



Supplemental Interrupted Game Procedures – Basketball

(FINAL: 12/09/20)

The policies below shall be used to determine whether an institution may participate in competition based upon the number of available players due to COVID-19 isolation or quarantine, or injury or unavailability otherwise. As a general matter, these policies are intended to serve as a supplement to already existing Interrupted Game Procedures (and/or other applicable Conference policies) contained in the Commissioner's Regulations.

Statement of Principle: Each participating institution – including administrators, coaches, and student-athletes, shall commit to play each contest as scheduled. Within this commitment, decisions to conduct competition shall be made with the health of all participants at the forefront. The following policies are intended to guide decision-making within this commitment in the interest of conducting competition throughout the 2021 season.

Minimum Number of Participants:

- A team shall be required to play a game if it has at least seven (7) scholarship student-athletes and at least one countable coaching staff member available to participate. If a team has less than the specified seven (7) scholarship student-athletes and one countable coach available, the institution may continue to play at its discretion.
- If an institution has less than the specified number of participants, or if the institution believes there are other compelling circumstances that warrant delay, the institution may request to postpone the contest. The institution shall be required to present the reasons it believes the game should be postponed, including all relevant data (including total number of players not available to participate due to isolation, quarantine and injury) to the Conference office as soon as practicable in advance of the contest. The final determination to postpone a contest shall be made by the Commissioner, or his/her designee.
- If a contest(s) is postponed in women's basketball the make-up dates will be Thursday, January 21, 2021 and Sunday, February 7, 2021. In men's basketball, the make-up dates will be Friday, March 5, 2021 – Sunday, March 7, 2021. If a contest cannot be rescheduled, the Commissioner shall cancel the contest and it will be recorded as a no contest.
- Per NCAA Playing Rule 2, Section 1, Art. 1, a minimum of two game officials must be available in order to conduct a contest. If less than two officials are available, the game will be postponed in accordance to the policies above.
- If one team cancels competition for the remainder of the season, contests will continue for the other programs and the team which canceled competition will not be eligible for the SEC Regular Season Championship or the Championship Tournament. If more than one program cancels competition for the remainder of the season, the SEC Athletics Directors will determine whether the season should proceed or be postponed or canceled.

Championship Considerations:

a) Regular Season:

- In order to award a regular season champion, teams should complete at least two-thirds (or 66%) of scheduled conference contests. For the 2021 Conference season, men's basketball teams must complete at least 12 games and women's basketball teams must complete at least 11 games.
- All other policies for determining a regular season champion as outlined in the 2020-21 Commissioner's Regulations shall continue to apply.

b) Conference Tournament:

- The winner of the 2021 SEC Tournament shall be the Conference's Automatic Qualifier to the 2021 NCAA Championship. Per SEC Commissioner's Regulations, in the event inclement weather or other factors prevent the completion of the championship prior to the date and time when the NCAA requires notification for selection to the NCAA tournament, the highest remaining seed in the tournament at the time of suspension shall be designated as the automatic qualifier.
- A Tournament Champion (as opposed to NCAA AQ) shall not be crowned if the tournament championship is not played to completion.
- All other applicable Conference Championship policies, including seeding and tie break procedures, shall continue to apply.

Other Considerations:

- **Travel Issues** – Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, institutions may elect to travel to a competition site on the day of a contest in greater frequency. As a result, travel delays could impact contest start times. Should such disruptions occur, the institution, in consultation with appropriate Conference staff, should seek to continue to apply the traditional "Interrupted Game Procedures" as outlined in the General Administration section of the Commissioner's Regulations.