



PRECHAMPIONSHIPS 2025-26 MANUAL

NCAA General Administrative Guidelines

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THE NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

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Section 1 • Introduction

During the 2025-26 academic year, the Association will sponsor 92 national championships – 43 for men, 47 for women and two for both men and women. Of the men's championships, four 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, eight 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 Prechampionship 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 92 championships, while the remaining sections are sport specific.

Section 1.1 Definitions

Prechampionship Manual. Resource for institutions to prepare for the championship.

Administrative Meeting. Prechampionship 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).

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 eligible to participate 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 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 Scholar-Athlete™ Award

The Elite Scholar-Athlete 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 [Health, Safety & Performance 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 17.1.10 in the NCAA Division II Manual and Bylaw 12.5.3 in the NCAA Division III Manual.]

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

1. Athletics equipment (e.g., shoes, helmets, baseball bats and gloves, batting or golf gloves, hockey and lacrosse sticks, goggles and skis) shall bear only the manufacturer's normal label or trademark, as it is used on all such items for sale to the general public; and

2. The student-athlete's institution's official uniform (including numbered racing bibs and warmups) and all other items of apparel (e.g., socks, head bands, T-shirts, wrist bands, visors or hats, swim caps and towels) shall bear only a single manufacturer's or distributor's normal label or trademark (regardless of the visibility of the label or trademark), not to exceed 2-1/4 square inches in area (rectangle, square, parallelogram) including any additional material (e.g., patch) surrounding the normal trademark or logo. The student-athlete's institution's official uniform and all other items of apparel shall not bear a design element similar to the manufacturer's trademark/logo that is in addition to another trademark/logo that is contrary to the size restriction.

Section 8 • Research

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 • Division III

Section 10•1 Division III Philosophy

The Division III championships philosophy is to field the most competitive teams within a regular-season philosophy that emphasizes regional competition and minimizes missed class time; and to provide representation in NCAA championship competition by allocating berths to eligible conferences and at-large teams.

Section 10•2 Commencement Conflicts

[Reference: Bylaw 31.1.4.5 in the NCAA Division III Manual.]

If an institution's commencement conflicts with participation in the championship, it shall inform the NCAA championship manager in writing one week before the selection date for the governing sport committee to consider an accommodation and a change to the championship schedule.

The following guidelines apply to commencement requests:

- Applies to team sports only.
- The governing sport committee, in consultation with participating institutions, may reschedule the game on the nearest possible date.
- Does not apply to predetermined finals sites.
- The governing sport committee shall make a good-faith effort to accommodate participating institutions in non-predetermined preliminary-round contests with multiple teams participating at the same site.

Section 10•3 Gameday the DIII Way

Division III promotes an atmosphere that is a respectful and engaging educational environment through athletics, for everyone through Gameday the DIII Way. Gameday the DIII Way establishes an expectation for championship hosts, coaches, student-athletes and spectators to focus on the common standards of safety, responsiveness, dignity and experience while participating or attending a championship event. We ask that each participant and attendee be personally accountable for their actions and do their part to ensure this event is a positive reflection of Gameday the DIII Way.

Section 10•4 Religious Conflicts

[Reference: Bylaws 31.1.4.1 and 31.1.4.2 in the NCAA Division III 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 before May 1 of the preceding academic year to be excused from competing on that day. The notification shall be valid for a period of two years. The championship schedule shall be adjusted to accommodate that institution, and such adjustment shall not require its team or an individual competitor to compete before the time originally scheduled.

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

Division III Wrestling

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Section 1 • General Administration

Section 1.1 NCAA Tournament Operations Contact Information

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Section 1.2 National Committee

[Reference: Administration and Management in the general championships information section in this handbook and Bylaws 31.1.1 and 31.1.2 in the NCAA Division III Manual.]

The Division III Wrestling Championships are under the control, direction and supervision of the Division III Wrestling Committee. **Members of the committee are:**

Region 1 - Scott Legacy, Castleton University

Region 2 - Anthony Bonaventura, Stevens Institute of Technology, chair

Region 3 - Jason McLean, Muhlenberg College

Region 4 - Ron Beaschler, Ohio Northern University

Region 5 - Josh Hardman, Manchester University

Region 6 - Hannah Halverson, American Rivers Conference

Region 7 - Tony Valek, Augsburg University

The secretary-rules editor is:

Jimmy Chung

949-525-6004 / ncaawrestling.sre@gmail.com

Section 1.3 Important Dates

NOTE: The qualifying tournament entry deadline is established by the respective qualifying tournament.

Tuesday, March 10	Replacement deadline noon (Eastern time)
Wednesday, March 11	Registration 5 to 8 p.m. (Central time)
Thursday, March 12	Registration 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and mandatory coaches meeting 2 p.m. (Central time)
Friday-Saturday, March 13-14	Championships

CHAMPIONSHIP DATES

Qualifying Tournaments. Following are the dates, sites and tournament directors for the Division III regional qualifying tournaments:

TOURNAMENT	DATE(S)	SITE
Region I	2/28-3/1	United States Coast Guard Academy - New London, Connecticut
Region II	2/28-3/1	Ithaca College - Ithaca, New York
Region III	TBD	TBD
Region IV	2/27-2/28	Ohio Northern University - Ada, Ohio
Region V	2/27-2/28	John Carroll University - University Heights, Ohio
Region VI	2/27-2/28	Loras College - Dubuque, Iowa
Region VII	2/27-2/28	Wisconsin-Eau Claire - Eau Claire, Wisconsin

DIVISION III WRESTLING

Finals. March 13-14. Alliant Energy Power House, Cedar Rapids, Iowa; American Rivers Conference, host.

