



NATIONAL COLLEGIATE

Championships

nineteen • sixty-one

Championship History

The National Collegiate Gymnastics Championships originated in 1938 with individual championships contested in eight events.

Nine institutions representing the East, Midwest and Far West competed in the inaugural event, April 16, at the University of Chicago. The host institution won the first team title with a five-point margin over second-place Illinois.

Four of the five pre-war Championships were held at the University of Chicago and largely dominated by teams from the Midwest and the East.

With the resumption of the Championships following the war, there came a rebirth in the sport. The first post-war meet in 1948, held as a tryout for the final Olympic team, boasted entries from all eight of the NCAA geographical districts.

The interest shown in the 1948 meet resulted in the adoption of a plan by the NCAA Gymnastics Rules Committee to rotate the site in a different locale each year.

The Championships are conducted under the direction of the six-man NCAA Gymnastics Rules Committee composed of:

EUGENE WETSTONE, Pennsylvania State Univ., *Chairman*
 HAROLD J. FREY, University of California
 JACOB G. GEIER, University of Nebraska
 ROBERT M. SULLIVAN, Air Force Academy
 FRANK A. WOLCOTT, Springfield College
 Sixth member to be appointed

Nineteenth Annual Championships

University of Illinois, Champaign
 April 7-8, 1961

PHOTOGRAPH: Jay Werner, Pennsylvania State University, 1960 National Collegiate all-around and flying rings champion.

Championship Results

Year	Site	Champion	Pts.	Runner-Up	Pts.
1938	Chicago	Chicago	22	Illinois	18
1939	Chicago	Illinois	21	Army	17
1940	Chicago	Illinois	20	Navy	17
1941	Chicago	Illinois	68½	Minnesota	52½
1942	Navy	Illinois	39	Penn State	30
1943-47	No meets held				
1948	Chicago	Penn State	55	Temple	34½
1949	California	Temple	28	Minnesota	18
1950	Army	Illinois	26	Temple	25
1951	Michigan	Florida State	26	Illinois, U.S.C.	23½
1952	Colorado	Florida State	89½	U.S.C.	75
1953	Syracuse	Penn State	91½	Illinois	68
1954	Illinois	Penn State	137	Illinois	68
1955	U.C.L.A.	Illinois	82	Penn State	69
1956	North Carolina	Illinois	123½	Penn State	67½
1957	Navy	Penn State	88½	Illinois	80
1958	Michigan State	Mich. State, Ill.	79	Penn State	72½
1959	California	Penn State	152	Illinois	87
1960	Penn State	Penn State	112½	U.S.C.	65½

Number of Team Championships

Illinois	8	Florida State	2	Michigan State	1
Penn State	6	Chicago	1	Temple	1

NOTE: The above table includes co-championships.

Number of Individual Championships, All-Time

Illinois	35	Florida State	6	Michigan	4
Penn State	24	Kent State	6	Syracuse	4
U.S.C.	12	Minnesota	6	U.C.L.A.	4
Chicago	8	Army	5	Ohio State	2
Michigan State	3	California	4	Pittsburgh	2
Navy	8	Iowa	4	Indiana	1
Temple	7	Los Angeles State	4	Western Illinois	1

NOTE: The above table includes co-championships.

Number of Individual Championships, One Year

Six Titles	Four Titles	Three Titles	Two Titles
Penn State—1954, 1959	Illinois—1940, 1941, 1958	Chicago—1938, 1941	Illinois—1948, 1952, 1956, 1960
		Illinois—1938, 1939	Florida State—1951, 1952, 1956
		Kent State—1950	Penn State—1953, 1956, 1960
		Michigan State—1955	U.S.C.—1949, 1955, 1960
		Penn State—1948	Army—1938, 1939
		U.S.C.—1952	Navy—1940, 1942
			Temple—1942, 1949
			Kent State—1949
			Minnesota—1941
			Syracuse—1950
			U.C.L.A.—1955

