



REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION II LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
MAY 20-21, 2025, VIDEOCONFERENCE

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative Items.

a. Noncontroversial Legislation -- NCAA Division II Bylaw 17.14 -- Ice Hockey -- Length of Playing Season, Preseason Practice and First Contest -- Women's Ice Hockey.

- (1) Recommendation. Adopt noncontroversial legislation to amend the women's ice hockey playing and practice season, as specified. [Attachment A]
- (2) Effective date. August 1, 2025.
- (3) Rationale. The Division II playing and practice seasons legislation for National Collegiate Championship sports traditionally aligns with the playing and practice seasons in Division I. Therefore, amending the playing and practice seasons legislation in the sport of women's ice hockey will align Division II with the Division I playing and practice seasons legislation for women's ice hockey.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

b. Noncontroversial Legislation -- Bylaw 17.32.1.8 -- Foreign Tour Opponents -- One Game Against Any Institution.

- (1) Recommendation. Adopt noncontroversial legislation to permit a team to compete in one game against any opponent during an institutional foreign tour. [Attachment B]
- (2) Effective date. August 1, 2025.
- (3) Rationale. Under current legislation, a team may not compete against other member institutions or American teams during a foreign tour. Allowing teams to compete in one game against any opponent while on a foreign tour will provide Division II institutions with additional opportunities to participate in guaranteed games during a foreign tour. Finally, this recommendation will increase the exposure of Division II institutions, as the recruitment of international student-athletes continues to increase.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

2. Nonlegislative Items.

- None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Discussion regarding the NCAA Division II Implementation Committee Legislative Process and Compliance Subcommittee priority two and three items.** The NCAA Division II Legislation Committee continued its discussion on the Implementation Committee's Legislative Process and Compliance Subcommittee's priority two and three items. Specifically, the committee concluded its review of Bylaw 17 (playing and practice seasons). The committee will review potential concepts and discuss next steps during its September videoconference.
2. **Review of the legislative draft of Bylaw 7.4 (financial donations from outside organizations).** The committee reviewed and approved a draft of the Bylaw 7.4 proposal.
3. **Update regarding direct institutional name, image and likeness.** The committee discussed direct institutional name, image and likeness. Specifically, the committee discussed whether an institution and third-party should be permitted to enter into NIL agreements with Division II student-athletes, and whether disclosure is appropriate for NIL deals that are \$600 or more. The committee agreed that membership feedback should be collected to determine whether a legislative change is necessary. The committee will review a draft of the membership feedback questions during its June meeting.
4. **Review of the referral to the NCAA Division II Women's Basketball Committee regarding foreign tour participation.** The committee continued its discussion on Bylaw 17.32.1.8 (opponents) and reviewed feedback from the Women's Basketball Committee on whether it was appropriate to amend Bylaw 17.32.1.8. Based on the feedback, the committee recommended noncontroversial legislation to amend Bylaw 17.32.1.8 to permit all Division II teams to compete in one game against any opponent (e.g., NCAA, NAIA) during an institutional foreign tour [see Legislative Action Item No. 1b].
5. **Review of Division I Proposal No. 2024-61 (playing and practice seasons -- ice hockey -- length of playing season, preseason and first contest).** The committee reviewed Division I Proposal No. 2024-61 and recommended noncontroversial legislation to amend the Division II women's ice hockey playing and practice seasons legislation. [see Legislative Action Item No. 1a]. The committee also discussed a potential legislative change to the men's ice hockey playing and practice seasons legislation, however, determined that a change was not appropriate at this time.
6. **Review of women's bowling survey results.** The committee reviewed the women's bowling survey results specific to the sport-specific legislative changes recommended by the committee during its November 18-19, 2024, in-person meeting. Based on the survey results, the committee was supportive of the sport-specific legislative changes that would go into effect if a Division II women's bowling championship was established.
7. **Review of Bylaw 14.4.5 (permissible -- following initial full-time collegiate enrollment).** The committee reviewed a case regarding Bylaw 14.4.5. Specifically, the committee discussed which academic calendar the NCAA Eligibility Center staff should use when determining if an individual

sport transfer student-athlete received prize money during a permissible time (i.e., during the institution's summer vacation period). The committee determined that the Eligibility Center should use the summer vacation period that is most beneficial for the student-athlete.