The NCAA Wrestling Championships shall be held each year on the dates and at the sites recommended by the NCAA Division III Wrestling Committee and approved by the Division III Championships Committee.

DATE FORMULA

Regionals	Two weekends before the finals (Friday-Saturday OR Saturday-Sunday).
Finals	Second full weekend in March (Thursday-Saturday).

FUTURE DATES

2027 Regionals	Feb. 26-Feb. 28, hosts (seven) TBD.
2027 Finals	March 12-13; La Crosse Center, La Crosse, Wisconsin; hosted by University of Wisconsin, La Crosse
2028 Regionals	Feb. 26-Feb. 28, hosts (seven) TBD.
2028 Finals	March 10-11; Vibrant Arena at the Mark, hosted by Augustana College (Illinois)

Section 1•4 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 2024-25 and 2025-26 NCAA Wrestling Rules and Interpretations will be followed. Questions regarding rules interpretations should be directed to Jimmy Chung, secretary-rules editor (949-525-6004; ncaawrestling.sre@gmail.com).

Section 1•5 Uniforms

[Reference: Bylaw 12.5.3 in the NCAA Division III Manual.]

The uniform shall conform to the standards set forth in Rules 1-12 of the 2024-25 and 2025-26 NCAA Wrestling Rules and Interpretations. In addition, the following rules will be applicable for contestants’ and coaches’ attire:

Contestants’ Attire. All contestants shall be uniformly attired in their school’s official warmup and match uniform. No hats, stocking caps or other inappropriate apparel are permitted. Violations of this rule shall result in the head coach being penalized under the control of mat area (see rule 3.13.4).

Coaches’ Attire. The wearing of jeans, T-shirts, sweatsuits and warmup suits (top and/or bottom), headwear and similar apparel is not suitable attire for coaches during dual and tournament competition and, therefore, is prohibited. Each coach in violation of this rule shall be penalized under control of mat area (see rule 3.13.4). Further, the coach(es) in violation shall not sit in the designated reserved zone for coaching if the prohibited apparel is not replaced with suitable attire.

LOGOS

Refer to General Administrative Guidelines, Section 7.

Section 2 • Determination of Championship Participation

Section 2•1 Championships Format

The NCAA Division III Wrestling Championships shall be conducted in the following 10 weight classes:

125 pounds	165 pounds
133 pounds	174 pounds
141 pounds	184 pounds
149 pounds	197 pounds
157 pounds	Heavyweight (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 weights also will be used in conference and regional qualifying meets. Match times will be seven minutes in duration.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Alliant Energy Power House, Cedar Rapids, Iowa; American Rivers Conference, host

(All times Central unless otherwise noted)

Tuesday, March 10

Noon (Eastern) Replacement deadline

Wednesday, March 11

5-8 p.m. Registration/entry verification

Thursday, March 12

9 a.m.-2 p.m. Registration/entry verification

2-3 p.m. Mandatory NCAA coaches meeting

6-9 p.m. Scales open (mats closed)

Friday, March 13

7:45 a.m. Medical checks

8 a.m. Weigh-ins

9:30 a.m. Grand March (opening ceremonies - parade of all teams)

10 a.m. Preliminary rounds one and two (six mats), consolation first round (six mats)

5 p.m. Championships quarterfinals and consolation second-round wrestle-backs; consolation third round (six mats)

Saturday, March 14

7:45 a.m. Medical checks

8 a.m. Weigh-ins

10 a.m. Championships semifinals and consolation wrestle-back quarterfinals; consolation semifinals (four mats); seventh-, fifth- and third-place matches (three mats)

6:30 p.m. Parade of All-Americans

7 p.m. Championships finals in weight class order (one mat)

9 p.m. Awards presentations (individual awards tentatively will be presented between finals matches; team awards and the 197 pounds and heavyweight classes will be presented after the completion of all wrestling)

TRAVEL PARTY

[Reference: Per Diem and Transportation in the Division III General Section.]

Travel party includes one nonathlete for 1-5 individual qualifiers or two nonathletes for 6-10 individual qualifiers.

Section 2•2 Results/Records/Entries

ANNUAL FORMS

All entries must be submitted to TrackWrestling by 2 p.m. Eastern time on Monday, Feb. 23. Instructions will be sent by TrackWrestling in early February.

Expense Reimbursement Form. Expense forms with instructions will be available on the NCAA website (web1.ncaa.org/TES/exec/login?js=true). Forms can be mailed to the director of athletics of each competing institution if they are unable to be accessed via the website. Please contact the NCAA travel department at the national office (phone: 317-917-6757; email: travel@ncaa.org) to receive hard copies of this form.

[Reference: Bylaw 31.4 in the NCAA Division III Manual.]

Section 2•3 Selections Information

QUALIFYING PROCEDURES

[Reference: Bylaws 31.01.2, 31.01.3 and 31.3 in the NCAA Division III Manual.]

To be eligible to participate in the 2026 NCAA Division III Wrestling Championships, all participants must qualify through their respective NCAA regional competition. The top three wrestlers (first, second, third) from each weight class at the respective regional will advance to the national championships.

With the exception of bye points and pairings, NCAA Wrestling Rules and Interpretations shall be followed.

QUALIFYING POSITIONS

For 2026, the Division III Championships Committee has allocated 210 positions for the championships. Each qualifying regional tournament will qualify its champion, second-place finisher and third-place finisher from each weight class. There will be **NO** at-large qualifiers. However, all regional tournaments should use true wrestle-backs to determine third place and fifth place in the case alternates from the regional tournament are needed.

SUBMITTING QUALIFIERS TO CHAMPIONSHIPS

TrackWrestling will directly enter the list of qualifiers following qualifying tournaments.

