right to verify and sign the scoresheet.
5. The names of the officiating judges must be removed from any publicly available material published in relation to NCAA competitions, either institutionally or as individuals associated with the universities, in order to avoid dissemination of their names wherever possible. The judges' names may, however, be included in documents behind the administration wall on the Road to Nationals website.

8.4. DUAL-MEET FORMAT.

Either one or two events should be conducted at a time, at the host institution's preference.

- a. **Two Judges:** When one event is conducted at a time, Olympic order must be followed (vault, bars, beam, and floor). Gymnasts from opposing teams should alternate on each event. The home team should begin vault and beam, and finish with bars and floor. The visiting team should begin bars and floor, and finish with vault and beam. If an institution is competing with fewer than six gymnasts in each event, competitors should alternate from the end of the lineup toward the beginning, interrupting the alternating order near the beginning of the event only to allow the proper team to begin the event.
- b. **Four Judges:** When two events are conducted simultaneously, the home team should begin vault and the visiting team should begin bars, in the first half of the competition. The home team should begin beam and the visiting team should begin floor, in the second half of the competition.
- c. **With any Four-Judge Dual Meet Format competition, the judging panels must be switched after the first two events, in accordance with judges assigning parameters. The table below shows how the judges are switched into new panels for the last two events.**

DUAL-MEET FORMAT

4 judges	Vault Panel J1&J2	Bars Panel J3&J4	Beam Panel J1&J4	Floor Panel J3&J2
	Vault	Bars	Beam	Floor
Rotation 1	Home	Visitor		
Rotation 2	Visitor	Home		
Rotation 3			Home	Visitor
Rotation 4			Visitor	Home

8.5. TRIANGULAR-MEET FORMAT.

- a. **Four Judges:** When two events are conducted simultaneously, the teams compete on Vault and Bars in the first half of the competition, and on Beam and Floor Exercise in the second half. Judging panels may be switched after the first half of the competition, according to judges assigning parameters, such as shown in the table below. The panel changes and event assignments are designated by the Regional Assigner.

TRIANGULAR MEET WITH 4 JUDGES

4 judges	Vault Panel J1&J2	Bars Panel J3&J4		Beam Panel J1&J4	Floor Panel J3&J2	
	Vault	Bars	Bye	Beam	Floor	Bye
Rotation 1	Home	Visitor 1	Visitor 2			
Rotation 2	Visitor 2	Home	Visitor 1			
Rotation 3	Visitor 1	Visitor 2	Home			
Rotation 4				Home	Visitor 2	Visitor 1
Rotation 5				Visitor 2	Visitor 1	Home
Rotation 6				Visitor 1	Home	Visitor 2

- b. **Six Judges:** When three events are conducted simultaneously, judging panels will need to adhere to a specific rotation format in order to maintain the integrity of the judging panels on each event. Vault and Bars will use the same panel of judges. When two teams are on Vault and Bars in the same rotation, the judging panel will judge one team's competition on Vault then the second team's competition on Bars; meanwhile, the third team will complete their rotation on Beam (or on Floor Exercise). See table below.

TRIANGULAR MEET WITH 6 JUDGES

6 judges	Vault Panel J1&J2	Bars Panel J1&J2	Beam Panel J1&J4	Floor Panel J3&J2
	Vault	Bars	Beam	Floor
Rotation 1-A	Home		Visitor 2	
Rotation 1-B		Visitor 1		
Rotation 2		Home	Visitor 1	Visitor 2
Rotation 3	Visitor 2		Home	Visitor 1
Rotation 4-A	Visitor 1			Home
Rotation 4-B		Visitor 2		

- c. Eight Judges: With three events competing simultaneously, teams would use a similar format as for the Quadrangular Meet Format, with the host institution selecting the open event for the first rotation, and teams continue their rotations following Olympic order. Each panel of judges would take a turn as the open (bye) event. See table below the format with Floor Exercise as the initial open event.

TRIANGULAR MEET WITH 8 JUDGES

8 judges	Vault Panel J1&J2	Bars Panel J3&J4	Beam Panel J5&J6	Floor Panel J7&J8
	Vault	Bars	Beam	Floor
Rotation 1	Home	Visitor 1	Visitor 2	
Rotation 2		Home	Visitor 1	Visitor 2
Rotation 3	Visitor 2		Home	Visitor 1
Rotation 4	Visitor 1	Visitor 2		Home

8.6. QUADRANGULAR-MEET FORMAT.

Using eight judges, the four events compete simultaneously, with each team following Olympic order, as shown in the table below. A Walking MR is strongly recommended in this format.

QUADRANGULAR MEET FORMAT

8 judges	Vault Panel J1&J2	Bars Panel J3&J4	Beam Panel J5&J6	Floor Panel J7&J8
	Vault	Bars	Beam	Floor
Rotation 1	Home	Visitor 1	Visitor 2	Visitor 3
Rotation 2	Visitor 3	Home	Visitor 1	Visitor 2
Rotation 3	Visitor 2	Visitor 3	Home	Visitor 1
Rotation 4	Visitor 1	Visitor 2	Visitor 3	Home

8.7 FIVE-TEAM AND SIX-TEAM FORMATS.

- a. **Five-Team Format:** Four events will be run simultaneously, with a bye between two events, selected by the host institution. The format with the bye rotation for the teams is shown in the table below. Eight judges are required, with a Walking MR strongly recommended.

FIVE-TEAM MEET FORMAT

8 judges	Vault Panel J1&J2		Bars Panel J3&J4	Beam Panel J5&J6	Floor Panel J7&J8
	Vault	Bye	Bars	Beam	Floor
Rotation 1	Home	Visitor 1	Visitor 2	Visitor 3	Visitor 4
Rotation 2	Visitor 4	Home	Visitor 1	Visitor 2	Visitor 3
Rotation 3	Visitor 3	Visitor 4	Home	Visitor 1	Visitor 2
Rotation 4	Visitor 2	Visitor 3	Visitor 4	Home	Visitor 1
Rotation 5	Visitor 1	Visitor 2	Visitor 3	Visitor 4	Home

- b. **Six-Team Format:** Four events will be run simultaneously, with two Byes separated as indicated in the table below. Eight judges are required, with a Walking MR strongly recommended.