8. **Division II University update.** The committee received an update on the five required courses for the 2025-26 coach's certification. As of May 19, 2025, over 1,300 users completed the required curriculum while over 8,000 users were enrolled. Further, with the deregulation of Bylaw 13 (recruiting) and amendments to Bylaw 14 (eligibility: academic and athletics requirements), there are a few modules that will be eliminated or combined with existing modules. The committee discussed potential new modules that could be developed to assist in educating the membership.
9. **2026 NCAA Convention membership-sponsored proposals update.** The committee received an update on potential membership-sponsored proposals for the 2026 NCAA Convention.
10. **Update on the NCAA Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee discussion regarding name, image and likeness.** The committee received an update on the discussion that occurred during the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee's April meeting regarding potential NIL resources that could be made available to Division II student-athletes. Specifically, the committee was advised that the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee will be working to release a resource for Division II student-athletes.
11. **Update on sports wagering legislation.** The committee received an update regarding the ongoing discussions related to the review of the sports wagering legislation.
12. **Review of the Division II Membership Survey.** The committee received an overview of the executive summary of the membership survey that was distributed in January.
13. **Legal update.** Staff provided the committee with a legal update.
14. **Update from the NCAA Division II Executive Board and NCAA Division II Management Council Spring 2025 meetings.** The committee received an update on the action taken at the spring 2025 Executive Board and Management Council meetings.
15. **Review of the Division II Legislation Committee Policies and Procedures.** The committee reviewed and approved updates to its policies and procedures.
16. **Review of the February 18, 2025, electronic vote and March 18-19, 2025, in-person meeting report.** The committee reviewed and approved its February 18, 2025, electronic vote and March 18-19, 2025, in-person meeting report.
17. **Chair election.** The committee elected Christopher Ratcliff, director of athletics, Rogers State University, as chair of the committee, effective September 1, 2025.

18. Future meeting dates.

- a. June 16, 2025, 4 to 5 p.m., Eastern time, videoconference.
- b. September 3, 2025, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Eastern time, videoconference.
- c. November 17-18, 2025, videoconference; timing to be determined.
- d. March 10-11, 2026, in-person meeting; Indianapolis.
- e. June 16-17, 2026, videoconference; timing to be determined.

Committee Chair: Audra Kedy, Great American Conference

Staff Liaison(s): Rachel Denton, Academic and Membership Affairs

Chelsea Hooks, Academic and Membership Affairs

Megan Villanueva, Academic and Membership Affairs

NCAA Division II Legislation Committee May 20-21, 2025, Videoconference	
Attendees:	
Matt Green, Flagler College.	
Ashley Grimm, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania.	
Scout Huffman, Texas Woman's University.	
Audra Kedy, Great American Conference.	
Jennifer Mercurio, Florida Institute of Technology.	
Dustyn McKenney, Western Oregon University.	
Santee Mott, Texas Woman's University.	
Kristina Ortiz, Georgian Court University.	
Roberta Page, Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania (Management Council chair).	
Christopher Ratcliff, Rogers State University.	
Deborah Rodgers, Tuskegee University.	
Suzanne Sanregret, Michigan Technological University.	
Kevin Schriver, Southwest Baptist University.	
Absentees:	
Melissa Thacker, Cameron University.	
NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:	
Rachel Denton, Chelsea Hooks and Megan Villanueva.	
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:	
Danielle Day, Terri Steeb Gronau, Molly Hansen, Maritza Jones, Jobrina Marquez, Morgan Melchert, Mariah Murdock, Angela Red and Jared Tidemann.	

Division: II

Proposal Number: NC-2026-18

Title: PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS -- ICE HOCKEY -- LENGTH OF PLAYING SEASON, PRESEASON PRACTICE AND FIRST CONTEST -- WOMEN'S ICE HOCKEY

Convention Year: 2026

Date Submitted: May 22, 2025

Status: Ready for Consideration by Management Council

Effective Date: August 1, 2025

Source: NCAA Division II Management Council (Legislation Committee).

