



2018 DIVISION I
WRESTLING
CHAMPIONSHIPS

PRE-CHAMPIONSHIPS
2017-18 MANUAL

NCAA General Administrative Guidelines

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Section 1 • Introduction

During the 2017-18 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, five are National Collegiate Championships, 13 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.

The first section applies to policies applicable to all 90 championships, while the other two 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(s). 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 and/or individual selection process.

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

Squad Size. Number of student-athletes per team allowed to dress in uniform and participate at the championship.

Tournament Physician. The physician designated by the host institution/conference to serve as the chief medical advisor for the championship.

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, etc.).

Section 3 • Concussion Management

[Reference: Concussion Management in Constitution 3.2.4.18 in the NCAA Division I Manual, Constitution 3.3.4.16 in the NCAA Division II Manual, and Constitution 3.2.4.16 in the NCAA Division III Manual.]

The NCAA has adopted legislation that requires all active member institutions to have a concussion management plan for their student-athletes. Traveling institutions shall follow their concussion management plan while participating in NCAA championships. If a participating team lacks appropriate medical staff to activate its concussion management plan, the host championship concussion management plan will be activated.

The legislation notes, in part, that a student-athlete who exhibits signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with a concussion shall be removed from athletics activities (e.g., competition, practice, conditioning sessions) and evaluated by a medical staff member (e.g., sports medicine staff, team physician) with experience in the evaluation and management of concussions; a student-athlete diagnosed with a concussion is precluded from returning to athletics activity for at least the remainder of that calendar day; and medical clearance for return to athletics activity shall be determined by the team physician or the physician's designee from the student-athlete's institution. In the absence of a team physician or their designee, the NCAA tournament physician will examine the student-athlete and will determine medical clearance. Within the rules of the sport and policies established for the championship, medical staff should have access to the injured student-athlete without interference (e.g., coach).

A concussion is a brain injury that may be caused by a blow to the head, face, neck or elsewhere on the body with an "impulsive" force transmitted to the head. Concussions can occur without loss of consciousness or other obvious signs. A repeat concussion that occurs before the brain recovers from the previous one (hours, days or weeks) can slow recovery or increase the likelihood of having more severe and/or long-term problems. In rare cases, repeat concussions can result in brain swelling, permanent brain damage and even death.

For further details, please refer to the [NCAA Sports Sport Science Institute website](#) for additional guidance.

Section 4 • Conduct

Section 4•1 Certification of Eligibility/Availability

[Reference: Certification of Eligibility/Availability in Constitution 3.2.4 and Bylaws 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 31.2.1.7.1, 31.2.1.7.1.2 and 31.2.2 in the NCAA Division I Manual, Constitution 3.3.4 in the NCAA Division II Manual and Bylaws 31.2.2 and 31.2.1.5 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 4•2 Drug Testing

[Reference: Bylaws 18.4.1.4 and 31.2.3 in the NCAA Division I Manual and Bylaws 18.4.1.5 and 31.2.3 in the NCAA Divisions II and III Manuals.]

Student-athletes who compete in NCAA championships may be subjected to drug tests in accordance with Bylaws 18.4.1.4 (Division I), 18.4.1.5 (Divisions II and III) 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.

Section 4•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 4•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.](#)

Section 4•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; 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 prohibition against sports wagering applies to any institutional practice or any competition (intercollegiate, amateur or professional) in a sport in which the Association 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, etc.) in exchange for the possibility of gaining another item of value.

STUDENT-ATHLETES

A student-athlete involved in sports wagering on the student-athlete's institution permanently loses all remaining regular-season and postseason eligibility in all sports. A student-athlete who is involved in any sports wagering activity that involves college sports or professional athletics, through internet gambling, a bookmaker, a parlay card or any other method employed by organized gambling, will be ineligible for all regular-season and postseason competition for at least one year.

POSTSEASON

In championships in which a bracket format is used, student-athletes, coaches and administrators may not participate in bracket competitions in which 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 in which 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

No predetermined or non-predetermined session of an NCAA championship may be conducted in a state with legal wagering that is based on single-game betting on the outcome of any event (i.e., high school, college or professional) in a sport in which the NCAA conducts a championship.

