



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA MEN'S AND WOMEN'S SKIING COMMITTEE
JUNE 7 and 13, 2023, ANNUAL MEETING (VIRTUAL)**

KEY ITEMS.

- 1. 2024 regional site selections.** The committee recommended regional sites for the 2024 championships, following recommendations made within each of the three regions. These sites are selected annually by each region's institutions on a rotating basis (see Action Item 2.a).
- 2. Nordic equal distance.** The committee agreed in 2022 to standardize equal distances for the men's and women's Nordic races. In 2023, the men and women each raced a 20K distance at the championship, and the committee has approved a distance of 7.5K for the shorter of the two Nordic races at the 2024 championships.
- 3. Add Nordic sprint event to championship.** The committee is recommending the addition of a Nordic sprint event, which would increase the number of events at the NCAA Championships to five total events (two Alpine and three Nordic). (See Action Item 2.b)

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative items.

- None.

2. Nonlegislative items.

a. 2024 regional site selections.

- (1) Recommendation. Approve the following sites and hosts for the 2024 regional championships:

Region	Dates	Venue	Host
West	February 22-25	Big Sky Resort (A) and Crosscut Mountain (N)	Montana State
Central	February 24-25	Michigan Tech Trails (N)	Michigan Tech
East	February 23-24	Middlebury Snowbowl (A) and Rikert Outdoor Center (N)	Middlebury

- (2) Effective date. 2024 championships.

- (3) Rationale. The regionals are selected on a rotating basis by each region's 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.

b. Nordic Sprint event.

- 1. Recommendation. Add a Nordic sprint event to the NCAA skiing championships.
- 2. Effective date. 2025 championship.
- 3. Rationale. The Nordic sprint is a discipline consistently being contested at all levels of the sport, including the World Cup, the Olympics, and the World Championships. These events are commonly composed of the sprint, an individual start, and a mass start race. Adding sprint would bring the NCAA in alignment with the events in which most of the NCAA student-athletes regularly compete.

The addition would not only enhance the excitement of the championship with a fast-paced event to balance out the distance races in cross country skiing but would also assist student-athletes in their training and development for success at the professional levels. It will grow the promotion of the sport and increase participation within the membership.

The committee agreed on a proposed schedule of events (appendix A) that would fit within the current four-day format and a modified scoring system (appendix B) keeping the total amount of points that can be earned in Alpine and Nordic disciplines equal with regard to the team scoring.

- 4. Estimated budget impact. Approximately \$13,000 annually, including \$5,000 for facility and staffing costs, \$1021.60 for awards (16 total mini-trophies), and \$7,000 for web stream costs (that do not come out of skiing budget but is still an increase in costs). *Note: the total awards for the championship have been lowered from four team awards, down to top three and so the reduction of one team trophy is not included in this impact.*

There is no financial increase for travel or per diem since there are no additional athletes and no changes to the overall length of the championship. Currently all

selected athletes in alpine ski both slalom events and all selected athletes in nordic ski both events and so with adding another event, especially a short sprint race, the nordic skiers would ski all three events, something that is commonly done in their competitions.

5. Student-athlete impact. For the Nordic student-athletes, having a third event in which to compete will enhance their overall championship experience.

Not only will the additional event create a championship experience that the student-athletes commonly experience in other championship-level events, but the sprint event will be one of, if not the most exciting race at championships for the student-athletes – again enhancing the overall experience for everyone involved.

c. Committee Chair.

6. Recommendation. That John Dwyer, head women's alpine coach at Dartmouth College, be named committee chair for 2023-2024.
7. Effective date. September 1, 2023.
8. Rationale. The committee had been chaired by Plymouth State University Athletic Director Kim Bownes for the past two years, but she concluded her time on the committee in 2022-23 and will roll off the committee on September 1, 2023.

The committee is only made up of six members, all of which are coaches and so the committee has selected John Dwyer as the next committee chair.

9. Estimated budget impact. None.
10. Student-athlete impact. None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Review agenda and meeting schedule.** The committee reviewed the annual meeting agenda and schedule.
2. **Approve 2022 annual meeting report.** The committee reviewed and approved the 2022 annual meeting report as presented.
3. **Review of the 2023 championship.** The committee discussed the 2023 championship hosted by St. Lawrence University in Lake Placid, New York. Members reviewed participant, host, and committee survey responses from the championships indicating that the championships went

very well overall. The committee did identify areas for enhancement from previous years that will be implemented into future championships.

4. **2024 championship updates.** The committee discussed the 2024 championship, which will be hosted by the University of Colorado, Boulder, in Steamboat Springs, Colorado. Committee members discussed some early details of the championship and also some concerns over limited lodging options.
5. **Nordic equal distance.** The committee discussed and finalized the distances for the men's and women's Nordic races at the NCAA championships. Prior to agreeing to moving to equal distances, the women would race 5K and 15K distances while the men would race 10K and 20K distances.

In 2022, the committee took the first step in making the longer race 20K for the men and the women but keeping the shorter of the races at 5K for the women and 10K for the men. Moving forward the committee has agreed that the men and the women will race 7.5K and 20K distances.

6. **Regional allocations.** The committee reviewed the allocation formula and approved the allocations for the 2024 championships. For Alpine, in accordance with the rule that no region can earn more than 50% of the total allocation, there will be 17 spots for the East and 17 for the West for both men and women. For Nordic men and women, the East and the West will have 17 spots each, while the Central will have six each.
7. **US Ski and Snowboard certifications/licenses.** The committee discussed improving the member process for certification and licenses for all NCAA student-athletes participating in the championships.
8. **Nordic sprint event addition to championship.** The committee agreed to recommend adding a fifth championship event, the Nordic sprint (see Action Item 2-b). The committee discussed and approved a new schedule, scoring breakdown, and other logistics – including the financial impact – for the addition of a fifth event.
9. **2026-2030 bid process.** The committee reviewed the upcoming bid process and approved the bid specs, while noting some follow-up that could be needed with each of the sites that submit bids.
10. **Awards.** The committee discussed the awards program for skiing and enhancements that can be made and changes being made for the 2024 championships.
11. **Rules.** The committee met with Ben Brownlee, assistant director of playing rules and officiating, to discuss minor edits to the NCAA rules book and other topics within rules and championship operations.

