ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative Items.
   - None.

2. Nonlegislative Items.
   - Automatic Qualification.
     (1) Recommendation. That the following 24 conferences receive automatic qualification for the 2015 NCAA Division I Men’s Soccer Championship: America East Conference; American Athletic Conference, Atlantic 10 Conference; Atlantic Coast Conference; Atlantic Sun Conference; Big East Conference; Big South Conference; Big Ten Conference; Big West Conference; Colonial Athletic Association; Conference USA; Horizon League; The Ivy League; Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference; Mid-American Conference; Missouri Valley Conference; Northeast Conference; Pac-12 Conference; Patriot League; Southern Conference; The Summit League; Sun Belt Conference, West Coast Conference and Western Athletic Conference.
     (2) Effective Date. Immediate.
     (3) Rationale. All eligible conferences are being recommended.
     (4) Estimated Budget Impact. None.
     (5) Student-Athlete Impact. None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. Review Agenda and Meeting Schedule. The committee reviewed the agenda and meeting schedule and made no adjustments.

2. 2015 Committee Meeting Report. The committee approved the 2015 meeting report as submitted.
3. **Review of 2014 Championship.**

   a. **Preliminary-Round Feedback and Financial Information.** The committee reviewed evaluations from various constituents and noted items to be discussed further during the meeting. Overall, the evaluations reflected positive feedback.

   Committee members noted that attendance and revenues were down this year, potentially due to cold and/or rainy weather at a number of the preliminary-round sites. In reviewing the financials, the committee would like to have staff continue to monitor host budgets (revenues and expenditures) to minimize the inflation of numbers during the bid cycle. The committee also requested that a minimum guarantee be placed on preliminary round bids and that web streaming all games at sites becomes a requirement to host. During the joint meeting with the women’s committee they expressed these same concerns and feel this could be consistent between the two.

   (1) **Coaches’ and Site Representatives’ Evaluations.** In review of the surveys from coaches and site representatives, the committee noted the need to emphasize with potential hosts the minimum facility requirements and to note any specific issues.

   (2) **Administrative and Officials’ Meetings.** The committee discussed the administrative meetings and agreed that it is important to have at least one official present at the administrative meeting and that the administrative meeting take place a mandatory two (2) hours before match time.

   (3) **Quarterfinal and Third-Round Dates.** The committee reviewed the quarterfinal and third-round dates and determined they are adequate for now but will continue to monitor them. The committee was very pleased with the new option that was allowed this year for hosts to select Saturday for their third round hosting dates.

   b. **Misconducts.** The committee noted that no misconducts were issued during this championship.

   c. **2015 Men’s College Cup – Kansas City, Kansas.** The committee was not pleased with the overall atmosphere of the championship mainly due to the lack of attendance. The Committee felt that the amenities were some of the best but attendance lacked so much that it overshadowed the experience. As for the championship banquet, the committee noted that the adjustments in adding a student-athlete panel was a great addition to the banquet.

4. **Officiating.**

   a. **2015 Recap.** The NCAA national coordinator of soccer officials joined the group in person and reviewed postseason officiating. The committee was pleased with the overall improvement in officiating but acknowledged that continued education and
training/mentoring are necessary. The officiating subcommittee will review recommendations for 2016.

b. **Evaluations.** The committee reviewed evaluations from coaches and site representatives and noted consistent areas for improved education/communication.

c. **Selection Criteria and Process.** The committee reviewed the current selection criteria and process for officials and decided to keep them the same for next year. The committee wants to continue considering ways to assign officials who are not based in the host regions in order to avoid the perception of a “home region” official.

d. **Electronic Communication Devices.** The committee agreed that providing electronic devices enhanced the officials’ communication and efficiency. Unless each site purchases the devices, the committee agreed to continue having the devices shipped to each first-round site and having the advancing team at each round take the devices to the next site, as necessary.

e. **Vanishing Spray.** The committee believes vanishing spray should continue to be used. This type of spray is used to mark placement of the ball and/or position of players on the field during play that will disappear within a matter of time.

