



**REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIPS COMMITTEE  
JULY 24, 2020, VIDEOCONFERENCE**

**ACTION ITEMS.**

- None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

- 1. Welcome and review of agenda.** Championships Committee Chair Sue Willey welcomed the group and reviewed the agenda. Given that nine Division II conferences as of July 23 have announced they will not be conducting fall sports in 2020, the Championships Committee convened in advance of its regularly scheduled videoconference on July 28 to continue discussing next steps in order to provide the Division II membership with as much direction as possible moving forward.
- 2. Discussion of COVID-19 impact on 2020-21 Division II championships.** The committee continued its review of sport sponsorship for fall sports, noting that all except field hockey are currently hovering in the 61-68 percent range. The conference cancellations have affected field hockey the most, as only nine of the 34 teams in that sport (26.5%) remain active for 2020. While committee members acknowledge that the Division II membership is anxiously awaiting indications from the governance structure regarding fall sport championships, they also feel obligated to do their due diligence to provide as many student-athletes as possible with a viable regular-season and championship experience so long as it is safe to do so, and so long as a majority of Division II conferences are still pursuing that approach. The committee believes recommending cancellation of fall sport championships at this time without exhausting other avenues does not honor that due diligence.

Accordingly, members continued exploring a range of alternatives, from setting a percentage threshold above which a sport's championship would still be conducted, to considering options for postponing fall sport championships until the second semester. Staff noted information currently being compiled indicates that the latter would come at considerable expense, notwithstanding the myriad logistical challenges. As that information will not be finalized until the committee's July 28 videoconference, members were reluctant to make a formal recommendation until having had the chance to weigh the actual impact of postponement, particularly since several conferences are pursuing options to move at least a portion of their fall sport seasons into the second semester. The committee also did not wish to recommend a threshold sponsorship percentage for conducting championships at this time for fear that it would have an undesired domino effect on conference decisions.

As such, the committee felt that part of its due diligence was to wait at least until the July 28 videoconference before making any further statements or decisions. While members realize the membership in many cases can't afford to delay their own decisions much longer, they believe it is the responsible choice to base decisions about conducting championships on the

most reliable information available, including the financials on conducting fall sport championships in the second semester.

- 3. Other business.** Staff noted that the Division II Men's and Women's Cross Country Committee is continuing to work on a format for the 2020 championships that would reduce the number of regional sites and the number of overall participants due to the impact of COVID-19. The sport committee asked the Championships Committee for feedback on a model that would actually eliminate the regionals altogether and base the field on the automatic qualifiers and at-large selections from conferences still participating in the sport this fall. While the Championships Committee noted the severity of the proposal, members also believe it is a reasonable approach, particularly in light of the fact that previously selected regional hosts have opted not to participate because of the pandemic. Accordingly, the Championships Committee agreed that the sport committee make a formal recommendation along these lines for consideration.
- 4. Future meetings/videoconferences.** The committee agreed to continue convening as needed via Microsoft Teams in order to manage the fluid and unpredictable athletics landscape moving forward. The next sessions are scheduled for July 28 and August 6.

*Committee Chair:* Sue Willey, University of Indianapolis; Great Lakes Valley Conference  
*Staff Liaison(s):* Roberta Page, Championships and Alliances  
Liz Homrig, Championships and Alliances  
Karen Wolf, Academic and Membership Affairs

Division II Championships Committee July 24, 2020, Videoconference	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Reid Amos, Mountain East Conference.	
Steve Card, Western Washington University.	
Dick Christy, University of North Carolina at Pembroke.	
Grant Foley, Delta State University (Division II SAAC representative).	
Chris Graham, Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference (Management Council chair).	
Terri Holmes, Northern State University.	
Jim Johnson, Pittsburg State University (Management Council vice chair).	
Matt Kilcullen, Mercy College.	
Courtney Lovely, Palm Beach Atlantic University.	
Carrie Michaels, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania.	
Kristin Mort, Colorado Mesa University.	
Suzanne Sanregret, Michigan Technological University.	

Sue Willey, University of Indianapolis.
<b>Absentees:</b>
Greg Bamberger, Kutztown University of Pennsylvania.
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>
Gary Brown, NCAA Contractor.
<b>NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:</b>
Liz Homrig, Championships and Alliances.
Roberta Page, Championships and Alliances.
Karen Wolf, Academic and Membership Affairs.
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>
Liza Erwin, Haydyn Gibson, Terri Steeb Gronau, Leslie Havens, Maritza Jones, Ryan Jones, Corbin McGuire, Stephanie Quigg.