



REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION III BASEBALL COMMITTEE
JULY 6-7, 2022, ANNUAL MEETING

KEY ITEMS.

1. **Automatic qualification.** The committee requests approval for all eligible conferences to receive automatic qualification. (See Action Item 2-a.)
2. **Format change.** The committee recommended a format change during future championship finals to accompany the Championships Committee's broader review of adding rest days across sports. (See Informational Item 3-a.)
3. **Bench size and squad size discussions.** The committee is discussing recommendations to increase the bench size and squad size. (See Informational Item 8.)
4. **Committee chair.** The committee elected a new committee chair for 2022-23. (See Informational Item 2.)

ACTION ITEMS.

1. **Legislative items.**

- **None.**

2. **Nonlegislative items.**

- **Automatic Qualification.**

- (1) Recommendation. That the following 41 conferences receive automatic qualification for the 2023 NCAA Division III Baseball Championship:

Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference; American Rivers Conference; American Southwest Conference; Atlantic East Conference; Centennial Conference; College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin; Colonial States Athletic Conference; Commonwealth Coast Conference; Empire 8; Great Northeast Athletic Conference; Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference; Landmark Conference; Liberty League; Little East Conference; Massachusetts State Collegiate Athletic Conference; Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association; Middle Atlantic Conference Commonwealth; Middle Atlantic Conference Freedom; Midwest Conference; Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference; New England Collegiate Conference; New England Small College Athletic Conference; New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference; New Jersey Athletic Conference; North Atlantic Conference; North Coast Athletic Conference; Northern Athletics Collegiate Conference; Northwest Conference; Ohio

Athletic Conference; Old Dominion Athletic Conference; Presidents' Athletic Conference; Skyline Conference; St. Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference; Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference; Southern Athletic Association; Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference; State University of New York Athletic Conference; United East; USA South Athletic Conference; Upper Midwest Athletic Conference; Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.

The anticipated pool allocations are as follows: Pool A – 41; Pool B – 2; Pool C – 17.

- (2) Effective date. September 1, 2022.
- (3) Rationale. All eligible conferences have been recommended.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Review of the 2022 annual meeting report.** The committee reviewed and approved the annual committee meeting report as submitted.
2. **Committee chair.** The committee approved current committee member Frank Pericolosi, head baseball coach at Pomona-Pitzer, as the chair beginning September 1, 2022. Mr. Pericolosi will replace current chair Jon Martin, head coach at Bates College, when Mr. Martin's term on the committee expires August 31.
3. **2022 championship review.** The Baseball Committee reviewed the 2022 championship and addressed the following items:
 - a. **Schedule and format.** The committee would like to recommend a format change for future years to improve student-athlete experience and well-being at the championship by offering more opportunity for rest and reducing the number of games being played within a short time. The recommendation would be to move games 11 and 12 to day four and to also open the final series with one game as opposed to a doubleheader. Day two of the final series would include a doubleheader if an "if-necessary" game is to be played.
 - b. **Opening ceremony.** The committee was pleased with the itinerary for opening ceremony and commended the Cedar Rapids Kernels for their excellent work in serving a very large group effectively and efficiently.

- c. **Practice.** The committee agreed to move practices up 30 minutes to provide teams with more time to work through the rotation. The committee also recognized positive feedback regarding offering an off-site BP option on gameday and reaffirmed a commitment to make that available to teams as much as possible throughout the tournament.
 - d. **Future site.** The committee noted a desire to have the 2024 host involved with this year's championship so they can be adequately prepared.
- 4. **2022 Regionals and Super Regional review.** The committee discussed preliminary-round evaluation for sites and umpires.
 - a. **Format.** The committees expressed concern over the current regional format. The committee like to propose at the next budget opportunity moving game 5 to day three and play the "if-necessary game" on day four if needed.
 - b. **Bids.** The committee expressed concern over the number of bids submitted for the 2022 championship and the challenges it presents when bracketing and the negative impact on student-athlete experience. The committee agreed to have individual committee members assist with the bid process in their respective region.
 - c. **Site reps.** The committee agreed to implement a site rep training call prior to the regional round to ensure consistent application of policies and operation of all preliminary-round sites.
 - d. **Awards.** The committee agreed to present the regional champion team with a banner commemorating their regional championship following competition.
- 5. **Championship selections and bracketing.** The committee discussed selection criteria, bracketing principles, hosting guidelines, conference tournament game times, and committee and staff preparation work leading up to selections.
- 6. **Division III Governance update.** NCAA governance staff member Eric Hartung provided divisional governance updates to the committee.
- 7. **Championships Committee update.** NCAA staff liaison J.P. Williams joined the committee to discuss topics related to the division, including information regarding budget changes and the positive outcomes and the impacts they will have on the membership.
- 8. **Bench size.** The committee is considering a bench size increase from 35 to 40 to allow additional student-athletes in the bench area. Additionally, the committee would like to increase squad size from 25 to 27 to provide more student-athletes with an opportunity and is seeking input from the Championships Committee regarding whether increasing the squad size comes with a requisite increase in the travel party and thus would need to be a budget request.

- 9. Championship umpires review.** Division III Coordinator of Umpires Don Umland provided his annual report to the committee via teleconference. The committee agreed that Mr. Umland was proficient at organizing the preliminary-round and championship umpiring assignments.
- 10. Manual reviews.** The committee directed NCAA staff to make recommended edits for the pre-championship, host operations, committee operations and site representative manuals.
- 11. 2022-23 timeline.** The committee reviewed the regional advisory committee and sport committee timeline and staff will make the recommended updates for final committee approval.
- 12. 2023 annual meeting.** The annual meeting is scheduled to take place June 21-22, 2023 in Indianapolis.

Committee Chair: Jon Martin, Bates College
Staff Liaison(s): Aaron King, Championships and Alliances.

Division III Baseball Committee July 6-7, 2022 Meeting	
Attendees:	
Rick Carver, Franciscan University of Steubenville.	
Dave Gage, Stevenson University.	
Bill Gorman, Wentworth Institute of Technology.	
Richard Kaiser, St. Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.	
Michael Lindberg, Wells College.	
Jon Martin, Bates College.	
Frank Pericolosi, Pomona-Pitzer.	
Jan Weisberg, Birmingham-Southern College.	
Absentees:	
Nick Bursik, University of Wisconsin-Superior.	
Paul Mound, Union College (NY).	
Guests in Attendance:	
Dan Hammes, American Rivers Conference.	
Don Umland, National Coordinator of Officials.	
NCAA Staff Liaison in Attendance:	
Aaron King, Championships and Alliances.	
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:	
Eric Hartung, Division III Governance.	
J.P. Williams, Championships and Alliances.	
Jonathan Youngblood, Championships and Alliances.	