



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION I COMPETITION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 17, 2021, VIDEOCONFERENCE**

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

- 1. Equity, diversity, inclusion (EDI) and the student-athlete voice.** Given the ongoing importance of this area, the Competition Oversight Committee agreed that its Administrative Committee will become the primary oversight group to help ensure that appropriate steps are taken to protect equity, diversity and inclusion and highlight the student-athlete voice at all future NCAA championships the COC oversees, effective with the 2021-22 academic year.

- 2. Division I championships updates.**
 - a. Policy for replacement in individual and team sports.** The committee reviewed its previous discussion regarding steps to be taken if individuals and/or teams selected to participate in a championship cannot do so for COVID-19 reasons. The committee affirmed its policy for replacing individuals already selected to the field as follows:

- For individual sports, if an individual student-athlete(s) who is selected is not available due to COVID-19 or other reasons, the respective sport committee must be notified of the individual's inability to participate within 24 hours after the selection announcement. The 24-hour time limit is due to the time needed to coordinate travel and successfully follow medical protocols and testing requirements before departure from campus and upon arrival at the competition site. The sport committee shall follow its standard procedure for individual replacements (i.e., medical scratch). Once the 24-hour window has passed there will be no replacements.

However, the committee did not finalize the specifics for team sports given the complexities associated with replacing a conference's automatic qualifier, particularly after selections, that the committee believes still should be addressed. Accordingly, the committee will finalize its policies for team sports replacements during its February 24 videoconference.

The committee also agreed that these replacement policies will apply to the winter sport championships for now (in addition to the men's and women's cross country and men's water polo championship since they will be conducted in March), and that the committee reserves the right to adjust them for the other fall sport championships being conducted in the spring semester if circumstances arise during the winter sports championships that warrant a change.

- b. Tier I travel party expectations.** The committee reviewed and supported expectations regarding safety and testing protocols all travel party members must meet to participate in championships the COC oversees.

- c. **Tested travel party allowances.** The committee also reviewed and supported allowances for tested members of the travel party above the reimbursed travel party positions. The committee further noted that a second non-athlete will be reimbursed when schools only qualify for one non-athlete position to ensure that schools can effectively manage any COVID-related circumstances once onsite at a championship.

3. Individual/team sports report.

- a. **Women's gymnastics.** The committee approved the University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, to replace the University of Missouri, Columbia, as a regional host due to COVID-19 complications at Missouri. The committee also noted as information that the regional hosted by the University of Utah will be conducted at the Maverick Center, which features a 17,000 square foot arena floor that provides the necessary space for physical distancing and multiple levels of seating and operational areas that would allow for more efficient, isolated, and safe working and viewing space.
- b. **Men's and women's rifle.** The committee noted as information that the 2021 men's and women's rifle championships originally scheduled to be conducted at French Field House will be moved to Converse Hall with The Ohio State University remaining as the host institution. The range in Converse Hall was recently renovated and is located on the Ohio State campus. Ohio State believes that, in the current COVID-19 environment, it will be easier to monitor and maintain the health and safety of the student-athletes and coaches in Converse Hall than in French Field House given French Field House's multi-use nature.
- c. **Men's and women's tennis.** The committee approved moving the super-regional round of the 2021 NCAA Division I Men's and Women's Tennis Championships from campus sites to Orlando, Florida, which is the final site for the 2021 championships, and starting the team quarterfinal round at the final site a day earlier to accommodate television coverage for the team quarterfinals, semifinals and finals.

4. Team sports report.

- a. **Men's ice hockey.** The committee approved that the ECAC Hockey League and the Times Union Center in Albany, New York, serve as the fourth regional site for the 2021 Division I Men's Ice Hockey Championship.
- b. **Women's ice hockey.** The committee noted as information that the 2021 Women's Frozen Four will be played Thursday, March 18 and Saturday, March 20, rather than on Friday, March 19 and Sunday, March 21, to provide for more favorable broadcast opportunities.
- c. **Men's water polo.** The committee approved the University of Southern California to replace Stanford University as the host of the postponed 2020 National Collegiate Men's

Water Polo Championship due to Stanford being unable to host because of COVID-19 reasons.

5. Future videoconferences.

- Wednesday, February 24, 11-11:30 a.m. Eastern.
- Wednesday, March 3, 3-4 p.m. Eastern.

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

NCAA Division I Competition Oversight Committee February 17, 2021, Videoconference	
Attendees:	
Renee Baumgartner, Santa Clara University.	
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.	
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.	
Absentees:	
Mark Benson, University of Albany.	
Megan Klavitter, Chicago State University.	
Luis Marciano, University of Delaware.	
Guest(s) in Attendance:	
Gary Brown, NCAA Contractor.	
NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:	

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Joni Comstock, Championships and Alliances.
Jennifer Henderson, Academic and Membership Affairs.
Liz Suscha, Championships and Alliances.
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:
John Bugner, Kristin Fasbender, Jennifer Fraser, Anthony Holman, Greg Johnson, Tracy McClendon and Jerry Vaughn.