



REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION II WRESTLING COMMITTEE  
APRIL 30-MAY 1, 2024, MEETING

**KEY ITEMS.**

1. **Super regional site selections.** The committee selected the six host sites for the 2026 super regional tournaments. In addition, the committee selected a new site for region one in 2025. (See Action Items 2-a and 2-b.)
2. **2027 and 2028 championships bid review.** The committee reviewed championship bids for the 2026-27 and 2027-28 academic years.
3. **Regional alignment.** The committee evaluated the regional alignment and adjusted as needed with new institutions sponsoring wrestling in the 2024-25 academic year. (See Action Item 2-c.)

**ACTION ITEMS.**

1. **Legislative items.**

- **None.**

2. **Nonlegislative items.**

a. **2026 super regional site selections.**

- 1) Recommendation. Approve the following sites to host super regionals in 2026:

Super Region	Host	Facility
One	East Stroudsburg	Koehler Fieldhouse
Two	Lander	Finis Horne Arena
Three	Findlay	Koehler Fitness Center
Four	Central Oklahoma	Hamilton Fieldhouse
Five	Southwest Minnesota State	Recreations Athletic Facility
Six	Colorado School of Mines	Student Recreation Center Lockridge Arena

- 2) Effective date. Immediate.
- 3) Rationale. The committee believes these hosts will provide participants with an outstanding championships experience.
- 4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- 5) Student-athlete impact. None.

**b. 2025 Super Region One site selection.**

- 1) Recommendation. Approve the following site to host Super Regional One in 2025:

Super Region	Host	Facility
One	University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown	University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown Gym

- 2) Effective date. Immediate.
- 3) Rationale. This change of site is the result of the previously selected host (Mercyhurst University) reclassifying to Division I. The committee believes the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown will provide participants with an outstanding championships experience while in the proximity of the previously selected host.
- 4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- 5) Student-athlete impact. None.

**c. Super regional alignment.**

- 1) Recommendation. Place six newly sponsoring institutions [Allen University, Cal Poly Humboldt, Emory & Henry, Felician, Salem (West Virginia) and Shorter] into a super region as noted in the attachment.
- 2) Effective date. September 1, 2024.
- 3) Rationale. These assignments are consistent with the committee's stated priorities, including, in order: 1) balanced number of teams per region, 2) geographic proximity and financial feasibility; and 3) conference affiliation.
- 4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- 5) Student-athlete impact. The placements continue to maintain a balance of teams in each super region.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Annual meeting report.** The committee reviewed and approved the report from its 2023 annual meeting in April.
2. **Strategic plan.** The committee reviewed the strategic plan and confirmed that no changes are needed.

3. **Governance updates.** Maritza Jones, managing director of governance and policy, and Ryan Jones, director of governance and policy, joined the meeting to review Division II priorities and the celebration activities related to Division II's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.
4. **Legislation updates.** Jeremy Christoffels, assistant director of academic and membership affairs, walked the committee through the application of the new academic standard for four-year undergraduate transfer student-athletes. The committee supports the proposal the RMAC and South Atlantic Conference sponsored that allows for wrestlers to be able to compete in up to four dates and retain their redshirt in their freshman year.
5. **Championships Committee regionalization review.** NCAA staff liaison Micaela Liddane summarized the Championships Committee regionalization review document and gathered feedback for the Championships Committee to consider.
6. **Coaches Connection update.** The committee discussed the Coaches Connection program with Miles VanHee, Coaches Connection liaison, noting how the program enhances communication with coaches.
7. **NWCA update.** The committee discussed feedback from Jackie Paquette on behalf of the coaches and received updates from the NWCA on the state of the sport.
8. **2024 championships review.** The committee reviewed the 2024 championships and addressed the following items:
  - a. **Schedule of events.** The committee reviewed the schedule of events and agreed that no changes are needed for next year.
  - b. **Selections, seeding and bracketing.** The committee reviewed the regional and finals site seeding procedures and amended the point system in regional seeding procedures due to the changes in the super region alignment.
  - c. **Medical checks/weigh-ins.** The committee was pleased with the skin check and weigh-in procedures this year.
  - d. **Flo/Trackwrestling operations (scoring and video).** The committee was pleased with Flo/Trackwrestling operations at the finals.
  - e. **Resilite (mats and mat brackets)/Tanita, Trackwrestling agreements.** The committee was pleased with all the providers for the championships.
  - f. **Opening ceremonies/Grand March/awards ceremony/awards presenters.** The committee was pleased with the ceremonies that took place in Wichita.
  - g. **Selection of officials/evaluation process.** Officials received high marks on the surveys. The evaluation process through Google worked effectively.

