REPORT OF THE NCAA DIVISION III CHAMPIONSHIPS COMMITTEE JANUARY 24, 2012 TELECONFERENCE

***ACTION ITEMS*.**

None.

***INFORMATIONAL ITEMS*.**

1. **Baseball – Misconduct Review.** The NCAA Division III Championships Committee considered an appeal submitted by the State University of New York at Cortland regarding the misconduct and related sanctions issued by the NCAA Division III Baseball Committee as a result of the actions of the baseball coaching staff in conjunction with the 2011 NCAA Division III Baseball Championship. After review of a written appeal, the verbal statements offered by representatives of SUNY Cortland, and the verbal statements offered by representatives of the baseball committee, the championships committee upheld the decision of the baseball committee and, as a result, the sanctions as issued by the baseball committee remain intact. A public reprimand is issued to head coach Joe Brown and assistant coach Mike Howell due to unprofessional and unsportsmanlike conduct exhibited in conjunction with the championship. In addition, both coaches are subject to a suspension for the first game of the next NCAA baseball championship in which SUNY Cortland is a participating team. The committee believed that the self-imposed sanctions by Cortland were not sufficient and the various reports and materials presented to the committee demonstrated that the misconduct took place in a public manner, thereby meriting a public reprimand. Furthermore, the committee expressed concern about a prior instance of misconduct which provided sufficient notice to the institution to monitor future conduct. Stuart Robinson, a member of the championships committee and an administrator at an institution in the same conference as SUNY Cortland, recused himself from the discussion.

2. **Women's Ice Hockey.**

   a. Date Formula. The committee approved that the date formula for first rounds of the NCAA Division III Women's Ice Hockey Championship be revised from one week prior to the finals (Friday, Saturday or Sunday) to one week prior to the finals (Friday or Saturday), effective for the 2012 championship. The committee noted that the majority of weekend college hockey games are played Fridays and Saturdays. Further, for the past five years, no first-round host has held the game Sunday; thirteen have held the game Saturday and two have held the game Friday. The revision to the date formula reflects the current practice. Elimination of Sunday as a scheduling option also reduces the possibility of a significant

difference in time for rest and travel for teams between the first round and the finals.

b. Committee Chair. The committee approved that Steve Nelson, director of athletics at the University of Wisconsin, Superior, serve as the chair of the NCAA Division III Women's Ice Hockey Committee, effective immediately.

3. Deadline Waiver Request. The committee reviewed the request by Saint Joseph's College of Maine to be considered for institutional eligibility in the NCAA Division III Men's and Women's Indoor Track and Field Championships after having missed the associated deadlines to indicate sponsorship of the sport for the 2011-2012 academic year, but took no action. The committee will request additional information from the institution before making a final determination.

4. Other Business. The committee discussed plans for its February in-person meeting, including agenda and materials preparation by staff to ensure that a review of misconduct provisions and the ongoing work of a staff-initiated project team are included. In addition, the committee asked that staff provide a summary of misconduct cases concerning Division III championships within the past year.

Committee Chair: Stuart Robinson, State University College at New Paltz
Staff Liaisons: John Williams, Championships and Alliances
Jan Gentry, Championships and Alliances
Liz Turner Suscha, Championships and Alliances

Teleconference, January 24, 2012	
Attendees	Absentees
Tim Downes, Emory University	None
Holly Gera, Montclair State University	
Kelli Hamilton, University of Minnesota, Morris	
Sue Lauder, Fitchburg State University	
Jeff Martinez, University of Redlands	
Steve Nelson, University of Wisconsin, Superior	
Joe Onderko, Presidents' Athletic Conference	
Stuart Robinson, State University College at New Paltz	
Monica Severson, Wartburg College	
Other Participants	
Joe Brown, State University of New York at Cortland (for a portion of the meeting)	
Jan Gentry, NCAA	

Linda Godby, NCAA	
Brandy Hataway, NCAA	
Anthony Holman, NCAA (for a portion of the meeting)	
Gregg Kaye, The Commonwealth Coast Conference (for a portion of the meeting)	
Jeff Myers, NCAA	
Liz Turner Suscha, NCAA	
Mike Urtz, State University of New York at Cortland (for a portion of the meeting)	

NCAA/3/22/12/LTS:lmg