



2019 DIVISION III WOMEN'S
ICE HOCKEY
CHAMPIONSHIP

PRE-CHAMPIONSHIP
2018-19 MANUAL

NCAA General Administrative Guidelines

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October 2018

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Section 1 • Introduction

During the 2018-19 academic year, the Association will sponsor 90 national championships – 42 for men, 45 for women, and three for both men and women. Of the men's championships, three are National Collegiate Championships, 13 are Division I championships, 12 are Division II championships and 14 are Division III championships. Of the women's championships, six are National Collegiate Championships, 12 are Division I championships, 13 are Division II championships and 14 are Division III championships. The combined men's and women's championships are National Collegiate Championships.

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

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

Section 1•1 Definitions

Pre-championship Manual. Resource for institutions to prepare for the championship.

Administrative Meeting. Pre-championship meeting for coaches and/or administrators.

Appendixes. Any supplemental documents to be provided and distributed through the various resources.

Championship Manager. The NCAA staff member(s) responsible for the operational oversight of the championship.

Games Committee. The committee assigned to supervise the conduct of each championship session at a specific site. For finals sites, the games committee is typically the NCAA national committee.

NCAA National Committee. The sport committee with direct oversight responsibilities for the championship.

Non-predetermined Sites. Those sites that are selected to host at the time of the participant/team selections announcement.

Playing Rules. The rules under which the competition will be conducted.

Predetermined Sites. Those sites that are selected to host before the participant/team selections announcement.

Preliminary Rounds. The rounds of the championship before the final or championship round.

Regional Alignment. The geographic location of institutions or regional advisory committees.

Schedule of Events. Official event schedule – includes all required activities (e.g., practices, banquets, etc.).

Selection Criteria. Policies and procedures in place to guide the team selection process.

Site Selection Criteria. Policies and procedures in place to guide the site selection process.

Squad Size. Number of student-athletes per team allowed to dress in uniform and participate at the championship.

Tournament Physician. The physician designated by the host institution/conference to serve as the chief medical advisor for the championship.

Section 2 • Championship Core Statement

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

This is attained by:

Ensuring student-athletes' optimal experience.

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

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

Integrating championships with broadcast and corporate relationships in a manner that maintains the integrity of the championship.

Assuring effective management of the business aspects of the operation.

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

Section 3 • Concussion Management

[Reference: Concussion Management in Constitution 3.2.4.18 in the NCAA Division I Manual, Constitution 3.3.4.16 in the NCAA Division II Manual, and Constitution 3.2.4.16 in the NCAA Division III Manual.]

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

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

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

For further details, please refer to the [NCAA Sports Sport Science Institute website](#) for additional guidance.

Section 4 • Conduct

Section 4•1 Certification of Eligibility/Availability

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

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

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

DISCOVERY OF INELIGIBILITY OF A STUDENT-ATHLETE AFTER SELECTION

If an institution fails to report an ineligible student-athlete and the omission is not discovered until after the institution is selected to participate in the championship, necessitating the institution's withdrawal from the championship, that withdrawal shall be considered as one of the years of ineligibility, provided another institution participates in the championship in place of

GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE GUIDELINES

the disqualified institution. If the discovery of the ineligible student-athlete occurs so near the beginning of the championship that the governing sport committee does not have a reasonable period of time to replace the disqualified institution in the bracket, that fact shall be taken into consideration in determining the number of years the disqualified institution shall be ineligible to participate.

Section 4•2 Drug Testing

[Reference: Bylaws 18.4.1.4 and 31.2.3 in the NCAA Divisions I and II Manual and Bylaws 18.4.1.5 and 31.2.3 in the NCAA Division III Manual.]

Student-athletes who compete in NCAA championships may be subjected to drug tests in accordance with Bylaws 18.4.1.4 (Divisions I and II), 18.4.1.5 (Division III) and 31.2.3, and may be determined to be ineligible as a result thereof. Only student-athletes who have consented in writing to such testing are initially eligible for these championships; and thereafter, student-athletes who are tested shall remain eligible only if they test negative.

