ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative items.
   - None.

2. Nonlegislative Items. The NCAA Baseball Rules Committee approved the following rules change proposals for the 2017 and 2018 seasons. The committee requests approval from the NCAA Playing Rules Oversight Panel (PROP) for the following items:
   
a. Restrictions on Use of Attachments – The Bat (Rule 1-12.c).
      
      (1) **Recommendation.** Add new 1-12.c to read “There shall be no external attachment(s) to any part of the bat.”
      
      (2) **Effective Date.** Immediately.
      
      (3) **Rationale.** The rules committee is concerned about student-athlete safety and fair play that could develop by permitting attachments to the baseball bat. This proposal would prohibit attachments, created as part of the manufacturer’s product line or fabricated by a third party, from being added to any part of the baseball bat.
      
      (4) **Estimated Budget Impact.** None.
      
      (5) **Student-Athlete Impact.** Minimal impact on the student-athlete.

   b. Restrictions on Use of Attached or Embedded Technology – The Bat (Rule 1-12.d).
      
      (1) **Recommendation.** Add new 1-12.d to read “There shall be no data collection or transmission device externally attached or embedded within any part of the baseball bat.”
      
      (2) **Effective Date.** Immediately.
      
      (3) **Rationale.** The rules committee is concerned about competitive equity and fair play that could develop by permitting these types of data collection devices.
      
      (4) **Estimated Budget Impact.** None.
(5) **Student-Athlete Impact.** Minimal impact on the student-athlete.

c. **Additional Penalty for Illegal Equipment – The Bat (Rule 1-12.PENALTY)**

(1) **Recommendation.** Add language to penalty for a. and b. – “PENALTY for a. and b. – A bat that has been flattened or altered to improve performance is an illegal bat. If such an illegal bat is detected before the first pitch, the batter shall be called out and the bat shall be removed from the game. If an illegal bat is detected after the first pitch, legal or illegal, the batter shall be declared out and baserunners shall not advance as a result of a batted ball. The bat shall be removed from the contest.

(2) **Effective Date.** Immediately.

(3) **Rationale.** Currently, if a batter comes to the plate and is found to have an illegal bat prior to the first pitch, the bat is removed from the game and the batter is required to use a bat that conforms to the rules. Adding this pre-pitch penalty is intended to prevent attempts to bring illegal to the plate.

(4) **Estimated Budget Impact.** None.

(5) **Student-Athlete Impact.** Minimal student-athlete impact.

d. **Permissible Gloves (Rule 1-13.c).**

(1) **Recommendation.** Change Rule 1-13.c to permit a larger fielding glove. Rule 1-13.c will read “Every player except the catcher and first baseman is restricted to the use of a fielder’s glove not more than 42 13 inches long nor more than 8 inches wide.”

(2) **Effective Date.** Immediately.

(3) **Rationale.** The permissible size of fielding gloves at the professional level has been increased to 13 inches. For consistency in purchasing, permitting this size would allow student-athletes to purchase a fielder’s glove without concern that it is larger than permitted.

(4) **Estimated Budget Impact.** None.

(5) **Student-Athlete Impact.** Enhances the student-athlete experience.
e. Use of Facility for Warm-up – Bullpen (Rule 2-13. A.R. 2).

(1) Recommendation. Add A.R. 2): “During a game, facilities used for potential substitute pitchers or other players to warm up should be comparable for both home and visiting teams. Pitchers should be warmed up in the designated bullpen area, not in another facility or location out of sight and sound of the playing field.”

(2) Effective Date. Immediately.

(3) Rationale. Especially during games played in inclement weather, there is a concern that home teams may have an unfair advantage if they have facilities available to warm up pitchers that are not available to the visiting team. In the interest fair play, bullpens shall be used by both teams as defined in the rule.

(4) Estimated Budget Impact. None.

(5) Student-Athlete Impact. Because of competitive equity this will enhance the student-athlete experience.


(1) Recommendation. Add A.R. 5 – “When a fielder attempts to catch a wild throw during an attempted steal, if the ball is misplayed and the runner and fielder tangle, the fielder is restricted from any further hindrance after the initial contact.”