12. National committee. The committee noted there will be two new members in 2023-24, as Tracey Cote (Colby) and Chad Wolk (Colorado, Boulder) have been named to the committee.

Additionally, the committee has selected John Dwyer (Dartmouth) to serve as committee chair for the 2023-24 academic year.

Committee Chair: Kim Bownes, Plymouth State University
Staff Liaison(s): Kevin Alcox, Championships and Alliances

NCAA Men's and Women's Skiing Committee June 7 and 13, 2023, Annual Meeting (Virtual)	
Attendees:	
Eliska Albrigtsen, University of Alaska Fairbanks.	
Kim Bownes, Plymouth State University.	
John Dwyer, Dartmouth College.	
Fredrik Landstedt, University of Utah.	
William Reichelt, University of Vermont.	
Tom Smith, Michigan Technological University.	
Jana Weinberger, University of Colorado, Boulder.	
Absentees:	
None.	
Guests in Attendance:	
None.	
NCAA Staff Liaison (or Staff Support if subcommittee) in Attendance:	
Ben Brownlee, Championships and Alliances.	
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:	
None.	

APPENDIX A – PROPOSED SCHEDULE

The committee agreed upon a proposed schedule that would include the third nordic event.

DAY ONE: WEDNESDAY

Alpine - Giant Slalom Race

Nordic - 7.5K Race (rotate between Freestyle and Classical)

DAY TWO: THURSDAY

Alpine – Practice Day

Nordic – Sprint Race

DAY THREE: FRIDAY

Alpine – Slalom Race

Nordic – Practice Day

DAY FOUR: SATURDAY

Alpine – Make-up Day if necessary

Nordic – 20K Race (rotate between Freestyle and Classical)

Summary of schedule

The current schedule is similar with Alpine races on Wednesday and Friday and Nordic on Thursday and Saturday. This would remain the same with the new Sprint Race being added to Thursday and the 7.5K being moved to Wednesday.

This allows the athletes to train and practice on Tuesday for the 7.5K distance. They can then compete on Thursday with no recovery due to the nature of the short, quick race. The nordic athletes will then have time to recover and train on Friday for the 20K race on Saturday.

As for alpine, the schedule provides them a built in make-up day as the most common delays occur in alpine. Though rare, if there is too much snow or too much sun, the race course can become dangerous and require a delay to the next day. The schedule would allow for a built in make-up day on both Thursday and Saturday should we need it.

APPENDIX B – PROPOSED SCORING

The committee agreed upon a new scoring system that would be used to name its team national champion. The current scoring system awards points to the top 30 finishers in each event with the champion of an event earning 40 points and 30th place earning one point. Each athlete is able to compete in all races within their discipline. So, a women's alpine racer could win both events and score 80 points for her team.

The goal would be to keep that maximum point total toward the team scoring in nordic as well. So, an athlete that wins all three of their nordic races would still total 80 points. This would mean that each race would be equal to two-thirds of the previous point totals. Here is breakdown of all the scoring for the races and finishing places.

Alpine Scoring			
	Individual Start	Mass Start	Total
Place	Points	Points	Points
1	40	40	80
2	37	37	74
3	34	34	68
4	31	31	62
5	29	29	58
6	27	27	54
7	25	25	50
8	23	23	46
9	22	22	44
10	21	21	42
11	20	20	40
12	19	19	38
13	18	18	36
14	17	17	34
15	16	16	32
16	15	15	30
17	14	14	28
18	13	13	26
19	12	12	24
20	11	11	22
21	10	10	20
22	9	9	18
23	8	8	16
24	7	7	14
25	6	6	12
26	5	5	10
27	4	4	8
28	3	3	6
29	2	2	4
30	1	1	2

Nordic Scoring				
	Sprint	Individual Start	Mass Start	Total
Place	Points	Points	Points	Points
1	26.67	26.67	26.67	80.00
2	24.67	24.67	24.67	74.00
3	22.67	22.67	22.67	68.00
4	20.67	20.67	20.67	62.00
5	19.33	19.33	19.33	58.00
6	18.00	18.00	18.00	54.00
7	16.67	16.67	16.67	50.00
8	15.33	15.33	15.33	46.00
9	14.67	14.67	14.67	44.00
10	14.00	14.00	14.00	42.00
11	13.33	13.33	13.33	40.00
12	12.67	12.67	12.67	38.00
13	12.00	12.00	12.00	36.00
14	11.33	11.33	11.33	34.00
15	10.67	10.67	10.67	32.00
16	10.00	10.00	10.00	30.00
17	9.33	9.33	9.33	28.00
18	8.67	8.67	8.67	26.00
19	8.00	8.00	8.00	24.00
20	7.33	7.33	7.33	22.00
21	6.67	6.67	6.67	20.00
22	6.00	6.00	6.00	18.00
23	5.33	5.33	5.33	16.00
24	4.67	4.67	4.67	14.00
25	4.00	4.00	4.00	12.00
26	3.33	3.33	3.33	10.00
27	2.67	2.67	2.67	8.00
28	2.00	2.00	2.00	6.00
29	1.33	1.33	1.33	4.00
30	0.67	0.67	0.67	2.00