SIX-TEAM MEET FORMAT

8 judges	Vault Panel J1&J2		Bars Panel J3&J4	Beam Panel J5&J6		Floor Panel J7&J8
	Vault	Bye	Bars	Beam	Bye	Floor
Rotation 1	Home	Visitor 5	Visitor 4	Visitor 3	Visitor 2	Visitor 1
Rotation 2	Visitor 1	Home	Visitor 5	Visitor 4	Visitor 3	Visitor 2
Rotation 3	Visitor 2	Visitor 1	Home	Visitor 5	Visitor 4	Visitor 3
Rotation 4	Visitor 3	Visitor 2	Visitor 1	Home	Visitor 5	Visitor 4
Rotation 5	Visitor 4	Visitor 3	Visitor 2	Visitor 1	Home	Visitor 5
Rotation 6	Visitor 5	Visitor 4	Visitor 3	Visitor 2	Visitor 1	Home

8.8 **PROTOCOL WITH MISSING JUDGE(S).** When a competition does not have enough judges due to travel delays or last-minute emergency, there are options to proceed with the competition. The primary consideration is to maintain the integrity of each event's judging panels (same two judges on each event for the entire competition). The Meet Referee, in consultation with the Meet Director, would determine how to adjust the judging panels to proceed with the competition, which may also change the meet format.

- a. In all cases with a Walking MR present, and one judge is unable to attend, the Walking MR will become a Sitting MR and assume the vacant position. The competition proceeds as usual.
- b. **Dual Meet Format with 3 judges and no Walking MR:** The dual-meet competition format is adjusted to allow one official, designated by the Meet Referee, to be a "traveling judge" to judge in place of the absent official.
 1. After Team #1 completes their 4-minute touch warm-up on Vault, the two judges (one is the traveling judge) judge all vaults for Team #1. In the meantime, Team #2 begins their 4-minute touch warm-up on Uneven Bars at their discretion, keeping in mind the timing of the competition.
 2. When Vault is complete for Team #1, the traveling judge will move to Uneven Bars to join the other official, and they judge Team #2 on bars.
 3. The traveling judge remains at Uneven Bars while Team #1 rotates to Uneven Bars, holds their 4-minute touch warm-up, and competes. While Team #1 is competing on Uneven Bars, Team #2 begins their 4-minute touch warm-up on Vault at their discretion, keeping in mind the timing of the competition.
 4. Once the Uneven Bars competition is complete, the traveling judge will go back to Vault to judge Team #2.
 5. This process repeats for Balance Beam and Floor Exercise in the same manner.
- c. **Late judge:** There are options for the MR to consider for adapting for the late judge while maintaining the integrity of each event's panel. For example, if a judge misses the first rotation, the Walking MR would assume the seat of the missing judge and continues to judge the event through the complete

tion of the competition, while the late judge would assume the role of the Walking MR upon arrival. Or, in the case of a dual meet with four judges, the Walking MR would assume the seat of the missing judge until the second half of the meet when the Walking MR and the late judge may resume their original positions once the judges change events.

- d. Multiple Judges missing, or larger meet formats: The MR, in consultation with the Meet Director, will determine the best course of action to adjust judging panels and format in order to proceed with the competition.

