



2024-25 NCAA[®]
POSTSEASON
BOWL
HANDBOOK

Table of Contents

Introduction	1
Administrative Timeline	2
Bowl Certification	
Bowl Governance.....	3
Application Process	3
Accountability Practices	3
Conditions of Certification/Use of NCAA Marks.....	4
Name, Site, Date and Time Changes	4
Participation.....	4
Penalties for Failure to Comply with Requirements.....	4
Postseason Bowl Game Dates.....	5
Selection of Institutions	
Access	6
Eligible Teams	6
Exception – FCS Opponent	6
Exception – Deserving Team That Loses Conference Championship Game.....	6
Insufficient Number of Deserving Teams.....	6
Advertising/Title Sponsorships	
Bowl Advertising, Sponsor and Promotional Policies.....	8
Process and Jurisdiction.....	8
Advertisements/Commercial Logos on the Fields.....	8
Bowl Administration and Policies	
Awards	11
Confederate Battle Flag Policy	11
Entertainment/Official Function for Official Party/Student-Athletes.....	11
Medical Procedures.....	12
Playing Rules	13
Participating Team Information and Policies	
Enhancing the Bowl Experience/Survey Research.....	14
Game Film/Video.....	14
Insurance	14
Mascot Policy.....	14
Officiating	
Assignment of Bowl Officials	15
Assignment Policies.....	15
Alternate Official	17
Background Checks	17
Coordinator of Officials.....	17
Courtesy Automobiles	17
Credentials	17
Entertainment.....	18
Game Fee	18
Game Management Responsibilities.....	18
Game Tickets	18

Gifts.....	18
Hotel Accommodations	18
Instant Replay	18
Per Diems.....	19
Practice.....	19
Pregame Conference	19
Transportation.....	19
Travel Arrangements	19
Uniforms	19

Tickets

Student-Athlete Tickets	20
Student-Athlete Ticket Gate/Pass List.....	20

Introduction

Postseason bowls have long been a tradition and a reward for a successful football season. Bowls are an extra contest beyond the limits established in NCAA Bylaw 17.11 and are played after the end of the regular season as defined by the policies and procedures contained in the NCAA Postseason Bowl Handbook. Bowls for student-athletes involve additional practice time, physical dedication, and, consequently, require NCAA authorization and regulation to protect student-athlete safety and well-being. Bowls benefit sponsoring communities, participating member institutions and student-athletes, and must have oversight by the NCAA, bowl governance, and its members to preserve these benefits.

NCAA regulation of postseason bowls should be consistent with and limited by the core mission of the NCAA. The purpose of a system of NCAA regulation of postseason football bowls should be to assure that the bowls reflect the collegiate model of intercollegiate athletics. In that context, the NCAA and its members have a strong interest in assuring the bowls are governed with integrity, that they are managed in a way that is consistent with student-athlete welfare, and that their commercial, promotional and sponsorship activities are consistent with the values associated with collegiate sports.

All certified bowl games must adhere to all applicable NCAA Bylaws. Bowls should pay particular attention to issues regarding student-athlete benefits and NCAA amateurism regulations. Bowls should direct questions on these topics to the NCAA national office or the conference offices affiliated with that bowl.

This handbook includes minimum standards that have been adopted by the NCAA. In some instances, an institution or conference may have a contractual relationship with a bowl that specifies requirements that exceed the minimum standards. Those specifications are binding on the involved parties. The handbook, however, is the final authority for arbitrating disputes over minimum requirements, NCAA legislation and policies.

The following individuals may be contacted regarding NCAA policies and procedures pertaining to postseasonfootball:

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Administrative Timeline

DATE	EVENT
March 1	Bowl year begins.
	NCAA notifies bowl organizations of the deadline for the submission of bowl certification application form and the board governance and accountability questionnaire.
	Deadline for submission of on-line institutional bowl participation survey.
April 1	Deadline for the submission of the bowl certification application form and the board governance and accountability questionnaire. If known, bowl must also designate on the application form its proposed title, presenting and major bowl sponsors.
	Deadline for submission of institutional financial expense forms and payout data from bowls.
April	Bowl Season annual meeting.
May 1	NCAA sends notifications to those bowls that are certified for the next academic year.
	NCAA also notifies bowl organizations of the deadline for the submission of the annual audited financial statements.
Summer	NCAA administers background checks of all potential postseason bowl officials
August 1	Deadline for the submission of the bowl's annual audited financial statements.
September 1	NCAA notifies bowl organizations of the deadline for the submission of the certification of insurance and the \$10,000 certification fee.
October 1	Deadline for the submission of the certification of insurance and the certification fee.
November	Telephone conference with national coordinator of officials, selected conference coordinators and NCAA staff to review postseason officiating assignments. Usually held Monday prior to Thanksgiving.
December	Immediately after all postseason pairings have been announced, the NCAA shall notify the bowls and conferences of the officiating assignments.

