REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIPS COMMITTEE  
SEPTEMBER 11, 2018, MEETING

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative items.
     a. Recommendation. Adopt noncontroversial legislation to amend Bylaw 31.1.6 (executive regulations – administration of NCAA championships – playing rules – non-NCAA rules) to specify that rules modifications for sports in which the Association does not publish rules must be consistent among divisions.
     b. Effective date. Immediate.
     c. Rationale. Several NCAA sports follow playing rules maintained by external organizations (e.g., golf, tennis, field hockey, men’s volleyball). The Association does not publish rules in these sports, but the legislation does permit governing sport committees to establish rules modifications that would supersede the external organization’s rules. Recent discussions about the regular-season and championship format in tennis raised the question of whether rules modification in these sports must be consistent among divisions just as they are in sports for which the NCAA maintains and publishes playing rules. NCAA governing bodies, including the Playing Rules Oversight Panel (PROP), have indicated in the past a preference for all playing rules to be consistent among divisions. Accordingly, the bylaw should be amended to reflect that intent. The NCAA staff conducted a legislative history which clearly demonstrated that NCAA governing bodies and PROP intended for all playing rules and modifications to be consistent among divisions.
     d. Estimated budget impact. None.
     e. Student-athlete impact. None.

2. Nonlegislative items.
   a. Championship date formula in baseball.
      (1) Recommendation. Adjust the dates of competition for the regional and super-regional rounds of the Division II Baseball Championship from Friday-Sunday and Saturday-Sunday to Thursday-Saturday and Friday-Saturday, respectively.
      (2) Effective date. 2019 championship.
(3) **Rationale.** Beginning the regionals and super regionals one day earlier allows for a rain day that does not push play into the following week and increases the turnaround time for advancing teams to prepare for the next week/weekend of competition. The recommendation also reduces the likelihood that institutions with policies precluding Sunday competition would affect playing dates.

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

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

b. **Seeding at the finals in baseball.**

(1) **Recommendation.** Allow the Division II Baseball Committee to seed the eight teams advancing to the finals of the Division II Baseball Championship using all available criteria.

(2) **Effective date.** 2019 championship.

(3) **Rationale.** Among recommendations in the Division II Regionalization Working Group’s final report was for sport committees in all team sports to seed teams advancing to the finals in their respective championships. Seeding the eight teams that advance to the baseball finals increases the likelihood that the top two teams will advance to the championship game. In addition, the Baseball Committee believes using all of the selection criteria available will provide the best opportunity to seed accurately.

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

(5) **Student-athlete impact.** Seeding teams advancing from regional competition provides the most competitive matchups for student-athletes at the championship.

c. **Regional berth allocations in baseball.**

(1) **Recommendation.** Approve the following postseason berth allocations for each region based on 2018-19 sport sponsorship information:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>No. of Institutions</th>
<th>2017-18 Berths</th>
<th>2018-19 Berths</th>
<th>Access Ratio</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Atlantic</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5.167</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4.875</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4.375</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midwest</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4.375</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4.375</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Central</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southeast</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5.500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
(2) Effective date. 2019 championship.

(3) Rationale. The Division II Baseball Committee believes basing postseason berth allocations on the current year’s sport sponsorship is the fairest method and retains an equitable bracket size among regions and super regions. The committee assigned championship berths to bring the access ratios into the tightest range possible within the bracket size of 56.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. Regions will be represented in the postseason based on sponsorship in that region, which will provide the most equal access to the championship for all student-athletes.

d. Joint championships in men’s basketball.

(1) Recommendation. Conduct the Division II Men’s Basketball Championship in conjunction with the Division I Men’s Final Four twice during the next 10 years.

(2) Effective date. Immediate, though years for the joint championships will be determined pending future sites selected for the Division I Men’s Final Four.

(3) Rationale. The recommendation affirms support from the Men’s Basketball Committee to pursue this initiative. Feedback from the 2013 joint men’s championships indicate overwhelming support from within the membership and others in the basketball community to continue this approach periodically in order to provide the participating student-athletes – particularly those in Divisions II and III – the opportunity to compete on their sport’s most prominent stage. The Division II Championships Committee also cites the opportunities to promote the division’s unique attributes and characteristics to a larger audience as a reason to support the recommendation.

(4) Estimated budget impact. Approximately $250,000 for each joint championship.

