

DIVISION I FOOTBALL HOT TOPICS

Geoff Bentzel and Kris Richardson

DIVISION I FOOTBALL HOT TOPICS

Overview

• COVID-19 Updates.

 NCAA Division I Football Oversight Committee Update.

• Legislative Update.

COVID-19 UPDATES

• Summer Access.

• Preseason Practice Period.

• Regular Season.

NCAA Division I Football Oversight Committee Recommended Division I Football 2020 Summer Athletic Activity and Preseason Practice Model

June 2020 July 20										uly 202	2020				August 2020							September 2020						
S	М	Т	W	Т	F	S	S	М	Т	w	Т	F	S	S	М	Т	W	Т	F	S	S	М	Т	W	Т	F	S	
	1	2	3	4	5	6				1	2	3	4							1			1	2	3	4	5	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
28	29	30					26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30				
														30	31													

Voluntary and Virtual Activities

• From June 1 until 25 calendar days before the school's first permissible preseason practice date, only voluntary and virtual nonphysical activities (up to eight hours per week) are permissible.

Summer Access

- Required summer athletic activities (summer access) may begin 25 calendar days prior to the first permissible preseason practice date.
- Student-athletes may engage in eight hours of weight training, conditioning and film review (not more than two hours) per week.
- Schools whose football student-athletes are unable to return to campus to participate in summer access may continue to require participation in up to eight
 hours per week of virtual nonphysical activities until the student-athletes return to campus to begin participating in required summer athletic activities.

Summer Access with Walk-Throughs and Meetings

- · Required summer access with walk-throughs and meetings may begin 14 calendar days before the school's first permissible preseason practice date.
- 20 hours of countable athletically related activities (CARA) per week (not more than four hours per day), as follows:
 - o Not more than eight hours per week for weight training and conditioning.
 - o Not more than six hours per week for walk-throughs, which may include the use of a football.
 - Not more than six hours per week for meetings, which may include film review, team meetings, position meetings, 1-on-1 meetings, etc.
- Two days off are required during this period.

Preseason

- No changes to current Football Bowl Subdivision (FBS) and NCAA Football Championship Subdivision (FCS) playing and practice season rules. For example:
 - The preseason practice period begins on the current legislated date (29 days before the first contest) and the acclimatization period (black boxes, above) and number of practices would remain the same.
 - Daily (four hours) and weekly (20 hours) CARA limits begin with the institution's first day of classes or seven days before the institution's first scheduled contest, whichever is earlier.

Regular Season

 No changes to current Football Bowl Subdivision (FBS) and NCAA Football Championship Subdivision (FCS) playing and practice season rules [e.g., legislated daily (four hours) and weekly (20 hours) CARA limits apply].

COVID-19 UPDATES: 2020 SUMMER ACCESS AND PRESEASON MODEL

2020 SUMMER ACCESS AND PRESEASON HIGHLIGHTS

- Voluntary and virtual nonphysical activities.
- Two summer access segments:
 - First segment may begin 25 days before the first preseason practice date and permits eight hours of countable athletically related activities.
 - Second segment may begin 14 days prior to the first preseason practice date, requires two days off and permits 20 hours per week of countable athletically related activities.
- No changes to current preseason practice model.
- Question & Answer Document.

QUESTIONS?



FOOTBALL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE UPDATE

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

MEMBERSHIP SURVEY RESULTS: RECRUITING MODEL AND FOUR-GAME "REDSHIRT RULE"

EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

FOOTBALL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE UPDATE

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES THROUGH 2021-22 ACADEMIC YEAR



Review of Football Recruiting Model (Impact of NCAA Proposal No. 2016-116).



Application of the Football 5-4-4 Model (a.k.a. "redshirt rule").



Transfer Data and Trends.



Health and Safety Initiatives and Research. FOOTBALL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE UPDATE

REVIEW OF RECRUITING MODEL

- A membership survey was conducted in early spring 2020 regarding the current recruiting model and legislative changes implemented by the adoption of Proposal No. 2016-116.
- Directors of athletics, head football coaches and compliance administrators.
 - Individual Associated with a Prospective Student-Athlete (IAWP).
 - 10th Assistant Coach.
 - Junior Year Official Visits.
 - Annual Signing Limit ("Hard Cap").
 - Early Signing Date.
 - Recruiting Calendar.
 - Camps and Clinics.
 - *Verbal Offers of Athletics Aid.

RECRUITING MODEL SURVEY

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- <u>IAWP</u>: Strong support for Proposal No. 2019-25 to exempt individuals who move from one four-year institution to another.
 - Intent of the legislation.
 - Compliance and monitoring burden.
- <u>Annual Signing Limit "Hard Cap"</u>: Support for modification to allow greater flexibility due to transfers.
- 10th assistant coach, early signing period, recruiting calendar changes and junior year official visits all viewed as positive changes.
- <u>Verbal Offers of Athletics Aid</u>: Split opinion on whether it should be regulated.

5-4-4 MODEL: FOUR-GAME "REDSHIRT RULE" SURVEY

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Membership surveyed in spring 2019 and spring 2020.
- Strong support for the legislation among the membership:
 - In 2020, 84 percent of institutions responded that the general impact of the legislation has been "extremely positive" (41 percent) or "moderately positive" (43 percent).
 - In 2019, an average of 10 student-athletes redshirted but participated in less than four games. In 2020, the average increased to 15.
- Defensive back, offensive line and wide receiver are the positions with the highest percentages of redshirts who participated during the 2018 and 2019 seasons.

