



*2019 DIVISION I WOMEN'S*  
***SOCCKER***  
***CHAMPIONSHIP***

***PRE-CHAMPIONSHIP***  
***2019-20 MANUAL***

# NCAA General Administrative Guidelines

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### THE NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

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# Section 1 • Introduction

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

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

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

## Section 1.1 Definitions

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## Section 2 • Championship Core Statement

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

This is attained by:

**Ensuring** student-athletes' optimal experience.

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

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

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

**Assuring** effective management of the business aspects of the operation.

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

## Section 3 • Concussion Management

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

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

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

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

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

## Section 4 • Conduct

### Section 4•1 Certification of Eligibility/Availability

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

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

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

#### DISCOVERY OF INELIGIBILITY OF A STUDENT-ATHLETE AFTER SELECTION

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

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

### Section 4•2 Drug Testing

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

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

### Section 4•3 Honesty and Sportsmanship

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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

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#### MISCONDUCT

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

#### FAILURE TO ADHERE TO POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

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

### Section 4•5 Sports Wagering Policy

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

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

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

## STUDENT-ATHLETES

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

## POSTSEASON

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

## HOSTING OPPORTUNITIES

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

## Section 4•6 Student-Athlete Experience Survey

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

## Section 5 • Elite 90™ Award

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

Institutions that wish to nominate a student-athlete must do so through an online nomination process. To receive more information or access the online form and submit a nomination, go to [ncaa.org](http://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](http://NCAA.com/travel) to search and book online hotel, car and air travel, all in one easy transaction.

## Section 7 • Logo Policy

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

A student-athlete may use athletics equipment or wear athletics apparel that bears the trademark or logo of an athletics equipment or apparel manufacturer or distributor in athletics competition and pre- and postgame activities (e.g., celebrations

on the court, pre- or postgame press conferences), provided the following criteria are met:

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

## Section 8 • Research

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

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

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

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

## Section 9 • Religious Conflicts

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

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

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



# Division I Women's Soccer

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# Section 1 • General Administration

## Section 1•1 NCAA Tournament Operations Staff Contact Information

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Managing Director, Championships and Alliances  
P.O. Box 6222 / Indianapolis, Indiana 46206  
317-917-6519 / [scessna@ncaa.org](mailto:scessna@ncaa.org)

**Robin Hale**

Assistant Coordinator, Championships and Alliances  
P.O. Box 6222 / Indianapolis, Indiana 46206  
317-917-6624 / [rhale@ncaa.org](mailto:rhale@ncaa.org)

## Section 1•2 National Committee

Current members of the committee are:

