2017 DIVISION III WOMEN’S ICE HOCKEY CHAMPIONSHIP

PRE-CHAMPIONSHIP 2016-17 MANUAL
Section 1 • Introduction

During the 2016-17 academic year, the Association will sponsor 90 national championships – 42 for men, 45 for women, and three for both men and women. Among 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. Among the women’s championships, six 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 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 administrators.
Appendixes. Any supplemental documents to be provided and distributed through the various resources.
Championship Administrator. The NCAA staff member 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.
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 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.


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, Manuals 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 sports 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 Division 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 policy and procedure and fines.

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 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

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

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 GPA 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-athletes 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 hotel, car and air travel, all in one easy transaction.

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
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, headbands, T-shirts, wristbands, 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 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 • Division III

Section 9•1 Division III Philosophy

The Division III championships philosophy is to field the most competitive teams possible while minimizing missed class time; to emphasize regional competition in regular-season scheduling; and to provide representation in NCAA championship competition by allocating berths to eligible conferences, independent institutions and a limited number of at-large teams, realizing that this may be done at the expense of leaving out some championship-caliber teams.

Section 9•2 Commencement Conflicts

If an institution’s commencement conflicts with participation in the championship, it shall inform the NCAA championship administrator in writing one week before the selection date for the governing sports 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 sports committee, in consultation with participating institutions, may reschedule the game on the nearest possible date.
- Does not apply to predetermined finals sites.
- The governing sports 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 9.3 Religious Conflicts

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 (if the institution has no policy against Sunday competition, the student-athlete shall compete on Sunday if required by the schedule).
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Section 1 • General Administration

Section 1•1 NCAA Championships Staff Contact Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan Gentry</td>
<td>Championships and Alliances, Operations</td>
<td>P.O. Box 6222 / Indianapolis, Indiana 46206-6222</td>
<td>317-917-6626 / <a href="mailto:jgentry@ncaa.org">jgentry@ncaa.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donisha Carter</td>
<td>Championships and Alliances, Operations</td>
<td>P.O. Box 6222 / Indianapolis, Indiana 46206-6222</td>
<td>317-917-6652 / <a href="mailto:dcarter@ncaa.org">dcarter@ncaa.org</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Section 1•2 National Committee

[Reference: Bylaws 31.1.1 and 31.1.2 in the NCAA Division III Manual.]

The NCAA Division III Women’s Ice Hockey Championship is under the control, direction and supervision of the Division III Women’s Ice Hockey Committee. Current members of the committee are:

### EAST REGION
- **Katie Boldvich**
  - Commissioner
  - Colonial Hockey Conference/New England Hockey Conference

### WEST REGION
- **Michelle Morgan**
  - Associate Director of Athletics/SWA
  - University of St. Thomas (Minnesota)

### EAST REGION
- **Stephanie Dutton**
  - Assistant Director of Athletics
  - Plattsburgh State University of New York

### WEST REGION
- **Jackie Slaats**
  - Director of Athletics
  - Lake Forest College

For additional information about the Division III Women’s Ice Hockey Championship, contact:

- **Katie Boldvich**, Committee Chair
  - Commissioner - Colonial Hockey Conference and New England Hockey Conference
  - 609-576-9869 / katieboldvich@gmail.com

- **Ty Halpin**
  - NCAA Playing Rules
  - 317-917-6136 / thalpin@ncaa.org

- **Tom DiFusco**
  - National Coordinator of Officials
  - 401-527-6547 / tdifuco1211@hotmail.com

- **Steve Piotrowski**
  - NCAA Ice Hockey Secretary-Rules Editor
  - 248-880-6877 / spiotrowski@bigten.org
Section 1•3 Regional Advisory Committees

[Reference: Bylaws 21.4.1.4 and 21.5.1.6 in the NCAA Division III Manual.]

An advisory committee in each region shall assist the Division III Women’s Ice Hockey Committee in the evaluation of teams throughout the season. Conference commissioners shall appoint conference representatives to serve as voting members of the regional advisory committees.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>INSTITUTION</th>
<th>CONFERENCE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>EAST REGION</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Stephanie Dutton, chair</td>
<td>Plattsburgh State University of New York</td>
<td>ECAC DIII Women’s West</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>**Katie Boldvich</td>
<td>Colonial Hockey Conference/New England Hockey Conference</td>
<td>CHC and NEHC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gina Kearns</td>
<td>Neumann University</td>
<td>ECAC DIII Women’s West</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bill Mandigo</td>
<td>Middlebury College</td>
<td>NESCAC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andy McPhee</td>
<td>Endicott College</td>
<td>CHC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>WEST REGION</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*Jackie Slaats, chair</td>
<td>Lake Forest College</td>
<td>NCHA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michelle Morgan</td>
<td>University of St. Thomas (Minnesota)</td>
<td>MIAC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anne Ninnemann</td>
<td>University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point</td>
<td>Independent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TBD</td>
<td></td>
<td>NCHA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Chairs of the regional advisory committees serve as non-voting facilitators.

