



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION II MEN'S AND WOMEN'S BASKETBALL COMMITTEES
APRIL 22, 2024, JOINT MEETING**

KEY ITEMS.

1. **Season ticket holder seating.** The committees discussed season ticket holder seating at regionals and agreed to recommend a revision to the Division II neutrality policy to require seats directly behind team benches to be reserved for participating teams. (See Nonlegislative Action Item.)
2. **Regionalization review.** The committees discussed the Division II regionalization model and opportunities to revise the current approach to bracketing. (See Informational Item No. 2.)

ACTION ITEMS.

- **Division II Neutrality Policy – Season-Ticket Holder Seating.**
 - (1) Recommendation. Amend the neutrality policy to clarify that season-ticket holders may have early access to tickets but seats directly behind the participating teams' bench must be reserved for those teams' fans.
 - (2) Effective date. August 1, 2024.
 - (3) Rationale. The committees are supportive of season-ticket holders having first access to purchase tickets to regional competition. However, the committees do not believe this should guarantee these individuals access to the same tickets as during the regular season. To decrease the potential for event management issues, seats directly behind the benches of the participating teams should be reserved for fans of those teams as part of the visiting team ticket allocation.
 - (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
 - (5) Student-athlete impact. Participating institutions' fans will be closer to their bench, which will enhance the student-athlete experience.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Approval of October 4 and 27, 2023, December 2023 and January 2024 reports.** The committees reviewed and approved the October 4 and 27, 2023, December 2023 and January 2024 reports.
2. **Championships Committee updates.** The committees discussed a request from the Division II Championships Committee seeking feedback regarding the Division II regionalization model and opportunities to revise the current approach to bracketing. The Championships Committee will review the sport committee feedback at the June 17-18 meeting.

3. **Governance updates.** The committee received updates from the Division II governance staff, including an overview of the 2023-24 Division II priorities and the Division II 50th anniversary celebration.
4. **AMA updates.** The committees received updates from the AMA basketball liaisons, including the recent adoption of noncontroversial legislation to modernize NCAA Bylaw 13 (recruiting) and the ongoing similar review of Bylaw 16 (awards and benefits). The committees also were updated on the anticipated adoption of emergency legislation by the Division II Executive Board regarding the transfer legislation to eliminate the year-in-residence requirement and establish academic-based requirements for transfers, as well as the recent release of the required coaches certification modules for the 2024-25 academic year.
5. **Preliminary round policies.** The committees discussed several issues related to preliminary-round policies.
 - a. **Preliminary-round hotel requirements.** The committees agreed to revise the hotel requirements for regionals to 16 rooms with a minimum of 10 double rooms. This requirement will give potential hotels additional flexibility, while still providing the necessary number of rooms for the 20-person travel party.
 - b. **Ticket policy.** The committees agreed to align the visiting team ticket allocation to 150 for both championships.
 - c. **Split-site schedule.** The committees discussed the split-site practice and shootaround schedules and agreed to establish set times, as opposed to leaving the times up to the discretion of the institution. The committees requested staff put together a draft schedule, similar to what is used at the Elite Eight, for review at a future meeting.
 - d. **Season ticket holder seating.** The committees reviewed a request from a regional host to review the provision of the neutrality policy that allows season-ticket holders early access to regional tickets. The committees agreed that this policy should remain; however, the committees believe that seats directly behind the participating team benches should be reserved for their fans to reduce event management challenges. [See Nonlegislative Action Item.]
 - e. **All-tournament team.** The committees agreed to maintain the all-tournament teams at regionals. However, the regional runner-up will no longer be required to remain on the court for the announcement of that team. Regional hosts will also be required to include the all-tournament team in a press release at the conclusion of the regional.
6. **Future championships.**
 - a. **2026 schedule.** The 2026 championships will be played in Pittsburgh as part of a Basketball Festival. Due to the joint men's championship also occurring that year in

conjunction with the Division I Men's Final Four, the men's championship game will not be played in Pittsburgh. The committees requested staff consult with the broadcast staff to determine if the schedule can be shifted to have the women's games played Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday and the men's games Wednesday and Friday.

- b. 2027 and 2028 bids.** The committees received an update on the bids that were submitted as part of the 2026-28 bid cycle. Several cities indicated interest in hosting both championships concurrently. The committees will review bids in greater detail in the summer once hotel and broadcast information is received.
- 7. Hudl/media rights update.** The committees received an update on the recent announcement regarding the agreement between ESPN and the NCAA on a new, eight-year media rights contract beginning Sept. 1, 2024. The agreement includes coverage of the Division II Men's Basketball Championship semifinals (the men's championship game will continue to be televised on CBS as part of the current contract through 2032) and the Division II Women's Basketball Championship semifinals and final.
- 8. Other business.** No other business was discussed.
- 9. Future meetings.**
 - a.** 2024-25 in-season meeting dates to be determined.
 - b.** April 28-29, 2025, annual meeting (Indianapolis.)

Committee Chairs: *Andy Peterson, Northwest Missouri State University*
 Josh Prock, West Texas A&M University
Staff Liaisons: *Eric Breece, Championships and Alliances*
 Karen Kirsch, Championships and Alliances

Division II Men's and Women's Basketball Committees April 22, 2024, Joint Annual Meeting	
Attendees:	
Amy Anderson, Arkansas Tech University.	
Jenepher Banker, Daemen University.	
Danelle Bishop, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona.	
Nate Burton, West Virginia State University.	
Allie De Witt, Mountain East Conference.	

Daryl Gross, California State University, Los Angeles.
Steve Hardin, Lees-McRae College.
Randy Loggins, Converse University.
Pryor Orser, Colorado School of Mines.
Andy Peterson, Northwest Missouri State University.
Josh Prock, West Texas A&M University.
Mark Richard, University of Montevallo.
Erika Wallace, Wayne State University (Michigan).
Stephanie Yelton, University of West Florida.
Absentees:
Rick Costello, Purdue University Northwest.
Mike MacDonald, Daemen University.
Guests in Attendance:
Nathan Gibson, University of Colorado, Colorado Springs.
NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:
Eric Breece, Championships and Alliances.
Karen Kirsch, Championships and Alliances.
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:
Kerstin Hunter, Maritza Jones, Ryan Jones, Jordan Lysiak and Angela Red.