



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION II WOMEN'S GOLF COMMITTEE
JULY 9-10, 2023, ANNUAL MEETING**

KEY ITEMS.

- 1. AQ/selections deadline adjustment.** The Division II Women's and Men's Golf Committees are requesting date adjustments for automatic qualification and selections. (See Action Item 2.)
- 2. Ranking services provider.** Spikemark will be the new data and ranking services provider for NCAA golf. (See Informational Item 6-b.)

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative items.

- **None.**

2. Nonlegislative items.

- **Automatic qualification deadline/selection date adjustment.**

(1) Recommendation. Modify the deadline by which conferences determine their automatic qualifiers to 12 days prior to the date of regional competition; further, modify the selection date to 10 days prior to the practice date of regional competition.

(2) Effective date. September 1, 2025.

(3) Rationale. Both the Division II Men's and Women's Golf Committees agree that a two-day buffer is needed between the AQ deadline and selections so that regional advisory committees can have a full day after the AQ deadline to discuss at-large selections prior to the national committee call. The committees believe that an AQ date 12 days prior to the practice round is an appropriate amount of time for cost-effective travel logistics and to prepare each team for regional competition. Currently, the selection date for the women is five days prior to the practice date of regional competition. The committees intend to align the policy for both genders as much as possible to accommodate coaches that coach both the men's and women's teams at their institution.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. Allowing additional days prior to regionals will positively affect the women in allowing for more rest and preparation days before regional competition. A similar timeline will also allow for more equity between the men and women student-athletes.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Review of 2023 annual meeting schedule.** The committee reviewed the 2023 annual meeting schedule.
2. **Division II women's golf strategic plan.** The committee reviewed the strategic plan and adjusted the short-term goals and strategies.
3. **2023-24 automatic qualification.** The committee reviewed the current sponsorship list and noted adjustments in sponsorship and conference membership.
4. **Head rules official overview.** The committee was extremely pleased with the work of Head Rules Official Brad Wiesley throughout the championship and looks forward to working with him next year. Mr. Wiesley provided some recommendations to assist with the logistics of the championship, which the committee supported.
5. **Review of 2023 championships.** The committee reviewed the 2022 championships and noted the following:
 - a. Regionals. The committee noted its concern for the fact that the women have a shorter turnaround time from their selection date to competing at the regional tournament and would like to explore an earlier AQ date. The committee believes selections should be 10 days prior to the start of the regional competition. The committee will discuss this further during the joint meeting with the Division II Men's Golf Committee. They committee also believes host schools should designate specific areas on the practice range for each school. Some committee members noted hotel issues as well as issues with golf carts. The committee noted they wanted to continue providing a memento at regionals.
 - b. Championships. The committee noted that the University of Missouri-St. Louis did an exceptional job as host. The committee discussed the pairing party and noted that signage should be created to assist with that, and that the announcer should have a mic to announce the pairings. The committee also noted wanting to add pairings party logistics to the host operations manual. Other notes included needing designated parking spots for each team, continuing the police escort and setting the scoreboard on hole No. 18.
 - c. Championships format. The committee reviewed the championships format and agreed to determine the start time for the semifinal match when on site at the championship (see Informational Item 7-d). They also agreed to invert the groups for the first two rounds of the tournament with leaders teeing off first and then last for the second round. Groups would then be re-paired for the third round.
 - d. Administrative meeting. The committee noted the administrative meeting should occur after the practice round.
 - e. Practice round. The committee noted the practice round should take place before the administrative meeting.

- f. One tee start/Split tee start. The committee noted the championship should be a one tee start or in waves. The head rules official should make the final call.
- g. Rules officials. The committee noted a positive experience in working with the rules officials.

6. 2024 championships preview.

- a. Important dates for 2023-24. The committee noted October 1 as the registration deadline and February 1 as the deadline to submit the schedule.
- b. Golf data and rankings RFP. The committee was notified that Spikemark, LLC, would be the official ranking and data services for the NCAA. Spikemark will be providing videos and information on how to access and use the system. The committee noted a need to have Spikemark provide a check and balances system to assist with monitoring the schedule submission deadline.
- c. Selections. The selection call will take place early afternoon on April 29, 2024, with a release at 6 p.m. EST. The committee noted updates that need to be made to the selection criteria section in the pre-championships manual.
- d. Regional sites. The committee noted that the 2024 regionals will be at the following sites:
 - Central – Rogers State University; Hillcrest Country Club
 - East – University of Indianapolis; Prairie View Golf Club
 - South – Lee University; Cleveland Country Club
 - West – California Collegiate Athletic Association and Visit Stockton; Brookside Golf Club
- e. Individual conference winners proposal. The committee reviewed an inquiry from a Division II coach about having individual conference winners receive automatic qualification to their regional tournament. The committee noted that conference winners already factor into the selection criteria but that the proposal would not be viable due to the large number of conferences.

7. Policy review.

- a. Golf carts. The committee agreed that the golf cart policy will remain the same for 2024.
- b. Substitutions and practice opportunity for substitutions. The committee agreed that substitutes can access the practice range as long as they are not taking a spot away from a current player.
- c. Student-athletes as advice givers. The committee decided to not move forward with student-athletes as advice givers, as they feel the potential liabilities far outweigh the positives. The committee would like to share advice-giver survey results through the Division II golf coaches connection.

