UNM Athletics

Criteria Considered for Discontinuation of Sports
A Healthy and Competitive Athletics Program

- UNM conducted a fair and objective analysis and review that was thorough in the collection and assessment of the acquired data and supplementary information.

- We no longer have the resources to support 22 competitive Division I athletic teams.

- UNM Athletics is committed to maintaining high academic standards, providing student-athletes with an excellent athletic experience and remaining competitive in a Division I conference.
22 Current Sponsored Varsity Sports

- **Men’s**
  - Baseball
  - Basketball**
  - Cross-country running
  - Football**
  - Golf
  - Skiing*
  - Soccer*
  - Tennis
  - Track and field (indoor)
  - Track and field (outdoor)

- **Women’s**
  - Basketball**
  - Beach Volleyball*
  - Cross-country running
  - Golf
  - Skiing*
  - Soccer
  - Softball
  - Swimming & Diving
  - Tennis
  - Track and field (indoor)
  - Track and field (outdoor)
  - Volleyball**

* doesn’t compete in the Mountain West conference
** sports required by Mountain West conference bylaws
More than two dozen universities have eliminated varsity sports programs in the past five years to address financial, gender equity or other concerns, and despite the significant impact on student-athletes, this option had to be considered.

In the past 5 years, 65 Men’s teams have been dropped and 49 Women’s teams.
Criteria for Continuation of UNM Sports Offerings – Foundational

- **Finances:** Impact on finances, including costs, revenues, associated costs, to support individual programs (Strength & Conditioning, Athletic Training, Academic Advisors, etc.)

- **Title IX:** Compliance with federal equity laws; necessity to try and continue to sponsor women’s sports with large participation numbers

- **Conference Affiliation:** In order to continue to compete at the Division I level, UNM must sponsor a minimum of 16 varsity sports and to remain a member of the Mountain West conference, we must sponsor football, men’s and women’s basketball and Indoor volleyball; ability for UNM to be competitive; costs associated with conference travel; number of programs sponsored in the NCAA
Criteria for Continuation of UNM Sports Offerings - Ancillary

- **Impact:** Number of student-athletes, coaches and staff impacted by elimination

- **Facilities:** Financial resources needed to build or maintain competitive facilities; costs of facility maintenance; opportunity for success in recruiting and competition

- **Program History:** Recent and long-term on-field success of a program; number and impact of alumni from program

- **Impact/Support:** Fan and community interest in program; impact on local and state communities; regional impact; and factor on institution

- **Private Support:** Donor support of program; number of endowments, if any

- **Scheduling:** Conference scheduling; travel partners; levels of competition; and ability for postseason competition

- **Academics:** Academic performance including Academic Progress Rate (APR) and Graduation Success Rate (GSR) of a program; and impact on Department academics
Limited Options

- The internal and external financial audit reports, the Title IX audit and the significant accumulating deficit gave the process urgency and left UNM with few good options.

- “We are better off supporting fewer sports and doing it well, than stretching ourselves too thin and compromising the high-quality experience our student-athletes should expect from this institution.” Garnett S. Stokes, April 10, 2018, BOR F&F Meeting
Effective July 1, 2019, UNM Athletics will no longer sponsor men’s and women’s skiing, beach volleyball and men’s soccer as varsity sports;

UNM will honor the scholarships of all current student-athletes in the four affected sports as well as the phasing out of diving, through their graduations, as long as they remain in good academic standing;

The Department of Athletics will also discontinue the diving program and immediately institute a Roster Management Plan for men’s cross country, as well as outdoor and indoor track & field and many of our other sports.
Actions Over the Next 12 Months

- The Department of Athletics will continue to examine its organizational structure, operational budgets and long-term expenses and make necessary and prudent changes to reduce expenses prior to the start of FY2020.

- The Department of Athletics will aggressively pursue new and additional revenue streams prior to the start of FY2020.

- The Department of Athletics will ensure that it continues to work toward Title IX compliance and make all necessary changes and adjustments to ensure compliance.

- The Department of Athletics will further engage with constituents, including students, faculty, alumni, donors, Regents, local and state officials and community members to strengthen the Department by ensuring the long-term financial stability and competitiveness of our sports programs.