

**REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION III MEN'S AND WOMEN'S TENNIS COMMITTEES  
JULY 10-11, 2018, MEETING**

**ACTION ITEMS.**

**1. Legislative items.**

- None.

**2. Nonlegislative items.**

**a. Access ratio.**

- (1) Recommendation. That the access ratio for men's and women's tennis be modified from 1:7.5 to 1:7.
- (2) Effective date. September 1, 2019.
- (3) Rationale. The men's and women's tennis committees believe that the access ratio should be modified to provide additional access to at-large teams. As noted in NCAA Bylaw 31.3.1.1, the approximate access ratio for golf and tennis may be in the range of 1:7 and 1:7.5. The access ratio for men's and women's tennis is currently 1:7.5.

Similar to golf, the committees understand the rationale regarding the 1:7.5 ratio for tennis, given the individual fields that have been afforded to the sport. The individual fields do offer 64 additional slots available for institutional participation per gender. However, when examining those numbers over the last three years; an average of 14 (men) and 13 (women) slots have been awarded to individuals that are not participating on teams already in the championship field. This would be the approximate equivalent of two full tennis teams.

Also, worth noting is the at-large percentage for team sports in comparison to men's and women's tennis. Other team sports are in the range of 25 to 40 percent of their respective brackets. For men's tennis, the percentage of at-large teams participating in the bracket is at 18 and women's tennis is at 20. If the access ratio were to increase to 1:7, the men's and women's brackets would recognize an increase from 43 to 46 teams (men) and 49 to 53 teams (women). Again, if this increase were to occur, it would move the percentage of at-large teams to 24 (men) and 26 (women). While these percentages are still on the low end of comparisons, it would bring them into the range with other sports as it relates to the composition of automatic qualifiers and at-larges that are selected into the field.

- (4) Estimated budget impact. Men's tennis adding three teams would result in a \$21,000 budget increase. Women's tennis adding four teams (this is with the calculation of the access ratio adjustment) would result in a \$30,000 budget increase.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. This proposal will afford additional opportunities for deserving teams to compete at the championships.

**b. Committee chair appointments.**

- (1) Recommendation. That Jenn Dubow, commissioner of the Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference, and Marty Perry, director of men's and women's tennis at Virginia Wesleyan University, be named chair of the women's committee and men's committee, respectively. Mr. Perry will replace Adam Strand, who has served for one year as chair and will be rotating off the committee.
- (2) Effective date. September 1, 2018
- (3) Rationale. Ms. Dubow has great experience to draw from as a conference commissioner and former Division III tennis student-athlete. She has been a valuable part of the committee this year and will continue to provide great leadership. Mr. Perry is a veteran of this committee and will provide valuable leadership as well.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. Ms. Dubow and Mr. Perry both have tennis backgrounds and will keep the best interests of the student-athletes as a top priority.

**c. Format change.**

- (1) Recommendation. Adjust the match format to eliminate the warm-up between opponents, establish a five-minute intermission between doubles and singles, and establish a tiebreaker at 7-7 in doubles.
- (2) Effective date. September 1, 2018
- (3) Rationale. The committees seek to use the format Divisions I and II have adopted.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. These format changes will create shorter match times, which in turn will allow the students athletes more time for academics, social life, etc. These shorter match times will also help eliminate heat related illness or injuries for those playing in warmer parts of the country. Finally, the early finish

time for matches will allow the student athletes an earlier return to campus when they are playing in away matches.

**d. Men's tennis automatic qualification.**

- (1) Recommendation. That the following conferences receive automatic qualification for the 2018 championships: Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference; American Southwest Conference; American Rivers Conference; Capital Athletic Conference; Centennial Conference; City University of New York Athletic Conference; College Conference of Illinois & Wisconsin; Colonial States Athletic Conference; Empire 8; Great Northeast Athletic Conference; Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference; Landmark Conference; Liberty League; Little East Conference; Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association; Middle Atlantic Conference Commonwealth; Middle Atlantic Conference Freedom; Midwest Conference; Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference; New England Men's and Women's Athletic Conference; New England Small College Athletic Conference; North Atlantic Conference; North Coast Athletic Conference; Northern Athletics Conference; Northwest Conference; Ohio Athletic Conference; Old Dominion Athletic Conference; Presidents' Athletic Conference; Skyline Conference; Southern Athletic Association; Southern California Inter. Athletic Conference; Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference; The Commonwealth Coast Conference; Upper Midwest Conference; University Athletic Association; and USA South Athletic Conference.
- (2) Effective date. September 1, 2018.
- (3) Rationale. The 36 conferences meet the requirements of NCAA Bylaw 31.3.2 and have completed the automatic-qualification declaration form. Note that pool allocations may adjust if 2018-19 sponsorship numbers change.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