5. **Selection Process and Evaluation of Teams.**

   a. **Selection Weekend.** The committee agreed to continue arriving for the selection meeting on Saturday night and beginning the meeting at 8 a.m. on Sunday. Members also agreed to maintain the selection show at 1 p.m. Monday to allow teams playing Thursday more time to prepare.

   b. **Regional Alignment.** The committee reviewed the current regional alignments used this past year and felt they worked well.

   c. **Automatic-Qualification Conferences.** The committee reviewed the submitted automatic qualification application forms and noted it will remain the same as the past year, with the total number of automatic qualifiers for the 2016 championship at 24.

   d. **Selection Criteria and Rating Percentage Index (RPI).** The committee reviewed the RPI and agreed not to make changes for the upcoming season. The committee also reviewed and approved the selections policies and procedures document for the upcoming season.

6. **Site Review/Format/Long Range Planning.**

   a. **2016 Championship and BBVA Compass Stadium.** With the lack of attendance at this past year’s championship the committee is determined to figure out ways to improve on future attendance and is hopeful Houston is able to achieve better numbers though earlier marketing and grassroot efforts.
b. **Future Sites.** The committee discussed the remaining site that has been selected (Philadelphia in 2017) and directed staff to continue to work on options to improve attendance. The committee will revisit any potential options once information has been gathered.

c. **National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NSCAA).** The committee met with Rob Kehoe, NSCAA, and Division I Representative regarding various coaches’ association items relative to the committee. The conversation focused on format changes and championship locations.

d. **Championship Format.** The committee discussed the current championship and College Cup format. The committee noted the ongoing discussion among other stakeholders about a possible 10-month men’s college soccer season and agreed to continue monitoring those conversations. The committee agreed it is critical to address the current state of the College Cup in order to provide the best possible student-athlete experience. Specifically, the committee is concerned that the time between the semifinals and final is insufficient for student-athlete recovery purposes. The committee reviewed various formats for future championships and requested that the staff determine the impact the changes may have on the television coverage, attendance, hosting institutions and finances. The committee will revisit the formats once the information has been gathered but expressed deep concern that something needs done with the format to help with the overall experience and attendance at the championship site.

7. **Pre-Championship, Host Operations and Site Representative Manuals.** The committee will provide staff with any updates necessary for the manuals.

8. **Committee.**

   a. **National and Regional Advisory Committee Composition/Vacancies.** The committee reviewed upcoming committee vacancies. Conferences whose RAC member’s terms have expired will be contacted by the national office for replacements.

   b. **Officiating Subcommittee.** The committee agreed to maintain the officiating subcommittee but adjust it by having all coaches on the committee be part of the group. Bill Wnek (chair), Damon Rensing, Tom McIntosh, Richie Grant and Kevin Kennedy will serve for the coming year and will coordinate continuing education, evaluation and selection efforts.

   c. **Committee Chair.** The committee nominated Mr. Bill Wnek, associate director of athletics at Loyola University Maryland, to serving as committee chair.

   d. **2016-17 Committee Calendar.** Selections for 2016 will be November 12-14 in Indianapolis. The 2017 annual meeting will be January 30-February 1 in Indianapolis.
with an effort to have at least a portion of the meeting held jointly with the women’s soccer committee as the joint meeting this year was beneficial to the committee. NCAA staff will coordinate this.

Committee Chair:  Drew Galbraith, Dartmouth College; Ivy League
Staff Liaison:  Ryan Tressel, Championships and Alliances

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<tr>
<th>February 8-10, 2015, Meeting</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Attendees</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Damon Rensing, Michigan State University</td>
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<tr>
<td>Andrew Galbraith, Dartmouth College</td>
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<td>Eric Nichols, University of South Carolina</td>
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<td>Scott McDonald, Winthrop University</td>
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<td>Jeff Bacon, Mid-American Conference</td>
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<td>Kevin Kennedy, Georgia Southern University</td>
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<td>Richie Grant, California State University, Bakersfield</td>
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<td>Tom McIntosh, University of Tulsa</td>
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<td>Earl Koberlein, Stanford University</td>
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<td>William Wnek, Loyola University Maryland</td>
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<td>Other Attendees:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Matt Holmes, NCAA</td>
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<td>Natalie Steger, NCAA</td>
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<td>Oliver Luck, NCAA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ryan Cigich, National Coordinator for NCAA Soccer Officiating</td>
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<td>Rob Kehoe, National Soccer Coaches Association of America</td>
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