

NSCRO Women's Pacific Coast Championships

My name is Bryn Chivers and I am the Commissioner of Women's Rugby for the National Small College Rugby Organization (NSCRO). I would like to present a proposal for the inclusion of the Pacific Coast Teams into NSCRO and the NSCRO National Championship pathway.

NSCRO is a partner with USA Rugby and dues are \$125 per year. We currently provide both 15's and 7's National Championship pathways, a Women's 7's Select Side, recognition programs, and direct support to 113 women's teams from small schools with an enrollment of under 3,500 female undergraduates.

NSCRO is not D3.

Thinking about a move to NSCRO may require a shift in the way your teams perceive the hierarchy of teams. It's the size of the school that makes a team eligible to compete in NSCRO and not the quality of their play. Large schools play D1 and D2, and NSCRO provides a parallel path for small schools.

The Basic Plan

All of the small college teams who want to participate in NSCRO continue to compete in their regular leagues. In April 2017 the top NSCRO teams from SoCal, NorCal, the Cascade conference, and one at large team will qualify for the 2017 NSCRO Pacific Coast Championship. The winner of this event will be eligible to compete in the 2017 NSCRO National Championship Playoffs in the fall of 2017.

Eligible teams.

Southern California

Claremont Colleges
Occidental College

Northern California

St. Mary's
Santa Clara University
Cal State - Monterey Bay

Cascade Conference

Lewis & Clark College
Western Oregon University
Southern Oregon University
Seattle University
Reed

Other Pacific Northwest Teams

University of Puget Sound
Oregon Inst of Tech
Pacific University
Willamette

The Details

Hybrid Leagues

Teams who are eligible to play in NSCRO decide before the start of the season if they want to play in NSCRO or play in D2. The small college teams become members of NSCRO and continue to play in their current conferences and leagues with no disruption to the league structure. All teams still compete in league play together and at the end of the season the top NSCRO team goes along the NSCRO pathway and the top D2 team goes along the D2 pathway.

2017 NSCRO Pacific Coast Championships

Four teams representing SoCal (1), NorCal (1) and Cascades (1) and At Large (1) meet at the Southern Oregon University in April 2017 and compete in the NSCRO Pacific Coast Championships.

2017 NSCRO National Championship

The Pacific Coast Champion has the option to move on to the NSCRO National Playoffs in November 2017. If they decline to participate then the option goes to the second place team. If the Champion chooses to compete in the National Playoffs then the second place team may ask to play a challenge match in September/October with the winner advancing.

There will be no pressure on the Pacific Coast Champion or runner up to compete in the National Championship playoffs. Winning the NSCRO Pacific Coast Championships should be an honor and not a burden.

NSCRO Women's 7's National Championships

The 2017 NSCRO Women's 7's National Championships will be held in Pittsburgh, PA, April 29/30, 2017. In order to accommodate the growth of teams competing in sevens we will expand the NSCRO Women's 7's National Championships from 12 teams in 2016 to 16 teams in 2017. There would be an automatic seed for a team representing California and for a team representing Oregon/Washington.

Please feel free to give me a call to discuss any of the above.

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