(5) Student-athlete impact. The recommendation offers Division II basketball student-athletes a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to experience all the Final Four has to offer. Exposure to these activities create positive experiences and lifelong memories, and a joint championship also means the final two teams are likely to compete in front of significantly larger crowds.

e. Joint championships in women’s basketball.
(1) **Recommendation.** Conduct the Division II Women’s Basketball Championship in conjunction with the Division I Women’s Final Four, twice during the next 10 years.

(2) **Effective date.** Immediate, though years for the joint championships will be determined pending future sites selected for the Division I Women’s Final Four.

(3) **Rationale.** The recommendation affirms support from the Women’s Basketball Committee to pursue this initiative. Feedback from the 2016 joint women’s championships indicates overwhelming support from within the membership and others in the basketball community to continue this approach periodically in order to provide the participating student-athletes – particularly those in Divisions II and III – the opportunity to compete on their sport’s most prominent stage. The Division II Championships Committee also cites the opportunities to promote the division’s unique attributes and characteristics to a larger audience as a reason to support the recommendation.

(4) **Estimated budget impact.** Approximately $250,000 for each joint championship.

(5) **Student-athlete impact.** The recommendation offers Division II basketball student-athletes a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to experience all the Final Fours have to offer. Exposure to these activities create positive experiences and lifelong memories, and a joint championship also means the final two teams are likely to compete in front of significantly larger crowds.

**f. Seeding at the finals in women’s soccer.**

(1) **Recommendation.** Allow the Division II Women’s Soccer Committee to seed the four teams advancing to the finals of the Division II Women’s Soccer Championship using the Performance Indicator (PI), which is among the selection criteria for women’s soccer.

(2) **Effective date.** 2018 championship.

(3) **Rationale.** Among recommendations in the Division II Regionalization Working Group’s final report was for sport committees in all team sports to seed teams advancing to the finals in their respective championships. Seeding the four teams that advance to the women’s soccer finals increases the likelihood that the top two teams will advance to the championship match. In addition, the Women’s Soccer Committee believes the PI is the most reliable criterion to seed the teams because it accounts for the quality of opponents and where a match is played.

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

(5) **Student-athlete impact.** Seeding teams advancing from regional competition provides the most competitive matchups for student-athletes at the championship.
g. Regional berth allocations in women’s soccer.

(1) **Recommendation.** Approve the following postseason berth allocations for each region based on 2018-19 sport sponsorship information:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>No. of Institutions</th>
<th>2018-19 Berths</th>
<th>Access Ratio</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Atlantic</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4.833</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4.375</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4.750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midwest</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4.500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4.333</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Central</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4.833</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southeast</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>4.857</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>4.714</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Bracket** 56

*This is the first year for access ratio in women’s soccer.*

(2) **Effective date.** 2018 championship.

(3) **Rationale.** The Division II Women’s Soccer Committee believes basing postseason berth allocations on the current year’s sport sponsorship is the fairest method and retains an equitable bracket size among regions. The committee assigned six berths per region (the committee started with six so that all regions would maintain the number of berths allocated in the former bracket size) and divided the total number of institutions sponsoring the sport by the regional berths to obtain the access ratio. The committee then increased regions to seven or eight berths to bring the access ratios into the tightest range possible within the bracket size of 56.

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

(5) **Student-athlete impact.** Regions will be represented in the postseason based on sponsorship in that region, which will provide the most equal access to the championship for all student-athletes.

h. Seeding at the finals in men’s soccer.

(1) **Recommendation.** Allow the Division II Men’s Soccer Committee to seed the four teams advancing to the finals of the Division II Men’s Soccer Championship using the Performance Indicator (PI), which is among the selection criteria for women’s soccer.

(2) **Effective date.** 2018 championship.
(3) **Rationale.** Among recommendations in the Division II Regionalization Working Group’s final report was for sport committees in all team sports to seed teams advancing to the finals in their respective championships. Seeding the four teams that advance to the men’s soccer finals increases the likelihood that the top two teams will advance to the championship match. In addition, the Men’s Soccer Committee believes the PI is the most reliable criterion to seed the teams because it accounts for the quality of opponents and where a match is played.

