



**REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION III MEN'S ICE HOCKEY COMMITTEE  
JUNE 5-7, 2017, ANNUAL MEETING**

**ACTION ITEMS.**

**1. Legislative items.**

- None.

**2. Nonlegislative items.**

**a. Automatic qualification.**

- (1) Recommendation. That the following seven conferences be approved for automatic qualification to the 2018 NCAA Division III Men's Ice Hockey Championship: Commonwealth Coast Conference, Massachusetts State Collegiate Athletic Conference, Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference, New England Hockey Conference, New England Small College Athletic Conference, Northern Collegiate Hockey Association, and State University of New York Athletic Conference.

Anticipated Pool Allocations

Pool A - 7

Pool B - 1

Pool C - 4

- (2) Effective date. September 1, 2017.
- (3) Rationale. Each conference meets the requirements of Bylaw 31.3.3 and has completed the automatic-qualification declaration form.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

**b. Committee chair.**

- (1) Recommendation. That Jared Phillips, associate director of athletics at Gustavus Adolphus College, serve as chair of the Division III Men's Ice Hockey Committee.
- (2) Effective date. September 1, 2017.
- (3) Rationale. Mr. Phillips is a current administrator and former Division III ice hockey student-athlete and coach.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.

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(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

### **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Agenda and meeting schedule.** The committee chair welcomed the committee members and reviewed the meeting schedule and agenda.
2. **Key actions of the NCAA Division III Championships Committee.** The committee reviewed actions the Championships Committee took in 2016-17 relevant to the work of the men's ice hockey committee.
3. **2016 report.** The committee approved the 2016 annual meeting report as presented.
4. **2017 championship.**
  - a. **Championship surveys.** Committee members commended the host organizing committee on a successful championship. Utica College's facility and setup generated positive feedback from participants. The team hotel was outdated and suggested as an area of improvement (i.e., different property) if the championship returns to Utica in the future.
  - b. **Scoresheet protocol.** The committee agreed to distribute copies of the game scoresheet to coaches during the administrative meeting as well as incorporate the scoresheet submission in the pregame protocol to ensure that lineups are handled seamlessly.
  - c. **Intermission length.** Given the access to two ice resurfacers and past facility experience, the committee agreed to 15 minutes as the intermission length for the 2018 championships in Lake Placid, New York.
5. **Review of American Hockey Coaches Association meeting.** The committee reviewed the report staff presented to the Division III coaches during the April 2017 AHCA convention. The committee also discussed the AHCA's interest in exploring a championship format dependent on regional allocations (i.e., four teams to represent the West region and eight teams to represent the East region). Teams would be paired according to sport region with the East region winner facing the West region winner at the championship final. This format may not, in some instances, comply with the Division III bracketing principle of pairing teams located within 500 miles of one another. The committee took no action, but remained interested in the AHCA's continued discussion about the concept.
6. **Selection criteria.**

