Division III April Webinar
Championships Bid Cycle

Russ Yurk and Laura Peterson
WELCOME

• 86 of 90 Championships
  ○ Includes preliminary and final sites
  ○ ≈125 sites annually

• 2026-27 through 2029-30 academic years

• Excludes:
  ○ Men's College World Series
  ○ Women's College World Series
  ○ DIII Women's Ice Hockey
  ○ FCS Football
LOOKING BACK

• 3,000+ bids submitted

• 46 states + Washington D.C.

• Approximately 460 sites awarded
  ○ DI & DIII cross country regionals not awarded
TIMELINE

• July 19  Bids portal opens
            Bid specs published
• August 29 Host symposium at NCAA
• February 7 Bid portal closes
• October 2 Host sites announced
HOST SYMPOSIUM

• August 29  NCAA, Indianapolis
  o Morning   General & breakout sessions
  o Afternoon  Breakout sessions
  o All day    Champ manager availability

You must register to attend
KEYS TO A SUCCESSFUL BID

DIVISION III
DISCOVER | DEVELOP | DEDICATE
KEYS TO A SUCCESSFUL BID

- Creation of meaningful student-athlete experience
- Adherence to bid specifications
- Proposed facilities
- Competitive budget/grants
KEYS TO A SUCCESSFUL BID

• Adherence to NCAA core values and principles

• Commitment from host(s)

• Competitive pricing – facilities, travel and lodging

• Geographic location
  o Proximity to traditional participants
  o Climate (fall)
TEAM LODGING

• Team friendly
• High need for doubles
• Proximity to venue
• Competitive rates
NEXT STEPS
NEXT STEPS

• Develop hosting strategy
• Inventory of facilities and schedules
  ○ Any in the pipeline?
• Connect with local sports commission/CVB
• Update/create profile on championships.ncaa.org
• Research/attend current championships
RESOURCES

• NCAA websites
  o www.ncaa.org/bids
  o championships.ncaa.org
  o www.ncaa.org/championships
  o www.ncaapublications.com
HOSTING MYTHS
HOSTING MYTHS

• “We’ll lose money”
• “It’s too much work”
• “Too much competition”
“WE’LL LOSE MONEY”

- Proposed budget submitted with bid.
“IT’S TOO MUCH WORK”

NCAA Provides:

- Host manual
  - Checklists
- Hotels
  - Via On Location
- Equipment
  - Sports & Sideline
- Awards
- Signage
- Marketing support
  - Graphics
  - :30 video spots
- Game scripts
“TOO MUCH COMPETITION”

21 championships averaged five bids or fewer per year.

• DIII men’s basketball
  3 in 2024

• DIII M/W cross country regionals
  Averaged 5, need 8 sites per year

• DIII men’s ice hockey
  2 each in ‘24 & ‘25
REASONS TO HOST

• Promote campus/city
• Showcase facilities
• Service to fellow NCAA members
• Support the sport
• Competitive advantage
• Fill hotel rooms
Questions?
FOR MORE INFORMATION

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