REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION II WOMEN’S SOCCER COMMITTEE
JANUARY 29-30, 2018, MEETING

ACTION ITEMS.

- None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. Review of Division II Championships Committee actions. The women’s soccer committee reviewed Championships Committee action items related to women’s soccer from 2017. The committee asked staff to review automatic qualification forms in February so the committee will have an initial idea of the number of regional berths with the move to access ratio starting in 2018.

2. United Soccer Coaches update. Committee chair J.B. Belzer provided an update from the United Soccer Coaches meeting. The coaches received updates on the length-of-season proposals as well as the practice start date. NCAA staff also presented information regarding the nullification process and how that might apply to playing rules violations.

3. Review of the 2017 championship. The committee reviewed the 2017 championship and noted the following items.

   a. Rankings. The committee discussed the rankings process and felt it went smoothly this year.

   b. Evaluations. Committee members discussed the constraints they feel when determining preliminary-round sites if a facility meets minimum hosting requirements but past student-athlete experience has proven to be poor. The committee shared a few ideas such as ensuring the host receives the student-athlete evaluations of the site and the championship manager follows-up with the host to discuss how the experience can be better in the future. Ultimately, the committee would like further direction from the Division II Championships Committee for how to handle those situations.

   c. Practice times. The committee approved a recommendation to prescribe that all practice times in the postseason will be 60 minutes long. (Previously, they were 60 minutes at preliminary-round sites and 75 at the finals site.) This change will ensure consistency throughout the tournament.

   d. Game times. The committee discussed the necessary adjustment for game times in the first round starting in 2018 since some host sites will have more than one game in the first round. Members also agreed to allow hosts with lights to choose from the following game times in the first and third rounds: 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., 1 and 4 p.m., or 4 and 7 p.m. local.
The committee affirmed the policy that hosts in the first and third rounds will compete in the second game of the day so more fans can attend and create a better game environment.

e. Future pairing rotation. The committee confirmed the third- and quarterfinal-round hosts for 2018 as well as the semifinal rotation. In 2018, the Midwest will host the Central, South Central will host the West, Atlantic will host the East, and South will host the Southeast.

In the semifinals, the South/Southeast winner will play the Atlantic/East winner. The Central/Midwest winner will play the South Central/West winner.

The committee agreed that reseeding at the finals site did not make sense for this tournament. However, the committee would potentially support reseeding earlier in the tournament if fiscally feasible.

f. Site representative responsibilities. The committee is pleased with the level of education and preparedness of the site representatives but noted that conference commissioners should reiterate the responsibility of regional advisory committee members to serve as site representative when they are appointed. The committee believes this will help ensure that all sites are covered adequately.

g. Bench limits. The committee approved a motion to enforce the roster of 24 student-athletes only for pregame warm-up and competition. If institutions pay for additional student-athletes to travel with the team, then those athletes may participate in practice. Travel roster and bench limits will still be in place for competition.

4. Preview of 2018 championship. The committee discussed game and practice times as well as pregame warm-up options for the 2018 championship in Pittsburgh. The committee is excited that women’s soccer is part of the Division II National Championships Festival in 2018.

5. Sponsorship analysis. The committee reviewed the sport sponsorship list and regional map and noted changes for upcoming and future seasons. The committee reiterated the importance of the sponsorship list moving forward since it will directly impact the number of championship berths each region receives.

6. Selection criteria review. The committee discussed the 2018 selection criteria that replaces the regional rating percentage index with the performance indicator (PI). The committee noted the importance of educating the membership on the scale used for the PI and discussed how it might impact how teams are scheduling. The committee would be interested in a review of the PI to evaluate whether different scales should be used for different sports.

7. Officials. The committee reviewed the 2017 preliminary-round and championship officials.

8. Review of national and regional advisory committees. The committee noted vacancies for the upcoming season.
9. **Review bracket expansion to 56 teams.** The committee noted impacts of the larger bracket that staff should pay special attention to when planning for the 2018 championship. These include increased number of officials, the number of teams each region will rank and how to allocate the last bid should there be two deserving regions based on sponsorship numbers. The committee asked staff to gather more information about methods other access-ratio sports are using to allocate the last bid if two regions are deserving.

10. **Committee chair appointment.** The committee appointed Jim Moore, head women’s soccer coach at Georgian Court, as chair of the committee. Mr. Moore will replace J.B. Belzer, head women’s soccer coach at Regis University (Colorado), who served as chair for two years. The committee thanked Mr. Belzer for his service.

11. **Manual review.** The committee reviewed the 2017 championship manuals and noted edits for the upcoming season. Among notable edits are adjusting the committee timeline to allow regional advisory committees to hold an additional practice call if they deem necessary and requiring championship ball kids to be no younger than 12.

12. **2019 annual meeting dates.** The committee voted to hold the annual meeting January 28-29.

---

**Committee Chair:** J.B. Belzer, Regis University (Colorado), Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference  
**Staff Liaison:** Molly Simons, Championships and Alliances  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attendees:</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jennifer Bell, Coker College; South Atlantic Conference.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>J.B. Belzer, Regis University (Colorado); Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jason Carmichael, California State University, East Bay; California Collegiate Athletic Association.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lisa Liotta, University of Findlay; Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jim Moore, Georgian Court University; Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jonathan Thayil, Shepherd University; Mountain East Conference.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lewis Theobald, University of Central Missouri; Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Absentees:**  
None.

**NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:**  
John Kuzio, Championships and Alliances.  
Molly Simons, Championships and Alliances.