



REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION I WOMEN'S BASKETBALL COMMITTEE
MARCH 14-18, 2019, MEETING

ACTION ITEMS.

- None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

Welcome, Announcements, Updates

1. **Welcome and announcements.** Rhonda Bennett welcomed the group to the meeting and reviewed a list of items to complete over the course of the weekend.
2. **Review of mission statement and confidentiality.** Ms. Bennett reviewed the mission statement in the committee handbook and emphasized confidentiality throughout the weekend as the championship field is discussed.
3. **Review of the February 12-13 Women's Basketball Committee meeting report.** The committee approved the meeting report.

Championship Officiating

4. **Overview of the NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Championship officiating program.** The committee reviewed a presentation from June Courteau, national coordinator of officiating, regarding the selected pool of officials for the 2019 championship. The committee approved the proposed pool of 112 officials for the championship.
5. **Officials' evaluation program.** NCAA staff reviewed the officials' evaluation responsibilities/procedures and evaluation documents for the 2019 championship.

Championship Administration

6. **Committee/site representative roles and responsibilities on site.** NCAA staff distributed and reviewed the 2019 NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Championship site representative manual and provided direction regarding committee members' specific operational responsibilities.
7. **2019 NCAA championship update.** NCAA staff reviewed the 2019 NCAA Women's Final Four community and fan initiatives and provided a ticket sales update. Based on ticket sales data and demand, the committee approved an endorsement to a \$25 increase to lower-level center seats at the Women's Final Four beginning with the 2020 Women's Final Four in New Orleans.

Team Discussion, Selection, Seeding and Bracketing

8. **Review of March 4 Top 16 reveal.** The committee recapped the March 4 reveal of top 16 teams on ESPN. Overall reviews were very positive. The group noted the positive impact of Ms. Bennett's teleconference with ESPN talent before the reveal and how it assisted talent in the broadcast discussion.
9. **Review of March regional advisory committee reports/rankings.** The committee reviewed the March 6, 2019, reports and rankings from each of the five regional advisory committees.
10. **Team discussion.** Committee members reported on teams and conferences they have been assigned. Reports focused on results from the 2018-19 women's basketball regular season. Committee members also reviewed reports regarding key injured or unavailable student-athletes.
11. **Selection/seeding/bracketing process.** The committee devoted time to the selection, seeding and bracketing of the tournament field.

Bracket Announcement Preparation

12. **Review of television/radio information.** Stephanie Holmes, Alystia Moore and Carol Stiff from ESPN joined the committee to review local game times, team and market overlap with the men's basketball championship field, as well as talent assignments for television broadcasts. NCAA staff reviewed radio information specific to the various broadcasts to be conducted during the championship.
13. **Approval of the 2019 championship bracket.** The committee approved the 2019 championship bracket.
14. **Approval of 2019 championship first and second rounds official assignments.** The committee approved the assignments of championship officials for first and second rounds.
15. **Confirm committee first and second rounds travel.** NCAA staff reviewed site assignments for the committee and site representatives.
16. **Preparation for selection show/bracket announcement.** The committee reviewed the anticipated items for discussion relative to the championship bracket in preparation for the selection show.

Other Business

17. **Future teleconferences and meetings.** The committee noted the next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 3, in Tampa.
18. **Adjournment.** Ms. Bennett adjourned the meeting at 11:24 a.m. Eastern time.

Committee Chair: Rhonda Bennett, University of Nevada, Reno; Mountain West Conference
Staff Liaison(s): Lynn Holzman, Championships and Alliances
Meredith Cleaver, Championships and Alliances

NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Committee March 14-18, 2019, Meeting
Attendees:
Ceal Barry, University of Colorado, Boulder; Pac-12 Conference.
Rhonda Bennett, University of Nevada, Reno; Mountain West Conference.
Ken Bothof, University of Northern Kentucky; Horizon League.
Leslie Claybrook, Southeastern Conference.
Nina King, Duke University; Atlantic Coast Conference.
Teresa Phillips, Tennessee State University; Ohio Valley Conference.
Debbie Richardson, Atlantic 10 Conference.
Diane Turnham, Middle Tennessee State University; Conference USA.
DeJuena Chizer, University of Houston; American Athletic Conference.
Tamica Smith Jones, University of California, Riverside; Big West Conference.
Absentees:
None.
Guests in Attendance:
Stephanie Holmes, ESPN.
Alystia Moore, ESPN.
Carol Stiff, ESPN.
NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:
Meredith Cleaver and Lynn Holzman.
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:
Tommy Barrett, Rachel Kay, Tina Krah, Daress McClung, Rick Nixon, Amy Reis, Natalie Steger and Kyani White-Tate.