



REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION II MEN'S BASKETBALL COMMITTEE
APRIL 11-13, 2018, MEETING

ACTION ITEMS.

- **None.**

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **2017 annual meeting minutes.** The Division II Men's Basketball Committee reviewed and approved the 2017 annual meeting report as written.
2. **2017-18 Division II Championships Committee actions.** The committee reviewed relevant action and information items from 2017-18.
3. **National Association of Basketball Coaches meeting.** Jeff Wilson reviewed the meeting with the coaches in San Antonio and also discussed relevant items that emerged from the National Association of Basketball Coaches Congress meeting with representatives from each of the conferences. Committee members discussed the new schedule for 2018 with the Coaches Congress meeting immediately preceding the Division II coaches meeting and felt that topics were rushed in order to finish before the start of the next meeting. Donnie Wagner will work with Division II NABC representatives to explore scheduling for 2019 in Minneapolis.
4. **Review of 2018 championship.** The committee was pleased with how all rounds of the championship were administered. Members discussed the selection call and announcement, and the challenges surrounding each, since many conferences conduct their championship game on Selection Sunday.

In its review of regional competition, the committee was pleased with each of the regional sites. There were a number of first-time hosts this year and the committee believed that they each did a nice job. Committee members asked Mr. Wagner to follow up with selected hosts on any issues that transpired. Hotel availability continues to be a challenge across many regional sites in trying to secure upwards of 100 hotel rooms in advance of the regional. Many hotels are more than 30 minutes away from the playing venue.

As for the finals, the committee was pleased with the combined championship in Sioux Falls. The committee felt the venue created tremendous atmospheres for each game of the tournament. The committee was pleased with the combined banquet and the activities around the event. Student-athletes and coaches liked the short timeframe for the banquet. Committee members asked if the NABC would like to announce its first-team All-Americans as well as coach of the year at the NCAA banquet in future years.

The committee discussed the open practice opportunity on the day before the quarterfinals. The committee revised the policy to include that competing teams, including team administrators, student-athletes and coaches, are not permitted to attend any practice other than their own during the open practice day.

The committee thought the community engagement events went well and that having military personnel hold the full-court flag for the national anthem should be continued in the future.

The committee liked the PowerPoint used at both regionals and the Elite Eight and thought that attendees were more engaged during the pre-tournament meeting. Committee members asked that slides explaining replay, who can attend open practice, when basketballs are available and information about ordering additional awards be added to the PowerPoint.

Nick Strah from the championships and alliances staff participated in a professional development exercise with other NCAA championship administrators and conducted a conference call with the winning teams from the Division II championship. This call included student-athletes, coaches and team administrators, and general feedback was positive. Ferris State staff appreciated seats being held on championship day for their fans, as well as the communication throughout the weekend.

5. **Officials.** The committee discussed the process for determining officials for regionals and their subsequent advancement to the Elite Eight. The committee believes the evaluators did a good job at regionals identifying the best officials and moving them forward. The committee believed that the officiating at the Elite Eight was very good and commended Eddie Jackson for his work with the officials. JD Collins also joined the meeting to discuss his plans for the future with regard to officiating. Mr. Collins noted the benefits of having a Division II coordinator in place for the 2018-19 season and how they will work together to improve officiating. Mr. Collins noted what qualifications he will be looking for in the new position and discussed the timeline for hiring.
6. **Men's Basketball Rules Committee.** Dan Calandro joined the meeting to discuss the experimental rules used during the most recent NIT tournament. The experimental rules included a wider lane, a deeper three-point arc, four quarters and resetting the shot clock to 20 seconds after an offensive rebound. While this is not a rules change year, surveys are being conducted to evaluate each of these proposals.
7. **Championship travel.** Juanita Sheely joined the meeting to discuss travel expenses for the men's basketball championship. Ms. Sheely noted that the number of flights decreased from last year but that ground transportation costs were up from previous years. Ms. Sheely indicated there were only two charter flights were used this year and both were on returns.

- 8. Ranking calls.** The committee discussed the number of ranking calls and the RAC balloting and noted that the process went very well again this year with the new criteria. The committee was very pleased with the team sheets used to assist with the ranking and selection process. With three new committee members in place next year, the committee will pair mentors and mentees by region to ensure that all incoming members are prepared for rankings and selections.
- 9. 2019 championship.** The committee discussed recommended game times for the regionals and the Elite Eight and noted a few exceptions in last year's tournament. The committee reiterated that the host can choose to play the evening session of the quarterfinals at 6 and 8:30 p.m., but only with prior approval from the men's basketball committee. If the host chooses to play the games at 6 and 8:30, the host school can select either game time to play its game. Members noted that participants should wear appropriate team apparel when taking the floor. The committee believes that allowing 60 minutes on the floor (with basketballs) before the first game of a session has been well received. Committee members noted that if a game ends early, the teams playing in the next game can have additional warm-up time on the floor and that the host institution and site representative will determine how long that should be. The committee will allow 23 individuals in the bench area with 18 chairs provided on each team bench. The committee also asked staff to evaluate using Synergy to help with the video exchange process. Committee members liked the image mapping that took place at the Men's Final Four and asked to see if a smaller version might be available for the Elite Eight.
- 10. Seeding the Elite Eight.** The committee was very pleased with how seeding the Elite Eight transpired again this particular year. The committee believes it is better than a random process (as used in past years) and that it provides the best opportunity for the top teams to advance to the championship game rather than possibly meeting in the quarterfinals or semifinals as the case has been in previous years.
- 11. Championship game at the Final Four.** The committee discussed future opportunities to conduct the championship game in conjunction with the Division I Men's Final Four. Staff indicated that the proposal is currently being discussed with 2020 or 2021 as possibilities. The committee continues to be very supportive of the concept.
- 12. 2018 women's and men's combined championship discussion.** The men's and women's basketball committees met jointly to discuss several aspects from the 2018 combined championships at the Sanford Pentagon in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Both committees felt it was a positive experience and noted the extra benefit of having a day off between the quarterfinals and semifinals. Men's committee members noted that participating coaches did not like having only 25 minutes of shootaround time on the game floor before the first game.

