

REPORT OF THE NCAA DIVISION II WOMEN'S SOCCER COMMITTEE JANUARY 27, 2025, MEETING

KEY ITEMS.

• **Super region discussion.** The committee discussed exploring a proposal to shift to super regions during the next budget cycle. (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 2024.
- **2. Review of the 2024 championship**. The committee reviewed the 2024 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 2024 championship noting generally positive feedback, especially related to the format changes.
 - c. <u>Future pairing rotation.</u> The committee confirmed the following for third-round and quarterfinal hosts in 2025: The Midwest will host the Central, the South Central will host the West, the Atlantic will host the East, and the South will host the Southeast.
- **3. Preview of the 2025 championship final site.** The committee met with the men's committee to discuss the 2025 championship. Please see the joint report for more information.
- **4. Sponsorship analysis.** The committee reviewed the sport sponsorship list and regional map.
- **5. NPI discussion.** The committee discussed the possibility of using NPI for rankings and selections in the future.
- **6. Super region discussion.** The committee expressed an interest in exploring what a super region format would look like for Division II women's soccer, with the possibility of proposing a change for the next budget cycle.

Report of the NCAA Division II Women's Soccer Committee Meeting January 27, 2025 Page No. 2

- **7. Preliminary rounds.** The committee met with the men's committee to discuss any needed adjustments to preliminary-round hosting requirements.
- **8. Officials.** The committee reviewed the 2024 preliminary-round and championship-site officials.
- **9. Review of national and regional advisory committees.** The committee noted vacancies for the upcoming season.
- **10. Committee chair appointment.** The committee appointed Michael White, head women's soccer coach at Oklahoma Baptist University, as chair of the committee replacing Babak Abouzar. The committee thanked Mr. Abouzar for his year of service as chair.
- **11. Manual review.** The committee reviewed the 2024-25 championship manuals and noted edits for the upcoming season.
- **12. 2026 annual meeting dates.** The committee agreed to hold the annual meeting January 26-27, 2026.

Committee Chair: Babak Abouzar, Texas Woman's University, Lonestar Conference. Staff Liaison(s): Zach Christopher, Championships and Alliances.

Division II Women's Soccer Committee
January 27, 2025, Meeting
Attendees:
Babak Abouzar, Texas Woman's University.
Kacey Bingham, Western Oregon University.
Todd Diuguid, University of Charleston (WV).
Greg Herdlick, Rockhurst University.
Kathy Kroupa, Lynn University.
Erika Torrez, Wingate University.
Michael White, Oklahoma Baptist University.
Michael Winn, Pace University.
Absentees:
None.
Guests in Attendance:
None.
NCAA Staff Liaison (or Staff Support if subcommittee) in Attendance:
Zach Christopher, Championships and Alliances.
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:
None.