**EAST REGION****Nancy Feldman**

Head Women's Soccer Coach  
Boston University

**MIDWEST REGION****Erin Chastain**

Head Women's Soccer Coach  
DePaul University

**SOUTHEAST REGION****Chad Miller**

Head Women's Soccer Coach  
Western Carolina University

**SOUTH REGION****Clifton Douglass**

Assistant Commissioner  
Conference USA

**WEST REGION****Zack Lassiter**

Deputy Athletics Director-External Operations  
Oregon State University

**MIDWEST REGION****Lauren Ashman**

Senior Associate Athletics Director  
Bowling Green State University

**MIDWEST REGION****Jennifer Klein**

Head Women's Soccer Coach  
University of Michigan

**SOUTHEAST REGION****Matt Mott**

Head Coach - Women's Soccer  
University of Mississippi

**WEST REGION****China Jude**

Senior Woman Administrator  
University of Wyoming

**WEST REGION****Scott Leykam**

Director of Athletics  
University of Portland

## Section 1•3 Regional Advisory Committees

NAME	INSTITUTION	CONFERENCE
<b>EAST REGION</b>		
<b>Nancy Feldman</b>	<b>Boston</b>	<b>Patriot</b>
Neel Bhattacharjee	Binghamton	America East
Jessica Clinton	Fordham	Atlantic 10
Tim Santoro	NC State	Atlantic Coast
Carin Gabarra	Navy	Patriot
Josh Walters	James Madison	Colonial
Nicole Van Dyke	Penn	Ivy League
Andy Biggs	Bryant	Northeast
Krissy Turner	Monmouth	Metro Atlantic
<b>MIDWEST REGION</b>		
<b>Lauren Ashman</b>	<b>Bowling Green</b>	<b>Mid-American</b>
<b>Erin Chastain</b>	<b>DePaul</b>	<b>Big East</b>
<b>Jennifer Klein</b>	<b>Michigan</b>	<b>Big Ten</b>
Sam Lopes	Providence	Big East
Michael Moynihan	Northwestern	Big Ten
John Marovich	Valparaiso	Missouri Valley
TJ Buchholz	Toledo	Mid-American
Brock Thompson	South Dakota State	Summit League
Chris Johnson	IUPUI	Horizon
<b>SOUTH REGION</b>		
<b>Clifton Douglass</b>	<b>Conference USA</b>	<b>Conference USA</b>
Patrick Baker	Florida Atlantic	Conference USA
Brian Dooley	Arkansas State	Sun Belt
Derek Burton	Southern Illinois-Edwardsville	Ohio Valley
Jeremy Bishop	Central Arkansas	Southland
Paul Jobson	Baylor	Big 12
Stephen Peck	Jackson State	SWAC
<b>SOUTHEAST REGION</b>		
<b>Chad Miller</b>	<b>Western Carolina</b>	<b>Southern</b>
<b>Matt Mott</b>	<b>Ole Miss</b>	<b>SEC</b>
Kyle Cussen	Tulsa	American Athletic
Lang Wedemeyer	Liberty	ASUN
Michael Coll	UNC Greensboro	Southern
Colby Hale	Arkansas	SEC
Samar Azem	Campbell	Big South

NAME	INSTITUTION	CONFERENCE
<b>WEST REGION</b>		
China Jude	Wyoming	Mountain West
Zack Lassiter	Oregon State	Pac-12
Scott Leykam	Portland	West Coast
Alex Crozier	Cal Poly	Big West
Katie Burton	Portland State	Big Sky
Chris Shaw	UNLV	Mountain West
Danny Sanchez	Colorado	Pac-12
Chris Lemay	Utah Valley	WAC
Travis Clarke	Saint Mary's College	West Coast

## Section 1•4 Important Dates

<b>Monday, September 23</b>	First published RPI (weekly through selections)
<b>Tuesday, October 1</b>	Preliminary-round bid materials available on NCAA.org
<b>Friday, October 25</b>	Deadline for preliminary-round bid materials to NCAA national office (submitted online)
<b>Monday, November 11</b>	Selection announcement
<b>Friday-Sunday, November 15, 16 or 17</b>	First-round competition
<b>Friday, November 22</b>	Second-round competition
<b>Sunday, November 24</b>	Third-round competition
<b>Friday or Saturday, November 29 or 30</b>	Quarterfinal competition
<b>Friday, December 6</b>	National semifinals
<b>Sunday, December 8</b>	National championship

(Note: If an institution that has a policy against competing on Sundays for religious reasons advances to the semifinals, pending the outcome of the semifinal games, the championship game may be contested on Monday, December 9. The second and third rounds may also be contested on Thursday and Saturday if institutional policies prohibit Sunday play.)

### DATE FORMULA

<b>First Rounds (32)</b>	Three weeks before finals (Friday, Saturday or Sunday)
<b>Second/Third Rounds (8)</b>	Two weeks before finals (Friday and Sunday)
<b>Quarterfinals (4)</b>	One week before finals (Friday or Saturday)
<b>Women's College Cup</b>	First full weekend in December (Friday and Sunday). If December 1 falls on a Saturday, that will count as the first weekend.

### FUTURE DATES

<b>2020</b>	
<b>First Round</b>	November 13, 14 or 15
<b>Second/Third Round</b>	November 20 and 22
<b>Quarterfinals</b>	November 27 or 28
<b>Women's College Cup</b>	December 4 and 6

## Section 1•5 Equipment

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### BALL

The Wilson Forte Fybrid II soccer ball will be used in all NCAA tournament games. These balls will be sent by the manufacturer to the tournament manager at the host institution for each round of competition. The host institution is responsible for “breaking in” the game balls before each tournament game. In the event of inclement weather (e.g., snow), please notify Sharon Cessna at the NCAA national office regarding shipment of optic orange Wilson soccer match balls as backup. The game balls may be distributed after the games by giving them to the participating schools, using them as promotional giveaways or by donating them to a local youth group. One ball shall be provided to the center referee.

## Section 1•6 Rules

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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 the women's soccer championship, the NCAA Men's and Women's Soccer Rules shall be followed to the letter.

### BALL PERSONS AND ROTATION

It is the responsibility of the host institutions, for all rounds of competition, to provide an adequate number of ball persons. At least eight (8) ball persons are required for each game and should be on the field one-half hour before the game time.

### FIELD DIMENSIONS

The Division I Women's Soccer Committee mandates games be played on fields that are a minimum of 70 yards x 110 yards; however, the preference is for fields to be 75 yards x 120 yards. The committee prefers grass fields for preliminary-round games but will not preclude artificial turf (if approved by FIFA). Grass fields will be required for the Women's College Cup.

