

REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIPS COMMITTEE  
JUNE 7-9, 2010, MEETING

**ACTION ITEMS.**

**1. Legislative Items.**

**a. 2011 Convention Legislation - NCAA Bylaw 20.8.1 Eligibility for National Collegiate Championships.**

- (1) Recommendation. To sponsor legislation for the 2011 NCAA Convention that will amend NCAA Bylaw 20.8.1 – Eligibility for National Collegiate Championships to eliminate the requirement that, in those sports in which two-thirds or more of the institutions sponsoring the sport are members of the same division, an institution is required to meet that division's and its own division's institutional and individual eligibility requirements (or the more stringent rule if both divisions' rules address the same issue).
- (2) Effective Date. August 1, 2011.
- (3) Rationale. NCAA Bylaw 20.8.1 requires that all institutions eligible for national collegiate championships in sports that have two-thirds of the membership in one division follow the NCAA eligibility rules of that division. Requiring Division II student-athletes to be certified under the dominate division's eligibility requirements puts an undo burden on institutional staff members. In addition, the student-athletes come to Division II institutions to be Division II student-athletes in all facets of the legislation.
- (4) Estimated Budget Impact. None.
- (5) Student-Athlete Impact. None.

**b. 2011 Convention Legislation - Bylaw 31.3.3.5 – Selection of Teams and Individuals for Championships Participation – Criteria for Selection of Participants – Removal of a Committee Member from Selection Process.**

- (1) Recommendation. To sponsor legislation for the 2011 Convention to amend Bylaw 31.3.3.5 (removal of committee member from selection process). The proposed legislative change would permit a national committee member whose team or individual student-athlete(s) are under consideration to remain and participate in deliberations on the teleconference, and a regional advisory committee member from another

conference would join the teleconference to ensure the information is being presented accurately. In addition, the national committee member would retain all voting privileges.

- (2) Effective Date. August 1, 2011.
- (3) Rationale. In September 2009, the NCAA Division II Women's Volleyball Committee recommended that the NCAA Division II Championships Committee forward to the NCAA Division II Management Council a legislative change to permit a national committee member whose institution's team or individual student-athlete(s) who are under consideration for selection to remain on the teleconference due to the importance of the selection teleconference. The committee believes the national selection teleconference is the most important teleconference of the year and that all national committee members in all Division II championship sports should be allowed to represent their respective regions during deliberations. Thus, the committee is recommending this legislative change for all Division II championships sports.
- (4) Estimated Budget Impact. None.
- (5) Student-Athlete Impact. None.

**c. Professional Team Sponsorship of NCAA events.**

**2011 Convention Legislation – Bylaw 31.1.12.1.2 – Executive Regulations – Restricted Advertising and Sponsorship Activities – Sponsorships.**

- (1) Recommendation. To sponsor legislation for the 2011 Convention to modify NCAA Executive Regulation 31.1.12.1.2 to permit NCAA championship activities and promotions to be sponsored by a professional sports organization for all sports.
- (2) Effective Date. August 1, 2011
- (3) Rationale. Occasionally, the NCAA staff and/or local organizing committee, host institution(s) and/or conference(s) that administer a championship event have the opportunity to partner with a local professional sports organization (team or league) to promote the NCAA championship event and related activities. Current NCAA regulations specify that a championship activity or promotion may not be sponsored by liquor, tobacco, beer or wine companies, or by professional sports

organizations or teams at any time. This regulation can limit the opportunities for the professional sports organization to assist in promoting the NCAA championship or related activities. Amending the championship activities and promotions legislation would provide an opportunity to the NCAA national office and championships hosts to help increase the exposure of the NCAA championship, as well as fan interest.

- (4) Estimated Budget Impact. None.
- (5) Student-Athlete Impact. None.