Section 4•3 Honesty and Sportsmanship

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

Section 4•4 Misconduct/Failure to Adhere to Policies

MISCONDUCT

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

FAILURE TO ADHERE TO POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

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

Section 4•5 Sports Wagering Policy

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

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

A wager is any agreement in which an individual or entity agrees to give up an item of value (e.g., cash, shirt, dinner, etc.) in exchange for the possibility of gaining another item of value.

STUDENT-ATHLETES

A student-athlete found in violation of the prohibition against knowingly participating in any sports wagering activities or providing information to individuals involved in or associated with any type of sports wagering activity that involves intercollegiate, amateur or professional athletics competition shall be ineligible for further intercollegiate competition, subject to appeal to the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement for restoration of eligibility.

POSTSEASON

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

HOSTING OPPORTUNITIES

On May 16, 2018, the Board of Governors voted to suspend the NCAA championships policy related to sports wagering and to allow for championships to be hosted in locations regardless of whether a state is considering, or has legalized, sports wagering. The board's decision provides championship location continuity as states contemplate whether to allow legalized sports betting.

Section 4•6 Student-Athlete Experience Survey

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

Section 5 • Elite 90™ Award

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

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

Section 6 • Fan Travel

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

Section 7 • Logo Policy

[Reference: Bylaws 12.5.4, 31.1.7 and 31.1.8 in the NCAA Division I Manual, Bylaw 12.5.4 in the NCAA Division II Manual and Bylaw 12.5.3 in the NCAA Division III Manual.]

GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE GUIDELINES

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

1. Athletics equipment (e.g., shoes, helmets, baseball bats and gloves, batting or golf gloves, hockey and lacrosse sticks, goggles and skis) shall bear only the manufacturer's normal label or trademark, as it is used on all such items for sale to the general public; and
2. The student-athlete's institution's official uniform (including numbered racing bibs and warm-ups) and all other items of apparel (e.g., socks, head bands, T-shirts, wrist bands, visors or hats, swim caps and towels) shall bear only a single manufacturer's or distributor's normal label or trademark (regardless of the visibility of the label or trademark), not to exceed 2-1/4 square inches in area (rectangle, square, parallelogram) including any additional material (e.g., patch) surrounding the normal trademark or logo. The student-athlete's institution's official uniform and all other items of apparel shall not bear a design element similar to the manufacturer's trademark/logo that is in addition to another trademark/logo that is contrary to the size restriction.

Section 8 • Research

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

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

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

Examples of activities considered research include: Conducting surveys of athletics administrators, college presidents, faculty, coaches and student-athletes; leading an organized focus group; funding an outside study under the auspices of the NCAA; conducting market research at championship events; secondary analysis of data originally collected by the NCAA

from people for other purposes; any systematic collect data from the membership or other entities; etc.

Section 9 • Division III

Section 9•1 Division III Philosophy

The Division III championships philosophy is to field the most competitive teams possible while minimizing missed class time; to emphasize regional competition in regular-season scheduling; and to provide representation in NCAA championship competition by allocating berths to eligible conferences, independent institutions and a limited number of at-large teams, realizing that this may be done at the expense of leaving out some championship-caliber teams.

Section 9•2 Commencement Conflicts

If an institution's commencement conflicts with participation in the championship, it shall inform the NCAA championship manager in writing one week before the selection date for the governing sport committee to consider an accommodation and a change to the championship schedule.

The following guidelines apply to commencement requests:

- Applies to team sports only.
- The governing sport committee, in consultation with participating institutions, may reschedule the game on the nearest possible date.
- Does not apply to predetermined finals sites.
- The governing sport committee shall make a good-faith effort to accommodate participating institutions in non-predetermined preliminary-round contests with multiple teams participating at the same site..

