

FOOTBALL RULES/COMPETITION COMMITTEE

2019 DIVISION I UNIFORM REVIEW PROCESS

Overview: In the past few seasons, some uniform designs have become problematic, with the clear visibility of the number and contrasting colors between the teams being the most significant issues. Special uniforms to honor an event, cause, etc. also do not have a formal process for approval. The uniform review process is an effort to create a structure for uniform approvals with membership support and participation. The intent is to provide the NCAA membership and manufacturers with uniform approvals in advance and eliminate the need for game officials to manage this issue on game day.

Process: With an initial focus on Division I, these steps will be required in order to have appropriate reviews of uniforms to ensure compliance:

- 1. **Required submission.** All uniform designs (artwork, photos, etc.) shall be shared with the NCAA and the conference football administrator. The NCAA has created an <u>online form</u> and accompanying <u>email address</u> for submission. These submissions are requested by <u>June 15</u> for the 2019 season.
- 2. **Initial review.** An NCAA staff member and conference football administrator (if appropriate) will review all designs. Those that clearly comply will be approved without further review. The NCAA will communicate by **July 15** the result of the initial review. Any designs that are questionable or may require submission of an actual uniform (instead of artwork or a photo) will move to a second level of review.
- 3. **Secondary review.** A subcommittee made up of members of the NCAA Football Rules Committee and NCAA Division I Football Competition Committee will meet periodically to review designs. Any designs that require a secondary review will be processed as quickly as possible, generally within two weeks of receipt of a sample.
- 4. **Decision/Communication.** Feedback will be provided and approval/denial decisions will be shared from the NCAA on behalf of the subcommittee. The athletic director, conference football administrator and coordinator of officials will be included in the communication.
- 5. **Special uniform designs.** It is understood that some uniforms may be designed outside of this established time frame. Schools/manufacturers should submit such designs as quickly as possible and the NCAA subcommittee will review these as quickly as is reasonable. If a review is time sensitive, please note that in the request for review.
- 6. **Confidentiality.** All designs shared with the NCAA will be kept confidential and it is understood that some designs will be unveiled by the manufacturer or school at a later date.