



**REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION II MEN’S AND WOMEN’S  
CROSS COUNTRY COMMITTEE  
NOVEMBER 16-17, 2017, MEETING**

**ACTION ITEMS.**

**1. Legislative items.**

- None.

**2. Nonlegislative items.**

**a. Host for 2018 regional cross country sites.**

(1) Recommendation. That the following sites serve as hosts for regional competition the 2018 NCAA Division II Men’s and Women’s Cross Country Championships.

<b>Region</b>	<b>Institutional Host</b>	<b>Location</b>
East	Adelphi University	Bethpage State Park Bethpage, New York
Midwest	Hillsdale College	Hayden Park Hillsdale, Michigan
Southeast	University of North Georgia	UNG Cross Country Course Oakwood, Georgia

(2) Effective date. Immediate.

(3) Rationale. The NCAA Division II Men’s and Women’s Cross Country Committee reviewed and approved all sites and believes each institution can successfully host its respective regional. Also, all institutions are first-time hosts, which allows for a new experience for the participating student-athletes and could potentially increase the number of available courses for each region in the future.

(4) Estimated budget impact. The operational budgets the hosts proposed are as follows:

<b>Region</b>	<b>Institutional Host</b>	<b>Receipts</b>	<b>Expenditures</b>
East	Adelphi University	\$1,200	\$10,050
Midwest	Hillsdale College	\$2,500	\$13,075
Southeast	University of North Georgia	\$0	\$5,616

**\*Staff will work with hosts to adjust budget to appropriate amounts.**

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

**b. Minimum course length for minimum contest requirements and selections.**

(1) Recommendation. That for meets to count toward minimum contest requirements, the course must be a minimum of 5,000 meters for women and 7,000 meters for men.

(2) Effective date. Immediate.

(3) Rationale. Currently, the minimum course length for selections is in kilometers and not meters, which is used for the championships course measurement, and there is no minimum course length for minimum contest requirements for the championships. In changing course length to meters for selections and adding a minimum course length for minimum contest requirements, institutions are held to the same standards and are unable to gain an advantage by competing on shorter courses.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

- 1. Review meeting schedule.** The committee reviewed the schedule and made no adjustments.
- 2. 2017 annual meeting reports.** The committee approved its 2017 annual meeting report as written, as well as the report from the 2017 joint meeting with the NCAA Divisions I and III Men's and Women's Track and Field and Cross Country Committees.
- 3. Review of DirectAthletics and Track and Field Results Reporting System.** The committee discussed enforcing the results reporting deadlines and assessing fines when necessary. The committee will work to inform institutions of missing results before fining, but will then rely on the institution to report results on time.
- 4. Minimum contest requirements.** The committee noted a decrease in teams not meeting minimum contest requirements from previous years, even with the 2017-18 season being the first year of the increased championship minimum contest requirements. The committee also discussed ways to more effectively track and communicate to institutions entering regionals that five student-athletes must run to meet the requirements. If the institution does not intend to run five student-athletes at the regional to meet the requirements, it will not be permitted to participate.

5. **Sport sponsorship.** The committee discussed sport sponsorship and recommended no changes to the current legislation.
6. **Media access at championships.** The committee will continue to work with future hosts to limit media access at the finish line.
7. **2017 cross country regionals.** The committee discussed the overall success at all the 2017 cross country championship regional sites.
8. **Entry process.** Committee members noted the decrease of late declarations and discussed potential ways to continue reducing the number of late or missed declarations. Moving forward, the committee will send reminder emails to all head coaches regarding the declaration period deadlines and reach out to the institutions at risk of missing the deadlines. Also, language will be added to the pre-championships manual and the championships participant manual noting institutions selected for the national championships are permitted to run only the student-athletes declared during the regional entry period.
9. **2018 regional and national cross country championships.**
  - a. **Selection process.** The committee discussed potential concerns with the order of criteria in the current selections procedures and possible solutions to address them. Before making any changes, the committee will seek feedback from the membership about the potential concerns and recommended solutions. Also, the language for breaking ties will be updated to include the committee's actions if a tie remains after the initial tie-breaking method is applied.
  - b. **Championships.** The committee discussed the 2018 cross country championships, which will be part of the 2018 NCAA Division II National Championships Festival in Pittsburgh. The committee noted potential issues with the course and will work with the host to obtain more details.
10. **Future championships.**
  - a. **Banquet and awards ceremony.** The committee discussed options for a banquet or social gathering and ways to make the event more interactive and enjoyable for all attendees. The committee continues to hear concerns about the event being held the night before competition, which interferes with many of the student-athletes' typical pre-competition routines. In an effort to eliminate this issue, the committee will look at ways to start/end the event earlier.

**b. Start times.** The committee will continue to let the host recommend start times for regionals with final approval from the committee. The committee will set start times for the national championships.

**11. Academic and membership affairs update.** A representative from the NCAA academic and membership affairs staff updated the committee on Division II legislation as it pertains to sport sponsorship and NCAA Bylaw 18.4.2.1-(e). The committee believes that enforcing the bylaw at the start of the 2017 academic year has helped reduce the number of institutions not meeting sport sponsorship requirements and continues to support the bylaw. The committee discussed the waiver process for institutions not meeting sport sponsorship and their eligibility at future championships and believes these waivers should go to the NCAA Division II Championships Committee for review.

**12. Committee.** Preston Grey, head cross country and associate track and field coach at Azusa Pacific University, was voted to remain the committee chair.

*Committee Chair: Preston Grey, Azusa Pacific University, Pacific West Conference*  
*Staff Liaison: Morgan DeSpain, Championships and Alliances*

<b>NCAA Division II Men’s and Women’s Cross Country Committee November 16-17, 2017, Meeting</b>
<b>Attendees:</b>
Alex Eaton, University of Southern Indiana; Great Lakes Valley Conference.
Lee Glenn, University of North Georgia; Peach Belt Conference.
Shawn Green, Southern New Hampshire University; Northeast-10 Conference.
Preston Grey, Azusa Pacific University; Pacific West Conference.
Dianne Lee, Adams State University; Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference.
Scott Lorek, Northwest Missouri State University; Mid America Intercollegiate Athletics Association.
Andy Young, Millersville University of Pennsylvania; Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference.
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>
None.
<b>NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:</b>
Donisha Carter, Championships and Alliances.
Morgan DeSpain, Championships and Alliances.
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>
Geoff Bentzel, Academic and Membership Affairs.