Section 9•3 Religious Conflicts

Institutional Policy. If a participating institution has a written policy against competition on a particular day for religious reasons, it shall inform the NCAA national office before May 1 of the preceding academic year to be excused from competing on that day. The notification shall be valid for a period of two years. The championship schedule shall be adjusted to accommodate that institution, and such adjustment shall not require its team or an individual competitor to compete before the time originally scheduled.

Individual Championships. In individual championships, a student-athlete must compete according to the institution's policy regarding Sunday competition (i.e., if the institution has no policy against Sunday competition, the student-athlete shall compete on Sunday if required by the schedule).

Division III Women's Ice Hockey

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Section 1 • General Administration

Section 1•1 NCAA Championships Staff Contact Information

Aaron King

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P.O. Box 6222 / Indianapolis, Indiana 46206-6222
317-917-6771 / aking@ncaa.org

Section 1•2 National Committee

[Reference: Bylaws 31.1.1 and 31.1.2 in the NCAA Division III Manual.]

The NCAA Division III Women's Ice Hockey Championship is under the control, direction and supervision of the Division III Women's Ice Hockey Committee. Current members of the committee are:

EAST REGION

Katie Boldvich

Commissioner
Colonial Hockey Conference/New England Hockey
Conference

WEST REGION

Crystal Lanning, chair

Director of Athletics
University of Wisconsin-River Falls

WEST REGION

Jackie MacMillan

Head Women's Ice Hockey Coach
The College of St. Scholastica

EAST REGION

Bill Mandigo

Head Women's Ice Hockey Coach
Middlebury College

EAST REGION

Deb Steward

Director of Athletics
William Smith College

For additional information about the Division III Women's Ice Hockey Championship, contact:

Crystal Lanning, Committee Chair

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317-917-6081 / asupergan@ncaa.org

Steve Piotrowski

NCAA Ice Hockey Secretary-Rules Editor
248-880-6877 / spiotrowski@bigten.org

Section 1•3 Regional Advisory Committees

The Division III men's and women's ice hockey committees have been approved by the Division III Championships Committee for a two-year pilot program (2018-19 and 2019-20) to select teams for their respective championship using the PairWise system. As a result, regional advisory committees will not be utilized to rank and select teams for the 2019 and 2020 Division III ice hockey championships.

Section 1•4 Important Dates

| | |
|--|---|
| Friday, Feb. 1 | Post host operations manual and bid materials online at ncaa.org . |
| Tuesdays, Feb. 12, Feb. 19, Feb. 26 and Monday, March 4 | Published rankings. |
| Friday, Feb. 22 | Deadline to submit bids (5 p.m. Eastern time). |
| Sunday, March 3 | Selection call. |
| Monday, March 4, 10 a.m. Eastern time | Online selection show on ncaa.com . |
| Monday, March 4, 10:30 a.m. Eastern time | Site Representative 101 teleconference with all site representatives, national committee members and NCAA championship manager. |
| Monday, March 4, noon Eastern time | Teleconference with all first-round hosts, site representatives, national committee and NCAA championship manager. |
| Monday, March 4, 2 p.m. Eastern time | Individual teleconferences for two first-round sites with respective host, site representative, and head coaches and administrators of participating teams. |
| Thursday, March 7, 2 p.m. Eastern time | Individual teleconferences for four quarterfinal sites with respective host, site representative, and head coaches and administrators of participating teams. |
| Monday, March 11, 10 a.m. Eastern time | Teleconference with four institutions advancing to the finals site, host tournament director, national committee and NCAA championship manager. |

2019 CHAMPIONSHIP DATES

| | |
|---|--|
| Wednesday, March 6 | First-round games, at participating campus sites to be determined. |
| Saturday, March 9 | Quarterfinals, at participating campus sites to be determined. |
| Friday and Saturday, March 15 and 16 | Semifinals, third-place game and championship game, at a participating campus site to be determined. |

DATE FORMULA

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| First Round (2) | One week before finals (Wednesday) |
| Quarterfinals (4) | One week before finals (Saturday) |
| Finals | Third full weekend in March (Friday and Saturday) |

