

REPORT OF THE NCAA DIVISION II MEN'S AND WOMEN'S SWIMMING AND DIVING COMMITTEE APRIL 15-16, 2020, VIDEOCONFERENCE

ACTION ITEMS.

None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

- 1. **Agenda review.** The committee reviewed the meeting agenda and re-ordered a few items.
- **2. Announcements.** Because all winter and spring championships were canceled, the committee will be mindful of budget impacts in its discussions, determining what is essential to the championships experience.
- **3.** Review/approve 2019 annual meeting report. The committee approved its 2019 annual meeting report as submitted.
- **4. Items from College Swimming and Diving Coaches Association of America.** The committee recognized the CSCAA executive board's decision to present All-America awards this season, even though the 2020 NCAA Division II Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving Championships were cut short. The coaches association is assisting its membership in being proactive regarding potential financial savings for their programs.
- 5. Review of championships (Geneva, Ohio hosted by the Lake Erie College and the Greater Cleveland Sports Commission).
 - **a. Facility.** The committee noted that the SPIRE Institute Aquatics Center provides the best deck space of any facility used for NCAA championships. However, there were some questions about lighting not being at full strength, as well as poor air quality and temperature. The air concerns were partially remedied by opening exterior doors, which in turn posed potential safety and security issues. The committee noted that even with additional speakers installed on deck, audio quality was less than desirable. The Greater Cleveland Sports Commission provided excellent customer service and external support, particularly in light of the many ticketing and spectator-restrictive changes.
 - **b.** Officials. Several new officials joined this year's officiating crew and all seemed to work well as a team. The increased fees, along with travel, lodging and per diem payments, continue to assist us in securing a highly qualified dive judge panel, particularly for the qualification meet.
 - **c. Banquet/hospitality.** The banquet was held at SPIRE Institute on the indoor soccer field, which provided a more relaxed atmosphere and plenty of room for interactive activities. The food quantity and quality were appropriate, and attendees appreciated the gluten-free

options, as well as the extra health precautions taken by the servers. It was particularly helpful to have assigned team seating. The committee asked staff to continue to emphasize that banquet attire is professional/business.

Hospitality at the natatorium was adequate, but again, student-athletes filling their bags rather than just taking items for consumption in the facility was problematic and could have led to shortages had the championships run its full course.

- **d. Volunteers.** The hosts were able to fill the necessary volunteer positions despite the everchanging health advisories.
- **e. Awards presentation.** The committee will continue to have the head coach of the event winner present the awards. The committee directed staff to revise the awards schedule to accommodate the moving of events competed in the first two days, as well as build in cooldown time.
- **f. In-venue production.** The hosts did a very good job with signage, particularly the awards podium with backdrop and backlighting. As with many similar facilities, the acoustics were problematic. With the championships cut short, the committee was unable to evaluate the entire audio and video presentation.
- **g.** Electronic distribution of heat sheets and results. The Hy-Tek operator's distribution of heat sheets and results to coaches via email is very efficient, as is linking them to the Meet Mobile application.
- **h. Results online/webcasting.** The committee received limited feedback indicating the live webcast was well done, particularly once camera angles were adjusted for diving events.
- 6. Action plan for 2021 championships and beyond.
 - **a.** Championships and qualifications meet schedules of events. As recommended by the swimming and diving coaches connection, the committee reviewed and revised the order of events competed in the first two days of the championships. All relays will be competed as time finals only and will not be competed during trials. [Attachment A]

As requested by the NCAA Division II Championships Committee, to accommodate a Wednesday evening opening ceremony at the NCAA Division II National Championships Festival, the swimming and diving committee recommended a revised schedule of events for the 2021 championships only. [Attachment B] Men's 1-meter diving will be contested on the first day of the 2021 championships' condensed schedule. The committee directed staff to survey dive coaches regarding board order for the next year's championships.

- **b. Warm-up schedule.** The committee asked staff to emphasize with the championships hosts that deck marshals must be experienced and remain attentive.
- **c. Selection of officials/diving judges.** The committee will continue the current officials' application process and will name the head and assistant swim referees, as well as the diving meet referee. The head and assistant swim referees will recommend a panel from the applicant pool. The committee also will ask the secretary-rules editor for recommendations as he is familiar with many of the officials' qualifications.