FOOTBALL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE UPDATE

TRANSFER DATA AND TRENDS

- The Football Oversight Committee continues to review data regarding transfers and the NCAA Transfer Portal.
- NCAA Division I Transfer Waiver Working Group Update.
 - COVID-19 impact.
 - NCAA Division I Council did not vote on the Transfer Waiver Working Group recommendation pertaining to use of a one-time transfer waiver guideline for the 2020-21 academic year.
- Instead, the Transfer Waiver Working Group is recommending several modifications for consideration by Council to the undergraduate transfer waiver guidelines.
- If approved, these changes will be used to process waiver requests submitted for eligibility occurring during the 2020-21 academic year.

NEXT STEPS DIVISION I WORKING GROUP ON TRANSFERS

- NCAA Division I Council Coordination Committee reconstituted the Transfer Waiver Working Group as the NCAA Division I Working Group on Transfers.
- Additional membership representation was added to the Working Group on Transfers (e.g., NCAA Division I Committee on Academics, conference-level).
- Representation from all levels of Division I, and representation from various governance committees.
- Development of a comprehensive proposal regarding transfer eligibility to be voted on not later than January 2021 and effective not later than for eligibility to compete during the 2021-22 academic year.

FOOTBALL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE UPDATE

HEALTH AND SAFETY INITIATIVES AND RESEARCH

- February 2020: Football Concussion Data Task Force.
 - o Injury data.
 - Impact of recent rules changes.

FOOTBALL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE UPDATE

EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

- Noncoaching staff members with football-specific responsibilities.
- Recruiting, Practice and Gameday: What activities are permissible?
- Educational document has been developed and will be posted on NCAA.org.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

DIVISION I LEGISLATIVE MORATORIUM

- In May 2020, Council approved a limited legislative moratorium on Councilgovernance, conference-sponsored proposals for the 2020-21 legislative cycle.
- <u>Exceptions</u>.
 - Transfer Eligibility.
 - Name, Image and Likeness.
 - COVID-19.
- Proposals must be essential to the operation of Division I.

LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS ADOPTED IN JANUARY 2020

Old Rule

The Sunday before the initial date for the National Letter of Intent (NLI) signing period is a one-day quiet period and only one telephone call is permitted.

PROPOSAL NO. 2019-27

New Rule

An exception to the telephone call limit would apply to the one-day quiet period on the Sunday before the initial date for the NLI signing period.

NEW LEGISLATION NCAA

PROPOSAL NO. 2019-27

Rationale.

 Specifies that institutional coaching staff members may make unlimited telephone calls to a prospective student-athlete starting the Sunday before until 48 hours after 7 a.m. on the initial signing date of the NLI.

Old Rule

An institution may provide 56 official visits (70 for service academies) between August 1 and July 31.

PROPOSAL NO. 2019-36

New Rule

An institution may provide 56 official visits (70 for service academies) between April I and March 31.

NEW LEGISLATION

PROPOSAL NO. 2019-36

Rationale.

 Adjusting the window to April I-March 3I allows institutions to manage the allotment of official visits by aligning the limit with one recruiting class at a time.

QUESTIONS?





Division I Football Noncoaching Staff Members with Sport-Specific Responsibilities

A noncoaching staff member with sport-specific responsibilities (e.g., analyst) is an individual who is not a countable coach or a coach that is exempt from the limits on countable coaches (e.g., graduate assistant coach, student assistant coach or strength coach) and is hired to perform football-specific duties.

Noncoaching Staff Member Duties

Permissible

Prepare and send general and electronic correspondence to prospective student-athletes.

Meet with prospective student-athletes on campus.

Review film of prospective student-athletes and studentathletes and share analysis with countable coaches.

Observe practice and game day activities on the field or sideline.

Perform administrative duties during practice (e.g., track statistics, run the clock, set up cones) and game day (e.g., chart plays).

Not Permissible

Call unsigned prospective student-athletes.

Engage in off-campus recruiting activities.

Review film with student-athletes.

Participate in practice activities (e.g., stretch, hold blocking pads, officiate).

Provide technical or tactical instruction to student-athletes at any time.

Make or assist in tactical decisions during practice or competition (e.g., signal plays, discuss plays with countable coaches during competition).



Division I Football Noncoaching Staff Members with Sport-Specific Responsibilities

Recruiting

- Is the noncoaching staff member engaged in off-campus recruiting?
- Is the noncoaching staff member providing feedback to prospective student-athletes?
- Is the noncoaching staff member commenting publicly on prospective student-athletes?

Practice

- Is the noncoaching staff member participating (e.g., signaling plays, officiating, holding blocking pads during drills) in practice activities?
- Is the noncoaching staff member engaged in any coaching activities with the student-athletes?
- Is the noncoaching staff member directing or instructing studentathletes in any way?

Game Day

- Is the noncoaching staff member providing information, instruction or feedback to student-athletes?
- Is the noncoaching staff member providing information or feedback to the coaching staff to assist with decision-making?

None of these activities are permissible for noncoaching staff members with football-specific responsibilities.