



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION I COUNCIL
AUGUST 19, 2020, VIDEOCONFERENCE**

In an effort to connect Council items to the NCAA pillars of academics, fairness and well-being, items included in this report have an identifying pillar. There is an additional pillar, operational, that is used to denote items that relate to maintaining a stable and efficient Division I.

KEY ITEMS.

1. **Legislative Actions.** (Fairness/Well-Being) The NCAA Division I Council took the legislative actions listed below. The Council's legislative actions are detailed in Attachment A and voting results are available in Attachment B.
 - Temporary Changes to Football Practice Seasons – Canceled or Postponed Fall Seasons. The Council adopted temporary emergency legislation (NCAA Division I Proposal No. R-2020-11), in football, to specify that institutions that have canceled their fall seasons or postponed their fall seasons to the spring shall be restricted to up to 12 hours of noncontact activities each week from August 24 through October 4, 2020. The 12 hours of activities may include weight training, conditioning, meetings (e.g., film, team, position and individual) and up to five hours of on-field skill instruction, during which footballs, helmets and spider pads may be used. A four-hour daily limit applies to these activities and student-athletes must be provided with at least two days off per week.
2. **Recommendations Related to NCAA Board of Governors' Directives.** (Academics/Fairness/Well-Being/Operational) The Council made recommendations to the NCAA Division I Board of Directors regarding the Board of Governors' directives related to student-athlete well-being and the conduct of fall championships. The Council's recommendations were informed by feedback from the membership and standing committees. These recommendations will be used to inform the Board of Directors' decisions on August 21.
 - a. Terms and Conditions of Financial Aid. The Council recommends that the Board of Directors adopt emergency temporary legislation to specify that athletics financial aid awarded to a student-athlete who opts out of participating during the 2020-21 academic year due to concerns about contracting COVID-19 shall not be reduced or canceled as a result of the student-athlete's decision. Additionally, a student-athlete who decides to opt out of participating due to concerns stemming from COVID-19 is not considered to have voluntarily withdrawn from the sport for personal reasons. The Council clarified that the legislation should apply to student-athletes in all sports for aid awarded that includes any regular academic term of the 2020-21 academic year, including multiyear aid agreements. The legislation would not apply to renewals of athletics aid after the 2020-21 academic year.

- b. Season of Competition Waivers. The Council recommends that the Board of Directors approve a blanket waiver allowing institutions to self-apply season of competition waivers for fall sport student-athletes who compete in up to the maximum permissible amount of competition during the 2020-21 academic year as a result of the disruption and uncertainty caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- c. Extensions of the Five-Year Period of Eligibility. The Council recommends that the Board of Directors approve a blanket waiver allowing institutions to self-apply extensions of eligibility for fall sport student-athletes who are unable to compete, elect not to compete or who qualify for a season of competition waiver due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- d. Financial Aid Limitations (Exemptions). The Council recommends that the Board of Directors approve a blanket waiver to allow an institution to exempt athletics aid of a returning senior student-athlete who would have exhausted eligibility in 2020-21, provided the student-athlete receives a season of competition waiver and/or extension of eligibility based on COVID-19 and returns to the same institution. An institution may exempt aid up to an amount equivalent to the aid that counts toward team financial aid limits during 2020-21 from the 2021-22 financial aid limitations. In addition, an institution may reduce or not renew such aid for the eligible student-athletes without being required to provide an opportunity to appeal the decision.
- e. Academic Eligibility. The Council recommends that the Board of Directors approve a blanket waiver to allow student-athletes in all sports who do not enroll full time during the 2020 fall term to use the missed term exception regardless of whether the student-athletes have used the exception for previous academic certifications.
- f. Waiving Legal Rights as a Condition of Participation. The Council recommends that the Board of Directors adopt emergency temporary legislation to specify that an institution shall not require a student-athlete to waive legal rights regarding COVID-19 as a condition of athletics participation for the 2020-21 academic year. This legislation would apply to all student-athletes.
- g. COVID-19 Related Medical Expenses. The Council recommends that the Board of Directors adopt emergency temporary legislation requiring institutions to: (1) Review the insurance coverage for all student-athletes who may compete in the fall and provide them with information about the coverage; (2) Inform student-athletes of the risk classification of their sports according to the *NCAA Resocialization of Collegiate Sport* guidelines; and (3) Provide detailed information about how the institution is complying with the *NCAA Resocialization of Collegiate Sport: Developing Standards for Practice and Competition*. This recommendation was made in response to the Board of Governors' directive requesting that institutions