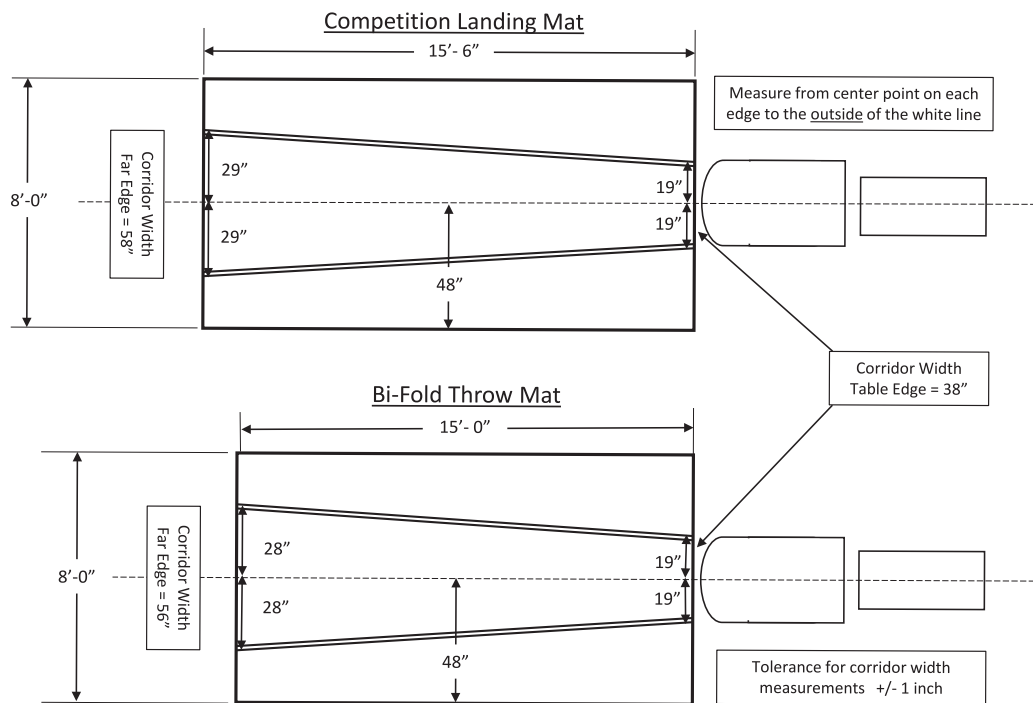
APPENDIX I - VAULT CHARTS

1. NCAA Vault Value Chart

Group 1 – Handsprings			
1.01	Handspring		8.80
1.02	Handspring	1/1 Twist off	9.20
1.03	Handspring	1 ½ Twist off	9.50
1.04	Handspring	2/1 Twist off	10.00
1.05	Handspring	2 ½ Twist off	10.00
1.06	Handspring	3/1 Twist off	10.00
1.07	Handspring	Tuck Salto	9.80
1.08	Handspring	Tuck Salto ½	9.95
1.09	Handspring	Tuck Salto 1/1	10.00
1.10	Handspring	Tuck Salto 1 ½	10.00
1.11	Handspring	Pike Salto	9.90
1.12	Handspring	Pike Salto ½	10.00
1.13	Handspring	Layout Salto	10.00
1.14	Handspring	Layout Salto ½	10.00
1.15	Handspring	Layout Salto 1/1	10.00
1.16	Handspring	Layout Salto 1 ½	10.00
1.17	Handspring	Layout Salto 2/1	10.00
1.18	Handspring	Double Salto - Tuck or Pike	10.00
1.19	½ on	1 ½ Twist off	9.50
1.20	½ on	2/1 Twist off	9.90
1.21	½ on	2 ½ Twist off	10.00
1.22	1/1 on	Handspring	9.60
1.23	1/1 on	½ Twist off	9.60
1.24	1/1 on	1/1 Twist off	9.80
1.25	1/1 on	1 ½ Twist off	10.00
1.26	1/1 on	2/1 Twist off	10.00
1.27	1/1 on	Tuck Salto	10.00
1.28	1/1 on	Pike Salto	10.00
1.29	1/1 on	Layout Salto	10.00
Group 2 – Tsukaharas (¼ to ½ on)			
2.01	Tsukahara	Repulsion off	8.80
2.02	Tsukahara	Tuck Salto	9.50
2.03	Tsukahara	Tuck Salto ½	9.80
2.04	Tsukahara	Tuck Salto 1/1	9.90
2.05	Tsukahara	Tuck Salto 1 ½	10.00
2.06	Tsukahara	Tuck Salto 2/1	10.00
2.07	Tsukahara	Pike Salto	9.60
2.08	Tsukahara	Pike Salto ½	9.90
2.09	Tsukahara	Layout Salto	9.80
2.10	Tsukahara	Layout Salto ½	10.00
2.11	Tsukahara	Layout Salto 1/1	10.00
2.12	Tsukahara	Layout Salto 1 ½	10.00
2.13	Tsukahara	Layout Salto 2/1	10.00
2.14	Tsukahara	Layout Salto 2 ½	10.00
2.15	Tsukahara	Double Salto - Tuck or Pike	10.00
Group 3 – Front Handspring onto Board Entry			
3.01	FHS (to board) Handspring	Handspring	8.80
3.02	FHS (to board) Handspring	Tuck Salto	9.90
3.03	FHS (to board) Handspring	Tuck Salto ½	10.00
3.04	FHS (to board) Handspring	Pike Salto	10.00
3.05	FHS (to board) Handspring	Pike Salto ½	10.00
3.06	FHS (to board) Handspring	1/1 Twist off	9.30
3.07	FHS (to board) Handspring	1 ½ Twist off	9.60
3.08	FHS (to board) Handspring	2/1 Twist off	10.00

3.09	FHS (to board) Tsukahara	Repulsion off	8.90
3.10	FHS (to board) Tsukahara	Tuck Salto	9.60
3.11	FHS (to board) Tsukahara	Tuck Salto ½	9.90
3.12	FHS (to board) Tsukahara	Tuck Salto 1/1	10.00
3.13	FHS (to board) Tsukahara	Tuck Salto 1 ½	10.00
3.14	FHS (to board) Tsukahara	Pike Salto	9.70
3.15	FHS (to board) Tsukahara	Layout Salto	9.90
3.16	FHS (to board) Tsukahara	Layout Salto ½	10.00
3.17	FHS (to board) Tsukahara	Layout Salto 1/1	10.00
3.18	FHS (to board) Tsukahara	Layout Salto 1 ½	10.00
3.19	FHS (to board) Tsukahara	Layout Salto 2/1	10.00
3.20	FHS (to board) Tsukahara	Layout Salto 2 ½	10.00
3.21	FHS (to board) Tsukahara	Double Salto - Tuck or Pike	10.00
Group 4 – Round-Off Entry			
4.01	RO, FF	Repulsion off	8.80
4.02	RO, FF	1/1 Twist off	9.20
4.03	RO, FF	1 ½ Twist off	9.50
4.04	RO, FF	2/1 Twist off	9.90
4.05	RO, FF	Tuck Salto	9.50
4.06	RO, FF	Tuck Salto ½	9.80
4.07	RO, FF	Tuck Salto 1/1	9.90
4.08	RO, FF	Tuck Salto 1 ½	10.00
4.09	RO, FF	Tuck Salto 2/1	10.00
4.10	RO, FF	Pike Salto	9.60
4.11	RO, FF	Pike Salto ½	9.90
4.12	RO, FF	Layout Salto	9.75
4.13	RO, FF	Layout Salto ½	9.95
4.14	RO, FF	Layout Salto 1/1	9.95
4.15	RO, FF	Layout Salto 1 ½	10.00
4.16	RO, FF	Layout Salto 2/1	10.00
4.17	RO, FF	Layout Salto 2 ½	10.00
4.18	RO, FF	Double Salto - Tuck or Pike	10.00
4.19	RO, FF ½	Repulsion off	8.80
4.20	RO, FF ½	1/1 Twist off	9.30
4.21	RO, FF ½	1 ½ Twist off	9.50
4.22	RO, FF ½	2/1 Twist off	10.00
4.23	RO, FF ½	Tuck Salto	9.95
4.24	RO, FF ½	Tuck Salto ½	10.00
4.25	RO, FF ½	Tuck Salto 1 ½	10.00
4.26	RO, FF ½	Pike Salto	10.00
4.27	RO, FF ½	Pike Salto ½	10.00
4.28	RO, FF ½	Layout Salto	10.00
4.29	RO, FF ½	Layout Salto ½	10.00
4.30	RO, FF 1/1 on	Repulsion off	8.80
4.31	RO, FF 1/1 on	1/1 Twist off	9.70
4.32	RO, FF 1/1 on	1 ½ Twist off	9.90
4.33	RO, FF 1/1 on	2/1 Twist off	9.90
4.34	RO, FF 1/1 on	Tuck Salto	9.95
4.35	RO, FF 1/1 on	Tuck Salto ½	10.00
4.36	RO, FF 1/1 on	Pike Salto	10.00
4.37	RO, FF 1/1 on	Layout Salto	10.00
4.38	RO, FF 1 ½ on	1/1 Twist off	10.00