Section 4•6 Student-Athlete Experience Survey

After each championship, institutional administrators, coaches and student-athletes will be asked to participate in a post-event survey intended to capture feedback on their recent championship experience. Institutional administrators and coaches will receive an email containing a link to the survey and will be asked to ensure participation from all student-athletes.

Section 5 • Elite 90 Award

The Elite 90 award was created to recognize the true essence of the student-athlete by honoring the individual who has reached the pinnacle of competition at the national championship level in his or her sport, while also achieving the highest academic standard among his or her 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 on all teams competing at the finals site. Each institution that has at least one student-athlete qualify for the final round/site is eligible to nominate a student-athlete for the award. 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. To receive more information or access the online form and submit a nomination, go to ncaa.org.

Section 6 • Fan Travel

NCAA Travel provides an easy and affordable way 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 NCAA Travel help support NCAA student-athletes. Please direct your fans to ncaa.com/travel to search and book online.

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

GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE GUIDELINES

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 warm-ups) 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 2¼ 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

It is essential that all research efforts be coordinated by a single entity within the national office structure in order to ensure maximum efficiency and quality, avoid unnecessary duplication of effort on the part of staff and membership, allow the NCAA to prioritize research efforts given the limited time and resources of our members and adhere to federal guidelines on the responsibilities of researchers to properly protect research participants from harm.

For the purpose of this policy, "research" is defined as any systematic collection of data for the purpose of drawing generalized conclusions.

Any proposal to conduct research must be submitted to the NCAA research staff for review at least six weeks before the project begins. Research to be conducted during NCAA championships or related events, and which involves competing student-athletes or attendees, is also subject to review. This includes all research, including that conducted by or under the direction of any employee, contractor or paid consultant of the NCAA. It also includes any research conducted by other persons, but funded totally or in part by the NCAA. Any research that detracts from the student-athlete experience or requires physical activity may not be permitted at the championships (preliminary rounds and finals sites). The NCAA retains sole discretion as to whether to allow such research.

Examples of activities considered research include: Conducting surveys of athletics administrators, college presidents, faculty, coaches and student-athletes; leading an organized focus group; funding an outside study under the auspices of the NCAA; conducting market research at championship events; secondary analysis of data originally collected by the NCAA from people for other purposes; any systematic collection of data from the membership or other entities; etc.

Section 9 • 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 athlete shall compete on Sunday if required by the schedule).

Division I Wrestling

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Section 1 • General Administration

Section 1•1 NCAA Tournament Operations Staff Contact Information

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

Heidi Wurster
Assistant Coordinator, Championships and Alliances
317-917-6527 / Fax: 317-917-6237 / hwurster@ncaa.org

Section 1•2 National Committee

Billy Walker – *Term Expires September 2018*
Director of Athletics
American University

Tom Ryan – *Term Expires September 2019*
Head Wrestling Coach
The Ohio State University

Brian Smith – *Term Expires September 2019*
Head Wrestling Coach
University of Missouri, Columbia

Heath Eslinger – *Term Expires September 2019*
Head Wrestling Coach
University of Tennessee at Chattanooga

Phillip J. Wille – *Term Expires September 2020*
Compliance Coordinator
University of Wyoming

Karen Langston – *Term Expires September 2021*
Associate Director of Athletics for External Affairs
California State University, Bakersfield

Section 1•3 Important Dates

Friday, March 9	Online credential/hotel registration portal closes (5 p.m. Eastern time).
Tuesday, March 13	On-site team registration begins. Registration deadline is 5 p.m. Eastern time, Wednesday, March 14.
Wednesday, March 14	Mandatory coaches' administrative meeting (5 p.m. Eastern time).
Thursday, March 15	Replacement deadline (time of weigh-ins).

CHAMPIONSHIPS DATES

March 15-17 Quicken Loans Arena, Cleveland

DATE FORMULA

Finals Third full weekend in March (Thursday-Saturday).

