

REPORT OF THE NCAA DIVISION II WOMEN'S SOCCER COMMITTEE JANUARY 22, 2024, MEETING

KEY ITEMS.

• Regionalization review. The committee discussed a request from the Division II Championships Committee seeking feedback regarding the Division II regionalization model and opportunities to revise the current approach to bracketing. (See Informational Item 6.)

ACTION ITEMS.

None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

- 1. Review of Division II Championships Committee actions. The Women's Soccer Committee reviewed Championships Committee action items related to women's soccer from 2023.
- **2. Review of the 2023 championship**. The committee reviewed the 2023 championship and noted the following items.
 - a. <u>Rankings.</u> The committee discussed the rankings process and considered ways to continue to be even more consistent across all eight RACs and the national committee. The committee discussed potential ways to better educate the overall membership on the rankings process.
 - b. <u>Evaluations</u>. The committee reviewed the evaluations from the 2023 championship noting generally positive feedback.
 - c. <u>Future pairing rotation.</u> The committee confirmed the following for third-round and quarterfinal hosts in 2024: The Central will host the Midwest, the West will host the South Central, the East will host the Atlantic, and the Southeast will host the South.
- **3. Preview of the 2024 championship final site.** The committee met with the men's committee to discuss the 2024 championship. Please see the joint report for more information.
- **4. Strategic plan.** The committee reviewed its strategic plan and removed goals that had been accomplished or were no longer applicable. The committee will continue to review this document at each annual meeting.
- **5. Sponsorship analysis.** The committee reviewed the sport sponsorship list and regional map.
- **6. Regionalization review.** The committee discussed a request from the Division II Championships Committee seeking feedback regarding the Division II regionalization model

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and opportunities to revise the current approach to bracketing. The Championships Committee will review the sport committee feedback at the June 17-18, 2024, meeting.

- 7. **Preliminary rounds.** The committee met with the men's committee to discuss any needed adjustments to preliminary-round hosting requirements.
- **8. Selection criteria review.** The committee noted the upcoming change to the selection criteria for 2024 and looks forward to the new data that will be available.
- **9. Officials.** The committee reviewed the 2023 preliminary-round and championship-site officials.
- **10. Review of national and regional advisory committees.** The committee noted vacancies for the upcoming season.
- **11. Committee chair appointment.** The committee appointed Babak Abouzar, head women's soccer coach at Texas Woman's University, as chair of the committee replacing Kacey Bingham. The committee thanked Ms. Bingham for her two years of service as chair.
- **12. Manual review.** The committee reviewed the 2023-24 championship manuals and noted edits for the upcoming season.
- **13. 2025 annual meeting dates.** The committee agreed to hold the annual meeting January 20-21, 2025.

Committee Chair: Kacey Bingham, Western Oregon University, Great Northwest Athletic Conference. Staff Liaison(s): Zach Christopher, Championships and Alliances.

| Division II Women's Soccer Committee January 20, 2024, Meeting |
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| Attendees: |
| Babak Abouzar, Texas Women's University. |
| Kacey Bingham, Western Oregon University. |
| Todd Diuguid, University of Charleston (WV). |
| Greg Herdlick, Rockhurst University. |
| Kathy Kroupa, Lynn University. |
| Michael White, Oklahoma Baptist University. |
| Michael Winn, Pace University. |
| Absentees: |
| Erika Torrez, Wingate University. |
| Guests in Attendance: |
| Karen Haag, Saint Rose College. |
| NCAA Staff Liaison (or Staff Support if subcommittee) in Attendance: |

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Zach Christopher, Championships and Alliances.

Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:

Karen Kirsch, Championships and Alliances.

Ryan Rea, Championships and Alliances.