



**REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION III MEN'S ICE HOCKEY COMMITTEE  
JUNE 3-4, 2019, MEETING**

**ACTION ITEMS.**

**1. Legislative items.**

- None.

**2. Nonlegislative items.**

**a. Automatic qualification.**

1. Recommendation. That the following eight conferences be approved for automatic qualification to the 2020 NCAA Division III Men's Ice Hockey Championship: Commonwealth Coast Conference, Massachusetts State Collegiate Athletic Conference, Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference, New England Hockey Conference, New England Small College Athletic Conference, Northern Collegiate Hockey Association, State University of New York Athletic Conference and the United Collegiate Hockey Conference.

Anticipated Pool Allocations

Pool A - 8

Pool B - 0

Pool C - 4

2. Effective date. September 1, 2019.
3. Rationale. Each conference meets the requirements of Bylaw 31.3.3 and has completed the automatic-qualification declaration form.
4. Estimated budget impact. None.
5. Student-athlete impact. None.

**b. Committee chair.**

1. Recommendation. That Tom Di Camillo, commissioner of the State University of New York Athletic Conference, serve as chair of the Division III Men's Ice Hockey Committee.
2. Effective date. September 1, 2019.
3. Rationale. Mr. Di Camillo has provided strong service as a veteran committee member and will be an integral part of the planning for the 2020 Division III Men's

Ice Hockey Championship to take place in Buffalo, New York.

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

### **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Agenda and meeting schedule.** The committee chair welcomed the committee members and reviewed the meeting schedule and agenda.
2. **Key actions of the NCAA Division III Championships Committee.** The committee reviewed actions the Championships Committee took in 2018-19 relevant to the work of the men's ice hockey committee, including approved initiatives for the 2019-21 budget cycle.
3. **2018 report.** The committee approved the 2018 annual meeting report as presented.
4. **2019 championship.**
  - **Championship surveys.** Committee members commended the host organizing committee on a successful championship. The experience in Stevens Point, Wisconsin marked a return to a non-predetermined host selection. Overall, the facility operations, banquet, and attendance were first-rate. For future non-predetermined championships, the committee acknowledged a need to actively educate student-athletes and school fan bases about the process for site determination. The committee also discussed ways to improve the postgame protocol and awards ceremony and to better assess facility ice conditions during the bid process.
5. **Review of American Hockey Coaches Association meeting.** The committee reviewed the report and rankings/selections presentation staff delivered to the Division III coaches during the April 2019 AHCA convention. Staff reported that the primary discussion concerned a review of the first year of the two-year pilot for the PairWise rankings and selections.
6. **Selection criteria.** The committee discussed the application of the first year of the two-year pilot for the PairWise rankings and selections. Overall, the committee was satisfied with the application of the PairWise (refer to the report of joint meeting with the Division III Women's Ice Hockey Committee).
7. **Officials update.** The committee met with Frank Cole, national coordinator of men's ice hockey officials, about officiating and player conduct issues. The committee affirmed the practice of assigning officials to the finals site based on conference alignment whenever

possible and confirmed the role of the officials site evaluator to lead the officials meeting held 80 minutes prior to the game.

- 8. 2020 automatic qualification (AQ) and pool allocation.** The committee reviewed AQ applications for the 2020 championship. (See Action Item 2-a.)
- 9. Sport strategic plan.** The committee began discussing a strategic plan for Division III men's ice hockey and drafted initial short-term goals and action steps.
- 10. 2023-26 host site selection process – bid specifications.** In preparation for the launch of the upcoming bid process, the committee reviewed and updated the bid specifications and facility requirements for a finals site host.
- 11. Concept – joint championship with Division I Men's Frozen Four.** The committee revisited the idea of a joint championship with Division I Men's Frozen Four. NCAA staff will initiate a review of key components such as a practice and competition schedule to discuss with the Division I Men's Ice Hockey Committee.
- 12. Joint discussion with Division III Women's Ice Hockey Committee.** The committee met with members of the Division III Women's Ice Hockey Committee to discuss several areas of common interest (refer to report of joint discussion).
- 13. 2019-20 committee calendar.** The committee reviewed the committee calendar for the 2019-20 season.
- 14. Review of championship manuals.** The committee briefly reviewed championship manuals but assigned members specific responsibilities to provide more focused feedback leading up to the 2019-20 season.
- 15. Other business.** None.

*Committee Chair:* Jared Phillips, Gustavus Adolphus University  
*Staff Liaison:* Liz Turner Suscha, Championships and Alliances

<b>Division III Men's Ice Hockey Committee June 3-4, 2019, Meeting</b>	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Craig Russell, Plymouth State University.	
Tom Di Camillo, State University of New York Athletic Conference.	
Jared Phillips, Gustavus Adolphus University.	

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Mike Szkodzinski, Lawrence University.
<b>Absentees:</b>
None.
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>
Frank Cole, Coordinator of Officials.
<b>NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:</b>
Laura Klee, Championships and Alliances.
Liz Turner Suscha, Championships and Alliances.
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>
None.