

REPORT OF THE NCAA DIVISION I WRESTLING COMMITTEE FEBRUARY 24, 2021 VIDEOCONFERENCE

ACTION ITEMS.

- 1. Legislative items.
 - None.
- 2. Nonlegislative items.
 - a. Selection Criteria.
 - (1) Recommendation. That wrestlers who meet or exceed **one** of the established criteria with at least four matches at the respective weight class be eligible for selection as at-large qualifiers. A wrestler who is unable to compete in his qualifying tournament because of COVID-19 related issues may be considered for at-large selection if verified documentation is provided to the committee prior to selections, and only if his team does not enter a different wrestler into the qualifying tournament at the same weight class.
 - (2) Effective date. 2021 championships only.
 - (3) <u>Rationale</u>. The recommendation reduces the number of criteria that a wrestler must meet to be considered for at-large selections from two to one. This adjustment is consistent with the reduction in the minimum number of matches that wrestlers must have that the committee previously approved. This modification provides further concessions implemented by the committee to address competition limitations related to COVID-19.
 - (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
 - (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

b. Waiver Policy.

- (1) <u>Recommendation</u>. To accept waiver requests from institutions that have wrestlers who do not meet the minimum of four matches against Division I wrestlers. (See attachment.)
- (2) Effective date. 2021 championships only.
- (3) <u>Rationale</u>. Due to COVID-19 related issues and concerns, most teams had limited opportunities to compete, and encountered interruptions during the season. Providing a waiver option will offer the ability for wrestlers who would otherwise

be considered for at-large a path to still be considered if their competition opportunities were eliminated or reduced because of COVID-19.

- (4) <u>Estimated budget impact</u>. None.
- (5) <u>Student-athlete impact</u>. None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

- 1. **Pre-allocated spots**. The committee affirmed the previous recommendation to use historical data to pre-allocate spots across eligible conferences. The historical pre-allocations remain with the conference for which they were earned and not moved base on any conference realignment. The competition status of schools for 2021 will not impact the calculation of pre-allocations.
- **2. Weigh-in plan**. The committee expressed support of staff's recommendation to conduct two separate weigh-ins at the same time on Thursday and Friday, one to be held at the Enterprise Center and one at Union Station.
- **3. Alternates**. The committee agreed that alternates must be installed prior to teams traveling to the championships. Alternates who are not installed prior to the deadline will not be permitted to travel to the championships.

Committee Chair: Karen Langston, California State University, Bakersfield, Pac-12 Conference Staff Liaison: Anthony Holman, Championships and Alliances

NCAA Division I Wrestling Committee February 24, 2021, Videoconference

Attendees:

Matt Azevedo, Drexel University, Eastern Intercollegiate Wrestling Association.

Bob Burda, Big 12 Conference.

Karen Langston, California State University, Bakersfield, Pac-12 Conference.

Andy Noel, Cornell University, Eastern Intercollegiate Wrestling Association.

Kyle Ruschell, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, Southern Conference.

Jennifer Tuscano, University of Pittsburgh, Atlantic Coast Conference.

NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:

Anthony Holman, Championships and Alliances.

Nick Strah, Championships and Alliances.

Laura Klee, Championships and Alliances.

Other Guests in Attendance:

Pat Tocci, National Wrestling Coaches Association.