

America East Conference Administration Group

October 3, 2019

8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

AGENDA

Tilden Thurber Ballroom

Hotel Providence

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| Welcome and Logistics |
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1. Welcome.
2. Future meeting schedule.
3. 2019-20 key objectives. (Supplement 1)

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| NCAA Governance and National Issues |
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4. Board of Governors report.
 - a. Federal and State Legislation Working Group report. (Supplements 2a and 2b)
5. Board of Directors report.
 - a. Establishment of Infractions Process Oversight Committee.
 - b. Overview of NCAA Division I Championships Finance Review. (Supplement 3)
 - c. Feedback on APR-enhancements under consideration by the Committee on Academics.
6. Overview of October Council and Standing Committee meetings.
7. 2020 legislation update.
 - a. Men's soccer proposal. (Supplements 4a and 4b, [21st Century Model](#))
 - b. Transfer concepts.

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| Leadership, Engagement and Health and Safety |
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8. SAAC report. (Supplements 5a and 5b)

9. SA Engagement Committee report. (Supplement 6)

10. Health and Safety Committee report. (Supplement 7)

Anticipated Action: Approve the committee's recommendation to further study the impact of time obligations on student-athletes' mental health.

11. NCAA Athletics Health Care Administrator discussion. (Supplement 8)

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| AE Governance Committees |
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12. Review minutes from September 5 conference call. (Supplement 9)

Anticipated Action: Approve the minutes, as presented.

13. Coordinating Committee report. (Supplement 10)

14. AD meeting report. (Supplement 11)

15. SWA Committee report. (Supplement 12)

- a. Scholarship and staffing requirements discussion. (Supplement 13)

Anticipated Action: Approve the recommendations presented by the SWAs and CCC for the tracking mechanism and other items of clarification.

16. FAR Committee report. (Supplement 14)

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| Championships and Sport Policy |
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17. CCC report. (Supplement 15)

Anticipated Action: Consider the recommendation to modify the regular-season baseball schedule format.

18. Officiating fee schedule recommendations. (Supplement 16)

Anticipated Action: Approve the proposed fee increases for men's and women's soccer.

19. Men's Basketball Working Group. (Supplements 17a, 17b, 17c and 17d)

Anticipated Action: Approve the men's basketball non-conference scheduling framework and endorse the program review timeline.

20. Basketball Technology Group.

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| Closing and Adjournment |
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21. Other business.

22. Adjournment.

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2019-20 Key Objectives

- 1. Finalize and implement men's basketball non-conference scheduling framework and related recommendations adopted by the Board of Presidents.**
 - Begin rollout of the package of recommendations adopted by the Board of Presidents to enhance men's basketball.
- 2. Assess and identify recommendations for the adoption of basketball technology throughout the league.**
 - Support the work of the Basketball Technology Group to identify potential technology solutions to ensure AE basketball remains relevant and positioned for success.
- 3. Enhance efforts to highlight and promote men's basketball by the conference office and through increased collaboration with each institution.**
 - Enhanced, intentional focus on men's basketball promotion through social and traditional media, including increased collaboration with teams and schools to strengthen the storytelling and brand.
- 4. Implement a successful mental health workshop.**
 - Expand the Health & Safety Summit to increase the focus on mental health through the debut of a stand-alone workshop.
- 5. Implement a successful Spread Respect Forum.**
 - Ensure the first-ever forum is successful through high attendance, quality speakers and engaging topics.
- 6. Develop and implement a focused Alumni Network recruiting strategy.**
 - Deploy a strategy to enhance recruitment of new members, including the onboarding process to create a lasting relationship.
- 7. Finalize digital network strategy for next 2-3 years.**
 - Identify strategy, solution and provider for next phase (2020-21 and beyond).
- 8. Introduce at least two new AEAC initiatives.**
 - Identify and start implementation of at least two new AEAC initiatives that will add breadth to the consortium's offerings and expand the reach.
- 9. Strengthen the conference's position.**
 - Evaluate and identify areas and strategies to ensure the conference's position remains strong, collaborative and cohesive.
- 10. Ongoing awareness of priorities on each campus and connection of those priorities to AE.**
 - Balance of highly successful sports not sponsored by AE and resulting impact on AE-sponsored sports and the integration of non-AE sports into the broader AE platform (e.g., #3Pillars).



July 18, 2019

VIA EMAIL

Grace Calhoun
 Chair, NCAA Division I Council
 235 South 33rd Street
 Philadelphia, PA 19104-6322

Dear Ms. Calhoun:

As co-chairs of the NCAA Board of Governors Federal and State Legislation Working Group, we would like to formally invite the NCAA Division I Council to provide written feedback to the working group.

The goal of the working group is to examine issues highlighted in recently proposed federal and state legislation related to student-athlete name, image and likeness. As part of its efforts, the working group will study modifications of current rules, policies and practices. In particular, the group will focus on solutions that reinforce the educational goals of the student-athlete; maintain the clear demarcation between professional and college sports; and further align student-athletes with the general student body. The group's work will not result in paying students as employees or as substitute payment for athletics ability. All discussions with the working group will be off the record and not for attribution.

In your written submission, we request that you address the following questions:

1. What are the challenges and opportunities in creating a system in which student-athletes may be compensated for the use of their name, image and likeness?
2. Are there viable models for the compensation of a student-athlete's name, image and likeness that reinforce educational goals, provide a clear demarcation between professional and college sports and that further align student-athletes with the general student body? If so, please address how these models would be:
 - a. Enforceable to prevent improper recruiting and transfer inducements or substitution of payment for athletics ability;
 - b. Narrowly tailored to support the values and principles of NCAA athletics;
 - c. Adaptable to future technological, societal and industry changes.

3. How might fair competition among schools be impacted by compensating student-athletes for their name, image and likeness? In what ways could this impact be mitigated?
4. Are there existing structures to fairly and accurately determine the market value of a student-athlete's name, image and likeness? What are they?
5. What measures would you recommend that would mitigate against a student-athlete prioritizing NIL compensation over academic success and commitment to the team?

Please submit your responses by [clicking here](#) **not later than Friday, August 30.**

Thank you for your willingness to participate in this important discussion. We look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

Val Ackerman
Co-Chair,
NCAA Board of Governors Federal
and State Legislation Working Group

Gene Smith
Co-Chair,
NCAA Board of Governors Federal
and State Legislation Working Group

VA/GS:cvs

TRANSMITTED VIA EMAIL

August 27, 2019

Beth DeBauche
CCA, Chair

Dear Beth,

This is in response to your request for feedback from each conference on behalf of the CCA regarding the NCAA Board of Governors Federal and State Legislation Working Group's examination of student-athlete name, image and likeness (NIL) issues.

The America East Conference athletics leadership recently engaged in preliminary discussion on the issues and questions raised in the NCAA request for feedback. The following is a general summary of that discussion.

In sum, the America East supports the direction of the Working Group to examine issues surrounding NIL issues for student-athletes. Our universities recruit a diverse student population with varied academic and professional interests, which aligns with the general student body population across our membership. Accordingly, we believe student-athletes should be afforded the same opportunities as their peers with respect to pursuing interests and paths that position them for post-college success. This is especially relevant in today's environment that creates numerous opportunities for entrepreneurial ventures, both within the academy and beyond. We do not believe student-athletes should be constrained in these endeavors solely because they participate in intercollegiate athletics. While the NCAA waiver process is available in the current regulatory structure and has proven to be increasingly flexible, administration by waiver does not address the underlying issue and is both bureaucratic and limiting in the event a student-athlete or institution is not aware of the waiver process or chooses not to pursue it. The intercollegiate athletics experience provides many lessons that benefit participants throughout their career and life; however, certain regulations also restrict tangible opportunities for academic and career success. Therefore, we support further exploration of models that would permit student-athletes to be less constrained in opportunities related to their academic or non-athletic talents and pursuits.

With respect to NIL issues with a clear athletics nexus, we recognize the more complex set of issues that face the Working Group and the membership. The usual concerns around recruiting, inducement, fair competition and the like are real, but relative. These already exist in a number of areas both within the scope of NCAA regulations and beyond. There simply are inherent resource differences across the membership that will never be bridged. Thus, while we believe these should not be ignored, we also do not believe they should be the determining factors in any model.

We encourage the Working Group to not be deterred in a full examination based solely or primarily on recruiting concerns.

We also support the exploration of a regulatory framework to provide certain boundaries, which may address some of the recruiting and inducement concerns while establishing fairness and objectivity. Such a framework should extend beyond traditional NCAA legislation and could include the input of subject matter experts in economics and finance to create a version of a financial market that applies to NIL activity. An independent framework such as this may also be built with the necessary market controls to detect and prevent abuse, address monitoring concerns, manage licensing issues, address impacts to international student-athletes, and possibly even contemplate Title IX/gender equity issues.

Fundamentally, any NIL compensation based on athletics should not take priority over a student-athlete's academic obligations or athletics participation expectations. Thus, creating an academic nexus to such opportunities is imperative to any model that contemplates athletics-based NIL compensation. For example, establishing time and travel limitations to avoid miss class time seems appropriate and necessary.

Finally, the interest of the student-athlete must be protected in these endeavors; therefore, regulations should be crafted in a way that permits a student-athlete to seek legal guidance when evaluating opportunities and/or entering into any contractual arrangement. The absence of this protective mechanism would likely jeopardize a student-athlete's interests in damaging and long-term ways. Thus, protecting a student-athlete's interests in any model that expands NIL opportunities, whether based on academic or athletics reasons, is essential.

In closing, we understand and acknowledge the issues surrounding NIL and support the Working Group's efforts to provide direction and leadership for the Association in a manner that reflects the realities of today's dynamic academic, athletic and cultural environment along with all of the associated resources, tools and opportunities, while preserving the philosophical and foundational elements that serve as the basis for intercollegiate athletics within higher education.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Amy Huchthausen', with a stylized, flowing script.

Amy Huchthausen
Commissioner



NCAA Division I Board of Directors Finance Committee Review of the Division I Championships Finances

Background.

The NCAA Division I Board of Directors Finance Committee, in collaboration with the respective championship oversight committees, NCAA Division I Strategic Vision and Planning Committee, Student-Athlete Advisory Committee and Council, will lead a review of legislation and policy governing the allocation of Division I Championships resources and facilitate the appropriate prioritization. This review will be conducted consistent with the committee's role to inform the NCAA Division I Board of Directors' final authority on all Division I budget matters.

