



REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION II WRESTLING COMMITTEE
APRIL 10-11, 2019, MEETING

KEY ITEM.

- **Adjustments to the super region model.** With numerous institutions dropping and adding wrestling (along with one transitioning to Division I), the landscape has changed enough to require the committee to adjust the new six-super region model (see Action Item 2-a).

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative items.

- **Minimum sport sponsorship requirements.**

- (1) Recommendation. Reduce the current sport sponsorship requirements from 12 events with seven participants to nine events with six participants.
- (2) Effective date. September 1, 2019.
- (3) Rationale. The committee was directed by the Division II Championships Committee that championship participation minimums should match sport sponsorship minimums. Staff is working with the outside group that operates the statistical information to see if there is a way to create an automated process to be able to check this information as currently it took them a few weeks to manually go into each schedule to check the statistics needed. Based on the data from last year, 10 schools did not meet the current minimums. The committee analyzed all the individual/team sports and realized wrestling had one of the highest percentages of minimum contest numbers compared to the maximums (see chart below). Accordingly, the committee believes its recommendation to lower the number of events from 12 contests with seven participants to nine contests with six participants will help alleviate the problem.

Individual Sports	Min. Contests	Max. Contests Allowed	Percent of Maximum	Min. Participants
Women's Bowling	8	32	25.0%	5
Cross Country	5	7	71.4%	5
Equestrian	6	15	40.0%	12
Men's Fencing	6	11	54.5%	5
Women's Fencing	6	11	54.5%	5
Golf	6	21	28.6%	5
Men's Gymnastics	6	13	46.2%	6
Women's Gymnastics	6	13	46.2%	5
Rifle	8	13	61.5%	4
Skiing	5	32	15.6%	5
Swimming & Diving	8	16	50.0%	11
Tennis	10	25	40.0%	5
Track Indoor	4	18	22.2%	10
Track Outdoor	4	18	22.2%	14
Wrestling	12	16	75.0%	7
Women's Triathlon	4	6	66.7%	3
		Average	45.0%	
Proposed	9	16	56.3%	6

The committee reasoned that because nine is half the number of the maximum contests (which is roughly the average from the above individual/team sports), and because six participants is just over 50 percent participating (using a maximum dual of 10 weight classes as an example), the recommendation is appropriate. The committee also considered the following minimums of both its Division I and Division III wrestling counterparts:

Division	Minimum Contests	Minimum Participants
DI	13	7
DII	12	7
DIII	7	6

The committee is sensitive to making sure the sport is not hindered by any minimums, especially considering that sponsorship numbers are relatively low compared to other individual/team sports.

- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.

- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

2. Nonlegislative items.

a. Super region adjustments.

- (1) Recommendation. Adjust the super region model to accommodate sponsorship changes (schools dropping and adding programs along with transitioning to Division I). (See Attachment A.)
- (2) Effective date. September 1, 2019.
- (3) Rationale. The committee wants to keep the number of institutions in each of the super regions as equal as possible and make travel reasonable. With the potential addition of four sponsoring institutions (Fairmont State, Davis & Elkins, Lander and Mount Olive), and with LIU Post reclassifying to Division I and Truman discontinuing sponsorship, an updated super region model is needed. The committee tried to minimize the number of adjustments from the previous model.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. The adjustment continues to maintain a balance of teams as best as possible within each region.

b. Date formula change.

- (1) Recommendation. Adjust the language in the date formula to allow the Division II Wrestling Championships to always be conducted the week before the Division I Wrestling Championships.
- (2) Effective date. September 1, 2019.
- (3) Rationale. Typically, this request would be made according to the timeline the Division II Championships Committee has established for considering date formula adjustments, but due to the upcoming bid process and the timing of the next window to submit (May 2024), the committee believes an immediate adjustment is necessary. Currently, the Division II Wrestling Championships date formula defines a weekend as Friday through Saturday, while Division I defines it as Thursday through Saturday. Accordingly, there are years (most recently in 2019) in which the Division II championships occur two weeks before the Division I championships, making the qualifying tournaments for Division I the same weekend as the Division II championships. This presents a significant

issue with securing officials. Because the best officials tend to work the Division I qualifying tournaments, Division II is left with a reduced and often less qualified pool of officials.

- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. The committee believes this recommendation will result in better officials at the championships, which will improve the student-athlete experience.

c. Super regional site selection.

