

# PRE-CHAMPIONSHIPS 2023-24 MANUAL

## **NCAA General Administrative Guidelines**

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#### THE NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 6222 Indianapolis, Indiana 46206-6222 317-917-6222 ncaa.org September 2023

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## **Section 1 • Introduction**

During the 2023-24 academic year, the Association will sponsor 90 national championships - 42 for men, 45 for women and three for both men and women. Of the men's championships, three are National Collegiate Championships, 13 are Division I championships, 12 are Division II championships and 14 are Division III championships. Of the women's championships, six are National Collegiate Championships, 12 are Division I championships, 13 are Division II championships and 14 are Division III championships. The combined men's and women's championships are National Collegiate Championships.

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

Sections one through nine apply to policies applicable to all 90 championships, while the remaining sections are sport specific.

#### Section 1.1 Definitions

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

## Section 2 • Championship Core Statement

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

This is attained by:

Ensuring student-athletes' optimal experience.

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

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

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

Assuring effective management of the business aspects of the operation.

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

## **Section 3 • Conduct**

## Section 3.1 Certification of Eligibility/Availability

[Reference: Certification of Eligibility/Availability in Bylaws 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 20.2.4, 31.2.1.7.1, 31.2.1.7.1.2 and 31.2.2 in the NCAA Division I Manual, Bylaws 7.3.1.5 and 18.2.1.1 in the NCAA Division II Manual and Division II Championships Committee Policy and Bylaws 31.2.1.5, 31.2.1.5.2, and 31.2.2 in the NCAA Division III Manual.]

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

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

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

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

## Section 3.2 Drug Testing

As part of preparation and planning to participate in championship events, member institutions are reminded and encouraged to review all applicable policy and legislative requirements pertaining to banned substances, drug testing and related eligibility requirements with their student-athletes. Student-athletes who compete in NCAA championships may be subjected to drug tests in accordance with legislation and may be determined to be ineligible as a result thereof. Only student-athletes who have consented in writing to such testing are initially eligible for these championships; and thereafter, student-athletes who are tested shall remain eligible only if they test negative.

## Section 3.3 Honesty and Sportsmanship

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

### Section 3.4 Misconduct/Failure to Adhere to Policies

#### **MISCONDUCT**

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

#### FAILURE TO ADHERE TO POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

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

## Section 3.5 Sports Wagering Policy

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

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

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

#### STUDENT-ATHLETES

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

#### **POSTSEASON**

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

#### HOSTING OPPORTUNITIES

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

## Section 3.6 Student-Athlete Experience Survey

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

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

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

## Section 4 • Elite 90™ Award

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

Institutions that wish to nominate a student-athlete must do so through an online nomination process. For more information or to access the online form and submit a nomination, **click here**.

## Section 5 • Fan Travel

Through support from Marriott International as the Official Hotel Partner of the NCAA, NCAA championships are pleased to provide easy and affordable accommodations for family and fans to follow their favorite student-athlete(s) and team(s) as they participate in NCAA championships competition. Travel arrangements completed through Marriott and NCAA Travel help support NCAA student-athletes. Please direct your fans to NCAA.com/travel to search and book online hotel reservations.

## Section 6 • Health and Safety

As part of preparation and planning to host and/or participate in championship events, member institutions are reminded and encouraged to review all applicable health and safety policy and legislative requirements and guidance including, among others, those relating to concussion management, catastrophic injury prevention, inclement weather and independent medical care. These requirements and related information can be found in applicable division manuals, sports playing rules and the materials located on the NCAA Sport Science Institute website. In addition, a summary of some of the key health and safety considerations related to traveling to championship events can be found in the NCAA's Guidance for Medical Care and Coverage for Student-Athletes at Away Events.