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

(5) **Student-athlete impact.** Seeding teams advancing from regional competition provides the most competitive matchups for student-athletes at the championship.

i. **Regional berth allocations in men’s soccer.**

(1) **Recommendation.** Approve the following postseason berth allocations for each region based on 2018-19 sport sponsorship information:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>No. of Institutions</th>
<th>2017-18 Berths</th>
<th>2018-19 Berths</th>
<th>Access Ratio</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Atlantic</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5.250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6.166</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midwest</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5.500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5.750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Central</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southeast</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5.166</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bracket</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>38</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(2) **Effective date.** 2018 championship.

(3) **Rationale.** The Division II Men’s Soccer Committee believes basing postseason berth allocations on the current year’s sport sponsorship is the fairest method and retains an equitable bracket size among regions. The committee assigned berths based on the most balanced access ratios possible.

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

(5) **Student-athlete impact.** Regions will be represented in the postseason based on sponsorship in that region, which will provide the most equal access to the championship for all student-athletes.

j. **Seeding at the finals in men’s and women’s tennis.**
(1) **Recommendation.** Allow the Division II Men’s and Women’s Tennis Committee to seed the 16 teams advancing to the finals of the Division II Men’s and Women’s Tennis Championships based on current selection criteria.

(2) **Effective date.** 2019 championships.

(3) **Rationale.** Seeding the 16 teams that advance to the finals increases the likelihood that the top teams will advance to the championship match. The Men’s and Women’s Tennis Committee believes using current selection criteria to seed teams is the most reliable approach since those criteria are used throughout the year for rankings and selections.

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

(5) **Student-athlete impact.** Seeding teams advancing from regional competition provides the most competitive matchups for student-athletes at the championship.

k. **Regional berth allocations in men’s and women’s tennis.**

(1) **Recommendation.** Approve the following postseason berth allocations for each region based on 2018-19 sport sponsorship information:

### Men’s Tennis:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>No. of Institutions</th>
<th>2017-18 Berths</th>
<th>2018-19 Berths</th>
<th>Access Ratio</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Atlantic</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3.170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2.275</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3.500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midwest</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>3.880</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>3.880</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Central</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southeast</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>2.250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bracket</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>48</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Women’s Tennis:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>No. of Institutions</th>
<th>2017-18 Berths</th>
<th>2018-19 Berths</th>
<th>Access Ratio</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Atlantic</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>4.710</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4.830</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4.830</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midwest</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>4.570</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
South | 35 | 7 | 7 | 5.000  
South Central | 16 | 4 | 4 | 4.000  
Southeast | 33 | 7 | 7 | 4.710  
West | 15 | 4 | 4 | 3.750  

Bracket | 48

(2) **Effective date.** 2019 championships.

(3) **Rationale.** The Division II Men’s and Women’s Tennis Committee believes basing postseason berth allocations on the current year’s sport sponsorship is the fairest method and retains an equitable bracket size among regions. The proposed allocation reflects the recently approved requirement that a minimum of four teams per region and a maximum of eight teams per region are selected.

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

(5) **Student-athlete impact.** Regions will be represented in the postseason based on sponsorship in that region, which will provide the most equal access to the championship for all student-athletes.

**I. Selection process for indoor and outdoor track and field.**

(1) **Recommendation.** Approve an edit to the selection process when the maximum championship field size is exceeded after each event has been filled to the desired minimum field size (270 per gender for indoor track and field, and 377 per gender for outdoor track and field). In an effort to focus on balanced field size and event strength, the Division II Men’s and Women’s Track and Field Committee will remove one student-athlete from all events when the maximum championship field size is exceeded. If this results in the total number of selected student-athletes falling below the maximum number of participants, the committee will add student-athletes to the strongest events until the maximum field size for the championships has been reached.

(2) **Effective date.** Immediate.

(3) **Rationale.** In adjusting the process for removing student-athletes when the maximum championship field size is exceeded, the committee eliminated the step of removing one student-athlete from all events across the championship. By removing this step, the committee learned the main focus of strength of event was being skewed and this step was vital in selections.

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

(5) **Student-athlete impact.** Student-athletes who have been successful in the stronger events for a given year will be selected to the championships.
INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. Welcome and review of agenda. Championships Committee Chair Sue Willey welcomed the group and reviewed the agenda and schedule of presenters. She also recognized new members Mike Cerino from Limestone College and Lisa Liotta from the University of Findlay. Chris Graham, commissioner of the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference, also was introduced as the new vice chair of the Management Council.

