



MEMORANDUM

May 1, 2020

VIA EMAIL

TO: NCAA Conference Commissioners, Directors of Athletics and Head Coaches in Selected Sports.

FROM: Jeff Hurd, chair
NCAA Playing Rules Oversight Panel.

SUBJECT: Delayed Implementation of Selected Playing Rules Changes.

Due to the financial challenges that many NCAA conferences and institutions are experiencing as the result of COVID-19, the Playing Rules Oversight Panel (PROP) voted to delay by one year the implementation date of five playing rules changes that have a potential financial impact that were scheduled to go into effect during the 2020-21 academic year.

PROP's decision to delay the implementation by one year was based on feedback from each of the appropriate playing rules committees, as well as the Division I Competition Oversight Committee, the Division II Management Council and the Division III Management Council.

The affected sports (and a brief summary of the rules changes) are listed below. Click [here](#) to view an updated chart listing all the upcoming rules changes that have a potential financial impact.

Baseball:

- Divisions II and III – regular-season baseball bat testing delayed until Spring 2022 season (although a visual inspection of bats required for the 2021 season).

Men's Basketball:

- Divisions II and III – new three-point line delayed until 2021-22 season.

Men's Lacrosse:

- Divisions I, II and III – second visible shot clock delayed until Spring 2022 season.

Softball:

- Division I – regular-season barrel compression testing delayed until Spring 2022 season (which is the same as Divisions II and III).

Swimming and Diving:

- Divisions II and III - required minimum number of officials (depending on the size of the meet) delayed until 2021-22 season.

Please note that based on feedback from the Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports (CSMAS), there are four other playing rules changes with a financial impact that are health and safety-related that will continue to go into effect during their original implementation year, which in most cases is the 2020-21 academic year. These four sports also are included in the chart.

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If you have any questions or need any additional information, please contact Dan Calandro, director of NCAA playing rules and officiating (dcalandro@ncaa.org; 317-917-6604).

JH:bh

cc: Selected Registered Officials
Selected NCAA Rules Committees
Selected NCAA Staff Members