(2) Effective Date. Immediately.

(3) Rationale. Establishing this administrative ruling will clarify that the act of initially tangling between runner and field is not obstruction, but any further hindrance of the defensive player would be obstruction.

(4) Estimated Budget Impact. None.

(5) Student-Athlete Impact. Minimal student-athlete impact.

g. Obstruction by the Catcher (Rules 2-55; 8-2.e; 8-2.f; 8-3.f; 8-3.g).

(1) Recommendation. Add a Note to the definition of Obstruction reading “Note: The catcher, without the ball in his possession, has no right to block the pathway of the runner attempting to score. The base line belongs to the runner and the catcher should be there only when he is fielding the ball or when he already has the ball in
his hand. If a fielder is about to receive a thrown ball and if the ball is in flight toward and near enough to the fielder so he must occupy his position to receive the ball, he may be considered “in the act of fielding” a ball. It is entirely up to the judgment of the umpire as to whether the fielder is in the act of fielding a ball.”

(2) **Effective Date.** Immediately.

(3) **Rationale.** Creating this Note will allow for clearer understanding of the specific requirements for obstruction by the position of catcher or person covering home plate. This is proposed to improve the safety of both the catcher and runner during plays at the plate.

(4) **Estimated Budget Impact.** None.

(5) **Student-Athlete Impact.** Enhance the student-athlete experience due to the safety impact during plays at the plate.

h. **Defining an Official Warning (Rule 2-57).**

(1) **Recommendation.** Establish new Rule 2-57 of Official Warning. The definition will read **“Official Warning” – An ‘Official Warning’ is a warning from an umpire that carries the words ‘This is your official warning. If you continue, you will leave me no option but to eject you.’ Slang terms such as, but not limited to, ‘knock it off;’ ‘that’s enough;’ ‘don’t say anything else;’ or, ‘I’ve heard enough’ do not constitute an official warning.”**

(2) **Effective Date.** Immediately.

(3) **Rationale.** Establishing this definition will ensure that coaches and umpires are aware of what constitutes an official warning prior to an ejection occurs.

(4) **Estimated Budget Impact.** None.

(5) **Student-Athlete Impact.** Minimal to student-athlete impact.

i. **Penalty for Substitute Head Coach – Initial Coaching Position (Rule 2-26. A.R. 6; Rule 3-1).**

(1) **Recommendation.** Add administrative ruling that will be place in two areas, Rule 2-26 as A.R. 6 and Rule 3-1 as A.R.1. The A.R. will read “When the head coach
has been ejected and is replaced by a substitute head coach, the substitute head coach has all the duties, rights and responsibilities accorded to the original head coach. However, should the substitute head coach be ejected, they shall serve a one-game suspension in addition to his ejection.”

(2) **Effective Date.** Immediately.

(3) **Rationale.** The substitute head coach is entitled to the rights and duties of the head coach, for the purposes of making lineup changes and communicate with umpires, this administrative ruling is intended to clarify that the suspension penalty required of players and assistant coaches for being ejected is still to be followed even in the event that the person is serving in the capacity of head coach.

(4) **Estimated Budget Impact.** None.

(5) **Student-Athlete Impact.** Minimal student-athlete impact.

**j. Penalty for Use of Tobacco by Pitcher – Last Position as Pitcher (Rule 3-11 PENALTY; Misconduct Penalty Chart).**

(1) **Recommendation.** Increase the penalty for the use of tobacco for a player whose last listed position during a game was pitcher. The penalty under Rule 3-11 will read “The offending individual and head coach are disqualified for the remainder of the contest. A one game suspension will be issued for anyone other than the head coach, except if the ejected player’s last listed position during that game is that of a pitcher, the suspension is four games. The umpires’ jurisdiction begins with regard to this rule upon their arrival on the field or dugout in uniform…”

(2) **Effective Date.** Immediately.

(3) **Rationale.** Increasing the suspension for the use of tobacco from one game to four games for a player whose last position was listed as pitcher will provide consistency with other suspension penalties specific to the position. As the pitcher does not play every day, requiring the pitcher to serve a four game suspension likely prevents him from participating in one contest.

(4) **Estimated Budget Impact.** None.

