



REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION I WOMEN'S ROWING COMMITTEE  
JUNE 15-17, 2020, ANNUAL MEETING

**Action Item:** The NCAA Division I Competition Oversight Committee will consider a recommendation to approve automatic qualification for 11 conferences.

**KEY ITEMS.**

- None.

**ACTION ITEMS.**

**1. Legislative items.**

- None.

**2. Nonlegislative item.**

- **Automatic qualification.**

- (1) Recommendation. That the following 11 conferences receive automatic bids for the 2021 NCAA Division I Women's Rowing Championships: American Athletic Conference; Atlantic Coast Conference; Atlantic 10 Conference; Big Ten Conference; Big 12 Conference; Colonial Athletic Association; The Ivy League; Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference; Pac-12 Conference; Patriot League; and West Coast Conference.
- (2) Effective date. 2021 championships.
- (3) Rationale. All eligible conferences are being recommended.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

**1. Committee business.**

- a. 2019 annual meeting report. The Division I Women's Rowing Committee approved the 2019 annual meeting report as submitted.
- b. Committee operations manual. The committee reviewed the committee operations manual and made updates as needed.
- c. Committee timeline. The committee reviewed the timeline and made updates as needed.
- d. Committee term extension. The committee agreed to recommend a one-year term extension for Steve Pritzker. The committee is concerned with the lack of continuity and experience entering the 2020-21 academic year. The committee had three new committee members in 2019-20, and two more members' terms are to expire August 31. With the loss of this year's championships due to COVID-19, if this extension is not granted, only two committee members will have experience in selections and in the conduct of the championships.

*(NOTE: Subsequent to the meeting, the Division I Nominating Committee accepted and approved the extension of Mr. Pritzker's term. Following Nominating Committee approval, the committee selected him as chair via an email discussion August 5.)*

- e. Subcommittees. During the joint meeting, three subcommittees were formed with representation from each division: coxswain minimum weight review, announcer's protocol, and boat certification/weigh-in procedures.
2. **Rankings and selections.** The committee reviewed the regional alignments, noted regional advisory committee term expirations, discussed the request for proposal for reporting results and timing, reviewed the ranking procedures, reviewed selections policies and procedures, and discussed the ranking and automatic qualification declaration deadlines.
    - a. Regional alignment. The committee reviewed the regional alignments. No changes were needed.
    - b. Regional Advisory Committees. The committee reviewed the regional advisory committee roster and noted the inconsistencies in representation. The committee agreed if there are two or fewer conferences in a region that there be two representatives from each conference on the regional advisory committee. If there are three or more conferences, there will be one representative per region. These numbers will allow for healthy discussion on the ranking calls.
  3. **Strategic plan.** The committee reviewed the strategic plan for Division I women's rowing that it developed at last year's annual meeting. A few changes were made to the plan and the committee will work to implement the short-term and long-term goals.

#### 4. Preview of the 2021 championships.

- a. Preferred lanes. The committee confirmed the chevron pattern as the preferred lanes for Sarasota.
- b. Timing/Schedule. The committee agreed to keep the races on 12-minute centers and reviewed the schedule of events and made a few adjustments to practice times.
- c. Hotels. The committee discussed the hotels sourced for the championships. There are more full-service hotels sourced in 2021 than were available when the championships were held in Sarasota in 2018.
- d. Banquet. Staff presented to the committee that there will not be any banquets for championships in 2020-21 as a cost-saving measure due to COVID-19 cancellation of winter and spring championships.
- e. Chief referee. The committee agreed to support Kirsten Meisner to serve as the head referee since she was not able to fulfill her duties in 2020 due to the cancellation of spring championships.

#### 5. Adjournment.

*Committee Chair:* Kyle Conder, Southern Methodist University, American Athletic Conference  
*Staff Liaisons:* Kelly S. Whitaker, Championships and Alliances

NCAA Division I Women's Rowing Committee June 15-17, 2020, Meeting	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Kyle Conder, Southern Methodist University.	
Shelagh Donohoe, University of Rhode Island.	
Jessica Grasso, Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference.	
Tifini Grimes, University of Alabama.	
Wes Ng, University of Pennsylvania	
Steve Pritzker, University of Virginia.	
Jennifer Simon-O'Neill, University of California, Berkeley	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
None.	
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>	

None.
<b>NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:</b>
Kelly S. Whitaker, Championships and Alliances.
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>
None.