** Will serve as the voting representative of the New England Hockey Conference.

Section 1•4 Important Dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday, Jan. 30, noon Eastern time</td>
<td>Orientation webinar for regional advisory committee.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, Feb. 3</td>
<td>Proposed budget information, key contacts forms and facility evaluation forms and host operations manual available online.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesdays, Feb. 14, Feb. 21 and Feb. 28</td>
<td>Published rankings.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, Feb. 24</td>
<td>Proposed budget information, key contacts forms and facility evaluation forms must be completed and submitted online by 5 p.m. Eastern time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday, March 5</td>
<td>Selection call.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, March 6, 10 a.m. Eastern time</td>
<td>Online selection show on NCAA.com.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, March 6, 10:30 a.m. Eastern time</td>
<td>Site Representative 101 teleconference with all site representatives, national committee members and NCAA championship manager.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, March 6, noon Eastern time</td>
<td>Teleconference with all first-round hosts, site representatives, national committee and NCAA championship manager.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, March 6, 2 p.m. Eastern time</td>
<td>Individual teleconferences for four first-round sites with respective host, site representative, and head coaches and administrators of participating teams.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, March 13, 10 a.m. Eastern time</td>
<td>Teleconference with four institutions participating in the finals, host tournament director, national committee and NCAA championship manager.</td>
</tr>
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2017 CHAMPIONSHIP DATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday, March 10, or Saturday, March 11</td>
<td>First-round games, at participating campus sites to be determined.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Friday and Saturday, March 17 and 18

Semifinals, third-place game and championship game, at a participating campus site to be determined.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE FORMULA</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First rounds (4)</td>
<td>One week before finals (Friday or Saturday)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finals</td>
<td>Third full weekend in March (Friday and Saturday)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FUTURE DATES</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018 First round</td>
<td>March 9 or 10, sites to be determined, at sites of participating institutions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018 Semifinals/Final</td>
<td>March 16 and 17, site to be determined, at site of a participating institution.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019 First round</td>
<td>March 8 or 9, sites to be determined, at sites of participating institutions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019 Semifinals/Final</td>
<td>March 15 and 16, site to be determined, at site of a participating institution.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Section 1•5 Division III Commencement Conflict Policy

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 sports committee to accommodate a request to alter the championship schedule.

The following guidelines apply to commencement requests:

- Applies to team sports only.
- The governing sports committee, in consultation with participating institutions, would reschedule the contest on the nearest possible date if a participating school has a conflict.
- Does not apply to predetermined finals sites.

The governing sports 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 1•6 Division III Philosophy

The Division III championships philosophy is to field the most competitive teams possible while minimizing missed class time; to emphasize regional competition in regular-season scheduling; and to provide representation in NCAA championship competition by allocating berths to eligible conferences, independent institutions and a limited number of at-large teams, realizing that this may be done at the expense of leaving out some championship-caliber teams.

### Section 1•7 Equipment

NCAA will provide logo pucks for all practice and competition sessions at all first-round sites and the finals site.

### Section 1•8 Rules

NCAA Men’s and Women’s Ice Hockey Rules shall be followed. 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. Questions regarding the interpretation of NCAA Women’s Ice Hockey Rules should be directed to NCAA secretary-rules editor Steve Piotrowski at 248-880-6877 or spiotrowski@bigten.org.
Section 1.9 Uniforms

Each participating institution should bring both light- and dark-colored jerseys to the site of the competition. The higher seed shall wear light-colored jerseys and the lower seed shall wear dark-colored jerseys.

LOGOS

Refer to General Administrative Guidelines, Section 7.
Section 2•1 Championship Format

NCAA Division III institutions that sponsor intercollegiate women’s ice hockey are eligible for the Division III championship.

The championship playoff format for the field of eight teams includes four first-round games that are hosted by participating institutions. The four teams that advance from the first-round games will advance to a nonpredetermined site. The semifinals will be conducted Friday, March 17, and the third-place and championship games will be conducted Saturday, March 18.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Administrative Meeting. A pre-championship meeting for the head coach and administrator of each team will be held before competition at first-round sites and at the finals site.

