



**REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION I MEN'S AND WOMEN'S  
SWIMMING AND DIVING COMMITTEE  
APRIL 16, 2020, TELECONFERENCE**

**ACTION ITEMS.**

**1. Legislative items.**

- **None.**

**2. Nonlegislative items.**

**a. Zone diving meet formula and format adjustments.**

- (1) **Recommendation.** That effective for the 2021 NCAA men's and women's zone diving meets, hosts may choose to conduct the competitions using one of the three formats outlined below over a consecutive five-day window starting the week (Saturday to Saturday) prior to the week of the women's championships.

**Option 1**

Day One and Day Two: Training days

Day Three: Men's 1M/Women's 3M (conducted consecutively)

Day Four: Men's 3M/Women's 1M (conducted consecutively)

Day Five: Men's PL/Women's PL (conducted consecutively)

**Note:** Option 1 is the current format illustrated for odd years, with genders switching events in even years.

**Option 2**

Day One and Day Two: Training days

Day Three: Men's 1M/Women's 3M (conducted simultaneously)

Day Four: Men's 3M/Women's PL (conducted simultaneously)

Day Five: Men's PL/Women's 1M (conducted simultaneously)

**Note:** Option 2 allows for the meet to be conducted by running simultaneous events each day of competition rather than consecutively as outlined in Option 1. This option would allow the meet to end earlier on the last day since events will be run simultaneously. It would not impact training time and would provide the opportunity for teams to return home that night resulting in a potential financial savings and decrease in missed class time. The proposed format illustrated is for odd years with genders switching events in even years.

**Option 3**

Day One: Training day

Day Two (morning): Training

Day Two (afternoon): Men's 1M

Day Three: Men's 3M/Women's 1M (conducted simultaneously)

Day Four: Men's PL/Women's 3M (conducted simultaneously)

Day Five: Women's PL

**Note:** Option 3 would allow the meet to end with a single event on the last day thereby allowing teams to return home that night resulting in potential financial savings for schools and a decrease in missed class time but would reduce training time on the second day. The proposed format illustrated is for odd years with genders switching in even years.

- (2) Effective date. Immediately for 2021 zone diving championships.
- (3) Rationale. The committee noted that while the current format remains viable, Option 2 and 3 address some membership concerns and provide host additional flexibility by (1) maintaining Saturday as the first day of practice, which is consistent with the current format and does not provide the opportunity to start practice on Friday; (2) maintaining the current three consecutive weekday format; (3) allowing each zone to set a competition schedule that is best suited for their respective participants; (4) allowing competition to start on Sunday rather than Monday the week prior to the women's national championships and allowing participants to return home sooner; (5) providing the option to conduct the men's and women's platform events on separate days; (6) helping to minimize diving board congestion at some sites; (7) providing more opportunity for rest for female divers should they qualify for the national championships the following week; and (8) decreasing missed class time by allowing teams to travel home sooner.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None to the NCAA as institutions cover their costs to compete at zone meets. For competing institutions, the approved format options would not increase current costs as days are not being added to the meet. Additionally, Options 2 and 3 could result in cost savings with schools able to return home sooner due to an earlier finish after the last day's event rather than having to stay an additional night at the host site.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. The three format options would provide flexibility for each zone to choose a competition schedule that is best suited for their respective participants. This flexibility provides the competing divers the best and safest training and competition schedules while having the ability to return to campus sooner in order to minimize missed class time by maintaining the current maximum three consecutive weekday format.

### 3. 2021 zone diving host sites.

- a. Recommendation. That the following institutions and sites be designated for the 2021 NCAA Division I Men's and Women's Zone Diving Meets:

<u>Zone</u>	<u>Host Institution</u>	<u>Location</u>
A	Liberty University	Lynchburg, Virginia
B	North Carolina State University and Greensboro Sports Commission	Greensboro, North Carolina
C	University of Michigan	Ann Arbor, Michigan
D	University of Iowa	Iowa City, Iowa
E	Northern Arizona University	Flagstaff, Arizona

- b. Effective date. Immediately for 2021 zone diving meets.
- c. Rationale. These recommended hosts were the only ones to have submitted bids for their respective zone competitions. They were also recommended by the coaches in each zone.
- d. Estimated budget impact. The NCAA does not reimburse for travel or per diem expenses for the zone diving meets. The estimated expenses for the recommended sites range from \$10,000 to \$20,000 depending on the facility rental fee (which is the primary expense). Zone diving hosts do not charge admission to the event.
- e. Student-athlete impact. Student-athletes are given the opportunity to compete at the best diving facilities in the country with staff that is experienced in hosting NCAA zone diving meets.

