

# 2014 NCAA TRACK AND FIELD CHAMPIONSHIPS

## QUALIFYING CRITERIA

This document outlines the criteria that all track and field meets must follow in order for marks to count towards qualifying for the NCAA national championships. Information in this document is relevant for all indoor and outdoor track and field meets and events unless otherwise noted. If a meet/event does not follow the criteria, the NCAA Men's and Women's Track and Field Committees have the authority to remove results from the performance lists. Coaches have the opportunity to challenge any meets or events that do not follow the criteria outlined below by following the Performance Challenge Guidelines, which are available on the NCAA.org divisional sport landing pages for indoor and outdoor track and field.

1. Qualifying Period. A qualifying mark for entry into national championships, including preliminary round meets for Division I outdoor must be made between the following dates:

### Indoor

**Division I** – December 1 through the second Sunday prior to the national championships. (Exceptions: A combined event competition concluding December 1 falls within the qualifying window. In addition, conference championships concluding by 5 p.m. Eastern time the second Monday prior to the national championships fall within the qualifying window.)

**Division II** – December 1, if it falls on a Friday. If not, then the Friday preceding December 1 through the second Sunday prior to the national championships.

**Division III** – December 1 through the Saturday prior to the national championships.

### Outdoor

**Division I** – March 1 through the second Sunday prior to the start of preliminary-round competition.

**Division II** – The third Thursday in February through the second Sunday prior to the national championships.

**Division III** – March 1 through the Friday prior to the national championships.

2. Rules. The qualifying marks must be made in a scheduled collegiate or open track and field meet conducted under the NCAA Rules of Competition or an open track and field competition conducted under the competition rules of the NCAA, USATF or IAAF.
3. Manual Timing. Marks will not be accepted where manual timing (MT) is used in any race less than 3,000 meters, including combined events.
4. Meet Management. Marks will **not** be acceptable if they are set in meets or events as follows:
  - a. Where men and women compete together in a running event (except the 10,000 Meters on the track);
  - b. Where contestants or spectators are asked to officiate;
  - c. Held on other than certified (i.e., surveyed and all measurements certified after initial construction and after resurfacing) and regularly used facilities;
  - d. Where official results are not preserved and available for inspection (i.e., retain photos, hand times and field-event results through six months after the championships);
  - e. Involving only combined-events competition in which fewer than six eligible student-athletes start or all participants are from the same team;
  - f. Where intermediate times are taken from a longer race (e.g., 800 Meters during 1,000 Meters);
  - g. Where wind readings are not recorded in the 100 Meters, 200 Meters, 100- and 110-Meter Hurdles, and Long Jump and Triple Jump with a gauge specific for that event and where wind readings exceed 4.0 meters per second. This is applicable to combined events submission for open events;

- h. Where contestants are given a second opportunity to compete in the same event(s) within the same meet, unless it is in accordance with the normal established advancement procedure;
- i. Where the competitor was entered with a false entry performance in a competition which had a non-speculative entry mark requirement;
- j. Where trials and finals of the dash and hurdles are not contested at the same distance;
- k. Where competitors run any turn on indoor tracks that are 400 Meters or longer;
- l. Where meets are held on outdoor tracks that are longer than 400 Meters or in lanes where the radius is greater than 50 Meters.

5. Minimum Number of Institutions and Student-Athletes. Marks will only be accepted for qualifying in meets as follows:

**Division I** – For scoring meets, at least two four-year institutions each with a minimum of 14 eligible student-athletes per gender per institution must compete. For non-scoring meets, at least five four-year institutions must compete.

**Division II – Indoor** – For scoring meets, at least two two-year or four-year institutions each with a minimum of 10 eligible student-athletes per gender per institution must compete. For non-scoring meets, at least five two-year or four-year institutions must compete. **Outdoor** – For scoring meets, at least two two-year or four-year institutions each with a minimum of 14 eligible student-athletes per gender per institution must compete. For non-scoring meets, at least five two-year or four-year institutions must compete.

**Division III** – For scoring meets, at least two two-year or four-year institutions each with a minimum of 10 eligible student-athletes per gender per institution must compete. For non-scoring meets, at least five two-year or four-year institutions must compete.

6. Minimum Number of Events. Marks will only be accepted for qualifying in meets where a minimum of ten events are open to collegiate student-athletes, per gender. Multiple groupings, sections or divisions of any event distance or discipline is a single event. (Refer to “4-e” for combined event only competition.)

