



REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION I MEN'S SOCCER COMMITTEE
JANUARY 30, 2023, MEETING

KEY ITEMS.

1. **21st Century Model.** The committee continues to monitor the status of the 21st Century Model, hoping it can be voted on soon.
2. **Due diligence on items.** The committee is gathering information on more nonlegislative action items to be submitted, including adjusting the first-/second-round dates, automatic qualifier approvals, and enhanced hosting requirements.

ACTION ITEMS.

1. **Legislative items.**
 - None.
2. **Nonlegislative items.**
 - None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Review agenda and meeting schedule.** The committee approved the agenda and meeting schedule and made no adjustments.
2. **2022 committee meeting report.** The committee approved the 2022 meeting report as submitted.
3. **Review of 2022 championship.**
 - a. **Preliminary-round feedback.** The committee would like a more detailed summary of responses and from what round they are received. The committee discussed reviewing preliminary-round host site minimum standards to enhance the student athlete experience throughout the championship. The committee will review the host operations manual as well as bid specifications to determine if adjustments are needed. The committee also agreed it should be mandatory to implement the video exchange during the entirety of the NCAA championship. This would mirror the video exchange that the Coaches Association already implements in the regular season. This will create consistency throughout the tournament.

- b. **Men's College Cup – Cary, North Carolina.** The committee was pleased with the overall performance of the 2022 championship. Future recommendations include more parking options or enhanced organization of the parking available. The committee would like to have more signage targeting the town of Cary to market not only the championship but also the community. The committee would like to add the countdown clock to all locker rooms, as it is a somewhat inexpensive purchase. The committee was very pleased with the additional day of rest throughout the championship.
- c. **Student-athlete banquet.** The committee approved moving the student-athlete banquet from Thursday (which is also the practice day and the day before the competition) to Wednesday night. This will decompress the schedule and allow for a much better experience for the student-athletes. Given the time of year, it will also help with venue options as Wednesdays are less in demand than Thursdays for holiday parties. The committee also noted that several other championships already hold their student-athlete banquets two days prior to the competition (including softball, men's lacrosse, men's/women's golf, FCS football and men's/women's cross country). The NCAA travel department also noted that most teams are already arriving on Wednesday, which is an option that has traditionally been automatically approved. Accordingly, the committee believes moving the banquet will not cause an increase in expenses.
- d. **Broadcast/ESPN.** The committee reviewed information from ESPN and broadcast liaisons and noted that the ratings were up from the 2021 championship.
- e. **Misconduct.** The committee reviewed various misconducts and concluded that each situation was handled appropriately.

4. Officiating.

- **Evaluations.** The committee wants to revisit how officials are selected and advanced throughout the tournament. The committee discussed protecting referees and potentially recommending to the rules committee to enforce better conduct among coaches, players and officials. The National Coordinator of Officials was not able to join the meeting virtually due to other sessions running long. The committee will conduct a videoconference with the national coordinator at some point before the start of next season.

5. Selection process and evaluation of teams.

- a. **Selection weekend.** The committee agreed to continue arriving for the selection meeting on Saturday to conduct its preliminary work. The committee finds this is helpful for new committee members to acclimate to the selection processes.

- b. **Automatic qualifying conferences.** Due to the submission deadline being set at the end of February, the committee could not review the automatic qualification forms at this meeting but will do so soon.
- c. **Selection criteria.** The committee reviewed the selection criteria and talked at length about the Rating Percentage Index and the formula currently used. The committee would like to keep the current selection criteria but continues to evaluate other metrics such as the KPI. The committee in fact received a presentation on the KPI and ELO.

6. Site review/format/long-range planning.

- a. **2023 Championship in Louisville, KY.** With the 2023 championship taking place in Louisville, the committee is excited about the venue and potential for increased attendance. The committee is interested in finding out practice field options noting that a minimum of 45 minutes between matches will be needed.
- b. **Future championship sites.** The committee reviewed the future sites and discussed the upcoming bid cycle for 2026-30.
- c. **Format.** The committee is gathering more data to inform a potential adjustment to the first- and second-round dates to better spread out those rounds. This may also allow for selections to be adjusted.

7. Pre-championship, host operations and site representative manuals. The committee will provide staff with necessary updates. The committee will review verbiage in the host ops manual as well as other items in a subsequent meeting. The committee agrees that how ties calculate into the RPI could be better explained in the pre-championship manual and that the actual numerical value of bonuses and penalties could be included.

8. Committee.

- a. **National and regional advisory committee composition/vacancies.** The committee reviewed upcoming committee vacancies and NCAA staff will contact conferences whose RAC members' terms have expired to nominate replacements in late summer. The committee will be reviewing the RAC composition once the automatic qualifiers have been set and recommended adjustments as needed.
- b. **Officiating subcommittee.** The committee agreed to maintain the officiating subcommittee and appoint the chair and all other coaches to this group. This group will serve for the coming year and will coordinate continuing education, evaluation and selection efforts.

- c. **Committee chair.** The committee approved Tanya Vogel, director of athletics at George Washington University, as the chair beginning September 1, 2023. Ms. Vogel will replace current chair, Simon Gray, director of athletics at Niagara University, when Mr. Gray's term on the committee expires August 31.
- d. **2022-23 committee calendar.** Selections for the 2023 championship will be November 11-13 in Indianapolis. The 2023 annual meeting is tentatively scheduled for January 29 or 30 but will be coordinated with the women's annual meeting.
- e. **Joint session.** The men's and women's committees met jointly and heard from NCAA staff regarding the Division I Transformation Committee's recommendation regarding a sport management governance model that would create oversight committees by sport in addition to the existing championship committees. The Men's and Women's Soccer Committees cited a preference for having separate oversight committees for each gender and will provide that feedback as requested.

The committees appreciated the opportunity to meet jointly as members feel these sessions enhance consistency and collaboration with efforts to provide the best possible championship experience.

Committee Chair: Simon Gray, Niagara University, MAAC
Staff Liaison(s): Ryan Tressel, Championships and Alliances

NCAA Division I Men's Soccer Committee January 30, 2023, Meeting	
Attendees:	
Simon Gray, Niagara University.	
Bob Butehorn, University of South Florida.	
Tim Bernal, University of Kentucky.	
Michael Seabolt, Missouri State University.	
Tanya Vogel, George Washington University.	
Carlos Somona, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.	
Jessica Goerke, University of California, Santa Barbara.	
Absentees:	
Sybil Blalock, Mercer University.	
Guests in Attendance:	
Patricia Hughes, United Soccer Coaches Association.	
Daniel Margulis, Michael Feinberg, Khari Chimes & Andrew Green, ESPN.	
William Davis and Scott Dupree, Town of Cary.	
Mario Kovacevic, RANKR.	

NCAA Staff Liaison in Attendance:
Ryan Tressel, Championships and Alliances.
Sadie Foster, Championships and Alliances.
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:
Matt Holmes, Championships and Alliances.
Danielle Romero, Championships and Alliances.
Aimee Hartman, Championships and Alliances.
Tommy Barrett, Championships and Alliances.
Miriam Jaber, Championships and Alliances.
Will Hopkins, Championships and Alliances.