



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION III CHAMPIONSHIPS COMMITTEE
MARCH 19, 2019, TELECONFERENCE**

ACTION ITEMS.

- None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. Sport and rules committee appointments. The Championships Committee approved the following sport and sport rules committee reappointments (effective September 1, 2019, unless noted otherwise):

- **Division III Men's Basketball Committee (reappointment)** – Richard Ferry, director of athletics/head men's basketball coach, Albright College, Middle Atlantic Conferences.
- **Men's Basketball Rules Committee** – Steve Schweer, head men's basketball coach, Illinois College, Midwest Conference.
- **Division III Women's Basketball Committee (immediate appointment)** – Mary Lynn Skarzenski, assistant director of athletics/head women's basketball coach, Nichols College, Commonwealth Coast Conference.
- **Division III Football Committee** – J.J. Nekoloff, associate commissioner, Old Dominion Athletic Conference.
- **Women's Gymnastics Committee** – Jon Santer, coordinator of media relations, Springfield College, New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference.
- **Women's Lacrosse Rules Committee** – Marushka Eddy, assistant director of athletics/senior woman administrator, Massachusetts Maritime Academy, Massachusetts State Collegiate Athletic Conference.
- **Men's and Women's Skiing Committee** – Kim Monika Bownes, director of athletics, Plymouth State University, Little East Conference.
- **Division III Women's Soccer Committee** – Nicole Wood, associate director of athletics/head soccer coach/senior woman administrator, Salem State University, Massachusetts State Collegiate Athletic Conference.

N a t i o n a l C o l l e g i a t e A t h l e t i c A s s o c i a t i o n

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- **Division III Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving Committee** – Andy Hendricks, head men's and women's swimming and diving coach, Franklin College, Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference; and Peter Casares, head men's and women's swimming coach, Bates College, New England Small College Athletic Conference.
 - **Division III Men's Tennis Committee** – William Porter, head tennis coach, Southwestern University (Texas), Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference.
 - **Division III Men's and Women's Track and Field and Cross Country Committee** – Greg Cooper, head cross country/track and field coach, Pennsylvania State University Erie, the Behrend College, Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference.
 - **Men's and Women's Track and Field Rules Committee** – Dana Freeman, head women's track and field coach, Washington and Lee University, Old Dominion Athletic Conference.
 - **Division III Women's Volleyball Committee** – Sabrina Bingham, head volleyball coach/senior woman administrator, Hardin-Simmons University, American Southwest Conference; and Paul Schlomer, head women's volleyball coach, Edgewood College, Northern Athletics Collegiate Conference.
 - **Division III Wrestling Committee** – Bob Patnesky, head wrestling coach, Pennsylvania State University Erie, the Behrend College, Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference.
2. **Men's and women's golf date formula survey.** The committee approved a draft survey the Division III Men's and Women's Golf Committees want to send to their memberships regarding whether institutions would prefer to have the date formulas structured so that the championships fall on different weeks.
 3. **UC Santa Cruz – in-region competition waiver request.** The committee approved in-region competition waivers for men's basketball, women's basketball, women's golf, men's soccer, women's soccer, men's tennis, women's tennis, men's volleyball and women's volleyball. The committee did raise some concern about the request having been submitted well past the legislated December deadline and urged the institution to correct this in the event that future waiver requests of this nature are submitted.
 4. **Strategic Planning and Finance Committee update.** Committee members noted that the SPFC during its March meeting supported resource allocations for the championships initiatives that the Championships Committee recommended in February and will forward those to the Division III Management Council for review in April.

5. Regional alignment project. The committee revisited a concept it supported during its February in-person meeting from the Division III Commissioners Association to create a scale for regional alignment based on sports sponsorship. After the meeting a few sport committees expressed concerns that ranged from wanting to adjust one or two conferences within the proposed alignment to significant concerns about how the proposed model would affect competitive balance overall. Championships Committee members noted that the proposal was based on guidelines that (1) balance the number of institutions across all regions; (2) prioritize geographic proximity in regional placement; and (3) maintain conference members in the same regions, and that some of the alternatives sport committees are recommending fall outside of those guidelines. However, the Championships Committee agreed that it was prudent to seek more uniform input from all sport committees to determine whether they support the proposed model, and if not, whether their alternatives fit the guiding principles. Championships Committee members agreed the goal is to address relevant loose ends and make minor adjustments as necessary by their June in-person meeting and then submit a formal recommendation to the Division III Management Council in July. The committee also asked staff to determine whether the proposal – because of its potential effect on sport committee composition – would need to be handled as Convention legislation.

6. Other business. None.

Committee Chair: Bill Stiles, Alvernia 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 March 19, 2019, Teleconference	
Attendees:	
Stevie Baker-Watson, DePauw University.	
Brad Bankston, Old Dominion Athletic Conference.	
Jason Fein, Bates College.	
Susan Fumagalli, Gettysburg College.	
Kiki Jacobs, Roger Williams University.	
Brian Jamros, The College of St. Scholastica.	
Penny Siqueiros, Wesleyan College (Georgia).	
Absentees:	
Jake Santellano, University of Wisconsin-Whitewater.	

Bill Stiles, Alvernia University.
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:
Morgan DeSpain, Laura Klee, John Kuzio, Louise McCleary, Nancy O'Hara, J.P. Williams.