REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION I BOARD OF DIRECTORS
AUGUST 21, 2020, VIDEOCONFERENCE

***INFORMATIONAL ITEMS*.**

1. **NCAA Board of Governors' Directives Related to Fall Sports and Championships.** The NCAA Division I Board of Directors took action on key issues in response to the Board of Governors' directives related to student-athlete well-being and fall championships. The Board of Directors' decisions were informed by recommendations from the NCAA Division I Council.

   a. Terms and Conditions of Financial Aid. The Board of Directors adopted emergency temporary legislation (NCAA Proposal No. R-2020-12), which specifies that athletics financial aid awarded to any student-athlete who opts out of participating during the 2020-21 academic year due to concerns about contracting COVID-19 shall not be reduced or canceled as a result of the student-athlete's decision. Additionally, a student-athlete who decides to opt out of participating due to concerns stemming from COVID-19 is not considered to have voluntarily withdrawn from the sport for personal reasons. This legislation applies to student-athletes in all sports for aid awarded that includes any regular academic term of the 2020-21 academic year, including multiyear aid agreements. It does not apply to renewals of athletics aid after the 2020-21 academic year. *(Unanimous voice vote.)*

   b. Waiving Legal Rights as a Condition of Participation. The Board of Directors adopted emergency temporary legislation (Proposal No. R-2020-13), which specifies that an institution shall not require a student-athlete to waive legal rights regarding COVID-19 as a condition of athletics participation. This legislation applies to all student-athletes. *(Unanimous voice vote.)*

   c. Season of Competition Waivers. The Board of Directors approved a blanket waiver allowing institutions to self-apply season of competition waivers for fall sport student-athletes who compete in up to the maximum permissible amount of competition during the 2020-21 academic year as a result of the disruption and uncertainty caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. *[For: 21, Against: 3 (Blank, Tripathi, Swinney), Abstain: 0]*

   d. Extensions of the Five-Year Period of Eligibility. The Board of Directors approved a blanket waiver allowing institutions to self-apply extensions of eligibility for fall sport student-athletes who are unable to compete, elect not to compete or who qualify for a season of competition waiver due to the COVID-19 pandemic. *(Unanimous voice vote.)*

   e. Academic Eligibility. The Board of Directors approved a blanket waiver allowing student-athletes in all sports who do not enroll full time during the 2020 fall term to use the missed term exception regardless of whether the student-athlete has used the exception for a previous academic certification. *(Unanimous voice vote.)*

f. Financial Aid Limitations (Exemptions). The Board of Directors approved a blanket waiver allowing an institution to exempt athletics aid of a fall sport student-athlete who would have exhausted eligibility in 2020-21, provided the student-athlete received a season of competition waiver and/or extension of eligibility based on COVID-19 and returns to the same institution. An institution may exempt aid up to an amount equivalent to the aid that counts toward team financial aid limits during 2020-21 from the 2021-22 financial aid limitations. In addition, an institution may reduce or not renew such aid for the eligible student-athletes without being required to provide an opportunity to appeal the decision. *(Unanimous voice vote.)*

g. COVID-19 Related Medical Expenses. The Board of Directors adopted emergency temporary legislation (Proposal No. R-2020-14), which requires institutions to: (1) Review the insurance coverage for all student-athletes who may compete in the fall and provide them with information regarding the coverage; (2) Inform student-athletes of the risk classification of their sports according to the *NCAA Resocialization of Collegiate Sport* guidelines; and (3) Provide detailed information to the student-athletes about how the institution is complying with the *NCAA Resocialization of Sport: Developing Standards for Practice and Competition*, including reliance upon local community tracing to determine the source of COVID-19 infections. *(Unanimous voice vote.)*

h. 2020 NCAA Division I and National Collegiate Fall Championships. The Board of Directors approved planning to conduct, if possible, the fall sport championships in the spring of 2021. While the Board of Directors is committed to conducting the championships in the spring, due to the uncertain nature of the COVID-19 pandemic, determinations will be made at a later date as to whether to proceed should conditions fail to improve. *(Fall sports other than football – unanimous voice vote.) (FCS Championship – unanimous voice vote by FCS members.)*

i. "Scaling Down of Championships." The Board of Directors exercised its authority to waive NCAA Constitution 4.01.2.3.1 (championship access) and NCAA Bylaw 31.3.4.7.1 (limitations on automatic-qualifying positions – team sports other than men's basketball) and directed the Council to develop detailed plans for amending the championship format for fall championship sports. The Board of Directors will review the plans and provide final approval as to the structure of the championships. This waiver applies only to fall sport championships conducted in spring 2021. *[For: 21, Against: 2 (Beggs, Oldham), Abstain: 0, Not present: 1 (DeGioia).]*

2. NCAA President's Report. The Board of Directors received an update from President Emmert regarding several important issues facing the Association and Division I.

3. Report of the August 5 Board of Directors Meeting. The Board of Directors approved the report of its August 5 meeting. *(Unanimous voice vote.)*

Board of Directors chair: *Denise Trauth, Texas State University, Sun Belt Conference*
Staff Liaisons: *Amanda Conklin, Law, Policy and Governance*
Jenn Fraser, Law, Policy and Governance
Kevin Lennon, Law, Policy and Governance
Donald Remy, Law, Policy and Governance
Leeland Zeller, Law, Policy and Governance

Division I Board of Directors **August 21, 2020, Videoconference**
Attendees:
Guy Bailey, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley; Western Athletic Conference.
Jeri Beggs, Illinois State University; Faculty Athletics Representatives Association.
Rebecca Blank, University of Wisconsin-Madison; Big 10 Conference.
Dean Bresciani, North Dakota State University; The Summit League.
Grace Calhoun, University of Pennsylvania; The Ivy League, Division I Council.
Rita Cheng, Northern Arizona University; Big Sky Conference.
Jack DeGioia, Georgetown University; Big East Conference.
Phil DiStefano, University of Colorado, Boulder; Pac-12 Conference.
Ethan Good, Bowling Green State University, Division I Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.
Burns Hargis, Oklahoma State University; Big 12 Conference.
Jim Harris, University of San Diego; West Coast Conference.
Renu Khator, University of Houston; American Athletic Association.
Jere Morehead, University of Georgia; Southeastern Conference.
Phil Oldham, Tennessee Technological University; Ohio Valley Conference.
Mary Papazian, San Jose State University; Mountain West Conference.
Christina Paxson, Brown University; The Ivy League.
Taylor Reveley, Longwood University; Big South Conference.
Harlan Sands, Cleveland State University; Horizon League.
Neal Smatresk, University of North Texas; Conference USA.
Adrianne Swinney, University of Connecticut; Women Leaders in College Sports.
Denise Trauth, Texas State University; Sun Belt Conference, chair.
Satish Tripathi, University at Buffalo, The State University of New York; Mid-American Conference.
David Wilson, Morgan State University; Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference.
Randy Woodson, North Carolina State University; Atlantic Coast Conference.
NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:
Amanda Conklin, Jenn Fraser, Kevin Lennon, Donald Remy and Leeland Zeller.
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:
Scott Bearby, Jackie Campbell, Joni Comstock, Mark Emmert, Dan Gavitt, Lynn Holzman, Michelle Hosick, Felicia Martin, Marnae Mawdsley, Kathleen McNeely, Donald Remy, Bridget Rigney, Dave Schnase, Naima Stevenson, and Stan Wilcox.