



## 2017 and 2018 NCAA Men's and Women's Track and Field/Cross Country Rules Changes

*Effective December 1, 2016 (unless indicated otherwise)*

Item #	Rule	Page	Proposal, Rationale
1	1-1.6	13	<p><b>Proposal:</b> Beginning December 1, 2018, all indoor facilities shall have a curb, installed appropriately to reflect the method of survey.</p> <p><b>Rationale:</b> To establish a consistent standard for indoor facilities and eliminate the constant speculation regarding the proper placement and maintenance of cones or the officiating of the race. Curbing as inexpensive as PVC pipe could be placed 10 cm inside the lane one lane line to reflect the non-curb method of survey.</p>
2	1-1.10	15	<p><b>Proposal:</b> <del>Small cones</del> <u>Cones not more than 15 centimeters in height</u> shall be placed on the lane lines immediately before the intersection of <del>the lane lines</del> <u>each lane line</u> and the break line. <u>Cones of this height, separated</u> as described in Rule 1-1.6, shall be used to mark the inside of any single outer alley used for a race between the start of the alley and the break line.</p> <p><b>Rationale:</b> To provide clarity to the size and location of cone placement and also to address the size of cones used to designate an alley.</p>
3	1-3.4 2-4.2 2-4.3	16, 29	<p><b>Proposal:</b> The hurdles shall be placed on the track so that <u>at least 30 centimeters</u> of the top bar, measured from the inside edge of the track, will extend inside the inner edge of the track. <u>The hurdles shall extend at least 3.66 meters into the track.</u> The hurdles shall consist of <del>a base and</del> two uprights supporting <del>a rectangular frame, with</del> a single crossbar. Each hurdle shall have on each side a base between 1.2 meters and 1.4 meters long <u>or be anchored in such a way that it cannot be tipped over.</u></p> <p><b>Rationale:</b> To allow for a new type of steeplechase barrier construction.</p>
4	3-6.d	42	<p><b>Proposal:</b> A report of uncorrected violations shall be made to the <u>games committee</u>, referee and the offending competitor's coach.</p> <p><b>Rationale:</b> To provide required reporting of an administrative issue as needed.</p>
5	3-19.2	46	<p><b>Proposal:</b> If a competitor is to be withdrawn from an event, <del>or abandons an event, then</del> <u>an in-person evaluation by the appointed/approved medical doctor/athletic trainer</u> shall occur <del>either prior to</del> <u>before</u> the start of the <del>withdrawn</del> event. <del>or immediately, after the abandoned event.</del></p>

			<b>Rationale:</b> Competitors are not always available for an immediate evaluation after an event as stated in the current rule.
6	4-2.1	48	<p><b>Proposal:</b> Competitors are to abide by the letter and spirit of the rules and shall be responsible for conducting themselves in an honest and sporting fashion at all times toward opponents, officials and spectators. <del>This includes competing to the best of his or her ability for a given circumstance (that is, honest effort).</del> <u>Honest effort is abandoning any event without reasonable cause as determined by the referee. Abandoning the Combined Event is not a violation of honest effort.</u></p> <p><b>Rationale:</b> There is continual confusion between honest effort and failure to participate. This proposal clarifies that ‘honest effort’ occurs during the course of an event, not prior to the start of an event. Amended to exempt the Combined Event from the honest effort rule.</p>
7	4-2.2a	48	<p><b>Proposal:</b> Competitors or relay teams must participate in the trials and/or finals of all events in which they are declared, <u>defined as a form of commitment to compete.</u> <del>Declaration procedures and deadlines for individual and relay team members, excluding alternates, must be published.</del> Such participation is also required in subsequent rounds as a result of qualifying, or when participation is a criterion for entry in a subsequent meet. <u>For the initial rounds of all competitions, a declaration/commitment procedure and a withdrawal procedure, with appropriate deadlines for individual and relay team members, excluding alternates, must be published. Actual participation is a default commitment. When an institution’s relay team declares, but does not participate in the competition, individual competitors declared on the relay team shall not evoke failure to participate.</u></p> <p><b>Rationale:</b> To clarify the scope of commitment, including a withdrawal element. Additionally, the Failure to Participate rule should not affect an individual competitor who is declared as a participant on a relay that doesn’t participate. An individual student-athlete should not be penalized because of the inability of a teammate to compete.</p>
8	4-2.3	49	<p><b>Proposal:</b> On the report of an official, or from a properly filed protest, the referee shall warn or disqualify:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <u>a competitor who gives or receives assistance;</u></li> <li>b. <u>a competitor who is determined to have been directly or unduly aided by a coach, a teammate not in the event, or a non-competitor associated with the competitor’s team;</u></li> </ol>

