



## A G E N D A

### National Collegiate Athletic Association Division II Management Council

Room 228  
Phoenix Convention Center

January 10, 2024  
8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

1. Welcome and announcements. [Supplement No. 1] (Carrie Michaels)
2. Review of previous minutes. (Michaels)
  - a. Fall Division II Management Council and Division II Presidents Council. [Supplement No. 2]
  - b. Board of Governors.
    - (1) September 6 videoconference. [Supplement No. 3]
    - (2) October 24 in-person meeting. [Supplement No. 4]
  - c. Administrative Committee. [Supplement No. 5]
3. 2023-24 Division II Priorities. [Supplement No. 6] (Maritza Jones)
4. NCAA Convention and legislation.
  - a. 2024 NCAA Convention schedule. [Supplement No. 7] (M. Jones)
  - b. Proposed legislation for the 2024 Convention. [Supplement No. 8] (Chelsea Hooks)
    - Feedback on Convention proposals for the business session.
  - c. Review Management Council assignments (with positions of FARA and SAAC) for the Division II legislative proposals. [Supplement No. 9] (Hooks)
  - d. Procedural issues document. [Supplement No. 10] (Hooks)
  - e. Question and answer guide related to the 2024 Convention proposals. [Supplement No. 11] (Hooks)
  - f. Presidents Council-sponsored proposals for the 2025 NCAA Convention. [Supplement No. 12] (Hooks)
  - g. Noncontroversial legislation. [Supplement No. 13] (Rachel Denton)
5. Review of committee recommendations affecting Division II.

- a. Division II committees.
  - (1) Academic Requirements Committee. (Danny McCabe)
    - (a) August 28 electronic vote. [Supplement No. 14]
    - (b) December 1 electronic vote. [Supplement No. 15]
  - (2) Championships Committee. (Marcus Clarke)
    - (a) November 2 videoconference. [Supplement No. 16]
      - Feedback on baseball visible pitch clock rule.
    - (b) December 7 videoconference. [Supplement No. 17]
    - (c) January 4 videoconference. [Supplement No. 18]
  - (3) Legislation Committee. [Supplement No. 19] (Brenda Cates)
    - (a) Voting on football issues. [Supplement No. 20] (Hooks)
    - (b) Update on the work of the Division I Name, Image and Likeness Working Group. (Hooks)
  - (4) Membership Committee. [Supplement No. 21] (Christina Whetsel)
  - (5) Nominating Committee. (Roberta Page)
    - (a) October 12 videoconference. [Supplement No. 22]
    - (b) December 12 videoconference. [Supplement No. 23]
  - (6) Planning and Finance Committee. (Mark Corino)
    - (a) December 13 videoconference. [Supplement No. 24]
    - (b) 2023-24 year-to-date budget-to-actual. [Supplement No. 25]
  - (7) Student-Athlete Advisory Committee. [Supplement No. 26]
  - (8) Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement. [Supplement No. 27] (Kristi Kiefer)
- b. Division II subcommittees, project teams and task forces.

- Management Council Identity Subcommittee. [Supplement No. 28] (Santee Mott)
- c. Association-wide committees.
- (1) Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports. [Supplement No. 29] (Sarah Ramey)
  - (2) Honors Committee. [Supplement No. 30] (Kim Hancock)
  - (3) Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee. [Supplement No. 31] (Femi Alao)
  - (4) Committee on Women's Athletics. [Supplement No. 32] (Loh)
  - (5) Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee and Committee on Women's Athletics. [Supplement No. 33] (Alao and Kat Loh)
6. Management Council issues and updates.
- a. Management Council policies and procedures. [Supplement No. 34] (M. Jones)
  - b. Discussion regarding Management Council sponsoring NCAA Convention proposals. [Supplement No. 35] (Terri Steeb Gronau)
  - c. 2024 Management Council committee and project team assignments. [Supplement No. 36] (Michaels)
7. National office updates.
- a. Legal. (Jared Tidemann)
  - b. Sports Science Institute. [Supplement No. 37] (Brian Hainline, John Parsons and Anne Rohlman)
  - c. Division II Academic Success Rate and Federal Graduation Rates. [Supplement No. 38] (Robert Turick)
  - d. United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee. (Bernard Muir)
  - e. Division I Project. [Supplement No. 39] (Gronau)
8. Affiliated association updates.

- a. Division II Athletics Director Association. (M. Jones)
  - b. Division II Conference Commissioners Association. (Erin Lind)
  - c. College Sports Communicators. [Supplement No. 40] (Jerry Wollmering)
  - d. Faculty Athletics Representative Association. (Cates)
  - e. Minority Opportunity Athletics Association. (Vaughn Williams)
  - f. National Association for Athletics Compliance. (Whetsel)
  - g. Women Leaders in Sports. (Ramey)
9. Other business. (Michaels)
  10. Meeting recap/things to report back to conferences. (Michaels)
  11. Recognize outgoing Management Council members. (Michaels and Page)
  12. Future meetings. (Michaels)
    - a. April 15-16, 2024, Management Council meeting; Indianapolis, Indiana.
    - b. July 20-21, 2024, Management Council and Student-Athlete Advisory Committee Summit; Indianapolis, Indiana.
    - c. July 22-23, 2024, Management Council meeting, Indianapolis, Indiana.
    - d. October 21-22, 2024 Management Council meeting; videoconference.
    - e. January 15-18, 2025, in conjunction with the 2025 NCAA Convention; Nashville, Tennessee.
    - f. April 14-15, 2025, Management Council meeting; Indianapolis, Indiana.
    - g. July 19-20, 2025, Management Council and Student-Athlete Advisory Committee Summit; Indianapolis, Indiana.
    - h. July 21-22, 2025, Management Council meeting; Indianapolis, Indiana.
    - i. October 21-22, 2025, Management Council meeting; videoconference.
  13. Adjournment. (Michaels)

2023 NCAA Division II Management Council Roster

---

**Femi Alao**  
Assistant Director of Athletics/SWA  
Roberts Wesleyan University  
2301 Westside Drive  
Rochester, New York 14624

Telephone: 585-594-6189  
Email: [alao\\_obafemi@roberts.edu](mailto:alao_obafemi@roberts.edu)  
Term: January 2027

---

**Patrick Britz**  
Commissioner  
South Atlantic Conference  
226 Northpark Drive, Suite 130  
Rock Hill, South Carolina 29730

Telephone: 803-981-5240  
Email: [patrick@thesac.com](mailto:patrick@thesac.com)  
Cell Phone: 803-412-1770  
Term: January 2027

---

**Brenda Cates**  
Faculty Athletics Representative  
University of Mount Olive  
634 Henderson Street  
Mount Olive, North Carolina 28365

Telephone: 919-658-2502  
Email: [bcates@umo.edu](mailto:bcates@umo.edu)  
Cell Phone: 910-935-0046  
Term: January 2024

---

**Bennett Cherry**  
Faculty Athletics Representative  
California State University, San Marcos  
333 South Twin Oaks Valley Road  
San Marcos, California 92096

Telephone: 760-750-4217  
Email: [bcherry@csusm.edu](mailto:bcherry@csusm.edu)  
Cell Phone: 951-551-7345  
Term: January 2027

---

**Marcus Clarke**  
Senior Associate Commissioner  
Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association  
4725 Piedmont Row Drive, Suite 200  
Charlotte, North Carolina 28210

Telephone: 704-910-2133  
Email: [mclarke@theciaa.com](mailto:mclarke@theciaa.com)  
Cell Phone: 757-298-4503  
Term: January 2025

---

**Mark A. Corino**  
Assistant Vice President/Director of Athletics  
Caldwell University  
120 Bloomfield Avenue  
Caldwell, New Jersey 07009

Telephone: 973-865-4936  
Email: [mcorino@caldwell.edu](mailto:mcorino@caldwell.edu)  
Term: January 2024

---

**Peter Crabb**  
Faculty Athletics Representative  
Northwest Nazarene University  
623 South University Boulevard  
Nampa, Idaho 83686

Telephone: 208-467-8536  
Email: [prcrabb@nnu.edu](mailto:prcrabb@nnu.edu)  
Cell Phone: 208-577-7945  
Term: January 2028

---

---

**Jeremy Elliott**  
Faculty Athletics Representative  
University of Alabama in Huntsville  
301 Sparkman Drive  
Huntsville, Alabama 35899

Telephone: 256-824-2185  
Email: [jme0017@uah.edu](mailto:jme0017@uah.edu)  
Cell Phone: 706-474-4955  
Term: January 2027

---

**Theresa Grosbach**  
Deputy Director of Athletics/SWA  
Missouri Western State University  
4525 Downs Drive  
St. Joseph, Missouri 64507

Telephone: 816-271-4528  
Email: [tgrosbach@missouriwestern.edu](mailto:tgrosbach@missouriwestern.edu)  
Cell Phone: 913-530-4955  
Term: January 2027

---

**Kim Hancock**  
Faculty Athletics Representative  
Ferris State University  
220 Ferris Drive  
Big Rapids, Michigan 493074

Telephone: 231-580-1195  
Email: [hancockk@ferris.edu](mailto:hancockk@ferris.edu)  
Term: January 2027

---

**David Hansburg**  
Director of Athletics  
Colorado School of Mines  
1500 Illinois Street  
Golden, Colorado 80401

Telephone: 303-273-3300  
Email: [hansburg@mines.edu](mailto:hansburg@mines.edu)  
Cell Phone: 303-601-8702  
Term: January 2026

---

**Jerry Haywood**  
Faculty Athletics Representative  
Fort Valley State University  
1005 State University Drive  
Fort Valley, Georgia 31030

Telephone: 478-827-3243  
Email: [haywoodj@fvsu.edu](mailto:haywoodj@fvsu.edu)  
Term: January 2028

---

**Amy Henkelman**  
Director of Athletics  
Dominican University of California  
50 Acacia Avenue  
San Rafael, California 94901

Telephone: 415-257-1304  
Email: [amy.henkelman@dominican.edu](mailto:amy.henkelman@dominican.edu)  
Term: January 2025

---

**Kristi Kiefer**  
Associate Athletics Director/SWA  
Fairmont State University  
310 Feaster Center  
1201 Locust Avenue  
Fairmont, West Virginia 26554

Telephone: 304-367-4265  
Email: [kkiefer@fairmontstate.edu](mailto:kkiefer@fairmontstate.edu)  
Cell Phone: 304-476-6541  
Term: January 2024

---

---

**Emma Kramer**  
Student-Athlete  
Simon Fraser University  
3055 Greenwood Place  
Burnaby, British Columbia Canada V5A 2Y3

Telephone: 262-351-4251  
Email: [krame038@rangers.uwp.edu](mailto:krame038@rangers.uwp.edu)  
Term: January 2024

---

**Erin Lind**  
Commissioner  
Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference  
2999 CR 42 West, Suite 136  
Burnsville, Minnesota 55306

Telephone: 952-500-8053  
Email: [lind@northernsun.org](mailto:lind@northernsun.org)  
Term: January 2026

---

**Katherine Loh**  
Faculty Athletics Representative  
Florida Southern College  
111 Lake Hollingsworth Drive  
Lakeland, Florida 33823

Telephone: 863-680-4151  
Email: [kloh@flsouthern.edu](mailto:kloh@flsouthern.edu)  
Cell Phone: 863-899-5085  
Term: January 2027

---

**Danny McCabe**  
Director of Athletics  
Adelphi University  
1 South Avenue  
Garden City, New York 11530

Telephone: 516-877-4231  
Email: [dmccabe@adelphi.edu](mailto:dmccabe@adelphi.edu)  
Cell Phone: 516-779-0019  
Term: January 2025

---

**Cindy McKnight**  
Director of Athletics/SWA  
Ursuline College  
2550 Lander Road  
Pepper Pike, Ohio 44124

Telephone: 440-684-6102  
Email: [cmcknight@ursuline.edu](mailto:cmcknight@ursuline.edu)  
Cell Phone: 440-221-2596  
Term: January 2027

---

**Carrie Michaels, *chair***  
Senior Associate Director of Athletics/SWA  
Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania  
1871 Old Main Drive  
Shippensburg, Pennsylvania 17257

Telephone: 717-477-1711  
Email: [camichaels@ship.edu](mailto:camichaels@ship.edu)  
Cell Phone: 717-262-3116  
Term: January 2024

---

**Austin Mondello**  
Student-Athlete  
Colorado Mesa University  
941 Walnut Avenue  
Grand Junction, Colorado 81501

Telephone: 479-282-4884  
Email: [austin.mondello@gmail.com](mailto:austin.mondello@gmail.com)  
Term: January 2024

---

---

**Sandee Mott**

Director of Athletics  
Texas Woman's University  
1200 Frame Street  
P.O. Box 425349  
Denton, Texas 76204-5349

Telephone: 940-898-2381

Email: [smott3@twu.edu](mailto:smott3@twu.edu)

Term: January 2026

---

**Roberta Page**

Director of Athletics  
Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania  
101 Field House Road, Suite 102  
Slippery Rock, Pennsylvania 16057

Telephone: 724-738-2767

Email: [roberta.page@sru.edu](mailto:roberta.page@sru.edu)

Cell Phone: 317-650-9098

Term: January 2027

---

**Bo Pagliasotti**

Faculty Athletics Representative  
Southwestern Oklahoma State University  
100 Campus Drive  
Weatherford, Oklahoma 73096

Telephone: 580-774-7089

Email: [bo.pagliasotti@swosu.edu](mailto:bo.pagliasotti@swosu.edu)

Term: January 2026

---

**Sarah Ramey**

Deputy Athletics Director/SWA  
West Texas A&M University  
WTAMU Box 60049  
Canyon, Texas 79015

Telephone: 806-651-4433

Email: [sramey@wtamu.edu](mailto:sramey@wtamu.edu)

Term: January 2027

---

**Christina Whetsel**

Associate Athletics Director for Compliance and  
Administration/SWA  
Augusta University  
1120 Fifteenth Street, CFH 214  
Augusta, Georgia 30912

Telephone: 706-729-2450

Email: [cwhetsel@augusta.edu](mailto:cwhetsel@augusta.edu)

Cell Phone: 325-245-9939

Term: January 2026

---

**Vaughn Williams**

Director of Athletics  
Bentley University  
175 Forest Street  
Waltham, Massachusetts 02452

Telephone: 781-891-2985

Email: [vwilliams@bentley.edu](mailto:vwilliams@bentley.edu)

Cell Phone: 678-315-7216

Term: January 2027

---

**Jerry Wollmering, vice chair**

Director of Athletics  
Truman State University  
100 East Normal Street  
Kirksville, Missouri 63501

Telephone: 660-341-8933

Email: [jerryw@truman.edu](mailto:jerryw@truman.edu)

Term: January 2024

---

---

**NCAA Staff Liaisons**

**Terri Steeb Gronau**

Vice-President of Division II

Email: [tgronau@ncaa.org](mailto:tgronau@ncaa.org)

**Maritza Silva Jones**

Managing Director of Division II

Email: [msjones@ncaa.org](mailto:msjones@ncaa.org)

**Ryan Jones**

Director of Division II

Email: [rjones@ncaa.org](mailto:rjones@ncaa.org)

**Jill Waddell**

Coordinator of Division II

Email: [jwaddell@ncaa.org](mailto:jwaddell@ncaa.org)

**Angela Red**

Director of Academic and Membership Affairs  
for Division II

Email: [ared@ncaa.org](mailto:ared@ncaa.org)

**Chelsea Hooks**

Associate Director of Academic and  
Membership Affairs

Email: [chooks@ncaa.org](mailto:chooks@ncaa.org)

**Jordan Lysiak**

Associate Director of Academic and  
Membership Affairs

Email: [jlysiak@ncaa.org](mailto:jlysiak@ncaa.org)

**Rachel Denton**

Assistant Director of Academic and  
Membership Affairs

Email: [rdenton@ncaa.org](mailto:rdenton@ncaa.org)

**Karen Kirsch**

Director of Championships and Alliances

Email: [kkirsch@ncaa.org](mailto:kkirsch@ncaa.org)

**Micaela Liddane**

Associate Director of Championships and  
Alliances

Email: [mliddane@ncaa.org](mailto:mliddane@ncaa.org)

**Corbin McGuire**

Associate Director of Communications

Email: [cmcguire@ncaa.org](mailto:cmcguire@ncaa.org)

**Robert Turick**

Assistant Director of Research

Email: [rturick@ncaa.org](mailto:rturick@ncaa.org)

**U.S. Mailing Address**

NCAA

P.O. Box 6222

Indianapolis, IN 46206-6222

**Telephone:** 317/917-6222

**Facsimile:** 317/917-6971



## SUMMARY OF FALL 2023 QUARTERLY MEETINGS

National Collegiate Athletic Association  
August 29, 2023, Division II Management Council;  
October 16-17, 2023, Management Council; and October 24-25, 2023, Division II  
Presidents Council

### *AUGUST 29, 2023, DIVISION II MANAGEMENT COUNCIL VIDEOCONFERENCE.*

- **NCAA Business Review.** The Management Council participated in a joint videoconference with the Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, the Division II Athletics Directors Association board and the Division II Conference Commissioners Association to receive an update on the NCAA business review findings from President Charlie Baker.

---

### *OCTOBER 16-17, 2023, MANAGEMENT COUNCIL MEETING AND OCTOBER 24-25, 2023, PRESIDENTS COUNCIL MEETINGS.*

#### **1. Welcome and Announcements.**

Management Council. The Management Council convened its quarterly meeting at 11:03 a.m. Eastern time Monday, October 16.

The chair welcomed those in attendance, acknowledging staff who were present. The chair welcomed Laura Dahlby Nicolai representing the Great Northwest Athletic Conference; and Reginald Ruffin representing the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference, as observers, due to the resignations of Theresa Hanson and Curts Campbell, respectively. The chair also acknowledged five Pathway Program members who were attending the Council meeting.

Finally, the chair highlighted the schedule for the meeting, after which the Council proceeded with its agenda.

Presidents Council. The Presidents Council convened its quarterly meeting at 6:37 p.m. Eastern time Tuesday, October 24.

The chair welcomed those in attendance, acknowledging staff who were present.

The chair highlighted the schedule for the meeting, after which the Council proceeded with its agenda.

#### **2. Review of Previous Meetings.**

##### **a. July 17-18 Division II Management Council and August 2 Presidents Council.**

Management Council. The Management Council approved the summary of actions from its summer meetings.

Presidents Council. The Presidents Council approved the summary of actions from its summer meetings.

**b. NCAA Board of Governors.**

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed the Board of Governors reports from its August 1 and August 16 videoconferences.

Presidents Council. The Presidents Council reviewed the Board of Governors reports from its August 1 and August 16 videoconferences.

**c. Administrative Committee.**

Management Council. The Management Council approved the interim actions by the committee.

Presidents Council. The Presidents Council approved the interim actions by the committee.

**3. 2023-24 Division II Priorities.**

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed the 2023-24 Division II Priorities, which had been approved at the summer series of meetings.

Presidents Council. The Presidents Council reviewed the 2023-24 Division II Priorities.

**4. NCAA Convention and Legislation.**

**a. 2024 NCAA Convention Schedule.**

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed the core schedule of events for the 2024 Convention.

Presidents Council. The Presidents Council reviewed the core schedule of events for the 2024 Convention.

**b. Possible Topics for the Joint Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, Management Council and Presidents Council Breakfast and Meeting.**

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed and discussed a draft agenda for the joint breakfast and meeting with the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee and Presidents Council during the 2024 Convention.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**c. Proposed Legislation for the 2024 Convention.**

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed the five proposals that will be voted on at the 2024 Convention, three sponsored by the Presidents Council and two that are membership sponsored. The Council discussed and provided feedback on the legislation.

Presidents Council. The Presidents Council reviewed the proposals for the Convention.

**d. Discuss Conference and Membership Feedback Regarding Convention Legislation.**

Management Council. The Management Council had requested data regarding Division II football schedules when reviewing one of the membership-sponsored proposals. The Council was provided with an overview of Division II football scheduling.

The Management Council also reviewed a joint statement received from the National Field Hockey Coaches Association and USA Field Hockey regarding NCAA Division II Proposal No. 2024-3. The Council appreciated the communication. The Council did not take any action to recommend changes to the proposal.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**e. Committees' Review of Membership-Sponsored Proposals and Management Council Positions.**

**(1) Proposal No. 2024-1 Playing and Practice Seasons -- Football -- Preseason Practice and First Contest -- First Permissible Contest.**

Management Council. The Management Council agreed to oppose this proposal due to the proposal being contrary to the Life in the Balance philosophy. Specifically, the Council noted concerns related to the student-athlete experience and student-athletes feeling compelled to forgo participating in nonathletically related activities, such as summer jobs and internships. The Council also noted the potential impact this proposal would have on athletics administrators. Further, the Council noted the budget impact this proposal would have on institutions, as well as institutions having to potentially cut institutional programming short (e.g., camps) due to football teams coming back early. Finally, the Council noted that there are other possible solutions (e.g., playing 10 contests, adding a 12th week at the end of the football season and adjusting the postseason schedule to be played one week later) to accomplish what the proposal is seeking to accomplish.

Presidents Council. The Presidents Council agreed to oppose this proposal for the same reasons as the Management Council.

(2) **Proposal No. 2024-2 Playing and Practice Seasons -- Softball -- Number of Contests -- Maximum Limitations -- Institutional and Student-Athlete -- Championship and Nonchampionship Contests.**

Management Council. The Management Council agreed to oppose this proposal. The Council noted the impact this change would have on the Life in the Balance philosophy in Division II. The Council also noted that softball is a contest sport, whereas other sports (e.g., soccer during the nonchampionship segment and volleyball) are dates of competition sports and, therefore, are not the same. Further, the Council noted that all sports, except football, may participate in three discretionary exemptions during their playing season. The council noted that softball currently can participate in all 56-contests during both the nonchampionship and championship segments and, therefore, is not at a disadvantage. The Council also noted the potential disadvantage among institutions that will be able to participate in the eight contests during the nonchampionship segment and those institutions that will be unable to participate in the eight contests due primarily to weather. Finally, the Council noted the impact this proposal may have on athletic trainers and facilities staff.

Presidents Council. The Presidents Council agreed to oppose this proposal for the same reasons as the Management Council.

f. **Proposed Groupings of Proposals and Roll-Call Votes.**

Management Council. The Management Council recommended to the Presidents Council the proposed groupings of legislative proposals and the designated roll-call votes for the purpose of production of the 2024 NCAA Convention Division II Official Notice and the order of business for the Division II business session at the 2024 Convention.

There is a total of five proposals sponsored for the 2024 Convention. The five proposals are divided by subject matter. All proposals will be voted on by roll-call vote. Two proposals are football only votes.

Presidents Council. The Presidents Council approved the proposed grouping of legislative proposals and the designated roll-call votes for the purpose of production of the 2024 Convention Official Notice and the order of business for the Division II business session at the 2024 Convention, as recommended.

**g. Suggested Speakers for the 2024 Convention Proposals.**

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed the speakers' chart for the Division II business session at the 2024 Convention. The Council was informed of the duties that go along with being a designated or back-up speaker and was asked to advise staff of any changes individuals would like to make.

Presidents Council. The Presidents Council reviewed the speakers' chart for the 2024 business session.

**h. Noncontroversial Legislation.**

Management Council. The Management Council adopted in legislative form three noncontroversial proposals that had previously been approved in concept (Proposal Nos. NC-2024-15, NC-2024-16 and NC-2024-18, as presented. The three proposals are listed below.

- (1) **Committees -- Association-Wide Committees -- General Committees -- Olympic Sports Liaison Committee -- Elimination of Olympic Sports Liaison Committee.** To eliminate the NCAA Olympic Sports Liaison Committee.
- (2) **NCAA Division II Membership and Institutional Control -- Active Membership -- Institutions -- Conditions and Obligations of Active Membership -- Academic Success Rate and Academic Performance Census -- Failure to Submit and Final Authority.** To specify that the withholding penalty for failure to submit Academic Success Rate (ASR) and Academic Performance Census (APC) data will occur with the next distribution of Division II Institutional Equal Distribution Funds; further, to specify that the NCAA Division II Academic Requirements Committee shall have the final authority over waivers submitted by Division II institutions that fail to submit their ASR and APC data by the deadlines.
- (3) **NCAA Division II Membership and Institutional Control -- Active Membership -- Institutions -- Conditions and Obligations of Active Membership -- Student-Athlete Health and Safety Survey and Financial Data Requirement -- Failure to Submit and Waiver Opportunity.** To specify that the withholding penalty for failure to submit the student-athlete health and safety survey and financial data will occur with the next distribution of Division II Institutional Equal Distribution Funds; further, to establish a waiver opportunity for an institution that fails to submit the student-athlete health and safety survey and financial data by the deadline.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

5. **Review of Committee Recommendations Affecting Division II.**

a. **Division II Committees.**

(1) **Academic Requirements Committee.**

- (a) **2025 Convention Legislation -- NCAA Division II Bylaw 14.4.3.3 -- Eligibility -- Progress-Toward-Degree Requirements -- Eligibility for Competition -- Credit Hours Earned During the Regular Academic Year -- Elimination of the 18-Semester/27-Quarter Hours.**

Management Council. The Management Council recommended that the Presidents Council sponsor a proposal for the 2025 Convention to eliminate Bylaw 14.4.3.3 (credit hours earned during the regular academic year), effective August 1, 2025, for certifications of progress-toward-degree requirements for fall 2025 and thereafter.

Currently, progress-toward-degree rules require a student-athlete to earn at least nine-semester or eight-quarter hours of academic credit during each full-time term of attendance, at least 18-semester or 27-quarter hours of academic credit during the regular academic year and at least 24-semester or 36-quarter hours of academic credit annually. Based on a review of the 2022 Academic Performance Census (APC) data, 96% of student-athletes from semester schools who satisfied the term-by-term requirement in their spring semester also satisfied the 18-semester hour requirement. Further, 98% of student-athletes from quarter schools who satisfied the term-by-term requirement in their spring quarter also satisfied the 27-quarter hour requirement. Eliminating the legislation will simplify the certification process without jeopardizing the overall academic success of a student-athlete since they would still be required to meet the term-by-term, annual credit-hour and grade-point average (GPA) requirements. Finally, this change will ease the burden on compliance administrators, as well as student-athletes.

Presidents Council. The Presidents Council agreed to sponsor the legislation for the 2025 Convention.

- (b) **2025 Convention Legislation -- Bylaw 14.5.4.3 -- Eligibility -- Transfer Regulations -- Two-Year College Transfers -- Eligibility for Competition, Practice and Athletics Aid -- All Other Qualifiers and Partial Qualifiers -- Removal of English, Math and Science Requirement for Qualifiers.**

Management Council. The Management Council recommended that the Presidents Council sponsor a proposal for the 2025 Convention to eliminate the requirement that a qualifier, who is a two-year college transfer, must earn transferrable credit hours in English, math and science, effective August 1, 2025, for student-athletes transferring to a Division II institution on or after August 1, 2025.

Currently, two-year college transfers that do not graduate from the two-year college or who are not a final qualifier with only one term of attendance at the two-year college, are required to satisfactorily complete and transfer in at least six-semester or eight-quarter hours of English, three-semester or four-quarter hours of math and three-semester or four-quarter hours of natural or physical science as part of the two-year college transfer requirements. The Academic Requirements Committee and the Management Council believe that a two-year college transfer student who is a qualifier has already displayed their academic readiness through completion of core courses while enrolled in high school, therefore, eliminating the requirement would simplify transfer certification for qualifiers. Qualifiers would still need to satisfy the remaining two-year college transfer requirements (e.g., an average of at least 12-semester or 12-quarter hours of transferable credit each fulltime term, 2.20 transferable GPA) outlined in Bylaw 14.5.4.3.

Presidents Council. The Presidents Council did not take action on this proposal. The Council requested additional time to review and discuss the concept. The Council will discuss the proposal at its January meeting.

- (3) **Noncontroversial Legislation -- Bylaws 14.3.1.3 and 14.3.1.3.2 - Eligibility -- Freshman Academic Requirements -- Eligibility for Financial Aid, Practice and Competition -- Qualifiers and Partial Qualifiers -- Core-Curriculum Requirements and Nontraditional Courses -- Modernization of Core-Course Requirements.**

Management Council. The Management Council adopted noncontroversial legislation to modernize core-course requirements to encompass all delivery models; further, to eliminate the legislative distinction for nontraditional courses, effective August 1, 2024, for high school account, program or course reviews that occur on or after August 1, 2024.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

- (4) **Noncontroversial Legislation -- Bylaw 14.4.3.2.1 -- Eligibility -- Progress-Toward-Degree Requirements -- Eligibility for Competition -- Term-by-Term Credit-Hour Requirement -- Application of Rule to Transfer Student -- Transferable Requirement.**

Management Council. The Management Council referred back to the Academic Requirements Committee for further discussion a concept that would eliminate the requirement that the nine-semester or eight-quarter hours required for transfer students for purposes of progress-toward-degree must be transferrable degree credit; further, the concept also specified that the nine-semester or eight-quarter hours shall be earned (rather than transferable) during the student-athlete's last full-time term of attendance.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

- (5) **Noncontroversial Legislation -- Bylaw 14.5.4.1.1 -- Transfer Regulations -- Two-Year College Transfers -- Eligibility for Competition, Practice and Athletics Aid -- Graduation from Two-Year College -- Application – Academic Degree Requirement.**

Management Council. The Management Council adopted noncontroversial legislation to amend Bylaw 14.5.4.1.1 (eligibility for competition, practice and athletics aid -- graduation from two-year college) to clarify that a student-athlete that previously attended a four-year institution as a full-time student prior to attendance at a two-year college, shall utilize any academic degree from any two-year college(s) attended for purposes of satisfying transfer requirements, effective August 1, 2024, for student-athletes transferring to a Division II institution on or after August 1, 2024..

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

- (2) **Championships Committee.**

- (a) **August 3 Videoconference.**

- **Neutrality in championships preliminary rounds for team sports.**

Management Council. The Management Council received an update that the Division II Administrative Committee approved policy that permits preliminary round hosts in all team sports to run the same kind of pregame promotions and

celebrations they conduct during the regular-season contests before resuming neutrality during the course of the contest.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

[Note: The item noted above was approved August 30 by the Administrative Committee. It is included in the document for ease of reference.]

**(b) August 11 Electronic Vote and August Videoconference.**

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed the committee's August 11 electronic vote and August 11 videoconference reports. The Council received an update on a pilot initiative for the 2023-24 academic year to stream all games of the Division II football, women's volleyball and men's and women's basketball championships. The pilot will provide key data for the NCAA as it continues its media rights negotiations regarding potential interest in coverage for Division II events.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**(c) September 14-15 In-Person Meeting.**

**i. Noncontroversial legislation – Division II Bylaw 21.8.5.2.2. – Championship Committee -- Duties – Replacement of Sport and Rules Committee Members.**

Management Council. The Management Council adopted noncontroversial legislation to permit the Division II Championships Committee to replace a member of a Division II sport committee or a Division II representative on an Association-wide playing rules committee when such member is not performing their duties properly.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**ii. Triennial Budget Recommendations.**

Management Council. The Management Council was provided an update on the requests for championships enhancements for the triennial budget cycle beginning in fiscal year 2024-25, as recommended by the Division II Championships Committee. The requests will be reviewed by the Planning and Finance Committee in December, and, if

approved, by the Management Council and Presidents Council in January.

Presidents Council. The Presidents Council received an update on the requests for championships enhancements for the triennial budget cycle beginning in fiscal year 2024-25, as recommended by the Division II Championships Committee.

**iii. Softball Championship Date Formula.**

Management Council. The Management Council recommended that the Presidents Council approve a change in the date formula for the Division II Softball Championship that would move the finals to the week after Memorial Day Weekend (Thursday-Wednesday) in years when there is not a spring Division II National Championships Festival, resulting in the following date formula:

- Selection Announcement: Monday prior to regionals.
- Regionals (16 sites): One week before the super regionals (Thursday-Saturday).
- Super Regionals (8 sites): One week before the finals (Thursday-Friday).
- Finals: The week after Memorial Day Weekend (Thursday-Wednesday).

Further, the Management Council referred to the Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee a discussion on whether the date formula for softball should also be amended in years when the spring National Championships Festival occurs, which would remove softball from the Festivals. The Management Council agreed to discuss the feedback received from SAAC at its January meeting before making a recommendation for a change in Festival years.

Presidents Council. The Presidents Council approved the change in date formula, which would move the Division II Softball Championship finals to the week after Memorial Day Weekend (Thursday-Wednesday) in years when there is not a spring National Championships Festival.

**iv. Regional Sites for the 2025 and 2026 Division II Men's and Women's Golf Championships.**

Management Council. The Management Council approved the following sites to host regional competition for the 2025 and 2026 Division II Men’s and Women’s Golf Championships. (Note: The Division II Men’s and Women’s Golf Committees are working with NCAA staff to secure enough bids to make recommendations for the remaining regions/years later this fall.)

<b>Men’s Golf</b>			
<b>Year</b>	<b>Region</b>	<b>Site/Venue</b>	<b>Host Institution</b>
<b>2025</b>	Central/ Midwest	St. Joseph Country Club	Missouri Western State University
<b>2026</b>	Central/ Midwest	Katke Golf Course	Ferris State University

<b>Women’s Golf</b>			
<b>Year</b>	<b>Region</b>	<b>Site/Venue</b>	<b>Host Institution</b>
<b>2025</b>	Central	Kickingbird Golf Club	University of Central Oklahoma
<b>2025</b>	East	The Meadows Golf Course	Grand Valley State University
<b>2025</b>	South	Chattahoochee Golf Course	University of North Georgia
<b>2025</b>	West	La Paloma Golf Club	West Texas A&M University
<b>2026</b>	Central	St. Joseph Country Club	Missouri Western State University
<b>2026</b>	West	Pueblo Country Club	Colorado State University, Pueblo

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

- v. **Substitution Provisions in Men’s and Women’s Golf.**

Management Council. The Management Council approved allowing substitutes during all rounds of the Division II Men's and Women's Golf Championships (this includes stroke play and match play at the regionals and national finals).

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**vi. Access Ratios for Select Sports.**

Management Council. The Management Council approved regional berth allocations for baseball, women's soccer, and men's and women's tennis.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**vii. Misconduct Policies.**

Management Council. The Management Council approved modifications to the misconduct policy as follows: (1) more flexibility to apply increased financial penalties without requiring approval from the Championships Committee to do so (up to \$1500), and (2) to authorize the Championships Committee to change a private reprimand to a public reprimand in instances where the membership would benefit from such disclosure.

Presidents Council. The Presidents Council received an update that the Management Council approved modifications to the misconduct policy.

**viii. Sports Sponsorship Review Referral.**

Management Council. The Management Council referred to the Division II Membership Committee, the Division II Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving Committee, and the Division II Men's and Women's Track and Field Committee a review of sports sponsorship requirements in swimming and diving and track and field to consider whether a potential reduction is warranted in the sports sponsorship and championship selection requirements.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

(d) **September 27 Electronic Vote and October 5 Videoconference.**

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed the committee's September 27 electronic vote and October 5 videoconference reports.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

(3) **Legislation Committee.**

(a) **September 13 Videoconference.**

- **Noncontroversial Legislation -- Various Bylaws -- Incorporating NCAA Division II Bylaw 12 into Division II Bylaws 7 and 14.**

Management Council. The Management Council adopted noncontroversial legislation to rename Bylaw 14 as Eligibility: academic and athletics requirements; further, to incorporate Bylaw 12 (amateurism) into Bylaws 7 (NCAA Division II membership and institutional control) and 14, as specified.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

(b) **Update on the work of the NCAA the Division I Name, Image and Likeness Working Group and timeline for Division II to review and Discuss Proposals Developed by Division I.**

Management Council. The Management Council was provided an overview of NIL proposals that the Division I Council introduced into its legislative cycle. The proposals include development of a voluntary registry for NIL service providers; requirements for disclosure and aggregate reporting of certain elements of NIL agreements; development of best practices for NIL contracts; and the creation of an education program for prospects and current student-athletes, as well as service providers and licensees. The Management Council provided feedback on whether some elements of these proposals would be beneficial or needed in Division II. The Council was informed that the Division I proposals will be shared with several Division II committees, affiliate groups and coaches' connection groups during the fall to gather feedback for the Division II Legislation Committee's review at the end of November for a discussion on whether similar changes are needed in Division II. The

Management Council and Presidents Council will receive additional updates during their January 2024 meetings.

Presidents Council. The Presidents Council was provided an overview of the NIL proposals that the Division I Council introduced into its legislative cycle.

**(4) Committee for Legislative Relief.**

- **NCAA Division II Committee for Legislative Relief information Standards, Guidelines and Directives.**

Management Council. The Management Council approved the updated Committee for Legislative Relief information standards, guidelines and directives, as specified.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**(5) Membership Committee.**

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed the committee's September 25 videoconference report.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**(6) Planning and Finance Committee.**

**(a) August 16 Videoconference.**

**i. Division II Budget Guidelines and Principles.**

Management Council. The Management Council approved the amended Division II Budget Guidelines and Principles.

Presidents Council. The Presidents Council approved the amended Division II Budget Guidelines and Principles.

**ii. Calculating Division II Projected Revenue.**

Management Council. The Management Council endorsed a change in the method for calculating Division II's projected revenue that takes Division II's prior year actual revenue plus Division II's allocation of change from the media agreements to calculate the Division II estimated revenue in the long-range budget.

Presidents Council. The Presidents Council approved a change in the method for calculating Division II's projected revenue that takes Division II's prior year actual revenue plus Division II's allocation of change from the media agreements to calculate the Division II estimated revenue in the long-range budget.

**(b) September 20 Videoconference.**

**i. Division II Participation in the NCAA's Insurance Program.**

Management Council. The Management Council endorsed that Division II participate in the following policies within the NCAA's Insurance Program: (a) ticket and ancillary revenue insurance; and (b) media broadcast revenue insurance; the Division II premium allocation amount for Fiscal Year 2023-24 (FY24); and approved endorsed that Division II should continue to participate in these programs going forward as outlined in FY23 and FY24 without review each year unless something in either program changes.

Presidents Council. The Presidents Council approved that Division II participate in the following policies within the NCAA's Insurance Program: (a) ticket and ancillary revenue insurance; and (b) media broadcast revenue insurance; the Division II premium allocation amount for Fiscal Year 2023-24 (FY24); and approved that Division II should continue to participate in these programs going forward as outlined in FY23 and FY24 without review each year unless something in either program changes.

**ii. Division II Long-Range Budget.**

Management Council. The Management Council endorsed the revised Division II long-range budget through 2031-32.

Presidents Council. The Presidents Council approved the revised Division II long-range budget through 2031-32.

**(c) Unaudited 2022-23 Budget Figures.**

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed the unaudited 2022-23 budget figures.

Presidents Council. The Presidents Council reviewed the unaudited 2022-23 budget figures.

**(7) Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.**

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed the committee's July 14-15 in-person meeting and August 9 videoconference reports.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**b. Division II Subcommittees, Project Teams and Task Forces.**

• **Management Council Identity Subcommittee.**

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed the committee's September 27 videoconference report.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**c. Association -Wide Committees.**

**(1) Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports.**

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed the committee's June 13-14 meeting report.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**(2) Honors Committee.**

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed the committee's June 29 videoconference report.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**(3) Playing Rules Oversight Panel.**

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed the panel's July 19 and August 10 videoconference reports.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**(4) Postgraduate Scholarship Committee.**

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed the committee's July 11 videoconference report.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**(5) Committee on Women's Athletics.**

- **Update on the Committee on Women's Athletics' Discussion Regarding Women's Wrestling.**

Management Council. The Management Council was provided with an update that the NCAA Committee on Women's Athletics recently met and discussed updates for the six sports currently in the NCAA Emerging Sports for Women program. Based on sports sponsorship data in the 2022-23 academic year, women's wrestling met the requirements to be considered for an NCAA championship through the Emerging Sports for Women program. Specifically, more than 40 schools sponsored women's wrestling at the varsity level and met the sport's minimum competition and participant requirements. The sport's growth puts it on track to become the sixth sport to earn NCAA championship status through the Emerging Sports for Women program, established in 1994 based on a recommendation from the NCAA Gender Equity Task Force.

At its February meeting, the Committee on Women's Athletics anticipates making a recommendation to Divisions I, II and III to sponsor legislation to add a national collegiate women's wrestling championship.

If this recommendation is made, the projected timeline to add a women's wrestling championship is for each division to sponsor a proposal for the 2024-25 legislative cycle and vote on the proposals before or during the 2025 Convention. If adopted, the first women's wrestling championship could be held in winter 2026. This timeline is consistent with past sports added as National Collegiate Championships through the Emerging Sports for Women program.

Presidents Council. The Presidents Council received an update that women's wrestling met the requirements to be considered for an NCAA championship through the Emerging Sports for Women program.

**6. Roundtable Discussions Regarding Key Goals for the Division II Operating Plan.**

Management Council. The Management Council participated in breakout sessions Tuesday morning, which gave members the opportunity to provide feedback on the draft key goals for the Division II Operating Plan.

Presidents Council. The Presidents Council was provided an overview and gave feedback on the draft key goals for the Division II Operating Plan.

7. **Division II Management Council.**

- a. **Elections to fill Vacancies from the Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference, Conference Carolinas, Great Lakes Valley Conference, Great Northwest Athletic Conference, Mountain East Conference, Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference, Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference and One At-Large Representative.**

Management Council. The Management Council elected the following individuals to become new representatives on the Council, effective at the adjournment of the 2024 Division II Business Session, unless otherwise noted.

- (1) Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference. **Kristina Ortiz**, senior woman administrator, Georgian Court University.
- (2) Conference Carolinas. **David Hicks**, director of athletics, King University.
- (3) Great Lakes Valley Conference. **Kristy Bayer**, director of athletics, Rockhurst University.
- (4) Great Northwest Athletic Conference. **Peter Crabb**, faculty athletics representative, Northwest Nazarene University, effective immediately.
- (5) Mountain East Conference. **Rubin Stevenson**, senior associate director of athletics for internal operations, Frostburg State University, effective February 1, 2024.
- (6) Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference. **Carlin Chesick**, senior associate commissioner/senior woman administrator, Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference.
- (7) Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference. **Jerry Haywood**, faculty athletics representative, Fort Valley State University, effective immediately.
- (8) At-Large Representative. **Kim Pate**, director of athletics, Lenoir Rhyne University, effective February 1, 2024.

Presidents Council. The Presidents Council ratified the elections.

**b. Election of Management Council Chair.**

Management Council. The Management Council elected **Roberta Page**, director of athletics, Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania, as the chair of the Management Council, effective at the adjournment of the 2024 Division II Business Session, for a one-year term.

Presidents Council. The Presidents Council ratified the election.

**c. Election of Management Council Vice Chair.**

Management Council. The Management Council elected **Erin Lind**, commissioner, Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference, as the vice chair of the Management Council, effective at the adjournment of the 2024 Division II Business Session, for a one-year term.

Presidents Council. The Presidents Council ratified the election.

**d. Management Council Committee and Project Team Assignments.**

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed committee and project team assignments, noting those assignments that are open with the turnover in Council representation. The Council was informed that if anyone was interested in being assigned to a specific committee or project team, they should inform the chair or one of the Division II staff members.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**e. Management Council Policies and Procedures.**

Management Council. The Management Council tabled this item until its January 2024 meeting.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**d. Discussion Regarding Management Council Sponsoring NCAA Convention Proposals.**

Management Council. The Management Council tabled this item until its January 2024 meeting.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**8. Division II Presidents Council.**

- a. **Election of two Independent Representatives to the Division II Executive Board.** The Presidents Council elected **Lisa Borders** and **Larry Parkinson** as new independent representatives for a two-year period, starting February 1, 2024, and concluding with adjournment of the 2026 Convention. Both appointments are renewable for an additional two years.
  - b. **Chair Election.** The Presidents Council elected **Colleen Perry Keith**, president, Goldey-Beacom University, as chair of the Council, for a one-year period, starting at the conclusion of the 2024 business session and concluding January 2025.
  - c. **Vice Chair Election.** The Presidents Council was advised that a vice chair would be elected at the January meeting to serve from January 2024 to January 2025. President Council members who wish to serve should contact the chair or the vice president of Division II.
  - d. **Discussion with NCAA President Charlie Baker.** The Presidents Council received an update on issues surrounding the NCAA from the NCAA president.
  - e. **Update on Congressional Engagement.** The Presidents Council received an update on congressional engagement efforts.
9. **National Office Updates.**
- a. **Legal.**

Management Council. The Management Council received a legal update from the NCAA director of legal affairs on issues surrounding the NCAA.

Presidents Council. The Presidents Council received a legal update on issues surrounding the NCAA from the NCAA director of legal affairs.
  - b. **Sport Science Institute.**

Management Council. The Management Council received an update from Sport Science Institute staff on some initiatives that the office and the Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports are working on, including discussions on cannabis; discussions on concussion; mental health best practices; and stakeholder athletic trainer meeting.

Presidents Council. The Presidents Council received an update from Sport Science Institute staff on some initiatives that the office and the Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports are working on, including discussions on cannabis; discussions on concussion; mental health best practices; and stakeholder athletic trainer meeting.

**c. Division II Award of Excellence.**

Management Council. The Management Council was informed that nominations for the award will be accepted through November 17. The overall winner of the award will be recognized at the Division II business session during the 2024 Convention.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**d. Division II FAR Fellows Institute.**

Management Council. The Management Council was provided with an update regarding the September 29 through October 1 Division II FAR Fellows Institute.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**e. Division II Diversity Grants.**

Management Council. The Management Council was provided information on the division's diversity grants, including the Coaches' Enhancement Grant, the Ethic Minority and Women's Internship Grant, and the Strategic Alliance Matching Grant.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**f. Division II Make Game Day Yours.**

Management Council. The Management Council was provided an update on the Make Game Day Yours initiative, including the participation usage of the modules in Division II University.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**g. Division II SAAC Super Region Convention.**

Management Council. The Management Council was provided an overview of the SAAC Super Region Convention that is scheduled for November 17-19, 2023, in Atlanta, Georgia for the South region.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**h. Division II Make It Yours Brand/Marketing Strategy.**

Management Council. The Management Council was provided an overview of the Make It Yours brand/marketing strategy.

Presidents Council. The Presidents Council was provided an overview of the Make It Yours brand/marketing strategy.

**i. Gender Equity Internal Review.**

Management Council. The Management Council was provided an overview of the gender equity assessment review.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**j. NCAA Transfer Portal.**

Management Council. The Management Council received information on the trends in the Transfer Portal regarding Division II student-athletes.

Presidents Council. The Presidents Council received information on the trends in the Transfer Portal regarding Division II student-athletes.

**k. Sports Wagering.**

Management Council. The Management Council was provided an overview of the sports wagering landscape.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**10. Affiliated Association Updates.**

Management Council. The Management Council was updated on the activities of the following affiliated associations.

- a. Division II Athletics Directors Association.**
- b. Division II Conference Commissioners Association.**
- c. College Sports Communicators.**
- d. Faculty Athletics Representative Association.**
- e. Minority Opportunities Athletics Administrators Association.**
- f. National Association for Athletics Compliance.**
- g. Women Leaders in Sports.**

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**11. Other Business.**

Management Council. No action was necessary.

Presidents Council. The council received a media rights update regarding the Division II men's semifinals and women's semifinal and finals for the basketball championships. Further, staff updated the committee on an anticipated agreement between Warner Brothers Discovery and Hudl to stream all games of the 2023 NCAA Division II Football Championship, the 2023 NCAA Division II Women's Volleyball Championship, and the 2024 NCAA Division II Men's and Women's Basketball Championships (except for the semifinals and finals in basketball and football due to the existing broadcast contracts). The contract being negotiated is expected to be executed soon and will be followed by a comprehensive communication plan that will include direct outreach to the relevant sport committees and notice to the membership at large via established platforms (e.g., monthly championships and governance newsletters). The streaming initiative also will be included in the bid specifications for the four championships.

**12. Meeting Recap/Things to Report Back to Conferences.**

Management Council. The Management Council was provided with a list of topics/issues to report to its member institutions. These topics included: 2024 Convention information; legislation for the 2024 Convention; Championship Committee updates, including triennial budget recommendations; softball date formula change; and modifications to the misconduct policies; update on sports wagering; new template for congressional engagement; diversity grants; Degree Completion Award Program; information on the senate hearing on name, image and likeness; and the Management Council meeting article.

Presidents Council. No action was necessary.

**13. Future Meetings.**

Management Council. The Management Council reviewed the upcoming meetings for 2024 through January 2025.

Presidents Council. The Presidents Council reviewed the upcoming meetings for 2024 through January 2025.

**14. Adjournment.**

Management Council. The Management Council adjourned at 5:18 p.m. Eastern time October 17.

Presidents Council. The Presidents Council adjourned at 11:25 a.m. Eastern time October 25.

