



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION I COMPETITION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 24, 2021, VIDEOCONFERENCE**

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Equity, diversity, inclusion (EDI) and the student-athlete voice.** Given the committee's decision during its February 17 videoconference to assign its Administrative Committee as the primary group to oversee this area for NCAA championships effective with the 2021-22 academic year, the committee approved policies and procedures for the Administrative Committee to follow in carrying out these duties.

2. **Division I championships replacement guidelines.** The committee reviewed steps to be taken if individuals and/or teams selected to participate in a championship cannot do so for COVID-19 reasons. The committee during its February 17 videoconference approved steps to be taken if individuals selected to participate in a championship cannot do so and reaffirmed them 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.

The committee also during its February 17 videoconference agreed to address the replacement policies for teams during the February 24 meeting. Accordingly, the committee approved the policies and guidelines listed below for the 2021 winter team sport championships. The committee reiterated 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.

Policies for team replacement

- A bracket will not be re-seeded or changed after the announcement and release.
- Sport committees will make a reasonable effort to ensure a full field and bracket prior to the start of the championship.
- Replacement teams will be considered only prior to or within 24 hours after the bracket announcement.
- Every eligible conference should have access through a minimum of one team in the bracket.

Team replacement guidelines BEFORE the bracket announcement

- If an AQ is unable to meet medical protocols to participate, the conference may designate a replacement team as determined by its declared AQ policy submitted by the deadline.
- The replacement AQ team will be appropriately seeded and placed into the bracket prior to announcement of the bracket.
- Any potential at-large team unable to meet medical protocols and participate in its first game shall notify the sport committee prior to announcement of the bracket.

Team replacement guidelines AFTER the bracket announcement

- Consideration to replace a team (AQ or at-large) unable to participate due to COVID-19 **and** confirmation of the replacement team must take place within 24 hours after the selection announcement.
- An eligible conference may replace its AQ (if that team is unable to meet medical protocols to participate) with its pre-approved contingency replacement team.
- The replacement team must meet all medical protocols and will take the exact place in the bracket of original conference AQ team.
- If the replacement team based on the approved contingency plan is already in the field, the sport committee will replace the AQ with the at-large team ranked first among those not selected.
- For any at-large team unable to meet medical protocols related to COVID-19:
 - The at-large team ranked first among those not selected will be notified and must confirm they will be able to meet all medical protocols.
 - The replacement team will take the exact place in the bracket of original at-large team.

[Note: The COC advised sport committees to identify potential replacement teams (in rank order) to expedite the replacement process. Additionally, the COC noted that teams in position to be considered or hoping to be considered as replacements should continue their testing protocols throughout the replacement window.]

Team replacement guidelines

- Bracketing principles pertaining to conference matchups will not apply if a replacement team is used.
- No replacements will be made beyond 24 hours after the selection announcement.
- If a team must withdraw after competition has begun, opponents would advance via the NCAA's "No Contest" rule.

3. Championships travel party expectations. The committee revisited and reaffirmed its support for documented expectations travel party members must meet to participate in championships the COC oversees.

4. Ivy League announcement. The committee noted that the Ivy League will not hold league competition or host league championships this spring.

5. Future videoconferences.

- 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 24, 2021, Videoconference	
Attendees:	
Mark Benson, University of Albany.	
Amanda Braun, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.	
Keisha Dunlap, Conference USA.	
Mike Cragg, St. John's University (New York).	
Beth Goetz, Ball State University.	
Ken Halpin, Winthrop University.	
Jeff Hurd, Western Athletic Conference.	
Megan Klavitter, Chicago State University.	
Doug Knuth, University of Nevada, Reno.	
Luis Marciano, 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.	
Absentees:	
Renee Baumgartner, Santa Clara University.	
Wendy Fallen, Big Ten Conference.	
Ted Gumbart, ASUN Conference.	
Gerald Harrison, Austin Peay State University.	
Kathy Keene, Sun Belt Conference.	

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