

NCAA Cross Country General Session – 12/16/2021

1:19pm – Call to order general session of cross country

Torrey: before we get started, during voting tomorrow additionally to what we've been discussing, a vote on Mike Mead replacement of executive council president.

Brief review of proposals

Ask any of the representatives about any of the proposals going on if you have points of clarification

Agenda today:

To begin with conversation we heard in the hallway, few clarifications on the championship format proposal on process and timeline – 4 slide review of that

Proposal is about the format of the championship to create a semifinal round and a final round.

This is what's being voted on – is the concept. Points of clarification that we wanted to make in terms of the timeline and the next step. I think we want to

If this passes, it gets sent to the NCAA sport committee, review, vote it forward go to the champs committee then to the management council

If this passes, we would take that and reach out to those NCAA committees and hopefully present to them, have that opportunity and receive feedback on them from that proposal.

Also, it would create a working group to continue developing an at large system voted on at the convention 2022.

No matter what, nothing is changing for 5 years. A vote for this does not eliminate the current system.

We are going through our current system with no modifications to how that works. It doesn't leave us in a limbo with no system.

Chris Reed: We've heard some rumblings that this would be a point of no return. The proposal that has been presented, if it passes, because of timeline and committees, there is no guarantee that it ever gets passed by sport committee, champs committee, management council. This is not like a mandate that this system goes forward hence forth.

Torrey: it is the body saying we like this concept and we want you to put forth the hours to develop it. That's really the value in this. The rationale why this is being done in a multiyear process

Jamey: One additional note, this concept would not go forward until this body has approved the at large process we continue to work on if it passes.

Discussion on DNF Impact on At-Large Qualifying Under the Current System

Matt van Leirop: Currently, if you run a xc race and do not get 5 people across the finish line, a team DNFs it does not count against us when selecting a team at large. In D1, you lose to every team that finished. That counts against. They lost to every team. This year, and every year, it has been an issue. Technically, if you are in the race and you don't want it to count against you, you can tell people to get off the course so this does not hurt us during selection process.

Mike Mead – Clayton – as the recent passed chair of the rules committee, addressing this concern. Say if there are 30 teams in the field, 25 finish the score, 5 with DNF, you're slotted right after. You may not have a team score, or have a team place. If it is not in the at-large mechanism, that needs to be adjusted for that. When you intend to finish with that

Torrey: What we've been asked to get feedback on, in the qualifying system document, the language is ambiguous.

Mike Mead: That is something that still needs to be addressed by the sports committee.

Torrey: We've been asked for feedback from the committee.
Should we take the silence in the room that if you DNF, it should count, you should get a team place.

Submitted Proposals

Red Shirt Rule

James Kearney: Amendment to allow for a red shirt season if a student athlete participates in up to two competitions prior to the start of the at-large qualifying period.

Essentially, run a kid in uniform, before the t

Approximate date of qualifying

September 16th this past season. 7 weekends prior to the national championship, 9 in a festival year.

If that were to change, it would be the at large qualifying

Sean Smith – there was something to be said not running unattached, does that pertain to xc?
That is not part of this proposal.

Tony Nicolosi – East Bay – I don't know the amount of exact weeks, sounds like track has significant more. This is only two weeks.

Jamey – for two of a possible 7 competitions, track is 4 of a possible 18

Tony – Are we limiting the amount of opportunities because of our system

Torrey: practical answer is xc committee came up with this one, track came up with the other.

I can't speak to theirs. XC committee felt that two competitions lines up with typically the equivalent of what a medical redshirt would allow. Not a replacement but superseding the complication of a medical redshirt. This is cleaner. 2nd part – we liked the simplicity of you can participate in uniform but you can't influence national qualifying. Someone that doesn't count for the team should not be able to help their team advance to the national championship.

Damon Martin – Adams State – the timing when the national qualifying opens, the coach wants their team to be ranked. If you go down this road, why not give the coach or the athlete more time to see if the season will work for them.

Torrey: Just to clarify, allow the coach to decide, we agree want to redshirt this year even though this athlete would want to help the team. Why wouldn't the coach not put the athlete in uniform. The question is should you be allowed to have an athlete not compete at the national championship

Damon – basically when you pull their redshirt, say you're going to look. Is the system going to go back and look at the number 6?

Torrey: you have to have 5 of the 7 that run, if you pull up to two,

What happens now, kids that run the first two meets and get hurt, let's say they run the first qualification and gets hurt, what happens now.

Torrey: if you have someone compete in the first qualifying meet and a kid gets hurt, that would reflect and help that team in the situation if that race was a factor in qualifying. The more people that get hurt later, the less likely that team is deemed an A-team.

