

Suspension and Temporary Amendment to Rule 10(g)
February 18, 2026

As announced during the meeting with coaches on January 26, 2026, no comments regarding the suspension and temporary amendment to Rule 10(g) of the NMI Rules of Competition were received. Rule 10(g) is suspended for this year's Competition, with the following substitute language governing the procedure for determining team ranking and advancement:

(g) Procedure When Byes are Necessary.

- i. Where the number of teams and rounds will not permit all teams to compete in all rounds, a team that is not scheduled to compete against an opposing team in a round will receive a bye for that round.
 1. All teams, regardless of whether they receive a bye, will be judged and scored in all rounds in which they are scheduled to compete against an opposing team.
 2. A bye shall not count toward any of the criteria for ranking and advancement as set forth in Rule 10(e).
- ii. Where the use of byes is necessary, the determination of team ranking and advancement is modified as follows:
 1. The number of judged and scored rounds for all teams, regardless of whether they receive a bye, that will count toward the criteria for ranking and advancement as set forth in Rule 10(e) will be equal to the lowest number of rounds, among the teams receiving byes, with a scheduled opposing team.
 2. For teams competing in more rounds than will count toward ranking and advancement, the team's lowest-performing excess rounds (and results, ballots, and scores therefrom) will be excluded from counting toward ranking and advancement, with "lowest-performing" determined first by the overall result, then number of ballots, then total score accumulated, then point spread (total points earned less total points earned by the opposing team).
 3. Once excess rounds have been excluded, determination of team ranking and advancement will follow the criteria as set forth in Rule 10(e).