2. Staffing update. Staff noted various changes in sport committee assignments and liaisons.

3. Review of previous reports. The committee approved the report from its August 2, 2018, teleconference as submitted.


5. Membership-sponsored proposals for the 2019 Convention. Staff updated the group on nine legislative proposals slated for the 2019 NCAA Convention (eight Division II proposals and one Association-wide proposal regarding whether to add five independent members to the NCAA Board of Governors). The Championships Committee took positions on the following two proposals the Management Council referred that pertain to areas the committee oversees:

   a. Proposal No. IPOPL 1-1 (Camps and Clinics). The Championships Committee supported the proposal, noting that it provides all sports an equal opportunity to grow through camps and clinics during a period accessible for local youth and builds in protection for the legislated winter break. The committee noted that the Division II Men’s and Women’s Basketball Committees also support the proposal.

   b. Proposal No. IPOPL 1-4 (Spring Practice in Football). The Championships Committee supported the proposal due to the additional flexibility it provides institutions.

6. Committee updates.

   a. Membership Committee. Staff updated the group regarding the three schools [Emmanuel College (Georgia), Spring Hill College and Westminster College (Utah)] that became active members as of September 1. Seven institutions remain in the membership process, including four that are in year three and are on schedule to become active members in September 2019. Additionally, the Membership Committee reviewed and accepted applications from three prospective members: Benedictine University (Illinois), University of Texas at Tyler, and Savannah State University (which is on a two-year track given its reclassification from Division I). Staff also provided sport sponsorship updates and discussed progress being made on potential applicants from Mexico. Finally, staff informed the group that Merrimack University has indicated its desire to reclassify its athletics program to Division I, and that Cheyney University of Pennsylvania is no longer
considered a Division II member for scheduling purposes (rather, the school counts only as a four-year institution).


- **PROP reports.** The committee reviewed reports from recent PROP teleconferences and meetings.

- **Basketball court markings.** Staff provided an update on rules changes that would affect court markings (wider lane and potentially moving the three-point line). The NCAA Men’s and Women’s Basketball Rules Committees are still deliberating these issues. Staff noted that if changes are eventually adopted, a one-year delay would be in place to accommodate Divisions II and III.

- **Discussion regarding the forfeit rule in soccer.** Staff updated the committee on a rule in men’s and women’s soccer requiring a postgame forfeit to be imposed if a student-athlete or coach participates in a match when he or she should have been serving a suspension for a red card or accumulation of yellow cards. Soccer is unique in that it is the only NCAA sport for which a postgame forfeit is provided within the playing rules. While instances of playing a student-athlete who should be serving a suspension are rare, they do occur (whether intentionally or due to administrative oversight). The matter is complicated by another rule stipulating that all statistics remain the same if a game is forfeited after it has concluded.

The NCAA Men’s and Women’s Soccer Rules Committee during its March 2018 meeting considered eliminating the statistical provision (i.e., altering the score to reflect a 1-0 loss for the team in violation and not counting the statistics from that game) because it wants the penalty to apply to the regular season in addition to affecting postseason selection. However, the rules committee tabled the matter until its March 2019 meeting to seek feedback from the soccer community and other governance groups regarding whether any changes being considered would have unintended consequences. The Division II Men’s and Women’s Soccer Committees supported enforcing the forfeit rule (as did the sport committees in Divisions I and III) as well as altering the score and statistics accordingly. Feedback from the soccer coaches association was similar.

After lengthy discussion, however, the Division II Championships Committee decided to not support enforcing the existing forfeit rule, and to not support a forfeit being reflected in the score reporting system (i.e., that the score would be changed, and the statistics not counted). Championships Committee members acknowledged the seriousness of the matter (and its uniqueness to soccer) and advised the Soccer Rules Committee to consider a different approach regarding how a penalty in these instances should affect the regular season (e.g., fines, additional suspensions, etc.), and they
advised the Men’s and Women’s Soccer Committees to use the existing nullification process as a tool to address these situations as they relate to postseason selection.

- **Discussion regarding the process for rule modification approvals when sports do not have a designated playing rules committee.** The Championships Committee recommended sponsorship of noncontroversial legislation to amend Bylaw 31.1.6 (playing rules) to specify that rules modifications for sports in which the Association does not publish rules must be consistent among divisions (see Legislative Action Item).

