



2018 Intercollegiate Championship Tournament

Division II Format

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Most Important Times and Places:

All teams should be in section D of the Grand Ballroom (Entry Level) at 8:00 a.m. for the opening meeting. Preliminary matches will run from 8:30 until 12:30 p.m. Lunch (provided by the tournament, thanks to LetterOne) will take place between 12:30 and 2:00 p.m. Round 8 tiebreaker matches will start at 1:15 (**this overlaps the end of the lunch period**). Playoff matches will run from 2:00 until 6:00. At 6:00, teams should gather in International Ballroom ABC for the finals and other announcements.

Unlike in past years, **Division I and Division II will have different formats and different schedules**. Division I teams will not start lunch at the same time as those in Division II. Because of this discrepancy, **teams should not discuss the questions they've played with any team in the other division (or where they might be overheard)**.

Preliminary Games:

The 32 teams in each division will be divided into four brackets of eight teams each based on seeding by NAQT. Each of those brackets will play an eight-team round robin during rounds 1-7.

At the end of this phase, the teams in each bracket will be ordered by win-loss record (counting forfeit wins and byes, if any, as wins). The top two teams will advance to the first playoff bracket, the third and fourth teams will advance to the second playoff bracket, and so on. After Round 7, teams will be directed to a Record Confirmation meeting to verify results, communicate playoff identifiers, and provide instructions about tiebreaker matches.

Round 8 Tiebreaker:

If teams in a bracket finish with identical records but both would be assigned to the same playoff bracket (e.g., if the top two teams finish 6-1), no tiebreaker game will be played. In this case, teams will be seeded alphabetically (by the name used on the schedule).

If a tie needs to be broken to determine playoff-bracket assignment, then the following scheme will be used:

- 2 teams for 1 spot: A plays B; winner advances
- 3 teams for 1 spot: B plays C (H); winner plays A (H); winner advances
- 3 teams for 2 spots: A plays B (H); winner advances; loser plays C (H); winner advances
- 4 teams for 1 spot: A plays D (H) while B plays C (H); winners and losers play (H); double-winner advances; double-loser falls to the bracket that is two lower
- 4 teams for 2 spots: A plays D; winner advances. B plays C; winner advances.

The letters A through D indicate the tied teams in decreasing order of PPTUH (points per tossup heard). The notation "(H)" indicates a game played as a single, untimed half of 12 tossups (with bonuses). If a half-game is tied, normal overtime rules (3 tossups without bonuses, then sudden death) apply.

Other than deciding which teams advance to which playoff brackets, the results of Round 8 tiebreaker games play no role in the team standings. Teams that are not involved in a Round 8 tiebreaker may watch tiebreaker matches (from Division II).

Playoffs:

After rebracketing, there will be four new brackets of eight teams each. During Rounds 9-14 each team will play the six teams in its bracket that it didn't play in the preliminary matches. After Round 14, teams will be ordered first by bracket and then by overall (total preliminary and playoff) record. Thus, the bottom team in the first bracket will be #8 and the top team from the second bracket will be #9 (regardless of record).

Finals:

- If the #1 team in the top playoff bracket is two or more games ahead of the team (or teams) tied for #2, it will be declared the champion (without a final). If this leaves a tie for second, it will be played off using the "*n* teams for 1 spot" scheme of the Round 8 tiebreaker (with full games substituted for half games).
- If there are distinct #1 and #2 teams in the top playoff bracket with one win separating them, then they will play an advantaged final. That is, the #2 team will need to win two games in a row to claim the championship, but the #1 team would only have to win one.
- If two teams are tied for the top spot in the top bracket, they will play a single-game final.
- If three teams are tied for the top spot in the top playoff bracket, they will be ordered by PPTUH and B will play a full game against C with the winner playing a single-game final against A.
- If there is a distinct #1 team but multiple teams are tied for #2 (one win behind), then the teams tied for #2 will resolve the tie using the appropriate "*n* teams for 1 spot" scheme of Round 8. The winner will play an advantaged final against the #1 team.

Third-Place Awards:

If there is a tie for third place (and those teams are not involved in the finals), one or more matches will be played to award the third-place trophies. These matches will occur according to the "*n* teams for 1 spot" scheme of the Round 8 tiebreakers (with full games substituted for half games). A third-place game will also be played if there were multiple teams tied for second whose final order among themselves was *implicitly* determined by PPTUH comparisons (for tiebreaker seeding) rather than a tiebreaker game.

In rare circumstances, the above rules may require more than three rounds to determine the top three teams. In such cases NAQT reserves the right to alter the finals format so that no more than three rounds are required after the completion of Round 14.

Overall Rankings:

Teams in the finals will have ties broken by performance in those finals. Other ties in the overall ranking will remain unbroken.