



**REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION I MEN'S AND WOMEN'S TENNIS COMMITTEE  
AUGUST 1, 2023, VIDEOCONFERENCE**

**Action Items:** The NCAA Division I Competition Oversight Committee will be asked to approve a waiver request for automatic qualification from Conference USA for men's tennis. (See Action Item 2.)

KEY ITEMS.

- **Conference USA automatic qualification waiver request.** The committee requests approval of the recommendation to grant a waiver request from Conference USA for automatic qualification for the 2022-23 academic year.

ACTION ITEMS.

**1. Legislative items.**

- **None.**

**2. Nonlegislative items.**

- **Conference USA automatic qualification waiver request.**

- (1) Recommendation. That Conference USA be granted automatic qualification to the 2024 NCAA Division I Men's Tennis Championships despite having only four members sponsoring the sport during the 2023-24 academic year.
- (2) Effective date. 2023-24 academic year only.
- (3) Rationale. Conference USA experienced significant conference realignment effective following the 2022-23 season leaving it with just four institutions sponsoring men's tennis. The timing of these realignment changes did not provide the conference time to get back to five institutions, thus negatively impacting championship access for their student-athletes. The conference noted it will be at five members in 2024-25 for the second year of its grace period and has plans to increase its membership for the 2025-26 academic year and thereafter to meet the automatic qualification requirements.

The committee supports granting relief for one year and still would consider this the first year of the two-year grace period. The conference would need to have five eligible institutions for 2024-25 and six eligible institutions by 2025-26 or risk losing its automatic qualification. Should the conference have only four eligible institutions for 2024-25, no additional waiver will be granted.

- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.

- (5) Student-athlete impact. This provides an opportunity for Conference USA men's tennis student-athletes to qualify for the NCAA championships.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

- **None.**

*Committee Chair:* Cathy Rossi, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Horizon League  
*Staff Liaisons:* John E. Bugner, Championships and Alliances  
Micaela Liddane, Championships and Alliances

NCAA Division I Men's and Women's Tennis Committee August 1, 2023, Videoconference	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Cristina Moros, University of South Florida.	
Courtney Nagle, University of Oregon.	
Mike Penner, The Ohio State University.	
Peter Pilling, Columbia University-Barnard College.	
Cathy Rossi, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.	
Chris Young, Oklahoma State University.	
<b>Absentee:</b>	
Jimmy Borendame, Middle Tennessee State University. <i>(Recused)</i>	
Jason Brough, University of Portland.	
Sofia Hiort-Wright, Virginia Commonwealth University.	
George Husack, University of Alabama.	
Kim Gallow, University of New Orleans.	
Gretchen Maloney, Idaho State University.	
<b>NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:</b>	
John E. Bugner, Championships and Alliances.	
Micaela Liddane, Championships and Alliances.	
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>	
Antonio Cannavaro, Championships and Alliances	