ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative items.
   - None.

2. Nonlegislative items.
   a. Format and date change for the Women's College Cup.
      
      (1) **Recommendation.** To change the date formula of the Women's College Cup from Friday and Sunday to Thursday and Sunday. Currently, the Women's College Cup semifinals are played on Friday night and the national championship is on Sunday afternoon. This proposal is to conduct the semifinals on Thursday and the national championship would remain on Sunday.

      (2) **Effective date.** 2022 championship to coincide with the new bid cycle.

      (3) **Rationale.** To allow student-athletes additional rest time between the semifinals and final.

      (4) **Estimated budget impact.** $8,400 for one day of additional per diem for the two teams competing in the final.

      (Note: The NCAA’s broadcast partner has concerns regarding this proposal, and detailed information will be made available to the NCAA Division Competition Oversight Committee during its meeting.)

      (5) **Student-athlete impact.** This change would positively impact the student-athlete experience because it allows for additional rest time between the semifinals and final. The committee has consistently received feedback from teams participating in past national championships that additional rest time is needed after semifinal competition. This is especially important for the team competing in the second semifinal match on Friday night. From an attendance standpoint, Thursday semifinal matches could potentially cause a decline in attendance numbers from fans traveling to and from the site.
b. Format and date change for the second and third rounds.

(1) **Recommendation.** To separate the second and third rounds of competition and conduct them on separate weekends. Currently, the second round is played on Friday and the third round is played on Sunday of the same weekend. If the rounds are separated, an additional weekend of play is needed. The third round would be played Thanksgiving weekend, followed by the quarterfinals one week later and the Women's College Cup the second weekend of December.

(2) **Effective date.** 2022 championship to coincide with the new bid cycle.

(3) **Rationale.** To allow student-athletes additional rest time between the second and third rounds.

(4) **Estimated budget impact.** Due to fewer teams traveling there will be less travel and per diem costs that would potentially result in a cost savings (approximately $500,000).

(Note: The NCAA's broadcast partner has concerns regarding this proposal, and detailed information will be made available to the Competition Oversight Committee during its meeting.)

(5) **Student-athlete impact.** This change would positively impact the student-athlete experience because it allows for additional rest time between second and third rounds. Teams participating in the championship would potentially have less missed class time. Lastly, more teams would have the opportunity to host at their home site.

c. Automatic qualification.

(1) **Recommendation.** That the following 31 conferences be approved for automatic qualification for the 2019 NCAA Division I Women's Soccer Championship:

America East Conference; American Athletic Conference; ASUN Conference; Atlantic 10 Conference; Atlantic Coast Conference; Big 12 Conference; Big East Conference; Big Sky Conference; Big South Conference; Big Ten Conference; Big West Conference; Colonial Athletic Association; Conference USA; Horizon League; The Ivy League; Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference; Mid-American Conference; Missouri Valley Conference; Mountain West Conference; Northeast Conference; Ohio Valley Conference; Pac-12 Conference; Patriot League; Southeastern Conference; Southern Conference; Southland Conference; Southwestern Athletic Conference; The Summit League; Sun Belt Conference; West Coast Conference and Western Athletic Conference.
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(2) **Effective date.** 2019 championship.

(3) **Rationale.** This reflects all eligible conferences at this time.

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

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

d. **Committee chair selection.**

(1) **Recommendation.** That Lauren Ashman, senior associate athletics director/senior woman administrator at Bowling Green State University, be appointed chair for 2019-20.

(2) **Effective date.** September 1, 2019.

(3) **Rationale.** Ms. Ashman will replace Janet Oberle, senior associate director of athletics/senior woman administrator at Saint Louis University, whose term on the committee ends. Ms. Ashman has served two years on the committee and has unanimous support of the committee to serve in this role.

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

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

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Approval of 2018 meeting report.** The committee reviewed and approved the report from last year's annual meeting.


   - **Evaluations.** The quality of hotels and locker rooms have a significant impact on the experience of visiting teams. The committee asked NCAA staff to share site-specific comments and concerns regarding these items with host tournament managers.

