

NCAA Division II Men's Soccer Committee Annual Report

January 2019

The NCAA Division II Men's Soccer Committee is providing this information to outline the key actions taken during the past year. If you have any questions regarding this information, please contact a member of the committee or Eric Breece, NCAA Assistant Director, Championships (Phone: 317/917-6781, Email: ebreece@ncaa.org). Further information may be found on NCAA.org.

1. 2018-19 Committee Members.

Terrance Beattie
Athletics Director
West Chester University of Pennsylvania
Term expires September 2021
Atlantic Region

Matt Cochran
Senior Associate Athletics Director
Northeastern State University
Term expires September 2021
Central Region

Wade Jean
Head Men's Soccer Coach
St. Michael's College
Term expires September 2022
East Region

Michael Kohler
Associate Athletics Director
Rockhurst University
Term expires September 2022
Midwest Region

Bill Elliott, chair
Head Men's Soccer Coach
University of West Florida
Term expires September 2019
South Region

Mark McKeever
Head Men's Soccer Coach
Young Harris College
Term expires September 2022
Southeast Region

Claudia Arias
Head Men's Soccer Coach
Texas A&M International University
Term expires September 2020
South Central Region

Phillip Billeci-Gard
Associate Athletics Director
Dominican University of California
Term expires September 2021
West Region

2. 2018 Championship.

The Division II men's championship provided for a 38-team, single-elimination tournament. Two to six teams were chosen from each of the eight regions.

First/second-round, and third/quarter-final rounds were hosted on the campus of one of the participating teams. The semifinals and final were hosted by Clarion University and SportsPITTSBURGH in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, as part of the Division II National Championships Festival. Both the semifinals and final were webcast on NCAA.com.

Congratulations to the 2018 NCAA Division II Men's Soccer National Champions –Barry University.

3. Dates for 2019 Championship. (NEW DATE FORMULA)

Selections: Monday, November 18, 2019

First Round: Must be played not later than Friday, November 22.

Second Round: Must be played not later than Sunday, November 24.

Third Round: Must be played not later than Friday, December 6.

Quarterfinals: Must be played not later than Sunday, December 8.

Championship: Thursday, December 12 and Saturday, December 14.

4. Championship Sites. 2019 championship will take place at Highmark Stadium in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Future sites that have already been awarded are listed below:

2020- University of Tampa; Tampa, Florida

2021- TBD (this year is being re-bid and announced in the coming months).

FUTURE: The national office will once again be soliciting bids from potential hosts for all championships. This process will be similar to the last bid process that was used and look to confirm championship location for an additional four years (through the 2025-2026 academic year). More information on this process will be shared with the membership as soon as it is available.

5. **Selection Criteria.** The committee selected teams for the championship based on the following criteria:

The following criteria as outlined in Bylaw 31.3.3 of the NCAA Division II Manual shall be employed by a governing sports committee in selecting participants for NCAA championships competition:

- In-region winning percentage;
- Overall Division II winning percentage;
- Overall Division II strength of schedule;
- Division II head-to-head competition;
- Results versus Division II common opponents

In addition to Bylaw 31.3.3, the Division II Men's Soccer Committee has received approval to use the following criteria in the selection of at-large teams:

- Division II results versus teams with a winning record;
- In-region strength of schedule;
- Performance Indicator.

6. **DII Championships Committee Actions in 2018**

Regular Season Extension. The men's and women's soccer committees jointly proposed, and the championships committee approved, extending the regular season by one week, starting in the 2019 season.

For all years that the championships are not part of the DII Festival (three out of every four years), selections for the championship will take place one week later, subsequently moving the championship finals back one week, to coincide with the DI men's soccer championship.

Championship Format. The Men's Soccer Committee proposed, and championships committee approved an increase in the bracket size of the championship to 40 (an increase of two teams) and move to a super-region format. More information can be found in the supplements provided.

Legislative committee review of Bylaw 14.2.4.2. The championships committee, as well as management council supported a request for the legislative committee to review legislation regarding initial collegiate enrollment and participation in organized competition. This requested stemmed from concerns in the membership with the growing trend of student-athletes with significant gaps in collegiate enrollment re-entering intercollegiate competition with a much greater degree of competitive experience and physical maturity than their conventional student-athlete counterparts. This conversation is ongoing and will again be discussed by the committee at their annual meeting.

Seeding final site teams. Approved that teams advancing to the final site will be seeded based on PI, including all results through the quarterfinals.

7. **Annual Meeting.** The committee's 2019 annual meeting will take place January 28-29 in Indianapolis. Please continue to communicate with your region's national committee representative if there are topics that you would like the committee to discuss. Your input is welcomed and appreciated.

8. **Coaches Connection.** The coaches' connection program is in its third year of operation for DII Men's Soccer, and continues to serve as a valuable communication tool between the NCAA National Office, the DII Men's Soccer National Committee and the coaches of all of our DII Men's Soccer member institutions.

Each DII member conference has a coach representative on the coaches' connection committee, who participates in monthly teleconferences to discuss ideas and issues concerning DII Men's Soccer. Please continue to stay in touch with the coach from your conference that is a part of this committee to stay up to date on items discussed on their call, and to suggest new topics.

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