ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative items.

   a. Championships misconduct bylaws.

      (1) Recommendation. That the Division III Management Council adopt noncontroversial legislation to amend the language in Bylaws 31.02.3 and 31.1.8.3 for the purpose of consistency. Following are the suggested revisions (strike-through represents language deleted; italics represents language added):

         31.02.3 Misconduct. Misconduct in an NCAA championship is any act of dishonesty, unsportsmanlike conduct, unprofessional behavior or breach of law, occurring from the time the championship field is announced through the end of the championship, that discredits the event or intercollegiate athletics, that occurs from the time the championship field is announced through the end of the championship, and is related in any way to the championship, including travel en route to, from or at the locale of the competition or practice.

         31.1.8.3 Penalty for Misconduct. A governing sports committee (or the games committee authorized to act for it) may impose any one or a combination of the following penalties on an institution or any student-athlete or representative of an institution guilty of misconduct as defined by Bylaw 31.02.3: that occurs, en route to, from or at the locale of the competition or practice:

            a) Public or private reprimand of the individual;
            b) Disqualification of the individual from further participation in the NCAA championship involved;
            c) Banishment of the individual from participation in one or more future championships of the sport involved;
            d) Cancellation of payment to the institution of the Association's travel guarantee for the individuals involved;
            e) Withholding of all or a portion of the institution's share of revenue distribution;
            f) Banishment of the institution from participation in one or more future championships in which its team in that sport otherwise would be eligible to participate;
            g) Disqualification of an institution for a period of time from serving as host institution for one or more NCAA championships;
            h) Cancellation of all or a portion of the honorarium for hosting an NCAA championship; and
            i) Financial or other penalties different from (a) through (h) above, but only if they have prior approval of the Championships Committee.
(2) **Effective date.** August 1, 2019.

(3) **Rationale.** The two bylaws as currently written do not have consistent language. Bylaw 31.02.3 was amended in 2009 to extend the misconduct period to start when the championship field was announced. Bylaw 31.1.8.3 was not amended. This recommendation eliminates confusion.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

**b. Administrative regulation - alcohol sales at joint championships.**

(1) **Recommendation.** That Management Council sponsor a change permitting alcohol sales at future joint championships that include Division I, provided they meet the required parameters and are held in the same facility.

(2) Effective date. Immediate.

(3) **Rationale.** The Division III Championships Committee continues to oppose selling alcohol at singular Division III championships (as do about two-thirds of respondents in the 2018 membership survey) but is comfortable with selling alcohol at select joint championships under specified conditions to accommodate unique logistical and fan experience concerns associated with operating an event alongside the other two divisions.

(4) **Estimated budget impact.** None.

(5) **Student-athlete impact.** None.

- **Nonlegislative items.**
  - **None.**

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Opening remarks and review of schedule and agenda.** Division III Championships Committee Chair Jennifer Chuks welcomed committee members and reviewed the meeting schedule and key discussion items.

2. **Recent committee reports.** The committee approved reports from its February 5-6 meeting; February 27, March 20, May 9 and May 15 teleconferences; and June 1 email correspondence as submitted.
3. **Governance update.** NCAA governance staff reviewed the following key items with the committee: 1) NCAA Board of Governors issues; 2) Sport Science Institute initiatives; 3) Injury Surveillance Program participation; 4) allocation of the membership dues increase approved at the 2016 Convention; 5) key legislative proposals for the 2019 Convention; 6) Division III working group updates; 7) educational resources available for the Division III membership; and 8) 2019 Division III Week update.

4. **NCAA Division III Management Council/Presidents Council updates.** The governance update covered all of the relevant updates on Division III matters from the recent Management Council and Presidents Council meetings.

5. **NCAA Division III Student-Athlete Advisory Committee update.** The SAAC liaison provided an update from the committee’s April meeting.

6. **Championships and alliances update.** Chris Termini, managing director of championships external operations, joined the meeting to update the committee on initiatives in areas he oversees (statistics and media coordination; ticketing and marketing; licensing and merchandising; and digital and social media).

7. **2018 Division III membership survey – championships topics.** A member of the NCAA research staff presented highlights from the survey related to championships.