Student-Athlete Banquet. A banquet for the official travel party of the participating teams will be held at the finals site the evening before the semifinal games.

Press Conferences. All coaches and student-athletes must be available for postgame press conferences and must participate in the press conferences if requested.

Awards Ceremonies. Following the third-place game at the finals site, both teams shall line up and remain on the ice throughout the awards presentations to both teams. Following the championship game, both teams shall line up and remain on the ice throughout the awards presentations to both teams and the announcement of the all-tournament team.

START TIMES

The start time for the first-round games shall be determined by the host institution and approved by the Women’s Ice Hockey Committee. The start times for the semifinals will be 3:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. local time, and the start times for the third-place and championship games will be 3:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. local time.

TRAVEL PARTY

Transportation expenses and per diem will be provided for an official travel party of 25 persons. Please refer to the NCAA travel policies on NCAA.org for all information regarding transportation and travel parties.

Note: Current playing rules permit only players in uniform and eight additional team personnel (maximum of 29) to occupy the bench area. The number of participants eligible for pregame warm-up remains at 22 (not more than 19 players and three goalkeepers).

Section 2•2 Results

REGIONAL RANKINGS

Published rankings will be released on NCAA.com the last three weeks of the regular season (Feb. 14, Feb. 21 and Feb. 28) and in conjunction with selections (March 6). The rankings will be recommended by the regional advisory committees and may be adjusted by the Division III Women’s Ice Hockey Committee. The primary criteria for each institution, listed alphabetically by region, will be included as part of the published rankings.

SCORE REPORTING

All institutions sponsoring Division III women’s ice hockey are required to submit game files only to collegehockeystats.net. Institutions are not required to submit their schedule or game results separately in the NCAA online score-reporting system. NCAA staff will transfer game results submitted to collegehockeystats.net to the NCAA online score-reporting system for the regional advisory committees and the national committee to evaluate during rankings and selections.
Section 2.3 Selections Information

[Reference: Bylaw 31.3 in the NCAA Division III Manual.]

SELECTION OF BERTHS

- After the determination of the automatic qualifiers (Pool A), the committee will determine the Pool B selection followed by the Pool C selections.
- Pool B will be comprised of independent institutions and institutions that are members of conferences that do not meet the requirements for automatic qualification. Pool C will be reserved for institutions from automatic-qualifying conferences that do not win their conference’s automatic qualification bid and remaining Pool B institutions not initially selected.
- Berths from Pools B and C will be selected on a national basis, using regional selection criteria. There will be no predetermined regional allocations for Pools B and C.
- There will be no maximum or minimum number of berths from one region.
- No conference will receive more than one automatic berth.

ALLOCATION OF BERTHS

The 2017 NCAA Division III Women’s Ice Hockey Championship will include eight teams. The following berths have been allocated for the 2017 championship: Pool A-5; Pool B-1; and Pool C-2. A regional summary of the institutions in each pool is included in Appendix B.

AUTOMATIC QUALIFICATION

For the 20167 championship, automatic-qualification privileges have been granted to the following five conferences:

- ECAC DIII Women’s West Hockey League
- Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference
- New England Hockey Conference
- New England Small College Athletic Conference
- Northern Collegiate Hockey Association

TRAVEL INFORMATION

Please refer to the NCAA travel policies on NCAA.org for all information regarding transportation.

REGIONAL COMPETITION

Per Bylaw 31.3.4.3, all members of a conference will be placed in the same region for evaluation purposes, unless the Championships Committee has granted an exception. For the exceptions, members of these conferences shall be placed in their natural geographic regions for evaluation purposes.

SCHEDULING REQUIREMENTS

Institutions must play at least 70 percent of their scheduled competition against in-region, Division III institutions to be considered for selection to NCAA championships. Institutions unable to meet this requirement may request a waiver for selection consideration.

The Division III Championships Committee will review all waiver requests. Information required as part of the waiver process includes proposed schedules, schedules from the past two seasons, a summary of scheduling challenges the institution is facing and proposed solutions. In addition, an institution may include any other historical information illustrating difficulty in scheduling at least 70 percent of its contests against in-region Division III institutions.

Competition is countable only when the teams played are varsity intercollegiate teams of four-year, degree-granting institutions that conduct a majority of their competition in that team sport against varsity intercollegiate teams (see Constitution 3.2.4.4) of United States four-year, degree-granting institutions. Competition against service teams, professional teams, semiprofessional teams, amateur teams, two-year colleges and club teams shall be excluded.
Section 2•4 Selection Criteria

PRIMARY CRITERIA

The primary criteria emphasize Division III competition (all contests leading up to NCAA championships); all criteria listed will be evaluated (not listed in priority order).