Registration. Each head coach, or the appointed institutional representative, must verify the entry of the student-athlete(s) at the site of the national championships before the competition. In case of emergency, verification may be accomplished by telephone. The registration deadline is 2 p.m. Eastern time, Thursday, March 12. Failure to meet the entry and registration deadlines will eliminate a contestant from the championships. Only extenuating circumstances will be considered by the Division III Wrestling Committee or an appointed subcommittee.

Replacement Policy. Qualifying-tournament personnel must submit the names of the individuals who have qualified for the championships before the established deadlines. Only those individuals listed on the qualifiers list for the national championships will be allowed to compete. Replacements on the list are permitted until the established deadline. Replacements must be the next-best wrestler from the qualifying tournament in the same weight class of the wrestler being replaced. There will be no replacements after the following deadline – noon Eastern time, Tuesday, March 10.

Contact both J.P. Williams, NCAA Associate Director of Championships (317-966-6354), or Dick Simmons, tournament director (319-721-4791).

Late Entry. If an institution fails to enter its individuals for the qualifying tournament before the established deadlines, a late-entry fine of \$50 per individual, not to exceed \$200 per institution, may be assessed. Any late-entry fines are to be made payable to the NCAA and must be submitted to the NCAA. The funds received will be distributed to support NCAA student-athlete initiatives.

QUALIFIERS LISTS ON NCAA WEBSITE

Qualifying participants will be released on Monday, Mar. 2 at 6 p.m. Eastern time (ncaa.com).

TRAVEL INFORMATION

For the Division III Wrestling Championships, 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.

Section 2•4 Championships Information

PAIRINGS

[Reference: Bylaw 31.1.3.2 in the NCAA Division III Manual.]

For the championships, the draw will be conducted after the seeds have been determined and placed in the bracket. The committee will separate student-athletes from the same conference and/or region during the first round of competition. Brackets will be released Friday, March 6, at 1 p.m. Eastern time on ncaa.com.

NOTE: Official brackets are not final until the replacement deadline on Tuesday, March 10, at noon Eastern time.

AWARDS

[Reference: Awards in the Division III General Section and Bylaw 31.1.9 in the NCAA Division III Manual.]

Official NCAA awards will be presented to the top eight place finishers in each of the 10 weight classes. Trophies will be awarded to the top four teams. In addition, individual awards shall be presented to student-athletes who competed in the wrestling championships and represented an institution that placed first, second, third or fourth. When student-athletes are presented their awards, they shall wear their school's official warmup. No additional apparel or equipment (e.g., hats, jewelry, signs) may be worn or carried during the awards ceremony.

No awards will be provided at any NCAA-sponsored Division III wrestling regional.

BRACKET SHEETS

Bracket sheets will be distributed as soon as possible after each session of the championships to participating institutions, based on the following formula developed by the Division III Wrestling Committee:

Qualifiers	Bracket Sheet(s)
1 to 5	1
6 to 10	2

BYE POINTS

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

CHEERLEADERS AND MASCOTS

Cheerleaders and mascots are required to buy a ticket and are not permitted on the floor.

CREDENTIALS (OTHER THAN MEDIA)

[Reference: Admission and Tickets in the Division III General Section and Bylaw 31.1.10 in the NCAA Division III Manual.]

Working credentials may be provided to bona fide working personnel. Participation credentials will be provided to student-athletes competing in the championships. Coaches, managers and other members of the participating institution's official party, as defined by the Association, will be provided credentials as follows:

Qualifiers	Number of Credentials
1 to 3	3
4 to 7	4
8 to 10	5

In addition to the above, one credential per institution will be available to the institution's authorized athletic trainer and/or physician accompanying the team. These credentials will only be provided to the appropriate medical personnel at registration. Trainers requesting credentials for the championships must submit a copy of their certified athletic trainer card. Any student trainer must have his or her athletic trainer submit on institutional letterhead in advance a request for a credential for a student trainer.

The fee for replacement of credentials is \$100.

DRUG TESTING

[Reference: Drug Testing in the Division III General Section and Bylaws 18.4.1.5 and 31.2.3 in the NCAA Division III Manual.]

Student-athletes who compete in these championships may be subjected to drug tests in accordance with Bylaws 18.4.1.5 and 31.2.3 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.

HOUSING

Hotel reservations for the finals will be made by the host institution only for the referees and Division III Wrestling Committee representatives. Each participating institution in the championships will be required to secure its own housing arrangements. The host institution will provide each institution sponsoring wrestling with a list of hotels, phone numbers, room costs and cutoff dates for reserving rooms in the pretournament coaches information packet that will be distributed before the championships.

MAT-AREA CONTROL

In addition to the participating wrestler, three representatives per institution will be allowed in the corner of the mat; however, one of those persons must be the institution's physician or authorized institutional athletic trainer. The description of and penalty for violation of this rule are listed in Rule 3.13 in the 2024-25 and 2025-26 NCAA Wrestling Rules and Interpretations.

MEDIA INFORMATION

Media and sports information directors desiring credentials should call the host sports information director of the championships not later than Monday, March 9, to make arrangements. Call Ali Wilson, Tournament Media Director, at 217-871-9678.

