



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION II MEN'S AND WOMEN'S SWIMMING AND DIVING
COMMITTEE
APRIL 12-14, 2016, MEETING**

ACTION ITEMS.

- None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

- 1. Review agenda.** The committee reviewed the meeting agenda and agreed to adjust topics depending on the availability of other individuals who will join the meeting.
- 2. Review/approve 2015 annual meeting report.** The committee voted to approve the 2015 annual meeting minutes.
- 3. Items from College Swimming Coaches Association of America.** Joel Shinofield, executive director of the CSCAA, joined the meeting via teleconference to discuss items from the Division II coaches, including the pre-qualification diving meet and travel for those student-athletes who do not advance to the championships; the change in the uninvited relay alternate to permit participation in all relays; and potential changes to the selections model to ensure that the fastest student-athletes compete in the championships meet.
- 4. Review of 2016 championships.**
 - a. Facility.** The committee was impressed with the renovations but disappointed that they were not complete, which did not present well upon entrance to the facility. The committee noted the change to the on-deck restrooms provides too few stalls given the number of participants. The limited on-deck restrooms issue is particularly challenging for timers and officials. The committee also noted the need for a designated athletic training room, with ice bath.
 - b. Officials.** The committee was very pleased with this year's panel of swim officials but less so with the panel of diving judges. The committee felt this year's panel had good individual judges, but across the panel, they were inconsistent and scored many dives higher than competed.
 - c. Banquet/hospitality.** The committee appreciated the experience the banquet location and guest speaker provided, but members also noted the challenges arising from "self serve" buffet lines. The committee will review the best time in the program to recognize seniors. The committee noted the outstanding in-venue hospitality,

including the quality, quantity and timing of food, and the inclusion of chocolate milk.

- d. Volunteers. The committee reiterated how beneficial it is to have knowledgeable and well-trained volunteers. The committee directed staff to share copies of this year's volunteer training documents with future hosts.
- e. Awards presentation. The committee liked the new awards schedule, as well as the more specific committee roles for the team awards presentations.
- f. Results online/webcasting. The committee recognizes the increase in picture quality over the last few years and posits this may be the reason for the increase in number of unique viewers as well as the increase in the number of minutes viewed. Hosts found it helpful to have the links available to share in advance with the participating institution's media relations staff.
- g. Evaluation results. The committee reviewed the evaluations, noting the low number of responses. The feedback did not reveal anything negative of which the committee wasn't already aware.

5. Plan for 2017 championships.

- a. Review championships and prequalification meet schedule of events.
 - (1) The committee approved the meet schedules for 2017 to remain the same as in 2016, while providing participants at least a 100-yard cool down prior to award presentations.
 - (2) The committee will continue the process used this year to distribute credentials and participant medallions to transition participants from the diving prequalification to the championships.
 - (3) Timing of the 1650: The committee discussed and will leave the 1,650-yard freestyle where it is currently scheduled.
- b. Warm-up schedule. The committee approved use of the same warm-up schedule. The committee highly recommends recruiting deck marshals, but if next year's hosts do not have the volunteer personnel, the committee will handle the additional on-deck assignments.
- c. Assignment of officials/diving judges. The committee will wait until after the next deadline for swim officials taking the test and will determine championships

assignments in October. The committee also directed staff to ask key officials and meet personnel about potential replacements in case of emergency or unavailability. Diving judges will not be included in the testing for the 2016-17 season, so the diving representative will reach out to the diving community for recommendations. Diving judges will also be prompted to self-nominate.

NCAA staff will coordinate future score reporting of diving results rather than having Mr. Beecher coordinate. Staff will reinforce to diving coaches that every qualifying score must be reported.

- d. Hospitality – student-athlete/coach/volunteer. The committee suggested staff share this year’s hospitality schedule with the 2017 Festival coordinator.
- e. Banquet – ticket plan. The committee determined the banquet will continue to be a ticketed event to best help the host plan and prepare for the event. After Festival planning has begun, the committee will revisit the timing and location of the senior recognition.
- f. Teleconferences with host. The committee recommends continuing with a similar frequency of host teleconferences for sport-specific items, unless the items will be covered in general Festival calls.
- g. Announcers. The committee directed staff to invite the same swimming and diving announcers for the 2017 championships.
- h. Participant music. The committee wants staff to determine if a paid position can be added for the music coordinator and directed staff to invite the same coordinator for the 2017 championships.
- i. Site visit. The committee chair will attend the site visit, or if unavailable, one of the other committee members will attend on his behalf. There is a concern the 2017 host site does not have starting block wedges or backstroke ledges. This equipment was not permissible when bids were accepted.
- j. Deck pass limits. The committee decided to continue the use of the same formula; however, members directed staff to revise the language in the manual because passes are issued per gender, not per institution.
- k. Timers/volunteers (numbers). The committee directed staff to share with future hosts the revised volunteer matrix, as well as training materials and protocols the 2015 and 2016 hosts developed.
- l. Review selection process.

