



REPORT OF THE
NCAA WOMEN'S GYMNASTICS COMMITTEE
JUNE 6-7, 2022, ANNUAL MEETING

***10/17/2022 All items were approved by the Competition Oversight Committee.**

Action items within the Nonlegislative and Informational sections will be implemented for 2022-23.

Please see the October COC Report here:

<https://www.ncaa.org/sports/2015/3/16/division-i-competition-oversight-committee.aspx>

KEY ITEMS.

- 1. Update selection and assignment criteria.** The committee proposes changes to the bracketing principles, procedures for assigning teams to competition sessions and rotational orders, and designation of alternates. (See Action Items 2-a, 2-b and 2-c.)
- 2. Modify selection show date.** The committee proposes moving the date from Tuesday back to the traditional Monday show. (See Action Item 2-d.)
- 3. Regional competition date formula change.** The committee proposes staggering regional competition dates and times to increase viewership. (See Action Item 2-e.)

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative items.

- None.

2. Nonlegislative items.

a. Bracketing principles.

- (1) Recommendation. To seed teams in the bracket based on ranking. The remaining team with the highest ranking shall be assigned to the evening session of regionals round two and the evening session of nationals semifinals. Additionally, the all-arounder and individual event specialists each with the highest NQS shall be assigned to the evening sessions, respectively. The remaining team with the lowest ranking shall also compete in the evening session of regionals round two and the evening session of nationals semifinals, while the remaining teams with the second and third highest rankings shall compete in the afternoon sessions, respectively. The bracket shall not be used for all-around or individual competitors.
- (2) Effective date. 2022-23 season.
- (3) Rationale. This provides clarity of session assignments and rewards the top-seeded team and individuals.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.

- (5) Student-athlete impact. Student-athletes are provided with a clear explanation of how teams and competitors are assigned to championship sessions and an incentive for being the top-seeded team or individual competitor.

b. Amend procedure for assigning individual competitors at regionals.

- (1) Recommendation. To require that an individual all-around competitor who competed in regionals round one be assigned to the evening session of round two. Further, to permit individual competitors from the same team to be assigned to the same session and rotational order, if feasible.
- (2) Effective date. 2022-23 season.
- (3) Rationale. This provides flexibility in assigning individuals and does not result in a discernable disadvantage to the top-seeded teams should an individual be assigned to their rotational order. It provides an individual all-around competitor who competed in regionals round one with ample recovery time.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. The proposal promotes the health and safety of all-around competitors. It also promotes a greater experience for individual competitors from the same team who may have the opportunity for their coach to remain with them throughout the entire competition.

c. Designate alternates for regionals and nationals.

- (1) Recommendation. To name the next highest individual competitor in each event and the all-around 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.
- (2) Effective date. 2022-23 season.
- (3) Rationale. This provides the opportunity for all individual qualifier spots to be filled at regionals and nationals.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None. The alternate will receive any financial resources already allocated for the competitor spot.

- (5) Student-athlete impact. Should a spot become available, alternates are provided the opportunity to compete at a championship where they would not have the opportunity to in the current rules structure.

d. Modify selection show date.

- (1) Recommendation. To move the selection show to Monday evening following conference championships.
- (2) Effective date. 2022-23.
- (3) Rational. The proposal would move the selection show from Tuesday back to the traditional Monday date. The committee had ample time in 2022 to make selections and provide required information to ESPN and could have done so in time for a Monday show. Further, the earlier date provides institutions with more time to make travel plans for regionals.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. Teams will have more time to make travel plans and training schedules in the leadup to regionals, ultimately providing a greater championship experience for student-athletes.

e. Regional competition date formula change.

