



**REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION I COMPETITION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE  
OCTOBER 3-4, 2022, MEETING**

**Note: This document does not include items incorporated in the NCAA Division I Council report.**

ACTION ITEMS.

- **None.**

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 initiative that has made a positive impact in intercollegiate athletics. Staff reminded the committee at this meeting about the resources available through the NCAA Office of Inclusion designed to help NCAA members boost their own diversity and inclusion efforts.
- 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 September 14 electronic correspondence as presented.
- 4. Division I championships updates.**
  - a. Gender equity evaluation.** Staff updated the committee on efforts to implement the recommendations identified in the gender equity review, including a newly developed internal review process of championships to ensure continued progress.
  - b. Championships eligibility guidance.** Staff reviewed with the committee the minimum contest requirements by sport for the purposes of championships eligibility for 2022-23. While no action was required at this meeting, the committee reviewed a chart staff provided and noted that an FAQ document is available on NCAA.org to help address issues if necessary.
  - c. Budget update.** The committee reviewed the budget-to-actuals for fiscal year 2021-22 as well as a breakdown of expenses by category for the championships allocation.
- 5. Playing Rules Oversight Panel reports.** The committee received reports from the panel's most recent meetings as information only.
- 6. Individual/Team Sports Subcommittee report.**

**a. Men's golf.**

**1) Automatic qualification.** The committee approved the following conferences for automatic qualification into the 2023 Division I Men's Golf Championships: American Athletic Conference; ASUN Conference; Atlantic Coast Conference; Atlantic 10 Conference; Big East Conference; Big Sky Conference; Big South Conference; Big Ten Conference; Big 12 Conference; Big West Conference; Colonial Athletic Association; Conference USA; Horizon League; The Ivy League; Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference; Mid-American Conference; Missouri Valley Conference; Mountain West Conference; Northeast Conference; Ohio Valley Conference; Pacific-12 Conference; Patriot League; Southeastern Conference; Southern Conference; Southland Conference; Southwestern Athletic Conference; The Summit League; Sun Belt Conference; West Coast Conference; and Western Athletic Conference.

**2) Schedule submission policy adjustment.** The committee approved the sport committee's request to adjust the schedule submission deadline from October 1 to August 31. The October 1 deadline had allowed teams to compete in tournaments for the first month of the season and adjust their schedules accordingly for the remainder of the year, without penalties, which in the sport committee's opinion incentivized gamesmanship in that coaches were able to take early season results into consideration and adjust the remainder of their competition schedule to best position their teams for postseason qualification. Both the men's and women's golf committees believe an earlier submission deadline of August 31 will mitigate the concern, given that no competition is permitted to be conducted prior to that date.

*[Note: The COC approved the same request from the women's golf committee (see Informational Item 7-b-2).]*

**3) Overall top seed regional site preference.** The committee considered but did not take action on the sport committee's request to allow the overall top seed for the championship to select its preferred site for regional competition. Some committee members expressed concern that doing so for men's golf would set a potentially unwanted precedent for other sports, and that allowing the top seed to choose its venue would have a cascading effect on displacing other teams from respective sites.

**b. Women's golf.**

**1) Automatic qualification.** The committee approved the following conferences for automatic qualification into the 2023 Division I Women's Golf Championships: American Athletic Conference; ASUN Conference; Atlantic Coast Conference; Big East Conference; Big Sky Conference; Big South Conference; Big Ten Conference; Big 12 Conference; Big West Conference; Colonial Athletic Association; Conference USA; Horizon League; The Ivy League; Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference; Mid-American Conference; Missouri Valley Conference; Mountain West Conference; Northeast Conference; Ohio Valley Conference; Pacific-12 Conference; Patriot League; Southeastern Conference; Southern Conference;

Southland Conference; The Summit League; Sun Belt Conference; and Western Athletic Conference.

*(Note: The Southland Conference is no longer in a grace period due to the addition of affiliate members. The Ohio Valley Conference will enter the first year of its grace period during the 2022-23 season with only five active Division I conference members competing in women's golf.)*

- 2) Schedule submission policy adjustment.** The committee approved the sport committee's request to adjust the schedule submission deadline from October 1 to August 31.

*[Note: The COC approved the same request from the men's golf committee (see Informational Item 6-b-2).]*

- 3) Regular-season format recommendation.** The committee approved the sport committee's request to consider the six-count-five and six-count-four formats as allowable options for purposes of rankings and selections. The committee noted that the two formats are currently allowed in all three divisions of men's golf and that the Divisions II and III Women's Golf Committees are advocating the use of both formats as well.