3. **Review of 2018 championship – Women's College Cup.**

   a. **Evaluations.** The limited rest time between the Friday semifinals and the national championship on Sunday is a significant concern for participating teams and the committee (see the related recommendation in Action Item 2-a above). The committee asked NCAA staff to send the evaluation link to teams participating in the Women's College Cup after January 1 next year in an effort to increase response rates.
b. **Committee responsibilities.** The committee reviewed its responsibilities at the finals site and made no changes.

c. **Cary feedback.** The committee commended Campbell University and the Town of Cary for hosting a successful championship weekend. The practice and competition fields were of championship quality and the high attendance numbers provided a positive student-athlete experience.

d. **Television ratings.** There was a slight decrease in ratings for the semifinals and final on ESPNU in comparison to the 2017 championship. ESPN was able to move Sunday's final match time back one hour to 1 p.m., which provided an additional hour of rest time for the student-athletes participating in the national championship.

4. **Committee ranking calls and selection weekend.**

   a. **Selection, seeding and bracketing process.** The committee reviewed selection criteria and agreed to keep the same criteria for 2019.

   b. **Rating Percentage Index.** The committee reviewed the RPI calculation and made no changes.

   c. **Regional/national rankings (Top 45).** The committee asked NCAA staff to compile the top 45 rankings to provide to them at the selections meeting. National committee members will not vote on regional teleconferences beginning next year.

5. **2019 championship preparations.** The committee reviewed a number of recommendations for the San Jose staff to consider for the 2019 championship.

6. **Women's College Cup site selection.** NCAA staff provided information to the staff relative to the upcoming bid process, which is tentatively set to begin at the end of this summer.

7. **Championship format.** Please refer to Action Items 2-a and 2-b above. Additionally, the committee supports seeding teams one through 32, but NCAA staff noted that the Competition Oversight Committee is currently reviewing bracketing principles for a number of sports, including women's soccer.

8. **Officials.**

   a. **Selection and assigning process.** National Coordinator of Officials Ryan Cigich reviewed the selection and assigning process for the committee.

   b. **Evaluations.** NCAA staff shared the officials' evaluations with Mr. Cigich. The committee also reviewed the feedback.
9. **2019 automatic qualification.** See Action Item 2-c above.

10. **Manuals.** NCAA staff will make appropriate updates to the various manuals used for the championship.

11. **2019 committee timeline.** The committee reviewed and approved the 2019 timeline.

12. **National and regional advisory committees.** The committee applauded outgoing members Tony da Luz, Karen Hancock and Janet Oberle for their service and dedication to women's soccer.

13. **Social media.** Nick Hessler provided an update regarding the women's soccer social media accounts.

14. **Future meeting dates.** The 2020 annual meeting is scheduled for January 27-28 in Indianapolis.

Committee Chair: Janet Oberle, Saint Louis University; Atlantic 10 Conference  
Staff Liaison: Kelsey Jones, Championships and Alliances

| Division I Women's Soccer Committee  
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<tr>
<th>January 28-29, 2019 Meeting</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Attendees:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tony da Luz, Wake Forest University.</td>
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<td>Clifton Douglass, Conference USA.</td>
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<td>Nancy Feldman, Boston University.</td>
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<td>Karen Hancock, Oklahoma State University.</td>
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<td>China Jude, University of Wyoming.</td>
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<td>Chad Miller, Western Carolina University.</td>
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<td>Janet Oberle, Saint Louis University.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Absentees:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Lauren Ashman, Bowling Green State University.</td>
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<td>Erin Chastain, DePaul University.</td>
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<td>Zack Lassiter, Oregon State University.</td>
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<td><strong>Guests in Attendance:</strong></td>
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<td>Ryan Cigich, NCAA Coordinator of Officials.</td>
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<td>Rob Kehoe, United Soccer Coaches.</td>
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<td><strong>NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:</strong></td>
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<td>Kelsey Jones.</td>
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<td><strong>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</strong></td>
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<td>Robin Hale and Nick Hessler.</td>
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