(5) **Student-Athlete Impact.** This will enhance the student-athlete experience because of the positive health impact this penalty increase provides.
k. **Use of Alternate Baseballs – Note (Rule 4-1. Note).**

   (1) **Recommendation.** Include Note after Rule 4-1.c.3 “Note: Use of Alternate Baseballs – The umpire should be the sole judge of whether the ball should be checked and should certainly do so if the ball has bounced off equipment or a fence/wall, if it appears ‘discolored, scuffed or otherwise unsuitable for play,’ or if the pitcher requests a different ball as stated. Umpires do not need to routinely check the ball each time a ground ball is hit to the infield or each pitch that is not cleanly caught by the catcher. Weather and field conditions should be a factor in deciding when to check the ball.”

   (2) **Effective Date.** Immediately.

   (3) **Rationale.** This clarification is to assist in maintaining a reasonable pace of play.

   (4) **Estimated Budget Impact.** None.

   (5) **Student-Athlete Impact.** Minimal student-athlete impact.

l. **Establishment of Ground Rules (Rule 4-5).**

   (1) **Recommendation.** Insert additional sentence to rule to clarify that ground rules shall not conflict with playing rules. Rule 4-5 will read “A local ground rule may be adopted where unusual conditions prevail if agreeable with the visiting team. **No ground rule shall conflict with the official playing rules.** Where teams do not agree, ground rules shall be determined by the umpires. It is recommended that ground rules be posted in each dugout.”

   (2) **Effective Date.** Immediately.

   (3) **Rationale.** Establishing ground rules that are in conflict with the playing rules creates competitive inequity from facility to facility.

   (4) **Estimated Budget Impact.** None.

   (5) **Student-Athlete Impact.** Positive student-athlete impact by providing competitive equity.

(1) **Recommendation.** Add A.R. to read “When the winning run is scored in the last half-inning of a regulation game, or in the last half-inning of an extra inning, as the result of a base on balls, hit batter or any other play with the bases full which forces the batter and all other runners to advance without liability of being put out, the umpire shall not declare the game ended until the runner forced to advance from third has touched home plate and the batter-runner has touched first base. An exception will be made if fans rush onto the field and physically prevent the runner from touching home plate or the batter-runner from touching first base. In such cases, the umpires shall award the runner the necessary bases with no appeal allowed.”

(2) **Effective Date.** Immediately.

(3) **Rationale.** This will allow umpires to simplify the administration of game-ending bases loaded situations to allow umpires to ensure that only the batter runner and the runner on third base have touched the next base safely.

(4) **Estimated Budget Impact.** None.

(5) **Student-Athlete Impact.** Minimal impact on the student-athlete.


(1) **Recommendation.** Add clearly worded language to 5-9c. A.R. to read “When the Halted-Game Procedure is agreed upon prior to the start of a nonconference contest and the contest cannot be finished; the unfinished game becomes ‘no contest’ **if the game has not met the conditions of a regulation game.**”

(2) **Effective Date.** Immediately.

(3) **Rationale.** The current administrative ruling contradicts language in the rule. This additional language establishes that if a game meets the definition of a regulation game, even if the game has been agreed to be played under the halted-game rule, it would not revert to a no contest.

(4) **Estimated Budget Impact.** None.

(5) **Student-Athlete Impact.** Minimal student-athlete impact.
o. Hit by the Pitch – Batter Movement (Rule 8-2.d.1).

(1) Recommendation. Amend Rule 8-2.d.1 to read “A batter must attempt to avoid being hit by the pitch may not make a movement to intentionally get hit by the pitch and must avoid being hit whenever possible. If the batter’s action is deemed intentional then:.”

(2) Effective Date. Immediately.

(3) Rationale. This clarification is intended to reduce the intentional act of batters attempting to be hit by the pitch by making a movement to contact the pitch. If, in the umpire’s judgement, the batter is unable to make an attempt to avoid the pitch the batter will be awarded first base.

(4) Estimated Budget Impact. None.

(5) Student-Athlete Impact. Enhance the student-athlete experience and increases student-athlete safety.

p. Collision Rule – Plays at the Plate (Rule 8-7).

