KEY ITEMS.

• None.

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative items.

• None.

2. Nonlegislative items.

   a. Automatic qualification.

      (1) **Recommendation.** That the following seven conferences receive automatic qualification for the 2017 National Collegiate Women’s Water Polo Championship: Big West Conference, Collegiate Water Polo Association, Golden Coast Conference, Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference, Mountain Pacific Sports Federation, Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference and Western Water Polo Association.

      (2) **Effective date.** September 1, 2016.

      (3) **Rationale.** All eligible conferences are being recommended.

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

      (5) **Student-athlete impact.** None.

   b. Selection criteria.

      (1) **Recommendation.** The committee voted to make the following editorial changes to the selection criteria to increase clarity and transparency.

         a. Remove “results versus teams under consideration” from primary criteria.

         b. Move “results versus common opponents” from secondary criteria to primary criteria.

         c. Move “rating percentage index (RPI)” from secondary criteria to primary criteria.
(2) **Effective date.** August 1, 2017.

(3) **Rationale.** Moving two criteria from secondary to primary and removing “results versus teams under consideration” will make the selection criteria clear, concise and transparent for coaches. “Late season performance – defined as the last 10 games including conference championship tournaments (strength and results)” will remain as a secondary criteria, as the committee believes that should not have equal weight to the other primary criteria.

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

(5) **Student-athlete impact.** None.

c. **Committee chair selection.**

(1) **Recommendation.** The committee selected Lisa Cooper, head women’s water polo coach at California State University, East Bay, to chair the committee.

(2) **Effective date.** September 1, 2016.

(3) **Rationale.** She will replace Kyle Witt, head women’s water polo coach at Loyola Marymount University, when his term on the committee ends.

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

(5) **Student-athlete impact.** None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **2015 committee meeting report.** The committee approved the 2015 annual meeting report as written.

2. **Review of 2016 championship.** The committee reviewed the 2016 championship and made the following recommendations:

   a. **Selection process and criteria.** The committee reviewed the women’s water polo selection criteria and recommended changes noted above. The committee will explore using the NCAA’s RPI statistics system to evaluate criteria moving forward.

   b. **Play-in games.** The committee felt that the overall student-athlete experience in the play-in games improved over last year, as both games being at one site added to the tournament
atmosphere. The University of California, San Diego, served as a great host for both games.

c. **Practices.** The committee reviewed the practice schedule and recommended changes to accommodate the new format in 2017 that does not include consolation games.

d. **Opening ceremonies.** The committee discussed the lineup and student-athlete introduction order and decided to keep existing protocols, with the team captains leading the teams out and being announced first and a captain handshake following introductions instead of a full-team handshake.

e. **Awards ceremonies.** The committee agreed that the second-place team awards protocol calling for the coach and/or captains to accept the team trophy during the awards ceremony worked well and will continue with individual awards provided in the locker room.

f. **Facility/host.** The committee applauded the staff at the University of California, Los Angeles, the championship host, for a great championship experience. The committee reviewed hospitality, venue layout, staffing, press conferences, team areas, PA announcer, table crew, equipment and scoreboard/clocks.

g. **Banquet.** The committee noted that the championship banquet was exceptional and efficiently run.

h. **Decorum.** The committee noted overall good behavior by coaches but would like to see the student-athletes improve wearing their suits appropriately on deck.

i. **Goal judges.** The committee discussed the pros and cons of using goal judges at the championship and voted to use them for the 2017 championship.

j. **Clock countdown.** The committee discussed the option of setting the countdown clock to zero for clearing the pool versus the game start time but did not recommend a change. As such, the clock will continue to be set so that it will hit zero for the game start time.

k. **Post-championship game celebration.** The committee noted the length of the postgame celebration prior to the awards ceremony but felt it went smoothly and as efficiently as possible.

l. **Practice passes.** The committee voted to keep using the new practice passes for the 2017 championship.
m. **Committee responsibilities.** The committee was pleased with responsibilities as assigned and the committee members’ overall performance. The committee chair will serve as the primary contact for the teams, and committee members will continue to be assigned to each bench and attend each postgame press conference.

n. **Apparel.** The committee reviewed apparel for officials, host staff, table crew and committee and made a recommendation for 2017.

o. **Score reporting.** The committee noted some teams were consistently late in submitting scores each week by the score reporting deadline. The committee recommended a penalty structure for repeat offenders, with a warning for a first offense, notification of the athletic director for a second offense and a $100 fine for a third and subsequent offenses.

