



2021-2022

SPORT COMMITTEE

& STSC

REPORT

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1. Sport Committee Members for 2021-2022 season

Karen Murphy, Memorial University (Chair)
Krista McKenna, St.Fx University
Guy Dubé, Royal Military College
Karla Karch, Mount Royal University
Vang Ioannides, University of Alberta
Daniel Methot, Université du Québec à Montréal
Lisette Johnson Stapley, Chief Sport Officer, U SPORTS
Jenna Blackburn, Sport Coordinator, U SPORTS

2. Mandate

Role of Committee: Sport Committee's role is to ensure the appropriate growth and development of U SPORTS sports, and the successful integration of U SPORTS programs in the Canadian sport delivery system. The committee works in conjunction and reviews motions with a financial impact passed at the Sport Technical Sub-Committee level.

3. Highlights from the 2021-2022 season

1. Reviewed the National Championship Principles (approved by Board in 2021)
2. Further reviewed National Championship Berth Criteria (confirmed Host berth and Champion berth, still outstanding final 3-4 berths)
3. Consulted on National Championship Berth Structures
4. Confirmed and implemented revised Men's Volleyball berth structure and updated Men's Soccer Berth Structure
5. Moved the 2022 Winter Championship dates to accommodate pandemic impacts and allow for conference league play and playoffs
6. Resurgence of the selection process for Sport Model Program
7. Approved equal distances for Men's and Women's Cross Country
8. Approved additional weight class in Women's Wrestling & removed weight class in Men's Wrestling
9. Confirmed Swimming Course Format for four-year cycle
10. Collected data re. Video Exchange Platforms
11. Supported the Female Coaching Apprenticeship Program

4. Plans for 2022-2023 season

The Sport Committee will be renewed and updated with a new Composition and Terms of Reference and priorities for 2022-2023 will be the following:

1. Advise on the selection of Sport(s) and recategorization of current sports, if necessary, in the Sport Model Program



2. Advise on the most objective criteria for each sports' National Championship berth structure seeding and formats
3. Advise on the newly created sport decision making process and Sport Technical Sub Committee structure
4. Assist when required with Officials and Coaching development
5. Review of Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Initiatives impacting Sport brought forward
6. Advise on any initiative brought forward by the CSO or CEO

5. Sport Technical Sub-Committees – CORE SPORTS – Market-Driven

A. Football STSC

Committee Chair:

Basil Hughton, Director of Canada West

Committee members:

Leo MacPherson, AD, St-FX

Julie Dionne, AD, Laval

Wally Gabler, AAD, Guelph

Adrienne Healey, AAD, U Sask

John Keefe, Director of Sport, AUS

Benoit Doloreux, Director, RSEQ

Matt Davies, COO, OUA

Michael Faulds, Head Coach

Shannon Donovan

Lisette Johnson-Stapley

Jenna Blackburn

AUS Sport Rep

RSEQ Sport Rep

OUA Sport Rep

Canada West Sport Rep

AUS Football Convenor

RSEQ Football Convenor

OUA Football Convenor

CUFCA President

Football Canada

U SPORTS, CSO

U SPORTS, Sport Coordinator and Notetaker

Past Seasons Accomplishments:

- Return to play and successful regular season and playoffs
- Vanier Cup taking place on December 5 by L'Universite Laval
- CFL Draft – Continue to send 30-40 student-athletes to the CFL every year
- Confirmed the integration of new Football roster size
 - 2022-2023: status quo (110)
 - 2023-2024: maximum 95
 - 2024-2025 and beyond: maximum 90
- East/West Bowl continues to be supported by Institutions hosting
- Engaging coaches and administrator meetings via Zoom – increased ability to share what conferences' decision making with COVID impact, and allowed for discussion of some key issues for U SPORTS.
- COVID-19 Contingency Planning

Priorities for the Sport of Football:

- Select a new Chair of the Committee and revise TOR to align with other STSCs (given the withdrawal of the Conference leads)



- Vanier Cup 2023 and beyond
- National Broadcast Strategy for Football (U SPORTS office)
- Identify Ranking System
- Eligibility Policies

B Men's Basketball STSC

Committee Chair:

Daniel Méthot, McGill University

Committee Members:

