



REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION III CHAMPIONSHIPS
COMMITTEE MARCH 9, 2020, TELECONFERENCE

ACTION ITEMS.

- None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

- 1. Appeal request – State University of New York at Geneseo Swimming and Diving.** The Division III Championships Committee granted a request from the State University of New York at Geneseo to overturn a Division III Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving Committee decision not to allow a student-athlete to compete in the 2020 Division III Women's Swimming and Diving Championships as an alternate to replace one of the school's relay swimmers because she was not listed as an alternate among the championship roster entries. The sport committee based its decision on case precedent, noting that the instructions regarding this step in the process had been rewritten in 2016 to mitigate this type of situation. However, the Championships Committee cited the medical issues preventing the originally listed swimmer from attending the meet as compelling, and members also did not want to negatively impact the other three swimmers who contributed to the relay team qualifying for the championships. While Geneseo State did declare a number of alternates, none specializes in the stroke needed for the medley relay in question. The Championships Committee also acknowledged that the language in the instructions regarding roster entries remains confusing and asked staff to revisit that section to determine whether it can be further clarified.
- 2. Appeal request – Wesley College Women's Track and Field.** The committee also granted a request from Wesley College to overturn a Division III Men's and Women's Cross Country and Track and Field Committee decision not to allow a student-athlete to compete in the 2020 Division III Women's Indoor Track and Field Championships due to the coach not declaring the athlete before the published deadline. The sport committee based its decision on case precedent, and the fact that the institution because of a variety of circumstances missed several chances to rectify the situation. However, the Championships Committee also cited case precedent in which past iterations of the sport committee allowed the student-athlete in such instances to participate in the championships, but at the institution's expense. Accordingly, the Championships Committee granted the appeal but charged the institution with paying for the student-athlete's participation and paying a \$400 late fee for missing the declaration deadline. The committee also asked staff to send the institution a letter acknowledging the seriousness of the matter and that processes be implemented to prevent the violation from occurring again.
- 3. Coronavirus update.** Staff updated the committee on steps the NCAA and the Sport Science Institute are taking to address issues related to the spread of the coronavirus and its effect on NCAA events, noting that the issues are dynamic in nature and will require ongoing decision-

making at the campus and national levels. Staff noted that the committee will be informed continuously as issues emerge.

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 March 9, 2020, Meeting	
Attendees:	
Robin Baker, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire.	
Jason Fein, Bates College.	
Kiki Jacobs, Roger Williams University.	
Braly Keller, Nebraska Wesleyan University.	
Chuck Mitrano, Empire 8.	
John Neese, Hardin-Simmons University.	
Penny Siqueiros, Wesleyan College (Georgia).	
Absentees:	
Heather Benning, Midwest Conference.	
Michelle Morgan, John Carroll University.	
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:	
Kevin Alcox, Laura Klee, Jeff Myers.	