



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION I MEN’S AND WOMEN’S TENNIS COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 4, 2021, VIDEOCONFERENCE**

KEY ITEMS.

- **Championship format.** The committee is proposing to move the super-regional round of the 2021 NCAA Division I Men’s and Women’s Tennis Championships from campus sites to Orlando, Florida, which is the final site for the 2021 championships.

ACTION ITEMS.

- **Legislative items.**
 - **None.**
- **Nonlegislative items.**
 - **Championship format.**
 - a. Recommendation. That the Competition Oversight Committee approve moving the super-regional round to the final site and starting the team quarterfinal round at the final site a day earlier to accommodate television coverage for the team quarterfinals, semifinals and finals. Changes to the championship dates would be effective only for the 2021 championships as follows:

	Current	Proposed
Team Super Regional	Friday, May 14, or Saturday, May 15, at campus sites	Sunday, May 16 – 8 women’s matches Monday, May 17 – 8 men’s matches All matches in Orlando at final site
Team Quarterfinals	Thursday, May 20 – Women Friday, May 21 – Men	Wednesday, May 19 – Women Thursday, May 20 – Men
Team Semifinals	Saturday, May 22 – Women and Men	Friday, May 21 – Women and Men
Team Finals	Sunday, May 23 – Women and Men	Saturday, May 22 – Women and Men
Individual Tournament	Monday, May 24, to Saturday, May 29	Sunday, May 23, to Friday, May 28

The Division I Men’s and Women’s Tennis Championships are currently scheduled to take place Thursday, May 20, to Saturday, May 29.

- b. Effective date. Effective for the 2021 championships only.
- c. Rationale. The proposed format change helps to minimize preliminary-round sites and reduces responsibilities for campuses that otherwise would host. By eliminating the 16 super-regional round locations, the committee will be able to provide the most effective and efficient competition as it relates to health and safety, given the increased restrictions in testing and gathering protocols.

The USTA has agreed to host the super-regional round at the USTA National Campus in Orlando over an extended period of time covering the super-regional round, standard final site rounds of the team tournament (quarterfinals, semifinals and finals) and the individual tournament. The Division I Tennis Championships had a similar format through the 2018 championships. The super-regional round moved to campus sites for the first time in 2019. The committee and the host are confident that Orlando and the venue are best suited to manage 32 teams in a safe environment.

The super-regional round begins Sunday with eight women's matches and continues Monday with eight men's matches. There will be four time slots with two matches competed simultaneously on 12 total competition courts. Tuesday serves as a rain day to make up any matches from the super-regional rounds in case of inclement weather. There are only six indoor courts available in Orlando. In the event of a complete rainout, eight matches cannot be completed indoors in one day with six courts. The advancing teams from the super-regional round have two days of rest before their next match in the quarterfinals. The recommendation also moves the start of the quarterfinal round up one day to accommodate available television windows for the quarterfinals, semifinals and finals of the team tournament on the Tennis Channel. In the final site format before 2019, there was only one day of rest between the super-regional round and the quarterfinal match. The recommendation provides adequate rest for teams, the ability to manage an efficient tournament should there be inclement weather, national broadcast coverage of the quarterfinals to finals of the team tournament and limits excess downtime where student-athletes are isolated in their hotel rooms.

- d. Estimated budget impact. It is anticipated that moving the super-regional round to the final site in Orlando will decrease expenses by approximately \$64,000. This includes saving approximately \$64,000 in COVID-19 testing and \$14,000 in host expenses. However, there will also be an estimated increase of \$13,000 in per diem and \$1,000 in estimated travel costs.
- e. Student-athlete impact. By providing the best possible chance of successfully conducting the championships, the student-athlete experience will remain intact.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

- **None.**

Committee Chair: Jamie Mitchell, Colgate University; Patriot League
Staff Liaison(s): John E. Bugner, Championships and Alliances
Michelle Perry, Championships and Alliances

NCAA Division I Men's and Women's Tennis Committee February 4, 2021, Videoconference
Attendees:
Marco Born, Lamar University.
Jason Brough, University of Portland.
Devon Hendricks, University of Texas at Austin.
Sofia Hiort-Wright, Virginia Commonwealth University.
Glenn Layendecker, West Coast Conference.
Jamie Mitchell, Colgate University.
Cristina Moros, University of South Florida.
Mike Penner, The Ohio State University.
Cathy Rossi, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.
Sonya Varnell, The University of Southern Mississippi.
Absentees:
D. Curtis Lawson, North Carolina Central University.
Gretchen Maloney, Idaho State University.
Guests in Attendance:
None.
NCAA Staff Liaison (or Staff Support if subcommittee) in Attendance:
John Bugner, Championships and Alliances.
Michelle Perry, Championships and Alliances.
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:
Kerstin Hunter, Championships and Alliances.
Kristen Jacob Smith, Championships and Alliances.