**d. Track and Field.**

**2011 Convention Legislation – Bylaw 17.24.5 – Playing and Practice Seasons – Track and Field, Indoor/Outdoor – Number of Dates of Competition – Maximum Limitations-Institutional – Competition That Exceed Two Days.**

- (1) Recommendation. To sponsor legislation for the 2011 Convention to amend Bylaw 17.24.5 (number of dates of competition) to specify that (1) an institution that participates in a meet that exceeds two days in duration may count the first two days of the competition as a single date of competition, but must count any additional days as separate dates of competition; (2) an institution that participates in multiple competitions on the same date that it participates in a competition that exceeds two days may select either day (but not both days) as one institutional date of competition; and (3) if the institution participates in a separate event on the selected date, such participation will not result in an additional date of competition; however, participation in a separate event at a separate site on the date not selected will result in a second date of competition if the institution has the minimum number of student-athletes participating on that day.
- (2) Effective Date. Immediately.
- (3) Rationale. In the sport of track and field many meets occur over the course of two days. Meets are setup this way to allow for multiple rounds in an event, as well as to accommodate combined events that have to be contested over the course of two days. This setup gives student-athletes the opportunity to compete in several different events while also taking into consideration their physical well-being. Currently, Divisions I and III have legislation that provides institutions the ability to count multi-day meets as one date of competition. Amending the Division II legislation to

mirror that of the other divisions creates an equitable experience for student-athletes as many track and field competitions consist of institutions representing all three divisions. In addition, amending the legislation will alleviate the confusion with how to count multi-day events, and the difficulty monitoring dates of competition.

- (4) Estimated Budget Impact. None.
- (5) Student-Athlete Impact. Student-athletes will be afforded the opportunity to attend a number of these large meets that follow these formats and it will not count as double towards the number of permissible dates of competition. This will allow student-athletes to continue to compete throughout the length of the seasons and not have permissible dates counted for during the course of one competition.

**e. 2011 Convention Legislation – Bylaw 17.27.2 – Playing and Practice Seasons – Wrestling - Preseason Practice**

- (1) Recommendation. Sponsor legislation for the 2011 Convention to amend Bylaw 17.27.2 (preseason practice), to specify that the earliest annual start date for preseason practice be October 10, and any competition (open, unattached or representing an institution in intercollegiate competition) be November 1.
- (2) Effective Date. August 1, 2011.
- (3) Rationale. The current rule in Bylaw 17.27.2 states that a member institution shall not commence practice sessions in wrestling prior to September 7 or the institution's first day of classes for the fall term, whichever is earlier. Bylaw 17.27.3 also states that a member institution shall not engage in its first date of competition (game or scrimmage) with outside competition in wrestling prior to September 7 or the institution's first day of classes for the fall term, whichever is earlier. The proposal to align start dates for practice and competition across all divisions is important for the health of the sport. The three divisions share a common interest to improve academic performance by participating student-athletes, minimize overuse and serious injuries, and implement weight management protocols to begin on November 1 each year for all institutions. The compacted window of opportunity for the season will favor the well-being of student-athletes involved in the sport, aid in the academic, social, and physical transition for first-year wrestling student-athletes, in particular, minimize injuries caused by an extended season which includes open and unattached competition, and limit the period that

wrestlers will have to maintain the required weight. The committee notes that the change does not affect the length of the playing season.

Both the Division I Championships/Sports Management Cabinet and the Division III Championships Committee are proposing a similar legislative change.

- (4) Estimated Budget Impact. None.
- (5) Student-Athlete Impact. Impact included in rationale noted above

**f. 2011 Convention Legislation – Bylaw 17.27.5.3 – Playing and Practice seasons – Wrestling – Number of Dates of Competition – Annual Exemptions.**

- (1) Recommendation. Sponsor legislation for the 2011 Convention to amend Bylaw 17.27.5.3 (number of dates of competition) to specify that an annual exemption be provided for an institution or student-athlete to participate in the National Wrestling Coaches Association (NWCA) National Duals.
- (2) Effective Date. August 1, 2011
- (3) Rationale. The current rule in Bylaw 17.27.5.3 provides annual exemptions to the maximum number of dates of competition in wrestling for numerous events, such as conference championships, season-ending tournaments, an alumni meet, the NWCA All-Star Meet, etc. This proposed legislative change would be beneficial for the sport of wrestling as it will place more emphasis on dual meet competition. In addition, due to the fact that invitations are only provided approximately one month in advance of the event, member institutions will not know if they will participate in the NWCA National Duals when they establish their season schedules.
- (4) Estimated Budget Impact. None.
- (5) Student-Athlete Impact. This proposed legislative change will be favorable for the student-athletes involved in the sport, as it will allow them to compete in this event if invited, even if they have already competed in 16 dates of competition. This competition is viewed as a prestigious event in the sport of wrestling.