			<p><u>c. a competitor who is</u> indirectly aided from inside the competition area, <del>or alongside a Cross Country course,</del> by a coach, a teammate not in the event, or a non-competitor <del>connected</del> <u>associated</u> with the competitor's team.</p> <p><b>Rationale:</b> This provides for the inclusion of previously omitted assistance by those who are competing. This now addresses direct/unduly assistance from anywhere.</p>
9	4-3.1	50	<p><b>Proposal:</b> When engaged in competition, each competitor must wear an official team uniform with components governed by these rules or be subject to <del>disqualification</del> <u>disciplinary action</u>. Wearing any part of the official team competition uniform illegally (that is, top off or intentionally shortened, shoulder straps lowered) while in the area of competition shall lead to a warning by the nearest official <del>that repeated violation may result in disciplinary action.</del> <u>A and a report of uncorrected violations shall be made to the <u>games committee</u>, referee and offending competitor's coach.</u></p> <p><u>a. On any single day of competition, all team members must wear uniforms clearly indicating, through color, logo and combination of all outer garments worn as a uniform, that they are from the same team.</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>1) Teams may change uniform colors from one day to another for multiple day meets.</u></li> <li><u>2) Men's and women's programs are considered separate teams, and are not required to have uniforms of identical color.</u></li> </ol> <p><b>Rationale:</b> To provide proper guidance regarding uniform violations and establish an enforcement limitation. Additionally, requiring teams to wear uniforms of the same color allows spectators, media, officials, coaches and competitors to more easily identify the competing teams and student-athletes of each institution. This would bring an institution's entire team into compliance with what is already required by rule of an institution's relay team.</p>
10	4-3.5	51	<p><b>Proposal:</b> Facility considerations may further limit the type <del>and length</del> of spikes allowed.</p> <p><b>Rationale:</b> The length of spikes is currently specified in the rules. This will provide better consistency by not allowing facilities to adjust spike length.</p>
11	4-4.1 4-4.2 4-4.3 4-4.4	51 52	<p><b>Proposal:</b> ARTICLE 1. <u>See Bylaw 17 in the NCAA Manual for the definitions of intercollegiate competition and organized competition.</u></p>

			<p>ARTICLE 2. Add the 55 Meters and 55 Meter Hurdles to the list of NCAA Track and Field indoor events and delete the following:  <del>The 55 Meters and 55 Meter Hurdles may only be used as replacements for the respective 60 Meter events within facilities unable to be configured for the 60 Meter events. Outdoor facilities, where the full oval is surveyed for 440 yards, may contest the imperial equivalent of the 4x100 Meter Relay and the 4x400 Meter Relay as replacement events. Indoor facilities, where the full oval is surveyed in yards, may contest the imperial equivalent of the 4x400 Meter Relay and the Distance Medley Relay as replacement events. The events listed above may be altered at the discretion of the games committee.</del></p> <p>ARTICLE 3. <u>A minimum of two different member institutions shall be represented in each event.</u></p> <p>ARTICLE 4. <u>The minimum number of events contested for outdoor competition shall be nine track events and six field events per gender. The minimum number of events contested for indoor competition shall be seven track events and four field events per gender.</u></p> <p><b>Rationale:</b> To better define what constitutes a regular-season competition and provide more structure to the sport.</p>
12	4-4.8	53	<p><b>Proposal:</b> Mixed gender competition is permitted in any <u>horizontal</u> field event <u>with fewer than five competitors per gender.</u> <del>Mixed gender competition is permitted in any Combined Event.</del> Mixed gender competition is not permitted in any running event except the 10,000 Meters. <u>A separate event result shall be maintained for each gender.</u></p> <p><b>Rationale:</b> To limit mixed gender competition and clarify that the events are still separate, only held at the same time.</p>
13	4-4.10a	53	<p><b>Proposal:</b> Protests relating to <u>singular</u> matters that develop during the conduct of the meet should be made at once and <u>shall not be later than 15 minutes after the results have been announced or posted for the section involving the protest.</u> <u>This applies to each separate event within a Combined Event and to the preliminary and final rounds of a field event if the results are announced and posted separately.</u> All implicated coaches must be notified of a tendered protest.</p> <p><b>Rationale:</b> To provide clarity to the process of protests. Eliminates a currently employed strategy of waiting to see whether a performance would have an affect on advancement. If a situation is deserving of a protest, it should be pursued without delay.</p>

