



**REPORT OF THE  
DIVISION II MEN'S SOCCER COMMITTEE  
JANUARY 27, 2020, MEETING**

**KEY ITEMS.**

- The committee re-elected Phil Billeci-Gard as committee chair.

**ACTION ITEMS.**

- None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Approval of 2019 committee report.** The committee reviewed and approved the 2019 meeting report as submitted.
2. **Review of Championships Committee actions.** The committee reviewed the Championships Committee's reports and actions from the past year. Committee members noted in particular how well the Division II University modules have helped inform campus personnel.
3. **Preliminary-round review.** The committee reviewed the preliminary rounds of the 2019 championship and believes the new format was an overall success, creating an exciting tournament throughout. The committee did note increased travel expenses, specifically in super-region four, and that these potential effects were anticipated at the time the new format was proposed. The committee firmly believes the benefits of the new format outweigh these consequences. The committee also noted the benefits of other changes, including the improved timeliness in sharing participant information from the national office and host institutions. Staff will update host operation information accordingly to reflect these changes and work closely with the committee and future hosts to ensure they are implemented for the 2020 championship. (Note: Preliminary-round logistics were discussed further in the joint meeting with the women's committee, including the video exchange procedures.)

The committee continues to evaluate its ability to confirm site representatives during the planning process leading up to selections, given the large number of national and regional committee members involved in the tournament in recent years. The committee asked staff to explore additional outreach, including with faculty athletics representatives and messaging via Division II University.

4. **2019 championship review.** The committee briefly discussed the championships in Pittsburgh. (See the report from the joint committee meeting for additional discussion regarding this topic.)

5. **2020 championships preview.** The committee briefly discussed the upcoming championships in Tampa, Florida. (See the report from the joint committee meeting for additional discussion regarding this topic.)
6. **Selection criteria and automatic qualifying (AQ) conferences.** The committee reviewed current selection criteria and determined there are other criteria available that may assist in the ranking and selections process. Specifically, the committee looked at RPI as well as reviewed possible updates to the Performance Indicator (PI), as suggested by the women's committee. The committee will continue to review this information in the coming months, with the goal of determining whether to propose these updates in June. The committee also reviewed conference sponsorship and potential changes in the number of AQs there will be in 2020. The committee noted that, with new legislation being adopted, the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association will qualify for an AQ in 2020.
7. **Student-athlete eligibility.** Committee members continued discussing the trend they are seeing with the number of student-athletes participating in the championship who have advanced experience. While no new statistical evidence has surfaced to advance the discussion or inform a potential legislative proposal, the committee will continue to review the issue, noting that other sport committees are beginning to have this discussion as well.
8. **Membership update.** The committee reviewed the men's soccer sponsorship and noted current provisional members that will be advancing to active status in 2020. The committee also reviewed potential new members, noting the start of a men's soccer program at St. Cloud State University in super-region three. The committee agreed that the new format continues to provide an access ratio and bracket format that aligns with sport sponsorship.
9. **Officials review.** The committee reviewed the timeline and assignments for the preliminary rounds and finals and agreed the overall level of experience and rules implementation was good across the regions. The committee and staff will continue to work with the national coordinator to ensure qualified officials are assigned for the championship.
10. **Future host bids.** The committee briefly discussed the upcoming bid cycle, including the timeline for recommendations and current bids that have been submitted. (See the report from the joint committee meeting for additional discussion regarding this topic.) Staff will continue to update the committee on bids that are received after the submission deadline and set up teleconferences with both the men's and women's committees to make recommendations.
11. **Manual review.** The committee delegated manual review assignments and will provide staff with feedback over the coming weeks. Staff will also review and make necessary changes.

**12. Committee review.** The committee noted upcoming vacancies on the national and regional advisory committees. Staff will keep members apprised of new appointments as they are determined.

The committee also re-elected Phil Billeci-Gard as chair for the upcoming year. The committee believes he has served the committee well in this capacity over the past year and appreciates his willingness to continue.

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

<b>Division II Men's Soccer Committee January 27, 2020, Meeting</b>
<b>Attendees:</b>
Terence Beattie, West Chester University of Pennsylvania.
Phil Billeci-Gard, Dominican University of California.
Matt Cochran, Northeastern State University.
Wade Jean, Saint Michael's College.
Michael Koehler, Rockhurst University.
Mark McKeever, Young Harris College.
Brian McMahon, Palm Beach Atlantic University.
<b>Absentees:</b>
Claudio Arias; Texas A&M International University.
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>
None.
<b>NCAA Staff Liaison (or Staff Support if subcommittee) in Attendance:</b>
Eric Breece, Championships and Alliances.
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>
None.