



PRECHAMPIONSHIPS 2025-26 MANUAL

NCAA General Administrative Guidelines

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Section 1 • Introduction

During the 2025-26 academic year, the Association will sponsor 92 national championships – 43 for men, 47 for women and two for both men and women. Of the men's championships, four 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, eight 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 Prechampionship 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.

Sections one through nine apply to policies applicable to all 92 championships, while the remaining sections are sport specific

Section 1.1 Definitions

Prechampionship Manual. Resource for institutions to prepare for the championship.

Administrative Meeting. Prechampionship 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).

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. In any championship in which a squad limit has been established by the governing sport committee or by the bylaws, the number of eligible student-athletes in competitive uniform eligible to participate at the start of competition.

Tournament Physician. The physician designated by the host institution/conference to serve as the chief medical advisor for the championship event(s) to be hosted at the host venue.

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).

Section 3 • Conduct

Section 3.1 Certification of Eligibility/Availability

[Reference: Certification of Eligibility/Availability in Bylaws 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 20.2.4, 31.2.1.7.1, 31.2.1.7.1.2 and 31.2.2 in the NCAA Division I Manual, Bylaws 7.3.1.5 and 18.2.1 in the NCAA Division II Manual and Division II Championships Committee Policy and Bylaws 31.2.1.5, 31.2.1.5.2, and 31.2.2 in the NCAA Division III Manual.]

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

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

DISCOVERY OF INELIGIBILITY OF A STUDENT-ATHLETE AFTER SELECTION

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

Section 3.2 Drug Testing

As part of preparation and planning to participate in championship events, member institutions are reminded and encouraged to review all applicable policy and legislative requirements pertaining to banned substances, drug testing and related eligibility requirements with their student-athletes. Student-athletes who compete in NCAA championships may be subjected to drug tests in accordance with legislation 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 3.3 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 3•4 Misconduct/Failure to Adhere to Policies

MISCONDUCT

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

FAILURE TO ADHERE TO POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

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

Section 3•5 Sports Wagering Policy

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

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

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

STUDENT-ATHLETES

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

POSTSEASON

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

HOSTING OPPORTUNITIES

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

Section 3•6 Student-Athlete Experience Survey

During the NCAA championships, the student-athlete experience is paramount. NCAA staff and hosts dedicate themselves to planning the best experiences for all involved. As part of our commitment to getting better, following the championship, participants will receive a survey to provide feedback on their experience and input on how championships can be improved for future NCAA student-athletes. Institutional administrators and coaches will receive

an email containing a link to the survey and will be asked to forward the survey to student-athletes. Additionally, this survey will be accessible via QR code found on the back of NCAA-issued championship credentials.

We also understand that sometimes certain circumstances or conditions occurring during the events may require real-time consideration. When this is the case, student-athletes may reach out to their site representative or NCAA national office staff on-site.

Section 4 • Elite Scholar-Athlete™ Award

The Elite Scholar-Athlete award was created to recognize the true essence of student-athletes by honoring individuals who have reached the pinnacle of competition at the national championship level in their sport, while also achieving the highest academic standard among their peers. The award is presented in every sport, every division, and goes to the student-athlete who has the highest cumulative grade-point average of all student-athletes competing at the finals site. 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. For more information or to access the online form and submit a nomination, [click here](#).

Section 5 • Fan Travel

Through support from Marriott International as the Official Hotel Partner of the NCAA, NCAA championships are pleased to provide easy and affordable accommodations 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 Marriott and NCAA Travel help support NCAA student-athletes. Please direct your fans to ncaa.com/travel to search and book online hotel reservations.

Section 6 • Health and Safety

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 including, among others, those relating to concussion management, catastrophic injury prevention, inclement weather and independent medical care. These requirements and related information can be found in applicable division manuals, sports playing rules and the materials located on the [Health, Safety & Performance website](#). In addition, a summary of some of the key health and safety considerations related to traveling to championship events can be found in the [NCAA's Guidance for Medical Care and Coverage for Student-Athletes at Away Events](#).

Section 7 • Logo Policy

[Reference: Bylaws 12.5.4, 31.1.7 and 31.1.8 in the NCAA Division I Manual, Bylaw 17.1.10 in the NCAA Division II Manual and Bylaw 12.5.3 in the NCAA Division III Manual.]