AUS Sport Rep: John Ryan, Cape Breton University

AUS Coach Rep: Ian Coultas, Memorial University

RSEQ Sport Rep: Lisen Moore, McGill University

RSEQ Coach Rep: Rastko Popovic, Concordia University

OUA Sport Rep: Roger Archambault, University of Ottawa

OUA Coach Rep: Taffe Charles, Carleton University

CW Sport Rep: Dave Crook, University of Winnipeg

CW Coach Rep: Kevin Hansen, University of British Columbia

President of the Coaching Association: Justin Seresse, Wilfrid Laurier University

U SPORTS Rep: Jenna Blackburn, Sport Coordinator

Past Seasons Accomplishments:

- Successful regular season, conference playoffs and U SPORTS National Championship
- Crowned Carleton Ravens as the U SPORTS Final 8 Champion
- Engaged coaches and administrator meetings via Zoom – increased ability to share what conferences' decision making with COVID impact, and allowed for discussion of some key issues for U SPORTS.
- Reviewed Berth Criteria and Seeding for Men's Basketball
- Updated criteria to determine the at-large berth for 2021-2022 only
- COVID-19 Contingency Planning

Priorities for the Sport of Men's Basketball:

- To review selection process for final 3 positions in berth structures, as well as seeding and game formats

B. Women's Basketball STSC

Committee Chair:

Karla Karch, Athletic Director, Mount Royal University

Committee Members:

AUS Sport Rep: Jane Vessey, University of Prince Edward Island

AUS Coach Rep: Mark English, Memorial University

RSEQ Sport Rep: Linda Marquis, Université Laval

RSEQ Coach Rep: Tenicha Gittens, Concordia University



OUA Sport Rep: Christine Stapleton, Western University
OUA Coach Rep: Jessica Roque, University of Waterloo
CW Sport Rep: Lisa Robertson, University of Regina
CW Coach Rep: Cheryl Jean-Paul, Trinity Western University
President of the Coaching Association: Carly Clarke, Ryerson University
Canada Basketball Rep: Mike MacKay, Performance Manager, Women's High Performance
U SPORTS Rep: Jenna Blackburn, Sport Coordinator

Past Seasons Accomplishments:

- Successful regular season, playoffs and U SPORTS Championship
- Crowned the Ryerson Rams as the U SPORTS Final 8 Champions
- Shoot for the Cure Initiative – new record amount
- Engaged coaches and administrator meetings via Zoom – increased ability to share what conferences' decision making with COVID impact, and allowed for discussion of some key issues for U SPORTS.
- Reviewed Berth Criteria and Seeding for Women's Basketball
- COVID-19 Contingency Planning

Priorities for the Sport of Women's Basketball:

- To review selection process for final 3 positions in berth structures, as well as seeding and game formats
- To review the days of competition of a National Championship to ensure meets Commercial value (Friday night ticket sales)
- Marketing of Women's Basketball
- Continued growth from Equity, Diversity & Inclusion perspective

C. Women's Hockey STSC

Committee Chair:

Danièle Sauvageau, Officer of the Order of Canada, Head Coach of the 2002 Olympic Gold Medalist Women's Hockey Team

Committee Members:

AUS Sport Rep: Mike Eagles, St. Thomas University
AUS Coach Rep: Bruce Donaldson, University of Prince Edward Island
RSEQ Sport Rep: Danika Smith, University of Ottawa
RSEQ Coach Rep: Isabelle Leclaire, Université de Montréal
OUA Sport Rep: Stephanie White, Western University
OUA Coach Rep: Lisa Haley, Ryerson University
CW Sport Rep: Gene Muller, University of Manitoba
CW Coach Rep: Graham Thomas, University of British Columbia
President of the Coaching Association: Dan Church, York University
U SPORTS Rep: Jenna Blackburn, Sport Coordinator

Past Seasons Accomplishments:



- Return to competition and crowning Concordia University as the U SPORTS Women's Hockey Champions
- Reviewed Berth Criteria against the newly approved Principles
- Hockey Canada / U SPORTS Athlete to Coach Program
 - Six student-athletes to benefit from two-year pilot mentorship program
 - AUS – Janie Poitras (Université de Moncton)
 - CW – Tatum Amy (Mount Royal University) & Ireland South-Sorestad (University of Regina)
 - OUA – Carley Blomberg (Brock University) & Kelsey McHolm (York University)
 - RSEQ – Alexandra Boulanger (Concordia University)
- U SPORTS Female Apprentice Coach Program
 - AUS – Savannah Newton (Dalhousie University)
 - CW – Taylor Kezema (University of Alberta)
 - RSEQ – Catherine Dubois (Université de Montreal) & Erica Porter (Concordia University)
- Canada Women's Hockey wins GOLD at 2022 Beijing Olympics with many former U SPORTS athletes, coaches and staff
- COVID-19 Contingency Planning