8. **Academic and membership affairs update.** A member of the NCAA academic and membership affairs staff walked the committee through the following issues:

   a. **Misconduct bylaws.** The committee revisited its discussion regarding the inconsistencies in language used in two bylaws pertaining to misconduct during NCAA championships and recommended that the Management Council sponsor noncontroversial legislation to amend and align both bylaws accordingly. (See Action Item 1.)

   b. **United Collegiate Hockey Conference – AQ waiver request.** The committee approved a request from the United Collegiate Hockey Conference to include the 2016-17 season (when members of the UCHC were known as the ECAC West) as part of the two-year waiting period required to receive automatic qualification. With the institutions having competed as the UCHC during the 2017-18 season, the waiver means the UCHC will have fulfilled its two-year waiting period and will be eligible to receive automatic qualification in 2018-19.

9. **Playing Rules Oversight Panel update.** An NCAA playing rules staff member updated the committee on the panel’s most recent reports. Staff noted PROP’s continued preference for rules committees providing a one-year delay for rules changes that carry a financial or facility impact, and its continued support for existing legislation that requires playing rules to be
consistent among all three divisions. Staff also updated the committee on the officials background check program and noted potential actions next year in basketball (court markings), soccer (forfeiture rule for an ineligible player), and field hockey and women’s lacrosse (uniforms) that may affect playing rules in all three divisions.

10. Championships budget.

a. Fall and winter budget recap. The committee reviewed game operations, team transportation and per diem, and travel expenses for the fall 2017 and winter 2018 championships.

b. 2019-21 budget cycle and process. Committee members began discussing how to prioritize various concepts they anticipate being submitted as budget requests for the 2019-21 cycle. The committee will discuss these concepts further during its September meeting with sport committee chairs before formalizing requests by its February 2019 in-person meeting.

11. Alcohol sales at joint championships. Committee members resumed their ongoing discussion regarding alcohol sales at joint championships and expressed support for sales at future joint championships that include Division I as long as those championships meet the current parameters and are held in the same facility. (See Action Item 2.)

12. Conference requirements for AQ eligibility. The committee discussed the concept of requiring conferences to conduct some semblance of regular-season competition to qualify for an automatic championship berth. The committee reviewed feedback from the membership survey that would support this concept and also discussed several potential unintended consequences that could impact established conferences. The committee will revisit this topic after receiving feedback from the Division III conference commissioners.

13. Hartwick men’s soccer. The committee noted that Hartwick College is reclassifying its Division I men’s soccer program to Division III effective this fall. For the purposes of scheduling, Hartwick men’s soccer will be considered the same as a third- and fourth-year reclassifying school. Effectively, competitions against them for Division III purposes may be considered in primary selection criteria.

14. Sport committee recommendations.

a. Field hockey. The committee reviewed a report from the field hockey committee’s January 22-23, 2018, annual meeting as information only. The committee also noted that the Playing Rules Oversight Panel approved a request from the Divisions I, II and III Field Hockey Committees to modify the tiebreaking procedures by reducing the time of the two “Sudden Victory” periods from 15 to 10 minutes.
b. Women’s basketball.

(1) **Automatic qualification.** The committee approved the following 43 conferences for automatic qualification to the 2019 NCAA Division III Women’s Basketball Championship: Alleghany 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 State Athletic Conference; Commonwealth Coast Conference; Empire 8 Conference; Great Northeast Athletic Conference; Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference; Iowa Intercollegiate Athletic Conference; Landmark Conference; Liberty League; Little East Conference; Middle Atlantic Conference Commonwealth; Middle Atlantic Conference Freedom; Massachusetts State Conference; Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Conference; Midwest Conference; Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference; New England Collegiate Conference; New England Small College Athletic Conference; New England Women’s and Men’s Athletic Conference; New Jersey Athletic Conference; North Atlantic 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 Intercollegiate Athletic Conference; Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference; St. Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference; State University of New York Athletic Conference; University Athletic Association; Upper Midwest Conference; USA South Athletic Conference; and Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.

The anticipated pool allocations for the 2019 championship are as follows: Pool A – 43; Pool B – 1; Pool C – 20.

(2) **Committee chair.** The committee approved that Karin Harvey, head women’s basketball coach at Montclair State University, to serve as chair of the Division III Women’s Basketball Committee.

(3) **Team sheets.** The committee tabled the women’s basketball committee’s request to adopt a team sheet depicting strength-of-schedule as opposed to the current team sheet showing data according to the ratings percentage index. The championships committee would like to see an example of what this team sheet would look like and also receive feedback from other sport committees to gauge the broader interest.

