



**REPORT OF THE  
DIVISION II MEN'S AND WOMEN'S SOCCER COMMITTEES  
JANUARY 27, 2020, JOINT MEETING**

**KEY ITEMS.**

- **Budget request.** The Division II Men's and Women's Soccer Committees, as part of the triennial budget cycle, are requesting additional funds to provide officials' headsets for all rounds of the men's and women's soccer championships.

**ACTION ITEMS.**

- **None.**

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Approval of 2019 joint committee report.** The committees reviewed and approved the 2019 joint meeting report as submitted.
2. **Championships review.** The committees discussed the 2019 championships held in Pittsburgh. Both committees agreed that the championships were conducted smoothly and appreciated the work the city of Pittsburgh put in to create a memorable student-athlete experience. The committee also provided feedback to staff on how to continue to improve the championships experience and for those items to be considered for future championships.
3. **Preview of 2020 championships.** The committees discussed the 2020 championships, which will be held on the campus of the University of Tampa. The committees reviewed bid information that was available and noted that off-campus training fields may be necessary, as the competition field is natural grass. Staff will work with Tampa to determine options that are available. The committees also agreed to adjust the time of the second championship match to three and one-half hours after the first so that teams are not rushed on or off the field. This will allow the champions crowned in the first match to enjoy the experience, while also ensuring the teams in the second game have enough warm-up time.
4. **Coaches Connection.** The committee members all agreed that the connections program has been a great addition and successful in engaging the membership. They requested that staff share the minutes from these meetings with them each month, so they are well informed of discussions taking place.
5. **Video exchange review.** The committees agreed that the video exchange program requires more structure in future years. Staff will research ways that this process can be streamlined and more efficient for competing teams and host institutions.

6. **Selection criteria.** The committees reviewed the current selection criteria and best practices for using this information on their rankings and selections calls. Specifically, they reviewed the Performance Indicator and a suggestion from members of the women's committee on how to possibly improve this criterion with some minor adjustments to point values provided for wins, losses and draws. Both committees will continue to review these suggestions, with the goal of determining if they would like to propose these updates in June.
7. **Division II governance update.** Terri Steeb Gronau joined the committees to provide a NCAA governance update, including legislative outcomes from the NCAA convention.
8. **Playing rules update.** The committees were joined by Ashlee Follis from the NCAA rules staff who reviewed the recently completed rules survey. Ms. Follis reminded the committees that it is a rule change year and results from the survey will help the Soccer Rules Committee determine possible changes for the 2020 and 2021 rules book. Ms. Follis asked for feedback from the committee on the survey results, specifically regarding the limiting of substitutions and elimination of overtime in the regular season.

The committees do not support changes to the substitution rules at this time, stating that the ability to provide increased participation is important, particularly at the Divisions II and III level.

In regards to the elimination of overtime, the committees noted that 70 percent of coaches who responded to the survey support eliminating overtime, which indicates to the committees that it is worth serious consideration. The committees were split in their individual opinions on the matter. Some members believe it adds excitement to the collegiate game, while others argued that eliminating overtime would be a positive health and safety step to increase rest and recovery for student-athletes.

The committees noted further discussion is necessary to determine if eliminating overtime in the regular season would affect the overtime policy for the postseason, particularly whether the current "golden goal" procedure should continue or whether the full length of overtime should be used to determine an advancing team. Committee members also noted how eliminating overtime in the regular season could complicate the selection process, as more ties would impact the evaluation of teams. The committees agreed they would need to continue their due diligence in evaluating the selection criteria, regardless of whether a change occurs.

9. **Future host bids.** The committees discussed the future host bids process that is currently underway and reviewed bids that have been submitted so far. Staff will continue to update the committees on upcoming deadlines and a timeline of further discussion to finalize recommendations.

**10. Triennial budget request.** The committees discussed the upcoming budget cycle and formally agreed to request funds to provide communication devices for officials during all preliminary-round competition.

**11. Future meeting dates.** The committees agreed to conduct their 2021 annual meeting January 25-26 at the NCAA national office in Indianapolis.

*Committee Chairs:* Phil Billeci-Gard, Dominican University of California.  
 Jim Moore, Georgian Court University.  
*Staff Liaison(s):* Eric Breece, Championships and Alliances.  
 John Kuzio, Championships and Alliances.

<b>Division II Men's and Women's Soccer Committees January 27, 2020, Joint Meeting</b>
<b>Attendees:</b>
Terence Beattie, West Chester University of Pennsylvania.
Jennifer Bell, Converse College.
Phil Billeci-Gard, Dominican University of California.
Jason Carmichael, California State University, East Bay.
Larry Carpenter, Lee University.
Matt Cochran, Northeastern State University.
Wade Jean, Saint Michael's College.
Michael Koehler, Rockhurst University.
Mark McKeever, Young Harris College.
Brian McMahan, Palm Beach Atlantic University.
Gary Kagiavas, Edinboro University of Pennsylvania.
Kelley Kish, Lake Erie College.
Chad Markuson, Minnesota State University, Moorhead.
James Moore, Georgian Court University.
Neil Piper, Texas A&M University-Commerce.
<b>Absentees:</b>
Claudio Arias; Texas A&M International University.
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>
Terri Steeb Gronau, Division II Governance.
<b>NCAA Staff Liaison (or Staff Support if subcommittee) in Attendance:</b>
Eric Breece, Championships.
John Kuzio. Championships.
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>
Nikki Buchanan, Championships.