14	4-4.10c	53	<p><b>Proposal:</b> The referee shall review the protest and shall render a decision after determining and considering <u>available</u> evidence. <u>Concurrence of two referees is required when no jury of appeal is appointed.</u> Evidence specifically excluded is all visual material, except that produced:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) <u>For public broadcast, public streaming or public video board presentation.</u></li> <li>2) <u>By an organization specifically employed for the purpose of providing review video.</u></li> <li>3) In conjunction with officiating an event.</li> <li>4) For official photo-timing.</li> <li>5) As <u>additional</u> official video designated by the games committee before the meet.</li> </ol> <p><b>Rationale:</b> The concurrence of two referees when no jury of appeal is appointed is current practice at the NCAA Championships and should be considered standard practice. The listing of evidence to exclude with exceptions eliminates the need for games committee authorization of systems specifically and generally accepted as usable for review. This explicitly does not mandate that video must always be used.</p>
15	4-4.10e	54	<p><b>Proposal:</b> Protests relating to <del>Rules 4-3.1, 4-3.2 and 4-3.3</del> <u>Rule 4-3</u> shall not interrupt an event <u>nor result in a disqualification once the event begins.</u></p> <p><b>Rationale:</b> To elaborate on the intended goal of proactively solving uniform problems before an event.</p>
16	4-4.11 (NEW)	54	<p><b>Proposal:</b> <u>For indoor, outdoor, scored and non-scored competitions:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <u>The meet director shall publish, as part of the on-line information for the competition, a ranked list of event entries disclosing all performances used to determine entry in each event and the source of those performances.</u></li> <li>b. <u>Verifiable entry performances shall be used for the same event obtained during the current season when such a performance exists as reported on the listing authorized by the Sport Committee; or</u></li> <li>c. <u>For an indoor season competition up to and including the fourth Sunday in January, or an outdoor season competition up to and including the fifth Sunday following the final day of the NCAA Indoor Championships, when a</u></li> </ol>

			<p><u>verifiable entry performance for an event obtained during the current season is not available, the verifiable entry performance shall be from the just previous season in which the event is contested.</u></p> <p><u>d. All entries having no verifiable performance as stated above shall be entered with a performance of ‘no mark’.</u></p> <p><u>Note 1: Competitors in their initial year of NCAA eligibility shall be entered with a ‘no mark’ performance until a verifiable current season performance is established.</u></p> <p><u>Note 2: A verifiable performance shall only be those that have been published on-line as part of a full reporting system.</u></p> <p><u>Note 3: Relay performance marks shall reflect an institution’s best verifiable performance.</u></p> <p><b>Rationale:</b> <u>To create a standardized, fair and equitable entry process for all NCAA track and field competitions, and to eliminate the reporting of false and speculative performances.</u></p>
17	4-4.15	54	<p><b>Proposal:</b> Coaches, athletes, competitors and officials shall not use video or audio devices, radio transmitters or receivers, mobile phones, computers, <u>unmanned aerial systems (i.e., drones)</u> or any similar devices in the competition area, except as authorized by the games committee <del>for meet administration.</del></p> <p><b>Rationale:</b> To provide control regarding the use of unmanned aerial systems as they may interfere with competition. In addition, to allow for competitive equity and enhance student-athlete safety. Eliminating “for meet administration” authorizes the games committee to allow use of these devices even if not for meet administration, such as within an infield coaches’ box (general prohibition remains).</p>
18	5-1.2	55	<p><b>Proposal:</b> All races shall be started as a result of the starter activating a signal. The signal shall be the report of a pistol that can be cocked, or an electronic tone <del>((of at least 112 dB))</del> <u>that is clear, crisp, distinct and at least 90 dB</u> at 15 feet. The pistol shall be not less than .32-caliber. A simultaneous flash/smoke generated by the pistol or an electronic flash/strobe shall be clearly visible to the timers whenever manual timing is used. A .22-caliber pistol may be used for fully automatic timing without manual timers and for indoor events. A misfire shall not be a start. <u>A visual signal shall be incorporated for the hearing impaired.</u></p> <p><u>Note: The term ‘pistol’ as used within these rules encompasses all devices used to start or recall a race. A ‘firing’ or a ‘discharge’ is the activation of such a device.</u></p>