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

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

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

Section 8 • Research

In order to avoid inappropriate and unnecessary participant distraction and disruption of championship events, it is expected any data collection or other research efforts conducted at or during championship events will be coordinated through the national office, with notice and a description of any research proposal to be submitted to the NCAA research staff at least six weeks before the championships event begins.

Section 9 • Travel Party

Please refer to the NCAA travel policies for all information regarding transportation and per diem expenses. NCAA Travel policies are updated annually and can be found online [here](#). Please reference Appendix A of the travel policies for reimbursable travel party numbers. The travel policies supersede all other documents.

Section 10 • Religious Conflicts

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

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

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

Section 11 • Team Replacement Policy

Division I developed a team replacement policy considering the possibility of unforeseen circumstances impacting championship fields. The policy will be implemented in accordance with the terms set forth in the policy document available [here](#) when, despite best efforts, a team within the championship field is impeded or hindered from participating in the championship for reasons beyond its control.

Division I Rowing

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Section 1 • General Administration

Section 1.1 NCAA Tournament Operations Staff Contact Information

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Section 1.2 National Committee

Current members of the committee can be found at the following link: web1.ncaa.org/committees/#!/reports/roster?committeeCode=1ROWOC

Section 1.3 Regional Advisory Committees

| NAME | INSTITUTION | CONFERENCE |
|-----------------|-------------------|-------------|
| REGION 1 | | |
| Claire Ochal* | Harvard | Ivy League |
| Kacey Light* | Rhode Island | Atlantic 10 |
| Paul Allbright | George Washington | Atlantic 10 |
| Matt Carlsen | Duquesne | Atlantic 10 |
| Lori Dauphiny | Princeton | Ivy League |
| Will Porter | Yale | Ivy League |
| REGION 2 | | |
| Luke Wilhelm* | Sacred Heart | MAAC |
| Carissa Adams* | Villanova | Coastal |
| Dave Patterson | Fairfield | MAAC |
| Joe Schlosberg | Navy | Patriot |
| REGION 3 | | |
| Martin Stone* | Notre Dame | ACC |
| Tim Allen* | UCF | Big 12 |
| Suna Cicekli* | Oklahoma | SEC |
| Luke McGee | Syracuse | ACC |
| Mara Allen | UCF | Big 12 |
| Kennedy Felice | Kansas State | Big 12 |
| REGION 4 | | |
| Yasmin Farooq* | Washington | Big Ten |
| Alicea Strodel | Minnesota | Big Ten |
| Stacy Rippetoe | Michigan St. | Big Ten |
| Asiya Mahmud | Delaware | MAC |

| NAME | INSTITUTION | CONFERENCE |
|------------------|-------------|-------------|
| REGION 5 | | |
| Jackie Greulich* | Portland | West Coast |
| Michael Eichler | Oregon St. | West Coast |
| Marie Uriarte | Seattle | Independent |

Section 1•4 Important Dates

| | |
|----------------------------|---|
| Tuesday, April 7 | Regional advisory committee call and practice ranking (unpublished). |
| Wednesday, April 8 | National committee ranking call and practice ranking (unpublished). |
| Tuesday, April 21 | Regional advisory committee call and first ranking. |
| Wednesday, April 22 | National committee call and first published ranking. |
| Tuesday, May 5 | Regional advisory committee call and second ranking. |
| Wednesday, May 6 | National committee call and second published ranking. |
| Tuesday, May 12 | Regional advisory committee call and third ranking. |
| Wednesday, May 13 | National committee call and third published ranking. |
| Monday, May 18 | Deadline for conferences to submit automatic qualifier by 1 p.m. Eastern time. (Conference championships must be scheduled to be completed by midnight on Sunday but are permitted to submit their automatic qualifier on Monday at 9:45 a.m. Eastern time in the case of inclement weather.) Regional advisory committee call and national ranking. |
| Tuesday, May 19 | National selection final published ranking call and notification of participants by 5 p.m. Eastern time. <i>Reference: Selection Information in this manual.</i> |
| Wednesday, May 20 | Call with participating teams at 1 p.m. Eastern time. |
| Thursday, May 21 | 5 p.m. Eastern time deadline for submission of lineup forms and championship information. <i>Reference: Entry Procedures in this manual.</i> |
| Wednesday, May 27 | Practice at national championships. |
| Thursday, May 28 | Practice and administrative meeting at national championships. |

CHAMPIONSHIPS DATES

| | |
|---|---|
| Friday-Sunday, May 29-May 31, 2026 | Championships at Lake Lanier Olympic Park, Gainesville Georgia; hosted by Lake Lanier Olympic Park and the University of North Georgia. |
|---|---|

DATE FORMULA

Last Friday in May through last Sunday in May or first Sunday in June. Date accommodations will be made for institutions with a “No Sabbath Play” policy on file with the NCAA.