<b>August 29, 2023, Division II Management Council; October 16-17, 2023, Management Council; and October 24-25, 2023, Presidents Council</b>	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
<b>Management Council</b>	<b>Presidents Council</b>
Femi Alao, Roberts Wesleyan University	Michaela Boyd, Azusa Pacific University
Patrick Britz, South Atlantic Conference	Carlos Campo, Ashland University
Brenda Cates, University of Mount Olive	Davaris Cheeks, Concordia University, St. Paul
Bennett Cherry, California State University, San Marcos	Michael Driscoll, Indiana University of Pennsylvania
Marcus Clarke, Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association	John Y. Gotanda, Hawaii Pacific University
Mark Corino, Caldwell University	Donna Henry, University of Virginia's College at Wise
Jeremy Elliott, University of Alabama in Huntsville	Colleen Perry Keith, Goldey-Beacom College
Theresa Grosbach, Missouri Western State University	Carrie Michaels, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania
Kim Hancock, Ferris State University	Steven Shirley, Minot State University
David Hansburg, Colorado School of Mines	William Thierfelder, Belmont Abbey College
Amy Henkelman, Dominican University of California	Blake Thompson, Mississippi College
Kristi Kiefer Fairmont State University	Sandra Woodley, University of Texas Permian Basin
Emma Kramer, Simon Fraser University	Frank Wu, Queen College (New York)
Erin Lind, Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference	
Daniel McCabe, Adelphi University	
Cindy McKnight, Ursuline College	
Carrie Michaels, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania	
Austin Mondello, Colorado Mesa University	
Sandee Mott, Texas Woman's University	
Roberta Page, Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania	
Bo Pagliasotti, Southwestern Oklahoma State University	
Sarah Ramey, West Texas A&M University	
Christina Whetsel, Augusta University	
Vaughn Williams, director of athletics, Bentley University	
Jerry Wollmering, Truman State University	

<b>Absentees:</b>	
Katherine Loh, Florida Southern College	Roslyn Artis, Benedict College
Daniel McCabe, Adelphi University ( <i>August 29</i> )	
Carrie Michaels, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania ( <i>August 29</i> )	
Sarah Ramey, West Texas A&M University ( <i>August 29</i> )	
<b>Guests in Attendance</b>	
Reid Amos, Mountain East Conference ( <i>August 29</i> )	
Eddie Baker, The College of Saint Rose ( <i>August 29</i> )	
Keith Baxter, Southeastern Oklahoma State University ( <i>August 29</i> )	
Jennifer Bell, Converse University ( <i>August 29</i> )	
Michaela Boyd, Azusa Pacific University ( <i>August 29</i> )	
Eric Brothers, University of Sioux Falls ( <i>August 29</i> )	
Dave Brunk, Peach Belt Conference ( <i>August 29</i> )	
Tom Buning, Chaminade University ( <i>August 29</i> )	
Rachel Burleson, Franklin Pierce University ( <i>August 29</i> )	
Jason Carmichael, University of West Georgia ( <i>August 29</i> )	
Chris Colvin, Conference Carolinas ( <i>August 29</i> )	
Tom Daeger, Great Midwest Athletic Conference ( <i>August 29</i> )	
Alexis Devlin, Catawba University ( <i>August 29</i> )	
Cullen Dore, Francis Marion University ( <i>August 29</i> )	
Clyde Doughty, Bowie State University ( <i>August 29</i> )	
Robert Dranoff, East Coast Conference ( <i>August 29</i> )	
Kris Dunbar, Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference ( <i>August 29</i> )	
Bert Epting, Anderson University (South Carolina) ( <i>August 29</i> )	
Jason Galaska, National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics ( <i>August 29</i> )	
Kirby Garry, California State University, Monterey Bay ( <i>August 29</i> )	

Haley Gilbert, Augusta University <i>(August 29)</i>	
Chris Graham, Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference <i>(August 29)</i>	
Dave Haglund, Great Northwest Athletic Conference <i>(August 29)</i>	
Molly Hansen, University of Montevallo <i>(August 29)</i>	
Allen Hardison, California Collegiate Athletic Association <i>(August 29)</i>	
Jason Hayes, Palm Beach Atlantic University <i>(August 29)</i>	
Avery Hellmuth, Oklahoma Baptist University <i>(August 29)</i>	
Anthony Holloman, Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference <i>(August 29)</i>	
Albert King, Ashland University <i>(August 29)</i>	
Diana Kling, Peach Belt Conference <i>(August 29)</i>	
Michael Koehler, Rockhurst University <i>(October 16-17)</i>	
Laura Liesman, University of Illinois Springfield <i>(August 29)</i>	
Nicole Levering, Georgia Southwestern State University <i>(October 16-17)</i>	
Joel Lueken, South Dakota School of Mines & Technology <i>(August 29)</i>	
Pat Manak, National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics <i>(August 29)</i>	
Cathy McFadden, Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association <i>(August 29)</i>	
Michael McFarland, Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania <i>(August 29)</i>	
Lisa Goddard McGuirk, Gannon University <i>(August 29)</i>	
Courtney Medwin, West Chester University <i>(August 29)</i>	
Alexis Montalvo, Ashland University <i>(August 29)</i>	
Traci Murphy, Daemen University <i>(August 29)</i>	
Jim Naumovich, Great Lakes Valley Conference <i>(August 29)</i>	
Ed Pasque, Sunshine State Conference <i>(August 29)</i>	
Jay Poerner, Lone Star Conference <i>(August 29)</i>	

Will Prewitt, Great American Conference ( <i>August 29</i> )	
Steve O'Brien, St. Martin's University ( <i>October 16-17</i> )	
Mike Racy, Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association ( <i>August 29</i> )	
Brian Reese, Lander University ( <i>August 29</i> )	
Ivana Rich, Edward Waters University ( <i>August 29</i> )	
Deborah Rogers, Tuskegee University ( <i>October 16-17</i> )	
Reginald Ruffin, Tuskegee University ( <i>October 16-17</i> )	
Julie Ruppert, Northeast-10 Conference ( <i>August 29</i> )	
Stephanie Shrieve-Hawkins, San Francisco State University ( <i>August 29</i> )	
Scott Swain, Notre Dame College ( <i>August 29</i> )	
Daniel Teliski, Gannon University ( <i>October 16-17</i> )	
Jessica Harbison Weaver, Pacific West Conference ( <i>August 29</i> )	
Katie Williamsson, Southern Connecticut State University ( <i>August 29</i> )	
Julie Work, National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics ( <i>August 29</i> )	
Justin Zavala, Bowie State University ( <i>August 29</i> )	
<b>NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>	
Charlie Baker ( <i>August 29, October 24-25</i> ), John Baldwin ( <i>October 16-17</i> ), Amanda Benzine ( <i>August 29</i> ), Tim Buckley ( <i>October 24-25</i> ), Dawn Buth ( <i>October 24-25</i> ), Michael Cioroianu ( <i>August 29, October 24-25</i> ), Rachel Denton, Terri Steeb Gronau, Brian Hainline ( <i>October 16-17</i> ), Clint Hangebrauck ( <i>October 16-17</i> ), Brian Higgins ( <i>August 29</i> ), Kendee Hilliard, Chelsea Hooks, Maritza Jones, Ryan Jones, Karen Kirsch, Micaela Liddane ( <i>August 29, October 16-17</i> ), Jordan Lysiak, Rebecca Burchette Medel ( <i>August 29</i> ), Megan McDonald ( <i>August 29</i> ), Corbin McGuire, Gretchen Miron ( <i>October 16-17</i> ), John Parsons ( <i>October 16-17, October 24-25</i> ), Susan Peal ( <i>October 16-17, October 24-25</i> ), Lamarr Pottinger ( <i>October 16-17</i> ), Greg Pottorff ( <i>October 24-25</i> ), Angela Red, Jared Tidemann ( <i>October 16-17</i> ), Robert Turick, Jill Waddell and Casey Wheelhouse ( <i>October 16-17</i> ).	



REPORT OF THE  
NCAA BOARD OF GOVERNORS  
September 6, 2023, VIDEOCONFERENCE

**ACTION ITEMS.**

- None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Welcome and announcements.** NCAA Board of Governors chair, President Linda Livingstone, convened the videoconference at approximately 1 p.m. Eastern time and welcomed the Governors. President Livingstone also introduced Allison Feaster and welcomed her to the committee.
2. **Board of Governors August 1, 2023, and August 15, 2023, videoconference reports.** The board reviewed and approved the reports of its August 1, 2023, videoconference and August 15, 2023, videoconference.
3. **Executive Session.** The board convened in executive session.
  - **Legal and litigation update.** NCAA general counsel facilitated a privileged and confidential discussion regarding several matters of ongoing litigation.
4. **Other business.** The board did not have other business.
5. **Adjournment.** The meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:00 p.m. Eastern time.

<b>NCAA Board of Governors March 16, 2023, Videoconference</b>	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Javaune Adams-Gaston, Norfolk State University.	
Charlie Baker, NCAA.	
Mary-Beth Cooper, Springfield College.	
Bryce Choate, Graduated Division I student-athlete.	
Houston Davis, Central Arkansas University.	
Beth DeBauche, Ohio Valley Conference.	
Allison Feaster, Boston Celtics/Vice President of Team Operations and Organizational Growth	
Linda Livingstone, Baylor University.	
Madeleine McKenna, Graduated Division II student-athlete.	
Carrie Michaels, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania.	
Holly Sheilley, Transylvania University.	
Steven Shirley, Minot State University.	
Isaiah Swann, Graduated Division III student-athlete.	
Lynda Tealer, University of Florida.	
Nadja West, MD, retired United States Army lieutenant general and 44 <sup>th</sup> U.S. Army Surgeon General.	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
Jere Morehead, University of Georgia.	
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>	
None.	
<b>NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:</b>	
Terri Steeb Gronau.	
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>	
Scott Bearby and Mario Morris.	



REPORT OF THE  
NCAA BOARD OF GOVERNORS  
OCTOBER 24, 2023, MEETING

ACTION ITEMS.

- None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Welcome and announcements.** NCAA Board of Governors chair, President Linda Livingstone, convened the meeting at approximately 1 p.m. Eastern time and welcomed the Governors. President Livingstone noted that this was the first quarterly meeting for President Houston Davis and Allison Feaster.
2. **Board of Governors September 6, 2023, videoconference report.** The board reviewed and approved the report of its September 6, 2023, videoconference.
3. **Feedback from divisional presidential bodies via the consultative process.** Presidents Mary-Beth Cooper, Livingstone and Steven Shirley provided the board with an update on the use of the consultative process with the divisional presidential bodies prior to the meeting to solicit comment and feedback on potential board action and discussion.
4. **NCAA Business Plan.** President Charlie Baker outlined the NCAA business plan, including the mission, shared operational plan, themes and strategic priorities, and operating model. It was noted that the business plan was developed from the key findings and trends from the NCAA national office business review.
5. **Review of 2023-24 NCAA presidential goals.** President Charlie Baker presented his 2023-24 goals and noted that they align with the NCAA business plan. The board discussed and approved his 2023-24 goals during executive session.
6. **Update and next steps regarding congressional engagement and action.** NCAA staff provided an update on the five draft bills introduced in the House and the Senate. NCAA staff also updated the board on membership outreach efforts.
7. **Update regarding NCAA contracts involving media rights agreements.** A representative from Endeavor, the consultant selected to assist the Association with media rights negotiations following the expiration of the NCAA's media rights agreement with ESPN in 2024, joined the board for continued discussions on this topic.
8. **NCAA sports wagering update.** NCAA staff provided an update on the current landscape of states where online and/or live legal sports wagering is permitted (35 states and the District of Columbia), and various initiatives on this issue. NCAA staff noted that they continue to focus on enhancing relationships with integrity services, gaming commissions, pro leagues, vendors and others, while working on state advocacy/legislative initiatives and education initiatives.

9. **Board of Governors Finance and Audit Committee report.** Beth DeBauche, chair of the Finance and Audit Committee, presented the committee's report.

a. **NCAA internal audit year-end review for FY 2022-23.** The Finance and Audit Committee shared the year-end review of the NCAA internal audit for the 2022-23 fiscal year. It was noted that the committee did not raise any concerns.

b. **NCAA internal audit plan revision for FY 2023-24.** The Finance and Audit Committee presented a revised internal audit plan for the 2023-24 fiscal year.

It was VOTED

“That the Board of Governors approve the internal audit plan revision for FY 2023-24.” **Approved** (Unanimous voice vote)

c. **Term extensions for Amy Keskin and Melody Rollins, committee members on the NCAA Board of Governors Finance and Audit Committee Investment Subcommittee.** The Finance and Audit Committee recommended a term extension for two members of the Board of Governors Finance and Audit Committee Investment Subcommittee. It was recommended that the terms of service for Amy Keskin, vice chancellor for finance and chief financial officer at Washington University in St. Louis, and Melody Rollins, client advisor with Bridgewater Associates, be renewed for one additional four-year term.

It was VOTED

“That the Board of Governors approve the term extension of Amy Keskin and Melody Rollins for one-additional four-year term on the Board of Governors Finance and Audit Committee Investment Subcommittee.” **Approved** (Unanimous voice vote)

10. **NCAA Sport Science Institute/NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports update.** The NCAA chief medical officer provided several updates on the work of the Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports.

a. **NCAA drug-testing policy and elimination of cannabis from the NCAA banned substance list.** The board received a report on a recommendation from the September CSMAS meeting to the divisional legislative bodies to introduce and adopt legislation to eliminate cannabinoids from the list of banned drug classes and to develop a robust education program. It was noted that this recommendation acknowledges that cannabinoids are not performance enhancing and that local-level harm-reduction strategies may be more effective at preventing, identifying and managing problematic use. Finally, it was noted that the divisional legislative bodies will review this recommendation during their January 2024 meetings and determine if and when to introduce a proposal into the legislative cycle.

- b. **NCAA Mental Health Best Practices update.** The board continued its discussions on proposed updates to the NCAA Mental Health Best Practices resource. It was noted that CSMAS used the consensus process for potential updates to the resource and will make a final recommendation during its December videoconference. It is anticipated that the board will consider the updates to the best practices during its January 2024 in-person meeting, and if approved, the updated best practices will be released to the membership at the 2024 NCAA Convention.
- c. **NCAA Concussion Safety Protocol rollout in January 2024.** The board received a report from CSMAS regarding its approval of the recommended updates to the NCAA Concussion Safety Protocol Checklist and other relevant member education resources. It was noted that the updates are effective January 15, 2024.
- d. **Transgender student-athlete participation policy.** The board received an update on the three-phased approach of the Transgender Student-Athlete Participation Policy, which is currently in phase two through the 2023-24 academic year. It was noted that CSMAS will consider a potential recommendation for the 2024-25 academic year during its December videoconference with anticipated action by the board during its January 2024 in-person meeting.

#### 11. Board of Governors Processes and Procedures.

- a. **NCAA Board of Governors Executive Committee report.** President Livingstone reported on matters discussed by the Executive Committee during its October meeting.
- b. **Board of Governors vice-chair election notice.** President Livingstone noted that the term of the board's current vice-chair, Steven Shirley, will conclude upon adjournment of the January 10, 2024, meeting. The board will elect a new vice-chair during the January 2024, in-person meeting.
- c. **Update on Association-wide committee review.** NCAA staff provided an update on the ongoing work of the board's review of Association-wide committees to determine their relevance, assess whether potential changes would better align the committees' work with the new constitution and determine how to streamline the Association-wide governance structure. It was noted that in October the divisional legislative bodies adopted legislation to eliminate the NCAA Olympic Sports Liaisons Committee; therefore, the committee was eliminated from the Association-wide governance structure. It was further noted that four committees (CSMAS, Playing Rules Oversight Panel, Honors Committee, and Postgraduate Scholarship Committee) completed the review. The board did not recommend any changes to the four committees.
  - **Review of DEI committees.** The board was provided an update on the review of the four NCAA Association-wide DEI committees (the Board of Governors Committee to Promote Cultural Diversity and Equity, the

Committee on Women's Athletics, the Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee, and the Gender Equity Task Force). NCAA staff noted that the board will receive a status update during its January 2024, in-person meeting, with a potential recommendation anticipated in April 2024.

12. **Other business.** The board did not have other business.
13. **Future meetings.** The board reviewed its future meetings through January 2025.
14. **Executive session.** The board convened in executive session.
15. **Adjournment.** The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:37 p.m. Eastern time.

*Board of Governors chair:* Linda Livingstone, Baylor University  
*Staff liaisons:* Terri Steeb Gronau, Governance and Policy  
Stephanie Quigg, Governance and Policy

<b>NCAA Board of Governors October 24, 2023, Meeting</b>	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Javaune Adams-Gaston, Norfolk State University. ( <i>virtual</i> )	
Charlie Baker, NCAA president.	
Bryce Choate, Graduated Division I student-athlete.	
Mary-Beth Cooper, Springfield College.	
Houston Davis, University of Central Arkansas.	
Beth DeBauche, Ohio Valley Conference.	
Allison Feaser, Boston Celtics.	
Linda Livingstone, Baylor University.	
Madeleine McKenna, Graduated Division II student-athlete.	
Carrie Michaels, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania.	
Jere Morehead, University of Georgia.	
Holly Sheilley, Transylvania University.	
Steven Shirley, Minot State University.	
Isaiah Swann, Graduated Division III student-athlete.	
Lynda Tealer, University of Florida.	
Nadja West, MD, retired United States Army lieutenant general and 44 <sup>th</sup> U.S. Army Surgeon General. ( <i>virtual</i> )	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
None.	
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>	
Karen Brodtkin, Endeavor.	
<b>NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:</b>	
Terri Steeb Gronau and Stephanie Quigg.	
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>	
Scott Bearby, Tim Buckley, Dawn Buth, Michael Cioroianu, Joni Comstock, Kelly Dodds, Jennifer Fraser, Dan Gavitt, Brain Hainline, Clint Hangebrauck, Mark Hicks, Brian Higgins, Julie Kimmons, Kevin Lennon, Felicia Martin, Louise McCleary, Corbin McGuire, Mario Morris, Dave Schnase and Stan Wilcox.	



**Interim Actions of the NCAA Division II Administrative Committee**

1. On November 16, the Division II Administrative Committee approved the following items:
  - **NCAA Division II Men’s and Women’s Basketball Media Rights**
    - a. Recommendation. Negotiate with CBS Sports Network on the identified priorities for the next agreement for the broadcast of the Division II Men’s and Women’s Basketball semifinals and Women’s Basketball finals. If no agreement can be reached, explore options with other media outlets.
    - b. Effective date. Immediate, for the rights to the 2025 championships.
    - c. Rationale. The men’s and women’s basketball semifinals and women’s final have been produced by and broadcast on CBS Sports Network since 2012. The current agreement expires after the 2023-24 season. While remaining on a linear network remains a priority, it is important for the division to do its due diligence given the evolution of the media landscape over the last several years. The consensus of the multiple governance groups that engaged in this discussion is that the next agreement should seek to maximize exposure for these games, ideally through both a linear and digital option. While CBS Sports Network has been a good partner for the last 12 years and offers high quality production, there may also be an opportunity to reduce production costs to the division with a different partner.
    - d. Estimated budget impact. To be determined, based on negotiations with interested partners. Currently, the division budgets \$300,000 annually for production.
    - e. Student-athlete impact. Exploring additional partners may provide opportunities for increased exposure and viewership for these games.
2. On December 6, the Administrative Committee approved the following items:
  - a. **Management Council Committee and Project Team Assignments.** The committee approved the Management Council committee and project team assignments for 2024, effective after the adjournment of the 2024 NCAA Convention Division II Business Session, unless otherwise noted.

**NCAA Division II Management Council  
Committee and Project Team Assignments for 2024  
(Effective Jan. 13, 2024, unless otherwise noted)**

*(Mentor assignments are listed in italics below new Management Council members' names)*

<b>Management Council Representative (Mentor)</b>	<b>Committees/Project Teams</b>
Femi Alao	NCAA Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee Division II Management Council Subcommittee
<b>Kristy Bayer</b> <i>(Sande Mott)</i>	<b>Division II Degree-Completion Awards Committee</b> <b>Division II Management Council Subcommittee</b>
Patrick Britz	Division II Management Council Identity Subcommittee Division II Management Council Subcommittee Division II Nominating Committee
Bennett Cherry	Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee Division II Management Council Identity Subcommittee
<b>Carlin Chesick</b> <i>(Marcus Clarke)</i>	<b>Division II Academic Requirements Committee</b> <b>Division II Management Council Identity Subcommittee</b> <b>Division II Management Council/Championships Committee Appeals Subcommittee</b>
Marcus Clarke	Division II Championships Committee Division II Management Council Subcommittee (chair)
<b>Peter Crabb</b> <i>(Bo Pagliasotti)</i>	<b>Division II Management Council Liaison to the Faculty Athletics Representatives Association (FARA)</b> <i>(effective immediately)</i> <b>Division II Strategic Planning and Finance Committee</b> <i>(effective Feb.1, 2024)</i>
Jeremy Elliott	Division II Management Council Subcommittee ( <b>chair</b> ) NCAA Walter Byers Scholarship Committee
Theresa Grosbach	Division II Management Council Identity Subcommittee Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee
Kim Hancock	NCAA Honors Committee Division II Convention Planning Project Team
David Hansburg	<del>NCAA Olympic Sports Liaison Committee</del> <b>Division II Convention Planning Project Team</b> Division II Committee on Infractions
<b>Jerry Haywood</b> <i>(Bennett Cherry)</i>	<b>Division II Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement</b> <b>Division II Management Council Subcommittee</b> <i>(effective immediately)</i>
Amy Henkelman	Division II Convention Planning Project Team Division II Committee for Legislative Relief Division II Management Council Identity Subcommittee
<b>David Hicks</b> <i>(Danny McCabe)</i>	<b>Division II Infractions Appeals Committee</b> <b>Division II Management Council Liaison to College Sports Communicators</b>

<b>Management Council Representative (Mentor)</b>	<b>Committees/Project Teams</b>
Erin Lind, <i>vice chair</i>	<del>NCAA Board of Governors Student-Athlete Engagement Committee</del> <b>Division II Administrative Committee</b> <b>Division II Championships Committee (<i>ex officio</i>)</b> <b>Division II Management Council/Championships Committee Appeals Subcommittee</b> <b>Division II Management Council Identity Subcommittee (<i>ex officio</i>)</b> Division II Strategic Planning and Finance Committee <del>Division II Convention Planning Project Team</del> Division II Management Council Liaison to the Division II Conference Commissioners Association (CCA)
Katherine Loh	NCAA Committee on Women's Athletics Division II Management Council Identity Subcommittee
Danny McCabe	Division II Academic Requirements Committee Division II Convention Planning Project Team (chair) Division II Management Council Identity Subcommittee
Cindy McKnight	<del>Division II Degree Completion Awards Committee</del> Division II Management Council Subcommittee Division II Membership Committee
Austin Mondello	Division II Management Council Identity Subcommittee
Sandee Mott	Division II Championships Committee Division II Management Council Identity Subcommittee ( <i>chair</i> )
<b>Kristina Ortiz</b> (Christina Whetsel)	<b>Division II Convention Planning Project Team</b> <b>Division II Legislation Committee</b>
Roberta Page, <i>chair</i>	<del>NCAA Board of Governors (<i>ex officio</i>)</del> <b>Division II Administrative Committee</b> <b>Division II Management Council Identity Subcommittee (<i>ex officio</i>)</b> <del>Division II Convention Planning Project Team</del> <del>Division II Management Council Subcommittee (<i>chair</i>)</del> <del>Division II Nominating Committee</del>
Bo Pagliasotti	NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship Committee Division II Convention Planning Project Team Division II Management Council Subcommittee ( <b>chair</b> )
<b>Kim Pate</b> (Amy Henkelman)	<b>Division II Nominating Committee (<i>effective Feb.1, 2024</i>)</b> <b>Division II Management Council Liaison to Division the</b>

<b>Management Council Representative (Mentor)</b>	<b>Committees/Project Teams</b>
	<b>II Athletics Directors Association (ADA)</b> <i>(effective Feb. 1, 2024)</i>
Sarah Ramey	Management Council Liaison to Women Leaders in College Sports NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports
<b>Rubin Stevenson</b> <i>(David Hansburg)</i>	<b>Division II Convention Planning Project Team</b> <i>(effective Feb. 1, 2024)</i> <b>Division II Management Council Identity Subcommittee</b> <i>(effective Feb. 1, 2024)</i>
Christina Whetsel	Division II Membership Committee Division II Management Council Liaison to National Association for Athletics Compliance (NAAC) Division II Management Council Subcommittee <i>(chair)</i>
Vaughn Williams	Division II Management Council Identity Subcommittee Division II Management Council Liaison to the Minority Opportunities Athletics Association (MOAA) Division II Legislation Committee
<b>SAAC Member TBD</b>	<b>Division II Management Council Identity Subcommittee</b>

Management Council Subcommittee chairs:

- Appeals of Membership Committee decisions on provisional membership status: **Jeremy Elliott**
- Appeals of Academic Requirements Committee decisions on waivers involving the Academic Performance Census and the Academic Success Rate: Christina Whetsel
- Appeals of Legislative Review Subcommittee decisions involving the amateur status of prospective student-athletes: Marcus Clarke
- Appeals of Championships Committee decisions: **Bo Pagliasotti**

b. **Appointments to Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.** The committee approved four appointments effective at the conclusion of the 2024 NCAA Convention.

- (1) At-Large, **Derrick Parker II**, football, Grand Valley State University. Derrick Parker II was nominated because of his strong written statement and commitment to mental health advocacy and education. Additionally, he would provide sport diversity to the committee.
- (2) At-Large, **Haley White**, women's tennis and field hockey, Lincoln Memorial University. Haley White was nominated because of her desire to elevate the

- (3) student-athlete voice as well as her leadership experience. She would also provide the committee sport diversity as she is both a women's tennis and field hockey student-athlete.
  - (3) Great Northwest Athletic Conference, **Dustyn McKenney**, cross country and track and field, Western Oregon University. Dustyn McKenney was nominated due to his commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion initiatives as well as his perspective as a football student-athlete. Additionally, he had a well-written and impactful personal statement.
  - (4) Gulf South Conference, **Alia Scotka**, women's golf, University of West Florida. Alia Scotka was nominated because of her strong written statement, evident leadership experience within her campus and conference SAAC and advocacy for mental health awareness for student-athletes.
3. On December 21, the Administrative Committee received an update from staff on the Division I temporary restraining order (TRO) issued by Judge John Preston Bailey of the Northern District of Virginia on December 13, 2023, which was converted to a preliminary injunction on December 18, 2023. It was noted that the preliminary injunction does not apply to Division II. The committee agreed to discuss further during governance meetings at the 2024 NCAA Convention in January.

# 2023-24 Division II Priorities



## DIVISION II 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

A yearlong commemorative marketing campaign, which launched in August, includes 50th anniversary lapel pins, a \$200 signage credit, logos and social media editable graphics, a communications toolkit, a promotional video, and jersey patches. In addition, the division will honor one individual who identifies as male and one individual who identifies as female with a 50th Anniversary Gold Award for making a positive impact in Division II. The division also will provide a \$1,000 scholarship opportunity for student-athletes from active member schools who exhibit the core values of Division II and have not yet exhausted their athletics eligibility.

## GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE ENHANCEMENTS

Starting Feb. 1, 2024, the Division II governance structure will implement the following changes adopted at the 2023 Convention to better support the Division II governance structure:

- The Presidents Council will transition to a nimbler Executive Board, which incorporates independent voices and focuses more on strategic discussions.
- The Management Council will take on more responsibilities and decision-making for the day-to-day operations of the division while adding new and diverse positions and voices around the table.
- The Planning and Finance Committee will transition to the Strategic Planning and Finance Committee, which will be a stand-alone committee focused on overseeing Division II financial affairs and the division's strategic plan and strategic priorities.



## IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE REFERRALS

The Division II Implementation Committee, which was established to review the division's bylaws and policies to align with the new NCAA Constitution, developed more than two dozen initiatives and enhancements that were adopted but also referred several concepts to existing bodies within the Division II governance structure for further review, including:

- Decide whether changes to the current rules related to progress-toward-degree and two-year college transfers could be made without jeopardizing the academic success of student-athletes. *[Division II Academic Requirements Committee]*
- Determine the appropriate minimum sponsorship requirement necessary to create/maintain a Division II championship in a given sport; determine the appropriate range of access ratios that in turn determine bracket/field size by sport; and solidify automatic qualification as a defined benchmark rather than a sport committee's recommendation. *[Division II Championships Committee and relevant sport committees]*
- Decide which athletics eligibility, recruiting and benefits restrictions, if any, are unnecessary and should be eliminated. *[Division II Legislation Committee]*

## NEW DII UNIVERSITY MODULES

DIIU will add modules this year focused on:

- Training for the Make Game Day Yours initiative to help Division II members enhance their game day experience and customer service to fans.
- Educational outreach to help faculty athletics representatives support student-athletes.
- Messaging about Division II's unique characteristics and attributes.

## CHAMPIONSHIPS PRIORITIES

**Spring 2024 Festival.** The first spring National Championships Festival in eight years will take place May 19-25 in Orlando, Florida featuring men's and women's golf, women's lacrosse, softball, and men's and women's tennis.

### Triennial Budget

**Process.** The Championships Committee will finalize recommendations as part of the 2024-27 triennial budget cycle in September 2023.

### Championship Site Selection.

The process for 2026-28 championships sites will launch in September 2023 and conclude in February 2024. The Championships Committee and relevant sport committees will review bids and announce sites in October 2024.



## MEDIA RIGHTS NEGOTIATIONS

The broadcasting agreements with ESPN, CBS and CBS Sports Network involving the Division II football semifinals and championship game and the Division II men's and women's basketball semifinals and finals conclude in 2024. Future broadcasting arrangements will focus on elevating the championship experience further, not only for the student-athletes participating but also for Division II members and their fans.

## MAKE IT YOURS BRAND ENHANCEMENT

Division II is undertaking a three-phase engagement that seeks to further understand the perception of Division II among prospective student-athletes and those who influence where they choose to attend college. It also aims to determine where and how they engage with college sports. The data gathered through consumer research will help determine an activation plan that will launch in 2024.

## STRATEGIC PLAN DEVELOPMENT

The division will continue developing its next six-year strategic plan that will launch in January 2026 by asking committees and affiliate groups to draft goals and priorities for the membership's review and feedback.

## DIVISION II STUDENT-ATHLETE ADVISORY COMMITTEE PRIORITIES

The Division II SAAC will focus on the three E's – empower student-athletes with resources, empathize with their concerns, and enhance their voice and experience. As part of the empower theme, SAAC members will concentrate on congressional engagement and Life After the Game (preparing student-athletes for life after athletics). For the empathize theme, they will focus on mental health and diversity, equity and inclusion. For the enhance theme, they will use the new Division II SAAC Instagram to share resources and information, will finalize a campus SAAC guide and will refresh a conference SAAC guide to share best practices on a variety of topics.

## NCAA SURVEY RESULTS

**Wagering and Social Environments Survey.** This national survey of college student-athletes is scheduled to occur during 2023-24 in collaboration with campus faculty athletics representatives. The study will ask questions about the social environments of student-athletes, as well as assess opinions toward gambling and sports wagering among current student-athletes.

**Student-Athlete Health and Wellness Survey.** Division II will benefit from data obtained through the 2022-23 national survey of college student-athletes that examined topics including student-athlete mental health concerns and peer support, sleep behaviors, attitudes toward weight and body image, nutrition, competition and injury history, and substance use experiences.

## DII SAAC SUPER REGION CONVENTION

The Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee will conduct its sixth super region convention Nov. 17-19 in Atlanta for the South Region (Conference Carolinas, Gulf South Conference, Peach Belt Conference, South Atlantic Conference, Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference, Sunshine State Conference and independents). The super region convention effectively increases student-athlete engagement within Division II governance and decision making.





## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR THE DIVISION II MEMBERSHIP

### **Women Leaders in College Sports Governance Academy**

*September 2023*

Women Leaders in College Sports and Division II have partnered on this initiative since 2012 to provide educational and networking opportunities for female administrators in Division II.

### **FAR Fellows Institute**

*September 2023*

Educational programming for faculty athletics representatives to help them effectively perform their roles and support student-athletes.

### **APPLE Training Institute**

*February 2024*

In partnership with the Gordie Center for Substance Abuse Prevention, the division will host the fifth Division II-specific APPLE Training Institute in Orlando, Florida. The event provides funding for administrator and student-athlete teams

from more than 30 Division II schools to attend and create action plans to implement on campus.

### **Athletic Trainers**

*June 2024*

Three from each Division II conference and one representing independent institutions will participate in three days of professional development.

### **Minority Opportunities Athletic Association Governance Academy**

*June 2024*

MOAA and Division II have partnered on this initiative since 2009 to provide educational and networking opportunities for minority administrators in Division II.

### **Compliance Administrators**

*June 2024*

The division is partnering with the National Association for Athletics Compliance to provide programming for

Division II compliance administrators. Topics include regulatory issues; governance issues, strategic initiatives and committee service; and professional and personal development.

### **Mentor Program**

*2023-24*

In partnership with the Division II Athletics Directors Association, the division provides a unique opportunity for women and minorities interested in a career as a Division II director of athletics.

### **New AD Orientation**

*2023-24*

In partnership with the D2ADA, the division provides programming for new athletics directors in Division II, including an orientation session with a discussion of championships, identity initiatives and financial information.





**2024 NCAA Convention  
Core Schedule of Events**

Time	Meeting	Location
<b>Wednesday, January 10</b>		
8 a.m. to 3 p.m.	Division II Management Council Meeting	Room 228 Breakfast and lunch 226AB [North Building 200 Level]
11:45 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.	NCAA Board of Governors Meeting	Room 232 BC [North Building 200 Level]
5 to 6:30 p.m.	Convention Welcome and Awards Presentation	Symphony Hall [West Building 100 Level]
6:30 to 7:30 p.m.	Welcome Reception	North Ballroom 120 BCD [North Building 100 Level]
<b>Thursday, January 11</b>		
8 to 11 a.m.	Division II Presidents Council/Management Council/Student-Athlete Advisory Committee Breakfast and Meeting	Room 226 AB [North Building 200 Level]
8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m.	Breakfast for New Division II Athletics Directors	Room 226 C [North Building 200 Level]
8:45 to 4:30 p.m.	Association-Wide Programming	[West Building 100 Level]
	<i>10 to 11 a.m.: Division II Session: Mental Wellness Tools to Support Coaches, Staff and Student-Athletes</i>	Room 105
	<i>1 to 2 p.m.: Division II Session: Developing a Strong Division II Campus or Conference Student-Athlete Advisory Committee</i>	Room 105
11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.	Division II Presidents Council Meeting	Room 228 [North Building 200 Level]
11:45 a.m. to 1 p.m.	Management Council Mentor/Mentee Meeting and Lunch	Room 226 C [North Building 200 Level]
4:45 to 5:45 p.m.	Woman of the Year Presentation	Symphony Hall [West Building 100 Level]
5:45 to 7 p.m.	NCAA Delegates Reception	North Ballroom 120 BCD [North Building 100 Level]

<b>Time</b>	<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Location</b>
7:30 to 9 p.m.	Division II Management Council Toast	Room 224 [North Building 200 Level]
<b>Friday, January 12</b>		
7:30 to 10:15 a.m.	Division II Chancellors and Presidents Breakfast	Room 226 AB [North Building 200 Level]
8 to 9 a.m.	Division II Delegates Breakfast	Arcade Pre-Function [West Building 100 Level]
9 to 10:15	Division II Education Sessions	[West Building 100 Level]
	<i>Diversity, Equity and Inclusion at Division II Schools</i>	Room 105
	<i>FAR Programming and Resources in Division II</i>	Room 101
	<i>Name, Image and Likeness in Division II</i>	Room 106
10:30 a.m. to Noon	Division II Keynote Session and 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration	301 Ballroom BCD [West Building 300 Level]
1:30 to 5:30 p.m.	Division II Conference Meetings	Various Locations
5 to 6 p.m.	Division II Faculty Mentor Award Presentation and Reception	Room 224 [North Building 200 Level]
<b>Saturday, January 13</b>		
7 to 8 a.m.	Delegates Breakfast	West Ballroom Pre-Function [West Building 300 Level]
8 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.	Division II Business Session	301 Ballroom BCD [West Building 300 Level]
Convention Center/Hotel Departure		



# **2024 DIVISION II OFFICIAL NOTICE**

**118th Annual Convention**

**January 10-13, 2024**

**Phoenix, Arizona**

# **DIVISION II LEGISLATION**



THE NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 6222  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46206-6222  
317-917-6222  
[www.ncaa.org](http://www.ncaa.org)  
December 2023

**Legislation Prepared By:** Angela Red, Director of Academic and Membership Affairs for Division II, Chelsea Hooks, Associate Director of Academic and Membership Affairs, Jordan Lysiak, Associate Director of Academic and Membership Affairs and Rachel Denton, Assistant Director of Academic and Membership Affairs.

Distributed to presidents or chancellors, directors of athletics, faculty athletics representatives, senior woman administrators, senior compliance administrators and conference commissioners.

NCAA, NCAA logo and NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION are registered marks of the Association and use in any manner is prohibited unless prior approval is obtained from the Association.

# Official Notice

## 118th Annual Convention

On behalf of the NCAA Board of Governors, the Division I Board of Directors, the Divisions II and III Presidents Councils, the Division I Council and the Divisions II and III Management Councils, we extend a cordial invitation to each NCAA member to be represented at the Association's 118th annual Convention scheduled January 10 through 13, 2024, in Phoenix, Arizona.

It is our pleasure to issue this Official Notice of the 2024 Convention. This publication is sent to the president or chancellor, director of athletics, faculty athletics representative, senior woman administrator and senior compliance administrator at each active NCAA Division II member institution, as well as to the officers of member conferences and provisional member institutions.

This Official Notice contains legislation for consideration at the Division II business session of the 2024 Convention, including amendments-to-amendments. It also contains the necessary information concerning the accreditation of delegates, voting procedures and other Convention policies. We encourage each member to review the information related to the activities in which you will be involved before participating in the Convention. It is particularly important that each Division II delegate have access to the Official Notice during the Convention. The Official Notice will be the only publication containing the Board of Governors legislation and Division II Convention legislation.

In addition to the consideration of legislation, Division II delegates also will participate in educational and discussion sessions about topics of concern within the division and the Association.

We hope you will join delegates from all divisions at the Convention Welcome and Awards Presentation, which will feature the State of College Sports on Wednesday afternoon.

We hope that each member of the Association will participate in the 2024 Convention. We look forward to seeing you.

*Linda A. Livingstone*  
*President, Baylor University*  
*Chair, NCAA Board of Governors*

*Steven Shirley*  
*President, Minot State University*  
*Chair, Division II Presidents Council*

*Jere Morehead*  
*President, University of Georgia*  
*Chair, Division I Board of Directors*

*James Schmidt*  
*Chancellor, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire*  
*Chair, Division III Presidents Council*

December 10, 2023

# Table of Contents

<b>Prop. No.</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Page</b>
<b>Division II Legislative Proposals</b>		
<b>Playing and Practice Seasons</b>		
*2024-1	PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS -- FOOTBALL -- PRESEASON PRACTICE AND FIRST CONTEST -- FIRST PERMISSIBLE CONTEST	2
*2024-2	PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS -- SOFTBALL -- NUMBER OF CONTESTS -- MAXIMUM LIMITATIONS -- INSTITUTIONAL AND STUDENT-ATHLETE -- CHAMPIONSHIP AND NONCHAMPIONSHIP CONTESTS	5
<b>Championships Administration</b>		
*2024-3	CHAMPIONSHIPS ADMINISTRATION -- ADMINISTRATION OF DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIPS -- MINIMUM SPONSORSHIP FOR DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIPS -- MINIMUM NUMBER OF SPONSORING INSTITUTIONS AND THREE-YEAR GRACE PERIOD	8
*2024-4	CHAMPIONSHIPS ADMINISTRATION -- ADMINISTRATION OF DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIPS -- CRITERIA FOR SELECTION OF PARTICIPANTS -- AUTOMATIC QUALIFICATION -- AUTOMATIC QUALIFICATION IN ALL TEAM SPORTS OTHER THAN FOOTBALL	9
*2024-5	CHAMPIONSHIPS ADMINISTRATION -- ADMINISTRATION OF DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIPS -- CRITERIA FOR SELECTION OF PARTICIPANTS -- EARNED ACCESS -- FOOTBALL -- EARNED ACCESS FOR ALL FOOTBALL-SPONSORING CONFERENCES	10

\* Designated by NCAA Division II Presidents Council for roll-call vote.

## APPENDICES

A Interpretations to be Included in the 2024-25 NCAA Division II Manual	12
B Noncontroversial Legislation Adopted by the NCAA Division II Management Council	13
C Convention Voting Procedures	54
D NCAA Governance Structure	56

## Accrediting of Delegates

Association policy provides that the appointment of accredited and visiting delegates is the responsibility of the president or chancellor of each member institution or organization. **In November 2023, a link to the appointment of delegates website was emailed to the president or chancellor of all member institutions and organizations. If a president, chancellor, director of athletics or commissioner needs to have the information resent, contact [ncaaconvention@shortstravel.com](mailto:ncaaconvention@shortstravel.com).**

It is important that the voting delegate be properly accredited, and appointing officers are urged to submit the required information to the NCAA national office at their earliest convenience.

An institution's or organization's president or chancellor shall appoint the voting and alternate delegates by completing the online delegate appointment form. The transfer of voting rights among the delegates is a matter of institutional or organizational discretion.

Please note that the governance structure of each division urges member institutions and organizations to include women in their NCAA Convention delegations.

If an institution's or organization's president or chancellor fails to submit the online delegate appointment form, that institution's or organization's representatives will be registered as visitors until the president or chancellor certifies in writing the voting and alternate delegates. No other institutional or organizational representatives are permitted to complete a delegate appointment form.

Once the online delegate appointment form has been verified by the president or chancellor, no one may be added as a voting or alternate delegate without written instructions from that president or chancellor. Thus, no individual appointed as a visitor may become a voter or alternate without written authorization from the president or chancellor.

Visiting delegates, except in certain situations, do not have speaking privileges at the Convention.

At the Convention, each individual representing a member institution or conference who registers will receive an orange Convention badge designating the individual as a delegate. In addition, each president and chancellor will receive a badge with a purple color designation signifying their professional title. Speakers and presenters for education sessions will receive badges with a lime color designation. Convention vendors will receive badges with a teal color designation. Media will receive badges with a red color designation. Individuals attending the Convention as a visitor will receive a badge with a goldenrod color designation.

Voting delegates receive red lanyards and alternate delegates receive blue lanyards. Other delegates with speaking rights receive green lanyards. Delegates without speaking rights and other observers receive white lanyards.

The Convention registration fee for NCAA members was \$325 for all delegates who registered on or before Wednesday, October 11, and \$450 for all delegates who registered by Sunday, November 26. Member registration fees on or after Monday, November 27, are \$600.

The registration fee includes one ticket to the Welcome Reception, Delegates Reception and Delegates Breakfast (s). In addition, attendees will have the opportunity to attend the NCAA Convention Welcome and Awards Presentation and Woman of the Year Awards Presentation.

## Meetings and Reservations

A listing of Convention meetings of the NCAA and its affiliated organizations was distributed to the membership in mid-October 2023. At this time, an online registration process was also made available for event registration and hotel reservations. If there is anything further the NCAA can do to facilitate your attendance at the Association's 2024 Convention, please contact us.

Please note that the Convention schedule of events is available on the NCAA website ([Convention - NCAA.org](https://www.ncaa.org/convention)). In addition, the Convention Program (available through the Convention app) contains the most up-to-date schedule of meetings held in conjunction with the Convention.

Please also note that the Convention officially begins at the Convention Welcome and Awards Presentation when it convenes at 5 p.m., Wednesday, January 10. Adjournment of the Convention has been scheduled for Saturday, January 13.

## Proposed Amendments

The proposed amendments to be considered at the 118th annual Convention begin on Page 1. All amendments, if adopted, become effective as indicated in each proposal.

**It is particularly important that each Division II delegate have a copy of the Official Notice during the Convention. The Official Notice will be the only publication containing all Association-wide and Division II Convention legislation for the 2024 Convention.**

In accordance with the provisions of Bylaw 9.3, an amendment to the Association's legislation may be proposed by the NCAA Board of Governors, NCAA Division II Presidents Council, by any 15 or more active Division II member institutions or by two active conferences on behalf of 15 or more active member institutions eligible to vote on the matter. The source of the amendment is indicated in each proposal. When the Presidents Council proposes an amendment originally recommended by a committee, the committee is indicated as well.

All proposals designated by the Division II Presidents Council for roll-call votes are indicated with an asterisk preceding the proposals in this publication, as well as in the voting designation accompanying each such proposal.

Please note that the Presidents Council is authorized to distribute during division or general business sessions information detailing positions on key legislative proposals.

## Amendments-to-Amendments

All sponsors of amendments submitted by the membership in accordance with the July 15 deadline were permitted to revise them in any manner until September 15. In the interim, the NCAA Division II Presidents Council had until September 1 to submit their legislative proposals. All proposals were provided to the membership September 22, 2023, in the 2024 NCAA Convention Division II Educational Resources.

The Division II Presidents Council, any eight or more active Division II member institutions or one active conference on behalf of eight or more active member institutions eligible to vote on a given issue had until November 1 to submit amendments to the original proposals, provided the amendment to the amendment did not increase the modification proposed by the original amendment. As a result of that deadline, all amendments-to-amendments, if any, are included in this Official Notice with the proposals they are intended to amend. Resolutions also were handled in accordance with those same deadlines and are included in this publication, if any. No additional amendments-to-amendments or resolutions are permitted for the 2024 Convention unless they are sponsored by the Division II Presidents Council and distributed before or during the business session.

## Withdrawal of Proposal

Sponsors who intend to withdraw a proposal are urged to notify the academic and membership affairs staff as soon as possible before the business session of the Convention at which the proposal is scheduled to be considered.

## Review of Interpretations

The Legislation Committee issues interpretations as to the scope, meaning or effect of the constitution and bylaws applicable to Division II. These rulings are subject to review by the Division II membership upon the request of any member in accordance with NCAA Bylaw 9.4.1.4. Any Division II member to which an interpretation applies may request a review of the interpretation by making such a request in writing to the academic and membership affairs staff via electronic mail to the primary contact individuals – [chooks@ncaa.org](mailto:chooks@ncaa.org) or [rdenton@ncaa.org](mailto:rdenton@ncaa.org) – not later than Thursday, December 14, 2023.

## Emergency Legislation Adopted by the Presidents Council

The Presidents Council may adopt "emergency" legislation that shall be effective immediately in situations when significant values or harm are at stake and the use of the regular legislative cycle is likely to cause undue hardship to the Association or Division II Membership because of the delay in effective date or the NCAA must respond to, or comply with a court, alternative dispute resolution (ADR) or government order or when the Presidents Council deems it appropriate to limit or avoid NCAA liability as a result of litigation, ADR or governmental proceedings, per Bylaw

9.3.1.2. Such "emergency" legislation shall be adopted by at least a three-fourths majority of the members of the Presidents Council present and voting. The Presidents Council then submits to the next annual Division II business session the amendments that it has adopted under this authorization. Acceptance of the report of the Presidents Council during the Division II business session on Saturday, January 13, 2024, ratifies the Presidents Council's actions in this regard.

## **Interpretations to be Included in the NCAA Division II Manual**

The Legislation Committee and the Academic Requirements Committee are authorized to approve interpretations to be incorporated in next academic year's NCAA Division II Manual. Such incorporations appear in the Official Notice of the Convention in Appendix A. Any additional interpretations approved by the Management Council are distributed to the delegates at the Division II business session. Acceptance of the report of the Management Council during the Division II business session on Saturday, January 13, 2024, will approve incorporation of the interpretations as distributed. A delegate may object to the incorporation of a particular interpretation at the time of the Management Council report, and the Division II membership will decide by majority vote of the eligible voters whether to incorporate that specific interpretation.

## **Noncontroversial Legislation Adopted by the Management Council**

The Presidents Council, or an entity designated by the Presidents Council (the Management Council), is authorized to adopt, in the interim between annual Conventions, noncontroversial legislative amendments that are necessary to promote the normal and orderly administration of the Association's legislation, per Bylaws 8.1.2-(e) and 9.3.1.1. That authorization requires a three-fourths majority vote of the Presidents Council, or the entity designated by the Presidents Council (the Management Council). The Management Council then submits to the next annual Division II business session the amendments that it has adopted under this authorization. The noncontroversial amendments adopted by the Management Council in 2023 appear in Appendix B. Acceptance of the report of the Management Council during the Division II business session on Saturday, January 13, 2024, approves the Management Council's actions in this regard.

## **Order of Business**

The Convention Welcome and Awards Presentation of the 118th annual Convention will begin at 5 p.m., Wednesday, January 10. The "State of College Sports" remarks by the NCAA president will be presented orally during that session.

The various proposals will be taken up in their numerical order, unless that order is changed at the Convention. Amendments for the annual Convention are grouped topically by area and will be presented as indicated on page x.

In each grouping of related items (either amendments or amendments-to-amendments), the Association's established procedure will be followed (consider first the proposal that contemplates the greatest modification of the present circumstance, followed by other proposals in the order of decreasing modification). In some instances, when a proposal in such a grouping is adopted, those that follow in that grouping may become moot.

## **Voting Procedures**

Each voting delegate when registering, receives a "voting paddle" for use in indicating the institution's vote when the chair calls for a "paddle" vote (Appendix C). Voting delegates receive orange paddles.

For roll-call votes, the Association utilizes an electronic voting system. Upon registering for the Convention, each voting delegate moves to the general registration area to receive the voting unit identification card that has been coded for that member institution or conference. The voting delegates must turn in the voting unit identification card contained in the registration envelope to obtain the electronic unit. Amendments to federated provisions are voted on by divisions, with a majority vote required for approval. In such instances involving federated provisions, each division is committed to the result of its counted vote. Any member that voted on the prevailing side can request reconsideration of the recorded vote of its division on an issue at any time before the conclusion of voting during that session. Each proposal includes a designation of the division(s) that votes on that item and the type of vote involved (federated or common).

Delegates are urged to register and receive their voting materials before the opening business session begins at 5 p.m., Wednesday, January 10. In addition, all voting in the division business session shall be by show of paddles (or by electronic roll-call votes), rather than by voice or hand.

## **Memorial Resolutions**

At the time of the annual Convention, members of the Association honor by memorial resolution those persons closely associated with intercollegiate athletics who we have lost in the last year. Your assistance is needed to create a complete and accurate memorial list of current and former staff members or current student-athletes who passed away in 2023. Click [here](#) to enter the names of any individuals from your conference or institution who meet the criteria. The deadline for submitting names is Friday, Dec. 15. If you have any questions, please contact Melody Lawrence at [mlawrence@ncaa.org](mailto:mlawrence@ncaa.org).

