



## 2021 NCAA Division I Men's and Women's Tennis Championships

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### Lineup and Challenge Procedures

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Lineup Form. The NCAA Division I Men's and Women's Tennis Committee requires online submission of lineup forms. Hard copies of the lineup forms will not be sent to institutions. Access to the online lineup forms will be through the ITA website used for results entry or the NCAA website (<http://web1.ncaa.org/tennis/exec/login>). Passwords for the lineup forms no longer are linked to the ITA results entry system. Users should use the passwords they have used for the lineup site in the past. If you do not remember your password or would like to change it, please contact Kerstin Hunter at the NCAA national office at [khunter@ncaa.org](mailto:khunter@ncaa.org). All automatic-qualifying teams and any team desiring consideration for at-large selection to the championships are required to submit the official online NCAA lineup form to the NCAA not later than 5 p.m. Eastern time, Sunday, May 2. Any lineup form received after 5 p.m. Eastern time is subject to a fine of up to \$300 as determined by the tennis committee. The committee may entertain appeals to the established lineup submission deadlines to review extenuating circumstances.

**When entering your information for the lineup form, remember to save your information often throughout the process. Once all information has been entered, please click the submit button so that your information will be submitted to the NCAA.**

The lineup form for 2021 includes space to list a maximum of 15 team members physically able and eligible to play. As such, please note the following:

- When a coach lists his/her 15 student-athletes, he/she is confirming that all 15 student-athletes may have the opportunity to play in the NCAA championships.
- All 15 student-athletes may travel to the championship events.
- All 15 must be physically able and eligible to play. Student-athletes injured to the point of not being able to play (e.g., broken bones, etc.) or student-athletes who have been declared as redshirts or student-athletes who are not eligible for NCAA, conference or institutional reasons, cannot be listed on the lineup form and cannot travel to the championship events.
- Only nine of these 15 student-athletes may play in the preliminary rounds of competition. These nine are designated at the administrative meeting the day before the start of competition.
- Teams that win second-round matches and advance to the championships site will designate, at the administrative meeting the day before the start of finals site competition, nine student-athletes who will play in the championships. These nine student-athletes can be different from the nine who played in the first- and second rounds, as long as they were on the original list of 15 student-athletes on the team's lineup form.
- For first- and second-round competition, the institutions are not reimbursed by the NCAA for any expenses (no change from previous years).

- The NCAA will reimburse each institution advancing to the championships site for a maximum of nine student-athletes (and a total travel party of 13 individuals). The institution bears the cost if the decision is made to take any additional members of the original 15 members listed on the lineup form to the finals site.

Coaches must list, consistent with ITA rules, all student-athletes in order of singles-play strength, including any doubles specialists, on the lineup form. The lineup that is presented to the referee at the administrative meeting before the start of competition must consist of only nine players total (including doubles specialists). For preliminary-round play, coaches have access to only the nine players on the lineup card submitted before the first-round contest.

The committee has established a fine of \$400 that may be assessed for failure of an institution to submit its lineup 30 minutes before the start of a dual match and/or for improperly submitting lineup changes that occur within the five minutes between doubles and singles competition.

For the 16 men's and 16 women's teams traveling to the championships site, coaches will have access to only the nine players on the lineup card submitted before finals site competition.

**Entering the Individual Championships.** The tennis committee will review any singles players or doubles teams in the ITA rankings as possible at-large selections. There is no need for a coach to indicate on the team lineup form which individuals they would like the committee to consider. However, if a coach wishes to have a player(s) or doubles team(s) not be considered for selection, the championships administrators (John Bugner - women's, Michelle Perry - men's) must be notified before May 2.

Challenge Period. Coaches will have the opportunity to review other teams' lineups on the website ([www.ncaa.org](http://www.ncaa.org)) and submit any challenges to the NCAA national office beginning 30 minutes after the completion of the selection show, Monday, May 3, until Tuesday, May 4, at 5 p.m. Eastern time (the deadline for submitting a lineup challenge). NCAA staff will notify institutions the evening of Tuesday, May 4, in the event their lineups have been challenged. Institutions that are being challenged are required to submit a written response to the national office (John Bugner - women's, Michelle Perry - men's) by 2 p.m. Eastern time Wednesday, May 5. The subcommittees will conduct a teleconference at 5 p.m. Eastern time, Wednesday, May 5, to rule on any appeals and finalize the lineups. Coaches should note that they may be asked to make themselves available during this teleconference if the tennis committee has questions about their lineups. Final lineups will be posted on the NCAA's website ([www.ncaa.org](http://www.ncaa.org)) by Noon Eastern time, Thursday, May 6.

