



REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION I MEN'S GOLF COMMITTEE  
JUNE 10 AND JULY 11-12, 2022, MEETINGS

KEY ITEMS.

1. **Schedule submission policy adjustment.** The men's and women's golf committees are recommending an adjustment to the current annual schedule submission deadline, from October 1 to August 31 (see Action Item 2-a).
2. **Overall top seed regional site preference.** The committee is recommending that the overall top seed for the championships be permitted to select their regional site preference (see Action Item 2-b).
3. **Automatic qualification.** The committee is recommending 30 conferences to receive automatic qualification to the 2023 championships (see Action Item 2-c).

ACTION ITEMS.

1. **Legislative items.**

- None.

2. **Nonlegislative items.**

a. **Schedule submission policy adjustment.**

- (1) Recommendation. That the schedule submission requirement be adjusted to reflect an annual submission deadline of August 31, in place of the current annual deadline of October 1.
- (2) Effective date. September 1, 2023.
- (3) Rationale. Currently, the October 1 schedule submission deadline allows teams to compete in tournaments for the first month of the season and adjust their schedules accordingly for the remainder of the year, without penalties. Under the current deadline, coaches are able to take early season results into consideration and adjust the remainder of their competition schedule to best position their teams for postseason qualification.

Both the men's and women's golf committees believe that an earlier submission deadline of August 31 will minimize the potential for gamesmanship when scheduling tournaments, given that no competition is permitted to be conducted prior to that date.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. This adjustment to the schedule submission deadline will ensure maximum competitive equity for student-athletes throughout the regular season.

**b. Overall top seed regional site preference.**

(1) Recommendation. That the overall top seed for the championship be permitted to select their preferred site for regional competition.

(2) Effective date. 2023 championships.

(3) Rationale. Each year, the host courses for regionals have a variety of differentiating factors that distinguish them from one another, including geography, location, course yardage and grass types, among others.

The committee believes that the team earning the distinction of the top overall seed for the championships should be permitted to select their preferred site for regional competition. While geography and proximity has traditionally been a major factor in the placement of the top overall seed, committee members have noted several instances in recent years where sites other than those most proximate to the overall top seed would have been preferred by those coaches and student-athletes. The committee believes that the team earning the top overall seed should also earn the right to compete at the regional site that best fits the makeup of that team.

If approved, the committee and NCAA staff would allow regional site preference submissions through a confidential electronic submission during the spring semester for those institutions that may be in contention for the top overall seed.

(4) Estimated budget impact. This recommendation could potentially result in a flight to the regional site, rather than a drive, for the top overall seeded team.

(5) Student-athlete impact. This allowance will afford the student-athletes on the team earning the distinction of being the top overall seed with their preferred course to advance from regionals to the finals site.

**c. Automatic qualification.**

(1) Recommendation. That the following 30 conferences sponsoring women's golf be awarded automatic qualification into the 2023 championships: American Athletic Conference; ASUN Conference; Atlantic Coast Conference; Atlantic 10 Conference; Big

East Conference; Big Sky Conference; Big South Conference; Big Ten Conference; Big 12 Conference; Big West Conference; Colonial Athletic Association; Conference USA; Horizon League; The Ivy League; Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference; Mid-American Conference; Missouri Valley Conference; Mountain West Conference; Northeast Conference; Ohio Valley Conference; Pacific-12 Conference; Patriot League; Southeastern Conference; Southern Conference; Southland Conference; Southwestern Athletic Conference; The Summit League; Sun Belt Conference; West Coast Conference; and Western Athletic Conference.

(2) Effective date. 2022-23 academic year.