## **Administrative Structure**

Rosters of the NCAA Board of Governors, and the Division II Presidents Council and Management Council, are listed in Appendix D.

## **Request for Interpretations**

Division II member institutions and conferences are encouraged to request interpretations of the proposed legislation in this Official Notice in advance of the Convention.

All such requests must be received to the NCAA academic and membership affairs staff via email to the primary contact individuals, [chooks@ncaa.org](mailto:chooks@ncaa.org) or [rdenton@ncaa.org](mailto:rdenton@ncaa.org), not later than Thursday, December 14, 2023. Requests will be considered by the appropriate interpretative entities and the decisions will be reviewed by the Division II Management Council in its pre-Convention meeting Wednesday, January 10, 2024. The resulting interpretations will be duplicated and distributed to the conferences for their pre-Convention meetings before the beginning of the business session on Saturday, January 13, 2024.

**TOPICAL GROUPINGS OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS 118th ANNUAL CONVENTION**

*Proposal Number*

1 through 2

3 through 5

*General Topic*

Playing and Practice Seasons

Championships Administration

# 118th Annual Convention

## LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS SUBMITTED BY THE MEMBERSHIP AND DIVISION II GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

[Note: In the following proposals:

- Those letters and words that appear in *italics* and ~~strikethrough~~ are to be deleted;
- Those letters and words that appear in **boldface** and underlined are to be added; and
- Those letters and words that appear in normal text are unchanged from the current Division II legislation.]

### 2024 NCAA CONVENTION OFFICIAL NOTICE FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

The frequently asked questions section following each Division II proposal in the white pages is designed to provide further clarification regarding the application of the proposal and/or the rationale for the legislative change. The information includes frequently asked questions, figures and other information. Further information regarding the application of the proposals is available in the 2024 Convention Division II Legislative Proposals Question and Answer Guide at [www.ncaa.org](http://www.ncaa.org).

[Note: The sponsors of the two membership proposals approved the information included in the additional information section for those proposals.]

### DIVISION II LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS

*The NCAA Division II Presidents Council has determined that it will deal primarily with those national issues in Division II athletics that prompt widespread concern among Division II presidents or chancellors.*

*Legislative proposals developed by the Division II Management Council or by Division II committees reporting to it must be submitted to the Division II Presidents Council for review. They cannot be placed on the agenda for consideration at the Convention unless the Presidents Council agrees to sponsor them. This procedure was established to affirm presidential control of intercollegiate athletics in Division II.*

*The Division II Presidents Council has identified those proposals that it believes are of particular interest to Division II presidents or chancellors and has included them in the Presidents Council grouping. It should be noted, however, that inclusion of proposals in the Presidents Council grouping does not necessarily constitute a position by the Division II Presidents Council for or against a proposal. Those proposals with an asterisk before the proposal number have been identified by the Presidents Council as roll-call votes. Delegates should refer to each proposal's source line for information regarding the sponsor of each proposal.*

*[Note: Pursuant to Bylaw 9.3.12, all amendments shall become effective not earlier than the first day of August following adoption at the NCAA Convention; however, if a voting delegate wishes to propose an immediate effective date, or to propose any other effective date prior to the first day of August, a two-thirds majority of all delegates present and eligible to vote on the amendment is required to approve the immediate or alternative effective date. Those proposals that receive the required vote to carry an immediate effective date and that are adopted, become effective upon adjournment of the Convention.]*

---

## Playing and Practice Seasons

### No. 2024-1 PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS -- FOOTBALL -- PRESEASON PRACTICE AND FIRST CONTEST -- FIRST PERMISSIBLE CONTEST

**Intent:** In football, to specify that a member institution shall not participate in its first contest with outside competition in the championship segment before one week prior to the Thursday preceding September 6.

**Bylaws:** Amend 17.11, as follows:

[Division II, Football Only, Roll Call]

17.11 Football.

[17.11.1 through 17.11.2 unchanged.]

17.11.3 Preseason Practice.

17.11.3.1 First Practice Date -- Championship Segment. A member institution shall not commence official preseason football practice sessions in the championship segment, for the varsity, junior varsity or freshman team, before 24 days before the **institution's** first *permissible* contest or 10 days before the institution's first day of classes, whichever is earlier.

[17.11.3.2 through 17.11.3.4 unchanged.]

17.11.4 First Contest -- Championship Segment. A member institution shall not play its first contest with outside competition in the championship segment before the **week prior to the** Thursday preceding September 6.

[17.11.5 through 17.11.10 unchanged.]

**Source:** Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association, Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association, Gulf South Conference, Lone Star Conference and Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2024

**Rationale:** Currently, an institution may participate in its first permissible regular-season contest in the sport of football on the Thursday preceding September 6. Amending the first permissible contest date to allow institutions to play their first regular-season contest with outside competition one week prior to the Thursday preceding September 6, will provide institutions with the flexibility to schedule and play the maximum allowable 11 contests over a 12-week period, if desired. As a result, institutions will have the ability to schedule an off/bye week during the season which will benefit student-athlete health and safety. This proposal will also lessen the burden of finding available non-conference opponents and will create added flexibility and financial benefits to include unique opportunities such as sponsored or destination-site contests with opponents outside or within an institution's own conference.

#### Frequently Asked Questions:

**Question No. 1:** What is the current legislation surrounding the first permissible contest date?

**Answer:** Currently, in the sport of football, an institution may participate in its first permissible contest with outside competition the Thursday preceding September 6.

**Question No. 2:** If adopted, how will this proposal change the current legislation surrounding the first permissible contest date?

**Answer:** If adopted, in the sport of football, an institution would be able to participate in their first permissible contest with outside competition one week prior to the Thursday, preceding September 6. [See Question No. 3 below]

**Question No. 3:** If adopted, when will an institution be permitted to participate in their first permissible contest for the 2024 football season?

**Answer:** For the 2024 football season, the Thursday preceding September 6 is September 5, 2024. Therefore, if adopted, an institution would be able to participate in its first permissible contest on or after Thursday, August 29, 2024.

The chart below outlines the first permissible contest under current legislation and the first permissible contest in future years if the proposal is adopted.

Year	First Permissible Contest under Current Legislation	First Permissible Contest if Division II Proposal No. 2024-1 is Adopted
2025	September 4, 2025	August 28, 2025
2026	September 3, 2026	August 27, 2026
2027	September 2, 2027	August 26, 2027
2028	August 31, 2028	August 24, 2028
2029	August 30, 2029	August 23, 2029

**Question No. 4:** If adopted, how will this proposal amend the first permissible practice date?

**Answer:** Currently an institution may begin participating in preseason practice 24 days before the first permissible contest date or 10 days before the institution’s first day of classes, whichever is earlier.

If adopted, an institution would utilize the **institution’s first contest date**, as opposed to the first permissible contest date, to determine when the 24 days would begin. The legislation would still permit an institution to begin their preseason practice 10 days before the institution’s first day of classes.

For example, for the 2024 football season, if an institution schedules its first contest on August 29, 2024, an institution would be permitted to begin its preseason practice period on August 5, 2024, or 10 days before the institution’s first day of classes, whichever is earlier.

The chart below outlines when an institution may begin participating in preseason practice in future years if Division II proposal is adopted.

Year	Institution's First Contest Date	Start of Preseason Practice
2025	August 28, 2025	August 4, 2025 or 10 days before the institution's first day of classes, whichever is earlier.
2026	August 27, 2026	August 3, 2026 or 10 days before the institution's first day of classes, whichever is earlier.
2027	August 26, 2027	August 2, 2027 or 10 days before the institution's first day of classes, whichever is earlier.
2028	August 24, 2028	July 31, 2028 or 10 days before the institution's first day of classes, whichever is earlier.
2029	August 23, 2029	July 30, 2029 or 10 days before the institution's first day of classes, whichever is earlier.

[Note: The chart above outlines the start of the preseason practice period based on an institution participating in its first contest one week prior to the Thursday, preceding September 6. The start of the preseason practice period may vary depending on when an institution schedules its first permissible contest].

**Position Statement(s):** *NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports, NCAA Division II Championships Committee:* The committees agreed to take no position on this proposal.  
*NCAA Committee on Women's Athletics:* The committee agreed to oppose this proposal. The committee noted that this proposal would treat football differently than other fall sports, including women's sports, as well as

create inequities in the opportunities for certain sports (e.g., soccer) to participate in an acclimatization period. Finally, the committee noted the proposal could create a financial burden on institutions already concerned about equitable resource allocation.

*NCAA Division II Football Committee:* The committee agreed to support this proposal. The committee noted that this proposal will provide the ability for member institutions and/or conferences to have more flexibility in scheduling (e.g., scheduling nonconference opponents). Further, it was noted the option for institutions to have a bye week will permit institutions to play their 11 contests over a 12-week period. Finally, the committee noted that this proposal is equitable by not allowing a member institution more preseason practice days than another member institution before their first scheduled contest.

*NCAA Division II Legislation Committee:* The committee agreed to oppose this proposal. The committee noted the impact this change would have on the Life in the Balance philosophy in Division II. Specifically, the committee noted concerns related to the student-athlete experience and student-athletes feeling compelled to forgo participating in nonathletically related activities, such as summer jobs and internships. The committee also noted the impact on the work-life balance of athletics administrators. Additionally, it was noted that this proposal may prompt other Division II sports to feel the need to begin their playing and practice seasons earlier. Finally, the committee noted that although the change may be permissive, there is a potential competitive advantage since some Division II institutions may not be able to bring in their student-athletes earlier due to budget constraints.

*NCAA Division II Presidents Council., NCAA Division II Management Council.:* The councils agreed to oppose this proposal due to the proposal being contrary to the Life in the Balance philosophy. Specifically, the councils noted concerns related to the student-athlete experience and student-athletes feeling compelled to forgo participating in nonathletically related activities, such as summer jobs and internships. The councils also noted the potential impact this proposal would have on athletic administrators. Further, the councils noted the budget impact this proposal would have on institutions, as well as institutions having to potentially cut institutional programming short (e.g., camps) due to football teams coming back early. Finally, the councils noted that there are other possible solutions (e.g., playing 10 contests, adding a 12th week at the end of the football season and adjusting the postseason schedule to be played one week later) to accomplish what the proposal is seeking to accomplish.

No. 2024-2 PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS -- SOFTBALL -- NUMBER OF CONTESTS -- MAXIMUM LIMITATIONS -- INSTITUTIONAL AND STUDENT-ATHLETE -- CHAMPIONSHIP AND NONCHAMPIONSHIP CONTESTS

**Intent:** In softball, to specify that an institution or student-athlete shall limit its playing season to 56 contests (games and scrimmages) during the segment in which the NCAA championship is conducted and eight contests (games and scrimmages) during another segment.

**Bylaws:** Amend 17.21, as follows:

[Division II, Roll Call]

17.21.7 Number of Contests.

17.21.7.1 Maximum Limitations -- Institutional. A member institution shall limit its total playing schedule with outside competition in softball ~~during the institution's softball playing season~~ to 56 contests (games and scrimmages) **during the segment that concludes with the NCAA championship and eight contests during another segment**, except for those contests excluded under Bylaws 17.21.7.3, 17.21.7.4 and 17.21.7.5.

[17.21.7.1.1 unchanged.]

17.21.7.2 Maximum Limitations -- Student-Athlete. An individual student-athlete may participate in each academic year in 56 softball **contests during the segment that concludes with the NCAA championship and eight contests during another segment**. This limitation includes those contests in which the student represents the institution in accordance with Bylaw 17.02.8, including competition as a member of the varsity, junior varsity or freshman team of the institution.

[17.21.7.3 through 17.21.7.5 unchanged.]

**Source:** East Coast Conference, Gulf South Conference, Albany State University (Georgia), Metropolitan State University of Denver, Minnesota State University, Mankato, Montana State University Billings, Union University, University of Alabama in Huntsville and University of West Alabama.

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2024

**Rationale:** In softball, an institution must limit its playing season with outside competition to 56 contests (games and scrimmages). Further, a student-athlete may participate in 56 contests each academic year. The legislation also permits an institution and student-athlete to participate in up to three discretionary exemptions annually. These exemptions are excluded from an institution's and student-athlete's maximum contests limit. Currently,

softball is at a disadvantage from a developmental standpoint comparative to other sports (i.e., soccer, volleyball) since the current legislation only permits three discretionary exemptions. Any contests scheduled outside of the three discretionary exemptions would count against an institution's and student-athlete's maximum contests limit. Permitting eight additional contests during the nonchampionship segment, in addition to the three discretionary exemptions, will allow for proper in-game development, especially for incoming student-athletes, and scheduling flexibility for institutions.

### **Frequently Asked Questions:**

**Question No. 1:** Under current legislation, how many softball contests may an institution and student-athlete participate in during the playing season?

**Answer:** An institution and student-athlete may participate in a maximum of 56 contests (games and scrimmages) during the nonchampionship segment and championship segment.

**Question No. 2:** If adopted, will this proposal amend the maximum number of contests in the sport of softball?

**Answer:** Yes. An institution and student-athlete may participate in eight contests (games and scrimmages) during the nonchampionship segment and 56 contests (games and scrimmages) during the championship segment.

**Question No. 3:** If adopted, will this change the number of discretionary exemptions an institution may exempt from their maximum number of contests?

**Answer:** No. An institution will still be permitted to exempt no more than three discretionary exemptions listed in NCAA Division II Bylaw 17.21.7.4 (discretionary exemptions).

**Question No. 4:** If adopted, will the contests played during the nonchampionship segment count towards championships selection?

**Answer:** No.

**Question No. 5:** If adopted, will the contests played during the nonchampionship segment count towards an institution's and student-athlete's statistics for NCAA purposes?

**Answer:** No.

**Position Statement(s):** *NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports:* The committee agreed to oppose this proposal. The committee noted that additional athletic activity entails additional risk of injury. In addition, and of timely concern, the committee noted the impact and burden on institutional medical and athletic training staff, especially given the current membership concerns with the state of the collegiate athletic training workforce.

*NCAA Division II Championships Committee:* The committee agreed to oppose this proposal. The committee noted that the change may infringe on the division's Life in the Balance philosophy (i.e., "season creep") and potentially disadvantage institutions that are unable to schedule that many contests.

*NCAA Division II Legislation Committee:* The committee agreed to oppose this proposal. The committee noted that the change may result in some inequities between institutions who are able to participate in all contests (56 contests during the championship segment and eight during the nonchampionship segment) and those institutions unable to do so. The committee also noted the impact this change would have on the Life in the Balance philosophy in Division II since this may prompt more sports to increase the number of competitions or contests they participate in.

*NCAA Division II Management Council., NCAA Division II Presidents Council.:* The councils agreed to oppose this proposal. The councils noted the impact this change would have on the Life in the Balance philosophy in Division II. The councils also noted that softball is a contest sport, whereas other sports (e.g., soccer during the nonchampionship segment and volleyball) are dates of competition sports and, therefore, are not the same. Further, the councils noted that all sports, except football, may participate in three discretionary exemptions during their playing season. The councils noted that softball currently can participate in all 56-contests during both the nonchampionship and championship segments and, therefore, is not at a disadvantage. The councils also noted the potential disadvantage among institutions that will be able to participate in the eight contests during the nonchampionship segment and those institutions that will be unable to participate in the eight contests due primarily to weather. Finally, the councils noted the impact this proposal may have on athletic trainers and facilities staff.

*NCAA Division II Softball Committee:* The committee agreed to support this proposal. The committee noted the scheduling flexibility this proposal would provide Division II institutions, especially those that are unable to

participate in contests during the nonchampionship segment due to weather. The committee also noted that the 56 contests will only be permitted to be played during the championship segment, with the eight contests only being allowed to be played during the nonchampionship segment. Finally, the committee noted that this proposal will provide freshman softball student-athletes with an opportunity to develop at the collegiate-level during the nonchampionship segment.

---

## Championships Administration

### No. 2024-3 CHAMPIONSHIPS ADMINISTRATION -- ADMINISTRATION OF DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIPS -- MINIMUM SPONSORSHIP FOR DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIPS -- MINIMUM NUMBER OF SPONSORING INSTITUTIONS AND THREE-YEAR GRACE PERIOD

**Intent:** To amend the minimum number of sponsoring institutions required to establish and maintain a Division II championship to 35 institutions for both men's and women's sports; further, to establish a three-year grace period during which a sport that falls below the minimum sponsorship requirement may regain the necessary sponsoring institutions before the championship is discontinued.

**Bylaws:** Amend 18.4, as follows:

[Division II, Roll Call]

#### 18.4 Administration of Division II Championships.

##### 18.4.1 Minimum Sponsorship for Division II Championships.

18.4.1.1 Men's Sports. A Division II championship may be established in a men's sport if at least ~~50~~**35** institutions sponsor the sport.

18.4.1.2 Women's Sports. A Division II championship may be established in a women's sport if at least ~~40~~**35** institutions sponsor the sport.

18.4.1.3 ~~Failure to Meet Minimum Sponsorship Requirement~~**Grace Period.** ~~A Division II championship shall be discontinued automatically at the conclusion of the academic year in which it falls below the applicable minimum sponsorship number set forth in Bylaws 18.4.1.1 or 18.4.1.2.~~ **A sport that falls below the applicable minimum sponsorship number set forth in Bylaws 18.4.1.1 or 18.4.1.2 shall have three years to regain the minimum number of sponsoring institutions before the Division II championship is discontinued. The three-year grace period begins with the academic year in which the Division II Championships Committee confirms that the sport has fallen below the applicable minimum sponsorship number set forth in Bylaws 18.4.1.1 or 18.4.1.2.**

~~18.4.1.3.1 Exception -- Olympic Sports. A Division II championship in any Olympic sport shall be exempt from the minimum sponsorship requirements of Bylaws 18.4.1.1 and 18.4.1.2. The membership may adopt specific legislation to discontinue the championship in an Olympic sport.~~

~~18.4.1.3.2 Exception -- Men's and Women's Lacrosse. A Division II championship in the sports of men's and women's lacrosse shall be exempt from the minimum sponsorship requirements of Bylaws 18.4.1.1 and 18.4.1.2.~~

[18.4.2 through 18.4.3 unchanged.]

**Source:** NCAA Division II Presidents Council [Management Council (Championships Committee)].

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2024

**Rationale:** The proposal was originally recommended by the NCAA Division II Implementation Committee's championships subcommittee during its review of Division II bylaws and subsequently referred to the NCAA Division II Championships Committee for further review. The Championships Committee collaborated with various membership stakeholder groups to vet the proposal and gather feedback through membership surveys which indicated broad support for both reducing the minimum sponsorship requirement and making it consistent across both men's and women's sports. The Championships Committee believes 35 is an appropriate benchmark that both reflects membership interest and commitment meriting a Division II championship and gives emerging sports a reasonable target to transition to championship status. Additionally, the Championships Committee determined that a three-year grace period provides sufficient time for a given sport to recover should it fall below the minimum requirement without unduly extending the grace period and tying up resources that could otherwise be devoted to championships in good standing and emerging sports that merit championship consideration.

#### Frequently Asked Questions:

**Question No. 1:** If adopted, how will this proposal change the current legislation?

**Answer:** The minimum number of Division II institutions required to maintain and/or establish a Division II Championship will be 35 for both men's and women's sports. Further, a three-year grace period will be established for a sport that falls below the 35-minimum threshold. Finally, the exceptions for men's and women's lacrosse and the Olympic sports will be eliminated.

**Question No. 2:** If an emerging sport does not have the minimum number of institutions required to establish a National Collegiate Championship (50 for men and 40 for women), but meets the 35-minimum threshold required to establish a Division II Championship, may a Division II Championship be established?

**Answer:** No. If there is only one championship offered, it must be a National Collegiate Championship. An emerging sport must have the required 40 institutions to establish a National Collegiate Championship first before it can establish a Division II Championship.

**Question No. 3:** If adopted, when will the three-year grace period begin?

**Answer:** The three-year grace period will begin in the academic year the Championships Committee confirms that the sport has fallen below the 35-minimum threshold.

For example, if the Championships Committee confirms a sport has fallen below the 35-minimum threshold in October 2024, the 2024-25 academic year would be the first year of the grace period. The 2025-26 academic year would be the second year and the 2026-27 academic year would be the third year. The championship would be discontinued after the 2026-27 academic year.

**Question No. 4:** If the proposal is adopted at the 2024 Convention, when is the earliest a Division II Championship may be discontinued?

**Answer:** The 2027-28 academic year based on the confirmation of sports sponsorship by the Championships Committee occurring in the 2024-25 academic year.

No. 2024-4 CHAMPIONSHIPS ADMINISTRATION -- ADMINISTRATION OF DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIPS -- CRITERIA FOR SELECTION OF PARTICIPANTS -- AUTOMATIC QUALIFICATION -- AUTOMATIC QUALIFICATION IN ALL TEAM SPORTS OTHER THAN FOOTBALL

**Intent:** In all team sports other than football, to specify that automatic qualification privileges shall be granted to all conferences that sponsor the sport.

**Bylaws:** Amend 18.4.3.3, as follows:

[Division II, Roll Call]

18.4.3.3 Automatic Qualification. ~~Each governing sports committee may recommend annually to the Championships Committee those multisport voting conferences that should receive one automatic qualification position for their teams into NCAA championships conducted in team sports, timed individual sports and other individual sports as identified in Bylaw 17.02.16. The decision of the Championships Committee shall be final.~~

**18.4.3.3.1 Team Sports Other Than Football. Each governing sport committee shall recommend annually to the Championships Committee those multisport voting conferences that meet the requirements outlined in Bylaw 18.4.3.3.1. The decision of the Championships Committee shall be final.**

**18.4.3.3.2 Timed Individual Sports and Other Individual Sports. Each governing sports committee may recommend annually to the Championships Committee those multisport voting conferences that should receive one automatic qualification position for their teams into NCAA championships. The decision of the Championships Committee shall be final.**

[18.4.3.3.1 through 18.4.3.3.3 renumbered as 18.4.3.3.3 through 18.4.3.3.5, unchanged.]

**Source:** NCAA Division II Presidents Council [Management Council (Championships Committee)].

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2024

**Rationale:** Currently, sport committees have the option of recommending when and if to apply automatic qualification to their selection processes for team sports. However, the concept of requiring automatic qualification rather than maintaining it as an option emerged during the Division II Implementation Committee's review process as being a core tenet of the Division II championships program. The Division II Championships Committee believes that all conferences should be provided access to NCAA Division II Championships in all team sports when bracket sizes are appropriate to do so. The Championships Committee also notes that

automatic qualification has long been regarded as the most effective way to grow a sport, as it establishes an equitable path for member institutions to participate in NCAA championships and an incentive for sponsorship.

### Frequently Asked Questions:

**Question No. 1:** What is the current legislation?

**Answer:** Currently, the sport committees have the option of recommending to the Division II Championships Committee when and if to apply automatic qualification to their selection processes. If approved by the Championships Committee, the sport will have automatic qualification and then each conference must request automatic qualification for the conference from the respective sport committee.

**Question No. 2:** If adopted, how will this proposal change the current legislation?

**Answer:** Team sport committees (other than football) will be required to apply automatic qualification to their selection process for those Division II conferences that meet the requirements in NCAA Division II Bylaw 18.4.3.3.1 (requirements – division championship). It will no longer be an option on whether to recommend automatic qualification. Conferences will still be required to annually request automatic qualification from the respective sport committee.

**Question No. 3:** If adopted, when will all team sports (other than football) have automatic qualification?

**Answer:** The 2024-25 academic year.

**Question No. 4:** If adopted, how will this proposal impact bracket sizes in team sports?

**Answer:** If adopted, the Championships Committee will establish a policy that specifies that no more than 60% of a team's bracket may be made up of automatic qualifiers. If a sport reaches a 50% threshold, the committee will also establish as policy that bracket expansion be considered. However, should a sport exceed the 60% threshold while being considered for bracket expansion, the committee may maintain automatic qualification while the field size is being addressed.

Note: As part of the 2024-27 triennial budget process, the Championships Committee has recommended bracket increases for the field hockey and men's and women's lacrosse championships effective for the 2024-25 academic year. If approved by the Division II Management Council and Division II Presidents Council in January 2024, these sports would be in line with this policy.

#### No. 2024-5 CHAMPIONSHIPS ADMINISTRATION – ADMINISTRATION OF DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIPS – CRITERIA FOR SELECTION OF PARTICIPANTS – EARNED ACCESS – FOOTBALL – EARNED ACCESS FOR ALL FOOTBALL-SPONSORING CONFERENCES

**Intent:** In football, to amend the earned access legislation to specify that all football-sponsoring conferences shall be represented in the bracket; further, to specify, that the highest-ranked team in a football-sponsoring conference that is not already represented in the bracket shall be included.

**Bylaws:** Amend 18.4, as follows:

[Division II, Football Only, Roll Call]

18.4 Administration of Division II Championships.

[18.4.1 through 18.4.3 unchanged.]

18.4.3.4 Earned Access – Football. The Division II Football Committee shall award earned access to the NCAA Division II Football Championship to all Division II football-playing conferences that meet the requirements of Bylaw 18.4.3.4.1 for which at least one member institution finishes no more than two spots lower than the super region bracket size in the final NCAA Division II football regional ranking. To be awarded earned access, the conference shall have a minimum of six active football-playing members. The earned access shall go to the conference's highest-ranked team that is not already represented in the bracket in the final regional Top 10 poll.

[18.4.3.4.1 through 18.4.3.4.2 unchanged.]

[18.4.3.5 unchanged.]

**Source:** NCAA Division II Presidents Council [Management Council (Championships Committee)].

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2024

**Rationale:** Currently, in football, earned access only applies if at least one member institution finishes no more than two spots lower than the super region bracket size in the final NCAA Division II football regional ranking. This proposal will amend earned access in football to require representation in the bracket from all football-sponsoring conferences. The Division II Championships Committee believes that all conferences should be provided access to the NCAA Division II Football Championship when bracket sizes are appropriate to do so. The Championships Committee also notes that earned access has long been regarded as the most effective way to provide guaranteed access to the championship.

**Frequently Asked Questions:**

**Question No. 1:** What is the current legislation?

**Answer:** Currently, earned access only applies if a conference that is not currently represented in the bracket has a team within the top nine in the super region. A conference whose highest ranked team is outside of the top nine is not granted earned access to the field.

**Question No. 2:** If adopted, how will this proposal change the current legislation?

**Answer:** All football-sponsoring conferences will be represented in the bracket. This proposal will also require that the highest-ranked team in a football-sponsoring conference that is not already represented in the bracket be included. Therefore, earned access will be determined by the Division II Football Committee, as opposed to the team being selected by the conference.

**Question No. 3:** If adopted, when will the Division II Football Committee begin utilizing the new earned access process?

**Answer:** The 2024-25 academic year.

**Question No. 4:** If adopted, how will this proposal impact the bracket size in the sport of football?

**Answer:** If adopted, the Division II Championships Committee will establish as policy a 60% threshold for earned access in the bracket. To mitigate the possibility of exceeding the 60% threshold, the committee will also establish as policy that bracket expansion be considered at the next budget opportunity whenever the sport reaches a 50% threshold. However, should the sport exceed the 60% threshold while being considered for bracket expansion, the Championships Committee may maintain earned access while the field size is being addressed.

## Interpretations to be Included in the 2024-25 NCAA Division II Manual

In accordance with its authority, the NCAA Division II Academic Requirements Committee and the NCAA Division II Legislation Committee have approved inclusion of the following interpretations in the 2024-25 NCAA Division II Manual. This will be referenced in the oral report of the Management Council to the 2024 Division II business session on Saturday, January 13, and acceptance of that report will constitute approval of the incorporation of these interpretations. If a delegate objects to incorporation of a particular interpretation, that objection should be raised at the time of the Management Council report. The Division II membership then will decide by majority vote of the eligible voters whether to incorporate the interpretations.

It should be noted that these interpretations already have been accepted by the membership, and the only issue concerning these interpretations that is before the Division II membership is whether they should be set forth in the 2024-25 Division II Manual and subsequent Division II Manuals. If the membership votes not to incorporate a particular interpretation into the Manual, the interpretation will still be binding on the membership; it simply will not be included in the Manual.

For each of these interpretations approved by the Division II Academic Requirements Committee or Division II Legislation Committee, the provisions of Bylaw 9.4.1.4 also would apply (any Division II member to which the interpretation applies may request a review of that interpretation at the 2024 Division II business session on Saturday, January 13, by making such a request in writing to the Association's Convention office prior to 1 p.m. Friday, January 12, the day preceding the Division II business session of the Convention). If an interpretation is not challenged per Bylaw 9.4.1.4 and the incorporation of the interpretation into the 2024-25 Manual also is not challenged, it will appear in the 2024-25 Manual as noted.

### NO. I-2024-1 RECRUITING -- PUBLICITY -- COMMENTS PRIOR TO SIGNING AND MEDIA RELEASE REGARDING SIGNING -- FINANCIAL DEPOSIT IN RESPONSE TO OFFER OF ADMISSION

**Bylaws:** Amend 13.10, as follows:

13.10 Publicity.

[13.10.1 unchanged.]

13.10.2 Comments Prior to Signing. Before the signing of a prospective student-athlete to a National Letter of Intent or an institution's ~~receives the prospective student-athlete's signed~~ written offer of admission and/or financial aid **or before the institution has received their financial deposit in response to its offer of admission**, a member institution may comment publicly only to the extent of confirming its recruitment of the prospective student-athlete. [See Bylaws 13.1.3.3.1 and 13.4.4]. [D]

[13.10.2.1 through 13.10.2.3 unchanged.]

[13.10.3 unchanged.]

13.10.4 Media Release Regarding Signing. Publicity released by an institution concerning a prospective student-athlete's commitment to attend the institution shall occur only after the prospective student-athlete has signed a National Letter of Intent or after the ~~institution receives the~~ prospective student-athlete's signed acceptance of the institution's written offer of admission and/or financial aid **or after the institution has received their financial deposit in response to its offer of admission**. Such communications, which are not limited in number or content, may be released to media outlets at the institution's discretion. [D]

[13.10.4.1 unchanged.]

**Source:** NCAA Division II Legislation Committee.

**Effective Date:** Immediate

**Additional Information:**

Incorporating the December 14, 2022, official interpretation will clarify that a Division II institution may publicly comment on a prospective student-athlete's commitment to attend their institution upon receiving a financial deposit in response to its offer of admission.

## Noncontroversial Legislation Adopted by the NCAA Division II Management Council

Pursuant to NCAA Bylaws 8.1.2-(e) and 9.3.1.1, the NCAA Division II Management Council has adopted the following noncontroversial legislative amendments during the past year. The Presidents Council, or an entity designated by the Presidents Council (the Management Council), is permitted to adopt such legislation if it is noncontroversial and necessary in the normal and orderly administration of the Association's legislation. These actions will be referenced in the oral report of the Management Council at the 2024 Division II business session on Saturday, January 13, and acceptance of the report will constitute approval of these actions and incorporation in the 2024-25 NCAA Division II Manual. If a delegate objects to incorporation of a particular amendment, that objection should be raised at the time of the Management Council report. The Division II membership then will decide by majority vote of the eligible voters whether to incorporate that amendment.

NO. NC-2024-1 DIVISION II ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE – PRESIDENTS COUNCIL – MANAGEMENT COUNCIL – ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE – PLANNING AND FINANCE COMMITTEE – EFFECTIVE DATE FOR MANAGEMENT COUNCIL'S COMPOSITION AND DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

**Intent:** To amend the effective date of Sections C (Management Council composition) and D (Management Council duties and responsibilities) of NCAA Division II Proposal No. 2023-7 from August 1, 2023, to February 1, 2024.

**A. Bylaws:** Amend 8.1, as follows: (February 1, 2024)

### 8.1 Division II ~~Presidents Council~~**Executive Board**.

8.1.1 Composition. The composition of the ~~Presidents Council~~**Executive Board** shall ~~be based on a weighted regional representation by institutions that shall include one~~**eight** ~~chancellor or president~~**presidents/chancellors** ~~per region for every 22 institutions in that region (see Bylaw 8.1.1.4.1).~~**based on Division II championships region. In addition, two** ~~one~~ "at-large" ~~positions shall exist~~**president/chancellor** to enhance efforts to achieve diversity of representation and to accommodate independent institutions ~~on the board, and two independent members who are not salaried by an NCAA member institution, conference or affiliated member and shall be approved, appointed and verified as independent by the Executive Board.~~ The ~~Presidents Council~~**Executive Board** shall also include two ~~members~~**student-athletes** ~~of~~**serving on and chosen by** the Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (one representing male sports and one representing female sports) (see Bylaw 21.8.5.9.5). **The chair of the Division II Management Council shall serve on the Executive Board as an ex-officio, nonvoting member.**

8.1.1.1 Same Conference. To the extent possible, chancellors or presidents from the same conference shall not serve concurrently on the ~~Presidents Council~~**Executive Board**.

8.1.1.2 Same Institution. To the extent possible, members of the ~~Presidents Council~~**Executive Board** and the Management Council (see Bylaw 8.2) shall not be employed at the same institution.

~~8.1.1.3 Eligibility for Membership. The Presidents Council shall be composed of chancellors or presidents representing Division II active member institutions.~~

#### ~~8.1.1.4 Geographical Areas.~~

~~8.1.1.4.1 Geographical Areas. For the purpose of representation on the Presidents Council, the Association shall be divided into geographical areas. The Division II geographical areas are as follows:~~

~~(a) Region 1 -- Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia;~~

~~(b) Region 2 -- Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, Tennessee;~~

~~(c) Region 3 -- Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Wisconsin; and~~

~~(d) Region 4 -- Alaska, Arizona, British Columbia, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Texas, Utah, Washington, Wyoming.~~

*8.1.1.5 Student-Athlete Advisory Committee Members. The two members of the Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee shall each have a vote on the Presidents Council.*

[8.1.2 unchanged.]

8.1.3 Election/Term of Office.

*8.1.3.1 Selection Process. When a vacancy on the Presidents Council occurs, a formal call for nominations shall be published on the NCAA website. In addition, an informational letter to solicit nominations will be mailed to institutions and conference offices in the region in which the vacancy exists. The members of the Council shall select an individual to fill a vacancy after reviewing nominations submitted by institutions and/or conference offices.*

8.1.3.21 Term of Office. ~~Members~~**Presidents, chancellors and independent members** of the Presidents Council~~Executive Board~~ **shall serve six**~~two~~**-year terms, which shall conclude following the annual NCAA Convention**~~that are renewable for an additional two-year term~~. Presidents Council members are not eligible for immediate re-election. A Presidents Council member may be elected to an additional term on the Presidents Council after three years have elapsed. An individual who has served two terms on the Presidents Council may not serve further on the Presidents Council.~~The two student-athletes appointed to the Executive Board shall serve one-year terms that are renewable for an additional one-year term.~~

8.1.3.21.1 Chair and Vice Chair. The chair and the vice chair of the ~~Council~~**Executive Board** shall each serve terms not to exceed ~~three~~**two** years. The chair and vice chair shall not be eligible for immediate re-election to that position. In addition, a member must serve a minimum of one year on the ~~Presidents Council~~**Executive Board** before serving as chair or vice chair.

*8.1.3.2.2 Student-Athletes. The two student-athletes appointed to the Presidents Council shall each serve a one-year term that is renewable for an additional one-year term.*

[8.1.4 unchanged.]

**B. Bylaws:** Amend 8.1.2, as follows: (February 1, 2024)

8.1.2 Duties and Responsibilities. The ~~Presidents Council~~**Executive Board** shall:

(a) Implement policies adopted by the ~~Association's~~**NCAA** Board of Governors;

[8.1.2-(b) unchanged.]

(c) Establish a strategic plan **and/or a set of strategic priorities** for Division II;

[8.1.2-(d) unchanged.]

~~(e) Adopt noncontroversial and intent-based amendments, administrative bylaws and regulations to govern Division II;~~

[8.1.2-(f) through 8.1.2-(g) relettered as 8.1.2-(e) through 8.1.2-(f), unchanged.]

~~(h)~~ **g) Identify, before the printing of the notice of any Convention, Division II proposals for which a roll-call vote of the eligible voters may be required and designate during the Convention the roll-call votes that must occur****Adopt emergency legislation;**

~~(i) Establish the final sequence of legislative proposals in the agenda for the Division II business session at the annual Convention;~~

[8.1.2-(j) through 8.1.2-(k) relettered as 8.1.2-(h) through 8.1.2-(i), unchanged.]

~~(l)~~ **j) Approve recommendations of the Management Council (see Bylaw 8.2), including the composition of the Management Council;**

[8.1.2-(m) relettered as 8.1.2-(k), unchanged.]

~~(n)~~ **l) Ensure that there is gender and ethnic diversity among its membership, the membership of the Management Council (see Bylaw 8.2) and the membership of each of the other bodies in the Division II governance structure;**

~~(o)~~ **m) Develop and a) Approve the budget and the use of funds allotted to Division II (e.g., institutional equal distribution funds, funds for the operation of championships);**

[8.1.2-(p) through 8.1.2-(r) relettered as 8.1.2-(n) through 8.1.2-(p), unchanged.]

~~(s)~~ **q) Appoint a Division II Presidents CouncilExecutive Board member to the NCAA Board of Governors;**

[8.1.2-(t) through 8.1.2-(u) relettered as 8.1.2-(r) through 8.1.2-(s), unchanged.]

(v ~~t~~) ~~Appoint such~~**Create** committees or ~~subcommittees as may be necessary for executing the provisions of this constitution or the Division II bylaws~~**other bodies (e.g., project teams) to study and recommend courses of action on specific issues or to fulfill duties and responsibilities of Division II.**

8.1.2.1 Duties of the Chair. The chair of the ~~Presidents Council~~**Executive Board** shall:

[8.1.2.1-(a) unchanged.]

(b) Preside at ~~Presidents Council~~**Executive Board** meetings;

[8.1.2.1-(c) through 8.1.2.1-(d) unchanged.]

(e) Serve as an ex officio, nonvoting member of the Division II **Strategic** Planning and Finance Committee.

8.1.2.2 Duties of the Vice Chair. The vice chair of the ~~Presidents Council~~**Executive Board** shall:

[8.1.2.2-(a) through 8.1.2.2-(c) unchanged.]

(d) Serve ~~as chair of~~**on** the Division II **Strategic** Planning and Finance Committee.

**C. Bylaws:** Amend 8.2, as follows: (February 1, 2024)

8.2 Division II Management Council.

8.2.1 Composition. The **composition of the** Management Council shall ~~be comprised of~~**include** one ~~administrator or representative~~**member** from each of the Division II multisport voting conferences; ~~one administrator or representative of Division II independent institutions provided there are at least eight Division II independent institutions; two~~**four** "at-large" ~~positions~~**members** to enhance efforts to achieve diversity of representation; and two ~~members of~~**student-athletes serving on and chosen by** the **Division II** Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (**one representing male sports and one representing female sports**) (~~per see~~ Bylaw 21.8.5.9.4). The members shall be representatives of Division II active member institutions. The members of the Council shall include:

(a) At least ~~four~~**five** directors of athletics;

(b) At least ~~four~~**five** senior woman administrators;

(c) At least ~~four~~**five** faculty athletics representatives; and

(d) At least ~~one~~**two** conference ~~administrator~~**office staff**.

**Once the minimums are met, the Council may include individuals working in athletics administration and individuals that supervise athletics, including but not limited to a vice president, athletic trainer, assistant/associate/deputy director of athletics, and/or other individuals involved in the administration of athletics.**

[8.2.1.1 through 8.2.1.3 unchanged.]

[8.2.2 through 8.2.4 unchanged.]

**D. Bylaws:** Amend 8.2.2, as follows: (February 1, 2024)

8.2.2 Duties and Responsibilities. The Management Council shall:

(a) Implement policies adopted by the ~~Association's~~**NCAA** Board of Governors and the ~~Presidents Council~~**Executive Board**;

(b) Make recommendations to the ~~Presidents Council~~**Executive Board** on matters it deems appropriate;

(c) ~~Recommend the adoption of~~**Adopt** noncontroversial and intent-based amendments, administrative bylaws and regulations to govern Division II, ~~subject to ratification by the Presidents Council~~;

**(d) Sponsor legislative proposals for a vote at the annual NCAA Convention;**

(~~d~~ **e**) Take final action on matters delegated to it by the ~~Presidents Council~~**Executive Board**;

(~~e~~) ~~Make interpretations of the bylaws of Division II;~~

(f) Review and act on the recommendations of the Division II committee structure and the recommendations of ~~Division II representatives to~~ committees with Association-wide functions;

[8.2.2-(g) unchanged.]

**(h) Identify, before the printing of the Official Notice for any Convention, Division II proposals for which a roll-call vote of the eligible voters may be required and designate during the Convention the roll-call votes that must occur;**

**(i) Establish the final sequence of legislative proposals in the agenda for the Division II business session at the annual Convention;**

[8.2.2-(h) through 8.2.2-(j) relettered as 8.2.2-(j) through 8.2.2-(l), unchanged.]

**(k m) Recommend the ~~appointment of such committees or subcommittees as may be necessary for executing the provisions of this constitution or the~~ creation of committees or other bodies to study and suggest courses of action on specific issues or to fulfill the duties and responsibilities of** Division II bylaws, subject to ~~ratification~~**approval** by the ~~Presidents Council~~**Executive Board**.

8.2.2.1 Duties of the Chair. The chair of the Management Council shall:

[8.2.2.1-(a) through 8.2.2.1-(f) unchanged.]

8.2.2.2 Duties of the Vice Chair. The vice chair of the Management Council shall:

[8.2.2.2-(a) through 8.2.2.2-(b) unchanged.]

(c) Serve as a member of the Division II **Strategic** Planning and Finance Committee; and

[8.2.2.2-(d) unchanged.]

[8.2.2.3 unchanged.]

**E. Bylaws:** Amend 8.3, as follows: *(August 1, 2023)*

8.3 Division II Administrative Committee.

8.3.1 Composition. The Administrative Committee shall consist of five members, including the chairs and vice chairs of the ~~Presidents Council~~**Executive Board** and, Management Council, **and the chair of the Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee**. ~~The fifth member shall be another member of the Presidents Council.~~

[8.3.1.1 unchanged.]

[8.3.2 through 8.3.3 unchanged.]

**F. Bylaws:** Amend 8.4, as follows: *(February 1, 2024)*

8.4 Division II **Strategic** Planning and Finance Committee.

8.4.1 Composition. The Division II **Strategic** Planning and Finance Committee shall consist of ~~seven~~**11** members, including the vice chair of the ~~Presidents Council~~**Executive Board**, **two members** ~~the vice chair~~ of the Management Council, **one of which must include the vice chair**, ~~three additional members of the Presidents Council and two additional members of the Management Council.~~ **one conference commissioner, one member from the Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, and six additional members.** ~~The chairs of the Presidents Council and the Management Council shall serve as ex officio, nonvoting members.~~ **At least one of the 11 members shall be from a minority-serving institution.**

[8.4.1.1 unchanged.]

8.4.2 Duties. The Division II **Strategic** Planning and Finance Committee shall:

(a) ~~Review budgetary recommendations related to the annual Division II budget~~**Monitor the Division II strategic plan/strategic priorities; and assess and report on its implementation and recommend updates, when necessary, consistent with the Division II philosophy, strategic position and direction from the Division II Executive Board;**

(b) ~~Advise both the Division II Presidents Council and Management Council regarding the division's financial affairs~~**Provide regular reports on the implementation of the strategic plan/strategic priorities of the Division II Management Council and Executive Board;**

(c) ~~Monitor the Division II strategic plan, assess and report on its implementation and recommend updates of the plan, when necessary, consistent with the Division II philosophy, strategic position and direction from the Division II~~

~~Presidents Council~~ **Make recommendations related to the Division II budget and budget guidelines and principles;**  
and

(d) ~~Provide regular reports on the implementation of the strategic plan to the Division II Management Council and Presidents Council.~~ **Ensure alignment of the division's strategic plan/strategic priorities with financial allocations; and**

**(e) Advise both the Division II Executive Board and Management Council regarding the division's financial affairs.**

**Source:** NCAA Division II Presidents Council (Management Council).

**Effective Date:**

Sections A, B, C, D, F: February 1, 2024

Section E: August 1, 2023

**Additional Information:**

Delaying the effective date for the change in composition and duties and responsibilities for the Management Council will provide an opportunity for an expanded pool of candidates to meet the new requirements in Proposal No. 2023-7 (Division II organizational structure -- presidents council -- management council -- administrative committee -- planning and finance committee).

NO. NC-2024-2 COMMITTEES -- ASSOCIATION-WIDE COMMITTEES -- GENERAL COMMITTEES -- RESEARCH COMMITTEE -- ELIMINATION OF RESEARCH COMMITTEE

**Intent:** To eliminate the NCAA Research Committee.

**Bylaws:** Amend 21.2, as follows:

[Common provision, all divisions, divided vote]

21.2 Association-Wide Committees -- General Committees.

[21.2.1 through 21.2.6 unchanged.]

~~21.2.7 Research Committee.~~

~~21.2.7.1 Composition. The Research Committee shall consist of 10 members, including four representatives from Division I, two each from Divisions II and III and two unallocated. In addition, three positions shall be allocated for men, three allocated for women and four unallocated. The membership of the committee shall consist of at least three athletics administrators and at least three faculty athletics representatives with appropriate research experience.~~

~~21.2.7.2 Duties. The committee shall:~~

- ~~(a) Promote and encourage graduate student research on psychosocial aspects of intercollegiate athletics by administering the Association's Graduate Student Research Grant Program;~~
- ~~(b) Assist staff in the evaluation of data-sharing requests submitted by the membership, as needed;~~
- ~~(c) Study and make recommendations to the NCAA research staff and governance committees concerning opportunities for Association or collaborative research at the nexus of higher education and athletics;~~
- ~~(d) Confer with research staff on issues related to the Research Review Board, its policies and standard operating procedures; and~~
- ~~(e) Monitor progress of the most significant research endeavors undertaken by the NCAA research staff at the behest of the Association.~~

[21.2.8 through 21.2.10 renumbered as 21.2.7 through 21.2.9, unchanged.]

**Source:** NCAA Division II Management Council (Board of Governors).

**Effective Date:** Immediate

**Additional Information:**

The NCAA Board of Governors commissioned a review of NCAA Association-Wide committees and potential changes to better align the committees' work with the new NCAA constitution. The result of a preliminary review was a recommendation to eliminate the NCAA Research Committee. Over time the work in this area changed and is no longer necessary to serve the membership. This proposal is recommended as noncontroversial legislation, inasmuch as broader consultation and debate are unlikely to improve the proposal in any substantial way, significant disagreement or alternative points of view will not be generated and there does not appear to be a significant impact on existing or proposed legislation.

NO. NC-2024-3 COMMITTEES -- PLAYING RULES OVERSIGHT PANEL AND RULES COMMITTEES -- DUTIES -- ELIMINATION OF COMMON RULES REQUIREMENT

**Intent:** To eliminate the requirement that playing rules shall be common for all divisions of the Association.

**A. Bylaws:** Amend 21.1, as follows:

[Common provision, all divisions, divided vote]

21.1 Playing Rules Oversight Panel.

[21.1.1 through 21.1.3 unchanged.]

21.1.4 Duties. The panel shall:

[21.1.4-(a) through 21.1.4-(d) unchanged.]

~~(e) Review and act on requests from any division to exempt it from applying or delaying implementation of a playing rule for financial reasons;~~

[21.1.4-(f) through 21.1.4-(g) relettered as 21.1.4-(e) through 21.1.4-(f), unchanged.]

[21.1.5 through 21.1.6 unchanged.]

**B. Bylaws:** Amend 21.3, as follows:

[Common provision, all divisions, divided vote]

21.3 Association-Wide Committees -- Rules Committees Without Championships Administration Responsibilities.

21.3.1 Selection, Composition, Duties, Term of Office and Operation.

[21.3.1.1 through 21.3.1.2 unchanged.]

21.3.1.3 Duties. Subject to the final authority of the Playing Rules Oversight Panel, each rules committee shall establish and maintain rules of play in its sport consistent with the sound traditions of the sport and of such character as to ensure good sportsmanship and safe participation by the competitors. ~~These playing rules shall be common for all divisions of the Association, and differences among the divisions shall not be permitted, except for the division-specific playing regulations developed to address significant financial impact and approved by the divisions and the Playing Rules Oversight Panel.~~ Playing rules committees shall have the authority to permit rules experimentation in the nontraditional/nonchampionship season without the Playing Rules Oversight Panel approval. Experimentation in the regular season shall be subject to the Playing Rules Oversight Panel review.

[21.3.1.4 through 21.3.1.6 unchanged.]

[21.3.2 through 21.3.14 unchanged.]

**C. Bylaws:** Amend 21.4, as follows:

[Common provision, all divisions, divided vote]

21.4 Common Committees -- Committees With Playing Rules and Championships Administration Responsibilities.

21.4.1 Selection, Composition, Duties, Term of Office and Operation.

[21.4.1.1 through 21.4.1.4 unchanged.]

21.4.1.5 Duties.

21.4.1.5.1 Rules of Play. Subject to the final authority of the Playing Rules Oversight Panel, each rules committee shall establish and maintain rules of play in its sport consistent with the sound traditions of the sport and of such character as to ensure good sportsmanship and safe participation by the competitors. ~~These playing rules shall be common for all divisions of the Association, and differences among the divisions shall not be permitted, except for the division-specific playing regulations developed to address significant financial impact and approved by the divisions and the Playing Rules Oversight Panel.~~ Playing rules committees shall have the authority to permit rules experimentation in the nontraditional/nonchampionship season without the Playing Rules Oversight Panel approval. Experimentation in the regular season shall be subject to Playing Rules Oversight Panel review.