FUTURE DATES

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| 2020 First Round | March 11, sites to be determined, at sites of participating institutions. |
| 2020 Quarterfinals | March 14, sites to be determined, at sites of participating institutions. |
| 2020 Semifinals/Final | March 20 and 21, site to be determined, at site of a participating institution. |
| 2021 First Round | March 10, site to be determined, at site of a participating institution. |
| 2021 Quarterfinals | March 13, sites to be determined, at sites of participating institutions. |
| 2021 Semifinals/Final | March 19 and 20, site to be determined, at site of a participating institution. |

Section 1•5 Division III Commencement Conflict Policy

If an institution's commencement conflicts with participation in the championship, it shall inform the NCAA championship manager in writing one week before the selection date for the governing sport committee to accommodate a request to alter the championship schedule.

The following guidelines apply to commencement requests:

- Applies to team sports only.
- The governing sport committee, in consultation with participating institutions, would reschedule the contest on the nearest possible date if a participating school has a conflict.
- Does not apply to predetermined finals sites.

The governing sport committee shall make a good-faith effort to accommodate participating institutions in non-predetermined preliminary-round contests with multiple teams participating at the same site.

Section 1•6 Division III Philosophy

The Division III championships philosophy is to field the most competitive teams possible while minimizing missed class time; to emphasize regional competition in regular-season scheduling; and to provide representation in NCAA championship competition by allocating berths to eligible conferences, independent institutions and a limited number of at-large teams, realizing that this may be done at the expense of leaving out some championship-caliber teams.

Section 1•7 Equipment

NCAA will provide logo pucks for all practice and competition sessions at all first-round sites, quarterfinal sites and the finals site.

Section 1•8 Rules

NCAA Men's and Women's Ice Hockey Rules shall be followed. Per NCAA Bylaw 17.30, member institutions shall conduct all of their intercollegiate competition in accordance with the playing rules of the Association in all sports for which the NCAA develops playing rules. For those sports in which the Association follows rules that are developed by other governing bodies and modified by the governing sports committee, the adopted playing rules shall be used. The governing sports committee will not consider any results for selection purposes that are not played in accordance with NCAA rules, or those rules adopted by an outside organization. Questions regarding the interpretation of NCAA Women's Ice Hockey Rules should be directed to NCAA secretary-rules editor Steve Piotrowski at 248-880-6877 or spiotrowski@bigten.org.

Section 1•9 Uniforms

Each participating institution should bring both light- and dark-colored jerseys to the site of the competition. The higher-seeded team shall wear light-colored jerseys and the lower-seeded team shall wear dark-colored jerseys.

LOGOS

Refer to [General Administrative Guidelines, Section 7](#).

Section 2 • Determination of Championship Participation

Section 2•1 Championship Format

NCAA Division III institutions that sponsor intercollegiate women's ice hockey are eligible for the Division III championship.

The championship playoff format for the field of 10 teams includes two first-round games and four quarterfinal games that are hosted by participating institutions. The four teams that advance from the quarterfinal games will compete at a nonpredetermined site. The semifinals will be conducted Friday, March 15, and the third-place and championship games will be conducted Saturday, March 16.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Administrative Meeting. A pre-championship meeting for the head coach and administrator of each team will be held before competition at first-round and quarterfinal sites and at the finals site.

Student-Athlete Banquet. A banquet for the official travel party of the participating teams will be held at the finals site the evening before the semifinal games.

Press Conferences. All coaches and student-athletes must be available for postgame press conferences and must participate in the press conferences if requested.

Awards Ceremonies. Following the third-place game at the finals site, both teams shall line up and remain on the ice throughout the awards presentations to both teams. Following the championship game, both teams shall line up and remain on the ice throughout the announcement of the all-tournament team and the awards presentations to both teams.

START TIMES

The start time for the first-round and quarterfinals games shall be determined by the host institution and approved by the Women's Ice Hockey Committee. The start times for the semifinals will be 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. local time, and the start times for the third-place and championship games will be 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. local time.

