



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION III MEN’S AND WOMEN’S TENNIS COMMITTEES
JULY 7-8, 2020, MEETING**

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative items.

- **Noncontroversial legislation – NCAA Bylaw 21.9.6.2 and Figure 21.1 – Committee Membership.**

- (1) Recommendation. That noncontroversial legislation be adopted to amend Figure 21.1 as incorporated by Bylaw 21.9.6.2 to increase the composition of the men’s and women’s tennis committees from four to eight members to coincide with the new regional alignment being proposed in Action Item 2-a.

Committee	Current Number of Members	New Number of Members
Tennis, Men’s	4, including one member from each region.	8, including one member from each region.
Tennis, Women’s	4, including one member from each region.	8, including one member from each region.

- (2) Effective date. September 1, 2021.
- (3) Rationale. Part of the rationale for moving to an eight-region model was to allow each committee member to have fewer teams in their assigned region, enabling them to better know the teams and their bodies of work for rankings and selections. In order to achieve this, the committee believes it is necessary for each region to have its own national committee representative.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

2. Nonlegislative items.

a. Realignment.

- (1) Recommendation. That Division III men’s and women’s tennis be expanded from four to eight regions for the team portion of the championships.
- (2) Effective date. September 1, 2021.

- (3) Rationale. Currently, three of the four regions have 90 teams or more, while the West region has fewer than 40. To be in line with what the commissioners recommended for most other team sports, the committees believe that eight regions is a more appropriate way to accommodate sponsorship. The committee followed the four principles the commissioners used in their recommendations: geography, relative strength, equal numbers in each region and conference affiliation.
- Strength was a factor when discussing where conferences should be placed, while maintaining geographical balance.
 - Based on 2019-20 sponsorship, the eight regions will have between 36 and 54 teams. A more detailed breakdown of each region by gender is attached.
 - In general, conference members were placed in the same region. The exceptions to this are for conferences that were already multi-region conferences in the four-region model. These conferences include the UAA, NEAC and NJAC for the men; and the UAA and NAC for the women. As conference affiliations change, schools must be made aware that their region may change to maintain this principal.
 - Due to the unique nature of how individuals are selected by region for the singles and doubles portion of the championships, the committee felt it best at this time to leave the regions unchanged for the rankings and selections of individuals. Because this expands the pool of in-region opponents for individuals, there is no expected negative impact.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

b. Men's tennis automatic qualification.

- (1) Recommendation. That the following conferences receive automatic qualification for the 2021 championships: Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference; American Rivers Conference; American Southwest Conference; Capital Athletic Conference; Centennial Conference; City University of New York Athletic Conference; College Conference of Illinois & Wisconsin; The Commonwealth Coast Conference; Empire 8; Great Northeast Athletic Conference; Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference; Landmark Conference; Liberty League; Little East Conference; Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association; Middle Atlantic Conference Commonwealth; Middle Atlantic Conference Freedom; Midwest Conference; Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference; New England Men's and Women's Athletic Conference; New England Small College Athletic Conference; North Coast Athletic Conference; Northern Athletics Conference;

Northwest Conference; Ohio Athletic Conference; Old Dominion Athletic Conference; Presidents' Athletic Conference; Skyline Conference; Southern Athletic Association; Southern California Inter. Athletic Conference; Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference; Upper Midwest Conference; University Athletic Association; and USA South Athletic Conference.

- (2) Effective date. September 1, 2020.
 - (3) Rationale. The 35 conferences meet the requirements of NCAA Bylaw 31.3.2 and have completed the automatic-qualification declaration form. Note that pool allocations may adjust if 2020-21 sponsorship numbers change.
 - (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
 - (5) Student-athlete impact. None.
- c. Women's tennis automatic qualification.**

- (1) Recommendation. That the following conferences receive automatic qualification for the 2021 championships: Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference; American Southwest Conference; American Rivers Conference; Capital Athletic Conference; Centennial Conference; City University of New York Athletic Conference; College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin; Colonial States Athletic Conference; Empire 8; Great Northeast Athletic Conference; Great South Athletic Conference; Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference; Landmark Conference; Liberty League; Little East Conference; Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association; Middle Atlantic Conference Commonwealth; Middle Atlantic Conference Freedom; Midwest Conference; Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference; New England Small College Athletic Conference; New England Women's and Men's Athletics Conference; New Jersey Athletic Conference; North Coast Athletic Conference; Northern Athletics Conference; Northwest Conference; Ohio Athletic Conference; Old Dominion Athletic Conference; Presidents' Athletic Conference; Skyline Conference; Southern Athletic Association; Southern California Inter. Athletic Conference; Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference; State University of New York Athletic Conference; The Commonwealth Coast Conference; University Athletic Association; Upper Midwest Conference; USA South Athletic Conference; Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.
- (2) Effective date: September 1, 2020.

- (3) Rationale. The 39 conferences meet the requirements of NCAA Bylaw 31.3.4 and have completed the automatic-qualification declaration form. Note that pool allocations may adjust if 2020-21 sponsorship numbers change.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **2019 annual meeting report.** The committees approved the 2019 annual meeting report.
2. **Division III Championships Committee actions.** The committees reviewed actions from the Championships Committee over the past year.
3. **2020 championships review.** The 2020 championship was cancelled due to the impacts of COVID-19 and the cancellation of all winter and spring championships.
4. **Planning for the 2021 championships and beyond.** The committees discussed the upcoming championships at the Biszantz Family Tennis Center in Claremont, California (hosted by Claremont McKenna-Harvey Mudd-Scripps Colleges). Due to the impacts of COVID-19 it is likely the site visit will be conducted virtually.
5. **Governance update.** The Division III governance staff updated the committees on the following: 1) COVID-19 impacts; 2) issues related to student-athlete name, image and likeness; and 3) the transfer portal.
6. **ITA update.** Staff from the ITA met with the committees to discuss current issues facing the sport.
7. **Regional advisory committee review.** The committees reviewed the regional advisory committee rosters for the 2020-21 academic year.
8. **Bid process.** The committee reviewed and selected site recommendations for the 2022-26 championship bid cycle.
9. **Committee chair appointments.** The committees approved Jon Carlson, head coach at Gustavus Adolphus College, to serve as the women's tennis committee chair for the 2020-21 academic year and Mark Riley, head coach at Kalamazoo College, to serve as the men's tennis committee chair for the 2020-21 academic year.

10. **Review of manuals.** NCAA staff asked the committees to review the pre-championships, host operations and participant manuals and provide changes.
11. **Strategic plan.** The committees created a strategic plan with goals that include pushing for an enhanced score reporting system for tennis. Additionally, the committee wants to enhance its relationship with the ITA for the good of the sport.
12. **Annual meeting.** The committees agreed to meet July 6-7, 2021.

*Committee Chairs: Jenn Dubow, Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference
 Mark Riley, Kalamazoo College*

*Staff Liaisons: Zach Christopher, Championships and Alliances
 Micaela Liddane, Championships and Alliances*

Division III Men's and Women's Tennis Committees July 7-8, 2020, Meeting
Attendees:
Jon Carlson, Gustavus Adolphus College.
Jennifer Dubow, Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.
Marty Perry, Virginia Wesleyan University.
Jeff Benito, Marymount University.
Mark Riley, Kalamazoo College.
Dot Houston, Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts.
Mike Lynch, Babson College
Billy Porter, Southwestern University
Absentees:
None.
NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:
Zach Christopher, Championships and Alliances.
Micaela Liddane, Championships and Alliances.
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:
Jay Fitzwater, Championships and Alliances.
Louise McCleary, Governance.
Liz Turner Suscha, Championships and Alliances.