[21.4.1.5.2 through 21.4.1.5.4 unchanged.]

[21.4.1.6 unchanged.]

[21.4.2 through 21.4.7 unchanged.]

**D. Administrative:** Amend 31.1.6, as follows:

[Common provision, all divisions, divided vote]

31.1.6 Playing Rules.

[31.1.6.1 through 31.1.6.2 unchanged.]

~~31.1.6.3 Modifications to Non-NCAA Rules – Consistency Among Divisions. Rules modifications for sports in which the Association does not publish rules must be consistent among all three divisions.~~

**Source:** NCAA Division II Management Council (Playing Rules Oversight Panel).

**Effective Date:** Immediate

**Additional Information:**

The new NCAA constitution, which was adopted by the membership in January 2022 and was effective August 1, 2022, includes a provision that calls for flexibility at the divisional level in establishing the rules for sports competitions. This proposal is intended to effectuate the application of the flexibility required by the constitution. Rules committees and committees with both playing rules and championship administration responsibilities will be maintained as common committees (requiring inclusion of members from each applicable division). Maintaining the committees as such will encourage the establishment and maintenance of common playing rules insofar as it is prudent and appropriate. However, the committees will have the flexibility to establish differences in divisional playing rules as the divisions deem necessary. The process for recommending divisional differences in the playing rules would be determined by each division through its policies and procedures. The Playing Rules Oversight Panel would still have the authority to not approve recommendations that the panel determines would harm the image of the games, create an unsafe environment for student-athletes or place an unreasonable financial burden on the membership of a particular division. This proposal would enact the flexibility contemplated in the new NCAA constitution but would maintain appropriate involvement of all divisions to balance the need for flexibility with the appropriate level of consistency among the divisions.

NO. NC-2024-4 ELIGIBILITY -- TRANSFER REGULATIONS -- FOUR-YEAR COLLEGE TRANSFERS -- EXCEPTIONS FOR TRANSFERS FROM FOUR-YEAR COLLEGES -- ONE-TIME TRANSFER EXCEPTION -- TRANSFER FROM A NON-DIVISION II INSTITUTION

**Intent:** To specify that the June 15 written notification of transfer date is not applicable to a student-athlete transferring from a non-Division II institution (e.g., Division I, Division III or NAIA).

**Bylaws:** Amend 14.5, as follows:

14.5 Transfer Regulations.

[14.5.1 through 14.5.4 unchanged.]

14.5.5 Four-Year College Transfers. See Bylaw 13.1.1.2 for prohibition against contacting student-athletes of another four-year collegiate institution without first obtaining authorization through the notification of transfer process. (See Bylaw 14.4 for progress-toward-degree requirements for transfer student-athletes.)

[14.5.5.1 through 14.5.5.2 unchanged.]

14.5.5.3 Exceptions for Transfers From Four-Year Colleges. A transfer student (other than one under disciplinary suspension per Bylaw 14.5.1.1) from a four-year collegiate institution is not subject to the residence requirement for intercollegiate competition, provided the student does not have an unfulfilled residence requirement at the institution from which they are transferring (except for the return to the original institution without participation exception) and any of the following exceptions are satisfied. However, during the student-athlete's first academic year of full-time collegiate enrollment, such conditions may serve as a basis for an exception to the residence requirement for transfer students to a Division II institution who, at the time of initial collegiate enrollment, met the requirements for "qualifiers" (set forth in Bylaw 14.3.1.1) in Division II. See Bylaw 14.5.5.1.2.1 for additional information regarding the eligibility of a 2-4-4 transfer who attended the initial four-year institution for less than one academic year.

[14.5.5.3.1 through 14.5.5.3.8 unchanged.]

14.5.5.3.9 One-Time Transfer Exception. The student transfers to the certifying institution from another four-year collegiate institution, and all of the following conditions are met (for graduate students, see Bylaw 14.1.8.1):

[14.5.5.3.9-(a) through 14.5.5.3.9-(c) unchanged.]

(d) The student must provide written notification of transfer to the institution by June 15 (see Bylaw 14.5.5.3.9.1 for an exception for midyear and non-Division II transfers); and

[14.5.5.3.9-(e) unchanged.]

14.5.5.3.9.1 Application of Notification Dates to Midyear **and Non-Division II** Transfers. A midyear transfer student-athlete **or student-athlete transferring from a non-Division II institution (e.g., Division I, Division III or NAIA)** is not required to have provided notification of transfer to the institution by the notification deadline in the previous academic year.

[14.5.5.3.9.2 unchanged.]

[14.5.5.4 unchanged.]

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

**Effective Date:** Immediate, for student-athletes transferring for the 2023-24 academic year, and thereafter.

**Additional Information:**

During the 2022 NCAA Convention, the adoption of NCAA Division II Proposal No. 2022-4 (recruiting, eligibility and financial aid – transfer regulations – four-year college transfers – exceptions for transfers from four-year colleges – notification of transfer, one-time transfer exception and financial aid legislation) required, among other conditions, that a transfer student-athlete provide their current institution with written notification of transfer by June 15 in order to utilize NCAA Division II Bylaw 14.5.5.3.9 (one-time transfer exception). Since its adoption, there has been an increase in legislative relief waivers for non-Division II transfer student-athletes due to missing the June 15 written notification of transfer date. The majority of waivers were approved. Removing the June 15 written notification of transfer date for non-Division II transfer student-athletes will eliminate staff legislating through the waiver process. This proposal will not eliminate the need for student-athletes transferring from non-Division II institutions (e.g., Division I, Division III or NAIA) to satisfy the remaining conditions of Division II Bylaw 14.5.5.3.9 (one-time transfer exception) in order to be immediately eligible upon transfer.

NO. NC-2024-5 COMMITTEES – ASSOCIATION-WIDE COMMITTEES – GENERAL COMMITTEES – COMMITTEE ON SPORTSMANSHIP AND ETHICAL CONDUCT -- ELIMINATION OF COMMITTEE ON SPORTSMANSHIP AND ETHICAL CONDUCT

**Intent:** To eliminate the NCAA Committee on Sportsmanship and Ethical Conduct.

**Bylaws:** Amend 21.2, as follows:

[Common provision, all divisions, divided vote]

21.2 Association-Wide Committees – General Committees.

[21.2.1 through 21.2.6 unchanged.]

*21.2.7 Committee on Sportsmanship and Ethical Conduct.*

~~21.2.7.1 Composition. The Committee on Sportsmanship and Ethical Conduct shall consist of 11 members. One student-athlete from each division (who shall have one vote each) shall serve as a member of the committee. Each student-athlete may serve on the committee up to one year after completion of their intercollegiate athletics eligibility.~~

~~21.2.7.1.1 Student-Athlete Representation. The Division II student-athlete shall serve as a member of the committee in an advisory capacity and may serve on the committee up to one year after completion of their intercollegiate athletics eligibility.~~

~~21.2.7.2 Duties. The committee shall be responsible for promoting sportsmanship and ethical conduct within the Association.~~

[21.2.8 through 21.2.9 renumbered as 21.2.7 through 21.2.8, unchanged.]

**Source:** NCAA Division II Management Council (Board of Governors).

**Effective Date:** Immediate

**Additional Information:**

The NCAA Board of Governors commissioned a review of NCAA Association-wide committees and potential changes to better align the committees' work with the new NCAA constitution. The continued review has resulted in a recommendation to eliminate the NCAA Committee on Sportsmanship and Ethical Conduct. The work associated with sportsmanship and ethical conduct has expanded so significantly that it has been supported and absorbed by the NCAA national office and other councils and committees in the divisional governance structures, which reflects the importance of sportsmanship and ethical conduct to the Association. This proposal is being recommended as noncontroversial legislation, inasmuch as broader consultation and debate are unlikely to improve the proposal in any substantial way, significant disagreement or alternative points of view will not be generated and there does not appear to be a significant impact on existing or proposed legislation.

NO. NC-2024-6 COMMITTEES -- DIVISION II COMMITTEES -- DIVISION II GENERAL COMMITTEES -- CHAMPIONSHIPS COMMITTEE -- DUTIES -- FINAL AUTHORITY

**Intent:** To specify that the Division II Championships Committee shall have final authority to approve Division II sport and rules committee appointments.

**Bylaws:** Amend 21.8, as follows:

21.8 Division II Committees.

[21.8.1 through 21.8.4 unchanged.]

21.8.5 Division II General Committees. To conduct Division II business in an efficient and orderly fashion, the following Division II committees shall be established and shall report directly to the Division II Management Council.

[21.8.5.1 unchanged.]

21.8.5.2 Championships Committee.

[21.8.5.2.1 unchanged.]

21.8.5.2.2 Duties. The committee shall:

[21.8.5.2.2-(a) through 21.8.5.2.2-(e) unchanged.]

(f) Select **and approve** sports **and rules** committee representatives, ~~subject to ratification by the Division II Management Council;~~

[21.8.5.2.2-(g) through 21.8.5.2.2-(h) unchanged.]

[21.8.5.2.2.1 unchanged.]

[21.8.5.3 through 21.8.5.9 unchanged.]

[21.8.6 unchanged.]

**Source:** NCAA Division II Management Council (Championships Committee).

**Effective Date:** Immediate

**Additional Information:**

Currently, the NCAA Division II Management Council is the final authority for approving Division II sport and rules committee appointments. However, given the new governance structure adopted at the 2023 Convention that revises the duties of the Management Council and drives decision making through the structure, the Division II Championships Committee is well positioned to take on this responsibility due to their familiarity with the duties of sport and rules committees and the individuals assigned to them. The Management Council would continue to review the appointments as part of the Championships Committee reports, as informational items.

NO. NC-2024-7 CHAMPIONSHIPS AND POSTSEASON FOOTBALL AND EXECUTIVE REGULATIONS -- MERGING BYLAW 18 AND 31

**Intent:** To amend and combine Bylaws 18 and 31, as specified.

**A. Bylaws:** Amend 7, as follows:

**7.8 Institutional Eligibility.**

**B. Bylaws:** Amend 14, as follows:

14 Eligibility: Academic and General Requirements

[14.01 through 14.1 unchanged.]

14.1.1 Postseason and Regular-Season Competition. To be eligible for regular-season competition, NCAA championships, and for postseason football bowl games, the student-athlete shall meet all of the Association's general eligibility requirements and any additional eligibility requirements adopted by the applicable membership division.

[14.1.1.1 unchanged.]

**14.1.1.2 General Institutional Requirements. The institution shall refrain from entering a student-athlete as an individual or as a member of a team in an NCAA championship, if it is acknowledged by the institution or established through the Association's enforcement procedures that the institution or representative(s) of its athletics interests violated NCAA regulations in the recruiting of the student-athlete. The institution may appeal to the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement for restoration of the student-athlete's eligibility (see Bylaw 14.13).**

[14.1.2 through 14.1.11 unchanged.]

[14.2 through 14.13 unchanged.]

**14.13.4 Protest of Eligibility Status. If a student-athlete has been certified by the institution as eligible to compete in an NCAA championship and the student-athlete's eligibility is protested or a protest is filed, the student-athlete shall not be withheld nor shall the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement rule on such a protest received during the period beginning 24 hours before the event and ending with the conclusion of the event. If there is a break in the continuity of the championship (e.g., between rounds of a basketball tournament) when no competition is being conducted, the student may be withheld from further competition in the championship, provided the protest is made or filed at least 24 hours before the next segment of the championship.**

**C. Bylaws:** Amend 18, as follows:

~~18.4.2.1~~ General Institutional Requirements. To be eligible to enter a team or an individual in NCAA championship competition:

- ~~(a)~~ *The institution shall be an active member in good standing in the appropriate division, or have its sport so classified, and be eligible under the rules of the member conference of which it is a member;*
- ~~(b)~~ **a** The institution shall have paid its membership dues for the current year in accordance with the deadlines set forth in Bylaw ~~31.2.1~~ **18.2.2.1**;
- ~~(c)~~ **b** The institution shall designate (in accordance with Bylaw ~~20~~) its athletics program as Division I, Division II or Division III for competition and possible eligibility for championships in those intercollegiate sports recognized by the NCAA;
- ~~(d)~~ **c** The institution's director of athletics shall certify, annually by October 15, the institution's compliance with Bylaw ~~18.4.2.1~~ **17.8.1.1**;

- (e ~~d~~) The institution shall have confirmed annually its sponsorship of a varsity intercollegiate team in the sport and submitted its race and demographic information by so reporting on the NCAA official information form; ~~and~~
- (f ~~e~~) The institution shall have submitted its race and demographic information to the NCAA through the official submission process; ~~and~~.
- (g) ~~The institution shall refrain from entering a student-athlete as an individual or as a member of a team in an NCAA championship, if it is acknowledged by the institution or established through the Association's enforcement procedures that the institution or representative(s) of its athletics interests violated NCAA regulations in the recruiting of the student-athlete. The institution may appeal to the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement for restoration of the student-athlete's eligibility (see Bylaw 14.13).~~

~~187.48.21.1.1~~ Certification of Compliance – Requirements. The institution's director of athletics shall certify that the following conditions have been satisfied. (See Bylaw 7.3.1.5.7.)

~~187.48.21.1.1.1~~ NCAA Rules Review. The director of athletics or a designated representative, has reviewed with all athletics department staff members the rules and regulations of the NCAA as they apply to the administration and conduct of intercollegiate athletics.

7.8.1.1.2 Coaching Staff Disciplinary Actions. At the time of such certification, and as a result of involvement in a violation of the Association's legislation as determined by the Committee on Infractions or the Management Council, no current member of the institution's coaching staff:

[7.8.1.1.2-(a) through 7.8.1.1.2-(c) unchanged.]

~~187.48.21.1.12.21.1~~ Period of Suspension or Prohibition. The period of suspension or prohibition established by the Committee on Infractions or the Management Council must be in effect for the provisions set forth in Bylaw ~~18.4.2.1.1.27.8.1.1.2~~ to apply.

~~187.48.21.1.12.2.2~~ Due-Process Requirement. The affected coaching staff member must be given through the appropriate institution notice of an opportunity to be heard at both the NCAA hearing resulting in the finding of involvement in the violation and the institutional hearing resulting in suspension or prohibition.

~~187.48.21.1.13.3~~ Certification of Policies, Procedures and Practices. The policies, procedures and practices of the institution, its staff members and representatives of athletics interests are in compliance at the present time with the Association's legislation insofar as the director or athletics can determine.

~~187.48.21.1.14.4~~ Maintenance of Compliance. It is the intention of the institution to maintain such compliance.

~~187.48.21.12.2~~ Additional Requirements. Other requirements for institutional eligibility for championships are set forth in Bylaw ~~31.2.118.2.2~~.

~~187.48.2.2~~ Championships. To be eligible to enter a team or an individual in an NCAA championship, a member institution shall, in addition to meeting the general institutional eligibility requirements set forth in Bylaw ~~18.4.2.17.8.1~~:

[7.8.2-(a) through 7.8.2-(b) unchanged.]

- (c) Report annually to the NCAA through the president or chancellor, on a form approved by the Management Council, the admissions and graduation-rate data specified in Bylaw ~~18.4.2.2.17.8.2.1~~. The data shall be received in the national office not later than January 2. Any data received after that date shall appear on a form postmarked not later than December 26.

~~187.48.2.21.1~~ Admissions and Graduation-Rate Disclosure. An institution shall not be eligible to enter a team or an individual competitor in an NCAA championship unless it has submitted federal graduation rate and enrollment data to the NCAA national office on or before the applicable deadline. (See Bylaw 13.3 for additional regulations.)

~~187.48.2.2.2~~ Exemption From Maximum Awards Limitation. A member institution may be exempt from the maximum awards limitation in a sport provided the institution:

[7.8.2.2-(a) through 7.8.2.2-(c) unchanged.]

## 18 Championships ~~and Postseason Football~~ **Administration**

[18.01 unchanged.]

~~18.01.2 Postseason Competition Not Sponsored by a Collegiate Entity. Competition by member institutions in postseason contests that are not sponsored, promoted, managed and controlled by a collegiate entity shall conform to the requirements set forth in this article and all other applicable legislation of the Association, which may include penalties for violations of these requirements by sponsoring agencies.~~

18.201.2 Criteria for Establishment or Continuation of Championships. The establishment or continuation of an ~~NCAA~~ **National Collegiate Championship or a Division II e**Championship in a given sport shall be determined on the basis of the requirements in the following bylaws, with sponsorship of a sport based on the Association's records as of September 30 each year (see Bylaws 18.4.1 and 18.5.2).

[18.02 unchanged.]

18.02.1.1 National Collegiate Championship. A National Collegiate Championship for a particular sport is postseason competition conducted by the Association for eligible student-athletes and teams of active member institutions to determine the NCAA champion in that sport for all divisions that do not have a separate division championship in that sport. A National Collegiate Championship is established or continued in accordance with the criteria set forth in ~~Bylaws 18.2.3 and 18.2.4~~ **18.5.2**.

18.02.1.2 Division Championship. A division championship for a particular sport is postseason competition conducted by the Association for eligible student-athletes or teams of active member institutions to determine the division champion in that sport. A division championship is established or continued in accordance with the criteria set forth in ~~Bylaws 18.2.3 and 18.2.4~~ **18.4.1**.

18.02.2 Mixed Team. A mixed team is a varsity intercollegiate sports team on which at least one individual of each gender competes (~~see Bylaw 18.2.8.3~~).

[18.02.2 unchanged.]

~~18.02.3 Open Date. An open date is a regular weekend playing date before the end of an institution's regular football schedule on which an institution is not playing a game, or a date approved by the Management Council, by a two-thirds majority of its members present and voting, to enable an institution to assist financially in meeting an unforeseen hardship situation resulting directly from the institution's intercollegiate athletics activities.~~

~~18.02.4 Postseason Football Bowl Game. A postseason football bowl game is a football contest conducted after the regular football season and involving two teams selected because of their regular-season performance (e.g., won-lost record, conference championship).~~

[18.02.4 through 18.02.5 renumbered as 18.02.2 through 18.02.3, unchanged.]

[18.1 unchanged.]

18.41.21 Institutional Eligibility. **To be eligible to enter a team or an individual in NCAA championship competition the institution shall be an active member in good standing in the appropriate division, or have its sport so classified, and be eligible under the rules of the member conference of which it is a member.**

[18.2 unchanged.]

18.42.1 Student-Athlete Eligibility. To be eligible for NCAA championships, a student-athlete shall meet all applicable individual-eligibility requirements set forth in NCAA legislation. The general and academic eligibility requirements are set forth in detail in Bylaw 14. **An institution that holds membership in a member conference may not enter teams or individuals in an NCAA championship unless they are eligible for such competition under the rules of that conference.**

18.42.1.42 Ineligibility for Use of Banned Drugs. A student-athlete who, as a result of a drug test administered by the NCAA, tests positive for use of a substance in a banned drug class, ~~as set forth in Bylaw 31.2.3.1~~, shall be declared ineligible for further participation in postseason and regular-season competition in accordance with the ineligibility provisions in this bylaw.

18.42.1.42.12 Penalty -- Banned Drug Classes Other Than Cannabinoids and Narcotics. A student-athlete who, as a result of a drug test administered by the NCAA, tests positive for use of a substance in a banned drug class other than cannabinoids and narcotics (in accordance with the testing methods authorized by the Board of Governors), shall be subject to the following:

[18.2.1.2.2-(a) through 18.2.1.2.2-(c) unchanged.]

**18.42.1.42.12.1** Second Positive Test. If a student-athlete who previously tested positive for the use of a substance in a banned drug class other than cannabinoids and narcotics tests positive a second time for the use of a substance in a banned drug class other than cannabinoids and narcotics, they shall lose all remaining regular-season and postseason eligibility in all sports. If a student-athlete who previously tested positive for the use of a substance in a banned drug class other than cannabinoids and narcotics tests positive for the use of a substance in the banned drug class cannabinoids, they shall engage, along with the institution, in an education and management plan for substance misuse as developed and facilitated by the institution (e.g., engagement with campus counseling services, participation in identified programs to address the substance misuse, enrollment in evidence-based educational sessions). If a student-athlete who previously tested positive for the use of a substance in a banned drug class other than cannabinoids and narcotics tests positive for the use of a substance in the banned drug class narcotics, they shall be ineligible for competition for 50 percent of a season in all sports (the first 50 percent of regular-season contests or dates of competition in the season following the positive test). The student-athlete shall remain ineligible until the prescribed penalty is fulfilled and they test negative pursuant to the policies and procedures of the NCAA Drug-Testing Program.

**18.42.1.42.23** Penalty – Narcotics. A student-athlete who, as a result of a drug test administered by the NCAA, tests positive for use of a substance in the banned drug class narcotics (in accordance with the testing methods authorized by the Board of Governors) shall be ineligible for competition during 50 percent of a season of competition in all sports (i.e., 50 percent of all contests or dates of competition in the season following the positive test). The student-athlete shall remain ineligible until the prescribed penalty is fulfilled and they test negative pursuant to the policies and procedures of the NCAA Drug-Testing Program.

**18.42.1.42.23.1** Second Positive Test. If a student-athlete who previously tested positive for the use of a substance in the banned drug class narcotics tests positive a second time for the use of a substance in the banned drug class narcotics or if a student-athlete who previously tested positive for the use of a substance in the banned drug class narcotics tests positive for use of a substance in a banned drug classes other than cannabinoids or narcotics or tests positive for use of a substance in the banned drug class cannabinoids, they shall be subject to the penalties set forth in Bylaws ~~18.4.1.4.1 or 18.4.1.4.3~~ **18.2.1.2.2 or 18.2.1.2.4**.

**18.42.1.42.34** Penalty – Cannabinoids. A student-athlete who, as a result of a drug test administered by the NCAA, tests positive for use of a substance in the banned drug class cannabinoids (in accordance with the testing methods authorized by the Board of Governors) shall engage, along with the institution, in an education and management plan for substance misuse as developed or facilitated by the institution (e.g., engagement with campus counseling services, participation in identified programs to address the substance misuse, enrollment in evidence-based educational sessions). If a student-athlete who previously tested positive for the use of a substance in the banned drug class cannabinoids tests positive for use of a substance other than cannabinoids (substance in a banned drug classes other than cannabinoids or narcotics, substance in the banned drug class narcotics), they shall be subject to the penalties set forth in Bylaws ~~18.4.1.4.1 or 18.4.1.4.2~~ **18.2.1.2.2 or 18.2.1.2.3**.

**18.42.1.42.34.1** Second Positive Test. If a student-athlete who previously tested positive for the use of a substance in the banned drug class cannabinoids tests positive a second time for the use of a substance in the banned drug class cannabinoids, the institution must attest that the student-athlete was compliant with the education and management plan required following the student-athlete's first positive test, as specified by the NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports' policies and procedures, and has agreed to continue to engage in an education and management plan for substance misuse as developed or facilitated by their institution and designed to mitigate any identified at-risk behavior (e.g., engagement with campus counseling services, participation in identified programs to address substance misuse, enrollment in evidence-based educational sessions). If a student-athlete who previously tested positive for the use of a substance in the banned drug class cannabinoids tests positive for use of a substance other than cannabinoids (substance in a banned drug classes other than cannabinoids or narcotics, substance in the banned drug class narcotics), they shall be subject to the penalties set forth in Bylaws 18.4.1.4.1 or 18.4.1.4.2.

**18.42.1.42.34.1.1** Failure to Attest. If an institution cannot or does not attest, the student-athlete shall be considered ineligible for competition during 25-percent of a season in all sports (25-percent of the NCAA Bylaw 17 maximum regular-season contests or dates of competition).

**18.42.1.42.34.2** Third Positive Test and Beyond. If a student-athlete who previously tested positive for the use of a substance in the banned drug class cannabinoids tests positive a third time or more for the use of a substance in the banned drug class cannabinoids, the institution must attest that the student-athlete was compliant with the education and management plan required following the student-athlete's first positive test,

as specified by the NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports' policies and procedures, and has agreed to continue to engage in an education and management plan for substance misuse as developed or facilitated by their institution and designed to mitigate any identified at-risk behavior (e.g., engagement with campus counseling services, participation in identified programs to address substance misuse, enrollment in evidence-based educational sessions). If a student-athlete who previously tested positive for the use of a substance in the banned drug class cannabinoids tests positive for use of a substance other than cannabinoids (substance in a banned drug classes other than cannabinoids or narcotics, substance in the banned drug class narcotics), they shall be subject to the penalties set forth in Bylaws ~~18.4.1.4.1 or 18.4.1.4.2~~ **18.2.1.2.2 or 18.2.1.2.3**.

~~18.42.1.42.34~~ **18.2.1.42.34** Failure to Attest. If the institution cannot or does not attest, the student-athlete shall be considered ineligible for competition during 50-percent of a season in all sports (50-percent of the NCAA Bylaw 17 maximum regular-season contests or dates of competition).

~~18.42.1.42.45~~ **18.2.1.42.45** Breach of NCAA Drug-Testing Program Protocol. A student-athlete who is in breach of the NCAA drug-testing program protocol (e.g., no show) shall be considered to have tested positive for the use of any drug other than a cannabinoid or narcotic.

~~18.42.1.42.45.1~~ **18.2.1.42.45.1** Tampering With a Drug-Test Sample. A student-athlete who is involved in a case of clearly observed tampering with an NCAA drug test sample (e.g., urine substitution and related methods), as documented per NCAA drug-testing protocol by a drug-testing crew member, shall be subject to the following:

[18.2.1.2.5.1-(a) through 18.2.1.2.5.1-(c) unchanged.]

~~18.42.1.42.56~~ **18.2.1.42.56** Transfers. If the student-athlete transfers to another NCAA institution while ineligible, the institution from which the student-athlete transferred must notify the student-athlete's new institution that the student-athlete is ineligible. If the student-athlete transfers to a non-NCAA institution while ineligible and competes in intercollegiate competition during the prescribed period of ineligibility at a non-NCAA institution:

[18.2.1.2.6-(a) through 18.2.1.2.6-(c) unchanged.]

~~18.42.1.42.67~~ **18.2.1.42.67** Appeals. An institution may appeal the penalty to the Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports (or a designated subcommittee), as specified by the committee's policies and procedures. The committee determination shall be final, binding and conclusive and shall not be subject to further review by an other authority.

~~18.42.1.42.8~~ **18.2.1.42.8** Non-NCAA Athletics Organization's Positive Drug Test. The Board of Governors shall authorize methods for drug testing any student-athlete who has disclosed in the student-athlete statement (see Bylaw 14.1.3.1) that they have a positive drug test administered by a non-NCAA athletics organization that has adopted the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) code. A student-athlete under a drug-testing suspension from a national or international sports governing body that has adopted the WADA code shall not participate in NCAA intercollegiate competition for the duration of the suspension.

[18.2.1.1 renumbered as 18.2.2.1, unchanged.]

~~18.2.2 Division Championship. A division championship in a particular sport may be established by a majority vote of the Board of Directors in Division I or, in Divisions II and III, a simple majority of all members of that division present and voting at an annual Convention subject to the requirements, standards and conditions regarding the required number of members sponsoring the sport as prescribed in this bylaw.~~

[18.2.2 unchanged.]

~~18.2.3 Championships Existing During 1993-94. A National Collegiate Championship or a division championship that existed during the 1993-94 academic year may be continued if at least 40 member institutions sponsor the sport.~~

~~18.2.4.3 Sponsorship Criteria.~~

~~18.2.4.3.1 Minimum Period. The applicable minimum sponsorship number must exist for one academic year in order for a championship to be established. Legislation to establish the championship may be proposed during the year in which the minimum sponsorship number exists. Varsity sports sponsored before August 1, 1994, shall count toward the minimum one- or two-year sponsorship requirement.~~

~~18.2.4.3.2 National Collegiate and Division Championship in Same Sport. If a National Collegiate Championship and a division championship exist in the same sport, sponsorship of the sport in the division in which the division~~

~~championship is conducted shall not count toward the minimum sponsorship number for the National Collegiate Championship.~~

~~18.2.5 Establishment of Single Championship in Sport. If only one championship is established or continued in accordance with Bylaws 18.2.3 and 18.2.4, it shall be a National Collegiate Championship for which any active member institution in good standing can be eligible.~~

~~18.2.6 Establishment of Three Championships in Sport. If a National Collegiate Championship and two division championships exist in the same sport, the National Collegiate Championship automatically shall become a division championship for the remaining division that does not sponsor a division championship in that sport.~~

~~18.2.7 Establishment of Two Championships in Sport. If a National Collegiate Championship and one division championship exist in the same sport, only the members of the division sponsoring the division championship may participate in the division championship, and that division's membership may not participate in the National Collegiate Championship in that sport.~~

~~18.2.8 Determination of Sponsorship Requirements.~~

~~18.2.8.1 Single-Gender Athletics Programs. For purposes of meeting the required minimums set forth in Bylaws 18.2.3 and 18.2.4, member institutions sponsoring no varsity intercollegiate athletics programs for men shall not be included in making calculations concerning men's championships, and member institutions sponsoring no varsity intercollegiate athletics programs for women shall not be included in making calculations concerning women's championships.~~

~~18.2.8.2 Separate Men's and Women's Teams, Same Sport. For purposes of meeting the required minimums set forth in Bylaws 18.2.3 and 18.2.4 for a combined men's and women's championship, separate varsity intercollegiate men's and women's teams in the same sport at a member institution shall be counted separately.~~

~~18.2.8.3 Mixed Team. For purposes of meeting the required minimums set forth in Bylaws 18.2.3 and 18.2.4, a mixed team (as defined in Bylaw 18.02.2) shall be counted as one team. A mixed team shall count toward the minimum-sponsorship percentage for men's championships.~~

~~18.2.9 Subdivision Requirements. If a division subdivides for the administration of a sport, resulting in less than the applicable minimum number of the division's active members sponsoring the sport on a varsity intercollegiate basis in that subdivision, the subdivision shall meet the requirement within three years of the date the subdivision was created. It may establish and conduct a championship in the interim.~~

18.3 Current Championships. The Association currently administers 90 national championships. There are 11 National Collegiate Championships. Additionally, there are 26 Division I championships, 25 Division II championships and 28 Division III championships. (See ~~Bylaw 31.02.2 for information about the classification and terminology of championships and see~~ Bylaw 9.3.10.1 for the voting requirements for the establishment of a new championship.) The current championships are as follows:

18.3.1 National Collegiate Championships (11).

18.3.2 NCAA Division II Championships (25).

18.4 ~~Eligibility for~~**Administration of Division II** Championships.

18.24.41 Minimum Sponsorship for **Division II** Championships.

~~18.4.1.1 Institution's Responsibility. The responsibility of an institution to withhold from all intercollegiate competition a student-athlete who is ineligible under any NCAA legislation is set forth in Bylaw 14.12.1.~~

~~18.4.1.2 Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement Authority. The Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement shall have final authority to determine all matters pertaining to the eligibility of student-athletes competing in the various NCAA championships submitted by member institutions (see Bylaw 14.13).~~

~~18.4.1.3 Protest of Eligibility Status. If a student-athlete has been certified by the institution as eligible to compete in an NCAA championship and the student-athlete's eligibility is protested, the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement shall not rule on such a protest received during the period beginning 24 hours before the event and ending with the conclusion of the event. (See Bylaw 31.2.2.3 regarding protests received during a break in the continuity of a championship.)~~

18.24.41.1 Men's Sports. A ~~National Collegiate~~**Division II** Championship ~~or a division championship~~ may be established in a men's sport if at least 50 institutions sponsor the sport.

~~18.24.41.2~~ Women's Sports. A *National Collegiate* **Division II** championship *or a division championship* may be established in a women's sport if at least 40 institutions sponsor the sport.

~~18.24.101.3~~ Failure to Meet Minimum Sponsorship Requirements. A **Division II** championship shall be discontinued automatically at the conclusion of the academic year in which it falls below the applicable minimum sponsorship number set forth in Bylaws ~~18.2.3 or 18.2.4~~ **18.4.1.1 or 18.4.1.2**.

~~18.24.101.13.1~~ Exception -- Olympic Sports. A *National Collegiate* **Division II** championship *or a division championship* in any Olympic sport shall be exempt from the minimum-sponsorship requirements of Bylaws ~~18.2.3 and 18.2.4~~ **18.4.1.1 and 18.4.1.2**. The membership may adopt specific legislation to discontinue the championship in an Olympic sport.

~~18.24.101.23.2~~ Exception -- Men's and Women's Lacrosse. A *National Collegiate* **Division II** championship *or division championship* in the sports of men's and women's lacrosse shall be exempt from the minimum-sponsorship requirements of Bylaws ~~18.2.3 and 18.2.4~~ **18.4.1.1 and 18.4.1.2**.

#### **18.4.2 Championship Site Selection.**

~~18.4.1.4.7 Banned Drugs and Drug-Testing Methods. The Board of Governors shall adopt a list of banned drug classes and shall authorize methods for drug testing of student-athletes on a year-round basis. The list of banned drug classes and the procedure for informing member institutions about authorized methods for drug testing are set forth in Bylaw 31.2.3.~~

**18.4.3.3.2 Impact of Nullification on Automatic Qualification for Use of Ineligible Player(s). The Championships Committee may impose a penalty on an institution's team for permitting ineligible student-athlete(s) to compete in intercollegiate competition (see Bylaws 18.02.1 and 18.4.3.2 regarding nullification penalties for permitting an ineligible student-athlete to compete in intercollegiate competition). An institution that receives a nullification penalty may be denied the right to participate in the appropriate NCAA championship.**

**18.4.3.4.2 Impact of Nullification on Earned Access for Use of Ineligible Player(s). The Championships Committee may impose a penalty on an institution's team for permitting ineligible student-athlete(s) to compete in intercollegiate competition (see Bylaws 18.02.1 and 18.4.3.2 regarding nullification penalties for permitting an ineligible student-athlete to compete in intercollegiate competition). An institution that receives a nullification penalty may be denied the right to participate in the NCAA championship.**

[18.4.2.1 renumbered as 18.4.4.1, unchanged.]

~~18.4.2.1.3 Petitioning for Division I Classification. A Division II institution petitioning for Division I institutional membership or eligibility in a sport (in accordance with Bylaw 7) shall have operated in conformity with the requirements of Bylaw 18.4.2.2(a) for a period of two years before the effective date of its Division I membership or be ineligible for Division I championships.~~

[18.4.2.2 renumbered as 18.4.4.2, unchanged.]

[18.4.3 renumbered as 18.4.5, unchanged.]

#### **18.5 National Collegiate Championships.**

~~18.5.1 Division Championship. To be eligible for automatic qualification into any Division II Championship, a conference shall meet the requirements set forth in Bylaw 31.3.4.~~

~~18.25.1~~ National Collegiate Championship. A National Collegiate Championship for which any active member in good standing is eligible (per Bylaw 7.3.2) may be established by action of all three divisions acting through each division's governance structure, subject to the requirements, standards and conditions regarding the required number of members sponsoring the sport as prescribed in this bylaw.

#### **18.5.2 Minimum Sponsorship for National Collegiate Championships.**

**18.5.2.1 Men's Sports. A National Collegiate Championship may be established in a men's sport if at least 50 institutions sponsor the sport.**

**18.5.2.2 Women's Sports. A National Collegiate Championship may be established in a women's sport if at least 40 institutions sponsor the sport.**

**18.5.2.3 Failure to Meet Minimum Sponsorship Requirements. A championship shall be discontinued automatically at the conclusion of the academic year in which it falls below the applicable minimum sponsorship number set forth in Bylaws 18.5.2.1 or 18.5.2.2.**

**18.5.2.3.1 Exception -- Olympic Sports. A National Collegiate Championship in any Olympic sport shall be exempt from the minimum-sponsorship requirements of Bylaws 18.5.2.1 and 18.5.2.2. The membership may adopt specific legislation to discontinue the championship in an Olympic sport.**

**18.5.2.3.2 Exception -- Men's and Women's Lacrosse. A National Collegiate Championship in the sports of men's and women's lacrosse shall be exempt from the minimum-sponsorship requirements of Bylaws 18.5.2.1 and 18.5.2.2.**

~~18.25.32.14~~ National Collegiate and Division **II** Championship in Same Sport. If a National Collegiate Championship and a ~~division~~**Division II** championship exist in the same sport, **Division II** sponsorship of the sport ~~in the division in which the division championship is conducted~~ shall not count toward the minimum sponsorship number for the National Collegiate Championship.

18.5.3 Automatic Qualification ~~by Conference~~.

18.5.23.1 National Collegiate Championship. To be eligible for automatic qualification into any National Collegiate Championship, a conference shall:

[18.5.3.1-(a) unchanged.]

- (b) Meet all applicable requirements for conference automatic qualification into any National Collegiate Championship as set forth in Bylaw ~~31.3.4~~**18.5.3.1.1**.

**18.5.3.1.2 Limitation on Automatic-Qualifying Positions. A member conference that satisfies the general requirements for automatic qualification is eligible for one automatic qualification per applicable sport.**

[18.5.3.1.1 renumbered as 18.6.2.1.1, unchanged.]

[18.5.4 renumbered as 18.6.3, unchanged.]

18.67 Playing Rules for Championships. In sports in which the Association maintains rules committees, the rules adopted by said committees shall govern the conduct of all NCAA-sponsored events in those sports. ~~in those sports in which the Association does not maintain rules committees, the rules to be used are specified in Bylaw 31.1.6.~~

[18.6.1 through 18.6.2 renumbered as 18.7.1 through 18.7.2, unchanged.]

**D. Administrative:** Amend 31, as follows:

~~31~~**18.02.1** Automatic Qualification. Automatic qualification is the automatic entry into a championship field by a team or individual student-athletes representing a member conference recommended by the appropriate sports committee and approved by the Championships Committee (see Bylaw 31.3.4).

~~31~~**18.02.34** Misconduct. Misconduct in an NCAA championship is any act of dishonesty, unsportsmanlike conduct, unprofessional behavior or breach of law, occurring from the time the championship field is announced through the end of the championship that discredits the event or intercollegiate athletics.

~~31~~**18.02.45** Nullification. Nullification is a penalty imposed on an institution by the Championships Committee for permitting an ineligible student-athlete to compete in intercollegiate competition.

~~31~~**18.2** Eligibility for Championships.

~~31~~**18.2.1.71** Notification of Ineligibility. An institution shall advise the NCAA championships staff if a student-athlete who has participated in regular-season competition becomes ineligible before the date on which the governing sports committee selects championship participants, as indicated in the appropriate championships handbook.

~~31~~**18.2.31.72.1** Banned Drugs. The following is the list of banned-drug classes, which aligns with the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) list of prohibited classes, with the exception of the glucocorticoid class. The Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports (or a designated subcommittee) has the authority to identify banned drugs within each class. The institution and student-athletes shall be held accountable for all drugs within the banned-drug classes regardless of whether they have specifically identified.

[18.2.1.2.1-(a) through 18.2.1.2.1-(i) unchanged.]

~~31~~**18.2.31.42.1.1** Drugs and Procedures Subject to Restrictions. The use of the following drugs and/or procedures is subject to certain restrictions and may or may not be permissible, depending on limitations expressed in these guidelines and/or quantities of these substances used:

[18.2.1.2.1.1-(a) through 18.2.1.2.1.1-(f) unchanged.]

~~31~~**18.2.31.2.9** Medical Exceptions. Exceptions to the prohibition on use of any substance in a banned-drug class may be provided to a student-athlete, as specified in the policies and procedures of the Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports.

~~31~~**18.2.31.32.10** Methods for Drug Testing. The methods and any future modifications authorized by the Board of Governors for drug testing of student-athletes shall be posted to the NCAA website. Copies of the modifications shall be available to member institutions.

~~31~~**18.2.31.42.11** Events Identified for Drug Tests. The Board of Governors shall determine the regular-season and postseason competition for which drug tests shall be made and the procedures to be followed in disclosing its determinations.

~~31~~**18.2.31.52.12** Individual Eligibility – Team Sanctions. Executive regulations pertaining to team-eligibility sanctions for positive tests resulting from the NCAA drug-testing program shall apply only in the following situation: If a student-athlete is declared ineligible before an NCAA team championship or a certified postseason football game and the institution knowingly allows them to participate, all team-ineligibility sanctions shall apply (i.e., the team shall be required to forfeit its awards and any revenue distribution it may have earned, and the team's and student-athlete's performances shall be deleted from NCAA records). In the case of certified postseason football contests, the team's and student-athlete's performances shall be deleted from NCAA records.

~~31~~**18.2.12** Institutional Eligibility. To be eligible to enter teams or individual student-athletes in NCAA championships, an institution shall *recognize the sport involved as a varsity intercollegiate sport (see Bylaw 17.02.16) and shall meet the institutional requirements set forth in Bylaw 18.4.2 applicable to the division in which the institution is a member or for which it is petitioning for eligibility in a sport***be an active member in good standing and list the sport on the NCAA sports sponsorship report by the established deadline for the applicable year (see Bylaw 18.2.2.1).** An institution that holds membership in a member conference may not enter teams or individuals in an NCAA championship unless they are eligible for such competition under the rules of that conference [~~see Bylaw 18.4.2.1(a)~~], as well as any additional requirements specified in the applicable pre-championship manual.

~~31~~**18.2.12.21** Deadline. The institutional eligibility requirements for entry into NCAA championships (~~see Bylaw 18.4.2~~) must be met by the following dates:

[18.2.2.1-(a) through 18.2.2.1-(c) unchanged.]

~~31~~**18.2.12.32** Deadline Waivers. Institutions that fail to meet a deadline for institutional eligibility in NCAA championships may appeal to the Championships Committee for a waiver. This waiver is available only in those instances when the institution officially sponsors the sport and fails to list the sport on the NCAA sports sponsorship report prior to the appropriate deadline. If the Championships Committee grants the appeal, then the institution's eligibility may be restored for NCAA championships.

~~31~~**18.14.32.21.1** Criteria for Regional Site Determination. The top-seeded team, as determined by the governing sports committee, shall be provided the opportunity to host the regional competition, provided the specific criteria that have been developed by the governing sports committee have been met as well as ~~the following~~**any** general site-selection criteria:**outlined in Championships Committee policy.**

~~(a) Quality and availability of the facility and other necessary accommodations;~~

~~(b) Revenue potential (e.g., a financial guarantee or guideline that ensures fiscal responsibility and is appropriate for the particular event, as recommended by the governing sports committee and approved by the Championships Committee); and~~

~~(c) Attendance history and potential.~~

~~31~~**18.4.12.2** Host Institution's Responsibility. The host institution shall administer the finances of an NCAA championship in accordance with ~~this bylaw~~**championship policy** and consistent with the institution's championship budget, as submitted to and approved by the governing sports committee and the Championships Committee.

~~31~~**18.34.3** Criteria for Selection of Participants.

~~3118.14.3.21.1.1~~ Team Championships Pairings. Sports committees shall pair teams strictly within their regions.

~~3118.34.3.12~~ Criteria for Selection in Team Sports. To be considered for championship selection, a team must satisfy all scheduling requirements as outlined by championships policy in that sport (e.g., minimum number of Division II or in-region contests). The following criteria shall be employed by a governing sports committee in selecting participants for NCAA championships competition:

[18.4.3.2-(a) through 18.4.3.2-(d) unchanged.]

~~3118.34.43.3~~ Automatic Qualification. Each governing sports committee may recommend annually to the Championships Committee those multisport voting conferences that should receive **one** automatic qualification **position** for their teams into NCAA championships conducted in team sports, timed individual sports and other individual sports as identified in Bylaw 17.02.16. The decision of the Championships Committee shall be final. *Before recommending that a conference receive automatic qualification, a governing sports committee shall ensure that the member conference meets the requirements specified in Bylaws 31.3.4.1 and 31.3.4.2.*

~~3118.34.43.13.1~~ Requirements -- Division Championship. To be eligible for automatic qualification in any Division II championship, a member conference must meet the following general requirements:

(a) Been a multisport voting member conference of the Association for five consecutive academic years (see Bylaw 7.3.5.1.3.); **and**

[18.4.3.3.1-(b) unchanged.]

*Once a conference has satisfied the requirements for automatic qualification in a Division II championship set forth in Bylaws 31.3.4.1-(a) and 31.3.4.1-(b), the conference must also meet the following criteria:*

~~(c) Conference Membership. All institutions may hold membership in only that conference in the sport in which automatic qualification is sought and may participate in only that conference's process to determine the automatic qualifier.~~

~~(d) Conference Competition and Selection of Champion. Conference competition conducted in accordance with Bylaw 7.1.4.2 must be conducted in the applicable sport and the conference champion in that sport must be determined not later than the date on which participants are selected for the NCAA championship, either by regular in-season conference competition or a conference meet or tournament, as indicated at the time of application.~~

~~(e) Conference With Subdivisions and Selection of Champion. A conference may establish subdivisions and conduct competition within each subdivision to determine a conference champion, provided each subdivision consists of at least four members. Conferences with subdivisions of four members must conduct double round-robin competition within each subdivision, plus a postseason tournament, to determine their champion. Conferences with subdivisions of five or more members may conduct either single or double round-robin competition within each subdivision, plus a postseason tournament, to determine their champion.~~

~~(f) Conference Selection of Champion Due to Unforeseen Circumstances.~~

~~(1) Championship That Results in Tie. In the event of a tie for the conference championship, the conference shall have the responsibility of determining which team or individual shall represent the conference in NCAA competition. If a playoff is held, such competition shall be considered conference competition, not NCAA competition.~~

~~(2) Unexpected Termination of Championship. If a conference's competition to determine its automatic qualifier is unexpectedly terminated (e.g., due to inclement weather), the conference may designate its qualifier, provided it has established objective criteria for making that designation and has communicated that information to the appropriate sports committee by a specified deadline.~~

~~(g) Conference Champion Ineligible, Declines to or Cannot Compete. All eligible member institutions must agree to participate in the appropriate NCAA championship. If a conference's automatic qualifier is ineligible to compete, declines to compete or cannot compete for any reason, automatic qualification shall be withdrawn for that year, and the remaining conference members shall be considered at large. Conference policy shall determine how a conference's automatic qualifier is determined for championship selection.~~

~~(h) Conference Champion Declines to Compete Based on Religious Practices. Automatic qualification for a conference shall not be withdrawn if a conference champion declines to compete in an NCAA championship for reasons related to written religious policies against competition on certain days. Under such circumstances, the~~

~~conference's second-place team (as determined by the conference), shall receive the automatic bid to the NCAA championship.~~

- ~~(i) Quality of Competition. Competition in the applicable sport must be of sufficient quality to warrant automatic qualification. The criteria for determining the quality of competition shall be win-loss record and strength of schedule of both the conference as a whole and its individual member institutions.~~
- ~~(j) Conference Compliance Requirement. The conference must maintain and actively enforce compliance with eligibility rules at least as stringent as those in Bylaw 14 applicable to its members.~~
- ~~(k) Impact of Nullification on Automatic Qualification for Use of Ineligible Player(s). The Championships Committee may impose a penalty on an institution's team for permitting ineligible student-athlete(s) to compete in intercollegiate competition (see Bylaws 31.02.4 and 31.3.3 regarding nullification penalties for permitting an ineligible student-athlete to compete in intercollegiate competition). An institution that receives a nullification penalty may be denied the right to participate in the appropriate NCAA championship.~~

~~3118.34.43.73.3~~ Limitation on Automatic-Qualifying Positions. A member conference that satisfies the general requirements for automatic qualification is eligible for one automatic qualification per applicable sport (see Bylaws 31.3.4.1 and 31.3.4.2).

~~3118.34.53.4~~ Earned Access – Football. The Division II Football Committee shall award earned access to the NCAA Division II Football Championship to Division II football-playing conferences for which at least one member institution finishes no more than two spots lower than the super region bracket size in the final NCAA Division II football regional ranking. To be awarded earned access, the conference shall have a minimum of six active football-playing members. The earned access shall go to the conference's highest-ranked team in the final regional Top 10 poll.

~~3118.34.53.74.1~~ Requirements. To be eligible for earned access to the football championship, a member conference must meet the following general requirements:

[18.4.3.4.1(a) unchanged.]

- (b) Have at least six active members that sponsor football at the varsity intercollegiate level in which earned access is sought and that are eligible for the NCAA championship, and have had at least six active members that are eligible for the NCAA championship participate in the process that determines possible earned access. Institutions that are affiliate members of a Division II football-playing conference may be used to satisfy the sponsorship requirement for earned access in football.

~~[Once a conference has satisfied the requirements for earned access set forth in Bylaw 31.3.5.1(a) and Bylaw 31.3.5.1(b) the conference must also meet the following criteria:]~~

- ~~(c) Conference Membership. All institutions may hold membership in only that conference in football in which earned access is sought and may participate in only that conference's process to determine if earned access is provided.~~
- ~~(d) Conference Compliance Requirement. The conference must maintain and actively enforce compliance with eligibility rules at least as stringent as those in Bylaw 14 applicable to its members.~~
- ~~(e) Impact of Nullification on Earned Access for Use of Ineligible Player(s). The Championships Committee may impose a penalty on an institution's team for permitting ineligible student-athlete(s) to compete in intercollegiate competition (see Bylaws 31.02.4 and 31.3.3 regarding nullification penalties for permitting an ineligible student-athlete to complete in intercollegiate competition). An institution that receives a nullification penalty may be denied the right to participate in the NCAA championship.~~

~~3118.34.63.5~~ Selection of Balance of Championship Field. Once the official representative(s) of each qualifying conference is determined, the governing sports committee responsible for selection of the balance of the championship field shall consider objectively and without prejudice the competitive records of all other eligible student-athletes and teams (including representatives of the other members of the conferences receiving automatic qualification). To the best of its ability, the committee shall select the most highly qualified individuals and teams to complete the championship field in accordance with the regional structure, if any, approved for the particular championship.

~~3118.35.43.21.1~~ Requirements – National Collegiate Championship. To be eligible for automatic qualification in a National Collegiate Championship, a member conference must meet the following general requirements:

[18.5.3.1.1(a) through 18.5.3.1.1(d) unchanged.]