Qualifying marks will be accepted from meets that do not meet the above minimum number of events if the meet is associated with a track meet that follows all of the qualifying criteria herein and the additional following criteria are satisfied:

- a. Event(s) shall be accessed by one admission ticket per day/session;
- b. Event(s) shall be held on the same or consecutive days;
- c. Event(s) shall share a name;
- d. Event(s) shall occur/be held in proximity of location unless;
  - (1) For demonstrable safety reasons, competition sites must be separated (e.g., hammer throw), or
  - (2) Insufficient or inadequate facilities are available for spectators or competition;
- e. Registration for event(s) is in common;
- f. Results for event(s) are in common;
- g. Recognition/sanction of the event(s) must be in common; and
- h. Awards must be consistent.

7. Unattached Student-Athletes. Institutions may not submit marks for qualification to the championships for student-athletes who are not “representing the institution”, as defined by NCAA at the time the mark was achieved, i.e., “unattached student-athletes”.

8. Relay Criteria. To meet the qualifying standards for relays, only student-athletes eligible for national championships (NCAA Bylaw 14) may be used. Additional criteria for relays include:
  - a. Relay split times shall not be accepted for individual events.
  - b. In relay races, the names of four student-athletes who ran a qualifying time shall be entered. In the final declaration, these four student-athletes must be designated as the team.
  - c. Qualification for the distance medley relay must be contested in the following order: 1,200, 400, 800, and 1,600 meters; or 1,320, 440, 880, and 1,760 yards
  
9. Metric Measurements. Field events marks must be measured, recorded, and entered metrically.
  
10. Indoor Meet Procedures:
  - a. Qualifying marks must be made using an indoor facility with the exception of the weight throws, which may be conducted outdoors;
  - b. The 60 Meters and 60 Meter Hurdles must be conducted in any facility which can be configured to have at least two meters before the start and at least 12 meters after the finish. Qualifying marks at a distance of 55 Meters will only be accepted from facilities unable to be configured for the 60 Meters or originally configured for the 55 Meters only;
  - c. Qualifying standards in oval events may not be met on banked tracks of more than 220 yards; and
  - d. Final Qualifying Meet Applications – Division III Only. Institutions wanting to host an indoor meet, other than a conference meet, in the final week of the qualifying window (Monday through Saturday), must petition the NCAA for sanctioning no later than December 15, 2013. Individual institutions may apply to host only one meet during this period. The gender of the meet must be specified. The application can be found on [www.ncaa.org](http://www.ncaa.org) [log into NCAA Connect, select Championships, Division III Indoor Track and Field].
  
11. Outdoor Meet Procedures:
  - a. Qualifying standards must be competed in meters, except for the 400- and 1,600- meters relays, and the 1,500 meter run;
  - b. Qualifying marks in all divisions must be made using an outdoor facility, except that the high jump and/or pole vault may be moved indoors for safety reasons by a decision of the competition's game committee. Qualifying marks attained under these circumstances will be accepted for individual and combined events; and
  - c. Final Qualifying Meet Applications – Division III only. Institutions wanting to host an outdoor meet, other than a conference meet, in the final week of the qualifying window (Monday through Friday) prior to the national championships, must petition the NCAA for sanctioning before February 1, 2013. Individual institutions may apply to host only one meet during this period. The gender of the meet must be specified. The application can be found on [www.ncaa.org](http://www.ncaa.org) [log into NCAA Connect, select Championships, Division III Outdoor Track and Field].

**Additional Notes:**

12. Finish photos, hand times, and field-event results must be preserved and may be requested by the championship committee for the verification of performance.

13. Adjustments to performances in specific events, for (a) the type of indoor facility and (b) altitude, shall be determined by the NCAA Men's and Women's Track and Field Committee. Indoor facility adjustments apply to all oval running events. Altitude adjustments shall not apply to running events used in combined event scoring.

14. Below are the permissible conversions for marks to count towards qualifying in Indoor Track and Field:

55 Meters to 60 Meters\*

55 Meter Hurdles to 60 Meter Hurdles\*

Mile Relay to 4x400 Meter Relay

Distance Medley Relay (metric) to Distance Medley Relay (yards)

\*See note above 10-b regarding when it is permissible to contest the 55 Meters and 55 Meter Hurdles

15. Below are the permissible conversions for marks to count towards qualifying in Outdoor Track and Field:

Mile to 1500 Meters

4x110 Yard Relay to 4x100 Meter Relay

Mile Relay to 4x400 Meter Relay

For any questions regarding the qualifying criteria, please contact the NCAA liaison or committee chair for your respective division.

**Division I**

NCAA Liaison, TBD

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**Division II**

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NCAA Liaison, Tyrone Lockhart ([tlockhart@ncaa.org](mailto:tlockhart@ncaa.org))

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