



Application of Playing and Practice Seasons in Division II Championship Sports for the 2020-21 Academic Year

(Updated 3/16/21)

Please note, the following chart is applicable to the 2020-21 academic year as a result of COVID-19 and the relief provided by the Division II Administrative Committee for Division II championship sports. All daily and weekly hour limitations remain the same (see NCAA Bylaws 17.1.6.1 and 17.1.6.2). Institutions that declare a different championship segment for their sports are still eligible to participate in the Division II championship, as long as all other selection criteria and sports sponsorship requirements are met.

For information on the playing and practice season legislation for National Collegiate Championship sports, emerging sports for women and Division II men's ice hockey, reference the sport-specific legislation in Bylaw 17 and Figure 17-2 (playing and practice seasons).

Sport	First Practice Date in the Championship Segment	First Contest Date or Date of Competition in the Championship Segment	Number of Days in the Championship Segment	End of Regular Playing Season	First Practice Date in the Nonchampionship Segment (or Spring Practice in Football)
Baseball	Practice may begin September 7 or the fourth day of classes, whichever is earlier.	Institutions (or conferences) may declare a championship segment at any point during the 2020-21 academic year equal to the number of days in the regular season.	131 days ^{1,3}	Monday, May 31, 2021, unless the institution is participating in the NCAA championship. ⁵	At any point during the 2020-21 academic year (other than during institutional final exams and the legislated winter break), based on the institution's adjusted championship segment. ^{7,8} Practice may begin September 7 or the fourth day of classes, whichever is earlier.
Basketball	Preseason Conditioning and/or On-Court Practice: September 7 or the fourth day of classes, whichever is earlier.	Institutions (or conferences) may declare a championship segment at any point during the 2020-21 academic year equal to the number of days in the regular season.	142 days ^{1,3}	Monday, May 31, 2021. ⁵	
Cross Country	Practice may begin August 17 or five days before the	Institutions (or conferences) may declare a championship segment at any point during	84 days ^{1,3}	Monday, May 31, 2021. ⁶	At any point during the 2020-21 academic year (other than during institutional final exams and the

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	first day of classes, whichever is earlier.	the 2020-21 academic year equal to the number of days in the regular season. The first contest date for the championship segment in the fall is September 3.			legislated winter break), based on the institution's adjusted championship segment. ^{7,8} Practice may begin September 7 or the fourth day of classes, whichever is earlier.
Field Hockey	Practice may begin August 17 or five days before the first day of classes, whichever is earlier.	Institutions (or conferences) may declare a championship segment at any point during the 2020-21 academic year equal to the number of days in the regular season. The first contest date for the championship segment in the fall is September 3.	89 days ^{1,3}	Monday, May 31, 2021. ⁶	At any point during the 2020-21 academic year (other than during institutional final exams and the legislated winter break), based on the institution's adjusted championship segment. ^{7,8}
Football	Practice may begin August 10 or ten days before the first day of classes, whichever is earlier.	Institutions (or conferences) may declare a championship segment at any point during the 2020-21 academic year equal to the number of days in the regular season. The first contest date for the championship segment in the fall is September 3.	103 days ^{1,3}	Monday, May 31, 2021. ⁶	Spring practice may occur at any point during the 2020-21 academic year (other than during institutional final exams and the legislated winter break), based on the institution's adjusted championship segment. ^{7,8} Practice may begin September 7 or the fourth day of classes, whichever is earlier. Spring practice parameters [see Bylaw 17.11.8-(b) (spring practice)] continue to apply.
Golf	Practice may begin September 7 or the	Institutions (or conferences) may declare a championship	Men's Golf: 117 days. ^{1,3}	Monday, May 31, 2021. ⁵	At any point during the 2020-21 academic year (other than during

