

NATIONAL CHRISTIAN COLLEGE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION



Women's Soccer

Division I

Division I Women's Soccer

I. GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

The NCCAA National Women's Soccer Championship and all events related thereto are under the control and supervision of the NCCAA women's soccer coaches and are subject to standards developed by these respective coaches and subsequent approval of the NCCAA Board of Directors. The Championship Games Committee shall be selected and approved annually and shall consist of the following: the NCCAA National Women's Soccer Chair, Vice-Chair or Past-Chair; a NISOA representative, a National Office representative and up to three soccer coaches (appointed by the soccer coaches annually) with broad geographical representation. This committee shall have responsibility to administer the National Women's Soccer Championship.

II. SELECTION OF TEAMS

A. Regional Championship

1. Selection of teams for regional competition shall be made no later than one week prior to regional playoffs. In order that the Championship Games Committee may have complete information on each team in the region, it is important that each institution inform the Regional Soccer Chair of the results of each regular season game prior to the initiation of the selection process. The Regional Soccer Chair shall inform the soccer coaches in their region of the procedure to be followed.
2. There shall be eight NCCAA women's soccer regions which shall be named as follows:
 - a. Central
 - b. East
 - c. Mid-East
 - d. Mid-West
 - e. North Central
 - f. Northwest
 - g. South
 - h. West

NOTE: In Division II, the Southwest Region shall also be considered.

3. Criteria to be used in the selection of teams for regional playoffs might include the following:
 - a. Won-loss record
 - b. Strength of record
 - c. National Championship host
 - d. Longo Rating Systems
 - e. Results of games against regional opponents

B. Regional Representative to the National Championship

If a region has only one team that wishes to participate, that team may be declared the regional representative if they have a minimum of a .500 regular season winning percentage.

C. National Championship At-Large Bid

1. Selection of the team(s) for the at-large berth, if needed, in the National Championship shall be made by the Championship Games Committee.
2. Any teams with a minimum of a .500 season winning percentage may be considered for the at-large bids.
3. Selection of the team(s) shall be made the Sunday evening following the completion of regional play by a conference telephone call (see Forms & Procedures Section).
4. Coaches of eligible teams wishing to be considered for the at-large berth must call the National Women's Soccer Chair no later than 3:00 p.m. CST on the Sunday following the completion of regional play.
5. The selection of the at-large team(s) shall be made using the NAIA Longo Rating System; however, for teams within 25 points, the following information shall be used to determine the selection:
 - a. Results of games against already qualified teams.
 - b. NCCAA National Championship history.
 - c. Comparison of results against common opponents.
 - d. NCCAA top 10.
6. In difficult decisions, the number of participants in a region and geographical considerations may play a part in the selection decision of the Championship Games Committee.

III. GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR POST-SEASON PLAY

A. Guidelines for Regional Playoffs

1. All regional playoff games shall be played at a site, date and time mutually agreed upon by regional coaches. The Regional Soccer Chair shall be responsible to guide this selection process.
2. A team shall not be required to play more than one game per day in postseason play.
3. Regions must conduct a playoff to determine a regional champion, who shall then move on to the National Championship.
4. No regional championship banners shall be awarded to teams that do not travel to the National Championship.
5. Competing teams in NCCAA regional playoffs shall be seeded according to records and/or rating systems. Consideration shall be given to both higher seeded and geographical location in determining the site for playoffs.
6. Dates for the NCCAA regional playoffs' completion shall be approved by vote of the soccer coaches in that region and must not be in conflict with the NCCAA National Women's Soccer Championship dates.
7. Sites for all playoff games must conform to all minimum regulations with reference to the field and all related appurtenances as listed in the official NCAA Soccer Rulebook.
8. The institution hosting the championship must provide a satisfactory means for charging admission to the games.
9. Any team that enters and begins play in NCCAA regional playoffs is making a commitment to the NCCAA that said team shall continue through the NCCAA playoffs and, if qualified, in the National Championship. Any failure to comply with this shall result in review of the said team by the NCCAA Administration Committee of the Board of Directors.
10. Any institution failing to report weekly statistics twice during the regular season or failing to pay their statistical fee shall be ineligible for postseason participation and/or awards.
11. Assignment of officials – see XIII.

