ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative items.
   • None.

2. Nonlegislative items.
   • Automatic qualification.
     a. Recommendation. That the following 10 conferences be approved for automatic qualification for the 2016 NCAA Division I Field Hockey Championship:

        America East Conference; Atlantic 10 Conference; Atlantic Coast Conference; Big East Conference; Big Ten Conference; Colonial Athletic Association; The Ivy League; Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference; Mid-American Conference; and Patriot League.

     b. Effective date. 2016 championship.

     c. Rationale. All the conferences have met requirements to receive automatic qualification.

     d. Estimated budget impact. None.

     e. Student-athlete impact. None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. Agenda and meeting schedule. The committee reviewed the agenda and meeting schedule and made no adjustments.

2. Announcements. Announcements were made and the committee took no action.

3. Report from previous meeting. The committee reviewed and approved the report from last year’s annual meeting.

4. Championships/Sports Management Cabinet actions from the past year. The committee reviewed and took no action.
5. **2015 championship.**

a. **Bracket.** The committee reviewed the bracket composition and took no further action.

b. **First- and second-round evaluations.** Site representatives reported overall positive feedback from preliminary rounds. Feedback within the evaluations from institutions that participated at each site will be sent to the host tournament director.

c. **Finals site.**

   (1) **Evaluations.** Coaches and student-athletes responded positively overall to the finals site, particularly the banquet setting and the experience of playing in a first-class facility.

   (2) **Webcasting.** The committee noted that viewership on the web stream decreased slightly from last year.

   (3) **Merchandise – Event1.** The committee asked if moving to online sales for fans would be an option in the future. NCAA staff will follow up with Event1.

   (4) **Programs – IMG College.** The committee reviewed sales and noted the challenge in selling printed programs at the finals site the last three years. NCAA staff will follow up with IMG College to see if there is an opportunity to go to a digital program, similar to many other championships.

   (5) **Hotels.** The committee noted one team did not stay at the designated hotel. The committee would like a minimum of three hotels secured for teams in the next bid cycle (2018-2021).

   (6) **Awards presentation.** No issues were reported regarding the awards presentation. This was the first year the national runner-up could leave the field after the postgame handshake and not have to remain on the field for the awards presentation. The committee felt this was a positive change and will continue to follow the protocol next year.

   (7) **Banquet.** Student-athletes continued to positively evaluate the banquet. The committee continues to desire a relevant speaker at the banquet. NCAA staff will work with Old Dominion University for a qualified speaker for the 2016 championship.

   (8) **Credentials.** The committee reviewed the credential types and took no action.
(9) **Selection show.** The selection announcement will be at 10 p.m. Eastern time on Sunday. Institutions are accustomed to the timing of the selection show, and it provides the committee enough time for decisions regarding the bracket after the games that occur on Sunday.

d. **Rating Percentage Index (RPI).** The committee reviewed the RPI release schedule and made no changes.

e. **Selection criteria.** The committee reviewed selection criteria and took no action.

6. **Action plan for next year.**

a. **Regional alignment.** The committee reviewed conferences and the regions in which they reside to review if there was a need to place all conferences in the same region. Even though many Division I team sports do this, the committee felt that due to field hockey’s small membership, it was important to keep institutions in their current regions even if it means conferences are spread among various regions.

b. **Site selection criteria – facility requirements.** The committee reviewed the facility evaluation that prospective hosts must complete during the bid solicitation process and made no changes to the form.

c. **Play-in and first- and second-round sites.** All conferences will remain intact, so there will continue to be two play-in games. First- and second-round sites will see no change.

d. **Committee and staff responsibilities.** The committee reviewed the worksheet outlining the committee responsibilities at the finals site and made no changes.

e. **Rankings.** The committee reviewed the ranking schedule and made no changes. Additionally, the committee emphasized the importance of attracting regional advisory committee members who are engaged and will provide feedback during ranking calls.

f. **Rules.** Steve Horgan, rules interpreter, will edit the changes that the divisional committees recommended. The membership will have a two-week comment period to review these changes before they are sent to the Playing Rules Oversight Panel for final approval in June.

g. **Umpires.** The committee reviewed assignments for the preliminary rounds and finals site and took no action. Additionally, committee members were pleased with the work of Beth Anders in her second year as national assignor of officials.
h. **Team/host videotaping.** The committee discussed team videotaping and will ask that a team provide a hard drive to the tournament manager if they do not plan on videotaping. The host will be responsible for providing copies of all games to that team’s hard drive. As in previous years, if a team brings a person to videotape, they can video all games on-site.

i. **Go Pro’s in goal.** The committee continues to support the use of team Go Pro cameras in goal cages. Both teams must have access to the feed of the Go Pro if only one team is using them on-site. No audio should be used with the cameras.

j. **Manuals.** The committee suggested revisions to the committee policies and procedures manual, the pre-championships manual, the tournament operations manual and the site representative manual and asked NCAA staff to update as necessary.

k. **Review 2016 committee calendar.** The committee reviewed and approved the updated 2016 calendar.

l. **Video review.** The committee and NCAA staff had been asked about the opportunity for video review at preliminary sites. Due to the possible cost of implementation and limited ability on some campuses, the committee will not require video review at preliminary sites. Video review will continue to be performed at the finals site.

m. **Future finals sites (2016 and 2017).** The committee set the semifinal game times at Old Dominion for 2 p.m. and 4:45 p.m. Eastern. The championship game will be at 1 p.m. Eastern. Additionally, the committee wants uniform colors determined on the Monday call before the semifinals with the participants. This will ensure that teams have contrasting uniforms upon arrival. Finally, teams in the second semifinal will be able to determine how much time they want for warm-up between games should the first game go long. If teams cannot agree, 45 minutes will be placed on the clock for warm-up. The game will not begin before 4:45 p.m.

7. **Update on sport committee, coaches association and cabinet.**

   a. **Committee composition and vacancies.** The committee thanked the one outgoing member for her dedication and service to the championship. The vacancy will be filled in April.

   b. **Regional advisory committee.** Conference offices will assign replacement members for the regional advisory committees. NCAA staff will coordinate a timeline for filling those vacancies.

8. **Injury report.** Zack Kerr, director of the NCAA Injury Surveillance Program at the Datalys Center for Sports Injury Research and Prevention, provided a detailed injury report. The
committee noted that despite the small sample sizes, it was helpful to have data regarding injuries in the sport.

Committee Chair: Jason Simms, College of William and Mary, Colonial Athletic Association
Staff Liaison: Mary Berdo, Championships and Alliances

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<th>Division I Field Hockey Committee</th>
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<td>January 20-21, 2016, Meeting</td>
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**Attendees:**
- Kirsten Britton, University of Connecticut; American Athletic Conference.
- Ashley Champigny, Atlantic Coast Conference.
- Carli Figlio, Monmouth University; Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference.
- Helen Knull, Michigan State University; Big Ten Conference.
- Jason Simms, College of William and Mary; Colonial Athletic Association.

**Absentees:**
- Carla Tagliente, University of Massachusetts, Amherst; Atlantic 10 Conference.

**Guests in Attendance:**
- Beth Anders, National Assignor for NCAA Field Hockey Officials (via teleconference).
- Steve Horgan, NCAA Rules Interpreter (via teleconference).

**NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:**
- Mary Berdo, Championships and Alliances.

**Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:**
- Liz Turner Suscha, Championships and Alliances.
- Keith Willard, Championships and Alliances.