### **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

- 1. Review of schedule and agenda.** The committee reviewed the agenda and meeting schedule and made no adjustments.
- 2. Annual meeting report.** The committee reviewed and approved the report from last year's annual meeting as submitted.
- 3. Playing rules discussion.** Greg Lockard, NCAA swimming and diving secretary-rules editor, and Barb Hallam, NCAA coordinator of championships and alliances, joined the meeting to discuss two possible rules clarifications for the 2020-21 season that the NCAA Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving Rules Committee will consider during its meeting in May. The areas discussed were specific to the current definition of bona fide competition and the

eligibility of graduate assistant diving coaches to serve on judging panels during zone meet competitions. The committee noted its support for the diving concept and provided feedback to Mr. Lockard for the rules committee to consider during its review of the current definition of bona fide competition. Mr. Lockard will provide an update to the committees and membership regarding any clarifications that might result for the coming season after the rules committee renders its decision.

4. **College Swimming and Diving Coaches of America Association.** Greg Earhart, executive director of the College Swimming and Diving Coaches of America Association (CSCAA), joined the committee and discussed the following areas: (1) cancellation of the 2020 CSCAA convention due to concerns specific to COVID-19; (2) a request for clarification on the disqualification penalty for breach of the uniform and equipment rule specific to having one post-construction impermeable institutional marking or logo applied to the swimsuit that does not exceed nine square inches; (3) potential concern for some men's programs located in the west to be able to meet NCAA Bylaw 20.9.7.2, which requires institutions to schedule and play at least 50% of its contests against Division I opponents to satisfy the minimum number of contests due to budget/travel constraints that may be in place for the 2020-21 season; (4) continuing to look for ways to improve the overall experience and level of competition conducted during diving zone meets; and (5) potential impact on the 2020-21 season for qualification and selection to the 2021 NCAA championships due to issues and/or concerns that may remain due to COVID-19.

#### 5. Officials.

- a. Review of officials' application. The committee reviewed the application and recommended no changes for the 2020-21 season. Committee members were pleased with the overall increase in the number and quality of both swimming and diving officials who submitted their application this past year. The committee asked NCAA staff to continue posting the application on the USA Swimming and USA Diving websites and including it in the quarterly newsletter as a way to encourage more officials to apply to work an NCAA championship.
- b. Selection timeline and process. The committee discussed the process and reviewed the timeline for applications and the selection of officials and recommended no changes for the 2021 championships.

#### 6. Coordinators.

- a. Review of administrative referee responsibilities. The committee reviewed the responsibilities of the administrative referee and made no changes. Additionally, the committee voted to extend an offer to Brad Erickson to again serve as the administrative referee for both the men's and women's 2021 championships.

- b. Review of officials' coordinator responsibilities. The committee reviewed the officials' coordinator responsibilities and made no adjustments for the 2021 championships.
  - c. Review of swimming and diving data specialist responsibilities. NCAA staff will make the appropriate updates to both the swimming and diving data specialist documents in preparation for the 2021 championships.
  - d. Selection of data specialists for 2021 championships. The committee invited Herb Schwab (men's meet) and Bridgette Rhodes (women's meet) to serve as the swimming data specialists. The committee recommended Sheilagh Boudia to serve as the diving data specialist for both men's and women's championships. NCAA staff will work with all three individuals to determine availability and finalize contracts.
- 7. Championship strategic plans.** The committee reviewed the Division I Swimming and Diving Championships Strategic Plan and made no changes at this time for the 2020-21 season. However, the committee noted that it will continue to review the strategic plan annually at a minimum and more often if needed so it continues to address the most current issues facing the sport.
- 8. Qualifying.**
- a. End-of-season competitions.
    - (1) End-of-season competition process. The committee reviewed the end-of-season competition process and made no changes for the 2020-21 season.
    - (2) End-of-season competition form. NCAA staff will make the appropriate updates to the document so it is current for the 2020-21 season.
  - b. Qualifying standards and conversions. The committee reviewed the automatic qualifying standards that were in place for the 2019-20 season and decided to retain these same standards for the 2020-21 season. The committee noted that the automatic qualifying standards for individual events are based on the three-year average of the eighth best time, while for relay events, the qualifying standards and provisional standards are calculated using the three-year average of the 16<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> best times on the championship finals performance lists. Given the cancellation of the 2020 NCAA winter championships due to COVID-19, it eliminated the opportunity this year to maintain the three-year average, which has been a good metric in determining the automatic qualifying standards annually. Additionally, there will be no adjustments made to either the "B" standards for individual/relay swimming events or the qualifying standards for diving events for the 2021 championships.