(4) **Joint championship.** Committee members discussed the possibility of conducting another joint championship in conjunction with the Women’s Final Four given the
resounding success of the joint championships in 2016. Committee members asked staff to continue exploring that opportunity.

c. Men’s and women’s soccer.

(1) **Men’s soccer automatic qualification.** The committee approved the following 42 conferences for automatic qualification to the 2018 NCAA Division III Men’s Soccer Championship: 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; Commonwealth Coast Conference; Empire 8; Great Northeast Athletic Conference; Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference; Iowa Intercollegiate Athletic Conference; Landmark Conference; Liberty League; Little East Conference; Massachusetts State Collegiate Athletic Conference; Middle Atlantic Conference Commonwealth; Middle Atlantic Conference Freedom; Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association; Midwest Conference; Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference; New England Collegiate Conference; New England Small College Athletic Conference; New England Women’s and Men’s Athletic Conference; New Jersey Athletic Conference; North Atlantic 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; St. Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference; Southern Athletic Association; Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference; Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference; State University of New York Athletic Conference; University Athletic Association; Upper Midwest Athletic Conference; USA South Athletic Conference.

The anticipated pool allocations for the 2018 championship are as follows: Pool A – 42; Pool B – 1; Pool C – 19.

(2) **Women’s soccer committee chair.** The committee approved that Brianne Weaver, head women’s soccer coach at Bowdoin College, serve as chair of the NCAA Division III Women’s Soccer Committee.

(3) **Women’s soccer automatic qualification.** The committee approved the following 43 conferences for automatic qualification to the 2018 NCAA Division III Women’s Soccer Championship: 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; Commonwealth Coast Conference; Empire 8; Great Northeast Athletic Conference; Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference; Iowa Intercollegiate Athletic Conference; Landmark Conference; Liberty
League; Little East Conference; Massachusetts State Collegiate Athletic Conference; Middle Atlantic Conference Commonwealth; Middle Atlantic Conference Freedom; Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association; Midwest Conference; Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference; New England Collegiate Conference; New England Small College Athletic Conference; New England Women’s and Men’s Athletic Conference; New Jersey Athletic Conference; North Atlantic 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; St. Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference; Southern Athletic Association; Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference; Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference; State University of New York Athletic Conference; University Athletic Association; Upper Midwest Athletic Conference; USA South Athletic Conference; Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.

The anticipated pool allocations for the 2018 championship are as follows: Pool A – 43; Pool B – 1; Pool C – 20.

**4** Bench size increase. The committee considered a request from both soccer committees to increase the bench size from 34 to 38 individuals during the championships. The committee tabled the request and will seek feedback from other sport committees during its September meeting with sport committee chairs.

**5** Day of rest at the championship final site. The committee discussed the concept of adding a day of rest at the championship final site specific to the men’s and women’s soccer committee’s request, but also discussed the concept across all Division III championships. The championships committee will gather feedback during its September meeting with sport committee chairs and include the topic on its list of overall budget priority concepts to be reviewed during the 2019-2021 budget cycle. The committee will also refer this request to NCAA Sport Science Institute staff to determine what research has been done on this concept.

d. **Men’s and women’s swimming and diving.** The committee approved tiebreaking policies to determine the participating swimmers during the selection process and the divers that advance from the diving regionals to the championships.

e. **Women’s volleyball.**

**1** Championship date formula. The committee did not approve the women’s volleyball committee’s request to amend the championships date formula for regionals to be changed from one week prior to finals (Friday-Sunday) to one week prior to finals (Thursday-Saturday). The committee discussed the impact of the additional day of
missed class time on institutions and considered that greater than the advantage of one additional day of rest leading into quarterfinals for the teams competing at regional sites being conducted Thursday-Sunday to accommodate institutions with a no-Sunday competition policy.

(2) **Automatic qualification.** The committee approved the following 43 conferences for automatic qualification to the 2018 NCAA Division III Women’s Volleyball Championship: 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; Commonwealth Coast Conference; Empire 8; Great Northeast Athletic Conference; Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference; Iowa Intercollegiate Athletic Conference; Landmark Conference; Liberty League; Little East Conference; Massachusetts State Collegiate Athletic Conference; Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association; Middle Atlantic Conference Commonwealth; Middle Atlantic Conference Freedom; Midwest Conference; Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference; New England Collegiate Conference; New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference; New Jersey Athletic Conference; North Atlantic 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; St. Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference; State University of New York Athletic Conference; University Athletic Association; Upper Midwest Conference; USA South Athletic Conference; and Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.

