



# HOST OPERATIONS 2025-26 MANUAL

# Division II Tennis

## Contents

<b>Section 1 • Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco Products</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Section 2 • Americans with Disabilities Act</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Section 3 • Awards</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Section 4 • Banquets</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Section 5 • Championship Presentation/Fan Engagement</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Section 6 • Commercialism/Contributors</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Section 7 • Competition Site, Equipment and Space Requirements</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Section 8 • Drug Testing</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>Section 9 • Financial Administration</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>Section 10 • Game Management</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>Section 11 • Health &amp; Safety Considerations</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>Section 12 • Hydration Product</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>Section 13 • Insurance</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>Section 14 • Lodging</b>	<b>36</b>
<b>Section 15 • Marketing</b>	<b>38</b>
<b>Section 16 • Media Services</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>Section 17 • Merchandise/Licensing</b>	<b>49</b>
<b>Section 18 • Officials</b>	<b>51</b>
<b>Section 19 • Programs</b>	<b>53</b>
<b>Section 20 • Safety and Security</b>	<b>54</b>
<b>Section 21 • Transportation</b>	<b>55</b>
<b>Section 22 • Volunteers</b>	<b>56</b>
<b>Appendix A • Tournament Director Checklist</b>	<b>58</b>
<b>Appendix B • Schedule</b>	<b>61</b>
<b>Appendix C • Participant Call Agenda</b>	<b>62</b>
<b>Appendix D • Officials Meeting Agenda</b>	<b>63</b>
<b>Appendix E • Volunteer Waiver</b>	<b>64</b>
<b>Appendix F • Match Time Formats</b>	<b>66</b>

## INTRODUCTION

This manual outlines the responsibilities of an institution/conference hosting this round of an NCAA championship. It is essential that each host institution/conference staff become familiar with the information and policies included in this manual.

The NCAA considers this hosting opportunity a partnership between the host institution/conference, competition site, committee and the NCAA. The primary objective of each individual involved in the administration of the championship shall be to provide a memorable championship experience for each participating student-athlete, coach, institutional staff member and championship attendee.

## DEFINITIONS

**Championship:** Postseason competition conducted by the NCAA in a particular sport, in which eligible student-athletes and teams of active member institutions compete to determine the division champion (or National Collegiate champion in sports that do not have a separate division championship) in that sport.

**Governing Sports Committee:** The NCAA membership committee responsible for developing policies and procedures governing the administration and conduct of the championship under its jurisdiction, subject to the approval of the applicable division's governance structure and the requirements, standards and conditions prescribed by NCAA Bylaw 31.

**Host Institution/Conference:** An active NCAA member institution and/or conference selected to serve as host for a championship. The host shall administer the finances of an NCAA championship in accordance with the institutional/conference championship budget, as submitted during the selection process and approved by the governing sports committee.

**Local Organizing Committee:** A local organization formed in the city where a member institution/conference proposes to host an NCAA championship, to provide to the NCAA services and assistance in connection with the various activities related to the championship. The host institution/conference must be a part of the leadership of the local organizing committee.

**NCAA Championships Manager** The staff member(s) representing the NCAA championships and alliances staff assigned to serve as administrator(s) for a championship.

## ROLE OF NCAA

The NCAA championships and alliances staff, working in conjunction with the NCAA sport committees and other NCAA partners, will lead the planning efforts, management and execution of all NCAA championships and events. The NCAA will oversee all aspects of the championship and its related activities, including facility operations and space allocations, hotel accommodations, media and team operations, hospitality functions and social events, in venue entertainment, fan and sponsor events, broadcast programming, youth events, as well as many other aspects.

The NCAA will work closely with the host institution/conference, competition venue and local organizing committee to ensure that the championship provides a positive and rewarding experience for student-athletes and fans.

## ROLE OF GOVERNING SPORT COMMITTEE

The NCAA's core purpose, values and envisioned future provide the framework for all actions in the committee's administration of the championship and its stewardship of the game. Within the framework and spirit of its charge, the governing sport committee will balance the principle of student-athlete well-being with its efforts to maximize exposure for intercollegiate athletics and revenues from the championship through policies and activities that are subject to the final authority of the NCAA Division II Presidents Council.

## NCAA COMMITTEE AND STAFF

DIVISION II TENNIS COMMITTEE	
<b>ATLANTIC REGION</b> <b>Jaime Browne</b> Associate Commissioner Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association	<b>CENTRAL REGION</b> <b>Madeline Simmons</b> Senior Associate Assistant Director of Compliance Missouri Western State University
<b>EAST REGION</b> <b>Stefanie Whitby</b> Director of Athletics Wilmington University (Delaware)	<b>MIDWEST REGION</b> <b>Jon Coles</b> Faculty Athletics Representative Grand Valley State University
<b>SOUTH CENTRAL REGION</b> <b>Josh Cobble, chair</b> Head Tennis Coach Cameron University	<b>SOUTH REGION</b> <b>Christi Wade</b> Associate A.D. for Compliance University of West Alabama
<b>SOUTHEAST REGION</b> <b>Adrienne Singletary</b> Assistant Director of Athletics Coker University	<b>WEST REGION</b> <b>Spencer Shamo</b> Assistant Athletic Director Dominican University of California

NCAA STAFF	
<b>Lindsey Eldred</b> Coordinator, Championships and Alliances P.O. Box 6222 / Indianapolis, Indiana 46206-6222 317-917-6747 / <a href="mailto:leldred@ncaa.org">leldred@ncaa.org</a>	<b>Dallas Woods</b> Assistant Coordinator, Championships and Alliances P.O. Box 6222 / Indianapolis, Indiana 46206-6222 317-917-6129 / <a href="mailto:dwoods@ncaa.org">dwoods@ncaa.org</a>

# Section 1 • Alcoholic Beverages and Tobacco Products

## ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

Beer, wine and prepackaged/premixed beverages (in the latter case, with alcohol by volume of not greater than 15%, such as most hard seltzers may be sold and dispensed at NCAA Division I, II and National Collegiate championship and ancillary events, provided that the host, venue and/or concessionaire:

- Comply with, and certifies in writing the compliance with, the NCAA Championship and Ancillary Event Alcohol Sales Policy, as amended by the NCAA from time to time, which addresses such matters as:
  - Permissible types of alcoholic beverages;
  - Eligibility for the sale and distribution of alcoholic beverages;
  - Indemnity, warranty and insurance obligations; and
  - Verification.
- Agree to (i) keep and maintain, or cause its designated vendor or concessionaire to keep and maintain, complete and accurate records of all (a) alcohol-related incidents (e.g., expulsions, arrests) and (b) sales transactions related to the sale of concessions at the NCAA Championship and related ancillary events, including gross revenue, cost of goods, allocable overhead, and applicable taxes; (ii) no later than sixty (60) days after the conclusion of the event, provide the NCAA with a report setting forth in reasonable detail such information, together with the corresponding dates of transaction, including (a) alcohol-related revenue generated on each day of the event, (b) the direct cost of selling alcohol at the event (including the cost of goods), and (c) the indirect cost of selling alcohol at the event (including overhead and increased security needs at the event venue site); and (iii) permit the books, records, and accounts of host, venue and vendor/concessionaire pertaining to the sale of concessions at the event to be inspected, audited and copied by NCAA or its agents at any time during normal business hours upon giving reasonable notice to host, venue and vendor/concessionaire.
- Agree to pay the NCAA an amount of twenty percent (20%) of the gross revenue generated from the sale of alcohol during the event (and any approved ancillary events), less the pro rata applicable sales tax and credit card fees (without deduction of any operating, costs of goods, indirect, or other expenses, such as overhead, marketing, fulfillment, general and administrative, interest, or other expenses), with such agreement to be reflected in a written agreement between the NCAA and the applicable parties (host, venue and/or concessionaire) executed prior to, or simultaneously with, the NCAA's official selection of the host for the applicable championship.
- Following the championship conclusion, provide the NCAA with certain information regarding the concessions activity—including gross sales, direct costs and applicable taxes—for food, nonalcoholic beverages and alcoholic beverages sold during the event.
- Execute, as part of the bid submission, the applicable policy and agreement documents maintained in the NCAA Championships Bid Portal.

### General

The NCAA shall determine in its sole discretion whether alcohol will be sold or distributed at the ancillary events.

The venue, local organizing committee/host and/or caterer shall be responsible for any permits unless otherwise directed by the NCAA.

Promotional items (e.g., cups, shakers, flags, signs) with commercial slogans or identification or other unauthorized markings are not permitted inside the practice, competition and/or ancillary event venue(s), inside surrounding areas/facilities that are to be used, or outside on practice, competition and/or ancillary event venue property unless expressly approved in advance by the NCAA. Items such as newspapers, handbills, flyers, memorabilia, T-shirts, caps, etc. (except products sold or authorized by the NCAA or its vendors) may not be distributed on these premises. Demographic or other studies may not be conducted unless approved in advance by the NCAA.

An economic impact study can be executed at an NCAA championship to examine the effect of the championship(s) on the local economy. In some cases, the NCAA will conduct an on-site study and will provide the data to the host once the study is completed. In other cases, the NCAA will support the hosts' efforts to execute a study. This can be done using the hosts' own approach/tools or the NCAA's Economic Impact Study "In-a-Box" tool."

## **TOBACCO PRODUCTS**

Tobacco products shall not be advertised, sold or dispensed at any championship event sponsored by or administered by the NCAA. Smoking is not permitted anywhere in the venue; this includes cigars.

## Section 2 • Americans with Disabilities Act

The Americans with Disabilities Act, Title III prohibits private places of public accommodation (e.g., sports arenas) from discriminating against individuals with disabilities. The host institution/conference is required to confirm that each facility in which an NCAA championship or ancillary event occurs is in compliance with the ADA. The host institution/conference is responsible for determining if the competition site will be in compliance as of the dates of the championship. If the host institution/conference becomes aware that a competition site hosting an NCAA championship event will not be in compliance, it shall immediately notify the NCAA national office staff member with responsibility for the event in order to discuss the issue.

If the host institution/conference receives a request for an accommodation, which may require input from the NCAA, the host institution/conference shall immediately notify the NCAA national office staff member with responsibility for the event in order to address the request.

# Section 3 • Awards

## CHAMPIONSHIP AWARDS PRESENTATION ENHANCEMENT TEMPLATE

To celebrate and enhance the student-athlete experience at the championship site, the NCAA will work with the local organizing committee to implement a unique and fun way to recognize the champion(s) at the end of competition during the awards. These enhancements should help increase the excitement of the awards presentation and the level of championship branding exposure in photos for student-athletes' memories when looking back on their experience.

This should not add any additional time or delay to TV taking the winning celebration.

When considering what enhancements could work at your championship site, please consider your site and playing surface, whether your championship is indoor or outdoor and weather elements could be a factor, how many teams or individual student-athletes you may have participating in the awards presentation and your budget.

In most cases, enhanced staging and unique signage opportunities are great options for both indoor and outdoor sports. These items can be freestanding or attached to another item easily. Other ideas to consider would be logo cut outs, confetti, streamers, pyrotechnics/fireworks, a short video recap of championship performance(s), champion(s) or coach interview, utilizing pep bands or using an emcee or notable sport representative (i.e., Olympic Medalist) for the presentation.

These items can be covered through the operations budget, as well as the local organizing committee budget. The NCAA has preapproved artwork with pricing available. If you need assistance with ideas or ordering the preapproved items, please contact Nathan Arkins at 317-966-6790 or [narkins@ncaa.org](mailto:narkins@ncaa.org). Otherwise, please work directly with your primary signage contact at the NCAA on overall ideas, approvals, production and implementation with the operations staff.

## CHAMPIONSHIP AWARDS

### Preliminary Rounds

MTM, Inc., the NCAA national office awards supplier, will send official NCAA participant medallions for the non-advancing team's squad size (nine per team) to the tournament director before competition. When the awards arrive, the tournament director should inventory all awards to be sure they are undamaged, are correctly inscribed and are in the appropriate quantities. The awards boxes should then be retaped, closed and secured in a limited-access area.

### Finals

MTM, Inc., the NCAA national office awards supplier, will send official NCAA awards to the tournament manager approximately two weeks before the championship. When the awards arrive the tournament manager should inventory all awards to be sure they are undamaged, are correctly inscribed and are in the appropriate quantities. The awards boxes should then be retaped, closed and secured in a limited-access area.

The awards ceremony for teams will be conducted on the court of competition after each team championship match (semifinal and national championship title matches). Personnel must be in place and alert to setting up the table for the ceremony without undue delay. Two six-foot tables should be used to hold the awards and should be appropriately draped and NCAA decals affixed (if possible). The following awards will be presented for teams at the championships: four team trophies; 11 individual mini-trophies to each first, second and semifinalist place teams. For the women's championships, nine women's watches will go to the national championship team, and an additional two men's or women's watches will be sent to the team after the conclusion of the championships. The men's championship team will receive all 11 men's watches on site.

No additional awards, unless otherwise approved by the championships manager, should be presented to the student-athletes and coaches of the participating teams.

## **ELITE SCHOLAR-ATHLETE AWARD**

The NCAA Elite Scholar-Athlete award was created to recognize the true essence of the student-athlete 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 to the student-athlete with the highest cumulative grade-point average participating at the finals site for each of the NCAA's championships. Award winners must meet certain criteria including being a sophomore or above, participating in their sport for at least two years at their school, being an active member of their team, and being a designated member of the squad size at their championship. The member school is responsible for submitting its student-athlete who has the highest GPA and meets all other requirements. The NCAA championships and alliances staff and the NCAA academic and membership affairs staff will determine the winner of this award for each championship and provide the name of the recipient to the NCAA championships manager. The winner's name should not be released to the public until after the student-athlete is publicly recognized. If appropriate, the championships manager can share the information with the coach of the winning student-athlete to make sure of that person's attendance. However, the coach should not inform the student-athlete. Olivia Baumhoer or a member of the NCAA communication staff will typically send a template of a release and the logo to the sports information director of the winner's school the morning of the announcement to allow the school time to prepare. In addition, the information will be given to the NCAA social media staff in order for them to prepare a graphic which will post shortly after the announcement.

Each championship should provide an appropriate forum to adequately recognize and celebrate this award winner among student-athletes and fans at the championship. In addition, information about this award winner may be included in local press releases about the championship and in public address and/or video board announcements during the championship.

### **Award Presentation**

When determining the most appropriate time to present the Elite Scholar-Athlete award, the NCAA and host staff should evaluate the time and venue that will create the greatest impact and amount of exposure for the award winner while also appropriately honoring and celebrating their accomplishments. The presentation should be semi-formal in nature and not be rushed or overshadowed by other presentations or events surrounding it. The award winner should be visible, the announcement clearly audible and the award presentation should receive the full attention and respect of all of those in attendance. The standard award script is listed below:

At this time, we would like to present the Elite Scholar-Athlete award. This award was instituted to recognize the true essence of the student-athlete by honoring the individual who has reached the pinnacle of competition at the national championship level in their sport, while also achieving the highest academic standard among their peers. The award is presented to the student-athlete with the highest cumulative grade-point average participating at the finals site for each of the NCAA's championships.

The recipient of the Elite Scholar-Athlete award for Division II Men's/Women's Tennis with a GPA of **X.XXX** in **(major, is student-athlete and institution)**.

### **Presentation at the Student-Athlete Banquet**

This award has traditionally been presented at the student-athlete banquet for most NCAA championships. In many cases the student-athlete banquet provides the best forum for the award presentation and greatest exposure for the winner as it is the one time when all championship participants and administrators are gathered in one place with a controlled, semiformal environment complete with a sound system and set program. Presenting at the student-athlete banquet also alleviates any potential conflicts with the winning student-athlete's participation in or preparation for an NCAA championship event. Guidelines for presentation of this award at the student-athlete banquet are:

- The award should be presented by either the banquet emcee, the NCAA committee chair or the NCAA championships manager.
- The award should be presented near the end of the program and be clearly recognizable as the premier award being given (see student-athlete banquet page for sample run of show).
- The award should be presented after attendees have had a chance to finish their meals.

- If video screens are available, the video slide or footage of the winning student-athlete provided by Van Wagner may be run as the individual is introduced.
- The coach of the winning student-athlete should be informed to help assure the winner's attendance.
- If a photographer is at the student-athlete banquet or championship, a photo of the recipient receiving the award should be taken. This may be used in-venue during competition days to showcase the academic achievement of the student-athlete or provided to the student-athlete as a memento. The host sports information director should arrange to provide the winner's SID with a copy of the photo.
- If the award winner is recognized primarily at the student-athlete banquet, public address and video board announcements should be made whenever possible and applicable at the actual championship for additional exposure to fans who do not have access to the banquet.

### In-Venue Presentation

The NCAA and host staffs are encouraged to look for opportunities for the Elite Scholar-Athlete award winner to be presented their award in the championship venue during a time when most participants and fans are in attendance. While this may not be appropriate for championships that are spread out over multiple venues or large areas, or have multiple games in one day that disperses the crowd chronologically – it should be explored for championships in which the majority of fans are gathered during a predetermined time frame and can provide their undivided attention to the award presentation. The presentation must also not conflict in any way with the student-athlete's participation or preparation for the championship. Examples could be:

- In a championship with two semifinals played on one day, the award winner could be recognized during the semifinal in which the individual is participating.
- If the award winner is not participating or completes competition in the championship rounds of a sport but is still in attendance, the student-athlete may be recognized during breaks between events, weight classes, heats or during a scheduled break in the game.
- The award winner could be recognized during a scheduled opening or closing ceremony in which all participating student-athletes are in attendance and fans are encouraged to attend.

### Other In-Venue Recognition

If the Elite Scholar-Athlete award winner is not introduced live inside of the competition venue, public address and/or video board announcements recognizing the winner should be played during the championship to recognize this individual. Van Wagner will provide the following standard PA announcement sometimes accompanied by a video board slide. The championships manager (or champs engagement representative) will need to provide Van Wagner the name of the winning individual and a headshot photo if a video board is used for the championship.

The Elite Scholar-Athlete, an award founded by the NCAA, recognizes the true essence of the student-athlete by honoring the individual who has 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 to the student-athlete with the highest cumulative grade-point average participating at the finals site for each of the NCAA's championships.

