



**REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION I MEN'S AND WOMEN'S TRACK AND FIELD  
AND CROSS COUNTRY COMMITTEE  
NOVEMBER 15 AND 16, 2017, MEETING**

**ACTION ITEM.**

- None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **2017 cross country championships.** The committee reviewed the schedule and assignments for the week. In addition, they discussed the necessity to continually monitor the weather over the coming days and the potential impact it may have on both practice and competition days.
2. **United States Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association (USTFCCCA) proposal to establish a cross country-only sport committee.**
  - The committee reviewed and voted unanimously to deny support for this proposal, noting the following:
    - a. The establishment of the Division I Men's and Women's Track and Field and Cross Country Committee as one committee that oversees cross country, indoor track and field, and outdoor track and field is necessary due to how intertwined the three sports are. For example, all three sports are administered under one rules book, one rules committee and one secretary-rules editor; they are connected in scholarships and APR; and they involve the same coaches and student-athletes. The committee believes these and other factors support the need for one unified committee that can ensure effective communication and continuity across all three sports. The committee also expressed concern that a bifurcation could negatively affect overall communication and possibly impede progress during a time in which all three sports are building momentum.
    - b. Committee members believe they can be more effective and efficient as one committee rather than two. As an example, they noted that the recent legislation proposed to adjust sport sponsorship and double duals across the three sports would likely have made limited to no progress had it been discussed within two separate committees.
    - c. Having one committee provides for greater diversity and inclusion. Splitting the committee could negatively impact that diversity. Additionally, the committee noted that a separate cross country committee could lead to less distance coach representation in track and field, as all distance coaches would likely be drawn to the cross country committee.

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- d. Members also noted that cross country and track and field are unique and should not be compared to try and fit the mold of other sports. Additionally, members of the committee noted that what is good for Divisions II and III should not be viewed as what would be optimal for Division I.
- e. Members noted they have not felt overwhelmed by the workload and feel that great progress has been made with the committee as one group over the three sports. They also noted that in the last four-plus years only three members of the committee have resigned before their term expiration, all due solely to changes with their day-to-day jobs. In fact, two committee members during this time have served five years on the committee, and two others who were eligible for reappointment wanted to be reappointed but were not reappointed by the Nominating Committee.

**3. Indoor track and field championships, outdoor track and field east and west preliminary rounds and outdoor track and field championship schedule of events.**

- The committee reviewed competition schedules for the 2018 NCAA Division I Men's and Women's Indoor Track and Field Championships, the outdoor track and field east and west preliminary rounds, and the 2018 NCAA Division I Men's and Women's Outdoor Track and Field Championships. The committee approved tentative schedules to share with each host institution and ESPN for feedback. Once final feedback has been received from ESPN and each host institution the committee will make one final review before releasing the official competition schedule for each event.

**4. Outdoor track and field technical manual.** Committee members began review of the outdoor track and field technical manual. Further review and updates will be finalized in the coming months.

**5. 2018 NCAA Division I Men's and Women's Cross Country Championships.** Athletic administrators and staff members from the University of Wisconsin met with the committee to discuss planning and procedures in advance of the 2018 cross country championships and Pre-Nationals event which will be hosted by the University of Wisconsin, Madison.

*Committee Chair:* Angie Lansing, Indiana State University, Missouri Valley Conference  
*Staff Liaison:* Jeff Mlynski, Championships and Alliances

<b>NCAA Division I Men's and Women's Track and Field and Cross Country Committee November 15 and 16, 2017, Meeting</b>
<b>Attendees:</b>
Trey Clark, Lamar University; Southland Conference.
Milan Donley, University of Kansas; Big 12 Conference.

Andy Eggerth, Kennesaw State University; Atlantic Sun Conference.
Herman Frazier, Syracuse University; Atlantic Coast Conference.
Sean Harris, Pac-12 Conference.
Nicole Harvey, University of Central Florida; American Athletic Conference.
Angie Lansing, Indiana State University; Missouri Valley Conference.
Julie Levesque, University of Texas at El Paso; Conference USA.
Wendy McFarlane-Smith, University of Delaware; Colonial Athletic Conference.
Sharlene Milwood-Lee, Farleigh Dickinson University; Northeast Conference.
Mike Nelson, Marquette University, Big East Conference.
Ben Paxton, Winthrop University; Big South Conference.
<b>Absentees:</b>
None.
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>
Sam Seemes, USTFCCCA.
Terry Gawlik, University of Wisconsin; Big Ten Conference.
Katie Pietrowiak, University of Wisconsin; Big Ten Conference.
AJ Harrison, University of Wisconsin; Big Ten Conference.
<b>NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:</b>
Jeff Mlynski, Championships and Alliances.
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>
None.