MEDICAL ARRANGEMENTS

Procedure to Medically Disqualify a Student-Athlete During an NCAA Championship. As the event sponsor, the NCAA has valid authority to ensure that all student-athletes are physically fit to participate in its championships and that a student-athlete's participation will not expose other participants to a significantly enhanced risk of harm. The student-athlete's team physician can determine whether an individual with an injury, an illness or other medical condition (e.g., skin infection, pregnancy) should continue to participate or be disqualified. In the absence of a team physician, the NCAA tournament physician, as designated by the host school, has the unchallenged authority to examine the student-

athlete and make a decision of continued participation or medical disqualification. If, in the opinion of the tournament physician, continued participation by the injured student-athlete may expose others to a significantly enhanced risk of harm, the tournament physician has the final decision regarding participation by the student-athlete. The chair of the governing sports committee (or a designated representative) would be responsible for administrative enforcement of the medical judgment, if it involves disqualification.

Each scheduled practice or contest of any round of an NCAA championship should include the following:

- The on-site presence of a person qualified and delegated to render emergency care to a stricken participant;
- The presence or planned access to a physician for prompt medical evaluation of the situation, when warranted;
- Planned access to a medical facility, including a plan for communication and transportation between the athletics site and the medical facility for prompt medical services, when warranted. Access to a working telephone or other telecommunications device, whether fixed or mobile, should be assured;
- All necessary emergency equipment should be at the site or quickly accessible. Equipment should be in good operating condition, and personnel must be trained in advance to use it properly. Additionally, emergency information about the student-athlete should be available both at home and on the road for use by medical personnel;
- A thorough understanding by all parties, including the leadership of visiting teams, of the personnel and procedures associated with the medical plan;
- An inclement weather policy that includes provisions for decision-making and evacuation plans; and
- Certification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) techniques, first aid, and prevention of disease transmission (as outlined by OSHA guidelines) should be required for all athletics personnel associated with practices and contests. New staff engaged in these activities should comply with these rules within six months of employment.

MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS/SKIN CHECKS, WEIGH-INS

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.

The skin examination and weigh-in area shall be a private, secure area. Only participants will be admitted to the medical 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 examination will not have their transportation and per diem paid by the NCAA. The established medical-check time is 8:45 a.m. local time, Friday, March 13, and Saturday, March 14. The established weigh-in time is 9 a.m. local time, Friday, March 13, and Saturday, March 14. Medical checks and weigh-ins, respectively, 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.

Please refer to Appendix A of the 2024-25 and 2025-26 Wrestling Rules and Interpretations book for specifics regarding skin infections in wrestling.

MEETINGS

[Reference: Misconduct in the Division III General Section and Bylaws 31.02.3 and 31.1.8 in the NCAA Division III Manual.]

A mandatory prechampionships meeting of coaches of participating teams, officials and games committee members will be conducted at 2 p.m. local time, Thursday, March 12.

At the prechampionships meeting, administrative matters and the conduct of the championships will be reviewed, including conditions under which a student-athlete or representative of an institution may be disqualified from further participation in the championships for reasons of misconduct [See Bylaw 31.1.8]. It is mandatory that a representative from each participating institution attend the meeting. Failure to attend may result in penalties as prescribed in Bylaw 31.1.8.3.

PROGRAMS – DIGITAL

[Reference: Bylaw 31.6.3 in the NCAA Division III Manual.]

Many NCAA championships, including Division III wrestling, have adopted digital game programs that can be viewed online or downloaded to a consumer's mobile device. Learfield will be responsible for all digital program production including layout and design, advertising and digital distribution channels before and during the championships.

Digital programs will be available for download prior to the championships at ncaa.com/gameprograms.

Please contact Chad Laytham (chad.laytham@learfield.com) with any questions.

VIDEO REPLAY

Video replay will be used at the Division III Wrestling Championships. The rules below from the NCAA Wrestling Rules Book shall apply for use during competition.

Rule 3.21.2 The Review. The two ways a match may be stopped for a video review are by the action of the referee or by the action of the coach.

The referee may stop a match when there is no significant action when the referee believes: 1) there is reasonable doubt that an error was made regarding timing, scoring or the proper positioning of the wrestler; 2) the situation is reviewable; or 3) the outcome of a review may have an impact on the result of the match. The referee should review all unsportsmanlike conduct and flagrant misconduct calls.

Each team is allowed one challenge per dual meet, including team advancement tournaments, to be used at the coach's discretion. Each team in an individual advancement tournament, excluding open tournaments, is allowed one challenge for one to three participants, two challenges for four to six participants, and three challenges for seven to 10 participants, to be used at the coach's discretion. If a coach's challenge is supported after the review, the team retains that challenge. If a coach believes an error was made, the coach shall immediately approach the mat-side table and raise a flag matching the color assigned to his corner (red or green), thereby indicating to the mat-side table scorer the request for a video challenge. This signifies the coach believes an error was made, and the referee will stop the match when there is no significant action taking place to conduct the video review. Once the coach raises the flag, the challenge cannot be retracted. If a coach challenges a previously made ruling on a challenge or if a coach challenges a ruling when the team's allotment of challenges have already been used, the actions are considered intentional delay of the match and the coach is penalized for failure to comply. In addition, if a coach challenges a fall, which is not reviewable, it shall count as a failed challenge.

Rule 3.21.2 The Outcome. Only the referees (no other personnel) shall be immediately present at the mat-side table for the review of the video replay screen. A reversal of a call or noncall shall be based only on indisputable video evidence. After the review process is complete, the head referee makes one of the following announcements:

- If the video evidence confirms the on-the-mat ruling, "After further review, the ruling on the mat is confirmed."
- If there is no indisputable and conclusive evidence to reverse the original ruling, "After further review, the ruling on the mat stands."
- If the on-the-mat ruling is reversed, "After further review, the ruling is reversed. Therefore, [followed by a brief description of the impact of the ruling]."

- d. If there is no video evidence due to a system failure or operator error, the coach will retain his challenge. Any obstruction of the view on the video screen caused by participants, coaches, referee(s) or tournament personnel on the mat that does not allow for a confirmed ruling by the referee shall result in a charged video challenge.

