



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION III CHAMPIONSHIPS COMMITTEE
DECEMBER 17, 2019, TELECONFERENCE**

ACTION ITEMS.

- None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Recent reports.** The Division III Championships Committee approved reports from its November 1 and 19 teleconferences as presented.
2. **Sport committee appointment.** The committee approved the following sport committee appointment:
 - **Division III Men's Tennis Committee** – Erica Hollot, assistant director of athletics/senior woman administrator, Springfield College, New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference.
3. **Baseball and softball playing season resolution.** The committee reviewed a resolution to be considered at the 2020 NCAA Convention (R-2020) from the Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference, the Commonwealth Coast Conference and the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association, and co-sponsored by the Great Northeast Athletic Conference and the North Eastern Athletic Conference regarding a potential collaboration among the Division III Championships Committee and the Division III Baseball and Softball Committees to address scheduling and tournament timing concerns affecting schools in colder climates. The committee voted to take no position on the resolution at this point, preferring instead to let the discussion play out on the Convention floor. The committee also acknowledged that while weather-related challenges on various regions is an issue that has continually been debated over time, the resolution as stated is limiting in the scope of a review and does not adequately address the totality of consequences (including budgetary) on conferences and institutions in the event a sport's season is extended.
4. **Northeast Women's Golf Conference waiver appeal.** The committee acknowledged a request from the Northeast Women's Golf Conference to reconsider the 2018-19 women's golf season as Year 1 of the automatic qualification waiting period, given mitigating circumstances outlined by the conference. However, the committee declined to review the request because nothing factually has changed since the committee first considered the matter earlier this year that would alter the committee's previous decision to deny the waiver request.
5. **Men's and women's cross country regionals.** The committee approved the following as host sites for the 2020 and 2021 cross country regionals:

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Region	Year	Host
Atlantic	2020	University of Rochester; Genesee Valley Park.
	2021	State University of New York at Geneseo; Letchworth State Park High Banks Rec Area.
Central	2020	St. Olaf College; Tostrud Center.
	2021	St. Olaf College; Tostrud Center.
Great Lakes	2020	Oberlin College; Oberlin College North Fields.
	2021	Franklin College/Blue River Sports Authority; Blue River Cross Country Course.
Mideast	2020	Dickinson College; Big Spring High School.
	2021	Dickinson College; Big Spring High School.
Midwest	2020	Augusta College (Illinois); Saukie Golf Course.
	2021	University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire; Whitetail Golf Course.
New England	2020	Connecticut College; Harkness Memorial State Park.
	2021	Connecticut College; Harkness Memorial State Park.
South/Southeast	2020	Shenandoah University; Kernstown Battlefield.
	2021	Converse College/Spartanburg Convention & Visitors Bureau; Roger Milliken Center.
West	2020	Whitman College; Veterans Memorial Golf Course.
	2021	Occidental College; Pomona-Pitzer Cross Country Course.

6. Sport region project. Brad Bankston and staff updated committee members on the status of the sport region project, referencing an October 10 teleconference with the Division III Commissioners Association and subsequent input from conferences regarding regional alignment in various sports. The committee acknowledged the significant progress in this initiative since the initial concepts were developed more than a year ago and the benefits of subsequent vetting through sport committees, coaches associations and other membership groups. The current version of the project, including the most recent suggestions, will be reviewed during the commissioners’ meeting in January and also sent to sport committees a final time for confirmation that the changes suggested to date are acceptable. In that vein, the committee asked staff to develop a document that includes a Q&A/fact sheet, the project’s origins and principles, a timeline for next steps and proposed implementation, legislative impacts, and clarifications about the effects on rankings and bracketing decisions in order to help the commissioners and sport committees better understand the desired outcomes.

7. Baseball Committee report.

- **Automatic qualification.** The Championships Committee approved the following 40 conferences for automatic qualification to the 2020 NCAA Division III Baseball Championship: American Rivers Conference; Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference; American Southwest Conference; Capital Athletic Conference; Centennial Conference;

College Conference of Illinois and Wisconsin; Colonial States Athletic Conference; Commonwealth Coast Conference; Empire 8; Great Northeast Athletic Conference; Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference; Landmark Conference; Liberty League; Little East Conference; Massachusetts State Collegiate Athletic Conference; Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association; Middle Atlantic Conference Commonwealth; Middle Atlantic Conference Freedom; Midwest Conference; Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference; New England Collegiate Conference; New England Small College Athletic Conference; New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference; New Jersey Athletic Conference; North Atlantic Conference; North Coast Athletic Conference; North Eastern Athletic Conference; Northern Athletics Collegiate Conference; Northwest Conference; Ohio Athletic Conference; Old Dominion Athletic Conference; Presidents' Athletic Conference; Skyline Conference; St. Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference; Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference; Southern Athletic Association; Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference; State University of New York Athletic Conference; USA South Athletic Conference; and Upper Midwest Athletic Conference.

8. Other business.

- **Committee acknowledgements.** The committee formally acknowledged the outstanding contributions from outgoing members Stevie Baker-Watson, Brad Bankston, Susan Fumagalli and Bill Stiles, whose terms on the committee expire in January.

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 December 17, 2019, Teleconference	
Attendees:	
Robin Baker, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire.	
Stevie Baker-Watson, DePauw University.	
Brad Bankston, Old Dominion Athletic Conference.	
Jason Fein, Bates College.	
Kiki Jacobs, Roger Williams University.	
Penny Siqueiros, Wesleyan College (Georgia).	
Bill Stiles, Alvernia University.	
Absentees:	
Susan Fumagalli, Gettysburg College.	
Jake Santellano, University of Wisconsin-Whitewater.	
Guests in Attendance:	

Gary Brown, NCAA Contractor.
NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:
Laura Peterson-Mlynski, Championships and Alliances.
Julie Sargent, Academic and Membership Affairs.
Liz Turner Suscha, Championships and Alliances.
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:
Laura Klee, Louise McCleary.