(1) Recommendation. Rewrite 8-7 Collision Rule to read – “a) A runner attempting to score may not deviate from his direct pathway to the plate in order to initiate contact with the catcher (or other player covering home plate), or otherwise initiate an avoidable collision. If, in the judgment of the umpire, a runner attempting to score initiates contact with the catcher (or other player covering home plate) in such a manner, the umpire shall declare the runner out (regardless of whether the player covering home plate maintains possession of the ball). In such circumstances, the umpire shall call the ball dead, and all other base runners shall return to the last base touched at the time of the collision. If the runner slides into the plate in an appropriate manner, he shall not be adjudged to be in violation.

   Note: The failure by the runner to make an effort to touch the plate, the runner’s lowering of the shoulder, or the runner’s pushing through with his hands, elbows or arms, would support a determination that the runner deviated from the pathway in order to initiate contact with the catcher in violation of the Collision Rule 8-7, or otherwise initiated a collision that could have been avoided. A slide shall be deemed appropriate, in the case of a feet first slide, if the runner’s buttocks and legs should hit the ground before contact with the catcher. In the case of a head first slide, a runner shall be deemed to have slid
appropriately if his body should hit the ground before contact with the catcher. If a catcher blocks the pathway of the runner, the umpire shall not find that the runner initiated an avoidable collision in violation of the Collision Rule.

b) Unless the catcher is in possession of the ball, the catcher cannot block the pathway of the runner as he is attempting to score. If, in the judgment of the umpire, the catcher without possession of the ball blocks the pathway of the runner, the umpire shall call or signal the runner safe. Notwithstanding the above, it shall not be considered a violation if the catcher blocks the pathway of the runner in a legitimate attempt to field the throw, (e.g., in reaction to the direction, trajectory or the hop of the incoming throw, or in reaction to a throw that originates from the pitcher or drawn-in infielder). In addition, a catcher without possession of the ball shall not be adjudged to be in violation if the runner could have avoided the collision with the catcher (or other player covering home plate) by sliding.

Note: A catcher shall not be deemed to have violated the Collision Rule unless he has both blocked the plate without possession of the ball (or when not in a legitimate attempt to field the throw), and also hindered or impeded the progress of the runner attempting to score. A catcher shall not be deemed to have hindered or impeded the progress of the runner if, in the judgment of the umpire, the runner would have been called out notwithstanding the catcher having blocked the plate. In addition, a catcher should use best efforts to avoid unnecessary and forcible contact while tagging a runner attempting to slide. Catchers who routinely make unnecessary and forcible contact with a runner attempting to slide (e.g., by initiating contact using a knee, shin guard, elbow or forearm) may be subject to being ejected.”

(2) **Effective Date.** Immediately.

(3) **Rationale.** This will provide clarification for the application of the Collision Rule.

(4) **Estimated Budget Impact.** None.

(5) **Student-Athlete Impact.** Enhances the student-athlete experience by providing a safer game environment.

q. **The Windup Position – Position of Chest and Shoulders (9-1.a).**

   (1) **Recommendation.** “The pitcher shall stand with his chest and shoulders generally facing the batter, with the pivot foot on or in front of and touching the pitcher’s plate with the other foot free.”

   (2) **Effective Date.** Immediately.
(3) **Rationale.** Adding this language requiring the pitcher to face the batter with the chest and shoulders will allow base runners and umpires to clearly determine if the pitcher is in the windup or the set position.

(4) **Estimated Budget Impact.** None.

(5) **Student-Athlete Impact.** Student-athletes will have minimal impact.

r. **Reestablishing the Pivot Foot – Prohibit Second Push-off (9-1.a.9).**

(1) **Recommendation.** Add number 9 to section 1 to read, “9) A pitcher shall not jump or push forward off the pitcher’s plate with his pivot foot and then bring his foot to the ground and make a second push-off to deliver the pitch.
   a. This is considered an illegal pitch and shall be called a balk with runners on base.
   b. A pitcher is not in violation if he pushes off the pitcher’s plate with the pivot foot and maintains consistent contact with the ground with the pivot foot without a second push-off from the ground.”

(2) **Effective Date.** Immediately.