## Section 7 • Logo Policy

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

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

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

## Section 8 • Research

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

## Section 9 • Travel Party

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

## Section 10 • Religious Conflicts

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

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

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

## Section 11 • Team Replacement Policy

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

# **Division I Wrestling**

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## **Section 1 • General Administration**

# **Section 1.1 NCAA Tournament Operations Staff Contact Information**

#### **Anthony Holman**

Managing Director, Championships and Alliances 317-917-6929 / Cell: 317-525-3279 / aholman@ncaa.org

#### Sadie Redburn

Assistant Coordinator, Championships and Alliances 317-917-6468 / sfoster@ncaa.org

### Section 1.2 National Committee

**Tricia Brandenburg -** *Term Expires August 2027* Executive Associate AD/SWA U.S. Military Academy

Ashley Offermann - Term Expires August 2025 Senior Associate Athletic Director California Polytechnic State University

**Jennifer Tuscano, chair -** *Term Expires August 2024* Executive Associate AD, Sport Administration/SWA University of Pittsburgh

**Damion Hahn -** *Term Expires August 2027* Head Wrestling Coach South Dakota State University

**Doug Tiedt** - *Term Expires August 2027* Sr. Associate AD for Student Services University of Wisconsin - Madison

Matt Valenti - Term Expires August 2026 Senior Associate AD, Student-Athlete Leadership & Development University of Pennsylvania

## Section 1.3 Important Dates

Thursday, March 14	Online credential/hotel registration portal closes (noon Eastern time).
Tuesday, March 19	On-site team registration begins.
Wednesday, March 20	Mandatory coaches' administrative meeting (6 p.m. Eastern time).
Thursday, March 21	Replacement deadline (time of weigh-ins).
CHAMPIONSHIPS DATES	
March 21-23	T-Mobile Center, Kansas City, Missouri.
DATE FORMULA	
Finals	Third full weekend in March (Thursday-Saturday).
FUTURE DATES	
FOIORE DATES	
2025 FINALS	

Wells Fargo Center, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Rocket Mortgage FieldHouse, Cleveland, Ohio.

March 20-22

2026 FINALS March 19-21

#### **QUALIFYING TOURNAMENT DATES**

TOURNAMENT	DATE	SITE	
Atlantic Coast Conference	March 10	North Carolina	
Big Ten Conference	March 9-10	Maryland	
Big 12 Conference	March 9-10	Tulsa, Okla.	
Eastern Intercollegiate Wrestling Association	March 8-9	Bucknell	
Mid-American Conference	March 7-8	Kent State	
Pac-12 Conference	March 10	Oregon State	
Southern Conference	March 9	App State	

#### Section 1.4 Uniforms

#### **LOGOS**

Refer to General Administrative Guidelines, Section 7.

#### Section 1.5 Rules

Per NCAA Bylaw 17.30, member institutions shall conduct all of their intercollegiate competition in accordance with the playing rules of the Association in all sports for which the NCAA develops playing rules. For those sports in which the Association follows rules that are developed by other governing bodies and modified by the governing sports committee, the adopted playing rules shall be used. The governing sports committee will not consider any results for selection purposes that are not played in accordance with NCAA rules, or those rules adopted by an outside organization. The 2023-24 NCAA Wrestling Rules and Interpretations will be followed. Questions regarding rules interpretations should be directed to Jimmy Chung, secretary-rules editor; phone: 949-525-6004; email: ncaawrestling.sre@gmail.com.

Rule 9.6.1 Qualified Examiners. A physician or a certified athletic trainer shall examine all contestants for communicable skin diseases before all tournaments and meets. (For guidelines regarding the dispensation of skin infections, see Appendix C, Skin Infections in Wrestling.) It is recommended that this examination be made at the time of weigh-in. Medical professionals of both genders may participate in the medical examinations.

Rule 9.1.1 Weigh-Ins. Weigh-ins shall be conducted in a private, secured area at the site of competition or in an adjacent building to the competition, and attendance shall be limited to the contestants, coaches of the contestants, required medical personnel, the person(s) supervising the weigh-in and others deemed necessary. All contestants shall weigh in wearing a minimum of a suitable undergarment, such as briefs, boxers or shorts of competition singlet. A garment shall not be altered and shall cover the entire buttocks. The referee or other authorized people should supervise the weighing in of contestants. It is mandatory that the NCAA official weigh-in form, generated by the Optimal Performance Calculator (OPC), be used for all competition. (See Rule 8.3.5.3.)

