



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION I COUNCIL
MARCH 24, 2021, VIDEOCONFERENCE**

In an effort to connect NCAA Division I 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. Season-of-Competition Waiver for Conferences and Institutions That Cancel or Suspend Spring Sport Seasons.** (Fairness/Well-Being/Operational) The Division I Council approved a waiver permitting conferences and institutions that cancel or suspend seasons in spring sports to self-apply a season-of-competition waiver for their spring sport student-athletes, provided the following criteria are met:
 - a. The student-athlete uses a season of competition in a spring sport during the 2020-21 academic year;
 - b. The student-athlete does not compete in more than three contests/dates of competition or 30% (whichever number is greater) of the maximum permissible contests/dates of competition as set forth in NCAA Division I Bylaw 17 in the applicable sport;
 - c. The student-athlete is eligible for intercollegiate competition when they compete during the 2020-21 academic year; and
 - d. The student-athlete and the institution's team end competition by the selection date for the NCAA championship in the applicable sport and do not compete in postseason competition during the 2021 spring.

Student-athletes in conferences and institutions that have canceled or suspended spring seasons will not have an opportunity for a meaningful participation experience during the 2021 spring. Some institutions may have an opportunity for limited competition as conditions improve. Allowing institutions to self-apply a season-of-competition waiver based on the above criteria allows student-athletes to participate in limited competition and keeps them engaged with athletics, which is beneficial for student-athlete health and well-being.

- 2. Potential Parameters for Season-of-Competition Waivers for Spring Sport Student-Athletes.** (Fairness/Well-Being/Operational) In lieu of issuing a blanket waiver for all spring sport student-athletes, the Council referred the issue of potential season-of-competition waivers for 2021 spring sport student-athletes to the NCAA Division I Legislative Committee. The Council recognizes the challenges all student-athletes are

facing this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and that the opportunity to compete varies widely across individual schools and conferences. Because of that fact, the Council asked the Legislative Committee to develop guidance on additional flexibility that should be considered for potential waivers if a spring competitive schedule is disrupted to the point where an additional season should be granted. The Legislative Committee will report back for the Council's April 14-15 meeting.

ACTION ITEMS.

- **None.**

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

- **Update from NCAA President Mark Emmert.** The Council received an update from President Emmert regarding important issues facing the Association and Division I, including an update on the completion of 15 Division I, Division II and National Collegiate Championships to date. President Emmert also informed the Council that given the Association's increased focus on equity, diversity and inclusion, the NCAA will commission an independent and comprehensive review of championships policies and procedures involving sports in which both genders participate to ensure that student-athletes in these sports have an equitably rewarding postseason experience.

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 March 24, 2021 | |
|---|--|
| Attendees: | |
| Lisa Archbald, Northeast Conference (alternate). | |
| Gary Barta, University of Iowa; Big Ten Conference. | |
| Renee Baumgartner, Santa Clara University; West Coast Conference. | |
| Jamie Boggs; Grand Canyon University; Western Athletic Conference. | |
| Jason Cable; Southwestern Athletic 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. | |
| Mark Jackson, Villanova University; Big East Conference. | |
| Kyle Kallander, Big South Conference (alternate). | |
| Maisha Kelly, Bucknell University, Patriot League. | |
| 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. | |
| Ingrid Wicker McCree, North Carolina Central University; Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference. | |
| Martin Newton, Samford University; Southern Conference. | |
| Chrissi Rawak, University of Delaware; Colonial Athletic Association. | |
| Jill Redmond, Atlantic 10 Conference (alternate). | |
| 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. | |

| NCAA Division I Council Videoconference March 24, 2021 | |
|---|--|
| Attendees: | |
| Lynda Tealer, University of Florida; Southeastern Conference. | |
| Rich Tiner, Belmont University; Ohio Valley Conference. | |
| Terry Tumey, Fresno State University; Mountain West Conference (alternate). | |
| Patty Viverito, Missouri Valley Football Conference (FCS conference commissioner). | |
| Jaunelle White, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis, Horizon League. | |
| John Williams, Southland Conference. | |
| Kurt Zorn, Indiana University; 1A Faculty Athletics Representative. | |
| Absentees: | |
| Ken Halpin, Winthrop University; Big South Conference. | |
| Doug Knuth, University of Nevada, Reno; Mountain West Conference. | |
| Chris May, Saint Louis University; Atlantic 10 Conference. | |
| Noreen Morris, Northeast Conference. | |
| Jennifer Williams, Alabama State University; Southwestern Athletic Conference. | |
| Guests in Attendance: | |
| Gary Brown, NCAA contractor. | |
| NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance: | |
| Jenn Fraser, Kevin Lennon and Leeland Zeller. | |
| Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance for Portions of the Meeting: | |
| DJ Brown, Emily Capehart, Shauna Cobb, Zandria Conyers, Jon Duncan, Meghan Durham, Derek Gragg, Brian Hainline, Ty Halpin, Brandy Hataway, Sarah Heberd, Jennifer Henderson, Michelle Hosick, Felicia Martin, Kathleen McNeely, Karen Metzger, Binh Nguyen, Sarah Otey, Susan Peal, Donald Remy, Kris Richardson, Dave Schnase, Geoff Silver, Cari Van Senus, Jerry Vaughn, Stan Wilcox and Quintin Wright. | |