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	fourth day of classes, whichever is earlier.	segment at any point during the 2020-21 academic year equal to the number of days in the regular season.	Women's Golf: 114 days. ^{1,3}		institutional final exams and the legislated winter break), based on the institution's adjusted championship segment. ^{7,8} Practice may begin September 7 or the fourth day of classes, whichever is earlier.
Golf – For institutions and conferences that declare the alternate playing season per Bylaw 17.12.5.1.	Practice may begin August 17 or five days before the first day of classes, whichever is earlier.	Institutions (or conferences) may declare a championship segment at any point during the 2020-21 academic year equal to the number of days in the regular season.	Men's Golf: 117 days. ^{1,3,4} Women's Golf: 114 days. ^{1,3,4}	Monday, May 31, 2021. ⁵	At any point during the 2020-21 academic year (other than during institutional final exams and the legislated winter break), based on the institution's adjusted championship segment. ^{4,7,8}
Lacrosse	Practice may begin September 7 or the fourth day of classes, whichever is earlier.	Institutions (or conferences) may declare a championship segment at any point during the 2020-21 academic year equal to the number of days in the regular season.	Men's Lacrosse: 123 days. ^{1,3} Women's Lacrosse: 125 days. ^{1,3}	Monday, May 31, 2021. ⁵	At any point during the 2020-21 academic year (other than during institutional final exams and the legislated winter break), based on the institution's adjusted championship segment. ^{7,8} Practice may begin September 7 or the fourth day of classes, whichever is earlier.
Rowing, Women's	Practice may begin September 7 or the fourth day of classes, whichever is earlier.	Institutions (or conferences) may declare a championship segment at any point during the 2020-21 academic year equal to the number of days in the regular season.	139 days ^{1,3}	Monday, May 31, 2021. ⁵	At any point during the 2020-21 academic year (other than during institutional final exams and the legislated winter break), based on the institution's adjusted championship segment. ^{7,8}

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					Practice may begin September 7 or the fourth day of classes, whichever is earlier.
Soccer	Practice may begin August 17 or five days before the first day of classes, whichever is earlier.	Institutions (or conferences) may declare a championship segment at any point during the 2020-21 academic year equal to the number of days in the regular season. The first contest date for the championship segment in the fall is September 3.	95 days ^{1,3}	Monday, May 31, 2021. ⁶	At any point during the 2020-21 academic year (other than during institutional final exams and the legislated winter break), based on the institution's adjusted championship segment. ^{7,8} Practice may begin September 7 or the fourth day of classes, whichever is earlier.
Softball	Practice may begin September 7 or the fourth day of classes, whichever is earlier.	Institutions (or conferences) may declare a championship segment at any point during the 2020-21 academic year equal to the number of days in the regular season.	124 days ^{1,3}	Monday, May 31, 2021. ⁵	At any point during the 2020-21 academic year (other than during institutional final exams and the legislated winter break), based on the institution's adjusted championship segment. ^{7,8} Practice may begin September 7 or the fourth day of classes, whichever is earlier.
Swimming & Diving	Practice may begin September 7 or the fourth day of classes, whichever is earlier.	Institutions (or conferences) may declare a championship segment at any point during the 2020-21 academic year equal to the number of days in the regular season.	151 days ^{2,3}	Monday, May 31, 2021. ⁵	
Tennis	Practice may begin September 7 or the fourth day of classes, whichever is earlier.	Institutions (or conferences) may declare a championship segment at any point during the 2020-21 academic year	Men's Tennis: 119 days. ^{1,3}	Monday, May 31, 2021. ⁵	At any point during the 2020-21 academic year (other than during institutional final exams and the legislated winter break), based

