



**REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION I COMMITTEE ON STUDENT-ATHLETE REINSTATEMENT  
March 4, 2021, VIDEOCONFERENCE**

**KEY ITEMS.**

- None.

**ACTION ITEMS.**

**1. Legislative items.**

- None.

**2. Nonlegislative items.**

- **Request to Waive Season-of-Competition Legislation.**

- (1) Recommendation. That the NCAA Division I Council approve a waiver permitting institutions in the applicant conference (see specific waiver request attached) to self-apply a season-of-competition waiver for its 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) Neither the student-athlete as an individual nor the institution's team participates in NCAA championship competition during the 2021 spring.
- (2) Effective date. Immediate.
- (3) Rationale. The NCAA Division I Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement reviewed the waiver request attached and agreed that, based on the unique circumstances surrounding the conference's decision to cancel spring competition prior to beginning spring competitive seasons, it is appropriate for Council to permit institutions within the applicant

conference to self-apply season-of-competition waivers with the conditions set forth above. The committee noted that the conference did not submit the fourth criterion as part of its request but acknowledged that the intent of the season-of-competition waiver legislation is to provide a season of competition to student-athletes who did not have a meaningful participation opportunity. The committee agreed that a student-athlete and/or institutional team that competes in an NCAA championship has had a meaningful participation opportunity and should, therefore, not qualify for a season-of-competition waiver.

Further, the committee considered whether to recommend that Council approve a blanket waiver as opposed to a waiver only for this specific conference. The committee agreed that the circumstances of the applicant conference are unique; that most other conferences have already begun spring competition and; that future requests should be considered on a case-by-case basis.

- (4) Estimated budget impact. Potential budget impact for member institutions of applicant conference that have spring sport student-athletes, who would have otherwise exhausted eligibility during 2020-21, return for an additional year.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. Potential student-athlete impact for student-athletes who have an opportunity to compete limitedly during spring 2021 and retain the season of competition.

### **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

- **Review of COVID-19-related flexible case decisions.** The committee reviewed COVID-19-related decisions for which the NCAA student-athlete reinstatement staff provided relief from established case precedent and/or committee guidelines.

*Committee Chair:* Rick Christensen, Duquesne University  
*Staff Liaisons:* Maison Haines, Academic and Membership Affairs.  
Sarah Otey, Academic and Membership Affairs.  
Brad Rochman, Academic and Membership Affairs.

<b>NCAA Division I Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement March 4, 2021, Videoconference</b>	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
	Michael Bitter, Stetson University.
	Rick Christensen, Duquesne University.
	Terry Porter, Towson University.
	Marielle vanGelder, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill.
<b>Absentees:</b>	
	Paia LaPalombara, The Ohio State University.
	Ava Lawson, Northern Kentucky University; student-athlete.
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>	
	None.
<b>NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:</b>	
	Maison Haines, Sarah Otey and Brad Rochman.
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>	
	Cynthia Alanis.