



REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION II FOOTBALL COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 8-10, 2021, MEETING

ACTION ITEMS.

- None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **2020 annual meeting report.** The Division II Football Committee reviewed and approved the 2020 meeting report as submitted.
2. **2020-21 Division II Championships Committee reports.** The committee reviewed action and informational items from 2020-21, particularly those applicable to Division II football.
3. **2021 American Football Coaches Association (AFCA) convention.** Committee members who were at the convention reviewed issues from the Division II football coaches who attended.
4. **Officiating.**
 - **Update from Mike Burton.** The committee received a report from Mike Burton, director of Division II football officiating, and some recent activities he has been involved with to increase the level of officiating across Division II. Mr. Burton has attended several conference officiating clinics and has more planned over the next couple of months.
5. **Selection criteria.** The committee discussed the current criteria used for rankings and selections. There are five criteria that are applicable for all Division II championships, and the committee also received approval from the Division II Championships Committee to consider the following additional criteria in the selection of at-large teams (not necessarily in priority order): Division II results vs. ranked Division II opponents; Division II results vs. teams with a winning record; and Performance Indicator (PI).
6. **Regional alignment/sport sponsorship.** The committee reviewed the sport sponsorship list and noted member institutions who will be moving to different conferences and/or will not be sponsoring football for the 2021 season.
7. **Earned access.** The committee reviewed the conferences eligible for earned access for the 2021 championship and noted that a recommendation would be submitted for the Division II Championships Committee's June meeting.
8. **Football playing rules.** The committee received a report from Steve Shaw, National Coordinator of Football Officials and Football Secretary-Rules Editor. The topics

discussed included 2020 officiating protocols, 2020 NCAA football rules changes, and spring 2021 points of emphasis.

9. **Legislation issues.** NCAA staff updated the committee on legislative matters, including any legislation relevant to football.
10. **National Committee and Regional Advisory Committees (RAC).** The committee reviewed and updated the national committee roster. The 2020-21 NCAA Division II Football RAC roster was also reviewed, and the committee looked forward to learning about the new appointments for those members whose terms will expire at the end of August 2021.
11. **Annual meeting dates.** The committee will meet February 7-9, 2022, tentatively in Indianapolis at the NCAA National Office.
12. **Committee Chair.** The committee recommended and approved Mike Babcock, head football coach at McKendree University, to serve as chair. This appointment will be effective September 1, 2021.
13. **Strategic plan and review of bracketing initiatives.** The committee reviewed both the NCAA Division II Football Committee strategic plan, as well as the bracketing initiatives that went into effect for the 2019 championship. The committee noted there were no changes needed to either of these documents.
14. **Governance update.** The committee received a report from Terri Steeb Gronau, Interim Executive Vice President, Law, Policy & Governance; Maritza Jones, Interim Vice President, Law, Policy & Governance; and Ryan Jones, Associate Director, Law, Policy & Governance on various governance items. Among other items, Ms. Gronau reviewed the nine Division II priorities for 2021. Ms. Jones mentioned that the Division II Presidents Council approved the triennial budget in January 2021, and this included funding approval to expand video replay to the quarterfinal round games. The new budget cycle will begin in the fall of 2021. Mr. Jones addressed the committee on the goals of the National Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.
15. **Miscellaneous and other business.**
 - a. **Timeline.** The committee reviewed the timeline for the 2021-22 academic year as it relates to their responsibilities.
 - b. **Coaches Connection.** The committee received a report from Mel Tjeerdsma, Division II Football Coaches Connection liaison, about this program. It was noted that there has been excellent attendance in the various monthly meetings from all 16 conference representatives.

- c. **Transfer Portal.** The committee received a report from Susan Peal, Director of Law, Policy & Governance, regarding the transfer portal.

16. **Outgoing committee member.** The committee thanked Gary Pine of Azusa Pacific University for his service to the committee, and for his role this past year as the chair of the committee.

Committee chair: Gary Pine, Azusa Pacific University, Great Northwest Athletic Conference
Staff Liaison: Randy L. Buhr, Championships and Alliances

NCAA Division II Football Committee February 8-10, 2021, Meeting
Attendees:
Jon Anderson, University of Sioux Falls.
Mike Babcock, McKendree University.
Gary Goff, Valdosta State University.
Paul Lueken, Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference.
Rob Mallory, Kentucky Wesleyan College.
Matt Mitchell, Grand Valley State University.
Gary Pine, Azusa Pacific University.
Monica Gordy Polizzi, Mars Hill University.
Absentees:
None.
Guests in Attendance:
Mike Burton, Director of Division II Football Officials.
Steve Shaw, National Coordinator of Football Officials and Football Secretary-Rules Editor.
NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:
Randy L. Buhr, Championships and Alliances.
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:
Michael Bazemore, Academic and Membership Affairs.
Terri Steeb Gronau, Division II Governance.
Maritza Jones, Division II Governance.
Ryan Jones, Division II Governance.
Susan Peal, Law, Policy & Governance.
Phil Pierce, Championships and Alliances.
Jay Jay Rackley, Championships and Alliances.
Alyssa Rice, Championships and Alliances.