ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative Items.
   - None.

2. Nonlegislative Items.
   a. Change of Selection Date.
      (1) **Recommendation.** That the selection date for the 2014 National Collegiate Men’s Water Polo Championship be moved to November 23, one week earlier than the current date.
      (2) **Effective Date.** September 1, 2014.
      (3) **Rationale.** Moving the selection date one week earlier will allow for the play-in games to be contested on a Saturday, providing more lead time to book airline tickets and minimize missed class time for student-athletes. The committee noted that the earlier selection date has no effect on regular-season scheduling for the coming year.
      (4) **Estimated Budget Impact.** A travel analysis is being prepared.
      (5) **Student-Athlete Impact.** Student-athletes will miss less class time.
   b. Automatic Qualification.
      (1) **Recommendation.** That the following four conferences receive automatic qualification for the 2014 Men’s Water Polo Championship:
         Collegiate Water Polo Association, Mountain Pacific Sports Federation, Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference and the Western Water Polo Association.
      (2) **Effective Date.** September 1, 2014.
      (3) **Rationale.** All eligible conferences are being recommended.
INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **2013 Committee Meeting Report.** The NCAA Men’s Water Polo Committee approved the 2013 annual meeting report as written.

2. **NCAA Division I Championships/Sports Management Cabinet Actions.** The committee reviewed the actions taken by the NCAA Division I Championships/Sports Management Cabinet.

3. **Review of 2013 Championship.** The committee reviewed the 2013 championship and made the following recommendations:

   a. **Play-in Games.** The committee reviewed the 2013 play-in games and agreed they were a positive experience overall for the participating teams. The committee recommended that play-in game format language in the pre-championship manual be changed to, “The game time will be determined by the host team with agreement by the visiting team.”

      The biggest play-in game issues are flight availability and costs due to the late selection date. The committee asked staff to run a cost analysis of conducting the play-in games at the championship site. The committee also requested a cost analysis of conducting a six-team bracket championship that eliminates the consolation games. The committee would welcome an invitation to submit a request for bracket expansion at such time that the cabinet is considering bracket expansion.

   b. **Championship Schedule.** The 2014 schedule will maintain the game times used at the 2012 championship; however, if the second pool at the University of California, San Diego, is available, the committee will look at tightening the warm-up period in the competition pool.

   c. **Review of Evaluations.** The committee reviewed evaluations from the participating teams, officials, the tournament director and the committee. Although a second reminder was sent to the coaches, the response from the teams was disappointing. The committee asked that this issue be addressed at the administrative meeting. Overall, the championship received positive feedback.
d. **Webstreaming.** The committee was pleased with the webstreaming from the championship and noted that the viewer numbers increased by 73 percent from the previous year.

e. **Merchandise.** The committee reviewed a recap of sales and noted they were up 56 percent over the previous year.

f. **Fan Behavior.** The committee discussed the ongoing issue of fans accessing the pool deck and pool after the championship game. Members reviewed specific incidents at the 2013 championship and agreed to send a letter of inquiry to the offending institution.

g. **Officials’ Comments.** The national coordinator of officials reported that according to officials working the national championship, the addition of referee ramps would have the greatest impact on improving the quality of officiating. The committee will encourage future host committees to consider this as an option at their venue.

4. **Committee Responsibilities.** The committee was pleased with responsibilities as assigned and the committee members’ overall performance. The committee updated the list of responsibilities at the championship.

5. **Financial Summary.** The committee reviewed the championship financial summary for the past 12 years and took no formal action.

6. **National Coordinator of Officials (NCO) Report.** The national coordinator of officials reported on two primary initiatives: the development of the National Evaluator Group (NEG) and implementing a mandatory referee school for referees who officiate NCAA competition.

   a. **NEG Report Highlights.** The NEG consists of 20 members and is charged with improving the consistency and overall quality of officiating throughout the country. Sixteen evaluators attended the first weekend of training in conjunction with the SoCal Tournament in October. The following four sources of data were provided as a review of the training: (1) evaluators evaluating referees; (2) referees evaluating evaluators; (3) evaluators evaluating the weekend; and (4) process notes from the weekend. Reports from all participants were extremely positive. The second weekend of training is scheduled for February 21-23, 2014, at the University of California, Irvine.

   b. **Mandatory Referee Schools.** The NCO, with support from the national evaluators, referees with NCAA championship experience and others, will offer four regional NCAA referee schools at least once every two years. The weekend schools will
include a combination of class time (didactic; video review; experimental) and pool time (observation; practical work).

7. **Officials’ History.** The committee reviewed the officials’ history since 1996 and took no action. Members agreed that play-in and championship game officials will be noted going forward.

8. **Officials’ Selection.** The committee reviewed the selection and assignment process for officials and did not recommend any changes. In order to ensure that the best officials are nominated for the championship, conferences will be encouraged to rank all officials from their conference championship. Once the referee schools are in place, the officials’ selection criteria will be edited, requiring officials to attend referee school once every two years.


10. **Selection Criteria.** The committee reviewed the men’s water polo selection criteria and asked staff to prepare a spreadsheet including the primary and secondary criteria for the committee to use during the selection process.

11. **Rating Percentage Index (RPI).** The committee reviewed 2013 RPI reports and took no formal action.

12. **Future Championship Sites.** The committee reviewed the four sites recently selected to host the national championship. The committee chair and NCAA staff will conduct a site visit to the 2014 host site during the women’s water polo season.

13. **Sport Sponsorship.** The committee reviewed sport sponsorship and noted that 44 institutions currently offer men’s water polo as a varsity sport, which is an increase of two schools from the 2010-11 season.

14. **Manual Updates.** The committee asked staff to update the pre-championships, committee operations, participant and host manuals for committee review.
15. **Future Meetings.** The 2015 annual meeting will take place January 9-10 in Indianapolis, following the January 8 rules subcommittee meeting.

16. **Collaboration with USA Water Polo.** Representatives from USA Water Polo joined the meeting via teleconference. Discussion topics included opportunities to collaborate on the Men’s Olympic Pipeline and Trial Program, the potential hosting of exhibition games and coaches clinics in association with the men’s championship, and the growth and rentention of NCAA varsity men’s programs.

17. **Committee Chair Selection.** The committee approved Marc Hunt, head men’s water polo coach at the University of California, Irvine, to chair the committee. He will replace the current chair Matt Glovaski, senior associate athletics director at Iona College, when his term on the committee ends in September 2014.

*Committee Chair:* Matt Glovaski, Iona College, Collegiate Water Polo Association  
*Staff Liaison:* Connie Israel, Championships and Alliances

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<tr>
<th>Attendees</th>
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<tr>
<td>Kirk Everist, University of California, Berkeley</td>
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<td>Matt Glovaski, Iona College</td>
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<td>Marc Hunt, University of California, Irvine</td>
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<td>Srdjan Mihaljevic, St. Francis College Brooklyn</td>
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<td>Betsy Mitchell, California Institute of Technology</td>
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<td>Bob Corb, National Coordinator of Officials</td>
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<td>Brian Streeter, Secretary-Rules Editor</td>
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<td>Other Attendees:</td>
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<td>John Abdou, USA Water Polo*</td>
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<td>Sharon Cessna, NCAA</td>
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<td>Connie Israel, NCAA</td>
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<td>Chris Ramsey, USA Water Polo*</td>
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