B. Guidelines for National Championship

1. It is recommended that the site and date of the National Championship be determined two years in advance.
2. Both the site and date of the National Championship shall be approved by vote of the soccer coaches.
3. Teams shall qualify for the National Championship by participating in the NCCAA regional playoffs and being crowned the winner of said championships.
4. Sites for all championship games must conform to all minimum regulations with reference to the field and all related appurtenances as listed in the official NCAA Soccer Rulebook.
5. The institution hosting the championship must provide a satisfactory means for charging admission to the games.
6. The host institution shall receive an automatic bid.
7. Any team failing to submit a team photo and roster to the National Women's Soccer Chair by November 1 shall be assessed a \$50 late fee if that team advances to the National Championship.
8. The seeding of the teams for the National Championship shall be made by using the NAIA Longo Rating System. However, for teams within 25 points, the following information shall be used to decide the seeding:
 - a. Results of games against already qualified teams.
 - b. National Championship history.
 - c. Comparison of results against common opponents.
 - d. Final Top 10 rankings.

C. Format for the National Championship

1. The National Championship shall consist of eight teams. Each team shall compete in each round.
2. The final round shall consist of a Championship game, a third place game, a fifth place game and a seventh place game.
3. The most recent NCAA Soccer Rule Book shall govern all Championship games.

IV. ADVERTISING

The host institution of a Regional or National Championship shall not accept advertising nor promote in any way the marketing of alcoholic beverages, tobacco, or illegal drugs in connection with the NCCAA soccer program, merchandise or signage.

V. COACHES' MEETINGS

- A. A meeting of the coaches of the competing teams, host coach and members of the Championship Games Committee shall be held prior to games in order to review playing rules, interpretations and any other administrative matters that may be necessary.
- B. The official Business Sessions of the NCCAA women's soccer coaches shall be held at the annual NSCAA National Convention and at the annual NCCAA National Convention. Business may be conducted at either meeting. The purpose of each meeting is to discuss pertinent matters at hand and to prepare, in advance, any recommendations that need to be acted upon at the NCCAA Annual Convention.

VI. AWARDS

The NCCAA maintains a standardized awards program for all national championships: top 4 teams, the Most Valuable Player, the Outstanding Offensive Player, the Outstanding Defensive Player, and the Coach of the Year awards are ordered and paid for by the National Office (National Women's Soccer Chair). All other awards (i.e. All-Tournament, etc.) are paid for by the championship gate income. The treasury of the winning region or the winning institution shall pay for individual and team awards at the regional level.

VII. SELECTION OF AN ALL-TOURNAMENT TEAM AND MOST VALUABLE PLAYER

- A. An All-Tournament team may be named at the regional and national levels. The team should consist of two goalkeepers, four backs, four midfielders, and four forwards. Each head coach of the competing team and members of the Championship Games Committee shall vote for the All-Tournament selections. Coaches shall not be permitted to vote for their own players.
- B. The NCCAA All-Tournament Team shall be determined by the following process:
 - 1. Each coach shall nominate either their player(s) and/or those of the opponents they have faced in the first two games of the National Championship based upon each team's win-loss record.
 - a. Teams with a 2-0 record in the National Championship are allowed five players.
 - b. Teams with a 1-1 record in the National Championship are allowed three players.
 - c. Teams with a 0-2 record in the National Championship are allowed two players.
 - 2. Nomination forms must be submitted to the NCCAA National Soccer Chair by 6:00 PM Sunday evening of the championship.
 - 3. After compilation of nominations, each coach shall receive a final ballot on which to make the final All-Tournament Team vote. Coaches are not allowed to vote for his/her players (See [Appendix C](#)). This final ballot must be submitted to the NCCAA National Soccer Chair no later than halftime of the National Championship game.
- C. The NCCAA Tournament Outstanding Defensive Player and Outstanding Offensive Player shall be determined by the votes collected for the All-Tournament Team, with the player(s) receiving the most votes in the respective categories receiving the appropriate recognition. However, the Most Valuable Player cannot receive these two additional honors.

