



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIPS COMMITTEE
OCTOBER 6, 2022, VIDEOCONFERENCE**

ACTION ITEMS.

- **None.**

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Welcome and review of agenda.** Championships Committee Chair Reid Amos welcomed the group and introduced the committee's newest member, Cade Smith, director of athletics at the University of Alabama in Huntsville.
2. **Review of previous reports.** The committee approved reports from its September 12-13 meeting and September 16 and 19 electronic votes as modified. (The committee noted that the reference to four teams being eliminated on Day 2 of the softball championship in Item 2-c of the September 12-13 meeting report should be changed to two teams being eliminated.)
3. **Division II Festival update.** The committee received an update on the planning for the 2022 Division II Fall Festival in Seattle, which will take place November 29-December 3. The committee also discussed recent membership inquiries related to the host institution's hiring policies. Since the NCAA consists of a diverse membership of about 1,100 schools with various missions, there are times when a divide is created when it comes to social issues. One of the areas that falls outside of the purview of NCAA policy is membership schools' hiring policies. The NCAA Board of Governors anti-discrimination policy requires sites hosting NCAA championship events to provide an environment that is safe, healthy and safeguards the dignity of everyone involved within the venues of competition. Seattle Pacific University has reconfirmed its commitment to hosting the 2022 Division II Fall Festival championship events consistent with the NCAA Board of Governors anti-discrimination policy within the venues of competition.
4. **Implementation Committee referrals.** The committee continued discussion from its September meeting regarding the following referrals from the Division II Implementation Committee:
 - Referral No. 1: Explore a championships structure that sets 35 as a uniform minimum sponsorship requirement to establish/maintain a Division II championship in men's and women's sports (with a five-year grace period if a sport falls below the minimum), continues to offer the best access ratio among divisions (via a range from 4.5 to 6), and grants automatic qualification privileges to a championship once minimum sponsorship is reached (rather than rely on a sport committee's recommendation), unless Aqs would comprise more than 75 percent of the bracket (which may result in a bracket expansion).
 - Referral No. 2: Collaborate with the Division II Membership Committee to consider aligning minimum contest requirements for sport sponsorship and championships selection purposes

to simplify the process and provide the membership additional flexibility without compromising the integrity of either requirement area.

- **Referral No. 3:** Complete the task of combining Bylaws 18 and 31 to create a significantly revised overarching championships bylaw that moves several existing bylaws to policy. This task should be completed by February 2023 to allow for an August 1, 2023, effective date (i.e., the 2023-24 Division II Manual).
- **Referral No. 4:** While keeping regionalization principles related to selections, ask the Division II Championships Committee to consider changes to the division's championship model concerning regionalization bracketing policies with the goal of reducing first-round conference matchups and maintaining fiscal responsibility.
- **Referral No. 5:** Continue monitoring discussions within Division I regarding National Collegiate Championships and how any changes in that space will affect Division II.

Committee members focused primarily on Referral No. 1, reviewing additional data they asked staff to provide, particularly access ratios by sport, sport sponsorship information and historical summaries of bracketing formats in select sports. The committee also acknowledged that the regionalization subcommittee appointed to address Referral No. 4 will conduct its first meeting soon and begin reviewing various bracketing models in men's basketball and women's volleyball to inform initial recommendations.

The committee will provide feedback on Referral No. 3 during its November videoconference. Members hope to begin formulating concepts for the remaining referrals by the committee's February 2023 meeting in order to seek membership input and potentially develop formal recommendations by the committee's June 2023 meeting so that the necessary legislative proposals may be properly sponsored for the 2024 NCAA Convention.

5. Other business.

- **Men's basketball host change.** The committee noted the need for a replacement host for the Division II Men's Basketball Championship, given the University of Southern Indiana has been accepted into the Division I membership process to reclassify its athletics program. Accordingly, the Great Lakes Valley Conference has agreed to assume hosting duties in Evansville for the remainder of the bid cycle (2023, 2024 and 2025 – the 2026 championship will be conducted as a joint event with women's basketball in Pittsburgh).

6. Future meetings and videoconferences.

- November 3, 2-3:30 p.m. Eastern time (monthly videoconference).
- December 8, 2-3:30 p.m. Eastern time (monthly videoconference).
- January 5, 2023, 2-3:30 p.m. Eastern time (monthly videoconference).
- February 23-24, 2023 (in-person meeting; Indianapolis).
- June 26-27, 2023 (meeting via videoconference).

- September 14-15, 2023 (in-person meeting; Indianapolis).

Committee Chair: Reid Amos, Mountain East Conference
Staff Liaison(s): Karen Kirsch, Championships and Alliances
Micaela Liddane, Championships and Alliances
Angela Red, Academic and Membership Affairs

Division II Championships Committee October 6, 2022, Videoconference	
Attendees:	
Reid Amos, Mountain East Conference.	
Kristy Bayer, Rockhurst University.	
Marcus Clarke, Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association.	
Chris Colvin, Conference Carolinas.	
Courtney Lovely Evans, Palm Beach Atlantic University.	
Nathan Gibson, University of Colorado, Colorado Springs.	
Matt Kilcullen, Mercy College.	
Regan McAthie, Concordia University, St. Paul.	
Gary Pine, Azusa Pacific University.	
Carol Rivera, California Collegiate Athletic Association.	
Cade Smith, University of Alabama at Huntsville.	
Absentees:	
Jim Johnson, Pittsburg State University.	
Thomas Webb Jr., Western New Mexico University.	
Guests in Attendance:	
Gary Brown, NCAA Contractor (via videoconference).	
NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:	
Karen Kirsch, Championships and Alliances.	
Micaela Liddane, Championships and Alliances.	
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:	
Terri Gronau, Leslie Havens, Maritza Jones, Connor Lancashire and Liv Sappington.	