- h. Lodging.** The committee was pleased with the hotels for the championships.
  - i. Video/web streaming.** Staff shall work closely with the streaming and video review team to ensure smooth operations. The committee discussed possibly having representatives join the site visit in advance of the championship.
  - j. Format of each session.** The committee agreed that no changes were necessary.
  - k. Surveys.** The committee reviewed and discussed feedback from participant surveys.
  - l. Head table (announcers).** The committee is pleased with both PA announcers' performance during the past number of championships and wants to retain them for the 2025 championships.
- 9. 2024 super regional review.**
  - a. Mat requirements.** The committee agreed to include mat requirements in the host operations manual and add to the host checklist that the circles and officials' boxes must be measured and affirmed to comply with playing rules. If circles and boxes are going to be taped, hosts must ensure they are measured and installed correctly to comply with the NCAA Wrestling Rules book.
  - b. Rankings protocol.** The committee agreed that prior to regionals, staff shall send a memo to coaches on behalf of the committee reinforcing the expectations for integrity and ethical responsibilities of coaches regarding rankings. Coaches who continue to try to manipulate the system will be sanctioned by the committee.
  - c. Participant feedback.** The committee reviewed and discussed the correspondence from Mason Watt, wrestler from Chadron State College, who expressed concerns about the mat setup at Super Regional Six. The committee directed staff to include instructions to regional host sites to ensure that any obstructions in the competition area be removed or covered, including stands and floor units used for volleyball nets.
- 10. 2026 super regional alignment review.** The committee reviewed the regional alignment for 2025, noting additions of six programs including Allen University, Cal Poly Humboldt, Emory & Henry, Felician, Salem (West Virginia) and Shorter (see Action Item 2-c). Additionally, the committee established three primary criteria by which they evaluate regional alignment for wrestling, including, in order: 1) balanced number of teams per region; 2) geographic proximity and financial feasibility; and 3) conference affiliation.
- 11. Brackets redraw policy.** The committee noted that the policy in the championships manuals should be revised to read as follows: "The official verification deadline for weigh-ins to allow for a redraw of the bracket up until immediately after weigh-ins for super regionals and finals.

This allows the tournament committee to redraw the bracket should there be any missed weights, failed skin checks, injuries, etc.”

- 12. Two-day super regional.** The committee supports making all super regionals two-day events. The number of teams at each regional (minimum of 13) requires extended days to complete the event, in some cases wrestlers are on site at the competition venue for 12 or more hours. The two-day event would also be consistent with the national championship format.
- 13. 20 additional qualifiers.** The committee also supports adding 20 qualifiers (two per region) to the wrestling field. The sport is growing with the highest sponsorship level since 1983, and the additions would be consistent with current access ratio.
- 14. Future sites.**
  - a. The 2025 championships will be held March 14-15 at Indiana Farmers Coliseum at the Indiana State Fairgrounds, as part of the 2025 Division II Winter Festival, hosted by the University of Indianapolis and the Indiana Sports Commission.
  - b. The 2026 championships will be held March 13-14 at Danny Sandford PREMIER Center, hosted by Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference and Sioux Falls Sports Authority in Sioux Falls.
- 15. 2027 and 2028 championships bid review.** The committee reviewed championship bids for the 2026-27 and 2027-28 academic years. Staff will provide the committee with additional comparison information and the committee will finalize its recommendations in June/July.
- 16. Manual review.** Staff asked the committee to submit revisions for the manuals as necessary.
- 17. Election of chair.** The committee approved extending Cy Wainwright’s term as chair through the 2024-25 academic year.
- 18. Other business.** The tentative dates for the annual meeting in 2025 are April 28-30.