VIII. TEAM SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD

The Team Sportsmanship Award shall be determined by vote of the Championship Games Committee and NISOA referees.

IX. NCCAA MICHELLE AKERS AWARD (see [Appendix A](#))

- A. The award was developed to recognize the outstanding Christian female soccer player in the nation. This award, sponsored by Universal Marketing, highlights excellence in competition, skill and service. The award shall be presented annually at the National Women's Soccer Championships by Mr. Gary Beck, CEO of Universal Marketing and former NCCAA Basketball All-American from Greenville College.
- B. Purpose of the Award
The award was established in order to enhance the Christian purpose of athletics, excellence in Christian athletic competition, and to perpetuate the Christian philosophy and faith in the NCCAA institutions across the nation.

C. Qualifications for the Award

1. The institution has paid the statistical fee to the National Office by August 15.
2. Be a team member of an eligible NCCAA member institution.
3. Must possess a vital Christian testimony both on and off the field.
4. Exhibit outstanding leadership qualities, including Christian service activities.
5. Be highly skilled with a minimum of NCCAA All-Regional Honors.
6. Be a junior or senior in good academic standing.

D. Selection Procedure

1. A Student-athlete must be nominated by her soccer coach and all completed forms sent to the National Women's Soccer Chair by November 1 (see [Appendix A](#)).
2. The nomination forms must be used for nominations (see [Appendix A](#)).
3. The award coordinator shall submit complete dossiers of all nominees to members of the Selection Committee by November 5.
4. Final selection of the recipient shall be made by the Selection Committee composed of nationally prominent sports personalities.
5. Presentation of the award shall be made during the National Women's Soccer Championship Kick-Off Banquet.

E. Selection Committee

Kyle Rote Jr., former professional player with the Dallas Tornados; Desmond Armstrong, former US World Cup Player; Michelle Akers, former Gold Medalist and Captain of the USA National Women's Soccer Team; Chair and Vice-Chair of the NCCAA Soccer Association; Gary Beck, CEO Universal Marketing; Terry Eichorst, Honorary Chair

F. Nature of the Awards

1. An engraved watch and figurine trophy shall be presented to the recipient.
2. A plaque shall be given to the institution that the student-athlete attends.

X. SQUAD SIZE

For Regional and National Championships, the traveling party shall be limited to 25 members including coaches, players, managers, scorekeepers and trainers. The NCCAA shall issue no more than 25 free passes to any team. Bench personnel are limited to 30 and respective institutions shall absorb expenses for personnel in addition to the official 25-member party. Refer to the most recent NCAA Soccer Rule Book concerning number of players allowed to participate in a post-season game.

XI. BALLS

The Championship Games Committee shall select the balls to be used for the NCCAA National Championship. A minimum of eight new balls shall be provided for the championship games. One of the balls shall be presented as an honorary gift to each participating team.

XII. UNIFORMS

Competing teams shall have both light and dark uniforms for use in all championships. Choice of uniform color shall be made by the Championship Games Committee.

XIII. OFFICIALS

The NCCAA Regional and National Championships' officials must be NISOA approved officials and shall not hold an official relationship with any NCCAA member institution.

XIV. COACHING HONORS

A. Regional Coach of the Year

1. Each region shall name its Regional Coach of the Year by the recommended date for conclusion of regional playoffs. The Regional Soccer Chair shall notify the National Soccer Chair of their selection immediately.

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2. Voting procedure
 - a. The ballot shall allow selection of two individuals using the following point system: five points for the first choice and three points for the second choice.
 - b. It is considered unethical for a member institution to vote for its own representative.
 - c. No Regional Coach of the Year award shall be given unless there are three regional teams competing. However, these regional nominees may be selected as National Coach of the Year.

B. National Coach of the Year

1. The National Coach of the Year shall be named at the annual NSCAA National Convention. All nominees must be members of the NSCAA.
2. Voting procedure
 - a. The ballot shall be mailed to all dues-paying member institutions on the Monday following the conclusion of the National Championship.
 - b. The ballot shall consist of the regional nominees for Coach of the Year.
 - c. The ballot shall allow selection of three individuals using the following point system: five points for the first choice, three points for second, and one point for third.
 - d. It is considered unethical for a member institution to vote for its own representative.
 - e. The ballot shall have a brief synopsis of the reasons why this coach should be chosen as the NCCAA National Coach of the Year.