Why has the Finance Committee identified a need for this review? There are finite financial resources to fund Division I Championships and inflationary pressures, new requests and other issues cause tension in the system. A review of applicable bylaws and policies to determine relevancy, whether each is still a priority and how each impact other initiatives will allow the membership to determine and prioritize within known fiscal realities.

Some of the reasons for the tension, that have developed over time, are outlined below. For full legislative guidance, NCAA Bylaws 31.1 (administration of NCAA Championships), and specifically; 31.02.1 (automatic qualification), 31.3.4 (automatic qualification) and 31.1.3.2.5 (nonrevenue championships site assignment) are included as Attachment A.

1. Primary championship cost drivers include access, automatic qualification, bracket and field size, travel party size and new championships that meet sponsorship requirements. These directly impact travel and per diem costs and can also increase costs associated with event operations.
 - a. As sport sponsorship decreased in some sports, bracket and field sizes were not adjusted; thus, as sport sponsorship increases in some sports or new championships are added, resources do not accommodate bracket expansion.
 - b. Requests from the membership to increase squad sizes and travel parties because institutional squad sizes and support staffs are larger.
2. There is guaranteed access to national championships for conferences after 1995 federation and 2014 governance restructuring.
3. Bracketing policies (e.g., top seed hosts, automatic and immediate accommodations of a play-in system).

Timeline and Engagement Plan.

With a commitment to transparency and communication, over the course of the next six to 14 months the Finance Committee will direct a review that engages the Division I membership and governance structure, including sport committees. A working group (Attachment B) has been

established and will report to Council along the way. This culminates in prioritization and greater membership clarity as championships-related budget requests are made for the 2020-21 fiscal year.

A Council-led working group will report to the Council and Finance Committee at each meeting along the way.

Principles.

The following principles have been approved by the Finance Committee and will guide the review of Division I Championship finances:

1. As championships is a core function of the NCAA, outcomes of this review, including the execution of championships, should clearly reflect the Association's pillars: [Academics](#), [Well-being](#) and [Fairness](#) for all involved.
2. As the NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Championship is the primary source of funding for all championships and Association programming, it requires ongoing investment to maintain a quality production and experience for all involved.
3. The student-athlete's participation in an NCAA Championship should be the pinnacle of their intercollegiate athletics experience, which includes ensuring that all Division I and National Collegiate Championships are bracketed and conducted fairly as national championships and celebrate the student-athlete.
4. Agreed upon criteria shall guide financial investment of championships and should be informed by data, sport sponsorship and effective funds management.
5. NCAA Championships will reflect the NCAA's commitment to diversity and inclusion and student-athlete gender equity.
6. A model that allows for periodic review of championships is important for financial planning.
7. Participation in NCAA Championship events requires cost-sharing with member institutions whose student-athletes participate.

Scope of this review.

- This is a review of the entire Division I Championships budget, which is inclusive of national collegiate championships.
- This review does not extend to other national office, Association-wide and Division I programs.

- The review will include possible amendments to applicable operating policies and bylaws.
- The review will identify areas where savings and opportunities for reallocation are possible along with a prioritization of the investment of finite resources in championships.
- This review is not aimed at eliminating championships.

June 18, 2019

Rob Kehoe
Director of College Programs
United Soccer Coaches

Dear Rob,

The Big Ten Conference will be sponsoring a proposal in the 2019-20 NCAA legislative cycle to implement the 21st Century Model for Men's Soccer. The purpose of the proposal is to enhance critical elements of the overall collegiate experience, including academics, health, social life, development in the sport, and championship experience. This enhancement would occur primarily through redistributing and reducing contests while maintaining the existing 132-day playing and practice season limit. In addition, nearly all midweek games would be eliminated under the model, and conference and NCAA tournaments would move from late fall to late spring.

The Big Ten's proposal is based on the 21st Century Model that had been developed by men's soccer coaches nationally over several years, but is modified in relation to the initial version of that model. Specifically, whereas the initial model was based on a 144-day/24-week playing and practice season, the Big Ten proposal will maintain the current 132-day/22-week playing and practice season. Further, whereas the initial model maintained the current number of 25 overall contests (fall and spring combined), the Big Ten proposal will reduce the overall number of contests from 25 to 23. Finally, although the initial model included a reduction from 20 hours per week during the season to 18 hours, the Big Ten proposal will maintain the existing 20-hour limit in the interest of avoiding the administrative burden associated with having one sport in which the weekly hour limit is different than that of all other sports.

General features of the proposed model listed in comparison with the current model are as follows:

| | 21st Century Model | Current Model |
|----------------|--|--|
| Season Length | Fall: 12 weeks/13 weekends (incl. preseason) Spring: 10 weeks/11 weekends | Fall: 13+ weeks/14 weekends (incl. preseason) Spring 8+ weeks |
| Contest Limits | Fall: 14 games, including up to 2 exhibitions Spring: 9 games, including up to 1 exhibition | Fall: 20 games, including up to 3 exhibitions Spring: 5 games (or dates of competition) |
| Midweek Limits | Fall: Max. of 2 midweek games (Mon.-Thurs.) Spring: Max. of 1 midweek game (Mon.-Thurs.) | Fall: No limit on midweek games Spring: Prohibition on missed class |
| Postseason | Conference tournaments in mid-to-late April; NCAA tournament throughout May | Conference tournaments in mid-November; NCAA tournament mid-Nov. through mid-Dec. |

For additional details, please see the attached draft proposal (Attachment A) as well as a side-by-side comparison of calendars displaying both the 21st Century Model and the current model as applied to the 2019-20 academic year (Attachment B). Note that the effective date has been left “to be determined” as we will need identify a date that would be reasonable in light of the logistical changes adopting the Model would entail.

As you know, this proposal is the culmination of years of development and moving to such a model has consistently received overwhelming support by both men’s soccer coaches and the students who play men’s soccer. Some of assorted benefits those groups have embraced include the following:

- **Academics:** The Preliminary Report produced following the May 2015 Soccer Summit hosted by the NCAA Sport-Science Institute noted that “male NCAA soccer players arrive at college with the third highest high school GPA among NCAA [men’s] sports, but finish with only the fifth highest GPA.” Nearly eliminating midweek games will significantly reduce missed class time, which in turn will allow men’s soccer players to have an academic experience that is much more comparable to that of the general student body. In addition, starting later in the fall and ending earlier (before Thanksgiving) will be particularly beneficial to freshmen who are getting acclimated to college life for the first time. By contrast, under the current model, freshmen are forced to hit the ground running before classes begin in the fall and depending on how far their team advances in postseason play, could be occupied with the soccer season up to and during their first experience with college finals.
- **Health:** Data not available or tracked years ago is now available, including distances covered by players during 90-minute matches, which can exceed 7 miles depending on the position. For context, a professional basketball player, playing in a 48-minute game over an area 1/16th the size of a soccer field, will cover less than 3 miles per game. A telling point cited in the Preliminary Report referenced above is that “literature in professional soccer suggest a six-fold increase in injury rates when two matches are played per week as opposed to one.” Playing only one game each week would allow more time between matches for physical and mental recovery, and if the literature cited is accurate, injuries should decrease.
- **Championship Experience:** The Men’s College Cup has lost some of the luster and energy it had in the mid-1990’s due to multiple factors, but the timing of the event in mid-December has not helped. Conducting the College Cup in better weather would improve the event’s chance of success, perhaps even more so if it were to join the wave of promotional energy currently seen with other spring championships such as baseball, softball, and lacrosse.
- **Development in the Sport:** The U.S. Soccer Federation has regularly lobbied college soccer coaches to alter the playing and practice season so that training is balanced more evenly throughout the year—this request is not new and it is neither the basis nor catalyst for this proposal. Nevertheless, the issue is relevant when considering that soccer players, who specialize early at a high rate in comparison to other sports, arrive on campus conditioned and accustomed to playing the sport year round. Notably, the USSF’s Development Academy, which

consists of elite players at the U-12 through U-18 levels, is based on a full-time, 10-month program that begins in September and ends in July, with 25-30 league games per season, not counting playoffs. The 21st Century Model would align with the training regimen Division-I soccer players are accustomed to upon arrival, and while skill-development considerations should not dictate policy decisions for any college sport, if policy change that serves our core mission simultaneously benefits skill development, it is not wrong for development in the sport to be seen as a positive byproduct.

Thank you for the role you have played in the process that has led to this point. We welcome and look forward to the opportunity to continue to work with United Soccer Coaches as well as other conferences as we formally sponsor the proposal and proceed through the legislative process. To that end, feel free to share this correspondence and related attachments as you deem appropriate, and let me know if there are any questions.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chad A. Hawley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Chad" being more prominent.

Chad A. Hawley
Associate Commissioner, Policy
Big Ten Conference

*****DRAFT PROPOSAL—21st Century Model for Men's Soccer*****

Intent: To establish a 21st Century playing and practice season model for men's soccer, which will enhance critical elements of the overall collegiate experience (including academics, health, social life, development in the sport, and championship experience) through a redistribution and reduction of contests while maintaining a 132-day season limit, and by moving conference and NCAA tournaments from the fall to the spring.

Notes: *The below proposed amendments are specific to men's soccer; existing rules would be maintained and apply to women's soccer. This proposal would also need to be accompanied by a contingent request to move the NCAA Division I Men's Soccer Championship from the fall to the spring in the event the proposal were to be adopted.*

Bylaws: Amend as follows:

17.19.1 Length of Playing Season.

(a) **Men.** The length of an institution's playing season in soccer shall be limited to a 132-day season, which ~~may~~ shall consist of two segments (each consisting of consecutive days) and which may exclude only required off days per Bylaw [17.1.7.4](#) or 17.1.7.6 and official vacation, holiday and final-examination periods during which no practice or competition shall occur.

17.19.2 Preseason Practice.

(a) **Men.** ~~An~~ For the fall segment, an institution shall not commence practice sessions before the date that permits a maximum of 21 units (see Bylaw [17.02.13](#)) before the first scheduled regular season intercollegiate contest (not a scrimmage, exhibition game or alumni contest that may occur before the first scheduled regular season contest) Saturday of the 13th weekend before Thanksgiving. For the spring segment, an institution shall not commence practice sessions before the Saturday of the 11th weekend before the start of the NCAA tournament.