			<p><b>Rationale:</b> To bring attention to the fact that a pistol is not required; to adjust the loudness requirement to that which is appropriate; and to indicate the additional need for the hearing impaired.</p>
19	5-1.6 8-5.5b	56 89	<p><b>Proposal:</b> <del>In an outdoor race not started in lanes, including Cross Country, if a runner falls during approximately the first 100 meters because of contact with another runner, the race shall be recalled. The point of recall for an indoor oval race shall not be later than the end of the first turn for races that start in lanes, and not later than the beginning of the second turn for all others. In a race where the start is not in lanes, the race shall be recalled for any incident that a member of the start team determines resulted in an unfair start. The incident must have occurred within close proximity to the start line and be clearly associated with the start. Close proximity shall be within 100 meters of the start line in Cross Country, and within 50 meters of the start line for indoor and outdoor track events.</del></p> <p><b>Rationale:</b> Although recalling a race for a fall-down within the first 100 meters is a long-standing NCAA tradition, most experienced starters around the country have agreed that any occurrence beyond 50 meters is, and always has been, too far from the start line to be considered part of the start. Put another way, beyond 50 meters, the athlete has ceased any starting activity, is now engaged in competition, and is governed by running vs. starting rules. This proposed rule is currently in the USATF rule book. Addressing just the “fall” omits other incidents that can result in an unfair start. In cross country races, often involving hundreds of competitors starting on uneven terrain, watching the first 100 meters for anything unfair is more easily justified.</p>
20	5-5.1	57	<p><b>Proposal:</b> When a competitor commits a flagrant foul in a race to aid a teammate, all persons from the offending team in that event shall be disqualified. <u>Interference by a coach or a teammate not in the event shall also apply.</u> Such an infraction shall be reported by the umpire and ruled on by the referee.</p> <p><b>Rationale:</b> To include violations such as interference caused by those not competing in the event.</p>
21	5-8.2	59	<p><b>Proposal:</b> <del>The games committee shall set the relay alternate and substitution policy. However, the maximum number of replacements on any specific team that has qualified to compete is two.</del> <u>Any eligible student-athlete who is a member of an institution's team is eligible to participate as a member of an institution's relay team at any time during a competition.</u></p> <p><b>Rationale:</b> This reflects what is currently occurring at NCAA indoor and outdoor track and field competitions throughout the year, including conference championships. An institution is the entrant for a relay event; therefore the</p>

			<p>institution should be able to run any combination of eligible student-athletes on its' relay team in any round at any time during all competitions. This proposed rules change was actually adopted by the NCAA Division I Men's and Women's Track &amp; Field Sport Committee and placed in their 2010 NCAA Division I Outdoor Track &amp; Field Championships Technical Manual. The procedure was implemented at both the Preliminary Championship Round and the Final Round of the Championships that year and worked flawlessly. It received great reviews from both the sport committee and coaches. It was probably the only year that problems didn't arise with relay entries and substitutions at the championships.</p>
22	5-10.1b	60	<p><b>Proposal:</b> If the limits of time or facilities require, to ensure <del>safety and</del> equity of competition, races (including relays) may be contested as a final in timed sections. When used, the structure for administering the final as timed sections, such as slow to fast, shall be determined by the games committee and must be consistent throughout the meet. In addition, no race in an event using timed sections shall have fewer than two competitors. In a single-round indoor timed-section final, the sections <u>for all events except the 200 Meters and 400 Meters</u> shall be seeded slow to fast and shall compete in that order.</p> <p><b>Rationale:</b> Using 'slow-fast' in the 200 and 400 places the #3 and #4 seeds in worse lanes than the #5 and #6 seeds. This was addressed for advancement to a final in those events, but not in a timed final round. Authorization is already provided to the games committee to create a structure.</p>
23	5-10.7d	62	<p><b>Proposal:</b> In the 3000 Meters or 5000 Meters or Steeplechase, when more than one section is scheduled and 18 or fewer competitors report, the event shall be run as a single-race final. No more than 14 shall qualify for the final in the 3000 Meters and Steeplechase and no more than <del>16</del> <u>24</u> shall qualify for the final in the 5000 Meters from a preliminary round.</p> <p><b>Rationale:</b> The NCAA Division I Outdoor Track and Field Championships currently advances 24 competitors from a semifinal round to the final round. They have advanced 24 to the final for their last five championships and the 5000 Meter championship races for both men and women have been conducted without incident.</p>
24	5-11.3a	64	<p><b>Proposal:</b> In the first of <u>multiple rounds</u> of competition, lanes, <u>alleys</u> or starting positions shall be drawn by lot in all races. For an event in which no preliminary round is contested, <u>or where the preliminary round consists of a single race,</u></p>