FUTURE DATES

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| Friday-Sunday, May 28-30, 2027 | Championships at Nathan Benderson Park, Sarasota, Florida; hosted by Nathan Benderson Park Conservancy Inc. and the University of Central Florida. |
|---------------------------------------|--|

Section 1•5 Equipment

Reference [Appendix B](#).

Section 1•6 Rules

USRowing rules will be followed, with the exceptions of:

1. Honest Effort – Honest effort will be enforced if an intentional slowdown is observed. Crews will be expected to maintain a race pace, which will be perceived in reasonable conditions as a minimum stroke rating for the Eight boats of 32+, and a minimum 30+ stroke rating for the Four boat. The referee will give instructions to the crew to increase its speed. If the crew does not respond, a red flag will be raised immediately after the completion of the race, and the crew will be advised of a possible violation. Within 10 minutes of the completion of the race, a jury comprised of members of the committee and selected referee will be convened to determine if a violation of the rule occurred. A representative of a competing institution may challenge the Honest Effort rule regardless of an official's notification, within 30 minutes of the race. A penalty may be imposed on the involved boat, which may result in NOT advancing or receiving team points for that boat. In addition, if the final result/time or future results indicate that honest effort was not given by a specific crew, then that institution will be subject to the provisions of the misconduct policy.
2. NCAA rules regarding uniforms will be applied.
3. At least the last 500 meters of the race will be announced.
4. Participation by male coxswains is not permitted. Race results against boats using male coxswains will not count toward rankings or selections.
5. The use of aids such as an apparatus for wireless communication and water-soluble chemicals intended to reduce frictional resistance is prohibited. However, GPS systems and action/sports cameras (e.g., GoPro) will be allowed as long as there is no direct communication, or transmission of information, to land. Cameras on tripods are prohibited on boats.
6. Any weight violator would be relegated to last place in that race and a second weight violation would be an exclusion from the competition.
7. Minimum boat weights are listed in [Appendix B](#). The Fairness Committee will address any boat issues on a case-by-case basis.

Per 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. (See USRowing rule book.)

Section 1•7 Jury

A jury comprised of the rowing committee and selected referees will convene to settle any disputes that arise during the conduct of competition.

Section 1•8 Uniforms

All competitors in a crew shall wear identical clothing for all competitions, practices, interviews and awards sessions. Such clothing shall cover the torso of the body and may also include warm-up gear. The chief referee may grant exception to this rule on account of unusual weather conditions. Individual competitors in a crew may choose whether or not to wear a hat or other headgear, but it must be similar in color.

LOGOS

Refer to General Administrative Guidelines, Section 7.

NOTE: These restrictions apply to all apparel worn by student-athletes during the competition, which includes prerace or postrace activities.

This bylaw will be strictly enforced at all NCAA championships and the names of individuals and institutions that are not in compliance with this bylaw shall be forwarded to the NCAA enforcement staff.

Section 2 • Determination of Championship Participation

Section 2•1 Championships Format

The NCAA Division I Women's Rowing Championships are comprised of 22 teams and provides for three events (I Eights, II Eights and Fours), each covering a 2,000-meter course. Each team is required to field two boats of eight rowers each and one boat of four rowers. Individual rowers are not permitted to double at the championships. Only boats that are participating in the championships are allowed on the water. No pairs rowing.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

[Reference: Participant manual for championships schedule, meetings, and practice times.]

Administrative Meeting. A mandatory meeting for head coaches of the competing teams, chief referee and the Women's Rowing Committee will be conducted virtually before the competition. The provisions of Bylaw 31, which prescribes conditions under which a student-athlete or representative of an institution may be disqualified from further participation in the championships for reasons of misconduct, as well as other pertinent information regarding the championships, will be presented.

Coaches not in attendance are subject to a fine of \$200 per school. Attendance at the meetings will be taken. Coaches will submit/confirm final lineups via email by the conclusion of this meeting.

Coxswain Meetings. All coxswains will be required to watch a (virtual) coxswains meeting webinar prior to traveling to the championships. The head official will be available for in-person check in and Q&A on site. Times for on-site check-in are in the participant manual.