The playing rules liaison is working to strengthen the national office's relationship with USA Diving and will ask them to promote the application process. The committee will also ask the diving meet referee to rank applicants for the committee to review and select.

- **d. Hospitality.** The committee requested that future hosts provide separate hospitality areas for coaches/team personnel and student-athletes whenever possible. In addition, hosts must be reminded that hospitality areas need to be stocked continually and access must be limited to credentialed individuals.
- **e. Banquet.** The committee feels that using the seat reservation form is an efficient enhancement to ticket processing for the event.
- **f. Host teleconferences.** As next year's championships are part of the festival and there has been considerable staffing change at the Birmingham CrossPlex since the championships were last held there, the committee recommends starting host teleconferences earlier in the timeline than usual.
- **g. Announcers.** The committee will select the championships announcers. For the qualification diving meet, one dive announcer will be selected by the committee and the second by the host, with committee approval.
- **h. Participant music.** The committee asked staff to remind the music coordinator to adhere to the student-athlete deadline for submitting walk-out music.
- i. Deck pass limits. The committee will maintain the same formula for deck pass allotments. The members discussed the requirement that team support personnel should be credentialed only if they served in that role for the entire season in order to limit people on deck. Similar to divers participating in the qualification meet who do not qualify for the championships, deck passes may be provided to swim alternates for use only up until the start of the first championship event.
- **j. Timers/volunteers.** The committee will encourage future hosts to solicit volunteers from youth club teams to serve as parade leaders, basket transports and support award

presentations. The committee emphasized the need for hosts to provide experienced deck marshals to assist with lane use during warm-ups and practice.

k. Selection process.

(1) **Sports sponsorship and participant caps.** The committee reviewed the historical survey of sports sponsorship numbers and is awaiting the governance committees' decisions regarding the request to increase the participant cap for the next triennial budget cycle.

The committee discussed with representatives from academic and membership affairs the legislative challenges with the new sport sponsorship requirement for championships eligibility. Particularly noted were the different applications of NCAA Division II Bylaws 17 and 20. The AMA staff will support the coaches connection representatives with preparing a best practices document to assist the membership.

(2) Online regular-season entry procedures and reporting of times. All communications with the membership will continue to stress deadlines and financial penalties for late results submission.

The committee adjusted the spring roster deadline to "before competition." Also, the committee will continue to discuss the penalty options if an institution fails to submit results by the deadline and qualifying times have been achieved.

- (3) USA Swimming online meet entry process for submitting championships entries.
 - (a) **Timeline for entry submissions.** The committee approved the timeline.
 - **(b) Deadline to request split times.** All communications with the membership will continue to stress deadlines and financial penalties for late requests.
 - (c) Aggregate relays. An institution may continue to enter its fastest actual relay time, or if faster, its fastest aggregate relay time.
 - (d) Relay-only swimmers. While selecting swimmers in only individual events has helped improve the quality and depth of the championship fields, the limit of the participant cap still affects the quality of the championships. Divisions I and III have higher caps, so their fields are deeper. To field at least 16 relay teams in each relay event, the committee will continue to provide institutions with the option to bring relay-only swimmers. Institutions will continue to be financially responsible for bringing these individuals to the meet.

The committee will continue to monitor the number of relay-only swimmers brought to and competing in each championship. The change to time finals may reduce the number of relay-only swimmers competing. If the governance committees approve an increase in the participant cap, the committee will work with the membership to determine if the increase warrants changing the relay-only swimmer policy.

(4) Event entry limits. The committee discussed individual event limits, as well as the limit of swimmers entered per team, and will maintain the same entry limits for 2020-21.

(5) Standards and selections.

