Division II

The division offers athletics scholarships and limits competitive and practice seasons to improve balance with student pursuits.

The 302 active member colleges and universities in Division II share a commitment to providing college athletes equal growth opportunities in academics, athletics, and campus and community involvement.

Division II schools generally spend less money on athletics than Division I schools and operate on a partial-scholarship model, in which more than 60% of the $124,000 plus Division II athletes receive some athletics-based financial aid. Full scholarships that cover all of a college athlete’s expenses are uncommon in the division; often college athletes, like the rest of the student body, use a mix of academic scholarships, student loans and employment earnings to fund their education.

Division II prides itself on creating unique opportunities. It is the only division to host championship festivals, where multiple championships are held in the same city over several days. During these championships, teams participate in community engagement efforts, a key component of Division II. One in every 6.8 Division II student-athletes earns the chance to compete for a national title, the most opportunities per student-athlete in the NCAA.

H ow the NCAA Works: Division II

Legislative Calendar

How an idea? Legislative proposals submitted by members are due to the national office.

Division II committee:

Division II committees are composed of coaches and administrators who are knowledgeable of that sport. These committees rank and select teams that will participate in conferences, post-season play, and regional and national tournaments. The Division II legislative body is made up of coaches and administrators who represent the membership of Division II. These individuals are elected for three-year terms by the presidents and athletics directors.

PRESIDENTS COUNCIL

The top leadership group in Division II, it is composed of college presidents and chancellors and establishes and directs general policy.

- Implements policies adopted by the NCAA Board of Governors.
- Establishes a strategic plan for Division II.
- Spreads legislative proposals from the governance structure to be considered by the Faculty of the NCAA Conventions.
- Can adopt administrative bylaws and regulations without approval of members.

Some legislation is proposed by the members themselves. In order to submit a proposal, at least Division II schools or two conferences must be sponsors. These proposals are directly to the NCAA Convention for a vote, but the Division II committees also discuss and take action on these ideas.

CONVENTION

The NCAA Convention, held each year in January, is the finish line for all sponsored proposals in Division II. Delegates from every school and conference gather during a Convention business session to place their votes on each proposal.

Division II School Presidents Council

In most cases, Division II legislation requires only a simple majority of members present. With 18 presidents, the NCAA is the only organization that allows a head coach with a full-time job to cast a vote on legislation. Legislation approved takes effect on the date specified in the legislation, usually Aug. 1 of that year.

FINISH

Legislation approved

On rare occasions, if division revenues exceed expected amounts, the Presidents Council will propose legislation that mandates direct payments to division schools for a vote at the NCAA Convention.