(3) **Rationale.** This addresses situations where the pitcher gains an advantage by pushing off a second time closer to home plate.

(4) **Estimated Budget Impact.** None.

(5) **Student-Athlete Impact.** Enhances the student-athlete experience by providing competitive equity.

s. **Distracting Tattoos – Requirement to Legally Cover Distracting Tattoos (9-2.h).**

(1) **Recommendation.** “Tattoos on a pitcher’s body that a batter or umpire consider distracting must be legally covered.”

(2) **Effective Date.** Immediately.

(3) **Rationale.** This provides clarification for application of the rule.

(4) **Estimated Budget Impact.** None.
(5) Student-Athlete Impact. Student-athletes will be minimally impacted.

t. Momentary Adjustment – Prior to Legal Pitching Position (9-3.h).

(1) Recommendation. “The pitcher may momentarily adjust the ball in the glove and separate the hands as long as it is prior to assuming a legal pitching position.”

(2) Effective Date. Immediately.

(3) Rationale. Provides clarification to current rule.

(4) Estimated Budget Impact. None.

(5) Student-Athlete Impact. Minimal student-athlete impact.


(1) Recommendation. Edit A.R. 6 to read: During a free trip or a timeout to allow a substitution for the pitcher, a defensive player may warm up another defensive player, provided it does not delay the game. The play warming up must be in the current lineup and remain in fair territory during the charged conference or timeout. For example, a bullpen catcher is not allowed to participate in this type of warm-up.”

(2) Effective Date. Immediately.

(3) Rationale. Editorial. Currently the A.R. refers to other defensive players warming up during a charged conference. The same restriction should apply during a pitching change. Players should remain on the field so the game can resume promptly after the timeout.

(4) Estimated Budget Impact. None.

(5) Student-Athlete Impact. Minimal student-athlete impact.

v. Catch and Carry – Fall or Step into Out-of-Play Area (6-1.d; 6-4.e).
(1) **Recommendation.** Catch and Carry: “Each runner, other than the batter, may without liability to be put out, advance one base when a fielder, after catching a fly ball, steps or falls into any out-of-play area.”

(2) **Effective Date.** Immediate.

(3) **Rationale.** Making this change will reduce potential safety issues that can arise with plays that continue into out-of-play areas and allow for consistency of ground rules.

(4) **Estimated Budget Impact.** None.

(5) **Student-Athlete Impact.** This will have potential impact of student-athlete safe.

w. **Common Practice – Direction to Coaches During Conference Under Getting the Call Right (Appendix E-E A.R. 2).**

(1) **Recommendation.** Add “common practice” to Appendix E – E- A.R. 2. “Once umpires have determined a need to conference to review a play, they shall direct the head coach to return to the dugout or coaching box before the crew will begin their discussion. **Common Practice:** The umpires shall notify the opposing head coach of the umpire’s decision to change the call before signaling their decision to the press box or crowd. Once the notification is made to the coach, the calling official will signal the final decision.

(2) **Effective Date.** Immediate.

(3) **Rationale.** By providing the coaches an explanation prior to an announcement after the umpires have conferenced or used review, the committee believes there will be a reduced number of additional arguments by coaches of the impacted team.

(4) **Estimated Budget Impact.** None.

(5) **Student-Athlete Impact.** Minimal student-athlete impact.

x. **Defining the Outfield for Getting the Call Right (Appendix E – C-9; Appendix E C-10 A.R. 1).**

(1) **Recommendation.** Add A.R. 1 following C-10 – “A.R. 1 – For purposes of applying the changing of a call of “catch” to “no catch” (Section 9) or “no catch” to “catch” (Section 10), a fair batted ball shall be considered “hit into the outfield” when it is hit into the outfield area beyond the nearest infielder. A line drive hit
directly toward an infielder shall not meet the requirement for a potential change of the initial call.”

(2) **Effective Date.** Immediate.

(3) **Rationale.** Provides clarification as to where the “outfield” begins for purposes of umpires being permitted to conference or use instant replay.

(4) **Estimated Budget Impact.** None.

