

Changes for 2013 National Collegiate Open Wrestling Championship

September 3, 2012

After receiving feedback from college wrestling coaches, as well as fans and competitors at the 2012 National Collegiate Open, we are proud to announce improvements for the 2013 National Collegiate Open wrestling championship.

This year's championships will be split into two divisions, offering greater opportunities to collegiate wrestlers.

University Division: Open to enrolled students at NCAA Division-I schools that sponsor wrestling. Athletes must have NCAA eligibility remaining, or be on a 5th year redshirt, and not be competing in a 2013 NCAA Championship qualifier.

College Division: Open to students enrolled at schools that have a recognized wrestling organization on campus not compete at the NCAA Division-I level. Participating competitors must not be planning to compete in a 2013 National Qualifier.

The split in divisions was sparked by inquiries from Division-II and NAIA coaches expressing an interest in providing their non-starters and redshirts with the same championship opportunities that had been enjoyed by NCAA Division-I athletes over the last four years.

Now athletes at all levels of collegiate wrestling have a national championship to look forward to and train for, no matter where they sit in their program's depth chart.

Additionally, the change in participant requirements will close the event from non-scholastic competitors, making it a true collegiate championship.

National Collegiate Open (NCO), by the numbers:

113 – Number of NCAA Division-I National Championship qualification spots earned, in the last three years, by NCO participants

78 – Number of individuals that participated in the NCO and qualified for the NCAA Division-I National Championship in the last three years

58 – Number of NCAA Division-I programs represented at the National Collegiate Open

22 – Number of NCAA Division-I All-American honors earned, in the last three years, by National Collegiate Open competitors

22 – Number of athletes that failed to place at the National Collegiate Open who went on to qualify for the NCAA Division-I Wrestling Championship

21 – Number of different NCAA Division-I programs to crown an NCO Champion

16 – Number of individuals that participated in the NCO and earned All-American honors, in the last three years, at the NCAA Division-I National Championship

9 – Number of athletes at the 2012 NCO that placed at that season's Midlands Championship or Southern Scuffle

8 – Record number of National Collegiate Open All-Americans from one program, in a single year, held by Kent State

7 – Number of scholastic wrestlers that did not win an NCO title but became NCAA Division-I All-Americans

5 – The 2013 National Collegiate Open is the fifth annual event

4 – Record for the most NCO Champions, all-time, held by Penn State

3 – Record for the most NCO Champions, in a single year, shared by Minnesota and Rutgers

2 – Number of NCO Championships won by Cornell's Joe Stanzione

1 – Athlete that became an NCAA Division-I All-American, one year after failing to place at the NCO

2013 National Collegiate Open Information

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