Category: Noncontroversial

Topical Area: Playing and Practice Seasons

Intent: In women's ice hockey, to amend the playing and practice season, as specified.

Bylaws: Amend 17, as follows:

17 Playing and Practice Seasons

[17.01 through 17.1 unchanged.]

17.1.2 Segments of Playing Season. For all sports other than football, basketball, **women's ice hockey** and track and field, each member institution may divide the playing season into not more than two distinct segments.

[17.1.3 through 17.1.5 unchanged.]

17.1.6 Time Limits for Athletically Related Activities. In all sports, the following time limitations shall apply:

[17.1.6.1 unchanged.]

17.1.6.1.2 Exception -- Women's Ice Hockey. In women's ice hockey, countable athletically related activities from the start of preseason practice until the first permissible contest shall be limited to eight hours per week [see Bylaw 17.14.2-(b)].

[17.1.6.2 through 17.1.6.4 unchanged.]

17.1.6.4.5 Preseason Practice. Daily and weekly hour limitations do not apply to countable athletically related activities occurring during preseason practice before the first day of classes or the first scheduled contest, whichever is earlier. (See Bylaws 17.7.2.2, 17.10.2.2, 17.11.3.3, 17.11.3.4, 17.12.5.1.1, **17.14.2**, 17.20.2.2, 17.24.5.1.1 and 17.27.2.2.2 for sport-specific limitations.)

[17.1.6.4.6 through 17.1.6.4.8 unchanged.]

[17.1.6.5 through 17.1.6.9 unchanged.]

[17.1.7 through 17.1.10 unchanged.]

[17.2 through 17.13 unchanged.]

17.14 Ice Hockey.

Regulations for computing the ice hockey playing season are set forth in Bylaw 17.1, General Playing-Season Regulations. ~~Institutions that conduct women's ice hockey shall comply with the same playing and practice~~

~~season legislation that currently exists for men's ice hockey except as noted in Bylaw 17.14.5. (See Figure 17-1 and Figure 17-2.)~~

~~17.14.1 Length of Playing Season. The length of an institution's playing season in ice hockey shall be limited to a 132-day season, which may consist of two segments (each consisting of consecutive days) and which may exclude only required days off per Bylaw 17.1.6.5 and official vacation, holiday and final examination periods during which no practice or competition shall occur.~~

(a) Men. The length of an institution's playing season in men's ice hockey shall be limited to a 132-day season, which may consist of two segments (each consisting of consecutive days) and which may exclude only required days off per Bylaw 17.1.6.5 and official vacation, holiday and final examination periods during which no practice or competition shall occur.

(b) Women. The length of an institution's playing season in women's ice hockey shall be limited to the period of time between the start of preseason practice [see Bylaw 17.14.2-(b)] and the end of the regular playing season [see Bylaw 17.14.4-(b)].

~~17.14.2 Preseason Practice. A member institution shall not commence practice sessions in ice hockey before September 7 or the institution's first day of classes for the fall term, whichever is earlier.~~

(a) Men. An institution shall not commence practice sessions in men's ice hockey before September 7 or the institution's first day of classes for the fall term, whichever is earlier.

(b) Women. An institution shall not commence practice sessions in women's ice hockey before 11 days before the first permissible contest date [Bylaw 17.14.3-(b)]. Countable athletically related activities from the start of preseason practice until the first permissible contest shall be limited to eight hours per week.

~~17.14.3 First Contest. A member institution shall not play its first contest (game or scrimmage) with outside competition in ice hockey before September 7 or the institution's first day of classes for the fall term, whichever is earlier.~~

(a) Men. An institution shall not play its first contest (game or scrimmage) with outside competition in men's ice hockey before September 7 or the institution's first day of classes for the fall term, whichever is earlier.

(b) Women. An institution shall not play its first contest (game or scrimmage) with outside competition in women's ice hockey prior to the Friday of the 25th full weekend prior to the start of the National Collegiate Women's Ice Hockey Championship.