### SUSPENDED GAMES

In the case of inclement weather or other factors leading the referee to suspend a game, the officials, games committee and coaches shall refer to the NCAA Men's and Women's Soccer Rules. *For NCAA championship competition, a game must be played for the full 90 minutes (as opposed to 70 minutes for the regular season) to be considered a complete game.*

If a game is suspended or postponed, it will be the decision of the games committee and the referee to determine if the game can be continued that day. If conditions dictate that the game cannot be completed, the NCAA site representative and tournament manager shall contact Sharon Cessna (cell: 317-966-6451). Only after contacting Ms. Cessna may a game be suspended until the next day or moved to an alternate site. Teams should be prepared with footwear for any playing surface.

## Section 1•7 Uniforms

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*[Reference: Bylaw 12.5.4 in the NCAA Division I Manual.]*

Competing teams shall have both light- and dark-colored jerseys and light- and dark-colored stockings available. The home team shall have its choice of uniform color (either light or dark) and the visiting team shall wear a uniform in contrast with that of the home team. In the event of a conflict, the home team must change uniform colors (Playing Rule 4.2.1). For the semifinals and final, the games committee will determine the home teams.

Student-athletes competing in the championship shall wear the official uniform of their institution in competition and related ceremonies. This applies to warmups, press conferences, awards ceremonies, practices and postgame celebrations.

### CONTRASTING COLORS

Goalkeepers shall wear jerseys that distinguish them from all field players and socks that distinguish them from their opponents' field players.

Shorts may differ in color from that of the stockings and jerseys but shall be matching in color and uniform in style.

It is recommended that any visible garment worn under the jersey or shorts shall be a solid color that matches the dominant color of the respective garment.

It is recommended that players warming up outside the coaching and team areas wear colored jerseys/vests that distinguish them from all other field players.

### NUMBERS

Numerals at least eight inches (20.32 cm) in height that are easily distinguishable from the predominant background color(s) and pattern shall be worn on the back of each player's (including goalkeeper's) jersey.

Numerals at least four inches (10.16 cm) in height that are easily distinguishable from the predominant background color(s) and pattern shall be worn on the front of each player's (including goalkeeper's) jersey. The same number shall be displayed on both the front and back of the jersey, and no two teammates may wear the same number.

### LOGOS

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

# Section 2 • Determination of Championship Participation

## Section 2•1 Championship Format

The NCAA Division I Women's Soccer Championship provides for a 64-team, single-elimination tournament. Thirty-one conferences will receive automatic qualification for the 2019 championship. The remaining teams will be selected on an at-large basis. A championship bracket can be found in [Appendix A](#).

The top 16 teams identified by the committee will be seeded in the bracket. The seeded teams will compete at separate first-round sites. The committee has been given approval by the NCAA Division I Competition Oversight Committee to place the top 16 seeds in pods of four. There will be four number ones, four number twos, four number threes and four number fours. The remaining 48 teams will be paired geographically. First- and second-round conference matchups will be avoided.

### SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

First Round	November 15, 16 or 17
Second/Third Round	November 22 and 24
Quarterfinals	November 29 or 30
Women's College Cup	December 6 and 8

### START TIMES

For the preliminary rounds, first-round games may be scheduled from 2 p.m. Friday, November 15, through the weekend, with a completion time of not later than 4 p.m. Sunday, November 17. (Saturday and Sunday competition may not start before noon local time.)

Second-round games will be played Friday, November 22, not before 2 p.m. Third-round games will be played Sunday, November 24, not before noon. Institutions without lighted facilities are required to schedule the start time to allow a four-hour window for a daylight opportunity to play the game. In second round, host team competes in second game.

Quarterfinal games may be scheduled from 2 p.m. Friday, November 29, through the weekend, with a completion time of not later than 8 p.m. Saturday, November 30. (Saturday competition may not start before noon local time.)

The game times will be established by the host institution (during the bid process) and approved by the Women's Soccer Committee. At the discretion of the games committee, there will be a maximum 30-minute break between games of a doubleheader.

### TRAVEL PARTY

Please refer to the NCAA travel policies for all information regarding transportation and per diem expenses. Travel policies can be found online at <http://www.ncaa.org/championships/travel/championships-travel-information?division=d1>. The official traveling party is 28.

**Squad Size/Bench Size.** Each team is limited to a maximum of 22 players in uniform and a maximum of 37 persons in the bench area. Each team must comply with the bench limit of 37, and do so 20 minutes before game time.

