

2021-22 NCAA Championships Officials Code of Conduct

Updated: October 25, 2021

The NCAA's top priority is the safety of the student-athletes, coaches, officials, staff, family, and fans who may attend our championships. The nature of COVID-19 is such that each of our individual actions affect not only our well-being, but also those of every other person we interact with or every person who uses the same spaces we use.

In order to keep our championships as safe as possible, it is important that every Tier 1 participant is aware of, and their actions are informed by, the health and hygiene recommendations from the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) and the [NCAA resocialization documents](#).

Therefore, the following requirements must be followed at all times when participating in a 2021-2022 NCAA Championship. The applicable sport committee has full authority with respect to the administration of this championship. Failure to comply with COVID-19 requirements may result in sanctions, including but not limited to, elimination from competition or participation in the championship for reckless or egregious conduct that places others at unnecessary increased risk of exposure to COVID-19. The sport committee will be informed by medical experts in reaching their decision, which shall be immediate and final.

Requirements:

- All officials will be considered Tier 1 and must be tested for COVID-19 or meet the requirements for exemption from testing*. All officials must also attest to, and provide documentation (if requested), prior to traveling to a host/competition site. Tier 1 individuals will complete all necessary consents and releases with respect to personal and health information.

Pre-arrival COVID-19 testing requirements:

- Negative antigen within one day of arrival, OR
- Negative PCR within three days of arrival.

*Criteria for COVID-19 testing exemption:

- Fully vaccinated, or documentation of COVID-19 infection between 14 days following infection up to 90 days following infection. Documentation is either a PCR test, or antigen test with supporting medical records documenting COVID-19 infection.
- Any Tier 1 participant who chooses not to participate in testing for COVID-19 (and does not qualify for a testing exemption) for any reason will be in violation of the protocol and will not be allowed to participate in the championship.
 - If a Tier 1 individual tests positive prior to arrival or is determined to be in close contact, that person will be managed by the local public health authority and cannot travel to the host/competition site until their period of isolation or quarantine is completed and local health officials clear the individual to do so.

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- It is each official's responsibility to ensure they are COVID-19 negative prior to travel. All officials must attest that they are compliant with the prescribed COVID-19 protocols. Furthermore, each official shall be prepared to submit (if requested) test results on previous positive COVID-19 PCR tests within 90 days of the event and/or records of vaccination dates. For individuals who tested positive by antigen only, there must be supporting medical records supporting a clinical diagnosis of COVID-19. All records must be official including the date and location of the test or vaccine.
- There will not be on-site testing scheduled at any round of NCAA championships for screening unvaccinated, asymptomatic individuals. Testing on-site at NCAA championships will be required only for those who are symptomatic or based on a risk assessment of a documented close contact with someone with COVID-19.
- When traveling or at a host/competition site, Tier 1 individuals, must engage only in scheduled activities. Individual or group trips, appointments, and activities or meetings with individuals who are not a part of the tested community are strictly prohibited. Masking and physical distancing protocols apply to all Tier 1 individuals, including those who have previously contracted COVID-19 within 90 days or already received the COVID-19 vaccine.
- If a Tier 1 participant has close contact [defined as less than six (6) feet of physical distance for 15 cumulative minutes or more over a 24-hour time period] with someone that is not a part of the tested community, they must inform the NCAA championship manager or site representative immediately. Additional testing or quarantine may be needed before they can join additional championship activities.
- Physical distancing and wearing a mask are strongly encouraged at all times when Tier 1 individuals are not officiating, in the individual's hotel room or eating and drinking.

These requirements are necessary to allow for Tier 1 individuals to participate safely in the 2021-2022 NCAA Championships. The respective sport committee reserves the right to alter these requirements based on advice of medical experts. If a need to do so arises, the committee will inform Tier 1 participants via email or text communication established prior to the championship.