



**REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION I MEN'S AND WOMEN'S TRACK AND FIELD  
AND CROSS COUNTRY COMMITTEE  
NOVEMBER 14-15, 2018, MEETING**

**ACTION ITEM.**

- **Nonlegislative item.**
  - **In cross country, allow for teams to earn at-large qualification points toward championship selections when their “B-team” beats another institution’s “A-team.”**
    - (1) Recommendation. That the Division I Competition Oversight Committee approve an update to the Division I cross country selection criteria clarifying that teams can earn at-large points toward selection when their “B-team” beats another institution’s “A-team” during the nine-week qualifying window.
    - (2) Effective date. August 1, 2019.
    - (3) Rationale. Currently the selection criteria remain silent on this situation and leads many to think that only an institution’s “A-team” can earn at-large qualifying points for beating another institution’s “A-team.” The committee feels that if an institution’s “B-team” is strong enough to earn a victory over another institution’s “A-team,” they should be awarded for that during the championship at-large selection process.
    - (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
    - (5) Student-athlete impact. The recommendation provides opportunities for additional student-athletes to contribute to their teams’ postseason selection chances.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **2018 cross country championships.** The NCAA Division I Men’s and Women’s Track and Field and Cross Country Committee reviewed the schedule and assignments for the week. In addition, members prepared last-minute notes to be included in the team packets.
2. **Outdoor track and field East and West preliminary rounds schedule of events.** The committee reviewed competition schedules for the 2019 NCAA Division I Men’s and Women’s Outdoor Track and Field East and West Preliminary Rounds. The committee approved tentative schedules to share with each host institution for feedback. Once final

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feedback has been received from each host institution, the committee will make one final review before releasing the official competition schedule for each site.

### **3. Cross country.**

- a. Committee members who served as site representatives at regional championship competitions provided updates from each site. Representatives provided much positive feedback but did note that a few sites had issues with live results and uploading to the official NCAA cross country results reporting site, TFRRS, after the championships. Additionally, representatives stressed that hosts need to continue evaluating the placement and number of clerks working the clerking tent. They noted that many lines were backed up and that the tents could be better organized. This is a continued topic of conversation with hosts each year, and the message will continue to be driven home to ensure hosts are more adequately prepared.
- b. The committee discussed start times for regional competition and plans to continue evaluating start times in southern sites and warmer destination sites such as Sacramento. The committee will consider approving earlier start times for sites that tend to have warmer temperatures.
- c. The committee discussed the deadlines for declaring teams and individuals to the NCAA Division I Cross Country Regional Championships. The committee elected to keep declaration deadlines as is, noting that the deadlines are published in multiple places, including the pre-championships manual, the participant manual, in NCAA championship monthly newsletters, and in the results reporting memo that is sent each summer prior to the start of the cross country season. Hosts will still be encouraged to communicate with participating schools in their region and remind them of posted deadlines. Additionally, NCAA staff will ask region representatives from the United States Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association to help remind coaches within their regions.
- d. The committee approved a results reporting policy that will no longer allow meet hosts to split out results by division when interdivisional competition occurs in the same race. If one race is run, only one set of results should be reported. The committee noted with the elimination of the old bylaw that required Division I to compete against two-thirds Division I opponents, there is no longer a need to split out any scoring by division, because when this is done it can change who beats who. This new championship results reporting policy will go into effect with the 2019 cross country season.
- e. The committee noted that many DNF's are not being captured in results during cross country competition. The committee will discuss this topic further during the joint summer meetings with Division II and Division III to consider solutions, including possibly

mandating that clerking take place at all cross country competitions to help capture who is actually starting races.

- f. The committee also discussed the following regarding race distances:
- i. Consideration for men and women running the same distance in cross country.
  - ii. Consideration for lowering the men's championship distance from 10k to 8k.
  - iii. Consideration for mandating that the championship distance be run in all meets that fall within the championships qualifying window.

While the committee took no formal action on any of these items, members agreed to continue seeking feedback and having further discussion.

- g. The committee discussed but took no action on a proposal to reformat the regional cross country championships. Committee members agreed to continue discussing the matter in the months ahead as they weigh the positives and negatives of the current regional championship system and give consideration to other possible formats.

#### **4. Outdoor track and field.**

- a. The committee approved recommended announcers for the Division I Men's and Women's Outdoor Track and Field Championships in June in Austin.
- b. The committee revisited a vote from its summer meetings to change the name of the NCAA Division I Men's and Women's Outdoor Track and Field East and West Preliminary Championships to the NCAA Division I Men's and Women's Outdoor Track and Field East and West First Round Championships. The committee reconfirmed this new name, noting that the language is more commonly used in track and field and is more consistent with the language used for NCAA championship events in other sports. NCAA staff will consult with the NCAA branding staff to explore possible next steps and feasibility.

*Committee Chair:* Julie Levesque, University of Texas at El Paso, Conference USA  
*Staff Liaison:* Jeff Mlynski, Championships and Alliances

<b>NCAA Division I Men's and Women's Track and Field and Cross Country Committee November 14-15, 2018, Meeting</b>
<b>Attendees:</b>
Trey Clark, Lamar University; Southland Conference.
Milan Donley, University of Kansas; Big 12 Conference.

Sean Harris, Pac-12 Conference.
Amy Horst, Loyola University Maryland.
Julie Levesque, University of Texas at El Paso; Conference USA.
Wendy McFarlane-Smith, University of Delaware; Colonial Athletic Conference.
Sharlene Milwood-Lee, Farleigh Dickinson University; Northeast Conference.
Mike Nelson, Marquette University, Big East Conference.
TJ Shelton, The Ohio State University.
<b>Absentees:</b>
Herman Frazier, Syracuse University; Atlantic Coast Conference.
Jennifer Lawlor, Monmouth University.
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>
Sam Seemes, USTFCCCA.
<b>NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:</b>
Jeff Mlynski, Championships and Alliances.
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>
None.