

# REPORT OF THE NCAA DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIPS COMMITTEE OCTOBER 5, 2023, VIDEOCONFERENCE

# ACTION ITEMS.

• None.

#### INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

- **1. Welcome and review of agenda.** NCAA Division II Championships Committee chair Nathan Gibson welcomed the group and previewed the agenda.
- **2. Review of previous reports.** The committee approved reports from its Sept. 14-15 in-person meeting and Sept. 27 electronic vote as presented.
- 3. Streaming initiative update. Staff updated the committee on an anticipated agreement between Warner Brothers Discovery and Hudl to stream all games of the 2023 NCAA Division II Football Championship, the 2023 NCAA Division II Women's Volleyball Championship, and the 2024 NCAA Division II Men's and Women's Basketball Championships (except for the semifinals and finals in basketball and football due to the existing broadcast contracts). The contract being negotiated is expected to be executed soon and will be followed by a comprehensive communication plan that will include direct outreach to the relevant sport committees and notice to the membership at large via established platforms (e.g., monthly championships and governance newsletters). The streaming initiative also will be included in the bid specifications for the four championships.
- 4. Regionalization review. The committee reviewed and provided feedback on a draft discussion document for sport committees to use during their annual meetings in 2024 regarding the Division II regionalization model and opportunities to revise the current approach to bracketing. The committee during its September meeting discussed questions for sport committees to consider regarding potential new bracketing approaches, either to set guardrails for the sport committees or questions on which the committee needs sport committee input. The committee revisited these questions at length and discussed the best approach to position sport committees to provide the most meaningful input to best inform the Championships Committee's recommendations regarding regionalization moving forward. Staff will continue refining this document with the goal of finalizing it either during the committee's December or January videoconferences. The committee also confirmed the timeline for the review, noting that the committee will review all sport committee feedback during its June 2024 in-person meeting. The committee also noted that the NCAA's new media contract should be finalized by spring 2024, which will help guide next steps with an awareness of budget dollars available.
- 5. Future meetings and videoconferences.
  - Nov. 2, 2-3:30 p.m. Eastern time (monthly videoconference).
  - Dec. 7, 2-3:30 p.m. Eastern time (monthly videoconference).
  - Jan. 4, 2024, 2-3:30 p.m. Eastern time (monthly videoconference).

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• Feb. 23-24, 2024 (meeting conducted virtually).

• Jun. 17-18, 2024 (in-person meeting; Indianapolis).

Committee Chair: Nathan Gibson, University of Colorado, Colorado Springs

Staff Liaison(s): Karen Kirsch, Championships and Alliances

Micaela Liddane, Championships and Alliances Chelsea Hooks, Academic and Membership Affairs

# Division II Championships Committee October 5, 2023, Videoconference

#### **Attendees:**

Kristy Bayer, Rockhurst University.

Terry Beattie, West Chester University of Pennsylvania.

Marcus Clarke, Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association.

Chris Colvin, Conference Carolinas.

Karen Haag, The College of Saint Rose.

Regan McAthie, Concordia University, St. Paul.

Courtney Medwin, West Chester University of Pennsylvania.

Nathan Gibson, University of Colorado, Colorado Springs.

Carrie Michaels, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania (Management Council chair).

Sandee Mott, Texas Woman's University.

Gary Pine, Azusa Pacific University.

Cade Smith, University of Alabama in Huntsville.

Jerry Wollmering, Truman State University of Pennsylvania (Management Council vice chair).

#### **Absentees:**

Carol Rivera, California Collegiate Athletic Association.

### **Guests in Attendance:**

Gary Brown, NCAA Contractor.

# NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:

Karen Kirsch, Championships and Alliances.

Micaela Liddane, Championships and Alliances.

Chelsea Hooks, Academic and Membership Affairs.

## Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:

Antonio Cannavaro, Terri Gronau, Kendee Hilliard, Maritza Jones, Ryan Jones, Julia Longo and Angela Red.