- (1) Recommendation. That the following sites be approved to host super regionals in 2020 (Super Region 4) and 2021:

	<u>2020</u>	<u>Facility</u>
Super Region 4	Fort Hays State University	Gross Memorial Coliseum
	<u>2021</u>	<u>Facility</u>
Super Region 1	East Stroudsburg University	Koehler Fieldhouse
Super Region 2	Emmanuel College	Shaw Athletic Center
Super Region 3	Tiffin University	Heminger Center
Super Region 4	University of Central Oklahoma	Hamilton Fieldhouse
Super Region 5	Northern State University	Barnett Center
Super Region 6	Adams State University	Gross Memorial Coliseum

- (2) Effective date. September 1, 2019
- (3) Rationale. The committee believes these hosts will provide an outstanding championships atmosphere.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

- 1. **2019 championships review.** The wrestling committee reviewed the 2019 championships and addressed the following items:

- a. **Schedule of events.** The committee noted that if the proposed rules change mandating a two-hour window between weigh-ins and the start of competition is adopted, the start time of weigh-ins will be moved from 9 a.m. to 8 a.m. The committee also noted that adjusting the start time of Session II up an hour to 6 p.m. was generally well received, particularly because it allowed more time for rest until the next session on Saturday. The committee agreed to continue conducting the Grand March at the same time but to consider a system to speed up the march (see Informational Item 1-f below). The committee also wants to make sure that time is allotted to clean the mats with a dry mop before each session.
- b. **Selections, seeding and bracketing.** The committee was pleased with the standardization of pre-seeding at the super-regional sites but will look to adjust the challengeable number from within 10 points to within six points due to a smaller number of teams in each super region. The committee was pleased with the first year of the seeding of the finals site, as well as with the replacement policy for the finals site.
- c. **Medical checks/weigh-ins.** The committee was pleased with the space provided, although members noted that removing coaches from the area may help reduce the volume of people in the space. The committee wants to consider having an officials' representative on site for the grooming checks, since they are responsible for determining compliance once the matches begin. The committee wants to make sure a meeting with all athletic trainers takes place at least 15 minutes before the start of skin checks along with looking into having the athletic trainers pre-assigned to weight classes.
- d. **Trackwrestling operations (scoring and video).** The committee appreciated Trackwrestling's help with championship operations, including video feeds and score clock synchronization. The committee wants to continue asking that Trackwrestling members arrive on Tuesday to coordinate setup with facility staff.
- e. **Resilite (mats and mat brackets)/Tanita, Trackwrestling agreements.** The committee was pleased with each of these agreements and asked staff to review and make necessary enhancements. The committee is interested in feedback from the champions of each weight class on having the new champion brackets printed on a wrestling mat. The committee wants to have Resilite look for ways to reduce the residue on the mats once they arrive as there have been issues with trying to clean them in time for practices. The committee was pleased with increasing the number of scales from seven to 10, and members want to explore obtaining an 11th scale in case one of them is not working correctly.
- f. **Opening ceremonies/Grand March/awards ceremony/awards presenters.** The committee liked having the winning coach be among the awards presenters and wants to continue this practice. The committee also believes the parade of All-Americans is

important, and members agreed to continue exploring ways to enhance this part of the opening ceremony. The committee wants to adjust the Grand March so that teams will just report out onto the mats at a predetermined time to where their team signs will already be located. The committee feels this could speed up the march by not having the walk out time for each team. Staff will work on the logistics for this.

- g. Selection of officials/evaluation process.** The committee recognized this would be a tough year for assignments since Division I conference tournaments were on the same weekend. Tim Shiels addressed the committee and asked the continued development of the officials, pay structure and independent reviewer. As for the independent reviewer, Mr. Shiels advised exploring ways to make this a possibility and agreed to investigate costs. The committee was pleased overall with the timeline for confirming and appointing officials and wants to continue that process.
 - h. Mementos.** The committee noted that the gifting suite is a significant enhancement, and student-athletes really like being able to choose their gift option.
 - i. Head table (announcer).** The committee is pleased with both PA announcers' performance during the past number of championships and wants to retain them for the 2020 championships.
 - j. Lodging.** The committee discussed whether teams could make their own reservations rather than be preassigned hotels. The committee did not make a recommendation at this time but agreed to monitor the issue. The committee would also like to make it a priority whenever an attached hotel is available.
 - k. Video.** The committee was pleased with the standardized video streaming at super regional sites this year and the uniform costs across all regions. Streaming viewership numbers were not available at the time of the meeting, but staff will forward those once they become available.
- 2. Regional structure and qualification structure.** The committee reviewed the six super-region model and felt overall it went well but will continue monitoring each year. The committee is recommending some adjustments within the six super-region model to accommodate fluctuating sponsorship (see Action Item 2-a). The committee reviewed the one-day super regional format and received mostly positive feedback, and members agreed to continue the format for the 2020 championships. The committee wants to make sure that a 5th/6th place match is conducted at each super regional, and that each super regional have at least the top three place finishers on the podium for the awards presentation.
 - 3. Future sites and bid specifications.** The 2019 championships will be held in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, hosted by the Sioux Falls Sports Authority and Augustana University (South Dakota). The committee reviewed bids for the super regionals and agreed to recommend

sites listed in Action Item 2-c. Staff reviewed the upcoming four-year bid process and the timeline with the committee and noted that bid specifications will be reviewed in the coming months.