- 13. Division II governance update.** The committee met with members of the Division II governance staff to discuss items related to Division II. Staff members noted that social media activity around the combined men's and women's basketball championships was up 12 percent from the previous year (which happened to be a festival year). Terri Steeb Gronau said results from the census survey indicated a general preference for national bracketing over regional bracketing in team sports, but strong opposition to national bracketing if it meant a reduction in bracket size or travel party size.
- 14. Discussion with JoAn Scott.** JoAn Scott, NCAA managing director for men's basketball championships, joined the meeting to discuss items related to the Division II Men's Basketball Championship. Ms. Scott discussed the upcoming report from the Commission on College Basketball and its potential impact on college basketball as a whole. Ms. Scott discussed the opportunity for combined Divisions I, II and III championships in 2020 or 2021 and noted that the NABC board continues to advocate for the concept.
- 15. Television.** The television rating for the championship was up slightly from the past year at .9 and the committee noted the great crowd and tightly contested game may have had something to do with the higher rating.
- 16. Legislative items.** Stephanie Quigg Smith, NCAA director of academic and membership affairs, and Angela Tressel, assistant director of academic and membership affairs, joined the meeting to review academic requirements and legislative proposals. Ms. Smith noted the upcoming report from the Commission on College Basketball and how Division II will respond to any recommendations that come out of the report. Ms. Smith also updated the committee on a Division I transfer proposal to be voted on in June that would replace the current permission to contact structure with a notification of transfer model. Ms. Smith explained the ramification for Division II if the new model is adopted.
- 17. Automatic qualification.** The committee approved automatic-qualifying conferences for the 2019 championship.
- 18. Sponsorship report.** Committee members noted schools changing conference affiliation for 2018-19, including Wisconsin-Parkside, Claflin, Tiffin and Dixie State. The committee also noted the institutions that are on track to complete the membership process and become active Division II members this September.
- 19. Regionalization.** The committee discussed the work to date of the Regionalization Working Group. The committee discussed a few options, such as maintaining the current selection process but re-bracketing teams once selected to reduce flights and mitigate conference matchups. Committee members noted that in four regions this year, teams from the same conference played each other four times, including the conference championship and then the regional championship just over a week later. The committee will monitor

results from the Division II census as well as any additional updates from the Regionalization Working Group.

20. **Tournament host manual.** Staff asked the committee to review the tournament host manual and recommend changes for the 2018-19 season.
21. **Committee operations manual.** The committee reviewed the current committee operations manual and recommended changes for the 2018-19 season.
22. **Recognition of outgoing member.** The committee acknowledged J.R. Smith, Jeff Morgan and Jeff Wilson for their service on the committee over the past four years.
23. **Nomination of chair.** The committee nominated Jon Mark Hall, director of athletics at the University of Southern Indiana, as chair for the 2018-19 year.
24. **2019 annual meeting.** The committee will meet April 16-18 in Indianapolis.

*Committee Chair: Jeff Wilson, East Stroudsburg University of Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania
State Athletic Conference*
Staff Liaison: Donnie Wagner, Championships and Alliances

NCAA Division II Men's Basketball Committee April 11-13, 2018, Meeting	
Attendees:	
Brian Beaurty, The College of Saint Rose.	
Jason Boothe, Dixie State University.	
Ken Gerlinger, Peach Belt Conference.	
Jon Mark Hall, University of Southern Indiana.	
Jeff Morgan, Harding University.	
Joel R. (JR) Smith, Chadron State University.	
Fran Reidy, St. Leo University.	
Jeff Wilson, East Stroudsburg University of Pennsylvania.	
Absentees:	
None.	
Guests in Attendance:	
JD Collins, National Coordinator of Men's Basketball Officials.	
NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:	
Donnie Wagner, Championships and Alliances.	
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:	
JoAn Scott, Men's Basketball.	
Terri Steeb Gronau, Division II Governance.	
Dan Calandro, Playing Rules.	
Angela Tressel, Academic and Membership Affairs	
Ryan Jones, Division II Governance.	
Stephanie Quigg Smith, Academic and Membership Affairs.	
Juanita Sheely, NCAA Travel.	