~~31.18.35.74~~ Institution Trademarks. Participation in a National Collegiate Championship constitutes acquiescence by the member institution that the Association may use the institution's name, mascot and other identifying marks in championship-related activities, including television, promotion, licensing and merchandising programs incident to the championship. Revenues derived from such activities, less expenses, will be remitted to the member institution.

~~31.18.16.61.1~~ Non-NCAA Rules, Men's Sports. In those men's sports in which the Association does not publish rules, the NCAA championships shall be conducted according to the following, except where those rules are superseded by modifications recommended by the appropriate governing sports committee and approved by the Playing Rules Oversight Panel (see Bylaw 18.6):

[18.6.1-(a) through 18.6.1-(g) unchanged.]

~~31.18.16.62.2~~ Non-NCAA Rules, Women's Sports. In those women's sports in which the Association does not publish rules, the NCAA championships shall be conducted according to the following, except where those rules are superseded by modifications recommended by the appropriate governing sports committee and approved by the Playing Rules Oversight Panel (see Bylaw 18.6):

[18.6.2-(a) through 18.6.2-(h) unchanged.]

## 31 Executive Regulations

### ~~31.01 General Principles.~~

~~31.01.1 Names of Championships.~~ All NCAA championships (see Bylaw 18.3) have formal designations that identify their appropriate category and sport classification (see Bylaw 31.02.2). The name of each championship is the property of the Association (see Bylaw 31.6).

~~31.01.2 Postseason Championship Opportunities.~~ NCAA championships are intended to provide national-championship competition among the best eligible student-athletes and teams at the conclusion of the respective sport seasons, with consideration for regional structures that may be approved for certain championships.

~~31.01.3 Size of Championships Fields.~~ The size of all NCAA championships fields shall be established by the Championships Committee to provide for efficient management of the events, adequate NCAA championship opportunities relative to the nationwide quality of competition and sound economic administration of the financial resources of the Association and its championships. (See Bylaw 31.3.1 for the criteria to be considered in establishing the size of the championship field.)

~~31.01.4 Economy of Operation.~~ Every sports committee (see Figure 21-1) and games committee (Bylaw 31.1.2) shall exercise all possible economy in the conduct of an NCAA championship.

### ~~31.02 Definitions and Applications.~~

#### ~~31.02.2 Championships Classification and Terminology.~~

~~31.02.2.1 Team Championships.~~ Team championships are those conducted for the team sports (see Bylaw 17.02.16.1). The title of a team championship is always singular and is identified as a National Collegiate Championship or a division championship (e.g., National Collegiate Women's Rifle Championship, Division II Men's Basketball Championship).

~~31.02.2.2 Individual-Team Championships.~~ Individual-team championships are those conducted for the individual sports (see Bylaw 17.02.16.2). The title of an individual-team championship is always plural, reflecting the fact that both individual and team championships are determined (e.g., National Collegiate Men's Gymnastics Championships, Division II Women's Tennis Championships).

### ~~31.1 Administration of NCAA Championships.~~

~~31.1.1 Authority of Championships and Sports Committees.~~ As specified in Bylaw 18.1, all NCAA championships shall be conducted in accordance with the general policies established by the Championships Committee, the Management Council, the Presidents Council and/or the Board of Governors and shall be under the control, direction and supervision of the appropriate sports committees, subject to the standards and conditions set forth in these executive regulations. Additional policies of an administrative nature are set forth in the respective championships handbooks and are to be followed in the administration of NCAA championships.

~~31.1.1.1 Appeal of Decisions of Sports Committees.~~ An appeal of a decision of a governing sports committee, or a subcommittee designated by it, concerning questions of individual or institutional eligibility or the conduct of a championship will not be considered by the Championships Committee at any time during the championship or 48 hours immediately before the championship. During such period, the governing sports committee, or a

~~subcommittee designated by it, shall be the final authority in acting upon appeals concerning the conduct of the championship, subject to the provisions of Bylaw 31.2 regarding institutional and individual eligibility questions.~~

~~31.1.1.2 Appeal of Nullification Decisions of Championships Committee. An appeal of a nullification will be considered by the Championship Committee, or a subcommittee designated by it, within 72 business hours (8 a.m.-5 p.m. in all time zones) of a nullification decision. During such period, the Championships Committee, or a subcommittee designated by it, shall be the final authority acting on appeals concerning nullification decisions.~~

~~31.1.1.3 Waivers. The NCAA president shall be authorized to grant waivers of executive regulations governing the conduct of an NCAA championship when warranted by special and unusual circumstances.~~

~~31.1.2 Games Committee. The governing sports committee shall appoint a games committee to supervise actively the conduct of each championship session. The games committee conducting any NCAA championship shall limit participation to eligible student-athletes and may limit the number of entries or reject any application for entry in any event in order that the competition shall best promote the welfare and interest of the sport involved.~~

~~31.1.3 Sites and Dates. The governing sports committees recommend to the Championships Committee the sites and dates for all NCAA championships.~~

~~31.1.3.1 Championships Committee Approval. Championships Committee approval shall be obtained before final site commitments are made to the host institution or any other individual or organization associated with the management of an NCAA championship. However, in the sports of baseball, basketball, field hockey, football, ice hockey, lacrosse, soccer, softball and volleyball, the governing sports committees are authorized to select sites for preliminary rounds of competition without prior Championships Committee approval.~~

~~31.1.3.2 Site Selection. The governing sports committees shall evaluate prospective sites for NCAA championships in terms of the specific criteria approved by the Championships Committee. The division championships committees may assign specific priorities to these criteria for their respective championships. These shall be specified in the appropriate pre-championships manuals. A governing sports committee that desires to use additional criteria shall obtain Championships Committee approval before doing so.~~

~~31.1.3.2.2 Criteria for National Championship Site Determination. The following criteria are to be used in the evaluation of sites for all national championships:~~

- ~~(a) Quality and availability of the facility and other necessary accommodations;~~
- ~~(b) Revenue potential (e.g., financial guarantee or guideline that ensures fiscal responsibility and is appropriate for the particular event, as recommended by the governing sports committee and approved by the Championships Committee);~~
- ~~(c) Attendance history and potential; and~~
- ~~(d) Geographical location (e.g., a site that minimizes travel expenses).~~

~~31.1.3.2.3 Nonpredetermined Site. When a championship site is not predetermined, the governing sports committee may award the site to the higher-ranked team if the above criteria, and any priorities established by the respective division championships committee, are met.~~

~~31.1.3.2.4 On-Campus Versus Off-Campus Sites. Preference shall be given to conducting competition on the grounds or in the buildings of educational institutions unless there are compelling reasons, based on evaluation of the criteria in Bylaw 31.1.3.2.1 (which shall be applied to both on-campus and off-campus sites), to conduct the competition in an off-campus facility. In those instances in which it is advisable to conduct the competition at off-campus sites, the host institution(s) shall have complete control, supervision and management of the facility being used.~~

~~31.1.3.2.5 Reconsideration of Host Institution. The Championships Committee may reconsider the designation of a host institution for an NCAA championship if that institution's team or individual student-athletes are not eligible to compete in the championship.~~

~~31.1.3.3 Concluding Dates. NCAA championships competition shall be concluded not later than May 31 each year unless later dates are approved by the Championships Committee.~~

~~31.1.4 Day of Competition. NCAA championships competition may be scheduled or conducted on any day, provided the governing sports committee has received the prior approval of the Championships Committee and the following regulations are applied.~~

~~31.1.4.1 Institutional Policy. If a participating institution has a written policy against competition on a particular day for religious reasons, it shall inform the NCAA national office prior to September 1 of each academic year in order for it or one of its student-athletes to be excused from competing on that day. The championship schedule shall be adjusted to accommodate that institution.~~

~~31.1.4.2 Individual Championships. In individual championships, an athlete must compete according to the institution's policy regarding Sunday competition (i.e., if the institution has no policy against Sunday competition, the athlete shall compete on Sunday if required by the schedule).~~

~~31.1.4.3 Rescheduling, Emergency or Competitive Development. If an emergency develops that causes postponement of an NCAA championship, or if the competitive situation dictates a more expeditious completion of the meet or tournament, Sunday competition may be permitted, provided the competing institutions are agreeable and advance approval is obtained from the Division II Championships Committee or the relevant sports committee.~~

~~31.1.4.4 Noon Start Time. NCAA competition conducted on Sunday may not begin before noon, local time.~~

~~31.1.4.4.1 Exception. Sports committees may reschedule competition to begin prior to noon on Sunday if extenuating circumstances arise (e.g., weather) that would otherwise cause postponement of the championship.~~

~~31.1.4.4.2 Exception – Women's Rowing Championship. In instances where the final day of the women's rowing championship occurs on a Sunday, competition may begin prior to noon.~~

~~31.1.4.4.3 Exception – Men's and Women's Fencing Championships. Competition conducted on Sunday in the men's and women's fencing championships may begin prior to noon.~~

~~31.1.5 Squad Limits. In any championship where a squad limit has been established by the governing sports committee or by the bylaws, the number of eligible student-athletes in competitive uniform at the start of the competition shall not exceed the prescribed number. An institution that is advised that it is in violation of this regulation and that does not promptly conform to it automatically shall forfeit the competition. There shall be no inordinate delay of the competition to allow the institution to conform to the rule.~~

~~31.1.6 Playing Rules.~~

~~31.1.7 Medical Disqualification. The student-athlete's team physician shall examine each athlete injured during NCAA competition and make a recommendation to the athlete, the coach and the chair of the governing sports committee, or the chair's designated representative, as to the advisability of continued participation or disqualification of the athlete. In the absence of said team physician, the NCAA tournament physician, as recommended by the host institution and approved by the governing sports committee, shall examine the injured athlete and make a recommendation as noted above. The chair of the governing sports committee, or the chair's designated representative, shall be responsible for enforcement of the medical recommendation if it involves disqualification.~~

~~31.1.8 Misconduct. Each games committee shall hold a pretournament meeting with the coaches of participating institutions to review and explain the policies related to misconduct (as defined in Bylaw 31.02.3).~~

~~31.1.8.1 Hearing Opportunity. An act of misconduct may be found upon an administrative hearing granted to the student-athlete or the institutional representative involved by the Appeals Subcommittee.~~

~~31.1.8.2 Misconduct Incident to Competition. If the act of misconduct occurs during the competition, under normal circumstances the individual shall be allowed to complete the competition in which they are participating at the time of the incident. An administrative hearing shall be held at the conclusion of the day's competition, during a break in the continuity of the championship (e.g., between rounds of a basketball tournament) when no competition is being conducted or at the conclusion of the championship. However, if the act of misconduct is so flagrant that it obviously violates the principles of fair play and sportsmanship, the games committee may immediately withdraw the student-athlete or institutional representative from the competition and conduct the hearing after this action. Other acts of misconduct shall be dealt with in a timely manner by the governing sports committee.~~

~~31.1.8.3 Penalty for Misconduct. A governing sports committee (or the games committee authorized to act for it) may impose any one or a combination of the following penalties on an institution or any student-athlete or representative of an institution guilty of misconduct that occurs incident to, en route to, from or at the locale of the competition or practice:~~

~~(a) Public or private reprimand of the individual;~~

~~(b) Disqualification of the individual from further participation in the NCAA championship involved;~~

~~(c) Banishment of the individual from participation in one or more future championships of the sport involved;~~

- ~~(d) Cancellation of payment to the institution of the Association's travel guarantee for the individual involved;~~
- ~~(e) Banishment of the institution from participation in one or more future championships in which its team in that sport otherwise would be eligible to participate;~~
- ~~(f) Disqualification of an institution for a period of time from serving as host institution for one or more NCAA championships;~~
- ~~(g) Cancellation of all or a portion of the honorarium for hosting an NCAA championship; and~~
- ~~(h) Financial or other penalties different from (a) through (g) above, but only if they have prior approval of the Championships Committee.~~

~~31.1.8.4 Ban From Future Championship. When a student-athlete or institutional representative is banned from participation in a future championship, such penalty shall be applied to the next tournament(s) in which the individual's team is involved and the individual otherwise is eligible to participate. In the case of an individual event, the penalty shall be applied to the next meet(s) or tournament(s) for which the individual qualifies and otherwise is eligible to participate.~~

~~31.1.8.5 Review of Action. Any action related to misconduct may be reviewed by the governing sports committee on request of any institution participating in the championship.~~

#### ~~31.1.9 Failure to Adhere to Policies and Procedures.~~

~~31.1.9.1 Financial Penalties. Pursuant to established policies and procedures, a governing sports committee may assess a financial penalty against an institution for failure of any of its representatives to adhere to the policies and procedures governing championships administration, subject to review by and appeal to the Appeals Subcommittee.~~

~~31.1.9.2 Late-Entry Fines. Institutions shall not be charged entry fees for teams or student-athletes competing in NCAA championships, but governing sports committees may establish late-entry fines, subject to the approval of the Championships Committee.~~

~~31.1.10 Awards. The Association has created standard, participant and commemorative awards for individuals and teams that participate in NCAA championships. The number of such awards for each championship shall be determined by the governing sports committee, subject to the approval of the Championships Committee. These official NCAA awards shall be the only awards presented by the Association to teams and individuals for participation in NCAA championships competition and shall be the only awards presented at the site of an NCAA championship. "At the site" is intended to include the period from the time access to the site is available to spectators until all patrons have left the facility or area used for competition.~~

~~31.1.10.1 Additional Awards. An institution may purchase additional standard, participant or commemorative awards for participation in NCAA championships. There is no limit on the number of additional awards an institution may purchase. An institution may provide, at its discretion, the awards to any individual. The NCAA awards form shall be used to purchase additional awards.~~

~~31.1.10.2 Other Permissible Awards. The above provision places no restriction on the presentation of awards at banquets or meetings held in conjunction with the championship or at sites other than that of the championships competition itself.~~

~~31.1.11 Admission and Tickets. Admission shall be charged at all NCAA championships unless a governing sports committee determines that charging admission is not feasible because of facility configuration or the expense relative to the event's attendance history. Ticket prices shall be determined by the respective games committees with the approval of the governing sports committee.~~

~~31.2.1.1 Commitment to Participate. Eligible members in a sport who are not also members of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) will participate (if selected) in the NCAA championship or in no postseason competition in that sport.~~

~~31.2.1.2.1 Compliance With Deadline. Any dues check or approved form required shall be received in the national office by the applicable date or must have been postmarked not later than seven days before the applicable date.~~

~~31.2.1.3.1 Penalty for Deadline Waiver. Such an institution that fails to meet a deadline a future time may be granted a waiver only on payment of a penalty of \$150 for the second offense and \$300 for each additional offense during the five-year period after the last offense. On approval of the Championships Committee of such~~

~~waiver and receipt of the institution's check in the national office, the institution may compete in NCAA championships, provided it is otherwise eligible.~~

~~31.2.1.4 Joint-Declaration Program. The NCAA, the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) and the National Christian Collegiate Athletic Association (NCCAA), respectively, will administer a joint-declaration program in those men's and women's sports in which there is a date conflict between the national championships of the NCAA and either the NAIA or NCCAA. In such championships, each institution that holds membership in the NCAA and either the NAIA or NCCAA must declare by August 15 each year whether it will participate (if selected) in the NAIA championship or in the NCCAA championship, in the NCAA championship or in no postseason competition in that sport. An institution that fails to submit the joint-declaration form by the established deadline shall be ineligible to compete in the NCAA and either the NAIA or NCCAA championships in the particular sport(s) that year. An appeal process exists for such institutions. An institution in the joint-declaration program may participate in the championship for which the institution declared, even when the championship occurs outside the permissible NCAA playing season. Institutions in the joint-declaration program must abide by all other NCAA regulations for all sports, including the length of the playing season.~~

~~31.2.1.5 National Collegiate Championships. In team sports in which the NCAA offers only one national championship, all member institutions in good standing are eligible to compete in accordance with the requirements of division membership (see Bylaw 7.3.2.1) and institutional eligibility (per Bylaw 31.2.1).~~

~~31.2.1.6 Division Championships. In those sports in which national-championship competition is offered in more than one division, only those member institutions that meet the membership requirements of the respective divisions or requirements applicable to institutions competing outside their membership divisions are eligible to compete in such division championships (see Bylaw 7).~~

~~31.2.1.7.1 Failure to Report Ineligible Player Prior to Selection. If an institution fails to report an ineligible player before being selected to participate in the championship, the governing sports committee may declare the institution ineligible to participate in the tournament for one or two years.~~

~~31.2.1.7.2 Discovery of Ineligibility of Player Following Selection. When an institution fails to report an ineligible player and the omission is not discovered until after the institution is selected to participate in the championship, necessitating the institution's withdrawal from the championship, that withdrawal shall be considered as one of the years of ineligibility, provided another member institution participates in the championship in place of the disqualified institution. If the discovery of the ineligible student-athlete(s) occurs so near the beginning of the championship that the governing sports committee does not have a reasonable period of time to replace the disqualified institution in the bracket, that fact shall be taken into consideration in determining the number of years the disqualified institution shall be ineligible to participate.~~

~~31.2.1.7.3 Review of Violation of Terms of Availability Questionnaire. When an institution is alleged to have violated the terms of an availability questionnaire (e.g., failing to report an ineligible student-athlete), it may be represented at the meeting of the governing sports committee when the committee determines whether a violation occurred and, if so, whether the institution shall be ineligible to participate in the tournament for one or more years. The institution may submit a written statement or make an in-person presentation, or both. After the governing sports committee has ruled on the matter, its decision shall be final unless the institution appeals the decision to the Championships Committee. The Championships Committee shall hear the appeal at one of its regularly scheduled meetings unless there are compelling reasons to conduct a special meeting for such purpose.~~

~~31.2.1.7.4 Protest Regarding Eligibility of Team. Any team that has been duly certified as eligible for an NCAA championship shall not be withheld from participation because of any protest made or filed during the progress of the competition or during a period 24 hours immediately before the championship. If there is a break in the continuity of the championship (e.g., between rounds of a basketball tournament) when no competition is being conducted, a team may be withheld from further competition in the championship, provided such protest is made or filed at least 24 hours before the next segment of the championship.~~

~~31.2.2 Student-Athlete Eligibility. To be eligible to enter teams or individual student-athletes in an NCAA championship, an institution shall recognize the sport involved as a varsity intercollegiate sport (see Bylaws 7.3.1.5.4 and 17.02.16) and shall meet the institutional requirements in Bylaw 18.4.2 applicable to the division in which the institution is a member or for which it is petitioning for eligibility in a sport, as well as any additional requirements specified in the applicable championships handbooks. All student-athletes must satisfy all general eligibility requirements established for NCAA championships participation. The general and academic eligibility requirements are set forth in detail in Bylaw 14. Other specific requirements for eligibility for NCAA championships are included in other bylaws in this Manual and are applicable and binding for championships participation.~~

~~31.2.2.1 Eligibility Requirements. A member institution shall not enter a student-athlete, as an individual or as a member of a team, in an NCAA championship unless the student-athlete satisfies all eligibility requirements of Bylaw 14.~~

~~31.2.2.2 Conference Eligibility. An institution that holds membership in a member conference may not enter teams or individuals in an NCAA championship unless they are eligible for such competition under the rules of that conference [see Bylaw 18.4.2.1-(a)].~~

~~31.2.2.3 Protest of Eligibility Status. Any student-athlete duly certified by the institution for an NCAA championship shall not be withheld from participation because of any protest made or filed during the championship or during the 24 hours immediately before the championship. If there is a break in the continuity of the championship (e.g., between rounds of a basketball tournament) when no competition is being conducted, the student may be withheld from further competition in the championship, provided the protest is made or filed at least 24 hours before the next segment of the championship.~~

~~31.2.2.5 Institutional Penalty for Ineligible Participation. When an ineligible student-athlete participates in an NCAA championship and the student-athlete or the institution knew or had reason to know of the ineligibility, the Committee on Infractions may prescribe a financial penalty.~~

~~31.2.3 Ineligibility for Use of Banned Drugs. See Bylaw 18.4.1.4 for further details regarding ineligibility for use of banned drugs.~~

~~31.2.3.1.2 Positive Drug Test -- Non-NCAA Athletics Organization. A student-athlete under a drug-testing suspension from a national or international sports governing body that has adopted the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) code shall not participate in NCAA intercollegiate competition for the duration of the suspension.~~

~~31.3 Selection of Teams and Individuals for Championships Participation. A list of the institutions in good standing shall be supplied by the championships staff liaison to the chair of each governing sports committee prior to selection of the championship participants in each Division II championship sport.~~

~~31.3.1 Size of Championships Fields. The size of all NCAA championships fields shall be established by the Championships Committee to provide for efficient management of the events, adequate NCAA championship opportunities relative to the nationwide quality of competition and sound economic administration of the financial resources of the Association and its championships.~~

~~31.3.2 Selection Decisions of Sports Committees. The determination of sites, selection of teams or individuals, or their site assignment in championships competition made by a governing sports committee (or a designated subcommittee) may not be appealed.~~

~~31.3.3.1.1 Countable Competition. For NCAA team-championship selection purposes, competition is countable only when the teams played are varsity intercollegiate teams of four-year, degree-granting institutions that conduct a majority of their competition in that team sport against varsity intercollegiate teams (see Bylaw 7.3.1.5.4) of four-year, degree-granting institutions located in Canada, Mexico and the United States, its territories or possessions. Competition against service teams, professional teams, semiprofessional teams, amateur teams, two-year colleges and club teams shall be excluded.~~

~~31.3.3.2 Qualifying Standards in Individual and Team Sports. Individuals and teams required to meet performance standards to qualify for NCAA championships competition shall achieve such standards in meets held during the same academic year as the particular championship.~~

~~31.3.3.3 Unavailable Players on Team. The presence on a varsity squad of one or more players who are unavailable for NCAA championships competition does not necessarily disqualify that team from consideration.~~

~~31.3.3.4 Nullification(s) When a Student-Athlete Participates in Competition While Ineligible for Use of Banned Drugs. Nullifications shall only be imposed when an institution permits a student-athlete to participate in intercollegiate competition after the institution and the student-athlete receive notification of the confirmed positive drug test.~~

~~31.3.3.5 Committee Member Participation in Selection Process. All members of a governing sports committee may participate in committee deliberations and vote on the teams or student-athlete(s) under consideration for selection. If a team or student-athlete(s) of the institution of a member of the governing sports committee is under consideration for selection a member of the regional advisory committee in that sport, who represents another member conference, shall participate in the discussions affecting that particular selection.~~

~~31.3.3.5.1 Waiver Opportunity. The conference shall advise the NCAA championships staff in writing by September 1 of each year whether it wishes the selection process set forth in Bylaw 31.3.3.5 to be applied or waived. Once the conference has indicated its intention regarding the application or waiver of this regulation, it may not be changed during that year.~~

~~31.3.3.5.1.1 First Waiver. Conferences that fail to meet the deadline may appeal to the Management Council for a waiver of the deadline. Such an appeal must be submitted to the national office not later than October 15. If the Management Council grants the appeal, the conference shall be granted a waiver.~~

~~31.3.3.5.1.2 After Waivers. Such a conference that fails to meet the September 1 deadline in a future year may be granted a waiver only on payment of a penalty of \$150 for the second offense and \$300 for each additional offense during the five-year period after the last offense. On approval of the Management Council of such waiver and receipt of the conference's check in the national office, the conference may use the selection process set forth in Bylaw 31.3.3.5, provided it is otherwise eligible to do so.~~

~~31.3.3.6 Exclusion of Institution Reclassifying From Division II to Division I. In all sports, any Division II institution that has forwarded to the national office written notice of its intention to change its membership classification to Division I, no longer shall be eligible to participate in any future NCAA Division II championship.~~

~~31.3.4.3 Notification, Automatic Qualification in Jeopardy. The Championships Committee must issue a written warning to a conference that is in jeopardy of losing its automatic qualification. The warning must be issued during the academic year prior to the potential loss of automatic qualification. (Note: This regulation does not apply to championships in which a play-in system has been established.)~~

~~31.3.4.4 Exception -- Multisport Conference. A multisport conference that adds a conference-sponsored sport may be considered for automatic qualification in that sport, provided the conference includes at least six active NCAA Division II institutions that have conducted conference competition together at the Division II level in the sport the preceding two years and the sport is sponsored by less than 50 percent of the Division II membership.~~

~~31.3.4.5 Grace Period. A conference shall remain eligible for automatic qualification for three years following the date of withdrawal of the institution(s) that causes the conference's membership to fall below the minimum number of institutions required for active membership, provided the conference remains within one member institution of that minimum number.~~

~~31.3.4.6 Sport Groupings for Automatic Qualification. For purposes of evaluating criteria for automatic qualification, the various sports shall be grouped as follows:~~

~~(a) Team sports -- baseball, basketball, bowling, field hockey, ice hockey, lacrosse, soccer, softball, tennis, volleyball and water polo;~~

~~(b) Timed individual sports -- indoor track and field, outdoor track and field, and swimming; and~~

~~(c) Other individual sports -- cross country, fencing, golf, gymnastics, rifle, skiing and men's wrestling.~~

~~31.3.4.8 Waiver -- Five-Year Waiting Period. The Championships Committee, by a two-thirds majority of its members present and voting, may grant a waiver for an active member conference of the five-year waiting period for automatic qualification set forth in Bylaw 31.3.4.2-(a).~~

~~31.3.4.9 Waiver -- Minimum Number of Members in a Conference. The Membership Committee, by a two-thirds majority of its members present and voting, may grant a waiver for an active member conference that falls below the required minimum number of active institutions set forth in Bylaw 31.3.4.2-(c), if it deems that unusual circumstances warrant such action. The Management Council shall hear and act on a conference's appeal of a decision made by the Membership Committee.~~

~~31.3.5.2 Grace Period. A football-playing conference shall remain eligible for earned access for three years following the date of withdrawal of the institution(s) that causes the conference's membership to fall below six football-playing institutions, provided the conference maintains at least five active football-playing members.~~

#### ~~31.4 Financial Administration of Championships:~~

~~31.4.1.1 Institution's Financial Report. A financial report from each championship site shall be submitted to the NCAA president not later than 60 days after the conclusion of the competition and shall bear certification of the athletics director of the host institution. The report shall be submitted on a form approved and provided by the NCAA president.~~

~~31.4.1.1.1 Exclusions. A host institution or sponsoring agency shall not include, in its financial report or in its percentage of net receipts, television rights fees or income from the sale of championships merchandise. Also, income from program advertising or sales shall not be included in the host institution's or sponsoring agency's financial report or percentage of net receipts if the program is produced and sold under contract between the NCAA and an outside agency.~~

~~31.4.2 Gross Receipts. Gross receipts shall be all revenues derived from the championship, including:~~

- ~~(a) Sale of tickets. All tickets shall be accounted for at face value and shall become a part of gross receipts. Working passes may be provided to bona fide working personnel, including media representatives; and participation passes may be provided to student athletes competing in the championship, as well as to their coaches, athletic trainers, managers and other members of the participating institution's official party as defined by the Association;~~
- ~~(b) Net revenue from marketing items sold at the site through or by an outside agency under contract with the NCAA;~~
- ~~(c) Program sales and advertising;~~
- ~~(d) Radio, television and movie rights; and~~
- ~~(e) Any other income derived from the operation of the championship.~~

~~31.4.2.1 Exclusions. Income from concessions and parking shall accrue to the host institution or sponsoring agency and is not included in gross receipts. Sales commissions received by a host institution for selling marketing items on behalf of an outside agency under contract with the NCAA shall accrue to the host institution.~~

~~31.4.2.2 Waiver. Any waiver of the policies for the gross receipts of championships shall be approved in advance by the Championships Committee.~~

~~31.4.3 Game Expenses. Game expenses are the actual costs directly related to the administration and conduct of the championship, including specifically the costs for tickets (printing, selling and collecting), sales taxes, ushers, game officials, police, buildings and grounds expenses, printing of related materials, motion pictures of the competition (if authorized by the Championships Committee), reasonable entertainment, expenses of selection committees authorized by the governing sports committee and any other out-of-pocket expense directly related to the administration and conduct of the championship.~~

~~31.4.3.1 Exclusions. The following items shall not be included as game expenses:~~

- ~~(a) The cost of permanent equipment, local transportation of competing teams and on-campus facility rental charges; and~~
- ~~(b) A fee or honorarium for athletics department staff members of the host institution (e.g., athletics director, assistant athletics director, business manager, ticket manager, coach, sports information director or athletic trainer). (Note: Such a payment could be made from the host institution's share of net receipts.)~~

~~31.4.3.2 Waiver. Any waiver of the policies for game expenses shall be approved in advance by the Championships Committee.~~

~~31.4.4 Institutional Allowance. The host institution may share in the balance remaining after game expenses are deducted from the gross receipts. Television rights fees and income from championships programs and merchandise produced and sold under contract between the NCAA and an outside agency shall not be included in determining the host institution's allowance.~~

~~31.4.4.1 Permissible Allowances. The amount of institutional allowance varies with the sport, the level of championships competition, whether there is a common site for men's and women's championships and whether an institution's facilities are used. The permissible institutional allowances (from balance of gross receipts after deduction of game expenses) are as follows:~~

	TEAM <sup>1,2,3</sup>		INDIVIDUAL <sup>1,2,3</sup>	
	Preliminary	Final	Preliminary	Final
One day	\$575	\$1,150	\$700	\$1,725
Two days	\$750	\$1,450	\$870	\$2,000
Three or more days	\$920	\$1,725	\$1,150	\$2,300

<sup>1</sup> For championships conducted at institutional facilities, hosts may deduct the permissible allowance above or a maximum of 15 percent of gross receipts after deduction of game expenses, whichever is greater.

~~<sup>2</sup> For championships conducted at off-campus facilities, hosts may deduct the permissible allowance or a maximum of 10 percent of gross receipts after deduction of game expenses, on the recommendation of the sports committee and approval of the Championships Committee.~~

~~<sup>3</sup> Amount is doubled for common-site men's and women's championships.~~

~~31.4.4.2 Restrictions. The following restrictions apply to allowances to host institutions:~~

- ~~(a) If an institution's department of intercollegiate athletics must pay a rental fee for the use of an on-campus facility, such fee shall be deducted from the institution's share of the net receipts or allowance; and~~
- ~~(b) No other sum from the receipts of an NCAA championship, or from any other source, shall be paid to the college or university sponsoring or acting as host of the NCAA championship except to cover actual and necessary expenses directly incurred in the conduct of the championship as noted in Bylaw 31.4.3.~~

~~31.4.5 Administrative Expenses. After the institution's allowance has been deducted, the athletics director of the host institution shall forward the remaining receipts to the NCAA president, who then deducts administrative expenses and costs incurred by governing sports committees and their representatives in matters of championships administration.~~

~~31.4.6 Transportation and Per Diem Expenses. Subject to the availability of funds, the Association may pay transportation and per diem expenses incurred by teams and individual competitors in NCAA championships competition. Transportation expenses and per diem allowances for the official traveling parties of competing institutions in Division II championships, National Collegiate Championships and individual-team championships shall be determined and provided in accordance with policies and procedures established by the Championships Committee. On an annual basis, the Championships Committee shall determine and announce to the membership the percentage of transportation expense and the per diem allowance to be paid in each championship for the next academic year.~~

~~31.4.7 Net Receipts. After payment of game and administrative expenses for each championship, the NCAA president shall place the remaining moneys in the general operating fund of the Association to be used to cover other expenses of the Association and to be apportioned among member institutions, as directed by the Championships Committee.~~

~~31.4.8 Distribution of Forfeited Receipts. An institution may be obligated to return its share of the revenue distribution for permitting an ineligible student-athlete to participate in the championship (see Bylaw 31.2.2.5). If so, such funds shall be distributed among other member institutions according to a formula prescribed by the Championships Committee.~~

~~31.4.9 Publication of Championships Financial Summaries. A financial summary of each championship shall be published in the membership reports of the Association.~~

~~[31.6 through 31.8 renumbered as 31.1 through 31.3, unchanged.]~~

~~31.94 National Statistics Program. A national statistics program shall be maintained for active member institutions in baseball, men's and women's basketball, field hockey, football, men's and women's ice hockey, men's and women's lacrosse, men's and women's soccer, softball, and men's and women's volleyball. The Management Council shall oversee the statistics program and approve its policies and procedures. The national statistics program policies and procedures shall be published on the NCAA website.~~

**Source:** NCAA Division II Management Council (Championships Committee).

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2023

**Additional Information:**

When the Division II Implementation Committee was established to review the division's policies and procedures after the new NCAA Constitution was adopted at the 2022 NCAA Convention, the committee created topic-specific subcommittees to help complete its task. Among the duties assigned to the Championships Subcommittee was to review Bylaws 18 and 31 as they relate to Division II national championships and determine which of those rules should remain as legislation, which could be moved to policy, and which (if any) could be removed altogether. The subcommittee reviewed each rule within Bylaws 18 and 31 with those parameters in mind and worked with staff to draft revisions as appropriate. Once the Implementation Committee completed its work in August 2022, this item was among those referred to the Division II Championships Committee for final review.

NO. NC-2024-8 ELIGIBILITY -- SEASONS OF COMPETITION: 10-SEMESTER/15-QUARTER -- CRITERIA FOR DETERMINING SEASON OF ELIGIBILITY -- PARTICIPATION IN ORGANIZED COMPETITION BEFORE INITIAL COLLEGIATE ENROLLMENT -- STANDARDIZED DATES FOR END OF GRACE PERIOD

**Intent:** To permit the NCAA Eligibility Center to use October 1 or March 1 (whichever occurs earlier) immediately after one calendar year has elapsed following a prospective student-athlete's high school graduation date as the standard end date of the prospective student-athlete's grace period.

**Bylaws:** Amend 14.2, as follows:

14.2 Seasons of Competition: 10-Semester/15-Quarter Rule. A student-athlete shall not engage in more than four seasons of intercollegiate competition in any one sport (see Bylaws 14.02.10 and 14.2.2). An institution shall not permit a student-athlete to represent it in intercollegiate competition unless the individual completes all of their seasons of participation in all sports within the time periods specified below:

[14.2.1 through 14.2.3 unchanged.]

14.2.4 Criteria for Determining Season of Eligibility.

[14.2.4.1 unchanged.]

14.2.4.2 Participation in Organized Competition Before Initial Collegiate Enrollment. An individual who does not ~~enroll in a collegiate institution as a full-time student in the regular academic term that begins immediately after a one-year time period (the next opportunity to enroll after the one-calendar-year period has elapsed) following their high school graduation date~~ **cease participation by October 1 or March 1 (whichever occurs earlier) immediately after one calendar year has elapsed following their high school graduation date**, shall use one season of intercollegiate competition for each consecutive 12-month period after ~~the one-year time period~~ **October 1 or March 1** and before initial full-time collegiate enrollment in which the individual participates in organized competition per Bylaw 14.2.4.2.1.2.

[14.2.4.2.1 unchanged.]

14.2.4.2.1.3 Discontinued High School Enrollment. An individual who discontinues high school enrollment and then participates in organized competition per Bylaw 14.2.4.2.1.2 shall use one season of intercollegiate competition for each consecutive 12-month period after ~~a one-year time period (the next opportunity to enroll after one-calendar-year has elapsed)~~ **October 1 or March 1 (whichever occurs earlier) immediately after one calendar year has elapsed** following the discontinued enrollment and before initial full-time collegiate enrollment.

[14.2.4.2.1.2 through 14.2.4.2.1.3 unchanged.]

14.2.4.2.2 Exceptions to Participation in Organized Competition. An individual **who does not cease participation by October 1 or March 1 (whichever occurs earlier) immediately after one calendar year has elapsed following their high school graduation**, shall not be charged with a season of intercollegiate competition, provided the individual satisfies any of the following exceptions for each consecutive 12-month period in which the individual participates in organized competition per Bylaw 14.2.4.2.1.2 following **October 1 or March 1** ~~to one-year time period after the individual's high school graduation~~ and before initial full-time collegiate enrollment.

[14.2.4.2.2.1 through 14.2.4.2.2.4 unchanged.]

[14.2.4.2.3 unchanged.]

14.2.4.3 Road Racing. Participation in road racing is essentially the same as cross country or track and field competition and cannot be separated effectively from those sports for purposes of organized competition before initial collegiate enrollment. Therefore, an individual who does not ~~enroll in a collegiate institution as a full-time student in the regular academic term that begins immediately after a one-calendar-year time period following high school graduation~~ **cease participation by October 1 or March 1 (whichever occurs earlier) immediately after one calendar year has elapsed following their high school graduation date** and participates in a road race(s) shall use one season of intercollegiate competition in cross country and track and field for each consecutive 12-month period after ~~the one-year time period~~ **October 1 or March 1** and before initial full-time collegiate enrollment. The individual shall also fulfill an academic year in residence at any member institution before being eligible to represent the certifying institution in cross country or track and field competition.

[14.2.4.4 through 14.2.4.8 unchanged.]

[14.2.5 through 14.2.7 unchanged.]

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

**Effective Date:** Immediate

## Additional Information:

Under current legislation, during the amateurism certification process, the NCAA Eligibility Center staff are required to utilize varying dates to identify the conclusion of an individual's grace period, creating confusion and lack of uniformity. Because of this, the NCAA Division II Committee for Legislative Relief issued a blanket waiver in February 2022 to permit the Eligibility Center staff to use October 1 or March 1 (whichever occurs earlier) immediately after one calendar year has elapsed following a prospective student-athlete's high school graduation date as the end date of their grace period for the 2022-23 academic year. The utilization of a standard date through the blanket waiver created more consistency and flexibility and helped to ensure simplified messaging was provided to all prospects regarding when organized competition prior to initial full-time collegiate enrollment must end. Permitting the Eligibility Center staff to utilize a standard date (October 1 or March 1) in determining the end of a prospective student-athlete's grace period, will provide more consistency and flexibility for prospective student-athletes and ensure consistent educational messaging related to the amateurism certification process.

### NO. NC-2024-9 AMATEURISM -- VARIOUS BYLAWS -- DEFINITION OF AGENT AND USE OF AGENTS -- EFFECTIVE DATE

**Intent:** To amend the effective date of NCAA Division II Proposal No. 2023-8 from August 1, 2023, to August 1, 2023, for any prospective student-athlete initially enrolling full-time at a Division II institution on or after August 1, 2023.

**A. Bylaws:** Amend 12.02, as follows:

#### 12.02 Definitions and Applications.

12.02.1 Agent. An agent is any individual who, directly or indirectly, recruits or solicits a student-athlete to enter into an agency contract for current or future representation where a student-athlete authorizes the individual to negotiate or solicit on behalf of the student-athlete a professional-sports-services contract or endorsement contract.

12.02.2 Agency Contract. An agency contract is an agreement in which a student-athlete authorizes a person to negotiate or solicit on behalf of the student-athlete a professional-sports-services contract or endorsement contract.

[12.02.3 through 12.02.11 unchanged.]

**B. Bylaws:** Amend 12.2.4, as follows:

#### 12.2.4 Draft and Inquiry.

[12.2.4.1 unchanged.]

12.2.4.2 Draft List. An enrolled student-athlete may enter a professional league's draft an unlimited number of times during their collegiate career and be drafted by any team in the league without jeopardizing eligibility in that sport, provided the student-athlete **(or their relatives or friends)** does not **accept transportation or other material benefits from** *ever agree (orally or in writing) to be represented by* an agent **or any person who represents any individual infor the purposes of** marketing their athletics ability or reputation in that sport, sign a professional sport contract or otherwise jeopardize their eligibility status.

12.2.4.3 Negotiations. An individual may request information about professional market value without affecting their eligibility status. Further, the individual, their relatives or legal guardians, the institution's professional sports counseling panel or head coach may enter into negotiations with a professional sports organization without the loss of the individual's eligibility status. *An individual who retains an agent in order to secure a professional sports opportunity shall lose eligibility status.*

**C. Bylaws:** Amend 12.3, as follows:

#### 12.3 Use of Agents.

12.3.1 General Rule. An individual shall be ineligible if they (or their relatives or friends) accept transportation or other material benefits from an agent or any person who represents any individual in the marketing of their athletics ability.

12.3.1.1 Representation for Future Negotiations. An individual may enter into a verbal or written agreement with an agent for representation in future professional sports negotiations.

12.3.2 Professional Service Provider. An individual may utilize a professional service provider for advice and activities related to an individual's name, image and likeness.

12.3.3 Agent to Secure Athletics Scholarship. An individual shall be ineligible if they enter into an agreement (orally or in writing) with an agent for securing initial or continuing enrollment at a particular institution.

[12.3.4 unchanged.]

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

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2023, for any prospective student-athlete initially enrolling full-time at a Division II institution on or after August 1, 2023.

**Additional Information:**

Historically, the effective dates on legislative proposals impacting amateurism have been tied to the academic year in which a prospective student-athlete initially enrolls full-time to ensure equal treatment of incoming recruiting classes. With the proposal's current August 1, 2023, effective date, prospective student-athletes within the same incoming recruiting class (e.g., the incoming 2023-24 class) may be certified under different legislation. Amending the effective date will permit equal application of the legislation to incoming prospective student-athletes.

NO. NC-2024-10 NCAA DIVISION II MEMBERSHIP AND INSTITUTIONAL CONTROL -- ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP -- INSTITUTIONS -- MINIMUM CONTESTS AND PARTICIPANTS REQUIREMENTS FOR SPORTS SPONSORSHIP -- FOOTBALL, MEN'S GOLF, WOMEN'S GOLF AND MEN'S LACROSSE

**Intent:** In the sports of football, men's golf, women's golf and men's lacrosse, to amend the minimum number of contests and participants for sports sponsorship, as specified.

**Bylaws:** Amend 7.3, as follows:

7.3 Active Membership.

7.3.1 Institutions.

[7.3.1.1 through 7.3.1.7 unchanged.]

7.3.1.7.1.1 Minimum Contests and Participants Requirements for Sports Sponsorship. In each sport, the institution's team shall engage in at least a minimum number of intercollegiate contests (against four-year, degree-granting collegiate institutions) each year. In the individual sports and acrobatics and tumbling, the institution's team shall include a minimum number of participants in each contest that is counted toward meeting the minimum-contest requirement. The following minimums are applicable:

Team Sports	Minimum Contests	Minimum Participants	Individual Sports	Minimum Contests	Minimum Participants
Acrobatics and Tumbling	6	18	Women's Bowling	8	5
Baseball	24		Cross Country	4	5
Basketball	22		Equestrian	6	12
Beach Volleyball	8		Men's Fencing	6	5
Field Hockey	10		Women's Fencing	6	5
Football	<del>89</del>		Golf	<del>67</del>	5
Men's Ice Hockey	20		Men's Gymnastics	6	6
Women's Ice Hockey	20		Women's Gymnastics	6	5
Men's Lacrosse	<del>8</del> <b>10</b>		Rifle	8	4
Women's Lacrosse	10		Skiing	5	5
Women's Rowing	6		Swimming and Diving	8	11
Women's Rugby	9		Tennis	10	5
Soccer	10		Track and Field, Indoor	4	10
Softball	24		Track and Field, Outdoor	4	14
Stunt	8	16	Men's Wrestling	9	6
Men's Volleyball	9		Women's Wrestling	9	6
Women's Volleyball	15		Women's Triathlon	4	3
Men's Water Polo	15				
Women's Water Polo	10				

[7.3.1.7.1.1.1 through 7.3.1.7.1.1.11 unchanged.]

[7.3.2 through 7.3.5 unchanged.]

**Source:** NCAA Division II Management Council (Membership Committee).

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2023

**Additional Information:**

Among the referrals from the NCAA Division II Implementation Committee to the NCAA Division II Membership Committee was to collaborate with the NCAA Division II Championships Committee to consider aligning minimum contest requirements for sports sponsorship and championships selection purposes. The referral occurred after the Implementation Committee's championships and membership subcommittees each noted the differences in select sports in these two categories and agreed it would be best to conduct a more collaborative review to arrive at numbers that provide a more simple, consistent and equitable process among sports. The review included feedback from sport committees that currently have different standards (football, men's and women's golf, men's lacrosse and men's soccer). The only sport for which the final recommendation differed significantly from the sport committee proposal was men's soccer, which had proposed retaining the 15-contest requirement for championship selection purposes. However, both the Membership Committee and the Championships Committee believed that doing so would not align the numbers for sports sponsorship and championship selection, and that mirroring the sports sponsorship requirement of 10 contests is a more flexible option for institutions (retaining the in-region contest requirement for championships selection mirrors the current sports sponsorship minimums) and aligns with the requirements in women's soccer in the number of contests.

NO. NC-2024-11 NCAA DIVISION II MEMBERSHIP AND INSTITUTIONAL CONTROL -- PROVISIONAL MEMBERSHIP -- INSTITUTIONS - CHANGE OF DIVISION MEMBERSHIP (ALL SPORTS) -- DIVISION II MEMBERSHIP PROCESS -- PROVISIONAL PERIOD -- ASSESSMENT PROGRAM -- REMOVAL OF INSTITUTIONAL SELF-STUDY GUIDE

**Intent:** To eliminate the requirement that institutions in year one of the provisional process must complete a comprehensive self-study and evaluation of its intercollegiate athletics program using the Institutional Self-Study Guide (ISSG).

**Bylaws:** Amend 7.4, as follows:

7.4 Provisional Membership.

7.4.1 Institutions – Change of Division Membership (All Sports).

[7.4.1.1 through 7.4.1.4 unchanged.]

7.4.1.5 Division II Membership Process. Institutions seeking to become active members of Division II in all sports must successfully complete all requirements of the Division II membership process, as specified in Bylaw 7.4.

[7.4.1.5.1 through 7.4.1.5.2 unchanged.]

7.4.1.5.3 Provisional Period. Once an institution receives notice that it has been accepted to begin the Division II membership process, the institution shall enter the provisional period of the membership process on September 1, the beginning of practice in any sport for the fall term or the first day of classes for that fall term, whichever occurs first, following the acceptance of the application. The provisional period shall be a minimum of three years. At the completion of the three-year period, the institution shall receive a determination of its readiness to proceed to active membership.

7.4.1.5.3.1 Assessment Program. Institutions are required to satisfy the following requirements during the provisional period:

[7.4.1.5.3.1-(a) unchanged.]

[7.4.1.5.3.1-(a)-(1) unchanged.]

~~(2) A comprehensive self-study and evaluation of its intercollegiate athletics program using the Division II Institutional Self-Study Guide (ISSG);~~

[7.4.1.5.3.1-(a)-(3) through 7.4.1.5.3.1-(a)-(9) renumbered as 7.4.1.5.3.1-(a)-(2) through 7.4.1.5.3.1-(a)-(8), unchanged.]

[7.4.1.5.3.1-(b) through 7.4.1.5.3.1-(d) unchanged.]

[7.4.1.5.3.2 unchanged.]

[7.4.1.5.4 unchanged.]

[7.4.1.6 through 7.4.1.8 unchanged.]

[7.4.2 unchanged.]

**Source:** NCAA Division II Management Council (Membership Committee).

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2023

**Additional Information:**

With the adoption of NCAA Proposal No. 2023-2 (NCAA Division II membership and institutional control -- active membership -- institutions -- conditions and obligations of active membership -- elimination of self-study and evaluation), active Division II member institutions are no longer required to complete the Institutional Self-Study Guide (ISSG). While understanding that the provisional membership process may include standards not required for active membership, the NCAA Division II Membership Committee noted that the institution's work with the NCAA vendor throughout the provisional membership process covers most topics included in the ISSG, resulting in duplicative work. Further, provisional member institutions are required to submit an annual report each year of the provisional membership process, which can be used to include topics in the ISSG that are not addressed by the vendor.

NO. NC-2024-12 NCAA DIVISION II MEMBERSHIP AND INSTITUTIONAL CONTROL -- PROVISIONAL MEMBERSHIP -- INSTITUTIONS - CHANGE OF DIVISION MEMBERSHIP (ALL SPORTS) -- DIVISION II MEMBERSHIP PROCESS -- PROVISIONAL PERIOD -- ASSESSMENT PROGRAM -- DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS ATTENDANCE AT THE NCAA INCLUSION FORUM

**Intent:** To add the director of athletics as a required institutional representative at the NCAA Inclusion Forum once during the three-year provisional membership process.

**Bylaws:** Amend 7.4, as follows:

7.4 Provisional Membership.

7.4.1 Institutions – Change of Division Membership (All Sports).

[7.4.1.1 through 7.4.1.4 unchanged.]

7.4.1.5 Division II Membership Process. Institutions seeking to become active members of Division II in all sports must successfully complete all requirements of the Division II membership process, as specified in Bylaw 7.4.

[7.4.1.5.1 through 7.4.1.5.2 unchanged.]

7.4.1.5.3 Provisional Period. Once an institution receives notice that it has been accepted to begin the Division II membership process, the institution shall enter the provisional period of the membership process on September 1, the beginning of practice in any sport for the fall term or the first day of classes for that fall term, whichever occurs first, following the acceptance of the application. The provisional period shall be a minimum of three years. At the completion of the three-year period, the institution shall receive a determination of its readiness to proceed to active membership.

7.4.1.5.3.1 Assessment Program. Institutions are required to satisfy the following requirements during the provisional period:

[7.4.1.5.3.1-(a) through 7.4.1.5.3.1-(d) unchanged.]

(1) Attendance at the NCAA Inclusion Forum. Institutional representatives required to attend are the **director of athletics**, senior woman administrator and a senior level administrator outside of athletics;

[7.4.1.5.3.1-(d)-(2) through 7.4.1.5.3.1-(d)-(3) unchanged.]

[7.4.1.5.3.2 unchanged.]

[7.4.1.5.4 unchanged.]

[7.4.1.6 through 7.4.1.8 unchanged.]

[7.4.2 unchanged.]