Repeat Champions

Three-Time	Repeat Champions
Edsel Buchanan, Michigan Trampoline—1949, 1950, 1951	Earl Shanken, Chicago Long horse—1940, 1941, 1942
Joe Giallombardo, Illinois Tumbling—1938, 1939, 1940	Armando Vega, Penn State Parallel Bars—1956, 1957, 1959
All-around—1938, 1939, 1940	

Two-Time

Jack Beckner, U. S. C.
Parallel bars—1951, 1952
Erwin Beyer, Chicago
Side horse—1938, 1939
Norm Boardman, Temple
Horizontal bar—1940, 1942
Caton Cobb, Illinois
Side horse—1941, 1942
Jean Cronstedt, Penn State
All-around—1953, 1954
Parallel bars—1953, 1954
Thomas Darling, Pittsburgh
Flying rings—1957, 1958
Ken Foreman, U. S. C.
Rope climb—1948, 1949
Abie Grossfeld, Illinois
Horizontal bar—1957, 1958
Don Harper, Ohio State
Trampoline—1956, 1958
Frank Hailand, Illinois
Tumbling—1957, 1958

Most Individual Titles, One Year

Four Titles

Jean Cronstedt, Penn State, 1954
Parallel bars
Horizontal bar
Free exercise
All-around

Three Titles

Erwin Beyer, Chicago, 1938
Side horse
Parallel bars
Long horse
Joe Giallombardo, Illinois, 1938
Tumbling
Flying rings
All-around
Abie Grossfeld, Illinois, 1958
All-around
Horizontal bar
Free exercise

Joe Kotys, Kent State, 1950

Parallel bars
Horizontal bar
All-around

Carlton Rintz, Michigan State, 1955

Side horse
Horizontal bar
Parallel bars

Armando Vega, Penn State, 1959

All-around
Still rings
Parallel bars

Seven Titles

Joe Giallombardo, Illinois
Tumbling—1938, 1939, 1940
All-around—1938, 1939, 1940
Flying rings—1938

Six Titles

Jean Cronstedt, Penn State
Parallel bars—1953, 1954
All-around—1953, 1954
Horizontal bar—1954
Free exercise—1954

Joe Kotys, Kent State
Parallel bars—1949, 1950
All-around—1949, 1950
Leo Minotti, Syracuse
Rope climb—1950, 1951
Don Perry, U. C. L. A.
Rope climb—1953, 1954
Carlton Rintz, Michigan State
Side horse—1953, 1955
Garvin Smith, Los Angeles State
Rope climb—1957, 1958
Bob Sullivan, Illinois
Tumbling—1951, 1952
Stanley Tarshis, Michigan State
Horizontal bar—1959, 1960
Charles Thompson, California
Tumbling—1948, 1949
Armando Vega, Penn State
All-around—1957, 1959
Jay Werner, Penn State
Flying rings—1959, 1960

Two Titles

Jack Beckner, U. S. C., 1952
Parallel bars
All-around

Caton Cobb, Illinois, 1941

Side horse
Parallel bars

Jean Cronstedt, Penn State, 1953
Parallel bars
All-around

Joe Giallombardo, Illinois, 1939, 1940
Tumbling
All-around

Joe Kotys, Kent State, 1949

Parallel bars
All-around

Bill Roetzheim, Florida State, 1951

Horizontal bar
All-around

Bob Sears, Army, 1938

Horizontal bar
Rope climb

Courtney Shanken, Chicago, 1941

All-around
Rope climb

Ray Sorenson, Penn State, 1948

Parallel bars
All-around

Armando Vega, Penn State, 1957

Parallel bars
All-around

Jay Werner, Penn State, 1960

All-around
Flying rings

Most Individual Titles, Career

Joe Kotys, Kent State
Parallel bars—1949, 1950
All-around—1949, 1950
Horizontal bar—1950
Side horse—1951

Armando Vega, Penn State
Parallel bars—1956, 1957, 1959
All-around—1957, 1959
Still rings—1959

Four Titles

Erwin Beyer, Chicago
Side horse—1938, 1939
Parallel bars—1938
Long horse—1938
Abie Grossfeld, Illinois
Horizontal bar—1957, 1958
All-around—1958
Free exercise—1958

Three Titles

Jack Beckner, U. S. C.
Parallel bars—1951, 1952
All-around—1952
Edsel Buchanan, Michigan
Trampoline—1949, 1950, 1951
Caton Cobb, Illinois
Side horse—1941, 1942
Parallel bars—1941
Bob Sears, Army
Parallel bars—1939
Horizontal bar—1938
Rope climb—1938

Rope Climb Record

2.8 secs., by Don Perry, U.C.L.A., April 3, 1954, Champaign, Illinois.

