



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA PLAYING RULES OVERSIGHT PANEL
AUGUST 8, 2024, VIDEOCONFERENCE**

ACTION ITEMS.

- None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Welcome and announcements.** Tiffany Daniels, chair of the Playing Rules Oversight Panel, welcomed the panel.
2. **Duties and conflict of interest.** PROP reviewed its duties and the NCAA Conflict of Interest Policy.
3. **Approval of July 17, 2024, meeting report.** PROP approved the July 17, 2024, meeting report as written.
4. **NCAA Baseball Rules Committee annual meeting report, comment period results and videoconference report.** PROP reviewed and approved 21 rules changes submitted by the Baseball Rules Committee, which included:
 - a. To permit the use of double first bases in post-season competition.
 - b. For Division I only, to require that bat testing be conducted prior to the start of play of each date of competition.
 - c. To require the bat testing sticker(s) for day of competition of each team be placed on the lineup card given to the umpire.
 - d. To remove language related to a foreign substance being applied to a ball that may discolor the ball to include a foreign substance that may be clear.
 - e. To separate the pitcher and relief pitcher suspensions served after an ejection. A player listed as the starting pitcher will remain at a four-game suspension and a relief pitcher will now serve a two-game suspension following an ejection.
 - f. To allow for play calling on the offensive side to occur outside of the dugout but still within designated areas.
 - g. To require head coaches to be ejected should there be any violation to rules regarding the use of electronic devices.
 - h. To eliminate the existing ambiguity within the "fight rule" to ensure a more consistent understanding and application as described to eliminate undue ejections and suspensions for players who do not participate or incite a fight or leave their position to approach the vicinity of a fight or altercation.
 - i. To eliminate the batter's box rule which requires the hitter to stay within the batter's box. The rules change aligns with the current action clock and timing requirements.
 - j. To clarify what is considered stepping in front of home plate during catcher's interference play situations.

- k. To allow a play to continue after the call of force-play-slide rule as this is a reviewable play. If this call is overturned it would allow the play at first base on the batter-runner to remain.
 - l. To clarify language for gaining ground towards home plate.
 - m. To simplify the penalty for the ball being dropped while in contact with the pitcher's plate and follow the requirements of the pitch clock rule.
 - n. To require that the pitcher and head coaches be ejected if a pitcher is found to be using a foreign substance.
 - o. To allow the pitcher to throw unlimited warm-up pitches between innings within 120 seconds.
 - p. To allow a new or relief pitcher unlimited warm-up pitches within 150 seconds.
 - q. To provide relief pitchers entering the game the opportunity to determine the location to warm-up (e.g. the game mound or the bullpen) in the case of an injury or an ejection.
 - r. To amend the time in which the hitter must be alert and ready to hit from 10 seconds to 8 seconds remaining on the pitch clock.
 - s. To allow certain timing rules for pace of play to be permissive by conference rule or mutual agreement prior to the start of the game (e.g. between batters, mound visits and offensive timeouts).
 - t. To address situations when a pitcher is starting the preliminary motion or a motion to deliver the pitch before the batter is alert and ready to hit.
 - u. To allow the visible action clock to be permissive for Division III institutions.
5. **NCAA Men's and Women's Track and Field Rules Committee annual meeting report and comment period results.** PROP reviewed and approved 13 rules changes submitted by the Men's and Women's Track and Field Rules Committee, which included:
- a. To require that harness straps be sewn underneath the head of the implement.
 - b. To redefine the roles of Meet Management (formerly Games Committee), Meet Director and Referee.
 - c. To add language to include the Competition Manager as meet management.
 - d. To change the language from "Immediate Protest" to "Challenge" and define who can submit a challenge and when a challenge is allowed.
 - e. To add language to address the use of official video prior to the start of the meet and confirmation of its use for:
 - i. Confirming or denying a perceived rule violation reported by a competition official.
 - ii. Addressing a submitted protest or appeal regarding the referee's decision on a perceived rule violation.
 - iii. Confirming either a legal or foul attempt by the competitor at a field event.
 - f. To modify the Failure to Participate rule to apply to all scored competitions.
 - g. To outline stricter specifications on all shoes worn during competition.