The anticipated pool allocations for the 2018 championship are as follows: Pool A – 43; Pool B – 2; Pool C – 19.

(3) **Seeding of teams after regionals.** The committee reviewed the 2017 NCAA Division III Women’s Volleyball Championship and the success of the one-year trial to seed the final eight teams after the conclusion of regional championships competition to better balance bracket play at the finals site. The committee approved that the practice of reseeding at the finals site continue for the championship.

15. **Softball regionals – letter of concern.** The committee reviewed but took no action on correspondence from an institution concerned about the academic/missed class time ramifications of being assigned to a softball regional hosted by an institution with a written policy precluding competition on Sunday.
16. **Commissioners subgroup on championships.** Brad Bankston summarized the subgroup’s preliminary discussions about potential regional alignment alternatives, including one that would base the number of regions in a sport on the number of institutions sponsoring that sport. The Division III Commissioners Association will discuss the matter further at its meeting later this month. Championships Committee members supported continuing the discussion to determine whether an alternative model could benefit the division.

17. **2018 winter championship reports.** The committee reviewed reports and broadcast metrics from the 2018 winter championships.

18. **In-region competition requirement waiver requests.** The committee took the following action regarding waiver requests for the 2018-19 academic year:

- **Reclassifying institution.** The committee approved the American Southwest Conference’s request to waive the championships policy applied under Bylaw 20.6.9.1 to a Division III member institution reclassifying to Division II being defined as a “Non-Division III” opponent and included in secondary criteria for championships selection purposes. The waiver means that should the University of Texas at Tyler, an NCAA Division III and American Southwest Conference member, or Benedictine University (Illinois) be selected in mid-July 2018 to begin the Division II reclassifying program on September 1, 2018, the schools will be defined as a Division III/in-region opponent under selection criteria for Division III championships in the 2018-19 academic year on the condition that the institutions remain compliant with NCAA Division III Bylaws as active Division III institutions.

- **Thomas More College men’s basketball.** The committee approved a request to waive the 70 percent in-region requirement for Thomas More’s men’s basketball for the 2018-19 academic year noting its scheduling difficulty due to a lack of affiliation with a multi-sport conference and the effort that has been put into scheduling Division III opponents.

The committee also revisited the tabled women’s basketball in-region waiver request and approved Thomas More’s request based on the same premises as men’s basketball.

- **University of California, Santa Cruz.** The committee approved a request to waive the 70 percent in-region requirement for all sports at the University of California, Santa Cruz, for the 2018-19 academic year due to its geographic proximity to Division III opponents and its lack of affiliation with a multi-sport conference.

19. **Future meeting dates.**

- September 9-11, 2018 (to include sport committee chairs); Indianapolis.

- February 5-6, 2019; Indianapolis.
- June 17-18, 2019; Indianapolis.

*Committee Chair:* Jennifer Chuks, Williams College; New England Small College Athletic Conference.

*Staff Liaisons:* Liz Turner Suscha, Championships and Alliances
Maureen Harty, Academic and Membership Affairs

| Division III Championships Committee  
| ---  
| June 18-19, 2018, Meeting  
| **Attendees:**  
| Brad Bankston, Old Dominion Athletic Conference.  
| Jennifer Chuks, Williams College.  
| Tim Fitzpatrick, United States Coast Guard Academy.  
| Susan Fumagalli Mahoney, Gettysburg College.  
| Shantey Hill, St. Joseph’s College (Long Island).  
| Julie Johnson, Ripon College.  
| Matt Knigge, Vassar College.  
| Bill Stiles, Alvernia University.  
| Michael Vienna, Emory University.  
| **Absentees:**  
| None.  
| **Guests in Attendance:**  
| Gary Brown, NCAA Contractor.  
| Andrew Welch, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill graduate student.  
| **NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:**  
| Maureen Harty, Academic and Membership Affairs.  
| Laura Peterson-Mlynski, Championships and Alliances.  
| Liz Turner Suscha, Championships and Alliances.  
| **Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:**  
| Kevin Alcox, Championships and Alliances.  
| Ben Brownlee, Championships and Alliances.  
| John Bugner, Championships and Alliances.  
| Brian Burnsed, Communications.  
| Dan Calandro, Championships and Alliances.  
| Dan Dutcher, Division III Governance.  
| Jan Gentry, Championships and Alliances.  
<p>| Jay Jones, Division III Governance.  |</p>
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