

Ryan Dall Proposal

Regional Qualification System for NCAA Division II Outdoor Track & Field Championships

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

What is the purpose of the proposal?

To align men's and women's outdoor track & field with other Division II sports in qualifying for NCAA Championships.

How does the current men's and women's championships qualifying format not align with other Division II sports in qualifying for NCAA Championships?

The current format does not utilize the Division II regional structure for qualification into the Championships.

Why is it important for the Championships format to align with other NCAA Division II sports?

According to the NCAA Division II Championships Committee's Regionalization Guidelines talking points from August 2016: *"Regionalization is a Division II championships policy that requires sport committees to select a predetermined number of teams in each of the regions of the sports involved. This policy is based on an assumption that due to the regional nature of most Division II schools, sport committees should evaluate and select championships participants based on regional results, as opposed to a national evaluation in which head-to-head and common opponents' results are less prevalent."*

What is the basic structure of the Championships format in the Dall Proposal?

The proposed format would introduce a regional qualifying system for Outdoor Track & Field in which student-athletes would first qualify by region to compete in a Super Regional. Head-to-head competition in each of the Super Regional Championships would determine the qualifiers that advance the Final Round of the Championships. In addition to the 3 individual and 2 relay advancers from each Super Regional, the top 4 individuals and top 4 relays would automatically qualify in each event based on their performance during the regular season.

How would the Dall Proposal impact the student-athlete experience?

The Dall Proposal would positively impact the student-athlete experience by expanding student-athlete access to a Championships experience through the introduction of Super Regional Championships.

QUALIFYING TO THE CHAMPIONSHIPS

How many student-athletes in each event would qualify to the Championships under the Dall Proposal?

The top 8 individual athlete performances and top 4 relay team performances from each NCAA Division II Region in each event off the season-ending regional descending order list of declared competitors will qualify to a Super Regional Championship meet. Student-athletes who Auto Qualify and declare to compete in the Super Regional in an event will be counted in the top 8.

How many student-athletes in each event would automatically qualify to the Final Round of the Championships in the Dall Proposal?

The top 4 student-athletes in each individual event and the top 4 relay teams in each relay event off of the season-ending national descending order list of declared competitors prior to the Super Regional automatically qualify for the Final Round of the Championships.

Will ties be broken for the final automatic qualifying position in each event?

Yes.

How will ties be broken for the final automatic qualifying position in any event?

Ties for the final automatic qualifying position will be broken using established tie-breaking procedure. Ties will be resolved by examining, of those tied, the second-best valid qualifying meet performance submitted during the season on another day of competition, and so on until there is no basis for a mark comparison. If one of the student-athletes tied does not have a next-best valid mark, automatic qualification will be awarded to the student-athlete who does have a next-best valid mark.

For a tie not resolved after available mark comparisons, automatic qualification will be awarded to the competitor who achieved the original tying mark later in the season. If both student-athletes achieved the original tying mark on the same date of competition, the dates of each of the next-best valid marks will be compared until there is no basis for a mark comparison.

As a last resort, the tie for the last automatic qualifying position will be decided by a random draw.

Do auto-qualifiers have to declare for or compete in the Super Regional in order to compete in the Final Round of the Championships in the Dall Proposal?

No.

Would any events not be contested at the Super Regional in the Dall Proposal?

Yes.

Which events would not be contested at the Super Regional in the Dall Proposal?

The men's decathlon and the women's heptathlon would not be contested at the Super Regional.

How would student-athletes in the combined events qualify to compete in the Championships under the Dall Proposal?

The top 16 men's decathletes and top 16 women's heptathletes on the season-ending national descending order list of declared competitors would automatically qualify for the Final Round of the Championships.

SUPER REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

What are the Super Regions as proposed in the Dall Proposal?

Super Region 1: East Region and Atlantic Region (83 Division II Institutions)

Super Region 2: Southeast Region and South Region (74 Division II Institutions)

Super Region 3: Midwest Region and Central Region (82 Division II Institutions)

Super Region 4: South Central Region and West Region (69 Division II Institutions)

How many student-athletes in each event would compete at each site of the Super Regional in the Dall Proposal?

16 student-athletes in each individual event and 8 teams in each relay event.

How many rounds of competition would be conducted at the Super Regional in the Dall Proposal?

100 meters, 200 meters, 400 meters, 800 meters, 1500 meters, 100/110 hurdles, and 400 hurdles: two rounds of competition.

3000 steeplechase, 5000 meters, and 10,000 meters: one round of competition.

Field Events: one round of competition.

Relay Events: one round of competition.

How would student-athletes qualify to the Final Round of the Championships through the Super Regional in the Dall Proposal?

The top three finishers in each individual event at each site of the Super Regional who are not automatic qualifiers, and the top two relays in each relay event at each site of the Super Regional who are not automatic qualifiers would qualify to the Final Round of the Championships.

Do auto-qualifiers have to declare for or compete in the Super Regional in order to compete in the Final Round of the Championships in the Dall Proposal?

No.

Does an auto-qualifier who competes at the Super Regional have to finish in the top 3 in his/her auto-qualifying event in order to compete at the Final Round of the Championships in the Dall Proposal?

No.

Does an auto-qualifier who competes at the Super Regional and finishes in the top 3 in his/her auto-qualifying event change the qualifying positions in that event in the Dall Proposal?

Yes. For example, if an auto-qualifier wins his/her auto-qualifying event at the Super Regional, the qualifying slots would go to second, third, and fourth place in the event.

Does an auto-qualifier who competes in a different event (not the event in which he/she is auto-qualified) at the Super Regional and advances to the Final Round have to compete in both events at the Final Round of the Championships in the Dall Proposal?