It is recommended that a digital scale be used for weigh-ins. All scales used for weigh-ins shall be certified before the start of each session.

At all official weigh-ins, the wrestler should stand with both feet flat in the middle of the scale, facing away from the dial or weight indicator. (For failure to make weight, see Rule 9.2.)

# Section 2 • Determination of Championship Participation

## Section 2.1 Championships Format

The NCAA Division I Wrestling Championships shall be conducted in the following 10 weight classes (33 wrestlers per weight class):

- 125 pounds
- 133 pounds
- 141 pounds
- 149 pounds
- 157 pounds
- 165 pounds
- 174 pounds
- 184 pounds
- 197 pounds
- Heavyweights (183-285 pounds)

The order in which the finals of the respective weight classes will be wrestled may be adjusted by the games committee to accommodate television coverage and spectator interest. The same 10 classes will be used in conference and regional qualifying meets. Match times will be seven minutes in duration.

On-site team registration

#### **SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

(Local Times)

3-9 n m

Tuesd	av.	Marc	h 19
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3-9 p.m.	On-site team registration
3-9 p.m.	Team practices
Wednesday, March 20	
9 a.m5 p.m.	Team practices
9 a.m5 p.m.	Team registration
1:30 p.m.	Press conference with selected student-athletes
2 p.m.	Press conference with selected head coaches
3 p.m.	Mandatory skin checks with dermatologist for student-athletes with pre-existing skin conditions
5 p.m.	Registration closes
6 p.m.	Mandatory administrative (coaches') meeting
Thursday, March 21	
11 a.m.	Session One – Preliminaries
6 p.m.	Session Two – Preliminaries and wrestle-backs
Friday, March 22	
11 a.m.	Session Three – Quarterfinals and wrestle-backs
7 p.m.	Session Four – Semifinals and wrestle-backs

#### Saturday, March 23

10 a.m.	Session Five – Consolation finals
5:35 p.m.	Grand March (Parade of All-Americans)
6 p.m.	Session Six — Championships finals
9 p.m.	Team awards will be presented following all competition; individual awards are presented between each weight class

<sup>\*</sup>Times are subject to change for television.

#### **TRAVEL**

Per NCAA travel policies, you are allowed to book travel for individual and team sports prior to the official selections announcement. However, please be advised that your institution will be billed for any charges incurred as a result of any of the following situations:

- 1. Any student-athletes who do not qualify for reimbursement.
- 2. Any student-athlete who gets injured, has an illness or does not travel for any reason.
- 3. Any non-athlete above the number that are reimbursable, based on the number of student-athletes who qualify.
- 4. Any name changes or flight changes that result in penalties.
- 5. Any charges incurred when group space is blocked and then canceled.

Understanding these potential charges, which will be reviewed with you prior to any tickets being charged, you should feel free to book your individual team sports as early as you feel comfortable. If you have any questions about this policy, please feel free to contact Short's Travel at 866-655-9215, or the NCAA Travel Department at 317-917-6757.

Please refer to the NCAA travel policies for all information regarding transportation and per diem expenses. Travel policies can be found online at: ncaa.org/championships/travel/championships-travel-information

#### **TEAM REGISTRATION**

Team contact information shall be submitted within the team registration portal. (https://go.planningpoint.net/Regist ration/2024DIWRESTLINGKANSASCITY).

All team contacts shall be maintained and updated here throughout the season.

Each institution is eligible for one administrator credential for their Athletic Director or sport administrator. Up to two medical credentials may be issued for authorized medical personnel. One team personnel credential for support staff will also be provided.

Credentials may be used only by eligible competing student-athletes and recognized members of the coaching staff authorized by the respective institution. Only credentialed participating student-athletes and coaches shall be permitted to take part in practice and warmups.