Coaches of Team Champions

1938 Dan Hoffer, Chicago	1953 Gene Wettstone, Penn State
1939 Hartley Price, Illinois	1954 Gene Wettstone, Penn State
1940 Hartley Price, Illinois	1955 Charley Pond, Illinois
1941 Hartley Price, Illinois	1956 Charley Pond, Illinois
1942 Hartley Price, Illinois	1957 Gene Wettstone, Penn State
1948 Gene Wettstone, Penn State	1958 Charley Pond, Illinois
1949 Max Younger, Temple	George Szypula, Mich. State
1950 Charley Pond, Illinois	1959 Gene Wettstone, Penn State
1951 Hartley Price, Florida State	1960 Gene Wettstone, Penn. State
1952 Hartley Price, Florida State	

☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

Illinois has never placed lower than third in the National Collegiate Gymnastics Championships. The Illini have won the national title eight times, placed second six times and third four times. Penn State has a record nearly as enviable, having won five national team championships in the past eight years and placing second on the other three occasions.

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Over 14,000 fans witnessed the three sessions of the 1960 National Collegiate Gymnastics Championships held at Pennsylvania State University.

1960 Championships

(Results of 18th annual meet, Pennsylvania State University, University Park, March 19)

INDIVIDUAL RESULTS

Free Exercise

1. Ray Hadley, Illinois, 93.0
2. John Daniels, Michigan State, 92.0
3. Robert Lynn, U.S.C., 92.0
4. Gregor Weiss, Penn State, 91.5
5. Art Shurlock, U.S.C., 90.0
6. Art Shurlock, U.S.C., 90.0
7. Carl Brown, Michigan State, 89.0
8. Earl McConnell, Pittsburgh, 87.5
9. William Buck, Iowa, 87.5
10. Jeff Cardinali, Springfield, 86.5
11. Jay Werner, Penn State, 84.0
12. Art Shurlock, California, 84.0

Rebound Tumbling

1. Larry Snyder, Iowa, 95.5
2. Tom Osterland, Michigan, 93.5
3. Theodore Bogios, San Jose, 89.0
4. Robert Haywood, San Jose, 87.5
5. Charles Thompson, Mich. St., 86.5
6. Thomas Goodrich, Ohio State, 84.0
7. John Goodrich, Illinois, 80.0
8. John McCurdy, Iowa, 77.0
9. David Carmoli, Florida State, 74.0
10. Steve Johnson, Mich. St., 30.0

Rope Climb

1. Nelson Hulme, Navy, 3.4
2. Howard Goldring, U.C.L.A., 3.5
3. Richard Barasch, U.C.L.A., 3.5
4. Mario Delara, California, 3.6
5. Robert Pungas, Penn State, 3.6
6. William Pungas, Navy, 3.7
7. Vincent Neuhauer, Penn State, 3.7
8. William Fuschot, Penn State, 3.9
9. Ernest Furbur, Springfield, 3.9
10. Phil Brown, U.S.C., 3.9

Side Horse

1. James Fairchild, California, 96.0
2. William Buck, Iowa, 94.5
3. Art Shurlock, California, 94.0
4. William Lawler, Illinois, 91.5
5. Karl Byers, Nebraska, 90.5
6. Ray Hadley, Illinois, 90.5
7. Duane Hoecherl, Minnesota, 87.5
8. Jay Werner, Penn State, 83.0
9. Gregor Weiss, Penn State, 80.0
10. David Palmer, Penn State, 63.0