Yes, with the exception of relay events. Declarations made for the Super Regional carry through to the Final Round of the Championships.

Do performances at the Super Regional affect the list of auto-qualifiers to the Final Round of the Championships in the Dall Proposal?

No. The list of auto-qualifiers in each event is set prior to the Super Regional Championships. Performances achieved at the Super Regionals do not move student-athletes onto the auto-qualifying list.

Over how many days would the Super Regional be conducted in the Dall Proposal?

Two days.

FINAL ROUND OF THE CHAMPIONSHIPS

How many total student-athletes would compete in the Final Round of the Championships in each event in the Dall Proposal?

16 student-athletes in each individual event (four automatic qualifiers, plus three qualifiers from each of four Super Regionals); 16 men's decathlon qualifiers and 16 women's heptathlon qualifiers from a season-ending national descending order list of declared competitors).

12 relay teams in each relay event (four automatic qualifiers, plus two qualifying teams from each of four Super Regionals).

Over how many days would the Final Round of the Championships be conducted in the Dall Proposal?

Three days.

CHAMPIONSHIPS CALENDAR

Does the Dall Proposal affect the current date of the last weekend of conference Outdoor Track & Field championships?

No.

What would the Championships calendar look like under the Dall Proposal?

The Super Regional would be held on the weekend of the current last day to qualify. The Final Round of the Championships would be held two weeks after the Super Regional. This is one week later than the current Championships formula.

What would be the advantages of the changes to the Championships calendar under the Dall Proposal?

The proposal would place both rounds of the Championships on weekends that do not conflict with current NCAA Division I and NCAA Division III Outdoor Track & Field Championships rounds. This would increase the availability of meet officials for the Championships, as well as enhance opportunities for publicity for the Championships.

When could the Dall Proposal go into effect if approved?

Competition sites have been determined through the 2022 Outdoor Track & Field Championships. If approved, the working assumption is that the Dall Proposal would be implemented for the 2023 season.

Who would be responsible for establishing the effective date of implementation for the Dall Proposal, if approved?

The Dall Proposal would have to be approved by the NCAA Division II Men's and Women's Track & Field Committee, the NCAA Division II Championships Committee, and the NCAA Division II Management Council, which would be responsible for determining the effective date of implementation.

CHAMPIONSHIPS SITES

Do facilities exist that would be able to host the Super Regional Championships in each of the four Super Regions in the Dall Proposal?

Yes.

How will the sites of the Super Regional Championships and the site of the Final Round of the Championships be selected in the Dall Proposal?

The sites of the Super Regional Championships and the site of the Final Round of the Championships would be selected through the standard NCAA Championships Bid and Selection process as per NCAA Championships Policy.

Who will decide the sites of the Super Regional Championships and the site of the Final Round of the Championships at the conclusion of the NCAA Championships Bid and Selection process?

The NCAA Division II Track & Field Sport Committee would make a recommendation on host sites for the Super Regional Championships and a host site for the Final Round of the Championships based on bids submitted.

CHAMPIONSHIPS FUNDING

Would the NCAA pay for hosting and conducting the Super Regional of the Men's and Women's Outdoor Track & Field Championships in the Dall Proposal?

Yes.

Where will the NCAA funding come from for the hosting of the Super Regional of the Men's and Women's Outdoor Track & Field Championships in the Dall Proposal?

The reduced field size at the Final Round of the Championships in the Dall Proposal will make funding available for hosting and conducting the Super Regional of the Men's and Women's Outdoor Track & Field Championships.

Will the NCAA pay for travel and per diem for the Super Regional of the Men's and Women's Outdoor Track & Field Championships in the Dall Proposal?

The goal of the Dall Proposal is to pursue a travel stipend for the Super Regional, as is done in other NCAA Division II sports, with the long-term goal of having travel and per diem funded for the Super Regional at some point in the future.

How would the Dall Proposal impact institutional expenditures for housing student-athletes who qualify to the Final Round of the Championships?

Student-athletes who qualify to the Super Regional would need to be housed until the Super Regional, which is one additional week past the current last date to qualify. However, this added expenditure would be offset for many institutions by ending the qualifying period one week earlier than the current scheduling formula.

In addition, while the Dall Proposal would extend the Championships postseason by placing the Final Round of the Championships one week later than the current Championships, the additional expenditure to institutions to house qualifying student-athletes would be reduced by the lower numbers of student-athletes who qualify to the Final Round of the Championships versus the current Championships format.

What other NCAA Division II sports use Regional and/or Super Regional qualifying format?

The following sports use Regional and/or Super Regional qualifying formats:

<i>Sport</i>	Men	Women
<i>Baseball</i>	Regional	---
<i>Basketball</i>	Regional	Regional
<i>Field Hockey</i>	---	Regional
<i>Football</i>	Super Regional	---
<i>Golf</i>	Regional (combined regions)	Super Regional
<i>Lacrosse</i>	Regional*	Regional*
<i>Soccer</i>	Regional/Super Regional#	Regional/Super Regional#
<i>Softball</i>	---	Regional/Super Regional
<i>Tennis</i>	Regional^	Regional^

<i>Volleyball</i>	---	Regional
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*Men's and Women's Lacrosse have two regions. The Preliminary Round (First and Second Round) of the Championships is conducted as a regional round, in which teams are selected within a region to compete against one another.

#Men's and Women's Soccer do not use the terms "Regional" or "Super Regional" to describe their tournaments, but the tournaments follow a regional/super regional model in which teams are first selected within a region to compete against one another, followed by competition between regions, followed by competition between super regions.

^Men's and Women's Tennis use the term "Preliminary Round" to describe the first round of their tournaments. The Preliminary Round is conducted as a regional round, in which teams are selected within a region to compete against one another.