17.19.3 First Contest or Date of Competition.

(a) **Men.** ~~An~~ For the fall segment, an institution shall not play its first regular-season contest or engage in its first date of competition (game) with outside competition before the Friday before the 12th 11th weekend before the start of the applicable NCAA Division I Soccer Championship (see [Figure 17-2](#)), except that an alumni contest may be played the previous weekend Thanksgiving. For the spring segment, an institution shall not play its first regular-season contest or engage in its first date of competition (game) with outside competition before the Friday before the 10th weekend before the start of the NCAA tournament.

17.19.3.1 Exception -- Scrimmages/Exhibition Games.

(a) **Men.** An institution may play up to three (two during the fall segment, one during the spring segment) soccer scrimmages or exhibition games (which shall not count toward the institution's won-lost record) prior to the first scheduled regular-season contest ~~during a particular academic year of the applicable segment~~, provided such scrimmages or exhibition games are conducted during the institution's declared playing season per Bylaw [17.19.1](#) and are

counted against the maximum number of contests (see Bylaw 17.19.5.1). Contests that would otherwise be exempted from the maximum number of contests per Bylaw 17.19.5.3 shall count against the maximum if they are played during the preseason practice period prior to the date specified for the first permissible regular-season contest.

17.19.4 End of Regular Playing Season.

(a) Men. A member institution shall conclude all practice and competition ~~(games and scrimmages) in soccer during the fall segment by the Sunday that immediately precedes Thanksgiving. A seven-day discretionary period shall then be provided beginning with the Monday that immediately precedes Thanksgiving, during which time required athletically related activities shall be prohibited. Practice and competition during the spring segment shall conclude by the last date of final exams for the regular academic year at the institution~~ conclusion of the NCAA Division I Men's Soccer Championship.

17.19.5 Number of Contests and Dates of Competition.

17.19.5.1 Maximum Limitations -- Institutional.

(a) Men. A member institution shall limit its total playing schedule with outside competition in soccer during the institution's soccer playing season in any one year to ~~20 contests during the segment in which the NCAA championship is conducted and five dates of competition during another segment~~ 14 contests during the fall segment (including 2 scrimmages/exhibitions) and 9 contests during the spring segment (including 1 scrimmage/exhibition) except for those contests and/or dates of competition excluded under Bylaws 17.19.5.3 and 17.19.5.4. No more than two of the 14 fall-segment contests may be played midweek (defined as Monday through Thursday), and no more than one of the 9 spring-segment contests may be played midweek. Travel to competition in the nonchampionship segment shall be restricted to ground transportation, unless there are no Division I institutions that sponsor the sport located within 400 miles of the institution.

17.19.5.1.1 Exception -- Isolated Institution -- Women's Soccer. If there are fewer than five other Division I institutions that sponsor women's soccer ~~(for the applicable gender)~~ located within 400 miles of the institution, the institution may use any form of transportation to travel to the number of nonchampionship segment competitions that represents the difference between the number of other institutions and five.

17.19.5.1.2 Hawaii or Alaska Exception -- Nonchampionship Segment Travel -- Women's Soccer. Once every four years, an institution may use any form of transportation for travel to Hawaii or Alaska for nonchampionship segment competition against an active member institution located in Hawaii or Alaska.

[17.19.5.1.3 unchanged.]

17.19.5.2 Maximum Limitations -- Student-Athlete.

(a) Men. An individual student-athlete may participate in each academic year in not more than ~~20 soccer contests during the segment in which the NCAA championship is conducted and five dates of competition in soccer during another segment~~ 14 contests during the fall segment

(including 2 scrimmages/exhibitions) and 9 contests during the spring segment (including 1 scrimmage/exhibition). This limitation includes those contests in which the student represents the institution in accordance with Bylaw [17.02.8](#), including competition as a member of the varsity, junior varsity or freshman team of the institution.

Rationale: Men's soccer coaches have worked for several years developing a model that would modernize the manner in which Division-I men's soccer is structured. The current unbalanced approach to the fall and spring competition seasons features a highly compressed competitive schedule in the fall that culminates with an NCAA championship event that concludes outdoors in mid-December. The degree of compression in the fall is inconsistent with emerging sport-science data, which have indicated increased injury rates when two matches are played per week as opposed to one, which is consistent with data that now show players regularly logging more than seven miles per match. NCAA data have also shown that male soccer players arrive to college with the 3rd highest GPA among men's sports, yet finish with the 5th highest GPA, which could be attributable to some extent to the frequency of midweek games during the fall as well as the highly compressed nature of the fall season for first-year students adjusting to being full-time college students as well as a Division-I varsity athletes. By redistributing and reducing the playing and practice season, the proposed 21st Century Model for men's soccer would benefit academics and health by nearly eliminating midweek games. Moreover, ending the fall segment before Thanksgiving would provide for a meaningful holiday break that would include fall final exams and last through mid-February. A rebalanced model would also provide a training experience familiar to Division-I men's soccer students who upon arrival are accustomed to a balanced fall and spring competitive schedule. Finally, maintaining the current 132-day format for the season will ensure that the overall amount of time a student is in season would remain the same under the 21st Century Model.

Effective Date: To be determined.

21st Century Model 2019-20 Prototype

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Current Model 2019-20 Model Schedule

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| December 19 | | | | | | |
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| September 19 | | | | | | |
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Fall Segment

- 12 weeks/13 weekends (including preseason) ending on the Sunday immediately prior to Thanksgiving
- 12 weeks/13 weekends in which to play 14 games, including up to 2 exhibitions
- No more than 2 midweek games (Mon.-Thu.) allowed
- Required 1 day off per week
- 20 hours max. of CARA per week

Winter Break

- 7-day break following the fall segment
- No CARA the week prior to finals through inst. vacation period; 8 hrs/wk out-of-season CARA otherwise

Spring Segment

- 10 weeks/11 weekends counting back, beg. with the weekend prior to start of the NCAA tourn.
- 10 weeks/11 weekends in which to play 9 games incl. up to 1 exhibition plus a conf. tournament
- No more than 1 midweek game (Mon. - Thu.), excluding conference tournament
- Required 1 day off per week
- 20 hours max of CARA per week

NCAA Tournament

- Using current format, 4 weekends, ending on Mem. Day Weekend; semis/final on 5/22 and 5/24 above
- 5-weekend alt. format: semis on campus on 4th wknd, final on Sat. or Sun. after Mem. Day, 5/30 or 31 above

Fall/ Championship Segment

- 13+ weeks (incl. preseason) with 1st reg. game Fri. of 12th weekend before NCAA tourney (8/30 in 2019)
- 20 games, incl. up to 3 exhib, which may occur prior to 8/30
- Typically 17-18 games over 10 or 11 weeks (depending on conf. tourney format) plus



STATEMENT ON THE NCAA SOCCER STUDY
JUNE 13, 2019
CSMAS

In February 2015, the NCAA Sport Science Institute hosted the NCAA Soccer Summit. The purpose of the event was to develop a strategic agenda for the improvement of health and safety of not just NCAA soccer student-athletes, but soccer athletes of all ages. This summit also represented the NCAA's first attempt to address issues affecting the full breadth of the athlete development continuum within a single sport.

One objective of the event was to identify knowledge gaps that might be addressed by future research. One identified gap was the optimum amount of time between competitions to minimize the risk of injury while maximizing athletic performance. So, in 2016 the NCAA SSI commissioned a pilot study to be conducted by the Korey Stringer Institute at the University of Connecticut for the purposes of determining if there is a relationship between the soccer schedule and injuries. In 2017 and 2018, the study was expanded to a total of 12 Division I men's and women's soccer teams and was augmented by NCAA soccer schedule and injury surveillance data. The preliminary results of this study were reviewed during the CSMAS June 2019 meeting.

Given the nature of the sample, care must be taken when interpreting the results, which are limited in their generalizability. Nevertheless, the study reveals several interesting findings:

- In both the men's and women's game, preseason injuries occurring in practices were substantially higher than at any other point in the season or postseason (competition or practice).
- Both men's and women's soccer athletes experienced higher rates of injuries when matches occurred with 5 or less days of rest between games, as opposed to when there were 6 or more days of rest.
- Women's soccer athletes experienced higher rate of overuse injuries when matches occurred with 5 or less days rest between games, as opposed to when there were 6 or more days of rest.
- Large increases in the volume of activity in a single day (beyond what athletes were accustomed to) were associated with increased injury risk.
- Women reported higher levels of sleep dysfunction, anxiety and disablement than men's soccer players.

The committee notes that this study is completed at a time when some in the membership are seeking changes to the structure of the competitive soccer season. We understand that amongst these stakeholders, there is hope that this study will provide justification for their efforts. However, this study was not commissioned in anticipation of these efforts, and the committee cautions against any immediate interpretation that the study either supports or undermines such efforts. The fact is, this study suggests some change to the soccer season may be necessary. However, the study does not say what those changes should be, or how they should be implemented. The committee looks forward to the results making their way through the peer-reviewed process, and in the meantime, the committee will continue to seek solutions/initiatives, including additional research if necessary, that addresses the health and safety challenges facing soccer student athletes.

**America East Conference
Student-Athlete Advisory Committee Meeting
July 12-14, 2019**

MINUTES

Participants:

University at Albany – Kelly Barkevich, Adrian Mitchell
Binghamton University – Barbara Badeer, Hunter Greco
University of Hartford – Mark Barthelemy, Jenna Bridges
University of Maine – Alison Brodt, Brittany Torchia
UMBC – Carmen Freeman, Tyler Moore, Jameer Robinson
UMass Lowell – Abby Drezek, Ben Drezek
University of New Hampshire – Maddie Brandon
Stony Brook University – Cameron Avery, Holly Manning
University of Vermont – Brooke Jenkins, Emily Murphy
America East – Kate Bergstrom, Marcus Bishop, Jessica Ramberg

The following individuals attended portions of the meeting: Mary Ellen Gillespie, Director of Athletics, University of Hartford; Kelsey Armstrong, Chief of Staff and SAAC Advisor, University of Hartford.

