ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative Items.
   - None.

2. Non-legislative Items.
   - Legislation Committee Review.
     a. Recommendation. That the Division II Championships Committee approve Mark Clements, Associate Athletics Director at Northwest Missouri State University, as chair of the Division II Baseball Committee for 2016-17.
     c. Rationale. Mr. Clements has been a valued member of the committee for the past two years. As the chair of the Central region, he has done a great job leading his regional advisory committee, and has showcased his ability to think on a national level throughout various topics and situations. The committee unanimously agreed that Mark was a good choice as chair for the upcoming year. Mark will be entering his third year of his four year appointment.
     d. Estimated budget impact. None.
     e. Student-athlete impact. None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. Review of the 2015 Annual Meeting Report. The committee reviewed the previous year’s report and approved it as written.

2. NCAA Division II Championships Committee Actions. The committee reviewed actions the Championships Committee took last year and further discussed re-seeding at the finals site. The committee agreed to continue to monitor how this progresses in other sports, and sited how it would be difficult to compare teams across regions based on the criteria having a large amount of region-specific information.

3. Review of Regionals.
   a. Host/Facility Requirements. The committee reviewed the facility questionnaire and asked staff to update host facility specifications as it pertains to field surface type. The committee also discussed hotel arrangements, and how to make sure they are suitable, as it pertains number of rooms and distance from the competition venue.
b. **Regional Brackets.** The committee reviewed each of the regional brackets from the championship. Specifically, the committee reviewed the new 7-team brackets and agreed to make several game time changes to better serve the overall schedule in the event that weather becomes an issue.

The committee also determined that an update to the home team designation protocol is needed due to the number one seed in the 7-team regional brackets receiving a bye in to the second day of competition. In the current protocol, the number one seed, and host, could potentially be designated as the visiting team in their first game of the tournament. The committee agreed that the number one seed should be designated as the home team, regardless of which team advances to play them on the second day of competition. Staff will make necessary changes in the home team determination protocol to reflect this change.

c. **Regional Evaluations.** The committee reviewed regional evaluations that were returned by participating institutions and noted areas of improvement, most notably making sure proper hotel arrangements have been made by host institutions.

d. **Misconduct.** The committee reviewed information pertaining to a misconduct that occurred at the Atlantic Regional, and agreed that a misconduct did occur. The committee completed the misconduct process and fined East Stroudsburg University two days of per diem for each student-athlete that was involved in the incident, and issued a private reprimand to the head coach and student-athletes.

4. **Championship Review.** The committee reviewed the championship as a whole, and agree that University of Mount Olive and the Town of Cary continue to do an outstanding job hosting the tournament and hope to continue to go back there for future years. The committee had larger discussion on the below topics:

a. **Championship Surveys.** The committee reviewed surveys that were returned to the national office by participating institutions and noted areas for improvement. Most notably areas that were mentioned for improvement were participant gifts and suggestions on other banquet formats. A majority of the feedback was positive remarks on how well Cary does in hosting the championship.

b. **Banquet.** The committee discussed further the suggestions in the surveys that were provided, and agreed that the panel discussion of coaches and/or student-athletes was the best format.

c. **Schedule of Event.** The committee agreed that that practice and games times that were used this year worked the best, and will continue with the same schedule in future year. Minor adjustments were made to the practice set-up on the game and practice field for the practice day prior to the start of competition. The committee also noted the bracket flip that was approved, and used for the first time, this year, and agreed that it was an improvement to the bracket integrity of the final site.
d. **Community engagement.** The committee discussed the community engagement that took place this year, and agreed that it continues to be a valuable part of the experience at the championships. It was noted that, due to weather, at least one team’s service project had to be cancelled. Otherwise the organization and activities were well received.

5. **American Baseball Coaches Association (ABCA) Convention Recap.** The committee reviewed the report provided at the coaches convention and took no action. They also noted that having NCAA staff at convention meetings is highly recommended and appreciated by the coaches that do attend.