Priorities for the Sport of Women's Hockey:

- Continuing to support initiatives of inclusion and diversity in the sport of Women's Hockey
- To review selection process for final 3 positions in berth structures and game formats
- Select new President of the Coaches Association (time has been completed as per TOR) and other member positions
- Review the harmonization of video platform options

D. Men's Hockey STSC

Committee Chair:

Peter Hellstrom, Athletic Director, Laurentian University

Committee Members:

AUS Sport Rep: Dave MacLean, AUS

AUS Coach Rep: Gardiner MacDougall, University of New Brunswick

OUA Sport Rep: Tom Warden, Lakehead University

OUA Coach Rep: Clarke Singer, Western University

CW Sport Rep: Rob Godfrey, Mount Royal University

CW Coach Rep: VACANT

President of the Coaching Association: Todd Johnson, University of Regina

U SPORTS Rep: Jenna Blackburn, Sport Coordinator

Past Seasons Accomplishments:

- Successful U SPORTS UCUP Men's Hockey Championship
- Engaged coaches and administrator meetings via Zoom – increased ability to share what conferences' decision making with COVID impact, and allowed for discussion of some key issues for U SPORTS.



- Reviewed Berth Criteria against the newly approved Principles
- COVID-19 Contingency Planning

Priorities for the Sport of Men's Hockey:

- To review the berth allocation and structure to align with U SPORTS Principles and Berth Criteria for berth spots 5-8 (Host berth and three Champion berths (AUS, OUA, CW) determined)
- To review selection process for final 5-8 positions in berth structures
- To review game format and remove the “one and done” concept
- Organize U SPORTS Men's Hockey Coaches Clinic
- Review eligibility rules and regulations across conferences
- U SPORTS All Stars & FISU Winter World University Games

E. Women's Volleyball STSC

Committee Chair:

Karen Murphy, Athletic Director, Memorial University

Committee Members:

AUS Sport Rep: Karen Murphy, Memorial University

AUS Coach Rep: Rick Scott, Dalhousie University

RSEQ Sport Rep: Jean-Pierre Chancy, Université de Montreal

RSEQ Coach Rep: Olivier Trudel, Université de Montreal

OUA Sport Rep: Natasha Spaling, University of Guelph

OUA Coach Rep: Kristine Drakich, University of Toronto

CW Sport Rep: Russ Paddock, Brandon University

CW Coach Rep: Lee Carter, Brandon University

President of the Coaching Association: Doug Reimer, University of British Columbia

Volleyball Canada Rep: Julien Boucher, High Performance Director

U SPORTS Rep: Jenna Blackburn, Sport Coordinator

Past Seasons Accomplishments:

- Reviewed Berth Criteria against the newly approved Principles
- Engaged coaches meetings via Zoom – increased ability to share what conferences are doing, or not able to do and allowed for discussion of some key issues for U SPORTS and National Team Programs
- Successful regular season, playoffs and U SPORTS National Championship
- Crowned the Trinity Western Spartans as the U SPORTS Women's Volleyball Champions
- COVID-19 Contingency Planning

Priorities for the Sport of Women's Volleyball:

- To review selection process for final 3 positions in berth structures, seeding and game formats

F. Men's Volleyball STSC

Committee Chair:

Jean-Pierre Chancy, Université de Montréal



Committee Members:

RSEQ Sport Rep: Jean-Noel Corriveau, Université Laval
RSEQ Coach Rep: Dan McMorrان, University of New Brunswick
OUA Sport Rep: Darren Cates, Royal Military College
OUA Coach Rep: James Gravelle, University of Windsor
CW Sport Rep: Jeff Gamache, Trinity Western University
CW Coach Rep: Shawn Sky, Mount Royal University
President of the Coaching Association: John Barrett, University of Toronto
Volleyball Canada Rep: Julien Boucher, High Performance Director
U SPORTS Rep: Jenna Blackburn, Sport Coordinator

Past Seasons Accomplishments:

