REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION I FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP COMMITTEE
JULY 17, 2014, MEETING

KEY ITEMS.

1. None.

ACTION ITEMS.

2. Legislative Items.
   - None.

3. Nonlegislative Items.
   a. NCAA Division I Football Championship – Officiating Assignments and Evaluation of Officials.
      (1) Recommendation. The committee recommends using the services of Rogers Redding, National Coordinator of Officials, to assign the game officials and instant replay officials for the championship. In addition, Mr. Redding will also obtain feedback to evaluate the officials assigned throughout the championship.
      (2) Effective Date. 2014 NCAA Division I Football Championship.
      (3) Rationale. The committee believes that using Mr. Redding to assign the game officials and also evaluate the performance of the assigned game officials will lend more credibility to the assignment process. Mr. Redding also believes that assigning and evaluating the officials is an appropriate role for the National Coordinator of Officials as part of the College Football Officiating, LLC. In addition, Mr. Redding also has the respect of the various conference coordinators of officials to make such assignments. As part of this new role, Mr. Redding will participate on numerous committee conference calls throughout the year.
      (4) Estimated Budget Impact. None.
      (5) Student-Athlete Impact. None.
      (1) Recommendation. That the fees for the instant replay official for the Division I Football Championship be reduced from $750 to $500.
(2) Effective Date. Starting with the 2015 NCAA Division I Football Championship.

(3) Rationale. The instant replay official currently receives $750 per game. The recommended reduction, in conjunction with the next recommendation to increase the officiating fees for the on-field game officials, will allow the on-field officials to earn more per game than the instant replay official. The committee believes it is important for the game officials to receive a higher fee than the instant replay official.

(4) Estimated Budget Impact. An annual savings of $5,750, which over the three year budget triennium would result in an aggregate savings of $17,250.

The committee is not suggesting changes to other expense items such as per diem, lodging, and travel for the instant replay official, as these expenses are already in the championship budget.

(5) Student-Athlete Impact. None.

c. Officiating Fees – Game Officials.

(1) Recommendation. That game officials for the Division I Football Championship be paid $750 per game in 2015, $825 per game in 2016 and $900 per game in 2017.

(2) Effective Date. Starting with the 2015 NCAA Division I Football Championship.

(3) Rationale. Fees for the game officials have not increased since 2004. The current fee for each of the seven game officials assigned to each of the 23 playoff games is $450. The committee suggests gradually raising the game fees over a three-year period. Current regular-season officiating fees in the various Division I Football Championship Subdivision conferences range from a low of $545 per game to a high of $1,090 per game. The average fee is $798 per game.

(4) Estimated Budget Impact. $48,300 (year one increase); $60,375 (year two increase); and $72,450 (year three increase), resulting in a net increase of $181,125 through the 2015-17 budget triennium. These expenses can be offset annually by the $10,000 per game increase in minimum financial guarantees that were approved for the second-round, quarterfinal, and semifinal games (14 total games) (see attachment).
The committee is not suggesting changes to other expense items such as per diem, lodging, and travel for the game officials, as these expenses are already in the championship budget.

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

d. **Officiating Fees – Instant Replay Communicator.**

(1) **Recommendation.** That an official instant replay communicator be added for all preliminary rounds of the Division I Football Championship. Additionally, that the fee for the instant replay communicator for all rounds be established at $400.

The instant replay communicator will have additional expenses for per diem, lodging, travel, baggage fees, and rental car expenses that also must be factored into the total budgetary impact as noted below.

(2) **Effective Date.** Starting with the 2015 NCAA Division I Football Championship.

(3) **Rationale.** A representative of the instant replay provider has provided the instant replay communicator services in recent years. This person does not serve in this role throughout the regular season. If the instant replay official were incapacitated for any reason during a game, the instant replay communicator would assume this role. The committee believes that a communicator who has served in this role during the regular season would be better suited to handle this task during the playoffs.

(4) **Estimated Budget Impact.** $40,940 per year (covering 23 games). This is based on a game fee of $400 per game; per diem of $45 per day for three days ($135 per person); lodging of $170 per night for two nights ($340 per person); travel expenses of $650 per person; baggage fees of $120 round-trip per person; and rental car charges of $45 per day for three days ($135 per person). This would result in an aggregate increase of $122,820 through the 2015-17 budget triennium (see attachment).

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

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Review of Division I Championships/Sports Management Cabinet Meeting.** The committee reviewed actions taken during the cabinet’s June 2014 meeting regarding the committee’s recommendations.
2. **2015 and 2016 NCAA Division I Football Championship Game Dates.** The 2015 game will take place Saturday, January 10; and the 2016 game will be played January 9, both at Toyota Stadium in Frisco, Texas.

3. **FCS Kickoff Game.** The committee noted that the FCS Kickoff game between Sam Houston State University and Eastern Washington University will take place in Cheney, Washington, on Saturday, August 23, at 3:30 p.m. Eastern time and will be broadcast on ESPN.

4. **FCS Commissioners Meeting.** The committee previewed the FCS commissioners meeting that will take place August 12-13 in Atlanta.

*Committee Chair:* Jeff Bourne, James Madison University  
*Staff Liaisons:* Randy L. Buhr, Championships and Alliances  
*           * Chad Tolliver, Championships and Alliances
### July 17, 2014, Meeting

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Attendees</th>
<th>Absentees</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chuck Burch, Gardner-Webb University (via conference call)</td>
<td>Jeff Barber, Liberty University</td>
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<td>Torre Chisholm, Portland State University (via conference call)</td>
<td>Jeff Bourne, James Madison University</td>
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<td>Troy Dannen, University of Northern Iowa (via conference call)</td>
<td>Earl Hilton, North Carolina A&amp;T State University</td>
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<td>Robert Hill, Stephen F. Austin State University (via conference call)</td>
<td>Brian Hutchinson, Morehead State University</td>
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<td>Richard Johnson, Wofford College (via conference call)</td>
<td>Paul Schlickmann, Central Connecticut State University</td>
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<td>Frank McLaughlin, Fordham University (via conference call)</td>
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<td>Mark Wilson, Tennessee Tech University (via conference call)</td>
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<td><strong>Other Attendees:</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Randy L. Buhr, NCAA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rogers Redding, NCAA National Coordinator of Football Officials</td>
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