Bowl Certification

Bowl Governance

The NCAA has developed a certification system that provides assurance that minimum standards of governance and operation are in place. The bowl sponsoring agency's board of directors and its chief executive officer shall annually certify to the NCAA in writing that the agency is in compliance with these minimum standards not later than April 1. The bowl sponsoring agency shall also report to the NCAA within 30 days any significant change in its compliance with these standards. All documents, policies and written practices related to matters certified shall be maintained and made available to the NCAA upon request.

Application Process

Any sponsoring agency seeking certification for a postseason football bowl game shall adhere to the following NCAA bylaws and policies:

1. The bowl game must serve the purpose of providing a national contest between deserving teams.
2. The competing institutions shall be active members of this Association, and participation shall be in accordance with the provisions of NCAA Bylaw 17.11.
3. Bowl sponsoring agencies must submit the following documents to the NCAA national office no later than April 1 each year in order for an NCAA member institution to participate in the postseason bowl:
 - a. Application form.
 - b. Board Governance and Accountability Questionnaire.
 - c. Financial statements as requested on the application form (due August 1).

All forms shall be posted on the postseason football page of the NCAA website for access by bowls. (<http://www.ncaa.org/championships/postseason-bowl-administration?division=d1>)

4. Each postseason bowl game shall pay annually, upon notice of certification, a \$10,000 fee payable to the Association as well as a certification of insurance by October 1 of each year.
5. The game is permitted for the academic year specified.
6. Bowl management shall acknowledge that the NCAA staff has the authority to review any document specifically related to the bowl game, which would include governance procedures, title sponsor and other corporate contracts, and any television contract(s).

Accountability Practices

Bowl sponsoring agencies and contracting conferences are responsible for compliance with the established certification of accountability practices.

Conditions of Certification/Use of NCAA Marks

1. A permitted bowl may acknowledge to the NCAA membership that their teams may compete in that game for the specified academic year. The bowl also may advise the media that it holds a certification from the NCAA to conduct a bowl game.
2. Said notifications above do not give the bowl authority to use the NCAA primary logo (blue disc) or other logos and graphics of the NCAA without advance written approval by the NCAA national office staff, which shall have sole discretion in these approvals.
3. NCAA marks may not appear in any manner as the official name of a bowl game.
4. NCAA marks shall not be used in a manner to suggest, directly or indirectly, endorsement or affiliation with a product, company, organization or service.
5. NCAA marks may not be used in conjunction with, or in close proximity to bowl sponsor logos or other advertisers in-venue, on-field, or in any other manner.
6. Bowl sponsors, advertisers, and bowl licensees [certifications] do not have any right to use the NCAA marks in any manner.
7. The bowl's television broadcaster shall be responsible for clearing use of NCAA marks during the bowl broadcast directly with the NCAA.
8. When notified by the NCAA of an infringement, the bowl shall immediately cease and desist from unauthorized use of NCAA marks at bowl sponsors expense. The NCAA reserves the right to pursue any and all other remedies available as a result of bowl's infringement, including, but not limited to, revocation of certification to conduct a bowl game.

Name, Site, Date and Time Changes

The name, site, date and/or time of a postseason football game cannot be changed without approval of the NCAA staff. Recognizing that it may be advantageous for an institution, specifically, and intercollegiate football, generally, to change the date or time, the NCAA staff should be promptly informed of all such changes and will review such requests. All inquiries should be directed to Ty Halpin, staff liaison, at the NCAA national office.

Participation

A member institution shall not participate in any non-collegiate or nonconference-sponsored postseason football game unless it has certified compliance with the established NCAA policies and procedures.

A postseason football bowl game is conducted after the regular football season ends and involves teams selected because of their regular-season performance (i.e., won-lost record, conference championship). Participation by member institutions is limited to bowl games that are permitted by the Association.

Penalties for Failure to Comply with Requirements

Postseason bowl games that fail to comply with NCAA policies and procedures may be subject to penalties as deemed appropriate by the NCAA. The severity of the penalties will be determined based on the nature, frequency and scope of the violation. Penalties may include, but are not limited to, one or more of the following:

1. Private reprimand.
2. Public reprimand.
3. Financial penalty.
4. Bowl probation (i.e., no NCAA institutions may compete until the bowl is in compliance with NCAA policies).
5. Permanent bowl ineligibility for NCAA institutions to compete.

To the extent possible, the NCAA will work with the involved bowl and NCAA conferences to resolve the situation in lieu of enforcing penalties. If punitive measures are assessed the involved bowl shall have the opportunity to submit an appeal to a postseason advisory group composed of representatives from the NCAA staff, NCAA member conferences and Bowl Season, LLC. The NCAA president, in consultation with the postseason advisory group, shall have the final decision on all issues.