2. Vault Mat Lines Diagram



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APPENDIX II

Code of Ethics for Coaches

- A. It is the responsibility of each coach to ensure that all competition is conducted according to USA Gymnastics Women's Developmental Program Code of Points (Level 10 Rules) as of November 1, and NCAA Women's Gymnastics Collegiate Rules Modifications. Coaches are required to act in a sportsmanlike, positive, polite, respectful and disciplined manner, with complete integrity. It is their responsibility to see that their teams handle themselves in a sportsmanlike manner. All NCAA policies regarding sporting conduct shall be enforced.
1. Judges may be greeted by a representative of the host institution before the start of competition. In addition, coaches are permitted to formally acknowledge and greet judges in a cordial manner prior to the start of the competition.
 2. Conversations with a Chief Judge or Meet Referee for purposes of discussing an inquiry after it has been filed and decision rendered are permissible.
 3. Conversations with a Chief Judge or Meet Referee for purposes of checking and changing a lineup are permissible.
 4. Coaches shall avoid even the appearance of soliciting partisanship from the judges. Discussions (other than those involving meet administration) with judges should include the opposing coach(es).
 5. It is the responsibility of each coach to see that every meet is conducted with full regard for the safety of and most fair competition for all gymnasts.
 6. Areas should be designated for the teams and coaches separate from the spectators. Coaches and gymnasts shall remain within their designated areas, except when adjusting equipment or spotting. The competition floor shall be clear of all extraneous personnel.
 7. No coach or competitor shall participate in a judges' conference or be within hearing distance of such conferences.
 8. Each coach should assist actively in promoting positive relations among all participants, who are striving to achieve athletics excellence.
 9. Coaches shall ensure that competitors exhibit dignity in manner and dress when representing their institution.
 10. In addition to attending all required media news conferences and interviews, all coaches are expected to cooperate with all reasonable media requests in the best interest of the sport.
 11. Coaches are expected to sign the official scoresheet within the designated time allotted at the end of each competition (reference Section 8.3.c.4).
- B. **Unsportsmanlike Conduct (Yellow Card) Process**
1. **Definition of Unsportsmanlike Behaviors**
 - a. **Examples of behavior that would NOT be a Yellow Card infraction:**
 1. A facial expression of dissatisfaction or disapproval.
 2. Crossing arms or placing hands on hips.
 3. Shaking head or walking away.

- b. Examples of behavior which judges might consider for issuing a Yellow Card:
 1. Addresses an official in a disrespectful manner.
 2. Attempts to influence an official's decision by words, expressions, gestures, body language, or similar behaviors.
 3. Objects to an official's decision by excessive or disrespectful words, expressions, gestures, body language, or similar behaviors.
 4. Uses a loud voice and hostile gestures when talking to a Meet Referee, when submitting an inquiry, or when submitting routine summaries.
 5. Incites undesirable crowd reactions.
 6. Uses profanity or language that is abusive, vulgar, obscene; makes derogatory remarks about officials, athletes, or spectators.
 7. Makes comments relating to race, ethnicity, national origin, religion, gender, gender expression, gender identity, sexual orientation or disability.
 8. Flaunting the issuance of a yellow card would incur a second yellow card and a 0.1 deduction from team score.
 9. Other behaviors considered to reflect poor sportsmanship.
2. Ethics Committee Procedure for Coach Offenses
 - a. The Meet Referee notes the issuance of a Yellow Card (1st or 2nd) on the official score sheet at the end of the meet and submits a written report Yellow Card Incident Report (contained in the Supplemental Procedures and Forms document) describing the behavior that resulted in the Yellow Card. This report is filed with the National Assigner and with the Chair of the WCGA Ethics Committee.
 - b. The Ethics Committee performs the following tasks:
 1. Initial Review: When a coach is reported for an infraction, the Ethics Committee will contact the coach to review the incident and obtain his/her perspective.
 2. Documentation: A file will be created for each coach who receives an offense. This file will include a record of the offense, the coach's response, and the findings of the Ethics Committee once both sides have been heard.
 3. Pattern of Behavior: If a coach is found guilty of three (3) Yellow Card offenses within a single season, this will be considered a pattern of behavior.
 4. Notification to Director of Athletics: In such cases, the Ethics Committee will send a formal letter to the coach's Director of Athletics, expressing concern regarding this recurring conduct.

APPENDIX III

Standards/Duties of Judges

A. It is imperative to the dignity, integrity and growth of women's gymnastics that judges be well educated in the details of gymnastics and the current rules, thoroughly prepared for each assignment and able to cover all possible circumstances. Toward that end, the NCAA Women's Gymnastics Committee has adopted the following **standards and required duties** for judges. All meets should be regarded as part of the national qualifying system for teams and individual competitors. Judges should strive for consistency in scoring at all collegiate meets, regardless of division, location or type of meet (i.e., dual, triangular or quadrangular). The USA Gymnastics Women's Developmental Program Code of Points (Level 10 Rules), as of November 1 each year, and the NCAA Women's Collegiate Rules Modifications are the only rules that are to be followed for all collegiate competition. **Violations of these codes and duties may subject a judge to discipline.**

1. **Qualifications** It is the duty of all judges to prepare themselves thoroughly and constantly update their preparation by being appropriately recertified. **Judges must follow all NCAA, applicable USA Gymnastics, and applicable NAWGJ Rules.** Judges should not accept any collegiate assignment for which they are not well qualified. NCAA regional and national championships require a **National** or higher rating. In addition, judges assigned to the regional and national championships competitions **cannot** accept such assignment unless they have judged a minimum of four regular-season collegiate meets during that year.
2. **Affiliation**
 - a. Any judge who is ineligible, as set forth in the NCAA/WCGA Affiliation Policy (Appendix IV), cannot serve as a judge within the NCAA or NAIA program.
 - b. Any judge who is affiliated with an institution and its conference cannot judge a competition in which any of these teams involved are competing. A judge who is affiliated only with the institution cannot judge a competition in which the institution's team is competing.
 - c. Those judges who have an affiliation with an NCAA institution that sponsors women's gymnastics will not be assigned to the National Championships; however, a judge may be assigned to a regional competition where he or she is not affiliated.
 - d. **See Appendix IV for the NCAA/WCGA Affiliation Policy that defines the affiliation of a judge.**
3. **Appearance** Judges are required to wear the official NAWGJ uniform, which includes the NAWGJ suit or dress (patches on other suits or dresses are not acceptable), with a white top and professional looking footwear. **Clean sneakers are permitted; however, slippers, flip flops, or other informal footwear are not allowed.** In cases of extreme weather or if a medical or accessibility-related accommodation is needed, judges should contact the Rules Interpreter in advance to request approval for any such accommodations.