3. **Review of evaluations.** The committee reviewed evaluations from the participating teams, officials, the tournament director and the committee. Overall, the championship received positive feedback.

4. **Financial summary.** The committee reviewed the championship financial summary for the past eight years and took no formal action.

5. **Merchandise.** The committee reviewed a recap of merchandise sales and noted an increase in sales over the previous year. All 10 teams selected to the tournament were included on merchandise this year for the first time.

6. **2017 championship update.** The committee reviewed the schedule, hotels and facility for the 2017 championship at the IU Natatorium on the campus of Indiana University-Purdue University at Indianapolis. A site visit will be conducted in late July. The committee reviewed the schedule for the 2017 championship and recommended game and practice times that accommodate the new format without consolation games. The committee also recommended the use of six officials for the finals site, with the officials also serving as goal judges and receiving a flat fee for the weekend.

7. **Rules subcommittee overview.** The committee took no action at this time on replacing Kyle Witt on the rules subcommittee until the two committee vacancies are filled.

8. **National coordinator of officials (NCO) report.** The national coordinator of officials reported on accomplishments during the year, as well as goals for the future, including the following:

   a. The committee and NCO reviewed officiating during the championship.

   b. The NCO shared details on the new referee school planned at three sites in August.
c. The Advantage website was launched and well received. The NCO continues to work on adding content, especially video content, to the site.

d. The voice-activated headsets used at the championship were fantastic. The NCO asked that headsets be provided for the play-in games as well.

e. The committee reviewed the officials’ history document and noted those officials who are ineligible for the next championship due to having worked three consecutive championships. Danielle Dabbaghian and Amber Drury will be ineligible to officiate the 2017 championship due to having worked the maximum allowable three consecutive championships.

f. The committee reviewed the officials’ selection criteria and approved the new requirement of attending the referee school every two years.

9. 2016 webstream report. The committee reviewed the live video streaming report from the championship and noted an increase in video starts and average unique viewers as compared to 2015.

10. Future meetings. The 2017 annual meeting will take place May 14-15 in Indianapolis following the national championship.

11. Sport sponsorship. The committee reviewed sport sponsorship and noted that 59 institutions currently offer women’s water polo as a varsity sport. The committee expects the number to rise to 62 with the addition of La Salle University, St. Francis University (Pennsylvania), and McKendree University for the 2016-17 season.

12. Manual updates. The committee asked staff to update the pre-championship, committee operations, participant, host operations, play-in game host and play-in game site representative manuals for committee review.

Committee Chair: Kyle Witt, Loyola Marymount University, Golden Coast Conference
Staff Liaison: John E. Bugner, Championships and Alliances

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NCAA Women’s Water Polo Committee</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>June 20-21, 2016, Meeting</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Attendees:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kyle Witt, Loyola Marymount University; Golden Coast Conference.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lisa Cooper, California State University, East Bay; Western Water Polo Association</td>
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<tr>
<td>Craig Rond, California Lutheran University; Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brian Streeter, Secretary-Rules Editor.</td>
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<td>Bob Corb, National Coordinator of Officials.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Absentees:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Kelly Barsky, University of California, Santa Barbara; Big West Conference.</td>
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<td><strong>Guests in Attendance:</strong></td>
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<td>None.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>John E. Bugner, Championships and Alliances.</td>
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<td><strong>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</strong></td>
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<td>None.</td>
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