FUTURE DATES

2019 FINALS

March 21-23 PPG Paints Arena, Pittsburgh

2020 FINALS

March 19-21 U.S. Bank Stadium, Minneapolis

2021 FINALS

March 18-20 Scottrade Center, St. Louis

2022 FINALS**March 17-19**

Little Caesars Arena, Detroit

QUALIFYING TOURNAMENT DATES

TOURNAMENT	DATE	SITE
Atlantic Coast Conference	March 3	North Carolina
Big Ten Conference	March 3-4	Michigan State
Big 12 Conference	March 3-4	Tulsa, Oklahoma
Eastern Intercollegiate Wrestling Association	March 3-4	Hofstra
Eastern Wrestling League	March 3	Clarion
Mid-American Conference	March 3-4	Central Michigan
Pac-12 Conference	Feb. 24 or 25	Oregon State
Southern Conference	March 3	The Citadel

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 2017-18 and 2018-19 NCAA Wrestling Rules and Interpretations will be followed. Questions regarding rules interpretations should be directed to Chuck Barbee, secretary-rules editor; Phone: 480-772-2472; Email: ncaaruleseditor@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 A](#), 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 NWCA website, 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.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Wednesday, March 14

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
5 p.m.	Mandatory administrative (coaches') meeting

Thursday, March 15

Noon	Session One — Preliminaries
7 p.m.	Session Two — Preliminaries and wrestle-backs

Friday, March 16

11 a.m.	Session Three — Quarterfinals and wrestle-backs
8 p.m.	Session Four — Semifinals and wrestle-backs

Saturday, March 17

11 a.m.	Session Five — Consolation finals
7:05 p.m.	Grand March (Parade of All-Americans)
8 p.m.	Session Six — Championships finals
10:30 p.m.	Team awards will be presented following all competition; individual awards are presented between each weight class

*Times are subject to change for television.

**Times listed are Eastern.

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:

<http://www.ncaa.org/championships/travel/championships-travel-information>

REGISTRATION

The list of entrants submitted by the qualifying tournament directors does not constitute the official entry. Each head coach, or the appointed institutional representative, must verify the entry of the student-athletes via the registration website (link to be distributed in February 2018).

Failure to meet the registration deadline of Wednesday, March 14 at 5 p.m. will eliminate a contestant from the championships. Only extenuating circumstances will be considered by the Wrestling Committee or an appointed subcommittee.

Each institution will be awarded four (4) coaches credentials, if requested, regardless of the number of competing student-athletes. Coaches credentials will be issued only to those coaches listed via the registration portal. Each coach must be a recognized member of the coaching staff authorized by the institution.

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 warm-ups.

Section 2•2 Results

QUALIFYING 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 2018. 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 4.

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 four of the 33 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 7, 2018.

AUTOMATIC QUALIFICATION

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

REPLACEMENT POLICY

Qualifying tournament personnel must submit the names of the individuals who have qualified for the championships before the established deadlines. Only the at-large qualifiers selected by the NCAA Wrestling Committee and those individuals listed on the qualifiers list for the national championships from each qualifying tournament will be allowed to compete. Replacements on the list are permitted until the established deadline. Replacements must be the next-best wrestler as determined by the NCAA Wrestling Committee and listed in order as alternates to the at-large qualifiers. One alternate per weight class will be invited to the championships.

The contact person for replacements for the championships is Heidi Wurster of the NCAA national office. Ms. Wurster may be reached by email at hwurster@ncaa.org.

LATE ENTRY

If an institution fails to enter its individuals before the established qualifying tournament deadline, as determined by the respective qualifying tournament, a late-entry fine of \$50 per individual, not to exceed \$300 per institution, may be assessed. Fines need to be paid before an institution is allowed to register any student-athletes 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 top 16 wrestlers in each weight class will be seeded with no requirement that wrestlers from the same conference tournament not meet in the first round. Further, all pigtail (play-in) matches will be randomly selected from the pool of unseeded wrestlers. After the seeds have been determined and placed in the bracket, the remainder of the weight class will be drawn randomly.

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.

Championships. The Division I Wrestling Committee will determine the seeding for each weight class in the championships. At no time will lobbying or supplying of additional materials 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 Heidi Wurster at the NCAA national office via email at hwurster@ncaa.org 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 7. These pairings are not to be released by any other media outlet before the official NCAA announcement.

Section 2•4 Selection Criteria

Automatic qualifiers for 2018 will be determined by using the primary criteria formula described below and will be communicated to all qualifying events Feb. 22.

After all qualifying events have concluded, the NCAA Division I Wrestling Committee will meet in person to select at-large qualifiers using secondary criteria, also described below. Wildcard selections at qualifying events have been eliminated. All weight classes at the 2018 NCAA Division I Wrestling Championships will consist of 33 wrestlers. At-large qualifiers will be announced on or by March 7.

