



**REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION II WOMEN'S GOLF COMMITTEE  
JUNE 15-17, 2020, MEETING**

**KEY ITEMS.**

1. **Regional ranking dates.** The committee recommends a one-time adjustment to the regional ranking dates for 2020-21 (see Action Item 2-a).
2. **Regional alignment and access to championship.** The committee recommends adjusting access to the championship based on regional sponsorship numbers (see Action Item 2-b).

**ACTION ITEMS.**

1. **Legislative items.**

- **None.**

2. **Nonlegislative items.**

a. **Regional ranking dates.**

- (1) **Recommendation.** That the 2020-21 regional ranking dates be adjusted to account for the schedule changes that will occur for many institutions during the upcoming academic year due to COVID-19. This is a one-time recommendation, with the prior ranking schedule to be reimplemented in 2021-22. The 2021 ranking dates would be:
  - Thursday, March 11;
  - Thursday, March 25;
  - Thursday, April 8; and
  - Monday, April 26.
- (2) **Effective date.** September 1, 2020.
- (3) **Rationale.** Adjusting the regional ranking dates for 2020-21 will appropriately account for institutions and conferences that will not be competing during the fall season due to COVID-19. This adjusted schedule moves the first ranking from February to March.
- (4) **Estimated budget impact.** None.
- (5) **Student-athlete impact.** None.

**b. Regional alignment and access to championship.**

(1) Recommendation. Adjust access to the Division II Women's Golf Championships as follows:

- Base the number of teams advancing to the finals on the size of the region;
- Add two at large teams so that 18 teams advance to the finals instead of the current 16; and
- Reduce the number of individuals advancing to the finals from the current 16 (four per region) to eight (two per region).

The adjustments are outlined below:

Current structure:

Region	Sport Sponsorship #	# Teams/Individuals at Regional	# Teams/Individuals Advancing to Finals
East	69	12	4
Central	33	12	4
South	50	12	4
West	48	12	4

Proposed structure:

Region	Sport Sponsorship #	# Teams/Individuals at Regional	# Teams/Individuals Advancing to Finals
East	69	15	5
Central	33	9	3
South	50	12	4
West	48	12	4
			2 "at large" (allocated to the regions represented by the teams who participated in the prior year's head-to-head medal championship/final match)

(2) Effective date. September 1, 2021.

- (3) Rationale. After reviewing the championship structure over the past several years, the committee determined the recommended changes are necessary. Basing the number of teams on region size and reducing the number of individual qualifiers aligns with the Division II Men's Golf Championships and provides the opportunity for two additional at-large teams to advance to the finals. The proposal would continue to provide an equal level of guaranteed access to the finals per region while adding incentive by allocating a portion of the bids to the regions that perform well at the finals. The committee believes this change will significantly strengthen the championship field while allowing allocations to remain aligned with the Division II regionalization philosophy.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

#### **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Approval of 2019 meeting report.** The committee reviewed and approved the 2019 meeting report as presented.
2. **Review of Championships Committee actions from past year.** The committee reviewed and discussed relevant Championships Committee actions from the past year.
3. **Regional rankings.** The committee made a one-time recommendation to adjust the scheduled regional ranking dates for 2020-21 (see Action Item 2-a).
4. **Selection criteria.** The committee discussed selection criteria, including division-wide modifications for the 2020-21 academic year, and the impact of those modifications for golf. The committee noted that in-region competition will continue to be valuable for rankings and selections, despite the removal of in-region requirements for the upcoming year.
5. **Regional alignment and access to championship.** The committee reviewed the championship field over the past several years and recommended adopting a structure similar to Division II men's golf that would base access to the finals on region size; add two at-large teams allocated to regions represented by the teams that competed in the head-to-head medal portion of the prior year's championships; and reduce the number of individuals from 16 to eight. (See Action Item 2 b).
6. **Selection date.** Based on feedback and requests from the membership to provide more time between selections and regional competition, the committee reviewed the current selection timelines. However, because several conferences have their championships set for the last date of competition to complete the Sunday prior to selections, the committee decided to keep the selection date as is (the first Monday in April).

