



**REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION I MEN'S ICE HOCKEY COMMITTEE  
JUNE 12-14, 2018, MEETING**

**ACTION ITEMS.**

**1. Legislative items.**

- **None.**

**2. Nonlegislative items.**

**a. Automatic qualification.**

- (1) Recommendation. That the following six conferences receive automatic qualification privileges for the 2019 championship: Atlantic Hockey Conference, Big Ten Conference, ECAC Hockey Conference, Hockey East Conference, National Collegiate Hockey Conference and Western Collegiate Hockey Conference.
- (2) Effective date. 2018 championship.
- (3) Rationale. All eligible conferences are being recommended for automatic qualification.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

**b. Rating Percentage Index (RPI) – partial credit for overtime.**

- (1) Recommendation. That the method for computing RPI credit for games decided in overtime be revised to award partial credit to both teams. The computation of the RPI would be adjusted to award 90 percent of a win to the team scoring in overtime and 10 percent of a win to the opponent. Corresponding adjustments will be made as applicable in the Quality Win Bonus (QWB) calculation. Games ending in a tie (or in the optional 3x3 additional overtime period) will continue to award 50 percent of a win to each team.
- (2) Effective date. September 1, 2018.
- (3) Rationale. This recommendation is consistent with membership surveys that indicated strong support for a partial-credit overtime model. This recommendation is also concurrent with the same 90 percent/10 percent overtime credit model the NCAA Women's Ice Hockey Committee is proposing.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

**c. Bench size increase to 28 – additional skater.**

(1) Recommendation. That the bench size be increased to 28 individuals (currently 27).

(2) Effective date. September 1, 2018.

(3) Rationale. The NCAA Men's and Women's Ice Hockey Rules Committee approved an increase in the allowed number of skaters to 19 (the current rule allows up to 18). Therefore, the bench size should increase accordingly to accommodate the new rule. The number of goalkeepers (not more than three nor less than two) and team personnel (six) allowed on the bench will remain unchanged.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None. The current travel party (37) and squad size (27) will not need to be increased to accommodate this request.

(5) Student-athlete impact. This change will allow an additional student-athlete to experience participating with their respective team during the championship.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

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

**2. Announcements.** Announcements were made, and the committee took no action.

**3. 2017 committee meeting report.** The committee approved the 2017 annual meeting report as written.

**4. Review of 2018 championship.**

**a. Review of championship evaluations.** The committee reviewed the evaluations submitted and noted that the teams appreciated the additional enhancements that Saint Paul provided (i.e., student lounges). The committee will work with future hosts to provide similar options at the team hotels.

The committee also discussed the length needed for intermission for the championship. The committee agreed to retain the current 17-minute intermission for this year but will evaluate after this season to determine whether it should be adjusted.

**b. Committee calls.** The committee included a coach and the commissioner of each league on two conference calls this year to enhance the planning for the American Hockey

Coaches Association (AHCA) convention and receive feedback from them throughout the year. The committee will continue this practice for the 2018-19 academic year.

- c. **Student-athlete reception.** The committee applauded Saint Paul on this year's student-athlete reception. The venue was great for attendees and the addition of the "On the Bench Guys" to the program provided some relevant entertainment for the teams. Staff will continue to work with hosts on providing a similar experience. The committee also asked that John Buccigross be invited to be the emcee for the 2019 event.
- d. **Priority ticket holder process.** Lori Wolf and Sean Ward joined the meeting to discuss potential changes to the priority ticket process starting with the 2019 championship. The current process awards a priority ticket point to attendees who have purchased tickets since 1997. As such, the process is at a point where the highest priority level is now 21. Each priority level is given an exclusive window during which people can purchase tickets to the championship. As more levels are added, this process has become more cumbersome and not as user friendly. The committee approved the recommendation from staff to consolidate the levels into six groups (A-F) and expand the order window by a day. This new process continues to reward the longtime fans, while allowing the program to continue to grow.
- e. **Officiating.** The committee met with Frank Cole, national coordinator of officials, to review the tournament and the process for selecting the officials for the tournament. Mr. Cole discussed the selection process and reminded committee members that their feedback is important, as the committee has the ultimate sign-off on the officials selected. The committee agreed that this year there was more discussion prior to the selection of officials and continued to provide additional feedback to Mr. Cole throughout the process.

The committee continued to discuss and weigh feedback received on a National Consortium of ice hockey officials. This continues to be an ongoing discussion with the conference commissioners, and the committee will continue to evaluate the feasibility of this idea over the course of the 2018-19 season.