1. Conference governance structure. The conference provided an overview of the conference governance structure and the importance of the student-athlete voice. The committee shared feedback regarding its desire to learn more about the key administrative roles in each athletic departments and how those individuals are involved in the conference governance structure. The committee also received the America East SAAC handbook for the 2019-20 academic year and reviewed member responsibilities and expectations.
2. #AEFoodFrenzy. The committee discussed best practices from the past year's #AEFoodFrenzy initiative. The committee requested the conference create additional promotional and marketing materials. The committee decided that the initiative will take place from Monday, September 9, 2019 through Friday, November 22, 2019.
3. Spread Respect. The conference shared an overview of the conference-wide results from the Ross Initiative in Sports for Equality (RISE) perceptions survey that was administered in spring 2019. The committee shared its thoughts on the results and discussed how it hopes to continue engendering diversity and inclusion at each campus.

The committee shared its best practices from the past year's Spread Respect events. The committee highlighted the importance of involving campus student groups and the surrounding community to engage in the Spread Respect events. The conference shared a new event model to supplement Spread Respect events called Campus Conversation, which brings together community members in a formal setting to discuss different diversity and inclusion topics specific to the institution.

Additionally, the conference shared information about the upcoming Spread Respect Forum. The event will be held at the University of Vermont from Sunday, October 20, 2019 through Monday, October 21, 2019.

4. Better To9ether. The committee discussed the past year's Better To9ether games and provided feedback on the execution of the games on each campus. The committee also shared design feedback and ideas on the institutional posters that will be used for the 2019-20 academic year.

The committee also discussed the #AEVoices campaign and provided feedback on future topics to explore and the importance of involving coaches and administrators as featured contributors.

5. Alumni Network. The conference shared an update on its efforts to continue engaging student-athletes throughout the conference beyond graduation. The committee provided feedback to further guide the conference in its engagement plans.
6. National items. The conference shared an overview on the topics of sports wagering and the NCAA transfer portal. The committee engaged in discussion concerning these topics and how it may impact campuses and college athletics.
7. Digital media ideation. The conference elicited feedback from the committee on social media strategies and ideas to implement in the upcoming year.
8. Other business. The conference shared upcoming student-athlete development opportunities through the NCAA. The committee discussed the One Love Foundation and shared how it could use the organization's resources on each campus. The conference offered to share the contact information for One Love Foundation with the committee if further information is needed. The committee discussed exploring sustainability as an initiative for the upcoming year. Many members of the committee expressed interest in examining ways that institutions, and especially athletics departments, can become more environmentally minded. The conference will support the committee in gauging interest and potentially exploring a sustainability initiative.
9. AE SAAC leadership. The conference announced that Kailyn Myshrrall (Field Hockey, Junior, Vermont) would serve as chair of the committee for the 2019-20 academic year. Her term will expire in May 2022. In addition to her role, she will also serve as the America East

representative on the NCAA Division I Student-Athlete Advisory Committee throughout her term as chair. The committee also held its vice chair election. The vice chair for the 2019-20 academic year will be Jameer Robinson (Men's Track & Field, Junior, UMBC). His term will expire in May 2021.

10. Future dates. The committee was reminded that its next call will be in September and the next in-person meeting is set for February 7-9, 2020 in Boston at the America East office.
11. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:00pm on July 14, 2019.

#

**America East Conference Student-Athlete Advisory Committee
Conference Call
September 24, 2019
7 p.m.**

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/433619376>

Traditional Dial-in:

Number: (929) 436-2866

Meeting ID: 433-619-376

AGENDA

1. Welcome.
2. Food Frenzy.
 - a. September 9 – November 22, 2019.
 - b. [You Give Goods](#).
 - c. Resources. (Supplement 1)
3. Spread Respect.
 - a. Fall events. (Supplement 2)
 - b. Spread Respect info sheet. (Supplement 3)
 - c. Spread Respect Forum. (Supplement 4)
 - d. RISE perceptions survey.
 - e. Spread Respect shirts.
4. Better To9ether.
 - a. [“Small movements, big impacts”](#).
 - b. Poster feedback. (Supplement 5)
 - c. Games.
5. Sustainability initiative.

6. Gender equity.
 - a. Background. (Supplement 6)
 - b. Discussion and feedback.
7. National items.
 - a. DI SAAC meeting review.
 - b. NCAA proposed legislation feedback timeline.
 - c. Name, Image and Likeness (NIL) / State of California's "Fair Pay to Play Act."
8. AE Voices.
 - a. [Mikayla Krinetz – UMBC '19, women's soccer.](#)
 - b. [Jalay Knowles – Hartford '19, women's basketball.](#)
 - c. [Zach Kaplan – Binghamton '19, men's swimming & diving.](#)
 - d. [Courtney Wright – Vermont '19, women's basketball.](#)
 - e. [Ashley Branagan – Vermont '19, women's swimming & diving.](#)
 - f. [Ben Drezek – UMass Lowell '20, men's cross country/track & field.](#)
9. Future dates.
 - a. October 22, 2019, 7pm – conference call.
 - b. December 3, 2019, 7pm – conference call.
 - c. February 7-9, 2020 (Boston, MA) – in-person meeting.
10. Campus SAAC updates.
11. Other business.
12. Adjournment.

#####

**America East Conference Student-Athlete Engagement Committee
Conference Call
September 12, 2019**

MINUTES

Participants:

University at Albany – Lori Friel
Binghamton University – Erin Moore
University of Hartford – Kelly Scafariello
University of Maine – Samantha Hegmann
UMBC – Abbie Day
University of New Hampshire – Heather Barber
Stony Brook University – Izzy Fortuna
University of Vermont – Cathy Rahill
America East SAAC – Jameer Robinson
America East – Kate Bergstrom, Marcus Bishop

1. Committee roster. Bergstrom welcomed and introduced the many new committee members. The committee was reminded of its purpose and objective in providing guidance to the conference on creating a holistic student-athlete experience that emphasizes leadership and personal growth just as it does athletic and academic excellence.
2. Health and safety.
 - a. Mental health workshop. The committee was made aware of the plans for a standalone mental health workshop that will take place in conjunction with the annual Health & Safety Summit. The committee shared a sentiment that the audience of the workshop should be focused primarily on coaches, as they are most in need of this educational opportunity.
 - b. Better To9ether posters. The committee provided feedback on the draft of the Better To9ether poster prepared for this year. The conference will finalize the design and input the individual institutional data and plan to send out to institutions this fall.
 - c. Starting A Conversation: Activities Addressing Mental Illness Reduce Stigma Among College Students. The committee reviewed an article from IU Bloomington that highlighted how college students who participate in fun, peer-directed activities that openly and honestly address mental illness are significantly less likely to stigmatize people with these conditions. The committee briefly discussed not only the Better To9ether initiative but all similar efforts around mental health happening on their campuses.

3. Spread Respect.

- a. Spread Respect Forum. Bergstrom reviewed the Spread Respect Forum event details, noting that the inaugural event would be October 20–21, 2019 hosted by the University of Vermont. Attendees will include student athletes, coaches, administrators and staff members from each institution's office of diversity and inclusion. The attendees will be surveyed after the Forum's conclusion and the data will be shared with this committee in an effort to review and improve for a potential Forum in 2020.
- b. RISE perceptions survey. The committee received an update on the data and reports from the RISE perceptions survey that was administered in spring 2019. RISE has compiled the conference-wide results and each institution will have their individual reports by mid-September for review. The plan is for each committee member to review their institution's report, circulate internally, answer questions and provide feedback to the conference on how the conference and their institution can make changes to create more inclusive environments and combat racism and prejudice that student-athletes, coaches and staff may face. The conference will also utilize these reports at the Spread Respect Forum to inform these critical conversations.

4. Scholar-athlete awards. The conference reviewed the process and schedule for scholar-athlete program for the year.
5. Alumni Network. The committee received an update on the conference's Alumni Network, highlighting specifically the recent events in Boston and New York City and the pilot program, AE Connects, which is a virtual platform to connect former student-athletes and current student-athletes, as mentors and mentees, in professional development opportunities. Only three institutions are involved in the pilot program currently but the feedback from the committee was that others would be interested as well.
6. #3Pillars Academy. The conference shared with the committee the most recent episodes from the conference's #3Pillars Academy and encouraged them to widely share. The conference solicited feedback from the committee on potential topics and guests to feature on series this year.
7. AE Voices. The conference shared with the committee the most recent features from the conference's AE Voices series and encouraged them to widely share. The conference noted some upcoming articles that will roll out this fall.

8. Future call schedule. The committee received their call schedule for 2019-20 academic year. The next two calls will be held on Thursday, December 12, 2019 and Thursday, March 12, 2020. Both calls will be held at 1 p.m.

9. Other business. The committee briefly discussed the One Love Foundation, noting the free tools and information available for education to student-athletes about healthy relationships. The committee also provided feedback on sustainability, noting that while their general universities are focused heavily in this area, less is known about what, if any, efforts are being made specifically within the athletics department.

The committee also discussed the unfortunate situation that prevented the University of Maine's field hockey team from completing their game against Temple University on September 7, 2019. The committee shared a concern for ensuring these situations do not happen in the future but also urged that institutions and the conference to engage in a broader conversation about the gender equity implications.

10. Adjournment. The call was adjourned at approximately 2:00 p.m.

#####

**Health & Safety Committee
October 2019 Report**

Action Item

1. **Impact of time obligations on student-athlete mental health.** The Health & Safety Committee is seeking the support of the Administration Group in its examination and review of the impact of certain practice and playing rules on student-athlete well-being, particularly mental health. The committee suggests that an examination of the time obligations of its student-athletes would be a worthwhile exercise, especially given the vested interest of all members in student-athlete mental health.

The student-athlete population was once reared as a subgroup of college students who were less susceptible to mental health issues and diagnosis, however, some recent studies have shown that student-athletes are surpassing the general student population in these mental health issues. A study published in [The Journal of Sports Science](#) in 2017 concluded that one in three Division I student-athletes suffer from depression symptoms, contradicting in some cases findings from previous studies that have suggested a prevalence rate lower than the general college population.

It is understood that college age is an at-risk period for the development of many mental health symptoms, and also understood that the additional demands of student-athletes are substantial. With those demands there is also ample opportunity and support for student-athletes, but the mental health epidemic continues to be at the forefront of concern across the NCAA, conferences, institutions and especially student-athletes. This conference and its institutions, who have all proven a collective interest in creating mentally healthy futures for its student-athletes, has the opportunity to examine how we can potentially approach these challenges in a more proactive way.