Postseason Bowl Game Dates

All postseason bowl games should be conducted within a time period that generally occurs between the end of examination schedules for the first semester or fall term and the start of classes for the second semester or winter term for most member institutions. The following chart outlines the time frames in which postseason bowls shall be conducted:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Start Date</u>	<u>Completion Date</u>
2023-24	Friday, December 15	Monday, January 8
2024-25	Friday, December 20	Monday, January 13
2025-26	Friday, December 19	Monday, January 12
2026-27	Friday, December 18	Monday, January 11
2027-28	Friday, December 17	Monday, January 10

Selection of Institutions

Access

A bowl game must serve the purpose of providing a national contest between eligible teams. The competing institutions shall be active members of the Association, and participation shall be in accordance with the provisions of NCAA Bylaw 17.11 and Bylaw 18.7.2.

Eligible Teams

An eligible team is defined as one that has won a number of games against Football Bowl Subdivision (FBS) opponents that is equal to or greater than the number of its overall losses (e.g., a record of 6-6, or better). Tie or forfeited games do not count in determining won-lost record.

Exception – FCS Opponent

Each year, a FBS institution may count one victory against a Football Championship Subdivision (FCS) opponent that has averaged 90 percent of the permissible maximum number of grants-in-aid per year in football during a rolling two-year period. However, the Football Oversight Committee may approve a waiver of the 90 percent requirement to permit a FBS institution to count a victory against an FCS opponent toward meeting the definition of a “deserving team,” if a unique or catastrophic situation affects the FCS institution’s ability to average 90 percent of the permissible maximum number of football grants-in-aid per year during a rolling two-year period.

Exception – Deserving Team That Loses Conference Championship Game

An institution that finishes its regular season having met the definition of a “deserving team” but loses its conference championship game shall continue to be considered a deserving team.

Insufficient Number of Deserving Teams

If an insufficient number of institutions does not meet the definition of a “deserving team” to participate in postseason bowl games in a particular year, an institution that meets a condition set forth below shall be eligible as an alternate to be selected to participate in such a bowl game after all deserving teams have been selected to participate. All institutions that meet the first condition must be selected before an institution that meets the second condition may be selected and so forth in descending order. The conditions below represent the order in which alternates are identified in the event there are insufficient number of deserving teams:

1. An institution that would have met the FCS Opponent exception but for the fact that one victory was against an FCS opponent that had not averaged 90 percent of the permissible maximum number of grants-in-aid per year in football during a rolling two-year period and the institution's waiver request was denied.
2. An institution that participated in 13 regular-season contests and finished the season with a record of six wins and seven losses.
3. An institution that is in its final year of reclassification from the Football Championship Subdivision to the Football Bowl Subdivision and otherwise meets the definition of a “deserving team”.
4. An institution that finished its season with a minimum of five wins and a maximum of seven losses and achieves a multiyear football APR score that permits participation in the postseason to be identified as alternates in descending order of the most recently published multiyear FBS football APR scores. If the APR in the FBS for the most recent reporting year ends in a tie between two or more teams, then the

single-year APR in the FBS, beginning with the most recent reporting year and continuing until the tie is broken, shall be used to determine which team(s) will be identified as alternates.

Note: The selection and placing of five-win teams will follow the procedure below:

- a. All teams meeting deserving team status must be placed in available bowl opportunities.
- b. Once all deserving teams are exhausted, an Academic Progress Rate listing of teams in rank order is established and confirmed by NCAA staff.
- c. If more than one bowl slot is available, that number of teams, in APR rank order, establishes the pool that moves to eligible status for placement. (Example: If three teams with five wins are needed to fill three open bowl spots, the pool will consist of the top three APR teams in descending order.)
- d. If a conference has a team in the APR pool and a primary contract with a bowl game with an opening, that conference team will fill the spot.
- e. Other placements will be made through conference office, bowl partner and institutional discussions.
- f. Contractual arrangements lie with the conference/institution and the bowl partner and are not the authority of the NCAA or Division I Football Bowl Subdivision Oversight Committee.

Advertising/Title Sponsorships

Bowl Advertising, Title Sponsorships and Promotional Policies

Bowl advertising, title sponsorships, and promotional policies are designed to encourage those sponsors of bowl and bowl-related events to support the ideals of college football. Title sponsors and advertisers associated with Division I football bowl games should be supportive of the values and attributes of college football.

Process and Jurisdiction

All corporate sponsorships, including Title Sponsorships, will be entered into at the discretion of the individual bowl organizing agencies in consultation with their conference partners and broadcast partners. The Bowl Season association will provide guidance and counsel on any sponsorship decisions as needed.

