

**REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION II WOMEN'S BASKETBALL COMMITTEE
APRIL 15-16, 2019, MEETING**

ACTION ITEMS.

- **None.**

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

- 1. Approval of 2018 report.** The committee approved the 2018 annual meeting report.
- 2. NCAA Division II Championships Committee update.** The committee reviewed actions the Championships Committee took at its meetings and teleconferences for the past year.

The committee is considering several budgetary items to submit to the Championships Committee during the next budget cycle, including a national officials coordinator stipend, a Women's Elite Eight format change to allow a day off between quarterfinals and semifinals, ordering an additional set of regional champion trophies, and using replay at all regional sites.

- 3. Women's Basketball Coaches Association recap.** The group discussed questions regarding conference championship results and how those statistics can impact the selection criteria and selection process. The committee reiterated that conferences determine the format of their championships and there is no interest in excluding these results for selections. Several coaches still are unaware of the public data released with each ranking and after selections. NCAA staff and the committee will continue to encourage coaches to review this helpful information.
- 4. Regional and national ranking calls.** The committee reviewed the regional and national ranking call schedule and made no changes. The members asked NCAA staff to add the Women's Elite Eight seeding teleconference to the calendar for next year.
- 5. Review of 2019 championship.**
 - a. Selections.** The committee chair interview continues to be a well-received enhancement to the selection show.
 - b. Review of regionals.** One of the committee's goals is to make the regional championship more celebratory. During the next budget cycle, it will recommend ordering an additional set of regional champion trophies so that all advancing teams can receive trophies after the regional final instead of waiting to distribute at the Women's Elite Eight.

The quality of hotels selected at regional sites continues to be a concern for the committee and participating teams. NCAA staff will review whether room block

numbers can be decreased to help with the selection process. The committee also encouraged the NCAA to consider applying a travel policy similar to Division I for high-cost cities for per diem purposes. Reimbursement for ground transportation costs is greatly appreciated by participating teams and the committee.

- c. **Review of Women's Elite Eight.** Ohio Dominican University and the Greater Columbus Sports Commission hosted another successful Women's Elite Eight. The committee thanked the host staff for providing a memorable championship experience for all participating teams and fans.

The committee members reviewed the predetermined game schedule for the Women's Elite Eight and noted that they can make changes to accommodate teams traveling across multiple time zones.

6. Officials.

- a. **Evaluators.** This was the first year evaluators were sent outside their own regions to evaluate officials. The change was well-received and NCAA staff will continue to work through details regarding the process of identifying these individuals.
- b. **Women's Elite Eight experience.** The committee acknowledged the tremendous work of the officials' evaluator in Columbus.

7. 2020 championship.

- a. **Selection criteria.** The inconsistent number of Division II games is a challenge for the committee when evaluating teams. However, the members noted that teams may not be rewarded or punished for the number of Division II games they play if they meet the minimum number of 22 required to be eligible for selections.
- b. **Schedule of events.** The committee made no changes to the schedule of events for next year.

- 8. **Legislation update.** A representative from the Division II academic and membership affairs staff joined the meeting to update the committee on legislative items related to women's basketball and Division II University.

- 9. **Governance update.** The committee met with members of the Division II governance staff to discuss items related to Division II.

- 10. **Automatic qualification forms.** The committee reviewed and approved automatic qualifying conferences for the 2019-20 academic year.

- 11. Manuals.** The committee asked staff to add the split-regional policy to the pre-championship and host operations manuals.
- 12. 2019-20 timeline.** The dates for next year's annual meeting will be April 14-15.
- 13. Committee chair selection.** The committee nominated Jason Martens, head women's basketball coach at St. Mary's University (Texas), as chair for the 2019-20 year.
- 14. 2023-2026 bid cycle.** The committee reviewed bid materials for the upcoming site selection process and asked NCAA staff to include two officials' locker rooms as a facility requirement. The group asked to remove the media buffet requirement. The 2023 combined championship format also will be added to the bid materials.
- 15. Neutrality feedback questionnaire.** The committee considered the neutrality questions as directed by the Championships Committee. Historically, the Women's Basketball Committee has asked host sites to consider adding enhancements for visiting teams instead of removing these items for the home team. Regarding the specific questions posed to the committee, the members believe that preliminary-round hosts should be allowed to give season-ticket holders first right of refusal for NCAA postseason competition. Hosts should be allowed to run regular-season pregame promotions and celebrations only if they do so for all teams at their site.
- 16. Other business.** The vice president of women's basketball joined the meeting to present the newly launched NCAA Women's Basketball Strategic Plan for 2019-24, which the committee endorsed in February. Committee members acknowledged the significance of the plan encompassing all three divisions, and the collaboration among many groups – including the Division II Women's Basketball Committee – in developing the goals and strategies. The committee suggested several potential action items to be included when executing the plan.
- 17. Adjournment.**

Committee Chair: Melanie Ford, Shepherd University, Mountain East Conference.
Staff Liaison: Kelsey Jones, Championships and Alliances.

NCAA Division II Women's Basketball Committee April 15-16, 2019, Meeting	
Attendees:	
Melanie Ford, Shepherd University.	
Karen Haag, The College of Saint Rose	
Jason Martens, St. Mary's University (Texas).	
Cindy McKnight, Ursuline College.	

Krista Montague, Montana State University Billings.
James Rice, Benedict University.
Wendell Staton, Georgia College.
Karen Stromme, University of Minnesota Duluth.
Absentees:
None.
Guests in Attendance:
Sandy Hatfield, The PICTOR Group.
NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:
Kerstin Hunter, Championships and Alliances.
Kelsey Jones, Championships and Alliances.
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:
Lynn Holzman, Division I Women's Basketball.
Maritza Jones, Division II Governance.
Ryan Jones, Division II Governance.
Roberta Page, Championships and Alliances.
Karen Wolf, Academic and Membership Affairs.