

REPORT OF THE NCAA DIVISION I WOMEN'S BASKETBALL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE NOVEMBER 30, 2020, VIDEOCONFERENCE

ACTION ITEMS.

None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

- 1. NCAA vice president of women's basketball update. The NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Oversight Committee received an update on planning for 2021 NCAA Women's Final Four, including a review of the feasibility of conducting the tournament in one geographic area.
- 2. Review of action taken by the NCAA Division I Football Oversight Committee related to virtual recruiting activities. The committee reviewed a blanket waiver approved by the NCAA Division I Council regarding virtual recruiting activities in football. The committee supported approving a similar blanket waiver in women's basketball to permit all full time, institutional staff members and current student-athletes to engage in virtual recruiting activities involving prospective student-athletes who are permitted to engage in virtual recruiting activities (e.g., prospective student-athletes an institution is permitted to call) without restriction for the remainder of the temporary recruiting dead period.
- 3. Review of a request from the Women's Basketball Coaches Association to permit transfer student-athletes serving an academic year in residence for the 2020-21 academic year to compete immediately. The committee reviewed a blanket waiver recommendation from the WBCA to allow immediate eligibility for 4-4 transfer student-athletes who are currently serving their academic year in residence during the 2020-21 season. The committee noted that 66% of the head coach feedback from the WBCA supported the blanket waiver.

The committee supported approving a blanket waiver to allow 4-4 transfer student-athletes serving an academic year in residence to be immediately eligible for the 2020-21 academic year under the following conditions:

- a. This was the student-athlete's first transfer from a four-year institution (i.e., 4-4 transfer only);
- b. The student-athlete left the previous institution academically eligible and in good standing with no disciplinary suspension; and
- c. The head coach and student-athlete must certify that no impermissible recruiting occurred.

In support of the blanket waiver, the committee noted: (1) Student-athletes who compete during the 2020-21 season have already been granted an additional season of competition; (2) Availability of these student-athletes for competition may help teams whose rosters may be suddenly depleted by positive tests and/or contact tracing; and (3) The positive impact on the mental well-being of transfer student-athletes serving a year in residence. Finally, given the 2020-21 women's basketball season has started, the committee requested that the Council expedite a review of this blanket waiver.

- 4. Review of Division I Council action related to midyear enrollees and participation during the 2020-21 academic year. The committee discussed whether women's basketball midyear enrollees should be immediately eligible during the 2020-21 season. The Council adopted emergency temporary legislation in championship subdivision football and fall sports other than football to permit some midyear enrollees to be eligible for competition in the 2020-21 academic year, provided the specific criteria is met. The committee did not support the adoption of emergency legislation to allow immediate eligibility for women's basketball midyear enrollees during the 2020-21 season and noted the limited amount of midyear enrollees in the sport of women's basketball and the opportunity to seek a legislative relief waiver based on the student-athlete's specific circumstances. Finally, the committee recommended that staff continue to apply the current standards to waiver requests for student-athletes who enroll midyear and seek immediate eligibility.
- 5. Update from the NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Committee. The WBOC received an update from the Women's Basketball Committee, including planning for the 2021 NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Championship with a continued focus on fiscal responsibility and health and safety of participants as well as discussions on potential waivers for institutions not able to meet minimum eligibility requirements for championship selection.
- **6. Women's Basketball Coaches Association update.** The WBOC received an update from the executive director of the WBCA, who noted that the recent publication of the WBCA's annual report for 2019-20.

7. Future videoconferences.

- a. December 14, 2020, 11 a.m. Eastern time (joint videoconference with the NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Oversight Committee).
- b. December 14, 2020, 2 p.m. Eastern time.

Committee Chair: Lisa Campos, University of Texas, San Antonio Staff Liaisons: Meredith Cleaver, Championships and Alliances Lynn Holzman, Championships and Alliances Binh T. Nguyen, Academic and Membership Affairs Report of the NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Oversight Committee's November 30, 2020, Videoconference Page No. 3

NCAA Division I Women's Basketball Oversight Committee Meeting November 30, 2020, Videoconference

Attendees:

Jamie Boggs, Grand Canyon University.

Lisa Campos, University of Texas, San Antonio.

Jackie Carson, Furman University.

Cori Close, University of California, Los Angeles.

Danielle Donehew, Women's Basketball Coaches Association (nonvoting member).

Rich Ensor, Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference.

Darrice Griffin, University of Georgia.

Alyson Hagy, University of Wyoming.

David Harris, University of Northern Iowa.

Maisha Kelly, Bucknell University.

Kathy Meehan, St. John's University (New York).

Debbie Richardson, Atlantic-10 Conference (nonvoting member).

Jennifer Strawley, University of Miami (Florida).

Elizabeth Wood, University of Tennessee, Chattanooga.

Absentees:

Zipporah Broughton, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, New Brunswick.

Irma Garcia, St. Francis College Brooklyn.

Guest(s) in Attendance:

None.

NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:

Meredith Cleaver, Lynn Holzman and Binh Nguyen.

Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:

Meghan Durham, Greg Johnson, Brandy Hataway, Cindi Merrill, Ta'Shia Phillips, Amy Reis, Alyssa Rice, Jenn Samble, Rachel Seewald, Shelby Sonnefeldt, Jerry Vaughn, Karen Wolf and Leeland Zeller.