



**REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION I COMPETITION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE  
FEBRUARY 3, 2021, VIDEOCONFERENCE**

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Equity, diversity, inclusion (EDI) and the student-athlete voice.** Staff noted efforts within the national office to celebrate Black History Month, recognition of the passing of legendary Temple University men’s basketball coach John Chaney, and promotion of a website acknowledging the many contributions of Black female athletes over time (<https://www.theblacksportswoman.com/>). In addition, the staff’s equity, diversity and inclusion action team established as part of the operations for each championship continues its efforts to develop initiatives highlighting the student-athlete voice at all NCAA championships in the coming months.
2. **Division I championships updates.**
  - **Minimum participants requirements for contests used for at-large selections in sports other than basketball and football.** The committee noted that its previous actions to reduce the minimum contest requirements for at-large championship selection for fall, winter and spring sports did not specify whether the relief applied to the minimum participant requirements. Accordingly, the committee revisited the matter and agreed to revise minimum participant requirements for championship selection purposes in the following manner:

Sport	Selection Type	Minimum Participants (20-21)
Bowling, women’s	Team only	5
Cross Country	Individual	1
	Team	5
Fencing	Individual (with team score)	1
Golf	Individual	1
	Team	4
Gymnastics, men’s	Individual	1
	Team	5
Gymnastics, women’s	Individual	1
	Team	5
Rifle	Individual	1
	Team	4
Rowing, women’s	Team only	23
Skiing	Individual (with team score)	1

Swimming and Diving	Individual (with team score)	1
Tennis	Singles	1
	Doubles	2
	Team	4
Track, Indoor	Individual (with team score)	1
Track, Outdoor	Individual (with team score)	14
Wrestling	Individual (with team score)	1

The committee noted additional championship selection policies may still apply (e.g., a tennis player must participate in a minimum of six singles matches to be considered for selection).

### 3. Individual/team sports subcommittee report.

- **Men’s and women’s track and field and cross country.**
  - **Modified field size for outdoor track and field preliminaries.** The committee considered but did not take action at this time on a recommendation from the sport committee to reduce the field size for the East and West Preliminaries from 48 per individual event to 32 per individual event, with relay events remaining at 24 institutions per event, which would reduce the overall championship field by one-third [a total of 1,152 participants (576 per site)]. While the COC acknowledged the sport committee’s due diligence in anticipating field size challenges related to the effects of COVID-19, members prefer to delay any reduction of student-athlete opportunities for as long as possible (i.e., until it is demonstrated that it is absolutely necessary) and to consider such actions collectively for all spring sports rather than individually to ensure consistency and equity across sports.
  - **Revised selection announcement date for the 2020 cross country championships.** The committee approved moving the participant announcement date for the 2020 Division I Men’s and Women’s Cross Country Championships from Saturday, March 6 to Sunday, March 7.

### 4. Team sports subcommittee report.

- a. **Women’s bowling.** The committee approved for the 2021 championship having all 16 teams competing at one location and moving the selection date back by one week. The changes respond to directives to minimize preliminary-round sites where possible.

- b. Women's ice hockey.** The committee approved for the 2021 championship having all eight teams competing at one location and moving the start of the quarterfinal round by two days. The changes respond to directives to minimize preliminary-round sites where possible.
- c. Women's volleyball.** The committee approved for the 2020 championship having all 48 teams competing at one location while conducting the competition over a shorter amount of time (12 days). The changes respond to directives to minimize preliminary-round sites where possible.

*(NOTE: The committee noted that announcements regarding the modified formats and sites for the championships identified in items a, b and c above will be issued by the national office in the coming days. In addition, members asked that the sport committees overseeing these championships keep the COC updated on how these events will be administered, as the COC is hopeful that the participating student-athletes' family members and friends will be able to attend the competitions in person if local health and safety guidelines allow and the venue can accommodate such attendance.)*

- d. Softball.** The committee approved waiving the penalty for playing more than four non-Division I opponents in order to maximize scheduling flexibility for the 2021 regular season because of the pandemic.

## 5. Other business.

- a. Survey of sport participation.** Staff noted that a survey has been sent to conference offices with a request to provide their participation status in winter sports and select fall sports by February 9. Staff will compile the responses and provide them to the COC for further evaluation. The committee noted its adoption in December of principles to conduct championship brackets at full capacity for sports in which 51 percent or more of the automatic-qualifying conferences are competing 30 days prior to selections, and brackets at 75 percent capacity for sports in which 50 percent or fewer of the automatic-qualifying conferences are competing 30 days prior to selections. For individual sports, similar reviews of field size will be based on the reported number of schools participating.
- b. Code of conduct for championship participants.** The committee reviewed a draft of a code of conduct to ensure the health and safety of all participants during an NCAA championship in light of COVID-19 concerns and protocols. Staff will update the document and submit a final version for the committee to consider at its next meeting.

## 6. Future videoconferences.

The committee plans to continue its biweekly videoconference and quarterly meeting schedule as follows:

- Wednesday, February 17, 11 a.m. – noon Eastern.
- Wednesday, March 3, 3-4 p.m. Eastern.

Report of the NCAA Division I Competition Oversight Committee

February 3, 2021, Videoconference

Page No. 4

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*Committee Chair: Lynda Tealer, University of Florida*

*Staff Liaisons: Liz Suscha, Championships and Alliances*

*John Bugner, Championships and Alliances*

*Jennifer Henderson, Academic and Membership Affairs*

<b>NCAA Division I Competition Oversight Committee February 3, 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.
Kathy Keene, Sun Belt Conference.
Megan Klavitter, Chicago State University.
Doug Knuth, University of Nevada, Reno.
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>
Luis Marcano, University of Delaware.
<b>Guest(s) in Attendance:</b>
Gary Brown, NCAA Contractor.
<b>NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:</b>
John Bugner, Championships and Alliances.
Jennifer Henderson, Academic and Membership Affairs.
Liz Suscha, Championships and Alliances.
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>
Joni Comstock, Kristin Fasbender, Anthony Holman, Greg Johnson, Tracy McClendon and Jerry Vaughn.