NOTE: Failure to follow the results reporting or lineup form submission procedures could jeopardize a team or individual's eligibility for championships selection. Institutions failing to adhere to the procedures outlined above for the submission of regular-season results and lineup forms will be assessed a financial penalty. An institution assessed such a financial penalty must make payment to the national office before the institution's team or individual(s) will be allowed to compete.

The men's and women's subcommittees will implement a \$300 fine in accordance with NCAA Bylaw 31.1.11 (failure to adhere to policies and procedures) for any institution that has its lineup challenged and overturned by the respective subcommittee.

Lineups. The lineup for championship play is submitted to the referee at the mandatory administrative meeting before the start of competition. The lineup must consist of the following:

- Student-athletes listed on the official NCAA lineup form submitted not later than Sunday, May 2.
- A minimum of six players present and physically capable of competing.
- A maximum of nine players, including any doubles specialists.

In singles competition, position Nos. 1-5 shall remain the same for the duration of the championships. Position No. 6 may be filled with any of the three remaining players on the lineup and may change from match to match.

The student-athletes listed on a team's lineup for the first round will remain the same for the second round. Teams advancing to the championships finals sites may change the nine student-athletes on their lineup. Any student-athlete listed on a lineup must have been listed on the team's original lineup form.

Lineups for the 64 teams selected to the men's and women's championships will be posted on the NCAA's website ([www.ncaa.org](http://www.ncaa.org)) no later than 30 minutes after the completion of the selection show, Monday, May 2.

Replacement/Substitutions. Each round, the team's lineup is as listed in its master lineup. The referee must be notified of any changes to this master lineup before the start of play for the affected match(es). If the referee has not been informed of the lineup change, the affected match(es) are defaulted

Head coaches are required to inform the referee of any changes in the lineups. In the case of injury, illness or extenuating circumstances (as determined by the coach, to be approved by the games committee) a replacement can be made in the lineup. In such cases, the lineup must remain consistent with ITA rules in order of strength, with student-athletes moving up one place in singles and the new player placed in the No. 6 singles position. For doubles competition, any replacement is a straight-line replacement. The three doubles teams must remain in order of strength consistent with ITA rules as determined by their respective competition records.

In doubles, a coach may direct-line substitute for a sick/injured player as long as the teams are placed in order of ability. The opposing coach may protest a doubles lineup if they feel they are not in order before the start of the match. The on-site games committee will have final ruling on all on-site protests.

**Direct Line Substitution Rule.** A direct line substitution is the removal of ONE of the two players on a doubles team. That player is replaced by a player NOT in the top three positions of the doubles line-up. Once the new player has been inserted, per above, the teams MAY be reordered to reflect strength. Removal of two players from a doubles team in a doubles lineup (regardless of timing) DOES NOT allow for a direct line substitution. Instead, that team would be removed and the teams listed below it would move up (much like when a singles player is removed). If there is no #4 team listed, that team would forfeit the #3 position.

The games committee has the right to review and, if necessary, overrule a coach's decision regarding a lineup change, based on the ability of the players and matches during the season.

In team competition, if a player is injured during the pro-set doubles and that player is in the singles lineup, substitutions may be made for singles play but the lineup must remain consistent with ITA rules and follow the order of strength submitted on the lineup.

In the singles and doubles championships, in case of injury, illness or extenuating circumstances before the opening round, alternates selected by the subcommittees shall be substituted in numbered order if available. The substitution of alternates will be dictated by the maximum field size. If a student-athlete withdraws immediately before the start of the championships and the next alternate on the list is not on-site, the committee may select a player(s) from those available at the championships site in order to fill the bracket. If the withdrawn student-athlete is a conference automatic qualifier and there is a conference alternate who meets the selection criteria, that alternate will be invited.

In the team competition, a match is considered underway once the first ball has been struck in that match. In the individual competition, a match is considered underway once the individual players begin their warm-up on the court.

Seedings, Pairings and Automatic Qualification. Please refer to the [2020-21 NCAA Division I Men's and Women's Tennis Pre-championships Manual](#).