

All NCAA member institutions will abide by the NCAA by-laws outlined and adhered to as it relates to the sport of men's wrestling,* such as, but not limited to recruiting, playing and practice seasons, sport sponsorship, etc. Moreover, NCAA member institutions will follow health, safety and student-athlete welfare protocols outlined by the NCAA Medical Safeguards Committee and adhered to in the sport of wrestling, while considering gender specific related modifications/adaptions.

Number of Coaches

Maximum Number of Coaches: (same as men's wrestling) Four, including one volunteer coach. (Could have a Director of Wrestling for men's and women's program)

Weight Classes: 10, same as men's wrestling. 101 pounds, 109 pounds, 116 pounds, 123 pounds, 130 pounds, 136 pounds, 143 pounds, 155 pounds, 170 pounds, 191 pounds

* Can be modified by the NCAA Women's Wrestling Rules Committee

Amateurism

Same as Men's Wrestling

In Division II, Bylaw 16.8.1.2 would allow institutions to provide expenses for a student-athlete to participate in an established national team event and it would be permissible for SAs to do so during the season.

Bylaw 12.1.3-h would permit SAs to receive funding from the USOC, or equivalent international organization, for elite-level participation.

Recruiting

Same as Men's Wrestling

Financial Aid

Scholarship Maximum Limit –

Division I – 10 Scholarships to start; 14 scholarships once NCAA Division I Championship Status (exclusive) is attained

Division II - 10 Scholarships

Division III - not applicable

Playing and Practice Season

The NCAA Member Schools working group and the Women's Collegiate Wrestling Coalition support legislation for women's wrestling to be a winter sport.

(We came to this consensus based on a multitude of factors that positively support this position; however, we are aware there are some potential challenges with winter season, as seen with men's wrestling and will work to get evidenced-based data to ensure informed decision making and to negate or circumvent the challenges that Men's Wrestling has encountered. In the interim we fully support the sponsorship of women's wrestling as a winter sport).

Style

Freestyle with the ability to modify by NCAA Women's Wrestling Rules Committee.

Minimum Contests and Participants for Sports Sponsorship

Length of Playing Season: 144-day season (same as men's wrestling). This will include two segments, a championship segment and a non-championship segment.

Preseason Practice: Same timeline as Men's Wrestling (October 10 and Oct. 15th for Ivy)

First Date of Competition: November 1st (same timeline as the Men's Wrestling)

End of Regular Playing Season: (same as men's wrestling) "last date of final examinations for the regular academic year at the institution."

Proposed National Collegiate Championships: TBD by Championship Committee (Men's Wrestling is March 19-21)

Number of Dates of Competition: 16 maximum (same as men's wrestling) and 13 contests minimum.

Two-Day Meets and Dual Meets on Two Consecutive Days: (same as men's wrestling) Not more than two two-day meets and not more than two occasions on which dual meets are held on two consecutive days.

Competition that Exceeds Two Days: (same as men's wrestling)

Annual Exemptions: (same as men's wrestling) Conference Championships, Season-Ending Tournaments, Alumni Meet, Hawaii or Alaska, Fundraising Activity, Celebrity Sports Activity, U.S. National Team, NWCA All-Star Meet, NWCA National Duals

Additional Annual Exemption: Inclusion of foreign teams in early season tournaments, either individual or dual meet tournaments, hosted in the United States.

Once in Four-Year Exemption – Foreign Tour – (same as men's wrestling) Contests on foreign tours are exempted if held once every four years

*** Note:** We do not want to restrict NCAA colleges in Canada from being able to compete against Canadian colleges that are not NCAA Member Schools.

Minimum Participants: 7 (same as men's wrestling)
Rosters can be 30-40 athletes

*NCAA eligibility requirements to be effective August 2020. NCAA working group is currently drafting a transition and education plan with NCAA member programs.