ACTION ITEMS.

- None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. Welcome, introductions and review of meeting schedule. Championships Committee Chair Jim Johnson welcomed the group and noted that the committee periodically uses its September meeting to meet with sport committee chairs (or their designees) and discuss budget-related items and other hot topics in their respective sports.

2. Roundtable discussions. The group broke into roundtables to discuss the following items:

   a. 2018-21 triennial budget requests. For this exercise, the group was informed that the Division II Planning and Finance Committee originally asked that the following areas be prioritized when allocating the $1.5 million to the championships base budget for the 2018-21 triennium: (1) ground transportation reimbursement for both team and individual sports; (2) officials’ fees increases; and (3) other operational needs. The committee stressed that bracket expansion, travel party increases and other items were not discouraged, but the priority areas should receive first consideration. However, the NCAA since adopted a standardized budget model for championship travel that allowed previously allocated dollars for ground transportation at championships to be absorbed into the base budget. As a result, the $1.5 million allocation does not need to include local ground transportation reimbursement.

   The Championships Committee entered this meeting already having discussed the various requests from sport committees and had reached preliminary decisions on most; however, members asked sport committee representatives to further discuss and rank in priority order the following for which there is yet to be a consensus in order to better inform the committee’s final recommendations:

   - Men’s and women’s basketball: Use DV Sport (or equivalent) to provide replay at regionals and the Elite Eight. [Estimated budget impact: $45,000 or $85,000 for each gender, depending upon whether the split regional proposal is approved. DV Sport currently charges $5,000 per site.]

   - Football: Use DV Sport (or equivalent) to provide replay capabilities beginning with the quarterfinal games. [Estimated budget impact: $20,000 ($5,000 per game)]
• **Men’s golf:** Add an eighth travel party member (a sixth student-athlete) to the current travel party for the 20 teams advancing to the finals site. Also, a coach, at his or her discretion, may substitute this additional student-athlete during the head-to-head medal play portion of the championships only. [Estimated budget impact: $23,000.]

• **Women’s rowing:** Increase the championships field size to six full teams and discontinue selecting at-large Four boats. [Estimated budget impact: $25,000.]

After discussion, the group thought the recommendations in golf and rowing should be the priority, since they increase student-athlete participation opportunities. However, the group also acknowledged that the football and basketball recommendations align with the officiating priority the Planning and Finance Committee identified.

b. **2018 Division II Membership Census.** Division II will conduct its second Membership Census in early 2018. Like the initial census in 2013, this iteration will seek feedback from a range of institutional and conference staff on Division II branding, championships, student-athlete advisory committees, governance processes and structure, diversity and inclusion, and conference and presidential involvement, among other topics. Results will help inform a mid-term assessment of the 2015-21 Division II Strategic Plan and shape future initiatives. Championships Committee members and sport committee representatives reviewed the questions pertaining to championships and suggested changes as necessary.

c. **Importance of regional advisory committees.** The Championships Committee has heard anecdotal feedback regarding the effectiveness of RACs and asked the sport committee representatives to weigh on in their importance. The consensus from the group was that RACs provide a valuable evaluative element to the national committee and should be retained. The most prevalent concerns regarding RACs involve ensuring integrity in how members are appointed and consistency with how they conduct their duties.

d. **Evaluating the optional selection criteria for team sports.** The Championships Committee is seeking input on the 10 optional criteria from which sport committees may choose up to three to supplement the five required criteria (plus nullification and student-athlete availability) when evaluating teams for selection to an NCAA championship. These criteria became effective in 2015-16 and are in the third year of use, but the Championships Committee is interested in hearing whether they represent the most appropriate and relevant options going forward. In general, discussion from the roundtables revealed an interest in criteria that emphasize in-region competition,
and perhaps being able to reduce the list of optional criteria by eliminating some that may be duplicative.

e. **Site representative training.** The Championships Committee asked the group to provide input on resources available to instruct how to be an effective site representative. The group believes the resources are adequate but discussed ways in which they might be better communicated, such as via video or by conducting a mock teleconference.

3. **Coaches Online Education Program.** Staff updated the group on the Online Coaches Education Program, which is being funded through the Foundation for the Future initiative and will be launched in the spring of 2018 to deliver legislative and health and safety content to Division II coaches. The new online program is expected to replace the current Division II coaches recruiting exam by 2020.

4. **Coaches Connection update.** Staff updated the group on the Coaches Connection Program, which also is being funded through the Foundation for the Future initiative. The program already has created a successful collaboration between coaches and governance in football, women’s volleyball, soccer and tennis, and five sports (baseball, cross country, track and field, softball, and wrestling) have been added. The ultimate goal is to feature the program for all sports.

5. **Alcohol pilot program for NCAA championships; postseason travel bans.** Staff updated the group on the second year of the pilot program that added the Divisions I, II and III Men’s Lacrosse Championships, the Division I Women’s Lacrosse Championship and the FCS Football Championship game to the Men’s and Women’s College World Series as events at which beer and wine were sold. Evaluations of the program to date have been favorable, with no negative impacts being reported (overall in fact, alcohol-related citations decreased significantly at all five championships). The NCAA Board of Governors has approved the pilot for a third year to include the championships from the first two years, plus the Division I Women’s Volleyball Championship, the Division I Men’s Frozen Four and the Division I Wrestling Championships.