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		equal to the number of days in the regular season.	Women's Tennis: 121 days. ^{1,3}		on the institution's adjusted championship segment. ^{7,8} Practice may begin September 7 or the fourth day of classes, whichever is earlier.
Tennis – For institutions and conferences that declare the alternate playing season per Bylaw 17.23.5.1.	Practice may begin August 17 or five days before the first day of classes, whichever is earlier.	Institutions (or conferences) may declare a championship segment at any point during the 2020-21 academic year equal to the number of days in the regular season.	Men's Tennis: 119 days. ^{1,3,4} Women's Tennis: 121 days. ^{1,3,4}	Monday, May 31, 2021. ⁵	At any point during the 2020-21 academic year (other than during institutional final exams and the legislated winter break), based on the institution's adjusted championship segment. ^{4,7,8}
Track & Field (Indoor and Outdoor)	Practice may begin September 7 or the fourth day of classes, whichever is earlier.	Institutions (or conferences) may declare a championship segment at any point during the 2020-21 academic year equal to the number of days in the regular season.	144 days ^{2,3} (for institutions that sponsor only indoor or outdoor). 156 days ^{2,3} (for institutions that sponsor both indoor and outdoor, even if competition was not conducted in indoor).	Monday, May 31, 2021. ⁵	
Volleyball, Women's	Practice may begin August 17 or five days before the first day of classes, whichever is earlier.	Institutions (or conferences) may declare a championship segment at any point during the 2020-21 academic year equal to the number of days in the regular season.	108 days ^{1,3}	Monday, May 31, 2021. ⁶	At any point during the 2020-21 academic year (other than during institutional final exams and the legislated winter break), based on the institution's adjusted championship segment. ^{7,8}

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					Practice may begin September 7 or the fourth day of classes, whichever is earlier.
Wrestling, Men's	Practice may begin September 7 or the fourth day of classes, whichever is earlier.	Institutions (or conferences) may declare a championship segment at any point during the 2020-21 academic year equal to the number of days in the regular season.	144 days ^{2,3}	Monday, May 31, 2021. ⁵	

¹ Institutions may divide the championship segment into two segments of consecutive days. Days off, including those required per Bylaw 17.1.6.5 (required day off – playing season) and for official vacation, holiday and final-examination period days during which no practice or competition occur, must be included in the calculation. Institutions may continue practice and competition after the applicable Division II Championship, as long as days remain in the institution's season.

² Which may consist of two segments (each consisting of consecutive days) and exclude only required days off and official vacation, holiday and final-examination period during which no practice or competition shall occur.

³ Practice and competition remains impermissible during the legislated seven-day winter break (December 21-27, 2020); however, institutions are permitted to provide expenses (e.g., housing, meals) to student-athletes who are unable to return home during the break. Use of institutional facilities remains limited to facilities open to the general student body.

⁴ Institutions are permitted to extend the fall championship segment and/or spring nonchampionship segment by the number of days the institution delayed the start of the fall 2020 championship segment. For example, if a tennis team is not able to begin practice until August 27, which is a 10-day delay, the institution may continue participating until November 25, start the nonchampionship segment on February 5 or use a combination of the 10 lost days over both segments.

⁵ Student-athletes must be given a 14-consecutive calendar day period break at the conclusion of the championship segment in accordance with Bylaw 17.1.6.3.1-(e) (sports other than football).

⁶ Student-athletes must be given a 14-consecutive calendar day period break at the conclusion of the championship segment in accordance with Bylaws 17.1.6.3.1-(e) (sports other than football) and 17.1.6.3.2-(c) (football), including workouts designed and conducted by a strength and conditioning coach. It would remain permissible for a strength and conditioning coach to monitor a voluntary workout for safety purposes during the 14-day break, provided the activity meets the definition of a voluntary activity per Bylaw 17.02.17 (voluntary athletically related activities). [Note: Outside of the academic year, it is not permissible for a strength and conditioning coach to design or conduct a workout during the summer for student-athletes in fall championship sports (See Bylaw 17.1.6.3.5.1 – exception – fall championship sports).]

⁷ If the nonchampionship segment (or in football, spring practice) precedes the championship segment, student-athletes must be given a 14-consecutive calendar day period break at some point between the two segments. This break may occur at the institution's discretion and the team may proceed directly in to the eight-hour period at the conclusion of the nonchampionship segment, if desired.

⁸ Must conclude not later than seven days prior to the final examination period.