cover student-athletes' COVID-19 medical expenses related to infections that local health officials reasonably believe were the result of student-athletes' participation in athletics. The Council's concerns related to the original directive will be provided to the Board of Directors. Importantly, the Council noted that the opt-out protections for financial aid provide the opportunity for student-athletes to make choices about whether to participate without the loss of their scholarships. Additionally, eligibility and academic flexibility is being provided to assist these students.

- h. Conducting Fall Championships in the Spring. The Council recommends that the Board of Directors approve conducting the fall sport championships in the spring of 2021.
- i. "Scaling Down of Championships." Pursuant to the Board of Governors' directive to "scale down" the fall sport championships, details regarding bracket and field sizes and other logistics will require additional discussion. In particular, the Council noted the challenges to existing automatic qualification opportunities with reduced field sizes. Based on a discussion of authority and process, the Council encourages the Board of Directors to consider whether the use of its waiver authority is warranted if additional flexibility is necessary in championship selection criteria during 2020-21. The Council noted the significance of the constitutional provision regarding championships access, while recognizing the challenging times facing higher education and intercollegiate athletics.

3. Waivers Related to Playing and Practice Seasons. (Fairness/Well-Being) The Council approved two blanket waivers related to playing and practice seasons:

- a. Women's Volleyball Playing Season. The Council approved a blanket waiver permitting women's volleyball the same flexible nonchampionship playing season as fall team sports other than football. Specifically, the Council waived NCAA Bylaw 17.26.1-(b)-(2) and defined women's volleyball's length of season as follows: Limited to 132-day season, which may consist of two segments (each consisting of consecutive days) and which may exclude only required off days and official vacation, holiday and final examination periods during which no practice or competition shall occur. The waiver is effective immediately for the 2020 fall term and applies unless or until another approach is approved for the fall 2020 playing season.
- b. Nonchampionship and Championship Segments. The Council approved a blanket waiver, in fall sports other than football, to permit an institution to consider the fall segment of its playing and practice season as part of the championship segment. The blanket waiver is effective immediately for the 2020 fall term and applies unless or until another approach is approved for the fall 2020 playing season. The

blanket waiver will permit fall sports teams to continue their competitive seasons during fall 2020 even though the NCAA championship will not be conducted in the fall. Additional changes to the playing season may be considered during the September 16 Council meeting.

ACTION ITEMS.

- **None.**

INFORMATIONAL ITEM.

- **Report from NCAA President Mark Emmert.** The Council received an update from President Emmert regarding several important issues facing the Association and Division I.