**Pregame Warmup.** Teams shall warm up with a maximum of 22 players. Nonparticipating players (those above the maximum) shall not participate in the pregame warmup.

## Section 2•2 Results

### REGULAR SEASON

The use of NCAA LiveStats for soccer (or volleyball) is mandatory at all pre-determined championship sites. While schools/hosts are not required to use the software during the regular season, it is highly encouraged. The hosts shall make certain that the statistics crew is trained with the software prior to the championship by taking advantage of training opportunities provided by the NCAA and Genius Sports throughout the course of the regular season. For more information, please contact J.D. Hamilton ([jhamilton@ncaa.org](mailto:jhamilton@ncaa.org)) and [ncaa-content@turner.com](mailto:ncaa-content@turner.com).

## TOURNAMENT

The sports information director of the host institution, or an appointed representative, is responsible for reporting all tournament results to J.D. Hamilton ([jhamilton@ncaa.org](mailto:jhamilton@ncaa.org)) and [ncaa-content@turner.com](mailto:ncaa-content@turner.com).

## RATING PERCENTAGE INDEX (RPI)

RPI information will be released on [www.NCAA.com](http://www.NCAA.com) weekly beginning September 23 to November 4. In addition, the RPI will be released after the conclusion of the championship.

# Section 2•3 Selection Information

## SELECTION ANNOUNCEMENT

The Division I Women's Soccer Committee will select teams for the championship. The committee will announce the teams selected, first-round pairings and game sites at 4:30 p.m. Eastern time Monday, November 11. Teams will be notified of their selection as soon as possible thereafter.

## AUTOMATIC QUALIFICATION

Conferences granted automatic qualification for the 2019 championship are:

America East Conference	Mid-American Conference
American Athletic Conference	Missouri Valley Conference
ASUN Conference	Mountain West Conference
Atlantic 10 Conference	Northeast Conference
Atlantic Coast Conference	Ohio Valley Conference
Big 12 Conference	Pac-12 Conference
Big East Conference	Patriot League
Big Sky Conference	Southeastern Conference
Big South Conference	Southern Conference
Big Ten Conference	Southland Conference
Big West Conference	Southwestern Athletic Conference
Colonial Athletic Association	The Summit League
Conference USA	Sun Belt Conference
Horizon League	West Coast Conference
The Ivy League	Western Athletic Conference
Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference	

## AT-LARGE SELECTION

To be considered during the at-large selection process, a team must have an overall won-lost record of .500 or better. Thirty-three teams will be selected at large.

## TRAVEL INFORMATION

**Air Travel.** If you are located more than 400 miles from the host site, please contact Short's Travel Management at 866-655-9215 as soon as possible to arrange your air travel. Be prepared to provide the names of the members of the travel party of 28.

**Ground Travel.** If you are within 400 miles from the host site, you will travel via bus and must make your arrangements via Go Ground at 866-386-4951. The ground transportation portal may be accessed at [www.gochampionships.com](http://www.gochampionships.com) (same username/password used for Short's Travel expenses).

Transportation expenses and per diem will be provided for an official travel party of 28. Please refer to the NCAA travel policies for all information regarding transportation and per diem expenses. Travel policies may be found online at [www.ncaa.org](http://www.ncaa.org). Registration with an institutional email address is required to access the information located on [www.ncaa.org](http://www.ncaa.org). The NCAA travel department may be reached at 317-917-6757, or by email at [travel@ncaa.org](mailto:travel@ncaa.org).



## Section 2•4 Selection Criteria

The following criteria shall be employed by a governing sports committee in selecting participants for NCAA championships competition [Bylaw 31.3.3; *Criteria for Selection of Participants*]:

- Won-lost record;
- Strength of schedule; and
- Eligibility and availability of student-athletes for NCAA championships.

In addition to Bylaw 31.3.3, the Women's Soccer Committee has received approval from the NCAA Division I Competition Oversight Committee to consider the following criteria in the selection of at-large teams for the soccer championship (not necessarily in priority order):

### PRIMARY CRITERIA

- Results of the adjusted Rating Percentage Index (RPI);
- Results versus common opponents; and
- Head-to-head competition.

### SECONDARY CRITERIA

If the evaluation of the primary criteria does not result in a decision, the secondary criteria will be reviewed. All the criteria listed will be evaluated.

- Results versus teams already selected to participate in the field (including automatic qualifiers with RPI of 1-75); and
- Late-season performance — defined as the last eight games including conference tournaments (strength and results).