The recipient of the Elite Scholar-Athlete award for the 2026 NCAA Division II Men's/Women's Tennis Championship, with a cumulative grade-point average of (list GPA) in (list Major of Study), is (list winner and school: Jane Doe of State University).

### Press Release

On the day of/or prior to the winner of the Elite Scholar-Athlete award being publicly recognized, the NCAA communication staff will send out a template of a standard press release to the sports information director of the winner's school and to the NCAA championships administrator. For selected championships, a press release will be written by a member of the communications or media coordination staff and be provided to national media by the NCAA public relations staff. If appropriate, this press release may also be provided to the host for distribution to local media.

### Social Media

The NCAA X account (formerly known as Twitter) will promote the winners after the on-site announcement has been made. Mark Bedics will work with the social media staff members to make sure they have the appropriate information, including photo to make the graphic and the timing of when to post.

- The host or NCAA championships manager should ensure a photo of the presentation is taken and emailed to [socialmedia@ncaa.org](mailto:socialmedia@ncaa.org).

For more information on the Elite Scholar-Athlete award winners, log on to [ncaa.org/elitescholarathlete](http://ncaa.org/elitescholarathlete).

### ORDERING ADDITIONAL AWARDS

To order additional awards please go to [services.mtmrecognition.com/ncaa](http://services.mtmrecognition.com/ncaa).

### PARTICIPATION

#### Preliminary Rounds

Due to the financial burden on a host institution, to be consistent with NCAA policy, and to provide each student-athlete participating in NCAA preliminary-round competition the same experience, **mementos will NOT be permitted at preliminary rounds.**

#### Finals

Participation awards are permissible (one per participant) as long as they meet the conditions outlined in Bylaws 16.1.4.2 and 16.1.4.3 and **are provided by the NCAA selected student-athlete participation awards licensee**. The NCAA championships and alliances group will be responsible for selecting the participation awards that will be provided. The NCAA championship administrator will work with the participating institutions regarding delivery of mementos after championship competition. Participant awards will not be distributed at the site of the championship(s).

# Section 4 • Banquets

## STUDENT-ATHLETE BANQUET

To celebrate and welcome all participating student-athletes and championship personnel at the final site, the host may provide a banquet (or other student-athlete recognition event). The number of guests, financial assistance provided by the NCAA and total budget shall be determined after consultation with the NCAA staff. NCAA corporate champions, partners or official equipment suppliers may receive approval to sponsor the banquet, but no local sponsors are permitted. Officials should not be included in this or any social event including the participating coaches and student-athletes. Per NCAA policy, student-athlete banquets (or other celebratory events) are not permitted at preliminary-round sites.

The NCAA may provide a video featuring the teams and student-athletes advancing to the final site depending on the amount of footage available and cost of obtaining. If practical, the NCAA staff will request the video from the NCAA games presentation team and inform the host.

The host will be responsible for coordinating all other details and logistics of the banquet including location, emcee, speakers, transportation, catering, A/V equipment, a printed program, etc., in consultation with the NCAA staff. The exact run of show and presentations included can be altered slightly to accommodate the number of student-athletes, teams and guests present as well as unique venue, sport or local elements. However, the run of show listed below and the 90-minute time frame should be used as a guiding template. Please note, that a 60-minute event is ideal, and the event should not last longer than 90 minutes.

Words of reflection or invocation are not required but may be included at NCAA student-athlete banquets. The NCAA supports a flexible policy which allows each host to follow the traditions and protocols of their university. If included, any words of reflection or invocation should be respectful and inclusive of all.

### Run of Show

6:30 p.m.	Greet teams and student-athletes, direct to tables or attractions (emcee or NCAA chair)
	Soft A/V presentation (e.g., music, slideshow of participating teams and student-athletes, NCAA tribute video, DII or DIII branding video – optional)
6:45 p.m.	Welcome/comments to student-athletes and guests from the event emcee and/or a city/host institution representative
6:50 p.m.	Dinner buffet lines open or plated dinner served
7:20 p.m.	Guest Speaker (optional)
7:40 p.m.	Comments by Head Coaches or Q&A with selected student-athletes (optional)* <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Team 1</li><li>2. Team 2</li><li>3. Team 3</li><li>4. Team 4</li></ol>
7:50 p.m.	Comments by the NCAA committee chair and the presentation of Elite 90 Award
	Championship Video (if available)
7:55 p.m.	Closing Comments (emcee with talking points from NCAA or NCAA chair)

*\*Comments by head coaches may not be practical at some championships, especially those with a large number of teams or individual qualifiers.*

**Best Practices**

While the guidelines above provide a standard framework for the student-athlete banquet, the event should be tailored to suit the needs, size and unique aspects of the championship. The purpose of the event is primarily to congratulate, celebrate and welcome all of the participating student-athletes to the NCAA championship and the host community.

The most successful NCAA student-athlete banquets have often been enhanced by unique venues, décor, interactive features, program enhancements or keepsake items that showcase the uniqueness of the host city or region and their excitement to host the NCAA championship. The NCAA will rely on the creativity of the host for development of these items. The formality of the event, attendee attire, appropriate number and type of speakers, level of interaction between student-athletes, etc. varies from sport to sport. The NCAA point person can help advise the host on sport specific nuances.

The host will assume the lead production role for the student-athlete banquet but should seek the advice and approval of the NCAA point person on such items as location, budget, timing, final run of show, speaker, menu, giveaway items (some may be provided free of charge by NCAA official equipment suppliers) and additional enhancements. Some past student-athlete banquet enhancements that have been well received are listed below. Please note, however, that the potential impact of all possible banquet enhancements on student-athletes should be weighed against appropriateness, available budget and other needs of the overall championship.

**Sample Enhancements**

- Unique venue – A skybox club overlooking the host university’s football stadium; a historical or cultural center; an aquarium or museum where brief tours can be incorporated into the programming; an iconic restaurant, theater or arena in the area; a beach party setting; etc.
- Slideshow – Before and/or after the formal presentation, a slideshow of participating team or student-athlete images is shown on video boards or mixed with NCAA branding messages (host would be responsible for collecting images from schools or preliminary round hosts).
- Speakers – Relevance to the participating student-athletes is the most important factor. Former NCAA champions or graduating student-athletes who went on to professional or Olympic fame in the given sport are ideal, however other options available at no or little expense to the host should be explored as some speakers transcend their sport or profession. Examples of previous speakers include Todd Martin – Tennis, Dot Richardson – Softball, President of the USGA – Golf, Bill Belichick – Lacrosse (Boston), ESPN personalities, comedians, motivational speakers, well-known football or basketball coaches at the host institution, etc.
- Photo opportunities – Opportunities for teams or individuals to pose for a photo in front of a championship backdrop (possibly with the championship trophy) or in conjunction with unique or iconic elements of the area (e.g., with giant hanging shark in Florida, with longhorn steer in Texas, in winners circle at Churchill Downs, overlooking city skyline, football stadium).
- Favors unique to the sport or area – Examples include mini soccer balls, mini lacrosse sticks, baseball shaped cheese – Wisconsin, make-your-own beach flip flops – Florida; please check with your championship administrator regarding budget, appropriateness and possibility of items provided by official equipment suppliers before pursuing.
- Special entrances for student-athletes – Red carpet into venue, spotlights, limos, local youth teams wearing team colors or with pom poms/signs to greet the student-athletes.
- Band/DJ/Interactive Games – Are generally only appropriate in more informal settings with numerous teams of both genders, relaxed time constraints, fun atmosphere, etc.
- Event 1/Championship merchandise – Sales booth or display area with order forms on-site.
- Special Olympics Component – Speaker, athletes, etc. (recommended for all DIII championships).

## Coaches' Association Award Guidelines

The primary purpose of NCAA student-athlete banquets is to honor, celebrate and welcome participating student-athletes in a concise and entertaining manner. Coaches' association awards and other presentations not directly related to the championship itself may be considered for inclusion if they are in the best interest of the attending student-athletes:

- The presentation should be relevant and provide a significant enhancement to the banquet programming for the student-athletes (awards or speakers which have limited relation to the championship or significance to the student-athletes will detract from their enjoyment and the attention they pay to other programming).
- The presentation should be brief (in most cases it should be limited to 5-10 minutes, but should never exceed 30 minutes).
- Awards presented should be limited to those presented to participating student-athletes and coaches or those which have some special significance to the student-athletes in attendance.
- The presentation should be secondary in significance and placement in the programming to any official NCAA championship presentations.
- If these conditions are not met, other championship related platforms should be explored by the NCAA to assist the coaches' association.
- All final decisions on inclusion of coaches' association awards, other presentations, scripts and presenters should be made by the NCAA staff with the best interest and overall experience of the student-athlete in mind.
- NCAA staff may call on leadership team members to assist in delivering and explaining the specific decisions to the coaches' association as needed.

## STUDENT-ATHLETE RED CARPET ARRIVALS/TEAM WALKS

At many NCAA championships, a red-carpet arrival or team walk featuring the participating teams and their band and/or cheer squads can be a significant fan enhancement. A red-carpet arrival/team walk allows fans to feel a greater connection with the student-athletes through brief personal interaction that provides lasting memories for young fans and may help create a greater overall impression of the championship for both fans and participating student-athletes, if conducted properly. Listed below are some elements to consider before deciding to conduct a red-carpet arrival/team walk, a list of guidelines for a red-carpet arrival/team walk, and a checklist of items needed for the event.

### Elements to Consider

- Number of fans – Will there be an adequate number of fans to support a red-carpet arrival/team walk and make it a positive experience for the participating student-athletes.
- Timing and location – Is there a time and place available in which there will be an adequate number of fans, space and the event will not conflict with the student-athletes' preparation for or participation in the championship (e.g., before each semifinal match concludes, during a highly attended ancillary event surrounding the championship or only before the championship game).
- Equitable participation – Will all participating teams have equal opportunities to participate (it is permissible to have a red-carpet arrival/team walk only on championship night with the two final teams only versus semifinal day and championship day).
- Team's experience – This should be a positive experience for all participating student-athletes, and it should not interrupt their team's normal schedule for a competition. It should be communicated to the team's that a 5-15-minute window between teams is needed. Depending on the schedule of the teams you can predetermine the arrival times or if they do not have any other commitments prior to the arrival at the venue, you can allow the teams to pick their arrival time as long as they are between the 5-15-minute window of separation, giving them more control of their schedule and not interrupting their normal game day routine.
- Fan's experience – Consider the location of the red-carpet arrivals/team walks for the fans as well. Consider using one of the main entrances or going through a fan fest location (if applicable) to the venue so that even if they did not know a red carpet/team walk event was happening, they still might see it and participate.

## DIVISION II TENNIS

- Visibility and promotion - Is the red-carpet arrival/team walk in a place that will be highly visible and accessible to all fans and/or can it be adequately promoted through social media, ncaa.com, e-blast, signage? Ask each participating team to send out the red-carpet arrival/team walk times to their ticket holders and on their social media platforms as well.
- Timing of buses - Consider the route that the buses will need to drive in order to arrive on the correct side of the street and the time it will take them to get from the hotel to the location of the red-carpet arrivals/team walk.

### Guidelines

- The host staff will have primary responsibility for coordinating and managing the red-carpet arrivals/team walk, as well as all staff, volunteer, equipment and logistical needs associated with them.
- The host staff should work with the NCAA staff point person to determine if red carpet arrival(s) or team walk(s) are appropriate, for advice, approval, look and collateral.
- The host should arrange for a walkthrough of the event with the NCAA point person as well as security, the facility rep, bus drivers, team hosts the event sponsor and/or fire marshal when appropriate.
- If a team has a band and/or spirit squad, communicate to the team that they should also participate in the red-carpet arrivals/team walks. If only one team has a band, ask the other team for a copy of their fight song to play over a speaker, if sound is available at the red-carpet arrival/team walk area. Select a time when the most fans can be accommodated and student-athletes will be least inconvenienced, consider what time the venue opens to the fans and what time the teams would normally choose to arrive.
- Student-athletes should wear game apparel or matching team issued warmup gear.
- Student-athletes should be escorted by staff, volunteers or security to the security check-in area or their locker room.
- Red carpet arrivals/team walks should have stanchions or barricades to create a safe environment for the student-athletes. Security should also be considered.
- No local sponsorship of student-athlete red carpet arrivals/team walks will be permitted.
- A sound system which can be used in conjunction with the red-carpet arrivals/team walks can be effective in communicating which team is arriving, providing fans with additional championship events and for keeping fans entertained with music and/or team statistics.

### Checklist

- Carpet - red, blue or black are all acceptable if the venue has one of these colors on hand, otherwise rent red carpet when the budget allows. Carpet is always preferred, but not essential to making this a successful event.
- Stanchions or other form of a barrier between the student-athletes and fans.
- Red carpet arrival/team walk sign or entrance way (e.g., balloon arch), if appropriate
- Staff or volunteers..
- Security, if appropriate.
- Lighting elements if it is going to be dark out, depending on the time of the arrivals.
- Tents over the carpet if it is raining, unless the location of the red-carpet arrivals/team walk is already under a covered location, consider cancelation plan (notifying the teams and fans if the weather is not conducive to hold the red-carpet arrivals/team walk).
- Announcements for emcee - instructional, NCAA branding, NCAA corporate champion or partner recognition, team stats, if appropriate.
- Radios or cell phone numbers for communication. Essential for either the team host or bus driver to notify someone at the red-carpet arrival/team walk location of the arrival time changes, if appropriate.
- Other entertainment (e.g., DJ/music, local drum line) to keep fans entertained before and in-between team arrivals, if appropriate.

# Section 5 • Championship Presentation/ Fan Engagement

## FAN FESTS

The NCAA prohibits host institutions/conferences from conducting special ancillary entertainment activities for fans in conjunction with the championship. Should another entity (e.g., convention and visitor's bureau) elect to stage such activities, the following policies shall apply:

- All plans must be approved in advance by the NCAA.
- NCAA marks, logos, name or references to the championship or tickets may not be used.
- No activity connected with the championship may be sponsored by an entity that is not an NCAA Corporate Champion/Corporate Partner (CC/P).
- Such an activity may not take place on property controlled by the competition venue.
- No entity may contact NCAA CC/Ps directly. All such contact shall be directed through the NCAA staff.

## NCAA MARKS

The NCAA owns and controls all rights and interests in its name, logo, seal, trademarks and service marks. Use of these marks is prohibited without advance written approval by the NCAA. Host institutions/conferences should review information outlined in NCAA Bylaw 31.6.1 (31.1.1 for Division II). Only official NCAA Corporate Champions/Partners (CC/Ps) and licensees are permitted to use NCAA marks and logos in commercial advertising and promotions, unless written approval is provided by NCAA Marketing. All and any proposed commercial advertising and promotions, if not by a CC/Ps, must be reviewed by NCAA Marketing staff prior to approval and production.

## IN-VENUE ENTERTAINMENT

### Video Board Content and Public Address Scripts

NCAA championships hosts are required to utilize NCAA provided public address announcer scripts, run-of-shows and video board content. Host and participating team messaging or video board content is not allowed. This includes promotion of upcoming events at the championship site, recognitions and sponsorships. Any enhancement that you would like to propose for the event must be approved in advance by the championship manager.

The NCAA will provide video board content to sites that have such capabilities. The video board content is important to the overall championship experience for student-athletes and those in attendance. Please work directly with your NCAA championship liaison to identify if there is a Van Wagner producer assigned to you (final sites) or if content should be downloaded from the Van Wagner box site directly (preliminary rounds).

Questions related to video board content logistics should be directed to:

Brandon Anthony - Senior Producer  
Van Wagner

Telephone: 925-354-5721

Email: [banthony@vanwagner.com](mailto:banthony@vanwagner.com)

### Break in Action Contests or Promotions

Hosts should consider continuing regular season halftime/quarter break/timeout contests and promotions or creating new, unbiased or nonsponsored versions of these promotions to use during NCAA championships. Entertainment can also include local performance groups or youth scrimmages. Guidelines and ideas for consideration:

- Must not include any commercial recognition (unless approved/provided by an NCAA corporate champion, partner or official equipment supplier and signed off by a member of the NCAA Corporate Relations staff).
- Must be appropriate and in good taste.
- Must fit safely within given time constraints with no chance of interfering with the competition.

## DIVISION II TENNIS

- Must not negatively impact the championship playing surface in anyway.
- No connection or resemblance to gambling.
- Participants must be randomly selected.
- No bias toward or against any participating team.
- Campus and venue rules must be considered when developing the contest or promotion.
- NCAA championship merchandise purchased by the host (e.g., extra volunteer apparel, committee or contributor gifts, items or certificates purchased from Event 1) make good prizes for these contests as prizes with commercial recognition would not be permitted.

### National Anthem Singers

Hosts are encouraged to explore their resources to bring in local, regional or even nationally recognized celebrities or groups to sing the national anthem (e.g., state beauty pageant winners, recording artists with strong local ties, famous local choir groups or bands). Guidelines and ideas for consideration:

- Local groups or personal contacts who could provide this service at no cost are recommended.
- No bias toward or against any participating team (e.g., performers should not wear the apparel of a participating team).
- A brief description and “thank you” for the performing group or individual may be incorporated into the script, but no commercial recognition, sponsorship, sales or recruitment messages should be included.
- Anthem should take two minutes or less to perform, however please build extra time into the script for introduction and placement of the color guard (if applicable), and introduction/applause for the performer.

### Enhanced Team Introductions

Examples of this could include using special music or video introductions provided by each team, smoke machines or on-field fireworks, youth athletes forming a tunnel or holding hands with student-athletes as they are introduced, local or school bands playing, etc. Guidelines and ideas for consideration:

- Must be appropriate and in good taste.
- Must fit safely within given time constraints with no chance of interfering with the competition.
- No bias toward or against any participating team and should be equally executed for all participating teams.
- Should be discussed with the NCAA point person in advance.

### Musical Entertainment

Participating school bands will be scheduled into the overall championship presentation when they are available. When they are not, the host institution marching band, other school bands or local bands may be appropriate for entertainment during pregame, halftime or other breaks in the action or for greeting fans in the stadium entrance or other congregating area.