- h. In races run on curves, to categorize steps on or over the curb or line to the left with more than one step throughout the entirety of the race as a foul.
 - i. To reorganize the formation of heat, sections, qualifying and lane assignments.
 - j. In the high jump, to require the crossbar to be initially raised in increments of five (5) centimeters.
 - k. In the pole vault, to require the crossbar to be initially raised in increments of fifteen (15) centimeters.
 - l. For indoor and outdoor track and field, effective December 1, 2026, to require all equipment used for timing, weighing, and measuring implements and performance be certified for accuracy by an appropriate testing agency.
 - m. For cross country, effective August 1, 2027, to require all equipment used for timing be certified for accuracy by an appropriate testing agency and recalibrated for accuracy in accordance with method's specified by the manufacturer.
6. **NCAA Men's Volleyball Committee annual meeting report and comment period results.** PROP reviewed and approved one modification from the NCAA Division III Men's Volleyball Committee and the NCAA National Collegiate Men's Volleyball Committee, while also approving one additional rules modification from the NCAA National Collegiate Men's Volleyball Committee, which included:
- a. To allow a double contact during a team's second hit when the next contact on the ball is by a teammate. A double contact that crosses the net to the opponent or is next contacted by an opponent before a teammate, is a double contact foul.
 - b. For National Collegiate Only:
 - i. Replay requests must take place within 8 seconds after the rally is over. The R1 will determine if the challenge occurred within 8 seconds. To ensure that the 8 second rule is appropriately followed for a challenge, the resolution of a challenge will occur prior to a called timeout, as the outcome of the challenge could dictate whether a timeout is needed.
 - ii. After the challenge is accepted and the R2 (R3 when applicable) has made a decision on the challenge, they will inform the scorer and the announcers of the outcome and then turn around and give the proper results to the R1.
7. **NCAA Women's Gymnastics Committee annual meeting report and comment period results.** PROP reviewed and approved 14 rules modifications submitted by the NCAA Women's Gymnastics Committee, which included:
- a. To standardize the time between the completion of the warmup rotations and the march out ceremony to be a minimum of 15 minutes and a maximum of 20 minutes.
 - b. To allow gymnasts to compete in a tank leotard during regular season and postseason competitions (i.e., conference and NCAA championships) as long as the leotard meets current rules (one piece, no bathing suits, etc.).
 - c. To allow athletes to wear spandex shorts or tights during competition.

- d. To reduce the regular season open stretch warmup time from 30 minutes to 20 minutes.
 - e. During the postseason, to allow institutions to change their designated competing student athletes up until one hour prior to open stretch warm-ups of the competition.
 - f. During the regular season only, to tighten the allowable score range between the scores of 9.8 and 10.0 to .1 from the current .2 range. All other ranges will stay the same.
 - g. If a gymnast has a broken/torn grip, to allow them to repeat their routine as the last team competitor or after the all-around competitor (specialist). Judging will begin at the point of interruption. If this does not allow for a sufficient amount of time to change grips or enough time to prepare, the gymnast will repeat the routine as soon as it is safe to do so. However, the time should not exceed five minutes.
 - h. When a gymnast has an incomplete routine, judges will calculate their Start Value and submit their score to the Chief Judge as usual. If the Start Values are impossible or the counting scores are out of range, the Chief Judge may postpone calling a conference for the routine until all remaining athletes in the rotation have competed.
 - i. To adjust the Special Requirements for Uneven Bars.
 - j. To adjust the Connection Value Bonus Exception for Uneven Bars.
 - k. To raise the value of two skills on Uneven Bars.
 - l. To adjust the Element Value on Balance Beam.
 - m. To eliminate the bonus on Floor for an isolated double flipping salto in the last pass in a two (2) acro pass routine and replace with an additional difficulty bonus.
 - n. To add a special requirement change on floor exercise: A minimum of two (2) acro passes performed on two (2) different diagonals.
8. **Commercial logos on officials' uniforms.** PROP reviewed a summary of uniform rules for officials across sports. Staff noted that increasing questions are being raised by the membership regarding the allowance of commercial logos on officials' uniforms, student-athletes' uniforms and playing surfaces. PROP agreed to discuss this issue more in-depth during its annual meeting in January.
9. **Election of vice-chair.** PROP elected Brad Walker, Commissioner of the America East Conference, as vice-chair for the 2024-25 academic year.
10. **Future videoconference dates.** The next PROP videoconference is scheduled for 1 p.m. Eastern time, Thursday, September 5.
11. **Other business.** Two outgoing committee members were recognized and thanked for their service – Tiffany Daniels and Scott Musa.

12. Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at approximately 1:45 p.m. Eastern time.

Committee Chair: Tiffany Daniels, Southeastern Conference
Staff Liaisons: Stanley Broaden, Championships and Alliances, Playing Rules and Officiating
 Jay Fitzwater, Championships and Alliances, Playing Rules and Officiating
 Ashlee Follis, Championships and Alliances, Playing Rules and Officiating
 Ty Halpin, Championships and Alliances, Playing Rules and Officiating
 Connor Lancashire, Championships and Alliances, Playing Rules and Officiating
 Rachel Seewald, Championships and Alliances, Playing Rules and Officiating
 Andy Supergan, Championships and Alliances, Playing Rules and Officiating

NCAA Playing Rules Oversight Panel August 8, 2024, Videoconference
Attendees:
Chris Colvin, Conference Carolinas.
Tiffany Daniels, Southeastern Conference.
Robert Davenport, Oklahoma Baptist University.
Richard Duran, University of the Incarnate Word.
Chad Eisele, Hampden-Sydney College.
Scott Musa, Wilkes University.
Joe Schaly, Thiel College.
Brad Walker, America East Conference
Absentees:
Joseph D'Antonio, Coastal Athletic Association.
Keith Gill, Sun Belt Conference.
Lexie Vernon, Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference.
NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:
Stanley Broaden, Jay Fitzwater, Ashlee Follis, Connor Lancashire, Rachel Seewald and Andy Supergan.
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:
Ben Brownlee, Lauren Crumley and Greg Johnson.