Council Chair: Grace Calhoun, University of Pennsylvania; The Ivy League

Council Liaisons: Amanda Conklin, Law Policy and Governance

Jennifer Fraser, Law, Policy and Governance

Kevin Lennon, Law, Policy and Governance

Leeland Zeller, Law, Policy and Governance

NCAA Division I Council Videoconference August 19, 2020	
Attendees:	
Gary Barta, University of Iowa; Big Ten Conference.	
Renee Baumgartner, Santa Clara University; West Coast Conference.	
Jamie Boggs; Grand Canyon University; Western Athletic Conference.	
Matt Boyer, Southeastern Conference (alternate).	
Grace Calhoun, University of Pennsylvania; The Ivy League.	
Lisa Campos, University of Texas at San Antonio; Conference USA.	
Kim Capriotti, Faculty Athletics Representatives Association representative.	
Patrick Chun, Washington State University; Pac-12 Conference.	
Charles Cobb, Georgia State University; Sun Belt Conference.	
Jean Gee, University of Montana; Big Sky Conference.	
Ted Gumbart, ASUN Conference (Division I conference commissioner).	
David Harris, University of Northern Iowa; Missouri Valley Conference.	
Shawn Heilbron, Stony Brook University; America East Conference.	
Jennifer Heppel, Patriot League.	
Samantha Huge, College of William and Mary; Colonial Athletic Association.	
Mark Jackson, Villanova University; Big East Conference.	
Kyle Kallander, Big South Conference (alternate).	
Maisha Kelly, Bucknell University, Patriot League.	
Doug Knuth, University of Nevada, Reno; Mountain West Conference.	
Caroline Lee, Southeastern Louisiana University; Division I Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.	
Justice Littrell, University of Northern Colorado; Division I Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.	
Heather Lyke, University of Pittsburgh; Atlantic Coast Conference.	
Shane Lyons, West Virginia University; Big 12 Conference.	
Judy MacLeod, Conference USA (FBS nonautonomy conference commissioner).	
Chris May, Saint Louis University; Atlantic 10 Conference.	
Maggie McKinley, University of Cincinnati; American Athletic Conference.	
Noreen Morris, Northeast Conference.	
Martin Newton, Samford University; Southern Conference.	
Alex Ricker-Gilbert, Jacksonville University; ASUN Conference.	
Greg Sankey, Southeastern Conference (FBS autonomy conference commissioner).	
Paul Schlickmann, Fairfield University; Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference.	
Justin Sell, South Dakota State University; The Summit League.	
Paula Smith, University of California, Irvine; Big West Conference.	
Jon Steinbrecher, Mid-American Conference.	
Lynda Tealer, University of Florida; Southeastern Conference.	

NCAA Division I Council Videoconference August 19, 2020	
Attendees:	
Rich Tiner, Belmont University; Ohio Valley Conference.	
Patty Viverito, Missouri Valley Football Conference (FCS conference commissioner).	
Jaunelle White, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis, Horizon League.	
Ingrid Wicker McCree, North Carolina Central University; Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference.	
Jennifer Williams, Alabama State University; Southwestern Athletic Conference.	
John Williams, Southland Conference.	
Kurt Zorn, Indiana University; 1A Faculty Athletics Representative.	
Absentee:	
Ken Halpin, Winthrop University; Big South Conference.	
Guests in Attendance:	
None.	
NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:	
Amanda Conklin, Jenn Fraser, Kevin Lennon and Leeland Zeller.	
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance for Portions of the Meeting:	
Troy Arthur, Scott Bearby, Lydia Bell, DJ Brown, Jackie Campbell, Emily Capehart, Sharon Cessna, Shauna Cobb, Joni Comstock, Mark Emmert, Curtis Franks, Dan Gavitt, Ty Halpin, Brandy Hataway, Sarah Heberd, Jennifer Henderson, Anthony Holman, Lynn Holzman, Michelle Hosick, Charnele Kemper, Andy Louthain, Jobrina Marques, Felicia Martin, Marnae Mawdsley, Kathleen McNeely, Karen Metzger, Binh Nguyen, Sarah Otey, John Parsons, Tom Paskus, Susan Peal, Carol Reep, Donald Remy, Kris Richardson, Bridget Rigney, Anne Rohlman, Dave Schnase, Geoff Silver, Naima Stevenson, Jerry Vaughn, Stan Wilcox, Bob Williams and Quintin Wright.	

NCAA Division I Council August 19, 2020, Legislative Actions

Proposal Number	Title	Source	Effective Date	Intent	Council Action
R-2020-11	RESOLUTION: COUNTABLE ATHLETICALLY RELATED ACTIVITIES DURING FALL 2020— INSTITUTIONS THAT HAVE POSTPONED COMPETITION – FOOTBALL	NCAA Division I Council (NCAA Division I Football Oversight Committee).	August 24, 2020, through October 4, 2020.	<p><i>Resolved</i>, that in football, for institutions that have postponed fall 2020 competition but plan to compete during the 2020-21 academic year, countable athletically related activities shall be limited to the following through at least September 15:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not more than 20 hours per week with not more than four hours per day; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Not more than eight hours per week for weight training and conditioning; ○ Not more than six hours per week for walk-throughs, which may include the use of a football; ○ Not more than six hours per week for meetings, which may include film review and meetings; and • At least two required days off per week. 	Supported as emergency legislation. Adopted.

