REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION II MEN’S AND WOMEN’S TENNIS COMMITTEE
JULY 6-7, 2016, MEETING

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative items.
   - None.

2. Nonlegislative items.
   - Regional date formula adjustment.
     a. Recommendation. That the date formula for the Division II Men’s and Women’s Tennis Championships regional be adjusted to read: “Saturday-Sunday, (Friday may be used for a three-day regional) and Monday-Tuesday prior to finals.” The current date formula for the regionals reads: “two Sundays prior to finals (Saturday-Tuesday).”
     b. Effective date. 2017 Championship.
     c. Rationale. Currently, the men’s and women’s tennis regional dates are completely overlapping, with competition rounds Saturday-Tuesday. A growing number of institutions currently employ one head coach for both men’s and women’s tennis. In an instance where one such institution qualifies both its men’s and women’s teams for the regionals, the head coach is forced to split time between the two regional sites or choose which gender to coach for the entirety of the regional competition. The regional start days for each gender will mirror the national championship start days for each gender.

     As such, men’s and women’s regional competitions may be held several states away from one another during a given year, making travel between the two sites nearly impossible for a head coach. This proposal aims to improve the experience for those men’s and women’s tennis student-athletes who, under the current date formula, may not have their head coach on site with them at the regional competition.

     d. Estimated budget impact. None.

     e. Student-athlete impact. Student-athletes in both men’s and women’s tennis will be positively impacted by this change, as institutions with one head coach for both genders will no longer experience having a team at a regional site without their head coach for the duration of the event due to overlapping schedules.
INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Welcome and opening remarks.** Division II Men’s and Women’s Tennis Committee Chair Carrie Michaels welcomed the group and reviewed the agenda and presentation schedule.

2. **2015 annual meeting report.** The committee approved the report from its 2015 annual meeting as submitted.

3. **Review of 2016 festival/championship.**
   a. **Selections.** The committee commended the new members for being prepared for each ranking and selection call. While a few regions were challenging to select, the selection process went very well overall. Consistency was important from week to week.
   b. **Pre-championship planning.** The committee praised the staff from Metropolitan State University of Denver for their role in hosting the championship. The committee was very pleased with the level of commitment from the university and community as a whole.
   c. **Opening/closing ceremonies.** The committee thought the opening ceremonies at Mile High Stadium provided a first-class experience for the student-athletes. The programming at closing ceremonies, which were rescheduled indoors due to unforeseen circumstances, was short for those teams that were eliminated early in the week.
   d. **Hotel.** Location was good as availability to restaurants was excellent. The committee supported the idea of a coaches’ lounge for future festivals.
   e. **Site evaluations/student-athlete evaluations.** Feedback was minimal. The committee noted a few comments about the lack of site reps at the regional sites, which will be addressed moving forward. The committee supported having site reps at each regional for 2016-17.
   f. **Hospitality.**
      a. **Student-athletes.** The committee appreciated the addition of fruit and granola bars to the food options in the student-athlete hospitality areas.
      b. **Committee.** The committee thought access to the hospitality area was limited and the quality of food was not as good as in years past.
      c. **Officials.** The committee appreciated that food was delivered to the officials.
   g. **Media.** The committee noted that live scores were not available on a mobile device. Coaches had to use laptops or individual school websites to access scores.
   h. **Student-athlete behavior.** The committee felt that overall, the behavior of the student-athletes was excellent. One misconduct occurred, and it was dealt with appropriately with the assistance from the institution.
i. **Officials selection.** The committee was pleased with the selection of officials.

j. **Webcast.** The committee would like to have competition on all six courts web streamed on the final day.

k. **Suggested improvements.** Among possible enhancements the committee suggested were (1) providing a towel and sunglasses for spectators; (2) ensuring that the sound system covers the entire venue; and (3) providing a welcome banner that includes flags from all the countries represented at the championship.

l. **Start times.** The committee believes start times are compacted and do not leave enough time for matches that go beyond three hours.

m. **Practice balls.** The committee felt teams appreciated being provided a can of practice balls per day and agreed to continue doing so in the future.