*(Note: The discussion regarding this recommendation prompted a related discussion about selection criteria in men's and women's golf, specifically that the Division I Men's Golf Committee requires teams to be above .500 to be considered whereas the Division I Women's Golf Committee does not. The COC wants the women's golf committee to review the issue and explain why not including the .500 requirement is in the sport's best interests.)*

**c. Women's gymnastics.**

- 1) Bracketing principles.** The committee approved the sport committee's request to seed teams in the bracket based on ranking to clarify session assignments and reward the top-seeded teams and individuals.
- 2) Assigning individual competitors at regionals.** The committee approved the sport committee's request to require that an individual all-around competitor who competed in regionals round one be assigned to the evening session of round two, and to permit individual competitors from the same team to be assigned to the same session and rotational order, if feasible. This provides flexibility in assigning individuals and does not result in a discernable disadvantage to the top-seeded teams should an individual be assigned to their rotational order. It provides an individual all-around competitor who competed in regionals round one with ample recovery time.
- 3) Alternates for regionals and nationals.** The committee approved the sport committee's request to name the next highest individual competitor in each event and the all-around as an alternate. If a qualifier declines the invitation within the 24-hour period following

the announcement of qualifiers, the alternate will be informed and given the opportunity to accept. The alternate must then accept within 24 hours of notification. This provides the opportunity for all individual qualifier spots to be filled at regionals and nationals.

- 4) **Selection show date change.** The committee approved the sport committee's request to move the selection show from Tuesday to Monday evening following conference championships. ESPN has indicated it can accommodate a Monday show, and the change also provides institutions with more time to make travel plans for regionals.
- 5) **Regional competition date formula.** The Women's Gymnastics Committee during its annual meeting in June also recommended staggering regional competition days and times with two regionals competing Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday and two regionals competing Thursday, Friday, and Sunday. Because this was a more time-sensitive request that impacted the upcoming season, the Competition Oversight Committee addressed and approved the matter via its September 14 electronic vote.

*(Note: Subsequent to the COC's September 14 action, some concerns emerged from at least one member of the Division I Student-Athlete Advisory Committee regarding the potential inconsistencies that could result from staggering the regional days. The COC asked that the Division I SAAC revisit the issue to explore whether this concern is widespread among women's gymnasts. The COC also asked the Women's Gymnastics Committee to provide further rationale for the proposal to address the concern cited. The COC agreed to review the issue further during its monthly videoconference in November.)*

**d. Men's and women's skiing.**

- 1) **Regional sites.** The committee approved the following institutions and sites to host the 2023 NCAA Division I Men's and Women's Skiing Championships regionals:

Region	Dates	Venue	Host
West	Feb. 23-25	Alyeska and Kincaid Park in Anchorage, Alaska	University of Alaska Anchorage
East	Feb. 24-25	Whiteface Mountain and Mt. Van Hoevenberg in Lake Placid, New York	St. Lawrence University
Central	Feb. 25-26	Al Quaal Recreation Area in Ishpeming, Michigan	Northern Michigan University

- 2) **Potential recommendation for Nordic race distances.** The COC noted as information the sport committee's ongoing discussion of standardizing the distance for the men's and women's Nordic races. The sport committee plans to determine the specific distance once feedback is obtained and formally submit a proposal to the COC for consideration.

**e. Men's and women's swimming and diving.**

- **Committee chair.** The committee approved a waiver allowing a coach [Hollie Bonewit-Cron at Miami (Ohio)] to chair the committee in 2022-23.

**f. Men's and women's tennis.**

- 1) Automatic qualification.** The committee approved the following conferences for automatic qualification into the 2023 NCAA Division I Men's and Women's Tennis Championships (31 conferences for the women's championships and 29 for the men's): American Athletic Conference; Atlantic Coast Conference; Atlantic Sun Conference; Atlantic 10 Conference; Big East Conference; Big Sky Conference; Big South Conference; Big Ten Conference; Big 12 Conference; Big West Conference; Colonial Athletic Association; Conference USA; Horizon League; The Ivy League; Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference; Mid-American Conference; Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference; Missouri Valley Conference (women's only); Mountain West Conference; Northeast Conference; Ohio Valley Conference (women's only); Pac-12 Conference; Patriot League; Southeastern Conference; Southern Conference; Southland Conference; Southwestern Athletic Conference; The Summit League; Sun Belt Conference; West Coast Conference; and Western Athletic Conference.

*(Note: The Ohio Valley Conference will enter the first year of its grace period for the 2022-23 season with only five conference members for women's tennis. The Horizon League and Southland Conference have added the requisite number of members in men's tennis to exit the grace period after two years and one year, respectively. The Ohio Valley Conference no longer has an automatic qualifier for men's tennis for the 2022-23 academic year.)*

- 2) Regular-season matches after the start of conference tournaments.** The committee approved the sport committee's recommendation that once a conference tournament begins, any matches played outside of the tournament by a member of that conference shall no longer be counted for purposes of selection to the NCAA Division I Men's or Women's Tennis Championships. The action addresses a concern that teams on the bubble for selections that have been eliminated from their conference tournament or have completed their conference tournament could add a match to improve their ITA ranking for championships selection. The COC agreed with the tennis committee's position that the regular season should end at the start of a team's conference tournament. (The COC also noted this doesn't preclude a team from playing a match, but it would not count for selection purposes.)