**2. Nonlegislative Items.**

**a. Regionalization.** [Attachments A and B]

- (1) Recommendation. Approve a recommendation that the current regionalization model with changes reflecting membership growth and conference realignments remain in effect from 2011-12 through 2013-14. Continued education, adjustments in the map and a re-evaluation in 2012 – 13 are essential to continued success of regionalization.
- (2) Effective Date. August 1, 2011.
- (3) Rationale. The subcommittee reviewed the current regionalization map and guiding principles and determined with changes to reflect membership growth and conference realignment, the current model is in line with the Division II philosophy. The current model remains in effect through 2010-11; therefore, the new three year commitment would remain in effect through 2013-14. The additional three year commitment allows institutions and conferences to begin scheduling according to the guiding principles. The Championships Committee has the authority to make changes on an as needed basis to reflect membership growth, including the addition of new schools or conferences and realignment of current conferences.
- (4) Estimated Budget Impact. None.
- (5) Student-Athlete Impact. None.

**b. Selection Criteria.**

- (1) Rating Percentage Index (RPI).
  - (a) Recommendation. To establish a Rating Percentage Index (RPI) database for all Division II championship sports in consultation with sport committees for ranking and selection procedures.
  - (b) Effective Date. August 1, 2011.
  - (c) Rationale. The committee believes that an RPI can be a very effective tool that will assist sport committees with ranking and selection of teams. Currently, sport committees are approved to use win/loss percentage as primary selection criteria as well as

weighted opponents win/loss percentage and opponents' opponents win/loss percentage. An RPI provides a more concise evaluation of that information combined. Individual sport committees may elect that the RPI is not an effective tool for their respective sport (e.g. football, golf, and tennis) after consultation with sport committees.

Basic RPI:

- Factor I--Division II Winning Percentage -- 25 percent of the RPI.
- Factor II--Opponents' Winning Percentage -- 50 percent of the RPI.
- Factor III--Opponents' Opponents' Winning Percentage -- 25 percent of the RPI.

The committee will work with the respective sports committees to establish the appropriate RPI for each sport. Further, the committee emphasized that the RPI should only be used as an additional evaluation tool and should not be the only tool used by regional advisory committee and sports committees in ranking and selecting teams for Division II championships. A computer program that is based on pure numbers cannot take into account subjective concepts. Finally, the Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) must be able to use information captured by the RPI system during the ranking process.

(d) Estimated Budget Impact. None.

(e) Student-Athlete Impact. None.

**c. Sports committee appointments.** Ratify the following committee appointments and reappointments effective September 2010. [Attachment C]

- (1) Women's Soccer. That Shane Drahota, assistant director of athletics/compliance, Minnesota State University, Mankato, replace Sarah Meier, sports information director/senior woman administrator at the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference; and that Bridget Berube, senior woman administrator at Northern Michigan University, be reappointed.
- (2) Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving. That a one-year extension be granted for Wendy Snodgrass, associate director of athletics at Clarion

University of Pennsylvania and Todd Peters, head coach at Minnesota State University Moorhead.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

**1. Selection Criteria.**

a. Baseball.

- (1) The motion was made to remove Overall Division II won-lost results and Overall Division II strength of schedule (opponents' average winning percentage and opponents' opponents' average winning percentage); failed due to lack of a second.

Discussion: The committee believes some regions play several out of region games and did not feel comfortable with those games not being counted in the primary selection criteria.

- (2) The motion to include results versus Division II teams with winning percentage of .650 or better; was denied and the championships committee instructed the baseball committee to evaluate how the criteria will work with the implementation of an RPI.

b. Men's basketball.

- The motion was made to use a bonus/penalty system within the selection criteria; failed due to lack of a second.

The championships committee would like the men's basketball committee to evaluate how the criteria will work with the implementation of an RPI.

c. Football.