NCAA Division I Council Voting Results
August 19, 2020

Conference -- Voting Delegate	Conference Type	Voting Weight	Terms and Conditions of Financial Aid	Season of competition Waivers	Exempt Aid for Returning Seniors	Academic Eligibility	Waiving Legal Rights	COVID-19 Medical Expenses	Conduct Fall Championships in Spring	Conduct FCS Championship in Spring	Women's Volleyball Blanket Waiver	Nonchampionship Segment Blanket Waiver	R-2020-11 as Emergency Legislation (FBS)	R-2020-11 (FBS)	R-2020-11 as Emergency Legislation (FCS)	R-2020-11 (FCS)
America East Conference -- S. Heilbron	DI	1														
American Athletic Conference -- M. McKinley	NA	2											Y	Y		
Atlantic 10 Conference -- C. May	DI	1														
Atlantic Coast Conference -- H. Lyke	A	4											Y	Y		
ASUN Conference -- A. Ricker-Gilbert	DI	1														
Big 12 Conference -- S. Lyons	A	4											Y	Y		
Big East Conference -- M. Jackson	DI	1														
Big Sky Conference -- J. Gee	FCS	1													Y	Y
Big South Conference -- K. Kallander (alternate)	FCS	1	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A	A			Y	Y
Big Ten Conference -- G. Barta	A	4	p	p	p	p	p	p	p	p	p	p	Y	Y		
Big West Conference -- P. Smith	DI	1	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r	r				
Colonial Athletic Association -- S. Huge	FCS	1	o	o	o	o	o	o	o	o	o	o			Y	Y
Conference USA -- L. Campos	NA	2	v	v	v	v	v	v	v	v	v	v	Y	Y		
Horizon League -- J. White	DI	1	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e	e				
Ivy League -- G. Calhoun	FCS	1													Y	Y
Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference -- P. Schlickmann	DI	1														
Mid-American Conference -- J. Steinbrecher	NA	2											Y	Y		
Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference -- I. Wicker McCree	FCS	1													Y	Y
Missouri Valley Conference -- D. Harris	DI	1														
Mountain West Conference -- D. Knuth	NA	2											Y	Y		
Northeast Conference -- N. Morris	FCS	1													Y	Y
Ohio Valley Conference -- R. Tiner	FCS	1													Y	Y
Pac-12 Conference -- P. Chun	A	4											Y	Y		
Patriot League -- M. Kelly	FCS	1													Y	Y
Southeastern Conference -- L. Tealer	A	4											Y	Y		
Southern Conference -- M. Newton	FCS	1													Y	Y
Southland Conference -- J. Williams	FCS	1													Y	Y
Southwestern Athletic Conference -- J. Williams	FCS	1													Y	Y
Summit League -- J. Sell (MVFC for FCS)	DI	1													Y	Y
Sun Belt Conference -- C. Cobb	NA	2											Y	Y		
West Coast Conference -- R. Baumgartner	DI	1														
Western Athletic Conference -- J. Boggs	DI	1														
IA FAR -- K. Zorn		1														
Division I Conference Commissioner -- T. Gumbart		1														
FARA -- K. Capriotti		1														
FBS Autonomy Commissioner -- M. Boyer (alternate)		4														
FBS Autonomy Commissioner -- G. Sankey		4														
FBS Nonautonomy Commissioner -- J. MacLeod		2														
FCS Conference Commissioner -- P. Viverito (Pioneer for FCS)		1													Y	Y
SAAC -- C. Lee		1														
SAAC -- J. Littrell		1														
			Yes/Adopt (Y)										15	15	13	13
			No/Defeat (N)										0	0	0	0
			Abstain (A)										0	0	0	0
			No Vote Cast (Blank)										0	0	0	0
			Total										0	0	0	0
			Y Percent										100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

A = Autonomy; NA = FBS Nonautonomy