Still Rings

1. Sam Garcia, U.S.C., 94.0
2. Jay Werner, Penn State, 92.0
3. Pat Bird, Illinois, 91.0
4. Robert Lynn, U.S.C., 91.0
5. Art Shurlock, California, 91.0
6. Sherwood Wilner, U.C.L.A., 89.5
7. Angelo Festa, Michigan State, 88.5
8. Robert Schwarzkopf, Minnesota, 88.0
9. Edmund Foster, Southern Ill., 86.0
10. Fred Tijerina, Southern Ill., 84.5

1960 TEAM STANDINGS: 1—Penn State 112.5; 2—U.S.C. 65.5; 3—Illinois 59.0; 4—California 56.5; 5—Michigan State 37.5; 6—Iowa 29.5; 7—Southern Illinois 24.5; 8—U.C.L.A. 24.0; 9—Navy 19.5; 10—Springfield College 18.0; 11—Minnesota 14.0; 12—Michigan 12.0; 13—Pittsburgh and Army 11.0; 14—Florida State 10.5; 15—(tie) Temple and Colorado State 7.5; 16—Indiana 6.5; 17—Nebraska 5.5; 18—Nebraska 5.0; 19—Ohio 5.0; 20—Massachusetts 3.0

All-Time Individual Champions

Side Horse

- 1938 Erwin Beyer, Chicago
- 1939 Erwin Beyer, Chicago
- 1940 Harry Koehnemann, Illinois
- 1941 Caton Cobb, Illinois
- 1942 Caton Cobb, Illinois
- 1943 Steve Greene, Penn State
- 1944 Joe Benenato, Temple
- 1945 Gene Rabbitt, Syracuse
- 1946 Joe Kotys, Kent State
- 1947 Frank Bare, Illinois
- 1948 Carlton Rintz, Michigan State
- 1949 Robert Lawrence, Penn State
- 1950 Carlton Rintz, Michigan State
- 1951 James Bowman, Los Angeles State
- 1952 James Bowman, Los Angeles State
- 1953 John Davis, Illinois
- 1954 Bill Buck, Iowa
- 1955 Art Shurlock, California
- 1956 James Fairchild, California

Free Exercise

- 1941 Lou Fina, Illinois
- 1953 Bob Sullivan, Illinois
- 1954 Jean Cronstedt, Penn State
- 1955 Don Faber, U.C.L.A.
- 1956 Jamie Ashmore, Florida State
- 1957 Norman Marks, Los Angeles State
- 1958 Abie Grossfeld, Illinois
- 1959 Don Tony, Illinois
- 1960 Ray Hadley, Illinois

Horizontal Bar

- 1938 Bob Sears, Army
- 1939 Adam Walters, Temple
- 1940 Norm Boardman, Temple
- 1941 Newt Loken, Minnesota
- 1942 Norm Boardman, Temple
- 1943 Joe Calvert, Illinois
- 1944 Bob Stout, Temple
- 1945 Joe Kotys, Kent State
- 1946 Bill Roetzheim, Florida State
- 1947 Hal Lewis, Navy
- 1948 Jean Cronstedt, Penn State
- 1949 Carlton Rintz, Michigan State
- 1950 Ronnie Amster, Florida State
- 1951 Abie Grossfeld, Illinois
- 1952 Abie Grossfeld, Illinois
- 1953 Stan Tarshis, Michigan State
- 1954 Stanley Tarshis, Michigan State

Flying Rings

- 1938 Joe Giallombardo, Illinois
- 1939 Ron Hall, U.S.C.
- 1940 Bill Butler, Navy
- 1941 Del Dally, Minnesota
- 1942 Jim Parker, Navy
- 1943 George Hayes, Temple
- 1944 Jerry Todd, U.S.C.
- 1945 Bob Schneider, Navy
- 1946 Mel Stout, Michigan State
- 1947 Jack Sharp, Florida State
- 1948 Ken Bartlett, Minnesota
- 1949 Manuel Procopio, Penn State
- 1950 George Wikler, U.S.C.
- 1951 Fred Hoerner, Navy
- 1952 Thomas Darling, Pittsburgh
- 1953 Jay Werner, Penn State
- 1954 Jay Werner, Penn State

Still Rings

- 1959 Armando Vega, Penn State
- 1960 Sam Garcia, U.S.C.