If a ruling is reversed, the official scorer shall supply the referee with the following information in order for wrestling to resume under accurate match conditions: the period, the position of the wrestlers and the status of the match/riding time clock.

PROTEST PROCEDURE

Protests may be lodged only for errors in the recording of points or match results, and for nonjudgment errors in the application of rules. The coach must inform the official scorer and the referee of the intent to protest the bout before the bout sheet is removed from the scorer's table. The referee will note this intent to protest the bout on the bout sheet and will notify the opposing wrestler not to leave the area until the matter is settled. Scorer's table personnel or the referee shall inform the head table that a protest has been made.

SEEDING

When compiling a student-athlete's won-lost record for seeding purposes, all matches against student-athletes who compete on intercollegiate teams at four-year, degree-granting institutions in which NCAA rules are followed shall be counted, including open or unattached competition.

Regionals and Championships. Regional and Championships preseed committees have been established for seeding student-athletes. Regional preseed results are reviewed by coaches at their respective regional prior to the beginning of competition. Student-athletes within 10 votes of each other can be discussed during this meeting for possible adjustments. The season record form for each participant is used in the determination of the seeding. Seeding procedures can be found in [Appendix E](#).

The seeding meeting (preseed committee) for the championships will be conducted via conference call at 3 p.m. Eastern time, Sunday, March 2. Final seedings and pairings are then made by the Division III Wrestling Committee. Pairing sheets will be distributed via an announcement on [ncaa.com](#) after 6 p.m. Eastern time, Monday, March 3. These pairings are not to be released to any other media outlet before the official NCAA announcement.

TEAM BANNERS

Each team, subject to the approval of the games committee, may display one team banner void of commercial advertising.

VIDEO, FILMS AND STILL PHOTOGRAPHS

Institutions are permitted to video 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 video only that portion of the competition in which it participates. The video may not be used for any commercial purposes.

For additional information, refer to the NCAA Broadcast Manual policies and guidelines found at [ncaa.com/broadcast](#).

The Association reserves all rights to the use of still photographs and films of its championships. All rights to photograph and film NCAA championships may be assigned to media representatives for news purposes but otherwise are to be controlled exclusively by NCAA Productions, a unit of the NCAA. NCAA Productions shall film certain NCAA championships, as recommended by the governing sports committees and approved by the Championships Committee. Its cost in filming an NCAA championship and producing prints or sharing for the NCAA library of films shall be entered as an item of game expenses for that championship. The filming of NCAA championships by parties other than NCAA Productions (i.e., participating institutions or commercial film production companies) for any purpose other than news purposes may be permitted only with the advance written consent of the NCAA president.

Mat-side filming will not be permitted.

WEIGH-INS

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

DIVISION III WRESTLING

The weigh-in and skin examination area shall be in a private and secure area only. Only participants and properly credentialed tournament officials will be admitted to the weigh-in area.

Student-athletes must complete a skin check and receive medical clearance on site each day just prior to weigh-ins. The weigh-ins will be conducted at the following times (local time):

9 a.m. – Friday, March 13

9 a.m. – Saturday, March 14

Times are subject to change if the session times change.

Appendixes

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Appendix A • Sport Sponsorship

REGIONALS

Region I

Bridgewater State University
Emmanuel College (Massachusetts)
Johnson & Wales University (Providence)
Maine Maritime Academy
New England College
Norwich University
Plymouth State University
Rhode Island College
Roger Williams University
University of Southern Maine

Springfield College
Trinity College (Connecticut)
U.S. Coast Guard Academy
Utica University
Vermont State University Castleton
Wesleyan University (Connecticut)
Western New England University
Williams College
Worcester Polytechnic Institute

Region II

Alfred State College
State University of New York at Brockport
Centenary University (New Jersey)
State University of New York at Cortland
Elmira College
Hunter College
Ithaca College
Kean University
Keystone College
Lycoming College

New Jersey City University
State University of New York at Oneonta
State University of New York at Oswego
Pennsylvania College of Technology
Pennsylvania State University Erie, the Behrend College
Rochester Institute of Technology
St. John Fisher College
Stevens Institute of Technology
University of Pittsburgh, Bradford
Wilkes University

Region III

Albright College
Alvernia University
Arcadia University
The City College of New Jersey
Delaware Valley University
Eastern University
Elizabethtown College
Gettysburg College
Johns Hopkins University
King's College (Pennsylvania)
Marymount College

McDaniel College
Messiah University
Misericordia University
Muhlenberg College
New York University
Penn St.-Altoona
University of Scranton
U.S. Merchant Marine Academy
Ursinus College
York College (Pennsylvania)

Region IV

Averett University
Baldwin Wallace University
Bethany College (West Virginia)
Ferrum College
Greensboro College
Heidelberg University
Hiram College
University of Mount Union
Muskingum University
Ohio Northern University
Otterbein University

Randolph College
Roanoke College
Saint Vincent College
Shenandoah University
Southern Virginia University
Thiel College
Washington & Jefferson College
Washington & Lee University
Waynesburg University
Wilmington College (Ohio)

Region V

Adrian College
Albion College
Alma College
Case Western Reserve University
University of Chicago
Elmhurst College
John Carroll University
Manchester University
Millikin University

Mount St. Joseph University
North Central College (Illinois)
Ohio Wesleyan University
Olivet College
Trine University
Wabash College
Wheaton College
University of Wisconsin-Whitewater

Region VI

Blackburn College
Buena Vista University
Central College
Coe College
University of Dubuque
Eureka College
Fontbonne University
Huntingdon College
Illinois Wesleyan University