			<p>the games committee may assign preferred lanes, <u>starting positions or alleys</u> by entry performance. For an in-lane Combined Event race, lanes shall be drawn by lot. Lane positions or boxes in Cross Country shall be drawn by lot.</p> <p><b>Rationale:</b> To provide preferred assignment to single round distance events (alley assignment) just as is done with in-lane events. This would allow assignment to a specific alley. Starting position within the alley would still be random.</p>
25	5-11.3b	64	<p><b>Proposal:</b> For competition other than first round, lane/starting position <u>and alley</u> assignments shall be made as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) <u>For</u> races not starting in lanes, <u>starting position or position within an alley</u> shall be drawn by lot.</li> <li>2) For races starting in lanes/alleys, assign to preferred lanes/alleys as follows: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Advancement determined by place: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Weigh place first.</li> <li>(2) Weigh time second.</li> </ol> </li> <li>b) Advancement determined by time: Weigh by time in descending order.</li> </ol> </li> </ol> <p><b>Rationale:</b> Completes the addition of alleys into the provisions for position assignment. Provides clarification for the reorganization where all running is combined under one general rule and includes previously not covered situations.</p>
26	6-1.1e (NEW)	67	<p><b>Proposal:</b> <u>The first contact with the ground outside a horizontal jump landing area by foot, the top of the iron band or the ground outside a throwing circle or the ground outside a defined runway is considered 'leaving', as used within the rules.</u></p> <p><b>Rationale:</b> The definition of 'leaving' exists in other rules books, and seems to be misunderstood since it is not in the NCAA Rules Book. For example, both feet need not exit from the rear half of the throwing circle.</p>
27	6-1.6	68	<p><b>Proposal:</b> <u>Excused competitors shall not delay the continuation of an event. If a competitor is not present for a trial after the competition is complete for all others who are present, it shall be deemed that he or she forfeits the right to all further trials in the competition once the allowable time for all available trials has elapsed.</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. In events other than the vertical jumps, if a competitor is competing in another event that requires a long absence, the head judge of an event may allow that competitor to take qualifying or preliminary attempts, but not final attempts, out of the official order within the competitor's designated flight which may or may not be in</li> </ol>

			<p>succession. <del>Excused competitors must not delay the start of the finals. Reassignment to another flight may not be made to accommodate such an absence.</del></p> <p>Should a competitor miss a turn in the <u>final rounds</u>, the head judge shall refuse permission for that competitor to take that turn. If a competitor is not present for a trial in <u>final rounds</u>, it shall be deemed that the competitor is passing, once the allowable time period for the trial has elapsed.</p> <p>b. In the vertical jumps, except for the <u>Combined Event</u>, the head judge of the event may allow the competitor to take attempts out of official order, which may or may not be in succession. The competition must continue, <u>without delay</u>, in the excused competitor's absence, and the competitor shall compete at the existing height upon return, being allowed the number of attempts the competitor had remaining when excused. If a competitor is not present for a trial before the bar is raised, it shall be deemed that the competitor is passing, once the allowable time period for the trial has elapsed.</p> <p><b>Rationale:</b> This is a reorganization and clarification. The new language provides for ending an event when competitors are not present. Eliminates the practice of artificially creating a delay within the rounds.</p>
28	6-2.5	72	<p><b>Proposal:</b> In the throwing events and the horizontal jumps, each competitor shall be allowed three trials. <u>In scored competitions with five or fewer teams, not more than one competitor more than the number of scoring places, with a maximum of nine</u>, including representation from more than one team <del>in scored competitions</del>, shall advance by best mark in the preliminary rounds to the final rounds, provided each has a valid mark in the preliminary rounds. <u>The number of advancers shall never exceed nine, except that competitors tying for the last advancement position, by mark, shall advance to the final rounds, unless tie-breaking is designated otherwise ruled</u> by the games committee before the competition.</p> <p><b>Rationale:</b> This continues to provide protection against 'sweeping' an event through excess entries in smaller meets. It accommodates the needs for small conferences using the reduced scoring formula. It continues the maximum allowed to advance which now clearly applies to scored and non-scored competitions. It addresses a current rule conflict.</p>
29	6-2.6	72	<p><b>Proposal:</b> Before the competition begins, the games committee may allow automatic <u>advancement participation</u> of each competitor <del>to</del> <u>in</u> the final rounds in the throwing events and horizontal jumps when <del>there are nine or fewer</del> <u>the number of</u></p>

