KEY ITEM.

- The committee selected Kyle Conder, senior associate director of athletics at Southern Methodist University, as the chair. (See Informational Item 1-b.)

ACTION ITEM.

- Nonlegislative item.
  
  o Automatic qualification.
    
    1. **Recommendation.** That the following 11 conferences receive automatic bids for the 2018 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.** Immediate.
    
    3. **Rationale.** All of the conferences listed have submitted paperwork signifying that they meet the requirements to be eligible for automatic qualification to the 2019 NCAA Division I Women’s Rowing Championships.
    
    4. **Estimated budget impact.** None.
    
    5. **Student-athlete impact.** None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Committee business.**

   a. **2017 annual meeting report.** The Division I Women’s Rowing Committee approved the 2017 annual meeting report as submitted.
b. Committee chair. The committee selected Kyle Conder, senior associate director of athletics at Southern Methodist University, as the chair. He replaces Jeff Smith, whose term expires at the end of August.

c. Regional advisory committee. The committee reviewed the regional advisory committee roster noting the terms expiring and that one member resigned from his campus position.

d. Committee timeline. The committee reviewed the timeline for 2019 and made updates as needed.

2. Rankings and selections.

a. Regional alignment. The committee reviewed the regional alignments. No changes were needed. The committee discussed a potential reclassifying institution into Division I.

b. Results reporting. The committee discussed the results reporting system that is provided by Row2K. The contract with Row2K expires September 1. The committee developed a list of vendors and updated the scope of work for the request for proposal that will go out later in the summer.

c. Ranking and selection procedures. The committee reviewed the ranking and selection procedures. No changes were made. The committee discussed the importance of following the order of procedures to make efficient use of time.


a. General overview. Despite the challenges of the event, including the inclement weather, the committee agreed the competition was fair and the schedule changes made for the best experience possible. The committee offered suggestions for the host when the championship returns in 2021.

b. Banquet. The committee felt the banquet did not meet the expectations of the participants. Members emphasized the importance of having enhancements and a keynote speaker.

c. Credentials/wristbands. The committee expressed that there needs to be better team area security. Entry points must be adequately staffed at all times the park is open. The committee reaffirmed that four additional credentials for team personnel are the maximum a team can purchase (at the cost of all-session ticket).

d. Competition schedule. The committee reviewed the championships schedule and agreed to continue 12-minute centers for the racing schedule.
e. **Hotels.** The committee discussed the lack of full-service hotels. The participating teams prefer full service. This will not be an issue in 2019 in Indianapolis as full-service hotels have been secured. It is an item of concern for hotel negotiations in Oak Ridge in 2020 and Sarasota when the championships return in 2021 and 2022.

f. **Catering.** The committee commended staff for securing a catering option for participating schools. Since full-service hotels have been secured in Indianapolis, a catering option does not need to be secured. Committee members directed staff to explore options in Oak Ridge and Sarasota.

g. **Officials/chief referee.** The committee was very pleased with Tiffany Knapp as the chief referee again this year. She did a great job of coordinating all the officials and working with all the institutions to create a smooth championship experience. The committee reviewed the report from the chief referee and listed items to discuss during the joint meeting with Divisions II and III. The committee supports continuing using four chief deputies.

h. **Fairness committee.** The committee affirmed that the objective of the fairness subcommittee is to monitor and evaluate current situations to make recommendations to the full committee. However, the full committee is still responsible for deciding matters of fairness (i.e., lane changes, schedule changes, etc.).

i. **In-venue production.** The committee was pleased with the video production. The committee did not like the location of the videoboard so close to the finish line. When the championships return to Sarasota, the committee would like for the board to be placed on the other side of the spectator area (up course). The committee liked the awards trailer but directed staff to work with hosts to ensure better support in the setup and presentation of the awards.

The committee discussed the announcers and support using female announcers when available. The committee agreed to extend invitations to Adrienne McConnell and Mary Whipple to serve as two of the three public address announcers for 2019. Staff was directed to ask next year’s host if there is a local person they would like to secure. If there is not a local recommendation, members suggested checking the availability of the announcer who worked the Ivy League championship.

j. **Webcast.** The addition of the drone was well received, and the committee directed staff to work with the streaming provider to continue drone coverage in the future. The committee stressed the importance of the video streaming for the event and to continue exploring ways to improve the coverage. The committee also encouraged staff to discuss with the broadcast partner a backup plan if the drone is grounded due to weather conditions (which occurred on Day 2 of the championships).
At the time of the meeting the final viewing numbers were not known. Once they are published they will be forwarded to the committee for review.

k. Future improvements. The committee wants to explore ways to enhance the videoboard production (in venue) and the broadcast production. The committee directed staff to explore a way to have a team scoring tracker embedded in the production.

4. 2019 championships preview.
   
a. Preferred lanes. The course in Indianapolis uses a chevron formation for preferred lanes.

b. Review of progressions. The committee discussed progressions and reviewed a suggestion it received from the College Rowing Coaches Association (CRCA). The committee carefully considered the suggestion; however, there was not a compelling argument to change from the current format which adequately allows the national champion to be determined.

c. Boat weigh-in/certification. The committee discussed the current format of boat certifications prior to launching. Members also discussed the current FISA protocols for weighing boats. The committee will send a survey to the CRCA to distribute to the coaching body for feedback regarding the two options. Once feedback is received, the committee will reconvene to discuss which option should be employed in future championships.

   The committee decided that the on-call scales technician should be within 15 or 20 minutes from the venue.

5. Automatic qualification. The committee reviewed the automatic qualification applications and approved the ones that were submitted (see action item above). The Colonial Athletic Association is will be in year two of the grace period in the 2018-19 academic year.

6. Review of championship manuals. The committee reviewed the various manuals and made minor editorial updates as needed.

7. Future meeting date. The 2019 meeting will take place June 17-19.

Committee Chair: Jeff Smith, University of Massachusetts, Amherst; Atlantic 10 Conference
Staff Liaison(s): Kelly S. Whitaker, Championships and Alliances
| NCAA Division I Women’s Rowing Committee  
| June 11-13, 2018, Meeting |
| **Attendees:** |
| Wendy Bordeau, Dartmouth College. |
| Kyle Conder, Southern Methodist University. |
| Glenn Putyrae, Gonzaga University. |
| Lily Rodriguez, Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference. |
| Kemp Savage, Eastern Michigan University. |
| **Absentees:** |
| Steve Pritzker, University of Virginia. |
| Jeff Smith, University of Massachusetts, Amherst. |
| **Guests in Attendance:** |
| Tiffany Knapp, head official. |
| **NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:** |
| Kelly S. Whitaker, Championships and Alliances. |
| Ethan Walker, Championships and Alliances. |
| **Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:** |
| None. |