Bowl game operators shall comply with all sponsor/advertiser disclosure and approval requirements if requested by Conference Partners, Broadcast Partners, and Bowl Season, and shall provide supplemental information as requested when it seeks to sign new title sponsors. Bowls shall inform their partner conferences prior to entering into a final agreement with any new Title Sponsor.

Bowl Title Sponsor. Each bowl shall do the following with regard to Title Sponsorships for “New” or “Non-Traditional” sponsorship categories, as a means to govern the acceptability of a bowl title sponsorship:

- 1) Receive approval for the Title Sponsor from each Conference that the Bowl is affiliated with (if the Bowl is affiliated with more than two Conferences, it must receive approval from ALL affiliated Conferences), and
- 2) Receive approval for the Title Sponsor from their Broadcast Partner for the Bowl game.

Proposed title sponsorships shall be communicated to their Conference and Broadcast Partners prior to any public announcements.

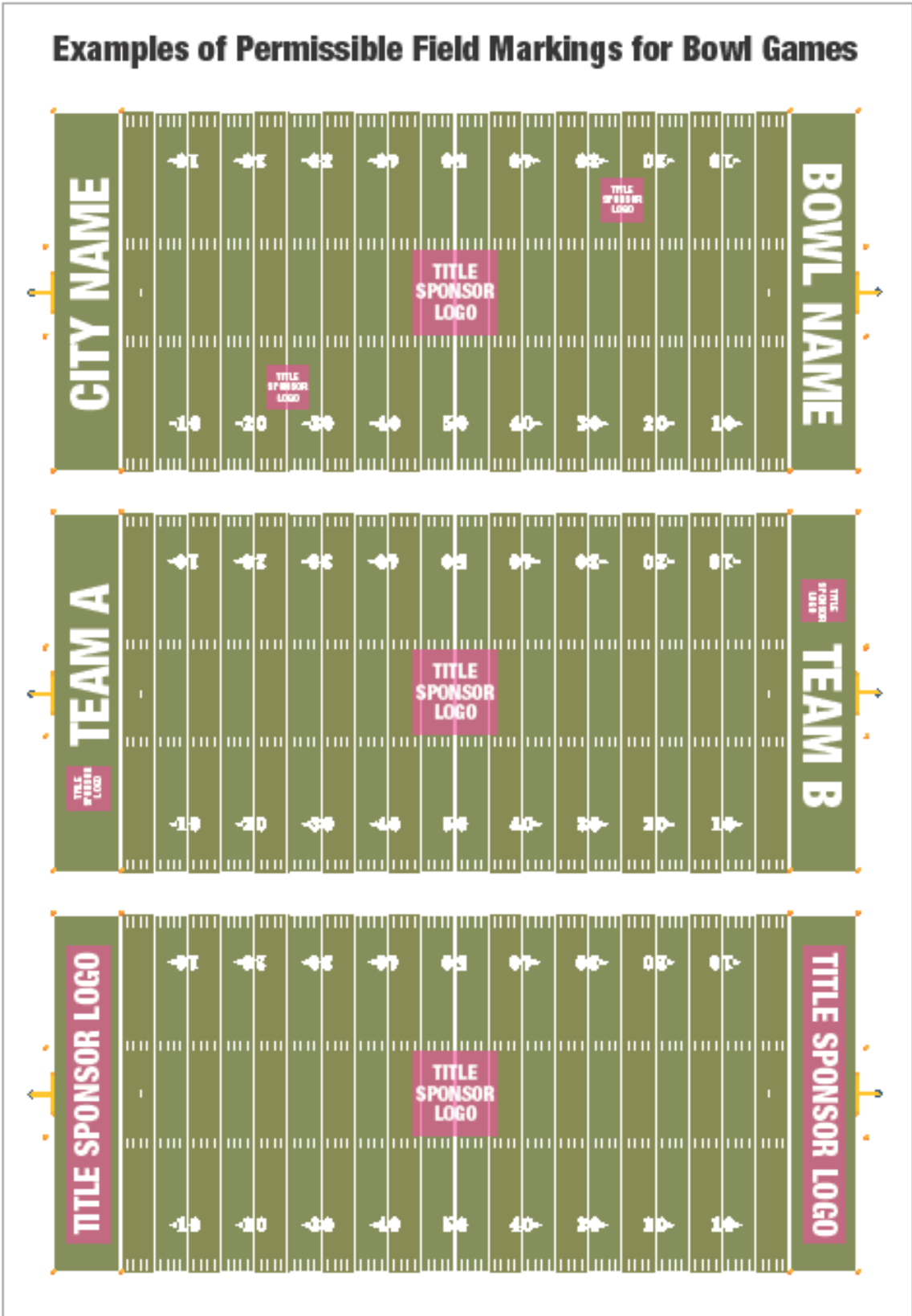
Advertisements/Commercial Logos on the Fields [Reference: NCAA football playing rule 1-2-1-h]

