



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION II MEN'S AND WOMEN'S TENNIS COMMITTEE
MAY 13-14, 2017 MEETING**

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative items.

- None.

2. Nonlegislative items.

a. Championship date formula in non-festival years.

- (1) Recommendation. That the finals championship date formula for non-festival years be as follows:
 - Preliminary Rounds – Saturday-Sunday and Monday-Tuesday prior to finals (alternates by gender).
 - Finals: Third Tuesday or Wednesday in May (alternates by gender).
- (2) Effective date. September 1, 2020.
- (3) Rationale. Upon a recommendation from the Coaches Connection program, the committee fully supports conducting the championship one week later in non-festival years for the following reasons.
 - (a) Allow conferences/schools one extra week to conduct matches that may otherwise be cancelled due to weather. Inclement weather during the season forces schools to play three or more matches in the final weeks, which is detrimental to the student-athletes.
 - (b) To provide consistency with the festival date formula.
 - (c) Availability of officials. Currently, the men's and women's tennis regional dates overlap some Division I conference tournaments making it difficult to find qualified officials available for assignments.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. Student-athletes in both men's and women's tennis will be positively impacted by this change, as schools will have one additional week to conduct their conference matches and not play three or four matches in one week.

b. Access ratios.

- (1) Recommendation. That the access ratios allow for a minimum of four teams per region and a maximum of eight teams per region.
- (2) Effective date. September 1, 2017.
- (3) Rationale. Currently, access ratios vary between three and nine berths per region. With a three-team regional one team receives an automatic bye into the finals. Additionally, with a maximum of eight teams in a region, the tournament would only be two days instead of three.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. The recommendation increases equity, as all student-athletes would compete in regional play.

c. Seeding the bracket at the final site.

- (1) Recommendation. That the Division II Men's and Women's Tennis Committee seed the top four teams (25 percent) and conduct a blind draw for the remaining 12 teams. The committee will seed the teams based on the current selection criteria.
- (2) Effective date. September 1, 2017.
- (3) Rationale. Seeding the top four teams is currently how tennis tournaments are seeded and is familiar to the tennis coaches. The committee will convene the day following each regional to set the bracket.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. Seeding the top four teams at the finals site provides the most competitive matchups for the student-athletes at the championship.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

- 1. 2016 annual meeting report.** The committee approved the report from its 2016 annual meeting as submitted.
- 2. Review of 2017 championship.**

- a. **Selections.** The committee chair reminded the new members to be prepared for each ranking and selection call to ensure consistency from week to week.
- b. **Pre-championship planning.** The committee praised the tournament directors from the Central Florida Sports Commission and Rollins College for their roles in hosting the championship. The committee was very pleased with the level of commitment from the college and community.
- c. **Preliminary-round sites.** Weather was an issue across the country and many regional matches were played indoors. Staff will develop a template for schools hosting regional tournaments to send to participating teams with pertinent information concerning the tournament, including match times and hotel information.
- d. **Hotel.** The location provided quality access to the venue and restaurants.
- e. **Site representatives.** For the first time the committee tried to secure site reps for all 32 regionals sites but was unsuccessful. The committee would like to resume the practice of the tournament director serving as site rep.
- f. **Hospitality.**
 - (1) Student-athletes. The committee would like to continue offering fruit and granola bars to the teams upon entry into the venue.
 - (2) Committee. The committee thought the hospitality provided was excellent.
 - (3) Officials. The officials thought the hospitality provided was excellent.
- g. **Media.** The committee appreciated live stats being available and noted that many coaches viewed them on their mobile devices. Coaches and fans liked the large flat screen television at the media area showing live stats for each ongoing match.
- h. **Student-athlete behavior.** The committee felt that overall, the behavior of the student-athletes was excellent. One misconduct occurred after the men's championship match that will be handled following NCAA protocol.
- i. **Officials selection.** The committee would like staff to develop a job description for an assignor of officials for both regionals and finals.
- j. **Webcast.** There were no noted issues with the webcast, although the committee wished all six courts of the featured bank could be covered rather than three.

