



**REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION II MEN'S AND WOMEN'S SWIMMING AND DIVING COMMITTEE  
APRIL 11-12, 2022, MEETING**

KEY ITEMS.

1. **Participant cap increase.** The committee continues to discuss its interest in increasing the overall participant cap for both the men's and women's fields. (See Informational Item 3-a.)
2. **Date formula adjustment for both swimming and diving championship.** The committee is exploring an adjustment to the date formula that would extend the diving qualification meet from a Tuesday event to Monday and Tuesday, or moving to a zone diving format similar to what Divisions I and III do, which would create separation between the qualification meet and the national championship. (See Informational Item 2-a.) Similarly, the committee is looking at an adjustment to the date formula to being competition on Tuesday evening to accommodate the 800-freestyle relay. (See Informational Item 2-b.)

ACTION ITEMS.

- **None.**

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Appointment of committee chair.** The committee approved Bethany Hobbs-Helmus, assistant athletics director and senior woman administrator at California State University, East Bay, serve as the chair of the committee for 2022-23.
2. **2022 championships review.** The Swimming and Diving Committee reviewed the 2022 championships and addressed the following items:
  - a. **Overall feedback.** The committee reviewed participant surveys from the championship, which was hosted by the Greensboro Aquatic Center and Queens University of Charlotte, in Greensboro, North Carolina. The committee commended the host for providing an outstanding championship experience for student-athletes, teams, and fans.
  - b. **Facility.** The committee was extremely impressed with the Greensboro Aquatic Center and the continued efforts to improve their facility offerings. The recent addition of the warm-up/cool-down pool has elevated the experience to provide additional space for student-athletes and coaches to prepare for competition.
  - c. **Officials.** The officials crew is a veteran group that provided consistency and diligence throughout all days of the championship. The collaboration between the meet director and head swimming and diving officials ensured accuracy and timely communication to head coaches and staff.
  - d. **Student-athlete experience.** In lieu of a championship banquet, all qualifying student athletes received a championship backpack as a gift. This was well received by both student-

athletes and the coaching body and was highlighted as something to consider heavily in future championship planning. The committee and coaching body would like to see this gifting option offered to the relay-only swimmers as well. The NCAA championship manager will explore the possibility of making this option available for upcoming championships.

Aside from championship gifting, the overall atmosphere, signage, and engagement with fans provided student-athletes with a memorable and positive experience while on site.

- e. **In-venue production.** The committee appreciated the efforts of the in-venue production team. The Greensboro Aquatic Center has multiple video boards available, which provided the opportunity to stream NCAA digital content, live video, and scores simultaneously. Additionally, the host provided live anthem singers for all days of competition, which provided an upgraded experience for teams and fans.
- f. **Electronic distribution of heat sheets and results.** The Hy-Tek meet operator was excellent throughout the championship, providing timely distribution of heat sheets and results to coaches via email and the Meet Mobile application.
- g. **Results online/webcasting.** The committee received outstanding feedback indicating the live webcast and broadcast talent were excellent.
- h. **Championship evaluation results.** The committee reviewed the evaluations, noting the low response rate. The committee will suggest making the evaluation QR code more accessible to student-athletes during the championship to encourage participation.

### 3. Action plan for 2023 championships and beyond.

- a. **Diving qualifications meet.** The committee discussed several potential adjustments to the current format of the diving qualification meet. The meet is currently conducted at the championship site on Tuesday of championship week. The committee is researching the possibility of moving to a zone diving format similar to the Division I and Division III format. This change would create separation between the qualification meet and the national championship.

Additionally, the group is considering an adjustment to the date formula which would extend the diving qualification meet from a Tuesday event to Monday and Tuesday. These adjustments would have a budget impact on an institutional level as the qualification meet is a non-reimbursed portion of the Division II swimming and diving championship.

#### b. Competition schedule adjustments.

- i. **Diving.** The committee confirmed adjustments to the diving schedule effective in 2023. The format for preliminaries will include an 11-person dive list only. The format for the

finals will include a six-person dive list. Other adjustments include the addition of a consolation final to ensure that those who have placed 9-16 after the preliminary round have an opportunity to place higher than their first-round result, which in turn may have an impact on overall team scoring as well as individual placement.

In addition, the committee established the cadence of which gender will compete first. Moving forward, women will compete first in odd-numbered years and men will compete first in even-numbered years.

- ii. **Swimming.** The committee discussed an adjustment to the swimming competition schedule that would move the 800-freestyle relay to the Tuesday of championship week. This adjustment would have a positive budget impact as well as an increase to the days officials are expected to begin working.

The committee will finalize the championship competition schedule during its next meeting and will make it publicly available on the sport landing page.