Advertisements/commercial logos are prohibited on the playing field except for the postseason bowl game title sponsor whose name is associated with the name of that game, with the restriction that there be a maximum of three such advertisements/logos: a single advertisement centered on the 50-yard line and no more than two smaller flanking advertisements/logos. As it relates to these advertisements/logos, (1) the entirety of all yard lines, goal lines, and sidelines must be clearly visible. No portion of any such line may be obscured by decorative markings; and (2) no such markings may touch or enclose the hash marks. No other advertisements/commercial logos, either by the title sponsor or by any other commercial entity, may be on the field. This includes social media designations such as URL's and hashtags.

If a commercial entity has purchased the naming rights to the facility in which the bowl game is being played, that entity may have its name painted on the field (in no more than two locations), however that entity's logo should not appear on the playing surface. The logo(s), name(s) and/or field markings of the National Football League and/or professional team(s) shall not appear on the playing field.

In addition to the title sponsor/composite logo at mid-field, there may be no more than four other flanking logos in the field of play. Two of these logos may be the title/presenting sponsor logo. Conference,

institutional or Bowl Season logos may be part of this maximum of four. Bowls seeking clarification on these policies may send field photos or illustrations to the NCAA and Bowl Season staff for guidance.



Bowl Administration and Policies

Awards

Only student-athletes eligible to compete in a postseason football game may receive awards from the management of the event or from the participating member institution.

Bowls are encouraged to provide student-athletes with awards that approach the maximum value (\$550) permitted by NCAA legislation. Awards for most valuable players in bowl games are not countable in the \$550 limitation.

Game management shall provide 125 student-athlete awards to each team.

Confederate Battle Flag Policy

The site for a postseason bowl game shall have the ability to assure that the benefits inherent in all postseason bowl competition will flow freely to all participants and its ability to promote an atmosphere of respect for and sensitivity to the dignity of every person. Therefore, an NCAA postseason bowl may not be conducted in a state where the Confederate battle flag continues to have a prominent presence.

Entertainment/Official Function for Official Party/Student-Athletes

A sponsoring agency should be sensitive to the number of social events that it schedules for the official parties and student-athletes representing the institutions participating in the bowl. Most institutions prefer a maximum of two social activities, although some areas have many attractions readily available that may be of interest to the teams. Student-athletes should not be expected to attend scheduled social events the night before the game.

Medical Procedures

The participating teams shall coordinate medical care and coverage for each scheduled practice or bowl contest, ensuring that the institution is satisfying the recommendations and requirements in this section.

The student-athlete's team physician should examine each student-athlete injured during competition and make a recommendation to the student-athlete and the coach as to the advisability of continued participation.

Care and Coverage. Each scheduled practice session or postseason football game should include the following (see NCAA Sports Medicine Handbook for more information):

1. The presence of a person qualified and delegated by the institution to render emergency care to a stricken participant;
2. The presence or planned access by the institution to a physician for prompt medical evaluation of the situation, when warranted;
3. Planned access to cardiopulmonary resuscitation and early defibrillation.
4. Planned access to a medical facility, including a plan for communication and transportation between the athletics site and the medical facility for prompt medical services, when warranted. Access to a working telephone or other telecommunications device, whether fixed or mobile, should be assured.
5. All necessary emergency equipment should be at the site or quickly accessible. Equipment should be in good operating condition, and personnel must be trained in advance to use it properly. Additionally, emergency information about the student-athlete should be available both at campus and while traveling for use by medical personnel.
6. An inclement weather policy that includes provision for decision-making and evaluation plans (Refer to Guideline 1d on Lightning Safety).
7. A thorough understanding by all parties, including the leadership of visiting teams, of the personnel and procedures associated with the emergency care plan.
8. A catastrophic incident plan to provide information and the support necessary to family members, teammates, coaches and staff after a catastrophe (see Guideline 1e on Catastrophic Incident in Athletics).
9. A concussion management plan on file.

Hydration. Each institution should provide drinking cups, watercooler, ice chests, cooler carts and water bottles for all scheduled practice or bowl game.

Reporting of Catastrophic Injuries. When a catastrophic injury occurs, an institutional representative should call American Specialty Catastrophic Injury Service Line at 800/245-2744. Catastrophic injuries include: spinal cord injury; severe head and neck trauma; partial or complete paralysis; injuries resulting in severely diminished mental capacity or other neurological injury that results in inability to perform daily function; and irrecoverable loss of speech or hearing (both ears) or sight (both eyes) or both arms or both

legs or one arm and one leg.

