NCAA membership created the infractions process to ensure fair play and integrity among NCAA schools. Resolving a case of alleged violations includes distinct phases of fact-gathering, review and appeal. The NCAA enforcement staff works with schools and involved individuals – such as school employees or student-athletes – to investigate the facts related to alleged violations. The independent Committee on Infractions (COI), made up of qualified individuals from NCAA schools and the public, reviews the facts to conclude whether violations occurred and whether penalties are appropriate. Schools or involved individuals may appeal the COI decision to the independent Infractions Appeals Committee (IAC), also made up of qualified individuals from NCAA schools and the public.

**INVESTIGATION**

After learning of possible violations, the enforcement staff conducts research and decides whether to investigate. If the facts warrant an inquiry on campus, the enforcement staff issues a notice to the school and investigates. After the inquiry ends, the enforcement staff decides whether to bring formal allegations. If sufficient information exists, the staff issues a “notice of allegations.” Schools and involved individuals have the opportunity to respond in writing.

**REVIEW**

The COI reviews evidence provided by the enforcement staff, schools and involved individuals. After reviewing information and the positions of all parties, the COI deliberates privately to conclude whether violations occurred and whether penalties are appropriate. The COI prepares and releases a written decision. If the parties agree on the facts, the COI can decide the case through an expedited process called summary disposition.

**APPEAL**

A school or involved individual may appeal violations or penalties to the IAC. When an appeal is filed, the IAC hears arguments from schools, involved individuals and the COI. The enforcement staff plays a very limited role in appellate arguments. The IAC deliberates privately to decide if the COI decision should be affirmed or reversed. The IAC has the final word on whether a violation occurred and whether penalties are appropriate.

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* CONSISTS OF QUALIFIED INDIVIDUALS FROM NCAA SCHOOLS AND THE PUBLIC