

REPORT OF THE NCAA MEN'S GYMNASTICS COMMITTEE JUNE 11-12, 2024, VIRTUAL MEETING

ACTION ITEMS.

- 1. Legislative items.
 - None.
- 2. Nonlegislative items. The NCAA Men's Gymnastics Committee endorsed the following rules modifications for the 2024-25 season. The committee requests approval from the NCAA Playing Rules Oversight Panel for the following changes to the Men's Gymnastics Rules Modifications.
 - a. Full Value Requirements for Element Groups (1-B).
 - (1) <u>Recommendation</u>. For Pommel Horse, Rings, Parallel Bars and Horizontal Bar, a "C" value element will be required in Element Groups II and III to receive full Element Group Value. For Floor Exercise, a "C" value element will be required in Element Groups II, III and IV to receive full Element Group Value.
 - (2) Effective date. 2024-25.
 - (3) <u>Rationale</u>. This proposal addresses parity among programs as well as health and safety of student-athletes by lessoning the requirement for an element group by requiring skills with less difficulty.
 - (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
 - (5) Student-athlete impact. None.
 - b. Competition Rules Time Rotations/One-Touch (1-C).
 - (1) <u>Recommendation</u>. To require a five-minute time block to include rotation, one touch and inquiries from the time the final competitor completes the previous rotation. There would now be five minutes until the next rotation begins. (Note: The clock would not start until the last score is flashed.)
 - (2) Effective date. 2024-25.
 - (3) <u>Rationale</u>. Provide additional time during the one-touch for student-athlete's health and safety but remain conscious of the timing of our competitions for spectators and broadcast partners.

- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

c. Warm-Up (2).

- (1) <u>Recommendation</u>. To limit the number of student-athletes to six (6) per competing institution to warm-up at each apparatus during regular-season competition. A warning will be issued followed by a one (1.0) point deduction if more than six (6) gymnasts are warming up at an apparatus.
- (2) Effective date. 2024-25.
- (3) <u>Rationale.</u> The limitation allows for equal access to competitors to warm-up at each apparatus prior to the event starting.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.
- d. Team Makeup, Computing Team Scores Up and Count Format (3-A).
 - (1) <u>Recommendation</u>. To decrease the number of competitors on each event move to a "four up, four count" format on each event per team.
 - (2) Effective date. 2024-25.
 - (3) <u>Rationale</u>. It maintains the one to three ratio previously used under the five up, five count format with 15 competitors. This further enhances parity among the NCAA MGYM programs and helps contribute to our ability to fit the NCAA Championship into a two-hour timeslot for broadcast. Additionally, it aligns our number of routines on the floor with Women's Gymnastics to 24 routines in a competition. This could also allow for more double dual competitions on our respective campuses.
 - (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
 - (5) Student-athlete impact. None.
- e. Team Makeup, Computing Team Scores Competition Roster Size (3-C).
 - (1) <u>Recommendation</u>. To decrease competition roster size from 15 to 12 student-athletes per competition.

- (2) Effective date. 2024-25.
- (3) <u>Rationale</u>. By reducing the number of competitors, it may help programs remain competitive while navigating roster limits and financial restraints.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

f. Competition Formats - Head-To-Head Format for Dual Meets (6-B).

- (1) <u>Recommendation</u>. To remove the requirement for programs to use the head-to-head format in dual meet competition.
- (2) Effective date. 2024-25.
- (3) <u>Rationale</u>. To allow for more flexibility for programs to do what is best for their campus and to allow programs the flexibility in being good partners with multimedia partners to explore the best presentation of the sport.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

g. Apparatus and Mats - Deviation From Equipment Requirements (11-A).