The student-athlete's team physician should examine each student-athlete injured during competition and make a recommendation to the student-athlete and the coach as to the advisability of continued participation.

Playing Rules

The official playing rules of the Association shall govern the conduct of all postseason football games. The Football Rules Committee, however, has authorized the intermission between halves to extend to 30 minutes. Steve Shaw, NCAA secretary-rules editor, may be contacted at sdshaw.cfo@gmail.com.

Participating Team Information and Policies

Enhancing the Bowl Experience/Survey Research

The NCAA shall develop a survey to assess the bowl experience for student-athletes. The NCAA shall distribute the survey to participating teams annually and require completion of the surveys not later than 30 days after the postseason bowl season.

Game Film/Video

Each participating team shall provide the supervisor of officials from the conference that assigned the officiating crew to the game a copy of the game film/video it will use to evaluate student-athlete performance. The supervisor must provide the College Football Officiating, LLC (CFO) with a written evaluation of the crew. The participating institutions shall provide an evaluation of the officials to the CFO as well. An evaluation summary will be prepared by the national coordinator and presented to the CFO board or managers each spring.

Insurance

The sponsoring agency shall submit to the NCAA national office, on an annual basis not later October 1, the appropriate certification of insurance showing evidence that it maintains primary comprehensive general coverage listing the NCAA as an additional insured, with combined single limits of at least \$2 million per occurrence for bodily injury and property damage.

Mascot Policy

Institutions displaying or promoting hostile or abusive references on their mascots, cheerleaders, dance teams and band uniforms or paraphernalia are prohibited from wearing the material at NCAA championships and postseason events, effective August 1, 2008.

Officiating

Assignment of Bowl Officials

Officials for postseason football bowl games permitted each year by the Association shall be assigned by the College Football Officiating, LLC (CFO) national coordinator of officials. The national coordinator will coordinate crew assignments and make any changes to ensure neutral crews are assigned to games after the teams have been invited to participate. Any changes necessary will be made in the same group of bowls as the game for which the conflict occurred.

These tasks shall be performed as quickly as possible (within 24 hours) after the annual selections of teams to facilitate travel and other arrangements made by and for game officials.

Each person should be aware of policies that govern the conduct of game officials, particularly as they relate to permissible fees, expenses and amenities. Officials should not expect or request additional items from the game management of the bowl. The sponsoring agency shall remain responsible for determining, and entering into, the appropriate contractual relationships with conference or officials assigned to its postseason football bowl games, consistent with the minimum requirements set forth in this handbook.

The CFO will not authorize for one or more following years the assignment of any official who does not follow the policies in this handbook or who is not a dignified representative of college athletics while at the bowl site.

Assignment Policies

Officials will be assigned under the following guidelines:

1. An organization that is eligible to nominate officials for a postseason football game shall be approved annually by the CFO and meet specific criteria to receive a crew assignment for a postseason football game. It shall:
 - a. Be a member of the CFO and ultimately subject to the authority of institutional chief executive officers, or assign varsity football officials for a minimum of eight Division I Football Bowl Subdivision (FBS) members;
 - b. Provide an annual clinic, training and supervision for its officials;
 - c. Require its coordinator of football officials to attend the annual meeting sponsored by the CFO; and
 - d. Assign officials for a minimum of eight Division I FBS-playing institutions for three years.
2. Bowls are divided into three groups. Group One comprises all bowls that have both their primary contracted teams from Autonomy conferences and includes all College Football Playoff games (i.e., 1st Round Games, Cotton, Fiesta, Orange, Peach, Rose and Sugar) as well as the CFP National Championship. Group Two includes bowls that have both their primary contracted teams from the Group of Five conferences. Group Three includes all other bowls.
3. Each assigning agency that represents a Division I FBS conference shall be eligible to assign bowls. The National Coordinator will initially assign the first and second group of bowls to eligible assigning agencies.
4. After the assignments in paragraph 3 have been made, the third group of bowls will be assigned by the National Coordinator. Every effort will be made to ensure that neutral-crew assignments rotate annually.
5. There will be no maximum placed on the number of officiating crews assigned from any one conference to postseason bowls during a particular season.

