



REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION I WOMEN'S GOLF COMMITTEE
JUNE 14-15, 2023, ANNUAL MEETING

KEY ITEMS.

- **Automatic qualification.** The committee is recommending 27 conferences to receive automatic qualification into the 2024 championships (see Action Item 2).

ACTION ITEMS.

1. **Legislative items.**

- **None.**

2. **Nonlegislative items.**

- **Automatic qualification.**

(1) Recommendation. That the following 27 conferences sponsoring women's golf be awarded automatic qualification into the 2024 championships: American Athletic Conference; ASUN Conference; Atlantic Coast 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; The Summit League; Sun Belt Conference; and Western Athletic Conference.

(2) Effective date. 2023-24 academic year.

(3) Rationale. All eligible conferences are being recommended. The committee noted that the Ohio Valley Conference is no longer in a grace period.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Approval of 2022 meeting report.** The committee reviewed and approved the 2022 annual meeting report.

2. **Review of 2023 regionals.** The committee reviewed the 2023 regionals, which were conducted at six sites.
 - a. **Six-region format.** The committee noted that the second year in the new six-region format was very successful. The committee specifically noted the improved pace of play at each of the sites as a key benefit within the new regional model.
 - b. **Regional evaluations.** The committee reviewed survey responses from regionals and was pleased with the overall feedback from the 2023 regional host sites. The major complaints revolved around hotel accommodations, and the committee asked staff to explore whether hotel accommodations can be secured prior to announcing sites.
 - c. **Tee times and pairings.** The committee discussed regional tee times and pairings and wants to discuss day two and day three pairings with the coaching community prior to making any changes for the 2024 championships.
3. **Review of 2023 finals site.** The committee reviewed the 2023 championship finals, which were conducted at Grayhawk Golf Club for the third consecutive year.
 - a. **Championship evaluations.** The committee reviewed the finals site evaluations and noted overall satisfaction from the participants. Specifically, committee members noted satisfaction with the attention to detail and championship-level atmosphere at the finals site, including the addition of spectator seating areas for the 2023 championships. Committee members and survey respondents were pleased with the overall commitment from the host institution and host venue.
 - b. **Practice round.** The committee felt there needed to be a more concerted effort to speed up play for the practice round. In addition, they felt the manual should reflect 18 minutes per hole instead of 15 minutes to make it more realistic.
 - c. **Tee times and pairings.** As noted with the regionals above, the committee wants to discuss with the membership at the coaches convention in December whether any changes are warranted regarding tee times and pairings at the finals.
4. **2024 regional sites planning.** The committee discussed the six predetermined host sites for the 2024 regionals and noted areas that staff should emphasize during the planning process with hosts, including course setup, consistency among sites and the overall student-athlete experience. The committee also discussed the need for better organization with the hotels in terms of rate, dates and location.

- a. **Regional trophies.** The committee was informed that the team champions at regionals will receive a trophy starting in 2024. The committee will discuss the possibility of a trophy for the individual medalist with the men's committee during the joint meeting.
- b. **Tiebreakers.** The committee reviewed the current tiebreaker procedures and determined to keep them the same.

5. 2024 finals site planning.

- a. **Tee times.** The committee noted that tee times will need to change as Omni La Costa won't be able to accommodate a 6:10 a.m. start time due to the local noise ordinance.
- b. **Seeding based on regional finish.** The committee discussed but generally did not support the idea of seeding teams at nationals based on where they finish at regionals.
- c. **Enhancement opportunities.** Committee members noted that staying on site will clearly be an enhancement and there should be a continued commitment to keep increasing the level of the championship.
- d. **Pairings tiebreakers.** The committee felt no changes were needed.
- e. **Semifinalist trophy presentation.** The committee believes this is no longer necessary, as teams have never demonstrated interest in taking part in a formal presentation. However, the committee believes teams should continue being allowed to have photo opportunities with the trophies if requested.
- f. **Walk-through.** The committee voted to allow players and coaches to walk on the green during the walk-through, though clubs, balls, instruments or equipment of any kind will not be allowed.
- g. **Match play.** The committee discussed substitutions but felt the current policy is still the best. The committee wanted the participant manual to clarify that players who have completed their matches can be driven to the clubhouse or to a hole to watch a teammate; however, doing so renders them a spectator and as such they cannot ride in the coaches cart.
- h. **Practice round.** The committee discussed at length how to regulate pace of play during the practice round in 2024 and determined that the best solution is for the committee to monitor the reachable par 4s and the holes with multiple tee locations.