- (1) Recommendation. To stagger regional competition days and times with two regionals competing Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday and two regionals competing Thursday, Friday, and Sunday. Any teams that are prohibited from Sunday competition will automatically be assigned to a regional that concludes competition Saturday.
- (2) Effective date. 2022-23 season.
- (3) Rationale. The proposed format provides the opportunity for greater viewership. In the current format, all four regionals compete on the same days with competition times overlapping. The new format provides viewership of all rounds. The following future regional hosts confirmed they can host either schedule format: UCLA, Denver, Oklahoma, Pittsburgh (2023); Arkansas, Florida, California, Michigan (2024); Washington, Penn State, Utah (2025); and Kentucky, Oregon State, LSU (2026). The following are still exploring their ability to host either format: Alabama (2025) and Arizona State (2026). The committee intends to assign dates by asking the preference of each host. If it is not feasible to assign each host its preferred dates, or no preference is noted, the committee will perform a random draw.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. The proposed format brings greater viewership to each athlete's and team's performance. With conference championships occurring two weekends prior to regionals and the national championship occurring two weekends after regionals, the impact on student-athletes beginning competition on Wednesday and ending on Saturday compared to Thursday and Sunday, respectively, is not significant when considering rest and training time prior to each championship. Additionally, this may assist with missed class time as two of the sites would be able to travel one day later in the school week.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **2022 Proposed Women's Gymnastics Playing Rules Changes.** The committee reviewed the proposals included in the attached report.
2. **Review of Women's Collegiate Gymnastics Association (WCGA) proposals.** The Committee discussed each of the proposals the WCGA approved. Proposals that require approval by the Competition Oversight Committee are included in this report as Action Items 2-a through 2-e above.
3. **Review of the selection process and timeline.** The committee reviewed the selection process and timeline for the championships and recommended the changes noted in Action Items 2-a through 2-d above.
4. **Review of judges fees.** The committee noted that for fiscal year 2022-23 the Competition Oversight Committee approved a 3.9% inflationary increase in game operations expenses for all sports. For women's gymnastics that equates to \$16,000. Pending an equity review and approval of fund use, the additional money is intended to be used to increase the fees for championship officials. The increase supports retaining the highest-level judges and an opportunity to attract new officials to the championships.
5. **Review regional score verification coordinators and responsibilities.** The committee will assign score verification coordinators by conference rather than region. The new structure will increase the number of coordinators who are each responsible for a fewer number of teams. This will result in greater accuracy and transparency of meet schedules and results. Additionally, because coaches are most familiar with other coaches in their conference, communication will be improved and reporting of meets and results will be streamlined. Assigning additional verifiers by conference will foster greater accountability in the system, ensuring that each individual and team competes in a fair system.
6. **Review AAI equipment for championship.** The following floor models will be added to the equipment list as options for regionals: AAI 432-472, 40' x 40' Birch Spring Deck (12m x 12m)

and AAI 432-474, 42' x 42' Birch Spring Deck (12.8m x 12.8m). The Committee is exploring the idea of providing the Birch floor at the 2024 national championship. The new floor maintains a flatter and stronger surface, reduces warping and breakage, and provides a balance between impact and rebound for the gymnast. The floor includes corner safety pads and mitigates the risk of injury by reducing "gaps" in the floor foam which create inconsistent bounce for the gymnast.

7. **Review of Road to Nationals and the services provided.** The committee expressed concern that the system manager is the only individual with knowledge and experience of the scoring system, and should that individual decide to leave there would not be an equivalent alternative option. Therefore, the committee would like to take additional measures to secure this individual's services. A contract extension through 2025 is pending.

8. **Review of 2022 Championships.**

- a. **Open stretch.** In the NCAA Regional Round 1, both teams will be permitted to warm up on each half the floor. In the NCAA Regional Round 3 and the National Final, the team that starts on vault will be permitted to warm up on half of the floor exercise. This provides student-athletes a more suitable warm-up area.
- b. **Competitor numbers.** The competitor numbers worn on the back of leotards will be replaced with competitor numbers that are displayed via signage or electronic scoreboard. Officials, scorers, and ESPN confirmed that competitor numbers on leotards are not required to perform their respective responsibilities. The competitor numbers are adhered to the backs of leotards prior to competition, often during the short time between warm-ups and competition when athletes are changing uniforms, focusing on skills, and preparing for march-out. Ensuring competitor numbers are adhered properly is an unnecessary stressor during a high-intensity time. Numbers that fall off leotards are reattached with safety pins, which create a safety risk if they open while an athlete is performing. Further, numbers that fall off become a distraction for coaches and athletes who must find safety pins and reattach the number. The adhesive numbers can damage leotards, which are expensive and can be reused in future competitions if in good condition.
- c. **Regional hotels.** The NCAA is exploring a partnership with OnLocation to help regional hosts reserve hotels. The intent is to accommodate ample hotel reservations at preferred hotels, while providing the flexibility for late date cancellation without charge.