**g. Men's and women's track and field and cross country.**

- 1) Individual relay awards.** The committee considered but did not support the sport committee's recommendation that awards be distributed to all student-athletes who participated on an institution's scoring relay team during any round of the outdoor track and field championships (quarterfinal, semifinal or final). The COC reasoned that this would be similar to those individuals in team sports who may compete in an earlier round but are not on the final site squad size and thus don't receive a trophy provided on site. An institution can purchase additional awards for these athletes.

- 2) Field size increase.** The committee approved in concept increasing the number of teams that advance to the men's and women's cross country championships finals site from 31 to 32 for each gender, effective with the 2023 championships. The committee considered that the field size has not expanded since 1998 while sport sponsorship has increased, and championship courses can accommodate the minimal increase. The committee agreed to more formally consider the field size increase during its review of all sport committee budget requests for the next budget cycle in spring 2023.

## 7. Team Sports Subcommittee report.

### a. Women's lacrosse.

- **Predetermined quarterfinal sites.** The committee approved the sport committee's recommendation to conduct the championship quarterfinals at predetermined sites beginning in 2024. This approach aligns with the men's championship, though the women's tournament will use four quarterfinal sites as opposed to two for the men.

### b. Softball.

- **Automatic qualification.** The committee approved the following conferences for automatic qualification into the 2023 NCAA Division I Softball Championship: America East Conference; American Athletic Conference; Atlantic Coast Conference; Atlantic 10 Conference; Atlantic Sun Conference; Big East Conference; Big Sky Conference; Big South Conference; Big Ten Conference; Big 12 Conference; Big West Conference; Colonial Athletic Association; Conference USA; Horizon League; The Ivy League; Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference; Mid-American Conference; Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference; Missouri Valley Conference; Mountain West Conference; Northeast Conference; Ohio Valley Conference; Pac-12 Conference; Patriot League; Southeastern Conference; Southern Conference; Southland Conference; Southwestern Athletic Conference; The Summit League; Sun Belt Conference; West Coast Conference; and Western Athletic Conference.

### c. Women's water polo.

- **Automatic qualification.** The committee approved the following conferences for automatic qualification into the 2023 National Collegiate Women's Water Polo Championship: Big West Conference, Collegiate Water Polo Association, Golden Coast Conference, Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference, Mount Pacific Sports Federation, Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference and Western Water Polo Association.

## 8. Other business.

- **Officiating initiatives.** Staff updated the committee on initiatives underway to help bolster education, training, and retention for officials in intercollegiate athletics.

**9. Future videoconferences/meetings.**

- Wednesday, November 9, 2-3:30 p.m. Eastern time (monthly videoconference).
- Monday, December 12, 1-2:30 p.m. Eastern time (monthly videoconference).

*Committee Chair:* Renee Baumgartner, Santa Clara University  
*Staff Liaisons:* Joni Comstock, Championships and Alliances  
 Jennifer Henderson, Academic and Membership Affairs  
 Liz Suscha, Championships and Alliances  
 John Bugner, Championships and Alliances

<b>NCAA Division I Competition Oversight Committee October 3-4, 2022, Meeting</b>
<b>Attendees:</b>
Renee Baumgartner, Santa Clara University.
Mark Benson, University of Albany (via videoconference).
Jennifer Condaras, Colonial Athletic Association.
Mike Cragg, St. John’s University (New York).
Tiffany Daniels, Southeastern Conference.
Wendy Fallen, Big Ten Conference (via videoconference).
Raymond Harrison, North Carolina State University.
Katherine Harston, New Mexico State University.
Kathy Keene, Sun Belt Conference (via videoconference).
Michael Kelly, University of South Florida.
Celene McGowan, The Ivy League.
Eddie Nunez, University of New Mexico (via videoconference).
Alecia Shields-Gadson, Delaware State University.
Billy Walker, American University.
Christina Wombacher, Arizona State University.
<b>Absentees:</b>
Brandon Martin, University of Missouri-Kansas City.
Julia Ware, University of Notre Dame.
<b>Guest(s) in Attendance:</b>
Gary Brown, NCAA Contractor (via videoconference).
Ursula Gurney, University of Missouri-Kansas City (NCAA Pathways Program).
Tiffani Sykes, Dartmouth College (NCAA Pathways Program).
Lynda Tealer, University of Florida (Transformation Committee Championships Subgroup Chair).
Katie Willet, Big East Conference (NCAA Pathways Program).
<b>NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:</b>
John Bugner, Championships and Alliances.

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Joni Comstock, Championships and Alliances.
Jennifer Henderson, Academic and Membership Affairs.
Liz Suscha, Championships and Alliances.
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>
John Baldwin, Anthony Holman, Greg Johnson, Tracy McClendon, Jeff O'Barr, Leigh Ann Price and Jerry Vaughn.