ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative items.

a. Adjustment to coaching limits.

   (1) **Recommendation.** The committee recommends that the coaching limits in skiing be adjusted to allow for three men’s coaches and three women’s coaches, as opposed to the current two coaches for each gender.

   (2) **Effective date.** September 1, 2018.

   (3) **Rationale.** The committee believes that the current coaching limits do not appropriately consider the realities of the distinct differences between Nordic and Alpine skiing programs. Due to the nature of their respective disciplines, Nordic and Alpine programs are almost always forced to practice and compete at different locations, meaning that coaching staffs are often split on a daily basis. Further, very few of those venues are self-contained, and additional coaches would allow programs to better monitor the safety and well-being of their student-athletes.

   (4) **Estimated budget impact.** Many programs already have additional personnel in place in volunteer capacities; thus, the impact on those programs would be minimal. Further, as additional coaches would be an allowance and not a requirement, the recommendation does not come with a mandatory budget increase.

   (5) **Student-athlete impact.** The committee believes that student-athletes would benefit from this change, as it would allow additional personnel to engage in coaching activities and safety-monitoring situations during practice and competition.

b. Change in competition limit from dates of competition to contests.

   (1) **Recommendation.** That the competition limit for skiing be changed from 16 dates of competition to 32 contests for teams and individuals.

   (2) **Effective date.** September 1, 2018.

   (3) **Rationale.** The committee believes that the current legislation is more complicated than necessary and inherently leads schedule-makers to plan two-day skiing meets, as those events offer exemptions through Bylaw 17.18.5.1.1 that are different than those afforded to one-, three-, and four-day skiing meets.
Multiple-day ski meets are often calendared to better manage venue resources and assist with travel and expenses for participants. However, many events are currently being conducted as two-day meets due to the exemption in place and the preference of schedule-makers to maximize their available competition time. This recommended modification would take the gamesmanship out of the schedule-making process.

(4) Estimated budget impact. The committee believes this will have a positive budget impact, as schedule-makers will no longer benefit from hosting or competing in two-day events. As a result, more one-, three-, and four-day events will be scheduled, allowing institutions to better allocate and use available funding through day trips and block scheduling opportunities.

(5) Student-athlete impact. The anticipated student-athlete impact is minimal, as the committee does not foresee major changes to the amount of missed class time under this proposal.

2. Nonlegislative items.

a. Implement six-event structure at championships.

(1) Recommendation. The committee recommends that a six-event format be instituted at the championship site to replace the current four-event format. The six-event format will include three events per discipline, per gender, as opposed to the current format with two events per discipline, per gender. A sprint race would be added to the Nordic schedule of events and a dual slalom would be added to the Alpine schedule of events.

(2) Effective date. September 1, 2018.

(3) Rationale. Nordic sprinting has greatly increased in popularity during the past couple of decades, yet the NCAA championships have not adjusted the schedule of events to account for sprinting’s competitive presence in the sport. The committee and skiing membership have discussed adding sprinting to the championship schedule for a number of years, and this proposal allows for that addition within the current structure of the championships without additional travel or per diem days for competing student-athletes, coaches, or administrators. The addition of a dual slalom event for Alpine will continue to allow for the weights of Nordic and Alpine components of the championship to be 50 percent and 50 percent, respectively.

The current Nordic and Alpine events at the championships will remain intact, with short- and long-distance races continuing to be held in Nordic competition and slalom and giant slalom races continuing to be held in Alpine competition.
The committee made a recommendation last year for modifications to the championship structure that included a flexible program of options for Nordic events, which left some level of decision-making power in the hands of the host institution. After revisiting that proposal and making appropriate modifications, the committee believes that the current recommendation will best serve the competing student-athletes, while also eliminating the possibility of host institutions proposing championship event schedules for the benefit of their teams. The current proposal, with a standard six-event championship structure, allows for consistency from year to year and removes prior concerns related to the earlier proposal specific to regular-season scheduling and recruiting.

(4) Estimated budget impact. TBD.

(5) Student-athlete impact. The committees believe that the proposed event additions to the championship would have a positive impact on student-athletes, as their inclusion would more closely align the structure of the NCAA championships with international championship programs, furthering the athletics development of NCAA championship participants. Also, the additional events would afford participants an additional event in which they are able to compete, giving each student-athlete another opportunity to compete for an individual-event championship.

b. 2017 regional site selections.

(1) Recommendation. That the 2017 West Region Championships be held at Beaver Creek and Minturn on February 24-25 and hosted by the University of Denver; that the 2017 East Region Championships be held at Sunday River and Black Mountain on February 24-25 and hosted by Bates College; and that the 2017 Central Region Championships be held at Al Quaal Nordic Center on February 18-19 and hosted by Northern Michigan University.

(2) Effective date. 2017 championships.

(3) Rationale. The regionals are selected on a rotating basis by each of the region institutions, and these were the only bids received. In addition, there is no formal budget process, as the host institutions receive a set stipend for hosting. These institutions have all hosted successful events previously.

(4) Estimated budget impact. The stipend is $3,500 per region.

(5) Student-athlete impact. Each of the venues will provide a top-caliber facility and experience for the competing student-athletes.
c. **Remove option of changing start order within teams.**

(1) **Recommendation.** That the option of changing the start order within teams be removed from the NCAA Skiing Rules Book, effective with the publication of the 2018-19 edition.