Recommendations are provided by regional advisory committees for consideration by the Women's Soccer Committee. Coaches' polls and/or any other outside polls or rankings are not used as a criterion by the Women's Soccer Committee for selection purposes.

**RPI.** The committee uses the RPI (Rating Percentage Index), a computer program that calculates the institutions' Division I winning percentage (25%), opponents' success (50%), opponents' strength of schedule (25%) plus a bonus/penalty system. When evaluating the RPI, the committee may consider comparing data of individual teams, including, but not limited to, overall record, Division I record, overall RPI rank, non-conference record and RPI rank, conference regular-season record and conference tournament results. The RPI shall be used as a selection tool.

The bonus/penalty structure for the RPI includes a bonus for non-conference wins or ties against the top 80 teams in the RPI and a penalty for non-conference losses or ties against the bottom 80 teams in the RPI ([Appendix C](#)).

### BYLAW 31.3.3.1 – COUNTABLE COMPETITION

For NCAA team-championship selection purposes, 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 3.2.4.5) 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. Regular-season games decided by the penalty-kick tiebreaker procedure shall be considered as ties for selection purposes.

Additionally, the scheduling of additional matches not listed on the institution's published schedule as an aid for selection shall not be considered. If an institution encounters extenuating circumstances (e.g., natural disaster), the committee will consider a written waiver request. This request should be sent to Sharon Cessna ([scessna@ncaa.org](mailto:scessna@ncaa.org)) prior to selections.

## Section 2•5 Site Selection

For non-revenue generating championships that seed a quarter of the bracket, sites will be awarded to the seeded teams that submit a bid that meets the requirements for hosting. In the event that a seeded team does not submit a bid that meets the requirements, the sports committee will maintain the current policy of geographic consideration when assigning those host sites. The committees will use the geographic considerations to help maintain the balance and integrity of the bracket. The committees will also separate first- and second-round conference opponents when assigning teams to sites.

Any institution interested in hosting preliminary-round competition of the 2019 NCAA Division I Women's Soccer Championship must submit a proposed budget, respond to sport-specific questions, and ensure the institution's key contacts and facility information are up to date via the Championships Bid and Host Profile portal. To submit a bid, first search for the desired championship under "championships available bid" and select "add bid."

This process allows all member institutions to regularly and easily access their profiles by visiting [championships.ncaa.org](https://championships.ncaa.org). For profile issues, user access or to reset a password, please email [championshipbid@ncaa.org](mailto:championshipbid@ncaa.org) or contact Robin Hale ([rhale@ncaa.org](mailto:rhale@ncaa.org); 317-917-6624)

### CHAMPIONSHIPS BID AND HOST PROFILE PORTAL

The Championships Bid and Host Profile portal can be accessed at [championships.ncaa.org](https://championships.ncaa.org). The deadline to submit all bid materials for this championship is Friday, October 25.

As a reminder, prospective hosts' budgets should include committee/site representative's lodging expense, game officials' lodging expense, state and city taxes/fees if applicable, and any ticket fees. Committee/site representative's per diem, mileage and luggage will now be paid by the NCAA instead of the host institution. Game officials will be reimbursed via the ArbiterPay system for their game fees, per diem, mileage and luggage fees.

### FACILITY PROFILE

Institutions interested in hosting preliminary-round competition of the 2019 NCAA Division I Women's Soccer Championship must add (or ensure accuracy of) facility information for the applicable competition venue. This information is located at [championships.ncaa.org](https://championships.ncaa.org). Any supporting information — e.g., facility diagram, 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 of prospective host sites.

### KEY CONTACTS

Each institution should list and then maintain its key contacts associated with each sport and the institution. Individuals can be added via the Championships Bid and Host Profile portal at [championships.ncaa.org](https://championships.ncaa.org).

### SAFETY AND SECURITY PLAN

Each facility profile should include the safety and security plan for the facility. This information can be uploaded and attached to the profile by visiting [championships.ncaa.org](https://championships.ncaa.org).

### FINAL FINANCIAL REPORT

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

### CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have any questions regarding the bid process, please contact Sharon Cessna at 317-917-6519 or email us at [championshipbid@ncaa.org](mailto:championshipbid@ncaa.org).