4. **Timing** Judges must enter the competition site in uniform at least 45 minutes before the start of the competition. However, judges are prohibited from entering the competition floor until the floor is cleared after warm-ups.
5. **Social Media and Public Content** In addition to adherence to the NAWGJ Social Media Policy, collegiate judges must adhere to the following rules (which take precedence over the NAWGJ Policy, when different):
 - a. At any time during or after the season, judges shall not post, share, or comment on any competition-related content on social media or public platforms, or do any interviews. This includes, but is not limited to, posts or interviews about teams, routines, scoring, assignments, other judges, travel, or meet logistics.
 - b. Judges may not post photos or videos of images captured at, or are related to, collegiate competitions that were taken during the competitive season, whether during or after the season. This includes photos of judges, the arena, or images taken on the competition floor.
 - c. Any online or public content that may give the appearance of favoritism, affiliation, or impropriety is strictly prohibited. Judges must maintain the highest level of professionalism and neutrality at all times, including in their personal online presence.
6. **Duties and responsibilities** Judges shall be greeted by a representative of the host institution before the start of competition. In addition, coaches are permitted to formally acknowledge and greet judges in a cordial manner before the start of the competition. Conversations with a Chief Judge or Meet Referee for purposes of changing a lineup or discussing an inquiry, after initiated by the judge, remain permissible. Discussions about any meet related subject with a walking Meet Referee are also acceptable.
 - a. Judges assigned to a meet must prioritize the competition over all other activities from their arrival in the host city until the conclusion of the competition. In the event of emergencies or delays, including those beyond the judge's control, the judge must promptly notify the Assigner, Meet Referee, and Emergency Contact for the competition and follow any instructions provided to minimize disruption to the competition.
 - b. Discussions with student-athletes, parents, alumni and/or recruits, should not occur at the competition site. Judges must not initiate or engage in personal conversations, including texting, with any athlete, coach, or team-affiliated individuals at any time during the season, outside of procedural or professional necessity (such as for travel).
 - c. Judges should avoid any appearance of favoritism with any coaches or competitors.
 - d. Judges must disclose any affiliation including financial, personal, or professional in the Judges Assignment System. See the NCAA/WCGA Affiliation Policy for the definition of affiliations.
 - e. Judges must not falsify, misrepresent, or omit any material information in connection with meet scoring, evaluations, availability, credentials, or communications with Assigners, coaches or meet staff, or NCAA representatives.
 - f. Judges must maintain a professional tone and demeanor at all times, including in all verbal, written, and electronic communications related

to meets, assignments, and interactions with coaches, assignors, meet personnel, and fellow judges.

- g. Judges must keep all discussions and materials related to judges' meetings, scoring, inquiries, and other decisions confidential. Disclosure of internal judging processes or private meet matters is prohibited unless required by the applicable rules.
- h. Each judging panel is required to review and discuss a minimum of two routines together on-site prior to the start of the competition. These routines must be watched collaboratively at the meet site (reviews conducted individually at home or in advance of arrival do not meet this requirement). The purpose of this review is to calibrate expectations, reinforce consistency, and ensure alignment among panel members immediately prior to judging.
- i. Event standards must be strictly enforced in all meets (e.g., timing of falls and routines, boundary deductions) and be noted on the official score sheet, if applicable.
- j. Each judge is responsible for maintaining focus and independence and shall not discuss scoring with other judges during the meet, unless there is an inquiry or a conference.
- k. Judges are prohibited from using or carrying mobile phones or other electronic communication devices in the field of play once the competition begins. Phones must be silenced and stored out of sight during judging. The use of earbuds, headphones, or any audio devices is not permitted at any time on the competition floor. However, foam or non-electronic earplugs are allowed for sound sensitivity or hearing protection, provided they do not interfere with the judge's responsibilities or communication with meet personnel. If a medical or accessibility-related or emergency type accommodation is needed, judges should contact the Rules Interpreter in advance to request approval for any such accommodations.
- l. Individual judges' scores, start values, and UTL (if applicable) must be simultaneously flashed. Judges must verify that their flashed values are correct and must not rely solely on meet personnel for accuracy. The NCAA allowable range of scores is to be followed for all collegiate competitions. Judges will be responsible for indicating when they take the UTL deduction on bars, beam, and floor. An ORANGE card, 4" by 6" with "UTL" in large letters, will be displayed when the start value and score are flashed. In addition to the scores, judges must record and/or enter start values and UTL (if applicable) on meet electronic input devices and/or score cards, as applicable.
- m. Inquiries should be handled by the Meet Referee and/or the Chief Judge. In the event that a coach identifies an unsatisfactory inquiry, a Video Review (one per team) may be submitted following the conclusion of the meet (see Section 7.2 for Video Review Process). Panel judges must be willing to compromise when there is a conference, inquiry and/or Video Review.
- n. Judges must process all inquiries before the start of the next event.
- o. All judges must check the score sheet at the end of the competition and verify by signatures the accuracy of the scores. This must be done carefully and with full attention, as once signed, the score sheet may not be changed unless it comes back for review prior to the coach's signatures.

- p. Judges are encouraged to report any infractions to the National Assigner.

B. Meet Referee Duties and Responsibilities

The Meet Referee has an important roles as an adjudicator of disputes and in the oversight of officials oversight during the different phases of a regular season competition. An overview of the primary duties of the Meet Referee for preparation and execution of a regular season competition are contained in this Section. Specific tasking details are provided through the annual Meet Referee training and in the Supplemental Procedures and Forms document checklists. Meet Referees for Conference, Regional and National Championships can find additional specific postseason duties in the applicable Meet Referee Manual.

1. Prior to Competition
 - a. Meet with Meet Director, Scorer, Announcer – collect information of logistics of meet flow and scoring processes, answer any questions.
 - b. Introduce self to Head Coaches, ask for any special requests or questions.
 - c. Inspect field of play – check overall equipment safety, rectify any issue with Meet Director; check judges areas for required flashing and timing devices; check auxiliary equipment (vault number display); check general layout for any obstacles (television crew and equipment, audience areas).
 - d. Meet/instruct auxiliary volunteers (timers, flashers, scoring personnel), if possible.
 - e. Verify presence of all judges – if any judges are missing/late, work with Meet Director to decide on any adjustments to panels/meet format.
 - f. Conduct Judges' Meeting 45 min before competition start – review the Meet Referee checklists, including logistics, arena layout, reminders, review administration processes; monitor onsite video review process.
2. During Competition
 - a. Monitor procedures – open scoring, conferences, and transitions.
 - b. Make notifications to Head Coaches of any score changes after flashing; apply changes of scores at scorer's table if required (clerical errors, inquir changes, TND).
 - c. Script as many routines as feasible – goal of at least 50%.
 - d. May attend a conference called by a panel and may offer counsel if requested, but may not call a conference.
 - e. Manage application process for Team Neutral Deductions – receive info from panel or judge; make any change to score at scorer's table; notify all Head Coaches of score changes; notify all panels of Yellow Card, uniform or jewelry warnings.
 - f. Manage Routine Inquiry process – may provide counsel to Head Coach considering an inquiry prior to submission; may view video replay of routine in question; verify completeness and collect inquiry form and video device; call the inquiry conference with panel, may offer counsel to panel; may break a tie in a decision; return inquiry form to coach; make any changes to the score at the scorer's table.
 - g. Manage Video Review process – receive the Video Review Form and video from the Head Coach; deliver the Video Review form to the judging panel; as a member of this video review panel, be involved in making the decision to raise, lower, or keep the score the same; return Video Review form to Meet Director with any score change.