7. **Schedule submission deadline date.** The committee discussed the current schedule submission deadline of February 1 and agreed that moving forward, the schedule submission deadline will be the first Friday in February. All manuals will be updated to reflect this change.
8. **2021 championships preparation.** The committee discussed the 2021 championships to be conducted at TPC Michigan in Dearborn, Michigan. The committee also discussed regional sites for 2021, and staff will continue planning discussions with regional hosts in the coming weeks.
9. **Future dates and sites.** The committee reviewed the upcoming championship dates and sites, including previously awarded regional and finals sites. The committee reviewed bids received as part of the 2022-26 site selection process and will submit final recommendations for the Championships Committee to consider.
10. **Golfstat.** The committee met with Marcus El, Brian Laesch and Ali Szafranski from Golfstat and discussed the schedule submission deadline, possible future improvements to the schedule submission process and the modernization of scoring, among other items.
11. **Rules officials.** The committee briefly discussed the rules officials for the championships and noted no anticipated changes during the 2020-21 academic year. Karen Ammerman, head rules official, joined the committee for this discussion. The group noted that due to COVID-19, some best practices will be modified for the upcoming year, such as not touching the flag stick and using electronic scoring.
12. **Division II legislation update.** The committee met with Jordan Lysiak, assistant director of academic and membership affairs, and discussed several topics, including modified minimum and maximum contests for the 2020-21 academic year, schedule exemptions, and recent actions taken by the Division II Academic Requirements Committee.
13. **Division II governance update.** The committee met with Maritza Jones, managing director of Division II governance, and Ryan Jones, associate director of Division II governance, and received updates on several topics, including those related to the division's response to COVID-19 and the subsequent impacts for the 2020-21 academic year.
14. **Automatic qualification.** The committee reviewed the automatic qualification applications and noted that there will be 19 automatic berths into the 2021 championships.
15. **Sport sponsorship lists.** The committee reviewed sport sponsorship lists and noted changes that will go into effect in the 2020-21 academic year, including several institutions that declared they will not conduct women's golf in 2021.
16. **National and regional advisory committees.** The committee reviewed the regional advisory committee rosters and noted anticipated changes for the upcoming academic year. Additionally, the national committee will have one new member during the 2020-21 academic year due to the expiration of Sue Vail's term.

17. **Manual review.** The committee agreed to review and recommend necessary updates to the committee operations, participant and pre-championships manuals.
18. **2021 annual meeting dates.** The committee agreed to meet virtually June 9-10.
19. **Other business.** The committee met jointly with the Division II Men's Golf Committee to discuss several topics, including regional ranking dates, regional host sites, 2023-26 finals site recommendations and the schedule submission deadline.

*Committee Chair:* Brad Fleetwood, Southwestern Oklahoma State University, Great American Conference

*Staff Liaison(s):* Jay Jay Rackley, Championships and Alliances

<b>NCAA Division II Women's Golf Committee June 15-17, 2020, Meeting</b>
<b>Attendees:</b>
Brad Fleetwood, Southwestern Oklahoma State University.
Randy Loggins, Tusculum University.
Sue Vail, Wheeling University.
Jackie Wallgren, Colorado State University-Pueblo.
<b>Absentees:</b>
None.
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>
Karen Ammerman, Head Rules Official.
Marcus El, Golfstat.
Brian Laesch, Golfstat.
Ali Szafranski, Golfstat.
<b>NCAA Staff Liaison (or Staff Support if subcommittee) in Attendance:</b>
Jay Jay Rackley, Championships and Alliances.
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>
Jordan Lysiak, Academic and Membership Affairs.
Maritza Jones, Governance.
Ryan Jones, Governance.