

USA Ultimate College Mixed 4s Guidelines (2023)

A. USA Ultimate College Mixed 4s Regional Overview

1. Regional Championships – We aim to have up to ten mixed 4s regional championships that will take place between October 21 and December 10, 2023 scattered across the country.

- a. Fields: most events will be held outdoor grass fields, but indoor or beach fields are an option as well.

2. Bid Acceptance – Unless an event reaches capacity, which is determined at the discretion of the tournament director, all college teams that apply will be given a bid.

Teams can apply to an event in any region, even if they do not reside in the region of the event. Schools may apply to send multiple teams to an event. If a mixed regional event approaches capacity, the following criteria will be taken into consideration when awarding bids:

- a. Host Teams: Teams hosting a mixed 4s event will receive an automatic bid.
- b. Equitable Number of Teams per School: E.g. By the tournament registration deadline, all school's submitted bids for first teams must be accepted before a particular school's second team is accepted. All school's submitted bids for second teams must be accepted before a particular school's third team is accepted.
- c. Developing Programs: No less than four bids will be reserved for teams who are considered to be "Developing Programs." A "Developing Program" is a school that does not have either a men's team or a women's team and/or a school that has not consistently participated in the USA Ultimate College Series.

3. Event Requirements – Once accepted, teams attending the college mixed 4s regionals will be required to:

- a. Use the online rostering system to submit their roster (create a mixed team(s) for your school in the online system if needed!) of participating players for that event to the event organizer. The deadline for roster submission is 11:59 pm MT Monday before the event.
- b. Play only with players from their online roster for that event.
- c. Include on their event roster only players who meet, or who will meet the college mixed eligibility rules set forth in section C.1.a below.
- d. Players are required to have a youth, college, adult, college intro, or fall+ (2023-2024) membership in order to participate in college mixed 4s regionals.
- e. All rosters must consist of at least 4 woman-matching and 4 man-matching players.

- f. College mixed regional tournament directors will be required to:
 - i. Provide teams in attendance with access to the rosters of all teams in attendance in order to aid with peer-policing of rosters.
 - ii. Submit or verify the results of games between rostered college teams through USA Ultimate's online score reporting system.
 - iii. Comply with all requirements for USA Ultimate-sanctioned event organizers outlined in the USA Ultimate tournament director agreement.

C. Competition Rules

1. Eligibility Rules

a. College teams participating in college mixed regionals will be expected to do so only with players who meet the rules set forth below:

i. Academic Eligibility: All players must be currently enrolled at the school in which they intend to play for.

ii. Participation Eligibility: All participation eligibility rules set forth in the [College Eligibility Rules](#) shall apply. Those who completed their participation eligibility in Spring 2023 are not eligible to participate in mixed 4s.

b. Teams that are found to have violated the letter or spirit of these rules or whose behavior undermines the competition structure (e.g., misrepresenting the composition of a team at a specific event, misrepresenting the composition of a team over the course of the season, intentionally playing with ineligible players, etc.) may be subject to ramifications as outlined in the Violations and Sanctions section below. Roster violations should be reported to matthew@hq.usultimate.org. Roster violations during a college mixed regional championship can affect eligibility for the spring college season.

2. Gender Division Eligibility

The eligibility of transgender athletes will be governed by the USA Ultimate Policy on Transgender Athletes. Contact USA Ultimate HQ for more information.

3. Name/Logo/Uniform Guidelines

USA Ultimate reserves the right to alter, or require a team to alter, a team name, player or coach nickname, team logo, jersey graphic, or uniform and/or suggest alternatives at or in conjunction with a USA Ultimate program or event should USA Ultimate personnel determine that the existing name, logo, graphic, or uniform might hinder the mission of the organization or the goals of a specific USA Ultimate program or event. This includes, but is not limited to, sexual references, profanity, drug references, and any discriminatory language or graphics. Alterations must meet with the approval of USA Ultimate personnel.

4. Uniform Requirements

a. All Regional Events – Names, logos and graphics on jerseys must comply with the Name/Logo/Uniform Guidelines outlined above.

b. College Mixed 4s Regional Finals – Teams participating in the finals of college mixed regionals are required to have players on their team wear the same color jersey while playing. Teams and players are encouraged to follow the uniform requirements for the College Championships set forth in the College Series Guidelines, but it is not a requirement.

5. Formats

a. Formats will be determined by the tournament director. Each 4s match is projected to last about 60 minutes. Teams are allowed to play a maximum of 5 matches per day.

6. Seeding

a. Seeding for college mixed regionals will be done by the tournament director using the following information: input solicited from the captains of participating teams, combined results of the men's and women's teams during last year's College Series, geographic consideration, and other applicable information (e.g., team composition, conditions). The tournament director has the authority to adjust seeding according to the best information available.

7. Forfeit Rule

- a. If one team is not ready to play at game time, 1 point may be assessed every 3 minutes.
- b. A team will be considered to have forfeited any game where the number of players that can safely participate falls below the minimum requirement set forth in A.3.e above.

8. Rules

a. The college mixed 4s regional championships will be played using the current edition of the USA Ultimate Official Rules of Ultimate combined with the [4s appendix](#).

b. Gender Ratio Rule – All games will be played with a 2:2 woman-matching to man-matching ratio.

9. Observers

a. Only USA Ultimate Certified Observers are permitted to observe. If officials are used during the USA Ultimate college mixed 4s regionals, their duties must be in line with those described in the USA Ultimate Observer Manual. Any changes to these duties must be pre-approved by the SOAR Committee.

D. Violations and Sanctions

Failure to abide by any of these guidelines may result in sanctions through the USA Ultimate conduct process. Such sanctions may be imposed on a team or individuals associated with a team deemed to be in violation of the guidelines and may include, but are not limited to, suspension or disqualification from USA Ultimate competition, including suspension from the

USA Ultimate College Series. USA Ultimate will continue to work to improve registration procedures and communication of information pertaining to the USA Ultimate college mixed 4s regionals. As these improvements are made by the organization, teams will continue to be held more fully responsible for following USA Ultimate procedures and understanding these guidelines. Because consistency in holding all participants to the same administrative and competitive standards is vital to the integrity of college mixed regionals, because many violations lead to unfair advantages in competition and because it is often difficult to determine intent, guideline violations will result in serious repercussions. Such repercussions will provide an incentive for players and teams to understand the guidelines fully, follow the guidelines carefully and avoid intended or unintended violations in the future.