4. **2017 championships.**

   a. **Dates for regionals.** The committee would like to set standard dates for regional tournaments to mirror the championship format. This would eliminate what the committee perceives as gamesmanship with regard to scheduling regionals in a manner that negatively impacts schools that have the same coach for both genders. The men’s regionals would be April 29-30 (though the Southeast Regional would be April 29-May 1), and the women’s regionals would be May 1-2.

   b. **Committee members’ on-site responsibilities.** The chair of the committee will continue to assign responsibilities for each committee member on site.

   c. **Officials.** New officials will work the championship in Sanlando due to the location of the. Officials Coordinator Robert Boulware will assign officials for the regional rounds. Officials will report match scores to the score reporter.

   d. **Pre-championships and host operations manuals.** The committee reviewed the 2016 manuals and made the necessary revisions for 2017.

   e. **Review of online entry/lineup and challenge forms and procedures.** The process worked very well this year and the committee made no adjustments for next year. The committee would like to include the head official in reviewing all lineup challenges.

   f. **Schedule of events and start times.** See attachment.

   g. **Banquet format.** The committee would like to have the banquet for both genders at 7 p.m. on Monday, followed by the coaches meeting.

5. **Selections.**
a. **Date.** Selections will take place on April 25, 2017, at 11 a.m.

b. **Criteria.** The committee reviewed the 2016 selection criteria and noted that the new criteria worked well when selecting teams for the championship.

c. **Automatic qualification.** All eligible conferences were reviewed for AQ.

6. **Staff updates.**

a. **Academic and membership affairs.** The committee met with Karen Wolf and Chelsea Crawford from the academic and membership affairs staff to discuss the non-championship segment and its effect on tennis.

b. **Governance.** Terri Steeb Gronau, vice president of Division II, and Ryan Jones, associate director of Division II, met with the committee to discuss the priorities of the division, the Make it Yours brand enhancement, and the National Championships Festival.

7. **Seeding at the final site.** Matt Holmes from championships and alliances joined the meeting to discuss potential interest in seeding at the finals site, but the committee decided not to make a recommendation at this time. The committee did agree, however, that the bracket will be announced on the day of selections and not prior to that date as in years past.

8. **National committee composition.** The committee made updates to the current roster.

9. **Manual revisions.** The committee reviewed the 2016 manuals and made the necessary edits for 2017.

10. **2016-17 timetable.** The committee reviewed the 2016 timetable and made the necessary edits for 2016-17.

11. **Budget requests for 2018-21.** The committee reviewed squad sizes and agreed to recommend for the upcoming budget cycle that one student-athlete and one coach be added for both men’s and women’s tennis. The national average squad size is 10 for men’s tennis and 8.8 for women’s tennis.

12. **Coaches connection.** Pam Arpe and Jill Willson joined the meeting to review the highlights from the past year, emphasizing the increased communication between the coaches and the NCAA.

13. **Future meeting dates.** The committee asked staff to explore whether the 2017 annual meeting could be held at the championships site on May 13-14. If that is not feasible, the committee agreed to meet June 19-21 in Indianapolis.

14. **Other business.** Ms. Michaels discussed responding to inquiries from coaches and athletics directors after ranking and selection calls. The committee discussed whether it is appropriate for members to respond to inquiries from coaches and athletics after ranking and selection
calls. Committee members agreed that confidentiality on the RAC and national committee is imperative, and, as such, committee members should not respond to these inquiries. Confidentiality on the RAC and national committee is imperative.

**Committee Chair:** Carrie Michaels, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference.

**Staff Liaison(s):** Roberta Page, Championships and Alliances.

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**DII Men’s and Women’s Tennis Committee Meeting**  
**July 6-7, 2016, Meeting**

**Attendees:**
- Tricia Cote, Southern New Hampshire University; Northeast-10 Conference.
- Otis Cutshaw, Davis and Elkins University; Great Midwest Athletic Conference (via teleconference).
- Tyler Knox, Dallas Baptist University; Heartland Conference.
- Chi Ly, Palm Beach Atlantic University; Sunshine State Conference.
- Carrie Michaels, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania; Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference.
- Cammie Nix, Young Harris College; Peach Belt Conference.
- Jake Saulsbury, University of Nebraska at Kearney; Mid-American Intercollegiate Athletics Association.

**Guests in Attendance (via teleconference):**
- Pam Arpe, Coaches Connection.
- Robert Boulware, Officials Coordinator.
- Kim Vinson, Championships Committee Liaison.
- Jill Willson, Coaches Connection.

**NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:**
- Leslie Havens, Championships and Alliances.

**Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:**
- Chelsea Crawford, Academic and Membership Affairs.
- Matt Holmes, Championships and Alliances.
- Ryan Jones, Governance.
- Terri Steeb Gronau, Governance.
- Karen Wolf, Academic and Membership Affairs.