REPORT OF THE
NCAA WOMEN'S BOWLING COMMITTEE
JUNE 8, 2017, MEETING

KEY ITEMS.

1. Championship format. The committee reviewed and expressed concerns with the logistics surrounding the opening round structure that will be implemented with the addition of automatic qualifiers for the 2018 championship.

2. Sport sponsorship. The committee reviewed sport sponsorship and noted several programs that will be adding over the course of the next two season, which will continue their discussions, and recommendations, on the format of the championship.

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative items.
   - None.

2. Nonlegislative items.
   - Automatic qualification.
     (1) Recommendation. That the following conferences receive automatic qualification for the 2018 National Collegiate Women’s Bowling Championship: Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association; East Coast Conference; Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference; Northeast Conference; Southland Conference; and Southwestern Athletic Conference.

     (2) Effective date. Immediate.

     (3) Rationale. All eligible conferences are being recommended. This will be the first year that women’s bowling will have automatic qualification, and will continue to provide opportunity to student-athletes and conferences to participate in the championship.

     (4) Estimated budget impact. None.

     (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. Review national and regional advisory committee rosters. The committee reviewed rosters and noted upcoming vacancies.
2. **Review recent reports.** The committee approved the 2016 annual meeting report as written. The committee discussed the effects of the proposals that were approved after last year’s annual meeting.

3. **Competition Oversight Committee actions.** The committee reviewed actions the Competition Oversight Committee took in 2016-17 relevant to the sport. Championship formats and expansion continue to be topics for discussion, and committee members asked staff to keep them apprised of developments in these areas.

4. **Review sport sponsorship and conference alignments.** The committee reviewed the 2016-17 sport sponsorship list and was pleased to note the addition of several sponsoring institutions and others that may be joining in 2017-18 as well as in 2018-19. The committee continued to discuss bracket expansion for the future based on the continued growth of the sport and the implementation of automatic qualification in the upcoming year.

5. **Regular-season forms and processes.** The committee reviewed the online score reporting system and asked staff to explore options that would allow for electronically submitted score sheets to populate automatically into the online score reporting system. In the short term, the committee asked to ensure that these forms can be submitted electronically in a more efficient and consistent matter. Until a more permanent resolution is identified, the committee will continue to emphasize the importance of score reporting in a timely fashion, and will also continue to issue warnings and fines accordingly.

6. **Selections.** The committee reviewed selection criteria and took no action. The committee continued discussing how to encourage teams to submit images and video for the selection show in order to make it more entertaining and interactive.

7. **Review 2017 championship.** The committee reviewed championship evaluations from student-athletes, coaches and officials. Although there were some helpful responses, the committee stressed the importance of more student-athletes and coaches participating in the championship surveys to obtain a more accurate reflection of the participants’ experiences. The committee noted that the host did a great job of meeting expectations, both leading up to and during the event. The committee was satisfied with the performance, layout and overall look of the facility, and strongly supported partnering with the United States Bowling Congress (USBC) in the future whenever possible, given that organization’s expertise, its willingness to include the championship at a convention center set-up, and its positive financial implications on the championship operational budget.

8. **Championship officials.** The committee was fully satisfied with the officials assigned to the championship. The committee continues to discuss how to get more officials involved in the officiating program through the regular season. Staff will continue working with the secretary-rules editor (SRE) to create educational materials for officials during the year. The SRE and
staff also will continue using the Arbiter platform to provide educational materials to officials, as well as the opportunity to register and take the head/assistant official rules test required for postseason assignment.

9. **Championship format.** The committee discussed the upcoming format change that was approved for the 2018 championship and set the schedule of events for the bracket play. The committee again noted that with the elimination of two teams on the first day of competition, and possibly an additional four teams on the second day, the new format would increase excitement at the championship, as well as reduce operational and travel costs.

The committee also discussed the implementation of automatic qualifiers and the opening rounds procedure, and voiced concern with finding facilities (independently owned bowling centers) that would hold space to host an opening round match, given these proprietors’ ability to secure guaranteed events at their place of business (if an opening round is eventually not held at their location, due to geography). Committee members are also concerned about these facilities being able to provide a quality championship experience for student-athletes. Other bowling groups (leagues, parties, etc.) would be using lanes during these matches, and bowling centers would not be willing to prohibit patrons from using the facility as it is used on a regular basis (i.e., allowing drinking/smoking, as many do during their normal course of business). The committee continues to express interest in being able to provide alternative solutions that would create a student-athlete experience that is fitting of an NCAA event, such as holding the upcoming opening round matches at the same location as the championship, where the environment can be properly managed, given the contractual obligations of the host that restrict other group’s access to the facility.

As previously stated, given the continued growth of the bowling sponsorship, the committee will continue to recommend possible solutions for hosting opening rounds, as well as the size of the bracket, to promote future growth and create a great championship experience.

10. **Playing rules.** The committee was joined by Andy Supergan, from the NCAA rules and officiating staff to discuss any rules issues from the year. Committee members noted that this was a ‘quiet year’ in terms of suggested rules changes. Members also noted that this is not a rules change year, and the committee will continue discussing potential rules changes with coaches prior the next cycle.

11. **Annual correspondence.** The committee continued to emphasize communication with the coaches to ensure that they are aware of important information. Staff will continue working with the committee to ensure that the NCAA monthly newsletter includes all necessary information for the upcoming season.

12. **2018 championship.** The committee discussed the upcoming championship in St. Louis and noted concerns with the facility, including staffing, aesthetics/cleanliness and equipment...
maintenance, based on championships held at this location in previous years. Staff shared updates from the local organizing committee that addressed many of these concerns. A plan will be developed in the coming months to make sure all needs are met prior to the championship, including a site visit and calls with the host.

13. **Championship manuals.** Committee members were assigned manuals for review and will provide staff with suggested changes.

14. **Appointment of committee chair.** Karen Grygiel, director of bowling at Monmouth University, will again serve as the committee chair for the 2017-18 season. Tony O’Neal, senior associate athletics director at Bethune-Cookman University, will shadow and assist Ms. Grygiel this year as a chair transition occurs over the next year.

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### Women’s Bowling Committee

**June 8, 2017, Annual Meeting**

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<th><strong>Attendees:</strong></th>
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<td>Stephanie Dragan, Franklin Pierce University; East Coast Conference.</td>
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<td>Michael Fine, Secretary-Rules Editor.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Karen Grygiel, Monmouth University; Southland Bowling League.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brad Hagen, Sam Houston State University; Southland Bowling League.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tony O’Neal, Bethune-Cookman University; Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference.</td>
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<tr>
<td>James Washington, Virginia Union University; Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Glenn White, Prairie View A&amp;M University; Southwestern Athletic Conference.</td>
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<th><strong>Absentees:</strong></th>
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**Guests in Attendance:**

Rick Barbera, Championship Head Official.

**NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:**

Eric Breece, Championships and Alliances.

Carla Laster, Championships and Alliances.

**Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:**

Andy Supergan, Championships and Alliances.