# Appendixes

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## Appendix B • Sport Sponsorship

### EAST REGION

#### America East Conference (9)

University at Albany  
Binghamton University  
University of Hartford  
University of Maine, Orono  
University of Maryland, Baltimore County

University of Massachusetts Lowell  
University of New Hampshire  
Stony Brook University  
University of Vermont

AQ – Tournament

#### Atlantic 10 Conference (14)

Davidson College  
University of Dayton  
Duquesne University  
Fordham University  
George Mason University  
George Washington University  
La Salle University

University of Massachusetts, Amherst  
University of Rhode Island  
University of Richmond  
St. Bonaventure University  
Saint Joseph's University  
Saint Louis University  
Virginia Commonwealth University

AQ – Tournament

#### Atlantic Coast Conference (14)

Boston College  
Clemson University  
Duke University  
Florida State University  
University of Louisville  
University of Miami (Florida)  
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

North Carolina State University  
University of Notre Dame  
University of Pittsburgh  
Syracuse University  
University of Virginia  
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University  
Wake Forest University

AQ – Tournament

#### Colonial Athletic Association (10)

College of Charleston (South Carolina)  
University of Delaware  
Drexel University  
Elon University  
Hofstra University

James Madison University  
University of North Carolina Wilmington  
Northeastern University  
Towson University  
William & Mary

AQ – Tournament

#### The Ivy League (8)

Brown University  
Columbia University-Barnard College  
Cornell University  
Dartmouth College

Harvard University  
University of Pennsylvania  
Princeton University  
Yale University

AQ – Tournament

#### Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (11)

Canisius College  
Fairfield University  
Iona College  
Manhattan College  
Marist College  
Monmouth University

Niagara University  
Quinnipiac University  
Rider University  
Saint Peter's University  
Siena College

AQ – Tournament

## EAST REGION CONTINUED

### Northeast Conference (10)

Bryant University  
Central Connecticut State University  
Fairleigh Dickinson University, Metropolitan Campus  
Long Island University  
Mount St. Mary's University

Robert Morris University  
Sacred Heart University  
St. Francis College Brooklyn  
Saint Francis University (Pennsylvania)  
Wagner College

AQ – Tournament

### Patriot League (10)

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

Lafayette College  
Lehigh University  
Loyola University Maryland  
U.S. Military Academy  
U.S. Naval Academy

AQ – Tournament

### Independent (1)

Delaware State University

## MIDWEST REGION

### Big East Conference (10)

Butler University  
Creighton University  
DePaul University  
Georgetown University  
Marquette University

Providence College  
Seton Hall University  
St. John's University (New York)  
Villanova University  
Xavier University

AQ – Tournament

### Big Ten Conference (14)

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
Indiana University, Bloomington  
University of Iowa  
University of Maryland, College Park  
University of Michigan  
Michigan State University  
University of Minnesota, Twin Cities

University of Nebraska, Lincoln  
Northwestern University  
The Ohio State University  
Pennsylvania State University  
Purdue University  
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, New Brunswick  
University of Wisconsin-Madison

AQ – Tournament

### Horizon League (10)

Cleveland State University  
University of Detroit Mercy  
University of Illinois at Chicago  
Indiana University-Purdue University at Indianapolis  
Northern Kentucky University

Oakland University  
University of Wisconsin-Green Bay  
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee  
Wright State University  
Youngstown State University

AQ – Tournament

**MIDWEST REGION CONTINUED****Mid-American Conference (12)**

University of Akron  
 Ball State University  
 Bowling Green State University  
 University at Buffalo, the State University of New York  
 Central Michigan University  
 Eastern Michigan University

Kent State University  
 Miami University (Ohio)  
 Northern Illinois University  
 Ohio University  
 University of Toledo  
 Western Michigan University

AQ – Tournament

**Missouri Valley Conference (9)**

Drake University  
 University of Evansville  
 Illinois State University  
 Indiana State University  
 Loyola University Chicago

Missouri State University  
 University of Northern Iowa  
 Southern Illinois University at Carbondale  
 Valparaiso University

AQ – Tournament

**The Summit League (9)**

University of Denver  
 Purdue University Fort Wayne  
 University of Nebraska Omaha  
 University of North Dakota  
 North Dakota State University

Oral Roberts University  
 University of South Dakota  
 South Dakota State University  
 Western Illinois University

AQ – Tournament

**SOUTH REGION****Big 12 Conference (10)**

Baylor University  
 Iowa State University  
 University of Kansas  
 Kansas State University  
 University of Oklahoma

Oklahoma State University  
 Texas Christian University  
 Texas Tech University  
 University of Texas at Austin  
 West Virginia University

AQ – Tournament

**Conference USA (14)**

University of Alabama at Birmingham  
 Florida Atlantic University  
 Florida International University  
 Louisiana Tech University  
 Marshall University  
 Middle Tennessee State University  
 The University of North Carolina at Charlotte

