



REPORT OF THE  
NCAA MEN'S AND WOMEN'S SKIING COMMITTEE  
JUNE 16-17, 2021, MEETING

**Action and Information Items:** The Division I Competition Oversight Committee will receive an update on key items from the Men's and Women's Skiing Committee annual meeting and will be asked to approve recommended host sites for the 2021 regionals.

**KEY ITEMS.**

1. **2022 regional site selections.** The committee recommended regional sites for the 2022 championships, following recommendations made within each of the three skiing regions. These sites are selected annually by each of the region institutions on a rotating basis (see Action Item 2a).

**ACTION ITEMS.**

1. **Legislative items.**

- None.

2. **Nonlegislative items.**

- a. **2022 regional site selections.**

- (1) Recommendation. That the 2022 West Region Championships be held at Steamboat Springs, February 24-26 and hosted by the University of Colorado Boulder; that the 2022 East Region Championships be held at the Jackson XC Touring Center and Canon Mountain on February 25-26 and hosted by the University of New Hampshire; and that the 2022 Central Region Championships be held at the Grand Avenue Nordic Center in Duluth, MN on February 26-27 and hosted by the College of Saint Scholastica.
- (2) Effective date. 2022 championships.
- (3) Rationale. The regionals are selected on a rotating basis by each of the region institutions, and these were the only bids received. In addition, there is no formal budget process, as the host institutions receive a set stipend for hosting. These institutions have all hosted successful events previously.

(4) Estimated budget impact. The stipend is \$3,500 per region.

(5) Student-athlete impact. Each of the venues will provide a top-caliber facility and experience for the competing student-athletes.

### **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

- 1. Review agenda and meeting schedule.** The committee reviewed the annual meeting agenda and schedule.
- 2. Strategic plan.** The committee reviewed and made appropriate adjustments to the NCAA Skiing strategic plan.
- 3. Approval of 2020 meeting report.** The committee reviewed and approved the 2020 meeting report as presented.
- 4. Review of 2021 championships.** The committee discussed the 2021 championships hosted by the University of New Hampshire at Cannon Mountain and the Jackson XC Touring Center.

The committee thanked UNH for all of its hard work to make sure the championship went smoothly even with all of the extra COVID-19 protocols in place. The committee noted the comments on the evaluations related to technique issues at Nordic and discussed the possibility of adding cameras/filming. The committee would like to add a working group to explore video control for skating infractions, in addition discuss striding zones and whether they should be mandatory or decided by the jury, which would include Eliska Albrigtsen of the University of Alaska Fairbanks, Tom Smith of Michigan Technological University, Jana Weinberger of the University of Colorado Boulder, Fredrik Landstedt of the University of Utah and Braydon Osgood of Dartmouth College.

- 5. 2022 championships updates.** The committee discussed the 2022 championships, which will be hosted by the University of Utah at the Park City and Soldier Hollow. Committee members discussed the draft schedule of events for the championship, noting they want to move the championship banquet to Monday evening since all of the teams are already in attendance and it would move it away from the night before the first day of competition.

The committee felt that the virtual coaches meetings during the 2021 championship were effective and they would like to keep them in place in the future to avoid having all of the coaches travel to one location. They would like to conduct one in-person meeting on Tuesday night and have the remainder of the meetings virtual.

- 6. Qualification/selection process.** As the 2020 championships were not completed due to COVID-19 and the 2021 championships were held without full participation from the East schools, the committee made no adjustments to the championship allocations. The championship allocations for Alpine will be split evenly between the East and West regions for both men and women in 2022, with each region being allotted 17 spots per gender. Nordic allocations for 2022 will be as follows: Central region men: 8 spots; Central region women: 7 spots; East region men: 15 spots; East region women: 16 spots; West region men: 17 spots; West region women: 17 spots.

Additionally, committee members noted the revised process for international student-athletes to obtain USSA licenses and confirmed that unlicensed student-athletes will not be permitted to compete in the championships.