TRAVEL PARTY

Transportation expenses and per diem will be provided for an official travel party of 28 persons. Please refer to the [NCAA travel policies](#) on [ncaa.org](#) for all information regarding transportation and travel parties.

Note: Current playing rules permit only players in uniform and eight additional team personnel (maximum of 29) to occupy the bench area. The number of skaters allowed has been increased from 18 to 19, effective 2018-19. The number of participants eligible for pregame warmup is now 23 (not more than 20 players and either two or three goalkeepers).

Section 2•2 Results

REGIONAL RANKINGS

Published rankings will be released on [ncaa.com](#) the last three weeks of the regular season (Feb. 12, Feb. 19 and Feb. 26) and in conjunction with selections (March 4).

SCORE REPORTING

All institutions sponsoring Division III women's ice hockey are required to submit game files only to [collegehockeystats.net](#). Institutions are not required to submit their schedule or game results separately in the NCAA online score-reporting system. The Women's Ice Hockey Committee will review the PairWise rankings during weekly rankings calls and for selections.

Selections Information

[Reference: Bylaw 31.3 in the NCAA Division III Manual.]

SELECTION PRINCIPLES

The Division III Women's Ice Hockey Committee will select teams to the championship based on the Division III selection principles listed below.

- After the determination of the automatic qualifiers (Pool A), the committee will determine the Pool B selection followed by the Pool C selections.
- Pool B will consist of independent institutions and institutions that are members of conferences that do not meet the requirements for automatic qualification. Pool C will be reserved for institutions from automatic-qualifying conferences that do not win their conference's automatic qualification bid and the remaining teams in Pool B.
- Berths from Pools B and C will be selected on a national basis, using regional selection criteria. There will be no predetermined regional allocations for Pools B and C.
- There will be no maximum or minimum number of berths from one region.
- No conference will receive more than one automatic berth.

ALLOCATION OF BERTHS

The 2019 NCAA Division III Women's Ice Hockey Championship will include 10 teams. The following berths have been allocated for the 2019 championship: Pool A-6; Pool B-1; and Pool C-3. A regional summary of the institutions in each pool is included in [Appendix B](#).

AUTOMATIC QUALIFICATION

For the 2019 championship, automatic-qualification privileges have been granted to the following six conferences:

- Colonial Hockey Conference
- Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference
- New England Hockey Conference
- New England Small College Athletic Conference
- Northeast Women's Hockey League
- Northern Collegiate Hockey Association

TRAVEL INFORMATION

Please refer to the [NCAA travel policies](#) on [ncaa.org](#) for all information regarding transportation.

REGIONAL COMPETITION

Per Bylaw 31.3.4.3, all members of a conference will be placed in the same region for evaluation purposes, unless the Championships Committee has granted an exception. For the exceptions, members of these conferences shall be placed in their natural geographic regions for evaluation purposes.

SCHEDULING REQUIREMENTS

Institutions must play at least 70 percent of their scheduled competition against in-region, Division III institutions to be considered for selection to NCAA championships. Institutions unable to meet this requirement may request a waiver for selection consideration.

The Division III Championships Committee will review all waiver requests. Information required as part of the waiver process includes proposed schedules, schedules from the past two seasons, a summary of scheduling challenges the institution is facing and proposed solutions. In addition, an institution may include any other historical information illustrating difficulty in scheduling at least 70 percent of its contests against in-region Division III institutions.

Competition is countable only when the teams played are varsity intercollegiate teams of four-year, degree-granting institutions that conduct a majority of their competition in that team sport against varsity intercollegiate teams (see Constitution 3.2.4.4) of United States four-year, degree-granting institutions. Competition against service teams, professional teams, semiprofessional teams, amateur teams, two-year colleges and club teams shall be excluded.

