



REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION I MEN'S AND WOMEN'S TRACK AND FIELD  
AND CROSS COUNTRY COMMITTEE  
MARCH 7 AND 8, 2023, MEETING

**ACTION ITEMS.**

- None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **2023 indoor track and field championships.** The NCAA Division I Men's and Women's Track and Field and Cross Country Committee reviewed and verified start lists and determined opening bar heights and progressions for the vertical jumps. The committee also prepared a list of last-minute notes and details to be included in the coaches' packets.
2. **Outdoor track and field.** The committee discussed possible options for the athlete path and flow from the team camp/warm-up area to the competition facility for the championships in Austin. Final recommendations will be submitted to the University of Texas host staff for review and consideration of implementation.

Additionally, the committee reviewed and made final selections of competition managers to fill vacancies at the first-round competition for the throws position in Sacramento and the track position in Jacksonville.

3. **Indoor track and field.** Committee members received an update on the site visit for the 2024 championship host site in Boston from NCAA staff and Jay Arther, the NCAA committee member who attended the site visit.
4. **Cross country.**
  - a. **Team trophies.** At the request of the Competition Oversight Committee (COC), the committee discussed options for distributing team trophies during the cross country championships as part of the COC's review of how trophies are administered across sports the COC oversees. Currently the COC is considering an Olympic-style format in individual-team sports in which trophies would be awarded to the top three teams, and in team sports awarding regional championship trophies plus a national champion trophy and runner-up trophy at the finals site. Given the unique nature of cross country with regional team champions, however, the COC has asked for the committee's feedback on whether the top three teams should receive trophies at the finals site or whether regional champion trophies should be awarded, plus trophies for the top two teams at the finals site.

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After discussion the committee felt strongly that it was important to protect the awarding of trophies to the top four teams at the finals site for cross country and to try and maintain that same consistency in the number of team trophies awarded at the indoor and outdoor track and field championships as well, due to how intertwined those three sports are. The committee felt a fourth-place finish in the cross country championships was valued more than a cross country regional championship. The committee also felt strongly that no trophies currently being distributed should be eliminated; rather, any change should only be adding to what is currently being done. The committee's ranked order of recommendations to the COC for cross country are as follows:

**Option 1:** Continue to recognize the top four teams at nationals in cross country plus award regional trophies to the winning team at each of the nine cross country regionals.

**Option 2:** Continue to recognize the top four teams at nationals in cross country and do not award any cross country regional trophies.

**Option 3:** Recognize the top three teams at nationals in cross country, plus award regional trophies to the winning team at each of the nine cross country regionals.

**Option 4:** Recognize the top three teams at nationals in cross country and do not award any cross country regional trophies.

- b. **Survey results.** The committee reviewed survey results from the 2022 cross country championships highlighting the positive feedback overall, particularly regarding the championship-caliber course. The three highlighted areas for improvement and consideration include a desire to explore reinstating the championship banquet, concerns with the team tent situation and lack of response and availability with the utilized tent vendor, and the distance some teams had to travel due to hotel availability. Feedback and survey results have been shared with the host site for consideration in future hosting opportunities.
5. **Officials and track and field rules.** The committee briefly discussed the need for better education on NCAA track and field rules to the NCAA membership to ensure they are following all NCAA rules throughout the regular season. This topic will be relayed to NCAA Secretary-Rules Editor Mark Kostek, as well as to supporting organizations such as the United States Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association for the inclusion of possible rules education at the annual coaches convention.

In addition, the committee talked about the need for regular-season meet hosts to ensure they are securing and using an adequate number of officials at their competitions. The committee has asked Milan Donley, the NCAA track and field officials assignor, to work on a document outlining the recommended and minimum number of officials that should be working the various events within a track and field competition.

*Committee Chair:* Ervin Lewis, University of North Florida, Atlantic Sun Conference  
*Staff Liaison:* Jeff Mlynski, Championships and Alliances

NCAA Division I Men's and Women's Track and Field and Cross Country Committee March 7 and 8, 2023, Meeting	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Jay Arther, Indiana University.	
Blake Boldon, Drake University.	
Jason Drake, California State University, Fresno.	
Elvis Forde, Temple University.	
Kerri Gallagher, Manhattan College.	
Shawn Green, University of New Hampshire.	
Sydney Griffin, United State Military Academy.	
Ervin Lewis, University of North Florida.	
Connie Price-Smith, University of Mississippi.	
Matt Roe, Butler University.	
Dave Smith, Oklahoma State University.	
Diane Turnham, Middle Tennessee State University.	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
None.	
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>	
None.	
<b>NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:</b>	
Jeff Mlynski, Championships and Alliances.	
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>	
Lindsey Eldred, Championships and Alliances.	