- k. **Suggested improvements.** Among possible enhancements the committee suggested a water mister for spectators due to the heat.
- l. **Start times.** The committee believes the start times should not be changed and matches went as scheduled.
- m. **Practice balls.** The committee felt teams appreciated being provided a can of practice balls per day and agreed to continue this practice in the future.

3. 2018 Championships.

- a. **Dates for regionals.** The committee will continue to set dates for regional tournaments to mirror championship format. In 2018, the women will play April 28-29 and the men will play April 30 – May 1.
- b. **Committee members' on-site responsibilities.** The chair of the committee will continue to assign responsibilities for each committee member on site.
- c. **Officials.** Officials will report match scores to the score reporter.
- d. **Pre-championships and host operations manuals.** The committee reviewed the 2017 manuals and made the necessary revisions for 2018.
- e. **Review of online entry/lineup and challenge forms and procedures.** The process worked well this year and the committee would like to add language concerning no match history. The language will read "If a player/doubles team does not possess match history, they can be inserted only at the bottom of the lineup." "Only student-athletes listed on the line-up form are eligible to compete." The committee would like to include the head official in reviewing all lineup challenges.
- f. **Schedule of events and start times.** See attachment.
- g. **Banquet format.** The committee would like to have the banquet for both genders at 6 p.m. on Monday, followed by the coaches meeting.

4. Selections.

- a. **Date.** Selections will take place on April 24, 2018 at 11 a.m. Eastern time.
- b. **Criteria.** The committee reviewed the selection criteria and noted that the new criteria worked well when selecting teams for the championships.

- c. **Automatic qualification.** All eligible conferenced were reviewed for AQ.
- 5. **Seeding at the final site.** The committee is recommending seeding the top four teams (25 percent) and conducting a blind draw for the remaining 12 teams (see Nonlegislative Item 2-c).
- 6. **National committee composition.** The committee updated the current roster and will fill current vacancies pending nominations from the nominating committee.
- 7. **Manual revisions.** The committee reviewed the 2017 manuals and made the necessary edits for 2018.
- 8. **2017-18 timetable.** The committee reviewed the 2017 timetable and made the necessary edits for 2017-18.
- 9. **Coaches connection.** Pam Arpe joined the meeting to review highlights from the past year, emphasizing the increased communication between the coaches and the NCAA.
- 10. **Future meeting dates.** The committee would like to continue having the annual meeting following the championship next year in Surprise, Arizona.

Committee Chair: Carrie Michaels, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference.
Staff Liaison(s): Roberta Page, Championships and Alliances.

Division II Men's and Women's Tennis Committee May 13-14, 2017 Meeting
Attendees:
Otis Cutshaw, Davis and Elkins University; Great Midwest Athletic Conference (via teleconference).
Kirsten Ford, Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference.
Bob Hogue, Pacific West Conference.
Chi Ly, Palm Beach Atlantic University, Sunshine State Conference.
Carrie Michaels, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference.
Cammie Nix, Young Harris College, Peach Belt Conference.
Jake Saulsbury, University of Nebraska at Kearney, Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association.
Absentees:
Patricia Cote, New Hampshire University; Northeast-10 Conference.
Guests in Attendance:

Pam Arpe, Coaches Connection.
Kim Vinson, Championships Committee Liaison.
NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:
Roberta Page, Championships and Alliances.
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:
None.



2018 NCAA DII MEN'S AND WOMEN'S TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIPS
SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Monday, May 7

Noon – 1:25 p.m. – women's practice.

1:30 – 2:55 p.m. – women's practice.

6 p.m. – banquet with coaches meeting following banquet.

Tuesday, May 8

8 – 9:25 a.m. – men's practice.

9:30 – 10:55 a.m. – men's practice.

Noon – women's matches (4).

4 p.m. – women's matches (4).

Wednesday, May 9

8 a.m. – men's matches (4).

Noon – men's matches (4).

4 p.m. – women's matches (4).

Thursday, May 10

9 a.m. – men's matches (4).

1 p.m. – women's matches (2).

Friday, May 11

9 a.m. – men's matches (2).

1 p.m. – women's championship and awards ceremony.

Saturday, May 12

9 a.m. – men's championship and awards ceremony.

*Match times will take precedence over practice times in the case of inclement weather.