



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION III MEN'S ICE HOCKEY COMMITTEE
JUNE 11-13, 2018, MEETING**

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative items.

- None.

2. Nonlegislative items.

- **Automatic qualification.**

- a. Recommendation. That the following eight conferences be approved for automatic qualification to the 2019 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, State University of New York Athletic Conference and the United Collegiate Hockey Conference.

Anticipated Pool Allocations

Pool A - 8

Pool B - 0

Pool C - 4

- b. Effective date. September 1, 2018.

- c. Rationale. Each conference meets the requirements of Bylaw 31.3.3 and has completed the automatic-qualification declaration form.

Note: During its June 2018 meeting the Division III Championships Committee granted the UCHC a waiver to receive an automatic berth to the 2019 championship.

- d. Estimated budget impact. None.

- e. 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 2017-18 relevant to the work of the

National Collegiate Athletic Association

Supporting student-athlete success on the field, in the classroom and for life

Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer

men's ice hockey committee.

3. **2017 report.** The committee approved the 2017 annual meeting report as presented.
4. **2018 championship.**
 - a. **Championship surveys.** Committee members commended the host organizing committee on a successful championship. The experience in Lake Placid was highlighted by the unique Olympic-themed team event on Thursday evening. The host incorporated suggestions from the 2016 championship and placed an increased focus on the delivery of the coaches association and Elite 90 awards. The team host program and the facility staff generated positive feedback from participants. Overall, the facility operations, including improved control of public access during practices, was first-rate. For future championships in Lake Placid, the committee encouraged the host to provide suggestions to the teams about ways to explore the Olympic history and activities around the area. The game film process failed due to a technical problem with the transfer of digital files. The committee agreed to consult with sports information contacts for teams to determine the best method to provide game film at the championship site going forward.
 - b. **Scoresheet protocol.** The committee reviewed the scoresheet protocol and agreed to incorporate language to detail the exchange of line charts. Specifically, the NCAA committee members or site representative will facilitate the exchange of line charts 90 minutes prior to the start of the game. The visiting team will submit line charts followed by the home team. The official scorer and host sports information director will have the responsibility to complete the score sheet with the designated starters.
 - c. **Bracket configuration.** The committee reviewed the 2018 championship bracket. While the bracket and pairings were consistent with Division III championships principles, the committee noted feedback from coaches and acknowledged that alternate configurations were possible.
5. **Budget concepts.** The committee discussed potential budget concepts for men's ice hockey as the division will consider enhancements as part of the 2019-21 budget cycle. An increase of three student-athletes to the travel party to be part of the championship experience (although not in uniform as the playing rules limit the squad size) as well as a potential joint championship with Division I men's ice hockey received the most support. In addition, the committee discussed the benefits of adding a day of rest between the semifinal and final games at the finals site but agreed input from the coaches association would be important, including whether the start time for the final game should be moved to 4 p.m. (from 7 p.m.) if conducted on Sunday.

- 6. Review of American Hockey Coaches Association meeting.** The committee reviewed the report and rankings/selections presentation staff delivered to the Division III coaches during the April 2018 AHCA convention. Staff reported that the coaches expressed overwhelming support for the PairWise concept to direct rankings and selections (the men's and women's committees met subsequently and recommended using the PairWise selection system to rank and select teams during a two-year pilot program) and encouraged the committee to explore the possibility of a joint championship with Division I men's ice hockey (refer to Informational Item No. 11).
- 7. Video replay protocol.** The committee discussed the limited experience coaches have during the regular season with penalty reviews and agreed to limit video replay at the finals site to goals (to include instances of offside violations).
- 8. Officials update.** The committee met with Frank Cole, national coordinator of men's ice hockey officials, about officiating and player conduct issues. The committee affirmed the practice of assigning officials to the finals site based on conference alignment whenever possible. To clear up confusion about the application of supplemental discipline during the championship, the committee agreed to incorporate language and forms into the participant manual (finals site and preliminary-round template) like those used by Division I men's ice hockey. Further, supplemental discipline will be a point of emphasis during administrative meetings with coaches and other institutional personnel. The committee also agreed to require coaches to file a disqualification/game misconduct disclosure at the administrative meetings to improve the monitoring of ineligible players during postseason play.
- 9. 2018 automatic qualification (AQ) and pool allocation.** The committee reviewed AQ applications for the 2019 championship. (Refer to the nonlegislative action item above.)
- 10. Concept – joint championship with Division I Men's Frozen Four.** The committee discussed the possibility of a championship final held in conjunction with the Division I Men's Frozen Four on a one-time or periodic basis. In 2012, the committee recommended a joint championship but it was not supported because the Division III date formula did not line up with the dates for the Frozen Four. Since that time, Division III has supported joint championships (men's and women's basketball) on a periodic basis even when championship dates do not align and if budgetary support is available. The committee took no action but agreed to explore the concept with the Division I Men's Ice Hockey Committee and staff liaisons.
- 11. 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.

- 12. 2018-19 committee calendar.** The committee reviewed the committee calendar for the 2018-19 season. Specific emphasis was placed on steps needed to ensure the successful implementation of the nonpredetermined championship site bid process. The committee will add teleconferences as needed to finalize bid specifications, update relevant manuals and bid materials, and prepare prospective hosts.
- 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 2018-19 season.
- 14. Review of championship manuals.** The committee spent limited time reviewing championship manuals but assigned members responsibilities to provide more focused reviews leading up to the 2018-19 season.
- 15. Other business.** In other business, the committee reviewed banquet options for the 2020 championship in Buffalo, New York, and agreed that it was always preferable to hold the banquet as well as the administrative meeting at the team hotel. The committee also reviewed its procedure for breaking a tie during committee deliberations (final rankings, selections, etc.) and affirmed that the chair's vote shall break a tie. In the event the chair has been replaced on the championship selections call, another national committee member rather than the replacement will be designated as the chair.

Committee Chair: Jared Phillips, Gustavus Adolphus University
Staff Liaison: Liz Turner Suscha, Championships and Alliances

Division III Men's Ice Hockey Committee June 11-13, 2018, Meeting
Attendees:
Craig Russell, Plymouth State University.
Tom Di Camillo, State University of New York Athletic Conference.
Jared Phillips, Gustavus Adolphus University.
Mike Szkodzinski, Lawrence University.
Absentees:
None.
Guests in Attendance:
Frank Cole, Coordinator of Officials.
Tim Danehy, College Hockey Stats.
NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:
Laura Peterson-Mlynski, Championships and Alliances.
Liz Turner Suscha, Championships and Alliances.
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:

Division III Men's Ice Hockey

Annual Meeting Report

June 11-13, 2018

Page No. 5

None.