- (a) Optional events (individual/relays) and scratch process for selected student-athletes. Optional relays will continue to be entered with no seed time. The scratch deadline for relays will be adjusted to 30 minutes after the conclusion of swim trials the day the event is contested. The committee will determine an exception for the relay events contested the first day of the 2021 festival format.
- **(b) Review process for notifying swimming alternates.** This process will remain the same for 2020-21, with alternates being announced at the same time as the championship qualifiers.
- (c) Qualifying standards. Due to the shortened championships this year, the committee approved using the same qualifying standards as in 2019-20.

(6) Diving.

- (a) Regular-season and championship entry process.
 - **Reporting of qualifying scores.** The committee approved submitting only the first qualifying score for each diver.
- **(b) Qualification standards.** The qualification standards will remain the same for 2020-21.
- (c) Competition standards. The competition standards will remain the same for 2020-21.
- (d) Qualification meet. The dive order for the qualification meet will mirror that of the championships meet.

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- **l. Manual review.** The committee will review the committee operations, pre-championships, host operations and participant manuals and provide staff with necessary changes.
- **m.** Committee calendar. The committee tentatively approved next year's committee calendar, pending finalized dates for host teleconferences and officials review and approval. The 2021 annual meeting will take place virtually April 19-20.
- **7. Playing rules.** The NCAA playing rules staff liaison and the secretary-rules editor discussed possible rule changes.
- **8. Future sites and bid timeline.** The committee reviewed the host bid timeline for the 2023-2026 championships and scheduled future meetings to finalize recommendations.
- **9.** Committee composition. The committee elected Jennifer Alger, assistant athletics director at the University of Tampa, as committee chair. She has successfully served as acting chair since the resignation of the previous chair.
- **10. Sponsorship lists.** The committee reviewed the sponsorship lists and noted institutions considering adding or dropping the sport.

11. Other business.

- **a. Division II updates.** The committee learned about the Division II governance approach to pandemic-related issues and budget guidelines and principles in case of unexpected events.
- **b. Strategic Plan.** The committee reviewed and approved the draft of the Division II men's and women's swimming and diving championships strategic plan. The plan will be reviewed annually and revised if necessary.

Committee Chair: Jennifer Alger, University of Tampa, Sunshine State Conference

Staff Liaison: Marie Scovron, Championships and Alliances

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Attendees:

Jennifer Alger, University of Tampa.

Bethany Hobbs-Helmus, California State University, East Bay.

Barbara Parker, University of West Florida.

Kirk Sanocki, Wingate University.

Absentees:

None

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Guests in Attendance:
Greg Lockard, NCAA Swimming and Diving Secretary-Rules Editor.
Wendy Snodgrass, Swimming and Diving Coaches Connection, Clarion University.
NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:
Kerstin Hunter, Championships and Alliances.
Marie Scovron, Championships and Alliances.
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:
Barb Hallam, Championships and Alliances.
Chelsea Hooks, Academic and Membership Affairs.
Liz Homrig, Championships and Alliances.
Maritza Jones, Law, Policy and Governance.
Roberta Page, Championships and Alliances.
Angela Red, Academic and Membership Affairs.

3 ½ day Festival Format 2021 Division II Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving Championships (All relays – time final)

Wednesday – all swim events – time final
200-yard Medley Relay
1000-yard Freestyle
Men's 1-Meter Diving

Thursday

500-yard Freestyle 200-yard Individual Medley 50-yard Freestyle Women's 3-Meter Diving 400-yard Medley Relay

800-yard Freestyle Relay

Friday

100-yard Butterfly 400-yard Individual Medley 200-yard Freestyle 100-yard Breaststroke 100-yard Backstroke Men's 3-Meter Diving 200-yard Freestyle Relay

Saturday

1650-yard Freestyle 200-yard Backstroke 100-yard Freestyle 200-yard Breaststroke 200-yard Butterfly Women's 1-Meter Diving 400-yard Freestyle Relay

Proposed Four-Day NCAA Division II Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving Championships Program

TRIALS - WEDNESDAY, 10 a.m.

Event No.

- 3. 1,000-yard freestyle (W) All but last heat of time finals
- 4. 1,000-yard freestyle (M) All but last heat of time finals
- 5. 200-yard individual medley (W)
- 6. 200-yard individual medley (M)
- 7. 50-yard freestyle (W)
- 8. 50-yard freestyle (M)
- 9. Diving Trials 2 p.m.*

FINALS – WEDNESDAY, 6 p.m.

