



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA WOMEN'S BOWLING COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 15, 2023, VIDEOCONFERENCE**

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative items.

- None.

2. Nonlegislative items.

a. Automatic qualification.

(1) Recommendation. Approve the following 10 conferences for automatic qualification to the 2024 National Collegiate Women's Bowling Championship: Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference; Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association; College Conference of Illinois & Wisconsin; Conference Carolinas; Conference USA; East Coast Conference; Great Lakes Valley Conference; Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference; Northeast Conference; and Southwestern Athletic Conference.

(2) Effective date. September 1, 2023.

(3) Rationale. All eligible conferences have been recommended.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. Continued opportunity for student-athletes to compete in the postseason.

b. Bracket size/format modifications.

(1) Recommendation. Increase the championship bracket from 17 teams to 18 and add one play-in match to accommodate the increase in the number of automatic qualifiers from nine to 10.

(2) Effective date. 2024 NCAA National Collegiate Women's Bowling Championship.

(3) Rationale. With the increase of automatic qualifiers, this recommendation keeps half the field reserved for at-large selections as required by Bylaw 31.3.4.6.1. Conference Carolinas has satisfied their two-year waiting period and are being recommended for automatic qualification beginning in 2024. This brings the total number of conferences eligible for automatic qualification to ten. The current bracket size for bowling is 17 which includes two teams competing in a play-in match. The additional play-in match would be conducted at the regional site the day prior to regionals or at the finals site the day prior to the start of competition (pending approval of Nonlegislative Item 2-c

below). This change would take the championship from one play-in game with two teams to two play-in games with four teams.

- (4) Estimated budget impact. \$12,000.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. The recommendation increases the opportunities for student-athletes to compete in the postseason and provides fair and balanced access in that regard.

c. Championship format change.

- (1) Recommendation. That starting with the 2027 championship, the format consist of all 18 teams competing at one site over five days as opposed to the current format in which four regional sites of four-five teams feed into one four-team finals site.
- (2) Effective date. 2027 NCAA National Collegiate Women's Bowling Championship.
- (3) Rationale. The committee feels having all the teams compete at one site creates the best possible student-athlete experience by focusing efforts and resources in one central location. Bowling is unique in that there is not significant rest time required between competition, which provides the opportunity to compete on multiple consecutive days. Additionally, bringing all teams to one site reduces the current number of travel opportunities from 20 to 17.

The committee also feels the opportunity to host 18 teams will be much more attractive to prospective bidders and create a more competitive bid process moving forward. The committee is submitting this request now to align with the upcoming bid cycle of 2027-30 that will open this fall.

- (4) Estimated budget impact. The estimated budget impact is calculated as a range from \$0 – \$66,000 based on the number of flights required as determined by the location of the finals site (i.e., more flights and therefore more budget impact, will be required if the championship is located on the West Coast).
- (5) Student-athlete impact. This format change elevates the sport and provides more student-athletes with the opportunity to experience the championship atmosphere at the finals site.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

- **None.**

Committee Chair: Glen Brittich, Elmhurst University
Staff Liaison(s): Aaron King, Championships and Alliances

NCAA Women's Bowling Committee February 15, 2023, Videoconference	
Attendees:	
Glen Brittich, Elmhurst University.	
Jody Fetterhoff, Duquesne University.	
Jeff Walsh, Medaille University.	
John Williamson, Vanderbilt University.	
Jana Woodson, Tulane University.	
Absentees:	
None.	
Guests in Attendance:	
Michael Fine, Secretary-Rules Editor.	
NCAA Staff Liaison in Attendance:	
Aaron King, NCAA.	
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:	
Leslie Havens, NCAA.	