## Section 2.2 Results

#### **OUALIFYING INFORMATION/FORMS**

The tournament directors for all qualifying tournaments are responsible for preparing a list of qualifiers for the qualifying positions in each weight class that will be awarded by the NCAA Wrestling Committee in February 2024. Please be sure to include their tournament finish and season won-lost record, which must include results from the qualifying tournament. This information must be submitted online by 8 p.m. Eastern time, Sunday, March 10.

## Section 2.3 Selection Information

#### **ALLOCATION**

Each qualifying tournament shall be allocated a minimum of 10 positions for the top finisher in each weight class.

The remaining spots available in each class are reserved for at-large selections. The at-large qualifiers will be selected by the NCAA Wrestling Committee and will be announced March 13, 2024.

#### **AUTOMATIC QUALIFICATION**

Atlantic Coast Conference	Mid-American Conference
Big Ten Conference	Pac-12 Conference
Big 12 Conference	Southern Conference
Eastern Intercollegiate Wrestling Association	

#### REPLACEMENT POLICY

The NCAA Wrestling Committee will select two alternates per weight, one alternate per weight class will be invited to the championships. If any wrestler withdraws or does not make weight, the alternate will be inserted into the bracket. Teams should notify the NCAA as soon as they know a wrestler will not be able to compete. The replacement deadline is the time of weigh-ins on the first day of competition.

The contact person for replacements for the championships is Anthony Holman of the NCAA national office. Mr. Holman may be reached by email at <a href="mailto:aholman@ncaa.org">aholman@ncaa.org</a>.

#### LATE ENTRY

If an institution fails to enter required individual and/or team information (starters, season record forms, results, etc.) before the established deadlines, a late-entry fine of \$50 per occurrence may be assessed. Fines must be paid before an institution will be issued credentials for the national championships. Late-entry fines are to be made payable to the NCAA and be submitted to Anthony Holman at the NCAA. The funds received will be distributed to support NCAA student-athlete initiatives.

#### PAIRINGS AND SEEDING

The Division I Wrestling Committee will determine the seeding for each weight class in the championships. At no time will lobbying be allowed. Coaches attempting to lobby or supply additional materials may be cited for misconduct.

A selected representative from each conference tournament is responsible for submitting the list of qualifiers and updated individual season record forms for all qualifiers to be considered for seeding. Immediately after the respective qualifying tournament, each conference tournament director must submit to Anthony Holman at the NCAA national office via email at <a href="mailto:aholman@ncaa.org">aholman@ncaa.org</a> the tournament results for each weight class, including brackets.

Final seeding and pairings are made by the Division I Wrestling Committee. Pairing sheets will tentatively be distributed via an internet announcement by 8 p.m. Eastern time, Wednesday, March 13. These pairings are not to be released by any other media outlet before the official NCAA announcement.

After all qualifying events have concluded, the NCAA Division I Wrestling Committee will meet in person to select atlarge qualifiers using selection criteria. All weight classes at the 2024 NCAA Division I Wrestling Championships will consist of 33 wrestlers. All 33 wrestlers in each weight class will be seeded with no requirement that wrestlers from the same conference tournament not meet in the first round. The pigtail matches will always be paired with one of the top four seeds. At-large qualifiers will be announced on or by March 13.

When compiling a student-athlete's won-lost record for seeding purposes, only matches against student-athletes who compete on intercollegiate teams at two- and four-year, degree-granting institutions where NCAA rules are followed shall be counted.

#### Section 2.4 Selection Criteria

#### PRE-ALLOCATION FORMULA

Pre-allocations for 2024 will be determined by using the pre-allocation formula described below and will be communicated to all qualifying events by Feb. 23. Wrestlers in each weight class will be measured on the following: winning percentage (Win %), rating percentage index (RPI) and coaches' ranking (CR). Win % is defined as Division I wins divided by total Division I matches contested. RPI is defined as Win %\*, opponents' Win %\* and opponents' opponents' Win % (15-match minimum). CR is defined as the weight class-specific ranking as determined by the NCAA Division I Wrestling Coaches Ranking Panel.

\*Note: Each wrestler who has 15 matches will have an RPI, without the requirement of the wrestler's opponents to have 15 matches, as well.

