



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION III ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE
MARCH 13, 2020, TELECONFERENCE**

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative items.

- **None.**

2. Nonlegislative items.

a. Sport Sponsorship and Membership Requirements--Spring Sports.

- (1) Recommendation. Approve a blanket waiver of any deficiencies in spring sports sponsorship requirements occurring as a result of actions taken in response to COVID-19. This blanket waiver would not apply to sports sponsorship issues related to fall or winter sports.
- (2) Effective date. Immediately.
- (3) Rationale. Institutions should not incur adverse NCAA membership consequences from taking actions in response to COVID-19. In suspending or cancelling spring sport seasons, many institutions have expressed concern regarding their sport sponsorship obligations. This waiver clarifies that there will not be adverse NCAA membership consequences as a result of suspending or canceling the spring sport season.
- (4) Budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. Potentially, keeps institutions from entering probation or restrictive status and thereby maintaining championships eligibility for its student-athletes.

b. Student-Athlete Seasons of Participation and Eligibility—Spring Sports.

- (1) Recommendation. Approve a blanket waiver for all student-athletes participating in spring sports as follows: (1) Waive the use of a season of participation for all student-athletes in spring sports. If an institution continues or re-starts its season, this relief will still exist; and (2) Waive the use of the spring semester towards their limit of 10 semesters/15 quarters, regardless of whether they used a season.
- (2) Effective date. Immediately.

- (3) Rationale. In reaction to concerns regarding COVID-19, many institutions have either suspended or cancelled their spring sport seasons. Some spring sport student-athletes have already been charged with the use of a season of participation, and many more have been charged with the use of a semester. While the actual participation opportunities for these spring sport student-athletes vary across the division, a full and meaningful participation opportunity is not viable in most situations. Consequently, ensuring that these student-athletes are not charged with a season and semester allows those student-athletes the option to engage in four seasons of participation, if feasible for their circumstances.
- (4) Budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. Spring sport student-athletes will not be charged with the use of a season of participation or a semester, thereby providing them the option to extend their participation opportunities.

c. Playing and Practice Seasons Exceptions and Extra Benefits.

- (1) Recommendation. Approve the allowance of institutions exercising flexibility in the best interest of their student-athletes with respect to playing and practice seasons exceptions and extra benefits through the conclusion of the 2019-20 academic year. The committee directed staff to assist with applying flexibility in these areas on a case-by-case basis, when requested by institutions. Examples include allowing flexibility for playing season adjustments occurring during the Spring 2020 semester and flexibility to assist students with travel, lodging, and meals associated with being displaced due to their campus being closed.
- (2) Effective date. Immediately.
- (3) Rationale. This is a unique and unprecedented situation. This directive provides institutions the discretion to act in the best interest of their student-athletes without worrying about adverse NCAA implications. Institutions may seek assistance from NCAA staff, but institutions may act without the necessity to seek a waiver or clarification from the NCAA.
- (4) Budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. Allows institutions to provide flexibility in assisting student-athletes given the impact of COVID-19.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Welcome.** The call commenced at 12:02 p.m. Eastern Time. Staff welcomed the committee and detailed the latest actions taken by the NCAA.
2. **COVID-19 Impact on Spring Seasons.** Staff outlined key action steps for the committee to consider to immediately assist the Division III membership with the impact of the NCAA's recent actions due to the coronavirus [See nonlegislative action items].
3. **Membership Correspondence.** Staff shared a draft communication it intended to send to the membership providing key updates and outlining the committee's actions.
4. **Other Business.** Staff provided possible initial budget implications. Division III, similar to the other divisions, may lose 70% of its revenue for 2019-20. The impact could result in a revenue loss of approximately 22 million, leaving a budget of approximately ten million for this fiscal year. The Strategic Planning and Finance Committee will discuss the impact on the division's future forecasting during its March teleconference. Additional details and discussions will occur in April with the Councils.
5. **Adjournment.** The committee adjourned at 12:44 p.m. Eastern time.

Committee Chair: Tori Murden McClure, Spalding University, St. Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference

*Staff Liaisons: Dan Dutcher, Division III Governance
Debbie Kresge, Division III Governance
Louise McCleary, Division III Governance
Jeff Myers, Academic and Membership Affairs
Ali Spungen, Division III Governance*

NCAA Division III Administrative Committee
March 13, 2020, Teleconference
Attendees:
Heather Benning, Midwest Conference.
Gerard Bryant, John Jay College of Criminal Justice.
Fayneese Miller, Hamline University.
Tori Murden McClure, Spalding University.
Dennis Shields, University of Wisconsin, Platteville.
Staff:
Dan Dutcher, Louise McCleary, Jeff Myers and Ali Spungen
Absent:
Debbie Kresge