9. **Review of 2022 championship manuals.** The NCAA is completing an update of all championship manuals to improve consistency and clarity of information.

10. **Preview of the 2023 regional host sites.** The committee reviewed the regional host sites for 2023 and noted its recommendation to stagger competition days as explained in Action Item 2-e above.

11. Selection of 2022-23 committee chair. The committee re-elected Kasey Crawford, head coach at the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, as committee chair for the coming year.

Committee Chair: Kasey Crawford, University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference

Staff Liaison(s): Noël Couch, Championships and Alliances
Victoria Lipscomb, Championships and Alliances

NCAA Women's Gymnastics Committee June 6-7, 2022, Annual Meeting	
Attendees:	
Kasey Crawford, University of Wisconsin-La Crosse.	
Cindy Harris, Illinois State University.	
Erin Kido, Eastern Michigan University.	
Lauren Procopio, University of Pennsylvania (via videoconference).	
Jenny Rowland, University of Florida (in attendance day one).	
Randy Solorio, California State University, Sacramento.	
Guard Young, Brigham Young University.	
Absentees:	
Jenny Rowland, University of Florida (absent day two).	
Guests in Attendance:	
Catherine "Cookie" Batsche, National Association of Women's Gymnastics Judges President.	
Chrystal Choller-Norton, Rules Interpreter.	
Lois Colburn, National Association of Women's Gymnastics Judges National Collegiate Assigner.	
Ken Cysewski, AAI.	
Michael J. Feinberg, ESPN.	
Jason Fredericks, Road to Nationals.	
Dan Margulis, ESPN.	
NCAA Staff Liaison (or Staff Support if subcommittee) in Attendance:	
Noël Couch, Championships and Alliances.	
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:	
Ben Brownlee, Playing Rules and Officiating.	
Victoria Lipscomb, Championships and Alliances.	
Natalie Steger, ESPN/Broadcast.	



2022 Proposed Women's Gymnastics Playing Rules Changes

***These rules have all been approved by the Playing Rules Oversight Panel (PROP), September 2022**

Proposal #	Rule	Proposal, Rationale	Action
1	Vault Chart	Adjust the start value on three vaults to 9.95. 1.08 – Handspring Front tuck $\frac{1}{2}$ - Currently 9.9 – Raise to 9.95 1.09 – Handspring $\frac{1}{2}$ turn back tuck- Currently 9.9 – Raise to 9.95 Rationale: The development program has raised 1.08 and 1.09 and are similar difficulty.	6-0 approve
2	Vault Chart	Adjust the start value on the following vault. 4.36 – RO, FF 1/1. Back Tuck - Currently 10.0 – Lower to 9.95 Rationale: The RO, FF 1/1, Back Tuck is less difficult than the same Vault in the pike position and the values should reflect the difficulty.	6-0 approve
3	Vault Chart	Add the following vault to the NCAA Vault Chart 2.06 – $\frac{1}{4}$ on – $\frac{1}{4}$ front tuck 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ (Carey) – 10.0 - #3.508 in DP program Rationale: The USAG has added 2.06 (3.508 DP) to their chart and valued this Vault as a 10.0 with .1 bonus.	6-0 approve
4	Vault Chart	Add the following vault to the NCAA Vault Chart. 2.08 – Tsukahara – 1/2 front pike - 9.9 - Was 2.15 in NCAA Chart Rationale: The vault 2.15 was formerly known as Tsukahara $\frac{1}{4}$ - $\frac{3}{4}$ turn front pike. The change renames and renumbers the vault with the same value.	6-0 approved
5	Vault Chart	Remove the following vault from the NCAA Vault Chart 2.14 – Tsukahara $\frac{1}{4}$ - $\frac{3}{4}$ turn front tuck – 9.8 – Use VT #2.03 on current code.	6-0 approve