- Long- and short-course meters championships standards. The committee reconfirmed that only short-course standards should be used for 2020-21 qualification to the NCAA championships since it is a short-course meet.

## **9. Review of 2020 championships.**

- a. Team seating selection. The committee reconfirmed its commitment to using the new approach that was first implemented for determining team seating at the 2019 championships. Given the cancellation of the 2020 championships, the committee will use the final results from the 2019 championships to determine the team seating order for the 2021 championships.
- b. Non-participant facility access – swimming and diving. The committee noted the increased number of requests it has received over the past two years for use of the swimming and diving competition facility by non-participants during both the men's and women's championships weeks. To ensure that participants in the championships have proper access for practice and competition throughout each week, the committee confirmed that non-participants that are outside the host institution's men's and women's swimming and diving teams will no longer be permitted to access the competition venue during each of the NCAA championship weeks (Monday – Saturday).

**10. Preview of 2021 championships.** North Carolina State University and the Greensboro Sports Commission will serve as co-hosts of the women's championships and the University of Iowa will serve as host for the men's championships. Site visits will be scheduled with all key stakeholders in August or September.

## **11. General championships policies.**

- a. Review of massage therapy policies. The committee recommended no changes to the massage therapy policies for 2021 but will continue to review these policies annually.
- b. Review of team ticket sale policies. The committee reviewed the current team ticket sale policies and reconfirmed that when possible seven percent of the total number of seats available per venue should be held back for public sale. This will help to maintain the opportunity for all-session ticket packages to be available following the team block sale for the public to purchase.
- c. Media – review of policies and access on deck by photographers/videographers. The committee reviewed current policies regarding videographer/photographer access to the competition pool and within the venue and reconfirmed that there will be no adjustments for the 2021 championships.

- d. Monday evening practice opportunity. The committee confirmed that teams will be allowed to practice in the championship venues Monday afternoon for both of the 2021 men's and women's championship weeks. The committee asked NCAA staff to reconfirm with Georgia Institute of Technology, which will host the 2022 men's and women's championships, if the venue will be available for practice Monday afternoon since this information was not a part of the host bid specifications during the last bid cycle.

## 12. Diving.

- a. Registration process through DiveMeets. The committee reviewed the DiveMeets registration process and made adjustments for the 2021 championship finals to the dive change deadline. Specifically, divers and coaches will be allowed to make edits to their dive sheets online on DiveMeets up to three hours prior to the start of the prelims. After the deadline window closes, the diver will need to wait until they are on the board to make a dive change. For finals, divers will have the ability to make changes up to one hour prior to the start of diving competition through the diving data specialist. After this deadline, the diver will again need to wait until they are on the board to make a dive change. These changes will alleviate last minute changes and paperwork for the diving referee to finalize as they prepare for the championship competition.
- b. Qualifier reports.
  - (1) Scratch Notification. The committee reviewed and made no changes to the diving scratch deadline for 2021.
  - (2) Verification of Scores. Sheilagh Boudia, DiveMeets representative, provided the committee with an update on the significant increase of the number of institutions (up almost 40% in 2020) that used DiveMeets to submit their qualifying results online during the 2019-20 regular season. The committee noted that moving to an online submission of results through DiveMeets and the elimination of paper result submissions for verification of qualifying scores for zone meet eligibility has been a long-term goal. Given the current momentum by Division I diving coaches to embrace the online results submission for scores meeting the zone meet qualification standards, the committee hopes to completely eliminate the paper submission process in the near future.
- c. Zone diving meet procedures. The committee reviewed but recommended no adjustments to the zone diving meet procedures for 2021.

