



REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION I FIELD HOCKEY COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 3-4, 2020, ANNUAL MEETING

Action Item: The NCAA Division I Competition Oversight Committee will consider a recommendation to approve automatic qualification for the 10 qualified conferences.

KEY ITEMS.

1. **Selection criteria.** The committee will explore and evaluate various additional metrics and their impact on selection. (See Informational Item 5-e).
2. **Opening-round games.** The committee will review the timing and location of the opening-round games. (See Informational Item 4-b).

ACTION ITEMS.

1. **Legislative items.**

- None.

2. **Nonlegislative items.**

a. **Automatic qualification.**

- (1) Recommendation. That the following 10 conferences be approved for automatic qualification for the 2020 NCAA Division I Field Hockey Championship: America East Conference; Atlantic 10 Conference; Atlantic Coast Conference; Big East Conference; Big Ten Conference; Colonial Athletic Association; The Ivy League; Mid-American Conference; Northeast Conference; and Patriot League.
- (2) Effective date. 2020 championship.
- (3) Rationale. All eligible conferences are being recommended.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **2019 meeting report.** The committee approved the 2019 committee report as submitted.

- 2. National Field Hockey Coaches Association report.** The committee reviewed the document NCAA staff provided to the membership at the National Field Hockey Coaches Association annual convention in January. The committee reviewed feedback the NFHCA provided regarding rules modifications proposals. The committee's recommendations on rules modifications are included in the joint meeting report.
- 3. Division I Council/Competition Oversight Committee actions from past year.** The committee reviewed actions the Competition Oversight Committee took at its meetings and teleconferences for the past year.
- 4. 2019 championship review.**
 - a. Selection.** The committee evaluated the second year of revised selection criteria for rankings and selections and agreed that having all criteria as primary criteria was beneficial to the process. See Information Item 5-e for more information on the committee's interest in exploring additional selection criteria. The committee reviewed the 2019 championship bracket composition, the selection process and selection show and recommended no changes.
 - b. Opening, and first and second rounds.** The committee reviewed the administration of the preliminary-round sites, including the post-championship survey completed by participants. In a few instances, the committee noted some areas for improvement and agreed to relay the host-specific survey feedback to the tournament directors. Based on feedback from participating teams over the last two years regarding negative travel experiences, the committee will review the timing and location of the opening-round games.
 - c. Final site.** The committee reviewed all areas of administration at the final site hosted by Wake Forest University including merchandise sales, web stream metrics, hotels and awards presentations. The participants responded to the post-championship survey with positive feedback and specifically highlighted the host staff. The committee directed NCAA staff to share feedback with the host staff. The committee commended Wake Forest for its outstanding hosting efforts.
 - d. Playing surface.** The committee reviewed feedback on the playing surfaces at all sites during the tournament and will share the feedback with the hosts.
 - e. Video review.** The committee was pleased with how adding the video review official during the semifinals and finals enhanced the championship.
- 5. 2020 action plan.**

- a. **Bench assignments.** The committee modified the bench assignments during the tournament as follows: The host team will choose their bench. Otherwise, the home team will be seated on the right when facing the scorers' table from the field. The committee will determine the bench assignments at the final site.
- b. **Bench size.** NCAA staff notified the committee that the Competition Oversight Committee tabled the bench size increase requested in the 2019 annual meeting report, pending completion of the review being conducted by the Division I Championships Finance Review Working Group.
- c. **Preliminary-round administrative meeting.** The committee agreed to require that the umpire evaluator attend the administrative meeting for preliminary rounds.
- d. **Practice time.** The committee determined that the current maximum 15-minute warmup period without sticks and balls before the 75-minute practice will be adjusted to a 90-minute practice. Also, the committee made no changes to prescribed game times for preliminary rounds.
- e. **Selection criteria.** The committee reviewed a request from the National Field Hockey Coaches Association to add to the selection criteria. The committee will explore and evaluate various additional metrics and their impact on selection.
- f. **Umpires.** The committee reviewed the umpires and assigning process with the national coordinator of officials and provided feedback on umpire performance during the tournament.
- g. **Committee and staff responsibilities.** The committee reviewed the worksheet outlining the committee responsibilities at the final site and made no changes.
- h. **Sponsorship and alignment.** The committee reviewed a list of institutions sponsoring field hockey in their region. The committee recommended placement of Bellarmine University, reclassifying from Division II, into the West region for the 2020 season. The committee noted Saint Francis University (Pennsylvania) will rejoin the Northeast Conference for the 2020 season.
- i. **Review 2020 committee calendar.** The committee reviewed and approved the updated 2020 calendar.
- j. **Strategic plan development.** The committee approved its first strategic plan for the championship to guide its actions in the coming years. The committee will annually review and update the strategic plan.

- 6. Manual review.** The committee divided the review of the committee operations manual, the pre-championships manual, the host operations manual and the site representative manual and will ask staff to update them as necessary.
- 7. Future championship locations and site selection.** The committee reviewed selected championship sites through the 2021 championship and discussed the site selection process for 2022-2025. The committee will meet in the summer to finalize recommendations for the Competition Oversight Committee to consider. Site selection announcement is in October 2020.
- 8. Sport committee update.**
 - a. Committee composition and vacancies.** The committee thanked Chad Dwyer and Jamie Mullin, outgoing committee members, for their dedication and service to the championship and for their service as committee chairs.
 - b. Regional advisory committee.** The committee reviewed conference representation by region. Conference offices will assign replacement members for the regional advisory committees to complete the 2020 championship season rosters.
 - c. Committee chair.** Steve Kanaby, associate commissioner of the Colonial Athletic Association, was selected as the committee chair.

Committee Chair: Chad Dwyer, America East Conference
Staff Liaison: John E. Bugner, Championships and Alliances

NCAA Division I Field Hockey Committee February 3-4, 2020, Meeting	
Attendees:	
Chad Dwyer, America East Conference.	
Lynn Farquhar, Saint Joseph's University.	
Jennifer Gilbert, Miami University (Ohio).	
Steve Kanaby, Colonial Athletic Association.	
Becca Main, Quinnipiac University.	
Jamie Mullin, Syracuse University.	
Guests in Attendance:	
Steve Horgan, NCAA coordinator of officials and secretary-rules interpreter.	
NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:	
John E. Bugner, Championships and Alliances.	
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:	
Zach Christopher, Championships and Alliances.	