- Won-lost percentage against Division III opponents.
- Division III head-to-head competition.
- Results versus common Division III opponents.
- Division III strength of schedule.
  - Opponents’ Average Winning Percentage (OWP).
  - Opponents’ Opponents’ Average Winning Percentage (OOWP).

(See Appendix C for explanation of OWP and OOWP calculations. Strength of schedule will be weighted at 2/3 OWP and 1/3 OOWP).

- Results versus ranked Division III teams as established by the rankings at the time of selection.
  - Conference postseason contests are included.
  - Contests versus provisional and reclassifying members in their third and fourth years shall count in the primary criteria. Provisional and reclassifying members shall remain ineligible for rankings and selections.

SECONDARY CRITERIA

If the evaluation of the primary criteria does not result in a decision, the secondary criteria will be reviewed. All the criteria listed will be evaluated (not listed in priority order). The secondary criteria introduce results against opponents from other classifications (i.e., NAIA, NCAA Divisions I and II).

- Non-Division III won-lost percentage.
- Results versus common non-Division III opponents.
- Won-lost percentage during the last 25 percent of the season.

Additionally, input is provided by regional advisory committees for consideration by the Women’s Ice Hockey Committee. Coaches’ polls and/or any other outside polls or rankings are not used by the Women’s Ice Hockey Committee for selection purposes.

Once selected, teams will be grouped in clusters according to natural geographic proximity. A team may be moved to balance the bracket if geographic proximity is maintained (i.e., no flights are created). Teams should be paired and eligible sites should be selected according to geographic proximity (within 500 miles).

Teams may be seeded on a regional basis using the selection criteria. However, geographic proximity takes precedence over seeding.

Teams from the same conference will not be paired to play each other in the first contest of the regional tournament as long as geographic proximity is maintained.

The highest-seeded team that has submitted a bid and meets all selection criteria will be selected as the host institution, provided geographic proximity is maintained.

Section 2•5 Site Selection

PROSPECTIVE HOSTS

Any institution interested in hosting a round of the 2017 NCAA Division III Women’s Ice Hockey Championship must submit a proposed budget and a facility evaluation form and ensure that the institution’s key contacts and facility information are complete and current in the Championships Bid and Profile System.
CHAMPIONSHIPS BID AND PROFILE SYSTEM

The Championships Bid and Profile System can be accessed at championships.ncaa.org. In order to submit a bid, locate the desired championship in the “Championships Available for Bidding” section and select “Start Bid.” The deadline to submit all bid materials for hosting first-round games or the finals for this championship is Feb. 24 at 5 p.m. Eastern time.

In addition to projected ticket sales and game expenses, prospective hosts should include the following when completing a proposed budget:

- Committee/site representative lodging.
- Game officials’ lodging.
- State and city taxes/fees.
- Ticket and facility fees.

Per diem, mileage and baggage fees for committee members and site representatives will be paid by the NCAA, not the host institution. Game officials will be reimbursed via the ArbiterPay system for their game fees, per diem, mileage and baggage fees.

FACILITY PROFILE

Institutions interested in hosting a preliminary or final round of competition of the Division III Women’s Ice Hockey Championship must add (or ensure accuracy of) facility information for the applicable competition venue. This information is located at championships.ncaa.org. Any supporting information (e.g., facility diagram or pictures) may be uploaded and attached to that facility’s profile. This information will be made available to the sport committee to aid in their deliberations regarding prospective host sites.

KEY CONTACTS

Each institution should list and then maintain its key contacts associated with each sport and the institution. Contact information can be updated via the Championships Bid and Profile System at championships.ncaa.org.

SAFETY AND SECURITY PLAN

Based on a review of current and future championships competition venues, discussions with safety and security experts, and their own expertise and knowledge, the NCAA has established a Safety and Security Advisory Group (SSAG) to develop a compilation of Best Practices for NCAA championships. We urge each competition venue to take these Best Practices into account when developing its safety and security program. As part of your bid, please submit a safety and security plan for your venue, including the NCAA Championships Safety and Security Team contact information form located in Appendix A of the Best Practices document.


CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have any questions regarding the bid process, please email Barb Hallam at bhallam@ncaa.org or championshipbid@ncaa.org.

FINAL FINANCIAL REPORT

[Reference: Bylaw 31.4 in the NCAA Manual.]

A final financial report from each championship site must be submitted via the Championships Bid and Profile System under the “budget” tab not later than 60 days after the conclusion of the event.
Appendixes

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Appendix C • Strength of Schedule Calculation .............................. 21
Appendix A • Bracket

First Round
March 10 or March 11

Semifinals
March 17

Championship
March 18

Date/Time TBD

3:30 p.m.

