ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative items.
   - None.

2. Nonlegislative items.
   - Regional advisory committee (RAC) composition.
     (1) Recommendation. That the field hockey RACs have only one representative per conference.
     (2) Effective date. September 1, 2017.
     (3) Rationale. Some regions have one representative per conference while other regions have two. The committee understands that having two representatives per conference may have value in regions with few conferences; however, currently a smaller region has only one representative per conference and a larger region has two. The committee agreed that even in the smaller regions, one representative per conference is enough, considering that RAC members are no longer required to recuse themselves from the call if their team is under discussion.

The committee understands that a September 1, 2017, effective date might raise concern; however, implementing it in September 2017 causes less disruption in the terms of the RAC members than it would if implementation was in September 2018.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. 2016 annual meeting report. The Division III Field Hockey Committee approved the 2016 meeting report as submitted.
2. **Division III Championships Committee reports.** The committee reviewed the NCAA Division III Championship Committee reports from the past year and discussed items applicable to field hockey.

3. **Automatic qualification and pools breakdown.** The committee reviewed the regional alignments by conference. Staff noted some potential conference membership changes and will confirm once the 2017-18 sponsorship information is available.

4. **2016 NCAA Division III Field Hockey Championship review.** The committee reviewed the 2016 NCAA Division III Field Hockey Championship hosted by William Smith College. Messiah College won the national championship with a victory over Tufts University. The committee made the following observations related to the championship:

   a. **Site representatives’ history.** The committee discussed the site representatives for 2016 and reviewed the history. The committee agreed to emphasize during the 2017 site representative training teleconference that site representatives are to facilitate the participant teleconference and must attend the practices on site.

   b. **Selection call.** The committee was pleased with the selection procedures and software used to conduct them.

   c. **Coaches/student-athlete surveys.** The committee reviewed the submitted surveys, noting items to discuss/implement for the 2017 championship.

   d. **Site evaluations.** The committee reviewed the site evaluations.

   e. **Officials’ evaluations.** The committee reviewed the officials’ evaluation forms.

   f. **Financial summary.** The committee reviewed the financial summary for the championship.

   g. **Attendance history.** The committee reviewed the attendance history report from the statistics staff.

   h. **Web streaming report.** The committee reviewed the fall live video streaming report and discussed some of the trends from last year to this year. The viewing numbers were up from last year, including more unique starts.

5. **2017 championship.**

   a. **2017 committee timeline.** The committee reviewed and updated the timeline for 2017-18.

   b. **Committee championship duties.** The duties and assignments for the committee will be adjusted to accommodate the needs at the joint championship site.
c. **Officials.** The committee expressed continued concerns over the official assignment process and in the officials who were assigned. The committee is hopeful its recommendation in the Division III budget process to pay for officials’ evaluators to attend the second/third-round games is approved. The feedback from the evaluators will be provided to the national assignor for the development of officials and used to formulate recommendations for assignments in future years.

d. **Tentative championship schedule.** The committee reviewed two possible championship schedules, one with the semifinals conducted at Bellarmine, the other with the semifinals conducted at Louisville’s lacrosse stadium. The committee prefers conducting the semifinals at Louisville.

(Note: After the meeting, it was decided that the semifinals will be held at Bellarmine due to facility and staffing constraints at Louisville.)

e. **Warm-up time.** The committee discussed and agreed not to change the warm-up time.

The committee also discussed the walkthroughs on the day of games. Members voted to eliminate all walkthroughs unless a team is traveling on the day of the game and did not practice on the game field on the practice day.

f. **Banquet.** Two sites are under consideration for the joint banquet: Churchill Downs or the Muhammad Ali Center.

g. **Practice.** Division III will have the later practice times since the Division II final game is before the Division III final.

h. **Community service.** It may be difficult to accommodate time for community service with the eight practice times. Staff will work with Division II and its plan for community service.

i. **Team hotels.** The team hotels will be the Fairfield Louisville Downtown and the Springhill Suites Louisville Downtown.

j. **All-Star Game.** Staff will discuss with Jenn Goodrich from the National Field Hockey Coaches Association (NFHCA) possible plans and site for the three senior all-star games.

k. **Official ball.** The committee confirmed its desire to use the smooth ball throughout the championship. The Penn Monto Elite will be the official ball for the 2017 championship.

In response to the continued feedback from some schools requesting the use of a dimpled ball (i.e. Kookaburra), not only on water-based turf but also on non water-based turf, former committee members Michelle Andre and Dawn Chamberlin agreed at last year’s
annual meeting to buy a dozen balls for their teams and test them on their own non water-based turfs. Ms. Andre noted that the dimpled balls were sticky and were not sufficient for use on non water-based turf.

1. **Replay monitor.** The committee requested as part of the Division III budget process to provide a replay monitor for officials’ replay review. The committee agreed to adopt the replay monitor guidelines already in place for the Division I championship.

6. **Division III update.** Louise McCleary, NCAA director of Division III, provided an update from the NCAA Convention and other ongoing Division III initiatives.

7. **National Field Hockey Coaches Association (NFHCA) convention review.** The committee reviewed issues discussed at the convention.

8. **Field hockey manuals.** The committee reviewed the various manuals for field hockey and instructed staff to make the appropriate updates.

*Committee Chair: Rebecca Begley, Hendrix College, Southern Athletic Association  
Staff Liaison: Kelly S. Whitaker, Championships and Alliances*
| Division III Field Hockey Committee  
January 25-26, 2017, Annual Meeting |
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<tr>
<td><strong>Attendees:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Rebecca Begley, Hendrix College; Southern Athletic Association.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kelly Kingsbury, State University of New York at Oneonta; State University of New York Athletic Conference.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marybeth Lamb, Bridgewater State University; Massachusetts State Collegiate Athletic Conference.</td>
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<td>Jennifer Noon, Fairleigh Dickinson University, Middle Atlantic Conference Freedom.</td>
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<td>Ashley Smeltzer-Kraft, Shenandoah University; Old Dominion Athletic Conference.</td>
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<td>Andrea Thebarge, Thomas College, North Atlantic Conference.</td>
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<td><strong>Absentees:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>None.</td>
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<td><strong>Guests in Attendance:</strong></td>
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<td>None.</td>
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<td><strong>NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Kelly Whitaker, Championships and Alliances.</td>
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<td><strong>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Louise McCleary, Division III Governance.</td>
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