Mansfield: Think about first two meets, usually shorter in distance. Lots of reasons why you might redshirt a kid after two, having an athlete decide not to run the rest of the season it's already.

Torrey: I think that is the debate. In xc, equivalent up to two and the first 50% of the season. That is a little bit of a difference.

Eric: The medical redshirt is still there.

Chris Reed: Can that injure kid help a team qualify. Answer is yes. We had that. No one is trying to get a kid hurt. A kid being intentionally redshirt after a couple of races in order to help a team qualify, there is a lot of room for abuse.

Tommy Barkslide

Did you all discuss about moving maybe the starting date, if not maybe that is a topic in the future to help us.

Torrey: that topic has been discussed.

Shane Niksic – the issue we all have is that with the new championship format is trying to reduce the reliance on this at-large system

Torrey: if everything passes in the next five years

Shane Niksic – won't have to rely on as much

Mike Rosalino: I think we have so little trust in ethics and redshirt a kid in the top 5, so much that we are willing to change our rules. Sad that we mistrust each other. Trust us a little more give us two more weeks.

Torrey: Not a matter of distrust, someone at the end of the season no longer on that roster, should they count. Not unethical, not

That happens anyway with injr

Jeff Bolender - Cedarville – if we put this into the rules, this is allowable. You can run your kids and find out how good they are. If the rule is in place to

Torrey: This is the proposal that this what the ex committee has approved. If you think there is a lot of disagreement as to what this should be, someone could motion to amend.

Jack Hoyt – APU: We are playing a game, I don't know if it is manipulation, I am more comfortable with this than the track red shirt rule. To avoid it, I like this, where we talked about this in the west region breakout, opportunities for kids. Create good team chemistry for the month of September, opportunity for the athletes. Doesn't foul up the ranking system.

Sean Smith – APU: – does it make sense to vote on this regardless, do we potentially change that.

Torrey: Whether this should be amended or not.

Mike Rosalino: Make an amendment that we move to the first Thursday in October.

Torrey: Be based on a calendar year, not weeks out from the championship

James; Comfortable with the two

Torrey: Example – James' meet the Lewis crossover would always be

Jamey: cleaner way to do it might be two weeks after the at-large qualifying starts.

Mike Rosalino – Embry-Riddle: Motion to amend this proposal to allow for up to two in uniform competitions up to two weeks after the start of the at-large championship qualifying date.
Dror Vaknin – Tampa: Second

Chris Reed: How is that a redshirt? If you're traveling, eating, getting coached, you're using a season. I generally don't like the idea of racing at all. I've accepted that's the direction we're going. Reason I accept the original proposal. If you're a basketball player, you don't get to play. You either compete or you don't. There is no unattached. You're evaluating your players at practice. Changes the game a little bit. We are fighting tooth and nail to protect the redshirt kid instead of the integrity of the sport. This does give flexibility that we don't have now. To change this to give them the chance to

Chris Bradford – division 1 football allows 4 competitions. I understand today a basketball can't travel, but they will. Division 1 will do something and we will be sitting on our hands. Let's find the best solution.

Chris Reed: because of that movement, the fact that we are wanting as committee to grant two meets without triggering

Mike Mead – Clayton: I must have missed the session on clairvoyancy. Assuming that we are going to redshirt a kid, save for next year. Lot of times that doesn't happen. I do like parts of this. If people are hung up about the at large period so why can't we line up with d1 and 3 so that saves some confusion at the start of the season. Captrue the sport festival year.

Torrey: aligning with 1 and 3, that is a worthwhile discussion. Call to question.

All in favor of the amendment to extend the period to which you could compete twice up to two weeks after the start of the at large qualifying period

45 minute mark

Motion Passes

51-30

This will be voted on tomorrow

Participation Manual Dates

James: we have made a recommendation for a minimum date for posting the championship participant manual in the sport of cross country.

Torrey: big part of the reason for that was the person in charge left and didn't get replaced until after the deadline.

Torrey: already reviewed the ncaa championship format.

The last part of this – Chris Reed’s presentation on the 2022 xc championship – host site. Before I leave, voting will take place tomorrow at 2:30pm. Voting conducted via your cell phone.

Chris Reed presented on the stie of the NCAA 2022 XC Championship

Torrey Olson: closing – thank you everybody for your attendance. Appreciate that many of you came to the second general session. At the end of the day, we want to vote on the ideas that represent the general body of coaches.

We vote tomorrow at 2:30pm.

Jamey Harris: Motion to Adjourn

Eric Phillips: Second

Adjourned 2:25pm