**Source:** NCAA Division II Management Council (Membership Committee).

**Effective Date:** Immediate

**Additional Information:**

Currently, provisional member institutions are required to have their senior woman administrator and a senior-level administrator outside of athletics attend the NCAA Inclusion Forum at least one time during the three-year provisional membership process. During its review of the provisional membership process, the Division II Membership Committee

noted that including the director of athletics as a required staff member to attend the Inclusion Forum once during the three-year provisional membership process would provide that individual with invaluable education and resources to enhance efforts on diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging initiatives.

NO. NC-2024-13 ELIGIBILITY AND COMMITTEES -- GENERAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS AND COMMON COMMITTEES -- COMMITTEES WITH GOVERNANCE ADMINISTRATION RESPONSIBILITIES -- HIGH SCHOOL REVIEW COMMITTEE AND STUDENT RECORDS REVIEW COMMITTEE

**Intent:** To eliminate the NCAA Student Records Review Committee; further, to amend the duties of the NCAA High School Review Committee, as specified.

**A. Bylaws:** Amend 14.1, as follows:

14.1 General Eligibility Requirements.

[14.1.1 through 14.1.2 unchanged.]

14.1.2.3 High School Review Committee. The High School Review Committee shall have the authority to establish policies and procedures related to ~~the academic review of~~ **reviewing the validity of any** high schools ~~and to determine the validity of a high school (e.g., core courses, curriculum, grades) for the purpose of meeting initial-eligibility requirements~~ **and the validity of any prospective student-athlete's academic credentials.** ~~A~~**The** review may result in a determination that a high school **or a prospective student-athlete's academic credentials** shall not be used ~~for the purpose of meeting~~ **to meet** initial-eligibility requirements. The **committee's** policies and procedures ~~for the review~~ shall be approved by the Academic Requirements Committee. (See Bylaw 21.6.4.2.)

~~14.1.2.4 Student Records Review Committee. The Student Records Review Committee shall have the authority to establish policies and procedures related to the review of a prospective student-athlete's academic credentials and to determine the validity of a prospective student-athlete's academic credentials for the purpose of meeting initial-eligibility requirements. A review may result in a determination that a prospective student-athlete's academic credentials shall not be used for the purpose of meeting initial-eligibility requirements. The policies and procedures for the review shall be approved by the Academic Requirements Committee. (See Bylaw 21.6.5.2.)~~

[14.1.2.5 renumbered as 14.1.2.4, unchanged.]

[14.1.3 through 14.1.11 unchanged.]

**B. Bylaws:** Amend 21.6, as follows:

[Common provision, Divisions I and II only, divided vote]

21.6 Common Committees -- Committees With Governance Administration Responsibilities.

[21.6.1 through 21.6.4 unchanged.]

21.6.4.2 Duties. The committee shall have the authority to establish policies and procedures related to ~~the academic review of~~ **reviewing the validity of any** high schools ~~and to determine the validity of a high school (e.g., core courses, curriculum, grades) for the purpose of meeting initial-eligibility requirements~~ **and the validity of any prospective student-athlete's academic credentials.** ~~A~~**The** review may result in a determination that a high school **or a prospective student-athlete's academic credentials** shall not be used ~~for the purpose of meeting~~ **to meet** initial-eligibility requirements. The **committee's** policies and procedures ~~for the review and determination of the validity of a high school~~ shall be approved by the Division I Committee on Academics and the Division II Academic Requirements Committee. (See Bylaw 14.1.2.3.)

[21.6.4.3 through 21.6.4.4 unchanged.]

~~21.6.5 Student Records Review Committee.~~

~~21.6.5.1 Composition. The committee shall consist of nine members and shall be constituted as follows:~~

- ~~(a) One admissions officer of a Division I or Division II institution;~~
- ~~(b) One staff member of a Division I or Division II institution or conference office;~~
- ~~(c) One staff member of a Division I institution or conference;~~
- ~~(d) One representative from the Division II Academic Requirements Committee;~~
- ~~(e) Four representatives from the secondary-school community; and~~

~~(f) One member selected at large from either the secondary-school community or a Division I or Division II institution or conference office.~~

~~21.6.5.2 Duties. The committee shall have the authority to establish policies and procedures related to the review of a prospective student-athlete's academic credentials and to determine the validity of a prospective student-athlete's academic credentials for the purpose of meeting initial-eligibility requirements. A review may result in a determination that a prospective student-athlete's academic credentials shall not be used for the purpose of meeting initial-eligibility requirements. The policies and procedures for review of academic credentials and the determination of the validity of such credentials shall be approved by the Division I Committee on Academics and the Division II Academic Requirements Committee. (See Bylaw 14.1.2.4.)~~

~~21.6.5.3 Terms. Committee members shall be appointed to one four-year term. A member's term of service shall commence on the first day of January following the member's appointment. A member may be appointed to one additional term. An individual who has served two terms may not be reappointed. The term of service of the member serving on the Division II Academic Requirements Committee shall run concurrently with their service on that committee.~~

~~21.6.5.4 Appeals. The committee determination shall be final, binding and conclusive and shall not be subject to further review by any other authority.~~

**Source:** NCAA Division II Management Council (Academic Requirements Committee).

**Effective Date:** January 10, 2024

**Additional Information:**

Following the adoption of NCAA Division II Proposal No. 2023-4 (eligibility – freshman academic requirements – elimination of standardized test-score requirements SAT or ACT), which removed standardized test scores from the Division II initial-eligibility standards, the remaining duties of the NCAA Student Records Review Committee (SRRC) related to identifying academic programs and reviewing academic credential validity, align with existing duties of the NCAA High School Review Committee (HSRC) related to reviewing programs and revised transcripts. Eliminating the SRRC and placing their duties related to the validity of academic credentials under the HSRC will streamline oversight and avoid redundancy.

NO. NC-2024-14 RECRUITING -- CONTACTS AND EVALUATIONS -- CONTACTABLE PROSPECTIVE STUDENT-ATHLETES -- FOUR-YEAR COLLEGE PROSPECTIVE STUDENT-ATHLETES -- REMOVAL OF NOTIFICATION OF RECRUITMENT REQUIREMENT

**Intent:** To eliminate the requirement that a Division II institution's director of athletics (or an individual designated by the director of athletics) must send written notification of recruitment to an NAIA institution prior to having contact with an NAIA student-athlete.

**Bylaws:** Amend 13.1.1.2, as follows:

13.1.1.2 Four-Year College Prospective Student-Athletes. An athletics staff member or other representative of the institution's athletics interests shall not communicate or make contact with the student-athlete of an NCAA Division II institution, or any individual associated with the student-athlete (e.g., family member scholastic or nonscholastic coach, advisor), directly or indirectly, without first obtaining authorization through the notification of transfer process. Before making contact, directly or indirectly, with a student-athlete of an NCAA Division I or Division III institution, an athletics staff member or other representative of the institution's interest shall comply with the rule of the applicable division for making contact with a student-athlete. ~~Before making contact, directly or indirectly, with a student-athlete at an NAIA institution, the Division II institution's director of athletics (or an individual designated by the director of athletics) must send notification of recruitment to the NAIA institution.~~ [D]

[13.1.1.2.1 through 13.1.1.2.5 unchanged.]

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

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2023

**Additional Information:**

Current legislation requires that a Division II institution's director of athletics, or their designee, provide an NAIA institution with written notification of recruitment prior to contacting a prospective student-athlete at an NAIA institution. Further, prior to having contact with a student-athlete from an NCAA institution, NAIA legislation required that the student-athlete needed to be placed into the NCAA Transfer Portal. However, due to a recent change in the

NAIA's legislation, a student-athlete from an NCAA institution no longer has to be placed into the NCAA Transfer Portal in order for an NAIA institution to have contact. Eliminating the written notification of recruitment requirement will ease the burden on compliance administrators.

NO. NC-2024-15 COMMITTEES -- ASSOCIATION-WIDE COMMITTEES -- GENERAL COMMITTEES -- OLYMPIC SPORTS LIAISON COMMITTEE -- ELIMINATION OF OLYMPIC SPORTS LIAISON COMMITTEE

**Intent:** To eliminate the NCAA Olympic Sports Liaison Committee.

**Bylaws:** Amend 21.2, as follows:

[Common provision, all divisions, divided vote]

21.2 Association-Wide Committees -- General Committees.

[21.2.1 through 21.2.4 unchanged.]

~~21.2.5 Olympic Sports Liaison Committee.~~

~~21.2.5.1 Composition. The Olympic Sports Liaison Committee shall consist of 14 members, including at least one from each division. One student-athlete from each division (who shall have one vote each) shall serve as a member of the committee. Each student-athlete may serve on the committee up to one year after completion of their intercollegiate athletics eligibility.~~

~~21.2.5.1.1 Student-Athlete Representation. The Division II student-athlete member of the Olympic Sports Liaison Committee shall also be a member of the Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.~~

~~21.2.5.2 Duties. The committee shall:~~

~~(a) Act as a liaison between the Association, the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee and national governing bodies; and~~

~~(b) Study and make recommendations concerning the Association's appropriate role in the involvement of student-athletes in international athletics.~~

[21.2.6 through 21.2.8 renumbered as 21.2.5 through 21.2.7, unchanged.]

**Source:** NCAA Division II Management Council (Board of Governors).

**Effective Date:** Immediate

**Additional Information:**

The NCAA Board of Governors commissioned a review of NCAA Association-wide committees and potential changes to better align the committees' work with the new NCAA constitution. The continued review has resulted in a recommendation to eliminate the NCAA Olympic Sports Liaison Committee, as its duties overlap with a partnership between the NCAA and the United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee (USOPC). Further, the committee's legislated duties and charge have been completed. This proposal is being recommended as noncontroversial legislation, inasmuch as broader consultation and debate are unlikely to improve the proposal in any substantial way, significant disagreement or alternative points of view will not be generated and there does not appear to be a significant impact on existing or proposed legislation.

NO. NC-2024-16 NCAA DIVISION II MEMBERSHIP AND INSTITUTIONAL CONTROL -- ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP -- INSTITUTIONS -- CONDITIONS AND OBLIGATIONS OF ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP -- ACADEMIC SUCCESS RATE AND ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE CENSUS -- FAILURE TO SUBMIT AND FINAL AUTHORITY

**Intent:** To specify that the withholding penalty for failure to submit Academic Success Rate (ASR) and Academic Performance Census (APC) data will occur with the next distribution of Division II Institutional Equal Distribution Funds; further, to specify that the NCAA Division II Academic Requirements Committee shall have the final authority over waivers submitted by Division II institutions that fail to submit their ASR and APC data by the deadlines.

**Bylaws:** Amend 7.3.1.5, as follows:

7.3.1.5 Conditions and Obligations of Active Membership.

[7.3.1.5.1 through 7.3.1.5.11 unchanged.]

7.3.1.5.12 Academic Success Rate. Active members shall annually submit data, by the applicable deadline, for the Academic Success Rate in a form prescribed by the Management Council.

7.3.1.5.12.1 Failure to Submit Data. An active member institution that fails to submit data for the Academic Success Rate by the applicable deadline shall forfeit receipt of Division II Institutional Equal Distribution Funds ~~in the following academic year~~**with the next distribution**. Further, an active member institution that fails to submit data for the Academic Success Rate in any two years during a five-year period shall forfeit Division II Institutional Equal Distribution Funds ~~for the following three consecutive academic years~~**with the next three distributions**.

7.3.1.5.12.1.1 Waiver. The Academic Requirements Committee may grant waivers of Bylaw 7.3.1.5.12.1 if it deems that unusual circumstances warrant such action. ~~The Management Council Subcommittee [see Bylaw 8.2.2.3] shall hear and act on an institution's appeal of a decision made by the Academic Requirements Committee~~**The decision of the Academic Requirements Committee shall be considered final.**

7.3.1.5.13 Academic Performance Census – Failure to Submit. If an institution fails to submit its Academic Performance Census by the applicable deadline, in a format approved and administered by the Presidents Council (or a committee designated by the Presidents Council), that institution shall forfeit Division II Institutional Equal Distribution Funds ~~for the following academic year~~**with the next distribution**.

7.3.1.5.13.1 Waiver. The Academic Requirements Committee may grant waivers of Bylaw 7.3.1.5.13 if it deems that unusual circumstances warrant such action. ~~The Management Council Subcommittee [see Bylaw 8.2.2.3] shall hear and act on an institution's appeal of a decision made by the Academic Requirements Committee~~**The decision of the Academic Requirements Committee shall be considered final.**

[7.3.1.5.14 through 7.3.1.5.22 unchanged.]

**Source:** NCAA Division II Management Council (Academic Requirements Committee).

**Effective Date:** Immediate

**Additional Information:**

Under current legislation, the withholding penalty for failure to submit Academic Success Rate (ASR) and Academic Performance Census (APC) data occurs during the following academic year. However, new systems have been implemented that streamlined the process to take place without delay. As a result, in practice, if an institution fails to submit the data, the withholding penalty occurs with the next distribution of Equal Distribution Funds. Therefore, changing the legislated timing of the withholding penalty for failure to submit ASR and APC data will align with current practice. Additionally, current legislation provides a waiver opportunity for institutions that fail to submit ASR and APC data. If the Division II Academic Requirements Committee denies the waiver, current legislation gives the Division II Management Council Subcommittee the authority to hear and act on an institution's appeal of the committee's decision. Granting the Academic Requirements Committee final authority over such waiver decisions places the decision making in the hands of subject matter experts. Further, such waiver decisions have not traditionally been appealed to the Management Council Subcommittee.

#### NO. NC-2024-17 AMATEURISM – USE OF LOGOS ON EQUIPMENT, UNIFORMS AND APPAREL – INCORPORATING INTO PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS LEGISLATION

**Intent:** To move the use of logos on equipment, uniforms and apparel legislation into the playing and practice seasons legislation.

**Bylaws:** Amend 12.5, as follows:

~~17.51.10~~ **17.10** Use of Logos on Equipment, Uniforms and Apparel. A student-athlete may use athletics equipment or wear athletics apparel that bears the trademark or logo of an athletics equipment or apparel manufacturer or distributor in athletics competition and pre- and postgame activities (e.g., celebrations on the court, pre- or postgame press conferences), provided the applicable sports playing rules are satisfied and the following criteria are met. [D]

[17.1.10-(a) through 17.1.10-(b) unchanged.]

~~17.51.10.1~~ **17.10.1** Laundry Label. If an institution's uniform or any item of apparel worn by a student-athlete in competition contains washing instructions on the outside of the apparel on a patch that also includes the manufacturer's or distributor's logo or trademark, the entire patch must be contained within a four-sided geometrical figure (i.e., rectangle, square, parallelogram) that does not exceed 2 1/4 square inches. [D]

~~17.51.210.2~~ Pre- or Postgame Activities. The restriction on the size of a manufacturer's or distributor's logo is applicable to all apparel worn by student-athletes during the conduct of the institution's competition, which includes any pre- or postgame activities (e.g., postgame celebrations on the court, pre- or postgame press conferences) involving student-athletes. [D]

~~17.51.310.3~~ Outside Team Uniforms and Apparel. The provisions of Bylaw ~~17.1.10~~(b) do not apply to the official uniforms and apparel worn by outside teams.

~~17.51.410.4~~ Title Sponsor Recognition. Racing bibs and similar competition identification materials (e.g., bowl-game patches) worn by participants may include the name of the corporate sponsor of the competition, provided the involved commercial company is the sole title sponsor of the competition. [D]

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

**Effective Date:** Immediate

**Additional Information:**

As part of the work of the NCAA Division II Implementation Committee, the Legislative Process and Compliance Subcommittee of the Implementation Committee determined that the location of Bylaw 12.5 was no longer the appropriate bylaw to house the legislation. Upon review, the NCAA Division II Legislation Committee determined that eliminating Bylaw 12.5 would diminish the importance of the restrictions surrounding manufacturing logos. Therefore, keeping Bylaw 12.5 in the Division II Manual and incorporating it into Bylaw 17 will maintain the importance of the restrictions surrounding manufacturing logos, while placing it in a more appropriate location within the Division II Manual as the restrictions in Bylaw 12.5 better align with the regulations set forth in Bylaw 17.

NO. NC-2024-18 NCAA DIVISION II MEMBERSHIP AND INSTITUTIONAL CONTROL -- ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP -- INSTITUTIONS -- CONDITIONS AND OBLIGATIONS OF ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP -- STUDENT-ATHLETE HEALTH AND SAFETY SURVEY AND FINANCIAL DATA REQUIREMENT -- FAILURE TO SUBMIT AND WAIVER OPPORTUNITY

**Intent:** To specify that the withholding penalty for failure to submit the student-athlete health and safety survey and financial data will occur with the next distribution of Division II Institutional Equal Distribution Funds; further, to establish a waiver opportunity for an institution that fails to submit the student-athlete health and safety survey and financial data by the deadline.

**A. Bylaws:** Amend 7.3.1.5, as follows: (*Immediate*)

7.3.1.5 Conditions and Obligations of Active Membership.

[7.3.1.5.1 through 7.3.1.5.18 unchanged.]

7.3.1.5.19 Student-Athlete Health and Safety Survey. An active member institution shall complete a student-athlete health and safety survey on an annual basis pursuant to policies and procedures as determined by the Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sport.

7.3.1.5.19.1 Failure to Submit Survey. An institution that fails to submit the student-athlete health and safety survey by the applicable deadline shall forfeit receipt of Division II Institutional Equal Distribution Funds ~~in the following academic year~~**with the next distribution**.

**7.3.1.5.19.1 Waiver. The Membership Committee may waive the requirement of Bylaw 7.3.1.5.19.1 if it deems that unusual circumstances warrant such action. The decision of the Membership Committee shall be considered final.**

[7.3.1.5.20 through 7.3.1.5.22 unchanged.]

**B. Bylaws:** Amend 7.3.1.5, as follows: (*August 1, 2025*)

7.3.1.5 Conditions and Obligations of Active Membership.

[7.3.1.5.1 through 7.3.1.5.22 unchanged.]

7.3.1.5.23 Financial Data Requirement -- Failure to Submit. An active member institution that fails to submit its financial data per NCAA Article 2-D-1-c by the applicable deadline, in a format approved and administered by the Membership Committee, shall forfeit Division II Institutional Equal Distribution Funds ~~for the following academic year~~**with the next distribution**.

**7.3.1.5.23.1 Waiver. The Membership Committee may waive the requirement of Bylaw 7.3.1.5.23 if it deems that unusual circumstances warrant such action. The decision of the Membership Committee shall be considered final.**

**Source:** NCAA Division II Management Council (Membership Committee).

**Effective Date:**

Section A: Immediate

Section B: August 1, 2025

**Additional Information:**

Under current legislation, the withholding penalty for failure to submit the student-athlete health and safety survey and financial data occurs during the following academic year. However, new systems have been implemented that streamlined the penalty process to take place without delay. As a result, in practice, if an institution fails to submit the data, the withholding penalty occurs with the next distribution of Division II Equal Distribution Funds. Therefore, changing the legislated timing of the withholding penalty for failure to submit the student-athlete health and safety survey and financial data will align with current practice. Additionally, current legislation does not provide a waiver opportunity for institutions that fail to submit the student-athlete health and safety survey and financial data. Establishing a waiver opportunity will provide institutions with greater opportunities for relief. Further, it will allow the Membership Committee to have final authority over waiver decisions, ensuring that decision making remains in the hands of subject matter experts.

## Convention Voting Procedures

The following terms and procedures involved in voting at NCAA Conventions have been reviewed by the Association's parliamentarian.

### Significant Terms

1. **Vote Announcement** - After a paddle, roll-call or secret ballot vote, the chair announces the vote and states whether the motion passed or failed.
2. **Retake a Vote** - A retake occurs when a paddle vote is taken again or when a paddle vote is counted. A retake may occur before the statement of the next question. After the statement of the next question, a motion to reconsider must be used to retake a vote. During a retake, voters may change their votes and new eligible voters may participate. A retake motion would be considered dilatory and, therefore, denied after a roll-call vote and out of order after a secret-ballot vote unless it is clear that the question was misunderstood or that fraud had occurred.
3. **Change a Vote** - In a paddle vote, a vote may be changed if a retake occurs or by rising for that purpose before the result is announced by the chair. After the announcement of the vote, but before the next question is stated, a change may be made only by permission of the assembly by a majority vote after a nondebatable motion. In a roll-call vote, a change may occur before closing the polls or the polls may be reopened to change a vote before the statement of the next question. In a secret-ballot vote, no change may be made once the ballot is cast. After the statement of the next question following a roll-call vote and after a vote is cast in a secret ballot, a vote change can occur only through a successful motion to reconsider.
4. **Recount a Vote** - This applies only to a secret-ballot vote. The ballots simply are counted again as cast and can be ordered only by a majority vote of the assembly.
5. **Closing the Polls** - For roll-call and secret-ballot votes, the polls are opened when the chair calls for the vote. When the chair has ascertained that all who so desire have voted or have changed their votes, the chair will state that the polls are closed. If there is disagreement on closing the polls, they may be closed by a two-thirds vote on a nondebatable motion to do so. Once the polls are closed, the polls may be reopened before the statement of the next question by majority vote on a nondebatable motion to do so. Once the polls are closed, however, the chair will move to the next item on the agenda.
6. **Statement of Next Question** - When a new motion is made and seconded, the chair will announce that "The motion before you is.... Is there any discussion?" This is the statement of the next question and ends the opportunity to retake a vote or reopen the polls in regard to the preceding question.
7. **Reconsideration** - After the statement of the next question, only one motion to reconsider any foregoing question may be made before adjournment of the Convention by any member that voted on the prevailing side in the original consideration. Reconsideration of a vote taken in a division or subdivision business session must occur in that division's or subdivision's business session, except that such reconsideration also may occur during a designated period at the beginning of the general business session.

### Voting Procedures

1. **Paddle Voting**
  - a. The chair calls for a vote by paddles and determines the result by sound or sight from the dais.
  - b. The chair may retake the vote if there is doubt.
  - c. The chair must have the vote counted if requested by a voting delegate. The chair also may choose to retake a paddle vote and have it counted by hand or by the wireless voting system.
  - d. During a retake, new voters may participate, or votes may be changed. Vote changes also may occur before the result is announced by the chair.
  - e. A retake will not be permitted after the next question has been stated. A request to retake a counted vote will be regarded as dilatory by the chair and will not be allowed.
2. **Roll-Call Voting (by Wireless Voting System)**
  - a. A roll-call vote may be designated by the Presidents Council or ordered by a majority of the voters, following a nondebatable motion to vote in that manner. If both a secret-ballot and a roll-call vote are moved, the assembly votes first on whether or not to vote by roll call. A motion to conduct a secret ballot on an issue designated for roll call by the Presidents Councils will be considered out of order.

- b. Once ordered, the chair shall call for a roll-call vote by use of wireless voting system.
- c. The chair shall determine if everyone who wishes to has voted, or if anyone wishes to change a vote. When it appears that all ballots have been cast, the chair shall state that polls are closed.
- d. The chair will move to the next available item on the agenda while votes are being tallied. No new votes, changes or corrections to the prior question are permitted unless the polls are reopened, and such a motion will be out of order after the next question is stated by the chair. Once the new question is stated by the chair, the only way to return to any foregoing question is by reconsideration, and only one motion for reconsideration of a given item is permitted.
- e. Abstentions will not be counted in the determination of a majority.

**3. Ballot Voting (Secret Ballot)**

- a. A secret ballot may be ordered by the assembly before, during or after any ordinary vote (but before the next question is stated) by a majority vote on a nondebatable motion to do so.
- b. Once ordered, the chair shall ask for the vote by wireless voting system. Votes will be tallied electronically, but only a summary printout of results will be reported.
- c. After the chair determines that all who wish to vote have voted, the polls shall be closed. A vote change shall not be permitted once the vote is cast.
- d. The chair will move to the next available item on the agenda while votes are being tallied. Once the next question is stated by the chair, the polls may not be reopened for a new vote on the prior issue.
- e. Abstentions will not be counted in the total for determination of a majority.

## NCAA Governance Structure

### Board of Governors

Chair - Linda A. Livingstone

<b>Div.</b>	<b>Name, Institution</b>	<b>Conference</b>	<b>Term Exp.</b>
FBS	Linda A Livingstone, Baylor University	Big 12 Conference	AUG 2024
FBS	Jere Morehead, University of Georgia	Southeastern Conference	AUG 2024
FBS	Lynda Tealer, University of Florida	Southeastern Conference	JUN 2024
FCS	Javaune Adams-Gaston, Norfolk State University*	Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference	AUG 2024
FCS	Elizabeth E. DeBauche, Ohio Valley Conference	Ohio Valley Conference	AUG 2024
DI	Bryce Choate, Oral Roberts University**	The Summit League	AUG 2024
I	Houston Davis, University of Central Arkansas	Atlantic Sun Conference	AUG 2025
II	Carrie Michaels, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania*	Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference	JAN 2024
II	Madeleine McKenna, Pennsylvania Western University, California**	Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference	AUG 2024
II	Steven Shirley, Minot State University	Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference	JAN 2024
III	Mary Beth Cooper, Springfield College	New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference	JAN 2025
III	Holly Sheilley, Transylvania University*	Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference	JAN 2024
III	Isaiah Swann, University of Texas at Dallas^	American Southwest Conference	AUG 2024
Independent	Charlie Baker, NCAA President*		
Independent	Allison Feaster, VP of Team Operations, Boston Celtics		AUG 2025
Independent	Nadja West, Retired Lt. General		AUG 2024

^Former student-athlete

\*Ex Officio

#### NCAA Staff Liaisons:

Stephanie Quigg, Managing Director of Law, Policy and Governance

Terri Steeb Gronau, Vice President of Division II

## Division II Presidents Council

Chair - Steven Shirley

<b>Name, Institution</b>	<b>Term Exp.</b>
Rosyln Artis, Benedict College	JAN 2028
Michaela Boyd, Azusa Pacific University	JAN 2024
Carlos Campo, Ashland University	JAN 2026
Davaris Cheeks, Concordia University, St. Paul	JAN 2025
Michael Driscoll, Indiana University of Pennsylvania	JAN 2024
John Y. Gotanda, Hawaii Pacific University	JAN 2026
Donna Price-Henry, The University of Virginia's College at Wise	JAN 2026
Colleen Perry Keith, Goldey-Beacom College	JAN 2026
Steven Shirley, Minot State University	JAN 2024
William Thierfelder, Belmont Abbey College	JAN 2024
Blake Thompson, Mississippi College	JAN 2027
Dwaun Warmack, Claflin University	JAN 2028
Sandra Woodley, University of Texas Permian Basin	JAN 2027
Frank Wu, Queens College (New York)	JAN 2024

### NCAA Staff Liaisons:

Terri Steeb Gronau, Vice President of Division II

Maritza S. Jones, Managing Director of Division II

Ryan Jones, Director of Division II

Angela Red, Director of Academic and Membership Affairs

Chelsea Hooks, Associate Director of Academic and Membership Affairs

Rachel Denton, Assistant Director of Academic and Membership Affairs

Jill Waddell, Coordinator for Division II

## Division II Management Council

Chair - Carrie Michaels

<b>Name, Institution</b>	<b>Term Exp.</b>
Femi Alao, Roberts Wesleyan University	JAN 2027
Patrick Britz, South Atlantic Conference	JAN 2027
Brenda Cates, University of Mount Olive	JAN 2024
Bennett Cherry, California State University, San Marcos	JAN 2027
Marcus Clarke, Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association	JAN 2025
Mark A. Corino, Caldwell University	JAN 2024
Pete Crabb, Northwest Nazarene University	JAN 2028
Jeremy Elliott, University of Alabama in Huntsville	JAN 2027
Theresa Grosbach, Missouri Western State University	JAN 2027
Kim Hancock, Ferris State University	JAN 2027
David Hansburg, Colorado School of Mines	JAN 2026
Jerry Haywood, Fort Valley State University	JAN 2028
Amy Henkelman, Dominican University of California	JAN 2025
Kristi Kiefer, Fairmont State University	JAN 2024
Emma Kramer, Simon Fraser University	JAN 2024
Erin Lind, Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference	JAN 2026
Katherine Loh, Florida Southern College	JAN 2027
Daniel McCabe, Adelphi University	JAN 2025
Cindy McKnight, Ursuline College	JAN 2027
Carrie Michaels, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania	JAN 2024
Austin Mondello, Colorado Mesa University	JAN 2024
Sandee Mott, Texas Woman's University	JAN 2026
Roberta Page, Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania	JAN 2027
John 'Bo' Pagliasotti, Southwestern Oklahoma State University	JAN 2026
Sarah Ramey, West Texas A&M University	JAN 2027
Christina Whetsel, Augusta University	JAN 2026
Vaughn Williams, Bentley University	JAN 2027
Jerry Wollmering, Truman State University	JAN 2024

### NCAA Staff Liaisons:

Terri Steeb Gronau, Vice President of Division II

Maritza S. Jones, Managing Director of Division II

Ryan Jones, Director of Division II

Angela Red, Director of Academic and Membership Affairs

Chelsea Hooks, Associate Director of Academic and Membership Affairs

Rachel Denton, Assistant Director of Academic and Membership Affairs

Jill Waddell, Coordinator for Division II

Robert Turick, Assistant Director of Research



2024 NCAA CONVENTION – DIVISION II BUSINESS SESSION

Official Notice No.	Title	Effective Date	Presidents Council Position (Source)	Speaker (Back-Up)	Topical Grouping	Type of Vote	FARA Position	SAAC Position	Notes
Official Notice				Michaels		Paddle			One vote to approve the order of the notice and adopt the blue pages.
2024-1	PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS -- FOOTBALL -- PRESEASON PRACTICE AND FIRST CONTEST -- FIRST PERMISSIBLE CONTEST	August 1, 2024.	Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association; Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association; Gulf South Conference; Lone Star Conference; and Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.	None.	Playing and Practice Seasons	Roll Call	Oppose	Oppose	<p><b>Football only vote.</b></p> <p><b>Membership-Sponsored Proposal</b></p> <p>One vote on the proposal – merits.</p> <p><i>The Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports and Championships Committee agreed to take <u>no position</u> on this proposal.</i></p> <p><i>The Presidents Council, Management Council, Committee on Women’s Athletics and Legislation Committee agreed to <u>oppose</u> this proposal.</i></p> <p><i>The Football Committee agreed to <u>support</u> this proposal.</i></p>
2024-2	PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS -- SOFTBALL -- NUMBER OF CONTESTS - - MAXIMUM LIMITATIONS -- INSTITUTIONAL AND STUDENT-ATHLETE -- CHAMPIONSHIP AND NONCHAMPIONSHIP CONTESTS	August 1, 2024.	East Coast Conference; Gulf South Conference; Albany State University (Georgia); Metropolitan State University of Denver; Minnesota State University, Mankato; Montana State University Billings; Union University; University of Alabama in Huntsville; and University of West Alabama.	None.	Playing and Practice Seasons	Roll Call	Oppose	Oppose	<p><b>Membership-Sponsored Proposal</b></p> <p>One vote on the proposal – merits.</p> <p><i>The Presidents Council, Management Council, Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports, Legislation Committee and Championships Committee agreed to <u>oppose</u> this proposal.</i></p> <p><i>The Softball Committee agreed to <u>support</u> this proposal.</i></p>

Official Notice No.	Title	Effective Date	Presidents Council Position (Source)	Speaker (Back-Up)	Topical Grouping	Type of Vote	FARA Position	SAAC Position	Notes
2024-3	CHAMPIONSHIPS ADMINISTRATION -- ADMINISTRATION OF DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIPS -- MINIMUM SPONSORSHIP FOR DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIPS -- MINIMUM NUMBER OF SPONSORING INSTITUTIONS AND THREE-YEAR GRACE PERIOD	August 1, 2024.	NCAA Division II Presidents Council [Management Council (Championships Committee)].	Wollmering (Colvin)	Championships Administration	Roll Call	Support	Support	One vote on the proposal – merits.
2024-4	CHAMPIONSHIPS ADMINISTRATION -- ADMINISTRATION OF DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIPS -- CRITERIA FOR SELECTION OF PARTICIPANTS -- AUTOMATIC QUALIFICATION -- AUTOMATIC QUALIFICATION IN ALL TEAM SPORTS OTHER THAN FOOTBALL	August 1, 2024.	NCAA Division II Presidents Council [Management Council (Championships Committee)].	McAthie	Championships Administration	Roll Call	No position	Support	One vote on the proposal – merits.
2024-5	CHAMPIONSHIPS ADMINISTRATION -- ADMINISTRATION OF DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIPS -- CRITERIA FOR SELECTION OF PARTICIPANTS -- EARNED ACCESS -- FOOTBALL -- EARNED ACCESS FOR ALL FOOTBALL-SPONSORING CONFERENCES	August 1, 2024.	NCAA Division II Presidents Council [Management Council (Championships Committee)].	Gibson (Page)	Championships Administration	Roll Call	No position	Oppose	<b>Football only vote.</b> One vote on the proposal – merits.



2024 NCAA Convention Procedural Issues and Clarifications  
Regarding NCAA Division II Proposals

1. Corrections. There are no corrections to the 2024 NCAA Convention Division II Official Notice.
2. Reordering of proposals. There are no reordering issues at this time.
3. Withdrawal issues. There are no withdrawal issues at this time. However, the sponsors of NCAA Division II Proposal No. 2024-2 have shared that they will not move the proposal on the Convention floor.
4. Mootnicity issues. There are no mootnicity issues at this time.
5. Immediate effective date. There are no proposals with an immediate effective date.
6. Alternate effective date. There are no proposals with an alternate effective date prior to August 1, 2024.
7. Delayed effective date. There are no proposals with a delayed effective date.
8. Football only votes. The following proposals affect only football. Only those institutions and conferences that sponsor football may vote on these proposals. However, any delegates with speaking rights may speak to the proposals on the Convention floor.
  - a. Division II Proposal No. 2024-1.
  - b. Division II Proposal No. 2024-5.
9. Interpretations. There are no official interpretations of the proposals at this time.
10. Noncontroversial legislation amendments. There are no noncontroversial legislation amendments at this time.
11. Motion to divide a proposal. A voting delegate may "divide" a properly moved proposal into two or more parts to be voted on separately only if the parts make sense as they stand alone and only if each part may be adopted without any of the others.
  - a. A voting delegate may make a motion to divide a proposal after it is properly moved and seconded.
  - b. A motion to divide a proposal:
    - (1) Requires the delegate making the motion to clearly articulate the division;
    - (2) Requires a second;

- (3) Is a debatable motion; and
  - (4) Requires a simple majority for adoption.
- c. The chair of the business session will facilitate a motion to divide a proposal.
12. Reconsideration of a proposal. A "window of reconsideration" is available to delegates at the end of the business session following a brief break to reconsider the outcome of a particular vote on a proposal. A motion to "reconsider" a proposal should only be made during this period.
- a. A voting delegate on the prevailing side of the vote on a proposal may make a motion to reconsider a proposal.
  - b. The chair of the business session will facilitate the reconsideration of a proposal.
  - c. The first vote is on the motion to reconsider the outcome (pass or fail) of a proposal and is a debatable motion. Motions to reconsider the outcome (pass or fail) of a proposal require a majority approval. If the motion to reconsider is approved, the delegates may debate the merits of the proposal and will vote on whether the proposal should be adopted or defeated.
  - d. Delegates with speaking rights may only speak to the merits of a particular proposal twice. For example, if a delegate spoke once on the merits during the original consideration of the proposal, the delegate may only speak once on the merits of the proposal during reconsideration of the proposal.

If a voting delegate has any questions regarding the reconsideration of a proposal, representatives from the NCAA Division II Membership Committee will be available during the "window of reconsideration."



2024 NCAA Convention Division II Legislative Proposals  
Question and Answer Guide

(Last Updated: December 8, 2023)

*Please note this is the final edition of the 2024 NCAA Convention Division II Legislative Proposals Question and Answer Guide. A hard-copy version of the guide will not be distributed at the Convention in Pheonix, Arizona. The delegates should plan accordingly.*

**DIVISION II LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS  
TABLE OF CONTENTS**

NCAA Division II Proposal No. 2024-1 -- Playing and Practice Seasons -- Football -- Preseason Practice and First Contest -- First Permissible Contest .....3

NCAA Division II Proposal No. 2024-2 -- Playing and Practice Seasons -- Softball -- Number of Contests -- Maximum Limitations -- Institutional and Student-Athlete -- Championship and Nonchampionship Contests.....6

NCAA Division II Proposal No. 2024-3 -- Championships Administration -- Administration of Division II Championships -- Minimum Sponsorship for Division II Championships -- Minimum Number of Sponsoring Institutions and Three-Year Grace Period.....9

NCAA Division II Proposal No. 2024-4 -- Championships Administration -- Administration of Division II Championships -- Criteria for Selection of Participants -- Automatic Qualification -- Automatic Qualification in all Team Sports Other Than Football .....13

NCAA Division II Proposal No. 2024-5 -- Championships Administration -- Administration of Division II Championships -- Criteria for Selection of Participants -- Earned Access -- Football -- Earned Access for All Football-Sponsoring Conferences .....16

**NCAA Division II Proposal No. 2024-1 -- Playing and Practice Seasons -- Football -- Preseason Practice and First Contest -- First Permissible Contest**

**Question No. 1:** What is the current legislation surrounding the first permissible contest date?

**Answer:** Currently, in the sport of football, an institution may participate in its first permissible contest with outside competition the Thursday preceding September 6.

**Question No. 2:** If adopted, how will this proposal change the current legislation surrounding the first permissible contest date?

**Answer:** If adopted, in the sport of football, an institution would be able to participate in their first permissible contest with outside competition one week prior to the Thursday, preceding September 6. [See Question No. 3 below]

**Question No. 3:** If adopted, when will an institution be permitted to participate in their first permissible contest for the 2024 football season?

**Answer:** For the 2024 football season, the Thursday preceding September 6 is September 5, 2024. Therefore, if adopted, an institution would be able to participate in its first permissible contest on or after Thursday, August 29, 2024.

The chart below outlines the first permissible contest under current legislation and the first permissible contest in future years if the proposal is adopted.

Year	First Permissible Contest under Current Legislation	First Permissible Contest if Division II Proposal No. 2024-1 is Adopted
2025	September 4, 2025	August 28, 2025
2026	September 3, 2026	August 27, 2026
2027	September 2, 2027	August 26, 2027
2028	August 31, 2028	August 24, 2028
2029	August 30, 2029	August 23, 2029

**Question No. 4:** If adopted, how will this proposal amend the first permissible practice date?

**Answer:** Currently an institution may begin participating in preseason practice 24 days before the first permissible contest date or 10 days before the institution's first day of classes, whichever is earlier.

If adopted, an institution would utilize the **institution's first contest date**, as opposed to the first permissible contest date, to determine when the 24 days would begin. The legislation would still permit an institution to begin their preseason practice 10 days before the institution's first day of classes.

For example, for the 2024 football season, if an institution schedules its first contest on August 29, 2024, an institution would be permitted to begin its preseason practice period on August 5, 2024, or 10 days before the institution's first day of classes, whichever is earlier.

The chart below outlines when an institution may begin participating in preseason practice in future years if Division II proposal is adopted.

Year	Institution's First Contest Date	Start of Preseason Practice
2025	August 28, 2025	August 4, 2025  or  10 days before the institution's first day of classes, whichever is earlier.
2026	August 27, 2026	August 3, 2026  or  10 days before the institution's first day of classes, whichever is earlier.
2027	August 26, 2027	August 2, 2027  or  10 days before the institution's first day of classes, whichever is earlier.
2028	August 24, 2028	July 31, 2028  or  10 days before the institution's first day of classes, whichever is earlier.

2029	August 23, 2029	July 30, 2029  or  10 days before the institution's first day of classes, whichever is earlier.
------	-----------------	---

[Note: The chart above outlines the start of the preseason practice period based on an institution participating in its first contest one week prior to the Thursday, preceding September 6. The start of the preseason practice period may vary depending on when an institution schedules its first permissible contest].

**Question No. 5:** If adopted, is an institution required to participate in its first contest one week prior to the Thursday preceding September 6?

**Answer:** No.

**Question No. 6:** If adopted, would this proposal change or eliminate the seven-day acclimatization period?

**Answer:** No.

**Question No. 7:** If adopted, would this proposal change activities that must occur after the seven-day acclimatization period [see NCAA Division II Bylaw 17.11.3.4 (preseason activities after acclimatization period)]?

**Answer:** No.

**Question No. 8:** If adopted, will this proposal amend the maximum number of contests in the sport of football?

**Answer:** No.

**Question No. 9:** If adopted, will the date of the Division II Football Championship change?

**Answer:** No.

**NCAA Division II Proposal No. 2024-2 -- Playing and Practice Seasons -- Softball -- Number of Contests -- Maximum Limitations -- Institutional and Student-Athlete -- Championship and Nonchampionship Contests.**

**Question No. 1:** Under current legislation, how many softball contests may an institution and student-athlete participate in during the playing season?

**Answer:** An institution and student-athlete may participate in a maximum of 56 contests (games and scrimmages) during the nonchampionship segment and championship segment.

**Question No. 2:** If adopted, will this proposal amend the maximum number of contests in the sport of softball?

**Answer:** Yes. An institution and student-athlete may participate in eight contests (games and scrimmages) during the nonchampionship segment and 56 contests (games and scrimmages) during the championship segment.

**Question No. 3:** If adopted, will an institution and student-athlete be required to participate in any contests during the nonchampionship segment?

**Answer:** No.

**Question No. 4:** If an institution does not participate in all eight contests during the nonchampionship segment, may an institution participate in the remaining contests during the championship segment?

**Answer:** No.

**Question No. 5:** If adopted, will this change the number of discretionary exemptions an institution may exempt from their maximum number of contests?

**Answer:** No. An institution will still be permitted to exempt no more than three discretionary exemptions listed in NCAA Division II Bylaw 17.21.7.4 (discretionary exemptions).

**Question No. 6:** If adopted, will this proposal change when an institution may participate in a discretionary exemption?

**Answer:** No. See NCAA Division II Bylaw 17.21.3.2 (exceptions).

**Question No. 7:** If adopted, may softball student-athletes miss class to participate in competition during the nonchampionship segment?

**Answer:** No. However, NCAA Division II Bylaw 17.1.6.9.2.2 (exception -- nonchampionship segment travel to/from Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico or Canada), permits student-athletes on a team sport to miss class time for

competition in Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico or Canada against an institution located in those areas, once every four years.

**Question No. 8:** If adopted, will this proposal amend NCAA Division II Bylaw 17.1.6.2 (daily and weekly hour limitations – nonchampionship segment)?

**Answer:** No.

**Question No. 9:** If adopted, will this proposal amend NCAA Division II Bylaw 17.1.6.6 (required days off -- nonchampionship segment)?

**Answer:** No.

**Question No. 10:** If adopted, will this proposal amend the 45-day window during the nonchampionship segment?

**Answer:** No. [See NCAA Division II Bylaw 17.21.8-(b) (nonchampionship segment activities)].

**Question No. 11:** If adopted, will the contests played during the nonchampionship segment count towards championships selection?

**Answer:** No.

**Question No. 12:** If adopted, will the contests played during the nonchampionship segment count towards an institution's and student-athlete's statistics for NCAA purposes?

**Answer:** No.

**Question No. 13:** If adopted, will an institution still be required to adhere to the playing rules while participating in its softball contests (e.g., seven innings) during the playing and practice season (eight contests during the nonchampionship segment and 56 contests during the championship segment)?

**Answer:** Yes; however, it is not mandatory for the playing rules to be used in scrimmages or other forms of practice with outside competition. [See NCAA Division II Bylaw 17.33 (playing rules)].

**Question No. 14:** If a student-athlete participates in contests during the nonchampionship segment, but does not participate in any contests during the championship segment, will the student-athlete use a season of competition?

**Answer:** No, provided the student-athlete was certified as eligible (e.g., amateurism, enrolled full-time) prior to participation during the nonchampionship segment.

**Question No. 15:** If adopted, will contests played during the nonchampionship segment be included in the medical hardship calculations (standard denominator and 30%)?

**Answer:** No.

**NCAA Division II Proposal No. 2024-3 -- Championships Administration -- Administration of Division II Championships -- Minimum Sponsorship for Division II Championships -- Minimum Number of Sponsoring Institutions and Three-Year Grace Period**

**Question No. 1:** What is the current legislation?

**Answer:** Currently, the minimum number of Division II institutions required to maintain and/or establish a Division II Championship is 40 in women's sports and 50 in men's sports. Further, if a sport falls below the minimum number of institutions required to maintain a Division II Championship, the championship is automatically discontinued.

However, a Division II Championship in any Olympic sport and a Division II Championship in the sports of men's and women's lacrosse are exempt from meeting the minimum number of institutions required to maintain a Division II Championship.

**Question No. 2:** If adopted, how will this proposal change the current legislation?

**Answer:** The minimum number of Division II institutions required to maintain and/or establish a Division II Championship will be 35 for both men's and women's sports. Further, a three-year grace period will be established for a sport that falls below the 35-minimum threshold. Finally, the exceptions for men's and women's lacrosse and the Olympic sports will be eliminated.

**Question No. 3:** What are the current sponsorship numbers for Division II Championship sports?

**Answer:** The chart below outlines the sport sponsorship numbers for Division II Championship sports for the 2022-23 academic year.

Sport	Number of Active Division II Institutions Sponsoring
Men's Cross Country	262
Women's Cross Country	282
Women's Field Hockey	35
Football	161
Men's Soccer	198
Women's Soccer	250
Women's Volleyball	281
Men's Basketball	291
Women's Basketball	292
Men's Swimming and Diving	74
Women's Swimming and Diving	97
Men's Indoor Track and Field	180
Women's Indoor Track and Field	205
Men's Wrestling	64
Baseball	246
Men's Golf	203

Women's Golf	186
Men's Lacrosse	74
Women's Lacrosse	109
Women's Rowing	12
Softball	270
Men's Tennis	144
Women's Tennis	199
Men's Outdoor Track and Field	221
Women's Outdoor Track and Field	250

**Question No. 4:** Which Division II Championship sports, if any, do not have 35-sponsoring institutions?

**Answer:** Women's rowing.

**Question No. 5:** Will current Division II Championships that don't meet the 35-minimum threshold be grandfathered in?

**Answer:** No.

**Question No. 6:** If adopted, may a Division II Championship be established in a sport that currently has a National Collegiate Championship if it meets the 35-minimum threshold?

**Answer:** Yes.

**Question No. 7:** What are the current Division II sport sponsorship numbers for National Collegiate sports?

**Answer:** The chart below outlines the sport sponsorship numbers for National College Championship sports for the 2022-23 academic year.

Sport	Number of Active Division II Institutions Sponsoring
Women's Beach Volleyball	17
Women's Bowling*	36
Men's Fencing*	1
Women's Fencing*	1
Women's Gymnastics*	4
Men's Ice Hockey	6
Women's Ice Hockey	4
Men's Rifle*	2
Women's Rifle*	2
Men's Skiing*	6
Women's Skiing*	7
Men's Volleyball	28
Men's Water Polo	7
Women's Water Polo	10

\* Individual team sports

**Question No. 8:** If adopted, will the minimum number of institutions required to establish and/or maintain a National Collegiate Championship change?

**Answer:** No. The minimum number of institutions required to establish a National Collegiate Championship will remain 50 in men's sports and 40 in women's sports across all three divisions.

**Question No. 9:** What is the process for a sport that participates in a National Collegiate Championship to establish a Division II Championship?

**Answer:** Once the Division II Championships Committee confirms a sport has met the 35-minimum threshold, a review process will begin to evaluate whether a Division II Championship should be established.

This review will include a budget analysis, Division II Legislation Committee feedback on any sport-specific legislation (e.g., playing and practice seasons, financial aid, etc.) that may need to be amended and membership feedback. Based on that review, the Championships Committee may recommend to the Division II Management Council and Division II Executive Board (effective February 1, 2024) to sponsor legislation to establish a Division II Championship.

Further, under NCAA Division II Bylaw 9.3.10.1 (division championship), a division championship may be established by a majority vote of all Division II members present and voting at the NCAA Convention.

**Question No. 10:** Once a Division II Championship is established for a sport, will the dollars used to fund the championship be pulled from the budget of current Division II Championships?

**Answer:** No. Funding for any new Division II Championship will be approved by the NCAA Division II Strategic Planning and Finance Committee.

**Question No. 11:** If an emerging sport does not have the minimum number of institutions required to establish a National Collegiate Championship (50 for men and 40 for women), but meets the 35-minimum threshold required to establish a Division II Championship, may a Division II Championship be established?

**Answer:** No. If there is only one championship offered, it must be a National Collegiate Championship. An emerging sport must have the required 40 institutions to establish a National Collegiate Championship first before it can establish a Division II Championship.

**Question No. 12:** Once a Division II Championship is established for a sport, may an institution choose to participate in the National Collegiate Championship for that sport?

**Answer:** No.

**Question No. 13:** If a sport does not meet the 35-minimum number of institutions required to maintain the Division II Championship, will a waiver opportunity be available?

**Answer:** Yes.

**Question No. 14:** How will sponsorship be determined to confirm that a sport meets the 35-minimum threshold?

**Answer:** The Championships Committee will review the sport sponsorship report annually as reported by the membership to the NCAA research staff. This report is typically published in early October.

**Question No. 15:** If adopted, when will the three-year grace period begin?

**Answer:** The three-year grace period will begin in the academic year the Championships Committee confirms that the sport has fallen below the 35-minimum threshold.

For example, if the Championships Committee confirms a sport has fallen below the 35-minimum threshold in October 2024, the 2024-25 academic year would be the first year of the grace period. The 2025-26 academic year would be the second year and the 2026-27 academic year would be the third year. The championship would be discontinued after the 2026-27 academic year.

**Question No. 16:** If the proposal is adopted at the 2024 Convention, when is the earliest a Division II Championship may be discontinued?

**Answer:** The 2027-28 academic year based on the confirmation of sports sponsorship by the Championships Committee occurring in the 2024-25 academic year.

