

REPORT OF THE
NCAA COMMITTEE ON COMPETITIVE SAFEGUARDS AND
MEDICAL ASPECTS OF SPORTS

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative Action Items.

None.

2. Nonlegislative Items.

Division II only.

- **Start date of period of ineligibility due to a positive drug test and the impact on nullifications for championships selection.**
 - (1) Recommendation. To allow the start date for the period of ineligibility to begin on the date of collection of the drug-testing sample, with the nullification clause in effect only after the institution is notified of the confirmed positive drug test.
 - (2) Rationale. See the attached memo. [Attachment]
 - (3) Estimated Budget Impact. None.
 - (4) Student-Athlete Impact. None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

Association-wide.

- 1. NCAA Drug Education and Testing survey.** The NCAA Drug Education and Testing survey, administered on campus every two years, will be administered this fall in electronic form for the first time.
- 2. Drug testing protocol.** Student-athletes who are ineligible as a result of an NCAA positive drug test are required to pass an exit drug test before they can be considered for eligibility restoration. This exit drug test will be viewed as a second positive test if the student-athlete tests positive for a different substance or for nondeclining values of the same substance for which he or she originally tested positive.

3. **Nutritional supplements.** During its December 2007 meeting, the committee will review its position on nutritional supplementation, the role of supplements in today's athletics culture, the evolution of energy drinks, and the use of whole foods as they relate to NCAA Bylaw 16.5.2, which permits institutions to provide supplements as an extra benefit for providing calorie replacement and hydration. The committee will engage membership feedback on the topic of nutritional supplementation prior to the December meeting.

4. **Coaches sport safety training.** The committee reaffirmed its position that all coaches (including strength and conditioning staff) be certified in first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR). The committee will be forwarding a recommendation in the near future. The committee also supported the concept of a common provision across divisions since the committee noted that there is a lack of evidence that would require variance between divisions. In an effort to assist the governance process and engage membership feedback, the committee did not elect an effective date so that it could collect further data on the current practice of the certification of coaches on member campuses. The committee conducted a survey examining emergency care policies on campuses in 1998. At that time, most sports required less than 50 percent of personnel to be CPR-certified and even less required first aid certification. The committee also will examine membership support for the inclusion of first aid certification or whether CPR certification is most paramount for rendering first response emergency care during athletics activity.

The committee will examine issues of liability, volunteer coaches, time frames for certification and cost. The committee noted that this certification is intended to provide initial emergency care until more skilled responders arrive and is not intended to replace appropriate medical care or coverage. Over 80 percent of student-athlete sudden deaths occur during practices and conditioning sessions. Sixty percent of those sudden deaths are attributed to heart conditions. Rapid response and immediate care is paramount in these situations. The requirement of an emergency action plan and mandatory cardiopulmonary resuscitation certification of coaches for every practice, conditioning session, and event is the key preliminary step toward activating medical care response for student-athletes. The committee emphasized that even in situations when other skilled personnel are available (ATC, MD), multiple rescuers and the CPR-trained coach would be able to assist the other rescuers. The growth of practice opportunities that include year-round exposures and out-of-season sessions has greatly increased the risk that coaches will be the first to respond to a collapsed student-athlete.

Committee Chair: Jerry Koloskie, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, Mountain West Conference
Staff Liaisons: David Klossner, Education Services
Mary E. Wilfert, Education Services

MEMORANDUM

September 12, 2007

TO: NCAA Division II Management Council.

FROM: Jerry Koloskie, Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports (CSMAS), Chair.

SUBJECT: Start Date of Period of Ineligibility Due to a Positive Drug Test and the Impact on Nullifications for Championships Selection.

At the April Management Council meeting, CSMAS submitted a recommendation to sponsor noncontroversial legislation that specifies that the minimum 365-day period of ineligibility for a positive drug test should begin on the date of the collection of the drug-test specimen. Some potential issues were highlighted during the meeting in regard to the nullification process for championships selection when student-athletes participate while ineligible in regular-season contests and the timing of the period of ineligibility. Thereafter, the Management Council referred the above recommendation to CSMAS for further consideration to determine how the change would impact the nullification process for championships.

The recommended change from CSMAS is the current and longstanding practice that allows a consistent approach to assessing the timing of a penalty for a positive drug test. In addition, a recent interpretation indicated that the current rule requires the period of ineligibility to begin on the date the test results are confirmed positive. This creates an inequity in the process, as the time it takes to confirm drug-test results varies greatly depending on the demand on the lab and the substance identified and requiring confirmation. Using the date of collection provides a consistent approach to the application of the 365-day penalty. Currently, if a student-athlete competes during the period between collection and positive test confirmation, this is calculated onto the end of the period to meet the other sanction, withholding from a full season of competition.

CSMAS recommends that nullifications shall be imposed when a student-athlete participates in competition after the institution and the student-athlete receive notification of the confirmed positive drug test. Thus, nullifications shall not be imposed during the period between collection of the drug-test specimen and notice of confirmation. This approach will assure both the consistent application of the drug-test penalty and the intent of the nullification process to dissuade institutions from knowingly playing an ineligible student-athlete.

DK/MEW:rhb