**e. Women's tennis automatic qualification.**

- (1) Recommendation. That the following conferences receive automatic qualification for the 2018 championships: Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference; American Southwest Conference; American Rivers Conference; Capital Athletic Conference; Centennial Conference; City University of New York Athletic Conference; College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin; Colonial States Athletic Conference; Empire 8; Great Northeast Athletic Conference; Great South Athletic Conference; Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference; Landmark Conference; Liberty League; Little East Conference; Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association; Middle Atlantic Conference Commonwealth; Middle Atlantic Conference Freedom; Midwest Conference; Minnesota Intercollegiate

Athletic Conference; New England Small College Athletic Conference; New England Women's and Men's Athletics Conference; New Jersey Athletic Conference; North Coast Athletic Conference; North Eastern Athletic Conference; Northern Athletics Conference; Northwest Conference; Ohio Athletic Conference; Old Dominion Athletic Conference; Presidents' Athletic Conference; Skyline Conference; Southern Athletic Association; Southern California Inter. Athletic Conference; Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference;); State University of New York Athletic Conference; The Commonwealth Coast Conference; University Athletic Association; Upper Midwest Conference; USA South Athletic Conference; Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.

- (2) Effective date: September 1, 2018.
- (3) Rationale. The 40 conferences meet the requirements of NCAA Bylaw 31.3.4 and have completed the automatic-qualification declaration form. Note that pool allocations may adjust if 2018-19 sponsorship numbers change.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

### **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **2017 annual meeting report.** The committees approved the 2017 annual meeting report as written.
2. **2018 championships review.** NCAA staff reviewed the preliminary-round hosts and the championship finals, including the banquets, evaluations, selections, protest procedures and other related items. The committees discussed best practices learned through the championship. Committee members agreed to contact their respective regional advisory committees to generate a greater number of bids to provide more options when selecting preliminary-round sites.
3. **Planning for the 2019 championships and beyond.** The committees discussed the upcoming championships at the Stowe Stadium in Kalamazoo, Michigan (Kalamazoo College). The committees will work with the host on the competition and practice schedules, as well as the banquet format. These areas will be focal points on the host calls leading up to the championships.

The committees noted that the head official, Darren Potkey, did a great job at the 2017-18 championships. NCAA staff has contacted Mr. Potkey about serving as the head official for the 2019 championships.

The committees reviewed the sponsorship lists and regional alignment summary by conference and identified possible discrepancies for staff to explore. In addition, NCAA staff noted the conferences that have submitted applications to achieve automatic-qualifier status.

4. **Rankings.** NCAA staff reviewed the vacancies on the regional advisory committees (RACs). The committees discussed the score reporting system, the RAC balloting process and timeline for rankings. The committees want to explore whether RAC members should continue submitting team rankings via email as well as in the balloting system.
5. **Selections.** The committees discussed ways to improve the official lineup/entry form and the policies/procedures associated with the official lineups. The committees want to add the lines 7-9 in the singles lineup, include a non-dual individual tournament records column along with the Division I and Division II overall column, and add space to list all coaches. Committee members also provided feedback from their experiences using the selection bracketing and balloting system.
6. **Format changes.** With the proposed format changes in 2c, the committee is waiting on AMA to come back with their interpretation on the legislative history on tennis format. Once this has been interpreted the committee will put forth additional changes.
7. **Bracket expansion: Individuals and doubles tournament.** The committees discussed the idea of expanding the field size for the individuals and doubles tournament. Committee members supported this topic but also recognized that there is more of priority for expanding the team bracket. The committees will revisit this topic at next year's annual meeting.
8. **ITA report.** Representatives from the ITA joined the meeting to discuss a number of topics, including:
  - Score reporting on the ITA website.
  - ITA convention.
  - Computer rankings/testing algorithms – working toward standardization.
  - ITA rankings.
  - ITA governance structure.
  - ITA operations group
9. **Review of manuals.** NCAA staff asked the committees to review the pre-championships, host operations and participant manuals and provide changes.
10. **Annual meeting.** The committees agreed to meet July 9-11, 2019.

*Committee Chairs: Jenn Dubow, Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference  
Adam Strand, Luther College*

*Staff Liaisons: Anjellica Rospond Championships and Alliances  
Alaina Keller, Championships and Alliances*

**Division III Men's and Women's Tennis Committees  
July 10-12, 2018, Meeting**

**Attendees:**

Steve Bickam, Pomona-Pitzer Colleges.

Conchie Shackelford, University of the South.

Chris Colvin, Nichols College.

Marty Perry, Virginia Wesleyan University.

Jon Carlson, Gustavus Adolphus College.

Jennifer Dubow, Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.

Adam Strand, Luther College.

**Absentees:**

Patrick Summers, New England Women's & Men's Conference.

**Guests in Attendance:**

Erica Perkins Jasper, International Tennis Association.

**NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:**

Anjellica Rospond, Championships and Alliances.

Alaina Keller, Championships and Alliances.

**Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:**

Louise McCleary, Governance.

Liz Turner Suscha, Championships and Alliances.