### Affiliated Award Recognitions

If appropriate, national award winners for the given sport who are in attendance but not competing at the time of the scheduled recognition may be awarded on field during NCAA championships (e.g., Elite Scholar-Athlete award winner, coaches' association player of the year winner, coach of the year). Please consult with the NCAA point person to determine appropriateness.

## Military Involvement

Military involvement in NCAA championships may include national anthem performances (military singer, instrumentalist or band), color guard, band performances of patriotic songs, flyovers, parachute teams, precision drill teams, etc. Please work with the NCAA CR and In-Venue team to finalize military involvement, as some elements may be influenced by partnership agreements. *Please see Military Involvement below for full description and guidelines.*

## MILITARY INVOLVEMENT

The NCAA is supportive of inviting the military to participate at NCAA championships if their involvement enhances the championship experience for student-athletes and fans while at the same time honoring the military in an appropriate and unobtrusive manner. At many NCAA championships, local or national military groups have been arranged by the host to perform pregame, during halftime or other breaks in the action. These performances have included, but are not limited to, national anthem performances (military singer, instrumentalist or band), color guard, presentation of large flags, flyovers, parachute teams, precision drill teams, eagle releases around the national anthem, reunions of troops returning from overseas with their families, honorary recognitions, etc. Please discuss any forms of military involvement which you would recommend with your NCAA staff point person for approval.

### Guidelines

- Involvement from military groups often requires substantial government paperwork. Fly-overs and parachute jumps will also require FAA approval to be handled by the host. Please allow adequate lead team to coordinate.
- Involvement from national touring military groups such as the Air Force Wings of Blue or Army Golden Knights may require costs of travel such as hotel rooms, per diems, rental vehicles and even air travel if a military transport cannot be arranged.
- Host connections with local military bases may be more cost-effective in arranging military involvement.
- No messages about military recruitment should be incorporated into on-field performances.
- General messages paying tribute to all military personnel and thanking the particular military unit which has performed are encouraged (e.g., “Let’s give a big round of applause for tonight’s performance from the United States Air Force Heartland of America Band... and for all of the American military service personnel who they proudly represent.”).
- Request for any type of presence on-site (e.g., booth space, interactive elements, inflatables, giveaway items or space within an NCAA fan festival) is not permitted unless discussed with your NCAA point person who would in turn discuss with the NCAA corporate relationships team.
- Campus and venue rules must be considered when developing the presentation.
- Please discuss with your NCAA point person if providing complimentary access to watch the championship before or after their presentation is appropriate and possible.
- All performing or volunteering military groups should be provided complimentary access to watch the championship before or after their presentation if possible. Please discuss this with your NCAA point person.
- When several military groups are in attendance and recognized during one game/session of a multiday championship, you may want to consider a theme night “Military Appreciation Day/Night.” This should be discussed with your NCAA point person. Marketing should also be involved if you do a theme night.
- Amount of footage available and cost of obtaining. If practical, the NCAA staff will request the video from the NCAA Words of reflection or invocation are not required but may be included at NCAA student-athlete banquets. The NCAA supports a flexible policy which allows each host to follow the traditions and protocols of their university. If included, any words of reflection or invocation should be respectful and inclusive of all.

# Section 6 • Commercialism/Contributors

## SPACE REQUIREMENTS

**Activation of Corporate Champion and Corporate Partner Program.** The NCAA may request/require that certain areas of the competition site be made available for use by NCAA Corporate Champions or Corporate Partners (CC/Ps) for the purpose of marketing/promotional events/activities. If such requests are made, the host institution will provide requested space or similar accommodations.

**Local Organizing Committee Hospitality.** If approved by the NCAA, the Local Organizing Committee (LOC) has the option to host specified events during the championship. Commercial identification of any kind at any LOC function is prohibited unless specifically approved by the NCAA. The NCAA must approve all uses of NCAA logos, names, or other graphics (including school logos). The LOC shall submit detailed proposals (e.g., location, date, time, food and beverage, entertainment, budget), to the NCAA for review and approval at least 60 days in advance of the event. Any such events conducted are conducted at the LOC's expense.

**Other Functions.** To enhance the experience for participating institutions, fans, and alumni during NCAA championships, the NCAA (in conjunction with a third-party agency) may facilitate an official hospitality program in or outside of the competition site.

## PREMIUMS GUIDELINES

Competition Venue shall provide to the NCAA a set of guidelines, similar to those outlined below, that identify items that are not permitted in the venue no fewer than 120 days prior to the first NCAA championship related event. The NCAA will then utilize and share that information with its NCAA Corporate Champions and Corporate Partners.

**Laser Pointers.** Laser pointers of any kind are not allowed.

**Noisemakers.** Artificial noisemakers of any kind including but not limited to, air horns, electronic instruments, inflatable noisemakers, etc. are not permissible. Facility personnel are responsible for confiscating prohibited items at the entrance points or removing such items from the facility. Megaphones may be used for voice amplification, but they shall not be used as a distraction.

**Promotional Items.** Promotional items (e.g., cups, shakers, flags) with commercial slogans or identification are not allowed on the premises. Items such as newspapers, handbills, flyers, memorabilia, T-shirts, caps, etc., except products sold/distributed by the NCAA or its agents, may not be distributed on the premises.

**Signs, Flags, Banners.** Large signs, flags or banners are not permissible. It is the facility personnel's responsibility to confiscate all prohibited articles. Items that can be held by one individual, reflect good sportsmanship and do not block the view of other ticketed patrons may be permitted. In no case may a sign, flag or banner be affixed to the facility.

**Video Camera/Still Camera Policies.** Ticketed patrons shall not bring video equipment into the facility on game days. Still cameras with a lens no longer than four inches are permissible on any day.

## NCAA CORPORATE CHAMPION AND CORPORATE PARTNER PROGRAM

The NCAA Corporate Champions and Corporate Partners Program (i.e., corporate sponsors of the NCAA), managed by the NCAA along with TNT Sports and CBS Sports, authorizes the exclusive rights to license NCAA trademarks, tickets and taglines in commercial promotions with respect to the NCAA championships.

The host shall not solicit or permit involvement by any corporations or entities whose products may be in competition with any of the NCAA corporate champions or corporate partners. All proposed commercial involvement must receive prior approval of the NCAA.

NCAA Corporate Champions and Corporate Partners are dedicated to emphasizing the role of athletics in higher education, support all 92 NCAA Championships and are granted a wide variety of benefits, including certain category exclusivity around use of NCAA logos, trademarks, designations and championship tickets.

For more information and a current list of corporate champions and partners, please click on the following link:  
[NCAA Corporate Champions & Partners](#)

---

## LOCAL CONTRIBUTOR PROGRAM

Currently, local non-CCP corporate entities are not permitted to utilize the NCAA's registered marks, logos, tickets, name or references to the championship in a promotional/commercial manner. If a host institution/conference has an interest in using value-in-kind contributors, the contributor plan must be approved in advance by the NCAA Corporate Relationships staff. The LOC is permitted to involve a local contributor in the championship only as a sponsor of LOC activities or as a ticket package purchaser (pending NCAA approval of said local entities and approval of the arrangement).

Local contributors may only be referred to as "local contributors of the LOC." Local contributors may not use the word "official," "official sponsor of" or "corporate champion/partner" in any manner. Local contributors will not receive any in-venue or on-site recognition/branding/exposure, with the exception of small signage in private hospitality locations; in the souvenir (print or digital) game program, and/or additional digital advertisement space. In being recognized, these local contributors must be referenced as supporters of the local organizing committee, and not of the NCAA. Any recognition, branding and/or exposure creative must be submitted to the NCAA Corporate Relationships staff for review and approval.

Local contributors may be provided an opportunity to purchase an advertisement in the souvenir game program, provided the corporation is not a competitor of any NCAA Corporate Champion. All advertisements must be submitted to the NCAA Corporate Relations staff for advance approval. As noted above, local contributors who purchase an NCAA-approved ticket package may not receive recognition of any kind without the advanced approval of the NCAA staff.

## NCAA TRADEMARKS

*NOTE: These general guidelines do not include merchandise designs. All product designs must be submitted through the NCAA's licensing program administered by The Collegiate Licensing Company. Inquiries should be directed to the NCAA licensing staff.*

1. ALL uses of NCAA trademarks or logos must be submitted to the NCAA for approval.
2. [Click here for the most current list of NCAA licensed or owned trademarks.](#)
3. Downloads of NCAA logos may be obtained through the [NCAA Digital Library](#).
4. The NCAA's position on inclusion of ® and ™ marks is first and most prominent use.

The location of the trademark and how it is used is the primary factor in determining if a trademark symbol should be included in text. If the protected logo location is prominent and the primary focus on the page or product design, an ® or ™ in the text is not necessary. However, if the logo location is placed lower on the page or is secondary to the message being delivered, an ® or ™ in the text or header (first use only) should be inserted.

In the case of NCAA Women's Final Four, an ® is required after NCAA and after Women's Final Four. The NCAA owns "NCAA" and "Women's Final Four", but "NCAA Women's Final Four" is not a registered mark in itself: NCAA® Women's Final Four®.

To further expand, if the NCAA primary logo, which displays the registered mark, is used in a prominent position; NCAA Women's Final Four would require an R-ball only after the Four because the NCAA has already been identified as a registered mark. NCAA Women's Final Four®.

5. In radio and television advertising, NCAA should only be pronounced as N-C-A-A or N-C-double-A. It should not be referenced as "N-C-two-A" or in any other fashion.
6. Official names cannot be changed or abbreviated unless specifically trademarked (Final 4, F4).
7. There may be no registration of or use of NCAA marks within internet domain names unless advance approval from the NCAA is secured and ownership of the URL is maintained by the NCAA. Such use of NCAA marks in Internet directories is prohibited; however, members may use an NCAA mark within a member URL, provided such NCAA mark does not appear in the domain name portion of the URL. By way of example, members may use the following URL: [memberx.edu/ncaa](#).

### Identification of Commercially Named Venues on NCAA Materials

- For the purposes of providing information about and promoting the location of an NCAA championship, the venue/competition site of any round of NCAA championships can be printed, in text-only, on any and all pertinent materials bearing NCAA marks (subject to NCAA approval of the graphics).
- The logo of a commercially named venue cannot be used on any materials bearing NCAA logos or trademarks.
- The venue's name and information (without use of logos) will also be included on the dedicated website that the NCAA will provide to sell tickets.

### NCAA Logo Use by Commercially Named Venues

For the purposes of providing information about and promoting the sale of NCAA tickets, the venue/competition site of any round of NCAA championships is permitted to display (subject to NCAA approval of the graphics) the championship site-specific logo as recognition of the event being held in its facility. The NCAA logo must be in the form of a link to a dedicated web page that will be established and/or assigned by the NCAA championship administrator to sell the NCAA tickets.

The following conditions apply to this NCAA logo use:

- The NCAA championship site-specific logo can be used by the venue to communicate the NCAA event as one of the variety of upcoming events at the facility. The NCAA logo must be used only once and only as a part of a group of other logos of events being held at the venue.
- The one-time logo use is limited to the site's "home web page" or "event web page."
- The NCAA logo must be placed in a location on the venue's web page so that there is clear and defined separation between the NCAA logo and any other commercial logos (including that of the commercially named venue). [This is because NCAA Corporate Champions/Corporate Partners and WBD/CBS have graphic exclusivity in the use of NCAA logos and marks.] Logos of the venue's or the website's advertisers/sponsors may be used on the home/event web page even with the NCAA's championship site-specific logo on the same page if those commercial entities are clearly separated from the NCAA logo (e.g., are on a different colored background and are located at the bottom of the website page).
- The venue is not permitted to claim to be "the home," a host or co-host of any session of the NCAA championship.
- The logo provided by the NCAA championship staff cannot be modified in any way.
- ALL uses of NCAA logos must be submitted to the NCAA staff for approval.

### NCAA Trademarked Protection Language

NCAA trademarks benefit from consistent "source identification" to the public through basic legal language attributing ownership.

The legal statement should be used on "printed" materials of all types for all NCAA trademarks, except where there is agreement by key staff stakeholders that aesthetic or space limitations prevent legal language. The legal statement is NOT required when the NCAA blue disk or the word NCAA is used alone and part of NCAA-produced materials without any of the conditions below.

- Printed items that display logos of other business entities/organizations (i.e., corporate champions/corporate partners, network partners, official suppliers, official licensees, local organizing committees and NCAA members).
- Printed items that are produced to be "used" by other business entities/organizations including NCAA members and host institutions.
- Printed items produced for advertisement/promotional purposes (i.e., magazine and newspaper ads, NCAA souvenir publication ads, posters, newsletters).

The NCAA requires protection language as outlined below. This does not have to be prominently displayed language and is expected to be included as some form of “mouse print.”

The examples below are written only to represent the most typical examples. If you are unsure of exact wording for a specific example, please contact Ashley Murray at [amurray@ncaa.org](mailto:amurray@ncaa.org) or 317-917-6349.

For blue disc and/or secondary (word) mark, please use:

- NCAA is a trademark of the National Collegiate Athletic Association.

For blue disc/secondary marks plus another NCAA trademark, please use (for example):

- NCAA and March Madness are trademarks of the National Collegiate Athletic Association.
- NCAA, NCAA Sweet Sixteen and Road to the Final Four are trademarks of the National Collegiate Athletic Association.

For blue disc/secondary marks plus another NCAA trademark used with other authorized business entities, please use (for example):

- The NCAA, March Madness, Men’s Final Four and Women’s Final Four are trademarks owned by the National Collegiate Athletic Association. All other licenses or trademarks are property of their respective holders.

### NCAA Licensed Trademarks

College World Series and Women’s College World Series: The NCAA is the exclusive licensee of these marks, registered by Major League Baseball, in connection with the NCAA Division I Men’s Baseball Championship and the Division I Women’s Softball Championship.

All other licenses or trademarks are property of their respective holders.

### Helpful Links

[NCAA Trademarks](#)

[NCAA Digital Library](#)

[NCAA Corporate Champions and Partners | ncaa.com](#)

## OFFICIAL CHAMPIONSHIPS/LICENSEES AND SUPPLIERS

The NCAA licensing program is designed to ensure the quality and consistency of all of the NCAA’s Championship Event merchandise, protect the intellectual property of the NCAA and our member schools, and generate revenue to enhance programs that support NCAA student-athletes.

Any premiums and/or other merchandise that bear NCAA marks, brackets, taglines or other NCAA references must be produced by an official NCAA Licensee or NCAA Official Equipment Supplier. There may be royalties or other related costs associated with such items. If the NCAA is unable to identify a current NCAA Licensee or NCAA Official Equipment Supplier to provide a specific piece of merchandise, the NCAA will work to sublicense (on a short-term basis) a company that can provide the specific item.

For a list of NCAA licensees and official equipment suppliers, [NCAA Licensing - ncaa.org](#).

### ADVERTISING/SIGNS/“LOOK AND DÉCOR”

- Advertising/Banners/Signs/Displays.** The host shall not permit advertising, marketing identification, banners, signs or displays of any kind to be hung, posted or displayed anywhere within the general public seating/viewing area of the competition, practice and/or ancillary event venue(s) (i.e., any place that can be seen from the playing surface or seats), including the scoreboard and the playing surface prior to or during the conduct of the championships, other than NCAA, media partner or NCAA corporate champion/partner branding/recognition (e.g., signage, banners, scoreboards, LED scorer’s table, video board, ribbon board, PA announcements) approved by the NCAA. Any permanently affixed (or previously leased) advertising banners, signs, cup holders, select equipment bearing corporate marks (e.g., TVs, computer monitors, stats monitors or displays), product/exhibit displays (e.g., car displays, branding exhibits/kiosks) shall be covered with décor elements or other NCAA directed elements by the competition, practice and/or ancillary event venue(s) and at the expense of the venue(s) as specified by the NCAA,

including costs of production and installation and strike. Similarly, for any surrounding areas/facilities that are to be used by the NCAA for official events, no advertising, marketing, identification, banners, signs, decals, sampling, distribution or displays of any kind shall be hung, posted or displayed anywhere within those areas unless authorized by the NCAA. All professional signage/marks/pennants/banners/retired numbers/etc. may continue to be displayed. NCAA staff representatives have the discretion, during their site visit or when on-site in advance of the tournament, to have the building staff remove a sign/banner. Collegiate championship banners or those with retired numbers of collegiate performers can remain. All usage of marks must follow NCAA brand guidelines and must be approved by NCAA staff in advance.

- b. **Alcohol/Tobacco/Gambling.** All alcohol, tobacco and gambling advertisements/corporate identification within broadcast view or viewable by game attendees in the competition venue bowl must be covered at the expense of the host or venue. Any alcohol advertising that is deemed by the NCAA as not viewable from within the bowl does not need to be covered, whether in the concourse or in ancillary venues; tobacco or gambling advertising in the concourse must be covered. All other advertisements/corporate identification in the noted areas must, at a minimum, not be backlit unless otherwise authorized by the NCAA. This would apply to preliminary rounds and the championship rounds for all the NCAA's 90 championships.
- c. **External Signs.** All exterior venue corporate signage, other than professional franchise identification, must be covered as specified by the NCAA and must be covered with décor elements as specified by the NCAA at the expense of the competition, practice and/or ancillary event venue(s).
- d. **Commercially Named Venues.** Commercially named competition, practice and/or ancillary event venue(s) may display no more than two preexisting interior signs consisting only of the competition, practice and/or ancillary event venue(s)' name at the top of the venue, with placement designated by the NCAA. The competition, practice and ancillary event venue(s) signage design and placement must be approved by the NCAA. If the commercially named competition, practice and/or ancillary event venue(s) is an existing NCAA Corporate Champion or Corporate Partner, the NCAA, in its sole discretion, may allow additional branding of the commercially named venue(s).
- e. **Covering existing signage/product branding.** In regard to any signage that is to be covered in accordance with these bid specifications, the practice, competition and/or ancillary event venue(s) shall not limit or prohibit the ability of the NCAA to use signage or other elements of its own third-party designees in covering such existing signage/product branding.
- f. **NCAA Corporate Champion and Partner Branding/Recognition.** The NCAA shall have the right to display branding/recognition (e.g., signage, banners, scorer's table, video board, ribbon board, PA announcements, inflatables, projections, kiosks, decals, window clings, lighting, street teams, logos) for the Association, its corporate champions and partners and media partners inside and outside of the competition, practice and/or ancillary event venue(s). These locations, include but are not limited to the concourse, within the competition bowl and venue exterior without limitation.
- g. **Official Stickers and Stencils.** The NCAA shall provide the competition venue with the appropriate stickers/field stencils for the approved playing surface markings for the championship.
- h. **Fan Promotional Materials.** If facility approves, patrons are permitted to bring in small signs and non-noise-making items-in accordance with NCAA and venue policies. Items may not include any (non-CCP) commercial identification.
- i. **Digital Inventory.** At no charge, the NCAA will have full access to use and control of, all LED and other digital signage inventory, both internal and external to the competition venue. This includes TV monitors, video screens, video walls, LED fascia, and all internal and external signage, digital or otherwise. This includes all digital inventory to be made available at the time of the championship, inclusive of any inventory that may be added by the venue after this bid document is signed.