(5) **Student-Athlete Impact.** Minimal student-athlete impact.

y. **Infield “No Catch” Changed to “Catch” – Getting the Call Right (Appendix E – C-9; Appendix E C-10 A.R. 2).**

(1) **Recommendation.** Add A.R. 2 following C-10 – “A.R. 2 – A call of “no catch” within the infield can be change to a “catch” if there are one or more runners on base and the change to a “catch” results in the third out, or at any time with no base runners and the change affects the batter only.”

(2) **Effective Date.** Immediate.

(3) **Rationale.** Adds that situations of “no catch” to “catch” can be reviewed.

(4) **Estimated Budget Impact.** None.

(5) **Student-Athlete Impact.** Minimal student-athlete impact.

z. **Video Instant Replay – Permissible Use of Instant Replay (Appendix E – B).**

(1) **Recommendation.** Implement video instant replay for specific types of plays under the guidelines of Appendix E – Getting the Call Right. The following plays will be reviewable:
   a. Deciding if a batted ball is fair or foul. The ball must first touch the ground or a fielder beyond the initial position of the first or third baseman.
   b. Deciding if a batted ball is either a ground rule double or a home run.
   c. Any catch or no catch in the outfield or foul territory.
   d. A call of “no catch” can be changed to “catch” within the infield only if it results in a third out with any runners on base, or any time with a batter runner only.
   e. Spectator interference.
f. Deciding scoring plays at home plate inclusive of collisions (illegal and/or malicious slides) or time plays.

The following criteria will be used by institutions and conferences using Instant Replay during the regular season:

a. A ruling on the field will only be changed if there is indisputable video evidence to reverse the call. Absent that evidence, the original ruling on the field will stand.

b. Any use of instant replay must occur before the next pitch or play. If the replay is called for after a game ending play, if must be called before all umpires leave the field of play.

c. The crew chief will make the determination to use instant replay. There is no “coaches challenge.” Under the provisions of Getting the Call Right, coaches have the ability to request a conference among the umpires.

d. The video review area must be on the field level so that umpires must not walk through spectators to view the coverage. At least one umpire must remain on the field.

e. During the video review the defensive team shall maintain their position on the field and may warm-up if desired. Offensive base runners and the on-deck hitter shall maintain their position. Other personnel shall remain in the dugout. Any defensive or offensive conferences will be charged as during any other part of the game.

f. All equipment should be tested by appropriate personnel before each game.

g. The final decision may not be argued by either coach.

h. If the reversing of a call results in the need for decisions on the placement of base runners, the crew chief shall use his best judgment to determine their locations as if the call had been made correctly (with exception to placement prescribed by rule on catch/no catch reversals).

i. If a call has been changed, the crew chief, upon returning to the field, will notify both head coaches and the official scorer of the ruling.

(2) **Effective Date.** Immediate.

(3) **Rationale.** Establishing the parameters for permissive rules to allow the use of video replay where capabilities are available as a supplement to Appendix E Getting the Call Right will continue to improve the game and the student-athlete experience.

(4) **Estimated Budget Impact.** Those institutions that televise or web-stream contests would have the cost of field level monitors or computers for the umpire to access the video feed.
(5) Student-Athlete Impact. This could benefit the student-athlete, providing a better student-athlete experience.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Welcome, Introductions and Announcements.** The chair welcomed the committee and thanked them for their time. NCAA staff reviewed the meeting schedule and shared that positions currently vacant by committee member resigning would be filled in the coming weeks, but that the two vacant positions would not impact the committee’s ability to conduct business.

2. **Review of general committee policies.** NCAA staff reviewed the Committee Operations Manual and highlighted important policies for committee services, such as document retention, conflicts of interest, confidentiality, rules writing and voting procedures.

3. **Report of the Baseball Umpire Program.** National coordinator, George Drouches, provided a report of the National Baseball Umpire Program. Drouches shared the program’s highlights for the year including attendance of 2,200 umpires at four regional umpire clinics in January and an increase in registered umpires to the Arbiter central hub. The committee reviewed the 2016 Ejection and Suspension Final Report. Drouches shared that ejections have remained generally consistent in total numbers, but the number and reason for student-athlete ejections is somewhat alarming. The committee discussed strategies for improving the conduct and culture of baseball through coach and umpire education.

