



MEMORANDUM

January 30, 2017

VIA EMAIL

TO: NCAA Division I Softball Conference Administrators.

FROM: Keisha Dunlap, chair  
NCAA Division I Softball Committee.

SUBJECT: 2017 Softball Experimental Rules in the 2017 NCAA Postseason.

The Division I Competition Oversight Committee, at its January meeting, expressed a concern with the pace of play in many sports, including softball. Whether it is for the in-venue fan or the television audience, pace of play is important to continue to improve the fan experience and advance the game of softball.

Recently, three experimental rules were approved for conference games during the 2017 regular season. These rules will be on the next rules survey as they have been proposed for adoption for the 2018 season. The data collected during this season will greatly assist in determining if these should be adopted for future years.

The NCAA Division I Softball Committee believes these experimental rules are a great step to advance the game and keep our game healthy; however, due to a recent policy established, “an experimental rule should not be adopted for postseason competition in the same year it is used during regular-season play,” the experimental rules approved for the 2017 softball regular season will not be used during the 2017 NCAA postseason.

The committee asks each of you to continue to be good stewards of the game and always work for the good of the game by thinking about what you can do individually and what we can do as a group to continue to improve/advance our game.

Please contact Sharon Cessna at the NCAA ([scessna@ncaa.org](mailto:scessna@ncaa.org)) if you have questions.

SKC

cc: NCAA Division I Softball Committee  
Selected NCAA Staff Members

National Collegiate Athletic Association

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