# Section 7 • Competition Site, Equipment and Space Requirements

## CONCESSIONS

Food and beverage prices shall be no higher than similar events or primary tenants in the facility. The host will retain all revenue from food and beverage concessions. Selling is restricted to the concession stand and established selling locations.

## COURTS

**Maintenance.** Host institutions for all rounds of competition should arrange for proper clearing and drying of the courts in case of inclement weather. This includes providing an adequate number of rollers and squeegees, as well as proper wind screening. The host should conduct a daily check of net height, center straps, etc.

**Preliminary Rounds.** The NCAA Tennis committee recommends a minimum of six outdoor competition hard courts of similar speed and surface, per gender for competition.

**Finals Site.** A minimum of 12 outdoor competition hard courts of similar speed and surface along with a minimum of six practice courts of similar speed and surface. The competition courts must be available for teams to practice starting at 6 a.m. one day prior to the start of the first round through the conclusion of the final competition matches for the singles and doubles championships.

**Inclement Weather Plan.** The NCAA Tennis Committee recommends at least six indoor hard courts in locations where they are available OR at least 12 additional outdoor hard courts available in locations without indoor courts readily available.

## DECORATING AND ADVERTISING

**Banners Inside Competition Site.** NCAA banners, signage and décor are the only banners permissible inside the competition site.

**Covering.** The competition site shall not permit any advertising banners, signs or displays of any kind to be hung, posted or displayed anywhere within the seating area (i.e., any place that can be seen from the playing court or seats), including the scoreboard, during the regional/championship session or practices, other than NCAA, as specified by the NCAA. No local/school radio banners are allowed.

**Directional Signs.** Directional signs should be posted in all areas used by the participants and the media.

**Institutional Signage.** Institutional signage does not need to be covered. Championship banner(s) may remain if permanent (not hung seasonally).

## EQUIPMENT

### HOST RESPONSIBILITY

ITEM	QUANTITY	COMMENT
Duplication equipment	1	Access to a copy machine
Wireless internet connections		Provide access (user name and password) as requested.
Public-address system	1	Announcements, awards ceremony
Results board	1	
Singles sticks		One on each competition court
Merchandise tent	1	10'x10'

## DIVISION II TENNIS

### NCAA PROVIDES (TENTATIVE)

ITEM	QUANTITY	COMMENT
Balls	3-4 cases/site - Prelims 24 cases per gender - Finals	
Coolers	20	FINALS ONLY, 10 gallons each
Credentials		FINALS ONLY
Cups (8 oz.)	6 cases	FINALS ONLY, 2,000/case
Dasani Product	100 cases	FINALS ONLY, 12 oz. bottles, 24/case
Ice Chests (50 qt.)	TBD	FINALS ONLY
Officials' Patches	92 - Prelims 12 - Finals	
POWERADE	75 cases	FINALS ONLY, 20 oz. bottles, 24/case
POWERADE Powder	5	FINALS ONLY, 12 packets/case
Umbrellas	TBD	FINALS ONLY
Umpire Bags	TBD	FINALS ONLY
Signs		FINALS ONLY - Net Art
Squeeze Bottles	15 cases	FINALS ONLY - 25 bottles/case

**Preliminary Rounds.** Balls will be shipped directly to the tournament directors of preliminary rounds immediately after the selections announcement.

**Finals.** Fifty cases of Wilson tennis balls will be sent to the finals site approximately one to two weeks prior to the start of competition. The NCAA championships manager will notify the host if Wilson umpire bags will be provided. If provided, all umpire bags should be shipped back to the NCAA at the end of the championships. The NCAA championship manager will provide the host with a shipping account number to be used for the return shipment.

**Results Board.** The host/facility shall post tournament results on an ongoing basis in a location that is easily accessible to participants and spectators.

### FACILITY

The facility shall be reserved for the exclusive use of the NCAA beginning at 6 a.m. one day before competition begins through the conclusion of the final match. All space shall be available and the facility set up no later than 1½ hours prior to the beginning of the first practice.

**Entrances.** Entrances must be staffed by an adequate number of persons. Signage should be posted to clearly identify all entrances.

**Locker Rooms.** Locker rooms with shower facilities, if available, should be provided for use by participants. A sign reading, "NCAA Use Only" shall be posted on the officials' locker rooms.

**Supplies.** Each locker room must be clean and adequately supplied with towels, toilet paper, and water and ice.

**NCAA Games Committee Meeting Room (Final Site Only).** Room should be large enough to accommodate 25 people comfortably. This area needs to be as close to the competition area as possible and not accessible by the public.

**Officials Room (Finals Site Only).** Room should be large enough to accommodate 25 people comfortably. This area needs to be close to be as close to the competition area as possible and not accessible by the public.

**Training Room.** Provide a training room stocked with towels and other necessary equipment, and staff it with the appropriate personnel prior to and during the matches and practice sessions.

**Parking.** There should be enough parking spaces adjacent to the primary competition courts for the committee, team personnel, match officials and NCAA staff. In addition, designate an area for team van/bus drop-off and pickup.

**Videotapes.** Institutions are permitted to videotape championships competition by their teams or their individual student-athletes for archival, coaching or instructional purposes. Each institution is permitted to use one camera and may videotape only that portion of the competition in which it participates. The videotapes may not be used for any commercial purposes. An institutional representative shall contact the event coordinator at the host site to arrange for camera space at that site.

## NEUTRALITY

Host institutions should keep in mind that an NCAA event is not a home event. Neutrality is important; therefore, such items as the use of players on programs and host institutional signage should not be used to create a "home" atmosphere. Traditional pregame or half time events are not permissible (tossing items to the crowd, permitting mascots to lead "trains" through the stands, etc.)

## PA SYSTEM

One quality public address systems should be available for introductions, announcements, the awards ceremony and any other activity planned in conjunction with the championships.

## RESTROOMS

Ensure that there are adequate and functioning restroom facilities within proximity of the competition courts.

## Section 8 • Drug Testing

The NCAA is dedicated to fair and equitable competition throughout each round of NCAA championships and strongly supports the drug-testing program established by its membership, to safeguard the health and safety of the participating student-athletes.

Comprehensive drug testing details for hosts can be found at the following link [NCAA Drug Testing Program - ncaa.org](http://NCAA Drug Testing Program - ncaa.org).

# Section 9 • Financial Administration

## AUDIT

Sites will be randomly selected for financial and box office audits following the championship.

The NCAA will make every effort to notify sites selected for audits within 30 days after the approval of financial reports, but reserves the right to audit a site up to one year after the championship. Receipts, facility settlements, expense reimbursements and honorariums are subject to change until the audits are reviewed and accepted by the NCAA. If selected for audit, the documentation requested could include: box office audit reports or sales summaries; ticket purchase invoices or statements; unsold tickets; invoices, contracts or timesheets supporting all expenses; general ledger; bank statements; check copies and reconciliations; competition venue rental agreement; and any other documentation to support details reported on the host financial report. In addition, overages between budgeted and actual numbers will be reviewed.

## APPROVAL OF THE BUDGET

As part of the site-selection process, each prospective host must submit a proposed budget for approval by the NCAA. All receipts and expenses associated with the conduct of the championship competition shall be included in the proposed budget. This includes lodging expenses for officials and site representatives, if applicable. The proposed budget must be submitted before the selection date in accordance with the schedule set by the sport committee and approved by the NCAA prior to the first date of competition of the championship. Additionally, best efforts should be made by the host to forecast expected ticket sales from the hosted event due to attendance driving a number of host expenses.

The host institution is responsible for adhering to championship expenses as approved by the NCAA, including (but not limited to) competition site rental, maintenance, insurance, printing of tickets, ushers, maintenance personnel, ticket sellers, ticket takers, minor officials, police and security, promotion, publicity, advertising, meetings, banquets, medical staff. Other expenses not included in the original proposed budget must be approved in advance by the NCAA.

It is also incumbent upon the host to understand and remit all necessary taxes related to the sale of tickets to the given championship for sales made by both the NCAA and the host at their given state and locality. All consideration must be given by the host for certain relief of taxes with respect to the NCAA's not for profit status under 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code. Additionally, certain championships may be required to provide a letter of attestation regarding tax status provided by an outside CPA/accounting firm.

## FINANCIAL REPORT

Host institutions must complete the online financial report, which includes accurately reporting all revenues and expense, and must include payment of the amount due to the NCAA, within 60 days after the final date of competition at the site (if applicable). If requested, the host may be required to provide all supporting documentation to validate the revenues and expenses of their site. As a best practice, hosts are encouraged to upload all appropriate receipts, ticket audits and other supporting documentation to their host report on the "summary" tab as documentation supporting each line of their revenue and expense figures.

Financial reports showing net receipts are not considered complete until payment is received at the national office. Institutions that fail to meet the 60-day reporting period will be assessed the following penalties: 60-90 days past due (25% reduction in honorarium), 91-120 days (50% reduction in honorarium) and 121 days or more (100% reduction in honorarium). If there is a shortfall in the funds available to reimburse approved expenses and honorariums, the NCAA will make best efforts to reimburse the host within 5 business days of the report being approved by the NCAA finance and accounting department.

## DRUG TESTING EXPENSES

The budget for drug testing expenses should only be completed and returned to Drug Free Sport if the host has been notified that drug testing will occur. The drug-testing budget and expenses are separate from the financial report form. The drug-testing budget form is an appendix in the [drug testing manual](#) (ncaa.org/Student-Athlete Programs/Health and Safety).

### PARTICIPANTS

The NCAA will reimburse the competing institutions for transportation and per diem expenses in accordance with the NCAA travel policies. Once the championship is completed, participating institutions should submit online expense forms via [Travel Expense System \(TES\)](#) to the travel department at the NCAA national office within 30 days of the competition. Please note that if you host a championship, the submission of per diem and/or transportation reimbursement is in addition to the host budgeting and approval process defined above.

### SITE REPRESENTATIVES

Currently, there is no site representative at the preliminary rounds at Division II Tennis. The NCAA representative's hotel room and tax shall be paid (via direct bill) by the host institution and submitted on the financial report. All other expenses (i.e., per diem, travel) will be paid directly by the NCAA.

### TRANSPORTATION

**Transportation.** The NCAA shall pay for the rental of cars for a predetermined number of game officials and the NCAA committee representative(s). The championships staff will approve the individual to get a rental car and the individual will need to call Short's Travel to book.

**Local Transportation for Teams.** For team sports, eligible for reimbursable ground transportation, must arrange ground transportation through Short's Travel. Individual sports, eligible for reimbursable ground transportation receive mileage reimbursement in accordance with the travel policy.

**Air Transportation for Teams.** If a school is eligible for air transportation, all air travel must be booked through Short's Travel.

**Hotel Room Block for Predetermined Sites.** If at an NCAA predetermined championship site, On Location will assist with the management of those hotel room blocks.

### [NCAA Championship Travel Policies](#)

# Section 10 • Game Management

## EVALUATION

NCAA championships are the pinnacle events to provide student-athletes an unparalleled experience in pursuit of excellence. Your feedback will assist us in our desire for continuous improvement in support of this vision. Your survey results will be kept confidential and the results will only be reported in aggregate form. Evaluations will be initiated by the NCAA staff via email (following each site) and should be completed no later than **Friday, June 6 at 5 p.m. Eastern time**. They will be sent to Participants, Tournament Directors, Committee Members and Site Representatives.

## FORMAT

The tournament shall be conducted according to the format approved by the committee. All matches shall be played outdoors, weather permitting. At all times, the referee or a designated replacement, in consultation with the games committee, shall determine which matches shall be played indoors. If a match is moved indoors, then the same umpire shall be assigned to the match.

The team championship shall consist of 48 teams for men and women, in which 16 teams will advance to the final site.

## TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP

The championships shall consist of team-only championships. Tournaments shall be conducted according to the formats approved by the committee. All matches shall be played outdoors, weather permitting, as determined by the head referee and games committee.

The team championships shall comprise a maximum of 48 teams per gender. The teams will play a single-elimination tournament at 16 (men and women) regional sites (two to eight teams at each site) and the finals site (16-team bracket) to determine the national champion.

### Dual-Match Format

1. Three doubles followed by six singles (3-6 Format). The format is three six-game pro set doubles matches with a seven-point tiebreak at 6-all. Doubles will be followed by six best-of-three-set singles matches.
2. Seven team points. The team that wins two of the three doubles matches receives one point. Each singles match is worth one point. Four or more points are required to win the team match.
  - a. After the doubles point has been decided, any remaining doubles match shall be abandoned.
  - b. Once the outcome of the team match has been decided, a shortened format shall be played unless both coaches agree otherwise or conference rules supersede. Matches still in the second set shall play a 10-point tiebreak in lieu of the third set. Any match already in the third set shall be played to completion. A match that has not started shall consist of two sets with a 10-point tiebreak played at one set all.
3. Scoring. No-ad scoring will be used for both doubles and singles matches

Teams will not warm up with their opponents before doubles or singles. Introductions for lineups should be done over a PA system before play starts. In a match played on fewer than six courts, the second wave of singles matches shall get a 10-minute warmup between opponents.

The games committee reserves the right to stop a match in the best interest of the administration of the tournament.

<b>Preliminary Rounds</b>	May 8-9 & May 11-12
<b>Women's First Round</b>	May 19
<b>Men's First Round</b>	May 20
<b>Women's Quarterfinals</b>	May 20
<b>Men's Quarterfinals</b>	May 21
<b>Women's Semifinals</b>	May 22
<b>Men's Semifinals</b>	May 23
<b>Women's Finals</b>	May 23
<b>Men's Finals</b>	May 24

### SEEDING

The host site for preliminary-round competition will be determined by the NCAA Division II Men's and Women's Tennis Committee. Priority is given to the two top-seeded teams, provided the minimum site selection criteria is met.

The draw for preliminary rounds will consist of single-elimination intra-regional competition. The two committee-selected sites for each region will host the remaining seeds, which are determined and distributed by the NCAA selection committee. The winner of each regional site will advance to the round of 16.

Following preliminary rounds, the committee will seed all 16 teams advancing to the final site.

In the two- to eight-team preliminary-round tournaments, matches will take place over two days: Friday-Saturday, May 8-9, for women and Monday-Tuesday, May 11-12, for men. In the two-team tournaments, a single match will be contested to determine the team that will advance to the national championships. The tournament director, in conjunction with the NCAA Championship Manager and regional committee chair member, shall determine the day and time of the match to take place.

### MATCH TIMES

The committee will approve all starting times. The committee, in consultation with the host institution, will determine the order of events. Host institutions are permitted to schedule evening matches; however, evening matches should begin no later than 5 p.m., and for teams and/or individuals who play late matches, every effort should be made to schedule subsequent matches later the next morning.

**Preliminary Rounds.** Please communicate with your site representative if you need to move a match. Recommended starting match times can be found in Appendix G.

**Finals.** The schedule for the team and individual championships will be determined by the committee in consultation with the host institution.

### PERSONNEL

The host institution shall appoint staff members to assume the positions of tournament director and media coordinator.

**NCAA Division II Men's and Women's Tennis Committees.** The NCAA Division II Men's and Women's Tennis Championships are under the control, direction and supervision of the NCAA Division II Men's and Women's Tennis Committees, subject to such requirements, standards and conditions as may be prescribed by the Association's bylaws and governance structure. The committee must adhere to the policies contained in the bylaws or otherwise established unless prior approval has been granted to deviate from them.

**Games Committee.** The NCAA Division II Men's and Women's Tennis Committees shall serve as the games committee to actively supervise the actual conduct of the tournament for the finals site. The games committee also includes the head referee and any other person deemed necessary by the chair for the finals site. For preliminary rounds, the games committee shall be comprised of the tournament director and a NCAA Regional National Committee member. The primary purpose of the games committee is to give specialized assistance and guidance to the tournament manager prior to and during the championships.

**Tournament Director.** The tournament director is a representative from the institution hosting the championships and serves as the institution's chief administrator of the championships. This individual also serves as a liaison to the NCAA championships staff to ensure all aspects of the championships are planned, organized and implemented according to NCAA rules and regulations. The tournament director is responsible for overseeing the local organizing committee (LOC), which includes personnel, facilities, written reports, budget concerns and the timeliness in which all information is completed and submitted to the NCAA national office.

The Men's and Women's Tennis Committees requires that someone other than a member of the tennis coaching staff of the host institution be designated as the tournament director, and that the tournament director be employed by the institution. This is to ensure that if the host institution's team participates in the competition, there will be no conflict of interest when decisions pertaining to the conduct of the competition arise.

**Local Organizing Committee (LOC) - Finals Site Only.** The tournament director will establish a local organizing committee to act as the group responsible for making arrangements for fulfilling the tasks related to the championships. The LOC encourages the involvement of various members within the institution's athletics department as well as the local community, who, by their involvement, promote a greater awareness of the championships within the community.

In addition, by diversifying the LOC, the tournament director can tap into volunteer resources throughout the community and involve them in the championships. This is accomplished by involving various segments of the community in the planning process, thereby making people aware of the volunteer opportunities inherent with the administration of the championships.

