



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION III CHAMPIONSHIPS COMMITTEE
AUGUST 25, 2020, VIDEOCONFERENCE**

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative items.

- None.

2. Nonlegislative items.

- None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. Opening remarks and review of schedule and agenda. Division III Championships Committee Chair Kiki Jacobs welcomed the group and reviewed the meeting schedule and key discussion items.

2. Recent committee reports. The committee reviewed and approved the report from its August 13 videoconference as presented.

3. Winter sport championships. The committee continued discussing the pandemic's effect on winter sports and whether those seasons should be compressed or if the championships should be delayed given that most conferences have stated they will not conduct any athletics through the calendar year.

a. Predetermined sites. Staff reminded the group about the need to conduct all championship competition at predetermined sites given the additional and unique requirements related to COVID-19 (testing, quarantine procedures, sanitization standards, etc.). Most of Division III's winter sport championship preliminary-round and finals sites are already predetermined, which eases the issue somewhat; however, potential hosts for those sites not yet determined will need to be able to demonstrate that they are capable of satisfying those additional requirements during the bidding process.

b. Winter sport championship dates. The committee also acknowledged growing discussion within the membership about possibly delaying the winter sport championships. Doing so obviously would affect the ability of already selected hosts to accommodate a different competition date, which has not been explored as of yet. Staff advised the committee to wait until results from a Division III Conference Commissioners Association survey about winter championship issues are compiled

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(they are expected to be available soon). Staff also noted that while there certainly is a sense of urgency within the membership to resolve this matter quickly so that conferences and institutions can prepare their schedules, a number of other moving parts must be considered, including the financial impact as well as potential decisions from the other two divisions to adjust their championship schedules. Because those discussions are ongoing, it is likely that more information will be available to guide the committee's decision for its September 14-15 meeting.

- 4. Winter and spring championship budget management.** Given that the current projections for conducting winter and spring sport championships (based on current bracket/field sizes and formats) exceed the division's entire championship budget for 2020-21, the committee is aware that it will need to do its due diligence to explore measures that reduce costs. Committee members began discussing priorities and asked staff to compile various models showing the effects of modifying certain components of the championship for consideration at a future meeting.
- 5. September meeting draft agenda.** The committee received a preliminary draft of the agenda for its September 14-15 meeting, particularly the session with sport committee chairs.
- 6. Future meeting dates.** Given the ongoing circumstances related to COVID-19, the committee will conduct videoconferences as necessary in addition to the following regularly scheduled meetings (also to be conducted virtually). Committee members in fact expressed a desire to convene one more time before the September 14-15 meeting to prepare for the session with sport committee chairs and to further explore issues affecting winter sport seasons and championships.
 - a. September 8, 2020.
 - b. September 14-15, 2020 (includes time with sport committee chairs).
 - c. February 2-3, 2021.
 - d. June 21-22, 2021.

Committee Chair: Kiki Jacobs, Roger Williams University

*Staff Liaisons: Liz Turner Suscha, Championships and Alliances
Laura Peterson-Mlynski, Championships and Alliances
Julie Sargent, Academic and Membership Affairs*

Division III Championships Committee August 25, 2020, Videoconference
Attendees:

Heather Benning, Midwest Conference.
Jason Fein, Bates College.
Kiki Jacobs, Roger Williams University.
Brady Keller, Nebraska Wesleyan University.
Chuck Mitrano, Empire 8.
Michelle Morgan, John Carroll University.
John Neese, Hardin-Simmons University.
Absentees:
Robin Baker, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire.
Penny Siqueiros, Wesleyan College (Georgia).
Guests in Attendance:
Gary Brown, NCAA Contractor.
NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:
Laura Peterson-Mlynski, Championships and Alliances.
Liz Turner Suscha, Championships and Alliances.
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:
Dan Dutcher, Laura Klee, Louise McCleary, Jeff Myers, Roberta Page, Demetria Woodard.