- c. **Selection of officials/diving judges.** As it relates to diving judges moving forward, the committee and designated diving committee member will work more closely with this group to provide clarity and consistency throughout all rounds of qualification and championship competition.
- d. **Hospitality.** There will not be any significant adjustments to the hospitality provided.
- e. **Banquet.** The committee unanimously agreed that moving away from the traditional banquet for swimming and diving provides increased flexibility and an overall better experience for coaches and student-athletes. The nuances of student-athlete diet and training schedule are not conducive for a championship banquet. The committee would like to see the student-athletes continue to receive a gift as a substitute for the banquet. They also would like to see the gifting extended to relay-only swimmers who are currently not included in the gifting allotment. (See Informational Item 1-d above.)
- f. **Announcers.** The committee highlighted the importance of continuing to have an engaged in-venue announcer. The group would like to explore the possibility of having the web stream talent tapped into the in-venue sound to provide an additional enhancement for student-athletes and fans.
- g. **Participant music.** The committee reaffirmed the importance of the music coordination role as a key component of an elevated student-athlete experience. This position is currently a volunteer position but holds extreme value to the overall execution of the event. The committee will investigate the opportunity to provide a monetary stipend to the individual who serves in this role.

- h. Deck pass limits.** The committee approved the following adjustments for deck pass distribution effective for the 2023 championship.

Women's Swimming & Diving		Men's Swimming & Diving	
Number of participating student-athletes	Number of deck passes per gender for non-student-athletes	Number of participating student-athletes	Number of deck passes per gender for non-student-athletes
1-5 swimmers	1	1-5 swimmers	1
6-10 swimmers	2	6-10 swimmers	2
11-15 swimmers	3	11-15 swimmers	3
16+ swimmers	4	16+ swimmers	4
Any diver(s)	1	Any diver(s)	1

**4. Review of selection process.**

- a. Selection numbers.** The committee has discussed at length its interest in increasing the overall participant cap for both the men's and women's fields. The group has considered an increase to the access ratio as well as a set field size number for both genders. In advance of submitting a formal recommendation that will have a significant budget impact, the group will work with USA Swimming and within selection software to generate mock selections with updated field numbers to assess potential impact. This conversation also included a potential adjustment to the relay-only swimmer count being directly affected by the increase.
- b. USA Swimming online meet entry process for submitting championship entries.**
- i. Timeline for entry submission.** Staff will continue to communicate to the membership through the monthly newsletter and public memos to ensure consistency.
  - ii. Deadline to request split times.** All communications with the membership will continue to stress the importance of deadlines and financial penalties for late requests.
  - iii. Aggregate relays.** An institution may continue to enter its fastest actual relay time, or if faster, its fastest aggregate relay time.
  - iv. Relay-only swimmers.** There will be no adjustments to relay-only swimmers for 2023.
  - v. Entry limits.** The entry limits will remain the same for the 2023 championship.
- c. Standards and selections.**

- i. Optional events (individuals/relays) and scratch process for selection of student-athletes.** This process will remain the same for 2023.
  - ii. Notification of alternates.** This process will resume the pre-COVID-19 timeline for notification of alternates. The Tuesday of the championship week will be the deadline for alternates.
  - iii. Qualification standards.** The committee approved the 2023 qualifying standards.
- d. Diving regular-season and championship entry process.**
  - i. Reporting of qualifying scores.** This process will remain unchanged for the 2023 championship.
  - ii. Qualification standards.** The current process requires only one qualifying score to be submitted regardless of board. The committee has made an adjustment, effective 2023, that divers will now need to submit two scores from two separate events to participate in the qualification meet.
  - iii. Competition standards.** The competition standards will remain the same for 2022-23.
  - iv. Qualification meet.** The committee is exploring the possibility of a potential format change to the qualification meet; either extending competition to a two-day event at the championship site or moving to a zone diving format to align with Division I and Division III.
- 5. Swimming and diving rules update.** NCAA Swimming and Diving Secretary-Rules Editor Greg Lockard and NCAA playing rules staff provided an update on playing rules for the upcoming season. The update included clarification to the bona fide competition interpretation surrounding age group meets counting toward championship selection minimums.
- 6. 2021-22 NCAA Division II Championships Committee actions.** The committee reviewed recent actions of the NCAA Division II Championships Committee and heard from the Division II Championships Committee liaison regarding championship items emerging from the NCAA Convention.
- 7. Annual committee meeting.** The committee identified Tuesday-Wednesday, April 11-12, as the dates for the 2023 annual committee meeting.

*Committee Chair:* Jennifer Alger, University of Tampa, Sunshine State Conference  
*Staff Liaison:* Micaela Liddane, Championships and Alliances

NCAA Division II Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving Committee April 11-12, 2022, Meeting	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Jennifer Alger, University of Tampa.	
Kirk Sanocki, Wingate University.	
Bethany Hobbs-Helmus, California State University, East Bay.	
D.J. Bevevino, Clarion University of Pennsylvania.	
Sara Smith, Roberts Wesleyan University.	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
None.	
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>	
Greg Lockard, NCAA Swimming and Diving Secretary-Rules Editor.	
Wendy Snodgrass, Coaches Connection Liaison.	
<b>NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:</b>	
Micaela Liddane, Championships and Alliances.	
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>	
Ben Brownlee, Playing Rules.	
Kerstin Hunter, Championships and Alliances.	
Karen Kirsch, Championships and Alliances.	