



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

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative items.

a. None.

2. Nonlegislative items.

a. Committee chair.

- (1) Recommendation. That Mary Giorgi, women's golf coach at St. Catherine University, serve as chair of the Division III Women's Golf Committee.
- (2) Effective date. September 1, 2020.
- (3) Rationale. Ms. Giorgi's two years of service on the national committee and her knowledge of the sport will be beneficial to the committee.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

b. Automatic qualification.

- (1) Recommendation. That the following 21 conferences receive automatic qualification to the 2021 Division III Women's Golf Championships: American Rivers Conference; American Southwest Conference; Centennial Conference; College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin; Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference; Landmark Conference; Liberty League; Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association; Middle Atlantic Conference; Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference; New England Small College Athletic Conference; North Coast Athletic Conference; Northern Athletics Collegiate Conference; Northwest Conference; Ohio Athletic Conference; Old Dominion Athletic Conference; Presidents' Athletic Conference; Southern Athletic Association; Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference; Upper Midwest Athletic Conference; and Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.

[Note: Confirmation of AQs and pool numbers will be determined based on sport sponsorship information available at the time of championship selections.]

- (2) Effective date. 2020-21 championship season.
- (3) Rationale. All conference institutions will be reviewed at the time of selections to determine if the criteria for automatic qualification were met.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **2019 annual meeting minutes**. The committee approved the 2019 annual meeting minutes as submitted.
3. **2019-20 Division III Championships Committee actions**. The committee reviewed the relevant actions and information items from the 2019-20 Championships Committee meetings.
4. **Strategic Plan**. The committee reviewed the strategic plan.
5. **Sport sponsorship**. The committee reviewed the sport sponsorship and pool documents.
6. **Field size increase**. The field size for women's golf will be increased to 29 teams effective with the 2020-21 academic year. In February 2019, the Division III Championships Committee approved increasing the women's golf field size to 29 teams pending sport sponsorship review. Based on the 2019-20 sport sponsorship and the access ratio of 1:7, the field size should be increased from 26 teams to 29 teams.
7. **2021 championships**.
 - a. Site visit and course set-up. With travel restrictions currently in place, the committee discussed options with regard to the site visit and course set-up.
 - b. Pairings. The committee noted that pairings for the championships will need to be adjusted to accommodate the field size increase.
 - c. Banquet. The committee discussed not having a banquet for the upcoming championships and discussed ideas regarding how to appropriately recognize and celebrate the Elite 90 award recipient.
 - d. Enhancement funds. The NCAA supplemental funding program will be used for fan giveaways.

- e. Tiebreaker procedure. The committee made minor changes to the tiebreaker procedure.
- 8. **Course access**. The committee discussed the 10-day rule for course access and will keep the policy at 10 days.
- 9. **Head rules official**. The committee noted its continued satisfaction with Sam Herb and his rules committee for their past performances. Committee members recommend offering Mr. Herb the position of head rules official for the 2021 championships.
- 10. **Minimum yardage requirement**. The committee will be adjusting the minimum yardage requirement for regular-season competition to count for championships selections beginning with the 2021-22 season. By adjusting the yardage requirement, the committee feels they are elevating the entirety of Division III women's golf. The women's committee will require that for Division III, the yardage for regular-season events be as follows:

Par 71 = 5,500

Par 72 = 5,600

Par 73 = 5,700

The yardage for the national championships will be set at a minimum of 5,800 yards.

11. Rankings and selections process.

- a. Rankings and selection criteria. The committee reviewed the criteria for rankings and selections.
 - b. Regional rankings. The committee discussed increasing the number of ranked teams for each region to seven. This ranges from 12 to 22 percent of the number of teams in the region. The committee will continue with a fall ranking and three spring rankings. The fall ranking will be published November 5, and the spring rankings will be published April 15 and 29 and May 3 (selections).
 - c. Rankings and selection documents. The committee reviewed the spreadsheets for rankings and selections.
12. **Golfstat**. The committee conducted a conference call with Golfstat staff during the meeting to review their role during the year, as well as with selections and at the championships. The committee recommends continuing with the Golfstat webinar in October for regional advisory committees.

The committee also recommended that Golfstat enhance their training for coaches and to review the data they provide to the public in order to increase transparency. The committee

requests that Golfstat provide top-10 data in addition to the top-25 data that is already provided.

With the reduction in the required number of contests for sponsorship and the reduced number of rounds required for at-large selection, the committee asked Golfstat to review their round requirement for ranking..

13. National committee/regional advisory committee replacements. The committee discussed regional advisory committees and noted anticipated roster changes.

11. Committee calendar. The committee reviewed the committee calendar and made necessary updates.

13. Governance update. Representatives from the governance and AMA staffs provided updates on a variety of topics.

14. Review of manuals. The committee reviewed the committee operations manual, pre-championships manual, host operations manual and the participant manual and made revisions as necessary.

15. Future meeting dates. The committee agreed to conduct its 2021 annual meeting virtually June 14-16.

Committee Chair: Jodie Burton, Claremont McKenna-Harvey Mudd-Scripps Colleges
Staff Liaison(s): Nancy O'Hara, Championships and Alliances

Division III Women's Golf Committee June 15-17, 2020, Meeting	
Attendees:	
Bret Billhardt, Wittenberg University	
Jodie Burton, Claremont McKenna-Harvey Mudd-Scripps Colleges.	
Thomas Chatfield, Hood College	
Mary Giorgi, St. Catherine University.	
Peter Gyscek, Washington and Lee University.	
Absentees:	
None.	
Guests:	
Marcus El, Golfstat.	
Brian Laesch, Golfstat.	
Ali Szafranski, Golfstat.	
NCAA Staff in Attendance:	
Nancy O'Hara, Championships and Alliances.	

Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:
Louise McCleary, Law, Policy and Governance.
Jeff Myers, Academic & Membership Affairs.
Ali Spungeon, Law, Policy and Governance.