Event No.

- 1. 200-yard medley relay (W) Time finals 5-minute intermission
- 2. 200-yard medley relay (M) Time finals 5-minute intermission
- 3. 1,000-yard freestyle (W) Last heat of time finals
- 4. 1,000-yard freestyle (M) Last heat of time finals
- 5. 200-yard individual medley (W)
- 6. 200-yard individual medley (M)
- 7. 50-yard freestyle (W)
- 8. 50-yard freestyle (M)
- 9. Diving Finals*
- 10. 200-yard freestyle relay (W) Time finals
- 11. 200-yard freestyle relay (M) Time finals

TRIALS - THURSDAY, 10 a.m.

Event No.

- 12. 100-yard butterfly (W)
- 13. 100-yard butterfly (M)
- 14. 400-yard individual medley (W)
- 15. 400-yard individual medley (M)
- 16. 200-yard freestyle (W)
- 17. 200-yard freestyle (M)
- 18. Diving Trials 2 p.m.*

FINALS – THURSDAY, 6 p.m.

Event No.

- 12. 100-yard butterfly (W)
- 13. 100-yard butterfly (M)
- 14. 400-yard individual medley (W)
- 15. 400-yard individual medley (M)
- 16. 200-yard freestyle (W)
- 17. 200-yard freestyle (M)

- 18. Diving Finals*
- 19. 400-yard medley relay (W) Time finals 5-minute intermission
- 20. 400-yard medley relay (M) Time finals

TRIALS – FRIDAY, 10 a.m.

Event No.

- 21. 500-yard freestyle (W)
- 22. 500-yard freestyle (M)
- 23. 100-yard backstroke (W)
- 24. 100-yard backstroke (M)
- 25. 100-yard breaststroke (W)
- 26. 100-yard breaststroke (M)
- 27. 200-yard butterfly (W)
- 28. 200-yard butterfly (M)
- 29. Diving Trials 2 p.m.*

FINALS – FRIDAY, 6 p.m.

Event No.

- 21. 500-yard freestyle (W)
- 22. 500-yard freestyle (M)
- 23. 100-yard backstroke (W)
- 24. 100-yard backstroke (M)
- 25. 100-yard breaststroke (W)
- 26. 100-yard breaststroke (M)
- 27. 200-yard butterfly (W)
- 28. 200-yard butterfly (M)
- 29. Diving Finals*
- 30. 800-yard freestyle relay (W) Time finals 5-minute intermission
- 31. 800-yard freestyle relay (M) Time finals

TRIALS – SATURDAY, 10 a.m.

Event No.

- 34. 100-yard freestyle (W)
- 35. 100-yard freestyle (M)
- 36. 200-yard backstroke (W)
- 37. 200-yard backstroke (M)
- 38. 200-yard breaststroke (W)
- 39. 200-yard breaststroke (M) 20-minute intermission TBD based on facility.
- 32. 1,650-yard freestyle (W) All but last heat of time finals
- 33. 1,650-yard freestyle (M) All but last heat of time finals
- 40. Diving Trials 2 p.m.*

FINALS – SATURDAY, 6 p.m.

Event No.

- 32. 1,650-yard freestyle (W) Last heat of time finals
- 33. 1,650-yard freestyle (M) Last heat of time finals

- 34. 100-yard freestyle (W)
- 35. 100-yard freestyle (M)
- 36. 200-yard backstroke (W)
- 37. 200-yard backstroke (M)
- 38. 200-yard breaststroke (W)
- 39. 200-yard breaststroke (M)
- 40. Diving Finals*
- 41. 400-yard freestyle relay (W) Time finals 5-minute intermission
- 42. 400-yard freestyle relay (M) Time finals

^{*} Board order is TBD pending diving coach survey results. Current 3, 1, 1, 3 or 1, 3, 3, 1 or 1, 1, 3, 3. Women compete on first day in even-numbered years. Men compete on first day in odd-numbered years.