

REPORT OF THE NCAA DIVISION I MEN'S AND WOMEN'S GOLF COMMITTEES JUNE 17-18, 2024, MEETING

KEY ITEMS.

- 1. Rankings. The men's and women's golf committees had lengthy discussions with Dr. Mark Broadie regarding the ranking algorithm and potential changes for the 2024-25 season. (See Informational Item 1.)
- **2. Regional awards/semifinalist trophies.** At the direction of the Competition Oversight Committee, the men's and women's golf committees revisited the awards program. The committees determined they would prefer reinstating the national semifinalist trophies for the finals site instead of continuing with regional champion trophies. (See Informational Item 9.)

ACTION ITEMS.

None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. Rankings. The committees met with Dr. Mark Broadie to discuss the current national collegiate golf rankings.

The committees reviewed with Dr. Broadie recent feedback from the Golf Coaches Association of America and Women's Golf Coaches Association working groups regarding potential adjustments to the rankings ahead of the 2024-25 academic year.

Specifically, the committees discussed addressing the following concerns within the ranking methodology in advance of the 2024-25 academic year: accounting for outliers within the rankings, the impact of tournament victories, more appropriately balancing the overall distribution of points, reducing the weighting of match play, the impact of stroke differential, and working to have less volatility in the rankings/more reward for consistency. The committees asked Dr. Broadie to run some scenarios to determine the effect of potential changes to the algorithm.

The committees will reconvene on August 7 with Dr. Broadie to review the impact of the recommendations and make adjustments prior to the start of the 2024-25 season.

2. Schedule submission deadline. The committees confirmed that all schedules need to be submitted by September 1. Any exceptions to the deadline or extension requests must be approved by the respective committee. Committee members directed staff to correspond with the membership before the season starts with additional details.

3. .500 rule for conference tournaments. The committees discussed possibly recommending an exception to the .500 rule for conference tournaments. The committees discussed gathering feedback to determine if there is significant interest in making a future recommendation on this topic.

4. Future championships.

- **a.** Omni La Costa debrief and 2025-26 championships planning. The committees discussed the 2024 championship finals, which were conducted at Omni La Costa in Carlsbad, California, for the first of three consecutive years, and thoroughly reviewed areas for improvement as planning begins for the 2025 championships.
- **b. 2027 and 2028 bid cycle.** The committees discussed the current NCAA championship bid cycle, which includes regional and finals sites for men's and women's golf for the 2027 and 2028 championships.
- 5. Finals site course access policy. Committee members discussed and reaffirmed the current finals site course access policy. The committees noted that course access should be restricted for student-athletes at NCAA member institutions, including the host institution, except for those instances where a preexisting club membership was in place at the host venue.
- 6. Model Local Rule G-12. The committees discussed Model Local Rule G-12, which restricts the use of greens reading materials. The committees reiterated that they will not adopt MLR G-12 for the 2024-25 season, nor for the 2025 championships. Committee members will continue to listen to feedback on MLR G-12 and will re-evaluate the merits of possible future adoption as it appears it will continue to be in place for USGA Championships moving forward.
- 7. Call for Rules Modifications. The committees received an update from staff regarding the recent call for rules modifications the NCAA playing rules and officiating staff sent to the membership.
- **8.** Clippd updates. The committees met with Jonathan Halpern and Piers Parnell from Clippd, who updated the committees on their work during the 2023-24 academic year and plans for the 2024-25 academic year. They also updated the committees on their live scoring product, open API, and other services that will be offered to programs during the 2024-25 academic year.
- **9. Regional awards/semifinalist awards.** The committees reviewed a recent change to the championship awards program on a request from the Competition Oversight Committee. The committees determined they preferred to reinstate semifinalist trophies for the teams at the finals site in place of handing out regional champion trophies at the six regionals. This will be in effect for the 2025 championships.

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- **10. Individual medalist trophy at regionals.** The committees discussed and reiterated their desire for a trophy to be awarded to the individual medalist at each of the regional championships but understand it is not appropriate to make this request with the current changes in the awards program.
- **11. Golf Channel.** The committees met with Andrea Starkey from Golf Channel, who provided an overview from the 2024 championships, including viewership numbers and a schedule of events to be televised during the fall 2024 season.
- **12. Third coach capabilities/clarifications.** The committees discussed allowances for third coaches during regular-season events but no action was taken. Staff will continue working alongside rules officials and national governing body representatives to best address this topic moving forward.
- **13. Process for players with disabilities to use golf carts.** The committees received an update regarding an upcoming call with United States Golf Association representatives regarding the process for players with disabilities to use golf carts.
- **14. 2025 annual committee meeting dates.** The committees will meet June 17-18.

Committee Chairs: Jim Fee, University of South Florida (men's committee)

Bradford Hurlbut, Fairleigh Dickinson University, Metropolitan Campus

(women's committee)

Staff Liaisons: John Baldwin, Championships and Alliances

Mark Bedics, Championships and Alliances

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Attendees:

Kalen Anderson, University of South Carolina, Columbia.

Deedee Brown-Campbell, Texas Tech University.

Jim Fee, University of South Florida.

Mary Giardina, Florida Atlantic University.

Jamie Green, Duke University.

John Hauscarriague, University of California, Irvine.

Bradford Hurlbut, Farleigh Dickson University, Metropolitan Campus.

Kenneth Jones, University of Tennessee Chattanooga.

Jon Kasper, Big Sky Conference.

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John Kennaday, San Jose State University.	John	Kennada	ay,	San	Jose	State	Univ	ersity.
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Emily Marron, University of Central Florida.

Halley Morrell, Bradley University.

MaryLou Mulflur, University of Washington.

Jon Reehoorn, Oregon State University.

Ellie Shannon, Wake Forest University.

Joy Vrbka, Auburn University.

Kari Williams, State University of New Jersey, New Brunswick.

Absentees:

Brian Russell, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.

Guests in Attendance:

Mark Broadie, College Golf Rankings.

Andrew Danna, Florida Gulf Coast University.

Jonathan Halpern, Clippd.

Piers Parnell, Clippd.

Andrea Starkey, Golf Channel.

NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:

John Baldwin, Championships and Alliances.

Mark Bedics, Championships and Alliances.

Jackie Kawamoto, Championships and Alliances.

Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:

Julie Kimmons, Championships and Alliances.