Wrestlers must have wrestled a minimum of eight matches at the championships weight class. Wrestlers who meet or exceed threshold levels for any two of the three measures will earn a pre-allocated position for their respective weight class at their respective qualifying event. If a wrestler earns a pre-allocated position and does not compete in his conference or qualifying tournament, the pre-allocated position that was earned by this wrestler for his qualifying event will revert to the at-large pool, unless the wrestler who earned the pre-allocated position is replaced by a wrestler who also meets or exceeds the threshold levels for that respective weight class. If a qualifying event does not have any preallocated spots at a weight class, one automatic qualifier position will be allocated for that qualifying event's champion at that weight class. The committee will allocate the number of pre-allocated spots of the 330 championships field using the primary formula. Threshold levels may slide up or down in concert (i.e., slide up to .800 Win %, top 20 RPI and top 20 CR or slide down to .700 Win %, top 30 RPI and top 30 CR) to achieve a total number of qualifiers in the desired range. The maximum number of pre-allocations per weight class shall be 29.

#### SELECTION CRITERIA

On March 11, wrestlers in each weight class will receive an updated Win %, RPI and coaches' ranking that includes all competition through the qualifying events. Wrestlers who meet or exceed any two of the following criteria will be eligible for at-large consideration:

- .700 Win %
- Top 33 RPI
- Top 33 CR
- .700 winning percentage against all competition
- One win against a wrestler receiving an earned position (pre-allocated)
- Qualifying event placement one below number of pre-allocated spots

Only wrestlers that meet or exceed two of the above criteria will be eligible for selection as at-large qualifiers. A wrestler must have participated in at least two matches in his respective conference or qualifying tournament in order to be considered for at-large selection to the championships.

\*Note: Wrestlers without conference affiliation may be considered if all other criteria are met. The NCAA Wrestling Committee will use the following weighted criteria, in priority order, to evaluate the wrestlers:

- Head-to-head competition 25%
- Quality wins 20%
- Qualifying event placement 15%
- Results against common opponents 10%
- **RPI 10%**
- Coaches rankings 10%
- Win percentage 10%

\*Note: Coaches' Ranking – A wrestler must have wrestled five matches at the championships weight class to be eligible to be ranked in that weight class. He also must have wrestled at least one match in the 30 days preceding each ranking period in the respective weight class. If a wrestler does not meet each of these two criteria, he will be removed from the ranking list for that ranking period.

#### **SUBJECTIVE CRITERIA**

The committee may also consider the following subjective measures to supplement established selection and seeding criteria:

- **Bad Losses**
- Outside the top 30 CR and/or 30 RPI
- Conference Champion
- Performance in last five matches
- Number of Injury default or medical forfeits wins/losses
- Best quality win
- Wrestler availability (injured or medically unable to compete)

# **Appendixes**

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## **Appendix A • Sport Sponsorship**

Arizona State University University of Arkanasa at Little Rock Bellarmine University Binghamton University Binghamton University Binghamton University Eastern Intercollegiate Wrestling Association Bloomsburg University Eastern Intercollegiate Wrestling Association Bloomsburg University Eastern Intercollegiate Wrestling Association Bloomsburg University Eastern Intercollegiate Wrestling Association Bucknell University Bucknell Buc	American University	Eastern Intercollegiate Wrestling Association
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University of Michigan Big Ten Conference	University of Maryland, College Park	Big Ten Conference
	University of Michigan	Big Ten Conference