Proposal #	Rule	Proposal, Rationale	Action
		Rationale: This vault already exists in the code in the tuck position and should be eliminated.	
6	Vault Chart	Remove the following vault from the NCAA Vault Chart. 2.16 – Tsukahara ¼-3/4 turn front layout – 10.0 – Use VT # 2.08 on current code. Rationale: This vault already exists in the code in the layout position and should be eliminated.	6-0 approved
7	Vault	Add lines to the vault landing mats: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Add lines in a funnel shape (FIG) with the following dimensions: - Width of the landing corridor at the table site – 95 cm - Width of the landing corridor (end of bi-fold 4 inch mat) – 138 cm - Act as a visual guide for officials regarding the current direction deduction (up to 0.3) Rationale: The proposed lines serve as a guide to evaluate the vault landing properly and consistently apply the appropriate deduction. These lines can be placed with tape or chalk and do not require additional matting.	6-0 approve
8	Uneven Bars	Adjust the Skill Value on the following skill. Double Tuck Flyaway w/ ½ - Currently D – Proposed to E. Rationale: The change provides variety in the dismounts and does not distinguish when the half twist occurs during the skill.	6-0 approved
9	Uneven Bars	Adjust the Skill Value on the following skills: 8.301 from HB, toe on Front Pike ½ - Currently C – Proposed D 8.301 from HB, back stalder from tuck or pike w/ ½ turn – Currently C - Proposed D 8.301 from HB, clear support from tuck or pike w/ ½ turn – Currently C – Proposed D	6-0 approve

Proposal #	Rule	Proposal, Rationale	Action
		Rationale: These skills provide variety for the dismount skill.	
10	Balance Beam	Adjust the Skill Value on the following skill. Double Full Dismount – Currently C – Proposed D Rationale: This proposal provides an option for more difficult leaps and additional difficulty in dismounts.	6-0 approve
11	Balance Beam	Adjust the Skill Value on the following skill. Switch side leap w/ ¼ - Currently D – Proposed E Rationale: This proposal provides an option for more difficult leaps and additional difficulty in dismounts.	6-0 approved
12	Balance Beam	Adjust the Skill Value on the following skill. Tourjete and w/ ¼ - Currently D – Proposed E Rationale: This proposal provides an option for more difficult leaps and additional difficulty in dismounts.	6-0 approved
13	Balance Beam Special Requirements 4.1.e	Require a minimum of a C dismount. Rationale: To increase the level of difficulty on Beam to come closer to the dismount requirements on Bars and Floor. C options are listed below, but a reminder that there are also many “D” and “E” valued dismounts to choose from as well.	6-0 approve

Proposal #	Rule	Proposal, Rationale	Action
14	Floor Exercise Define Acro Pass 5.1	<p>Define an Acro Pass as: "One or more acro elements, one element must be a salto valued at C or higher."</p> <p>Rationale: Formerly, we used the terminology "Tumbling Pass AND Acro series within our document. This became confusing for officials AND coaches (differentiating between the two terms). We were tasked by the NCAA Rules Interpreter to DEFINE THIS CLEARLY. This would allow an athlete to perform 1 skill (C or above), and have it meet the requirement of an Acro Pass</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Single elements of C or higher meet this definition. - Two or more elements including a C or higher meet this definition. <p>The "Acrobatic Series" was formerly defined as: "A minimum of three acrobatic flight elements, with or without hand support. The below examples ALL meet this definition."</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Roundoff, BHS, BHS - FHS, Front Full, Front tuck - Front stepout through to Roundoff double full <p>The "Tumbling Pass" was UNDEFINED: However, it was mentioned throughout the FLOOR EXERCISE Rules. "Two Pass Routine". This became very confusing. What is a Tumbling Pass?</p>	6-0 approve
15	Floor Exercise Special Requirement 5.2a	<p>Adjust 5.2a as follows: "One acro pass with two (2) saltos (same or different), OR two directly connected saltos (if the two saltos are not directly connected, they must be included within an acro pass, which is defined above). Aerials will not be considered saltos."</p> <p>Rationale: Changing the language to list ACRO PASS throughout this requirement to be consistent throughout. In addition, many indirect combinations have been raised in connection bonus providing more opportunities to fulfill this requirement.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - B+B double salto pass would not meet this requirement. - Examples: Layout + layout ½ or Whip ½ + front layout. 	6-0 approve