Postponement of Racing/Lane Assignment. The chief referee, in consultation with the committee and the regatta director, will make all decisions regarding the postponement of racing and/or lane reassignment.

Practice. The dates and times that the course will be available are published in the participant manual. Institutions are not permitted to practice on the race course before the first practice session. **Boats will not be permitted to launch with fewer than 30 minutes remaining in a practice session.**

Coaches are not permitted on the water. Crews must practice in gear that complies with Bylaw 12 and 31 in the NCAA Manual.

A course marshal will be on the water during all practice sessions to ensure that the traffic rules are observed properly during training.

Specific traffic rules will be posted at the competition site.

TRAVEL PARTY

[Reference: Squad Size in this manual and Per Diem and Transportation in the Division I General Section.]

Please refer to the NCAA Travel policies for all information regarding transportation and per diem expenses. Travel policies can be found online at [ncaa.org](https://www.ncaa.org), under Division I, Championships, Championships Travel Information.

TRANSPORTATION OF BOATS

In addition to reimbursing members of the official traveling party, expenses for transporting boats to and from the competition site will be reimbursed by the Association.

The reimbursement rate is 74 cents per mile for an institution's own boat. If an institution also transports another institution's boats, the rate is 18 cents per mile for each additional boat, not to exceed \$1.42 per mile.

The driver of the boat trailer shall not receive a per diem unless he/she is a part of the institution's official travel party of 31. Institutions requesting reimbursement for transporting boats must obtain prior approval from the committee for their method of transportation.

Section 2•2 Results

In order to be considered for selection to the 2026 rowing championships, all institutions must ensure that the electronic submission of results from all eligible competition opportunities in which their student-athletes compete is reported by the regatta host to the NCAA reporting results application.

Hosts are required to submit their regatta results to the NCAA reporting results application. Failure to submit the results in a timely manner may affect a team's regional ranking and selection to the championships. Late results submissions that are the basis for championship selection will result in a fine of \$200, with potential additional fines for repeated violations. See specific details as outlined in the document, [available here](#).

All institutions must publish boat lineups on the official institutional athletics website in the postrace recap. Failure to post lineups may result in a \$200 fine for failure to adhere to championship policies and procedures.

Section 2•3 Selection Information

CHAMPIONSHIPS FIELD

Twenty-two teams will comprise the Division I Rowing Championships with 10 teams qualifying from their conferences as automatic qualifiers.

AUTOMATIC QUALIFICATION

Ten conferences have been granted automatic qualification into the championships. The following conferences are eligible for automatic qualification to the 2026 championships:

- Atlantic 10 Conference
- Atlantic Coast Conference
- Big 12 Conference
- Big Ten Conference
- Coastal Athletic Association
- Ivy league
- Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference
- Mid-American Conference
- Patriot League
- West Coast Conference

Teams qualifying for the championships as an automatic qualifier or as an at-large will be required to field two boats of eight rowers each and one boat of four rowers. Individual rowers are not permitted to double at the championships.

AT-LARGE SELECTION

The remaining 12 teams for the championships will be chosen by the NCAA Division I Rowing Committee using the selection criteria as outlined in section 2.4.

ENTRY PROCEDURES

Coaches are required to submit entries based on fastest/strongest boat at the time of the championships for the following events (noted in priority order): Varsity 8, Second Varsity 8 and Varsity 4.

Lineup Form. The lineup form must be submitted properly (Information in the selections memo) by 5 p.m. Eastern time on May 21. Coaches will have a chance to make all final changes at the prechampionships meeting at the NCAA Women's Rowing Championships.

Late Lineup Form. Forms received after the deadline will be considered late and subject to a fine of \$400 per team.

Substitutions. Final lineups for all three boats are due prior to the prechampionships coaches meeting conducted at the championships site. Once the lineup form has been submitted, coaches can change the order/seats of student-athletes in a boat without approval but cannot change student-athletes between boats without following official protocol.

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This process is initiated with the change of lineup approval form, found in the participant manual, and only granted for student-athletes who have been seen by the host physician and declared unable to race due to illness or injury. If an illness or injury occurs to a competitor and that competitor is later restored to health, the crew must revert back to that which was originally submitted prior to the start of competition. All proper medical forms must be completed for exemption from competition, as well as clearance to return to competition.