PRIMARY CRITERIA FORMULA

On Feb. 21, 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 %*, opponents' opponents' Win % (17-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 17 matches will have an RPI, without the requirement of the wrestler's opponents to have 17 matches, as well.**

Wrestlers must also have wrestled a minimum of eight matches at the championships weight class. Wrestlers who meet or exceed threshold levels for all three measures will be labeled "Gold Standard." Wrestlers who meet or exceed threshold levels for any two of the three measures will be labeled "Silver Standard." All Gold and Silver Standard wrestlers will earn a qualifier position for their respective weight class at their respective qualifying event. If a wrestler earns a Gold or Silver Standard label and does not compete in his conference or regional qualifying tournament, the qualifier position that was earned by this wrestler for his qualifying event will revert to the at-large pool, unless the wrestler who earned the qualifier 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 Gold Standard or Silver Standard wrestlers at a weight class, one qualifier position will be allocated for that qualifying event's champion at that weight class. The committee will allocate the number of eligible automatic qualifiers 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 automatic qualifiers in the desired range. The maximum number of pre-allocations per weight class shall be 29.

SECONDARY CRITERIA

On March 7, 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 labeled "Bronze Standard":

- .700 Win %
- Top 33 RPI
- Top 33 CR
- .700 winning percentage against all competition
- One win against a wrestler receiving automatic qualification via an earned position (preallocated)
- Qualifying event placement one below automatic qualification

Only Bronze Standard wrestlers will be eligible for selection as at-large qualifiers. A wrestler must have participated in his respective conference or regional qualifying tournament in order to be considered for at-large selection to the championships. The NCAA Wrestling Committee will use the following weighted criteria, in priority order, to evaluate the Bronze Standard wrestlers:

- Head-to-head competition — 25 percent
- Quality wins — 20 percent
- Coaches ranking — 15 percent
- Results against common opponents — 10 percent
- RPI — 10 percent
- Qualifying event placement — 10 percent
- Win percentage — 10 percent

***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.

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Appendix A • Sport Sponsorship

American University	Eastern Intercollegiate Wrestling Association
Appalachian State University	Southern Conference
Arizona State University	Pac-12 Conference
Binghamton University	Eastern Intercollegiate Wrestling Association
Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania	Eastern Wrestling League
Brown University	Eastern Intercollegiate Wrestling Association
Bucknell University	Eastern Intercollegiate Wrestling Association
University at Buffalo, the State University of New York	Mid-American Conference
California Polytechnic State University	Pac-12 Conference
California State University, Bakersfield	Pac-12 Conference
California State University, Fresno	Big 12 Conference
Campbell University	Southern Conference
Central Michigan University	Mid-American Conference
The Citadel	Southern Conference
Clarion University of Pennsylvania	Eastern Wrestling League
Cleveland State University	Eastern Wrestling League
Columbia University-Barnard College	Eastern Intercollegiate Wrestling Association
Cornell University	Eastern Intercollegiate Wrestling Association
Davidson College	Southern Conference
Drexel University	Eastern Intercollegiate Wrestling Association
Duke University	Atlantic Coast Conference
Eastern Michigan University	Mid-American Conference
Edinboro University of Pennsylvania	Eastern Wrestling League
Franklin & Marshall College	Eastern Intercollegiate Wrestling Association
Gardner-Webb University	Southern Conference
George Mason University	Eastern Wrestling League
Harvard University	Eastern Intercollegiate Wrestling Association
Hofstra University	Eastern Intercollegiate Wrestling Association
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	Big Ten Conference
Indiana University, Bloomington	Big Ten Conference
University of Iowa	Big Ten Conference
Iowa State University	Big 12 Conference
Kent State University	Mid-American Conference
Lehigh University	Eastern Intercollegiate Wrestling Association
Lock Haven University of Pennsylvania	Eastern Wrestling League
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	Mid-American Conference
University of Nebraska, Lincoln	Big Ten Conference

DIVISION I WRESTLING

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	Mid-American 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
Old Dominion University	Mid-American 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
Princeton University	Eastern Intercollegiate Wrestling Association
Purdue University	Big Ten Conference
Rider University	Eastern Wrestling League
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	Southern 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 76 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.