



## 2021 Softball Rules Waivers due to COVID-19

Due to challenges resulting from COVID-19, playing rules waivers for several sports have been granted for the 2021 spring season. The playing rules waivers are consistent with the guidance included in the previously published NCAA Resocialization of Collegiate Sport documents. In this regard, the NCAA playing rules committees and staff will continue to monitor any additional developments and make adjustments as appropriate.

<u>Rule(s)</u>	<u>Waivers</u>
2.13, 5.9 and 6.5.3	<p>To permit teams to utilize an area designated by the host team in the bleachers/stands to space uniformed team personnel. Rules related to electronic equipment use and positioning on a live ball must be adhered to in these designated areas.</p> <p><b>Rationale:</b> Enhance physical distancing and reduce the spread of germs.</p>
12.17.3.4.2	<p>To prohibit offensive team personnel from congregating anywhere <u>outside the dugout</u> to congratulate a runner(s) on a home run.</p> <p>NOTE: Umpires and coaches are encouraged to collaborate to ensure offensive team personnel do not congregate outside the dugout. Should teams violate this COVID-19 waiver, umpires are instructed to warn (see Rule 13.1.1) the offending team and advise them that they must remain in the dugout. For further violations by a team, umpires are instructed to solicit assistance from the on-site administrator and file an <a href="#">NCAA Softball Incident Report</a>.</p> <p>Only violations of 12.17.3.4.1 will require a warning and out on subsequent violations per the EFFECT written in the rules book.</p> <p><b>Rationale:</b> Reduce the spread of germs.</p>