RANKING

Each regional ranking committee is charged with monitoring the performance of the teams within the region. Regional rankings are comprised of the top six teams in each region. There is a ranking for each boat classification (Varsity 8, Second Varsity 8, Varsity 4), plus an overall team ranking that is a tabulation of each team's points in the three boat classifications.

Points are awarded for each ranking based on the following point system:

| Varsity 8 | SECOND Varsity 8 | Varsity 4 |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| 1st place - 18 points | 1st place - 12 points | 1st place - 6 points |
| 2nd place - 15 points | 2nd place - 10 points | 2nd place - 5 points |
| 3rd place - 12 points | 3rd place - 8 points | 3rd place - 4 points |
| 4th place - 9 points | 4th place - 6 points | 4th place - 3 points |
| 5th place - 6 points | 5th place - 4 points | 5th place - 2 points |
| 6th place - 3 points | 6th place - 2 points | 6th place - 1 point |

The overall regional ranking (team ranking) is determined by adding the total number of points for each team from all three classifications. The team with the highest point total is ranked first in the region, continuing through the team with the lowest point total as the sixth-ranked team in the region. An example ranking is as follows:

| Varsity 8 | SECOND Varsity 8 | Varsity 4 |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Team A - 18 points | 1. Team C - 12 points | 1. Team A - 6 points |
| 2. Team B - 15 points | 2. Team E - 10 points | 2. Team C - 5 points |
| 3. Team C - 12 points | 3. Team A - 8 points | 3. Team D - 4 points |
| 4. Team D - 9 points | 4. Team B - 6 points | 4. Team B - 3 points |
| 5. Team E - 6 points | 5. Team G - 4 points | 5. Team G - 2 points |
| 6. Team F - 3 points | 6. Team D - 2 points | 6. Team F - 1 point |

From the point totals above, the final tally for each team is as follows:

| |
|-----------------------------|
| Team A: 32 points (18+8+6) |
| Team B: 24 points (15+6+3) |
| Team C: 29 points (12+12+5) |
| Team D: 15 points (9+2+4) |
| Team E: 16 points (6+10+0) |
| Team F: 4 points (3+0+1) |
| Team G: 6 points (0+4+2) |

The final regional ranking would be as follows:

| |
|-----------------------|
| 1. Team A (32 points) |
| 2. Team C (29 points) |
| 3. Team B (24 points) |
| 4. Team E (16 points) |
| 5. Team D (15 points) |
| 6. Team G (6 points) |

Section 2•4 Selection Criteria

Race results against boats using male coxswains will not count toward rankings or selections. Participation by male coxswains is not permitted. In accordance with Bylaw 31, the following criteria will be used in selecting teams:

- Eligibility and availability of student-athletes.
- End-of-season championship results.
- Late-season performance (defined as competition taking place within the five weekends prior to the selection date for the NCAA championships).
- Head-to-head results.
- Results versus teams already selected.
- Results versus common opponents.
- Results versus regionally-ranked teams in own region.
- Results versus regionally-ranked teams out of region.

NOTE: Due to uncontrollable circumstances that would not allow for a 2,000-meter race, more consideration will be given to races closest to that distance.

PROGRESSIONS

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Format: | Four heats, two semifinals A-B and two semifinals C-D. |
| Heats: | Top three crews advance to A-B semifinals, the remainder to C-D semifinals. |
| Advancement: | Top three crews from semifinals A-B advance to Grand Final, remainder to Petite Final. Top three crews from semifinals C-D advance to C final, remainder advance to D final. |

See [Division I Rowing landing page](#) for progression options.

The draw for first-round heats will take place following the selection of teams and be announced during the NCAA Division I Women's Rowing Championships selection show on May 19. For the I Eights, II Eights and Fours, all 22 boats will be seeded into four heats. Subsequently, the games committee will do the progression, lane assignments and draws within one-half hour after the conclusion of the heats for an event using the methods outlined below.

SEEDING

All seeding will be determined by the national committee using the selection criteria. As determined by the committee, the 22 boats will all be seeded for the I Eights, II Eights and Fours. Each event will be seeded independently. The boats will be placed into heats and lanes based on an S-curve.

| HEAT 1 | HEAT 2 | HEAT 3 | HEAT 4 |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 8 | 7 | 6 | 5 |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 16 | 15 | 14 | 13 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| | | 22 | 21 |

LANE ASSIGNMENTS

Slant (Lanes 1-7 or 7-1)

In the heats, the principle is to place the crews with the highest seedings in lanes one and two of the course. Similarly, the crews with lowest seedings will be placed in lanes five and six of the course. In the semifinals, the principle is to place the crews with the best previous results in lanes one and two of the course. Similarly, the crews with the worst previous results are placed in lanes five and six of the course. If crews have the same placing in the heats there will be a draw to determine the exact lane. The winners of the semifinals shall compete in the finals in lanes one and two. The second crews shall compete in lanes three and four. The third-place crews shall compete in lanes five and six (the lane for each pair to be drawn).