XV. ALL-REGION HONORS (See [Appendix B](#))

To be eligible for All-Region honors, the recipient's coach should be a member of the NSCAA. A student-athlete whose coach is not an NSCAA member may be selected to the All-Region Team. Once All-Region Honors have been tabulated, the players on the All-Region Team must be ranked according to position.

XVI. ALL-AMERICAN HONORS (NSCAA APPROVED)

- A. Each region shall be allowed to submit a slate of candidates to the NCCAA All-American Selection Committee.
- B. A committee consisting of the NCCAA Regional Women's Soccer Chairs and the NCCAA National Women's Soccer Chair, or his/her representative, shall select the First and Honorable Mention All-American Teams following the conclusion of the NCCAA National Championship. **The All-American Team selections shall be made by position, not by regional rankings.** All regional candidates presented to the committee must be backed by a player resume.
- C. To be eligible for NCCAA/NSCAA All-American honors, the recipient's coach must be a member of the NSCAA. Should a player be selected as an All-American and his coach not be an NSCAA member, the NCCAA will honor this player following the NSCAA Annual Convention. An additional player would then be added to the NCCAA/NSCAA All-American Team.
- D. The first team shall consist of 11 total players: one goalkeeper, three defenders, three midfielders and four forwards. The second team shall consist of 11 total players and will only be recognized by the NCCAA: one goalkeeper, three defenders, three midfielders and four forwards. In addition, one player from each team participating in the National Championship may be placed on the second team, if appropriate.

XVII. SCHOLAR-ATHLETE AWARD

A completed nomination form (see Forms & Procedures Section) must be sent to the National Women's Soccer Chair by November 1.

XVIII. NCCAA NATIONAL SPORT CHAIR JOB PROFILE

See Forms & Procedures Section.

XIX. NCCAA NATIONAL VICE-CHAIR JOB PROFILE

See Forms & Procedures Section.

XX. REGIONAL WOMEN'S SOCCER CHAIR JOB PROFILE

A. Function

The Regional Soccer Chair shall be responsible for:

1. The NCCAA Regional Soccer Championship Competition.
2. Coordination of the balloting for the NCCAA All-Region team and the NCCAA Regional Coach of the Year.
3. Participation in the NCCAA All-American selection process.

B. Selection

1. The Regional Soccer Chair shall be nominated by an NCCAA Regional Chair or Regional Coach.
2. The coaches within the respective region shall vote on the nominations.
3. The NCCAA National Women's Soccer Chair shall confirm the elected Regional Soccer Chair and shall communicate the results to the respective region coaches.
4. The Regional Soccer Chair shall serve a three-year term. Re-elections are permitted. There is no limit to the number of terms one can serve, but one must be elected for each term by coaches within the respective region.
5. Nominations, voting and announcement of results must be completed by January 31.

C. Duties

1. Conduct the NCCAA Regional playoffs for women's soccer.
2. Conduct regional coaches meetings on issues of importance to the NCCAA Region, the NCCAA National playoffs, and the NCCAA Finals.
3. Submit policy changes, procedures and recommendations from the coaches' meetings to the NCCAA National Women's Soccer Chair.
4. Conduct the balloting for the NCCAA All-Region Team and the NCCAA Regional Soccer Coach of the Year.
5. By the selected date, submit the regional playoffs format to the NCCAA National Women's Soccer Chair.
6. By the selected date, submit the results of the regional balloting for the Regional Coach of the Year and the All-Region team, along with all supporting documentation.
7. Serve as a liaison between the NCCAA National Women's Soccer Chair and the soccer coaches of the respective NCCAA Region.

