



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA MEN'S GYMNASTICS COMMITTEE
JUNE 10-11, 2020, VIDEOCONFERENCE**

KEY ITEMS.

1. **Rules modifications.** The committee requests approval from the NCAA Playing Rules Oversight Panel for the following changes to the Men's Gymnastics Rules Modifications: compression sleeves and correction to clerical errors on the scoresheet (see Action Item 2-b and c).
2. **Automatic qualification.** The committee requests approval for the Big Ten Conference to receive automatic qualification (see Action Item 2-a).

ACTION ITEMS.

1. **Legislative items.**

- **None.**

2. **Nonlegislative item.**

a. **Automatic qualification.**

- (1) **Recommendation.** That the Big Ten Conference receive automatic qualification to the 2021 National Collegiate Men's Gymnastics Championships.
- (2) **Effective date.** September 1, 2020.
- (3) **Rationale.** The conference meets the requirements of Bylaw 31.3.4 and has completed the automatic-qualification declaration form.
- (4) **Estimated budget impact.** None.
- (5) **Student-athlete impact.** None.

b. **Compression sleeves (Section 8-A).** The committee requests approval from the NCAA Playing Rules Oversight Panel for the following changes to the Men's Gymnastics Rules Modifications:

- (1) **Recommendation.** To create a new rules modification to permit the use of compression sleeves (modification 8-A-4) as follows (~~striketrough~~ indicates language deleted; **bold** indicates language added):

Compression sleeves are permitted to be worn by participants during competition.

- (2) Effective date. September 1, 2020.
 - (3) Rationale. For student-athlete safety, the committee proposes a modification to the FIG rule that prohibits the use of compression sleeves or the length of compression sleeves during competition. The rules interpreter issued an interpretation during the season to permit the use of compression sleeves with a doctor's note. The committee would like to remove the administrative burden of providing a doctor's note and permit the use of compression sleeves during NCAA competition for student-athlete safety.
 - (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
 - (5) Student-athlete impact. See rationale.
- c. **Correction of clerical errors on signed scoresheets (Section 1-D)**. The committee requests approval from the NCAA Playing Rules Oversight Panel for the following changes to the Men's Gymnastics Rules Modifications:
- (1) Recommendation. To change the deadline from noon local time on Monday to noon local time on Tuesday following competition that all clerical error(s) must be reported to the opposing head coaches and NCAA Conference Liaison by the head coach initiating the protest of the clerical error. This modification is a slight adjustment from the modification implemented last year to accommodate for unforeseen circumstances that took place this season (~~strikethrough~~ indicates language deleted; **bold** indicates language added):

Modification 1-D

Head coaches, in addition to the meet referee, are required to sign and note the time of signature on the official scoresheet. The head coach has until noon local time ~~Monday~~ **Tuesday** following competition to initiate a correction to any clerical errors on the scoresheet. The error must be submitted in writing with an explanation of the discrepancy to the opposing head coach(es) and the NCAA Conference Liaison(s). Regular-season scoring issues are the responsibility of the conferences. If coaches cannot mutually agree on resolution of a clerical error, the conference(s) must resolve the matter. Resolution of any clerical errors should be handled within 48 hours of initiation. If not initiated by ~~Monday~~ **Tuesday** at noon local time, the results are final. Errors that are not clerical in nature cannot be corrected after both coaches and the meet referee have signed the scoresheet. Unsigned scoresheets will not be accepted for calculation of the National Qualifying Average.

- (2) Effective date. September 1, 2020.