- (1) <u>Recommendation</u>. Any deviation of FIG specifications for equipment requires the host to notify the competing institution(s), meet technical director and the NCAA Men's Gymnastics Committee in writing two weeks prior to the date of the contest. Additionally, all parties must mutually agree to the deviation. In the instance a team does not provide notification within the noted time, a two-point (2.0) team deduction will be taken.
- (2) Effective date. 2024-25.
- (3) <u>Rationale</u>. The procedure clarifies the process to be followed and allows for timely notice of deviations in equipment to be provided to visiting institutions.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

h. Apparatus and Mats - Removal of Rigid Board Requirement (11-G).

- (1) <u>Recommendation</u>. To remove the requirement to place the vault board on a solid board surface during regular-season and conference competition.
- (2) Effective date. 2024-25.
- (3) <u>Rationale</u>. This rule modification would allow institutions to determine the setup of the event based on their facilities.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

- **1. 2023 committee meeting report.** The committee approved the 2023 annual meeting report as written.
- **2. Strategic plan.** The committee reviewed and approved the short- and long-term goals in its strategic plan.
- **3. NCAA Rules Modifications.** The committee reviewed the NCAA Rules Modifications document and recommended changes for the 2024-25 academic year (See Action Items 2-a through d). NCAA staff will update the rules modification document for the membership by September 15. The committee also provided additional clarification for the following rules:
 - **a.** Exhibition routines. Exhibition routines are only permitted to be performed by graduating seniors on senior night. These student-athletes do not have to be a part of the 15-man roster. In the instance of any unauthorized exhibition routines, there will be a one-point (1.0) team deduction taken from the score of the team in violation of the rule.
 - **b.** Ring height. All heights were increased by 10 centimeters, and a 10-centimeter mat is now required.
- **4. College Gymnastics Association meeting review.** The CGA president reviewed topics from the CGA meetings, including a switch to a 10.0 scoring model. The committee discussed the proposals and was given feedback by USA Gymnastics leadership regarding the 10.0 scoring model and future of men's gymnastics overall.
 - **a. 10.0 scoring model.** After lengthy discussion, the committee recommended to the CGA that the 10.0 scoring model continue being discussed, with a deadline of August 5 to submit any proposal(s) for the 2024-25 academic year. The committee carefully considered the concerns from the membership and recommended the CGA thoroughly address the feedback to refine the proposal, ensuring it aligns more closely with the

collective vision of the college gymnastics community and garners broader support.

- **b.** Timed rotations. The CGA recommended standardized timing of rotations to provide consistency for the broadcast. The national committee and NCAA staff will work with ESPN to determine the best timing for the championship and regular season.
- 5. Joint meeting with the Women's Gymnastics Committee. The Men's and Women's Gymnastics Committees met jointly to discuss championship format, the 10.0 scoring model and key learnings from their relationship with ESPN as the men's committee prepares to begin engaging with ESPN for the upcoming 2025 championships.
- **6. 2024 championship review.** The committee discussed this year's championship and areas of improvement moving forward, noting the importance of finding ways to make the championship more television friendly and digestible for fans.
 - **a. Open warm-ups policy.** In efforts to clean up the area of competition and provide equitable warm-up time for each individual participating in the championships, the committee voted to limit teams to having 15 student-athletes in the area of competition during open warm-ups and practices. Teams may rotate individuals in and out during the open warm-up period to allow warm-up time for all athletes. Student-athletes outside of the 15 warming up should be in the coral.
 - **b. Judges.** Craig Nesbitt, NCAA technical director, and Evan Shaw, NCAA assistant technical director, provided the committee with an overview of this year's championship, areas of improvement moving forward and the preparation to transition the technical director role to a new person for the 2025 championships.
 - **c. Feedback.** The committee reviewed championship survey results and discussed enhancements that can be made for future championships.