(3) Rationale. All eligible conferences are being recommended.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

#### INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Approval of 2021 meeting report.** The committee reviewed and approved the 2021 annual meeting report.
2. **Review of Championships Oversight Committee actions.** The committee reviewed relevant action items from the 2021-22 academic year.
3. **Review of 2022 regionals.** The committee reviewed and discussed the 2022 regionals, which were conducted at six sites.
  - a. **Regional evaluations.** The committee reviewed survey responses from regionals, noting overall satisfaction from participants from the majority of sites. Committee members noted subpar course conditions and host preparation at two sites. Committee members requested that NCAA staff follow up with all regional hosts to provide a summary of participant survey feedback and key learnings from each specific site.
  - b. **Rules officials.** The committee continues to be very pleased with the job performed by Brad Gregory, Division I Men's Golf Official in Charge, and his team of regional and finals site rules officials. Committee members are grateful for the professionalism that Mr. Gregory and his team bring to the championships.
  - c. **Practice round.** The committee discussed the regional practice rounds and asked staff to work closely with future hosts to ensure that the golf course and conduct of the practice

round reflect the course conditions and setup that will be experienced during the tournament rounds on the three days that follow.

- d. **Tee times.** The committee clarified that for sites with 10 individual participants, the two highest-ranked individuals should be paired with No. 1 player from the 13<sup>th</sup>-seeded team during the first round of competition. The third- and fourth-ranked individuals will be paired with the No. 2 player from the 13<sup>th</sup>-seeded team, etc. Staff will work with future host sites to ensure consistency during future regionals.
  - e. **Misconduct.** The committee discussed one instance of potential misconduct from the regional round of competition and directed staff on next steps for follow up with the institution.
4. **Review of 2022 finals site.** The committee discussed the 2022 championship finals, which were conducted at Grayhawk Golf Club for the second consecutive year.
- a. **Championship evaluations.** The committee reviewed the finals site evaluations and noted overall satisfaction with the championships. Specifically, committee members noted satisfaction from championship participants with the attention to detail and championship-level atmosphere at the finals site, including the addition of spectator seating areas for the 2022 championships. Committee members and survey respondents were pleased with the overall commitment from the host institution and host venue.
  - b. **Course setup.** The committee discussed course setup and noted areas for potential improvement in 2023.
  - c. **Practice round.** The committee discussed the practice round for the championships and continues to favor tee times over a shotgun start, so long as weather conditions allow all participants to complete play.
  - d. **Coaches' carts.** The committee discussed the use of coaches' carts at the finals site and noted that the allowance for carts was very well received by the membership. The committee voted to permit the use of coaches' carts for the 2023 regionals and finals site and noted that carts may be used only by one or both of the two designated institutional coaches. Committee members also noted their preference for carts to remain on cart paths only during all rounds of the championships, with the understanding that not all host sites will be set up to allow this to occur.
5. **2023 Regional sites planning.** The committee discussed the predetermined host sites for the 2023 regionals and noted areas that staff should emphasize during the planning process with hosts, including practice round expectations, course setup, and the overall student-athlete experience. The committee also made tentative site representative assignments for the 2023 regionals.

**6. 2023 championships planning.**

- a. **Tee times.** The committee reviewed the tee time grid for the championships and noted its satisfaction with the pairings adjustments that were made for 2022, most notably during the fourth round of stroke-play competition. The committee also voted to adjust the first- and second-round pairings at the finals site so as not to disadvantage the top-seeded teams, beginning with the 2023 championships. During the first round of competition, seeds one through six will be the first teams off in the afternoon wave; seeds seven through 12 will be the first teams off in the morning wave; teams 13 through 18 will be the second teams off during the afternoon wave; teams 19 through 24 will be the second teams off during the morning wave; teams 25 through 27 will be the last teams off in the afternoon wave; and teams 28 through 30 will be the last teams off in the morning wave. Morning and afternoon tee times will flip for the second round of competition. No changes were made to individuals' tee times, nor to any other competition days.
- b. **Enhancement opportunities.** The committee continues to believe that there is not a good fit in the championship schedule of events for a banquet or breakfast reception. In place of either event, committee members directed staff to explore other enhancement opportunities for participants, including a site-specific championship memento.

**7. 2024-26 championships planning.** The committee discussed the 2024-26 championships, which will be hosted by the University of Texas at Austin at Omni La Costa Resort in Carlsbad, California. The committee will receive an update on the status of ongoing planning efforts and upcoming golf course renovations from Omni staff during an upcoming joint men's and women's golf committee videoconference.

