



**REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION I COMPETITION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE  
JULY 13, 2020, VIDEOCONFERENCE**

**ACTION ITEMS.**

**1. Legislative items.**

- None.

**2. Nonlegislative items.**

- **Request to waive minimum contests requirements for sports sponsorship for fall sports other than football.** The NCAA Division I Competition Oversight Committee discussed the continued impact of COVID-19 on the anticipated conduct of the 2020 fall sports championships and now seeks to request the NCAA Division I Council Coordination Committee approve a waiver of the minimum contests requirements for the 2020-21 academic year in the fall championships sports of men's and women's cross country, men's and women's soccer, women's field hockey, men's water polo and women's volleyball (NCAA Division I Bylaw 20.9.6.3). In its discussions, the committee noted the Council's guiding principle of prioritizing student-athlete well-being and maximizing opportunities for student-athletes.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

- 1. Equity, diversity, inclusion and the student-athlete voice.** Per a decision during its June 24 videoconference to retain the student-athlete voice as a standing topic for future meetings, the committee continued discussing how campuses are addressing the ongoing social justice and racial equality issues. Staff noted that an equity, diversity and inclusion action team has been established as part of the operations for each championship to monitor issues leading up to and during the events and to target opportunities that promote the student-athlete voice within the host communities.
- 2. Update from the NCAA Chief Medical Officer.** NCAA Chief Medical Officer Dr. Brian Hainline updated the committee on the Resocialization of Collegiate Sport, including progress and discussions to date regarding testing methodologies, contact tracing, and measures to reduce the spread of the virus, among other items.
- 3. Discussion of issues regarding selections.** The committee discussed potential concepts surrounding postseason selection requirements in an effort to offer the membership as much scheduling guidance and flexibility as possible to cope with the fluid situation regarding COVID-19.

- **The .500 record rule.** The committee voted to relax the .500 rule as applicable to the selection process for 2020 fall sports. The .500 record rule is a championships policy that states, to be considered during the at-large selection process, a team must have an overall won-lost record of .500 or better.

The committee also discussed the typical tools and criteria sport committees use to evaluate teams and noted that as more conferences decide to play league-only schedules, tools such as the RPI and NET will become less reliable. Accordingly, committee members noted that sport committees will likely need to rely more on information provided by conferences this fall to help evaluate teams.

4. **Possible revisions for select fall championships.** The committee continued reviewing potential contingency plans regarding the administration of fall sports championships (particularly those with larger brackets/field sizes and a higher number of preliminary-round sites) given the ongoing and unpredictable impacts from COVID-19.

- **Women's soccer.** The committee adopted a revised bracket for the 2020 NCAA Division I Women's Soccer Championship that reduces the number of preliminary-round sites to eight but retains the overall format of the tournament, including the same selection date, same number of weeks (four) and same finals dates. The modification to preliminary rounds is designed to increase health and safety measures for tournament participants, organizers and the host community.

5. **Other business.**

- **Committee vice chair.** The NCAA Division I Council Coordination Committee appointed Paula Smith as vice chair of the committee, effective immediately.

6. **Future videoconferences.** The committee agreed to continue convening biweekly for the foreseeable future via Microsoft Teams to manage the fluid and unpredictable athletics landscape moving forward. The next session is scheduled for July 29.

*Committee Chair: Lynda Tealer, University of Florida*

*Staff Liaisons: Sharon Cessna, Championships and Alliances*

*Jennifer Henderson, Academic and Membership Affairs*

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July 13, 2020, Videoconference

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<b>NCAA Division I Competition Oversight Committee July 13, 2020, 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.	
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.	
Larry Lyons, Illinois State University.	
Kris Pierce, Atlantic Coast Conference.	
Nona Richardson, University of Utah.	
Paula Smith, University of California, Irvine.	
Lynda Tealer, University of Florida.	
Ingrid Wicker McCree, North Carolina Central University.	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
Jade Gates, DePaul University.	
Luis Marcano, University of Delaware.	
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>	
Gary Brown, NCAA Contractor.	
Dr. Brian Hainline, NCAA Chief Medical Officer.	
<b>NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:</b>	
Sharon Cessna and Jennifer Henderson.	
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>	
Joni Comstock, Jennifer Fraser, Greg Johnson, Robin Hale, Ty Halpin, Anthony Holman, Carol A. Reep, Liz Suscha, Chris Termini and David Worlock.	