Under extenuating course conditions, the chief referee, in consultation with the committee, will make all decisions regarding lane assignments.

Chevron (or inside out)

In the heats, the principle is to place the crews with the highest seedings in the center lanes of the course. Similarly, the crews with lowest seedings will be placed in the outside lanes of the course. In the semifinals, the principle is to place the crews with the best previous results in the center lanes of the course. Similarly, the crews with the worst previous results are placed in the outside lanes of the course. If crews have the same placing in the heats there will be a draw to determine the exact lane. The winners of the semifinals shall compete in the finals in lanes three and four. The second crews shall compete in lanes two and five. The third-place crews shall compete in lanes one and six (the lane for each pair to be drawn).

Under extenuating course conditions, the chief referee, in consultation with the committee, will make all decisions regarding lane assignments.

Dead Heats. If there is a dead heat between two or more crews, the following procedure will operate:

- a. In a preliminary heat or a semifinal, if a dead heat occurs between crews and if it is critical for only one of the crews to progress into the next round, there must be a rerow between the crews involved. The rerow must take place on the same day as the dead heat and not less than two hours after the race in which the dead heat occurred. The committee reserves the right to advance both crews under certain conditions. If the crews involved in the dead heat both are progressing into the same round, there will be no rerow and their relative positions in the draw for the next round will be decided by lot.
- b. In a final, if a dead heat occurs between crews, they will be given the same placing in the final order and the next placing(s) will be left vacant. If the tied placing is for a medal position, the organizing committee will provide additional medals. Points awarded for ties will be calculated by averaging the points for the place tied with the points awarded for the next place.

Points system. Team totals at the NCAA championships will be determined using the following points system.

| PLACE | I EIGHTS | II EIGHTS | FOURS |
|-------|----------|-----------|-------|
| 1 | 66 | 44 | 22 |
| 2 | 63 | 42 | 21 |
| 3 | 60 | 40 | 20 |
| 4 | 57 | 38 | 19 |
| 5 | 54 | 36 | 18 |
| 6 | 51 | 34 | 17 |
| 7 | 48 | 32 | 16 |
| 8 | 45 | 30 | 15 |
| 9 | 42 | 28 | 14 |
| 10 | 39 | 26 | 13 |
| 11 | 36 | 24 | 12 |

Points system continued

| PLACE | I EIGHTS | II EIGHTS | FOURS |
|-------|----------|-----------|-------|
| 12 | 33 | 22 | 11 |
| 13 | 30 | 20 | 10 |
| 14 | 27 | 18 | 9 |
| 15 | 24 | 16 | 8 |
| 16 | 21 | 14 | 7 |
| 17 | 18 | 12 | 6 |
| 18 | 15 | 10 | 5 |
| 19 | 12 | 8 | 4 |
| 20 | 9 | 6 | 3 |
| 21 | 6 | 4 | 2 |
| 22 | 3 | 2 | 1 |

NOTE: Ties for team awards will be broken by the place finish in the I Eights.

Section 2•5 Site Selection

Any institution or conference interested in hosting the NCAA Divisions I, II and III Rowing Championships must submit a proposed budget, facility evaluation form, key contacts form and video board questionnaire (if applicable) to be considered to host via the Championships Bid and Host Profile portal. A separate proposed budget and key contacts form must be submitted for each round that an institution or conference is interested in hosting. A final financial report from each championship site must be submitted via the Championships Bid and Host Profile portal under the “budget” tab not later than 60 days after the event. Reference: Bylaw 31 in the NCAA Manual. If you have any questions regarding the next available bid cycle, please contact the NCAA Championships and Alliances staff at 317-917-6761 or championshipbid@ncaa.org.

PROSPECTIVE HOSTS

All bid-related forms can be accessed via the Championships Bid and Host Profile portal. To submit a bid, first search for the desired championship under “championships available for bid” and select “add bid.”

