



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION I BOARD OF DIRECTORS
SEPTEMBER 22, 2020, VIDEOCONFERENCE**

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Conduct of Fall Championships in the Spring.** The NCAA Division I Board of Directors took action in response to the NCAA Board of Governors' directives related to fall championships. The Board of Directors' decisions, which focus on bracket size and selection criteria, were informed by recommendations from the NCAA Division I Council and feedback from the NCAA Division I Presidential Forum.
 - a. Bracket/Field Size — Fall Sports Other Than Football. The Board of Directors approved reducing team sport brackets to 75% capacity and guaranteeing access to all automatic qualifiers. In addition, the Board approved a field size of 255 per gender at the men's and women's cross country championship. (*Unanimous voice vote.*)
 - b. NCAA Football Championship Subdivision Championship. The Board of Directors approved conducting the FCS Championship from April 18 through May 15, 2021, reducing the bracket from 24 to 16 teams and accommodating all eligible automatic qualifiers. (*Unanimous voice vote.*)
 - c. Selection Criteria. The Board of Directors received an update on the Council's direction related to championship selection criteria. For fall sports other than football, maximum flexibility will be provided to allow teams to meet specified minimum contest requirements, counting contests conducted in the fall term for selection purposes and allowing sport committees to consider all available data at the time of selections. For the FCS Championship, the Football Championship Committee will consider completed fall competitions when determining the field for the spring.

Calendars outlining championship dates and permissible playing and practice season dates for fall sports other than football competing in the spring of 2021 are attached. [See Attachment]

2. **Basketball Playing and Practice Season Update.** The Division I Board of Directors received an update on the Council's legislative actions related to aspects of the 2020-21 men's and women's basketball playing and practice seasons. Specifically, the Council adopted temporary emergency legislation that permits an institution to begin a transition from out-of-season activities to on-court preseason practice on September 21, 2020, prohibits on-court preseason practice until October 14, 2020, and changes the first permissible contest date to November 25, 2020. Institutions are prohibited from participating in a scrimmage or exhibition contest prior to the first permissible date of competition. The temporary emergency legislation also reduced the maximum number of contests in which an institution may participate by four, reduced the minimum number of contests required to satisfy sports-sponsorship requirements by 50% and waived NCAA Bylaw 20.02.5.3-(a) (regular season conference competition minimum requirement).

Additionally, the Board of Directors preliminarily endorsed the principles from the NCAA COVID-19 Medical Advisory Group's Core Principles of Resocialization of Collegiate Basketball document. This endorsement will be communicated to the Board of Governors during its upcoming meeting.

3. **Alston Legal Fees Update.** The Division I Board of Directors received an update on the status of the Alston litigation. On September 14, the NCAA Division I Board of Directors Finance Committee met to review feedback from conferences regarding payment of the legal fees. Based on this feedback, the Finance Committee will present its formal recommendation on payment methodology to the Board of Directors during its October meeting. The Board of Directors will then provide its recommendation to the Board of Governors for review.
4. **Sustainability Review.** The Division I Board of Directors received an update on the Presidential Forum's review of sustainability, which will be the focus of the Forum's October 27 meeting. The Forum and the NCAA Division I Presidential Forum Steering Committee have reviewed the framework and provided feedback on the elements and areas outlined for review. The review of sustainability is expected to focus on the areas of financial sustainability, organizational and governance issues and philosophical principles.
5. **COVID-19-Related Reinstatement Policy.** The Division I Board of Directors expressed support for the NCAA student-athlete reinstatement staff's plan to provide flexibility to student-athletes who may have jeopardized their eligibility due to violations stemming from agreements with agents or receipt of benefits from agents. The staff will process requests on behalf of student-athletes whose eligibility may be compromised for the 2020-21 when the student-athletes' actions were in response to COVID-19 and the circumstances changed after the student-athletes' original decision. The Board of Directors noted the need to narrowly tailor the flexibility to ensure that precedent applies only to COVID-19 circumstances.
6. **NCAA Staffing and Services Update.** The Division I Board of Directors received an update on staffing-related actions that the national office plans to take to mitigate the budgetary impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and how those actions will impact Division I.
6. **NCAA President's Report.** The Board of Directors received an update from President Emmert regarding several important issues facing the Association and Division I.
7. **Report of the August 21 Board of Directors Videoconference.** The Board of Directors approved the report of its August 21 videoconference. (*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 September 22, 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.	
Adrienne 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.	
Absentees:	
None.	
Guests in Attendance:	
Brian Hemphill, Radford University, Division I Presidential Forum chair.	
NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:	
Amanda Conklin, Jenn Fraser, Kevin Lennon, Donald Remy and Leeland Zeller.	
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:	
Scott Bearby, Sharon Cessna, Joni Comstock, Mark Emmert, Dan Gavitt, Michelle Hosick, Felicia Martin, Marnae Mawdsley, Kathleen McNeely, Donald Remy, Bridget Rigney, Dave Schnase, Cari Van Senus, Stan Wilcox and Bob Williams.	

Cross Country

ATTACHMENT

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SPRING – First Permissible Practice (Inst. Discretion)	SPRING – First Permissible Contest (Jan 23)	SPRING – Season (Jan 23 – March 5)	SPRING – Selections (March 6)	SPRING – First/Last Championship (Mar 15)
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Field Hockey

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SPRING - First
Permissible Practice
(Inst. Discretion)

SPRING - First
Permissible Contest
(Feb 12)

SPRING – Season
(Feb 12 – Apr 23)

SPRING –
Selections
(Apr 24)

SPRING - First/Last
Championship
(May 7/May 9)

Men's and Women's Soccer

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SPRING - First
Permissible Practice
(Inst. Discretion)

SPRING - First
Permissible Contest
(Feb 3)

SPRING – Season
(Feb 3 – Apr 17)

SPRING –
Selections
(Apr 18)

SPRING - First/Last
Championship
(Apr 24/May 16)

Volleyball

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SPRING – First
permissible practice
(Inst. Discretion)

SPRING – First
Permissible Contest
(Jan 22)

SPRING – Season
(Jan 22 – Apr 3)

SPRING – Selections
(Apr 4)

SPRING – First/Last
Date Championship
(Apr 9/Apr 25)

Men's Water Polo

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SPRING – First Permissible Practice (Inst. Discretion)	SPRING – First Permissible Contest (Jan 16)	SPRING – Season (Jan 16 – March 6)	SPRING – Selections (Mar 7)	First/Last Championship (Mar 19/20)
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