- h. Note time of end of competition (last score flashed and/or last inquiry processed) – for official timing for submittal of last inquiry form and submittal of a Video Review form.
 - i. Manage Yellow Card warnings/deductions – notify Head Coach of any infractions; collect notes about situations.
- 3. After Competition
 - a. Manage Score Sheet signature process – make any score changes noted by judges to scorer's table and notify Head Coaches of changes; monitor signature process for coaches; dismiss judges once process is complete.
 - b. Manage Routine Summaries process – distribute forms and any video devices to judges; return completed forms to Head Coach; may give any verbal feedback to Head Coach.
 - c. Submit follow-up reports – Yellow Card Incident Report, Score Sheet Incident Report, and notes of unusual circumstances/infractions to National Assigner; complete judges evaluations in JAS system.

APPENDIX IV

NCAA/WCGA Affiliation Policy

The Affiliation Policy adopted by the NCAA Women's Gymnastics Committee defines the affiliation status of a women's gymnastics judge with respect to institutions and conferences, and applies to both regular and post season competitions. The affiliation year time frame governed by this Policy begins at the official end of the previous competition season and runs to the official end of the current competition season. This policy will be applied when assigning judges to NCAA/NAIA competitions.

The term "judge" as used in this Policy includes Meet Referees. The term "institution" as used in this Policy refers to any college or university.

1. **You are affiliated with an institution and their conference if:**
 - a. You were formerly a part of an NCAA or NAIA women's gymnastics program in any capacity within the last five years.
 - b. You are a former coach, or an immediate family member of a former coach of an NCAA or NAIA women's gymnastics program within the last five years.
 - c. You are a paid athletics-related booster club member of an NCAA or NAIA institution.
2. **You are affiliated with an institution only, and not their conference, if:**
 - a. You receive any financial remuneration from an institution, such as an employee, vendor or independent contractor for work or business other than judging an institution's women's gymnastics competitions, including post season and during the summer.
 - b. You coach or work for a club gymnastics program that is under the auspices of an institution's gymnastics program.
 - c. You were a club coach or gym owner of an athlete who is a current member of an NCAA or NAIA women's gymnastics program. Your affiliation remains in effect for five years from the last time you coached that athlete.
3. **You are NOT affiliated if:**
 - a. You attended or graduated from an institution unless you were a member of the women's gymnastics program within the last five years.
 - b. You are an unpaid Graduate Assistant who is NOT associated with the athletic department.
 - c. Your son or daughter is a student of an institution, but is not a part of the women's gymnastics program.
4. **You are ineligible to judge if you are:**
 - a. Currently a part of any NCAA or NAIA women's gymnastics program in a paid or unpaid capacity (i.e., athlete, coach, volunteer coach, manager, trainer, choreographer etc.)
 - b. An individual with a daughter who is a current gymnast on the roster of an NCAA or NAIA program. Once your daughter has completed her eligibility you will be affiliated with her alma mater and their conference for five years (unless

another affiliation applies – i.e., she becomes a volunteer coach upon the end of her eligibility).

- c. Currently a S.C.O.R.E. Board member or the Supervisor of Officials.
- d. ****POST SEASON ONLY**** A significant other or immediate family member of anyone that is currently a part of any NCAA women's gymnastics program, including in any paid or unpaid capacity.



WOMEN'S GYMNASTICS RULES MODIFICATIONS

NCAA is a trademark of the National Collegiate Athletic Association.

Appendix B • Lineup Form

NATIONAL COLLEGIATE WOMEN'S GYMNASTICS CHAMPIONSHIPS

LINEUP FORM

Institution _____

Coach _____

VAULT 1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

BARS 1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

BEAM 1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

FLOOR 1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

Appendix C • Equipment List

Vault					
Check if you already have	AAI Description	Model #	Qty	Regionals	Comments
	TAC/10 Vault Table(w/ Hanging Safety Pad)	407-557	1	1	
	TAC/10 Round-off-Pad, 39" x 51" x 1 3/8"	416-098	1	1	
	Padded Vault Runway, 1 3/8" x 3' x 84"	416-785	1	1	Demo Preferred
	TAC/10 Vaulting Board	407-233	2	2	1-Extra as Back-up
	Contoured Vault Safety Zone	407-238	1	1	
	Vault Anchor Mat, 4' x 8' x 20cm	416-292	1	1	Two piece set
	FIG 8' x 15.5' x 20cm., V2 - Firm	416-322	1	1	
	FIG 5' x 8' x 20cm., V2	416-308	1	1	
	Throw Mat 7' x 10' x 10cm.	416-258	1	1	Anti-Slip/w/Dual Density Foam, Demo Preferred
	Throw Mat 8' x 15' x 10cm. folding	416-140	1	1	With NCAA Women's Lines Required, Demo Preferred
	8" Skill Cushion, 5' x 10', Non-Slip	416-259	1	1	
	8" Softy , Skill Cushion, 5' x 10'	416-006	1	1	
	Sting Mat, 80" x 100" x 2"	416-584	2	2	
	TAC/10 Towel, (12 per box)	407-571	2	1	
	Spray Bottle-Labeler Cleaner		2	1	
	Step-In Chalk Holder w/chalk	407-007	2	1	
	Score Flasher- 5 Digit	545460	1	1	Vault Value Chart flashing - end of runway - only needs 3 digits
	100' US-Metal Tape Measure		1	1	
	Folding Panel Mat, 6' x 12'		1	1	warm-up/stretching area next to apparatus as space permits
	Vault Base Weight Set	407-568	1	1	Or the use of a floor plate drilled into floor
UNEVEN BARS					
Check if you already have	AAI Description	Model #	Qty	Regionals	Comments
	Elite Free Standing Uneven Bar System & Covers	407-461, 407-463	1	1	Free-Standing System for (Elite Uneven Bars), if Floor plates are not available
	Elite Uneven Bars with Graphite X Rails	407-080	1	1	with assit step, 407-188-optional at Regionals
	Extra Graphite X Rails	407-183	2	1	backup rail (splinter, fracture, etc.)
	Elite Free Standing Uneven Bar-adapter	407-349	1	1	Used with Floor Plates, keeps two bases from moving (square)
	FIG 8' x 15.5' x 20cm., V2-Firm	416-322	2	2	
	FIG 8' x 12' x 20cm., V2-Firm	416-317	2	2	
	FIG 5' x 7.5' x 20cm., V2-Slab	416-312	1	1	
	Throw Mat, 7' x 10' x 10cm.	416-258	1	1	Anti-Slip/w/Dual Density Foam, Demo Preferred
	Sting Mat, 80" x 100" x 2"	416-584	1	1	
	8" Skill Cushion, 5' x 10', Non-Slip	416-259	1	1	
	8" Skill Pillow, 4' x 6' x 8"	416-225	1	1	new "&" AAI Skill Pillow 4' x 6' x 8" per WCGA proposal (easier to move)
	Throw Mat, 8' x 15' x 10cm. folding	416-020	1	1	Demo Preferred
	TAC/10 Vaulting Board	407-233	1	1	
	High Chalk Holder	407-008	3	2	
	Block Chalk-36lbs/Case	407-565	1	1	
	Wood Mounting Board 2' x 4' x .5"	557-630	1	1	New item available for sale through AAI
	Scotch Bright Pad/Yellow Fleece	133-310	1	1	Used to clean rails
	Wire Brushes		2	1	Used to clean rails
	Spray Water Bottles-Label UTB Only		3	2	
	Spotting Block, 30" x 30" x 30"	416-169	1	1	
	Folding Panel Mat, 6' x 12'		1	1	warm-up/stretching area next to apparatus as space permits
BEAM					
Check if you already have	AAI Description	Model #	Qty	Regionals	Comments
	EVO-Elite Non-Adjustable Reflex Beam	407-922	1	1	
	Elite Beam Leg Pads-set of 2	416-324	1	1	
	Elite Beam Leg Filler Mat System set of 4	416-560	1	1	
	FIG 8' x 15.5' x 20cm, V4 Firm	530-854	2	0	Under Beam center velcro - Nationals only (prevent sliding)
	FIG 8' x 15.5' x 20cm, V2 Firm	416-322	2	4	
	FIG 8' x 12' x 20cm., V2 Firm	416-317	1	1	
	Throw Mat, 7' x 10' x 10cm.	416-258	1	1	Anti-Slip/w/Dual Density Foam, Demo Preferred
	8" Skill Cushion, 5' x 10', Non-Slip	416-259	1	1	Non-slip backing optional at Regionals
	Sting Mat, 80" x 100" x 2"	416-584	1	1	
	Throw Mat, 8' x 15' x 10cm. folding	416-020	2	2	Demo Preferred
	TAC/10 Vaulting Board	407-233	1	1	
	Wood Mounting Board 2' x 4' x .5"	557-630	1	1	new addition this year
	AAI Beam Suede Pad	416-051	1	1	
	Step-In Chalk Holder w/chalk	407-007	2	1	
	Folding Panel Mat, 6' x 12'		1	1	warm-up/stretching area next to apparatus as space permits