**Question No. 17:** If a sport falls below the 35-minimum threshold and the championship is discontinued, may a Division II program participate in a Division I or Division III Championship?

**Answer:** Under NCAA Division II Bylaw 7.3.2.1.2.1 (participation in Division I Championship), a Division II institution may participate in a Division I Championship in sports where there is not a Division II Championship. A Division II institution is required to declare its intent to participate in the Division I Championship by June 1.

It would not be permissible for a Division II institution to participate in a Division III Championship.

**NCAA Division II Proposal No. 2024-4 -- Championships Administration -- Administration of Division II Championships -- Criteria for Selection of Participants -- Automatic Qualification -- Automatic Qualification in all Team Sports Other Than Football**

**Question No. 1:** What is the current legislation?

**Answer:** Currently, the sport committees have the option of recommending to the Division II Championships Committee when and if to apply automatic qualification to their selection processes. If approved by the Championships Committee, the sport will have automatic qualification and then each conference must request automatic qualification for the conference from the respective sport committee.

**Question No. 2:** If adopted, how will this proposal change the current legislation?

**Answer:** Team sport committees (other than football) will be required to apply automatic qualification to their selection process for those Division II conferences that meet the requirements in NCAA Division II Bylaw 18.4.3.3.1 (requirements -- division championship). It will no longer be an option on whether to recommend automatic qualification. Conferences will still be required to annually request automatic qualification from the respective sport committee.

**Question No. 3:** If adopted, when will all team sports (other than football) have automatic qualification?

**Answer:** The 2024-25 academic year.

**Question No. 4:** Which Division II sports currently have automatic qualification?

**Answer:** The following sports currently have automatic qualification:

<b><u>Men's Sports</u></b>	<b><u>Women's Sports</u></b>
Baseball	Women's Basketball
Men's Basketball	Women's Golf*
Men's Golf*	Women's Soccer
Men's Soccer	Softball
Men's Tennis*	Women's Tennis*
	Women's Volleyball

\*Individual team sports.

**Question No. 5:** Which Division II team sports (other than football) currently do not have automatic qualification and how many conferences sponsor those sports?

**Answer:** The following team sports (other than football) do not currently have automatic qualification.

<u>Men's Sports</u>	<u>Women's Sports</u>
Men's Lacrosse	Women's Field Hockey
	Women's Lacrosse
	Women's Rowing

The chart below notes the number of conferences that would meet the requirements in NCAA Division II Bylaw 18.4.3.3.1 (requirements --division championship) if adopted.

<u>Men's Sports</u>	<u>Women's Sports</u>
Men's Lacrosse - 8	Women's Field Hockey - 3
	Women's Lacrosse - 11
	Women's Rowing - 0

**Question No. 6:** If adopted, will there be future discussions surrounding regional alignment for women's field hockey and men's and women's lacrosse?

**Answer:** Yes. The sport committees will make the necessary recommendations to the Division II Championships Committee regarding any necessary changes to regional alignments prior to the 2024-25 academic year.

**Question No. 7:** How does a Division II conference become eligible for automatic qualification for a Division II Championship?

**Answer:** Per NCAA Division II Bylaw 18.4.3.3.1 (requirements -- division championship), to be eligible for automatic qualification in any Division II Championship, a member conference must meet the following general requirements:

(a) Been a multisport voting member conference of the Association for five consecutive academic years [see Bylaw 7.3.5.1.3 (voting rights and other conference active membership privileges)]; and

(b) Have at least six active members that sponsor the sport at the varsity intercollegiate level in which automatic qualification is sought and that are eligible for the NCAA championship, and have had at least six active members that are eligible for the NCAA championship participate in the process that determines the automatic qualifier. Institutions that are affiliate members of a conference in a particular sport may be used to satisfy the sponsorship requirement for automatic qualification in that sport.

**Question No. 8:** If adopted, will this proposal change the requirements for a Division II conference to qualify for automatic qualification?

**Answer:** No. [See Division II Bylaw 18.4.3.3.1 (requirements -- division championship)].

**Question No. 9:** If adopted, how will this proposal impact bracket sizes in team sports?

**Answer:** If adopted, the Championships Committee will establish a policy that specifies that no more than 60% of a team's bracket may be made up of automatic qualifiers. If a sport reaches a 50% threshold, the committee will also establish as policy that bracket expansion be considered. However, should a sport exceed the 60% threshold while being considered for bracket expansion, the committee may maintain automatic qualification while the field size is being addressed.

Note: As part of the 2024-27 triennial budget process, the Championships Committee has recommended bracket increases for the field hockey and men's and women's lacrosse championships effective for the 2024-25 academic year. If approved by the Division II Management Council and Division II Presidents Council in January 2024, these sports would be in line with this policy.

**Question No. 10:** Does this proposal impact automatic qualification requirements for National Collegiate Championships?

**Answer:** No.

**NCAA Division II Proposal No. 2024-5 -- Championships Administration -- Administration of Division II Championships -- Criteria for Selection of Participants -- Earned Access -- Football -- Earned Access for All Football-Sponsoring Conferences**

**Question No. 1:** What is the current legislation?

**Answer:** Currently, earned access only applies if a conference that is not currently represented in the bracket has a team within the top nine in the super region. A conference whose highest ranked team is outside of the top nine is not granted earned access to the field.

**Question No. 2:** If adopted, how will this proposal change the current legislation?

**Answer:** All football-sponsoring conferences will be represented in the bracket. This proposal will also require that the highest-ranked team in a football-sponsoring conference that is not already represented in the bracket be included. Therefore, earned access will be determined by the Division II Football Committee, as opposed to the team being selected by the conference.

**Question No. 3:** If adopted, when will the Division II Football Committee begin utilizing the new earned access process?

**Answer:** The 2024-25 academic year.

**Question No. 4:** How does a Division II football-sponsoring conference become eligible for earned access for the Division II Football Championship?

**Answer:** Per NCAA Division II Bylaw 18.4.3.4.1 (requirements), to be eligible for earned access to the football championship, a Division II football-sponsoring conference must meet the following general requirements:

- (a) Been a multisport voting member conference of the Association for five consecutive academic years; and
- (b) Have at least six active members that sponsor football at the varsity intercollegiate level in which earned access is sought and that are eligible for the NCAA championship, and have had at least six active members that are eligible for the NCAA championship participate in the process that determines possible earned access. Institutions that are affiliate members of a Division II football-playing conference may be used to satisfy the sponsorship requirement for earned access in football.

**Question No. 5:** If adopted, will this proposal change the requirements for a Division II football-sponsoring conference to qualify for earned access?

**Answer:** No. [See NCAA Division II Bylaw 18.4.3.4.1 (requirements)].

**Question No. 6:** In the last ten years, how many times has a football-sponsoring conference been left out of the bracket?

**Answer:** Four.

**Question No. 7:** If adopted, will the Division II Football Committee discuss regional alignment?

**Answer:** Yes. The committee has already begun this review due to the anticipated addition of a 16th sponsoring conference in 2025.

**Question No. 8:** If adopted, how will this proposal impact the bracket size in the sport of football?

**Answer:** If adopted, the Division II Championships Committee will establish as policy a 60% threshold for earned access in the bracket. To mitigate the possibility of exceeding the 60% threshold, the committee will also establish as policy that bracket expansion be considered at the next budget opportunity whenever the sport reaches a 50% threshold. However, should the sport exceed the 60% threshold while being considered for bracket expansion, the Championships Committee may maintain earned access while the field size is being addressed.



**SUPPLEMENT NO. 12  
DII Management Council 01/24**

**PRESIDENTS COUNCIL**

Attached for your review is the legislative draft of the proposal being sponsored by the NCAA Division II Presidents Council for the 2025 NCAA Convention. Proposal No. PC-1 is new for you to review in legislative format. This proposal was previously reviewed and approved by the NCAA Division II Management Council and Presidents Council in concept, but has not yet been approved in legislative form.

# Presidents Council Legislation for the 2025 NCAA Convention

**Proposal Number:** PC-1

**Title:** ELIGIBILITY -- PROGRESS-TOWARD-DEGREE REQUIREMENTS -- ELIGIBILITY FOR COMPETITION -- CREDIT HOURS EARNED DURING THE REGULAR ACADEMIC YEAR --ELIMINATION OF THE 18-SEMESTER/ 27-QUARTER HOURS REQUIREMENT

**Convention Year:** 2025

**Date Submitted:** October 26, 2023

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2025, for certifications of progress-toward-degree requirements for fall 2025 and thereafter.

**Source:** NCAA Division II Presidents Council [Management Council (Academic Requirements Committee)]

**Category:** Presidents Council

**Topical Area:** Eligibility

**Status:** Ready for Consideration by Management Council

**Intent:** To eliminate the requirement that a student-athlete must complete 18-semester or 27-quarter hours of academic credit during the regular academic year to be eligible for competition.

**Bylaws:** Amend 14.4, as follows:

14.4 Progress-Toward-Degree Requirements.

[14.4.1 unchanged.]

14.4.1.1 Exchange Student. The eligibility of an exchange student shall be based on satisfactory completion of at least:

[14.4.1.1-(a) unchanged.]

~~(b) Credit hours earned during the regular academic year as set forth in Bylaw 14.4.3.3;~~

~~(c) Credit hours earned for the annual credit-hour requirement set forth in Bylaw 14.4.3.4;~~ and

[14.4.1.1-(d) relettered as 14.4.1.1-(c), unchanged.]

[14.4.1.2 unchanged.]

[14.4.2 unchanged.]

14.4.3 Eligibility for Competition.

[14.4.3.1 through 14.4.3.2 unchanged.]

~~14.4.3.3 Credit Hours Earned During the Regular Academic Year. To be eligible to represent an institution in intercollegiate athletics competition, a student-athlete must complete 18-semester or 27-quarter hours since the beginning of the previous fall term or since the beginning of the certifying institution's preceding regular two semesters or three quarters. Credit hours earned in the period after the regular academic year at the institution (e.g., hours earned in summer school) shall not be used to satisfy the academic credit-hour requirements of this regulation.~~

~~14.4.3.3.1 Regular Academic Year. For purposes of Bylaw 14.4.3.3, the regular academic year consists of the time beginning with the opening of the institutions' fall term and concluding with the institution's spring commencement exercises.~~

~~14.4.3.3.2 Application of Rule. The following student-athletes are subject to the credit-hour requirement set forth in Bylaw 14.4.3.3:~~

~~(a) A midyear transfer student-athlete;~~

## Presidents Council Legislation for the 2025 NCAA Convention

*(b) A student-athlete who has been in residence at the institution for at least one academic year; or*

*(c) A student-athlete who has used one season of eligibility in any sport at the certifying institution.*

*14.4.3.3.2.1 Application to a Midyear Enrollee. A student-athlete entering the institution at the beginning of the second semester or the second or third quarter of an academic year (e.g., midyear transfer) is not subject to the credit hours required under Bylaw 14.4.3.3 for the fall term immediately following the student-athlete's initial full-time enrollment at the certifying institution. In subsequent years, the student-athlete's completion of the 18-semester or 27-quarter-hour requirement shall be certified prior to the start of each academic year based on the student-athlete's record since the beginning of the previous fall term.*

*14.4.3.3.3 Calculation of Credit Hours. During the first two years of enrollment, the calculation of credit hours to meet this requirement (see Bylaw 14.4.3.3) shall be based on hours earned or accepted for degree credit toward any of the institution's degree programs. Beginning with the student-athlete's fifth semester or seventh quarter of collegiate enrollment, credits used to meet the credit-hour requirement must be degree credit toward the student-athlete's designated degree program. Credit hours earned in the period after the regular academic year at the institution (e.g., hours earned in summer school) shall not be used to satisfy the academic credit-hour requirements of this regulation.*

*14.4.3.3.4 Part-Time Enrollment. Credit hours earned during a term in which a student-athlete is enrolled less than full-time may be used to satisfy the 18-semester/27-quarter-hour requirement only if such credits are combined with credits earned during a term that immediately precedes or immediately follows a term in which the student-athlete is enrolled as a full-time student. Credits earned during a part-time term may be completed at an institution other than the certifying institution.*

[14.4.3.4 through 14.4.3.6 renumbered as 14.4.3.3 through 14.4.3.5, unchanged.]

14.4.3.~~7~~**6** Regulations for Administration of Progress Toward Degree.

[14.4.3.7.1 renumbered as 14.4.3.6.1, unchanged.]

14.4.3.~~7~~**6**.2 Credit Hours Earned Prior to Initial Full-Time Enrollment at the Certifying Institution. Credit hours earned at another institution before initial enrollment at the certifying institution may not be used to satisfy progress-toward-degree requirements. In the first year of collegiate enrollment (or during the first two years of collegiate enrollment if using Bylaw 14.4.3.~~4~~**3**-(c) to satisfy the annual credit hour requirement), this restriction does not apply to credit hours earned while a student was enrolled as a high school student (e.g., courses that qualify as high school and college credit). ~~Such credit hours shall not be used to meet the required minimum number of credit hours earned during the regular academic year (see Bylaw 14.4.3.3).~~

14.4.3.~~7~~**6**.3 Advanced-Placement Tests/Credit by Examination. Credit received through advanced-placement tests or by examination or International Baccalaureate Program examinations may be used by a student-athlete to meet the minimum progress-toward-degree requirements, provided the subject for which the examination is an alternative is offered by the institution as acceptable degree credit. If such credit was earned while the student-athlete was enrolled in high school, it may be used to meet both initial-eligibility and progress-toward-degree requirements in the first year of collegiate enrollment (or in the first two years of collegiate enrollment if using Bylaw 14.4.3.~~4~~**3**-(c) to satisfy the annual credit-hour requirement), provided the credit was earned prior to high school graduation. ~~However, such credit, if earned prior to initial full-time enrollment at the certifying institution, may not be used to meet the required minimum number of hours earned during the regular academic year (see Bylaw 14.4.3.3).~~

14.4.3.~~7~~**6**.4 Remedial, Tutorial or Noncredit Courses. Remedial, tutorial or noncredit courses may be used by a student-athlete to satisfy the progress-toward-degree requirements of Bylaws 14.4.3.2-~~14.4.3.3~~ and 14.4.3.~~4~~**3** only if such courses meet all of the following conditions:

[14.4.3.7.4-(a) through 14.4.3.7.4-(d) renumbered as 14.4.3.6.4-(a) through 14.4.3.6.4-(d) unchanged.]

14.4.3.~~7~~**6**.5 Incomplete Grades. A student-athlete who receives an incomplete grade in a course may use the course in question to satisfy the progress-toward-degree requirements of Bylaws 14.4.3.2-~~14.4.3.3~~ and 14.4.3.~~4~~**3**, subject to the following conditions:

## Presidents Council Legislation for the 2025 NCAA Convention

[14.4.3.7.5-(a) through 14.4.3.7.5-(c) renumbered as 14.4.3.6.5-(a) through 14.4.3.6.5-(c) unchanged.]

14.4.3.~~7~~6.6 Repeated Courses. Credit for courses that are repeated may be used by a student-athlete to satisfy the progress-toward-degree requirements of Bylaws 14.4.3.2-~~14.4.3.3~~ and 14.4.3.~~4~~3 only under the following conditions:

[14.4.3.7.6-(a) through 14.4.3.7.6-(c) renumbered as 14.4.3.6.6-(a) through 14.4.3.6.6-(c) unchanged.]

14.4.3.~~7~~6.7 Credit Hours Earned or Accepted for Degree Credit After Change of Degree Program. A student-athlete who changes their designated degree program after their fifth semester or seventh quarter of collegiate enrollment may comply with the credit-hour requirements set forth in Bylaws 14.4.3.2-~~14.4.3.3~~ and 14.4.3.~~4~~3 if:

[14.4.3.7.7-(a) through 14.4.3.7.7-(c) renumbered as 14.4.3.6.7-(a) through 14.4.3.6.7-(c) unchanged.]

14.4.3.~~7~~6.8 Credit Hours Earned or Accepted Toward a Major. A student-athlete who has designated a specific degree program with an identified major may not use a course to fulfill the credit-hour requirements set forth in Bylaws 14.4.3.2-~~14.4.3.3~~ and 14.4.3.~~4~~3 even if the course fulfills an elective component of the student-athlete's degree program, if the student-athlete ultimately must repeat the course to fulfill the requirements of the student's major.

[14.4.3.7.9 through 14.4.3.7.11 renumbered as 14.4.3.6.9 through 14.4.3.6.11, unchanged.]

[14.4.3.8 renumbered as 14.4.3.7, unchanged.]

14.4.3.~~8~~7.1 Missed Term Exception. One time during a student-athlete's entire period of collegiate enrollment, the provisions of Bylaws ~~14.4.3.3~~ and 14.4.3.~~4~~3 may be adjusted to require completion of 12 hours per term of actual attendance, if the student-athlete misses a complete term or consecutive terms during an academic year, subject to the following conditions:

[14.4.3.8.1-(a) through 14.4.3.8.1-(c) renumbered as 14.4.3.7.1-(a) through 14.4.3.7.1-(c) unchanged.]

(d) At the time of certification, the student-athlete has fulfilled the progress-toward-degree requirements (per Bylaws 14.4.3.2-~~14.4.3.3~~ and 14.4.3.~~4~~3) for the terms in which the student was in attendance. It is not permissible to use this one-time exception during the first academic year in residence at the certifying institution in order to maintain eligibility during the second year in residence. Hours earned while enrolled as a part-time student during the "missed term" may not be counted in meeting the progress-toward-degree requirement.

[14.4.3.8.2 through 14.4.3.8.5 renumbered as 14.4.3.7.2 through 14.4.3.7.5, unchanged.]

[14.4.3.9 renumbered as 14.4.3.8, unchanged.]

14.4.3.~~9~~8.1 Medical Absence Waiver. The credit hours required under the progress-toward-degree regulations of Bylaws 14.4.3.2-~~14.4.3.3~~ and 14.4.3.~~4~~3 may be adjusted to require completion of 12 units per term of actual attendance during an academic year in which a student misses a term or is unable to complete a term as a full-time student as a result of an injury or illness. Such an exception may be granted only when circumstances clearly supported by appropriate medical documentation establish that a student-athlete is unable to attend a collegiate institution as a full-time student as a result of an incapacitating physical injury or illness involving the student-athlete or a member of the student-athlete's immediate family. Credits earned by the student-athlete during the term to which the waiver applies may not be used in determining progress toward degree. A Division II conference office has the authority to administer medical absence waivers for terms that occurred at an NCAA institution prior to a student-athlete's enrollment at a member institution within the conference.

14.4.3.~~9~~8.2 International Competition Waiver. The credit hours required under the progress-toward-degree regulations of Bylaws 14.4.3.2-~~14.4.3.3~~ and 14.4.3.~~4~~3 may be adjusted to require completion of 12 hours per term of actual attendance during an academic year in which a student is not enrolled for a term or terms or is unable to complete a term as a result of participation in the Pan American, Parapan American, Olympic, Paralympic, World Championships, World Cup, World University Games (Universiade) or World University Championships (including final Olympic or Paralympic tryouts and

## Presidents Council Legislation for the 2025 NCAA Convention

the officially recognized training program that directly qualifies participants for those tryouts). This waiver provision may be applied to not more than two semesters or three quarters.

[14.4.3.10 through 14.4.3.12 renumbered as 14.4.3.9 through 14.4.3.11, unchanged.]

**Rationale:** Currently, to meet progress-toward-degree requirements, a student-athlete must earn at least nine-semester or eight-quarter hours of academic credit during each full-time term of attendance, at least 18-semester or 27-quarter hours of academic credit during the regular academic year and at least 24-semester or 36-quarter hours of academic credit annually. Based on a review of the 2022 Academic Performance Census (APC) data, 96% of student-athletes from semester schools who satisfied the nine-semester hours requirement in their spring semester also satisfied the 18-semester hours requirement for the academic year. Further, 98% of student-athletes from quarter schools who satisfied the eight-quarter hours requirement in their spring quarter also satisfied the 27-quarter hours requirement. Therefore, eliminating the legislation will simplify the certification process without jeopardizing the overall academic success of student-athletes, because they will still be required to meet the term-by-term requirement, annual credit hour requirement and grade-point average (GPA) requirement. Finally, this change will ease the burden on compliance administrators and student-athletes.

### **Additional Information:**

### **Review History:**

Sep 19, 2023: Recommends Approval - NCAA Division II Academic Requirements Committee.

Oct 17, 2023: Approved in Concept - NCAA Division II Management Council.

Oct 25, 2023: Approved in Concept - NCAA Division II Presidents Council.

---



**SUPPLEMENT NO. 13  
DII Management Council 01/24**

**NONCONTROVERSIAL**

Attached are noncontroversial proposals. NCAA Division II Proposal Nos. NC-2025-1, NC-2025-3 and NC-2025-4 are new for you to review in legislative form. These proposals have been approved by the NCAA Division II Management Council in concept, but have yet to be approved in legislative form. [Note: Proposal No. NC-2025-2 will not be reviewed in legislative form because the NCAA Division II Academic Requirements Committee needs to have further discussion on the recommended legislative change. Therefore, it has been pulled from the Management Council's review.]

The Management Council has determined, pursuant to NCAA Division II Bylaw 9.3.1.1, that the following proposals are noncontroversial and necessary to promote the normal and orderly administration of the Association's legislation.

The Management Council, by a three-fourths majority of its members present and voting, shall have the authority to adopt noncontroversial amendments. Proposals that are ratified by the Management Council shall be effective as of the date the proposal is posted on LSDBi. Once ratified, the proposals will be submitted by the Management Council as legislation at the 2025 NCAA Convention.

# 2025 Noncontroversial Proposals

**Division:** II

**Proposal Number:** NC-2025-1

**Title:** ELIGIBILITY -- FRESHMAN ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS -- ELIGIBILITY FOR FINANCIAL AID, PRACTICE AND COMPETITION -- QUALIFIERS AND PARTIAL QUALIFIERS -- CORE-CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS AND NONTRADITIONAL COURSES -- MODERNIZATION OF CORE-COURSE REQUIREMENTS

**Convention Year:** 2025

**Date Submitted:** October 25, 2023

**Status:** Ready for Consideration by Management Council

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2024, for high school account, program or course reviews that occur on or after August 1, 2024.

**Source:** NCAA Division II Management Council (Academic Requirements Committee).

**Category:** Noncontroversial

**Topical Area:** Eligibility

**Intent:** To modernize core-course requirements to encompass all delivery models; further, to eliminate the legislative distinction for nontraditional courses, as specified.

**Bylaws:** Amend 14.3, as follows:

[Common provision, Divisions I and II only, divided vote]

14.3 Freshman Academic Requirements.

14.3.1 Eligibility for Financial Aid, Practice and Competition -- Qualifiers and Partial Qualifiers .

[14.3.1.1 through 14.3.1.2 unchanged.]

14.3.1.3 Core-Curriculum Requirements. ~~For purposes of meeting the core-curriculum requirement to establish eligibility at a member institution, a "core course"~~ **A course** must meet all of the following criteria **to satisfy core-curriculum requirements:**

- (a) ~~A course must be a recognized academic course and qualify for~~ **The curriculum for the course meets** high school graduation ~~credit~~**requirements** in one or a combination of the following areas: English, mathematics, natural/physical science, social science, ~~foreign~~**world** language, **philosophy** or nondoctrinal religion/~~philosophy~~ **(e.g., comparative religion);**
  - (b) ~~A course must be considered college preparatory by the high school. College preparatory is defined for these purposes as any course that prepares a student academically to enter a four-year collegiate institution on graduation from high school.~~**The curriculum for the course must meet college preparatory criteria for content (e.g., standard, learning objectives, competencies) and rigor of performance tasks and assessments (e.g., application of skills and concepts, strategic or extended thinking), as established by the High School Review Committee (see Bylaw 14.1.2.3);**
  - (c) **The course must be administered by a high school that meets criteria for validity (e.g., quality control and integrity of information, school policies and operations), as established by the High School Review Committee; and**
  - (d) **The instructional model for the course must meet criteria for review (e.g., instructor interaction, pacing, instructional time, monitoring, feedback, intervention), as established by the High School Review Committee.**
- (e) *A mathematics course must be at the level of Algebra I or higher-level mathematics course;*

## 2025 Noncontroversial Proposals

- ~~(d) A course must be taught by a qualified instructor as defined by the appropriate academic authority (e.g., high school, school district or state agency with authority over such matters); and~~
- ~~(e) A course must be taught at or above the high school's regular academic level (i.e., remedial, special education or compensatory courses shall not be considered core courses). However, the prohibition against the use of remedial or compensatory courses is not applicable to courses designed for students with education impacting disabilities (see Bylaw 14.3.1.3.5).~~

[14.3.1.3.1 unchanged.]

~~14.3.1.3.2 Nontraditional Courses. Courses taught via the Internet, distance learning, independent study, individualized instruction, correspondence and courses taught by similar means, may be used to satisfy NCAA core course requirements, if all of the following conditions are satisfied:~~

- ~~(a) The course meets all requirements for a core course as defined in Bylaw 14.3.1.3;~~
- ~~(b) The instructor and the student have ongoing access to one another for purposes of teaching, evaluating and providing assistance to the student throughout the duration of the course;~~
- ~~(c) The instructor and the student have regular interaction with one another for purposes of teaching, evaluating and providing assistance to the student throughout the duration of the course;~~
- ~~(d) The student's work (e.g., exams, papers, assignments) is available for evaluation and validation;~~
- ~~(e) Evaluation of the student's work is conducted by the appropriate academic authorities in accordance with the high school's established academic policies;~~
- ~~(f) The course includes a defined time period for completion; and~~
- ~~(g) The course is acceptable for any student and is placed on the high school transcript.~~

[14.3.1.3.3 through 14.3.1.3.9 renumbered as 14.3.1.3.2 through 14.3.1.3.8, unchanged.]

[14.3.1.4 unchanged.]

[14.3.2 through 14.3.4 unchanged.]

### Review History:

Sep 19, 2023: Recommends Approval - NCAA Division II Academic Requirements Committee.

Oct 17, 2023: Approved in Concept - NCAA Division II Management Council.

### Additional Information:

Current legislation prescribes separate and distinct definitions for core-curriculum requirements and nontraditional courses. In recent years, there have been an increasing number of delivery methods that are utilized in offering core-curriculum courses. Accordingly, modernized core-course requirements creates a streamlined set of rules that are more broadly applicable to any delivery method but still provide guardrails for learning environments that are more conducive to fraud or abuse. The intent to ensure initial-eligibility certifications include only courses that academically prepare prospective student-athletes for four-year college academic work would remain paramount and is not impacted by the definition change. Rather, the change prevents the definitions from becoming quickly outdated due to ever-evolving delivery methods.

---

# 2025 Noncontroversial Proposals

**Division:** II

**Proposal Number:** NC-2025-3

**Title:** COMMITTEES -- DIVISION II COMMITTEES -- DIVISION II GENERAL COMMITTEES -- CHAMPIONSHIPS COMMITTEE -- DUTIES -- REPLACEMENT OF SPORT AND RULES COMMITTEE MEMBERS

**Convention Year:** 2025

**Date Submitted:** October 25, 2023

**Status:** Ready for Consideration by Management Council

**Effective Date:** Immediate

**Source:** NCAA Division II Management Council (Championships Committee).

**Category:** Noncontroversial

**Topical Area:** Committees

**Intent:** To permit the Division II Championships Committee to replace a member of a Division II sport committee or a Division II representative on an Association-wide playing rules committee when such a member is not performing their duties properly.

**Bylaws:** Amend 21.8.5.2.2, as follows:

21.8.5.2.2 Duties. The committee shall:

[21.8.5.2.2-(a) through 21.8.5.2.2-(f) unchanged.]

**(g) Replace sport and rules committee representatives that are not performing their duties properly:**

[21.8.5.2.2-(g) through 21.8.5.2.2-(h) relettered as 21.8.5.2.2-(h) through 21.8.5.2.2-(i), unchanged.]

[21.8.5.2.2.1 unchanged.]

**Review History:**

Sep 15, 2023: Recommends Approval - NCAA Division II Championships Committee.

Oct 17, 2023: Approved in Concept - NCAA Division II Management Council.

**Additional Information:**

The authority to replace a Division II sport/rules committee member had traditionally rested with the Division II Management Council, as the council had the final approval authority for all such Division II committee appointments. However, under current legislation the Division II Championships Committee has the final authority over these appointments. Therefore, the Championships Committee believes it should accordingly be granted the authority to replace members in cases where they are not performing their duties properly. The Championships Committee regards this recommendation more as policy housekeeping rather than infringing upon the Management Council's oversight and as such believes the noncontroversial legislation path is appropriate.

---

# 2025 Noncontroversial Proposals

**Division:** II

**Proposal Number:** NC-2025-4

**Title:** VARIOUS BYLAWS -- INCORPORATING NCAA DIVISION II BYLAW 12 INTO DIVISION II BYLAWS 7 AND 14

**Convention Year:** 2025

**Date Submitted:** October 25, 2023

**Status:** Ready for Consideration by Management Council

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2024

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

**Category:** Noncontroversial

**Topical Area:** Various Bylaws

**Intent:** To incorporate NCAA Division II Bylaw 12 into Division II Bylaws 7 and 14, as specified; further to rename Bylaw 14.

**A. Bylaws:** Amend 7, as follows:

7 NCAA Division II Membership and Institutional Control

[7.01 through 7.2 unchanged.]

7.3 Active Membership.

7.3.1 Institutions.

[7.3.1.1 through 7.3.1.3 unchanged.]

7.3.1.5 Conditions and Obligations of Active Membership.

[7.3.1.5.1 through 7.3.1.5.7 unchanged.]

7.3.1.5.8 Student-Athlete Statement. An active member institution shall administer annually, on a form prescribed by the Management Council, or a designated committee, a signed statement for each student-athlete that provides information *set forth in Bylaws 14.1.3 and 14.1.3.2* **related to eligibility, recruitment, financial aid, amateur status, previous positive drug tests administered by any other athletics organization and involvement in organized gambling activities related to intercollegiate or professional athletics competition under the Association's governing legislation. Details about the content, administration and disposition of the statement are set forth below.**

[7.3.1.5.8.1 through 7.3.1.5.8.3 unchanged.]

**7.3.1.5.8.4 Institutional Responsibility -- Notification of Positive Test. The director of athletics shall promptly notify in writing the NCAA director of sports sciences and the NCAA chief medical officer regarding a student-athlete's disclosure of a previous positive drug test for banned substances administered by any other athletics organization.**

7.3.1.5.9 Drug-Testing Program and Consent Form. An active member institution and an institution in the provisional period of the membership process shall administer annually, on a form prescribed by the Management Council, a signed drug-testing consent form for each student-athlete (per Bylaw *12.02.9* **14.02.23**) *in accordance with Bylaw 14.1.4* **in which the student-athlete consents to be tested for the use of drugs prohibited by NCAA legislation** and shall ensure compliance with the following elements of the NCAA Drug-Testing Program: [D]

[7.3.1.5.9-(a) through 7.3.1.5.9-(e) unchanged.]

## 2025 Noncontroversial Proposals

7.3.1.5.9.1 Administrative Requirement -- Year-Round Drug Testing. In sports in which the Association conducts year-round drug testing, ~~the consent form shall be administered individually to student-athletes each academic year at the time the intercollegiate squad first reports for practice or before the Monday of the institution's fourth week of classes, whichever date occurs first.~~ **the following procedures shall be used in administering the drug-testing consent form required:**

- (a) The consent form shall be administered individually to each student-athlete by the director of athletics or the director of athletics' designee each academic year at the time the intercollegiate squad first reports for practice or before the Monday of the institution's fourth week of classes, whichever date occurs first;**
- (b) The director of athletics or the director of athletics' designee shall disseminate the list of banned drug classes to all student-athletes and educate them about products that might contain banned drugs. All student-athletes are to be notified that the list may change during the academic year and that updates may be found on the NCAA website (i.e., [www.ncaa.org](http://www.ncaa.org)) and are to be informed of the appropriate athletics department procedures for disseminating updates to the list; and**
- (c) The consent forms shall be kept on file and shall be available for examination on request by an authorized representative of the NCAA.**

[7.3.1.5.9.2 unchanged.]

~~7.3.1.5.9.3 Retention Requirements. The consent form shall be kept on file and such file shall be made available for examination on request by an authorized representative of the NCAA (see Bylaw 14.1.4.2 (c)).~~

**7.3.1.5.9.3 Exception -- 14-Consecutive Calendar Day Grace Period. A student-athlete who is trying out for a team is not required to complete the NCAA Drug-Testing Consent Form for 14-consecutive calendar days from the first date the student-athlete engages in countable athletically related activities or before the student-athlete participates in competition, whichever occurs first.**

7.3.1.5.10 Student-Athlete Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) Authorization/Buckley Amendment Consent Form -- Disclosure of Protected Health Information. An active member institution shall administer annually, on a form prescribed by the Management Council, a statement for each student-athlete to voluntarily sign ~~that provides information prescribed in Bylaws 14.1.5 and 14.1.5.2~~ **in which the student-athlete authorizes/consents to the institution's physicians, athletic trainers and health care personnel to disclose the student-athlete's injury/illness and participation information associated with the student-athlete's training and participation in intercollegiate athletics to the NCAA and to its Injury Surveillance Program (ISP), agents and employees for the purpose of conducting research into the reduction of athletics injuries. The authorization/consent by the student-athlete is voluntary and is not required for the student-athlete to be eligible to participate.**

7.3.1.5.10.1 Administrative Requirement. The ~~statement~~ **authorization/consent form** shall be administered individually to each student-athlete by the athletics director or the athletics director's designee before the student-athlete's participation in intercollegiate athletics each academic year.

7.3.1.5.10.2 Failure to Provide Consent. The authorization/consent by the student-athlete is voluntary and is not required **by the student-athlete's institution for medical treatment, payment for treatment, enrollment in a health plan or for any benefits (if applicable) and is not required** for the student-athlete to be eligible to participate.

7.3.1.5.10.3 Retention Requirement. Any signed ~~statement(s)~~ **authorization/consent forms** shall be kept on file and shall be available for examination on request by an authorized representative of the NCAA. ~~(See Bylaw 14.1.5.2 (c)).~~

[7.3.1.5.11 through 7.3.1.5.22 unchanged.]

# 2025 Noncontroversial Proposals

[7.3.1.6 through 7.3.1.7 unchanged.]

[7.3.2 through 7.3.5 unchanged.]

## **7.4 Financial Donations From Outside Organizations.**

[7.4 through 7.8 renumbered as 7.5 through 7.9, unchanged.]

### **B. Bylaws:** Amend 12, as follows:

#### ~~127.54~~.1 Professional Sports Organizations.

~~127.54~~.1.1 To Noncollegiate Amateur Team. A noncollegiate amateur team or playing league shall not be considered a professional team or league, even if it receives financial support from a national amateur sports administrative organization or its equivalent that in turn receives developmental funds from a professional team or professional sports organization.

~~127.54~~.1.2 To Intercollegiate Event. A professional sports organization may serve as a financial sponsor of an intercollegiate competition event, provided the organization is not publicly identified as such. A professional sports organization may serve as a financial sponsor of an activity or promotion that is ancillary to the competition event and may be publicly identified as such. [D]

~~127.54~~.1.3 Developmental Funds to NCAA. A professional sports organization may provide funds for intercollegiate athletics developmental purposes in a particular sport (e.g., officiating expenses, research and educational projects, the conduct of summer leagues, purchase of equipment). However, such funds shall be provided in an unrestricted manner and administered through the Association's national office.

~~127.54~~.1.4 To Institution. A member institution may receive contributions (e.g., tickets, funds, memorabilia) from a professional sports organization, including financial contributions from a professional sports organization for sponsorship of a specific intercollegiate competition event conducted by the institution, including ancillary activities and promotions.

~~127.54~~.1.5 To Conference. A member conference may receive contributions (e.g., tickets, funds, memorabilia) from a professional sports organization, including financial contributions from a professional sports organization for sponsorship of a specific intercollegiate competition event conducted by the conference, including ancillary activities and promotions.

~~127.54~~.1.6 Revenues Derived From Pro-Am Events. The distribution of revenues from an event involving an intercollegiate athletics team and a professional sports team (e.g., a baseball game in which a member institution's team plays against a professional baseball team) or pro-am event (e.g., golf, tennis) that results in a member institution receiving a share of receipts from such a contest is permitted, provided the institution has a formal agreement with the professional sports team regarding the institution's guarantee or share of receipts and the contractual terms are consistent with agreements made by the professional team or individuals for similar intercollegiate or nonprofessional competition.

~~127.54~~.1.7 Promotion of Professional Athletics Contests. A member institution may host and promote an athletics contest between two professional teams from recognized professional sports leagues as a fundraising activity for the institution.

#### ~~127.54~~.2 Nonprofessional Sports Organizations.

~~127.54~~.2.1 Individual Athletics Performance. A member institution shall not accept funds donated from a nonprofessional sports organization based on the place finish of a student-athlete or the number of student-athletes representing the institution in an event. However, the organization may donate an equal amount of funds to every institution with an athlete or team participating in a particular event.

~~127.54~~.2.2 Individual and Team Rankings. A member institution may accept funds donated to its athletics program from a nonprofessional sports organization based on an individual's or a team's national or regional ranking.

~~127.54~~.2.3 Academic Performance. A member institution may accept funds donated to its athletics program from a nonprofessional sports organization based on an individual's or a team's academic performance (e.g., the number of academic All-American award recipients).

# 2025 Noncontroversial Proposals

## ~~12~~ Amateurism

### ~~12.01~~ General Principles:

~~12.01.3~~ "Individual" Versus "Student-Athlete." NCAA eligibility status may be lost as a result of activities before enrollment in college. If NCAA rules specify that an "individual" may or may not participate in certain activities, this term refers to a person before and after enrollment in a member institution. If NCAA rules specify a "student-athlete," the legislation applies only to that person's activities after enrollment.

~~12.01.4~~ Permissible Grant-in-Aid. A grant-in-aid administered by an educational institution is not considered to be pay or the promise of pay for athletics skill, provided it does not exceed the financial aid limitations set by the Association's membership.

### ~~12.02~~ Definitions and Applications:

~~12.02.6~~ Payment for Participation in Road Racing. Road racing is essentially the same as cross-country or track and field competition and cannot be separated effectively from those sports for purposes of Bylaw 12. Following initial full-time collegiate enrollment, any payment for participation in a road race will result in an individual's ineligibility for intercollegiate cross-country or track and field competition. (See Bylaw ~~12.1.3~~ (d) for an exception related to payment based on performance).

~~12.1~~ General Regulations. An individual's (prospective student-athlete or enrolled student-athlete) eligibility for participation in athletics shall be determined using the following provisions. (See Bylaw ~~14.2.4.2~~ regarding participation in organized competition prior to initial collegiate enrollment and Bylaw ~~14.13~~ regarding the eligibility restoration process.)

~~12.1.1.1~~ Amateurism Certification Process. An institution shall use an eligibility center approved by the NCAA Board of Governors to determine the validity of the information on which the eligibility status of a student-athlete is based.

#### ~~12.1.1.1.2~~ Institutional Responsibilities:

## ~~12.4~~ Employment:

### ~~12.5~~ Financial Donations From Outside Organizations:

~~12.14.01.21~~ Clear Line of Demarcation. Member institutions' athletics programs are designed to be an integral part of the educational program. The student-athlete is considered an integral part of the student body, thus maintaining a clear line of demarcation between college athletics and professional sports.

~~12.14.01.13~~ Eligibility for Intercollegiate Athletics. Only a student-athlete who satisfies all eligibility requirements may participate in intercollegiate athletics in a particular sport.

~~12.14.02.12~~ Agent. An agent is any individual who, directly or indirectly, recruits or solicits a student-athlete to enter into an agency contract for current or future representation where a student-athlete authorizes the individual to negotiate or solicit on behalf of the student-athlete a professional-sports-services contract or endorsement contract.

~~12.14.02.23~~ Agency Contract. An agency contract is an agreement in which a student-athlete authorizes a person to negotiate or solicit on behalf of the student-athlete a professional-sports-services contract or endorsement contract.

~~12.14.02.16~~ Criteria Governing Compensation to Student-Athletes. All compensation received by a student-athlete must be consistent with the limitations on financial aid set forth in Bylaw 15. Compensation may be paid to a student-athlete: [R]

[14.02.6-(a) through 14.02.6-(c) unchanged.]

~~12.14.02.515~~ Pay. Pay is the receipt of funds, awards or benefits not permitted by the governing legislation of the Association for participation in athletics.

~~12.14.02.716~~ Professional Athlete. A professional athlete is one who receives any kind of payment, directly or indirectly, for athletics participation except as permitted by the governing legislation of the Association.

~~12.14.02.817~~ Professional Athletics Team. A professional team is any organized team that:

## 2025 Noncontroversial Proposals

[14.02.17-(a) through 14.02.17-(b) unchanged.]

~~1214.02.418~~ **Professional Service Provider.** A professional service provider is an individual who provides third party services to an individual regarding their name, image and likeness. A professional service provider includes, but shall not be limited to, an agent, tax advisor, marketing consultant, attorney or anyone who is employed or associated with such persons.

~~1214.402.222~~ **Specific Athletically Related Employment Activities.**

~~1214.402.222.1~~ **National Team Practice and Competition.** A student-athlete may receive actual and necessary expenses and reasonable benefits associated with national team practice and competition (e.g., health insurance, broken-time payments). [R]

~~1214.402.222.2~~ **Fee-for-Lesson Instruction.** A student-athlete may receive compensation for teaching or coaching sport skills or techniques in their sport on a fee-for-lesson basis, provided all compensation received by the student-athlete is consistent with the criteria governing compensation to student-athletes (see Bylaw ~~12.4.114.02.6~~). [R]

~~1214.02.923~~ **Student-Athlete.** A student-athlete is a student whose enrollment was solicited by a member of the athletics staff or other representative of athletics interests with a view toward the student's ultimate participation in the intercollegiate athletics program. Any other student becomes a student-athlete only when the student reports for an intercollegiate squad that is under the jurisdiction of the athletics department, as specified in Bylaw 7.3.1.5.4. A student is not deemed a student-athlete solely on the basis of prior high school athletics participation.

~~1214.02.1025~~ **Triathlon and Cross Country, Track and Field and Swimming.** Triathlon includes elements of competition similar to cross country, track and field and swimming competition and cannot be separated effectively from those sports for purposes of Bylaw 124. Therefore, triathlon and cross country are considered the same sport, triathlon and track and field are considered the same sport, and triathlon and swimming are considered the same sport for purposes of Bylaw 124. **(see Bylaw 14.4.7.1.3 for an exception to the outside competition legislation).**

~~1214.1.1.21~~ **Validity of Amateur Eligibility Status.** As a condition and obligation of membership, it is the responsibility of an institution to determine the validity of the information on which the eligibility status of a prospective student-athlete (e.g., including a two-year and four-year college transfer initially enrolling at an NCAA Division II institution) and student-athlete is based. (See Bylaw 14.01.32.)

~~1214.1.1.12.12~~ **Scope.** The certification of eligibility status issued by the NCAA Eligibility Center is limited to activities that occur prior to a prospective student-athlete requesting a final eligibility certification or their initial full-time collegiate enrollment at an NCAA Division II institution, whichever occurs earlier.

~~1214.1.1.14.21~~ **Eligibility Status After Certification.** An institution is responsible for certifying the eligibility status of a prospective student-athlete from the time they request a final certification be issued by the NCAA Eligibility Center or they initially enroll as a full-time student at an NCAA Division I, II or III institution (whichever occurs earlier).

~~1214.1.1.14.23.2~~ **Sharing Information and Reporting Discrepancies.** An institution is responsible for notifying the NCAA Eligibility Center when it receives additional information, or otherwise has cause to believe, that a previously certified prospective student-athlete's eligibility status has been jeopardized. Further, an institution is responsible for promptly reporting all discrepancies in information related to a student-athlete's certification to the NCAA Eligibility Center.

~~1214.1.1.15.3~~ **Eligibility for Practice and Competition.** Prior to engaging in practice or competition, a student-athlete shall receive a certification of eligibility status for activities that occur prior to the certification or initial full-time enrollment at an NCAA Division II institution (whichever occurs earlier).

~~1214.1.1.15.31.1~~ **Participation Before Certification -- Recruited and Nonrecruited Student-Athlete.** If a recruited or nonrecruited student-athlete reports for athletics participation before the student-athlete's eligibility status has been certified, the student-athlete may practice, but not compete, for a maximum of 45 days, provided the student-athlete is enrolled full time or has been accepted for enrollment as a regular full-time student. After this 45-day period, the student shall

## 2025 Noncontroversial Proposals

have established minimum requirements as eligible for participation in athletics (as certified by the NCAA Eligibility Center) to continue practicing or to compete.

~~14.1.1.5.3.1.1~~ Effect of Violation. A violation of Bylaw ~~14.1.1.5.1~~ in which the student-athlete is subsequently certified without conditions shall be considered an institutional violation per Constitution Article 1-E but shall not affect the student-athlete's eligibility.

~~14.1.25~~ Name, Image and Likeness.

~~14.1.25.1~~ Application. NCAA Bylaws, including prohibitions on pay-for-play and improper recruiting inducements, remain in effect, subject to the following:

(a) For institutions in states without name, image and likeness laws or executive actions or with name, image and likeness laws or executive actions that have not yet taken effect, if an individual elects to engage in a name, image and likeness activity, the individual's eligibility for intercollegiate athletics will not be impacted by the application of Bylaw ~~14.1.25.1~~.

[14.1.5.1-(b) through 14.1.5.1-(c) unchanged.]

~~14.1.25.2~~ Name, Image and Likeness Activities Related to Enrollment Decisions. A name, image and likeness agreement or the payments associated with such an agreement may not be guaranteed or promised contingent on initial or continuing enrollment at a particular institution (e.g., recruiting inducement).

~~14.1.25.3~~ Monitoring for Compliance. The NCAA will continue its normal regulatory operations but will not monitor name, image and likeness activities for compliance with state law.

~~14.1.25.4~~ Reporting Requirements. Individuals should report name, image and likeness activities consistent with state law and/or institutional requirements.

~~14.022.31~~ Individual. An individual, for purposes of ~~this bylaw~~ **Bylaw 14.2**, is any person of any age without reference to enrollment in an educational institution or status as a student-athlete.

~~14.024.111~~ Volleyball and Beach Volleyball. Volleyball and beach volleyball are considered the same sport for purposes of ~~Bylaw 12~~ **Bylaws 14.4.3.4.2, 14.4.4, 14.4.5, 14.4.6, 14.4.7, and 14.4.8**.

~~14.14.35~~ Permissible -- Following Initial Full-Time Collegiate Enrollment. Following initial full-time collegiate enrollment, participation in the following activities and receipt of the following benefits will not jeopardize the athletics eligibility status of an individual:

[14.4.5-(a) through 14.4.5-(f) unchanged.]

~~14.14.46~~ Impermissible -- Following Initial Full-Time Collegiate Enrollment. Following initial full-time collegiate enrollment, an individual's participation in the following activities or receipt of the following benefits will jeopardize the individual's athletics eligibility **and eligibility** for intercollegiate participation in a particular sport:

(a) Use of Athletics Skill for Pay. Use of athletics skills for pay in any form in that sport from any source (e.g., a professional team), including a promise of pay, receipt of direct or indirect salary, gratuity or comparable compensation or preferential treatment, benefits or services. **Road racing is essentially the same as cross country or track and field competition and cannot be separated effectively from those sports for purposes of this bylaw. Following initial full-time collegiate enrollment, any payment for participation in a road race will result in an individual's ineligibility for intercollegiate cross country or track and field competition (see Bylaw 14.4.5-(d) for an exception related to payment based on performance).**

[14.4.6-(b) through 14.4.6-(g) unchanged.]

~~14.24.8~~ Involvement With Professional Teams.

~~14.24.18.1~~ Tryouts.

## 2025 Noncontroversial Proposals

~~1214.24.48.1.1~~ **1.1** Tryout After Enrollment. A student-athlete may try out with a professional athletics team (or participate in a combine including that team) in a sport or permit a professional athletics team to conduct medical examinations at any time, provided the individual does not miss class. A student-athlete may receive actual and necessary expenses related to the tryout from a professional sports organization, provided the tryout does not exceed 48 hours. The 48-hour tryout period begins at the time the individual arrives at the tryout location. At the completion of the 48-hour period, the individual must depart the location of the tryout immediately in order to receive return transportation expenses. A tryout may extend beyond 48 hours if the individual self-finances additional expenses, including return transportation.

~~1214.24.48.2.1.2~~ **2.1.2** Outside Competition Prohibited. During a tryout, an individual may not take part in any outside competition (games or scrimmages) as a representative of a professional team.

~~1214.24.28.2~~ **2.2** Practice Without Competition. Following initial full-time collegiate enrollment, an individual may participate in practice sessions conducted by a professional team, provided such participation meets the requirements of NCAA legislation governing tryouts with professional athletics teams (see Bylaw ~~12.2.14.4.8.1.1~~) and the individual does not receive any compensation or enter into a contract or agreement to practice or participate as a member of the professional athletics team. Such contracts or agreements would be separate from those that the individual may enter into with the professional team for name, image and likeness activities, as set forth in Bylaw ~~12.1.214.1.5~~.

~~1214.24.38.3~~ **3** Competition.

~~1214.24.38.3.1~~ **3.1** Competition Against Professionals. An individual may participate singly or as a member of an amateur team against professional athletes or professional teams.

~~1214.24.38.3.2~~ **3.2** Competition With Professionals. Following initial full-time collegiate enrollment, an individual shall not be eligible for intercollegiate athletics in a sport, if the individual competed on a professional athletics team (per Bylaw ~~124.02.817~~) in that sport. However, an individual may compete on a tennis, golf, two-person beach volleyball or two-person synchronized diving team(s) with persons who are competing for cash or a comparable prize, provided the individual does not receive payment of any kind for such participation.

