

Determination of Participants

Championships Structure

The championships shall consist of team-only championships. Tournaments shall be conducted according to the formats approved by the committee. All matches shall be played outdoors, weather permitting, as determined by the head referee and games committee.

The team championships shall comprise a maximum of 64 teams per gender. The teams will play a single-elimination tournament at 16 regional sites (two to six teams at each site) and the finals site (16-team bracket) to determine the national champion. The matches shall be regulation dual matches (three eight-game, pro-set doubles played for one team point each, followed by six singles matches, each valued at one team point, played best of three sets). Regular scoring and a 12-point tiebreaker at eight games all in doubles and at six games all in singles will be used.

Preliminary-round matches may be completed after a team winner is determined if both head coaches agree and games committee approval is obtained. The games committee reserves the right to stop a match in the best interest of the administration of the tournament. If the aforementioned information is not met, the match is deemed over once one team reaches five points. Finals matches shall not be completed after a winner is determined.

The championships will use the following schedule of competition:

Wednesday, May 12—Eight matches
Thursday, May 13—Quarterfinals
Friday, May 14—Semifinals
Saturday, May 15—Finals

Selection Criteria

[Reference: *Bylaws 31.01.2, 31.01.3, 31.02.4 and 31.3 in the NCAA Manual.*]

Selection Requirements

To be considered during the at-large selection process, a team must have an overall Division II won-lost-record of .500 or better and at least four available competing student-athletes.

Bylaw 31.3.3.1 – Countable Competition.

For NCAA team-championship selection purposes, 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 institution. Competition against service teams, professional teams, semiprofessional teams, amateur teams, two-year colleges and club teams shall be excluded.

Selection Criteria

The following criteria shall be employed by a governing sports committee in selecting participants for NCAA championships competition [Bylaw 31.3.3; Criteria for Selection of Participants]:

- Won-lost record;
- Strength of schedule;
- Availability of student-athletes for NCAA championships; and
- Nullification;

In addition to Bylaw 31.3.3, the NCAA Division II Men's and Women's Tennis committee has received approval from the Division II Championships Committee to consider the following criteria in the selection of at-large teams for the NCAA Division II Men's and Women's Tennis championship (not necessarily in priority order):

Primary Criteria

- Head-to-head competition.
- Results versus common opponents.
- Overall Division II strength-of-schedule (opponents' average winning percentage and opponents' average winning percentage). See Appendix F for explanation.
- In-region Division II won-lost results.
- Overall Division II won-lost results.
- Late season performance (last three games including conference tournament, if applicable).
- Results versus teams under consideration (including automatic qualification teams and teams that are ranked at the time of selection).

Secondary Criteria

If the evaluation of the primary criteria does not result in a decision, the secondary criterion will be reviewed.

- In-region out-of-conference results.

Additionally, input is provided by regional advisory committees for consideration by the NCAA Division II Men's and Women's Tennis committee. A Division II governing sports committee must contact a regional advisory committee prior to making its final selection of teams or individuals if the committee selection differs from the regional advisory committee's. Coaches' polls and/or any other outside polls or rankings are not used as a selection criterion by the NCAA Division II Men's and Women's Tennis committee for selection purposes.

Selection Procedures

Teams from institutions that have failed to adhere to the entry/lineup and result-reporting procedures outlined in this handbook may not be considered for selection to the championships.