6. Each FBS conference with a team participating in a postseason bowl shall have at least one officiating crew assigned to work in a postseason bowl during that season.
7. At the conclusion of the regular season, each conference shall submit to the national coordinator a prioritized order of officiating crews to be considered for assignment to bowl games. The information listed in paragraph 8 shall be provided for each official nominated and will be considered by the national coordinator in assigning officiating crews to bowl games.
8. The national coordinator shall consider the following criteria in establishing assignments of officiating crews to postseason football contests:
 - a. The current year quartile rank of the officiating crew's members within the conference making the recommendation;
 - b. The officials' history of assignment to officiate games televised on a national network;
 - c. The officials have officiated games with attendance minimally consistent with the average attendance of the assigned bowl game;
 - d. The officials have been assigned to officiate games involving ranked teams; and
 - e. In total, every effort should be made to match the three-year performance evaluation history of the members comprising each officiating crew and assignment to games as described in paragraphs 8-b, 8-c and 8-d to the level of television coverage, attendance and national ranking of teams in the assigned bowl. Actual assignments of officiating crews shall be made following announcements of teams participating in bowl games.
9. A process shall be implemented for conducting a review of officiating performance in post-season games. The national coordinator and three additional officiating leaders from FBS conferences, who shall be selected by the national coordinator shall conduct this review. The review group shall complete an evaluation of each post-season game involving controversy or concern and the findings shall be shared with the effected commissioners by the National Coordinator.
10. The performance evaluation results (from the process identified in item 9) should be supplemental information in determining future postseason officiating assignments.
11. Each crew shall include an alternate official.
12. When any adjustments in the assignments are required, the CFO will attempt to make the new assignment commensurate to the bowl to which the affected officiating crew was assigned. If a replacement team is subsequently invited to a Bowl that creates a conflict to the neutral assignment of an officiating crew, no adjustment will be required unless the game is a CFP Semi-final or National Championship Game.
13. Final officiating crew assignments for all postseason football games shall be subject to approval of the CFO.
14. The Bowl Season staff will provide the National Coordinator of Officials a list of each Bowl Game with bowl game management contacts no later than November 15th. Within 24 hours of its conference being notified of its postseason bowl assignment, the coordinator of officials of the assigning conference will identify for bowl game management by email the names of the officials who have been assigned to the bowl and how each official may be contacted.
15. The sponsoring agency shall distribute basic information to the coordinator of officials for distribution that includes key contacts for the bowl, lodging information and an opportunity to purchase tickets. It is the coordinator's responsibility to distribute the information to the officiating crews.

Alternate Official

The agency that is assigning the officiating crew for a game shall include an alternate official, who will receive the same expense reimbursement, per diem and game fee as the other on field officials.

The minimum duties of the alternate official are as follows:

1. Attend the pregame conference with the officiating crew.
2. Dress in full uniform ready to officiate.
3. Initial position on scrimmage plays is three yards downfield on the press box side; at the option of the assigning conference, the Alternate Official may switch to the opposite side of the field for the second half. When the Head Line-Judge and Line Judge have goal line responsibility, initial position is at the neutral zone behind the Head Line-Judge or Line Judge.
4. Primary responsibility is to monitor and support the crew on ineligible players downfield. When the Head Line-Judge and Line Judge have goal line responsibility, monitor the neutral zone as a backup to determine ball and player status relative to the neutral zone.
5. Assist the Referee when needed (signaling from the sideline) with clock status when a ready for play signal is to be given.
6. Know the down as a backup on every play.
7. Record and check penalty enforcement spots. Assist with the identification of the number of the player that committed a foul.
8. On free kick plays, initial position is at the receiver's restraining line, performing backup monitoring of that line.
9. Assist in monitoring the game clock.
10. If the game clock fails, operate the clock and coordinate communication each play with the Referee.
11. Assist in counting charged team timeouts.
12. Assist in coordinating timing at halftime.

Background Checks

The College Football Officiating, LLC, in conjunction with the NCAA, administers the background check program for all Division I football officials through an outside vendor. In order to officiate during the regular-season and any postseason competition officials must submit to and successfully pass a background check. Replay officials are also held to this requirement. At the CFO's discretion, additional background checks may be performed before postseason competition.

Coordinator of Officials

If the assigning conference elects to have its coordinator (or designee) attend a game for which it is providing a crew, the sponsoring agency shall provide a credential that gives the coordinator (or designee) access to the officials' locker room and a designated seat in the press box.

The coordinator shall ensure that the assigned crew has access to the game video/film from the participating institutions.

Courtesy Automobiles

Each sponsoring agency shall provide the officiating crew two courtesy automobiles (one for instant replay officials) to use during the three days that these individuals are required to be at the bowl site.

Credentials

Game management shall provide credentials for the officiating crew. The conference coordinator of officials will communicate to the bowl's executive director the names and contact information for all members of the crew.

Entertainment

It is appropriate for the sponsoring agency to entertain game officials the day they arrive at the site at any bowl activity that excludes coaches or student-athletes from the participating teams. The day before the bowl, game officials may participate in a breakfast or luncheon that is not attended by coaches or student-athletes from the participating teams, but they shall not be invited to attend evening bowl activities. The night before the actual day of the game, officials are prohibited from attending any bowl-sponsored activity.

The only exception to the prohibition of officials attending an event where team representatives are present is a kickoff breakfast or luncheon, at which they should be segregated from the teams and coaches.