SAFETY AND SECURITY PLAN

Based upon 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, which can be found in the “Help/Other Resources” tab in the championship host portal. 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, which would be inclusive of the NCAA Championships Safety and Security Team contact information form, located in Appendix A of the [Best Practices document](#). This information should be submitted to Zach Christopher at the NCAA (zchristopher@ncaa.org) as part of your bid to be considered for championship site selection.

Appendixes

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Appendix A • Regional Alignment

REGION 1

Atlantic 10 Conference (8)

University of Dayton
Duquesne University
Fordham University
George Mason University

George Washington University
LaSalle University
University of Rhode Island
Saint Joseph's University

AQ – Conference Championship

The Ivy League (8)

Brown University
Columbia University-Barnard College
Cornell University
Dartmouth College

Harvard University
University of Pennsylvania
Princeton University
Yale University

AQ – Conference Championship

Total Number of Schools in Region 1 - 16

Total Eligible Schools in Region 1 - 16

REGION 2

Coastal Athletic Association (8)

University at Albany
Bryant University
University of California, San Diego
University of Connecticut

Drexel University
Monmouth University
Northeastern University
Villanova University

AQ – Conference Championship

Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (11)

Canisius College
Drake University
Fairfield University
Iona College
Jacksonville University
Long Island University

Marist College
Merrimack College
Robert Morris University
Sacred Heart University
Stetson University

AQ – Conference Championship

Patriot League (9)

Boston University
Bucknell University
Colgate University
Georgetown University
College of the Holy Cross

Lehigh University
Loyola University Maryland
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
U.S. Naval Academy

AQ – Conference Championship

Independent (1)

Mercyhurst University

Total Number of Schools in Region 2 - 29

Total Eligible Schools in Region 2 - 29

REGION 3

Atlantic Coast Conference (12)

Boston College
University of California, Berkeley
Clemson University
Duke University
University of Louisville
University of Miami (Florida)

University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
University of Notre Dame
Southern Methodist University
Stanford University
Syracuse University
University of Virginia

AQ – Conference Championship

Big 12 Conference (6)

University of Central Florida
University of Kansas
Kansas State University

Old Dominion University
The University of Tulsa
West Virginia University

AQ – Conference Championship

Southeastern Conference (4)

University of Alabama
University of Oklahoma

University of Tennessee, Knoxville
University of Texas at Austin

Total Number of Schools in Region 3 - 22
Total Eligible Schools in Region 3 - 22

REGION 4

Big Ten Conference (11)

University of California, Los Angeles
Indiana University, Bloomington
University of Iowa
University of Michigan
Michigan State University
University of Minnesota, Twin Cities

The Ohio State University
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, New Brunswick
University of Southern California
University of Washington
University of Wisconsin-Madison

Mid-American Conference (6)

University of Delaware
Eastern Michigan University
High Point University

University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Temple University
University of Toledo

AQ – Conference Championship

Total Number of Schools in Region 4 - 17
Total Eligible Schools in Region 4 - 17

REGION 5

West Coast Conference (10)

California State University, Sacramento
Creighton University
Gonzaga University
Oregon State University
University of Portland

Saint Mary's College of California
University of San Diego
Santa Clara University
Seattle University
Washington State University

AQ – Conference Championship

Total Number of Schools in Region 5 - 10
Total Eligible Schools in Region 5 - 10

Appendix B • Equipment

Construction and Design

Free Construction of Equipment. Except as specifically limited in these rules, there shall be no limitations on the design and construction of boats, oars and other equipment. All boats, oars and other equipment must conform to USRowing Rules 3-101 through 3-203, except for rules pertaining to uniforms, male coxswains and equipment, for which NCAA rules will apply. All boats are required to have the name of the institution in letters at least two inches high on each side of the boat. It is preferred that the name be placed near the coxswain on the boat. A boat will not be allowed on the water until the institutional name appears on both sides of the boat. Manufacturers' normal identification may appear on participants' uniforms, per the provisions of Bylaw 12.5.4. Manufacturers' normal identification may appear on equipment; all other identification is limited to the name of the institution.

General Requirements for Boats.

1. A boat in the sport of rowing shall have all its load-bearing parts, including axes of moving parts, firmly fixed to the body of the boat, but the seat of a rower may move along the axis of the boat.
2. The use of "sliding riggers," in which the fulcrum of the oar is not stationary with respect to the body of the boat, is strictly forbidden.

