ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative items.
   - None.

2. Nonlegislative items.
   - Committee chair appointment.
     (1) **Recommendation.** That the Division II Championships Committee approve J.B. Belzer, head women's soccer coach at Regis University (Colorado), as chair of the committee.
     (2) **Effective date.** September 1, 2016.
     (3) **Rationale.** Mr. Belzer is a dedicated and passionate member of the Division II women's soccer community. His knowledge of the sport and commitment to enhancing the student-athlete experience make him an ideal candidate to chair the committee. Mr. Belzer will replace current chair Magnus Nilerud of the University of Bridgeport when Mr. Nilerud's term as chair expires August 31.
     (4) **Estimated budget impact.** None.
     (5) **Student-athlete impact.** None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. Review of Division II Championships Committee actions. The women's soccer committee reviewed Championships Committee action items related to women's soccer from 2015. Among the action items were an increase in the bench limit from 28 to 32 individuals and the field dimension requirement for hosting postseason competition.

2. National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NSCAA) update. Mr. Nilerud provided an update from the NSCAA meeting. The coaches association petitioned the women's soccer committee to consider sponsoring legislation to move the practice start date and championship start date (see action items in 2016 joint men’s and women’s soccer committee report). Committee members agreed to recommend these season length changes to benefit student-athlete health and wellness.

The coaches association also asked the women’s soccer committee to discuss bracket
expansion for 2018. The NSCAA feels that sport sponsorship numbers indicate that a 56-team bracket would better represent the division. The committee showed support for this recommendation and will continue discussions as the 2018 budget cycle approaches.

3. **Review of the 2015 championship.** The committee reviewed the 2015 championship and noted the following items.

   a. **Rankings.** The committee agreed to rank only eight teams in each region during the regular season to align with current division-wide practices for team sports. The committee also asked that NCAA.com no longer display NSCAA rankings, as those are not used in selections and can confuse the membership.

   b. **Practice times.** The committee approved a recommendation to allow the host team to conduct 90-minute practice sessions in preliminary rounds, up until the day before competition. Teams competing in the first round shall continue with a 60-minute practice session. This change allows the team with the bye to have adequate practice time.

   c. **Advancement procedures.** The committee discussed protocol if a preliminary-round game cannot be started. In this extreme case, the committee will use the following procedures (in order) to declare the advancing team: shootout winner (weather permitting), head-to-head results, results against common opponents, highest seed, and coin flip.

      The committee also approved a motion to include more detailed suspended game guidelines in the prechampionship manual.

   d. **Awards.** Committee members indicated that the regional championship trophies were well-received in the preliminary rounds.

   e. **Turner Sports.** Staff noted that championship views were up 4.7 percent over the 2014 championship webcast.

   f. **Official ball program/Wilson.** David Clendenin, associate director of championships and alliances, joined the meeting to outline the request for proposal process for the ball program. Committee members praised the new Wilson ball as a great improvement over the old ball.

   g. **Preliminary-round start times.** The committee approved a motion to change the first-round start time to “not later than 2 p.m. local time,” regardless of whether lights are available. This change will provide more recovery time between the first and second rounds.

   h. **Preliminary-round site selection.** The committee reiterated the change in preliminary-round bid specifications for 2016. In 2016, preliminary-round hosts must have a field that is 115-120 yards long and 70-75 yards wide. The committee asked staff to continue communicating this change in the monthly championships newsletter and through the NSCAA.
4. **Preview of 2016 championship.** The committee discussed game and practice times as well as banquet options for the 2016 championships in Kansas City. The committee noted a desire to market to local youth club soccer teams to increase attendance at the championship.

The committee also confirmed the 2016 regional rotation for quarterfinal and semifinal matchups. The Atlantic, Midwest, South and South Central regions will host the quarterfinals. The semifinals will pair the Southeast/South vs. Central/Midwest and West/South Central vs. East/Atlantic.

5. **Review of 2018-2022 bid process.** Staff reviewed the 2018-2022 bid process timeline. Bid responses for future championships are due by August 12 and the committee will review bids in the fall. Final announcement of sites will be in December.

6. **Academic and Membership Affairs update.** Katie Willett, associate director of academic and membership affairs, provided an update of the legislation adopted at the 2016 Division II business session.

7. **Season length discussion.** The committee discussed options for lengthening the season (see action items in joint men’s and women’s soccer committees’ annual meeting report). The committee agrees that more time to play the maximum number of games is vital to the health and wellness of student-athletes.

8. **Sponsorship analysis.** The committee reviewed the sport sponsorship list and regional map and noted changes for the upcoming season.

9. **Selection criteria review.** The committee discussed the 2015 selection criteria. Members also reviewed the new selection data transparency model for the division. While the committee noted fewer inquiries related to selections and rankings, members do prefer to keep the data from selections confidential.

10. **Officials.** The committee reviewed the 2015 preliminary-round and championship officials and would like to see the recommendations for championship officials earlier in the season to confirm official availability.

11. **Foundation for the Future discussion.** Staff updated the committee on the Foundation for the Future initiative. The committee discussed a few ideas and plans to solidify those before the submission deadline.

12. **Review of national and regional advisory committees.** The committee noted vacancies for the upcoming season.

13. **Manual review.** The committee reviewed the 2015 championship manuals and noted edits for the upcoming season.
14. **2016 annual meeting dates.** The committee voted to move the annual meeting dates to January 30-February 1 due to the 2017 NCAA Convention dates being a week later than normal.

*Committee Chair:* Magnus Nilerud, University of Bridgeport, East Coast Conference  
*Staff Liaison:* Molly Simons, Championships and Alliances

| Division II Women’s Soccer Committee  
<table>
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<th>January 25-26, 2016, Meeting</th>
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| **Attendees:**  
| J.B. Belzer, Regis University (Colorado); Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference.  
| Josh Doody, Notre Dame de Namur University; Pacific West Conference.  
| Todd Diuguid, University of Charleston (West Virginia); Mountain East Conference.  
| Dana George, Delta State University; Gulf South Conference.  
| Lisa Liotta, University of Findlay; Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.  
| Magnus Nilerud, University of Bridgeport; East Coast Conference.  
| Jennifer Rushton, Armstrong State University; Peach Belt Conference.  
| Lewis Theobald, University of Central Missouri; Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association. |
| **Absentees:**  
| None. |
| **NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:**  
| John Kuzio, Championships and Alliances.  
| Molly Simons, Championships and Alliances. |
| **Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:**  
| David Clendenin, Championships and Alliances.  
| Roberta Page, Championships and Alliances.  
| Katie Willett, Academic and Membership Affairs. |