

3 Region Proposal

NCAA CROSS COUNTRY REGIONAL PROPOSAL

Purpose: To make the NCAA Regional Meet a qualifying process in Cross Country, thus allowing more head to head competitions at the NCAA Regional Meet. Allowing our best teams to make the NCAA Championship Meet.

Current Region System: 9 Regions make up the NCAA Cross Country Championship(s): Great Lakes, Mid-Atlantic, Midwest, Mountain, Northeast, South, South Central, Southeast, and the West.

Proposed Regional System: Keep the 9 Regions for ranking. Combine the current 9 regional system down to 3 regions for the regional championship.

Take the West, Mountain, and the South Central regions and create the West region.

Take the Great Lakes, Mid West, and Northeast and create the North Region.

Take the Mid Atlantic, Southeast and South regions and create the East Region.

Proposed Regional Field: Each of the three regions will have the top 36 Men's teams and 36 Women's teams compete at the NCAA Regional Meet. Qualifying will be based on a modified regional ranking as well as the same formula used currently to determine at large bids for the NCAA Championships.

Conference team champions will automatically earn a spot at the regional meet. Individuals can qualify but must place in the top 15 of their conference meet(s).

Qualifying for the NCAA Championship:

Current: Top 2 teams in each region Auto (18 teams total), top 4 individuals from each region not on a team move onto the NCAA Championship. Plus 13 At Large Teams and 2 At Large Individuals

Proposed: Top 8 Teams in each region Auto (24 Teams Total), top 12 Individuals per region not on a team move onto the NCAA Championship. 10 At Large Teams and no at large individuals would qualify for the Championship meet. The teams would need to place in the top 15 of each region to be considered for an At Large bid. Teams would be selected using current point system. Although wins would only be calculated off the 24 Automatic teams that qualify. The first criteria are the team with the most wins regardless of place in the regional meet would move onto the championship meet provided that team is in the top 15. If teams are tied in wins the second criteria is regional finish, and the third criteria is based off of head to head wins.

Proposed Major Changes:

NCAA Team Field would expand by 3 teams (3 men and 3 women)

Teams & Individuals would qualify to the regional meet

Each Region would be balanced by having 36 teams on the line

Proposal eliminates 6 Regional Sites

Proposal eliminates the Two At Large Individuals