- (1) The committee approved the recommendation that effective with the 2010 championship, trend performance (most recent four games beginning with the first regular-season ranking) be eliminated from the selection criteria.
- (2) The motion was made that the won/lost percentage versus Division II opponents above .500 and won/lost percentage versus Division II



opponents less than or equal to .500 be eliminated from selection criteria. The motion failed due to lack of a second.

The championships committee would like the football committee to evaluate how the proposed selection criteria will work with the implementation of an RPI.

d. Men's and Women's Soccer.

- The motion was made that strength of schedule versus ranked teams be added effective for the 2010 season. The motion failed due to lack of a second.

The committee would like the soccer committees to evaluate how the selection criteria would work with the implementation of an RPI.

e. Softball.

- The committee approved the recommendation that the strength-of-schedule category be determined by combining the opponents win/loss percentage and the opponent's opponents' win/loss percentage with a weighted scale of 2/3 and 1/3 respectively.

This calculation may be implemented by all sports immediately. Each sport choosing to use the weighted format must notify championships committee staff liaisons by September 1, 2010.

2. **Charter Policy.** The committee reviewed the budget implications of increasing the travel party size for team sports in order to address concerns raised related to the Association's charter policy. The information will be submitted to the Division II Long Range Projections Task Force for review, as it considers long term financial and budget options for the division.

3. **Discussion of the duties of the championships committee liaison role with sport committees.** The committee discussed the legislated requirement (established in the fall 2009) that requires the assigning of a championships committee member to serve as a liaison with each Division II sports committee for the governance of Division II sports. The committee requests championship managers add the respective liaison to the committee information distribution list. Additionally, the championships liaison will be

required to attend either via teleconference or in-person the annual meeting and should be on at least one regular season committee call.

The option of either attending the championship or the annual meeting should be mutually agreed upon by the championships committee liaison and championship manager.

**4. Discuss September sports committee chairs/championships managers meeting and possible agenda topics.** The committee compiled the following list of topics to be discussed at the joint committee chairs and championships committee meeting:

- (a) RPI.
- (b) Regionalization.
- (c) Role of regional advisory committee chair.
- (d) Bracket expansion.
- (e) Travel and per diem.
- (f) Additional items may be added and championship managers will be asked to recommend agenda items.

**5. Regional Tournament Format and Site Selection.** The committee approved the recommendation to allow regions the opportunity to recommend a different regional tournament format for the current eight-team bracket in men's and women's basketball and women's volleyball. In addition to recommending the regional format, each region will also be allowed to make regional championship site selections on a scheduled ranking teleconference prior to selections. Each region may identify which teleconference date (from a predetermined set of dates) it will use to determine the site for the regional tournament, and the site(s) will be notified as soon as possible thereafter. Even though sites will be determined prior to selections, this does NOT guarantee that an institution will get in the tournament. If the institution that is chosen on the ranking teleconference to host a regional does not get selected to the championship, the institution will forfeit its hosting opportunity. [Attachment D]

**6. Championships Committee chair election.** The Championships Committee voted and appointed William Fusco, Director of Athletics at Sonoma State University, as the new chair of the committee.

7. **Fort Lewis College Appeal.** The committee denied the request to provide additional reimbursement to Fort Lewis College to cover ground transportation costs while participating in the Women's Elite 8 basketball tournament.
8. **Contingency plan.** The Championships Committee approved the contingency plan for any regional championship site where all participating school teams (excluding the host school) must fly by charter or commercial means in order to reach the host site.
  - This contingency plan shall include a two host site format in which the No. 1 seed and the No. 2 seed will host a four-team tournament. The winner of each host site will compete for the regional championship.
  - The regional championship game will occur at the site of the highest remaining seed.
  - The contingency plan (i.e., two-site format) shall be implemented by the governing sports committee if its determined that a cost savings (includes travel and administrative costs) of at least \$20,000 will occur and the plan does not result in an undue hardship, as determined by the governing sports committee, to the participating schools (e.g., the No. 1 and No. 2 hosts sites must meet regional tournament host guidelines and specifications).
9. **February 2010 NCAA Division II Championships Committee meeting report.** The committee approved the report from its February meeting.
10. **April 2010 NCAA Division II Management Council and Presidents Council meeting report.** The committee reviewed the April Division II Management and NCAA Division II Presidents Council report. The committee highlighted the planning and finance committee – budget-to-actual report, “Life in the Balance” Initiative Phase II and the Division II Long-Range Projections Task Force sections.
11. **CBS Sport and Turner Broadcasting Agreement.** The committee reviewed the new NCAA 14-year television, Internet and wireless rights agreement with CBS Sports and Turner Broadcasting. The committee will identify priorities that may be addressed when discussing how to allocate additional funds Division II will receive through the agreement.