- A successful return to play, through various different competition formats across the country
- A successful National Championship at the University of Manitoba, resulting in an excellent final that saw the University of Alberta defeat Trinity Western by a score of 3-1
- Engaged coaches meetings via Zoom – increased ability to share what conferences are doing, or not able to do and allowed for discussion of some key issues for U SPORTS and National Team Programs
- Reviewed Berth Criteria against the newly approved Principles
- Ben Josephson was selected as the next National Team Head Coach, after a successful career at the helm for Trinity Western
- COVID-19 Contingency Planning

Priorities for the Sport of Men's Volleyball:

- To review the membership of the STSC
- Solidifying revised National Championship berth structure
- To review selection process for final 4 positions in berth structures, seeding and game formats
- Finding a solution for an alternative ranking system to determine the Top 10 and National Championship Seeding

6. Sport Technical Sub-Committees – CORE SPORTS –Non-Market Driven

F. Women's Rugby STSC

Committee Chair:

Krista McKenna, Associate Athletic Director, St.Fx University

Committee Members:

AUS Sport Rep: Krista McKenna, Associate Athletic Director, St.Fx University
AUS Coach Rep: Matthew Durant, Acadia University
RSEQ Sport Rep: Graeme McGravie, Concordia University
RSEQ Coach Rep: Mitch Francois, Université de Montreal
OUA Sport Rep: VACANT
OUA Coach Rep: Dan Valley, Queen's University



CW Sport Rep: Vang Ioannides, University of Alberta
CW Coach Rep: Brittany Watters, University of Victoria
President of the Coaching Association: Collette McAuley, University of Guelph
U SPORTS Rep: Jenna Blackburn, Sport Coordinator

Past Seasons Accomplishments:

- Successful U SPORTS Women's Rugby Championship hosted and won by Queen's University
- CW has sanctioned Rugby 7's as a supported varsity sport for the winter
- Rugby Canada supported identified U SPORTS Rugby 7's players in a NextGen tournament, alongside the very success HSBC Langford 7's series stop – U SPORTS players made up three teams (Maple Leafs, Canada West and Canada East)
- Reviewed Berth Criteria against the newly approved Principles
- Engaged coaches and administrator meetings via Zoom – increased ability to share what conferences' decision making with COVID impact, and allowed for discussion of some key issues for U SPORTS.
- Coaches Conference provided excellent information, however, COVID protocols inhibited several coaches from attending in person

Priorities for the Sport of Women's Rugby 15s

- To review selection process for final 3 positions in berth structures, seeding and game formats
- Review video analysis and sharing platform

G. Men's Soccer STSC

Committee Chair:

Patrick Nearing, Associate Athletic Director, Dalhousie University

Committee Members:

AUS Sport Rep: Scott Gray, Saint Mary's University
AUS Coach Rep: Lewis Page, University of Prince Edward Island
RSEQ Coach Rep: Pat Raimondo, Université de Montréal
RSEQ Sport Rep: Evelyne Fleury, Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières
OUA Coach Rep: Kwesi Loney, Carleton University
OUA Sport Rep: Guy Dube, Royal Military College
CW Sport Rep: Gord Hopper, University of British Columbia
CW Coach Rep: Mike Shearon, Trinity Western University
President of the Coaching Association: Mike Mosher, University of British Columbia
U SPORTS Rep: Jenna Blackburn, Sport Coordinator

Past Seasons Accomplishments:

- Successful U SPORTS Men's Soccer Championship hosted by Carleton University - 6 out of 7 knockout matches required extra time to determine a winner, with 3 of 6 matches being determined by penalty kicks



- With their fourth straight appearance in the U SPORTS Men's Soccer Championship match, l'Université de Montreal were crowned the U SPORTS Men's Soccer Champions with a thrilling penalty kick win
- Reviewed Berth Criteria against the newly approved Principles
- Continued relationship between U SPORTS and the CPL
- CPL Draft occurred in January 2022 with sixteen U SPORTS Male Soccer Players being drafted

Priorities for the Sport of Men's Soccer:

- To review selection process for final 4 positions in berth structures, seeding and game formats
- Debrief of pros and cons of new berth structure
- Continued work with CPL and the growth of men's university participation in the league

H. Women's Soccer STSC

Committee Chair:

Guy Dubé, Varsity Manager, Royal Military College

Committee Members:

AUS Sport Rep: Scott Gray, Saint Mary's University

AUS Coach Rep: Jon Crossland, University of New Brunswick

RSEQ Coach Rep: Jose Valdes, McGill University

RSEQ Sport Rep: Evelyne Fleury, Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières

OUA Coach Rep: Martin Painter, Western University

OUA Sport Rep: Sean Scott, Queen's University

CW Sport Rep: Gord Hopper, University of British Columbia

CW Coach Rep: Troye Flannery, University of Calgary

President of the Coaching Association: Chad Beaulieu, Royal Military College

U SPORTS Rep: Jenna Blackburn, Sport Coordinator

Past Seasons Accomplishments:

- Return of competition – all 53 women's soccer University programs returned to the field
- MacEwan University captured their first U SPORTS Women's Soccer Championship, making them the first post-secondary program to win both a CCAA and U SPORTS Championship
- Cape Breton University successfully hosted the U SPORTS Women's Soccer Championship, despite all the challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic
- Reviewed Berth Criteria against the newly approved Principles

Priorities for the Sport of Women's Soccer:

- To review selection process for final 3 positions in berth structures (Host +four Conference Champions determined) and game formats
- Update and adapt the Laws of the Game for U SPORTS Championship
- Support coaches in full return to competition schedules at conference level



H. Swimming STSC

Committee Chair:

Melissa Krist Athletic Director, Brock University

Committee Members:

AUS Sport Rep: Tim Maloney, Dalhousie University
AUS Coach Rep: Meredith Earle, Memorial University
RSEQ Sport Rep: VACANT
RSEQ Coach Rep: Dave Heinbuch, University of Ottawa
OUA Sport Rep: Melissa Krist, Brock University
OUA Coach Rep: Paul Midgley, Western University
CW Sport Rep: Spencer Pommells, University of Lethbridge
CW Coach Rep: Vlastimil Cerny, University of Manitoba
President of Coaching Association: Derrick Schoof, UBC
Swimming Canada Reps: John Atkinson & Iain McDonald
U SPORTS Rep: Jenna Blackburn, Sport Coordinator

Past Seasons Accomplishments:

- Confirmed 4-year course format
- Successful U SPORTS Swimming Championship hosted by l'Université Laval
- Supported athlete health and wellbeing during the pandemic

Priorities for the Sport of Swimming:

- Review hosting rotation & confirm 2023 hosts
- Coaches Congress
- Updated regulations for short course/ long course meets
- Review and improve ranking system

6. Sport Technical Sub-Committees – PARTNERSHIP Sports

I. Wrestling STSC

Committee Chair:

Vang Ioannides, Associate Athletic Director, University of Alberta

Committee Members:

AUS/East Sport Rep: Don Ryan, University of New Brunswick
AUS/East Coach Rep: Tom McRae, University of New Brunswick
OUA Sport Rep: Tom Warden, Lakehead University
OUA Coach Rep: Francis Clayton, Lakehead University
CW Sport Rep: Vang Ioannides, University of Alberta
CW Coach Rep: Mitch Ostberg, University of Calgary
President of Coaching Association: Doug Cox, University of Guelph
Wrestling Canada Rep: Tamara Medwinsky



U SPORTS Rep: Jenna Blackburn, Sport Coordinator

Past Seasons Accomplishments:

- Confirmed and approved additional weight class for women

Priorities for the Sport of Wrestling:

- Working towards equal weight classes in men's and women's wrestling
- Return of U SPORTS Wrestling Championship

7. Coaches Associations – Cross Country, Track & Field, Field Hockey

A. Cross Country – CORE SPORT

President of Coaches Association: Felix-Antoine-Lapointe, Laval

B. Track and Field – CORE SPORT

President of Coaches Association: Jason Reindl, University of Saskatchewan

Past Seasons Accomplishments:

- Successful U SPORTS Track and Field Championship hosted by the University of New Brunswick

C. Field Hockey – Partnership Sport

President of Coaches Association: Sara Ali, University of Toronto

Past Seasons Accomplishments:

- Ability to manage various COVID-19 protocols, while safely completing the 2021-2022 season
- The University of Toronto successfully hosted the U SPORTS Field Hockey Championship, with over 200 views on CBC Gem
- Current and former U SPORTS student-athletes are members of the junior and senior national teams that competed at the junior and senior World Cups

Priorities for the Sport of Field Hockey:

- Continue to grow the sport in collaboration with Field Hockey Canada and their LTAD goals for university sport
- Increasing the number of teams at the U SPORTS Women's Field Hockey Championship

D. Curling – Partnership Sport

- Operated under the flexible model by Curling Canada
- Curling Canada did not host a 2022 University Curling Championship due to the Pandemic