



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIPS COMMITTEE
JULY 9, 2020, VIDEOCONFERENCE**

ACTION ITEMS.

- None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Welcome and review of agenda.** Championships Committee Chair Sue Willey welcomed the group and noted that Carrie Michaels, senior associate director of athletics and senior woman administrator at Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania, has joined the committee as the new Management Council representative.
2. **Approval of recent reports.** The committee approved the report from its June 1 and 10 videoconferences, as submitted.
3. **Discussion of fall sport championships predetermined sites.** The committee reviewed the need to move to predetermined sites for all fall sport championships because of COVID-19, particularly in order to control the number of sites since strict testing protocols will be required. Members noted that the contingency plan is not significantly different from the current format since Division II is accustomed to conducting eight-team regionals.
4. **Discussion of regulations and policies impacted by COVID-19.** The committee began discussing additional contingency scenarios for managing fall sport championships in the event the ongoing effects of the COVID-19 crisis significantly impact not only sports sponsorship but also how schools conduct their regular-season competitions. While the committee acknowledged it is still too early to take any definitive action in this space, members began analyzing various championships management items and agreed on the policy adjustments, noting the fluidity of the issues will make it necessary to revisit these recommendations and other items as conditions warrant. [See Attachment]
5. **Other business.** Staff noted that new resources and best practices will be shared in the coming days with the NCAA membership regarding the Resocialization of Collegiate Sport; specifically, what strategies and tactics campus personnel can deploy to safely prepare student-athletes for their return to campus and to athletics competition.
6. **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 videoconference is scheduled for August 6, though the committee may convene earlier if necessary.

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 9, 2020, Videoconference	
Attendees:	
Reid Amos, Mountain East Conference.	
Greg Bamberger, Kutztown University of Pennsylvania.	
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).	
Carrie Michaels, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania.	
Kristin Mort, Colorado Mesa University.	
Suzanne Sanregret, Michigan Technological University.	
Sue Willey, University of Indianapolis.	
Absentees:	
Matt Kilcullen, Mercy College.	
Courtney Lovely, Palm Beach Atlantic University.	
Guests in Attendance:	
Gary Brown, NCAA Contractor.	
NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:	
Liz Homrig, Championships and Alliances.	
Roberta Page, Championships and Alliances.	
Karen Wolf, Academic and Membership Affairs.	
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:	
Liza Erwin, Haydyn Gibson, Terri Steeb Gronau, Leslie Havens, Maritza Jones, Ryan Jones, Corbin McGuire, Stephanie Quigg.	



**Division II Championships Committee – WORKING DRAFT
Discussion Related Policies Impacted by COVID-19**

Priority 1: Decisions needed as soon as possible.

Priority 2: Decisions needed in future teleconferences.

Priority 3: Information only.

Ranking and Selection Issues	Recommendation/Outcome	Point of Contact	Decision Maker	Priority/ Decision Date
Number of ranking calls for Fall sports.	<p>Currently, committees have three ranking calls plus a selection call for Fall sports. Since there will be less out of conference play, do committees still need three calls plus a selection call?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Retain the three scheduled ranking calls by sport. 	Roberta Page		1
Additional selection criteria.	<p>Should we use the additional selection criteria for 2020-21 since many conferences will be playing only a conference schedule?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep the additional selection criteria available as is for 2020-21. 	Roberta Page	Championships Committee/Sports Committee	1

Ranking and Selection Issues	Recommendation/Outcome	Point of Contact	Decision Maker	Priority/ Decision Date
Eliminate all-comers competition and implement qualifying standards (XC).	<p>Possible criteria-Institutions must finish in the top 5 (as a team or individual) in conference meet to be eligible for regional competition.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Defer recommendations for conducting the men's and women's cross country championships until the Division II Men's and Women's Cross Country Committee completes its work on developing an alternative to the current "all-comers" format that reduces both the number of regionals and the number of participants. 	Liz Homrig	Championships Committee/Sports Committee	1
Travel restrictions by state and/or institutions.	<p>Should an institution identify any applicable restrictions prior to selections/bracketing?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Institutions that experience state-issued travel or participation 	Roberta Page	Championships Committee	1

Ranking and Selection Issues	Recommendation/Outcome	Point of Contact	Decision Maker	Priority/ Decision Date
	<p>restrictions must identify those to the national office championships manager prior to selections.</p> <p>Should sport committees remove institutions who are not permitted to travel after the bracket is set and insert teams able to travel?</p> <p>What if the Regional champion is not permitted to travel to the final site? Does the runner-up represent the region?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the regional champion is not permitted to travel to the final site, then the runner-up would be selected. <p>Testing and other virus safety/sanitation protocols will impact decisions about site selection and management.</p>			

AQ Issues	Recommendation/Outcome	Point of Contact	Decision Maker	Priority/ Decision Date
Conference AQ – cannot travel.	Each conference should have a policy noting what would happen if the AQ cannot compete for any reason and how they will determine the AQ.	Roberta Page	Championships Committee	3
AQ eligibility for a conference that drops below the minimum requirements for an AQ.	Conferences have a three-year grace period to maintain the AQ (31.3.4.5 Grace Period).	Roberta Page		3

Travel Issues	Recommendation/Outcome	Point of Contact	Decision Maker	Priority/ Decision Date
Regional tournaments.	<p>Make regional sites pre-determined. Cross Country currently has pre-determined regional sites.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All regional sites must be predetermined. 	Roberta Page/Liz Homrig/John		1
Hosting regional tournaments.	<p>Allow the site that would require the least amounts of flights to host the regional.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All final sites will be pre-determined. 	Roberta Page	Championships Committee	2