NATIONAL COLLEGIATE WOMEN'S GYMNASTICS

Floor:					
Check if you already have	AAI Description	Model #	Qty	Regionals	Comments
	Power Elite Floor System includes; 46' x 46' Deck, All blue AAI competition carpet with white lines 12m x 12m, 2 1/4" Puzzle Cut Foam, 18" wide corner safety mat system	432-194	1	1	Puzzle Cut Foam: #6997-(4), #6998-(63), & #6999-(230), & includes 2-Floor Pannels 555-288
	ACCEPTABLE AT REGIONALS - AAI Stratum Floor American Elite Floor System 45'x 45' consists of carpet, foam and border	423-480	1	1	Stratum floor is acceptable alternative at Regional sites, Nationals will use Power Elite Floor
	Sting Mat, 80" x 100" x 2"	416-584	2	2	
	Throw Mat, 7'x 10'x 10cm.	416-258	2	2	Anti-Slip/w/Dual Density Foam, Demo Preferred
	Step-In Chalk Holder w/chalk	407-007	2	1	
	Folding Panel Mat, 6'x 12'		2	1	warm-up/stretching area next to apparatus as space permits
Miscellaneous					
Check if you already have	AAI Description	Model #	Qty	Regionals	Comments
	Floor Springs w/Caps			Recommend	NEW recommended parts list would cost about \$500
	Beam Parts Bag	72161			
	Spring V. Boars Springs	15317			
	Elite V. Table Snap Lock	9700051			
	Elite V. Table Spin Lock	407-554			
	Elite V. Table Pars Bag	74860			
	UTB Snap Lock	19189			
	UTB Spin Lock-Short Handle	19359			
	Cam Cable Tighteners Set of 4	407-142			
	UTB Turn-buckle	71878			
	UTB-9mm Quick Link	31076			
	UTB Swivel Anchor set of 4	407-135			
	AAI Blue Tape	5350			
	White Tape	5360			
	Clear Tape	9020			
	4" Black Hook Velcro	4175			
	2" Velcro Back Loop	4115			

Appendix D • Volunteer Waiver Form

ASSUMPTION OF RISK, RELEASE AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT

Event: _____ (the "Event")

Participant's Name (Please print): _____ (the "Participant")

Participant's Age: _____

In consideration for permitting Participant to participate as a volunteer in the Event as directed by the relevant staff, the undersigned, for themselves, and for their respective heirs, personal representatives and assigns, agree as follows:

Assumption of Risk: The undersigned hereby acknowledge and agree that they understand the nature of the Event; that Participant is qualified, in good health, and in proper physical condition to participate therein; that there are certain inherent risks and dangers associated with the Event; and that, except as expressly set forth herein, they, knowingly and voluntarily, accept, and assume responsibility for, each of these risks and dangers, and all other risks and dangers that could arise out of, or occur during, Participant's participation in the Event.

Release and Waiver: The undersigned hereby RELEASE, WAIVE, DISCHARGE AND COVENANT NOT TO SUE the National Collegiate Athletic Association and its member institutions, _____

_____, or any subdivision thereof, and each of them, their officers and employees, (collectively, the "Releasees"), from and for any liability resulting from any personal injury, accident or illness (including death), and/or property loss, however caused, arising from, or in any way related to, Participant's participation in the Event, except for those caused by the willful misconduct, gross negligence or intentional torts of the above parties, as applicable.

Indemnification and Hold Harmless: The undersigned also hereby agree to INDEMNIFY, DEFEND AND HOLD the Releasees HARMLESS from any and all claims, actions, suits, procedures, costs, expenses, damages and liabilities including, but not limited to, attorney's fees, arising from, or in any way related to, Participant's participation in the Event, except for those arising out of the willful misconduct, gross negligence or intentional torts of the above parties, as applicable.

Permission to Use Likeness/Name: The undersigned further agree to allow, without compensation, Participant's likeness and/or name to appear, and to otherwise be used, in material, regardless of media form, promoting the National Collegiate Athletic Association, and/or its championships, events and activities, including those of its representatives and licensees.