**8. Selections.**

- a. **Schedule submission policy.** The committee reviewed the schedule submission policy and reiterated a desire for the October 1 schedule submission deadline to be enforced for the 2022-23 academic year. Beginning with the 2023-24 academic year, the committee is recommending an August 31 submission deadline for a team's full competition schedule (see Action Item 2-a).
- b. **.500 record/conference championships.** The committee discussed but did not recommend changes to the current practice of including conference championship results in a team's overall win/loss record.
- c. **Seeding and regional assignments.** The committee discussed seeding and regional assignments from the 2022 championships and were pleased with the balance of each regional field. Committee members believe the additional flexibility afforded to them during the selections process is best for the overall administration of the championships.

**9. Review course access policies.**

- a. **2023 championships.** The committee reviewed and made no changes to the finals site course access policy for the 2023 championships.
- b. **2024-26 championships.** The committee discussed the need to solidify the course access policy for the 2024-26 championships at Omni La Costa Resort, specifically as it relates to student-athletes with preexisting family memberships at the resort.
- c. **Regional sites.** The committee reviewed the course access policy for regional sites and made a minor adjustment to note that no course access is permitted.

**10. Rules discussion with Brad Gregory.** The committee met with Brad Gregory, head rules official for the championships, and discussed several items, including setup of the championship finals course throughout the event; regional site preparations; 2023 rules changes and clarifications; and the use of coaches' carts during the championships.

**11. Golfstat.** The committee met with Marcus El, Ian Gillam and Carolyn Kupchik from Golfstat and discussed the following topics: schedule submission deadlines, reporting and public viewing; year-end rankings; and championships selections.

**12. Golf Channel.** The committee met with Thomas McKee from Golf Channel and discussed a number of topics, including coverage and ratings from the 2022 championships; the St. Andrew's Collegiate Invitational, which will begin in the 2023-24 academic year; and the broadcast schedule for the 2022-23 academic year.

**13. Automatic Qualification.** The committee approved the automatic qualifying conferences for 2022-23 and noted no changes from the 2021-22 academic year (see Action Item 2-c).

**14. Sport sponsorship list.** The committee reviewed the current sport sponsorship list and noted anticipated changes for the 2022-23 academic year.

**15. National committee.** Committee members noted that a great deal of experience is being lost heading into the 2022-23 academic year due to the departure of three members of the committee. Committee members are appreciative of the contributions from Connie Hurlbut, Derek Freeman, and Steve Bradley during their time on the committee. Committee members thanked Ms. Hurlbut, specifically, for her leadership and dedication as chair during the past three years.

The committee voted Jimmy Bass, director of athletics at the University of North Carolina, Wilmington, as chair of the committee for the 2022-23 academic year.

- 16. Manual review.** Committee members reviewed and updated select manual language and will continue to review key manuals ahead of the 2022-23 season and 2023 championships.
- 17. Joint meeting with women's golf committee.** The committee will meet jointly with the women's golf committee on August 10.
- 18. 2023 committee meeting dates.** The committee tentatively set in-person meeting dates for June 26-28, 2023.
- 19. Other business.** The committee discussed the submission and review process for tournament withdrawals after the October 1 schedule submission deadline and will work with staff to streamline this process during the 2022-23 academic year.

*Committee Chair:* Connie Hurlbut, West Coast Conference  
*Staff Liaison:* John Baldwin, Championships and Alliances

NCAA Division I Men's Golf Committee June 10 and July 11-12, 2022, Meetings	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Steve Bailey, Marquette University.	
Jimmy Bass, University of North Carolina Wilmington.	
Steve Bradley, University of South Florida.	
Derek Freeman, University of California, Los Angeles.	
Connie Hurlbut, West Coast Conference.	
Michael Levy, Texas Christian University.	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
None.	
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>	
Marcus El, Golfstat.	
Ian Gillam, Golfstat.	
Brad Gregory, Head Rules Official.	
Carolyn Kupchik, Golfstat.	
Thomas McKee, Golf Channel.	
<b>NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:</b>	
John Baldwin, Championships and Alliances.	
Nancy O'Hara, Championships and Alliances.	
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>	
None.	