Michigan State University	Big Ten Conference
University of Minnesota, Twin Cities	Big Ten Conference
University of Missouri, Columbia	Big 12 Conference
Morgan State University	Independent
University of Nebraska-Lincoln	Big Ten Conference
North Carolina State University	Atlantic Coast Conference
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill	Atlantic Coast Conference
North Dakota State University	Big 12 Conference
University of Northern Colorado	Big 12 Conference
Northern Illinois University	Mid-American Conference
University of Northern Iowa	Big 12 Conference
Northwestern University	Big Ten Conference
The Ohio State University	Big Ten Conference
Ohio University	Mid-American Conference
University of Oklahoma	Big 12 Conference
Oklahoma State University	Big 12 Conference
Oregon State University	Pac-12 Conference
University of Pennsylvania	Eastern Intercollegiate Wrestling Association
Pennsylvania State University	Big Ten Conference
University of Pittsburgh	Atlantic Coast Conference
Presbyterian College	Southern Conference
Princeton University	Eastern Intercollegiate Wrestling Association
Purdue University	Big Ten Conference
Queens University of Charlotte	Independent
Rider University	Mid-American Conference
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, New Brunswick	Big Ten Conference
Sacred Heart University	Eastern Intercollegiate Wrestling Association
South Dakota State University	Big 12 Conference
Southern Illinois University Edwardsville	Mid-American Conference
Stanford University	Pac-12 Conference
University of Tennessee at Chattanooga	Southern Conference
U.S. Air Force Academy	Big 12 Conference
U.S. Military Academy	Eastern Intercollegiate Wrestling Association
U.S. Naval Academy	Eastern Intercollegiate Wrestling Association
Utah Valley University	Big 12 Conference
University of Virginia	Atlantic Coast Conference
Virginia Military Institute	Southern Conference
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University	Atlantic Coast Conference
West Virginia University	Big 12 Conference
University of Wisconsin-Madison	Big Ten Conference
University of Wyoming	Big 12 Conference

**Total: 80 Sponsoring Institutions** 

## **Appendix B • Sports Information**

#### **BYE POINTS**

A bye point will be awarded to wrestlers who win their next match after the bye.

#### **MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS**

All student-athletes shall be examined by qualified physicians (at the national tournament, one of them shall be a dermatologist) and/or certified athletic trainers for communicable diseases before the competition.

#### WRITTEN DOCUMENTATION

If a student-athlete has been diagnosed as having a skin condition, and is currently being treated by a physician (ideally, a dermatologist) who has determined that it is safe for that individual to compete without jeopardizing the health of the opponent, the student-athlete may compete. However, the student-athlete or his or her coach or athletic trainer shall provide current written documentation from the treating physician to the medical professional at the medical examination with the approved NCAA Skin Evaluation and Participation Status Form describing: (1) the diagnosed skin disease or condition; (2) the prescribed treatment and the time necessary for it to take effect; and (3) that the skin disease or condition would not be communicable or harmful to the opponent at the time of competition. Such documentation shall be furnished at the medical examination. There will be a mandatory skin examination with the dermatologist for student-athletes with pre-existing skin conditions. (The NCAA Skin Evaluation and Participation Status Form is available online in the OPC system at www.NWCAonline.com.)

The medical examination/skin examination and weigh-in area shall be a private, secure area. Only participants will be admitted to the medical/skin check and weigh-in area. All participants must report to all weigh-ins clean shaven, with nails trimmed and hair at proper length. Student-athletes who fail to make weight and/or pass the skin check will not have their transportation and per diem paid by the NCAA. The established medical-check time is just prior to weigh-ins each scheduled day of competition. Medical checks end precisely after the last student-athlete has been checked.

Failure to receive a medical examination or weigh-in during the designated time will result in disqualification. Only extenuating circumstances will be considered by the Wrestling Committee or an appointed subcommittee. The tournament physician, as designated by the host institution and the NCAA, shall examine the skin of all participants during the medical examinations. The tournament physician/dermatologist shall report the results of the examination to the chair of the Wrestling Committee or a designated representative, who shall then be responsible for the administrative enforcement of the medical recommendation if it involves disqualification from the tournament.

No media shall be permitted at the weigh-ins or medical examinations.

#### **WEIGH-INS**

It is mandatory that all participants in each weight class weigh in. The weigh-ins will be supervised by the Wrestling Committee. Digital scales are recommended for use at all weigh-ins.

Only participants and properly credentialed tournament officials will be admitted to the weigh-in area.

Student-athletes must complete a medical examination/skin check and receive medical clearance on site just prior to weigh-ins.