Date/Time TBD

7 p.m.

Date/Time TBD

7 p.m.

Third Place
March 18

3:30 p.m.

* Host Institution
All times are local time.

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The NCAA opposes all forms of sports wagering.
## Appendix B • Sport Sponsorship

### EAST REGION

#### ECAC DIII Women’s West Hockey League (10)
- Buffalo State, State University of New York
- Chatham University
- State University of New York at Cortland
- Elmira College
- Neumann University
- State University of New York at Oswego
- Plattsburgh State University of New York
- State University of New York at Potsdam
- Utica College
- William Smith College

AQ-Conference Championship

#### New England Hockey Conference (10)
- Castleton University
- Manhattanville College
- University of Massachusetts Boston
- University of New England
- New England College
- Nichols College
- Norwich University
- Plymouth State University
- Salve Regina University
- University of Southern Maine

AQ-Conference Championship

#### New England Small College Athletic Conference (9)
- Amherst College
- Bowdoin College
- Colby College
- Connecticut College
- Hamilton College
- Middlebury College
- Trinity College (Connecticut)
- Wesleyan University (Connecticut)
- Williams College

AQ-Conference Championship

#### Pool B (8)

##### Colonial Hockey Conference (7)
- Becker College
- State University of New York at Canton
- Endicott College
- Johnson & Wales University (Rhode Island)
- Morrisville State College
- Salem State University
- Stevenson University

Lebanon Valley College

---

**Pool A Teams – 29**

**Pool B Teams – 8**
### WEST REGION

**Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (10)**

- Augsburg College
- Bethel University (Minnesota)
- Concordia College, Moorhead
- Gustavus Adolphus College
- Hamline University
- College of St. Benedict
- St. Catherine University
- Saint Mary’s University of Minnesota
- St. Olaf College
- University of St. Thomas (Minnesota)

**Women’s Northern Collegiate Hockey Association (7)**

- Adrian College
- Concordia University Wisconsin
- Finlandia University
- Lake Forest College
- Marian University (Wisconsin)
- St. Norbert College
- The College of St. Scholastica

### POOL ALLOCATIONS

- Pool A – 5
- Pool B – 1
- Pool C – 2

**AQ-Conference Championship**
Appendix C • Strength of Schedule Calculation

Strength of Schedule Calculation

The strength of schedule is made up of two factors: the opponents’ winning percentage (OWP) and the opponents’ opponents’ winning percentage (OOWP).

Opponents’ Winning Percentage. Take each opponent’s won-lost record against other Division III teams (excluding the results against the team in question); add all wins and all losses to get the cumulative won-lost record that is used to determine the opponents’ winning percentage.

To Calculate. Team A’s schedule is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Opponent</th>
<th>Record</th>
<th>vs. Team A Wins</th>
<th>Losses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Team B</td>
<td>21-7</td>
<td>1-0</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Team C</td>
<td>14-11</td>
<td>0-1</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Team D</td>
<td>9-14</td>
<td>0-1</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Team E</td>
<td>8-17</td>
<td>0-1</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Team F</td>
<td>19-8</td>
<td>1-0</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\[ \frac{69}{69 + 54} = 0.561 \text{ (OWP)} \]

Opponents’ Opponents’ Winning Percentage (OOWP). The strength of each opponent’s schedule is measured by taking all of their opponents’ won-lost records and finding the winning percentage based on the total opponents’ opponents’ won-lost record. This recognizes the fact that two opponents with similar won-lost records may have played far different schedules (in terms of strength of opponents).

To Calculate. Using the total opponents’ won-lost record for Teams B, C, D, E and F (Team A’s opponents), perform the same calculation as the OWP.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Opponents’ Wins</th>
<th>Opponents’ Losses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Team B</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Team C</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Team D</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Team E</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Team F</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\[ \frac{272}{272 + 267} = 0.505 \text{ (OOWP)} \]

It is important to note that the OOWP will support the OWP (i.e., if Teams A and C have the same OWP of 0.561; Team A has an OOWP of 0.505 and Team C has an OOWP of 0.456; it would indicate Team A has the stronger strength of schedule).

Strength of Schedule Calculation. To calculate the strength of schedule, add two-thirds of the OWP to one-third of the OOWP. Team A’s strength of schedule calculation is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>SOS Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OWP</td>
<td>0.561</td>
<td>0.374</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OOWP</td>
<td>0.505</td>
<td>0.168</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strength of Schedule</td>
<td>0.542</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>