(2) **Effective date.** September 1, 2017.

(3) **Rationale.** Currently, coaches with multiple student-athletes participating in a given race have the option to swap the starting positions of each student-athlete racing on behalf of an institution. This provides an unintended advantage to an institution with multiple qualifiers that is not available to an institution with only a single qualifier in a given race. Further, with small field sizes of 34 and 40 participants for Alpine and Nordic races, respectively, this option is not necessary, as course conditions are not substantially altered during the short window of starting times for each run.

(4) **Estimated budget impact.** None.

(5) **Student-athlete impact.** This would level the playing field for all student-athletes, regardless of whether they have teammates who also qualified for the championships. Seeding would be based strictly on qualifications, without the option for a coach to move starting positions for those participants.

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**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Review agenda and meeting schedule.** The committee reviewed the annual meeting agenda and schedule.

2. **Review 2015 meeting report.** The committee reviewed and approved the 2015 meeting report as presented.

3. **Review of 2016 championships.** The committee reviewed participant survey responses and discussed the 2016 championships, which were hosted by the University of Colorado, Boulder, in Steamboat Springs, CO. The committees felt that the championships, overall, were successful. Committee members noted that the Friday night slalom races and student-athlete banquet were well received. Conversely, committee members noted that future improvements are recommended with regard to waxing options for Nordic races, and the synchronization of timing and scoring with the video boards on site at the championships.

4. **2017 championships updates.** The committee discussed the 2017 championships, which will be hosted by the University of New Hampshire in Franconia and Jackson, NH.
committee discussed the infrastructure at both venues, including team and spectator parking options, access to start and finish at the Nordic races, and structures for timing, scoring, and web streaming personnel. The committee also received a good report on the new slalom and giant slalom courses at Cannon Mountain.

5. Qualification/selection processes. The committee discussed at length the regional allocations for future championships and will continue this discussion with the skiing membership moving forward.

The committee received updates from the Central and West Regions with regard to their qualification criteria. The East Region did not have any modifications to their qualification criteria this year.

6. Proposals. The committee discussed a number of proposals from the skiing membership. In addition to the recommendations noted above, the committee also discussed other championship event, format and allocation proposals.

The committee also voted to adjust the language regarding medical substitutions to the following: “Notifications must be received by 4 p.m. local time on the day before the first scheduled competition in a given discipline (Alpine or Nordic).”

7. 2016-17 sponsorship. The committee reviewed the most recent sponsorship report and noted the realignment of the University of Alaska Fairbanks from the Central Region to the West Region, as well as the anticipated suspension of the skiing program at St. Cloud State University.

8. Regional information. The committee reviewed information from each of the three recent regional meetings.

9. Webcast review. The committee discussed the webcast from the championships and continues to be satisfied with the overall production of the event. The committee did discuss a few potential improvements for future years, including a more standardized integration of timing and results on the web stream and the possibility of receiving the direct link to the championship competitions further in advance.

10. Travel discussion. The committee met with Juanita Sheely, NCAA director of travel and insurance, regarding potential championship sites and ways in which teams could book championships travel earlier in future years in an effort to reduce overall expenses related to the skiing championships.

11. Rules discussion. The committee met with NCAA Assistant Director of Playing Rules Ben Brownlee to discuss potential changes to the 2018-19 NCAA Skiing Rules Book. No rules changes were recommended for the 2016-17 academic year.
12. **Scoring/timing.** The committee discussed scorers and timers at the championships and noted the need for start lists to be more readily available on site at the championships.

13. **Coaches association update.** The committee discussed the coaches association update given at the most recent championships.

14. **National committee/regional advisory committee replacements.** The committee discussed upcoming vacancies and the overall composition of both the national committee and regional advisory committees.

15. **Review committee timeline.** The committee reviewed and approved a timeline for the 2016-17 academic year. Committee members noted a desire to be included as optional participants on all host planning calls leading up to the championships.

16. **Manual review.** The committee reviewed and made appropriate updates to the committee operations, host operations, participant, and pre-championships manuals.

17. **Future annual meeting dates.** The committee determined that the dates for the 2017 annual meeting will be June 5-7.

18. **Other business.** The committee discussed the upcoming championships bid cycle, during which the 2018-22 championships will be available for bidding.

*Committee Chair:* Ethan Townsend, St. Lawrence University, Liberty League  
*Staff Liaisons:* John Baldwin, Championships and Alliances

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**National Collegiate Men’s and Women’s Skiing Committee**  
**June 1-2, 2016, Meeting**

**Attendees:**  
- Mark Anderson, University of Alaska Anchorage; Great Northwest Athletic Conference.  
- Jamie DiLoreto, Boston College; Atlantic Coast Conference.  
- Shanna Kornuchuck, Harvard University; Ivy League.  
- Fredrik Landstedt, University of New Mexico; Mountain West Conference.  
- Richard Rokos, University of Colorado, Boulder; Pacific-12 Conference.  
- Cami Thompson-Graves, Dartmouth College; Ivy League.  
- Ethan Townsend, St. Lawrence University; Liberty League.

**Absentees:**  
None.

**Guests in Attendance:**
None.

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<th><strong>NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:</strong></th>
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<td>Ben Brownlee, Championships and Alliances.</td>
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<td>Juanita Sheely, Administrative Services.</td>
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