Loras College
Luther College
McMurry University
Nebraska Wesleyan University
University of the Ozarks
Schreiner University
Simpson College
Wartburg College
Westminster College

Region VII

Augsburg University
Augustana College
Aurora University
Carthage College
Concordia College, Moorhead
Concordia University Wisconsin
Lakeland University
Linfield University

Milwaukee School of Engineering
Pacific University
Saint John's University (Minnesota)
University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire
University of Wisconsin-La Crosse
University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh
University of Wisconsin-Platteville
University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point

Appendix B • Preseed Committee

PRESEEDING COMMITTEE ROSTER

NAME	INSTITUTION	EMAIL
REGION I		
*Brendan Weir	Trinity (CT)	brendan.weir@trincoll.edu
Mike Sugermeyer	Western New Eng.	michael.sugermeyer@wne.edu
Joseph Duca	Castleton	joseph.duca@vermontstate.edu
REGION II		
*Tom Prairie	SUNY Cortland	thomas.prairie@cortland.edu
Brian Shermeyer	Lycoming	shermeyer@lycoming.edu
Marty Nichols	Ithaca	mnichols@ithaca.edu
REGION III		
*Eric Walker	Elizabethtown	walkered@etown.edu
Joe Galante	TCNJ	galante3@tcnj.edu
TBD		
REGION IV		
*Jaime Gibbs	Baldwin Wallace	jgibbs@bw.edu
Ryan Riggs	Mount Union	riggsrd@mountunion.edu
TBD		
REGION V		
*Mark Hawald	John Carroll	mhawald@jcu.edu
Ryan Birt	Millikin	rbirt@millikin.edu
Brandon Brissette	Olivet	bbrissette@olivetcollege.edu
REGION VI		
*Eric Keller	Wartburg	eric.keller@wartburg.edu
Landon Williams	Central	williams1@central.edu
TBD		
REGION VII		
*Dave Malecek	Wis.-La Crosse	dmalecek@uwlax.edu
Johnny Johnson	Wis.-Stevens Point	jjohnson@uwsp.edu
TBD		

*INDICATES FINAL YEAR OF SERVICE

Appendix C • DIII Men's Wrestling Timeline



NCAA DIVISION III WRESTLING 2025-26 TIMELINE

AUGUST

- 1-3 NWCA Convention, Ponte Vedra, Florida
- 31 Committee members recommendations for official's due

SEPTEMBER

- 2 TENTATIVE - Committee call at 12:30 p.m. Eastern time (All division call at noon).
- 5 Recommendations for regional and championships officials from national coordinator of officials.

OCTOBER

- 7 Committee call at 12:30 p.m. Eastern time (All division call at noon).
- 15 Solicit nominations for regional seeding committee.
Final list of regional and championships officials from Mike McCormick, Jr.
- 27 National seeding committee nominations due.

NOVEMBER

- 4 Committee call at 12:30 p.m. Eastern time. (All division call at noon).
- 12 National seeding committee voting due by all coaches.
- TBD Championship Advance Tickets memo sent to Coaches and AD's

DECEMBER

- 2 Committee call at Noon Eastern time, if needed.

2026

JANUARY

- 6 Committee call at 12:30 p.m. (All division call at noon).
- 22 Conference call with regional tournament hosts at 12:30 p.m. (Eastern time).

JANUARY/FEBRUARY

- | | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Monday, Jan. 26 | Send out pre-seeding procedures to membership and post on NCAA.org and NWCA/TrackWrestling OPC website. |
| Wednesday, Jan. 28 | <u>Email</u> from Track Wrestling outlining regional tournament entry process sent to institutions. |
| Monday, Feb. 2 | Send out pre-seeding procedures to membership and post on NCAA.org and NWCA/Trackwrestling OPC website. Jackie Pacquette to put a reminder in TrackWrestling to have coaches meet deadline for entries. |
| Wednesday, Feb. 4 | <u>Email</u> from Trackwrestling outlining regional tournament entry process sent to institutions. |
| Monday, Feb. 23 | <p>2 p.m. Eastern time The entry deadline for starting lineups into Track Wrestling. Individuals entered by this deadline will be verified and seeded for the regionals at the pre-seed meeting.</p> <p>2:01 p.m. Eastern time Additional adjustments or replacements to lineups are permitted; however, those individuals will not be seeded. Those additional adjustments or replacements must be communicated</p> |



NCAA DIVISION III WRESTLING 2025-26 TIMELINE

through the host regional tournament director. **Deadline immediately before to each regional's respective seeding meeting.**

5 p.m. Eastern time Instructions on how to access and complete the pre-seed selection process on the NWCA/Trackwrestling website will be sent to each head coach by the NWCA/Trackwrestling. The email will be generated out of the Trackwrestling team admin messaging system. All head wrestling coaches will be provided access to season record forms, head-to-head matches and wrestling comparisons.

Wednesday, Feb. 25

9 a.m. Eastern time Pre-seed selection process will be completed electronically.

10 a.m. Eastern time Each regional host will be able to log in to their respective tournament and tabulate the pre-seed results.

2 p.m. Eastern time Coaches, regional hosts and committee will be able to access the pre-seed results.

**Thursday or Friday,
Feb. 26 or 27**

Deadline for unseeded adjustments or replacements to lineups immediately before to each regional's respective seeding meeting. Regional seeding meeting occurs the day before respective regional tournament begins.

Two hours after seeding meeting Regional brackets finalized.

**Friday and Saturday or
Saturday and Sunday,
Feb. 27 and Feb. 28 or
Feb. 28 and March 1**

REGIONAL TOURNAMENTS

Send final results from regional to ncaa-editorial@turner.com and jpwilliams@ncaa.org.