Section 2•3 Selection Criteria

SELECTION CRITERIA

For the 2019 and 2020 championship seasons, the Women's Ice Hockey Committee will utilize the PairWise ranking system, which incorporates the criteria outlined below. Also refer to [Appendix C](#) for additional detail.

PRIMARY CRITERIA - For rankings and selections (all contests leading up to NCAA championships)

- Rating percentage Index (RPI)
- Quality Win Bonus (applied to RPI)
- Head-to-head results
- Results versus common Division III opponents

Note: Contests versus provisional and reclassifying members in their third and fourth years shall count in the primary criteria. Provisional and reclassifying members shall remain ineligible for rankings and selections.

Once selected, teams will be grouped in clusters according to natural geographic proximity. A team may be moved to balance the bracket if geographic proximity is maintained (i.e. no flights are created). Teams should be paired and eligible sites should be selected according to geographic proximity (within 500 miles).

Teams may be seeded on a regional basis using the selection criteria. However, geographic proximity takes precedence over seeding.

Teams from the same conference will not be paired to play each other in the first contest of the regional tournament as long as geographic proximity is maintained.

Site Selection

PROSPECTIVE HOSTS

Any institution interested in hosting a round of the 2019 NCAA Division III Women's Ice Hockey Championship must submit a proposed budget and a facility evaluation form and ensure that the institution's key contacts and facility information are complete and current in the Championships Bid and Profile System.

CHAMPIONSHIPS BID AND PROFILE SYSTEM

The Championships Bid and Profile System can be accessed at championships.ncaa.org. In order to submit a bid, locate the desired championship in the "Championships Available for Bidding" section and select "Start Bid." The deadline to submit all bid materials for hosting first-round and quarterfinals games or the finals for this championship is Feb. 22 at 5 p.m. Eastern time.

In addition to projected ticket sales and game expenses, prospective hosts should include the following when completing a proposed budget:

- Committee/site representative lodging.
- Game officials' lodging.
- State and city taxes/fees.
- Ticket and facility fees.

Per diem, mileage and baggage fees for committee members and site representatives will be paid by the NCAA, not the host institution. Game officials will be reimbursed via the ArbitrPay system for their game fees, per diem, mileage and baggage fees.

FACILITY PROFILE

Institutions interested in hosting a preliminary or final round of competition of the Division III Women's Ice Hockey Championship must add (or ensure accuracy of) facility information for the applicable competition venue. This information is located at championships.ncaa.org. Any supporting information (e.g., facility diagram or pictures) may be uploaded and attached to that facility's profile. This information will be made available to the sport committee to aid in their deliberations regarding prospective host sites.

KEY CONTACTS

Each institution should list and then maintain its key contacts associated with each sport and the institution. Contact information can be updated via the Championships Bid and Profile System at championships.ncaa.org.

SAFETY AND SECURITY PLAN

Based on a review of current and future championships competition venues, discussions with safety and security experts, and its own expertise and knowledge, the NCAA has established a Safety and Security Advisory Group (SSAG) to develop a compilation of Best Practices for NCAA championships. We urge each competition venue to take these Best Practices into account when developing its safety and security program. As part of your bid, please submit a safety and security plan for your venue, including the NCAA Championships Safety and Security Team contact information form located in Appendix A of the Best Practices document.

The best practices for venue safety and security and the safety and security contact form are located at www.ncaa.org/sites/default/files/Best_Practices_for_Venue_Safety_and_Security.pdf.

CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have any questions regarding the bid process, please email Aaron King at aking@ncaa.org or championshipbid@ncaa.org.

FINAL FINANCIAL REPORT

[Reference: Bylaw 31.4 in the NCAA Division III Manual.]

A final financial report from each championship site must be submitted via the Championships Bid and Profile System under the "budget" tab not later than 60 days after the conclusion of the event.