Trampoline

- 1948 Gay Hughes, Illinois
- 1949 Edsel Buchanan, Michigan
- 1950 Edsel Buchanan, Michigan
- 1951 Edsel Buchanan, Michigan
- 1952 Dick Gutting, Florida State
- 1953 Bob Hazlett, Iowa
- 1954 James Norman, Iowa
- 1955 Richard Abershard, Indiana
- 1956 Donald Harper, Ohio State
- 1957 Glenn Wilson, Western Illinois
- 1958 Donald Harper, Ohio State
- 1959 Ed Cole, Michigan

All-Time Individual Champions (Cont'd.)

Rebound Tumbling

1960 Larry Snyder, Iowa

Long Horse

1938 Erwin Beyer, Chicago
1939 Marv Forman, Illinois
1940 Earl Shanken, Chicago
1941 Earl Shanken, Chicago
1942 Earl Shanken, Chicago
1948 Jim Peterson, Minnesota

Rope Climb

1938 Bob Sears, Army
1939 Ray Bellardi, Army
1940 Stan Ellison, Navy

All-Time Standings

1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943-1947 (No meets held)	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955
Chicago Illinois Minnesota Temple Army U.C.L.A. Gust Adolphus Washington	Illinois Army U.S.C. Temple Minnesota Chicago	Illinois Temple Navy Minnesota Chicago	Illinois Minnesota Chicago Temple	Illinois Penn State Minnesota Temple Chicago Navy Army		Penn State Temple Illinois Minnesota California Michigan Nebraska West Virginia	Temple Minnesota Illinois Kent State California Michigan State U.S.C. Army Michigan U.C.L.A. Colorado Occidental	Illinois Temple Kent State Michigan Michigan State Syracuse Navy U.S.C.	Florida State Illinois U.S.C. Navy Kent State Iowa State Penn State Chicago Minnesota	Florida State Illinois U.S.C. Michigan State Indiana Nebraska California Ohio State Minnesota Los Angeles State Syracuse Calif. Poly. Army Stanford	Penn State Illinois Syracuse U.C.L.A. Florida State Minnesota Michigan State Army Iowa U.S.C. Navy Ohio State California	Penn State Illinois Florida State U.C.L.A. Michigan State Iowa Indiana California Nebraska Ohio State Minnesota Los Angeles State Syracuse Calif. Poly. Army Stanford	

1956

Illinois 123 1/2
Penn State 67 1/2
Florida State 64 1/2
U.C.L.A. 42 1/2
Michigan 25 1/2
Michigan State 21 1/2
Navy 17
Los Angeles State 17
Iowa 16
Army 15
California 15
Pittsburgh 13
Ohio State 13
Nebraska 10 1/2
North Carolina 9 1/2
Indiana 9
Minnesota 8 1/2
Western Illinois 8
Chicago 2
Fresno State 2
Georgia Tech 1

1957

Penn State 88 1/2
Illinois 80 1/2
Florida State 63 1/2
Iowa 50
Army 36
Michigan 32 1/2
Los Angeles State 26 1/2
Western Illinois 26
Pittsburgh 21 1/2
Navy 19
Temple 13
Michigan State 11
California 7

☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

Illinois owns 12 of the 18 tumbling titles contested in the history of the National Collegiate Gymnastics Championships.

☆ ☆ ☆ ☆

Penn State's all-around star, Jay Werner, and sophomore Gregor Weiss combined for 80 points to lead Penn State to the 1960 National Collegiate Gymnastics Championships and outscore runner-up Southern California's 65.5 total. Penn State's winning total was 112.5.

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Jim Fairchild, California junior, dethroned two national champions to win the 1960 National Collegiate side horse championship. Iowa's Bill Buck, 1958 national champion, placed second to Fairchild; Art Schurlock, Fairchild's teammate at California and defending national champion, placed third.