Monday, Mar. 2

Hotel reservations at headquarter hotel open for teams at 8 a.m. Eastern time, due through PlanningPoint. **Deadline is at noon Eastern time, Wednesday, March 6.**

5 p.m. Eastern time Championship seeding opens (Trackwrestling).

Instructions on how to access and complete the national pre-seed selection process on the NWCA/Trackwrestling website will be sent to the pre-seeding committee by the NWCA/Trackwrestling. The email will be generated out of the Trackwrestling team administration messaging system. Pre-seeding committee will be provided access to season record forms, head-to-head matches and wrestling comparisons.

6 p.m. Eastern time Qualifying participants released on NCAA.com.

Tuesday, Mar. 3

12:30 p.m. Eastern time Committee call.

Wednesday, March 4

Noon Eastern time Seeding due from national pre-seed committee.

Noon Eastern time Log in to respective tournaments available for the national office to tabulate the pre-seed results.



NCAA DIVISION III WRESTLING
2025-26 TIMELINE

Thursday, March 5

10:30 a.m. Eastern time Committee call.

11a.m Eastern time Committee call with pre-seed committee.

Immediately after pre-seed call Committee call.

11 Seeded Wrestlers released at 6 PM EST on NCAA.com

Friday, March 6

1:00 p.m. Eastern time Brackets released on NCAA.com with a note in the bracket stating these brackets are not final until the replacement deadline has passed on Tuesday, March 10th at **12 PM Eastern time.**

Tuesday, March 10

Noon Eastern time Replacement deadline.

1 p.m. Eastern time Final brackets released on NCAA.com.

Wednesday, March 11

5-8 p.m. Eastern time Registration/practice.

Thursday, March 12

9 a.m.-2 p.m. Eastern time Registration.

9 a.m.-6 p.m. Eastern time Practice.

2 p.m. Eastern time Mandatory coaches meeting.

6-9 p.m. Eastern time Mats closed – scales open.

**Friday-Saturday,
March 13-14**

Championships.

March 16

Regional Host bids open.

**APRIL
21-22**

Wrestling committee annual meetings – In conjunction with DII and DI

Appendix D • Master Schedule – On-site



All times are Central (Local) unless noted
Schedule may be subject to change

MONDAY, MARCH 2, 2026

8 a.m. (Eastern time) Hotel reservations portal opens for teams

TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 2026

12 a.m. (Eastern time) Download/Upload institutional Content

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 2026

Noon (Eastern time) Hotel reservations portal closes

FRIDAY, MARCH 6, 2026

1 p.m. (Eastern time) Brackets released on NCAA.com (not final until replacement deadline)

TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2026

11 a.m. (Eastern time) Replacement deadline.

1 p.m. (Eastern time) Final Brackets released on NCAA.com

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11, 2026

4 – 5 p.m. NCAA Committee facility walk through
5 – 8 p.m. Wrestling facilities open/mats open, Alliant Energy PowerHouse
5 – 8 p.m. Registration and Verification, Alliant Energy PowerHouse
5 – 8 p.m. NCAA Merchandise available for sale, Alliant Energy PowerHouse

THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 2026

9 a.m. – 2 p.m. Registration and Verification, Alliant Energy PowerHouse
9 a.m. – 2 p.m. NCAA Merchandise available for sale, Alliant Energy PowerHouse
9 a.m. – 6 p.m. Wrestling facilities open/mats open, Alliant Energy PowerHouse
2 – 3 p.m. Mandatory Coaches Meeting, Taft A & B
3 p.m. Future Championship Host Meeting, Taft A & B
6 – 9 p.m. Wrestling scales open/mats closed, Alliant Energy PowerHouse
8 – 9 p.m. Officials Meeting, Doubletree, Officials Suite

FRIDAY, MARCH 13, 2026

6 a.m. Wrestling facilities open for practice/weight check, Alliant Energy PowerHouse
6 a.m. Hospitality Room opens, Alliant Energy PowerHouse
6:40 a.m. Assembly of student-athletes, Exhibit Hall B & C warm-up area
7:45 a.m. Medical/skin checks, Exhibit Hall B & C warm-up area
8 a.m. Weigh-Ins, Exhibit Hall B & C warm-up area
8:30 a.m. Table Worker Orientation Meeting

SESSION I

8 a.m. NCAA Merchandise available for sale, Alliant Energy PowerHouse
8:30 a.m. Doors Open, Alliant Energy PowerHouse
9:30 a.m. Arena mats closed for cleaning
9:35 a.m. Opening Ceremonies Video

10 a.m. Preliminary Rounds One and Two (Six mats) Consolation First (Six mats)
 3 p.m. Hospitality Room Closes & Alliant Energy PowerHouse closes at the conclusion of the last match

SESSION II

3:30 p.m. Wrestling facilities open for student-athletes/coaches
 4:30 – 7 p.m. Hospitality room opens, Alliant Energy PowerHouse
 4:00 p.m. Doors Open, Alliant Energy PowerHouse
 4:30 p.m. NCAA Merchandise available for sale, Alliant Energy PowerHouse
 5 p.m. Championships Quarterfinals (Three mats)
 Consolation Second and Third Rounds (Three mats)
 10 p.m. Session II ends Facilities close 1 hour following the end of the last match, Alliant Energy PowerHouse, and warm-up area

SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 2026

6:30 a.m. Wrestling facilities open for practice/weight check, Alliant Energy PowerHouse
 6:30 a.m. Hospitality room opens, Alliant Energy PowerHouse
 7:40 a.m. Assembly of student-athletes, Exhibit Hall B & C warm-up area
 7:45 a.m. Medical/skin checks, Exhibit Hall B & C warm-up area
 8:00 a.m. Weigh-Ins, Exhibit Hall B & C warm-up area

