ACTION ITEMS

1. Legislative Items.
   - None.

2. Nonlegislative Items.
   a. Men’s Tennis Committee Chair.
      (1) Recommendation. That Tracy King, commissioner of the Liberty League, be appointed as chair of the Division III Men’s Tennis Committee.
      (2) Effective Date. September 1, 2015.
      (3) Rationale. Mr. King has the most tenure on the committee and has demonstrated great leadership within his region over the past two years. He will replace current chair Chris Bizot when Mr. Bizot’s term as chair expires August 31.
      (4) Estimated Budget Impact. None.
      (5) Student-Athlete Impact. None.
   b. Women’s Tennis Committee Chair.
      (1) Recommendation. That Mike Krizman, assistant commissioner of the College Conference of Illinois & Wisconsin, be appointed as chair of the Division III Women’s Tennis Committee.
      (2) Effective Date. September 1, 2015.
      (3) Rationale. Mr. Krizman has demonstrated great leadership on the committee and within his region over the past two years. He will replace current chair Beck Cecere when Ms. Cecere’s term as chair expires August 31.
      (4) Estimated Budget Impact. None.
      (5) Student-Athlete Impact. None.
   c. Men’s Tennis Automatic Qualification.
      (1) Recommendation. That the following conferences receive automatic qualification for the 2016 championships: Allegheny Mountain Collegiate
Conference; American Southwest Conference; Capital Athletic Conference; Centennial Conference; City University of New York Athletic Conference; College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin; Colonial States Athletic Conference; Middle Atlantic Conference Commonwealth; Empire 8; Middle Atlantic Conference Freedom (First-Year Grace Period); Great Northeast Athletic Conference; Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference; Iowa Intercollegiate Athletic Conference; Landmark Conference; Liberty League; Little East Conference; Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association; Midwest Conference; Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference; New England Men’s and Women’s Athletic Conference; New England Small College Athletic Conference; North Atlantic Conference; North Coast Athletic Conference; Northern Athletics Collegiate Conference; Northwest Conference; Ohio Athletic Conference; Old Dominion Athletic Conference; Presidents’ Athletic Conference; Skyline Conference; Southern Athletic Association; Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference; Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference; The Commonwealth Coast Conference; University Athletic Association; and USA South Athletic Conference.

Anticipated Pool Allocations
Pool A - 35
Pool B - 3
Pool C - 5

(2) Effective Date. September 1, 2015.

(3) Rationale. The 35 conferences meet the requirements of NCAA Bylaw 31.3.2 and have completed the automatic-qualification declaration form. Please note that pool allocations may adjust if 2015-16 sponsorship numbers change.

(4) Estimated Budget Impact. None.

(5) Student-Athlete Impact. None.

d. Women’s Tennis Automatic Qualification.

(1) Recommendation. That the following conferences receive automatic qualification for the 2016 championships: Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference; American Southwest Conference; Capital Athletic Conference; Centennial Conference; City University of New York Athletic Conference; College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin; Colonial States Athletic Conference; Empire 8; Great Northeast Athletic Conference; Great South Athletic Conference; Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference; Iowa Intercollegiate Athletic Conference; Landmark Conference; Liberty League; Little East Conference; Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association; Middle Atlantic Conference Commonwealth; Middle Atlantic Conference Freedom
(First-Year Grace Period); Midwest Conference; Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference; New England Small College Athletic Conference; New England Women's and Men's Athletics Conference; New Jersey Athletic Conference; North Coast Athletic Conference; North Eastern Athletic Conference; Northern Athletics Collegiate Conference; Northwest Conference; Ohio Athletic Conference; Old Dominion Athletic Conference; Presidents’ Athletic Conference; Skyline Conference; Southern Athletic Association; Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference; Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference; State University of New York Athletic Conference; The Commonwealth Coast Conference; University Athletic Association; USA South Athletic Conference; and Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.

Anticipated Pool Allocations

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<tr>
<th>Pool</th>
<th>Berths</th>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>39</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>8</td>
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(2) **Effective Date**: September 1, 2015.

(3) **Rationale**. The 39 conferences meet the requirements of NCAA Bylaw 31.3.4 and have completed the automatic-qualification declaration form. Please note that pool allocations may adjust if 2015-16 sponsorship numbers change.

(4) **Budget Impact**. None.

(5) **Student-Athlete Impact**. None.

e. **Allocation of Berths for Individuals Selections**.

(1) **Recommendation**. That the Division III Men’s and Women’s Tennis Committees, based upon recommendations from the regional advisory committees, select seven singles players and three doubles teams from each of the four regions. Additionally, the national committees would then select the remaining four singles players and four doubles teams from a national at-large pool. This would apply to both the men’s and women’s tennis individuals selections.

(2) **Effective Date**. 2016-17 championship season.

(3) **Rationale**. The existing process provides for eight singles players and four doubles teams per region. The proposal to decrease the regional allocations by one berth for both the singles and doubles would create an at-large component to the individuals selections. This would provide the national committees with flexibility when one region is stronger than another in a particular year.
f. **Finals Site – Consolation Match.**

   (1) **Recommendation.** That the men’s and women’s third-place matches at the finals site be discontinued.

   (2) **Effective Date.** 2015-16 championship season.

   (3) **Rationale.** The recommendation comes from several years of discussion about concerns with the current consolation match format. Several participants that would have been scheduled to play in the third-place match have also qualified for the individuals portion of the championships. The elimination of these matches would provide additional rest time instead of playing a third consecutive day prior to the individuals competition, which begins on day four of the championships. In addition, the change would allow for participants not involved in the individuals competition to return earlier to campus for commencement ceremonies (if applicable). The significance of the third-place matches have diminished over team as teams understand that they are no longer participating in a match to decide a national championship. Eliminating these matches could also positively affect scheduling in the event of inclement weather, as the host and committees would have two fewer matches to account for during the make-up day. The additional flexibility in scheduling also allows the committees to more effectively accommodate the individuals coaches meeting and banquet/luncheon that occur on the final day of the team championship. Further, this adjustment would provide for additional practice courts for the participants arriving for practice prior to the start of the individuals competition.

