



## NCAA OFFICIATING BACKGROUND CHECK PILOT PROGRAM

### OVERVIEW

- The NCAA implemented a three-year pilot starting with the 2015-16 academic year.
- The dual purpose of the pilot program is to promote student-athlete safety and the integrity of the NCAA championships.
- Officials who register on the NCAA central hubs located on ArbiterSports are requested to grant consent for the NCAA to receive background check results.
- Only those officials who consent to, and pass, the background check are eligible to officiate NCAA championships.
- ArbiterSports uses a company called Peopletrail to conduct the background checks.
- The cost of the background check is included in the registration fee paid by the official to be a registered NCAA official.
- The pilot program checks search national database sources, including county and state jurisdictions for offenses and hits on the National Sex Offender registry.
- Officials convicted of a felony in the last seven years and those who are listed on the National Sex Offender's Registry are ineligible to officiate any of the championships sponsored by the NCAA.
- Note: At the discretion of the NCAA, other findings through a background check may also render an official ineligible to officiate NCAA championships.
- During the 2015-16 and 2016-17 championship seasons, background checks were conducted on officials in the following sports:
  - Division III women's volleyball.
  - Divisions I, II and III field hockey.
  - Divisions I, II and III wrestling.
  - Division III and National Collegiate men's volleyball.
  - Men's and women's water polo.
  - Divisions I and III men's ice hockey.
  - Divisions I, II and III baseball.
  - Divisions I, II and III softball.
- Through the 2016-17 academic year, background checks have been conducted on approximately 5,500 officials.
- Of these 5,500 background checks, approximately 1% have been flagged for review.
- The following sports will be added to the pilot program for 2017-18:
  - Divisions I, II and III women's volleyball.
  - Divisions I, II and III football.
  - Divisions II and III men's and women's basketball.
- During the 2017-18 academic year, Divisions II and III men's and women's basketball officials will have the opportunity to consent to have their background check results shared with conference offices of their choosing.
- The NCAA will have no role in determining whether or how the conference chooses to use the background check results.