University of North Texas  
 Old Dominion University  
 Rice University  
 The University of Southern Mississippi  
 University of Texas at El Paso  
 University of Texas at San Antonio  
 Western Kentucky University

AQ – Tournament

**Ohio Valley Conference (11)**

Austin Peay State University  
 Belmont University  
 Eastern Illinois University  
 Eastern Kentucky University  
 Jacksonville State University  
 Morehead State University

Murray State University  
 Southeast Missouri State University  
 Southern Illinois University Edwardsville  
 Tennessee Technological University  
 University of Tennessee at Martin

AQ – Tournament



## SOUTH REGION CONTINUED

### Southland Conference (12)

Abilene Christian University  
University of Central Arkansas  
Houston Baptist University  
University of the Incarnate Word  
Lamar University  
McNeese State University

Nicholls State University  
Northwestern State University  
Sam Houston State University  
Southeastern Louisiana University  
Stephen F. Austin State University  
Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi

AQ – Tournament

### Southwestern Athletic Conference (11)

Alabama A&M University  
Alabama State University  
Alcorn State University  
University of Arkansas, Pine Bluff  
Grambling State University  
Howard University

Jackson State University  
Mississippi Valley State University  
Prairie View A&M University  
Southern University, Baton Rouge  
Texas Southern University

AQ – Tournament

### Sun Belt Conference (11)

Appalachian State University  
Arkansas State University  
University of Arkansas at Little Rock  
Coastal Carolina University  
Georgia Southern University  
Georgia State University

University of Louisiana at Lafayette  
University of Louisiana at Monroe  
University of South Alabama  
Texas State University  
Troy University

AQ – Tournament

### Independent (1)

South Carolina State University

## SOUTHEAST REGION

### American Athletic Conference (10)

University of Central Florida  
University of Cincinnati  
University of Connecticut  
East Carolina University  
University of Houston

University of Memphis  
University South Florida  
Southern Methodist University  
Temple University  
The University of Tulsa

AQ – Tournament

### ASUN Conference (8)

Florida Gulf Coast University  
Jacksonville University  
Kennesaw State University  
Liberty University

Lipscomb University  
New Jersey Institute of Technology  
University of North Florida  
Stetson University

AQ – Tournament

### Big South Conference (11)

Campbell University  
Charleston Southern University  
Gardner-Webb University  
Hampton University  
High Point University  
Longwood University

University of North Carolina Asheville  
Presbyterian College  
Radford University  
University of South Carolina Upstate  
Winthrop University

AQ – Tournament

**SOUTHEAST REGION CONTINUED****Southeastern Conference (14)**

University of Alabama  
 University of Arkansas, Fayetteville  
 Auburn University  
 University of Florida  
 University of Georgia  
 University of Kentucky  
 Louisiana State University

University of Mississippi  
 Mississippi State University  
 University of Missouri, Columbia  
 University of South Carolina, Columbia  
 University of Tennessee, Knoxville  
 Texas A&M University, College Station  
 Vanderbilt University

AQ – Tournament

**Southern Conference (10)**

The Citadel  
 East Tennessee State University  
 Furman University  
 Mercer University  
 The University of North Carolina at Greensboro

Samford University  
 University of Tennessee at Chattanooga  
 Virginia Military Institute  
 Western Carolina University  
 Wofford College

AQ – Tournament

**WEST REGION****Big Sky Conference (10)**

California State University, Sacramento  
 Eastern Washington University  
 University of Idaho  
 Idaho State University  
 University of Montana

Northern Arizona University  
 University of Northern Colorado  
 Portland State University  
 Southern Utah University  
 Weber State University

AQ – Tournament

**Big West Conference (9)**

California Polytechnic State University  
 California State University, Fullerton  
 California State University, Northridge  
 University of California, Davis  
 University of California, Irvine

University of California, Riverside  
 University of California, Santa Barbara  
 University of Hawaii, Manoa  
 Long Beach State University

AQ – Tournament

**Mountain West Conference (11)**

Boise State University  
 California State University, Fresno  
 Colorado State University  
 University of Nevada, Las Vegas  
 University of Nevada, Reno  
 University of New Mexico

San Diego State University  
 San Jose State University  
 U.S. Air Force Academy  
 Utah State University  
 University of Wyoming

AQ – Tournament

**Pac-12 Conference (12)**

University of Arizona  
 Arizona State University  
 University of California, Berkeley  
 University of California, Los Angeles  
 University of Colorado, Boulder  
 University of Oregon

Oregon State University  
 University of Southern California  
 Stanford University  
 University of Utah  
 University of Washington  
 Washington State University