## **12. Sport Committee Reports.**

### **a. Women's Basketball.**

- (1) Approved the recommendation that Sandee Mott, Associate Director of Athletics for Compliance at Metro State College of Denver, serve as the chair of the committee, effective September 1, replacing Ann Walker, Associate Athletics Director of Compliance/SWA, Nova Southeastern University.
- (2) Approved amended recommendation that the following conferences receive automatic qualification for the 2011 NCAA Division II Women's Basketball Championship: California Collegiate Athletic Association; Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference; Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association; Conference Carolinas; East Coast Conference; Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference; Great Lakes Valley Conference; Great Northwest Athletic Conference; Gulf South Conference; Heartland Conference; Lone Star Conference; Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association; Northeast-10 Conference; Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference; Pacific West Conference; Peach Belt Conference; Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference; Sunshine State Conference; and West Virginia Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.
- (3) The women's basketball committee issued a private reprimand to a head women's basketball coach for violating the practice uniform policy.

### **b. Football.**

- (1) Approved the amended recommendation that effective for the 2010 championship, all sports committees no longer be required to conduct a follow-up call with all respective regional advisory committee members in a given selection region before making a final decision during the selection call. The national committee must notify the respective regional advisory committee members of the changes prior to public release. Notification may be sent via email.

[Note: This recommendation was originally football specific, but the championships committee agreed that the policy should apply to all Division II championships.]

- (2) Tabled the recommendation that effective with the 2010 championship, the squad size be increased from 54 to 58, while leaving the official travel party at 70. The committee viewed the recommendation favorably and will take action during the next budget review year.
- (3) National Championship Game – Playing Surface. The football committee will give preference to venues that have a synthetic playing surface when considering bids for the national championship game. This will be effective with the bid process for the 2014 championship game.
- (4) Officiating – Championship Playoff Assignments. Effective with the 2010 championship, the football committee will follow the stated guidelines that currently exist in the championship handbook related to the selection of officials; however, the football committee will also use merit as an additional element for consideration in advancement through the playoffs.
- (5) Division II Football – Weekly Rankings. Effective with the 2010 season, the football committee will reduce the number of weekly super regional rankings that are publicly released. The first ranking will be released on November 1, which is essentially a mid-season ranking. There will be two additional rankings released on November 8 and 15. The latter ranking will be released on the day following selections.

c. Women's Soccer.

- (1) Approved the amended recommendation that the following conferences receive automatic qualification for the 2010 NCAA Division II Women's Soccer Championship: California Collegiate Athletic Association; Conference Carolinas; Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference; East Coast Conference; Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference; Great Lakes Valley Conference; Great Northwest Athletic Conference; Gulf South Conference; Heartland Conference; Lone Star Conference; Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletic Association; Northeast-10 Conference; Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference; Pacific West Conference; Peach Belt Conference; Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference; Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference; South Atlantic Conference; Sunshine State Conference; and West Virginia Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.
- (2) Approved the recommendation that Bridget Berube, assistant athletic director/senior women administrator at Northern Michigan University, serve as the chair of the committee, effective September 1, replacing Kim Sutton, head women's soccer coach, California State University, Chico.

d. Men's Soccer.

- (1) Approved the recommendation that effective with the 2010 season, the minimum number of contests needed to be eligible for at-large selection be reduced from 16 to 15.
- (2) Approved the recommendation that effective with the 2010 season, that the higher seed in both the Central and South Central region host a first-round contest on the Thursday following selections. The winners would then meet on the Sunday following selections at the highest remaining seed or on a geographic rotation if like seeds remain.
- (3) Approved the recommendation that Michael Banks, assistant sports information director, Gulf South Conference, be named as chair, replacing Van Taylor, head men's soccer coach, Lander University, effective September 1, 2010.

e. Women's Volleyball.

