



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION I COMPETITION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
AUGUST 10, 2022, VIDEOCONFERENCE**

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

- 1. Equity, diversity, inclusion (EDI) and the student-athlete voice.** As part of its ongoing commitment to celebrating equity, diversity and inclusion, the Competition Oversight Committee begins each meeting by recognizing an influential person, group or event that has made a positive impact in intercollegiate athletics. The committee during this videoconference celebrated two influential women in track and field: Alice Coachman, a Tuskegee University and Albany State College graduate who in 1948 became the first African American woman to win a gold medal at the Olympic Games (in the high jump) and who was known throughout her life as a staunch advocate for encouraging women of color to pursue opportunities in athletics; and Rosalie Fish, a current cross country and track and field student-athlete at the University of Washington who this past April received the prestigious Truman Scholarship and who as a Native American has been and continues to be an activist for missing and murdered Indigenous women.

- 2. Committee focus areas and decision-making priorities.** As it also does at the beginning of every meeting, the committee revisited its focus areas (not in priority order) that will continue to guide its decision-making process going forward:

Student-athlete experience | Equity, diversity and inclusion | Competitive fairness | Student-athlete health and well-being | Fiscal planning

- 3. Review of recent reports.** The committee approved the report from its July 13 videoconference as presented.

- 4. Division I championships updates.**
 - a. Bracketing pilot.** The committee reviewed bracketing principles the NCAA Division I Women's Soccer Committee and the NCAA Division I Women's Volleyball Committee will use this fall to fulfill a one-year pilot in which those two sport committees will assign seeds to 50 percent of teams in their bracket. The pilot was approved to provide the COC with additional data on which to base funding decisions next spring as the committee prepares to allocate dollars for the 2023-24 year and beyond. COC members were encouraged to help staff communicate these principles to the relevant sport communities so that all stakeholders are informed going into the season.

 - b. Gender equity update.** NCAA staff members John Baldwin and Leigh Ann Price, who have been charged with overseeing the implementation of recommendations as a result of the gender equity review, updated the committee on the progress made to date and next steps.

 - c. Replacement policy update.** The committee reviewed and approved an updated draft of team replacement policies for Division I and National Collegiate championships that will be used going forward to manage situations that arise due to extraordinary circumstances in the future. The policies, which were developed to address situations over the past two years due to COVID-19 but can be applied to other circumstances as well, are consistent across sports and will be incorporated in future pre-championship manuals. The policies are only for sports

the COC oversees, though men's and women's basketball are in the process of drafting policies that may be very similar to what the COC approved.

- d. Priorities for financial investment.** The committee continued discussing two important developments related to financial support for the Division I Championships Program, one of which was the Division I Council's recent recommendation that the Division I Board of Directors review the NCAA budget and consider future adjustments to prioritize the funding of championships as a key function of the NCAA; and the other being the recent action by the Division I Transformation Committee to establish a subgroup devoted specifically to championships that will focus on the following priority components: (1) access to championship events (e.g., automatic qualification), including the qualifying formats, and multidivisional and National Collegiate championships; (2) bracket/field size; (3) student-athlete experience; (4) budget for championships; and (5) revenue philosophy. The COC is enthusiastic about these developments and will work posthaste to provide a detailed assessment of desired outcomes of the priority components the Transformation Committee subgroup identified to help inform the review.

5. Team Sports Subcommittee report.

a. Men's ice hockey.

- 1) RPI computation for overtime games.** The COC approved adjusting the method for computing RPI credit for games decided in overtime so that partial credit is awarded to both teams. The computation of the RPI would be adjusted to award 67 percent of a win to the team scoring in three-on-three overtime and 33 percent of a win to the opponent. Games ending in a tie (or in the optional shootout period) will continue to award 50 percent of a win to each team.
- 2) Bracketing principle - seeding adjustment.** The COC approved the sport committee's request to adjust a team's placement within a band (i.e., Band 1 that includes teams ranked 1-4; Band 2 that includes teams ranked 5-8; Band 3 that includes teams ranked 9-12; and Band 4 that includes teams ranked 13-16) by no more than two spots when there is minimal separation in the Pairwise total, in order to create better attendance/atmosphere at a regional site. This recommendation, which will be effective for the 2023 championship, codifies a practice that has been unofficially available to the committee in the past and provides the committee the option to slightly vary from the Pairwise rankings by switching two teams within the same band to provide the opportunity for strong attendance and an enhanced experience for the student-athletes competing at a regional site.
- 3) Automatic qualification.** The COC approved the following six conferences for automatic qualification into the 2023 NCAA Division I Men's Ice Hockey Championship: Atlantic Hockey Conference; Big Ten Conference; Central Collegiate Hockey Association; ECAC Hockey Conference; Hockey East Conference; and National Collegiate Hockey Conference.

b. Women's ice hockey.