Proposal #	Rule	Proposal, Rationale	Action
16	Floor Exercise Choice of Elements Not "Up to the Competitive Level 5.2d	<p>Eliminate the third bullet in 5.2d</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One (1) E valued element • OR Two (2) different D element (one of which must be an acro element) • One (1) Acro SERIES (3 Acro flight elements) with C salto or better • An acro dismount with a C (minimum) salto in bonus combination or a D (minimum) salto. <p>Rationale: Eliminating the Acro Series reference from the criteria for consistency with previous proposed change (proposal 14)</p>	6-0 approved
17	Floor Exercise Specific Skill Value	<p>Increase the following Skill Value:</p> <p>Switch Side ½ - Currently C – Proposed D</p> <p>Rationale: This increase provides an additional D leap skill for student-athletes.</p>	6-0 approved
18	Floor Exercise Bonus Principle 5.4b	<p>Eliminate the Gym/Acro/Gym bonus principle (Modification 5.4b.)</p> <p>Rationale: The principle is confusing to officials and is not consistently awarded. The current connection bonus principles for Gym/Acro already exist on floor. This would not restrict gymnasts from performing the Gym/Acto/Gym.</p>	6-0 approved
19	Equipment Remove 6.1.o	<p>Remove the 8-inch mat from Floor matting.</p> <p>Rationale: The 8-inch mat is not currently used because of its larger size. This size causes it to be difficult to remain in place.</p>	6-0 approved
20	Equipment 6.5.b	<p>When using a 6 judge panel on Uneven Bars and Vault, the judges shall not sit apart.</p>	6-0 approved

Proposal #	Rule	Proposal, Rationale	Action
		Rationale: To allow judges to have a consistent visual of the routine to minimize scoring variance amongst the panel.	
21	Equipment Remove 6.2, a.2	Remove the following language "Leotard straps much be a minimum of 2 cm in width." Rationale: The FIG has been liberalized to permit more artistic variety in the team uniform.	6-0 approve
22	Conduct	Coaches, student-athletes and staff will use the same yellow card procedure. The yellow card is a warning (information provided to the head coach). If a red card is then issued, this will result in a 0.10 deduction from the team score as a neutral deduction. Rationale: The proposed change addresses repeated conduct issues by the team with a team penalty.	7-0 approved
23	Video Inquiry	Permit the use of video during an inquiry by adding additional check box on NCAA Video Inquiry Form to note, "Video Upon Request." The coach, when completing the inquiry form, can check the box to make the judge aware that video is available as additional information for the inquiry. Rationale: To allow judges as much information as possible to properly evaluate the skill and routine to provide the correct scoring for the student-athlete.	7-0 approved
24	Video Review	Revise the Video Review Form to have consistent language with the NCAA Inquiry Form. Rationale: Items that are able to be inquired about during the competition can go to video review at the conclusion of the meet. It is appropriate that the forms reflect what is reviewable.	7-0 approved

Proposal #	Rule	Proposal, Rationale	Action
25	Video Inquiry Deduction	To eliminate the 0.10 deduction for the use of video reviews. Rationale: The use of video review is intended to ensure the correct score was given and a team should not be penalized for requesting the review.	7-0 approved
26	Inquiry or Video Review Score Change	If a score is changes during an inquiry or video review, the skill or connection under review is subject to additional deductions for incomplection or rhythm. Rationale: To all a routine to be given an accurate deduction and be properly scored.	7-0 approved
27	Equipment Failure – Review	When an equipment failure occurs, the Meet Referee may have the option to review video (both real time or slow motion) prior to making a decision. Rationale: The recommendation provides the Meet Referee time to review carefully the situation to determine if equipment failure occurred and how to proceed.	7-0 approved