Appendixes

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Appendix A • Bracket



2019 NCAA Division III Women's Ice Hockey Championship

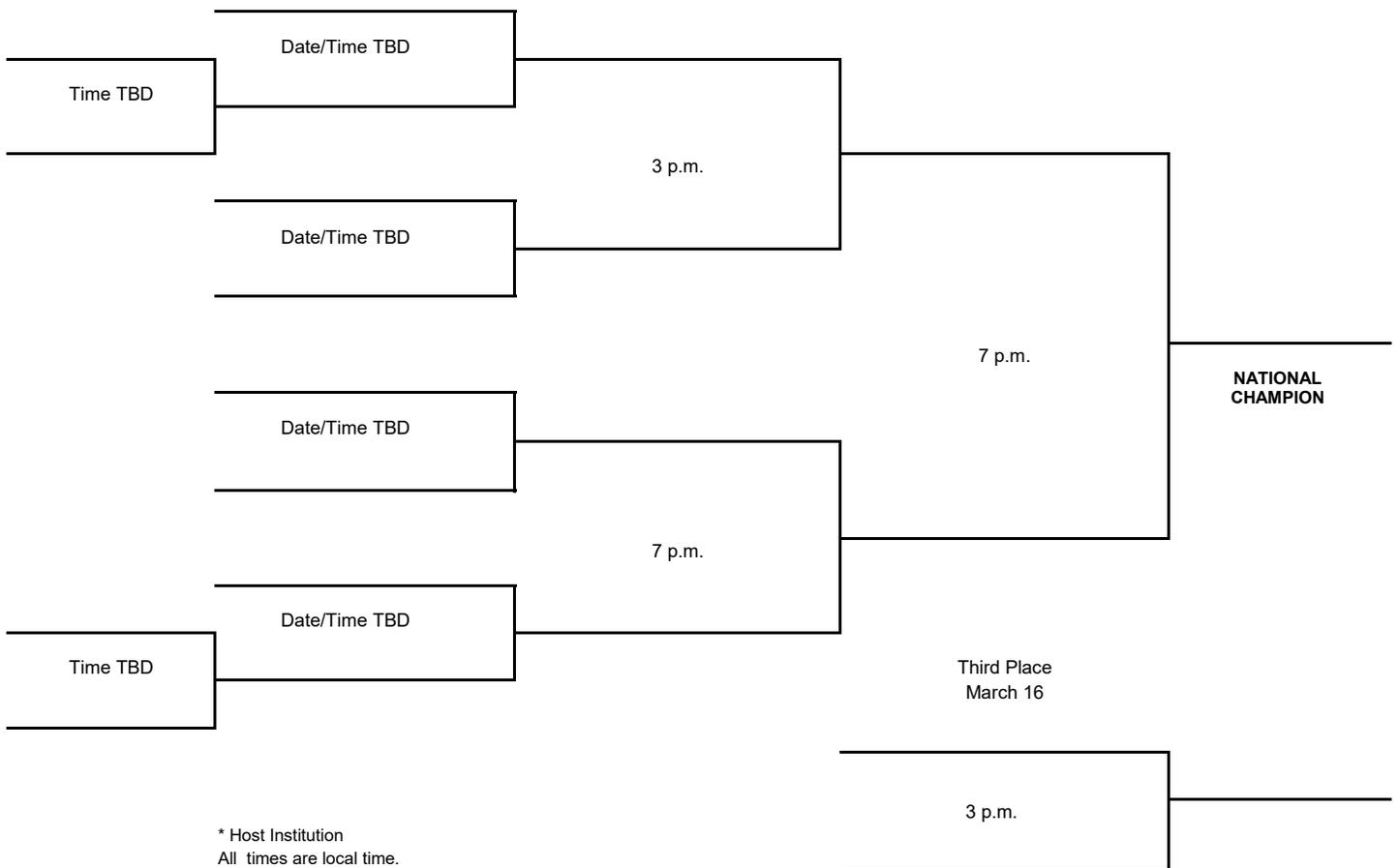


First Round
March 6

Quarterfinals
March 9

Semifinals
March 15

Championship
March 16



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Appendix B • Sport Sponsorship

