



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION III MEN'S BASKETBALL COMMITTEE
JUNE 1, 2022, MEETING**

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative items.

- None.

2. Nonlegislative items.

a. Bench expansion.

(1) Recommendation. To increase the number of bench chairs from 18 to 20 for the championship.

(2) Effective date. September 1, 2022.

(3) Rationale. Each year, the feedback from the membership revolves around the number of student-athletes that are allowed to sit on the bench. By increasing the number of bench chairs from 18 to 20, more student-athletes would be able to sit on the bench during the game. Access to the bench area would increase from 23 to 25 (5 dressed student-athletes on the court, 10 dressed student-athletes on the bench and 10 additional members of the institution split between coaches, student-athletes and athletic trainers).

This increase would not impact the squad size (15) or travel party size (20). Only 15 student-athletes would be allowed to dress.

Will work with the Division III Women's Basketball Committee for universal adoption.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. If approved, this would increase the number of student-athletes that can experience the championship.

b. 2026 joint championship.

(1) Recommendation. To hold the 2026 Division III national championship game in Indianapolis on Sunday, April 5, 2026, at Gainbridge Fieldhouse as part of a joint championship with the Division I Final Four and the Division II national championship game.

(2) Effective date. September 1, 2022.

- (3) Rationale. This joint championship would replace the scheduled 2020 joint championship in Atlanta which was cancelled at the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. Through a review of future sites for the Division I men's basketball championship, staff and committee members noted that Indianapolis is well suited to host such an event given the local hosting experience, downtown footprint and proximity of Gainbridge Fieldhouse to Lucas Oil Stadium, the home of the 2026 Division I Final Four.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. Following an approval of the concept, a detailed financial request will be submitted to the Division III Championships committee.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. The joint championship provides an enhanced championship experience for the student-athletes of the two teams playing in the national championship. The exposure at this event is unparalleled to any other at the Division II or III level.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

- 1. **Agenda**. The committee reviewed the meeting agenda prior to moving on with the first item.
- 2. **2022 championship review**. Crowning a champion for the first time since 2019 was highlighted. The committee also made note of the exceptional job done by the local organizing committee in Fort Wayne, hosting their second Division III Men's Basketball Championship.
- 3. **Committee roster**. The committee roster for the 2022-23 season was reviewed.
- 4. **Committee orientation**. The committee reflected on the orientation held in October and identified areas for improvement for the 2022-23 orientation.
- 5. **Regional rankings**. The unanimous stance of the committee was that the number of teams ranked this year (83) was too many. Ranking 20% of the eligible teams made the committee's job much more difficult. The committee was being forced to rank teams in regions that did not have the necessary number of quality team resumes. The results versus ranked opponents criterion was skewed because lower quality teams need to be ranked. As a result, the committee had to engage in the subjective process of identifying the quality of a ranked win, and those differed region to region. After much discussion, the committee would like 17% of the country ranked for a total of 67 teams. Previously, in the eight-region model, only 68 teams were ranked.
- 6. **Criteria**. The primary and secondary criteria for selecting teams were reviewed. The committee favors removing the non-Division III won-lost percentage and the results versus common non-Division III opponents from the secondary criteria.

The committee is interested to add the team sheets to the secondary criteria. These sheets provide a strong picture of a team's performance throughout the season. The team sheets show

a team's success against high- and low-quality teams as determined by the RPI. There is value in comparing the performance of two teams against the RPI top 50 or the RPI top 100.

7. **Alphabetical ranking.** In lieu of the number of teams that had to be ranked, the committee was appreciative of the alphabetical ranking that was established for the first official ranking. The committee strongly supports the continuation of this practice moving forward.
8. **Ranking schedule.** The committee reviewed the ranking schedule and recognized the success of moving the release of the weekly rankings to Tuesday.
9. **Roster.** The committee decided that the 15 student-athletes that dress can be changed game to game throughout the tournament.

10. **2022-23 committee calendar.** The committee reviewed the 2022-2023 committee schedule.

Committee Chair: Mike Schauer, Wheaton College (Illinois).

Staff Liaison: Alexander Mortillaro, Championships and Alliances

Division III Men's Basketball Committee June 1, 2022, Meeting	
Attendees:	
Robert Southall, Elms College.	
Luke Flockerzi, University of Rochester.	
Chuck McBreen, Ramapo College.	
Sara Quatrocky, Maryville College.	
David McGreal, Penn State Altoona.	
Mike Schauer, Wheaton College (Illinois).	
Ryan Kane, Ripon College.	
Doc Eslinger, California Institute of Technology.	
Jim Haney, National Coordinator of Officials.	
Absentees:	
Charlie Mason, New England College.	
Rick Ferry, Albright College.	
Guests in Attendance:	
None.	
NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:	
None.	
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:	
None.	