- 6. 2024-26 championships planning.** The committee discussed the 2024-26 championships to be hosted by Omni La Costa, noting that NCAA staff will be conducting a site visit in early August and will report back with updates.

7. Selections.

- a. Schedule submission policy.** The committee reaffirmed the August 31 schedule submission date beginning in 2023-24.
- b. Seeding/spring ranking.** The committee discussed seeding for regionals and the evaluation of teams that incur significant roster changes during the season. The committee agreed to continue reviewing performances of teams that have roster changes with large impacts during selections.
- c. Regional assignments.** The committee was pleased with the selection process and assignment of teams to regionals in 2023.

8. Review course access policies.

- a. 2024-26 championships.** The committee discussed the course access policy for the 2024-26 finals and will review it during the joint meeting with the men's committee.
- b. Regional sites.** The committee made no changes to the current policy.

9. Rules discussion.

- a. Model local rule G-12.** The committee met with Allison Brown, director of rules for the championships, and discussed the potential impact of MLR G-12. After discussion with the men's committee members agreed to stay status quo for 2023-24 and to revisit possible implementation for the 2024-25 season in December 2023.
- b. Checkpoint.** The committee reviewed the checkpoint pace of play policy and believes coaches and players should be further educated about the actual policy. The committee will review this again prior to the championship, potentially at the coaches convention in December.

10. Scoring and ranking services. The committee was reminded that an RFP for these services was close to being completed.

- a. Weather-related 27- and 45-hole scoring increments.** The committee believes this policy should continue.
- b. Alternate formats (six-count-four and six-count-five).** The committee believes this policy should continue.

- c. Unfinished match play matches.** The committee noted this was the first year that unfinished matches were not counted on the player's record. The committee believes this is the appropriate policy and should continue.
 - d. Individual tournament withdrawals.** The committee discussed the topic but decided to make no changes at this point.
- 11. Automatic qualification.** The committee reviewed and approved the automatic qualification applications for the 2023-24 academic year, noting no changes from 2022-23. (See Action Item 2.)
- 12. Pay for officials.** The committee agreed to discuss this with the men's committee to explore actual payment for the officials for the regionals and finals sites.
- 13. Attendance at coaches meeting.** The committee affirmed the fine for the coach that missed the meeting at regionals. In addition, they agreed to move the coaches meeting at the finals site to 5 p.m. local time on the walk-through day.
- 14. Money clips vs. hat clips.** The committee felt that the money clips used for credentials were well received and agreed to continue that in the future.
- 15. Sport sponsorship.** The committee discussed sport sponsorship across the division, including changes in conference alignment and institutions transitioning into Division I.
- 16. National committee.** The committee was reminded that per the recommendation from the Division I Transformation Committee regarding sport committee composition, the size of the current committee will be increased to nine members by September 1 with an emphasis on members from conferences that have had success at the championships.
- 17. Manual review.** Committee charged the staff with making relevant updates where necessary for the 2023-24 championship manuals.
- 18. Joint meeting with men's golf committee.** The committee will meet jointly with the men's golf committee on July 26.
- 19. Academic and membership affair updates.** The committee received updates regarding the in-season foreign tour exemption and the sport sponsorship legislation.
- 20. 2024 committee meeting dates.** The committee wants to meet at the same time as the men's committee and will discuss possible dates once new committee members are confirmed.
- 21. Other business.** The committee discussed the 5-count-5 playoff format and was reminded that any changes would need to be discussed with GolfChannel.

Committee Chair: Brad Hurlbut, Fairleigh Dickinson University, Metropolitan Campus.
Staff Liaison: Mark Bedics, Championships and Alliances

NCAA Division I Women's Golf Committee June 14-15, 2023, Annual Meeting	
Attendees:	
Bradford Hurlbut, Fairleigh Dickinson University, Metropolitan Campus.	
Breanna Jenco, Xavier University.	
Jon Kasper, Big Sky Conference.	
Sarah Adams, Wichita State University.	
MaryLou Mulflur, University of Washington.	
Patty Post, University of Delaware.	
Absentees:	
None.	
Guests in Attendance:	
Allison Brown, Head Rules Official.	
NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:	
John Baldwin, Championships and Alliances.	
Bryce Peters, Championships and Alliances.	
P.J. Hubert, Academic and Membership Affairs.	
Jennifer Samble, Academic and Membership Affairs.	