

**2020-21 POLICY FOR MANAGEMENT OF INFECTED INDIVIDUALS
AT CHAMPIONSHIP SITES
(updated 3/19/21)**

PURPOSE

Establish the general principles regarding accommodations and travel for COVID-19-infected individuals among participants and officials during an NCAA championship, including financial responsibility. This policy is expected to be shared with and followed by our participating members, as well as our third-party travel agents.

STATEMENT OF POLICY

As COVID-19 testing protocols are administered at NCAA championship sites, we are prepared to address cases of individuals that are infected with the virus. While on-site at championships, our intent is to follow the guidelines and policies of the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and local health departments.

If an individual in the tested community becomes infected, the local health department will be notified and the infected participant must be isolated in a single-occupancy room without close contact with others until the expiration of their isolation period. For purposes of this policy, the isolation period will be at least 10 days from the date of the positive test or 10 days after symptoms onset coupled with resolution of fever for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications and with improvement of other symptoms.

During the isolation period, the team health officer, in conjunction with the team physician, will be responsible for the care and needs of the affected individual from their school. NCAA staff or designated personnel, per the participants' manual, will assist the team if requested by the team health officer in making arrangements to deliver food and necessary supplies to the infected individual. A team with an infected individual should implement school protocols that have been used in prior situations when a team member becomes impaired during competitions at an event off campus.

The team COVID health officer and/or team physician should consult with the local public health authority and CDC guidelines regarding the infected individual's mode of travel and health precautions. For air travel, the NCAA via Short's Travel Management, will arrange travel for the infected individual after the isolation period ends. If travel will be by automobile, a rental car can be arranged via Short's Travel Management or booked by the school. If approved by the team physician and the local public health authority, arrangements can be made to transport the infected individual back to campus prior to the end of isolation via a car service approved to transport infected individuals. Alternatively, the infected individual may travel with vaccinated school personnel, family or individuals who are within the 90-day window post infection, or as otherwise allowed by school protocol and the local public health authority. Car transportation of infected individuals prior to the end of isolation assumes physical distancing and universal masking by everyone in the vehicle.

The NCAA will provide the approved per diem for lodging, meals and other expenses incurred during the isolation period. In cases where the NCAA is paying for hotel rooms directly, a modified per diem rate will be paid. Travel back to campus will also be paid by the NCAA. For teams that are a fly, the cost will be billed directly to the NCAA. For teams that are a drive, the mileage and rental car expense can be submitted with receipts through TES as a miscellaneous expense. If the infected individual travels somewhere other than back to campus, the NCAA will reimburse the expenses up to the cost of traveling back to campus; the school would be responsible for any increased cost. If the infected individual is a student-athlete, the NCAA will also pay for one non-athlete for every three infected individuals to assist with the needs of the infected individual(s) while in isolation and during travel.

REMINDERS

To help control travel costs, the NCAA has entered into an agreement with Short’s Travel Management of Waterloo, Iowa, to provide air transportation and special services to persons traveling on NCAA business. Since transportation costs are billed directly to the Association, all air travel must be arranged through Short’s. Please note, travel not booked through Short’s **will not** be reimbursed by the Association. Short’s can be reached by phone at **866-655-9215** or by email at ncaaalo@shortstravel.com.

Institutions, competing in team sports, are NO longer required to use Go Ground for post-season NCAA championship ground transportation. For 2020-21, NCAA team championships institutions will book ground transportation on their own, in accordance with the [NCAA ground transportation safety standards](#), and seek reimbursement through TES after the championship.

DEFINITIONS

Term	Definition
Infected individual	An individual within the tested community that tests positive for the COVID-19 virus.
Tested community	All participants, coaches, officials, hosts, staff, contractors, or others that are required to be tested periodically during the event as a condition of their participation in the event.
Close contact	Per CDC guidelines: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Someone who was within six feet of an infected person for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period starting from two days before illness onset (or, for asymptomatic patients, two days prior to test specimen collection) until the time the patient is isolated. • You had direct physical contact with an infected person (hugged or kissed them). • You shared eating or drinking utensils with an infected person. • An infected person sneezed, coughed, or somehow got respiratory droplets on you.

The NCAA will continue to update this travel protocol as circumstances warrant and as the science and events continue to evolve.

CONTACT INFORMATION

If you have any questions regarding these policies, or need additional information, please contact the following:

NCAA Travel Department

Phone: 317-917-6757

E-mail: travel@ncaa.org

Expense System: travel.ncaa.org

- * Melissa Piening – Director of Travel, Meetings and Events
- * Carol Roland – Assistant Director of Travel Management

Short's Travel

Phone: 866-655-9215

E-mail: ncaaalo@shortstravel.com

Portal: www.shortstravel.com/ncaachamps

- * Kris Fratzke – Director
- * Kayla Marshall – Manager

APPENDIX – 2020-21 POLICY FOR MANAGEMENT OF INFECTED INDIVIDUALS AT CHAMPIONSHIP SITES

Useful Travel Links:

- [Champs Testing Protocol.](#)
- Championship Code of Conduct. (forthcoming)
- [Championship Travel Code of Conduct.](#)
- [CDC Travel Guidelines.](#)
- [Air, Hotel and Ground Procedures Resource.](#)
- [2020-21 NCAA Division I Championships Travel Policies](#)
- [2020-21 NCAA Division II Championships Travel Policies](#)
- [2020-21 NCAA Division III Championships Travel Policies](#)