



NCAA Division I Proposal No. 2019-123
Division I Basketball Qualifying Regular-Season Multiple-Team Events
Question and Answer Document

NCAA Division I Proposal No. 2019-123 was adopted by the NCAA Division I Council during its April 2020 meeting and the new legislation is effective for the 2020-21 men's basketball season.

In order to educate the membership and event operators on application and contractual issues pertaining to Proposal No. 2019-123, the NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Oversight Committee developed the following question and answer document.

Qualifying Multiple-Team Events for the 2020-21 Men's Basketball Season.

When evaluating whether an institution's men's basketball team may participate in a four-game multiple-team event during the 2020-21 season, institutions are encouraged to review the following guidance.

- In order to participate in a four-game multiple-team event during the 2020-21 basketball season, all institutions participating in the event must have signed a contract before June 26, 2019.
- If the scheduled four-game multiple-team event did not have all contracts signed before June 26, 2019, then the event operator and participating institutions must modify the multiple-team event to meet the new legislation.
- In most cases, the fourth games can still be played as a regular season game outside of the multiple-team event structure.
- No new teams may be added to a multiple-team event contract on or after June 26, 2019.
- If an institution or event operator has questions about whether or not documentation constitutes a signed contract, please reach out to Abbie Markey, associate director of NCAA academic and membership affairs, at amarkey@ncaa.org or 317-917-6562.

The following questions and answers are designed to assist the Division I membership with the application of Proposal No. 2019-123.

Example No. 1: Event A

- Event A is a men's basketball four-game event that includes a 12-team field.
- Each participating institution is guaranteed three contests in the Bahamas and one campus game.
- All institutions signed contracts before June 26, 2019, to participate in the event.

Question No. 1: May Event A be conducted as a four-game multiple-team event during the 2020-21 basketball season?

Answer No. 1: Yes. Event A may be conducted as a four-game multiple-team event as all institutions signed contracts to participate in the event before June 26, 2019. The four-game event must meet the following requirements:

- a. The event is sponsored by the NCAA, an active member or a member conference of the Association, or the National Association of Basketball Coaches;
- b. The event includes not more than four contests per institution and concludes not later than 14 days after the first contest of the event;
- c. Participation is limited, by conference, to one team per conference and, by institution, to not more than once in the same event in any four-year period; and
- d. Each participating institution is using 27 contests + one multiple-team event (not to exceed four contests) as its maximum contest limitation for the 2020-21 season.

Question No. 2: How does an event operator or institution that did not sign a contract before June 26, 2019, but entered into an agreement and had an intent to sign the contract before June 26, 2019, seek permission to participate in Event A?

Answer No. 2: Event operators or institutions that do not have a signed contract to participate in a four-game multiple-team event before June 26, 2019, should submit documentation to Abbie Markey, associate director of academic and membership affairs, so that the NCAA staff (in conjunction with the NCAA Office of Legal Affairs) can evaluate and determine if the documentation demonstrates an agreement and intent to have signed the contract before June 26, 2019. If so, the event is permitted to be conducted as a four-game multiple-team event for the 2020-21 season.

Question No 3: If one or more institutions withdrew from Event A on or after June 26, 2019, for the 2020-21 basketball season, may the event operator add a new team to honor the contracts signed by the other institutions?

Answer No. 3: No. The event operator for Event A may not add a new team to participate in the event during the 2020-21 season. Event A must meet the new legislation.

Example No. 2: Event B

- Event B is a men's basketball four-game event that includes an eight-team field.
- Each participating institution is guaranteed two contests in Indianapolis and two campus games.
- The four institutions that will host the campus games signed contracts before June 26, 2019, to participate in the event.
- Three institutions that will travel to play the campus games signed contracts before June 26, 2019.
- One institution that will travel to play the campus games has not yet been identified.

Question No. 1: May Event B be conducted as a four-game multiple-team event during the 2020-21 basketball season?

Answer No. 1: No. Event B may not be conducted as a four-game multiple-team event as not all institutions signed contracts before June 26, 2019. Therefore, Event B must meet the new legislation.

Question No. 2: May the event operator of Event B find a new team to be added to the 2020-21 event in order to honor the contracts signed by the seven institutions?

Answer No. 2: No. No new teams may be added to Event B as not all institutions participating in the event had contracts in place before June 26, 2019.

Question No. 3: How should the event operator engage with the seven institutions that signed contracts to participate in Event B now that the event must meet the new legislation?

Answer No. 3: The event operator has a couple of options:

- a. The event operator may schedule the game that was originally intended to be the fourth game in Event B as a regular season contest for the institutions with another institution that is not participating in the event. Please note the regular season contest may not advertised as part of Event B, the contest may not appear on the institution's schedule as being a part of Event B and the contest may not be included in the event bracket for Event B; or
- b. The event operator may agree to modify the contract to allow the institutions to schedule the regular season contest on their own.

Example No. 3 – Home and Home Series

- Institution A is from Division I Conference No. 1.
- Institution B is from Division I Conference No. 2.
- Institution A and B are scheduled to play in a home and home series within a five-day period.

Question No. 1: Can Institution A and Institution B consider the home and home series that occurs within a five day period as the institutions' participation in a multiple-team event for the upcoming men's basketball season, provided the institutions meet all remaining multiple-team event criteria?

Answer No. 1: No. The MTE legislation is designed to apply to an institution that it is participating in contests against multiple institutions (i.e., minimum of three institutions in the event) and does not apply to a scenario involving two teams from different conferences that play each other twice within a five day period.

[References: NCAA Division I Bylaws 17.3.3.1(b) (exhibition against a non-NCAA Division I four-year collegiate institution), 17.3.5.1 (maximum limitations – institutional), 17.3.5.1.1 (qualifying regular-season multiple-team event) and 17.3.5.3 (annual exemptions)]