- d. Zone diving meet formula and format adjustment. Over the past two years, the diving representatives on the national committee have worked closely with members of the diving subcommittee and key stakeholders within the swimming and diving membership to review the current zone diving date formula and the approved zone meet formats. As a result of those discussions and support for change from the diving membership, the committee recommended the three format options listed in Action Item 2-a from which zone diving hosts could conduct the meet. The committee feels that having options from which to choose would provide hosts the flexibility to conduct the meet based on the needs and number of participants in their respective zones, along with providing a slight adjustment to the current date formula that would allow for competition to start Sunday rather than Monday the week prior to the women's national championships (see Action Item 2-a).
- e. 2021 zone allocations. The committee confirmed that allocations for each zone for the 2021 championships will remain the same as those determined for the 2020 championships due to the cancellation of the winter championships. Therefore, the 2021 zone allocations will remain as follows: Women: Zone A – 4, Zone B – 7, Zone C – 8, Zone D – 14, Zone E – 8; Men: Zone A – 6, Zone B – 8, Zone C – 8, Zone D – 8, Zone E – 5.
- f. 2021 zone diving dates and sites. The committee reviewed dates and recommended sites for the 2021 meets (see Action Item 2-b).
- g. Advancement process due to zone meet cancellation. The two diving representatives on the committee provided an update on preliminary discussions they have had with members of the diving subcommittee as well as other key stakeholders regarding the development of a championship advancement process that can be used when zone meet competition(s) cannot be completed as scheduled. The committee asked the diving representatives to continue discussing this topic and provide a recommended process for the full committee to consider in the future.

### **13. Selection of swimmers.**

- USA Swimming staff support and SWIMS database system. The committee discussed the swimming selection process, end-of-season meet competitions and timing of posting selection materials and recommended no changes for the 2021 championships. As part of its review, the committee recognized Macie McNichols, special projects manager at USA Swimming, for her exemplary customer service and good work throughout the year in supporting the needs of the NCAA membership.



**14. Review of selection and relay qualification procedures.** The committee recommended no changes to the current procedures for the 2021 championships. However, members did note that there may be a need to develop a minimum number of relays that qualify per event each year and agreed to continue to monitor and discuss this concept.

**15. Committee.**

- a. New appointments for 2020-21. The committee recognized outgoing members Katie Cameron and Lisa Ebeling for their outstanding service and leadership during their tenure. Appointments to replace the outgoing committee members have been determined, and they will assume their roles September 1.
- b. Committee chair. The committee reappointed Katherine LeGrand, associate athletics director at Villanova University, to serve as chair through August 31, 2022, when her four-year term on the committee will expire.
- c. Committee timeline. The committee reviewed the proposed timeline for 2020-21 and made no changes. Staff will schedule all conference calls with the appropriate parties throughout the year.

**16. Championship manual updates.** The committee asked staff to make the necessary changes and general updates to the manuals in preparation for the 2020-21 season.

**17. Review of bid documents.** The committee began reviewing bids from institutions and other entities interested in hosting the 2023-2026 championships. The committee will continue its review over the next few months and forward recommendations to the NCAA Division I Competition Oversight Committee for final consideration and approval in October.

**18. Other business.** The committee agreed to hold its next annual meeting April 15-16, 2021, in Indianapolis.

*Committee Chair: Katie LeGrand, Villanova University; Big East Conference*  
*Staff Liaisons: Liz Homrig, Championships and Alliances*  
*Carol A. Reep, Championships and Alliances*

<b>Division I Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving Committee April 16, 2020, Teleconference</b>
<b>Attendees:</b>
Katie Cameron, Bryant University.
Lisa Ebeling, University of Northern Colorado.
Randy Horner, Florida International University.
Katherine LeGrand, Villanova University.
Bert Locklin, Liberty University.
Keiko Price, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.
Yahya Radman, North Carolina State University.
John Rasmussen, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis.
Tom Stebbins, University of California, Los Angeles.
Kevin Tyrell, Harvard University.
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>
Sheilagh Boudia, DiveMeets.
Greg Earhart, Collegiate Swimming and Diving Coaches Association of America.
Greg Lockard, NCAA Swimming Secretary-Rules Editor.
<b>NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:</b>
Liz Homrig and Carol A. Reep.
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>
Linda Godby, Robin Hale and Barb Hallam.