



**REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION I COMPETITION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE  
APRIL 21, 2021, VIDEOCONFERENCE**

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

- 1. Equity, diversity, inclusion (EDI) and the student-athlete voice.** As part of the ongoing effort to celebrate notable achievements and benchmarks established by women and ethnic minority student-athletes, the committee joined staff in recognizing Sid Oglesby of Syracuse University who in 1964 became the first black student-athlete to win an event (the vault) in the NCAA Men's Gymnastics Championship. Mr. Oglesby, who currently resides in Syracuse, was also the first black All-American gymnast (he was a two-time All-American) and during his professional life was the first black Commissioner of Jurors, a position from which he retired in 2015.
  
- 2. Division I championship updates.**
  - a. Transgender policy update.** Staff provided a status report on state legislation that has been adopted or is being considered that could have a negative impact on transgender student-athletes and noted the recent [statement](#) from the NCAA Board of Governors. The championships staff also is updating the questionnaire all prospective hosts are required to complete when submitting bids in order to assure their capacity and willingness to provide a welcoming and safe environment for all participants.
  
  - b. Men's and women's track and field preliminaries.** The committee received a presentation from track and field representatives on the Division I Student-Athlete Advisory Committee about possibly reversing the decision in March to reduce the field size for the 2021 East and West Preliminary sites (from which qualifiers advance to the 2021 NCAA Division I Men's and Women's Outdoor Track and Field Championships) from 48 competitors per individual event to 32. The NCAA Division I Men's and Women's Track and Field and Cross Country Committee had recommended the reduction to the Competition Oversight Committee as part of a directive from the NCAA Board of Governors to reduce the number of preliminary-round sites and reduce the field in sports with large numbers of participants to accommodate health and safety concerns and testing protocols. The Competition Oversight Committee actually received the recommendation from the sport committee in early February but waited until mid-March to see whether circumstances surrounding the pandemic would change significantly before approving the recommendation. The COC acknowledged the current concerns from the student-athletes and appreciated their due diligence in making a case for reinstating the number of competitors per individual event to 48. However, the COC also acknowledged that input would need to be sought from the COVID-19 Medical Advisory Panel and the track and field committee to determine the feasibility of returning to the full field size at the preliminary sites before deliberating the matter further.

### 3. Team sports reports.

- a. **Women's soccer.** The committee considered a recommendation from the Division I Women's Soccer Committee to move the 2021 Women's College Cup from Earthquakes Stadium in San Jose to Stevens Stadium on the campus of Santa Clara University. The West Coast Conference, host for the 2021 Women's College Cup, asked for the change in the venue due to Major League Soccer delaying the start of its 2021 season, which will push the MLS playoffs into December, concluding December 11, rather than concluding its season in mid-November, which was the understanding when the bid was submitted. The change creates a conflict in availability for Earthquakes Stadium. While the Competition Oversight Committee was not necessarily opposed to the recommendation (and in fact expressed its appreciation for Santa Clara's willingness to step in), it did acknowledge that the seating capacity at Stevens Stadium would be about 60 percent less than that of the original venue (6,800 as opposed to 18,000). Accordingly, the COC asked the sport committee to revisit its recommendation just to make sure there wasn't another option available for a larger venue and report back to the COC in May.
- b. **Men's and women's tennis.** During its April 7 videoconference the Competition Oversight Committee considered but did not support allowing the NCAA Division I Men's and Women's Tennis Committee to use coaches polls published by the International Tennis Association (ITA) for selection purposes this year due to scheduling challenges created by the pandemic that have limited the usual comparison metrics the sport committee uses to determine selections. Instead, the committee encouraged the tennis committee to use all available data within the current selection criteria (or an alternative criterion other than a coaches poll) to base its selections. As a result, the tennis committee informed the COC that it will do as requested and seek additional input from conferences (i.e., a ranking of teams and singles and doubles players provided by each conference that conducts regular-season competition in tennis) to help inform selections this year.
- c. **Women's water polo.** The committee supported a request from the NCAA Women's Water Polo Committee to grant a waiver to allow the Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference to retain its automatic qualification status in women's water polo for the 2020-21 season despite having only four members sponsoring the sport this year due to COVID-19 related reasons. (The standard sponsorship threshold for conference AQ is six members, and five members to qualify for a grace period. Since the SCIAC has only four this year, a waiver request was required to retain the AQ.)

### 4. Future videoconferences.

- Wednesday, May 5, 2-3 p.m. Eastern.
- Wednesday, May 19, 11 a.m.-noon Eastern.

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*Committee Chair: Lynda Tealer, University of Florida*

*Staff Liaisons: Liz Suscha, Championships and Alliances*

*Joni Comstock, Championships and Alliances*

*Jennifer Henderson, Academic and Membership Affairs*

<b>NCAA Division I Competition Oversight Committee April 21, 2021, Videoconference</b>	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Renee Baumgartner, Santa Clara University.	
Mark Benson, University of Albany.	
Amanda Braun, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.	
Keisha Dunlap, Conference USA.	
Mike Cragg, St. John's University (New York).	
Wendy Fallen, Big Ten Conference.	
Beth Goetz, Ball State University.	
Ted Gumbart, ASUN Conference.	
Ken Halpin, Winthrop University.	
Gerald Harrison, Austin Peay State University.	
Jeff Hurd, Western Athletic Conference.	
Megan Klavitter, Chicago State University.	
Kathy Keene, Sun Belt Conference.	
Doug Knuth, University of Nevada, Reno.	
Luis Marcano, University of Delaware.	
Ingrid Wicker McCree, North Carolina Central University.	
Kris Pierce, Atlantic Coast Conference.	
Nona Richardson, University of Utah.	
Paula Smith, University of California, Irvine.	
Lynda Tealer, University of Florida.	
Julia Ware, Purdue University.	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
None.	
<b>Guest(s) in Attendance:</b>	
Gary Brown, NCAA Contractor.	
Ahmed Amaar, Lipscomb University (Division I Student-Athlete Advisory Committee).	
Bryce Choate, Oral Roberts University (Division I Student-Athlete Advisory Committee).	
Alexis Garrett, Troy University (Division I Student-Athlete Advisory Committee).	
<b>NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:</b>	
Joni Comstock, Championships and Alliances.	
Jennifer Henderson, Academic and Membership Affairs.	

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Liz Suscha, Championships and Alliances.
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<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>
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Jennifer Fraser, Greg Johnson, Tracy McClendon and Jerry Vaughn.
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