

UniSport Australia Guideline

Allocation of entrants into pools

Introduction

The following guideline provides the framework and method for allocating entrants to pools for UniSport events.

1. Allocations for sanctioned events

For UniSport sanctioned events (events not managed by UniSport) pool allocation will be determined after teams are randomly seeded by way of a random draw.

2. Allocations for UniSport managed events

The unique aspect of UniSport events is their variable nature, with events occurring with varying entry numbers. This means it is challenging to implement a standard pool allocation method which does not need refining each time. To ensure this process is done fairly and with consistency UniSport will endeavour to achieve the following outcomes when completing this process.

- a) Teams with similar seedings (determined by results from the previous year's event) should where possible be allocated to different pools
- b) The relative strength of the pools should be as near as possible equal
- c) The relative regional spread of teams within each pool should be as balanced as possible
- d) "Number two" teams should where possible be allocated to different pools

3. Seeding

Prior to allocating teams to pools, a full seeding of the teams is undertaken.

Due to the nature of UniSport events, teams are seeded for their competition according to the results of the previous year. If a team did not compete in the previous year, that team will be seeded below all others using the UniSport seeding allocation. If a University had two teams compete in the previous year's competition, whichever team ranked higher shall take precedence for the purpose of seeding regardless of if they were listed as the "number one" or "number two" team.

3.1 UniSport seeding allocation process

- 3.1.1 Annually (usually at the UniSport National Conference) a member representative from each region will assist the National Events Manager – Sport in the seeding of universities for that calendar year. If the National Events Manager – Sport is not in attendance at UniSport National Conference, this process may take place at a National University Championship event or online during a member webinar.
- 3.1.2 The seeding allocation process will see UniSport member universities drawn using an online randomiser program. The first drawn university will be seeded first, the second drawn university will be seeded second and so on until all members have been seeded.
- 3.1.3 Seedings will be drawn for each individual sport contested in the Nationals program and implemented at competition time.
- 3.1.4 For UniSport events that take place prior to Conference, the random seeding process will be carried out at head office, and seedings implemented to the relevant competition.

3.1.5 The seeding allocation allows UniSport event staff to seed universities in that current competition year if they did not enter (and thus been ranked by results) from the year prior.

3.2 Seeding of teams for UniSport Nationals

3.2.1 The previous year's event results will determine seedings in the first instance.

3.2.2 Teams with no previous participation history will be seeded behind those teams in step 3.2.1 according to their position in the seeding allocation process.

3.2.3 The higher seed between teams who tied for a position in the previous year's rankings will be determined according to their position in the seeding allocation process.

3.2.4 All international and invitational teams will be ranked following the member university rankings based on a random order.

3.2.5 All "number two" teams will be seeded below all number one teams, regardless of any performance in the previous year's competition. If there are multiple "number two" teams in the competition, the teams shall be seeded below all number one teams with the full ranking and seeding allocation process outlined above taking place to seed those teams in question.

4. Pool allocation

4.1. The number of pools allocated in each division will be at the discretion of the organiser however where possible, in events managed by UniSport, UniSport will endeavour to use an even number of pools.

4.2. Once teams have been ranked, the international across and down allocation system should be implemented to evenly distribute the seeded entrants to pools.

Example 1: Two pools

Pool A	Pool B
1	2
4	3
5	6
8	7

Example 2: Four pools

Pool A	Pool B	Pool C	Pool D
1	2	3	4
8	7	6	5
9	10	11	12
16	15	14	13

5. Review and refinement

Once the entrants have been allocated to pools using the international across and down system it is essential to review this allocation to ensure where possible the key outcomes (section 2) have been achieved. The event organiser may need to refine this allocation if they have not been met.

E.g. pool allocations could be adjusted if one pool comprises teams from the one city or state. Throughout this process detailed notes should be kept on the justification for these refinements.

Previous amendments

May 2007 | March 2011 | April 2012 | May 2014 | October 2017 | March 2018 | March 2019 | February 2020 | April 2022 | March 2024 | November 2024