Currently at America East institutions, there are certain departments, sports, and teams who have created rules, in addition to what already exists by way of NCAA legislation, to safeguard their student-athletes from the general demands. In addition, there are several conferences (e.g., Ivy League, MAAC) who have adopted their own unique conference-wide standards to address these challenges. The committee would like to not only better understand what exists in practice now at our institutions but also the effectiveness of those additional safeguards, review research to consider the impacts of these additional athletic demands, and ultimately determine if there might exist an opportunity and interest in creating conference-wide safeguards.

The committee understands that this work is not suited only for itself but that other groups and committees within the conference membership should play an integral role in this examination. Further, the committee suggests a working group be formed to examine this topic so that other stakeholders and constituency groups are adequately represented in the conversation (e.g., academics, compliance, coaches). The committee would greatly appreciate any direction or feedback from the Administration Group.

Informational Items



1. Health & Safety events.

- a. Health & Safety Summit. The conference will host its fifth annual Health & Safety Summit at the University of Hartford May 27-28, 2019. Athletic trainers, team physicians and other health-related athletics personnel are invited to attend.
- b. Sports performance. For the first time, the conference will bring together personnel from each institutions' sports performance/strength & conditioning unit for a day of education and best practices sharing. This meeting will overlap with the second day of the Health & Safety Summit, allowing an opportunity for sports medicine and sports performance to engage together during sessions.
- c. Mental Health Workshop. Based on the mental health recommendations approved in June 2018 and after hosting a successful hybrid workshop at last year's Summit, the conference will host a one-day mental health workshop. The workshop will primarily be geared towards coaches and administrative support staff (e.g., life skills). The conference has identified Friday, May 29th, following the Health & Safety Summit.

2. Mental Health Standard Practices.

- a. Implementation report cards. In September 2019, the Health & Safety Committee provided updates on the progress of their institution's Mental Health Standard Practice implementation. Four institutions have fully implemented all practices, while the remaining five have 1-2 practices that are only partially implemented. All five institutions are working diligently towards completing the implementation process and the conference is working to provide any additional guidance, as applicable.

| | AWARENESS | | | EDUCATION | | POLICY | | |
|------------|-------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|-----------|-------------------------|-------------------|---------------|-----------|
| | SAAC Events | Practitioner at meetings | Licensed practitioner info | Workshop | SAAC meetings quarterly | MHEAP and routine | PPE Screening | Care Team |
| Albany | | | | | | | | |
| Binghamton | | | | | | | | |
| Hartford | | | | | | | | |
| Maine | | | | | | | | |
| UMBC | | | | | | | | |
| UML | | | | | | | | |
| UNH | | | | | | | | |
| SBU | | | | | | | | |
| Vermont | | | | | | | | |

 = Fully implemented
 = Partially implemented

**Health & Safety Committee
Role of Athletics Health Care Administrator
-Discussion Document-
October 3, 2019**

Background

In August 2016, mandated by NCAA Independent Medical Care legislation (Division I Constitution 3.2.4.16), the athletics health care administrator (AHCA) designated position was established. The legislation requires each NCAA member school to identify an AHCA as part of a broader obligation to establish a structure that supports the delivery of independent medical care for college student-athletes.

The AHCA Handbook, provided by the NCAA Sports Science Institute (SSI) in July 2017, states that the AHCA is meant to serve in an administrative capacity that complements the athletics health care team and oversee the institution's athletics health care administration and delivery. Further, the primary responsibilities of the AHCA are described as follows:

- Be aware of all NCAA health and safety-related legislation, interassociation recommendations and resources;
- Share health and safety legislation, interassociation recommendations and resources with stakeholders within the athletics department and on campus; and
- Monitor the athletics department health and safety policies and practices to ensure compliance with NCAA legislation and establish consistency with interassociation best practice guidance.

The scope of NCAA legislation and professional best practices in the student-athlete health and safety area has grown substantially over the last decade, and since the establishment of the AHCA designation the NCAA SSI has published numerous interassociation recommendations and best practices. As such, the administrative duties and responsibilities for AHCA's have steadily increased and demand a great deal of time and attention.

The America East Health & Safety Committee, comprised of each institution's NCAA designated AHCA, has spent time reviewing and providing feedback on the responsibilities and challenges associated with this designation. There is a general sentiment among the committee that there exists a lack of understanding amongst institutional constituency stakeholders (e.g., senior staff, coaches) about what the AHCA position does and how to create a structural environment for this position that ensures the administration of independent medical care. The NCAA SSI produced the 2017 handbook but has not offered much additional practical guidance on how institutions can empower, support and educate around this designation and role, especially at institutions where the role is often fulfilled by the head athletic trainer.

Presently, the head athletic trainer at each America East institution is the designated AHCA and each primarily reports into senior level administrators but are not recognized as senior staff themselves. As a result, and in certain instances, AHCA's are not involved in meetings or regular communication

with senior leadership, which in turn can create opportunity for miscommunication or lack of attention to a particularly important health and safety matter. For an individual to be successful in this AHCA role, he/she must be given access and opportunity to provide a voice regarding all matters of student-athlete health and safety.

It is understood that the challenges expressed by the America East Health & Safety Committee are likely no different than what AHCAs at other institutions or conferences experience. It is understood that while some of these challenges are perpetual (e.g., resource, staffing) that have and/or will increase in the future. It also is understood that the NCAA SSI, in order to continue raising the expectation around student-athlete welfare, will require and/or recommend more administrative expectations for this role (e.g., creating emergency action plans, educating coaches and staff).

That said, it is possible for athletic department leadership, with guidance from the conference staff, Health & Safety Committee, and NCAA SSI, to invest time reviewing the structural environments in which the AHCAs exists; examining the practical opportunities to support and empower the AHCA; and educating key constituency groups about the role and responsibilities of the AHCA.

Below lists information on the current structures and responsibilities of the AHCAs in America East. Additionally, two sections of Key Initial Discussion Questions are listed to prompt a high-level discussion following the presentation from LaGwyn Durden, Director of Sports Medicine at NCAA Sport Science Institute. The first set of questions is intended to be addressed directly by Durden and the second set considered by members of the Administration Group.

America East Athletics Health Care Administrators

- All 9 AHCAs are either Head Athletic Trainers or Directors of Sports Medicine.
- 7 of 9 AHCAs report into Associate ADs, none of whom have a sports medicine background.
 - 1 AHCA reports directly to the Athletics Director.
 - 1 AHCA reports directly to the University's student health services.
 - 2 AHCAs have administrative titles (Assistant/Associate AD).
- All 9 AHCAs are the designated athletic trainer for at least one sport, and in most cases often one of the most time demanding sports (e.g., football, basketball, ice hockey).
- 7 of 9 AHCAs report into an administrator who also oversees strength and conditioning/sports performance.
- 4 of 9 AHCAs are regularly invited to senior-level staff meetings and communication (e.g., key stakeholders, decision-makers).

Key Initial Discussion Questions – NCAA SSI

1. The NCAA SSI has made extensive efforts to put student-athlete welfare first and create legislation and recommendations for the membership to create safe competitive environments, but what specifically is the NCAA SSI doing to support the AHCA who is ultimately overseeing the institution's athletics health care administration and delivery?
 - Specifically, what support or additional guidance exists for non-autonomy institutions that generally have less resources (e.g., staffing)?
2. In the NCAA SSI's opinion, is it a best practice for the head athletic trainer who is providing athletic training support to team(s) to also serve as the institution's AHCA?
 - If so, is it a realistic expectation for those who carry sport(s) responsibility to also manage the constant administrative responsibilities of this AHCA designation?
3. Does the NCAA SSI view this AHCA role as a senior level administrator?
 - If not, what is the best practice, or most common across the membership, for who this position reports into?
 - If not, is it best practice that the AHCA is involved at senior level meetings and communication on a regular basis?
4. In the recently published Interassociation "Recommendation: Preventing Catastrophic Injury and Death in Collegiate Athletes" resource, it is recommended that "all strength and conditioning professionals have a reporting line into the sports medicine or sport performance lines of the institution." In order to successfully implement these recommendations, is it the opinion of the NCAA SSI that strength & conditioning professionals report into sports medicine, or into the AHCA?

Key Initial Discussion Questions – Administration Group

1. How regularly do you or other members of senior staff communicate with your AHCA on high-level matters of student-athlete welfare?
2. What efforts have been made within your department to educate constituency groups (e.g., coaches) on the role of AHCA?
3. Are you providing opportunities for your AHCA to be a voice on topics that are not solely focused on sports medicine but broader areas and items that may directly or indirectly affect student-athlete health and safety?

4. Have you considered the new interassociation recommendation as mentioned above and subsequently examined reporting lines to ensure that strength and conditioning professionals have the proper reporting lines?

**America East Conference
Administration Group Meeting
September 5, 2019**

MINUTES

Participants:

University at Albany – Mark Benson, Cara White

Binghamton University – Pat Elliott, Nadine Mastroleo, Leigh Ann Savidge-Morris

University of Hartford – Mary Ellen Gillespie

University of Maine – Samantha Hegmann, Ken Ralph

University of Maryland, Baltimore County – Abbie Day, Jessica Hammond-Graf

University of Massachusetts, Lowell – Peter Casey

University of New Hampshire – Michelle Bronner, Steve Metcalf, Marty Scarano

Stony Brook University – Shawn Heilbron (chair), Courtney Rickard

University of Vermont – Krista Balogh, Joe Gervais, Kailyn Myshrall, Cathy Rahill, Jeff Schulman

America East – Kate Bergstrom, Marcus Bishop, Matt Bourque, Chad Dwyer, Brandi Guerinot, Amy Huchthausen, Sean Tainsh

1. Review minutes from June meeting. The group reviewed the minutes from the June meeting.

ADMINISTRATION GROUP ACTION: The minutes were approved as distributed. (Vote: Support – 9, Oppose – 0, Abstain – 0)

2. Coordinating Committee update. Commissioner Huchthausen highlighted information from the committee's August call which included a review of the key objectives for the upcoming year as well as discussion surrounding the composition of the Student-Athlete Engagement Committee (SAEC). The committee endorsed a recommendation to diversify the SAEC's composition by gender and job function. The committee also discussed sustainability as a potential area of collaboration between the conference and its Academic Consortium. Lastly, it was noted that the June 2020 meetings will be held June 1-3, 2020 at the Omni Mt. Washington.
3. 2019-20 Key Objectives. Commissioner Huchthausen reviewed the conference key objectives for the 2019-20 year.
4. Follow-up items from Men's Basketball Working Group report. Bourque reviewed the work of the Men's Basketball Working group to date. This included finalizing the non-conference scheduling framework and reviewing the draft program plans from each institution. Further, the work of the Basketball Technology Group was also discussed. The group has met once

and will be having an in person meeting next week to receive presentations from four technology companies.-