			<p>competitors at the start of the preliminaries <u>is not greater than the maximum number in the final rounds allowed in Rule 6-2.5</u>. In order to advance, each competitor must actually attempt one trial in the preliminary rounds.</p> <p><b>Rationale:</b> The current rule allows for a greater number in the final rounds for scored competitions where fewer than nine would normally advance. This corrects the conflict.</p>
30	6-3.3	73	<p><b>Proposal:</b> The games committee may establish a minimum distance that must be reached, <u>after the first legal trial</u>, to guarantee a measurement of a trial <u>in any of the three preliminary rounds</u>. All trials that achieve or exceed the minimum distance, <u>and all trials in final rounds</u>, must be measured.</p> <p><b>Rationale:</b> At least one performance should be recorded for each competitor. Once in the final rounds, the competitors have earned the right to have performances recorded, and they could be pertinent to tie-breaking.</p>
31	6-4.1	73	<p><del>Competitors in the horizontal events shall be arranged in flights not larger than 16 and not smaller than five. The games committee shall determine whether flight assignment is random or based on entry performance, and the order in which flights are contested. If weather or facility conditions render this method unfair to some competitors, the referee may require that all trials be taken one at a time in the order drawn.</del> <u>The games committee shall determine flight assignment based on entry performance, arranged so that higher ranked competitors compete in later flights. Reassignment to another flight shall not be made after the flights have been determined. The horizontal events shall be arranged in flights not larger than 16 and not smaller than five.</u></p> <p><b>Rationale:</b> To eliminate reassignment for all circumstances, not just absence for another event.</p>
32	6-4.2	73	<p><b>Proposal:</b> In the throwing events, Long Jump and Triple Jump, the order of competition within a flight shall be <u>seeded or drawn by lot</u>. Each competitor in a flight shall complete three attempts in the order drawn. In the final rounds of these events, competition shall be in reverse order of best performance in the preliminary rounds. For the final three attempts, the finalists shall compete in one flight. <u>If similar facilities are being used, competitors will take their final attempts from the same runway or circle they competed on during the preliminary attempts. If weather or facility conditions render this method unfair to some competitors, the referee may require that all trials be taken one at a time in the order drawn.</u></p>

			<b>Rationale:</b> To provide clarity regarding the meaning of 'one flight'.
33	6-4.3	73	<p><b>Proposal:</b> In the High Jump and Pole Vault, each competitor is allowed an attempt in the order in which the competitor's name is on the scorecard <del>has been drawn by lot</del>. The competitor is granted a maximum of three attempts at any one height. The competitor may accept all three attempts or may choose to pass any of them. <u>The games committee shall determine whether the competing order is random or based on entry performance.</u></p> <p><b>Rationale:</b> This would make the official's job much easier, particularly in meets that have large numbers of jumpers.</p>
34	6-4.3b	73	<p><b>Proposal:</b> Utilize two or <u>more</u> flights following the normal order of competition. The overall placing is determined by combining the results of <del>both all</del> flights. <del>Ties for first place shall not be broken.</del> <u>A tie for first place overall is broken only when the flights are concurrent, otherwise best place tie-breaking is used only within each flight.</u></p> <p><b>Rationale:</b> To correct an oversight regarding the breaking of ties.</p>
35	6-6.4	76	<p><b>Proposal:</b> The vaulting pole may have protective layers of tape at the grip end and at the bottom end of the pole. <u>Tape at the grip end must be uniform without creating gripping 'rings'.</u></p> <p><b>Rationale:</b> To eliminate an abuse due to the rule not being stated clearly enough.</p>
36	8-2.2	86	<p><b>Proposal:</b> The course shall be confined, as far as possible, to fields, woods and grasslands. Parks, golf courses or specially designed courses are recommended. The turf should be of a quality to promote safety and freedom from injury to the runners, keeping the following in mind:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Dangerous ascents or descents, undergrowth, deep ditches, and in general any obstacles and hindrance detrimental to the competitors must be avoided.</li> <li>b. Continuous traversing of roadways should be avoided.</li> <li>c. A <del>championship cross country</del> course <del>should</del> <u>shall</u> be at least <del>40-four</del> meters wide throughout.</li> <li>d. A <del>non-championship</del> course, as well as a <del>championship</del> course with fewer than 30 teams or 210 individuals competing, <del>shall be at least 5 meters wide.</del> <del>However, for a non-championship course, infrequent narrow gaps of not less than 2 meters wide are permitted.</del></li> <li>e. The start shall be located so as to provide a long, straight route from the starting line.</li> </ol>

