



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION II WOMEN'S BASKETBALL COMMITTEE
APRIL 24-25, 2023, MEETING**

KEY ITEMS.

- **Review of 2023 championship.** The committee reviewed the 2023 championship, including selections, regionals, Elite Eight and the joint championship in Dallas, and the experience of participating teams. The committee noted that the entire championship was a success, with the joint championship being the highlight. (See Informational Item No. 5.)
- **2024-27 selection criteria.** The committee recommended the three additional sport-specific criteria for 2024-27, to include In-Region Rating Percentage Index, KPI and Results versus Ranked Division II Opponents. (See Informational Item No. 7a.)
- **Chair election.** The committee elected Josh Prock, head women's basketball coach at West Texas A&M University, as chair for the 2023-24 academic year. (See Informational Item No. 14.)

ACTION ITEMS.

- **None.**

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Approval of 2022 report.** The committee approved the 2022 annual meeting report.
2. **NCAA Division II Championships Committee update.** The committee reviewed Championships Committee actions since June 2022 that impact women's basketball.
3. **Women's basketball update.** The NCAA vice president of women's basketball joined the meeting to update the committee on the increased visibility of women's basketball on both television and social media, the upcoming broadcast rights negotiations, highlights from the 2023 joint championship in Dallas, discussions regarding future joint championships, review of officiating across all three divisions of women's basketball, and the addition of a College Basketball Academy for girls in 2023 to be held in Memphis, Tennessee.
4. **Coaches Connection update.** The liaison for the Division II women's basketball coaches connection provided an update of the program and the positive feedback she has received. All coaches connection liaisons will meet in person in August and will discuss ideas to encourage additional coach engagement in the program.
5. **Regional and national ranking calls.** The committee felt this year's ranking calls went smoothly and noted increased engagement due to the calls being videoconferences as opposed to teleconferences. The committee also agreed that no changes are necessary to the regional advisory committee orientation PowerPoint.

6. Review of 2023 championship.

- a. **Selections.** The committee felt that this year's selections process went very smoothly.
- b. **Review of regionals.** The committee discussed regionals, noting that generally all eight sites were successful. One regional received feedback with concerns about the location of hotels and restaurants compared to campus, but the committee noted the hotels were within the mileage radius as prescribed by the bid specifications. The committee also noted a need to highlight the tournament director checklist in the host manual to ensure hosts are thinking about all aspects of hosting a regional, particularly first-time hosts.
- c. **Review of Women's Elite Eight.** Missouri Western State University and the St. Joseph Sports Commission hosted a successful Women's Elite Eight. Due to the joint championship in Dallas, only the quarterfinals and semifinals were held in St. Joseph, Missouri. The committee provided feedback to the host on requested adjustments for the 2024 championship, which will return to St. Joseph.
- d. **Participating teams' experience.** The committee conducted a post-championship videoconference with Ashland University and the University of Minnesota Duluth, the championship game participants, to discuss their overall experience during the championship, including the joint championship in Dallas. Both institutions provided positive feedback about their overall experience.

7. Officials.

- a. **Evaluators.** This year, the regional evaluators conducted their evaluations in person, which the committee and national coordinator agreed was preferred over the virtual evaluations in prior years.
- b. **Regionals.** The committee noted that there were challenges with the monitors in certain regions, both with the equipment provided by the host as well as the officials following proper evaluator protocol. The national coordinator will meet with all selected officials and the evaluators after selections to review alternate procedures and monitor protocol, among other items related to serving as an official during the championship.

The committee also discussed a concern raised by a participating coach during the regionals. The national coordinator provided feedback from the officiating crew and the committee agreed to provide a joint response from the committee and national coordinator to the coach.

- c. **Elite Eight experience.** The committee noted a need to explore a different locker room option for officials for the 2024 Elite Eight due to the proximity to the team locker rooms. Otherwise, the committee agreed the officiating at the Elite Eight was generally strong.

- d. **Joint championship experience.** The committee noted that the officials enjoyed the joint championship experience.

8. **2024 championship.**

- a. **Selection criteria.** The committee noted the selection criteria will remain the same for the 2024 championship and recommended the following additional selection criteria for 2024-27:

- In-Region Rating Percentage Index.
- KPI.
- Results versus Ranked Division II Opponents.

- b. **Schedule of events.** The committee reviewed the tentative schedule for the 2024 championship and did not make any changes.

9. **Legislation update.** A representative from the Division II academic and membership affairs staff joined the meeting to update the committee on items related to women's basketball, including the blanket waiver approved to permit Division II women's basketball coaches to serve as coaches for the College Basketball Academy, the recently released 2023-24 coaches certification curriculum, updates to the one-time transfer legislation, and issues related to name, image and likeness.

10. **Playing rules update.** The committee received an update from the NCAA Women's Basketball Rules Committee liaison. This is a rules change year and 96 proposals were received by the deadline, including proposals related to live video transmission to the bench, collaborative replay, flopping and the lower defensive box/restricted area. The committee was encouraged to provide additional feedback in advance of the Women's Basketball Rules Committee meeting in May.

11. **Automatic qualification forms.** The committee reviewed and approved 23 conferences for automatic qualification for the 2023-24 academic year.

12. **Review of manuals.** Committee members agreed to review the various manuals and provide necessary changes to the NCAA.

13. **2023-24 timeline.** The committee reviewed the proposed timeline for 2023-24 and did not make any changes. The joint meetings with the men's basketball committee will be added once dates and times are determined.

14. **Strategic plan.** The committee reviewed the strategic plan as informational.

15. **Committee composition.** Staff noted that the vacancy for the East region for the 2023-24 academic year is still in the process of being filled. The other three vacancies have been filled and selected individuals will be notified soon.

- **Committee chair selection.** The committee elected Josh Prock, head women's basketball coach at West Texas A&M University, as chair for the 2023-24 academic year.

16. Future meeting dates.

- April 22-23, 2024 (in-person annual meeting; Indianapolis).

Committee Chairs: Tom Jessee, University of Tampa, Sunshine State Conference
Staff Liaisons: Karen Kirsch, Championships and Alliances

NCAA Division II Women's Basketball Committee April 24-25, 2023, Meeting	
Attendees:	
Danelle Bishop, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona (via videoconference).	
Karen Haag, The College of Saint Rose.	
Lori Hopkins, Northwest Missouri State University.	
Tom Jessee, University of Tampa.	
Randy Loggins, Converse University.	
Jenni Morrison, Pennsylvania Western University, California.	
Josh Prock, West Texas A&M University.	
Erika Wallace, Wayne State University (Michigan).	
Absentees:	
None.	
Guests in Attendance:	
Brett Esely, St. Joseph Sports Commission.	
Hallie Heidemann, Ashland University.	
Mandy Pearson, University of Minnesota Duluth.	
Connie Perkins, National Coordinator of Officials.	
Kari Pickens, Ashland University.	
Tatum Rhoades, University of Minnesota Duluth.	
Karen Stromme, Coaches Connection liaison.	
Maesyn Thiesen, University of Minnesota Duluth.	
Morgan Yoder, Ashland University.	
NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:	
Karen Kirsch, Championships and Alliances.	
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:	
Terri Steeb Gronau, Lynn Holzman, Kerstin Hunter, Maritza Jones, Ryan Jones, Jordan Lysiak and Rachel Seewald.	