6. **Umpire Discussion.** The committee reviewed the selection process and timeline for the championship and agreed that, while improvements were made to the selection and evaluation process from the previous year, a better job can still be done to communicate effectively with conference coordinators and umpires. NCAA staff will continue to work with the umpire coordinator, and NCAA rules staff, to make sure strides are taken to make this better and that the program is consistent across all divisions.

7. **Championship Selections Process.**

   a. **Selection Criteria.** The committee reviewed the new selection criteria that was implemented this year, and agreed that it was a good improvement from the past. The committee did note that, in many cases, the regional winning percentage and overall Division II winning percentage were the same, and discussed making sure that they continued to be consistent in how they were evaluating teams against one another when this occurs. The committee also discussed how more emphasis can be place on conference finish and/or championships in selection criteria. They will continue this discussion as opportunity for selection criteria changes become available in the future.

   b. **Online Score Reporting.** The committee discussed the importance of having the scores submitted into the score reporting system as soon as possible each week, and appreciated the statistics staff efforts in making sure updated information is loaded in a timely manner.

   c. **Balloting Process.** The committee reviewed the communication and process for balloting throughout the season and took no action.

   d. **Conference Championship Finishes.** The committee reviewed when conference tournaments are taking place and discussed the possibility of asking conferences to have their tournaments end no later than the Saturday prior to selections, weather permitting, to allow for an earlier selection show and ability for teams to have more time to arrange travel to regionals. This would also allow for regionals to start on Wednesday, as opposed to Thursday as they do now, so they can be completed on Sunday, instead of Monday, giving more time to plan travel for teams who advance to the championship in Cary. The committee asked staff to follow up on how to proceed.
8. **2017 Preview.**

a. **Regionals.** The committee again noted the importance of finding qualified regional hosts, and asked staff to make sure bid materials are available as early in the season as possible to provide institutions time to prepare.

b. **Cary.** The committee confirmed the great job that University of Mount Olive and the Town of Cary are doing. They are excited to return in future years, and finding ways to continue to improve on the student-athlete experience.

9. **Rules.** Ben Brownlee joined the committee to discuss possible rule changes for the upcoming rule change cycle. The committee discussed their feedback on multiple proposals and will await an update from staff on the outcome of the baseball rules committee’s recommendations on changes.

10. **Sport Sponsorship.** The committee reviewed anticipated changes pertaining to 2016-17 regionalization and will discuss further when more information is available.

11. **Regional Advisory Committees.** The committee reviewed and noted that staff will solicit nominations for upcoming vacancies.

12. **National Committee.** The committee reviewed and noted one upcoming vacancy. Staff will keep the committee up to date when these appointments have been finalized.

13. **Confirmation of Committee Chair.** The committee unanimously selected Mark Clements, Associate Athletics Director at Northwest Missouri State University, as the chair of the committee for the upcoming year.

14. **Manual Reviews.** The committee reviewed and asked staff to make necessary updates to the pre-championship, host operations, committee operations and site representative manuals.

15. **Committee 2015-16 Timeline.** The committee reviewed and asked staff to make the recommended updates for final committee approval.

16. **2016 Annual Meeting Dates.** The annual meeting will take place May 24-25 in Cary, prior to the championship. A follow-up call will be scheduled after the championship to finalize discussions on agenda items.
Committee Chair:  Doug Jones, Tusculum College, South Atlantic Conference  
Staff Liaison:  Eric Breece, Championships and Alliances

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<tr>
<th>NCAA Division II Baseball Committee</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Attendees:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mark Clements, Northwest Missouri State University; MIAA.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rick Giannetti, Dominican College (New York); Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference</td>
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<td>Harry Hillson, Mansfield University of Pennsylvania; Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference</td>
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<td>Doug Jones, Tusculum College; South Atlantic Conference</td>
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<td>Kenny Leonesio, California State University, Stanislaus; Pacific West Conference</td>
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<td>Tommy Sadler, Union University; Gulf South Conference</td>
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| **Absentees:**                      |
| Kevin Brooks, Angelo State University; Lone Star Conference. |

| **Guests in Attendance:**          |
| None.                             |

| **NCAA Staff Liaison in Attendance:** |
| Eric Breece, Championships and Alliances. |

| **Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:** |
| None. |