The tournament director chairs the LOC and shall maintain the ultimate responsibility for the operation of the championships. This individual coordinates the administration of the championships and the efforts of the LOC within the guidelines and procedures of the NCAA. In addition to the tournament director, the LOC is responsible for (but is not limited to) the following areas: public affairs/media, facilities, transportation, volunteers and auxiliary staff.

## PREMATCH PROTOCOL

**National Anthem.** The national anthem will be played before the first match of each session of competition.

**Public-Address Announcer.** The public-address announcer should follow the NCAA script as provided by the NCAA championships manager.

**Official Team Lineup.** For the team championships, preliminary-round hosts should have on-hand official team line-ups for all institutions participating at their respective sites. Lineups for all teams will be available on the NCAA website sport landing page.

Consistent with ITA rules, coaches must list student-athletes in order of singles-play strength, including any doubles specialists, on the line-up 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).

**Team Introductions.** Following team warmup, the following protocol will be used for the national anthem and student-athlete introductions at all rounds of competition:

- Announcements.
- Teams stand for the national anthem.
- Team huddle, head to courts.
- Lineups announced as teams head to courts.
- Play begins as directed by court official.

## PRACTICES

The host institution shall provide practice facilities and monitor a sign-up system throughout the tournament. Each coach shall be responsible for signing up his or her team for practice times. Practice schedules should be rotated whenever possible to permit participants in the team championship to practice in each battery of courts. Practice will not be allowed on the competition courts until one day before competition begins. The host institution's team will be exempt from this policy, provided the championships are conducted on the institution's home courts. For the final site of the National Championship the practice schedule will be established by the Division II Men's and Women's Tennis Committee in conjunction with the tournament director.

The host institution is not obligated to arrange for an alternate practice facility for participants in the event they arrive early. Practice at an alternate site is permissible, but the visiting teams/individuals are responsible for making these arrangements themselves.

- All teams are limited to nine student-athletes in uniform in the allowable area, which is defined in the [2025-26 ITA Rulebook](#). Remaining team members must remain off the courts until the conclusion of the match.

# Section 11 • Health & Safety Considerations

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 with event staff and personnel including, among others, those relating to concussion management, catastrophic injury prevention, inclement weather and independent medical care, consulting with institutional legal, medical and risk management personnel as necessary. These requirements and related information can be found in applicable division manuals, sports playing rules and the materials located on [Health, Safety and Performance - ncaa.org](#). A nonexhaustive list of some of the key health and safety considerations is provided below. More detailed information on each of these topics can be found at [ncaa.org/2019/7/11/preventing-catastrophic-injury-and-death-in-collegiate-athletes.aspx](#), the [NCAA's Guidance for Medical Care and Coverage for Student-Athletes at Away Events](#) and the [NCAA Sports Medicine Handbook](#).

## Blood-Borne Pathogens and Other Biohazards.

- Catastrophic Incidents and Emergency Action Plans.
- Cleaning and Disinfection.
- Inclement Weather, Air Quality and Other Environmental Considerations.
- Independent Medical Care.
- Medical Facilities.
- Medical Disqualification, Removal and Return to Activities.
- Medical Staff: Resources, Communications, Training and Responsibilities.
- Medical Supplies and Equipment.
- Medical Treatment (including for, among others, the following emergency conditions):
  - Asthma.
  - Burners (Brachial Plexus Injuries).
  - Cardiac Emergencies.
  - Cervical Spine Injuries.
  - Concussion and Traumatic Brain Injury.
  - Diabetic Emergency.
  - Head and Neck Injury.
  - Heat Illness and Heat Stroke.
  - Hypothermia.
  - Mental Health Emergencies.
  - Rhabdomyolysis.
  - Sickle Cell and Other Exertional and Nonexertional Collapse.
  - Skin Infections.
- Prescription Medications, Banned Substances and Drug Testing.
- Protective Gear and Equipment.
- Sexual Violence.
- Visiting Team Care and Coverage.

In addition, and as a supplement to the legislative and policy requirements and related guidance described above, the following health and safety considerations and expectations will also apply to all championship events.

**Ambulance Service**

Planned access to an ambulance shall be provided by the championship host. If it is determined that an ambulance should be provided on site, the championship host shall obtain the ambulance service and the incurred cost is reimbursable by the NCAA. Any ambulance used must be equipped in accordance with all applicable government regulations and industry medical and safety standards.

**Coaches, Officials, Event Staff and Spectators**

Host institutions should consult as necessary with applicable institutional legal, medical and risk management personnel to determine and appropriately plan for the management of emergency and other health and safety incidents involving individuals other than student-athletes that may occur at the championship event or venue.

**Medical Staff Credentials and Access**

Travel party credentials for participating institutions will include credentials for medical personnel; provided it is the responsibility of the participating institution to include medical personnel in their normal credential numbers. Institutions may include medical staff beyond travel party limits provided they pay for the additional numbers with institutional funds. Competition site access can be secured by acquiring session tickets through purchase or an institutional pass list.

Any medical staff traveling with participating teams will have access to their team participants with the assistance of host medical staff, should an injury occur. If medical staff are not to be seated with the team during any championship event for any reason, they should communicate to host medical staff their seat locations and host medical staff should be prepared to provide all participant medical staff with the necessary credentials to access and provide necessary escort to the team locker room or athletic training room in the event of an emergency. Typically, an access point from the stands supervised by security will allow access by medical personnel to student-athletes.

**Portable Immersion Tubs**

Portable immersion tubs (hot or cold) are permitted at championship events only where use is a component of an established emergency or other health and safety plan and managed under the direction of sports medicine staff, an athletic trainer or physician in accordance with all applicable institutional and government health regulations and requirements.

# Section 12 • Hydration Product

## BODYARMOR

### Equipment Information

The NCAA will provide certain championships relevant equipment (sidelines hydration, competition playing equipment, etc.) on a sport-by-sport basis that must be used in all championship activity. The purpose of the equipment is to hydrate student-athletes for competition. Each championship will receive information from the NCAA pertaining to any equipment that will be provided. Following the championships, each host site will be required to provide the NCAA with a completed inventory sheet (template provided by the NCAA) and pictures for proof of performance.

### Cups, Coolers and Water Bottles

Drinking cups, water coolers, ice chests, cooler carts and water bottles should be provided for each scheduled practice or competition of any round of an NCAA championship. Participating teams shall place any premix fluid replacement in the NCAA-issued coolers and water bottles when applicable. Only cups, cans, coolers or water bottles may be used during championships that are provided by the NCAA. If applicable, the host may retain the coolers, cooler carts and ice chests after the competition. Reoccurring host sites are strongly encouraged to use the same equipment the following year unless otherwise notified by the NCAA. Participating teams may retain the water bottles and bottle carriers after the competition.

### Hydration Program

Coca-Cola will provide a bottled water product (e.g., Dasani), BODYARMOR powder, and when applicable, BODYARMOR in bottles. Participating teams and student-athletes in NCAA championships continue to be free to use/consume permissible hydration beverage(s) of their own choice in the NCAA-provided equipment. Equipment carrying any branding other than BODYARMOR, however, will not be permitted on the sidelines during NCAA championships.

If a championship also receives BODYARMOR-branded squeeze bottles, they should be provided to student-athletes. Non-BODYARMOR-branded squeeze bottles brought by teams/student-athletes will not be allowed.

If the host must provide and/or purchase product for any NCAA championship use (e.g., student-athlete banquet, committee tent/suite, hospitality areas, media areas), the host must purchase and provide only Coca-Cola products (e.g., Dasani, BODYARMOR, Coca-Cola, Sprite).

Competitors of NCAA Corporate Champion Coca-Cola may not provide product (beverages, water, isotomics) for any NCAA championship, even if the competition offers product for free or at a reduced cost. The championship budget will cover the purchase of Coca-Cola beverage products.

### Use of NCAA-Provided Coolers from Previous Years

The host may use previously supplied equipment from the NCAA, specifically BODYARMOR equipment with approval from the NCAA; however, unless approved by the NCAA (which is often possible), they must be used in areas not within television or photographer view [they may not be used on the sidelines or within the competition area(s)].

If you have any questions regarding any of this information, please contact Lindsey Eldred (317-917-6747; [leldred@ncaa.org](mailto:leldred@ncaa.org)).

# Section 13 • Insurance

## LIABILITY

If event is held on-campus:

Host institution must maintain and provide proof of at least \$1 million of Commercial General Liability (CGL) insurance on an occurrence form for Bodily Injury and Property Damage, including Products Liability (including completed-operations coverage), coverage for contractual liability, independent contractors, and personal and advertising injury. Coverage cannot exclude liability arising from athletic participation, spectators, alcohol or food-borne illness. Certificate must be submitted to NCAA prior to competition. State institutions subject to state governing tort laws are permitted to provide proof of limited liability under state laws instead of CGL coverage. (This is the minimum requirement per NCAA bylaws).

If event is held off-campus:

Host institution must maintain and provide proof of at least \$1 million of Commercial General Liability insurance on an occurrence form for Bodily Injury and Property Damage, including Products Liability (including completed-operations coverage), coverage for contractual liability, independent contractors, and personal and advertising injury. Coverage cannot exclude liability arising from athletic participation, spectators, alcohol or food-borne illness. Certificate must be submitted to NCAA prior to competition. State institutions subject to state governing tort laws are permitted to provide proof of limited liability under state laws instead of CGL coverage. (This is the minimum requirement per NCAA bylaws).

Venue must maintain and provide a minimum of \$1 million in Commercial General Liability insurance on an occurrence form for Bodily Injury and Property Damage, including Products Liability (including completed-operations coverage), coverage for contractual liability, independent contractors, and personal and advertising injury. Coverage cannot exclude liability arising from athletic participation, spectators, alcohol or food-borne illness. NCAA must be named as an additional insured.

*NOTE: All insurance must be provided by an insurance company with an A.M. Best Rating of A-, VII or higher.*

# Section 14 • Lodging

## NCAA NON-PREDETERMINED PRELIMINARY-ROUND COMPETITION

For all NCAA non-predetermined preliminary round competition, unless otherwise stated, the host institution/agency or the NCAA (see sport specific section for details) shall make reservations for the participating institutions/student-athlete(s) and advise them of the arrangements.

### **Hotel Expectations – General**

Ensuring a positive student-athlete experience at NCAA championships includes securing lodging for visiting teams at the appropriate level of quality at a reasonable distance from the competition venue.

Top teams should continue to have the right to host, provided a qualified bid is submitted by the established deadline. When the expectations for student-athlete experience fall short, sport committees will provide direct feedback to hosts. Host institutions have a responsibility to remedy identified issues prior to being considered for hosting opportunities in the future, regardless of sport. Failure to meet these expectations could impact the institution's opportunity to host in the future, even if their seeding merits it.

### **Location**

Hotels are expected to be located within 30-45 minutes of travel time from the venue, with a preference for 30 minutes. Hotels beyond 45 minutes, but no more than 60 minutes, may be considered by the sport committee as part of an acceptable bid, but additional information and rationale is required with the bid. Hosts should also ensure that the locations of the hotels for all visiting teams are equitable to the greatest extent possible. Hosts should indicate the quality of hotels in the bid submission on both the hotel letter of agreement and in the bid portal so committees have an additional understanding before awarding bids.

### **Room Rates**

Room rates, as with hotel quality and location, should be comparable for all visiting teams. Hosts are expected to secure room rates that are in line with the per diem rate (i.e., \$150 regular/\$205 high-cost city for the 2025-26 academic year).

### **Lodging Types**

Hotels with internal doors and beds (i.e., no pullouts) are the only permissible lodging options. Full-service properties are preferred while limited-service properties can be acceptable if they meet quality and amenity requirements as specified by the respective sport committee.

### **Hotel Letter of Agreement**

A letter of agreement between the host and the officials/site representative and team hotel (s) must be uploaded into the bid portal stating that the requisite number of rooms are being held (refer to bid checklist for the letter of agreement template). The selection of a competition site may be dependent on availability and quality of rooms for participating institutions/student-athletes.

## NCAA PREDETERMINED PRELIMINARY-ROUND COMPETITIONS AND PREDETERMINED CHAMPIONSHIPS

For select NCAA predetermined preliminary-round competition and predetermined championships, On Location acting on NCAA's behalf shall contract hotel accommodations for the participating institutions/student-athlete(s). The contracted hotel properties shall be within 30 miles (30 minutes) of the competition site and be priced at a fair and reasonable market room rate. The selection of a competition site may be dependent on availability and quality of rooms for participating institutions/student-athlete(s). Teams must stay at an NCAA contracted hotel unless otherwise noted. Hosts are no longer required to secure the rooms. On Location, the official hotel management provider of the NCAA, will solicit, negotiate and contract all hotel rooms at these sites.

## MERCHANDISING

The hotel understands that the NCAA exclusively will have first right of refusal to sell products licensed by the NCAA for merchandising at the selected hotels, unless otherwise noted in the hotel agreement. If the NCAA executes this right, the hotel agrees to provide space in its lobby, tables, electricity, dedicated phone line and a secure storage location for such sales at no charge to the NCAA merchandising agent. The NCAA guarantees that the merchandise will be displayed in a neat, professional manner.

In return, the NCAA merchandising agent will pay to the hotel a percentage of the net sales from the hotel location. Net sales are defined as gross sales minus sales tax and credit card fees. The percentage rate will be a predetermined, nonnegotiable rate included in the contract between the two parties, except as specified in the following sections.

# Section 15 • Marketing

## CONTACTS

The host institution should designate a marketing contact or marketing team for the championship. This person should be familiar with marketing strategies that have worked in the community where the championship will be held to sell tickets and drive attendance. It is the primary responsibility of the marketing contact to work closely with the NCAA championships marketing contact to create and implement the championship marketing plan. While many host institutions may have a marketing contact in the athletics department, this individual may also be from the local organizing committee, convention and visitor's bureau, sports commission or a combination thereof. Contact information for the designated marketing contact(s) should be submitted through the key contact portion of the Championships Bid Portal.

## EXPECTATIONS

- Know the marketing budget. The NCAA championship tournament manager on your campus or the NCAA championship manager can communicate your marketing budget.
- Develop marketing goals. The primary focus should be driving ticket sales and attendance at the championship by developing inclusive promotion and awareness opportunities and utilizing diverse targeting strategies.
- Map out the time frame to market the championship.
- Determine how to best use the marketing materials provided by the NCAA.
- Establish grassroots initiatives to implement in your local and regional communities by creating and promoting messaging that resonates with people of all race, sex, class, national origin, creed, education background, religion, gender identity, disability, gender expression, geographical location, income, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation and which appeals to diverse communities.
- Explore opportunities with traditional media (print, radio and television) in your area.
- Track marketing efforts and analyze results postchampionship to share with your NCAA marketing contact.

## MARKETING PLAN

Host institutions/conferences shall establish a marketing plan in coordination with the NCAA championships marketing contact. The marketing should reflect the host's commitment to creating an environment where all guests feel welcome and see themselves represented throughout the championship experience. All marketing plans, marketing budgets and collateral must be approved by the NCAA championships marketing contact prior to implementation.

## MARKETING COLLATERAL

**NCAA Marketing Portal.** The NCAA Marketing Portal is a comprehensive tool designed to help hosts create marketing products which will generate awareness, drive ticket sales and promote attendance at championship events. The **NCAA Marketing Portal** can be accessed at [ncaachamps\(promotion\).com](http://ncaachamps(promotion).com).

Championship hosts should customize and download all necessary artwork to promote the championship from the website. Hosts should utilize imagery from the artwork provided, produce the items locally and obtain reimbursement for production costs, up to the reimbursable allocation provided for the championship round you are hosting.

Each NCAA Championships host marketing contact and tournament manager will receive an email with the marketing website address, username and password. Please contact [ncaachamps\(promotions@ncaa.org](mailto:ncaachamps(promotions@ncaa.org)) if you are unable to locate this information.

Customizable artwork templates and marketing resources available on the NCAA Marketing Portal include, but are not limited to:

- PRINT
  - Poster
  - Flyer
  - Print ad
  - Table tent
- DIGITAL
  - Email blast
  - Banner
  - Social media graphics
  - Video board
- OUTDOOR
  - Billboard
  - Banner
- RESOURCES
  - Marketing best practices
  - Social media guidelines
  - Special artwork requests

If you have artwork needs and/or sizing which may not be available on the NCAA Marketing Portal, you may submit a special request through the website. Any additional questions can be directed to [ncaachamps\(promotions@ncaa.org](mailto:ncaachamps(promotions@ncaa.org)

All requests must be approved by the national office staff before you proceed. Artwork requests and approvals will be managed through the website. If you do not have a local print vendor, we have listed NCAA preferred vendors on the website.

Collateral should not be created outside of the NCAA Marketing Portal. The website ensures proper usage of NCAA logos and trademarks, as well as ensures consistent branding across each championship round and all 90 NCAA Championships.

*NOTE: A limited number of Division I predetermined hosts will create all marketing collateral by coordinating directly with the NCAA Championship Marketing contact; they will not have access to the NCAA Marketing Portal.*

**Television/Video and Radio Ticket Spots.** The marketing website allows hosts of select predetermined championship sites to download TV, video, and radio spots for immediate use. Questions regarding the availability of these spots for your championship event should be directed to your NCAA championship marketing contact.

## SOCIAL MEDIA GUIDELINES

Host institutions/conferences may use already established social media accounts (Facebook, X, etc.) as a place to promote the hosting of an NCAA championship. However, host institutions/conferences should use marketing messages and assets supplied from or approved by the NCAA (links, web banners, flyers, updates, etc.). If the championship does not have an official NCAA social media page, a host is NOT permitted to create a social media page. The NCAA will make efforts to promote this championship on the established pages, as necessary. Please refer to [ncaa.org/ncaa.org/sports/2021/3/3/digital-social-media.aspx](http://ncaa.org/ncaa.org/sports/2021/3/3/digital-social-media.aspx) for a listing of official NCAA social media accounts.

# Section 16 • Media Services

The NCAA considers this hosting opportunity a partnership between the host school/conference, facility and the NCAA. The primary objective of everyone involved in the administration of the championship, shall be to provide a memorable championship experience for each participating student-athlete, coach, administrator and tournament attendee.

