



**NCAA DIVISION I COMPETITION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
NCAA WOMEN'S ICE HOCKEY COMMITTEE
JULY 13, 2023, ANNUAL MEETING (VIA TELECONFERENCE)**

KEY ITEMS.

1. **Automatic qualification.** The NCAA Women's Ice Hockey Committee recommends automatic qualification for each of the five eligible conferences (see Action Item 2).

ACTION ITEMS.

1. **Legislative items.**

- **None.**

2. **Nonlegislative items.**

- **Automatic qualification.**

- (1) **Recommendation.** That the following five conferences receive automatic qualification for the 2024 National Collegiate Women's Ice Hockey Championship: College Hockey America, ECAC Hockey, Hockey East Association, New England Women's Hockey Alliance and Western Collegiate Hockey Association.
- (2) **Effective date.** The 2024 National Collegiate Women's Ice Hockey Championship.
- (3) **Rationale.** All five eligible conferences are being recommended.
- (4) **Estimated budget impact.** None.
- (5) **Student-athlete impact.** This will allow all the student-athletes competing in conferences to have the opportunity to qualify for the NCAA championship.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Review of 2023 championship.** The committee felt the 11-team bracket went well in its second year and will continue with the same format in 2023-24.

The survey results from the championship were extremely positive with the exception of the hotels. The committee discussed the ability for the top seed remaining to be able to select the hotel from the options secured by the NCAA.

2. **Selections.** The committee noted that for the most part the NCAA Percentage Index (NPI) went well and that everyone wanted to keep the formula the same before re-evaluating it prior to the 2024-25 season.

3. **Plan for 2024 championship.** The commissioners confirmed that all conference tournament games will be finished on Saturday, so ESPN has been asked to schedule an 11 a.m. or noon ET selection show.

For the 2024 championship, the committee decided to allow the host teams of the regionals to film the games in which they aren't participating. In addition, the committee felt that a midnight deadline of the day the tournament game was played was an appropriate timeline for game film to be uploaded into the national database.

4. **Championship format.** The committee discussed possibly inserting a bye week between regionals and the Frozen Four. They will investigate further with the coaches association to discern potential support.
5. **Officials.** The committee was informed that a new national coordinator of women's ice hockey officials has been selected and will be in place for the 2023-24 season.
6. **Rules committee update.** Since this is not a rules change year, there was no meeting with the rules committee.
7. **Gender-equity concerns.** The committee will meet with the Division I Men's Ice Hockey Committee in August to discuss gender-equity concerns.
8. **Sports sponsorship.** The committee acknowledged that the only change in sports sponsorship for next season is that Robert Morris will be an active member.
9. **Site selection standards.** The committee elected to add several minimum standards for regional hosts, including having a minimum of three locker rooms in the same building as the rink. In addition, they want to make sure all hotels are full service, have a meeting room that can accommodate 35 people for each team and that it is located within a reasonable distance from the rink.
10. **2024 annual meeting dates.** The committee confirmed they would like to go back to an in-person meeting at the same time as the rules committee meeting.

Committee Chair: *Jeremy Gibson, Merrimack College.*

Staff Liaison: *Mark Bedics, Championships and Alliances*

NCAA Women's Ice Hockey Committee July 13, 2023, Meeting (Via Teleconference)	
Attendees:	
Jeremy Gibson, Merrimack College.	
William Martinov, Long Island University.	
Cara Morey, Princeton University.	
Janine Oman, The Ohio State University.	
Britni Smith, Syracuse University.	
Absentees:	
None.	
Guests in Attendance:	

Andy Greene, ESPN.
Dan Margulis, ESPN.
NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:
Mark Bedics, Championships and Alliances.
Jackie Kawamoto, Championships and Alliances.
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:
Tommy Barrett, Championships and Alliances.