*Committee Chair:* Cy Wainwright, Newberry College.  
*Staff Liaison(s):* Anthony Holman, Championships and Alliances.

NCAA Division II Wrestling Committee April 30-May 1, 2024, Meeting	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Marc Bauer, University of Nebraska at Kearney.	
Rocky Burkett, Northern State University.	
Ryan Courtney, Fairmont State University.	

Shawn Nelson, University of Findlay.
Todd Steidley, University of Central Oklahoma.
Cy Wainwright, Newberry College.
<b>Absentees:</b>
None.
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>
Jackie Paquette, National Wrestling Coaches Association.
Miles VanHee, Coaches Connection Liaison.
<b>NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:</b>
Anthony Holman, Championships and Alliances.
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>
Jeremy Christoffels, Leslie Havens, Martiza Jones, Ryan Jones and Micaela Liddane.

2024-25 Super Regionals Alignment Chart

# of Teams	Super Region One (Yellow on map)		Super Region Two (Blue on map)		Super Region Three (Purple on map)		Super Region Four (Orange on map)		Super Region Five (Green on map)		Super Region Six (Red on map)	
1	American Int'l	Ind.	Allen	C. Carolinas	Ashland	GMAC	Central Mo.	MIAA	Augustana (SD)	NSIC	Adams St.	RMAC
2	East Stroudsburg	PSAC	Belmont Abbey	C. Carolinas	Bluefield St.	C. Carolinas	Central Okla.	MIAA	Mary	NSIC	Cal Poly Humbolt	GNAC
3	Fairmont St.	MEC	Coker	C. Carolinas	Davenport	GMAC	Drury	GLVC	Minnesota St.	NSIC	Chadron St.	RMAC
4	Felician	CACC	Emmanuel (GA)	C. Carolinas	Davis & Elkins	MEC	UIndy	GLVC	Minot St.	NSIC	Colorado Mesa	RMAC
5	Frostburg St.	MEC	King (TN)	C. Carolinas	Emory & Henry	C. Carolinas	Ky. Wesleyan	GMAC	MSU Moorhead	NSIC	Colo. Sch. of Mines	RMAC
6	Gannon	PSAC	Lander	C. Carolinas	Findlay	GMAC	Maryville (MO)	GLVC	Northern St.	NSIC	CSU Pueblo	RMAC
7	Kutztown	PSAC	Limestone	C. Carolinas	Glenville St.	MEC	McKendree	GLVC	St. Cloud St.	NSIC	Fort Hays St.	MIAA
8	Millersville	PSAC	Lincoln Memorial	C. Carolinas	Grand Valley St.	Ind.	Newman	MIAA	Sioux Falls	NSIC	Neb.-Kearney	RMAC
9	Pitt.-Johnstown	PSAC	Montevallo	C. Carolinas	Lake Erie	GMAC	Ouachita Baptist	MIAA	Southwest MN	NSIC	N.M. Highlands	RMAC
10	Seton Hill	PSAC	Mount Olive	C. Carolinas	Salem	Ind.	Quincy	GLVC	UW-Parkside	NSIC	San. Fran. St.	GNAC
11	Shippensburg	PSAC	Newberry	C. Carolinas	Tiffin	GMAC			Upper Iowa	GLVC	Simon Fraser	GNAC
12	Wheeling	MEC	Shorter	C. Carolinas	West Liberty	MEC					Western Colo.	GNAC
13			UNC-Pembroke	C. Carolinas								