AQ – Regular Season

WEST REGION CONTINUED

West Coast Conference (10)

- Brigham Young University

Gonzaga University

Loyola Marymount University

University of the Pacific

Pepperdine University
- University of Portland

Saint Mary's College of California

University of San Diego

University of San Francisco

Santa Clara University

AQ – Tournament

Western Athletic Conference (8)

- California State University, Bakersfield

Chicago State University

Grand Canyon University

University of Missouri-Kansas City
- New Mexico State University

Seattle University

The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

Utah Valley University

AQ – Regular Season

## Appendix C • Rating Percentage Index

### Rating Percentage Index Bonus/Penalty Structure

The Rating Percentage Index (RPI) shall be used as a selection tool. Below is the RPI bonus/penalty structure against non-conference opponents.

Result	Location	Non-Conference Opponents' RPI Rank	Penalty Value	Bonus/Scale
Win	Away	1-40	Bonus	Greatest bonus awarded
Win	Neutral	1-40	Bonus	
Win	Home	1-40	Bonus	
Win	Away	41-80	Bonus	
Win	Neutral	41-80	Bonus	
Win	Home	41-80	Bonus	
Tie	Away	1-40	Bonus	
Tie	Neutral	1-40	Bonus	
Tie	Home	1-40	Bonus	
Tie	Away	41-80	Bonus	
Tie	Neutral	41-80	Bonus	
Tie	Home	41-80	Bonus	Lowest bonus awarded

Result	Location	Non-Conference Opponents' RPI Rank	Penalty Value	Bonus/Scale
Tie	Away	259-298	Penalty	Lowest penalty imposed
Tie	Neutral	259-298	Penalty	
Tie	Home	259-298	Penalty	
Tie	Away	299-338	Penalty	
Tie	Neutral	299-338	Penalty	
Tie	Home	299-338	Penalty	
Loss	Away	259-298	Penalty	
Loss	Neutral	259-298	Penalty	
Loss	Home	259-298	Penalty	
Loss	Away	299-338	Penalty	
Loss	Neutral	299-338	Penalty	
Loss	Home	299-338	Penalty	Greatest penalty imposed

There is no penalty for losing to a non-DI team.

## Appendix D • Officials

### SELECTION CRITERIA FOR OFFICIALS

An NCAA sports committee may not require membership in any specific officials' association as a prerequisite for selection to officiate in an NCAA tournament. For all NCAA postseason soccer matches, officials (referee, assistant, alternate) shall be selected and assigned by the NCAA national coordinator of officials with assistance from the regional advisors on approval of the respective NCAA Division I Women's Soccer Committee. Any committee member whose team is selected to the championship will be recused from the process.

In addition, officials shall adhere to the Association's policies relating to gambling activities and drug and alcohol use. Appointments to work as an official for any of the NCAA soccer championships are conditioned on the NCAA Division I Women's Soccer Committee in its sole discretion, remaining of the opinion that your character, fitness, rules knowledge and regular and postseason officiating performance are all of the highest order. Failure to do so may result in termination of the officiating assignment.

- Officials shall be qualified, competent and appropriately credentialed. In selecting officials, experience and ability as a referee and as an assistant referee shall be considered.
- Officials MUST take and pass an online NCAA Soccer Rules Test. Officials will have two attempts to pass the exam with 90% or better score. The test requirement must be fulfilled not later than October 31, 2019.
- Officials MUST be registered with [ncaasoccer.arbitersports.com](http://ncaasoccer.arbitersports.com) in order to be considered and potentially receive an NCAA postseason assignment.
- Officials will not be assigned a match if it involves an institution he or she attended, was or is an employee of, or if his or her spouse/partner or relatives have any of these affiliations. In addition, officials will not be assigned to a game if there is an affiliation with a member of the coaching staff (i.e., former team member).
- To be selected as a Center Referee for an NCAA Division I women's soccer postseason match, an official must have officiated (as a Center Referee) a minimum of six (6) NCAA Division I women's soccer matches in the current season.
- To be selected as an Assistant Referee for an NCAA Division I women's soccer postseason match, an official must have officiated (as a Center Referee and/or an Assistant Referee) a minimum of six (6) NCAA Division I women's soccer matches. A combination of Division I soccer assignments as a referee and assistant referee may be used to meet the requirement.
- In order for an official to be considered for selection, such official must be recommended by at least one NCAA Division I conference.
- Officials shall be within driving distance for preliminary rounds (must be within 400 miles for Division I) or approved for a flight by NCAA staff.