EAST REGION

Colonial Hockey Conference (7)

Becker College
 State University of New York at Canton
 Endicott College
 Morrisville State College

University of New England
 Nichols College
 Salve Regina University

AQ-Conference Championship

New England Hockey Conference (9)

Castleton University
 Johnson & Wales University (Providence)
 University of Massachusetts Boston
 New England College
 Norwich University

Plymouth State University
 Salem State University
 University of Southern Maine
 Suffolk University

AQ-Conference Championship

New England Small College Athletic Conference (9)

Amherst College
 Bowdoin College
 Colby College
 Connecticut College
 Hamilton College

Middlebury College
 Trinity College (Connecticut)
 Wesleyan University (Connecticut)
 Williams College

AQ-Conference Championship

Northeast Women's Hockey League (5)

Buffalo State, State University of New York
 State University of New York at Cortland
 State University of New York at Oswego

Plattsburgh State University of New York
 State University of New York at Potsdam

AQ-Conference Championship

Pool B (12)

United Collegiate Hockey Conference (11)

Chatham University
 Elmira College
 King's College
 Lebanon Valley College
 Manhattanville College
 Nazareth College

Neumann University
 Stevenson University
 Utica College
 Wilkes University
 William Smith College

Independents (1)

Anna Maria College

Pool A Teams - 30

Pool B Teams - 12

WEST REGION

Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (10)

Augsburg College
 Bethel University (Minnesota)
 Concordia College, Moorhead
 Gustavus Adolphus College
 Hamline University

College of Saint Benedict
 St. Catherine University
 Saint Mary's University of Minnesota
 St. Olaf College
 University of St. Thomas (Minnesota)

AQ-Conference Championship

Women's Northern Collegiate Hockey Association (10)

Adrian College
 Aurora University
 Concordia University Wisconsin
 Finlandia University
 Lake Forest College

Marian University (Wisconsin)
 Northland College
 St. Norbert College
 The College of St. Scholastica
 Trine University

AQ-Conference Championship

Pool B (4)

Independents (4)

University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire
 University of Wisconsin-River Falls

University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point
 University of Wisconsin-Superior

Pool A Teams - 20

Pool B Teams - 4

POOL ALLOCATIONS

Pool A - 6

Pool B - 1

Pool C - 3

Appendix C • Selection Criteria

2018-19 DIVISION III MEN'S AND WOMEN'S ICE HOCKEY SELECTION CRITERIA DETAIL

The selection criteria below are applied to Team A vs. Team B (two teams at a time). The "Pairwise" process applies the criteria simultaneously to every possible pair and counts how many pairs each team wins. Teams are ranked based on the total number of comparisons won.

Selection Criteria

- Rating Percentage Index (RPI)
- Quality Win Bonus (QWB) *applied to RPI
- Results vs. Common Opponents
- Head-to-Head

Calculation of Rating Percentage Index (RPI)

- RPI formula is 25-21-54 (25% winning percentage, 21% opponents' winning percentage and 54% opponents' opponents' winning percentage)
- Head-to-head games are excluded in the OWP calculation.
- "Negative wins" are removed from the RPI calculation.
- Includes 1.2/.8 Home/Away weighting.
- No adjustment to calculation for games decided in overtime.
- RPI is the tiebreaker if tied on criteria points.

Quality Win Bonus (QWB)

- Not a separate criterion but added to the RPI.
- Sliding scale, maximum of 5.0 points (Top 20 teams for both men and women)

Results vs. Common Opponents

- Weighted equally by opponents instead of games.
- Only results against Division III opponents are included.

| | Team A | Team B |
|----------------------|---------------|---------------|
| vs Team Strong | 0-1-0 (0.000) | 0-3-0 (0.000) |
| vs Team Weak | 3-0-0 (1.000) | 1-0-0 (1.000) |
| If game is weighted: | 3-1-0 (0.750) | 1-3-0 (0.250) |

Head-to-Head Results

- Each game counts one point in the criteria comparison.