- (3) Rationale. The recommendation provides additional time for the coach to verify the accuracy of scores to ensure student-athletes receive the correct score. This provides a more reasonable timeframe for such a correction based on experiences from this past season.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. See rationale.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **2019 committee meeting report.** The committee approved the 2019 annual meeting report as written.
2. **Strategic plan.** The committee approved its first strategic plan for the championships to guide its actions in the coming years. The committee will annually review and update the strategic plan.
3. **Division I Council/Competition Oversight Committee actions.** The committee reviewed actions the Division I Council and Competition Oversight Committee took at its meetings and teleconferences for the past year.
4. **College Gymnastics Association meeting review.** The committee chair reviewed topics from the College Gymnastics Association meetings, including discussion of financial savings and student-athlete well-being proposals related to the global pandemic. The committee discussed the proposals and directed NCAA staff to provide guidance to the coaches association on proper avenues to pursue proposals that do not fall under the purview of the committee.
5. **COVID-19 updates.** Committee members provided updates on the impact of the pandemic on their campuses and programs.
6. **NCAA Rules Modifications.** The committee reviewed the NCAA rules modifications document and voted on rules modifications changes for the 2020-21 academic year (See Action Items 2-b and c). NCAA staff will have the updated rules modification document available by September 1.
 - a. **Rules interpreter.** Mike Juszczuk, NCAA rules interpreter, reviewed the rules interpreter process and interpretations from the year. The committee was pleased with the new rules interpreter position in its first year and recognized the benefits of the position during the season.

- b. FIG code of points.** Mr. Juszczyk informed the committee that the current FIG code of points will remain for the 2020-21 season due to the Olympics being delayed to the summer of 2021. A new code of points will be in effect for the 2021-22 season. The committee will review rules modifications proposals next summer on its normal two-year cycle.
- c. Ten-point scoring format and team scoring format.** The committee began the process of preparing surveys for the membership on the ten-point scoring format and the team scoring format based on interest from the coaches association last year. Due to the global pandemic, the committee paused the process indefinitely and voted to take no action at this time.
- d. Dark pants.** The committee issued an interpretation permitting dark pants to be worn during the 2018 season. The rules modification document permits uniforms in team colors, which includes dark pants (black and brown). The committee supports removing the dark pants modification to return to the FIG rules prohibiting dark pants. Dark pants cause an unfair advantage because judges cannot see form clearly in contrast to a dark ceiling when athletes wear dark pants. The committee will seek feedback from the membership this year before voting at next year's annual meeting.
- e. Compression sleeves.** See Action Item 2-b.
- f. Clerical errors.** See Action Item 2-c.
- g. Additional mats.** The committee reviewed but did not support a proposal from a coach to change the matting rules to permit extra mats during the second half of the season that are permissible during the first half of the season only.
- h. Virtual meets.** The committee expressed interest in virtual meets as a temporary option for competition during the 2020-21 season. After consulting with playing rules and officiating and academic and membership affairs staffs, legislation does not permit virtual competition to count.
- i. Squad size.** The committee reviewed a proposal from the coaches association to reduce the squad size from 15 to 12 participants for competitions to assist institutions with cost savings due to the pandemic. The committee did not support a change since the rule provides for a maximum of 15 participants. Any institution could reduce its squad size already if necessary, without affecting others.
- j. NGJA/NCAA rules subcommittee.** The committee reviewed the current roster of the NGJA/NCAA rules subcommittee that rules on skill evaluation. Due to the end of their four-year terms, the NGJA will replace at-large judge George Krenk with Jon Corbitt and Dean Schott with Craig Nesbitt as the new NGJA Technical Vice President. The

committee elected Matt Davis to replace Mike Powell as a committee representative. Lastly, the committee voted to add the new NCAA rules interpreter position to the subcommittee. Current rules interpreter, Mr. Juszczuk, is already on the subcommittee as the NGJA president. Should he no longer fill both roles, the committee voted that the at-large judge be removed to maintain the subcommittee at five members.

- k. Rules modifications comprehensive review.** The committee directed the rules interpreter to complete a comprehensive review of the current rules modifications document by the 2021 annual meeting. The review should include recommendations for modifications to remove, add and reorganize.

7. Vendors.

- a. American Athletic, Inc.** The committee met with representatives from official equipment supplier AAI. The representative from AAI answered equipment questions from the committee and provided information on updates to the AAI equipment.
- b. ProScore.** The committee supports continuing its longstanding relationship with ProScore to provide scoring services at the championships.
- c. Road to Nationals.** The committee supports the continued posting of each routine on the website and noted the benefit of aiding consistent judging/scoring variance across the country and more social media activity for men's gymnastics. The committee appreciates the continued improvements to the website and requests the inclusion of E and D scores to the website along with updating final individual results from the championships.

