



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION I FOOTBALL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
MAY 14, 2020, TELECONFERENCE**

ACTION ITEMS.

- **Recommendations for Selected Elements of Waiver Request Submitted by Commissioners of the Football Bowl Subdivision (FBS) Nonautonomy, NCAA Football Championship Subdivision (FCS) and Division I Subdivision Conferences.** The NCAA Division I Football Oversight Committee reviewed the waiver request submitted by the commissioners of FBS nonautonomy, FCS and Division I subdivision conferences. Based on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Football Oversight Committee provided the following recommendations:
 - a. **NCAA Division I Bylaw 18.7.2.1.1 and 20.9.9.2.1 (Exception – FCS Subdivision Opponent [FBS]).** The Football Oversight Committee recommends deferring action on this item until the June NCAA Division I Council meeting. The Football Oversight Committee discussed Bylaws 18.7.2.1.1 and 20.9.9.2.1, which permit an FBS institution to count one victory against an FCS opponent toward "deserving team" status for postseason eligibility, and one contest against an FCS opponent toward FBS scheduling requirements, provided the FCS opponent has averaged 90 percent of the permissible number of football scholarships during a rolling two-year period. The Football Oversight Committee noted that relief in this area would necessitate a review of the definition of a deserving team and charged the NCAA Division I Football Competition Committee with reviewing this element of the waiver request and providing recommendations to the Football Oversight Committee.
 - b. **Bylaw 20.9.9.2 (Football Scheduling Requirements [FBS]).** The Football Oversight Committee recommends approving a one-year blanket waiver to suspend all requirements of Bylaw 20.9.9.2, which requires an FBS institution to pay at least 60 percent of its contests against FBS opponents and five regular-season home games against FBS opponents.
 - c. **Bylaw 20.9.9.3 (Football-Attendance Requirements).** The Football Oversight Committee recommends approving a two-year blanket waiver to suspend Bylaw 20.9.9.3, which requires an FBS institution to average at least 15,000 in actual or paid attendance once every two years on a rolling basis.
 - d. **Bylaw 20.9.9.4 (Additional Financial Aid Requirements).** The Football Oversight Committee recommends approving a three-year blanket waiver to reduce the requirements of Bylaw 20.9.9.4, which requires FBS institutions to provide at least an average of at least 90 percent of the permissible maximum number of overall football grants-in-aid per year during a rolling two-year period, and annually offer a minimum of 200 athletics grants-in-aid or expend at least \$4 million on grants-in-aid to student-athletes in athletics programs. The Football

Oversight Committee recommends that the blanket waiver allow an institution to meet the FBS additional financial aid requirements by providing at least 75 percent of the permissible maximum number of overall football grants-in-aid per year during a rolling two-year period the maximum FBS financial aid requirements for football and annually offering a minimum of 150 athletic grants-in-aid or expending at least \$3 million on grants-in-aid to student-athletes in athletics programs.

- e. **Bylaw 20.9.10.2 (Football Scheduling Requirement [FCS]).** The Football Oversight Committee recommends approving a one-year blanket waiver to suspend Bylaw 20.9.10.2, which requires an FCS institution to play at least 50 percent of its football games against FBS or FCS institutions. Based on feedback received by the Football Oversight Committee, this recommendation is supported by the NCAA Division I Football Championship Committee.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. COVID-19 Updates and Discussion.

- a. **Update from May 13 NCAA Division I Council Coordination Committee Meeting.** The Football Oversight Committee received an update on actions taken by the Council Coordination Committee during its May 13 meeting. The Council Coordination Committee extended the temporary recruiting dead period in all sports through June 30, and discussed issues related to the return of student-athletes to campuses and conducting athletically related activities. The Council Coordination Committee emphasized the primacy of student-athlete health and safety in any decisions related to such issues and that access to institutional facilities should be provided in compliance with applicable state and local regulations. The Council Coordination Committee will review the Football Oversight Committee recommendations on summer athletic activities, camps and clinics, and summer financial aid and benefits during its May 15 meeting.
- b. **Update from NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sport (CSMAS).** John Parsons, managing director of NCAA Sport Science Institute, provided the Football Oversight Committee with a CSMAS update on COVID-19 items, including the review of preseason practice models and guidance concerning virtual physical activities, including student-athlete requests for involvement of strength and conditioning coaches in voluntary virtual activities. Feedback shared from the CSMAS Prevention and Performance Subcommittee noted a potential health and safety benefit to the involvement of the strength and conditioning coach in voluntary virtual activities, provided the student-athlete requests the strength and conditioning coach's guidance on workout plans, progress or technique and the strength and conditioning coach does not conduct the workout.

Football student-athlete representatives to the Football Oversight Committee support a model that would allow for the type of "check in" with a strength and conditioning coach described by the CSMAS Prevention and Performance Subcommittee. Updates from CSMAS will continue to be provided during future Football Oversight Committee meetings.

- c. **Committee Member Updates.** Football Oversight Committee members were encouraged to remain in close contact with their conferences and share updates during future meetings.

2. **Future Meetings and Teleconferences.**

- a. May 21, 2020; Microsoft Teams Meeting.
- b. May 28, 2020; Microsoft Teams Meeting.
- c. June 4, 2020; Microsoft Teams Meeting.
- d. June 11, 2020; Microsoft Teams Meeting.

Committee Chair: Shane Lyons, West Virginia University; Big 12 Conference.

Staff Liaisons: Ty Halpin, NCAA Championships and Alliances.

Kris Richardson, NCAA Academic and Membership Affairs.

Report of the NCAA Division I Football Oversight Committee

May 14, 2020, Teleconference

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NCAA Division I Football Oversight Committee May 14, 2020, Teleconference	
Attendees:	
Mark Alnutt, University at Buffalo, the State University of New York; Mid-American Conference.	
Whit Babcock, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University; Atlantic Coast Conference.	
Sandy Barbour, Pennsylvania State University; Big Ten Conference.	
Todd Berry, American Football Coaches Association (AFCA).	
Greg Byrne, University of Alabama; Southeastern Conference.	
Christian Ellsworth, University of Northern Iowa; Missouri Valley Conference.	
Patrick Fields, University of Oklahoma; Big 12 Conference.	
Pat Fitzgerald, Northwestern University, AFCA Board of Trustees.	
Jean Gee, University of Montana.	
Bret Gilliland, Mountain West Conference.	
Doug Gillin, Appalachian State University; Sun Belt Conference.	
Michael Hamrick, Marshall University; Conference USA.	
Mark Harlan, University of Utah; Pacific-12 Conference.	
Samantha Huge, College of William & Mary.	
Patrick Kraft, Temple University; American Athletic Conference.	
Shane Lyons, West Virginia University; Big 12 Conference.	
Frank Messina, University of Alabama at Birmingham.	
Greg Seitz, Jacksonville State University.	
Patty Viverito, Missouri Valley Conference.	
Jennifer Williams, Alabama State University.	
Absentees:	
None.	
Guest(s) in Attendance:	
Ryan Cassidy, Rutgers University; Big Ten Conference.	
NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:	
Ty Halpin and Kris Richardson.	
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:	
Michael Bazemore, Geoff Bentzel, Amanda Conklin, Jenn Fraser, Chris Howard, Chris Johnson, Jessica Kerr, John Parsons and Greg Pottorff.	