Severability: The undersigned expressly agree that the foregoing assumption of risk, release and waiver of liability and indemnity agreement is intended to be as broad and inclusive as is

permitted by the law of the State of _____ and that if any portion thereof is held invalid, it is agreed that the balance shall, notwithstanding, continue in full legal force and effect.

Acknowledgment of Understanding: The undersigned have read this assumption of risk, release and waiver of liability and indemnity agreement, and have had the opportunity to ask questions about the same. The undersigned fully understand this assumption of risk, release and waiver of liability and indemnity agreement, that the undersigned are giving up substantial rights in connection therewith, and that its terms are contractual, and not a mere recital. The undersigned acknowledge that they are signing this agreement freely and voluntarily.

Signature of Participant

Date

Signature of Parent/Guardian of Minor
(if Participant is under the age of 18)

Date

Signature of Parent/Guardian of Minor
(if Participant is under the age of 18)

Date

Appendix E • Marketing Plan Template



NCAA® CHAMPIONSHIPS HOST MARKETING PLAN

Host Information.

Date: _____

Name: _____ Title: _____

Host Institution/Entity: _____

E-mail: _____ Phone: _____

Host Marketing Team.

Host Institution, Venue and Other (Sports Commission, CVB, etc.) Marketing Team Members (names, titles and contact information for all key contributors to your marketing efforts, including internal and external).

Name	Title	Role	Contact Information

Championship Information.

Division: I _____ II _____ III _____ National Collegiate _____

Gender: Men's _____ Women's _____ Mixed _____ Sport _____

Championship Date(s): _____

Venue Name: _____ Event Capacity: _____

Ticket Sales Information.

List all ticket package options – adult, youth, student, senior, group, family, etc. - and pricing including all-session, and single session, etc.

Ticket Type	All-Session Price	Single-Session Price	Other Price
Adult			
Youth			
Student			
Senior Citizen			
Group			
Family			
Other			

Point of Sale Opportunities. Please describe all ways fans can purchase tickets, e.g., online, telephone, box office.

Target Markets. Define your target market based on the dates and times of the championship games you are hosting. Your target market should be specific to your site and identified demographic target. Additionally, you should identify other target markets. Please list in priority order.

General demographics of your target market:

1.

2.

Specific target markets:

1.

2.

Marketing Plan Objectives. Outline your goals and objectives for the championship. Specifically, how do you plan to meet the ticket sales goal and key dates to meet those objectives?

Host/LOC Resources:

<u>Resources:</u>	<u>Host</u>	<u>LOC</u>	<u>Community (CVB, Chamber of Commerce, Sports Commission, etc.)</u>	<u>Venue</u>	<u>Other</u>
Database Name & Size:					
Website Address:					
Video/LED Board:					

Print Publications:					
Facebook Fans:					
Twitter Followers:					
Local Event Calendar Listings:					
Other:					

Marketing Plan. Please outline your specific marketing strategies, including all traditional and non-traditional marketing efforts focusing on local, regional and national (if applicable) efforts.

	Details (describe activation)	Timeline/Dates
Grassroots Efforts:		
E-mail Blasts:		
Social Media:		
Cross Promotions During Events:		
Group Sales:		
Online:		
Radio:		
Print Publications:		
Outdoor:		
TV:		
Other:		

Marketing Budget.

Host Marketing Budget from Bid Specs: \$

Total Marketing Budget: \$

Indicate specific dollar amounts and how funds will be spent below.

Host Marketing Budget from Bid Specs Allocation:	Budgeted	Actual Cost

NATIONAL COLLEGIATE WOMEN'S GYMNASTICS

Trade (List all trade and value below):		
TOTALS	\$	\$

Host Marketing Timeline. Please identify specific marketing activations, key milestones and target dates below.

Month	Marketing Activation	Milestone/Goal	Target Date
	1. 2. 3. 4. 5.		
	1. 2. 3. 4. 5.		
	1. 2. 3. 4. 5.		
	1. 2. 3. 4. 5.		
	1. 2. 3. 4. 5.		
	1.		

	2.		
	3.		
	4.		
	5.		

Thank You!

Appendix F • Meet Setup Equipment List

Recommended Competition Area Set-up. The listed recommended set-up items are based on 4-judge panels at Regionals, ideally with each judge accompanied by a score flasher volunteer. Nationals would require 2 more judges per panel (and accompanying score flasher volunteers). Uneven Bars and Floor Exercise each require a timer volunteer, while Balance Beam would best have two timer volunteers (though one timer volunteer may manage two stopwatches).

Each judge must be seated separately at different tables unless impractical due to space limitations around the event equipment. For meets where judges must sit at the same table, the judges must be separated with a person (such as a score flasher volunteer) between them.

The quantity of tables and chairs listed below assumes each judge has a separate table and a dedicated score flasher volunteer as a maximum. The quantity of tables/chairs may be adjusted according to space, table sizes, and volunteers available. If available a digital score tree is allowed for score flashing and to display the student-athlete name at each event, this is not a requirement.

- Floor Exercise: - 4 tables, 9 chairs, bell, one stopwatch, 4 UTL (orange) cards, 1 Delayed Conference (red) card, 4 score flasher units, 4 start value flashing units, one green flag.
 - Vault: 4 tables, 9 chairs, 4 score flasher units, 4 start value flashing units, one green flag.
 - Uneven Bars: 4 tables, 9 chairs, 4 UTL (orange) cards, 1 Delayed Conference (red) card, 4 score flasher units, 4 start value flashing units, one green flag.
- Balance Beam: 4 tables, 10 chairs, bell, 2 stopwatches, 4 UTL (orange) cards, 1 Delayed Conference (red) card, 4 score flasher units, 4 Start Value flashing units, one green flag.
- Head Table. Six tables, 16 chairs, power strips, labels for seats.
 - Media Tables. Twelve tables, 30 chairs, power strips, labels for seats.
 - Awards Stand. (Nationals Only) Eight places, signage with event names, all-around, team places 1-4, individual places 1-8.
 - Team Corrals. One competitor corral needs to be set-up at each of the four events. The corral, ideally indicated with some form of 3' tall pipe & drape, needs to be large enough to contain 30-35 people (25 team personnel & 5 individual personnel) with a few chairs (if possible) for those that need to sit. If corral adjustments needs to be made please work closely with your NCAA staff member.
 - Auxiliary Warm-Up Area. If space allows, add a panel mat next to each apparatus for athletes to keep warm on during the event rotations. The folding panel mat should be 6' x 12'. If floor space is limited try to add an aux warm-up mat up a tunnel or in a nearby space. If possible, please provide one or two stationary bikes near the floor so the athletes can keep warm.