- 8. Selection.** The committee discussed the potential need to review the national qualifying average if the regular season is impacted but took no action at this time.

- 9. 2021 championships.** The committee made recommendations for the 2021 championships at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities in Minneapolis:

- a. Schedule of events.** The committee recommended hosting an awards ceremony at the arena on Thursday evening in place of the banquet but will seek membership feedback. All championship banquets are cancelled for the 2020-21 championships as a cost-savings measure.
- b. Site visit.** Pending travel restrictions and budget restrictions, a site visit to Minnesota will be scheduled in the fall either in person or virtually.
- c. Hotels.** NCAA staff recently shared the contracted team hotel information with all head coaches.

- d. **Recommendations.** The committee recommends having spectators on both sides of the arena for competition if possible. In addition, the committee supports creating new apparatus explanation videos and requests assistance from the host or membership to do so.
 - e. **Big Ten Network.** Minnesota officials previously shared that they would engage with Big Ten Network to broadcast the 2021 championships finals. The committee prefers a 6 p.m. or 7 p.m. start time.
 - f. **Podium.** The committee emphasized the importance of the podium for the student-athlete experience and noted the funding assistance available to the host to secure the podium.
- 10. **2023-2026 site selection recommendations.** The committee reviewed its site selection priorities and all submitted bids and voted on its recommendations to forward to the Competition Oversight Committee for approval.
- 11. **Manual review.** The committee directed NCAA staff to make the necessary updates for the pre-championships, committee operations, participant and host operations manuals.
- 12. **Judges.** Mr. Juszczyk, president of the National Gymnastics Judges Association, provided updates on his organization, including some changes in leadership positions, continuing education and impact of the global pandemic. The committee urged the NGJA to continue its efforts to address the scoring variances across the country. Committee members offered to join judge's education sessions to address the importance of consistent judging across the country. The committee also recommended evaluating judges during the season to provide feedback.
 - a. **Judge selection process.** The committee members reviewed the selection process of judges for the championships and noted that they will continue with the same process.
 - b. **NCAA officiating project.** NCAA staff provided an update on the ongoing NCAA officiating project.
- 13. **Committee.** The committee reviewed and approved the committee timeline and roster for the 2020-21 season, noting the addition of Randy Jepson, head coach at Pennsylvania State University, to the committee starting Sept. 1.
 - a. **Conference liaisons.** The committee elected Matt Davis to serve as the liaison for the Eastern College Athletic Conference. Mark Williams and Chuck Chmelka will continue to serve as the conference liaisons for the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation and Big Ten Conference, respectively.

b. Committee chair. Brad Brown, associate athletics director at the U.S. Military Academic, was selected as the committee chair.

14. Division I Championships Finance Review Working Group update. The committee reviewed the working group's recommendations and discussed the impact on men's gymnastics. The committee completed the attached survey to provide feedback to the working group. The committee also submitted an alternate proposal for the working group to consider.

15. Future meetings. The 2021 annual meeting will take place June 9-10 via videoconference.

Committee Chair: Mike Powell, College of William & Mary
Staff Liaison: John E. Bugner, Championships and Alliances

NCAA Men's Gymnastics Committee June 10-11, 2020, Videoconference
Attendees:
Brad Brown, United States Military Academy.
Chuck Chmelka, University of Nebraska, Lincoln.
Matt Davis, Springfield College.
Carey Fagan, The Ohio State University.
Mike Juszczyk, NCAA Rules Interpreter.
Mike Powell, College of William & Mary.
Mark Williams, University of Oklahoma.
Guests in Attendance:
Ken Cysewski, American Athletic, Inc.
Terry Williams, American Athletic, Inc.
NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:
John E. Bugner, Championships and Alliances.
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:
Ben Brownlee, Championships and Alliances.
Sharon Cessna, Championships and Alliances.
Zach Christopher, Championships and Alliances.