5. Recap of summer stakeholder meetings. Highlights from the annual meetings of multiple conference stakeholder groups (communications, video production, event management and operations, marketing, business officers) were provided.
6. Discussion of Intraconference Transfer Q&A document. Guerinot asked the group to provide feedback on the Intraconference Transfer Q&A document which was created to assist campus staff in understanding common questions regarding application of the conference's intraconference transfer bylaw. Specifically, the conference sought input from the Administration Group on three select questions in the document (Question Nos. 4, 9 and 12). It was determined that for Question No. 4 if a student-athlete takes a year off before transferring to another conference institution the intraconference transfer rule shall not apply to that student. For Question No. 9 it was determined that if a student-athlete quits or is cut from a team the intraconference transfer rule shall still apply to them if applicable. For Question No. 12, it was determined that the deadline for a waiver of the intraconference transfer rule to be submitted to the conference office shall be the first date of competition for that student.
7. Spread Respect Forum update. Bergstrom presented the draft schedule for the Spread Respect Forum which is being hosted by the University of Vermont on October 21-21, 2019.
8. Alumni Network update. Dwyer provided an update on the Alumni Network. During this past summer, the conference office hosted two events in Boston and New York City. Registration and attendance numbers were shared with the group.
9. Fall meeting reminders. The schedule for the fall meeting was reviewed as a reminder for the group noting that two guests from the NCAA will be in attendance.
10. Key upcoming meetings. Dates of key upcoming meetings was provided for informational purposes.
11. Other business. Commissioner Huchthausen reminded the group that the NCAA attestation form, which must be signed by both the president and athletic director at each institution, is due October 15th. Further, the group was informed that the conference's email newsletter

would be launched over the next few weeks. Also, the group was informed that Van Wagner would be announcing a conference partnership with Signature championships rings who have been given exclusivity for use of the America East logo and the words 'America East'. Institutions were reminded that if they wanted to utilize these words on any championship rings that they must work through Signature. Lastly, Cathy Rahill gave a brief summary of her doctoral research focused on student-athlete and coach mental health issues and requested the membership's participation, noting this was voluntary and unconnected to the athletics program. She offered to share her findings with the conference office once complete.

12. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 11:27 a.m.

#####

America East Conference Coordinating Committee
October 2, 2019
11:00 to 1:00 p.m.

AGENDA

RISD Gallery Room
Hotel Providence

1. Welcome.
2. 2019-20 key objectives. (Supplement 1)
3. Budget review.
 - a. Review FY20 budget highlights.
 - b. Review future forecast.
4. Conference office operations update.
5. Field hockey associate membership request. (Supplement 2)
6. Sponsorship categories discussion.
7. Ideation session.
8. Other business.
9. Adjournment.

#####

**America East Conference Athletics Directors
October 2, 2019
1:30 to 5:30 p.m.**

AGENDA

RISD Gallery Room
Hotel Providence

1. Welcome.
2. Digital network strategy discussion. (Supplement 1)
3. Review men's basketball ticketing models. (Supplement 2)
4. Sponsorship categories discussion.
5. Conference positioning discussion.
6. Ideation session.
7. Other business.
8. Adjournment.

#####

**America East Conference
Senior Woman Administrators
October 2, 2019
1:30 – 5 p.m.**

AGENDA

Hotel Providence
Brown University Boardroom

1. Welcome.
2. Review minutes from August conference call. (Supplement 1)

***Anticipated Action:** Approve minutes, as presented.*
3. 2019-20 priorities.
 - a. Bylaw review. (Supplement 2)
 - b. Focus areas. (Supplement 3)
4. Committee reports.
 - a. SAAC. (Supplement 4)
 - b. Health and Safety. (Supplement 5)
 - c. Student Athlete Engagement. (Supplement 6)
 - d. CCC. (Supplement 7)
 - e. Compliance. (Supplement 8)
5. Women's Leadership Summit.
6. Minority internship – case study.
7. Other business.
 - a. Gender equity discussion. (Supplement 9)
8. Adjournment.

#

Staffing and Scholarship Requirements SWA and CCC Recommendations

Background

During its 2019 summer meeting, the Administration Group approved the incorporation of the America East staffing and scholarship requirements into the conference's bylaws. In addition, the Administration Group agreed that the conference should establish a process whereby institutions are required to annually submit that the staffing and scholarship requirements have been met. The CCC and SWAs provided feedback on the following questions regarding implementation of a reporting mechanism and application of the requirements.

The following sports are subject to these staffing and scholarship minimums: men's and women's soccer, men's and women's basketball, and men's and women's lacrosse.

Tracking and Reporting Mechanism

1. Who should track this information and report it to the conference office?
 - Compliance personnel at each institution should track this information and submit a report to the conference office.
2. Is there a preferred method of how to submit this information to the conference office?
 - This information should be submitted on a form prepared by the conference office and completed by institutional compliance personnel.
3. When should this information be due to the conference office?
 - The information should be reported at the end of the year by the due date of the NCAA Sport Sponsorship and Demographic Report (e.g., July 26, 2020 for the 2019-20 academic year) to confirm that the requirements have been met. It was also recommended that a reminder be sent by September 15th of each academic year reminding institutions that this information is being monitored by the conference office so that each institution may address any potential shortcomings in a timely manner.

Items for Feedback

1. Can a sport report less than the required scholarships at the start of the year, but award a scholarship at midyear to a transfer or new enrollee to meet the minimum? Or does that constitute only half a scholarship since no aid was given in the fall?

- As long as each institution has allocated the minimum number of scholarships by the reporting date each year, the intent of the policy has been fulfilled. Each institution should have the autonomy to allocate financial aid in the best interest of their respective programs. With the high number of variables involved with recruiting and awarding financial aid, this allows institutions flexibility to work through unique situations while still meeting the requirement.
2. Do medical non-counters count towards the scholarship requirements?
- Medical non-counters should count towards the scholarship requirements. Since institutions are unable to predict or control a medical non-counter status, institutions should not be financially penalized or required to fund additional scholarships beyond the minimum identified in the policy in these circumstances.
3. If an institution adds a sport, when should it be required to start satisfying the staffing and scholarship requirements?
- Institutions that add one of these sports should be granted a grace period of four years before they are required to meet the minimums. This grace period will allow time for institutions to hire coaches and allow those coaches to go through multiple recruiting cycles to determine which student-athletes should be awarded scholarships.

| Sport | NCAA Personnel Maximums | AE Requirements |
|--------------------|-------------------------|--|
| Men's Basketball | 4 | 1 FT head coach, 3 FT assistants (does not include DOBO) |
| Women's Basketball | 4 | 1 FT head coach, 3 FT assistants (does not include DOBO) |
| Men's Lacrosse | 3 | 1 FT head coach, 1 FT assistant |
| Women's Lacrosse | 3 | 1 FT head coach, 1 FT assistant |
| Men's Soccer | 3 | 1 FT head coach, 1 FT assistant |
| Women's Soccer | 3 | 1 FT head coach, 1 FT assistant |

| Sport | NCAA Scholarship Maximums | AE Requirements |
|--------------------|---------------------------|-----------------|
| Men's Basketball | 13 | 13 |
| Women's Basketball | 15 | 13 |
| Men's Lacrosse | 12.6 | 9.45 |
| Women's Lacrosse | 12 | 9.0 |
| Men's Soccer | 9.9 | 7.5 |
| Women's Soccer | 14 | 10.5 |

**America East Conference
Faculty Athletics Representative Conference Call
September 13, 2019**

MINUTES

Participants:

University at Albany - David Rousseau
Binghamton University - Nadine Mastroleo (chair)
University of Hartford - Catherine Certo
University of Maine - Niclas Erhardt
University of New Hampshire - Heather Barber
Stony Brook University - Margot Palermo
University of Vermont - John Crock
America East – Marsha Florio, Brandi Guerinot

Matt Baker (University of Maryland, Baltimore County) and Todd Avery (University of Massachusetts Lowell) were not present.

1. Welcome. Guerinot welcomed the new FAR Committee chair, Nadine Mastroleo and the new FAR for University of Vermont, John Crock.
2. Academic Consortium update. Florio presented updates from the Academic Consortium for the 2019-20 year including upcoming events. The consortium will be hosting a community of practice meeting with engineering, math and IT deans from across the conference membership on October 31, 2019 to discuss possible areas of collaboration in teaching or research activities/initiatives that would raise the visibility and success of the institution's programs and the academic activities of the conference. Further, the consortium will be hosting its second annual meeting for admissions representatives on November 13, 2019. Also, the consortium will be partnering with University of Massachusetts Lowell to host a research symposium in Spring 2020. More information regarding the date and registration process for this symposium will be available to the FARs on their next call. Additionally, in conjunction with the America East Health & Safety Initiative, the consortium has established an institutional mental health research collaboration to examine the implications of mental health conditions affecting student-athletes and the general student population. Lastly, the consortium is also looking into several other initiatives including study abroad and esports.
3. FAR survey results. As a number of FARs have not yet completed the survey, the committee decided to wait until all responses have been collected to discuss results. Thus, the FARs were reminded to complete the survey over the next two weeks. The full survey results will then be shared and discussed during the next call to formulate a roadmap for the upcoming year.

4. Sports wagering fact sheet. A sports wagering fact sheet was shared from the NCAA as informational.
5. Sharing is Caring (Binghamton). Mastroleo inquired about committee member involvement with competition scheduling for athletics on their campuses. There was further discussion surrounding the FARA checklist for FAR duties and whether it included FARs having involvement in competition scheduling. Erhardt inquired with the group what, if any, scholarship requirements other universities have regarding repeating classes.
6. AE Voices. The most recent AE Voices articles were shared as informational with the committee.
7. Future call dates. The committee was reminded that the next conference call would be October 11, 2019 at 12:00 p.m.
8. Other Business. The committee was reminded that the FARA Convention is approaching on November 7-9, 2019 in Bellevue, WA and registration is open. Mastroleo is scheduled to attend and will also be a participant of the Division I FAR Institute (coinciding with the FARA Convention).
9. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 1:02 pm.