   (4) **Budget Impact.** The committees would anticipate a modest decrease in overall game expense (e.g., officials fees).

   (5) **Student-Athlete Impact.** The recommendation to eliminate the third-place matches increases rest and recovery time for student-athletes participating in the individual portion of the championships.

g. **Allocation of Berths for Team Selections.**

   (1) **Recommendation.** That allocations for Pools B and C be consolidated into one pool (Pool B/C) for men’s and women’s tennis team championship selections.

   (2) **Effective Date.** 2016-17 championship season.
(3) **Rationale.** The number of automatic qualifiers (AQs) has increased significantly since the 2006-07 academic year (the first year of the automatic qualifier for Division III tennis). As a result, the number of independent institutions for men’s and women’s tennis has decreased, and, in turn, the number of Pool B berths. For men’s tennis, the number of Pool B berths has gone from nine to four, and in women’s tennis from eight to one. Given the bracket size and pool allocations (see below) from this past year, the men’s and women’s tennis committees have recognized some notable concerns in working to select these Pool B berths. With a larger bracket and more available Pool C berths, the women’s committee is able to use Pool C to draw a greater number of quality teams across all four evaluation regions into the field. The women’s committee has struggled, however, to find a viable team to fill the single Pool B bid. By way of example, the press release issued by the 2015 Pool B team led with “Say What!?...Women's Tennis Headed to NCAA Tournament”, demonstrating the surprise even to the participating team. On the men’s side, the committee anticipates a greater challenge in selecting Pool B teams going forward as two of the top five independent schools will be part of an AQ conference for the 2015-16 season. The limited number of Pool C berths also restrict the number of top ranked teams in the championship field (e.g., a team ranked second in a region was left out of the 2015 championships).

(4) **Budget Impact.** None

(5) **Student-Athlete Impact.** None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **2014 Annual Meeting Report.** The committee approved the 2014 annual meeting report as written.

2. **2015 Championships Review.** NCAA staff reviewed the preliminary-round hosts and the championship finals, including the banquets, evaluations, selections, protest procedures and other related items. The committees discussed best practices learned through the championship. Committee members agreed to contact their respective regional advisory committees to generate a greater number of bids to provide more options when selecting preliminary-round sites.

3. **Planning for the 2016 Championships and Beyond.** The committees discussed the upcoming championships at Stowe Stadium in Kalamazoo, Michigan (hosted by Kalamazoo College). The committees will work with the host on the competition and practice schedules, as well as the banquet format. These areas will be focal points on the host calls leading up to the championship.
The committees noted that the head official, Darren Potkey, did a great job at the 2015 championships. NCAA staff has contacted Mr. Potkey about serving as the head official for the 2016 championships.

The committees reviewed the sponsorship lists and regional alignment summary by conference and identified possible discrepancies for staff to explore. In addition, NCAA staff noted the conferences that have submitted applications to achieve automatic qualifier status.

4. **Rankings.** NCAA staff reviewed the vacancies on the regional advisory committees (RACs). The committees discussed the score reporting system, the RAC balloting process and timeline for rankings.

5. **Selections.** The committees discussed ways to improve the official lineup/entry form and provided feedback from their experiences using the selection bracketing and balloting system.

6. **ITA Issues.** The committee discussed concerns regarding the ITA as they relate to score reporting and rankings. A representative of the committees will have a conference call with the ITA to discuss the following issues:
   - Score reporting on the ITA website.
   - ITA convention.
   - Applying the Division I ranking algorithm to Division III.
   - ITA rankings.
   - ITA awards presentation.
   - ITA governance structure.

7. **Review of Manuals.** NCAA staff asked the committees to review the pre-championships, host operations and participant manuals and provide suggested changes to the committee.

8. **Committee Roster.** The men’s and women’s committees selected Tracy King and Mike Krizman, respectively, to chair the groups for the coming year. NCAA staff also reviewed the 2015-16 committee timeline and will make the necessary date adjustments.

9. **Future Dates and Sites.** The committees reviewed future championship dates and sites through 2018. NCAA staff noted that future dates for the next bid process/cycle have not been determined at this time.
Committee Chairs:  Chris Bizot, University of Texas at Tyler, American Southwest Conference  
                      Becky Cecere, Penn State University, Harrisburg, Capital Athletic Conference  
Staff Liaisons:  Ryan Tressel Championships and Alliances  
                      Ethan Walker, Championships and Alliances

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>July 7-9, 2015, Meeting</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attendees</td>
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<tr>
<td>------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chris Bizot, University of Texas at Tyler</td>
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<td>Becky Cecere, Penn State University, Harrisburg</td>
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<td>Tracy King, Liberty League</td>
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<td>Peter Howell, Oglethorpe University</td>
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<td>Mike Krizman, College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin</td>
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<td>Alison Swain, Williams College</td>
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<td>Bryan Whitt, University of Texas at Dallas</td>
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<td>Adam Strand, Luther College</td>
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<td>Absentees</td>
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Other Participants:  
                        Louise McCleary, NCAA; Ryan Tressel, NCAA; Ali Teopas, NCAA; Ethan Walker, NCAA; Laura Peterson-Mlynski, NCAA; Liz Turner Suscha, NCAA; Jeff Williams, NCAA.