			<p>f. The first turn of a <del>non-championship</del> course shall be at least <del>400</del> <u>200</u> meters and preferably at least <del>600</del> <u>400</u> meters from the start. <del>The optimal first turn of a championship course should be at least 600 meters and preferably at least 800 meters from the start.</del></p> <p>g. Turns shall be gradual. If a course layout requires a sharp turn, any such turn shall be clearly marked. The runner shall be provided with a distinct barrier through that turn.</p> <p>h. The last <del>200</del> <u>100</u> meters of the course <del>must</del> <u>shall</u> be straight and at least <del>40</del> <u>four</u> meters wide to the finish line.</p> <p><b>Rationale:</b> To establish a minimum standard for an NCAA cross country course that is used for competition. It is the responsibility of NCAA Divisions I, II and III Men’s and Women’s Track &amp; Field/Cross Country Sport Committees to establish championship policy for any additional course requirements that exceed those specified for their respective divisions and championships. The rules need to provide specific minimums for cross country courses. However, the needs of the three NCAA division’s championships vary so much that it is impossible to create a standard that realistically serves all three divisions. Additionally, there is the challenge of what actual courses are available to each division for their championships, and the ability of a particular course to meet a rules requirement that was written for all three divisions.</p>
37	8-4.2	87	<p><b>Proposal:</b> The finish line shall be <del>at least 10</del> <u>a minimum of four</u> meters wide <u>and a maximum of 10 meters wide</u>, and located <del>at right angles</del> <u>perpendicular</u> to the course line. It shall be marked brightly and be visible from a distance. The finish line is at the mouth of the finish chute or finish corral.</p> <p><b>Rationale:</b> To create a minimum finish line standard that can be met and used at all NCAA competitions, and establish a maximum that can accommodate competitions with a large number of entries.</p>
38	9-2.4	95	<p><b>Proposal:</b> All competitors shall compete in one or more flights as determined by the games committee. For total fields greater than 13, two flights should be considered. <u>When more than one flight is used, the competitors should be split into sections as equal in number as possible by lot or based on past seasonal performance in that event. The flights should be concurrent when facilities with equal conditions are available. The games committee may create competition groups used for more than one event.</u> In the vertical jumps, the five-alive method of competition may be used. <del>See Rule 6-4.3. When more than one flight is used, the flights shall be concurrent when facilities with equal conditions are</del></p>

			<p><del>available. The competitors may be split into sections as equal in number as possible, by lot or based on past seasonal performance in that event.</del></p> <p><b>Rationale:</b> To provide for a better grouping and organization of field events.</p>										
39	10-5.4	102	<p><b>Proposal:</b> A final round, contested as a result of Rule 5-10.6f (eight competitors advancing when the facility has fewer than eight usable lanes) shall be contested in two sections formed by seeding competitors from the ranked advancement list, using the following <u>heat assignments and using lanes three through six</u>:</p> <table style="margin-left: 40px;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">Section 1</th> <th style="text-align: left;">Section 2</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6</td> <td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>8</td> <td>7</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><b>Rationale:</b> To provide consistency in the lanes used, eliminating the advantage of using lanes with a greater radius.</p>	Section 1	Section 2	3	1	4	2	6	5	8	7
Section 1	Section 2												
3	1												
4	2												
6	5												
8	7												