REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION I MEN’S AND WOMEN’S TENNIS COMMITTEE
JULY 11-12, 2017, MEETING

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative items.
   • None.

2. Nonlegislative items.
   a. Automatic qualification.

      (1) Recommendation. That the following conferences receive automatic bids for the 2018
          NCAA Division I Men’s and Women’s Tennis Championships (31 conferences for
          the women’s championships and 30 for the men’s): American Athletic Conference;
          Atlantic Coast Conference; Atlantic Sun Conference; Atlantic 10 Conference; Big
          East Conference; Big Sky Conference; Big South Conference; Big Ten Conference;
          Big 12 Conference; Big West Conference; Colonial Athletic Association; Conference
          USA; Horizon League; The Ivy League; Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference; Mid-
          American Conference; Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference; Missouri Valley
          Conference (women’s only); Mountain West Conference; Northeast Conference;
          Ohio Valley Conference; Pac-12 Conference; Patriot League; Southeastern
          Conference; Southern Conference; Southland Conference; Southwestern Athletic
          Conference; The Summit League; Sun Belt Conference; West Coast Conference; and
          Western Athletic Conference.

      (2) Effective date. 2017-18 academic year.

      (3) Rationale. All eligible conferences are being recommended.

      (4) Estimated budget impact. None.

      (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

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

2. Announcements. Staff informed the committee of internal sport assignment changes that
   affect the Division I tennis championships.
3. **Report from previous meeting.** The committee approved the report from the 2016 meeting as distributed.

4. **Review of NCAA Division I Competition Oversight Committee actions.** The committee reviewed actions the Competition Oversight Committee took at its meetings and teleconferences for the past calendar year. Staff highlighted the new bracketing procedures effective in 2018 and the new championship format to be implemented in 2019.

5. **Review of 2016 championships.**
   
a. **Selection show.** The committee asked staff to enhance the quality of the selection show by including elements such as additional commentary, coverage of team viewing parties and live interviews of head coaches.

b. **First and second rounds.**

   - **Evaluations.** The survey results revealed participants’ dislike of the participant medallions. The committee asked staff to consider something more memorable, such as championship apparel. Additionally, the members recommended that all participating student-athletes receive a participant medallion (or future replacement) instead of only those at the final site.

   The committee changed the minimum number of hotel rooms to be held by prospective hosts from nine to 10 based on feedback from participating teams at first- and second-round sites. The committee asked staff to create administrative meeting talking points for the site representatives. A separate teleconference will be scheduled for first- and second-round head officials.

c. **Finals site.**

   (1) **Evaluations.** The committee commended the University of Georgia for its outstanding hosting efforts and hospitality for all participants, coaches and fans. Future hosts will be required to provide consistent medical services at the championship site and the alternate site, should one be needed due to inclement weather. The committee will work with the host to provide food for teams that must travel to an alternate site.

   (2) **Format – schedule of matches.** The committee reviewed the current schedule of events and did not recommend changes for 2018.
(3) **Finals broadcast.** The committee discussed the partnership with the United States Tennis Association to broadcast the team finals on ESPNU. The group pointed out several production challenges resulting from the short planning phase, but overall the committee was pleased with the television coverage.

(4) **Celebrations and social events.** The timing of the team and individual celebrations is difficult given the championships schedule. NCAA staff will continue to work with hosts to create a positive experience for the participating teams and coaches.

(5) **Officials.** An officiating subcommittee has been established to develop selection and evaluation procedures for super-regional round officials when the new format takes effect in 2019. This subcommittee will discuss recommending an increase to first- and second-round officiating fees.

   (a) **Evaluation of officials.** The committee commended the officiating crew on another successful championship.

   (b) **Head referees/deputy referee.** The committee met with the co-head referees via teleconference and thanked them for their outstanding work and partnership during the championships. The committee recommended to re-hire the co-head and deputy referees for the 2018 championships.

(6) **Inclement weather plans and practices.** The committee reviewed a request to set a clear guideline for making decisions about moving matches indoors. Because weather issues are situational and require flexibility, the committee will develop guidelines based on factors specific to each site, such as the number of indoor courts and the proximity of an alternate indoor facility.

(7) **All-tournament team selection/process.** The committee will continue with the same process for the all-tournament team selection. A member of the committee will serve as the point person.

6. **Discussion of action plan for next year.**

   a. **Team and individual selection criteria and procedures.** NCAA staff will update the selections procedures document to reflect the new bracketing principles going into effect in 2018.

      (1) **Minimum number of singles/doubles matches for selections.** The committee decided to retain the same number of minimum matches for selections next year.
(2) .500 rule. The committee continues to receive feedback regarding the .500 rule from coaches. A subcommittee was established to discuss and address these concerns.

(3) Review worksheet/weighting of categories. The committee edited the selections worksheet to reflect that only one point can be awarded for wins versus teams (or individuals) already selected at the time of consideration to match the process that has been followed in the past. Two points can be awarded for defeating the same opponent two or more times under the head-to-head competition selection criterion.

(4) Withdrawal from competition policy. There were several last-minute withdrawals from the singles and doubles competition this year. The committee will continue to monitor this process to ensure alternates have an opportunity to compete in the championships.

b. Lineup procedures.

- Challenge procedures and timeline; challenge identification. A few coaches did not submit their lineups before the deadline, resulting in a fine. Staff will ask the Intercollegiate Tennis Association to continue to send reminders before selections. The committee clarified that during the lineup challenge process, head coaches may be contacted via teleconference to provide additional information as necessary, but it is not required to contact them.

c. Manuals. The committee discussed the various manuals and asked staff to make the necessary edits.

d. Automatic qualification. The committee reviewed the requests for automatic qualification. (See Action Item 2-a.)

7. Update on sports committee, coaches association and governance structure.

a. ITA/USTA items. The committee noted the strong support and positive relationship with the both the coaches association and the national governing body. The committee thanked the USTA for its recent partnership on the ESPNU team championship finals broadcast.

ITA leaders met with the committee to review major goals and accomplishments from 2016-17 and discuss future initiatives. The committee and staff will begin to develop a strategic plan for the championship and will work closely with the ITA to support each other.
b. **Tennis committee composition.** The committee recognized outgoing member Marija Pientka, University of Wisconsin, Madison, for her tremendous service and leadership during her tenure on the national committee.

Judy Van Horn, University of South Carolina, Columbia, will continue as the committee chair for 2017-18. Elizabeth Schmidt, head women’s tennis coach at Rice University, was selected as the women’s subcommittee chair.

c. **2017-18 committee calendar.** The committee reviewed a draft of the 2017-18 committee calendar.

d. **2018 annual meeting dates.** The committee will conduct its next annual meeting in Indianapolis July 9-11, 2018.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anthony Montero</td>
<td>Head Referee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Erica Perkins Jasper</td>
<td>ITA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tim Russell</td>
<td>ITA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kelsey Cermak</td>
<td>Championships and Alliances.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kerstin Hunter</td>
<td>Championships and Alliances.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:**
- Kelsey Cermak, Championships and Alliances.
- Kerstin Hunter, Championships and Alliances.

**Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:**
None.