



2019-20 Division II Preliminary Round Neutrality Pilot Program Do's and Don'ts Document

At its September 2019 meeting, the NCAA Division II Championships Committee approved a pilot program to permit preliminary rounds of the 2019-20 Division II Football Championship, Division II Men's and Women's Basketball Championships, and Division II Softball Championship to run the same kind of pregame promotions and celebrations they conduct during their regular-season contests before resuming neutrality at the start of the contest and through its conclusion.

Outlined below are the do's and don'ts of the pilot program as they pertain to pre-game promotions in preliminary rounds for football, men's and women's basketball, and softball. (Note: Nothing regarding the in-game neutrality policy changes. Remember, once the contest starts, if you plan a promotion for one team, it must be done for both.)

PERMISSIBLE:

- Hosts are allowed to incorporate typical **pre-game** promotions before being neutral in-game.
 - Hype/intro video.
 - The only permissible video content outside of hype/intro videos is provided by the NCAA.
 - Running through tunnel.
 - Announcer/introduction/starting lineups.
 - The NCAA script provided for each site should be followed.
 - Pyro/smoke/fog/cannons during team introductions.
 - Crowd live shots.
 - Lights out with spotlights during player introductions.

IMPERMISSIBLE:

- No "toss" of t-shirts, premium items, etc.
- Hype for third-downs, sacks, turnovers, home runs, 3-pointers, strikeouts, etc. through video board or PA announcer.
- Nothing in-game related to video that's only geared towards the host team.
- Crowd teasers on videoboard that incite crowd involvement.
- Walk-up music for only the host team. Can be used only if provided for both teams.
- Promotions sponsored by corporate partners.
- Recognitions specific to the host institution or sponsors.
- Pyro/smoke/fog/cannons for only the host team after the start of the contest.

Final determination on any activations not listed above will be at the discretion of the NCAA championship manager and the site representative.