



MEMORANDUM

April 2, 2021

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

TO: Division I Conference Baseball and Softball Administrators.

FROM: Randy L. Buhr
Director, Championships and Alliances.

Liz Turner Suscha
Managing Director, Championships and Alliances.

SUBJECT: 2021 NCAA Division I Baseball and Softball Championship Preliminary-Round Bid Adjustments.

Part of the health and safety protocols for NCAA championships this year was to change to predetermined sites for all sports. In order to fully prepare for COVID-19 testing procedures and protocols, more than a week is needed to prepare the site including certification as a testing site and also to confirm testing personnel from the testing provider. A minimum of three weeks is necessary to ensure that the site will be functioning efficiently. As was communicated in the March 29 Championships Newsletter, for the 2021 NCAA Division I Baseball and Softball Championships, preliminary-round sites (regionals and super regionals) will be predetermined.

The Division I Baseball and Softball Committees will determine the best way to conduct the championship using all predetermined sites. It is always important that emphasis is placed on the safety and security of every student-athlete, as well as ensuring that every participant has an excellent experience.

The preliminary-round bid process timeline is as follows:

- Monday, March 29 – bid portal opened.
- Monday, April 12 – deadline to submit bids.
- Week of April 26 – softball regional site selection announcement.
- Week of May 10 – baseball regional site selection announcement.
- Sunday, May 16 – softball selection announcement.
- Monday, May 31 – baseball selection announcement.

The following are some changes in the bid specifications for 2021 (only):

- If an institution is selected to host a preliminary round(s), but that given institution's team is not selected to the championship, the institution will still be required to host.
- 16 predetermined regional sites will be selected; and of those sites, eight super regional sites will be selected at the conclusion of the regionals.
- No minimum financial guarantees. The host reporting system has been modified to allow budget submissions without a guarantee.

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- The seating capacity for spring championships has not yet been determined. Allocations: subject to capacity-related decisions, the NCAA will determine ticket allocations across constituents, with priority consideration given to participating teams. Reductions may not necessarily be pro-rated equally across constituent groups. Once the seating capacity for spring championships is determined, there will be more direction provided as to any possible reduction (if any) in the allocation of tickets that need to be held for the visiting team(s).
- Lodging. Each of the selected predetermined regional host institutions should plan to continue to hold rooms for super regional dates, as the institution could be selected to host.
- COVID-19 testing space requirements. There is only one testing location that will be used at each regional and super regional site and it must be a minimum of 2,500 square feet. The testing space may be located in a hotel ballroom or at a designated campus location (at a location other than the competition venue).
- For additional information as you prepare your bid, please visit: <https://www.ncaa.org/championship-bid-process-information>.

As always, the NCAA Division I Baseball and Softball Committees and staff are committed to protecting the health and safety of our student-athletes, while providing them with an incredible student-athlete experience. If you have any questions for Division I Baseball, please contact [Chad Tolliver](#) or [Randy L. Buhr](#). If you have any questions for Division I Softball, please contact [Liz Turner Suscha](#) or [Laura Klee](#).

RLB/LTS:jjr

cc: Division I Baseball Committee
Division I Softball Committee
Selected NCAA Staff Members