Note that health and safety protocols related to preparedness, response and protocols might have an effect on the media services detailed below, with any changes provided to all hosts in advance of each championship.

## BROADCASTING/INTERNET

Please log on to [ncaa.com/media](https://ncaa.com/media) for information regarding broadcast/internet rights.

## CHAMPIONSHIP RECORDS

NCAA championship records are available in PDF format at [ncaa.org/sports/2021/2/9/statistics.aspx](https://ncaa.org/sports/2021/2/9/statistics.aspx).

## CREDENTIALS

All media credentials are authorized and issued by the host or NCAA media coordinator. The NCAA provides credentials for all final championship sites and selected preliminary rounds sites. Hosts should contact the NCAA media coordinator or championships administrator to confirm who will produce credentials for preliminary sites. **PDF templates are available for preliminary round credentials if desired. Please contact Jenn Rodgers ([jrodgers@ncaa.org](mailto:jrodgers@ncaa.org)) for more information.** If you are producing your own credentials, the “Conditions Placed on Use of Credentials” should be placed on the back of all credentials. That text, located at [ncaa.com/credentialterms](https://ncaa.com/credentialterms), should also be visible at credential pickup.

The following is a sample of the types of credentials that can be produced, if applicable:

- All Access - For event management-type personnel who need access to every area, including game surface.
- Event Management - For event management staff who do not need All-Access
- Media - For members of the media to provide them access to press areas (press box, media room, interview room, locker rooms (postgame only)).
- Participant - For student-athletes, coaches, equipment managers (essentially anyone in the official travel party).
- Photo - For still photographers and television camera operators (if the contest is not going to be televised) to allow them access to appropriate areas [playing surface, locker rooms (postgame only), press box and media room].
- SID - For sports information directors of the participating teams (allows for access to media areas and locker rooms as needed).
- Television Network - If the game is going to be televised by ESPN, Turner Sports, etc., those entities should have their own credentials to allow them to specific places such as the truck compound.

It is up to the tournament director to determine which areas may be accessed with each credential type.

## CREDENTIAL QUALIFICATION AND ACCEPTANCE

**Final-Round Site.** Approximately one month before the start of final site competition, the site media coordinator should send credential application information to media representatives who regularly cover intercollegiate athletics in their markets. The information should be directed to media to apply for credentials at [ncaa.com/media](https://ncaa.com/media), which includes credential application instructions, credential criteria and links to the NCAA media policies. The site media coordinator will approve or deny all credential requests in the online credentialing system (Sport Systems) Credential system training sessions will be conducted. The system will notify via email all media members who apply for credentials whether their request has been approved or denied. If a media member is granted a credential, the site media coordinator is responsible for sending that member of the media information regarding game times, press conference schedules, credential pickup times and location, parking and any other pertinent information.

## CREDENTIAL BOARDS

The NCAA will provide credential boards to all final sites. These are to advise security personnel at the competition venue which credentials are allowed into specific areas of the venue. For credentials that are not allowed into a specific area, use a black marker to cross out the credentials not permitted.

## FINAL RESULTS BOOKS AND STATISTICS

The final results book for team championships should include, at a minimum, final statistics, play-by-play summary and results as well as a cover sheet, event recap and postgame notes/quotes.

The host institution shall provide complete statistics of all NCAA championships competition.

## INTERNET POLICY

The NCAA website, [ncaa.com](http://ncaa.com), serves as the official online resource for NCAA championships. Please visit [ncaa.com/media](http://ncaa.com/media) for updated NCAA championship internet policies.

The NCAA and its partners own the Internet rights to all of its 90 championship events. Rights include live statistics, video and audio streaming, electronic commerce, and postevent footage use. The NCAA and its partners own all game action, practice footage, press conferences, one-on-one interviews or any other content on the NCAA website.

### Internet Live Statistics

The current live statistics policies can be found at the following link: [ncaa.com/media-center/coordination-statistics](http://ncaa.com/media-center/coordination-statistics)

## MEDIA GUIDES AND POSTSEASON GUIDES

The NCAA or host media coordinator should notify each school that qualifies for the championship how many media guides and/or postseason guides should be sent to the championship site and/or if media guides and postseason information should be uploaded to the NCAA box library. If wanting to provide a printed version, the media coordinator should provide an overnight address where the schools can send the information (their office or the facility) and a deadline as to when it should arrive. Consider security when selecting the location where these materials will be shipped.

## MEDIA ACCOMMODATIONS

**Hotel.** If necessary, the media coordinator should arrange for a block of rooms to be set aside for media, preferably at the headquarters hotel. Media members should be given a contact/link at the hotel whom they can call or link to make reservations; this can be listed on the credential application form along with the room rate and deadline for making reservations.

**Meals.** Media meals are not required at all championships. Disbursements should be guided by the budget which was originally submitted by the tournament manager and approved by the NCAA national office.

**Parking.** Complimentary media parking should be provided at all championship host sites. The media coordinator should determine if it would be more effective to use parking passes or a parking list. If passes are used, the host institution must generate them. Media shuttle systems may also be used provided any costs are approved in advance by the specific sport committee and NCAA championships staff liaison.

**Media Workroom.** If possible, a media workroom should be designated at each site, where media members can be provided a workspace. The workroom should provide an adequate amount of media seating, electrical outlets, complimentary wireless internet access and a pool of high-speed internet lines, if possible. Each school's media guides and/or postseason guides, along with any materials the host institution distributes (statistics, game notes, quotes, etc.), should be located in this area.

## NEWS FILM AND MINI-CAMS

Please visit [ncaa.com/media](http://ncaa.com/media) for updated information related to television, video and ENG policies.

## OFFICIATING QUESTIONS/POOL REPORTER

The host media coordinator shall appoint one member of the media to serve as the pool reporter at the competition site and must be approved in advance by the NCAA staff. When possible, the media coordinator should designate the reporter from the Associated Press or the local newspaper as the pool reporter. The pool reporter should be clearly designated on the media seating chart and should be listed on the starting lineup sheets (if applicable) distributed prior to competition.

When a game includes a potential fighting situation that results in a technical foul and/or ejection of a participant, a rules interpretation is requested or there is a clock or timing issue, the pool reporter shall accompany the NCAA staff representatives to the officials' locker room to receive an interpretation in order to enhance the media's understanding of the activities that occurred. Interpretations are not given if the situation in question is a judgment call. Prior to entering the officials' locker room, the pool reporter shall go to the interview room or media workroom to speak to other media members and compile a list of questions to ask the official involved.

The host media coordinator, who will prepare the statement, will distribute the information to the media after it is reviewed and approved by an NCAA staff representative. Any statement involving an official's interpretation can be read by the news conference moderator in the interview room while the statement is being distributed.

If the involved official does not elect to speak to the pool reporter, the referee will decide whether the referee or the standby official will provide the interpretation on behalf of the officiating crew. The interpretation shall apply exclusively to the specific situation and will only be used to provide an interpretation of a rule.

## PERSONNEL

Each media coordinator is responsible for organizing workers to assist in the media operations of the championship. It is important to remind volunteers that they may see very little of the championship competition because of their responsibilities and the NCAA will not pay any expenses. All volunteers should be a minimum of 16 years or older. It is preferred that all media coordination volunteers have experience with media relations or championships.

The number of workers will depend upon the media demand for the games at the site. Communication with the participating SIDs and the media coordinator's knowledge of the area media will help with advance planning.

The following is a basic list of duties for volunteers (if applicable):

- Copy Machine Personnel – Photocopies materials (stats, notes, quotes, etc.).
- Credential Distribution – Pass out credentials to the media; check government-issued photo ID.
- External PA – Announcer for fans.
- Internal PA – Announcer for the media.
- Locker Room Attendant – Person to identify when the locker room is open and closed to the media.
- Mixed Zone Coordinator – Coordinates interviews in the mixed zone in events such as track and field and swimming and diving. Depending on the number of participants, this individual may need several assistants.
- Note Takers – Compiles worthy notes during and after the game or day.
- Photo Marshall – Makes sure photographers work in approved event coverage locations. Hands out photo armbands, if necessary.
- Press Conference Moderator – Introduces players and coach; directs questions from media.
- Quote Takers – Records postgame quotes from the press conferences/locker rooms. A minimum of one person should be designated to take quotes for each team. They should get quotes from the head coach and student-athletes.
- Results Disseminator – Transmits stats, notes, quotes, through appropriate delivery means (website, email, social media, etc.).
- Runner(s) – Distributes photocopied materials (stats, notes, quotes, etc.).

- Spotter – Helps the official scorer identify assists and any other assistance for official scorer.
- Stat Crew – Records the official stats. Note that when applicable, NCAA LiveStats software must be used at all NCAA championships.
- Team Escorts – Serve as escorts for the coaches and student-athletes to and from the postgame press conference.

## NEWS CONFERENCES

The media coordinator, or a member of the coordinator's staff, will be asked to coordinate all press conferences, including any conducted before the start of championship play. For all formal press conferences, the media coordinator should produce name (table) tents to place on the dais/riser to identify coaches and student-athletes.

ALL STUDENT-ATHLETES AND COACHES MUST BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR INTERVIEWS. With permission from the NCAA, exceptions may be made to the policy.

The open locker room policy applies to all formal press conferences and to any interview requests for coaches and/or student-athletes not involved in the press conferences. Failure to do so may result in a misconduct finding, as determined by the respective sport committee.

*NOTE: In the event that a student-athlete has been selected for drug testing, all media obligations must be fulfilled before going to the drug-testing center.*

1. **Individual Championships with no Postevent News Conference.** Student-athletes are allowed a maximum 10-minute cooling-off period following an event before meeting with the media. If ready before 10 minutes, the student-athlete can participate in interviews sooner. However, student-athletes are not allowed to leave the competition area before conducting media interviews. Interviews will be conducted in the mixed zone or interview room. A student-athlete who is competing in more than one event on a given day may ask the media coordinator to delay the interview period until after the student-athlete's final event of the day. The only exception to this is if a record is set, and then the student-athlete should be made available to the media shortly after that event. If time prohibits this, the media coordinator should get a quote from the student-athlete and distribute it to the media.
2. **Team Championships with a Formal News Conference.** The losing team shall have a 10-minute cooling-off period before reporting to the interview room. The cooling-off period starts once the head coach and all of the student-athletes have reached the locker room area. The winning team will report to the interview room immediately following the completion of the losing team's press conference. (*NOTE: For some championships, the governing sport committee has determined that the winning or visiting team should go first to the press conferences, before the losing team. Please refer to championship manual for the sport.*)

It is mandatory for the head coach and at least one student-athlete to report to the press conference following the cooling-off period. However, media coordinators should request a minimum of two student-athletes. A coach can shorten the cooling-off period but cannot extend it.

As soon as one media member enters a locker room, it will be open to all media members. Locker rooms are open to the media for a minimum of 30 minutes, provided media are present the entire time.

The head coach must complete all NCAA championship media obligations before honoring any in-season radio or television contracts. Coaches or student-athletes may only conduct interviews with rights-holding television or radio networks (including ESPN or NCAA Radio Network, but not school radio stations) before the press conference following the conclusion of a game. These interviews are permitted during a period totaling no more than four minutes for all interviews, immediately after the game. The media coordinator or designee has the responsibility to terminate the four-minute interview period, NOT the network/station that has purchased rights. (Assistant coaches are not obligated to the entire media staffing the championship and may grant postgame radio interviews at any time after the conclusion of the game.)

### News Conference Moderator Duties

1. The news conference moderator should give pertinent game statistics (i.e., leading rushers, passers, tacklers, game records) to media while they wait for the first team to arrive. Statistics should be distributed to the media, coaches and student-athletes as soon as they arrive.

## DIVISION II TENNIS

2. Media coordination representatives should obtain the names of the student-athletes who will be attending the press conference and give them to the host or NCAA media coordinator, who then will provide them to the moderator so that they can be announced in advance.
3. The moderator should open the press conference by asking the head coach for their opening statement.
4. After the coach's comments, the moderator should invite questions from media.
5. If necessary, the moderator should direct a question to student-athletes to get them involved, if the media do not do so.
6. Limit the losing team to 10 minutes and the winning team to 20 minutes.
7. The moderator should keep the flow of the press conference moving. If there is a gap of time between questions, limit questions to one more and then thank the head coach and student-athlete(s).

**News Conference Setup.** Each host media coordinator should designate an interview room or area at the facility, and an individual to coordinate the activities in it. The interview area should have a public address system and an elevated head table.

Media coordinators should use an audio mixer (mix down unit) in the interview area to permit individuals using microphones to attach their equipment to it, eliminating the presence of audio equipment and/or operators in front of, or adjacent to, the speakers at the dais.

The following is a checklist of suggested minimum requirements for the interview room:

- Seating for a minimum number of media or VIPs (check with the previous host for an approximate number).
- Risers or an area with an unobstructed view for television cameras.
- Table for a minimum of 4-6 interviewees.
- Sufficient electrical outlets.
- Sufficient lighting for dais and workspaces.
- Mult box.
- Wireless microphones.

For selected NCAA championships, press conference backdrops, interview room table tents and microphone flags will be sent to the institution by the NCAA. Quotes from formal press conferences shall be made available to the media immediately following each game.

## PHOTOGRAPHER

Commercial use of any still photographs is prohibited unless permission is obtained from the NCAA. Specific areas will be designated for photographers, and these areas will be limited by priority and space. Please refer to information [here](#) for further information regarding photography done at the championship.

## PHOTOGRAPHY AREA POLICIES

The media coordinator shall be prepared to designate "photographer positions," should media requests warrant it. "Prime" positions should be given to NCAA Photos and/or Getty Photos, or otherwise rotated among members of the media. All special requests (i.e., placing a remote camera on the backboard) must be approved by NCAA staff or site representatives.

## PROGRAMS

Championships will feature either a printed or digital game program, which the NCAA and LEARFIELD Publishing has the exclusive right to post/distribute at the competition venue during the championship. No competing publications, whether sold or free of charge, are permitted at NCAA events where printed programs are available. Any publications delivered to the venue are the property of LEARFIELD before, during and after the event.

LEARFIELD will be responsible for all program production, including editorial content, layout and design, advertising and printing. Championship media contact should provide LEARFIELD with text and photos for editorial pages about host institution/venue/city, if requested by LEARFIELD. Any pages promoting the host institution/venue/city will not be display advertisements; those interested in purchasing advertising space for sponsors, etc., should contact Clerrinda Queen ([clerrinda.queen@learfield.com](mailto:clerrinda.queen@learfield.com)).

LEARFIELD encourages the host institution/venue to distribute supplemental handouts (i.e., updated statistics and notes), provided any such materials:

- Are only distributed with the purchase of a program.
- Do not include information available in the program.
- Do not include advertisements.

The host should not include expenses for such supplements in the championship budget and/or financial report. All supplemental content is subject to NCAA and LEARFIELD approval.

## RADIO/INTERNET AUDIO COVERAGE

Radio broadcast rights and made for internet audio at any NCAA championship may take place only through advance written request and permission of the NCAA media services group. (Refer to [ncaa.com/media](http://ncaa.com/media).)

All stations broadcasting any round of an NCAA championship shall be required to fill out the NCAA Championship Radio/Internet Streaming form online. To access the form, log onto [ncaa.com/content/audio-policies-0](http://ncaa.com/content/audio-policies-0).

## TEAM VIDEOGRAPHER

Institutions are permitted to videotape championships competition by their teams or their individual student-athletes for archival, coaching or instructional purposes. Each institution is permitted to use one camera and may videotape only that portion of the competition in which it participates. The videotapes may not be used for any commercial purposes. An institutional representative shall contact the event coordinator at the host site to arrange for camera space at that site. For the latest information and policies in regard to team content, go to “Team Content Policy” link at [ncaa.com/media-center/broadcast-services](http://ncaa.com/media-center/broadcast-services).

## SCOUT VIDEO COORDINATOR

A scout video coordinator is permitted to film the game from an upper video position. A credential also may be issued to a team videographer. The scout video coordinator will receive a media credential and may only film the game of the team represented by the video coordinator. Representatives of participating institutions may record the network telecast of any game at the site, using a video distribution outlet in the video distribution area. The institution must provide its own recording equipment.

## SEAT ASSIGNMENTS

Media coordinators should provide preferred seat locations for media agencies that regularly staff games played by the participating and host institutions.

## SECURITY

Security personnel should be instructed to protect the working media areas and interview area, especially before and after each game, and to limit access in all restricted areas to individuals wearing credentials.

## STATISTICS REPORTING TO THE NCAA

The host sports information director, media coordinator or designee is responsible for reporting official championship results to the Association’s website, [ncaa.com](http://ncaa.com), with the NCAA providing delivery information. At the conclusion of each championship contest or session (preliminary rounds and finals), please forward information that specifies the division, sport, round, date and official results, and provide a brief game/event summary. On the final day, the email should include the all-tournament and Most Outstanding Player selections.

## DIVISION II TENNIS

Institutions should send all information as follows:

- Email the information to [NCAA-Editorial@warnermedia.com](mailto:NCAA-Editorial@warnermedia.com). Specify the division, sport, round and region in the subject area.
- Paste the text (official results, including date of competition, round, etc.) directly into the message box.
- Attach HTML box score, if available.

## INTERNET

Complimentary wireless internet access must be available at all championship rounds for media use. The host institution may NOT assess an additional “hookup fee” to any media agency. Any wireless charges should be charged to the host or reflected in the proposed budget.

## TELEVISION

If an NCAA championship is to be televised, the media coordinator will be notified by the NCAA championships liaison, media coordinator or member of the broadcast staff. This person will relay any needs specific to television, such as power, press row space, etc., to the host media coordinator. Information about NCAA broadcasts can be found online at [ncaa.com/media](http://ncaa.com/media).

## LIVE STREAMING

For final sites of all nontelevised championships, ncaa.com will provide live streaming of the contest. The host/facility shall use best efforts to have Playsight cameras installed on at least six of the main competition courts. Preference is for all courts to have PlaySight cameras. For all other nontelevised rounds, the NCAA encourages all hosting institutions to provide a live stream of the event.

Apply for NCAA internet streaming rights online at [ncaa.com/rights-request](http://ncaa.com/rights-request). Questions about Internet streaming can be directed to Nate Flannery (317-917-6523; [nflannery@ncaa.org](mailto:nflannery@ncaa.org)).

