REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION II WOMEN’S SOCCER COMMITTEE
JANUARY 30-31, 2017, MEETING

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative items.
   • None.

2. Nonlegislative items.
   • Selection criteria recommendation.
     (1) Recommendation. That the selection criteria for women’s soccer be modified to remove the regional rating percentage index (RPI) and add the performance indicator (PI).

     (2) Effective date. September 1, 2018.

     (3) Rationale. The committee believes the recommendation will help differentiate teams during the evaluation process. Currently, the regional RPI mimics the in-region strength of schedule and Division II strength of schedule. Having three pieces of data so closely resemble one another makes it difficult for the committee to separate teams. Replacing in-region RPI with the PI will provide the committee with more useful data to evaluate teams.

     (4) Estimated budget impact. None.

     (5) Student-athlete impact. This change should more accurately reflect the best teams in each region which will have a positive impact on student-athletes.

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 2016.

2. National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NSCAA) update. Committee Chair J.B. Belzer provided an update from the NSCAA meeting. This year, both the men’s and women’s coaches met at the same time at the convention. The coaches received updates on the length-of-season proposals as well as the practice start date. NCAA staff also presented information regarding the legislative process in Division II.
3. **Review of the 2016 championship.** The committee reviewed the 2016 championship and noted the following items.
   a. **Rankings.** The committee discussed the rankings process and felt it went smoothly this year.
   
   b. **Game times.** The committee discussed the amount of time between games in the third round. Currently, games are scheduled two and a half hours apart. The committee agreed to move games to three hours apart so sites would have ample time if the first game goes into overtime and also to have an on-field award ceremony for the regional winners. The committee also agreed to move those game times to 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. or 4 and 7 p.m., depending on whether lights are available.

   The committee also approved a motion requiring the host institution to compete in the second game in the third round. The third-round and quarterfinal sites rotate among paired regions each year. Therefore, the committee feels the host should play in the second game for the regional final so more fans can attend which creates a better game environment.

   c. **Preliminary round site selection.** The committee noted the importance of hosts providing accurate field dimensions in the bid process due to the field dimension requirements in the postseason. Members discussed possible penalties including withholding future hosting opportunities for hosts providing inaccurate field dimensions in the bid.

   d. **Finals site review.** The committee was very pleased with the success of the championship in Kansas City. Members discussed improvements for the 2017 championship and asked staff to follow-up with the host to implement the improvements.

   e. **Championship misconduct.** The committee discussed misconduct issues and recommended appropriate action.

4. **Preview of 2017 championship.** The committee discussed game and practice times as well as banquet options for the 2017 championship 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 2017 regional rotation for quarterfinal and semifinal matchups. The East, Central, Southeast and West regions will host the quarterfinals. The semifinals will pair the Central/Midwest vs. East/Atlantic and South/Southeast vs. South Central/West.


6. **Academic and Membership Affairs update.** Angela Tressel, assistant director of academic and membership affairs, provided an update of the legislation adopted at the 2017 Division II business session.
The committee began discussing what types of activity could occur in the eight-hour periods in the nonchampionship segment. Members are interested in exploring making the two- and six-hour requirements less restrictive.

7. **Sponsorship analysis.** The committee reviewed the sport sponsorship list and regional map and noted changes for upcoming and future seasons.

8. **Selection criteria review.** The committee discussed the 2016 selection criteria and voted to replace the regional RPI with the PI starting in the 2018 season (see nonlegislative item above).

9. **Officials.** The committee reviewed the 2016 preliminary-round and championship officials and would like to see the recommendations for championship officials earlier in the season to confirm availability. The committee also asked staff to gather more information on how coaches can provide feedback on the officials from the semifinals prior to the national championship.

The committee also asked staff to reiterate to center officials that they should be available for the administrative meeting, whether in-person or via teleconference.

10. **Review 2018-21 triennial budget requests.** The committee reviewed the budgetary requests being submitted to the Championships Committee. Members agreed that if only one recommendation was approved, they would prefer the championship date formula change over bracket expansion.

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

12. **Committee chair confirmation.** The committee confirmed that J.B. Belzer, head women’s soccer coach at Regis University (Colorado), should continue to serve as chair for his second year.

13. **Manual review.** The committee reviewed the 2016 championship manuals and noted edits for the upcoming season.

14. **2017 annual meeting dates.** The committee voted to move the annual meeting dates to January 29-31 due to the 2018 NCAA Convention being a week later than normal.

*Committee Chair: J.B. Belzer, Regis University (CO), Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference*

*Staff Liaison: Molly Simons, Championships and Alliances*

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<td>January 30-31, 2017, Meeting</td>
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**Attendees:**

J.B. Belzer, Regis University (Colorado); Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference.

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| Dana George, Delta State University; Gulf South Conference. |
| Lisa Liotta, University of Findlay; Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference. |
| Jim Moore, Georgian Court University; Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference. |
| Jennifer Rushton, Armstrong State University; Peach Belt Conference. |
| Jonathan Thayil, Shepherd University; Mountain East 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:**
Angela Tressel, Academic and Membership Affairs.