- a. Strength of victory.** In response to a request from the Division III Championships Committee, the committee reviewed strength of victory (SOV) as a potential addition to selection criteria and expressed initial concern that SOV may become overvalued among all criteria. The committee felt strongly that SOV should only be considered after at least one year of experience with the implementation of nonconference SOS and the adjustment to the results vs. ranked teams (both changes effective 2017-18).
  - b. PairWise.** The committee discussed the merits of applying a calculation such as PairWise to the rankings and selection process. While the current criteria include separate analysis of strength-of-schedule and win-loss record, the committee believes a calculation that incorporates both would be valuable, particularly as a data point to indicate national ranking that would be available and understood by men's ice hockey coaches, players and fans across both sport regions (as is currently in place for Division I men's ice hockey). Committee members agreed to have a coach representative further explore the feasibility of developing a PairWise calculation that incorporates the existing Division III selection criteria.
- 7. Sport sponsorship and conference alignment.** The committee reviewed the sport sponsorship list and discussed anticipated additions for the coming year and beyond.
- 8. 2018 automatic qualification (AQ) and pool allocation.** The committee reviewed AQ applications for the 2018 championship. Refer to Nonlegislative Action Item 2-a.
- 9. Bracket configuration.** Refer to Informational Item No. 5 and the 2016 annual meeting report.
- 10. Joint discussion with Division III Women's Ice Hockey Committee.** The committee met with members of the Division III Women's Ice Hockey Committee to discuss several areas of common interest.
- a. Update from Division III governance staff.** The NCAA governance staff provided an update on several topics, including: (a) the Board of Governors structure and the NCAA's involvement with social issues; (b) the Division III budget; (c) Sportsmanship and Game Environment Working Group; (d) proposed legislation; and (e) Division III Identity initiatives.
  - b. Update from Hockey Rules Committee.** Members of the playing rules committee joined the men's and women's ice hockey committees for open discussion.
  - c. Concept – pilot program for amateurism certification of international players.** The committees generally supported the idea of conducting a pilot program to provide

amateurism certification for international players and asked NCAA staff to continue exploring the potential for implementation.

**d. Nonpredetermined host for championship finals.** As the men's ice hockey championship will go to a nonpredetermined host for the 2019 finals, the women's ice hockey committee offered some best practices for preparing a potential host given the short turnaround. The women's ice hockey committee agreed to share its host planning checklist currently under development. In addition, the committee will establish the criteria for host selection during a future meeting (e.g., minimum seating capacity, etc.); consistent with the bid process and pending host capabilities, the committee will give preference to a West region host in 2019 and an East region host in 2021.

**11. Officials update.** The committee met with the NCAA national coordinator of men's ice hockey officials to discuss: (1) goal review plans for the 2018 championship in Lake Placid, New York; (2) increase to officiating fees; (3) a request for officials assignors to secure goal judges for all championship rounds; and (4) process for coaches to file a request to committee to apply supplemental discipline following any round of the championship.

**12. 2017-18 committee calendar.** The committee reviewed the committee calendar for the 2017-18 season.

**13. National and regional advisory committees.** NCAA staff reviewed the process for securing RAC appointments from conference commissioners and the list of replacements needed for the 2017-18 season.

**14. Review of championship manuals.** The committee spent limited time reviewing championship manuals, but will provide a more focused review leading up to the 2017-18 season.

*Committee Chair:* Bill Kangas, Williams College; New England Small College Athletic Conference.

*Staff Liaison:* Liz Turner Suscha, Championships and Alliances

<b>Division III Men's Ice Hockey Committee June 5-7, 2017, Annual Meeting</b>	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
	Bill Kangas, Williams College; New England Small College Athletic Conference.
	Tom Di Camillo, State University of New York Athletic Conference.
	Jared Phillips, Gustavus Adolphus University; Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.
	Mike Szkodzinski, Lawrence University; Midwest Conference.
<b>Absentees:</b>	

Dan Stauber, University of Wisconsin-Superior; Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>
Frank Cole, Coordinator of Officials.
Tim Danehy, College Hockey Stats.
Katie Boldvich; Colonial Hockey Conference.
Crystal Lanning, University of Wisconsin-River Falls; Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.
Michelle Morgan, University of St. Thomas (Minnesota); Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.
Bill Mandigo, Middleburg College; New England Small College Athletic Conference.
Jackie Slatts, Lake Forest College; Northern Collegiate Hockey Association.
Joe Bertanga,
Steve Piotrowski, Secretary-Rules Editor.
<b>NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:</b>
Laura Peterson-Mlynski, Championships and Alliances.
Liz Turner Suscha, Championships and Alliances.
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>
Mark Bedics, Championships and Alliances.
Dan Dutcher, Division III Governance.
Jan Gentry, Championships and Alliances.
Barb Hallam, Championships and Alliances.
Adam Skaggs, Division III Governance.