## NCAA CHAMPIONSHIPS MICROSITE GUIDELINES

NCAA Championship hosts and LOCs are welcome to build a city specific microsite to house local information regarding things-to-do, travel tips, restaurants, volunteer info, ticket sales, etc. The primary purpose of the microsite should welcome fans to enhance their experience in preparation for traveling to your city. The following information should assist you with the creation of a local microsite.

### Travel and Transportation Information

It is permissible, and encouraged, to share travel information such as local hotel options, car rental, public transportation, etc., within the microsite for consumer knowledge. Links should direct away from the microsite and no mention of company names are to be included within the copy of the microsite.

EXAMPLE: “For hotel options within the {CITY NAME} area, please click here” (link can be to city tourism page or visitor’s bureau, etc.).

### Dining, Shopping and Local Attractions

The following topics are permissible and encouraged to house within your microsite, but must link away from the main page:

- Local fan gathering and entertainment locations.
- Shopping and dining options.
- Special attractions unique to city.

## Selections, Preliminary Rounds and Broadcast Schedule

All information regarding the details of selections, all preliminary rounds and broadcast schedules should be linked to ncaa.com. The championship manager can provide this information.

## Local News

The microsite can contain story modules to promote local press releases or additional information pertaining to hosting the event. This should not include information about the competition that is covered by the NCAA. You should link back to the official NCAA championship page, when applicable. The championship manager can provide this information, as needed.

## Venue and Transportation Information

City transportation and host venue details should be included within the microsite; the following are topic suggestions for this section:

- Venue address.
- Venue parking map and details, Google map.
- Venue security information.
- Public transportation options.

## Volunteer Information

The microsite can contain additional details to recruit and register volunteers. A general overview, schedule and registration information are commonly found details within this section.

## Ticket Information

If ticket sales apply to the championship, please link away from the microsite to the official ticket landing page. If images of student-athletes are present on any of the microsite pages, please do not use verbiage that includes “ticket sales,” “purchase your tickets” or anything alike, but rather use language such as “ticket information,” “ticket details,” etc., and link directly to the official ticket landing page from there. The ticket landing page should be free of student-athlete imagery, institutional markings and abide by NCAA championships guidelines. Those guidelines include the championship logo used for every icon listed, correct naming convention of the championship (Year, NCAA division sport championship – e.g., 2026 NCAA Division I Cross Country Championships) and use of NCAA hex code (#009CDE) for button and color scheme of ticketing site.

## Copyrights, Photos, Licensing, Trademarks and Corporate Marks

The following are guidelines for use of NCAA trademarks and the process for requesting licensing for photos:

- Host corporate partner marks or any commercial advertising are prohibited from being displayed on the microsite.
- The NCAA primary logo must be displayed more prominently than any other logo and must precede or be placed above any other identification marks.
- Photos from previous years’ championships can be accessed by submitting a request form here: [ncaaphotos.photoshelter.com/contact](http://ncaaphotos.photoshelter.com/contact)
- All imagery must be owned by the NCAA or host city.
- The microsite must adhere to fair and equitable treatment for ALL participating student-athletes and schools.
- Trademark script must be included on the homepage of the microsite. This text can be in a mouse print format at the bottom of the page as follows: NCAA is a trademark of the National Collegiate Athletic Association.

A complete list of NCAA trademarks and trademark protection can be found by clicking [here](#).

### Logo Usage

For official NCAA blue disk and championship logos, please submit a request to access the NCAA Digital Library to Nathan Arkins at [narkins@ncaa.org](mailto:narkins@ncaa.org).

### Social Media

All social media icons should link to the appropriate NCAA-hosted platforms for the specific championship. The official list of NCAA social media pages and hashtags is located at [ncaa.com/social](http://ncaa.com/social).

*NOTE: A reminder the website should be clean of any and all corporate sponsor marks. Additionally, the information provided regarding local travel accommodations, restaurants, or the like must link away from the microsite completely. Final approval of the city-specific microsite will come from the NCAA event marketing, ticketing and/or branding team. Prior to the microsite URL going live, please share with the championship manager to begin the official approval process.*

## PHOTOGRAPHY

NCAA Photos (also known as Clarkson-Creative/Clarkson) will be on site for the final day of competition, unless otherwise specified. Hosts institutions are not required to have a photographer when Clarkson is not on site. An additional photographer may be hired by NCAA staff to shoot additional days and ancillary events, if the staff so chooses. For those instances, it is necessary to have the hired photographer(s) complete the photography services agreement.

All photographers will agree to the NCAA Championship Photography Terms and Conditions upon requesting a credential. Photo sales on site are strictly prohibited.

Images for use by NCAA member institutions are available at a special rate and are bound by the following rights:

*“For official NCAA member institution athletic department website and publications only. Other reproduction, distribution, and/or display print production is prohibited unless specified in writing.”*

For internal member institution use, please contact Clarkson-Creative at [info@ncaaphotos.com](mailto:info@ncaaphotos.com) with the name of the image(s) you would like to purchase, and an online transaction will be set up to download the image(s). All images should be credited, where it appears, to: ©Photographer’s Name/NCAAPhotos. For all other uses, please contact Andy Krause ([Andrew.Krause@gettyimages.com](mailto:Andrew.Krause@gettyimages.com)).

Any other entity, with the exception of the NCAA membership, seeking a championship event photo must license it through Getty Images. To license an NCAA championship event photo, please visit [on.ncaa.com/NCAAonGetty](http://on.ncaa.com/NCAAonGetty).

For additional questions regarding championship photography, please contact Nate Flannery ([nflannery@ncaa.org](mailto:nflannery@ncaa.org); 317-917-6222).

## NCAA SOCIAL MEDIA GUIDELINES FOR CHAMPIONSHIP HOSTS

The official NCAA social media pages and official hashtags can be found here: [on.ncaa.com/socialaccounts](http://on.ncaa.com/socialaccounts)

### Host Promotion of Championships

A lot of hosts already have an established presence in social media. Examples are school, LOC, Sports Corporation, venue or city pages/accounts. These pages/accounts are all acceptable places to promote hosting of an NCAA championship through the use of marketing messages and products supplied from the NCAA (links, web banners, fliers, etc.). The NCAA also promotes the championships (and the host involvement) on the appropriate NCAA social media pages/accounts. If the championship does not have an official NCAA account on a social media site, a host is still not permitted to create a page for it. The NCAA will make efforts to promote this championship on the other established methods, as necessary. Collaboration is encouraged through the use of cross-posting on Facebook (@ linking within text to drive fans to each other’s pages) and mentions on Twitter (X) (@ links to show coordination in posts). In addition to collaboration, idea-sharing is also encouraged and can be coordinated with the NCAA digital team through the championship’s marketing contact.

**A host should not create a social media account or page (Facebook page, Twitter (X) feed, Instagram, TikTok, Snapchat, etc.) solely devoted to promoting an NCAA championship.** These pages become outdated, distract fans from established pages and fracture the NCAA message.

Please send direct questions to Jeffrey Donely at [jdonely@ncaa.org](mailto:jdonely@ncaa.org).

# Section 17 • Merchandise/Licensing

## ADMINISTRATION

The NCAA licensing department has oversight of the event merchandising program at all rounds and sites of NCAA championships. All licensing and merchandising questions should be directed to David Clendenin (317-917-6496; [dclendenin@ncaa.org](mailto:dclendenin@ncaa.org)).

## AVAILABILITY

An online ordering system will be available to participating institutions interested in ordering Event 1, Inc., merchandise in advance of the championship. Orders will be shipped by Event 1 directly to the participating institution's campus.

## GENERAL POLICIES

The NCAA retains the exclusive right to sell souvenir products at all rounds and sites of the 92 championships; host institutions/conferences and sponsoring agencies for all NCAA championships are required to sell items provided by the official NCAA event souvenir merchandiser. The official NCAA event souvenir merchandiser is Event 1.

Event 1, Inc. will enter into an agreement with the official vendor of the host institution/conference or sponsoring agency and will supply merchandise and inventory reconciliation forms to the official vendor. The official vendor of the host institution/conference or sponsoring agency at the site of the championship(s) is responsible for complete retail vending accountability, including full responsibility for inventory. When the requirements listed below are met, the host institution/conference will receive a 20% commission fee for providing these services. The 20% commission fee will be from net sales, which is defined as gross sales minus taxes and credit card fees. The following is a list of the requirements that must be met to qualify for the 20% commission fee:

- a. Receive and count in all merchandise upon arrival from Event 1, Inc., as well as receiving all reorders required to meet customers demand. Reorders could arrive any day of the week and could be as early as 8 a.m. on Saturday or Sunday.
- b. Locked and supervised storage adequate to accommodate all championship merchandise.
- c. Immediate notification (within 24 hours of receipt) to Event 1, Inc. of any discrepancies in initial inventory counts. Non-notification will represent host or vendor acceptance of initial inventory provided by Event 1, Inc.
- d. Total management, control and accountability of the merchandise. If goods are lost, stolen or damaged, those goods are the responsibility of the host institution/conference or vendor.
- e. Everything sent must be returned to Event 1 within two days of the conclusion of the event.
- f. An appropriate number of selling locations and sellers throughout the facility in order to meet the demands of the projected crowds.
- g. Selling locations that are well displayed and fully stocked prior to the public's access to them.
- h. Strict adherence to the merchandising and display standards as outlined below:
  - Merchandise made available for sale at all times during the event.
  - Each item neatly displayed with correct prices clearly marked.
  - Merchandise should be neatly folded at all times.
  - Neatly dressed personnel that are customer-oriented.
  - Skirted tables for display and checkout.
  - Display boards and grids to properly display product at all selling locations.
  - Selling locations located in high traffic and easily located locations.
  - Vendor shall be responsible for hanging any display or signage material provided by concessionaire.
  - Keeping selling areas clean and neat at all times.

- Restocking of back-up inventory in a fast and efficient manner.
- Transferring merchandise between the slower and higher volume stands to meet the demands of the consumers.
- Providing electricity and either hard internet lines or dedicated secured Wi-Fi network connection to support the merchandise sales effort at no extra cost.
- Calling Event 1, Inc. to request reorders should sales warrant.

- i. A complete inventory accounting of all merchandise sold with a final inventory count and merchandising report supplied to Event 1, Inc., no later than 24 hours after the conclusion of the event.
- j. Total gross sales revenues and a final copy of the inventory report must be sent to Event 1, Inc., within two business days of the conclusion of the event.
- k. The remaining inventory forwarded to Event 1, Inc., or the next event site as determined by Event 1, Inc., within two days of the conclusion.
- l. Having met each of the above requirements, Event 1, Inc. will pay to the host institution/conference, sponsoring agency or its assigned vendor, a commission equal to 20% of sales net of taxes and credit card service fees. The host institutions will keep commissions earned and the remaining money owed to Event 1 must be sent within seven days of the conclusion of the event.

The host institution/conference may not sell or allow for sale any merchandise that infringes upon the exclusive rights of Event 1, Inc.

**Institutional Merchandise.** A buy-out option can be made with Event 1/NCAA when the host institution/conference wants to sell merchandise that features the host mark or logo at the NCAA competition. This can only be done when the host institution/conference agrees to purchase the entire product that Event 1 provides. The host institution/conference will receive a 20% commission fee of net sales, gross sales minus credit card fees and taxes, on product supplied by Event 1. The host institution or official vendor will provide the NCAA 15% of sales (net of taxes and credit card service fees) of all non-NCAA championship merchandise. The quantity of NCAA merchandise available for sale shall not be less than a comparable shipment to a comparable site of the previous year's championship.

**Reordering Process.** The host institution/conference may contact Event 1 to place an order for additional merchandise during the event. The concessionaire must contact Event 1 no later than the conclusion of each day to evaluate inventory levels. The more time Event 1 has to react to the request, the better the chance a reorder can be processed and shipped in a timely manner. Event 1 cannot guarantee that additional merchandise will be available.

**Event 1 will provide an event manual, which will include the contact information for the event coordinator assigned to the event as well as additional merchandising guidelines.**

### DIVERSE SUPPLIERS

The NCAA strongly encourages and requests that local organizing committees/hosts diversify the pool of qualified businesses and select the best vendor(s) that can provide necessary goods and services for awarded championships.

# Section 18 • Officials

## HEAD REFEREE

One head referee and one assistant referee shall be hired for each preliminary round, subject to the approval of the men's or women's tennis committees. For the finals site, the head referee will be assigned by the men's or women's tennis committees, in conjunction with the host institution. The head referee's responsibilities include the following:

1. Ensuring that the championships are conducted according to the rules of the Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA) and the committee.
2. Ruling on defaults, whether having to do with tardiness or improper conduct.
3. Assisting in the scheduling of matches and termination of play due to weather or darkness.
4. Rendering those decisions necessary to ensure the proper conduct and operation of the championships.
5. Meeting with the games committee, coaches and other designated personnel.
6. Serve as the final authority on all "questions of law" and accordingly handle player/coach appeals as warranted.

The head referee works in accordance with the national committee, and should discuss all matters with the committee or on-site NCAA representative before making an official decision.

## NUMBER OF OFFICIALS

**Preliminary Rounds.** A minimum of head referee and one assistant referee shall be secured for all preliminary rounds, and every effort should be made to have solo chair umpires for each preliminary-round match as well. All officials shall be ITA certified officials. Preliminary-round hosts should send their list of officials for approval to the NCAA championships manager by 3 p.m. Eastern time, Tuesday, May 5.

**Finals.** Once a head referee is determined for the finals site, the host institution, head referee, and the men's and women's tennis committees will work together to assign all additional officials. Solo chair umpires shall be available for each match at the championship finals. Once all officials have been assigned to the championships finals, the head referee should create a schedule detailing which officials work each match for every day of the championships.

## ASSIGNMENT

For all rounds, participating coaches will be advised of the officials assigned to their competitions at the administrative meeting. For preliminary rounds the tournament director will meet with officials (separately from the administrative meeting) to review their responsibilities, administer the officials' fees and expense forms, and distribute the NCAA patches.

## COMMUNICATION

Once officials have been approved to the relevant round(s) of competition, the host institution, Chief Umpires and/or Head Referee should contact all officials to discuss:

- Travel plans;
- Responsibilities of officials;
- Payment policies;
- Hotel reservations (if applicable);
- Time and site of officials meeting and coaches meeting (attendance required);
- Championships format;
- Contact information for key personnel; and
- Any other matters relevant to officials.

## DIVISION II TENNIS

Preliminary round hosts should contact officials immediately after approval by the NCAA. The finals site host should work with all officials to develop a detailed work schedule for the team and individual championships.

### FEES AND EXPENSES

**The host institution shall budget for these fees and expenses in order to receive reimbursement from the NCAA following completion of the financial report.**

Officials' fees are outlined below. Hosts are required to document the officials' schedule each day.

#### Preliminary Rounds

- \$160 for head referee per day.
- \$110 for an assistant referee per day.

#### Finals

- Fees will be paid by the NCAA.

### LODGING

It is encouraged to secure local officials for the championships; however, the hotel expenses (excluding incidentals) for officials required to stay overnight at the championships site shall be paid by the host institution. The host institution shall budget for these expenses in order to receive reimbursement from the NCAA following completion of the financial report. The NCAA staff and committee, in consultation with the host, will determine the hotel property for officials. The officials may not be housed with the teams.

### PER DIEM

Officials will receive \$45 per diem for meals and incidentals for each day they work the championships. A record should be kept of which days each official works.

### TRANSPORTATION

It is encouraged to secure local officials for the championships; however, officials required to travel shall be reimbursed 72 cents per mile round trip not to exceed 500 miles from their home to the host site (1000 miles round trip). Mileage expenses incurred while on-site will not be reimbursed. Parking should be made available for all officials.

### MEETINGS

The Chief Umpire and/or Head Referee for each site of competition (including finals) shall schedule an informational meeting with all assigned officials prior to the commencement of competition. This meeting can be held in-person or virtually.

### UNIFORM

Championships officials must be identified properly and dressed in appropriate attire for tournament competition.

# Section 19 • Programs

This championship will feature a digital game program that can be viewed online or downloaded at no charge. This program will be available online generally no later than two days prior to the first day of the event.

All digital programs available can be found at [ncaa.com/gameprograms](http://ncaa.com/gameprograms).

## CONTENT/EDITORIAL

### LEARFIELD Responsibilities

Responsible for all program production, including editorial content, layout and design, advertising, and printing.

### Host Responsibilities

Media contact should provide LEARFIELD with text and photos for editorial pages about host institution/venue/city, if requested by LEARFIELD.

Any pages promoting the host institution/venue/city will not be display advertisements; those interested in purchasing advertising space for sponsors, etc., should contact Clerrinda Queen ([clerrinda.queen@learfield.com](mailto:clerrinda.queen@learfield.com)).

## PROMOTION

The NCAA will provide a PDF including a QR code that links to the digital program, a URL where the digital program can be accessed and imagery of the NCAA's Corporate Champions and Partners. This PDF, or digital handout, is also shared with participating schools for their promotional use.

If you would like this information ahead of time, please contact your NCAA administrator.

### Best Practices

Below are a few best practices for promoting the championship digital program.

- Distribute the digital handout to fans.
- Create signage to direct fans to the digital program by using elements on the digital handout.
- Post the link on athletics and school-affiliated websites.
- Share the link on athletics and school-affiliated social media outlets.
- Share the link with student-athletes, faculty, alumni organizations and local media outlets, and any other group that may have interest.

## SUPPLEMENTAL HANDOUTS

At championships sites where a digital program is available, LEARFIELD allows the host institution/venue to distribute supplemental handouts (i.e., updated statistics and notes) provided any such materials:

- Do not include any advertisements, local sponsor logos, etc.
- Include the QR code and URL to the digital program.
- Include the NCAA Corporate Champions and Partners imagery.

Printed supplements may be distributed free or sold, with all proceeds retained by the host. The host should not include expenses for such supplements in the championship budget and/or financial report.

All supplemental content is subject to NCAA and LEARFIELD approval.