XXI. NCCAA RATINGS

The NCCAA conducts ratings of the Top 10 teams on a weekly basis. Ratings shall begin with a pre-season ranking. The first official ranking shall be posted on the Wednesday of the second week of September and a new ranking shall be posted each Wednesday thereafter until the last ranking is posted on the first Wednesday in November. Regional raters are responsible for submitting ratings for the top 4 teams in their NCCAA Region to the National Women's Soccer Chair by noon each Monday during the season. After receiving the compiled ratings from the National Women's Soccer Chair, the rater shall select the Top 10 teams nationally and send it to the National Women's Soccer Chair by noon each Tuesday during the season. The National Women's Soccer Chair shall then tally all votes and send the results to the NCCAA National Office to have posted on the official NCCAA website. The ratings are compiled by the balloting of National Rating Committee, with each region represented by one rater on the committee. All NCCAA National Raters must be current NCCAA soccer coaches.

XXII. NCCAA STATISTICS

Statistics and victories may only be earned from official matches against NCCAA (DI, DII), NAIA, NCAA (DI, DII, and/or DIII) teams and therefore may be used when considering teams for the National Top 10 Rankings, post-season seeding and individuals for end of the year awards.

At the beginning of each season, the National Statistician shall send statistical forms to each participating institution whose statistical fees are paid in full to the NCCAA National Office by August 15.

Appendix A NCCAA Michelle Akers Award Nomination Form

This award is sponsored by Universal Marketing. Mail this form to the NCCAA National Women's Soccer Chair by November 1 (attach three copies of a recent photo and games schedule).

Region _____ Chair _____

Player's Name _____ Class _____

Hometown _____ State _____ Zip _____

Institution _____ Coach _____

Position _____ Date of Birth ____/____/____

Height _____ Weight _____

20____ - 20____ Season Record: Won _____ Lost _____ Tied _____

20____ - 20____ Season Record: Won _____ Lost _____ Tied _____

20____ - 20____ Season Record: Won _____ Lost _____ Tied _____

Field Players

Season	Games Played	Goals Scored	Assists
20____ - 20____	_____	_____	_____
20____ - 20____	_____	_____	_____
20____ - 20____	_____	_____	_____
20____ - 20____	_____	_____	_____

Goalkeeper

Season	Games Played	Saves	Shut Outs	Goals Allowed	GAA
20____ - 20____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
20____ - 20____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
20____ - 20____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
20____ - 20____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Appendix A – NCCAA Akers Nomination Form, page 2

Leadership (comment regarding the player’s contribution to the team’s success)

Scholarship (academic information)

Degree Program _____ Major _____

GPA _____ Academic Honors _____

Christian Character (comment regarding involvement, witness, influence, etc.)

Honors Received (athletic)

Individual _____

Team _____

Additional Comments and/or Recommendations

Appendix B
NCCAA Women's Soccer
All-Regional and All-American Nomination Form

Name _____ Jersey # _____ (H) _____ (A) _____
 Nominee's Position _____ Year: ___Fr ___So ___Jr ___Sr
 Institution _____ Region _____
 Coach _____ Home Phone (____) ____ - _____
 Work Phone (____) ____ - _____ NSCAA Member # _____

Season	Games Played	Goals	Assists	Goalkeepers		Captain Yes/No	Cautions/Ejections
				Saves	GAA		
20_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	____/____

Honors _____

Comments _____

The above mentioned student-athlete has my support as a viable nominee for NCCAA post-season honors. Her behavior both on and off the field is complimentary to the NCCAA and its Christ-like standards.

 Coach's Signature

 Date

Appendix C
NCCAA Division I Women's Soccer
NATIONAL ALL-TOURNAMENT NOMINATION FORM

Select only your own players and players from the two teams you have played.

	<u>POS.</u>	<u>NO.</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>SCHOOL</u>
GK	_____	_____	_____	_____
DEF	_____	_____	_____	_____
DEF	_____	_____	_____	_____
DEF	_____	_____	_____	_____
MID	_____	_____	_____	_____
MID	_____	_____	_____	_____
MID	_____	_____	_____	_____
FOR	_____	_____	_____	_____
FOR	_____	_____	_____	_____
FOR	_____	_____	_____	_____

The following indicates how many players you may nominate from each team:

TEAMS 2-0 SELECT 5 PLAYERS

TEAMS 1-1 SELECT 3 PLAYERS

TEAMS 0-2 SELECT 2 PLAYERS

NOMINATION FORM DUE TO GAMES COMMITTEE SUNDAY NIGHT BEFORE 6:00 P.M.