7. **Regionalization feedback instrument.** Committee members reviewed and supported a request to solicit membership feedback regarding whether the current principles of regionalization can be met at selections when sport committees populate the field, or if they can be met only when all regions are represented at the championship finals site. Regionalization currently guarantees that every region is represented at the finals. However, momentum is building to ensure that the best teams are in the finals. Some sport committees have accomplished that by seeding the teams that advance from regional competition into the finals. That helps ensure the best two teams compete in the championship final without compromising regional representation. But other sport committees have proposed seeding teams earlier than after the regional round, which could affect regional representation at the final site. Responses to this survey will help inform how sport committees apply the regionalization principles (and whether those principles in fact should be amended) in the future. The committee will review the feedback at its February meeting.

8. **Sport reports and updates.**

  a. **Baseball.**

- **Championship date formula.** The Championships Committee approved adjusting the dates of competition for the regional and super-regional rounds of the Division II Baseball Championship from Friday-Sunday and Saturday-Sunday to Thursday-Saturday and Friday-Saturday, respectively (see Nonlegislative Action Item No. 2-a).

- **Seeding teams advancing to the finals.** The Championships Committee approved allowing the Division II Baseball Committee to seed the eight teams advancing to the finals of the Division II Baseball Championship (see Nonlegislative Action Item No. 2-b).

- **Regional berth allocations.** The Championships Committee approved the baseball committee’s recommended postseason berth allocations based on 2018-19 sport sponsorship by region (see Nonlegislative Action Item No. 2-c).

- **Facility requirements for regional hosts.** The Baseball Committee asked the Championships Committee for feedback regarding whether prospective regional hosts
should be required to provide a lighted field (whether on campus or a backup facility nearby). Weather delays at recent regional competitions have caused the Baseball Committee to consider adding this requirement. Championships Committee members thought it would be worth considering the requirement for institutions that host an eight-team regional (during which four games are played the first day), but not necessarily for those that host a six-team regional. The Championships Committee noted that the new date formula, if approved (see Nonlegislative Action Item No. 2-a), may help alleviate this concern.

b. Football.

- **Coordinator of officials.** The Championships Committee noted that the Division II Football Committee decided not to hire a Division II coordinator of officials for the 2018 season as was approved through the recent budgetary process and will instead seek to fill the position in 2019.

- **Championship site selection.** The Championships Committee noted that the Football Committee is seeking a new site for the 2018 Division II Football Championship given that facility renovations at the current site will not be completed in time for the championship. The Football Committee expects to submit a recommendation in time for the Championships Committee to consider during its October teleconference.

c. Men’s and women’s basketball.

- **Joint championships with Divisions I and III.** The Championships Committee supported recommendations from the Division II Men’s and Women’s Basketball Committees to conduct the Division II Men’s Basketball Championship and the Division II Women’s Basketball Championship in conjunction with the Division I Men’s Final Four and the Division I Women’s Final Four, respectively, twice each during the next 10 years (see Nonlegislative Action Item No. 2-d).

d. Men’s golf.

- **Regional host recommendation.** The Championships Committee approved California University of Pennsylvania to host the 2019 Atlantic/East Regional at Totteridge Golf Club in Greensburg, Pennsylvania (see Nonlegislative Action Item No. 2-e).

e. Men’s lacrosse.

- **Squad size and bench personnel.** The Championships Committee considered a request to increase the squad size from 28 to 32 individuals and the bench size from 48 to 50 individuals. Championships Committee members approved the increased access to the bench but delayed action on the squad size until the next budget cycle given the associated costs.
f. **Women’s lacrosse.** The Championships Committee reviewed a report from the Women’s Lacrosse Committee’s June 6-7, 2018, meeting.

g. **Softball.**

- **Committee discretion in awarding hosts.** The Softball Committee raised concerns about automatically awarding the Nos. 1 and 2 seeds the ability to host if a site(s) has presented issues in the past (e.g., hotels are inadequate or located too far from the competition venue). The Championships Committee agreed that sport committees should have discretionary authority to deny a top seed’s opportunity to host in such situations, particularly if the information provided on the bid differs from what actually is available. The Championships Committee urged caution, however, and recommended that staff use the time between when bids are submitted and when selections are announced to address any concerns in this regard.

h. **Women’s soccer.**

- **Seeding at the finals site.** The Championships Committee approved allowing the Division II Women’s Soccer Committee to seed the four teams advancing to the finals of the Division II Women’s Soccer Championship (see Nonlegislative Action Item No. 2-f).