#####

**CCC Report
October 2019**

Action Item

1. Baseball and Softball.

- a. Championship Site Rotation. The CCC recommended a rotation of sites for upcoming baseball and softball championships.

| YEARS | Softball | Baseball |
|-------|--------------|--------------|
| 2020 | Binghamton | UMass Lowell |
| 2021 | Hartford | Maine |
| 2022 | UMass Lowell | Binghamton |
| 2023 | Stony Brook | |

[CCC Supported: For 9; Against 0; Abstain 0]

Rationale: Based on the understanding that the current six-team double elimination championship is accomplishing what it set out to accomplish, the CCC was in favor of establishing a championship rotation in order to lock in on-campus venues for the next several years. The committee also agreed that a predetermined site continues to be advantageous with the number of teams (six) traveling to one-site and the need to coordinate travel and hotel logistics for a longer duration than most championships.

Softball - America East has two members with softball facilities that have successfully hosted the six-team double-elimination championship, Binghamton and Hartford, and two additional members with facilities capable of hosting and administrations interested in hosting, UMass Lowell and Stony Brook.

Baseball - America East has three members with on-campus baseball facilities with lights that have successfully hosted the six-team, double-elimination championship. Two venues have field turf, Binghamton and Maine, and one venue has a natural surface, UMass Lowell.

Financial: Championship host expenses in 2020 for both baseball and softball are \$8500, which includes the streaming of all games.

Academic: N/A

Competitive Equity: N/A

2. Baseball.

- b. Conference Regular Season Series Format. The CCC supported the coaches' recommendation to change the conference regular season series from three games in two days (Saturday - 9/7; Sunday - 9) to three games in three days (Friday - 9; Saturday - 9; Sunday - 9) effective as soon as it can be implemented.

[Coaches Recommended: For 7; Against 0; Abstain 0]

[CCC Supported: For 6; Against 1; Abstain 2]

CCC Discussion: The CCC recognized the benefit to the student-athletes to play three nine-inning games over three days instead of a nine and seven-inning double-header in the current two-day format. There was discussion about the need to mitigate missed class time as well as added expenses through actions such as teams departing campus after classes on Thursday and the elimination of some mid-week non-conference games. The conference office took a straw poll of the CCC to gain a sense of when the change could be implemented and there was a slight preference to implementation immediately in the spring of 2020. It should be noted the Administration Group defeated this proposal in May of 2017.

Rationale: The proposed format will make all three games of a conference series nine-inning contests. The elimination of the double-header will provide a better experience for the student-athletes, especially in the early conference weekends when weather is an issue. Additionally, current conference policy allows for conference series to be moved up and begin on Friday when inclement weather is in the forecast, so if all conference series were scheduled to begin on Friday, budgets would be set in advance, instead of incurring unexpected expenses during the season. Ultimately, playing nine-inning games and having three days to play three game is preferred.

Financial: There will be costs associated with a potential extra day on the road for each programs' respective four away series (e.g. hotels, food); however, in some cases teams are already traveling a day earlier to road series due to inclement weather. The expenses would vary based on program and location, but teams currently spend roughly \$3,000-\$4,000 on food and lodging per night. Other expenses that need to be considered include increases in officiating expenses and host operating expenses.

Academic: There is the potential for additional missed class time for both the visiting team and the home team with a conference series beginning on Friday. Each conference institution would need to analyze how a regular season format change might affect their respective program, as each institution has different class schedules and class policies.

Competitive Equity: N/A

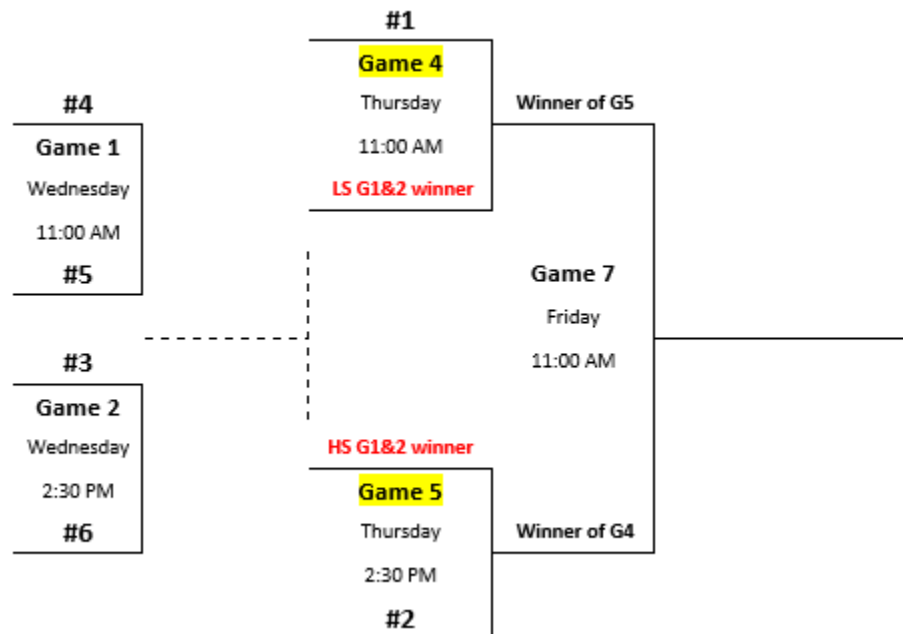
Informational Items

1. Baseball.

- a. Re-seed Championship Bracket. The CCC approved the coaches' recommendation to re-seed the championship bracket after games 1 and 2 of the baseball championship. In the interest of providing the top-seeded team the advantage to advance in the championship, the coaches evaluated re-seeding. The exact scenario considered was if the #6 seed upset the #3 seed, then the #1 seed would then face the lowest seed winner from games 1 and 2 (#6 seed), instead of being locked into playing the winner of the #4 seed/#5 seed.

[Coaches Recommended: For 5; Against 2; Abstain 0]

[CCC Approved: For 7; Against 0; Abstain 2]



- b. Student-athletes eligible to participate in championship. The CCC approved the coaches' recommendation to increase the number of student-athletes eligible to participate in the championship from 27 to 30 student-athletes. The 27 eligible student-athletes mirrors the number allowed in the NCAA regionals, which consists of only four teams and thus less games. The remainder of the roster can dress, but cannot compete in games. It was noted that several years ago when the conference baseball championship increased from a four-

team to a six-team tournament the number of eligible student-athletes remained at 27 even though more games were added. The coaches considered the ability to save pitching arms from overuse as the greatest benefit to the addition.

[Coaches Recommended: For 7; Against 0; Abstain 0]

[CCC Approved: For 6; Against 1; Abstain 2]

2. Softball.

- a. Pregame handshake. The CCC approved the coaches' recommendation to eliminate the pre-game handshake that occurs between the two competing teams prior to the start of each conference series. Teams have differing introduction practices across the conference, as some home teams run out to positions when introduced as opposed to lining-up on the baselines. Additional justification to eliminate the pre-game handshake included the postgame handshake that the occurs at conclusion of each game and the sportsmanship PA read prior to each game.

[Coaches Recommended: For 7; Against 0; Abstain 0]

[CCC Approved: For 8; Against 0; Abstain 0]

3. Women's Lacrosse.

- a. End of the Year Awards. The CCC approved the coaches' recommendation to change the designation from "Offensive Player of the Year" to "Attacker of the Year" and "Defensive Player of the Year" to "Defender of the Year." The changes will create consistency with the other major conference awards (e.g., Midfielder of the Year and Goalkeeper of the Year) that are representative of a position on the field.

[Coaches Recommended: For 8; Against 0; Abstain 0]

[CCC Approved: For 9; Against 0; Abstain 0]

**Officiating Fee Schedule
Fee Recommendations**

Guidelines Used to Determine the Current Schedule

- A three-year rotation schedule for each sport.
- No more than two sport increases per year to help institutions plan and manage the budget impact, barring unforeseen circumstances.
- Intent is for the scheduled increases to not exceed \$20 per increase (coordinators may recommend less) to help institutions plan and manage the budget impact.
- Any recommended increase by a coordinator that exceeds \$20 is taken directly to the CCC for consideration.

2019-20 Recommendations

M. & W. Soccer (*Referee – 1; Assistant Referee - 2*)

| Year | Fee | Notes |
|--------------------|------------------------------|--|
| 2014 - 2016 | \$290 Ref. / \$190 AR | increase of \$20 Ref. and AR |
| 2017 - 2019 | \$310 Ref. / \$200 AR | increase of \$20 Ref. / \$10 AR |
| 2020 - 2022 | \$325 Ref. / \$210 AR | Increase of \$15 Ref. / \$10 AR (5% increase) |

Mileage - IRS mileage/mile - not to exceed \$200; No Tolls

Per diem - \$50 per diem (over 200 miles)

[CCC Supported: For 9; Against 0; Abstain 0]

| Pod A Teams | | |
|-------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Q1 | 1-30 H 1-50 N 1-75 A | |
| Q2 | 31-75 H 51-100 N 76-135 A | |
| Q3 | 76-160 H 101-200 N 136-240 A | |
| Q4 | 161+ H 201+ N 241+ A | No more than 5 games |

Pod A

Teams projected to compete for conference championship

Objectives

Better position team for strong NCAA seed

Better position team for NIT at-large consideration

Reduce Q4 games

Increase Q1 and Q2 games

| Pod B Teams | | |
|-------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Q1 | 1-30 H 1-50 N 1-75 A | |
| Q2 | 31-75 H 51-100 N 76-135 A | |
| Q3 | 76-160 H 101-200 N 136-240 A | |
| Q4 | 161+ H 201+ N 241+ A | No more than 6 games |

Pod B

Teams expected to be in top 2/3 of the league

Teams who moved from Pod C based on success and/or returning players

Teams expected to qualify for non-NCAA postseason event

Objectives

Increase level of competition for teams in top 2/3 of the league

Reduce drag to Pod A teams

Reduce Q4 games

Increase Q2 and Q3 games

| Pod C Teams | | |
|-------------|------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Q1 | 1-30 H 1-50 N 1-75 A | |
| Q2 | 31-75 H 51-100 N 76-135 A | |
| Q3 | 76-160 H 101-200 N 136-240 A | |
| Q4 | 161+ H 201+ N 241+ A | At least 7 games |