Travel Issues	Recommendation/Outcome	Point of Contact	Decision Maker	Priority/ Decision Date
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Teams may elect to travel by bus to the championship site rather than fly. 			
Mileage requirements for hotels.	<p>Remove the mileage requirements for hotels.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mileage requirements from hotels to the competition venue will be removed. 	Roberta Page	Championships Committee	2

Championship Issues	Recommendation/Outcome	Point of Contact	Decision Maker	Priority/ Decision Date
What is the minimum number/percentage of participating institutions necessary to conduct a NCAA championship (by sport)?	<p>Look at a sliding scale to determine if a bracket should be decreased to maintain the integrity of the bracket based on 2019-20 sponsorship levels.</p> <p>Target XX% participation by sport.</p> <p>Consider the date of the decision to conduct a championship or</p>	Roberta Page	Championships Committee	1

Championship Issues	Recommendation/Outcome	Point of Contact	Decision Maker	Priority/ Decision Date
	<p>reduce/field size. If travel or other conditions change during regular season, determine if there is a viable alternate to traditional championship format.</p> <p>September XX, 2020</p> <p>Preliminary discussion suggested to maintain current access ratios and not reduce bracket sizes (7/9/20).</p>			
<p>Weigh other factors for bracket/field size reductions such as testing or other virus protocols cannot be implemented with current bracket/field sizes.</p>	<p>Determine methods and milestone dates to commit to championship. Evaluate whether the membership report will provide the level of assurance necessary to understand intentions by participating institutions to make themselves eligible for championship.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agreed to table discussion of whether brackets should be adjusted if sport sponsorship changes until further information is obtained. <p>(NCAA Statistics keeping track of reported cancellations/suspensions</p>			

Championship Issues	Recommendation/Outcome	Point of Contact	Decision Maker	Priority/ Decision Date
	through news reports; additional step in process with NCAA Research staff to determine alternate method to ascertain membership intentions for sponsorship; anticipate a simple, periodic survey to conferences to report school status)			
Regional winners.	<p>If the national championship cannot take place, should we recognize regional winners?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the national championship cannot be conducted, then the regional winners would be recognized. 	Roberta Page/Championship Managers	Championships Committee/Administrative Committee	1
Date declaring intent to sponsor Fall sports at the conference level.	<p>Set dates prior to September 1 asking for conferences to declare whether they are sponsoring Fall championships.</p> <p>Allow the internal working group to recommend dates for notification.</p>	Roberta Page	Championships Committee	1

Championship Issues	Recommendation/Outcome	Point of Contact	Decision Maker	Priority/ Decision Date
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conferences must declare whether they are sponsoring fall sports by September 1. 			
One of the regions does not have a conference post-season participant or any participating conferences.	<p>Allow the participating conference(s) to make up all of the post season seeds.</p> <p>Or</p> <p>Should we reduce the regional bracket according to eligibility?</p> <p>Answer above</p>	Roberta Page	Championships Committee	2
Team has individual with COVID-19 once competition has started.	<p>Would the opposing team receive a bye?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Once championship competition begins, if a team is unable to participate due to a COVID-19 outbreak, the opponent would receive a bye. 	Championship Manger	TBD	2

Championship Issues	Recommendation/Outcome	Point of Contact	Decision Maker	Priority/ Decision Date
Bench size.	Bench size reduction to only essential personnel. Limit to players, coaches and AT.		TBD	2
Sport committee members cannot/will not travel to final site or serve as a site representative.	Communicate with previous committee members to determine willingness to serve as replacements onsite. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If a sport committee member chooses not to travel to the final site or serve as a site representative, the committee can seek former members as replacements. 			2

Championship Site Issues	Recommendation/Outcome	Point of Contact	Decision Maker	Priority/ Decision Date
Disinfecting areas of the championship site.	Formalizing best practices for returning to championships.	Championship Managers	Hosting Institutions	2

Championship Site Issues	Recommendation/Outcome	Point of Contact	Decision Maker	Priority/ Decision Date
Availability of quality officials.	Final site may see increase in flights to ensure quality experience. Flexibility in reimbursement costs and go outside the region to ensure quality officials.	Dan Calandro/Ty Halpin/Anthony Holman/Championship Managers		2
Additional officials.	Additional officials be sent to final sites to ensure adequately staffed. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As much as possible the current number of officials should be retained at the final site (sport committees may seek qualified officials outside of the region as necessary). 	Dan Calandro/Championship Managers	Championships Committee	2

Membership/Sport Sponsorship Issues	Recommendation/Outcome	Point of Contact	Decision Maker	Priority/ Decision Date
Schools cannot meet sports sponsorship/selection due to institutions not traveling or having to cancel.	<p>Institutions can ask for relief.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If an institution cannot meet sports sponsorship requirements because of opponents canceling, they may seek relief from the relevant sport committee. 	Championship Managers	Sport Committees/Championships Committee/Membership Committee	2
Virtual competition.	<p>Can virtual competition be used for sport sponsorship and selections (XC)?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No. 	Angela Red	Membership Committee/Championships Committee	1

General Questions	Recommendation/Outcome	Point of Contact	Decision Maker	Priority/ Decision Date
Who will determine spectator regulations?		Roberta Page		2
Will Winter sports be affected?				2