



REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION III WOMEN'S SOCCER COMMITTEE  
FEBRUARY 16, 2021 MEETING

**ACTION ITEMS.**

**1. Legislative items.**

- None.

**2. Nonlegislative items.**

**a. Committee chair.**

- (1) Recommendation. That Sean Sullivan, associate vice president and director of athletics at Catholic University, be reappointed as chair of the committee.
- (2) Effective date. September 1, 2021.
- (3) Rationale. Mr. Sullivan was a unanimous selection to remain chair of the Women's Soccer Committee in 2021 following his leadership throughout the canceled 2020 season.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

**b. Automatic qualification.**

- (1) Recommendation. That the following 44 conferences be granted automatic qualification to the 2021 NCAA Division III Women's Soccer Championship: Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference; American Rivers Conference; American Southwest Conference; Atlantic East Conference; Coast to Coast Athletic Conference; Centennial Conference; City University of New York Athletic 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; Middle Atlantic Conference Commonwealth; Middle Atlantic Conference Freedom; Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association; 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 Athletic Association; Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference; Southern Collegiate Athletic Conference; State University of New York Athletic Conference; University Athletic Association; Upper Midwest Athletic Conference; USA South Athletic Conference; Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletics Conference.

The anticipated pool allocations for the 2021 championship are as follows: Pool A – 44; Pool B – 0; Pool C – 20.

- (2) Effective date. Immediately.
- (3) Rationale. All recommended conferences meet the criteria for automatic qualification (AQ) eligibility.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

### **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

- 1. Review 2020 annual meeting report.** The committee reviewed and approved the 2020 annual meeting report as presented.
- 2. Rankings, selections and bracketing.** The committee reviewed the weekly rankings process in general following the canceled 2020 season. With a large number of new committee members in 2020 and moving forward in 2021, the committee spent extra time discussing the process for examining primary criteria for rankings and selections. Members continued to improve the process through expanded communication leading up to the national ranking call. The committee also recognized that 2021 will be a learning process with the expansion of regions and not knowing exactly how the numbers will change with more regions.
- 3. Championship and preliminary-round host bids.** The committee continued to support requesting all preliminary-round hosts to have a backup field option within a reasonable distance (time/miles) and tracking the impact of this suggestion to determine if it will become a requirement. In 2020, the committees determined that all bids would require information on backup options and that those with suitable backup options would be given priority.
- 4. Sponsorship analysis.** The committee reviewed the anticipated sponsorship for 2021-22 and noted the provisional institutions expected to become full members, anticipated new provisional members and a number of changes to conference affiliation. More changes are expected prior to the fall.

The committee discussed the anticipated breakdown of bids, noting there will likely be zero pool B selections and still 20 pool C selections.

- 5. Committee and regional advisory committee (RAC) rosters.** The committee reviewed the national and regional advisory committee rosters and noted the vacancies on the national committee, including the two new regional spots due to the recently adopted regional realignment. The committee reviewed duties and responsibilities for the committee and RAC and noted the positive impact of improved training. The committee also began discussing how to use the RAC members more and ensure those individuals are fulfilling their roles and responsibilities.
- 6. Review of NCAA manuals.** The committee will assign manual reviews to each member. The primary goal for this review is to identify priority information and bring that information to the beginning of each section and then the remainder of the section will be more informal. The committee will make appropriate updates and additions to the committee operations, host operations, participant, pre-championships and site representative manuals over the spring following an in-depth review.

*Committee Chair: Sean Sullivan, Catholic University*

*Staff Liaison: Kevin Alcox, Championships and Alliances*

<b>Division III Women's Soccer Committee February 16, 2021, Meeting</b>	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Wendy McManus, Elmhurst College.	
Michael Mooney, SUNY Geneseo.	
Girish Thakar, Westminster College (Pa.).	
Sean Sullivan, Catholic University.	
Nicolle Wood, Salem State University.	
Jason Murphy, University of Wisconsin-La Crosse.	
Beverly Biancur, North Carolina Wesleyan College.	
Frank Marino, California Lutheran University.	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
None.	
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>	
None.	
<b>NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:</b>	
Kevin Alcox, Aaron King.	
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>	
None.	