Pod C

Teams who are rebuilding (e.g., few returning players)

Teams who have not been above a 300 RPI/NET in prior years

Objectives

Increase games against similar teams for improved chance of wins

| Three-Year Averages by Pod Groupings | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|------|------|-------|------|-------|------|-------|
| | Q1 | Q2 | Q1+Q2 | Q3 | Q2+Q3 | Q4 | Q3+Q4 |
| Pod A | 1.73 | 1.27 | 3.00 | 3.67 | 4.93 | 6.67 | 10.67 |
| Pod B | 1.47 | 1.20 | 2.67 | 3.07 | 4.27 | 7.13 | 10.20 |
| Pod C | 1.17 | 1.25 | 2.42 | 2.50 | 3.75 | 7.75 | 10.25 |

**AMERICA EAST MEN'S BASKETBALL
NON-CONFERENCE SCHEDULE
QUADRANT GROUPINGS**

SUPPLEMENT 17b

Indicates number of non-conference games vs. each Quadrant as of Selection Sunday

| 2018 Non-conference Schedule (2018-19 season) | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|------------------|------------|------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------------|
| QUAD | NET | ALB | BIN | HART | Maine | UMBC | UML | UNH | SBU | UVM | AE Record |
| Q1 | 1-30 H | 1 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 0-13 |
| | 1-50 N | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 1-75 A | | | | | | | | | | |
| Q2 | 31-75 H | 1 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1-10 |
| | 51-100 N | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 76-135 A | | | | | | | | | | |
| Q3 | 76-160 H | 2 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 7 | 11-17 |
| | 101-200 N | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 136-240 A | | | | | | | | | | |
| Q4 | 161+ H | 10 | 8 | 8 | 6 | 8 | 8 | 6 | 9 | 3 | 32-34 |
| | 201+ N | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 241+ A | | | | | | | | | | |
| | NET | 271 | 325 | 183 | 335 | 226 | 257 | 345 | 156 | 71 | |
| | DI Record | 4-10 | 2-11 | 6-8 | 1-13 | 5-7 | 6-7 | 0-11 | 11-3 | 9-4 | |

| 2017 Non-conference Schedule (2017-18 season) | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|------------------|------------|------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------------|
| QUAD | NET | ALB | BIN | HART | Maine | UMBC | UML | UNH | SBU | UVM | AE Record |
| Q1 | 1-30 H | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 0-13 |
| | 1-50 N | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 1-75 A | | | | | | | | | | |
| Q2 | 31-75 H | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 1-11 |
| | 51-100 N | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 76-135 A | | | | | | | | | | |
| Q3 | 76-160 H | 5 | 2 | 5 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 13-18 |
| | 101-200 N | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 136-240 A | | | | | | | | | | |
| Q4 | 161+ H | 7 | 10 | 7 | 8 | 5 | 9 | 6 | 4 | 4 | 37-23 |
| | 201+ N | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 241+ A | | | | | | | | | | |
| | RPI | 142 | 320 | 198 | 338 | 111 | 289 | 312 | 208 | 60 | |
| | DI Record | 11-3 | 7-6 | 6-7 | 1-12 | 6-6 | 5-7 | 2-10 | 4-9 | 9-5 | |

**AMERICA EAST MEN'S BASKETBALL
NON-CONFERENCE SCHEDULE
QUADRANT GROUPINGS**

SUPPLEMENT 17b

Indicates number of non-conference games vs. each Quadrant as of Selection Sunday

| 2016 Non-conference Schedule (2016-17 season) | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|------------|------------|------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------------|
| QUAD | NET | ALB | BIN | HART | Maine | UMBC | UML | UNH | SBU | UVM | AE Record |
| Q1 | 1-30 H | 2 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 1-13 |
| | 1-50 N | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 1-75 A | | | | | | | | | | |
| Q2 | 31-75 H | 2 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3-8 |
| | 51-100 N | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 76-135 A | | | | | | | | | | |
| Q3 | 76-160 H | 3 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 5 | 9-17 |
| | 101-200 N | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 136-240 A | | | | | | | | | | |
| Q4 | 161+ H | 7 | 9 | 11 | 8 | 6 | 9 | 6 | 7 | 4 | 41-26 |
| | 201+ N | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 241+ A | | | | | | | | | | |
| RPI | | 129 | 312 | 327 | 323 | 165 | 309 | 127 | 177 | 46 | |
| DI Record | | 8-6 | 6-6 | 5-10 | 3-11 | 7-4 | 5-9 | 6-5 | 5-8 | 9-5 | |

| 2015 Non-conference Schedule (2015-16 season) | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|------------|------------|------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------------|
| QUAD | NET | ALB | BIN | HART | Maine | UMBC | UML | UNH | SBU | UVM | AE Record |
| Q1 | 1-30 H | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 0-15 |
| | 1-50 N | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 1-75 A | | | | | | | | | | |
| Q2 | 31-75 H | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 4 | 3 | 3-11 |
| | 51-100 N | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 76-135 A | | | | | | | | | | |
| Q3 | 76-160 H | 2 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 8-14 |
| | 101-200 N | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 136-240 A | | | | | | | | | | |
| Q4 | 161+ H | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 10 | 7 | 8 | 1 | 4 | 36-30 |
| | 201+ N | | | | | | | | | | |
| | 241+ A | | | | | | | | | | |
| RPI | | 107 | 299 | 292 | 314 | 339 | 261 | 177 | 60 | 126 | |
| DI Record | | 10-4 | 3-10 | 4-10 | 4-9 | 4-11 | 3-9 | 5-6 | 7-4 | 7-7 | |

AMERICA EAST MEN'S BASKETBALL
NON-CONFERENCE SCHEDULE
QUADRANT GROUPING x PROJECTED PODS

SUPPLEMENT 17c

Three-Year Average (2016, 2017, 2018 Non-conference Schedules)

| <i>Projected Pod</i> | | <i>A/B</i> | <i>C</i> | <i>A/B</i> | <i>C</i> | <i>A/B</i> | <i>C</i> | <i>B/C</i> | <i>A/B</i> | <i>A</i> | | |
|----------------------|------------------------------------|------------|----------|------------|----------|------------|----------|------------|------------|----------|----------|-------|
| QUAD | NET | ALB | BIN | HART | Maine | UMBC | UML | UNH | SBU | UVM | AVERAGES | |
| Q1 | 1-30 H 1-50 N 1-75 A | 1.33 | 0.67 | 1.33 | 2.00 | 1.67 | 0.00 | 2.00 | 1.00 | 3.33 | Q1 | 1.48 |
| Q2 | 31-75 H 51-100 N 76-135 A | 1.33 | 1.67 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.33 | 1.00 | 1.67 | 1.33 | Q2 | 1.26 |
| Q1+Q2 | | 2.67 | 2.33 | 2.33 | 3.00 | 2.67 | 1.33 | 3.00 | 2.67 | 4.67 | Q1+Q2 | 2.74 |
| Q3 | 76-160 H 101-200 N 136-240 A | 3.33 | 1.33 | 3.00 | 3.33 | 2.67 | 3.00 | 2.33 | 4.00 | 5.33 | Q3 | 3.15 |
| Q2+Q3 | | 4.67 | 3.00 | 4.00 | 4.33 | 3.67 | 4.33 | 3.33 | 5.67 | 6.67 | Q2+Q3 | 4.41 |
| Q4 | 161+ H 201+ N 241+ A | 8.00 | 9.00 | 8.67 | 7.33 | 6.33 | 8.67 | 6.00 | 6.67 | 3.67 | Q4 | 7.15 |
| Q3+Q4 | | 11.33 | 10.33 | 11.67 | 10.67 | 9.00 | 11.67 | 8.33 | 10.67 | 9.00 | Q3+Q4 | 10.30 |
| NET/RPI | | 162.25 | 314 | 250 | 327.5 | 210.25 | 279 | 240.25 | 150.25 | 75.75 | | |
| DI Record | | 33-23 | 18-33 | 21-35 | 9-45 | 22-28 | 19-32 | 13-32 | 27-24 | 34-21 | | |

| Three-Year Averages by Pod Groupings | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|------|------|-------|------|-------|------|-------|
| | Q1 | Q2 | Q1+Q2 | Q3 | Q2+Q3 | Q4 | Q3+Q4 |
| Pod A | 1.73 | 1.27 | 3.00 | 3.67 | 4.93 | 6.67 | 10.67 |
| Pod B | 1.47 | 1.20 | 2.67 | 3.07 | 4.27 | 7.13 | 10.20 |
| Pod C | 1.17 | 1.25 | 2.42 | 2.50 | 3.75 | 7.75 | 10.25 |

Men's Basketball Program Plan and Pod Implementation Proposed Timeline

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| October 2019 | <p>Administration Group approves pod scheduling framework with phased-in implementation starting with the 2020 non-conference schedules. Programs encouraged to adhere to the framework guidelines with a good-faith effort based on preliminary team competitiveness for 2020-21 year.</p> <p>Following approval, the conference staff will distribute 2-year NET/RPI averages (based on the 2017-18 and 2018-19 non-conference schedules as of Selection Sunday) to institutions to begin using as the guideline for the construction of the 2020-21 non-conference schedules.</p> |
| November 2019 | <p>Conference staff meets with each institution (AD and head coach) to identify a preliminary pod projection for 2020-21 season ("Preliminary 2020 Pod") to inform how teams are constructing their 2020-21 non-conference schedules.</p> |
| March-May 2020 | <p>Immediately following Selection Sunday, the conference staff will distribute updated 2-year average NET rankings (based on the 2018-19 and 2019-20 non-conference schedules) to institutions to use for the remainder of the construction of their 2020-21 non-conference schedules.</p> <p>Institutions asked to submit a program plan to the conference office that includes but is not limited to its 2-year plan for projected non-conference scheduling, budget, roster and level of competitiveness. The program plan should include a debrief of the prior season (2019-20) along with the identification of any variables that may alter the "Preliminary 2020 Pod" designation.</p> <p>Conference staff visits on-campus with each program (e.g., AD, head coach, sport administrator) to debrief the prior season (2019-20) and its 2-year plan looking forward.</p> |
| September 2020 | <p>Assess completed 2020 non-conference schedules and provide feedback to institutions. Begin planning and projecting for 2021 non-conference schedules.</p> |