- **Regional berth allocations.** The Championships Committee approved the Women’s Soccer Committee’s recommended postseason berth allocations based on 2018-19 sport sponsorship by region (see Nonlegislative Action Item No. 2-g).

i. **Men’s soccer.**

- **Seeding at the finals site.** The Championships Committee approved allowing the Division II Men’s Soccer Committee to seed the four teams advancing to the finals of the Division II Men’s Soccer Championship (see Nonlegislative Action Item No. 2-h).

- **Regional berth allocations.** The Championships Committee approved the Men’s Soccer Committee’s recommended postseason berth allocations based on 2018-19 sport sponsorship by region (see Nonlegislative Action Item No. 2-i).

j. **Men’s and women’s tennis.**

- **Seeding at the finals site.** The Championships Committee approved allowing the Division II Men’s and Women’s Tennis Committee to seed the 16 teams advancing to the finals of the Division II Men’s and Women’s Tennis Championships (see Nonlegislative Action Item No. 2-j).
• **Regional berth allocations.** The Championships Committee approved the Men’s and Women’s Tennis Committee’s recommended postseason berth allocations based on 2018-19 sport sponsorship by region (see Nonlegislative Action Item No. 2-k).

**k. Men’s and women’s track and field.**

• **Selection processes for indoor track and field.** The Championships Committee approved an editorial adjustment to the selection process when the maximum championship field size is exceeded after each event has been filled to the desired minimum field size (270 per gender for indoor track and field, and 377 per gender for outdoor track and field) (see Nonlegislative Action Item No. 2-l).

**l. Other discussion items.**

• **Lone Star Conference/Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference regional advisory committee request.** The committee considered a request from the Lone Star Conference and the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference (RMAC) to add a representative from each conference per sport to regional advisory committees (RAC) in the South Central region given that the dissolution of the Heartland Conference has left the region with just two conferences. Championships Committee members noted, however, that various regions have operated with just two conferences (and as a result, four RAC members per sport) in the past without issue. Accordingly, the Championships Committee voted not to grant the request but indicated a willingness to reconsider the matter once the Lone Star and RMAC have gone through the four-member RAC system for one year.

• **Spring sport championship recaps.** The Committee reviewed reports from the 2018 spring sport championships.

• **NCAA/Live Stats.** Staff updated the group on a new partnership with Genius Sports to provide statistical collection software in all team sports over the next several years. Starting in 2018-19, predetermined championship hosts for men’s and women’s basketball will be required to use the NCAA Live Stats software program.

• **Preliminary-round video streaming requirement updates.** Staff updated the committee on requirements adopted for 2017-18 and 2018-19, noting that video streaming will be listed as a facility requirement in minimum bid specifications for prospective regional hosts beginning in 2019-20. In addition, staff noted that a number of California schools must include closed captioning in their video broadcasts if they contain audio, per state mandate. Staff noted that Division II will cover the closed captioning costs for California schools that host a preliminary round during the 2018-19 academic year if they offer closed captioning during the regular season or if due to financial constraints don’t have closed captioning and therefore don’t provide audio.
• **2018 Fall Festival update.** Staff updated committee members on the planning underway for the 2018 fall sports festival in Pittsburgh.

9. **National Championships Festival discussion.** Championships Committee members engaged in a lengthy discussion regarding the merits of the Division II National Championships Festivals and ways in which they can be improved both from an operational perspective as well as enhancing the student-athlete experience. The committee relied on feedback from the 2018 Division II Membership Census as well as from participant surveys and sport committee input to frame its discussion. The committee agreed that while the festival approach remains unique to Division II and a positive opportunity for student-athletes, groups responsible for administering the festivals should be diligent to ensure they are conducted as efficiently and effectively as possible. The committee noted that NCAA staff conducted a thorough evaluation of festival operations and formats and suggested a number of potential adjustments if there is membership interest to pursue them, including moving the spring sport festival back one week to accommodate the affected sports’ scheduling concerns, and possibly moving the start of the playing and practice seasons for field hockey and cross country back in festival years to reduce the gap between the end of the regular season and the championship in those sports. While Championships Committee did not take action on anything that would affect the festivals at this time, they agreed to be open to considering future adjustments based on the membership’s desire to do so.

