

**REPORT OF THE  
DIVISION III MEN'S AND WOMEN'S TENNIS COMMITTEES  
JULY 12-14, 2016, MEETING**

**ACTION ITEMS.**

**1. Legislative items.**

- **None.**

**2. Nonlegislative items.**

**a. Access ratio.**

- (1) Recommendation. That the access ratio for men's and women's tennis be modified from 1:7.5 to 1:7.
- (2) Effective date. September 1, 2017.
- (3) Rationale. The men's and women's tennis committees believe that the access ratio should be modified to provide additional access to at-large teams. As noted in NCAA Bylaw 31.3.1.1, the approximate access ratio for golf and tennis may be in the range of 1:7 and 1:7.5. The access ratio for men's and women's tennis is currently 1:7.5.

Similar to golf, the committees understand the rationale regarding the 1:7.5 ratio for tennis, given the individual fields that have been afforded to the sport. The individual fields do offer 64 additional slots available for institutional participation per gender. However, when examining those numbers over the last three years; an average of 14 (men) and 13 (women) slots have been awarded to individuals that are not participating on teams already in the championship field. This would be the approximate equivalent of two full tennis teams.

Also worth noting is the at-large percentage for team sports in comparison to men's and women's tennis. Other team sports are in the range of 25 to 40 percent of their respective brackets. For men's tennis, the percentage of at-large teams participating in the bracket is at 18 and women's tennis is at 20. If the access ratio were to increase to 1:7; the men's and women's brackets would recognize an increase from 43 to 46 teams (men) and 49 to 53 teams (women), respectively. Please note that the women's committee is cognizant of the Championships Committee's intent on maintaining even-numbered brackets and would appreciate the opportunity to expand to 52 teams, if possible. Again, if this increase were to occur, it would move the percentage of at-large teams to 24 (men) and 26 (women), respectively. While these percentages are still on the low end of comparisons; it would bring them into the range with other sports as it

relates to the composition of automatic qualifiers and at-larges that are selected into the field.

- (4) Estimated budget impact. Men's tennis adding three teams would result in a \$21,000 budget increase. Women's tennis adding four teams (this is with the calculation of the access ratio adjustment) would result in a \$30,000 budget increase. Assuming the Championships Committee would only be interested in an increase that would maintain an even-numbered bracket; women's tennis would also result in a \$21,000 budget increase by adding only three teams.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. This proposal will afford additional opportunities for deserving teams to compete at the championships.

b. **Men's tennis automatic qualification.**

- (1) Recommendation. That the following conferences receive automatic qualification for the 2017 championships: Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference; American Southwest Conference; Capital Athletic Conference; Centennial Conference; City University of New York Athletic Conference; College Conference of Illinois & Wisconsin; Colonial States Athletic Conference; Empire 8; Great Northeast 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; 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 Conference; Northwest Conference; Ohio Athletic Conference; Old Dominion Athletic Conference; Presidents' Athletic Conference; Skyline Conference; Southern Athletic Association; Southern California Inter. Athletic Conference; Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference; The Commonwealth Coast Conference; University Athletic Association; USA South Athletic Conference.
- (2) Effective date. September 1, 2016.
- (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 2016-17 sponsorship numbers change.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

c. **Women's tennis automatic qualification.**

- (1) Recommendation. That the following conferences receive automatic qualification for the 2017 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; 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 Conference; Northwest Conference; Ohio Athletic Conference; Old Dominion Athletic Conference; Presidents' Athletic Conference; Skyline Conference; Southern Athletic Association; Southern California Inter. Athletic Conference; Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference;); State University of New York Athletic Conference; The Commonwealth Coast Conference; University Athletic Association; USA South Athletic Conference; Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.
- (2) Effective date: September 1, 2016.
- (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 2016-17 sponsorship numbers change.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

### **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **2015 annual meeting report.** The committees approved the 2015 annual meeting report as written.
2. **2016 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 2017 championships and beyond.** The committees discussed the upcoming championships at Cary Tennis Park in Cary, North Carolina (hosted by Meredith 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 2016 championships. NCAA staff has contacted Mr. Potkey about serving as the head official for the 2017 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 the policies/procedures associated with the official lineups. In particular, the committees noted that the lineup submissions received for the preliminary rounds of competition will be in effect throughout the entire championship (including the finals site). Committee members also provided feedback from their experiences using the selection bracketing and balloting system.
- 6. ITA report.** Representatives from the ITA joined the committees via teleconference to discuss a number of topics, including:
  - Score reporting on the ITA website.
  - ITA convention.
  - Computer rankings/testing algorithms – working toward standardization.
  - ITA rankings.
  - ITA awards presentation at NCAA championship site.
  - ITA governance structure.
  - ITA operations group
- 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 NCAA staff.
- 8. 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. Over the next several months the committees will review future bids for 2019-22.
- 9. Annual meeting.** The committees agreed to meet July 11-13, 2017.

*Committee Chairs: Mike Krizman, College Conference of Illinois & Wisconsin  
Tracy King, Liberty League*

*Staff Liaisons: Anjellica Rospond Championships and Alliances  
Ethan Walker, Championships and Alliances*

<b>Division III Men's and Women's Tennis Committees July 12-14, 2016, Meeting</b>
<b>Attendees:</b>
Steve Bickam, Pomona-Pitzer Colleges; Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.
Conchie Shackelford, University of the South; Southern Athletic Association.
Tracy King, Liberty League.
Peter Howell, Oglethorpe University; Southern Athletic Association.
Mike Krizman, College Conference of Illinois & Wisconsin.
Alison Swain, Williams College; New England Small College Athletic Conference.
Bryan Whitt, University of Texas at Dallas; American Southwest Conference.
Adam Strand, Luther College; Iowa Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.
<b>Absentees:</b>
None.
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>
None.
<b>NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:</b>
Anjellica Rospond, Championships and Alliances.
Ethan Walker, Championships and Alliances.
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>
Louise McCleary, Governance.
Liz Turner Suscha, Championships and Alliances.