7. Vendors.

- **a.** American Athletic, Inc. The committee met with representatives from official equipment supplier AAI who answered equipment questions from the committee and provided information on updates to the AAI equipment.
- **b. ProScore**. The committee supports continuing its longstanding relationship with ProScore to provide scoring services at the championships. As conversations surrounding the 10.0 scoring model continue, the capabilities for ProScore to accommodate the model will need to be considered.
- **c. Road to Nationals.** The committee supports the continued use of Road to Nationals and has found it to be very responsive and a great resource. Committee members noted the desire to explore additional data that can be shown on Road to Nationals, such as the ability to filter by D and E scores and converting FIG scores to a 10.0 score.
- **d.** Podium providers. NCAA staff provided an update that the NCAA will be transitioning

the podium acquisition process to an RFP system to help alleviate the burden placed on hosts to procure a suitable podium for the championship each year. The RFP process will begin this summer and conclude by early fall of 2024.

- **8. 2025 championships.** The committee made recommendations for the 2025 championships at the University of Michigan:
 - **a. Schedule of events.** The committee recommended returning to the same schedule of events as the 2023-24 championships but shortening open practice on Thursday by 30 minutes and moving practices that day up by 30 minutes to allow participants more time to prepare for the banquet.
 - **b. Site visit.** The committee chair and NCAA championships liaison will plan a site visit to Michigan in the early fall.
 - c. Hotels. NCAA staff shared headquarter and team hotel information with the committee.
 - **d. Participant gift pick-up.** The committee recommended having teams select their participant gift pick-up location earlier to allow host more time to prepare accordingly.
 - **e. Broadcast**. The 2025 Men's Gymnastics Championships will be aired on an ESPN platform. The exact platform(s) has not yet been determined.
- 9. Outstanding legislative items. NCAA staff informed the committee that the Division I Council should vote on the committee's proposed minimum number of contests requirements during the council's June meeting. Updates regarding the cost analysis for the proposed championship format change were also shared. The committee and NCAA staff plan to discuss with ESPN regarding the proposed format to decide the best course of action moving forward.
- **10. Bid review.** The committee reviewed bids submitted for the 2027 and 2028 championships and submitted a recommendation for potential hosts.
- 11. Automatic qualification. NCAA staff noted the Eastern College Athletic Conference will have an AQ beginning in the 2024-25 academic year after completing its two-year waiting period.
- **12. Manual review.** The committee directed NCAA staff to make the necessary updates for the pre-championships, committee operations, participant and host operations manuals.
- **13. Committee.** The committee reviewed and approved the committee timeline and roster for the 2024-25 season, noting two new committee members will begin service on September 1, 2024.
 - **a.** Conference liaisons. Michael Powell will continue serving as the liaison for the Eastern College Athletic Conference. Rustam Sharipov will continue serving as the liaison for the Big Ten Conference, and Thom Glielmi will continue serving as the liaison for the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation.

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b. Committee chair. The committee voted unanimously to appoint Brain Favat as the committee chair.

14. Future meetings. The 2025 annual meeting will take place in Indianapolis on June 9-10.

Committee Chair: Brian Favat, Stanford University.

Staff Liaison: Alyssa Rice, Championships and Alliances.

Ryan Richardson, Championships and Alliances.

NCAA Men's Gymnastics Committee June 11-12, 2024, Virtual Meeting

Attendees:

Brian Favat, Stanford University.

Thom Glielmi, Stanford University.

Randy Jepson, Pennsylvania State University.

Mike Juszczyk, NCAA Rules Interpreter.

Mike Powell, William & Mary.

Rustam Sharipov, The Ohio State University.

Guests in Attendance:

Lisa Bowerman, Texas Woman's University.

Craig Nesbitt, NGJA Technical Vice President.

Shaun Richard, The Ohio State University.

John Robinson, CGA President.

Andy Timm, American Athletic, Inc.

Terry Williams, American Athletic, Inc.

Jason Woodnick, USA Gymnastics.

NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:

Alyssa Rice, Championships and Alliances.

Ryan Richardson, Championships and Alliances.

Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:

Stanley Broaden, Championships and Alliances.

Ben Brownlee, Championships and Alliances.

Julie Kimmons, Championships and Alliances.

Jennifer Mervar, Championships and Alliances.