[17.14.3.1 unchanged.]

~~17.14.4 End of Regular Playing Season. A member institution shall conclude all practice and competition (games and scrimmages) in each segment in ice hockey by the last day of final examinations for the regular academic year at the institution (see Bylaw 17.1.7 for additional regulations regarding the end date of practice and competition).~~

(a) Men. An institution shall conclude all practice and competition (games and scrimmages) in each segment in men's ice hockey by the last day of final examinations for the regular academic year at the institution (see Bylaw 17.1.7 for additional regulations regarding the end date of practice and competition).

(b) Women. An institution's last contest (game or scrimmage or postseason tournament contest) with outside competition shall not be played after the National Collegiate Women's Ice Hockey Championship game. An institution may not continue to practice beyond its last regular-season contest, including the conference championship (if any), unless it has reason to believe it is under consideration for selection to participate in the NCAA championship or other postseason national championship event. An institution may not engage in regular-season competition after the beginning of its conference's season-ending tournament that determines automatic qualification into the National Collegiate Women's Ice Hockey Championship (see Bylaw 17.1.7 for additional regulations regarding the end date of practice and competition).

[17.14.5 through 17.14.8 unchanged.]

[17.15 through 17.33 unchanged.]

FAQ:

Co-sponsorship - Conference:
None

Co-sponsorship - Institution:
None

Position Statements:

Review History:

May 20, 2025: Recommends Approval - NCAA Division II Legislation Committee.

Additional Information:

The Division II playing and practice seasons legislation for National Collegiate Championship sports traditionally aligns with the playing and practice seasons legislation in Division I. Therefore, amending the playing and practice seasons legislation in women's ice hockey will align Division II with the Division I playing and practice seasons legislation for women's ice hockey.

Legislative References

Legislative Cite	Title
17	Playing and Practice Seasons
17.1.2	Segments of Playing Season.
17.1.6	Time Limits for Athletically Related Activities.
17.1.6.4.5	Preseason Practice.
17.14	Ice Hockey.
17.14.1	Length of Playing Season.
17.14.2	Preseason Practice.
17.14.3	First Contest.
17.14.4	End of Regular Playing Season.

Division: II

Proposal Number: NC-2026-19

Title: PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS -- FOREIGN TOURS -- OPPONENTS -- ONE GAME AGAINST ANY INSTITUTION

Convention Year: 2026

Date Submitted: May 22, 2025

Status: Ready for Consideration by Management Council

Effective Date: August 1, 2025

Source: NCAA Division II Management Council (Legislation Committee).

Category: Noncontroversial

Topical Area: Playing and Practice Seasons

Intent: To permit a team to compete in one game against any opponent during an institutional foreign tour.

Bylaws: Amend 17.32, as follows:

17.32 Foreign Tours.

[17.32.1 unchanged.]

17.32.1.8 Opponents. The team shall not compete during the tour against other member institutions or American teams (colleges or other U.S. teams) other than teams composed of U.S. armed forces personnel stationed at U.S. military bases in foreign countries.

[17.32.1.8.1 unchanged.]

17.32.1.8.2 Exception -- One Game Against a Member Institution or American Team. It is permissible for an institution to compete in one game against a member institution or American team (college or other U.S. teams) during an institutional foreign tour.

[17.32.1.9 through 17.32.1.10 unchanged.]

[17.32.2 unchanged.]

FAQ:

Co-sponsorship - Conference:

None

Co-sponsorship - Institution:

None

Position Statements:

Review History:

May 20, 2025: Recommends Approval - NCAA Division II Legislation Committee.

Additional Information:

Under current legislation, a team may not compete against other member institutions or American teams during a foreign tour. Allowing teams to compete in one game against any opponent while on a foreign tour will provide Division II institutions with additional opportunities to participate in guaranteed games during a foreign tour. Finally, this recommendation will increase the exposure of Division II institutions, as the recruitment of international student-athletes continues to increase.

Legislative References

Legislative Cite	Title
17.32	Foreign Tours.
17.32.18	Opponents.