Categories of Boats.

| Number of Rowers | Oar | Coxswain | (Abbr.) |
|------------------|-------|----------|---------|
| 4 | Sweep | With | 4+ |
| 8 | Sweep | With | 8+ |

Minimum Weight of Boats. All boats shall comply with the following minimum weights:

| Category | Weight (pounds) | Weight (kilograms) |
|----------|-----------------|--------------------|
| 4+ | 112.44 | 51 |
| 8+ | 205.03 | 93 |

For purposes of this rule, the weight of a boat shall not include oars or detachable loudspeaker or electronic systems. Seats, rudders, skegs, fixed loudspeakers, wiring, fins and riggers shall be included in the boat's weight. Other items that are not permanently affixed to the boat shall not be included in the boat's weight.

Bowballs. Every boat shall have a supple or plastic ball, of a white or fluorescent color, mounted on its bow unless equivalent provision for visibility and protection against puncture injury is included in the boat's basic construction. The bowball shall be at least four centimeters in diameter.

Electronic Devices. A boat may be equipped with an internal loudspeaker system and electronic devices that provide statistical information about the progress of the race or performance of the crew (such as elapsed time or stroke rate). Use of prohibited aids such as an apparatus for wireless communication and water-soluble chemicals intended to reduce frictional resistance are prohibited. However, GPS systems and Action/Sports Cameras (e.g. GoPro) will be allowed as long as there is no direct communication, or transmission of information, to land. Antennas or other devices that permit GPS communication must be removed or turned to the off position. Cameras on tri-pods are prohibited on boats during competition.

Foreign Substances. No boat shall have on its hull any substance that is water soluble or partially soluble, or that alters the mechanical or chemical interaction between the hull and water, except that nonsoluble varnishes, paints or other similar surface finishes may be applied. The use of "bottom tape," including "3M Riblets™" on the outside of the hull is specifically prohibited.

Oars. The blade of an oar shall have the following minimum thickness: sweep oar, five millimeters (measured three millimeters from the tip of the blade). The following rules apply to each oar whether it is a sweep or sculling oar:

1. Oars must be uniform throughout the crew. The team colors may appear on oar blades.
2. Any portion of the loom or shaft beyond the collar must be free of any advertisement or inscription.
3. Nothing else (excluding the name of the school or its emblem) may appear on the oar, except that marks to identify the

owner of the oar are permitted. In addition, a designation on the oar of the captain is also permitted.

Footgear Release. Where the feet of the competitor are held in place by footgear affixed to the structure of the boat, the design of such footgear shall provide for the quick release of the competitors' feet in case of emergency, without the use of hands. (Such design may consist of Velcro™ or pull strings at the heels.)

Boat Construction for Coxswains. A boat in which the body of the coxswain is enclosed or partially enclosed within the hull of the boat, shall conform to the following requirements:

1. The opening through which the coxswain enters and exits shall be at least 2.30 feet (70 centimeters) long when measured along the longitudinal axis of the boat. For a length of at least 1.64 feet (50 centimeters), the opening shall be as wide as the inner hull of the boat itself.
2. The inner surface within which the coxswain's body rests shall be smooth and free of any obstacles, devices, or other structures that would hinder quick exit.

Insignia

Bow Numbers. Each boat shall be capable of having mounted on its bow a card indicating the number of its lane in a race, and each crew shall be responsible for supplying the bow number card. The local organizing committee may have a supply of bow number cards for use in a regatta, but crews shall not rely on the local organizing committee to provide such cards. The local organizing committee also may require that a member of a crew wear a number marker affixed to her uniform.

Boat Manufacturer. The manufacturer's name, address, trademark and name of the product may appear on the inside of the boat on a plaque or equivalent marker, provided that plaque has a maximum area of not more than 50 square centimeters. The manufacturer's advertisement also may appear on the outside of the boat once on each side (including the gunwale and washboard), provided the maximum area of that advertisement does not exceed 30 square inches.

Name of School. Each boat must carry once on each side of the shell the name of the institution that the crew represents. The letters used in any such name must be at least 2 inches high near the coxswain seat.

Electric Equipment. Any internal loudspeaker or electronic equipment permitted by the USRowing Association (see USRowing Rules of Rowing - "Electronic Equipment") may bear the name and trademark of the manufacturer of that equipment.

Footgear. Any footgear attached to the stretcher for use by a rower may bear the name and trademark of the manufacturer.