

**U. S. Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association  
Division II Cross Country General Session  
Tuesday, December 14th, 2010**

President Vavra call to order 3:00 p.m.

Approval of 2009 Convention Minutes

Call to Approve: Michael Friess

Motion to Accept 2009 Minutes: Doug Watts

2<sup>nd</sup> by Andy Young

Motion passed unopposed

Motion to Approve DII XC Bylaws

Motion: Kirk Peterson

2<sup>nd</sup> by Marlon Brink

Motion passed unopposed

Committee Reports

Awards Committee (Marlon Brink): reviewed a proposal for increasing all-regional awards from the top 15 to the top 25.

Polls Committee (Gary Gardner): Communicated that all positions for the 2011 polls committee are in place and that the schedule for the polls will be posted online. The 2011 polls will commence on Sept 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> (regional and then national). Weekly polls will be conducted through October 25-26. Final poll based on regional results will be on November 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>.

Old Business

Vavra communicated that the Championships at altitude proposal was rejected by the D2 TF committee at the Sept 2010 meetings. No action was taken by the NCAA D2 Championships committee for the association's proposal for field expansion (increasing the number of teams qualifying to the championships) with the explanation that proper protocol for such expansion is by invitation only and we were not invited. The proposal that offered to change the formula for at-large qualifying failed due to lack of a motion by the NCAA committee. The committee felt that the proposal conflicted with the D2 philosophy of regionalization. An achievement was accomplished by the coaches association with the approval of the proposal allowing flags on poles at championships. The NCAA D2 T&F committee noted that this allowance was reflected in the 2010 cross country handbook.

New Business

Vavra: expressed the need to better lobby proposals as a membership. President Vavra suggested that we promote our sport through engagement with our athletic directors, school presidents, and the NCAA sub-committees.

Awards Proposal: Increase XC All-Region Award from top 15 finishers to top 25 finishers. (Mike Rohl). Rational explained by Mike Rohl emphasized the need for better recognition of student-athlete achievement and better alignment with the other NCAA divisions.

Motion to bring proposal to a vote: Ben Gall

2<sup>nd</sup> by TJ Garlatz  
Motion passed

Nominations Committee: Mike Mead communicated that his committee would to nominate Michael Friess for the position of 2<sup>nd</sup> vice president.

Motion to bring nomination to a vote: John Spatz  
2<sup>nd</sup> by Adam Ward  
Motion passed

Proposal: Increase qualifying to NCAA Cross Country Championships by eight teams and eight individuals, increasing one team and one individual per region. (Mark Misch)

Motion to bring proposal to a vote: Andy Young  
2<sup>nd</sup> by Gary Gardner  
Motion passed 114-0

Proposal: No NCAA Championships or regional qualifying cross country meet will be held at or above altitude. Altitude will be defined as the minimum altitude required to receive a conversion for a championship in track as defined by the NCAA qualifying standards (Tracy Hellman)

Discussion: Rational for the proposal was offered by Tracy Hellman citing health and safety concerns as well as fairness. Dennis Newell also reviewed some science behind the potential harmful ramifications behind holding championships at altitude. Damon Martin expressed that such proposals harm those institutions at altitude as it would circumvent their rights of hosting NCAA events. Damon also called for the NCAA to form an altitude region. Dave Harris expressed the need for a task force to work through this issue and to eliminate the issues of either allowing for altitude events and performance adjustments or not. Gary Towne commented that the NCAA did have in the rule book a stipulation against altitude championships and wondered why and how it was removed.

Motion to bring the motion to vote: Gary Towne  
2<sup>nd</sup> by Michael Friess  
Motion passed 77 for, 10 against, 25 abstains

## **U. S. Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association Division II Cross Country General Session Wednesday, December 15th, 2010**

President Vavra call to order 9:45 a.m.

Proposal: For the NCAA to award the winning teams of each regional meet a regional championship trophy immediately following the regional meet. Additionally, two smaller replica awards will be provided to the coaching staff and seven to the competing athletes. (Steve Guyman).

Rational by Steve Guyman was that these awards would better aligned cross country with the other D2 championship awards as well as promote success through the region that would promote D2's regionalization philosophy.

Motion to bring the proposal to a vote: Gary Gardner  
2<sup>nd</sup> by Adam Ward

Motion passed 85 to 0

Proposal: To create a task force to explore developing a 9<sup>th</sup> region (altitude) in D2 Cross Country. (Patty Vavra)

Motion to bring the proposal to a vote: Gary Gardner  
2<sup>nd</sup> by T.J. Garlatz  
Motion passed

**U. S. Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association  
Division II Cross Country Voting Session  
Thursday, December 16th, 2010**

Motion: Increase All-Region Award from top 15 finishers to top 25 finishers.  
Approved, 77-7-3

Motion: Mike Friess, University of Alaska Anchorage, for Second Vice-President.  
Approved, 88-1-3

Motion: Create a task force to explore developing a ninth (9<sup>th</sup>) region in DII Cross Country.  
Approved, 68-15-3

Motion: Increase qualifying to NCAA Cross Country Championships by eight teams and eight individuals, increasing one team and one individual per region.  
Approved, 113-0-2

Motion: No NCAA Championship or regional qualifying cross country meet will be held at or above altitude. Altitude will be defined as the minimum altitude required to receive a conversion for a championship meet in track as defined by the NCAA qualifying standards.  
Approved, 81-28-5

Motion: Provide NCAA awards to each Regional Championship team immediately following the regional championship competition, for a total of eight (8) additional awards per gender. Two (2) smaller replica awards will be provided to the coaching staff and seven (7) to the competing athletes.  
Approved, 109-1-1