4. **Review NCAA Sport Science Institute Injury Data.** Dr. Erin Wasserman from the DatalysCenter presented to the committee the report of injury surveillance data for baseball. The committee asked what could be done to improve the response rate as it is low, however they did believe the data was consistent with the nature of the sport.

5. **Review of the NCAA BBCOR Protocol and College World Series testing report.** NCAA staff share the report of bats tested at the Division I Men’s College World Series. The committee discussed the NCAA BBCOR Protocol and discussed possible revisions to continue to address concerns of potential tampering of baseball bats. The committee reviewed actions taken during the regular season regarding the certification and de-certification of specific baseball bats. The committee will continue to monitor and work closely with the Baseball Research Panel to ensure that the BBCOR Protocol appropriately reflects the requirements of baseball bat certification and the process for review of existing certifications.
6. **Review and approval of interpretations and approved rulings from 2015.** Secretary-rules editor Randy Bruns presented to the committee interpretations and approved rulings from the 2015 annual meeting during the non-rules change year. The committee reviewed the actions from the 2015 annual meeting. Two approved rulings were discussed and revised for consideration for approval. Interpretation three, the list of permissible plays for the use of video instant replay, was amended to include scoring plays at home plate as well as timing plays. Interpretation nine, of Rule 8-2-d regarding hit-by-the-pitch was amended for clarification as well as more consistent application. The interpretations and approved rulings, as amended, were adopted for inclusion into the 2017-18 Baseball Rules Book.

7. **Review and approval of interpretations from 2016.** Bruns presented the interpretations provided throughout the 2016 season for approval by the committee. The interpretations and approved rulings were adopted for inclusion into the 2017-18 Baseball Rules Book.

8. **Review and approval of proposed rules changes for the 2017-18 playing seasons.** Bruns reviewed the list of proposed rules changes with the committee. The committee discussed the 17 proposals and moved 10 of the proposed changes forward. The committee also approved editorial changes proposed by Bruns to clarify specific definitions in Rule 2 and proposed new rules within Rule 1-12 to address concerns that the requirements for baseball bats was not specific regarding added attachments to a bat for in-game use. The committee approved video instant replay becoming a permissive playing rule under Appendix F Getting the Call Right and added scoring plays and collisions at home plate as well as timing plays to the list of permissible types of plays that can be reviewed.

9. **Development of 2017-18 Points of Emphasis.** The committee discussed a list of Points of Emphasis that will be included at the beginning of the 2017-18 Baseball Rules Book. The committee is concerned about the use of illegal equipment and tampered bats. The use of illegal equipment will be included in a point of emphasis regarding Ethical Conduct. The committee also included further clarification and emphasis to the proper application and language for Hit-By-Pitch.

10. **Future Meetings and Teleconferences.** The committee reviewed the list of proposed dates for teleconference for the 2016-17 academic year and discussed the date for the 2017 in-person annual meeting.

11. **Election of Chair.** The committee elected Elvis Dominguez, Bradley University, as chair for the 2016-17 academic year.

12. **Adjournment.** The subcommittee adjourned at 1:55 p.m. Wednesday, July 13, 2016.

*Committee Chair: Casey Scott, Kansas State University, Big Twelve Conference.*

*Staff Liaison(s): Ben Brownlee, Championships and Alliances.*
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<td>Randy Bruns, secretary-rules editor.</td>
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<td>James Carone, Wagner College Northeast Conference.</td>
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<td>Elvis Dominguez, Bradley University; Missouri Valley Conference.</td>
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<td>George Drouches, national coordinator of umpires.</td>
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<td>Rusty Eggen, Worcester Polytechnic Institute; New England Women’s and Men’s Athletic Conference.</td>
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<td>Rudy Garboalosa, Lynn University; Sunshine State Conference.</td>
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<td>Casey Scott, Kansas State University; Big Twelve Conference.</td>
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<td>Dr. Erin Wasserman, DatalysCenter.</td>
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<td>NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ben Brownlee, NCAA.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dan Calandro, NCAA.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greg Johnson, NCAA.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rachel Seewald, NCAA.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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