## QUESTIONS

If you have any questions, please free to contact your NCAA administrator or Chad Laytham ([chad.laytham@learfield.com](mailto:chad.laytham@learfield.com)) at LEARFIELD.

# Section 20 • Safety and Security

The NCAA has established a Safety and Security Advisory Group (SSAG) to develop Best Practices for all NCAA championships. The SSAG developed these Best Practices based on a review of current and future championships competition venues, discussions with safety and security experts, and their own experience and knowledge. All hosts and competition venues are strongly encouraged to refer to the [Best Practices for Venue Safety and Security](#) when developing a safety and security program.

The suggestions outlined in the Best Practices for Venue Safety and Security are based on practices that are employed by competition venues across the nation. The need and ability to implement them at each facility and event will vary. Properly trained and equipped personnel constitute the primary element of implementing a successful safety and security program.

Best Practices for championships competition venue safety are intended for guidance purposes only; they are not a requirement under NCAA or other regulations or legislation. In addition, because of the wide variety of designs and sizes of competition venues; and composition and profile of particular events, not all Best Practices will be reasonable or applicable.

The Best Practices should not be viewed as a complete or primary source of information for developing or implementing the safety program for the competition venue hosting an NCAA championship. Rather, facility managers and local public safety personnel should consider the current national threat level, nature of specific threats and the full range of resources available when responding to changes in the threat condition levels.

Please submit your final safety and security plan, which would be inclusive of the NCAA Championships Safety and Security Team Contact Information form. Items must be submitted once the opportunity to host has been awarded.

Unless otherwise expressly authorized by applicable law, no firearms or weapons are permitted on these premises for NCAA championships and events, excluding authorized law enforcement officers. Failure to abide may subject you to ejection as well as other applicable discipline or action. The foregoing shall not limit the applicable equipment used in and for fencing and rifle competitions in accordance with NCAA rules, at the venues for such competitions.

## WEATHER

If the tournament director and/or site representative determine that weather conditions could alter the approved championship event schedule, they should promptly contact the NCAA championship administrator with a summary and details of the anticipated weather/environmental issue and proposed alternate schedule prior to making or announcing any formal changes.

### Lightning and Weather Detection Service

The NCAA has made arrangements to provide a lightning detection and weather monitoring system to all rounds of competition for outdoor championships. This system will assist the event management staff and the NCAA site representatives in case of inclement weather during the championship. A tournament staff member should be dedicated to weather monitoring. This service is provided complimentary so that all sites will have the resources available to ensure the safety of our student-athletes, spectators and event management staff. Both the site representative and host tournament director should request to include their emails and/or phone numbers via text to the weather monitoring system so updates will be received. The site representative and tournament director should also ensure that the address identified in the monitoring system is the actual physical location of where the event is taking place. It is also recommended that the tournament director make contact with a local meteorologist to further facilitate weather and environmental monitoring.

# Section 21 • Transportation

## PARTICIPATING INSTITUTIONS

Teams eligible for air travel must arrange make arrangements through Short's Travel. Short's can be reached at 866-655-9215 or by email at [ncaaalo@shortstravel.com](mailto:ncaaalo@shortstravel.com).

Institutions that fly, and are eligible for NCAA paid transportation on-site, will be required to use Short's Travel (STM Driven) to book on-site ground transportation. Short's Travel (STM Driven) can be reached at 844-814-3939 or at [ncaachamps@stmdriven.com](mailto:ncaachamps@stmdriven.com).

The home side ground transportation will be arranged by the institution in accordance with NCAA safety standards. Institutions that are eligible to drive to the championship will book ground transportation independently in accordance with the NCAA safety standards and seek reimbursement through the NCAA Travel Expense System (TES).

Expense reimbursement for participation in championships will be filed through our online system. The TES can be found at [travel.ncaa.org](http://travel.ncaa.org).

All NCAA Championship travel information can be found [here](#).

## PARKING

The host institution is responsible for securing complimentary parking at team hotels for team buses and any courtesy vehicles provided, if possible. The competition venue shall provide a designated complimentary parking area for team buses and courtesy cars at the competition venue.

# Section 22 • Volunteers

## GOAL AND RECRUITMENT

A volunteer program for the championship should be implemented to accomplish the following goals:

- Provide an enthusiastic and warm welcome to participants and guests.
- Answer questions and provide information to visitors.
- Contribute to the general excitement surrounding the championship.
- Assist the LOC with championship operations.

Championship volunteer programs should represent the student-athletes and communities we serve, embrace diversity and be inclusive of individuals from all backgrounds and identities. The NCAA and the LOC shall encourage recruitment and participation of volunteers from a talent pool of individuals that reflect diversity across all aspects, including race, age, sex, class, national origin, creed, educational background, religion, gender identify, disability, gender expression, geographical location, income, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation and work experiences. The LOC/host institution should keep the NCAA's commitment to diversity top of mind as they assign volunteers to the various roles and responsibilities throughout the championship.

Volunteers must be 18 years of age or older and must sign a volunteer release waiver. Individuals with driving responsibilities MUST be 25 years of age or older.

Student-athletes or prospect-aged individuals MAY NOT be recruited in any way different than general public volunteers. The Local Organizing Committee (LOC) cannot make a specific volunteer presentation to student-athletes of the host institution/conference. Student-athletes and prospect-aged individuals may apply to volunteer in the same manner as individuals from the general public. Student-athletes and prospect-aged individuals must be selected by the same criteria as the general public applicants.

The NCAA may request additional volunteers from the LOC as necessary.

## WAIVERS

Each volunteer must sign a waiver of liability before the start of the championship ([Appendix E](#)). If there is a written agreement governing volunteer service, a release component must be added if one does not already exist. After the championship, all waivers shall be collected and kept on file, in case requested.

## APPAREL

The NCAA will coordinate ordering and production of the apparel through the NCAA volunteer apparel program. BDA Sports and Event 1 have been selected as the official NCAA volunteer apparel providers for all 2025-26 championships. The NCAA will offer its Corporate Champions/Partners the opportunity to help offset the cost. The champion/partner would be permitted to place one logo on each apparel item, if a separate apparel item is provided for these volunteers.

The championship logo and the licensee's mark will be embroidered on the apparel. The licensee's logo may appear on the right chest or sleeve. The licensee's logo may be no larger than 2½ inches square.

The LOC will distribute apparel during the required volunteer training sessions to ensure each volunteer's commitment. When ordering apparel, the LOC will ensure that apparel includes women's styles and sizes.

The games management staff, media coordination staff and host media operations staff should be included in overall volunteer numbers and should receive volunteer apparel.

*NOTE: Hosts shall work in collaboration with the championship administrator on the selection, ordering and distribution of volunteer apparel.*

# Appendices

## Contents

Appendix A • Tournament Director Checklist	58
Appendix B • Schedule	61
Appendix C • Participant Call Agenda	62
Appendix D • Officials Meeting Agenda	63
Appendix E • Volunteer Waiver	64
Appendix F • Match Time Formats	66

## **Appendix A • Tournament Director Checklist**

### **APPENDIX A**

#### **Checklist for Finals Tournament Director.**

Participant Manual. Be sure the participant manual includes the information outlines in the template that will be provided. The manual should be sent to the Division II Men's and Women's Tennis Committee and the NCAA championship manager for approval.

#### **Awards.**

1. When awards arrive check to ensure that they are not damaged and ensure that everything has arrived.
2. Plan an award ceremony in accordance with instructions outlines in this manual.
3. No awards other than the NCAA awards may be presented at the site of the championships. Please advise the NCAA national office if you are contacted by an group wishing to do so in conjunction with the tournament.
4. Any welcome packets, mementos, etc., must be approved by the NCAA national office in advance of the championships.

#### **Facilities.**

1. Obtain liability insurance as outlined in this manual.
2. Court Maintenance.
  - a. Arrange for proper cleaning and drying in case of inclement weather.
  - b. Provide for an adequate number of rollers and squeegees.
  - c. Provide proper wind screening on all competitive courts.
  - d. Have officials do a daily check of net height, center straps, etc.
3. Drug Testing. If the championships are selected for drug testing, be sure to follow all the instructions sent from the National Center for Drug Free Sport Inc.
4. Equipment Finals.
  - a. Umpire chairs (24 total).
  - b. Score indicators at each court.
  - c. Team name cards for each match.
  - d. Chairs or benches at each court for players and coaches.
  - e. Ample water and coolers at each court (provided by NCAA).

- f. Spare nets and other equipment.
- g. NCAA will provide Wilson tennis balls for the championship, and a limited number for practice.
- h. Racquet stringing with pick-up and delivery service

5. Tournament Room.

- a. Adequate seating and desk space for committee and a separate space for officials.
- b. Ball Storage.
- c. Posted draw sheets.
- d. Leader board.
- e. Award storage.
- f. Table and chairs for working committee members, officials, and media.
- g. Internet capabilities.
- h. Pringer.

6. Hospitality Areas.

- Officials, tournament personnel and media.

7. Indoor Competition Site.

- a. Arrange for short notice of nearby competition site or facilities.
- b. Post directions to indoor courts and provide transportation, if possible.
- c. Transport all necessary equipment.

8. Practice Courts. Provide names of available facilities for practice if requested.

#### Finances.

1. Should you desire to administer a local contributor or donor program for the championships, you must procure NCAA approval at least 90 days prior to the event. A written proposal, including financial arrangements, should be submitted to the NCAA championship manager.
2. Review your approved budget to ensure that it has not been exceeded. If approved expenditures are exceeding without advance permission from the NCAA national office, the host institution will be responsible for the overage.

3. If drug testing is confirmed, complete the drug testing budget, and return it to The National Center for Drug Free Sport.
4. Provide food beverage concessions (host institution retains revenues).
5. File the online final financial report within 60 days of the conclusion of the championships.

Housing.

1. Preliminary Rounds; Reserve an adequate number of hotel rooms for teams (6 rooms for each team). Also, reserve rooms for the officials in a separate hotel from the participants.
2. Secure rooms for the committee (final only). Rooms will be billed directly to the host.

Sports Information.

1. Arrange for pre-championships publicity.
2. Set up an area for the working press.
  - Provide an area that will not interfere with the competition for those wishing to videotape.
3. Produce live results for posting to the championships website.
  - Arrange for new conference to be held the day prior to the competition and immediately after the competition, and/or for interviews with selected coaches and student-athletes.
4. Provide a press kit containing pertinent information on each team.
5. Proved each member a copy of each institution's official travel party form.

Athletic Trainers.

1. Arrange for 2 certified athletic trainers to be on hand at all practice sessions and two hours prior to the start of each day's competition. An athletic trainer and taping facility should be provided at each site.
2. Oversee water and cup supply at courtside.
3. Oversee towel supply.
4. Establish treatment schedule.
5. Arrange for immediate access to a physician and emergency transportation.
6. Provide each participating institution with directions and telephone number to the nearest hospital.

## Appendix B • Schedule

WEDNESDAY, MAY 13				
TIME	EVENT	LOCATION	ATTENDEES	ATTIRE
1 p.m. (Eastern)	Mandatory Coaches Meeting/ITA Updates	Virtual	Committee/Coaches/Head Umpire	Casual
SUNDAY, MAY 17				
All Day	NCAA Committee and NCAA Championship Manager Arrive		NCAA Committee	Casual
4 p.m.	Facility Walk Through	Surprise Tennis Center	Host/Committee	Casual
All Day	Teams Arrive		Teams	Casual
MONDAY, MAY 18				
TBD	Head Chief Umpire Arrives/Assigned Officials			
All Day	Teams and Officials Arrive		Teams/Officials	Casual
8 a.m. – 11 a.m.	Women's Teams Practice (to be assigned)	Surprise Tennis Center	Teams	Team Attire
4 p.m.	Team Virtual Call for Team Lineups	Virtual	NCAA Committee	Business Casual
6:30 p.m.	Banquet	Surprise Tennis Center	Teams/NCAA Committee	Casual
7 p.m.	Officials Meeting (Closed meeting)	Wigwam	Officials	Casual
TUESDAY, MAY 19				
7:45 a.m.	National Anthem	Surprise Tennis Center		
8 a.m. & Noon	First Round – Women's	Courts TBD	Teams	Team Attire
3 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.	Men's Teams Practice (to be assigned)	Courts TBD	Teams	Team Attire
WEDNESDAY, MAY 20				
7:45 a.m.	National Anthem			
8 a.m. and Noon	First Rounds – Men	Courts TBD	Teams	Team Attire
4 p.m.	Quarterfinals – Women	Courts TBD	Teams	Team Attire
THURSDAY, MAY 21				
8:45 a.m.	National Anthem			
9 a.m.	Quarterfinals – Men	Courts TBD	Teams	Team Attire
1 p.m. – 2:55 p.m.	Optional Women's Practice	Courts TBD	Teams	Team Attire
FRIDAY, MAY 22				
8:45 a.m.	National Anthem			
9 a.m.	Semifinals – Women's	Courts TBD	Teams	Team Attire
1 p.m. – 2:55 p.m.	Optional Men's Practice	Courts TBD	Teams	Team Attire
SATURDAY, MAY 23				
8:45 a.m.	National Anthem			
9 a.m.	Semifinals – Men	Courts TBD	Teams	Team Attire
1 p.m.	Finals – Women/Award Ceremony	Courts TBD	Teams	Team Attire
SUNDAY, MAY 24				
9 a.m.	Finals – Men/Award Ceremony	Courts TBD	Teams	Team Attire

Times listed are local time.

Dates, Times, and Locations are Subject to change

## Appendix C • Participant Call Agenda



### AGENDA

National Collegiate Athletic Association

2026 NCAA Division II Men's and Women's Tennis Championships – Participant Call

Microsoft Teams Videoconference

May 13, 2025  
1 p.m. Eastern time

1. Welcome, introductions and roll call.
2. Community engagement.
3. Participant manual.
4. Schedule of events.
5. Seeding and updated bracket.
6. Tickets.
7. Hotels.
8. Banquet.
9. Official travel party.
10. Practice times.
11. Warmup time.
12. BODYARMOR products.
13. Livestream coverage.
14. Medical.
15. Drug testing.
16. Misconduct.
17. Other business.
18. Adjournment.

## Appendix D • Officials Meeting Agenda



### AGENDA

#### NCAA Division II Men's and Women's Tennis Championships Officials Meeting

1. Welcome and introductions.
2. Pass around sign-in and information sheet.
3. Materials:
  - a. Roster.
  - b. Procedures.
  - c. Shirts.
4. Discuss schedule.
5. Review procedures for the tournament.
6. Inclement weather plan.
7. Stress need for consistency in decisions made by each official on each court.
  - a. Pre-match introductions.
  - b. Code violations (uniforms and warm-ups).
  - c. Enforcing the rules of tennis.
8. Discuss committee members' roles. Meet and work with them.
9. Distribute assignments.
  - a. Directions to site.
  - b. Note where tennis balls are kept.
  - c. Note where athletic trainer will be located.
10. Adjournment.

## Appendix E • Volunteer Waiver

### **ASSUMPTION OF RISK, RELEASE AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY AND INDEMNITY AGREEMENT**

Event: \_\_\_\_\_ (the "Event")

Participant's Name (Please print): \_\_\_\_\_ (the "Participant")

Participant's Age: \_\_\_\_\_

In consideration for permitting Participant to participate as a volunteer in the Event as directed by the relevant staff, the undersigned, for themselves, and for their respective heirs, personal representatives and assigns, agree as follows:

**Assumption of Risk:** The undersigned hereby acknowledge and agree that they understand the nature of the Event; that Participant is qualified, in good health, and in proper physical condition to participate therein; that there are certain inherent risks and dangers associated with the Event; and that, except as expressly set forth herein, they, knowingly and voluntarily, accept, and assume responsibility for, each of these risks and dangers, and all other risks and dangers that could arise out of, or occur during, Participant's participation in the Event.

**Release and Waiver:** The undersigned hereby RELEASE, WAIVE, DISCHARGE AND COVENANT NOT TO SUE the National Collegiate Athletic Association and its member institutions, \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ or any subdivision thereof, and each of them, their officers and employees, (collectively, the "Releasees"), from and for any liability resulting from any personal injury, accident or illness (including death), and/or property loss, however caused, arising from, or in any way related to, Participant's participation in the Event, except for those caused by the willful misconduct, gross negligence or intentional torts of the above parties, as applicable.

**Indemnification and Hold Harmless:** The undersigned also hereby agree to INDEMNIFY, DEFEND AND HOLD the Releasees HARMLESS from any and all claims, actions, suits, procedures, costs, expenses, damages and liabilities including, but not limited to, attorney's fees, arising from, or in any way related to, Participant's participation in the Event, except for those arising out of the willful misconduct, gross negligence or intentional torts of the above parties, as applicable.

**Permission to Use Likeness/Name:** The undersigned further agree to allow, without compensation, Participant's likeness and/or name to appear, and to otherwise be used, in material, regardless of media form, promoting the National Collegiate Athletic Association, and/or its championships, events and activities, including those of its representatives and licensees.

**Severability:** The undersigned expressly agree that the foregoing assumption of risk, release and waiver of liability and indemnity agreement is intended to be as broad and inclusive as is

permitted by the law of the State of \_\_\_\_\_ and that if any portion thereof is held invalid, it is agreed that the balance shall, notwithstanding, continue in full legal force and effect.

**Acknowledgment of Understanding:** The undersigned have read this assumption of risk, release and waiver of liability and indemnity agreement, and have had the opportunity to ask questions about the same. The undersigned fully understand this assumption of risk, release and waiver of liability and indemnity agreement, that the undersigned are giving up substantial rights in connection therewith, and that its terms are contractual, and not a mere recital. The undersigned acknowledge that they are signing this agreement freely and voluntarily.

Signature of Parent/Guardian of Minor (if Participant is under the age of 18) Date

## Appendix F • Match Time Formats

### NCAA Division II Men's & Women's Tennis Recommended Preliminary Rounds Match Time Formats

#### 1 match in a day

- 12:00pm Start time

#### 2 matches in a day

- 10:00am
- 2:00pm

#### 3 matches in a day

- 9:00am
- 12:00pm
- 3:00pm

#### 4 matches in a day

- 9:00am
- 11:30am
- 2:00pm
- 4:30pm