Game Fee

Each bowl crew assigned will include eight on field officials, an alternate official, and two replay officials (Communicator and IR Official). The baseline game fee will include all officiating game fee components including airfare / travel. Baseline game fees from Group One will be the average fees for each official from the Autonomy Conferences, Group Two will be the average fees for each official from the Group of Five conferences, and Group Three will be the midpoint average for each official from Group One and Group Two. Officials shall receive a game fee that is 25% more than their baseline fee for the CFP national championship game; 20% more than their baseline fee for CFP Semifinals; and 15% more than their baseline fee for all other bowl games. Payment of game fees and per diem will be made by the conference and reimbursed by the bowl. Conferences will submit one invoice to each bowl for the total game fees and per diem paid to all officials.

Game Management Responsibilities

Game management shall be responsible for providing the clock operator(s), ball persons, chain crew and television liaison official. Fees and expenses for these individuals shall be determined by game management.

Game Tickets

Each official, including the alternate official, shall receive two game tickets in a prime location at the bowl's expense. The sponsoring agency also may make additional tickets available for officials to purchase, at its discretion. Any such requests for additional tickets should be made through the referee, who shall make the request to bowl management. Other officials shall not contact the bowl directly. Game officials are prohibited from contacting a participating institution to purchase tickets.

Gifts

The bowl game's management shall present each game official, replay official, alternate official and conference coordinator of officials (if in attendance), with a bowl gift. The gift is up to the discretion of the bowl but will include at a minimum a bowl specific commemorative watch. If a bowl does not produce a watch the gift should include the bowl logo and be of similar significance.

Hotel Accommodations

Sleeping accommodations for officials, including the alternate official, shall be reserved at a hotel that will not be used by the official parties of the two participating teams. The media hotel or "official" hotel of the sponsoring agency of the postseason football game may be used. The expenses for the room and applicable taxes for three nights shall be paid by the sponsoring agency, which may petition the NCAA for an exception if the hotel requires a longer guarantee. An official may request a reservation for an additional hotel room (if available) at his/her cost, not the bowl's.

Instant Replay

Instant replay will be used for all bowl games. The conference assigning the game officials shall also assign the instant replay crew.

The bowl will provide the Instant Replay System and it will be similar in functionality and capability as used by the assigned conference in the regular season. It will provide a multi-view capability and a sideline monitor for use by the Referee.

Instant replay officials are to be provided with the same amenities (e.g., gifts, lodging, courtesy cars) that are provided to the on-field officiating crews.

The sponsoring agency for the bowl shall assign a sideline assistant, who will serve as a communicator with the referee when necessary. The sideline replay assistant shall be provided a fee, to be determined by the sponsoring agency.

Per Diems

Game officials, including the alternate official and instant replay officials, shall receive a \$100 per diem for three days (\$300) and be paid by the conference and reimbursed by the bowl. A sponsoring agency may petition the NCAA for an exception if local requirements demand more than three days.

Practice

Game officials shall not attend any practice session of a competing team.

Pregame Conference

The officiating crew will have a private meeting at the hotel or stadium before the game to review officiating mechanics and other details. Game management should consult with the referee to determine if audio/visual equipment will be required for the meeting.

Transportation

The sponsoring agency shall transport the game officials from their hotel to the stadium before and after the game. It also shall provide two courtesy automobiles (one for instant replay officials) for their use at no cost to them on other occasions.

Travel Arrangements

Each game official, alternate official and instant replay officials are responsible for their own travel arrangements (airfare or automobile) to get to the host city and the cost of these travel arrangements are included in the Game fee.

Uniforms

Each game official shall wear a standard uniform and is prohibited from wearing anything that identifies the bowl and/or sponsor(s).

Tickets

Student-Athlete Tickets

An institution may award complimentary admissions to student-athletes as governed by the provisions of Bylaw 16.2.1.1.1. An institution shall not award more than six complimentary admissions per student-athlete, or any complimentary admissions to student-athletes in other sports.

Student-Athlete Ticket Gate/Pass List

Bowls will determine whether to use a “pass list” at a designated gate with identification to determine entry or a mobile ticket which is non-transferable. If mobile tickets is the Bowl’s selection, they will issue the university reps the tickets within 48 hours of kickoff. Universities will be responsible for distribution of the mobile tickets to the student-athlete’s guests. Those complimentary mobile tickets will only be accepted at a designated student athlete ticket entry gate.

If the Bowl chooses to use the “pass list” for entry, each participating institution shall administer a gate to admit individuals who are listed on the student-athlete complimentary “pass list.” This listing only may include names of individuals who have been designated by the student-athlete. Hard tickets shall not be issued. Once inside the stadium, however, a seat identification ticket may be provided to assist individuals in locating their assigned seats.