- 1) **Automatic qualification.** The COC approved the following five conferences for automatic qualification into the 2023 National Collegiate Women's Ice Hockey Championship: College Hockey America; ECAC Hockey; Hockey East Association; New England Women's Hockey Alliance; and Western Collegiate Hockey Association.
- 2) **NCAA Percentage Index.** The COC approved the sport committee's request to use the NCAA Percentage Index (NPI) as a replacement for the Rating Percentage Index (RPI) in the selection criteria, effective with the 2023 championship. The sport committee had asked the COC to consider this in 2020 and was advised to use the NPI in conjunction with – instead of a replacement for – the RPI for two years to assess its impact on selections and return with a recommendation to the COC. In that time the sport committee has affirmed its belief that the NPI provides a better calculation that is based on winning percentage and the opponent's rating itself (rather than the combination of opponents' winning percentage and opponents' opponents' winning percentage) as the measure of schedule strength.

c. Men's lacrosse.

- **Automatic qualification.** The committee approved the following nine conferences for automatic qualification into the 2023 NCAA Division I Men's Lacrosse Championship: America East Conference; ASUN Conference; Atlantic 10 Conference; Big East Conference; Big Ten Conference; Colonial Athletic Association; The Ivy League; Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference; and the Patriot League. (The two lowest-ranked automatic-qualifying teams as determined by the sport committee, regardless of conference RPI, will compete in an opening-round game to determine the final AQ spot in the championship bracket.)

6. Individual/Team Sports Subcommittee report.

- **Men's and women's rifle.**
- **Selection date change.** The COC approved the sport committee's request to move the selection show for the National Collegiate Men's and Women's Rifle Championships up one day from 3 p.m. Eastern time Tuesday to 3 p.m. Eastern time Monday.

7. Future videoconferences/meetings.

- Wednesday, September 14, 2-3:30 p.m. Eastern time (monthly videoconference).
- Monday-Tuesday, October 3-4 (quarterly meeting in person, Indianapolis).
- Wednesday, November 9, 2-3:30 p.m. Eastern time (monthly videoconference).
- Wednesday, December 14, 2-3:30 p.m. Eastern time (monthly videoconference).

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August 10, 2022, Videoconference

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Staff Liaisons: *Joni Comstock, Championships and Alliances*
 Jennifer Henderson, Academic and Membership Affairs
 Liz Suscha, Championships and Alliances
 John Bugner, Championships and Alliances

NCAA Division I Competition Oversight Committee August 10, 2022, Videoconference	
Attendees:	
Renee Baumgartner, Santa Clara University.	
Mark Benson, University of Albany.	
Jennifer Condaras, Colonial Athletic Association.	
Mike Cragg, St. John's University (New York).	
Tiffany Daniels, Southeastern Conference.	
Brad Edwards, George Mason University.	
Wendy Fallen, Big Ten Conference.	
Katherine Harston, New Mexico State University.	
Kathy Keene, Sun Belt Conference.	
Michael Kelly, University of South Florida.	
Brandon Martin, University of Missouri-Kansas City.	
Celene McGowan, The Ivy League.	
Eddie Nunez, University of New Mexico.	
Alecia Shields-Gadson, Delaware State University.	
Christina Wombacher, Arizona State University.	
Absentees:	
Raymond Harrison, North Carolina State University.	
Martin Newton, Samford University.	
Billy Walker, American University.	
Julia Ware, University of Notre Dame.	
Guest(s) in Attendance:	
Gary Brown, NCAA Contractor.	
NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:	
John Bugner, Championships and Alliances.	
Joni Comstock, Championships and Alliances.	
Jennifer Henderson, Academic and Membership Affairs.	
Liz Suscha, Championships and Alliances.	
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:	
John Baldwin, Jennifer Fraser, Greg Johnson, Tracy McClendon, Jeff O'Barr, Leigh Ann Price and Jerry Vaughn.	