- (1) Approved the recommendation that, effective with the 2010 championship, an institution must play a minimum of 15 matches against Division II opponents in order to be selected to the NCAA championship as an at-large bid.
- (2) That Jim Boos, head women's volleyball coach, at the University of Minnesota Duluth, be appointed the chair for the 2010-11 year.

f. Wrestling.

- (1) Approved the amended recommendation that institutions be realigned within the four super regionals to provide comparable number of participants in each qualifying tournament. Conference alignments will change regions as needed.
- (2) That Doug Peters, Director of Athletics at Minnesota State University, Moorhead serve as the committee chair effective September 1, 2010.

- 13. Championship venue dressing.** A presentation by NCAA Branding and Communications staff was given to review the championship signage packages compiled to create a cohesive and consistent presentation across 88 NCAA championships. The intent is to provide a meaningful experience for participating

student-athletes, to advance the NCAA brand and to reflect the highest level of collegiate competition.

**14. “Life in the Balance” – Phase II review and recommendations.** Discussion took place on three legislative concepts in Phase II of the Life in the Balance.

- a. Annual discretionary exemptions. The committee supported no changes to the current legislation.
- b. Nonchampionship segment. The committee supported to permit athletes to engage in the nonchampionship segment competition without using a season of competition and to amend the start date of the nonchampionship segment for spring sports to September 7 or the fourth day of classes, whichever is earlier.
- c. 20/8 hour rule; skill instruction outside playing season; start date for winter sports. The committee supported for all sports except football to permit full team activities outside of the season for no more than two hours and to amend the start date for winter sports, including basketball to be September 15.

[Note: Formal recommendations related to Phase II of the Life in the Balance Initiative were made as part of a joint meeting of the Division II Legislation Committee and Championships Committee. The recommendations above provided an initial straw poll by the Championships Committee on the concepts being discussed.]

**15. Winter championships evaluations.** The committee reviewed the winter championship evaluations completed by student-athletes, tournament directors, championship managers and coaches. The committee noted this review process is an important factor for the continual improvement of the championship experience.

**16. NCAA Division II National Championships Festival update.**

- a. The first information blast related to the 2010 Fall Championships Festival will be sent to the membership following the NCAA Division II Presidents and Chancellors Summit.
- b. The 2013 winter festival bid package will be posted on line July 2, 2010. The committee will be asked to make site selections for the 2012 and the 2013 festivals at its September meeting.

**17. Site Selection.** The following sites were approved by the championships committee:

- a. Men's and Women's Cross Country (2010 Atlantic regional): Saint Augustine's.
- b. Men's and Women's Cross Country (2011 and 2013): Spokane, WA (Great Northwest Athletic Conference, host).
- c. Men's and Women's Cross Country (2012): Missouri Southern.
- d. Men's and Women's Indoor Track and Field (2012): Minnesota State Mankato.
- e. Men's and Women's Tennis (2013): Grand Canyon.
- f. Women's Basketball (2012 and 2013): St. Mary's (Texas).
- g. Men's and Women's Swimming (2012): Henderson State.
- h. Women's Golf (2013): Daytona Beach, FL (Sunshine State Conference, host).
- i. Softball (2013): Salem, Virginia (West Virginia Intercollegiate Athletic Conference, host).
- j. Football (2012 and 2013): North Alabama.
- k. Men's Basketball (2012 and 2013): Northern Kentucky.
- l. Men's and Women's Soccer (2011): West Florida.
- m. Men's and Women's Soccer (2012 and 2013): Augusta, Georgia (Peach Belt Conference).
- n. Women's Lacrosse (2013): Montclair State.



**18. Future Meetings.**

- a. September 13-15, 2010.
- b. February 7-9, 2011.

*Committee Chair: Janet Montgomery, University of West Alabama*  
*Staff Liaisons: Roberta Page, Championships*  
*Shonna Brown, Championships*