- 7. Membership proposals.** The committee reviewed four proposals from the membership. The first was a presentation by Molly Peters and Nathan Alsobrook to the committee on having men and women race the same distance at the NCAA Championships. The committee was supportive of the concept and asked that each region hold this type of competition at least once during the regular season in 2021-22. The main concern of adoption at this point is the lack of student-athlete input. Many of the top competitors also compete internationally and the new proposal would ultimately have them competing at distances the student-athletes aren't accustomed.

The second was a presentation by Colorado head coach Andy LeRoy discussed adding a dual slalom in alpine and a sprint event in nordic at the 2024 Championships in Steamboat Springs, Colorado. The committee was interested and wanted to investigate the additional cost.

No action was taken on the other two proposals, which included moving the NCAA Championship dates and increasing the number of student-athletes allowed to compete in regular season events.

- 8. Fluorinated Ski Testing.** The committee voted that they wanted to continue a ban of fluoro on skis for both alpine and Nordic at the championships.
- 9. FISU age restrictions.** The committee discussed the policy and did not take any action.
- 10. 2021-22 sponsorship.** The committee reviewed the most recent sport sponsorship listings.
- 11. Regional information.** The committee discussed recent regional meetings for the Central, East and West Regions and committee members gave relevant updates from those regional discussions.

**12. Future dates and sites.** The committee was reminded of the sites that were selected for the 2023-26 championships last Fall.

**13. Webcast review.** The committee discussed the webcast of the championships and felt it was very well done especially within the confines of COVID-19 restrictions.

**14. Rules discussion.** The committee met with Ben Brownlee, assistant director of playing rules and officiating, to review and discuss relevant modifications to the NCAA Skiing Rules Modifications document. Mr. Brownlee and Fredrik Landstedt, NCAA Skiing Rules Interpreter, discussed needed updates to the modifications with the committee.

Edits to championship manuals and publications were suggested and changes will be made to the modifications document after approval by the Playing Rules Oversight Panel.

**15. National committee composition.** The committee noted that there will be one new member next year from the Central Region replacing Sten Fjeldheim, who retired effective July 1. In addition, it was noted that Brian Blank's term is set to expire September 1, but a request has been made to extend Mr. Blank's term for one year.

The committee also briefly discussed the composition of the committee and the desire for equal committee representation with regard to disciplines and regions.

**16. Review committee timeline.** The committee discussed the 2020-21 timeline and staff will update with key dates for the 2021-22 academic year.

**17. Manual review.** Each member of the committee volunteered to review and recommend appropriate updates to one of the following manuals: committee operations, host operations, participant and pre-championships manuals.

**18. 2022 annual meeting dates.** The committee determined that its 2022 annual meeting dates will be the afternoons of June 14-15 and will be held both in-person for those who want to travel to Indianapolis and virtually for those who can't make the trip.

*Committee Chair:* Peter Dodge, Dartmouth College, Ivy League

*Staff Liaison(s):* Mark Bedics, Championships and Alliances

<b>NCAA Men's and Women's Skiing Committee June 16-17, 2021, Meeting</b>
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<b>Attendees:</b>
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Brian Blank, University of New Hampshire.
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Kim Bownes, Plymouth State University.
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Peter Dodge, Dartmouth College.
Sten Fjeldheim, Northern Michigan University.
Eliska Albrigtsen, University of Alaska, Anchorage.
Fredrik Landstedt, University of Utah.
Jana Weinberger, University of Colorado, Boulder.
<b>Absentees:</b>
None.
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>
Nathan Alsobrook, Bowdoin College
Andy LeRoy, University of Colorado, Boulder.
Molly Peters, Saint Michael's College
<b>NCAA Staff Liaison (or Staff Support if subcommittee) in Attendance:</b>
John Baldwin, Championships and Alliances.
Nancy O'Hara, Championships and Alliances.
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>
Ben Brownlee, Championships and Alliances.