



**REPORT OF THE NCAA
BOARD OF GOVERNORS
MARCH 12, 2020, TELECONFERENCE**

ACTION ITEMS:

- The NCAA Board of Governors directed Divisions I, II and III to enact modifications, changes, or waivers to legislation and rules where appropriate to provide necessary relief due to regulations and policies impacted by COVID-19.

INFORMATONAL ITEMS:

1. **Welcome and announcements.** President Michael Drake, NCAA Board of Governors chair, welcomed board members and called the teleconference to order at approximately 3 p.m. NCAA staff confirmed that a quorum was present.
2. **NCAA President's report.** President Mark Emmert updated the board on the actions by NCAA conferences and schools to cancel conference basketball tournaments, suspend winter and spring sports seasons and close campuses. The board also discussed actions by professional sports leagues to cancel or suspend seasons.
3. **NCAA COVID-19 Advisory Panel report.** Dr. Vivek Murthy reported the continued upward swing in the number of people diagnosed with COVID-19. Dr. Murthy noted that the delay in testing makes it impossible to know how many cases there are and if the NCAA continues with championships, we could be contributing to a national health risk.
4. **NCAA championships update.** NCAA Senior Vice President for Basketball Dan Gavitt noted that the Division I men's and women's basketball committees spent most of the night exploring possible options for conducting the championships. The following day it was determined that the championships could not be conducted. In addition, NCAA Senior Vice President for Championships Joni Comstock noted the difficulty in fielding participants in other winter championships, as many student-athletes and teams indicated a desire not to participate.
5. **Options and alternatives.** President Emmert asked that the board consider what actions to take regarding winter and spring championships, and what could be done to provide flexibility to member schools related to rules that may negatively impact student-athletes. Based on the recommendations of the COVID-19 Advisory Panel and the NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Committee, along with the recent actions taken by professional sports leagues and member conferences, the board unanimously voted to cancel the NCAA men's and women's 2020 basketball tournaments, as well as all remaining winter and spring NCAA championships, and directed staff to communicate that decision immediately. Further, the board adopted the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the NCAA Board of Governors considered the increasing health crisis in the United States due to COVID-19.

WHEREAS, the NCAA Board of Governors noted the escalating medical information about COVID-19 and the potential for widespread infection.

WHEREAS, many NCAA members have made decisions to cancel or suspend all sports programs to protect the health and safety of their campus communities.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the NCAA Board of Governors encourages conferences and institutions to make decisions and take action in the best interest of their student-athletes and communities. In addition, the Board of Governors directs Divisions I, II and III to enact modifications, changes, or waivers to legislation and rules where appropriate to provide necessary relief due to regulations and policies impacted by COVID-19.

6. **Adjournment.** The teleconference was adjourned at approximately 4 p.m.

Board of Governors chair: Michael Drake, The Ohio State University

*Staff liaisons: Jacqueline Campbell, law, policy and governance
Donald M. Remy, law, policy and governance*

NCAA Board of Governors March 12, 2020, Teleconference	
Attendees:	
Heather Benning, Midwest Conference	
Grace Calhoun, University of Pennsylvania.	
Eli Capilouto, University of Kentucky.	
Ken Chenault, General Catalyst.	
Mary Sue Coleman, Association of American Universities.	
John DeGioia, Georgetown University.	
Philip DiStefano, University of Colorado.	
Michael Drake, The Ohio State University.	
Mark Emmert, NCAA.	
Allison Garrett, Emporia State University.	
Christopher Graham, Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference.	
Burns Hargis, Oklahoma State University.	
Grant Hill, CBS/Warner Media/Atlanta Hawks.	
Sandra Jordan, University of South Carolina Aiken.	
Renu Khator, University of Houston.	
Ronald Machtley, Bryant University.	
Fr. James Maher, Niagara University.	
Denis McDonough, Former White House Chief of Staff.	
Fayneese Miller, Hamline University.	
Tori Murden-McClure, Spalding University.	
Vivek Murthy, 19th United States Surgeon General.	
Denise Trauth, Texas State University.	
Satish Tripathi, University at Buffalo, The State University of New York.	
David Wilson, Morgan State University.	
Randy Woodson, North Carolina State University.	
Absentees:	
None.	
Guests in Attendance:	
None.	
NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:	
Jacqueline Campbell and Donald Remy.	
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:	
Scott Bearby, Joni Comstock, Dan Dutcher, Kimberly Fort, Dan Gavitt, Terri Gronau, Brian Hainline, Kathleen McNeely, Cari Van Senus and Stan Wilcox.	

Report is not final until approval of the Board of Governors