- (1) Online regular-season entry procedures and reporting of times. The committee approved the use of the same procedures and directed staff to encourage USA Swimming to track and provide notification of late results submissions.
- (2) Review USA Swimming online meet entry (OME) process for submitting championships entries.
 - (a) Review established timeline for entry submissions. The committee decided no changes are necessary other than adjusting dates for the upcoming academic year.
 - (b) Aggregate relays. The committee agreed to continue with the current option to use fastest aggregate or fastest actual relay times, especially with the participant cap being so low so as not to permit slower student-athletes to be selected to the meet.
 - (c) Review relay alternates/uninvited alternates policies. The committee revised the definition of “uninvited relay alternates” to include the caveat that “at least one invited swimmer must compete in optional relays.” The committee discussed limiting uninvited relay alternates to four per gender per institution if a new selection model is approved; however, members decided to direct staff to track it for one additional year.
- (3) Review event entry limits. The committee will maintain the current event entry limit.
- (4) Standards and selections.
 - (a) Optional events (individual/relays) and scratch process for selected student-athletes. The committee will maintain the current process.
 - (b) Review process for notification of swimming alternates. The committee will maintain the current process.
 - (c) Selection models. Julie Ruppert, commissioner of the Northeast-10 Conference, joined the committee via teleconference to discuss modifying the selection model for swimming. Given the participant cap, particularly on the men’s side, the current selection model does not permit the committee to fill rows of individual events. This leaves the individual events open to already selected student-athletes who may not be the fastest individuals in specific individual events. Occasionally, even with selected swimmers entered into their optional events, the events are not being filled and points are being left unearned. With the goal of selecting the fastest

swimmers in each individual event in the championships meet, the committee reviewed different selections models and directed staff to work with USA Swimming to produce data and visual representations of additional models to determine their effect on filling the meet. The committee will conduct a teleconference on April 25 to identify alternate models to present for discussion at the coaches convention.

- (5) Qualifying standards. The committee reviewed and approved the qualifying standards for 2016-17 with the caveat that the relay standards may become moot if an alternate selection model is approved. The committee directed staff to post the standards with a note indicating the caveat.
- (6) Diving.
 - (a) Regular-season and championship entry process - Divemeets. The committee supported the proposal to move the regular-season score reporting to the national office staff. All other entry processes will remain the same.
 - (b) Qualification standards. The committee discussed potential changes to the required degree of difficulty and dive qualifying scores with the goal of reducing the number of student-athletes at the pre-qualification meet by increasing the skill required to get there. The committee asked staff to work with the diving meet coordinator to present a data-driven proposal that takes into consideration the development and growth of the sport and requiring dives appropriate for championship-level competition. The committee proposes that all dives resulting in qualifying scores must be judged by a minimum of a two-judge panel. In the event that there are only two judges, both may not be affiliated with the same institution. The committee directed staff to determine if this proposal would be a playing rules change or a championships requirement.
 - (c) Competition standards. The committee discussed the dive order and optional dives items.
- m. Manuals review. The committee reviewed the pre-championships, host operations and participant manuals and directed staff to revise as necessary.
- n. Committee calendar for 2016-17.
 - (1) The committee added dates for bid discussions.
 - (2) Annual meeting: April 17-19, 2017, begin at 2 p.m., end at noon.

6. **Rules discussion.** The playing rules staff representative updated the committee on potential rules changes, such as prohibiting the Lochte turn; whether a finish must be to the wall or to the touch pad; and the timing of when a video review could take place. The playing rules staff representative also updated the committee on the new officials testing and evaluation program. NCAA staff is working with USA Diving to begin testing and educating dive judges.
7. **Bid process and bid specifications.** The committee reviewed the bid web site, timeline and bid specifications.
8. **Future sites.**
 - a. 2017 – March 8-11. Birmingham, Alabama (CrossPlex Natatorium).
 - b. 2018 – March 14-17. Greensboro, North Carolina (Greensboro Aquatic Center).
9. **Committee composition.** Roger Karns agreed to continue as committee chair. The committee will have a new diving representative, but the nominating committee has not yet approved one.
10. **Sponsorship lists.** The committee reviewed the sponsorship lists and noted other institutions considering adding the sport. The committee also noted the success of institutions newly transitioning to Division II.
11. **Other business.** Division II Vice President Terri Steeb Gronau addressed the activation plan for the new “Make It Yours” brand enhancement and noted Ryan Jones had been hired as new associate director to manage external initiatives. She also reviewed the Foundation for the Future funds and possible uses, such as expansion of the coaches connection program, and a potential comprehensive coaches education module. Other discussion items included reasons for the participant cap, and ideas for potential Division II Festival improvements.
12. **Adjournment.** The meeting was adjourned at 11:22 a.m. The committee will reconvene by teleconference on April 25 – 9 a.m. Eastern time to continue their review of potential modifications of the swimming selections model and revising the diving standards.

Committee Chair: Roger Karns, Lewis University; Great Lakes Valley Conference
Staff Liaison: Marie Scovron, Championships and Alliances

Division II Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving Committee April 12-14, 2016, Meeting
Attendees:
Carlin Chesick, Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference.
Roger Karns, Lewis University; Great Lakes Valley Conference.
Kelly LaCroix, Wayne State University (Michigan); Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.
Nancye Rahn, King University; Conference Carolinas.
Patrick Snively, Fairmont State University; Mountain East Conference.
Absentees:
None.
Guests in Attendance:
Julie Ruppert, Northeast-10 Conference (via teleconference).
Joel Shinofield, College Swimming Coaches Association of America.
NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:
Marie Scovron, Championships and Alliances.
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:
Ben Brownlee, Championships and Alliances.
Terri Steeb Gronau, Division II Governance.