- f. **Selection process.** The committee reviewed the current championship selection criteria as it applies to the 2019 championship and believes it is sufficient. Members also recommended awarding partial RPI credit to teams for games decided in overtime. (See Action Item 2-b.)
- g. **Automatic qualification deadline.** The committee is working with ESPN to move the selection show to allow for a conference championship to be conducted on the Sunday afternoon of selection. Once it is determined if ESPN can make the adjustment, the committee will let the membership know.

- h. Media coordination.** The committee was asked to review the order of teams attending the postgame press conferences. The committee determined that for the 2019 championship, the order of the teams in the press conference for all rounds, except for the national championship, will be that the winners go first to the press conference. The committee wants to see if this allows for more time for the non-advancing team to gather themselves while at the same time keeping the flow of the press conferences going.
- i. Discussion with ESPN.** The committee met with ESPN representatives Anthony DeVita, Dan Margulis and John Vassallo via teleconference. The committee thanked ESPN for its continued support of the championship. Members noted that the investment by ESPN continues to enhance the championship.

ESPN will look at potential broadcast windows for the selection show and let NCAA staff know the availability.

NCAA staff and the committee continue to review the potential of moving the championship semifinals and final to a Saturday/Monday format in the future.

- 5. Committee composition and vacancies.** The committee noted that Derek Schooley, head coach at Robert Morris University, will start his term September 1, 2018.

The committee also agreed that Steve Metcalf will serve as the committee chair for 2018-19.

- 6. American Hockey Coaches Association convention.** The committee was pleased with the preparation for the convention this year. The additional conference calls with coaches and commissioners allowed the committee to be well prepared for topics that may come up during the meetings.
- 7. Annual meeting dates.** The 2019 annual meeting will take place June 4-5 in Indianapolis.
- 8. Future regional sites.** The committee discussed future regional sites and determined that bid materials will be sent at the end of August to solicit sites for the 2020, 2021 and 2022 regionals. Members have identified 12-13 potential sites that could host future regionals. More communication will be coming to the conferences on the bid process.
- 9. 2019 Frozen Four.** Staff noted that planning for the 2019 Frozen Four is underway. The Buffalo organizing committee attended the 2018 championship. Regular conference calls with the local organizing committee will begin in August and the site visit will occur in October.
- 10. Conference commissioners.** The committee met with the ice hockey conference commissioners and reviewed items related to officiating, rules and future regional sites. The commissioners and committee agreed that meeting together at the championship and the annual meeting continues to be beneficial to both groups and want to continue it going forward.

- 11. Rules committee.** The committee met with the rules committee to review potential rule changes. The most imperative for the group is the discussion on overtime. A rules survey will be sent to the membership to solicit feedback on the proposed formats. The rules committee will provide final recommendations for the Playing Rules Oversight Panel to consider.
- 12. Strategic Plan.** The committee reviewed the strategic plan for the championship and will continue to explore ways to enhance the championship going forward. Members noted that the inclusion of alcohol sales and the in-venue enhancements that have been provided for introductions have evolved from the strategic plan.

*Committee Chair:* Tom McGinnis, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities; Big Ten Conference  
*Staff Liaison(s):* Kristin W. Fasbender, Championships and Alliances  
 Chad Tolliver, Championships and Alliances

<b>Division I Men's Ice Hockey Committee June 12-14, 2018, Meeting</b>
<b>Attendees:</b>
Mike Corbett, University of Alabama, Huntsville.
Mike Kemp, University of Nebraska, Omaha.
Tom McGinnis, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities.
Steve Metcalf, University of New Hampshire.
Brian Riley, U.S. Military Academy.
Mike Schaefer, Cornell University.
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>
Joe Bertagna, Hockey East Conference.
Frank Cole, National Coordinator of Ice Hockey Officials.
Bob DeGregorio, Atlantic Hockey Conference.
Anthony DeVita, ESPN (via teleconference).
Josh Fenton, National Collegiate Hockey Conference.
Steve Hagwell, ECAC Hockey Conference.
Dan Margulis, ESPN (via teleconference).
Billy Robertson, Western Collegiate Hockey Conference.
Brad Traviola, Big Ten Conference (via teleconference).
John Vassallo, ESPN (via teleconference)
Kathy Wynters, Hockey East Conference.
<b>NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:</b>
Mark Bedics, Championships and Alliances.
Kristen Jacob Smith, Championships and Alliances (via teleconference).
Sean Ward, Championships and Alliances.
Lori Wolf, Championships and Alliances.