SESSION III

8:30 a.m. Doors Open, Alliant Energy PowerHouse
 9 a.m. NCAA Merchandise available for sale, Alliant Energy PowerHouse
 10:00 a.m. Championships Semifinals (Two mats) and Consolation Quarterfinals (Two mats)
 Consolation Semifinals (Four mats)
 Consolation matches for 3rd, 5th and 7th places (Three mats)
 3 p.m. Session III Ends Facilities close at the conclusion of the last match, Alliant Energy PowerHouse and warm-up area

SESSION IV

5:00 p.m. Wrestling facilities open for student-athletes/coaches, Alliant Energy PowerHouse, and warm-up area
 5:30 p.m. Doors Open, Alliant Energy PowerHouse
 5:30 p.m. NCAA Merchandise available for sale, Alliant Energy PowerHouse
 6:15 p.m. Line up of All-Americans, Exhibit Hall B & C warm-up area
 6:30 p.m. Parade of All-Americans, Alliant Energy PowerHouse
 7:00 p.m. Finals (One Mat)
 9:00 p.m. Awards presentation immediately following completion of all wrestling for team. awards and final two matches. Individual weight class awards will be presented between finals matches

Appendix E • Seeding Procedures



2026 NCAA DIVISION III WRESTLING NATIONAL SEEDING PROCEDURES

The NCAA Division III Wrestling Committee has comprised the following procedure for use in seeding the National tournament. The below system provides coaches with the tools and timeframe to research and vote for the best possible seeds at each weight class in their respective region. This process is also used to seeding wrestlers that the national seeding committee uses, which will provide for a consistent and efficient application throughout the championships.

Entries:

All entries for seeding are due by **Noon Eastern time on Wed., March 4. At noon**, Eastern time, and the Pre-seed committee can log in to respective region to tabulate the pre-seed results.

National Seeding:

1. All coaches **MUST** seed each weight class, regardless of if that coach has a wrestler in each weight class. Coaches will seed 8 wrestlers per weight class. After the top 11 seeds, wrestlers will be randomly drawn into the bracket.
2. Seeding protocol per NCAA Wrestling Rule 3.23.2 Seeding: Consideration for determining seeded wrestlers is given to: (a) head-to-head competition, (b) common opponents, (c) a contestant's in-season results on an individual record form, not winning percentage) – evaluation, and (d) NCAA Championship All-Americans from any previous year(s).
- 3.
4. All voting will be monitored, and results will be made public. The NCAA national committee and NCAA championships staff will review, based on the applicable administrative policies, an incident that constitutes failure to adhere to policies and procedures or misconduct. Any situation that is deemed unethical will be reviewed by the committee and is subject to reprimand and/or fine.
5. The NWCA assigns a point value that correlates to the wrestlers rank and calculates a total. (The highest and lowest rankings are thrown out for this calculation.) The program will then automatically calculate the seeds. These seeds will then be used by the pre-seed committee in the national seeding meeting to determine final seeds.
6. NCAA committee, along with NCAA Staff, will serve as moderator to run the seeding meeting. This moderator's main duty is to facilitate the meeting in an orderly fashion and to make sure the rules that the NCAA committee has established for the seeding are followed.
7. The seeding meeting will start with the 125-pound weight class and end with the heavyweight class. Only **ONE** coach per institution can talk and vote in the seeding meeting and it must be the same coach throughout the entire meeting. There will be discussion on seeds that are within 10 points of each other. Each coach has two minutes to state their case for their respected wrestler followed by 30 seconds for a rebuttal for that wrestler. Only the lower seeded wrestlers within 10 points can challenge, and there must be compelling reasons to make a seeding change.



2026 NCAA DIVISION III WRESTLING NATIONAL SEEDING PROCEDURES

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National Seeding:

1. All coaches **MUST** seed each weight class, regardless of if that coach has a wrestler in each weight class. Coaches will seed 8 wrestlers per weight class. After the top 11 seeds, wrestlers will be randomly drawn into the bracket.
2. Seeding protocol per NCAA Wrestling Rule 3.23.2 Seeding: Consideration for determining seeded wrestlers is given to: (a) head-to-head competition, (b) common opponents, (c) a contestant's in-season results on an individual record form, not winning percentage) – evaluation, and (d) NCAA Championship All-Americans from any previous year(s).
- 3.
4. All voting will be monitored, and results will be made public. The NCAA national committee and NCAA championships staff will review, based on the applicable administrative policies, an incident that constitutes failure to adhere to policies and procedures or misconduct. Any situation that is deemed unethical will be reviewed by the committee and is subject to reprimand and/or fine.
5. The NWCA assigns a point value that correlates to the wrestlers rank and calculates a total. (The highest and lowest rankings are thrown out for this calculation.) The program will then automatically calculate the seeds. These seeds will then be used by the pre-seed committee in the national seeding meeting to determine final seeds.
6. NCAA committee, along with NCAA Staff, will serve as moderator to run the seeding meeting. This moderator's main duty is to facilitate the meeting in an orderly fashion and to make sure the rules that the NCAA committee has established for the seeding are followed.
7. The seeding meeting will start with the 125-pound weight class and end with the heavyweight class. Only **ONE** coach per institution can talk and vote in the seeding meeting and it must be the same coach throughout the entire meeting. There will be discussion on seeds that are within 10 points of each other. Each coach has two minutes to state their case for their respected wrestler followed by 30 seconds for a rebuttal for that wrestler. Only the lower seeded wrestlers within 10 points can challenge, and there must be compelling reasons to make a seeding change.