Staff also updated the group on states that have imposed travel bans that may affect teams’ ability to participate in NCAA championships. The bans will not affect institutions’ ability to host at nonpredetermined sites, nor will it affect bracket seeding. Sport committees, however, will be encouraged to send non-seeded teams from states with travel bans to approved sites when possible.

6. **Regionalization Working Group update.** Championships Committee Chair Jim Johnson provided an update on the working group, noting that during its most recent teleconference in July, the group realized that bracketing alternatives beyond the first round in various sports
might have a greater positive impact on the championships experience than options for preliminary rounds per its original charge. Accordingly, the working group has asked that it remain intact and be permitted to review championship bracketing alternatives beyond the first round, as well as additional concepts that could possibly improve the championships in all sports.

7. **Staff updates.**

   a. **Governance.** NCAA staff reviewed the nine priority areas the Presidents Council formally approved for the division in 2017-18.

   b. **Legislation.** Staff reviewed the five proposals slated for the 2018 NCAA Convention.

   c. **Make It Yours.** Staff updated the group on the Make It Yours brand enhancement, including efforts to extend the campaign to external audiences. Staff also noted that due to a surplus from the 2016-17 purchasing credit for Division II institutions, conference offices will receive a $1,000 purchasing credit to spend by November 1.

8. **Other business.** None.

9. **Adjournment.** Mr. Johnson adjourned the meeting at 11:10 a.m. Eastern time.

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**Championships Committee Chair:** Jim Johnson, Pittsburg State University; Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association  
**Staff Liaison(s):** Roberta Page, Championships and Alliances  
Molly Simons, Championships and Alliances  
Amanda Conklin, Academic and Membership Affairs

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| Division II Championships Committee  
| September 11-12, 2017, Meeting with Sport Committee Chairs |
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| **Championships Committee Attendees:**  
| Michael Anderson, Gulf South Conference.  
| Greg Bamberger, Kutztown University of Pennsylvania; Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference.  
| Pat Britz, South Atlantic Conference.  
| Steve Card, Western Washington University; Great Northwest Athletic Conference.  
| Kim Duyst, California State University, Stanislaus; California Collegiate Athletic Association.  
| Gary Gray, University of Alaska Fairbanks; Great Northwest Athletic Conference (Management Council chair).  
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Report of the DII Championships Committee/
Sport Committee Chairs September 11-
12 Joint Meeting

Jim Johnson, Pittsburg State University; Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association.
Kristin Mort, Colorado Mesa University; Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference.
Julie Ruppert, Northeast-10 Conference.
Josh Shapiro, Colorado Mesa University; Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference (representing the Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee in place of Ty Dennis).
Tom Shirley, Philadelphia University; Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference.
Kim Vinson, Cameron University; Lone Star Conference.
Sue Willey, University of Indianapolis; Great Lakes Valley Conference.

**Absentees:**
Ty Dennis, University of Minnesota, Mankato; Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference.
Pennie Parker, Rollins College; Sunshine State Conference (Management Council vice chair).

**Sport Committee Chairs (or Designees) in Attendance:**
Jesse Balcer, Chestnut Hill College; Central Atlantic Athletic Conference (Division II Women’s Lacrosse Committee).
Mike McFarland, Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania; Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference (Division II Field Hockey Committee).
J.B. Belzer, Regis University (Colorado); Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference (Division II Women’s Soccer Committee).
Mark Clements, Northwest Missouri State University; Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association (Division II Baseball Committee).
Pete Coughlin, California University of Pennsylvania; Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference (Division II Men’s Golf Committee).
Preston Grey, Azusa Pacific University; California Collegiate Athletic Association (Division II Men’s and Women’s Cross Country Committee).
Gary Hamill, Wingate University; South Atlantic Conference (Division II Men’s Soccer Committee).
Karen Hjerpe, California University of Pennsylvania; Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference (Division II Women’s Volleyball Committee).
Eliane Kebbe, South Atlantic Conference (Division II Women’s Basketball Committee).
Sandee Mott, University of Colorado, Colorado Springs; Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference (Division II Women’s Golf Committee).

Steve Mullins, Arkansas Tech University; Great American Conference (Division II Football Committee).
David Pearson, California Baptist University; Pacific West Conference (Division II Wrestling Committee).
Jody Russell, Lock Haven University of Pennsylvania; Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference (Division II Men’s and Women’s Track and Field Committee).
Jake Saulsbury, University of Nebraska at Kearney; Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association (Division II Men’s and Women’s Tennis Committee).
Patrick Snively, Fairmont State University of Pennsylvania; Mountain East Conference (Division II Men’s and Women's Swimming and Diving Committee).
Jeff Wilson, East Stroudsburg University of Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference (Division II Men’s Basketball Committee).

**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:**
John Baldwin, Championships and Alliances.
Eric Breece, Championships and Alliances.
Kelsey Cermak, Championships and Alliances.
Sharon Cessna, Championships and Alliances.
Morgan DeSpain, Championships and Alliances.
Natasha Harris, Championships and Alliances.
Leslie Havens, Championships and Alliances.
Will Hopkins, Championships and Alliances.
Terri Steeb Gronau, Division II Governance.
Maritza Jones, Division II Governance.
Catherine Krawiec, Championships and Alliances.
Marie Scovron, Championships and Alliances.
Ryan Tressel, Championships and Alliances.
Donnie Wagner, Championships and Alliances.
Matt Ward, Division II Governance.