

REPORT OF THE NCAA DIVISION I COMPETITION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE JANUARY 20, 2021, VIDEOCONFERENCE

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. Equity, diversity, inclusion (EDI) and the student-athlete voice. Staff updated the group on work within the championships and alliances staff to vet the various personnel hired to assist with championship operations (e.g., PA announcers, contractors) and set expectations regarding how to express the Association's values in the EDI space.

2. Division I championships updates.

- Men's golf. The committee noted that the Division I Men's Golf Committee approved moving the 2021 NCAA Division I men's golf regional originally scheduled to be conducted at Golden Eagle Golf & Country Club to Seminole Legacy Golf Club with Florida State University remaining as the host institution. The Seminole Legacy Golf Club was recently renovated by the Nicklaus Design Group and is located on the Florida State campus. Florida 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 on their campus course rather than a venue located off site.
- 3. Championship formats discussion. The committee reviewed and supported plans to date regarding championship formats for winter sports, fall sports conducted in the spring and tennis based on the need to reduce the number of sites and accommodate bracket/field size reductions while still providing the best possible student-athlete postseason experience. Staff continues to explore additional options, including the potential for conducting all rounds of select championships at a single site.
- 4. Championship waiver requirements. The committee reviewed a document staff compiled summarizing various championship-related waivers in sports other than football and basketball that have been approved to date, as well as the process sport committees are authorized to use when considering waiver requests from institutions that are unable to meet minimum contest requirements due to COVID-19. The document, which also includes a Q&A, will be sent to conference offices in the near future.
- 5. Post-selection replacement scenarios. The committee reviewed potential steps to be taken if individuals and/or teams selected to participate in a championship cannot do so for COVID-19 reasons. Due to the time needed to coordinate travel and successfully complete testing requirements before departure from campus and upon arrival at the competition site, the committee supported a proposal that no individual or team replacements will be designated after 24 hours of the championship's selection announcement. Committee members advised that sport committees have in mind a number of "next teams" or individuals that would merit selection as replacements if necessary.

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- 6. Testing update. NCAA Championships and Alliances Managing Director Anthony Holman updated the committee on work being done within the championships and alliances staff to develop return-to-championship plans in order to meet the enhanced health and safety standards for conducting NCAA championships in 2021. The NCAA has selected Diamond Health/Vivature. Inc. out of Dallas to administer testing at championship events. Mr. Holman previewed various testing protocols that will apply to travel parties when they arrive at the championship site and throughout their participation in the event.
- 7. Other business. The committee extended its sincere and heartfelt appreciation to staff members Sharon Cessna and Carol Reep, who are retiring from the Association at the end of this month. Committee members noted in particular their extraordinary efforts taken in the past year to help the committee navigate the uncertainties caused by the pandemic, and also their outstanding service to Division I governance over many years.
- **8. Future videoconferences.** The committee plans to continue its biweekly videoconference and quarterly meeting schedule as follows:
 - a. Wednesday, February 3, 3-4 p.m. Eastern.
 - b. Wednesday, February 17, 11 a.m. noon Eastern.

Committee Chair: Lynda Tealer, University of Florida

Staff Liaisons: Sharon Cessna, Championships and Alliances

Jennifer Henderson, Academic and Membership Affairs

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Attendees:

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.

Doug Knuth, University of Nevada, Reno.

Ingrid Wicker McCree, North Carolina Central University.

Kris Pierce, Atlantic Coast Conference.

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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.

Luis Marcano, University of Delaware.

Guest(s) in Attendance:

Gary Brown, NCAA Contractor.

NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:

Sharon Cessna.

Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:

John Bugner, Joni Comstock, Anthony Holman, Carol Reep, Liz Suscha, Zach Teats and Jerry Vaughn.