4. **Pre-championships manual/host operations manual/participant manual.** Staff asked the committee to submit revisions for the manuals as necessary.
5. **Championship misconduct.** The committee reviewed the various misconducts and materials submitted from the institutions and took appropriate actions.
7. **Coaches Connection.** The committee discussed the Coaches Connection program, noting its intent to enhance communication with coaches.
8. **Annual meeting report.** The committee reviewed and approved the report from its 2018 annual meeting.
9. **Legislative items.** Staff updated the committee regarding legislation adopted at the 2019 NCAA Convention to replace the coaches test with modules offered via the new Division II University initiative. Staff also reviewed legislation regarding sport sponsorship minimums (see Action Item 1).
10. **Other business.**
 - a. **Order of matches.** The committee approved having the flexibility to adjust the order in which the finals matches are conducted to accommodate a compelling matchup if necessary.
 - b. **Next budget cycle.** The committee reviewed potential items to consider for the next budget cycle, including possibly adding an athletic trainer as a mandatory paid travel party member. Currently there is no stipulation on who the non-athlete(s) have to be.

Committee Chair: Jackie Paquette, University of Indianapolis

Staff Liaison: Ryan Tressel, NCAA Championships and Alliances

Division II Wrestling Committee April 10-11, 2019, Meeting	
Attendees:	
Jackie Paquette, University of Indianapolis.	
Kelly Revells, Limestone College.	
Chas Thompson, Fort Hayes State University.	
Ann Traphagen, Augustana University (South Dakota).	
Brian Tucker, Seton Hill University.	

Miles Van Hee, Western Colorado University.
Absentees:
None.
Guests in Attendance:
Pat Tocci, National Wrestling Coaches Association. Jim Fallis, National Wrestling Coaches Association. Tim Shiels, National Coordinator of Officials.
NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:
Ryan Tressel, Championships and Alliances.
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:
Molly Simons, Championships and Alliances. Angela Red, Academic and Membership Affairs.

2019-20 Division II Wrestling **Recommended** Super Region Model

# of Teams	Super Region One (Yellow on map)		Super Region Two (Blue on map)		Super Region Three (Purple on map)		Super Region Four (Orange on map)		Super Region Five (Green on map)		Super Region Six (Red on map)	
1	American Int.	NEC 10 - E	Belmont Abbey	C. Carolinas- SE	Ashland	GLIAC - MW	Central Oklahoma	MIAA - C	Augustana	NSIC - C	Adams State	RMAC - SC
2	East Stroudsburg	PSAC - ATL	Coker	SAC - SE	Indianapolis	GLVC - MW	Central Missouri	MIAA - C	Mary	NSIC - C	Chadron State	RMAC - SC
3	Gannon	PSAC - ATL	Emmanuel College	C. Carolinas- SE	Findlay	GMAC - MW	Drury	GLVC-MW	Mankato	NSIC - C	Colorado Mesa	RMAC - SC
4	Kutztown	PSAC - ATL	King	C. Carolinas- SE	Lake Erie	GMAC - MW	Fort Hays State	MIAA - C	Moorhead	NSIC - C	Colorado Mines	RMAC - SC
5	Mercyhurst	PSAC - ATL	Limestone	C. Carolinas- SE	Notre Dame	MEC - ATL	Kentucky Wesleyan	GMAC - MW	Minot State	NSIC - C	CSU-Pueblo	RMAC - SC
6	Millersville	PSAC - ATL	Newberry	SAC - SE	Tiffin	GMAC - MW	Lindenwood	MIAA - C	Northern State	NSIC - C	New Mexico Highlands	RMAC - SC
7	Pitt-Johnstown	PSAC - ATL	Queens	SAC - SE	Urbana 18-19	MEC - ATL	Maryville	GLVC - MW	Southwest MN	NSIC - C	Western State	RMAC - SC
8	Seton Hill	PSAC - ATL	UNC-Pembroke	PBC - SE	West Liberty	MEC - ATL	McKendree	GLVC - MW	St. Cloud St.	NSIC - C	San Francisco State	RMAC - W
9	Shippensburg	PSAC - ATL	Davis & Elkins	MEG - ATL	Davenport 19-20	GLIAC - MW	Newman	MIAA - C	Upper Iowa	NSIC - C	Simon Fraser	GNAC - W
10	Alderson Broaddus	GMAC - MW	Mount Olive	C. Carolinas- SE	Wheeling Jesuit	MEC - ATL	Ouachita Baptist	GAC - C	UW-Parkside	GLIAC - MW	Nebraska-Kearney	MIAA - C
11	Fairmont State	MEC - ATL	Lander	PBC - SE	Ohio Valley	GMAC - MW	Bellarmine	GLVC-MW				

NOTE:
Institutions listed to the left are color coded in what their super region was last year (2018-19) to show how many teams are recommended to be adjusted. Bright green color indicates institutions newly sponsoring wrestling.

Reclassifying to Division I
LIU-Post
ECC - E

No longer sponsoring
Truman State
GLVC - MW