10. **Staff updates.**

   a. **Legal affairs.** Naima Stevenson from the NCAA’s general counsel office updated the committee on legal affairs involving or affecting the NCAA.

   b. **Governance.**

      - **Summary of actions.** Staff updated the group on actions from the July/August Management and Presidents Council meetings.

      - **Sports wagering update.** Staff summarized actions resulting from the U.S. Supreme Court’s decision in May regarding sports wagering.

      - **New regular-season media agreement.** Staff provided an update on the new media agreement that will last through the 2019-20 academic year (with an option to extend the agreement to a third year in 2020-21). The agreement includes the same number of broadcasts as with previous agreements [22 football games, 36 basketball games (18 doubleheaders) and six to 10 contests in other sports].

   c. **Division II University update.** The new educational platform launched in May with courses in recruiting, eligibility, and several health and safety modules. Staff updated the committee on the development of future module(s) scheduled for release in spring 2019 pertaining to championship selection, including a review of selection criteria and how
regionalization principles apply. These modules likely will be elective courses rather than required. Courses also are being developed in collaboration with the Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee to help explain rules and ramifications surrounding countable athletically related activities, and courses also are in the works targeting presidents and chancellors regarding affirmation of compliance.

d. Championships analytics. Committee members reviewed data on live streaming at Division II spring sport championships.


- February 20-21, 2019. (NOTE: This was moved from February 12-13 to allow the Championships Committee to consider more reports from fall sport committees that meet in January and February.)

12. Other business. None.

13. Adjournment. Ms. Willey adjourned the meeting at 3:55 p.m. Eastern time.

Committee Chair:  Sue Willey, University of Indianapolis
Staff Liaison(s): Roberta Page, Championships and Alliances
Molly Simons, Championships and Alliances
Amanda Conklin, Academic and Membership Affairs

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Division II Championships Committee</th>
<th>September 11, 2018, Meeting</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attendees:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michael Anderson, Gulf South Conference.</td>
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<td>Greg Bamberger, Kutztown University of Pennsylvania.</td>
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<td>Pat Britz, South Atlantic Conference (via teleconference).</td>
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<tr>
<td>Steve Card, Western Washington University.</td>
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<td>Chris Graham, Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference (Management Council Vice Chair).</td>
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<td>Terri Holmes, Northern State University.</td>
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<td>Lisa Liotta, University of Findlay.</td>
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<td>Kristin Mort, Colorado Mesa University.</td>
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<td>Jake Renie, University of Indianapolis [SAAC member attending on behalf of Deiontae Nicholas, Wayne State University (Michigan)]</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pennie Parker, Rollins College (Management Council Chair).</td>
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<td>Name</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tom Shirley</td>
<td>Thomas Jefferson University</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kim Vinson</td>
<td>Cameron University</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sue Willey</td>
<td>University of Indianapolis</td>
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**Absentees:**
- Mike Cerino, Limestone College.
- Deiontae Nicholas, Wayne State University (Michigan).

**Guests in Attendance:**
- Gary Brown, NCAA Contractor.

**NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:**
- Amanda Conklin, Academic and Membership Affairs.
- Roberta Page, Championships and Alliances.
- Molly Simons, Championships and Alliances.

**Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:**
- Maddie Arndt, Division II Governance.
- John Baldwin, Championships and Alliances.
- Geoff Bentzel, Academic and Membership Affairs.
- Eric Breece, Championships and Alliances.
- Dan Calandro, Championships and Alliances.
- Zach Christopher, Championships and Alliances.
- Morgan DeSpain, Championships and Alliances.
- Ashlee Follis, Championships and Alliances.
- Terri Gronau, Division II Governance.
- Leslie Havens, Championships and Alliances.
- Will Hopkins, Championships and Alliances (via teleconference).
- Maritza Jones, Division II Governance.
- Kelsey Jones, Championships and Alliances.
- Ryan Jones, Division II Governance.
- Melissa Marchini, Academic and Membership Affairs.
- Lauren McLaughlin, Championships and Alliances.
- Jeff O’Barr, Administrative Services.
- Angela Red, Academic and Membership Affairs.
- Stephanie Quigg Smith, Academic and Membership Affairs.
- Micki Spears, Administrative Services.
- Naima Stevenson, General Counsel.
- Oliver Wells, Championships and Alliances.
- Jeff Williams, Championships and Alliances.
- Dave Worlock, Championships and Alliances.