- d. Timing of playoffs. The committee would like to identify a specific start time for semifinal match play and move away from language that states "semifinals will begin 45 minutes after the quarterfinal have concluded." The committee will determine the specific start time while on site at the championship.
- e. Order of tee times. The committee clarified that re-pairing will be conducted after the first round at all regionals.
- f. Electronic scoring at regionals and finals. The committee agreed to ask Spikemark about their capabilities with electronic scoring and whether another "test" regional could be conducted in 2024.
- g. Replacement policy for selections (individual and team withdrawal). The committee decided that if a replacement is needed, they would replace the current team with the next team in the selections process.
- h. Hole location sheet availability. The committee noted that this should be provided each night, starting at the regional tournaments.
- i. Course access policy (10 days). The committee agreed to retain the current course access policy.
- j. Pace-of-play policy. The checkpoint system will be eliminated from NCAA championships. Pace-of-play monitoring and rules administration will be handled by the head rules official and his/her team on a case-by-case basis.

8. Discussion with Division II Men's Golf Committee. The men's and women committees discussed a variety of topics to help align championships operations for both genders.

- a. AQ and selection dates. The women's committee noted concerns regarding the selection date being less than a week before regional competition begins, and the men's committee noted wanting more of a buffer between their AQ date to selections. Both committees agreed to submit a proposal to the Division II Championships Committee for AQ date to be 12 days prior to the start of competition and a selections date 10 day prior to competition. (See Action Item 2.)
- b. Student-athlete advice givers. Both committees agreed to not approve student-athletes as advice givers, as the potential liabilities far outweigh the positives.
- c. Green readings. Both committees agreed to continue allowing the use of green reading for this season and will revisit the issue in early 2024.
- d. Tiebreaking procedures. The committee discussed the non-sudden-death tiebreaking procedures and made adjustments to be more consistent across both genders.

- e. Substitutions. The committees noted that substitutions are not allowed during the regular season. At the NCAA regionals and finals, substitutes will be allowed between any round of stroke play or between any matches. The substitution can be submitted to the committee up until 10 minutes prior to the tee time in stroke play and 10 minutes prior to the selection of matches for the head-to-head competition. If a player is removed from the lineup in the stroke-play portion of the championship, the individual will incur official head-to-head losses to all players in the field who complete the 54 holes of stroke play. The committees also noted that substitutions will be allowed during conference championships but at the discretion of each individual conference.
- f. 2024 annual meeting. The committees noted that the annual meeting dates for 2024 will be July 15-16.

9. **NCAA Division II Championships Committee updates.** The committee was provided updates on the timing of the budget cycle requests. The committee should receive feedback later this fall. The committee also was informed about recent recommendations and actions from the DII Championships Committee.

10.

Division II governance update. The committee was provided an update on the 2022-23 Division II priorities, including the work of the Division II Implementation Committee. The committee noted the increased social media presence at all Division II championships as a positive enhancement.

11. **Academic and membership affairs update.** The committee received an update from AMA staff member, Jordan Lysiak. The committee had questions regarding the First Date of Practice and Competition – Non Championship Segment (Rule 17.12.5) for Division II golf. Jordan explained that any adjustments to the rules would need to take place through the legislative process. The men's and women's committee plan to discuss adjustments to the rule throughout the year.

12. **2025 and 2026 regional sites.** The committee reviewed bids for the 2025 and 2026 regionals and voted on the following sites:

2025

Central – University of Central Oklahoma; Kickingbird Golf Club

East – Grand Valley State University; The Meadows Golf Course

South – University of North Georgia; Chattahoochee Golf Club

West – West Texas A&M University; La Paloma golf Club

2026

Central – Missouri Western University. St Joseph's Country Club

East – TBD

South – TBD

West – Colorado State University, Pueblo; Pueblo Country Club

The committee recognizes that these sites must go through the governance process and be reviewed by the proper committees before an official announcement is made.

- 13. Roles and responsibilities for regional and finals.** The committee would like to set more defined responsibilities for each committee member while on site at the championship. They noted specific roles need to be defined for the pairings party that occurs before match play.
- 14. Review of committee timeline.** The committee discussed the timeline and made necessary updates for the 2023-24 season.
- 15. Manuals review.** The committee is currently reviewing the pre-championships manual, host operations manual and participant manuals and will provide approval prior to the manuals being published for the 2024 championship.
- 16. Committee chair.** The committee elected Michael Bond from the University of Central Oklahoma as chair for the 2023-24 season. Mr. Bond's coaching experience as well as his time spent on the committee will be valuable in leading the group.
- 17. 2024 annual meeting dates.** The committee will hold its next annual meeting July 15-16, 2024, in conjunction with the Division II Men's Golf Committee. Specific dates will be determined.

Committee Chair: Brent Nicoson, University of Indianapolis, Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference
Staff Liaison(s): Ashley Caldwell, Championships and Alliances

NCAA Division II Women's Golf Committee July 9-10, 2023, Meeting	
Attendees:	
Michael Bond, University of Central Oklahoma.	
Suzanne Strudwick, Carson-Newman University.	
Brent Nicoson, University of Indianapolis.	
Ben Greenberg, Colorado State University, Pueblo.	
Absentees:	
None.	
Guests in Attendance:	
Jeremy Benoit, Goldey-Beacom College.	
Sara Higley, Ferris State University.	
Jimmy Wilson, Georgia College.	
Renee Yuen, Chaminade University.	
NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:	
Demetria Young, Championships and Alliances.	
Ashley Caldwell, Championships and Alliances.	

Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:
Antonio Cannavaro, Championships and Alliances.
Maritza Jones, Division II Governance.
Ryan Jones, Division II Governance.
Jordan Lysiak, Academic and Membership Affairs.

NCAA/08_01_2023/AC:dy