~~1214.24.38.3.2.1~~ **2.1** Professional Player as Team Member. Following initial full-time collegiate enrollment, an individual may participate with a professional on a team, provided the professional is not being paid by a professional team or league to play as a member of that team (e.g., summer basketball leagues with teams composed of both professional and amateur athletes).

~~1214.24.38.3.2.2~~ **2.2** Exception -- Olympic, Paralympic or National Teams. It is permissible for an individual (prospective student-athlete or student-athlete) to participate on Olympic, Paralympic or national teams that are competing for prize money or are being compensated by the governing body to participate in a specific event, provided the individual does not accept prize money or any other compensation (other than actual or necessary expenses).

~~1214.24.38.3.2.3~~ **2.3** Major Junior Ice Hockey -- Men's Ice Hockey. An individual who competes on a Major Junior ice hockey team shall be subject to the seasons of competition regulations set forth in Bylaw ~~14.2.4.24.3.4.2~~, regardless of when such competition occurs.

~~1214.24.38.3.2.4~~ **2.4** Professional Coach or Referee. Participation on a team that includes a professional coach or referee does not cause the team to be classified as a professional team.

~~1214.24.38.3.3~~ **3.3** Competition in Professional All-Star Contest. A student-athlete who agrees to participate in a professional (players to be paid) all-star game becomes ineligible to compete in any intercollegiate contest that occurs after that agreement. Thus, a senior entering into such an agreement immediately after the last regular-season intercollegiate contest would not be eligible to compete in a bowl game or an NCAA championship.

~~1214.14.58.4~~ **4** Athletics Eligibility Status if Professional in Another Sport. A professional athlete in one sport may represent a member institution in a different sport. The institution may award institutional financial aid to a student-athlete, provided the student-athlete is not professional in the sport in which the student-athlete will participate at the certifying institution. However, a student-athlete who currently is receiving institutional financial aid and signs a contract in the same sport or receives compensation from an agent or a

## 2025 Noncontroversial Proposals

professional-sport organization may continue to receive such aid for the remainder of the term of the award, provided the student-athlete has completed their four seasons of competition. (See Bylaw 15.1.1.4.)

~~1214.14.58.14.1~~ Professional at Later Date. If the individual later becomes involved in professional athletics while still a student-athlete with remaining eligibility, the individual would be considered to have violated the principles of ethical conduct per Bylaw 10, thus rendering the individual ineligible for intercollegiate competition.

~~1214.24.48.5~~ Draft and Inquiry.

~~1214.24.48.15.1~~ Inquiry. An individual may inquire of a professional sports organization about eligibility for a professional-league player draft or request information about the individual's market value without affecting their eligibility status.

~~1214.24.48.25.2~~ Draft List. An enrolled student-athlete may enter a professional league's draft an unlimited number of times during their collegiate career and be drafted by any team in the league without jeopardizing eligibility in that sport, provided the student-athlete (or their relatives or friends) do not accept transportation or other material benefits from an agent or any person who represents any individual in marketing their athletics ability or reputation in that sport, sign a professional sport contract or otherwise jeopardize their eligibility status.

~~1214.24.48.35.3~~ Negotiations. An individual may request information about professional market value without affecting their eligibility status. Further, the individual, their relatives or legal guardians, the institution's professional sports counseling panel or head coach may enter into negotiations with a professional sports organization without the loss of the individual's eligibility status.

~~1214.24.58.6~~ Contracts and Compensation.

~~1214.24.58.16.1~~ General Rule. After initial full-time collegiate enrollment, an individual shall be ineligible for participation in an intercollegiate sport, if they have entered into any kind of agreement to compete in professional athletics, either orally or in writing, regardless of the legal enforceability of that agreement.

~~1214.24.58.16.1.1~~ Nonbinding Agreements. After initial full-time collegiate enrollment, an individual who signs a contract or commitment that does not become binding until the professional organization's representative or agent also signs the document is ineligible, even if the contract remains unsigned by the other parties until after the student-athlete's eligibility is exhausted.

~~1214.34.9~~ Use of Agents.

~~1214.34.19.1~~ General Rule. An individual shall be ineligible if they (or their relatives or friends) accept transportation or other material benefits from an agent or any person who represents any individual in the marketing of their athletics ability.

~~1214.34.19.1.1~~ Representation for Future Negotiations. An individual may enter into a verbal or written agreement with an agent for representation in future professional sports negotiations.

~~1214.34.29.2~~ Professional Service Provider. An individual may utilize a professional service provider for advice and activities related to an individual's name, image and likeness.

~~1214.34.39.3~~ Agent to Secure Athletics Scholarship. An individual shall be ineligible if they enter into an agreement (orally or in writing) with an agent for securing initial or continuing enrollment at a particular institution.

~~1214.34.49.4~~ Professional Sports Counseling Panel. It is permissible for an institution to have an authorized institutional professional sports counseling panel appointed and overseen by the institution's president or chancellor (or their designated representative from outside the athletics department).

**C. Bylaws:** Amend 14, as follows:

14 Eligibility: Academic and ~~General~~**Athletics** Requirements

14.01 General Principles.

## 2025 Noncontroversial Proposals

~~14.01.2 Academic Status. To be eligible to represent an institution in intercollegiate athletics competition, a student-athlete shall be enrolled in at least a minimum full-time program of studies, be in good academic standing and maintain progress toward a baccalaureate or equivalent degree.~~

~~14.01.2.1 Good Academic Standing. To be eligible to represent an institution in intercollegiate athletics competition, a student-athlete shall be in good academic standing as determined by the academic authorities who determine the meaning of such phrases for all students of the institution, subject to controlling legislation of the conference(s) or similar association of which the institution is a member. The definition of good academic standing applied to student-athletes shall be a standard at least as demanding as the minimum standard applied to all students in order to participate in extracurricular activities at the institution.~~

14.01.32 Compliance With Other NCAA and Conference Legislation. To be eligible to represent an institution in intercollegiate athletics competition, a student-athlete shall be in compliance with all applicable provisions of the constitution and bylaws of the Association and all rules and regulations of the institution and the conference(s), if any, of which the institution is a member. A violation of this bylaw that relates only to a violation of a conference rule shall be considered an institutional violation per Bylaw 7.01.10 however, such a violation shall not affect the student-athlete's eligibility. Specific attention is called to legislation affecting eligibility in the following areas.

~~14.01.3.1 Amateurism. A student-athlete shall not be eligible for participation in an intercollegiate sport, if following initial full-time collegiate enrollment the individual takes or has taken pay, or has accepted the promise of pay in any form, for participation in that sport, or if the individual has violated any of the other regulations related to amateurism set forth in Bylaw 12. (See Bylaw 12.1)~~

~~14.01.32.21 Awards, Benefits and Expenses~~**Impermissible Benefits.** ~~Receipt by a student athlete of nonpermissible awards, extra benefits, or excessive or improper expenses not authorized by NCAA legislation violates the Association's amateurism principle and renders the student-athlete ineligible for athletics participation in the sport for which the improper award, benefit or expense was received(see Bylaw 16).~~**A student-athlete shall not be eligible for participation in an intercollegiate sport if they receive impermissible awards, extra benefits, excessive or improper expenses not authorized by NCAA legislation (see Bylaw 16), takes or has taken pay, or accepts the promise of pay in any form for participation in that sport.** A student-athlete who receives an institutional postgraduate scholarship as part of a senior scholar-athlete award as set forth in Bylaw 16.1.3.1.1 shall not be eligible for intercollegiate athletics participation in all sports, except that a student may complete the remainder of any season currently in progress at the time of the award (e.g., postseason competition in a spring sport which occurs after graduation).

14.01.32.32 Unethical Conduct. A prospective or enrolled student-athlete who is found to have engaged in unethical conduct (see Bylaw 10.1) shall be ineligible for intercollegiate competition in all sports.

14.01.32.43 Financial Aid. A student-athlete who receives financial assistance other than that authorized by the Association shall not be eligible for intercollegiate athletics competition (see Bylaw 15). **A grant-in-aid administered by an educational institution is not considered to be pay or the promise of pay for athletics skill, provided it does not exceed the financial aid limitations set by the Association's membership.**

14.01.32.54 Recruitment. Solicitation of a student-athlete's enrollment by the certifying institution or any representative of its athletics interests in violation of the Association's legislation shall render the student-athlete ineligible to represent that institution in intercollegiate athletics. A student-athlete is responsible during their recruitment for involvement in a violation of NCAA regulations, and the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement may restore the eligibility of a student involved in such violation only when circumstances clearly warrant restoration. The eligibility of a student-athlete involved in a major violation shall not be restored other than through an exception authorized by the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement in a unique case on the basis of specifically stated reasons (see Bylaw 13).

14.01.14 Institutional Responsibility. An institution shall not permit a student-athlete to represent it in intercollegiate athletics competition, unless the student-athlete meets all applicable eligibility requirements and the institution has certified the student-athlete's eligibility. A violation of this bylaw in which the institution fails to certify the student-athlete's eligibility prior to allowing them to represent the institution in

## 2025 Noncontroversial Proposals

intercollegiate competition shall be considered an institutional violation per Bylaw 7.01.10; however, such a violation shall not affect the student-athlete's eligibility, provided all necessary information to certify the student-athlete's eligibility was available to the institution and the student-athlete otherwise would have been eligible for competition.

14.02 Definitions and Applications.

[14.02.1 unchanged.]

14.02.~~24~~ Branch School. A branch school is an educational institution that usually offers two years of college work, does not award degrees independently, and is wholly controlled and operated by a four-year, degree-granting parent institution.

14.02.~~45~~ Collegiate Institution. A collegiate institution (for purposes of NCAA legislation) is an institution of higher education that:

[14.02.5-(a) through 14.02.5-(c) unchanged.]

14.02.~~57~~ Education-Impacting Disability. An education-impacting disability is a current impairment that has a substantial educational impact on a student's academic performance and requires accommodation.

14.02.~~68~~ Exception. An exception is the granting of relief from the application of a specific regulation (e.g., the residence requirement for a transfer student to become eligible for competition). Formal approval by the Management Council or an NCAA committee is not required. The action granting the exception may be taken solely by the certifying institution, based on evidence that the conditions on which the exception is authorized have been met (see Bylaw 14.02.~~726~~).

14.02.~~79~~ Good Academic Standing and Progress Toward Degree. The phrases "good academic standing" and "progress toward degree" are to be interpreted at each member institution by the academic officials who determine the meaning and application of such phrases for all students, subject to the controlling regulations of the institution; the conference(s) (or similar associations), if any, of which the institution is a member; and applicable NCAA legislation (see Bylaw 14.~~42.9~~). The definition of good academic standing applied to student-athletes shall be a standard at least as demanding as the minimum standard applied to all students in order to participate in extracurricular activities at the institution. **To be eligible to represent an institution in intercollegiate athletics competition, a student-athlete shall be enrolled in at least a minimum full-time program of studies, be in good academic standing and maintain progress toward a baccalaureate or equivalent degree.**

14.02.~~1510~~ Grade-Point Average. For purposes of calculating a grade-point average for NCAA eligibility (e.g., progress toward degree), a student must achieve a minimum grade-point average based on a maximum of 4.000 grading scale, unless otherwise specified in the legislation.

14.02.~~811~~ Impermissible Academic Assistance -- Institutional Staff Member or Representative of Athletics Interests. Impermissible academic assistance by a current or former institutional staff member or a representative of an institution's athletics interests includes, but is not limited to, the provision of or arrangement of:

[14.02.11-(a) through 14.02.11-(b) unchanged.]

14.02.~~1012~~ Intercollegiate Competition. Intercollegiate competition occurs when a student-athlete in either a two-year or a four-year collegiate institution:

[14.02.12-(a) through 14.02.12-(b) unchanged.]

(c) Competes and receives expenses (e.g., transportation, meals, housing or entry fees) from the institution for the competition (See Bylaw 14.~~4.7.3.4~~-(c)-(1) for an exception for medical services for a student-athlete competing unattached); or

[14.02.12-(d) unchanged.]

14.02.~~1012.1~~ Exempted Events. Participation in events listed in Bylaws 16.8.1.2-(a), -(b) and -(c) is exempted from the application of this legislation.

# 2025 Noncontroversial Proposals

~~14.02.10~~**12.2** Exemption -- Tryouts. The participation of student-athletes in contests against prospective student-athletes trying out at member institutions (in accordance with Bylaw 13.11.2.1) shall be exempted from the application of this legislation.

~~14.02.11~~**13** National Team. A national team is one selected, organized and sponsored by the appropriate national governing bodies of the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee (or, for student-athletes representing another nation, the equivalent organization of that nation, or, for student-athletes competing in a non-Olympic or Paralympic sport, the equivalent organization of that sport). The selection for such a team shall be made on a national qualification basis, either through a defined selective process or by actual tryouts, publicly announced in advance. In addition, the international competition in question shall require that the entrants officially represent their respective nations, although it is not necessary to require team scoring by nation.

~~14.02.12~~**14** Participation in Intercollegiate Athletics. Participation in intercollegiate athletics occurs when a student-athlete either practices in a sport (see Bylaw 17.02.1) or competes in a sport, as defined in Bylaw 14.02.10**2**. Eligibility rules for competition may differ from those for practice.

~~14.02.13~~**19** Qualification Status.

~~14.02.13~~**19.1** Qualifier. A qualifier is a student who, for purposes of determining eligibility for financial aid, practice and competition, has met all of the following requirements (see Bylaw ~~14.3.1~~**14.2.8.2.1**):

[14.02.19.1-(a) through 14.02.19.1-(b) unchanged.]

(c) Specified minimum grade-point average in the core curriculum (**see Bylaw 14.2.8.2.1**) ~~and specified minimum SAT or ACT score based on the initial eligibility index for qualifiers.~~

~~14.02.13~~**19.2** Partial Qualifier. A partial qualifier is a student who does not meet the requirements for a qualifier.

~~14.02.3~~**20** Religious Mission, Official. An official religious mission is one that is required by the religious organization of which the individual is a member and that results in the individual being unable to attend a collegiate institution during the period of the mission.

~~14.02.14~~**21** Residence. Residence is enrollment in a full-time academic program (as defined by the institution) at a collegiate institution during a regular term of an academic year. A summer term may not be used to satisfy an academic term or year of residence. Any student-athlete (e.g., qualifier, partial qualifier, transfer student) admitted after the 12th class day may not use that semester or quarter for the purpose of satisfying an academic term or year of residence.

~~14.02.14~~**21.1** Academic Year of Residence. To satisfy an academic year of residence, a student shall:

[14.02.21.1-(a) through 14.02.21.1-(b) unchanged.]

~~14.02.16~~**24** Transfer Student. A transfer student, in the application of NCAA eligibility requirements, is a student who transfers from any collegiate institution after having met any one of the conditions set forth in Bylaw 14.5**3.2**.

~~14.02.17~~**26** Waiver. A waiver is an action exempting an individual or institution from the application of a specific regulation. A waiver requires formal approval (e.g., by the Management Council, an NCAA committee or a conference, as specified in the legislation) based on evidence of compliance with the specified conditions or criteria under which the waiver is authorized (see Bylaw 14.02.6**8**).

14.1 General Eligibility Requirements. **An individual's (prospective student-athlete or enrolled student-athlete) eligibility for participation in athletics shall be determined using the following provisions. (See Bylaw 14.4.3.4.2 regarding participation in organized competition prior to initial collegiate enrollment and Bylaw 14.1.4 regarding the eligibility restoration process.)**

## **14.1.1 Credentials and Eligibility Status.**

### **14.1.1.1 Academic Credentials.**

## 2025 Noncontroversial Proposals

~~14.1.21.1~~ **14.1.21.1** Invalidation of Academic Credentials After Initial-Eligibility Certification. If a student-athlete's academic credentials (e.g., transcript, test scores) are invalidated after their initial eligibility has been certified, the institution must report any violation that may have occurred as a result of the student-athlete's receipt of financial aid or participation in practice or competition and declare the student-athlete ineligible for competition. If such a violation occurred, the student-athlete remains ineligible for intercollegiate competition unless eligibility is restored by the Division II Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement regardless of whether an initial-eligibility waiver is granted after the invalidation of the academic credentials.

~~14.1.21.2~~ **14.1.21.2** Validity of Academic Credentials. As a condition and obligation of membership, an institution is responsible for determining the validity of a student-athlete's academic record.

### 14.1.1.2 Eligibility Status.

~~14.1.21.43~~ **14.1.21.43** NCAA Eligibility Center. An institution shall use the NCAA Eligibility Center, approved by the Board of Governors, to determine the validity of the information on which the initial eligibility of a student-athlete is based.

### 14.1.1.4 Institutional Responsibilities.

~~14.1.21.41~~ *Institutional Responsibility* **Validity of Initial-Eligibility Information.** An institution is responsible for promptly reporting all discrepancies in information used in a student-athlete's initial-eligibility certification to the NCAA Eligibility Center. Discrepancies in information include, but are not limited to, corrections, additions, potential academic misconduct with regard to high schools attended, grades, completion of coursework or test scores.

~~14.1.21.2~~ **14.1.21.2** Certification of Eligibility.

~~14.1.21.21~~ **14.1.21.21** Institutional Responsibility for Eligibility Certification. The president or chancellor is responsible for approving the procedures for certifying the eligibility of an institution's student-athletes under NCAA legislation. The president or chancellor may designate an individual on the institution's staff to administer proper certification of eligibility. Certification of eligibility must occur prior to allowing a student-athlete to represent the institution in intercollegiate competition (see Bylaw ~~14.01.14~~ **14.01.14**). A violation of this bylaw in which the institution fails to certify a student-athlete's eligibility prior to allowing them to represent the institution in intercollegiate competition shall be considered an institutional violation per Bylaw 7.01.10; however, such a violation shall not affect the student-athlete's eligibility, provided all the necessary information to certify the student-athlete's eligibility was available to the institution and the student-athlete otherwise would have been eligible for competition.

~~14.1.21.22~~ **14.1.21.22** Eligibility List Form. The institution's athletics director shall compile on a form approved by the Management Council a list of the squad members in each sport on the first day of competition and shall indicate thereon the status of each member in the designated categories. A student-athlete's name must be on the official institutional form in order for the student to be eligible to represent the institution in intercollegiate competition. Violations of this bylaw do not affect a student-athlete's eligibility, if the violation occurred due to an institutional administrative error or oversight, and the student-athlete is added to the form once the omission is realized; however, the violation shall be considered an institutional violation per Bylaw 7.01.10.

~~14.1.21.22.1~~ **14.1.21.22.1** Eligibility List. The following procedures shall be used for the eligibility list:

[14.1.2.2.1-(a) unchanged.]

(b) Any student-athlete who is included on the eligibility list must have signed a drug-testing consent form per Bylaw ~~14.1.47.3.1.5.9~~ **7.3.1.5.9**;

[14.1.2.2.1-(c) through 14.1.2.2.1-(e) unchanged.]

~~14.1.21.3~~ **14.1.21.3** Ineligibility.

~~14.1.21.31~~ **14.1.21.31** Obligation of Member Institution to Withhold Student-Athlete From Competition. If a student-athlete is ineligible under the provisions of the constitution, bylaws or other regulations of the Association, the institution shall be obligated to apply immediately the applicable rule and to withhold the student-athlete from all intercollegiate competition. The institution may appeal to the Committee on Student-Athlete

# 2025 Noncontroversial Proposals

Reinstatement for restoration of the student-athlete's eligibility as provided in Bylaw 14.13.1.4, if it concludes that the circumstances warrant restoration.

~~14.13.1.1~~ **14.13.1.1** Application of Ineligibility Ruling Pending Appeal. Once an interpretation (per Bylaw 9.4.1.2) applicable to a member institution has been issued and results in the ineligibility of a student-athlete, it is necessary for the institution to apply the rule to the eligibility of the student-athlete, even if review of the interpretation (per Bylaw 9.4.1.2.1.1 or Bylaw 9.4.1.2.1.2) at the request of the institution is pending. Failure to withhold such a student-athlete from competition is a violation of the conditions and obligations of membership.

~~14.13.2.1~~ **14.13.2.1** Payment of Legal Fees During Appeal. A member institution may provide actual and necessary expenses for a prospective student-athlete to attend proceedings conducted by the institution, its athletics conference or the NCAA that relate to the prospective student-athlete's eligibility to participate in intercollegiate athletics, provided the prospective student-athlete either has signed a National Letter of Intent with the institution or (if the institution is not a subscribing member of the National Letter of Intent program) the prospective student-athlete has been accepted for enrollment by the institution and has provided written confirmation of their intent to enroll at the institution. The cost of legal representation in such proceedings also may be provided by the institution (or a representative of its athletic interests).

~~14.13.2.2~~ **14.13.2.2** Ineligible Participation.

~~14.13.2.1~~ **14.13.2.1** Loss of Eligibility. A student-athlete shall be denied eligibility for intercollegiate competition in a sport, if they participate in intercollegiate competition in that sport while ineligible under this bylaw or other applicable NCAA legislation. The certifying institution may appeal to the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement for restoration of the student-athlete's eligibility, if it concludes that the circumstances warrant restoration (see Bylaw 14.13.1.4).

~~14.13.2.2~~ **14.13.2.2** Restitution. If a student-athlete who is ineligible under the terms of the bylaws or other legislation of the Association is permitted to participate in intercollegiate competition contrary to such NCAA legislation but in accordance with the terms of a court restraining order or injunction operative against the institution attended by such student-athlete or against the Association, or both, and said injunction is voluntarily vacated, stayed or reversed or it is finally determined by the courts that injunctive relief is not or was not justified, the Management Council may take any one or more of the following actions against such institution in the interest of restitution and fairness to competing institutions:

[14.1.3.2.2-(a) through 14.1.3.2.2-(h) unchanged.]

~~14.13.4~~ **14.13.4** Restoration of Eligibility.

~~14.13.1.4.1~~ **14.13.4.1** Basis for Appeal. When a student-athlete is determined to be ineligible under any applicable provision of the constitution, bylaws or other regulations of the Association, the member institution, having applied the applicable rule and having withheld the student-athlete from all intercollegiate competition, may appeal to the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement for restoration of the student's eligibility, provided the institution concludes that the circumstances warrant restoration of eligibility.

~~14.13.2.4.2~~ **14.13.4.2** Participation in Appeal Hearing. Any appeal to restore a student-athlete's eligibility shall be submitted in the name of the institution by the president or chancellor (or an individual designated by the president or chancellor), faculty athletics representative, senior woman administrator or athletics director (for the men's or women's program). At least one of those individuals must participate in any hearing of the appeal that involves direct participation by the student-athlete or other individuals representing the institution or the student.

~~14.13.3.4.3~~ **14.13.4.3** Student Responsibility, Relationship to Restoration of Eligibility. A student-athlete is responsible for their involvement in a secondary or major violation of NCAA regulations (as defined in Bylaws 19.1.1 and 19.1.2), and the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement may restore the eligibility of a student involved in any violation only when circumstances clearly warrant restoration. The eligibility of a student-athlete involved in a major violation shall not be restored other than through an exception authorized by the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement in a unique case on the basis of specifically stated reasons.

## 2025 Noncontroversial Proposals

~~14.13.1.4.4~~ **14.1.4.4** Protest of Eligibility Status. If a student-athlete has been certified by the institution as eligible to compete in an NCAA championship and the student-athlete's eligibility is protested or a protest is filed, the student-athlete shall not be withheld nor shall the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement rule on such a protest received during the period beginning 24 hours before the event and ending with the conclusion of the event. If there is a break in the continuity of the championship (e.g., between rounds of a basketball tournament) when no competition is being conducted, the student may be withheld from further competition in the championship, provided the protest is made or filed at least 24 hours before the next segment of the championship.

~~14.1.1.2~~ *General Institutional Requirements. The institution shall refrain from entering a student-athlete as an individual or as a member of a team in an NCAA championship, if it is acknowledged by the institution or established through the Association's enforcement procedures that the institution or representative(s) of its athletics interests violated NCAA regulations in the recruiting of the student-athlete. The institution may appeal to the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement for restoration of the student-athlete's eligibility (see Bylaw 14.13).*

### ~~14.1.3~~ **14.1.3** Student-Athlete Statement.

~~14.1.3.1~~ *Content and Purpose. Before participation in intercollegiate competition each academic year, a student-athlete shall sign a statement in a form prescribed by the Management Council in which the student-athlete submits information related to eligibility, recruitment, financial aid, amateur status, previous positive drug tests administered by any other athletics organization and involvement in organized gambling activities related to intercollegiate or professional athletics competition under the Association's governing legislation. Details about the content, administration and disposition of the statement are set forth in Bylaw 14.1.3. [D]*

~~14.1.3.2~~ *Administration. The following procedures shall be used in administering the student-athlete statement:*

- ~~(a)~~ *The statement shall be administered individually to each student-athlete by the director of athletics or the director of athletics' designee before the student's participation in intercollegiate competition each academic year;*
- ~~(b)~~ *The director of athletics and head coach in the sport in which the student-athlete participates shall sign the eligibility list form;*
- ~~(c)~~ *The statement shall be kept on file and shall be available for examination on request by an authorized representative of the NCAA; and*
- ~~(d)~~ *The director of athletics shall promptly notify in writing the NCAA director of sports sciences regarding a student-athlete's disclosure of a previous positive drug test administered by any other athletics organization.*

~~14.1.3.3~~ *Institutional Responsibility -- Notification of Positive Test. The institution shall promptly notify in writing the NCAA chief medical officer regarding a student-athlete's disclosure of a previous positive test for banned substances administered by any other athletics organization.*

### ~~14.1.4~~ **14.1.4** Drug-Testing Consent Form.

~~14.1.4.1~~ *Content and Purpose. Each academic year, a student-athlete shall sign a form prescribed by the Management Council in which the student-athlete consents to be tested for the use of drugs prohibited by NCAA legislation. A student-athlete shall complete and sign the consent form before practice or competition, or before the Monday of the fourth week of classes, whichever is earlier. [D]*

~~14.1.4.2~~ *Administration. The following procedures shall be used in administering the drug-testing consent form required (see Bylaw 7.3.1.5.9): [D]*

- ~~(a)~~ *The consent form shall be administered individually to each student-athlete by the director of athletics or the director of athletics' designee each academic year;*
- ~~(b)~~ *The director of athletics or the director of athletics' designee shall disseminate the list of banned drug classes to all student-athletes and educate them about products that might contain banned drugs. All student-athletes are to be notified that the list may change during the academic year and that updates*

## 2025 Noncontroversial Proposals

~~may be found on the NCAA website (i.e., www.ncaa.org) and are to be informed of the appropriate athletics department procedures for disseminating updates to the list; and~~

~~(c) The consent forms shall be kept on file and shall be available for examination on request by an authorized representative of the NCAA.~~

~~14.1.4.3 Exception -- 14-Consecutive Calendar Day Grace Period. A student-athlete who is trying out for a team is not required to complete the NCAA Drug Testing Consent Form for 14 consecutive calendar days from the first date the student-athlete engages in countable athletically related activities or before the student-athlete participates in competition, whichever occurs first.~~

~~14.1.5 Student Athlete Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) Authorization/Buckley Amendment Consent Form -- Disclosure of Protected Health Information.~~

~~14.1.5.1 Content and Purpose. Each academic year, a student-athlete may voluntarily sign a statement in a form prescribed by the Management Council in which the student-athlete authorizes/consents to the institution's physicians, athletic trainers and health care personnel to disclose the student-athlete's injury/illness and participation information associated with the student-athlete's training and participation in intercollegiate athletics to the NCAA and to its Injury Surveillance Program (ISP), agents and employees for the purpose of conducting research into the reduction of athletics injuries. The authorization/consent by the student-athlete is voluntary and is not required for the student-athlete to be eligible to participate. [D]~~

~~14.1.5.2 Administration. The following procedures shall be used in administering the Student-Athlete HIPAA Authorization/Buckley Amendment consent form: [D]~~

~~(a) The authorization/consent form shall be administered individually to each student-athlete by the director of athletics or the director of athletics' designee before the student-athlete's participation in intercollegiate athletics each academic year.~~

~~(b) Signing the authorization/consent shall be voluntary and is not required by the student-athlete's institution for medical treatment, payment for treatment, enrollment in a health plan or for any benefits (if applicable) and is not required for the student-athlete to be eligible to participate.~~

~~(c) Any signed authorization/consent forms shall be kept on file and shall be available for examination on request by an authorized representative of the NCAA.~~

~~14.1.8.2 International Student Exception. The remaining eligibility of a student who has received a foreign postsecondary degree that is identified as a "baccalaureate" but is not equivalent to a United States baccalaureate and who is entering an undergraduate program must be reviewed on a case-by-case basis by the Division II Academic Requirements Committee and its International Student Records Consultants.~~

~~14.1.2.6 Admission and Enrollment~~**Academic Eligibility.**

~~14.1.2.6.1 Admission. A student-athlete shall not represent an institution in intercollegiate athletics competition, unless the student-athlete has been admitted as a regularly enrolled, degree-seeking student in accordance with the regular, published entrance requirements of that institution.~~

~~14.1.2.6.1.1 Graduate Student Exception. A nonmatriculating, nondegree seeking graduate student may represent an institution in intercollegiate athletics competition, provided all other eligibility requirements are satisfied (e.g., enrolled full time, in good academic standing).~~

~~14.1.2.7.3 Full-Time Enrollment.~~

~~14.1.2.7.3.1 Requirement for Practice or Competition. To be eligible for practice or competition, a student-athlete shall be enrolled in at least a minimum full-time program of studies leading to a baccalaureate or equivalent degree as defined by the institution, which for purposes of this bylaw and its subsections shall not be less than 12-semester or -quarter hours, regardless of the institution's definition of a minimum full-time program of studies. **[D for practice only]**~~

~~14.1.2.7.3.1.1 Drop/Add Course. A student-athlete no longer shall be considered enrolled in a minimum full-time program of studies (after dropping a course that places the student below full-time status) when the dropped course becomes official in accordance with procedures determined by the institution for all students. A student-athlete who is adding a course to reach full-time status shall~~

## 2025 Noncontroversial Proposals

become eligible for practice and competition once the course has been approved by the appropriate department head (or designated representative) and submitted to the registrar.

~~14.12.73~~1.2 Withdrawal or Dismissal. A student-athlete who withdraws or is dismissed from an institution is considered to be a prospective student-athlete eligible for recruitment by other NCAA institutions and may not continue to practice or compete with the original institution's team. (See Bylaw 13.1.1.2.)

~~14.12.73~~1.3 Noncredit Work. Hours of noncredit work (including remedial courses) may be counted toward fulfilling the minimum full-time enrollment requirement, provided the noncredit work is given the same academic load value and is considered by the institution to be a requirement for the degree currently being pursued by the student-athlete.

~~14.12.73~~1.4 Concurrent Courses at Two Institutions. Courses taken concurrently at a second institution may be counted toward meeting the minimum 12-hour enrollment requirement, provided:

[14.2.3.1.4-(a) through 14.2.3.1.4-(b) unchanged.]

~~14.12.73~~1.5 Cooperative Educational Exchange Program. A student-athlete may practice or compete for the certifying institution even though the student-athlete is enrolled in another institution in a cooperative educational exchange or work experience program (e.g., co-op, internship, practicum, student-teaching), provided:

[14.2.3.1.5-(a) through 14.2.3.1.5-(b) unchanged.]

~~14.12.73~~1.6 Nontraditional Courses. Enrollment in a nontraditional course (e.g., distance-learning, correspondence, extension, Internet/virtual courses, independent study or any other course or credit that is not earned in a face-to-face classroom environment with regular interaction between the instructor and the student) offered by the certifying institution may be used to satisfy the full-time enrollment requirement for competition, provided the following conditions are met:

[14.2.3.1.6-(a) through 14.2.3.1.6-(d) unchanged.]

~~14.12.73~~1.7 Exceptions.

~~14.12.73~~1.7.1 Practice or Competition -- Before Initial Full-Time Enrollment. To be eligible for practice or competition during the official vacation period immediately before initial enrollment, the student-athlete shall:

[14.2.3.1.7.1-(a) through 14.2.3.1.7.1-(c) unchanged.]

~~14.12.73~~1.7.2 Practice or Competition -- Eligibility Between Terms. To be eligible for practice or competition that takes place between terms, the student-athlete shall:

(a) Have been registered for the required minimum full-time program of studies (see Bylaw ~~14.1.7.1~~**2.3.1**) at the conclusion of the term immediately preceding the date of competition, if the student-athlete is continuing enrollment; or

(b) Be accepted for enrollment as a regular full-time student for the regular term immediately after the date of competition, if the student-athlete is either continuing enrollment or beginning enrollment (see Bylaw ~~14.1.9~~**2.5**).

~~14.12.73~~1.7.3 Practice or Competition -- Final Semester/Quarter. A student-athlete with athletics eligibility remaining may compete or participate in organized practice sessions while enrolled in less than a minimum full-time program of studies, provided the student-athlete is enrolled in the final semester or quarter of the baccalaureate program or a minor or undergraduate certificate program and the institution certifies that the student-athlete is carrying (for credit) the courses necessary to complete the degree, minor or certificate requirements. To qualify for this exception, a minor or undergraduate certificate program must be officially designated (pursuant to institutional policy) by the student-athlete before the beginning of the applicable term. Thereafter, the student-athlete shall forfeit eligibility in all sports, unless the student-athlete completes all degree, minor or certificate requirements during that semester or quarter and is eligible to receive the baccalaureate diploma on the institution's next degree-granting date.

## 2025 Noncontroversial Proposals

~~14.12.73~~1.7.3.1 Waivers. The Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement shall establish appropriate criteria for waiver requests seeking relief of the forfeiture of eligibility penalty.

~~14.12.73~~1.7.3.2 Practice or Competition -- Postseason. The student-athlete granted eligibility to compete under this provision shall be eligible for any NCAA championship that begins within 60 days after said semester or quarter, provided the student-athlete has not exhausted the 10 semesters/15 quarters for completion of the individual's four seasons of eligibility (see Bylaw ~~14.24.3~~). Thereafter, the student-athlete shall forfeit eligibility in all sports, unless the student-athlete completes all degree requirements during that semester or quarter and is eligible to receive the baccalaureate diploma on the institution's next degree-granting date.

~~14.12.73~~1.7.3.2.1 Waiver -- Postseason. The Management Council, or a committee designated by the Management Council to act for it, may waive the 60-day requirement when an NCAA championship is conducted at the conclusion of the championship segment of the playing season but begins more than 60 days after the end of said term. (See Bylaw 15.1.1.1 for legislation related to the eligibility of student-athletes enrolled less than full time to receive institutional financial aid.)

~~14.12.73~~1.7.4 Final Term Before Experiential Learning Requirement. A student-athlete may compete or practice while enrolled in less than a minimum full-time program of studies in the final semester or quarter of the student's baccalaureate degree program before participating in an experiential learning requirement (e.g., student teaching, internship, clinical, capstone project) in the following term, provided the student-athlete is carrying (for credit) all courses necessary to complete degree requirements as determined by the faculty of the institution, other than the experiential learning requirement. A student-athlete who uses this exception is not permitted to use the final semester/quarter exception the following semester or quarter.

~~14.12.73~~1.7.5 Practice or Competition -- Graduate Program. A student-athlete may practice or compete while enrolled in a full-time graduate program as defined by the institution for all graduate students in that program (see Bylaw ~~14.182.4~~).

~~14.12.73~~1.7.6 Practice -- First Week of Class. A student-athlete may practice, but may not compete, during the institution's first five days of classes, if the student-athlete is enrolled in less than a minimum full-time program of studies, provided the student-athlete is otherwise eligible under all institutional, conference and NCAA requirements.

~~14.12.73~~1.8 Waivers of the 12-Hour Requirement for Practice or Competition.

~~14.12.73~~1.8.1 Practice or Competition -- Student-Athletes with Education-Impacting Disabilities. The Academic Requirements Committee may waive the 12-hour requirement for a student-athlete when objective evidence demonstrates that an institution defines full-time enrollment for that student-athlete to be less than 12 hours to accommodate for the student-athlete's education-impacting disability.

~~14.12.73~~1.8.2 Practice or Competition -- Nontraditional Academic Calendars or Cooperative Educational Programs. A student-athlete enrolled in an institution that determines enrollment hours on a basis other than traditional semester or quarter hours or that conducts a cooperative educational or work experience program (e.g., co-op, internship, practicum, student-teaching), may practice or compete, if at the time of practice or competition the student-athlete is enrolled for a comparable minimum academic program of studies as determined by the Academic Requirements Committee.

~~14.12.73~~1.8.3 Practice or Competition -- Olympic, Paralympic, Pan American, Parapan American, World Championships, World Cup, World University Games (Universiade), World University Championships or World Youth Championships. The Academic Requirements Committee may waive the minimum full-time enrollment requirement for any participant in the junior or elite levels of the Olympic, Paralympic, Pan American, Parapan American, World Championships, World Cup, World University Games (Universiade), World University Championships or World

## 2025 Noncontroversial Proposals

Youth Championships who, because of such participation, may lose eligibility for practice or competition in any sport.

~~14.12.73~~1.8.4 Practice -- U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee/National Governing Body -- Individual Sports or Rowing. A student-athlete with eligibility remaining who is not enrolled or who is enrolled in less than a minimum full-time program of studies or a former student-athlete who has graduated and has no eligibility remaining, may participate on a regular basis in organized practice sessions that involve an individual sport or rowing, provided the following conditions are met:

[14.2.3.1.8.4-(a) through 14.2.3.1.8.4-(e) unchanged.]

~~14.12.73~~1.8.5 Practice -- U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee/National Governing Body -- Team Sports. A student-athlete with eligibility remaining who is not enrolled or who is enrolled in less than a minimum full-time program of studies or a former student-athlete who has graduated and has no eligibility remaining, may participate on a regular basis in organized practice sessions that involve a team sport, provided the following conditions are met:

[14.2.3.1.8.5-(a) through 14.2.3.1.8.5-(e) unchanged.]

~~14.12.73~~1.8.5.1 Administration. Waivers of Bylaw ~~14.12.73~~1.8.4 or ~~14.12.73~~1.8.5 shall be approved by the conference members of the Association or, in the case of independent institutions, by the Management Council. A member institution shall submit a waiver request that includes documentation that demonstrates that the conditions of Bylaw ~~14.12.73~~1.8.4 or ~~14.12.73~~1.8.5 have been met for each individual who wishes to participate in the institution's practice sessions.

~~14.12.73~~1.8.6 Practice and Competition -- All Other Full-Time Enrollment Waivers. Unless otherwise specified under this bylaw, the Academic Requirements Committee may waive the 12-hour requirement for competition and practice.

~~14.12.84~~ Graduate Student/Postbaccalaureate/Second Baccalaureate Participation. A student-athlete who is enrolled in a graduate or professional school of the institution they previously attended as an undergraduate (regardless of whether the individual has received a United States baccalaureate degree or its equivalent), a student-athlete who is enrolled and seeking a second baccalaureate or equivalent degree at the same institution, a student-athlete who has graduated and is continuing as a full-time student at the same institution while taking course work that would lead to the equivalent of another major or degree as defined and documented by the institution, or a nonmatriculating, nondegree seeking graduate student who satisfies all eligibility requirements (e.g., enrolled full time, in good academic standing), may participate in intercollegiate athletics, provided the student has eligibility remaining and such participation occurs within the applicable 10-semester/15-quarter period set forth in Bylaw ~~14.24.3~~ (see Bylaw ~~14.12.73~~1.7.5).

~~14.12.84~~1.1 Transfer Exception. A student who transfers and enrolls in a graduate program, professional school or second baccalaureate or equivalent degree program at an institution other than the institution they previously attended as an undergraduate may participate in intercollegiate athletics, provided the student has eligibility remaining.

~~14.12.84~~1.1.1 Disciplinary Suspension. A student who transfers from a collegiate institution and enrolls in a graduate program, professional school or second baccalaureate or equivalent degree program while the student is disqualified or suspended from the previous institution for disciplinary reasons (as opposed to academic reasons) must complete one calendar year of residence at the certifying institution.

~~14.12.84~~3.2 NCAA Championship Following Last Term of Eligibility. A student-athlete who is eligible during the term in which degree work is completed (or is eligible as a graduate, per Bylaw ~~14.12.82~~4) remains eligible for any NCAA championship that begins within 60 days after the end of the term in which the student completes the requirements for the degree (or graduate eligibility). The Management Council, or a committee designated by the Management Council to act for it, may waive the 60-day requirement when an NCAA championship, postseason bowl game or National Invitation Tournament is conducted at the conclusion of the traditional playing season but begins more than 60 days after the end of said term.

# 2025 Noncontroversial Proposals

~~14.12.95~~ Change in Eligibility Status. If a student-athlete's academic eligibility changes at the end of a quarter or semester, the student-athlete shall become eligible or ineligible to compete on the date their eligibility officially is certified by the appropriate institutional authority. In a case in which the student becomes eligible at the end of the term, the earliest date on which the student can become eligible to compete is the day after the date of the last scheduled examination listed in the institution's official calendar for the term that is ending. In a case in which the student becomes ineligible, the ineligibility shall become effective not later than the first day of classes of the following semester or quarter. In any case, if the student-athlete is academically eligible to compete at the time of the student-athlete's or the institution's first participation in an NCAA championship, they shall remain eligible for the remainder of the championship.

~~14.12.95~~.1 Exception.

~~14.12.95~~.1.1 Institutions With Official Posting Date for Grades. An institution whose official posting date for grades falls within three days of the first day of classes for the following academic term shall have three business days from the official date on which grades must be posted to certify that student-athletes have satisfactorily completed at least nine-semester or eight-quarter hours of academic credit the preceding regular academic term (see Bylaw ~~14.42.9~~.3.2). For those institutions that post grades on a rolling basis, the three-business day period shall begin within the first week of classes.

~~14.12.95~~.1.2 Institutions With No Official Posting Date for Grades. An institution whose official submission date for grades falls on or after the first day of classes for the following academic term shall have five business days from the date on which grades are submitted to certify that student-athletes have satisfactorily completed at least nine-semester or eight-quarter hours of academic credit the preceding regular academic term (see Bylaw ~~14.42.9~~.3.2).

~~14.12.95~~.1.3 Certification of Eligibility. During the three-business-day or five-business-day period, a student-athlete who is otherwise eligible under NCAA, conference and institutional requirements, shall be permitted to compete. If during the exception period, a student-athlete is certified ineligible, the student-athlete shall be declared immediately ineligible for competition. If the three-business-day or five-business-day period concludes prior to the certification of eligibility for any student-athlete, the student-athlete(s) shall be ineligible until such time as the student-athlete(s) is declared eligible for competition.

~~14.12.106~~ Eligibility for Male Students or Male Student-Athletes to Practice With Women's Teams. A male student or male student-athlete (see Bylaw 17.02.9) may engage in practice sessions with women's teams under the following conditions:

(a) Male students who practice with an institution's women's team must be verified as eligible for practice in accordance with Bylaw ~~14.17.12.3.1~~ and must have eligibility remaining under the ten-semester/15-quarter rule (see Bylaw ~~14.2.24.3.2~~) and undergo a mandatory medical examination per Bylaw 17.1.5. A male student who practices with an institution's women's team is not required to have an academic or amateurism certification from the NCAA Eligibility Center.

[14.2.6-(b) through 14.2.6-(e) unchanged.]

~~14.12.117~~ Recognized Foreign Exchange/Study Abroad Program. A student-athlete who participates in a formal and established educational foreign exchange or study abroad program recognized by the certifying institution's academic authorities shall not be considered a transfer student-athlete upon return to the certifying institution. A student-athlete participating in such a program shall not trigger the use of a season of competition for participation in intercollegiate competition that occurs during the certifying institution's nonchampionship segment. In sports other than basketball, a student-athlete shall not be subject to the outside competition legislation while participating in such a program. All amateurism regulations still apply.

~~14.32.8~~ Freshman Academic Requirements.

## **14.2.8.1 General Principles.**

~~14.12.28.31.1~~ High School Review Committee. The High School Review Committee shall have the authority to establish policies and procedures related to reviewing the validity of any high school and the validity of any prospective student-athlete's academic credentials. The review may result in a determination that a high school or a prospective student-athlete's academic credentials shall not be used to meet initial-

## 2025 Noncontroversial Proposals

eligibility requirements. The committee's policies and procedures shall be approved by the Academic Requirements Committee. (See Bylaw 21.6.4.2.)

~~14.32.18.2~~ Eligibility for Financial Aid, Practice and Competition -- Qualifiers and Partial Qualifiers .

**14.2.8.2.1 Qualifier. A qualifier is defined as one who is a high school graduate and who has a minimum cumulative core-course grade-point average of 2.200 (based on a maximum 4.000) in a minimum of 16 academic courses. The 16 core courses shall include the following:**

<b><u>English</u></b>	<b>3 years</b>
<b><u>Mathematics</u></b>	<b>2 years</b>
<b><u>Natural or physical science (including at least one laboratory course if offered by the high school)</u></b>	<b>2 years</b>
<b><u>Additional courses in English, mathematics or natural or physical science</u></b>	<b>3 years</b>
<b><u>Social science</u></b>	<b>2 years</b>
<b><u>Additional academic courses [in any of the above areas or foreign language, philosophy or nondoctrinal religion (e.g., comparative religion) courses]</u></b>	<b>4 years</b>

**The record of the above courses and course grades must be certified by the NCAA Eligibility Center using an official high school transcript forwarded directly from the high school or on a high school transcript forwarded by an institution's admissions office.**

~~14.32.18.12.1.1~~ Exception -- Early Academic Certification. A prospective student-athlete shall be certified as a qualifier, provided they have achieved a core-course grade-point average of 2.500 (based on a maximum of 4.000) in a minimum of 14 core courses on completion of six semesters (or the equivalent). The 14 core courses shall include three core courses in English, three in mathematics (at the level of Algebra I or higher), two in natural or physical science (including at least one laboratory course if offered at the high school) and six additional core courses in any NCAA core area. The record of the course and course grades must be certified by the NCAA Eligibility Center using either an official high school transcript forwarded directly from the high school or a high school transcript forwarded by an institution's admissions office.

~~14.32.18.12.1.1.1~~ Submission of Final Transcript(s). An institution must submit a final high school transcript(s) (official or unofficial) to the NCAA Eligibility Center by November 15 following a student-athlete's initial full-time enrollment for any student-athlete who is certified as a qualifier pursuant to the early academic certification exception. [D]

~~14.32.18.12.2.1.2~~ Eligibility for Financial Aid, Practice and Competition -- Qualifier. A student-athlete who enrolls in a Division II institution as an entering freshman with no previous full-time college attendance shall meet the academic requirements for a qualifier, as certified by the NCAA Eligibility Center, and approved by the Board of Governors, and any applicable institutional and conference regulations, to be eligible for financial aid, practice and competition during the first academic year in residence.

~~14.32.18.2.2~~ Partial Qualifier. A partial qualifier is defined as a student who does not meet the requirements for a qualifier (see Bylaw ~~14.3.1.12.8.2.1~~).

~~14.32.18.2.12.1~~ Eligibility for Financial Aid, Practice and Competition -- Partial Qualifier. A student-athlete who enrolls in a Division II institution as an entering freshman with no previous full-time college attendance and who is a partial qualifier may receive institutional financial aid (see Bylaw 15.2.1) based on institutional and conference regulations and may practice only on campus or at the institution's regular practice facility but may not compete during the first academic year in residence.

~~14.32.18.2.2.2~~ Outside Competition -- Partial Qualifier. A partial qualifier may participate in the institution's intramural program (provided the intramural team is not coached by a member of the institution's athletics department staff); however, during the first year in residence, such an individual is not permitted to practice or compete on an institutional club team or on an outside sports team.

## 2025 Noncontroversial Proposals

~~14.32.18.2.3~~ **14.32.18.2.3.3** Seasons of Competition -- Partial Qualifier. A partial qualifier shall not engage in more than four seasons of competition.

~~14.32.18.2.4~~ **14.32.18.2.4.2.4** Residence Requirement -- Partial Qualifier. A partial qualifier must fulfill an academic year of residence to be eligible to compete and to practice away from the institution (see Bylaw 14.02.1421 regarding the requirements that must be met to fulfill an academic year in residence).

~~14.32.18.3.2.3~~ **14.32.18.3.2.3** Core-Curriculum Requirements. For purposes of meeting the core-curriculum requirement to establish eligibility at a member institution, a "core course" must meet all of the following criteria:

[14.2.8.2.3-(a) through 14.2.8.2.3-(d) unchanged.]

(e) A course must be taught at or above the high school's regular academic level (i.e., remedial, special education or compensatory courses shall not be considered core courses). However, the prohibition against the use of remedial or compensatory courses is not applicable to courses designed for students with education-impacting disabilities (see Bylaw ~~14.3.13.5~~ **14.3.13.5.2.8.2.3.5**).

~~14.32.18.3.2.3.1~~ **14.32.18.3.2.3.1** Core-Curriculum Time Limitation. A student is permitted to use all core courses completed following the start of the ninth grade and prior to initial full-time enrollment at a collegiate institution as certified on the official transcript or by official correspondence.

~~14.32.18.3.2.3.2~~ **14.32.18.3.2.3.2** Nontraditional Courses. Courses taught via the Internet, distance-learning, independent-study, individualized-instruction, correspondence and courses taught by similar means, may be used to satisfy NCAA core-course requirements, if all of the following conditions are satisfied:

(a) The course meets all requirements for a core course as defined in Bylaw ~~14.3.13.5~~ **14.3.13.5.2.8.2.3**.

[14.2.8.2.3.2-(b) through 14.2.8.2.3.2-(g) unchanged.]

~~14.32.18.3.2.3.3~~ **14.32.18.3.2.3.3** College Courses. College courses may be used to satisfy core-curriculum requirements if accepted by the high school, provided the courses are accepted for any other student, meet all other requirements for core courses and are placed on the student's high school transcript.

~~14.32.18.3.2.4~~ **14.32.18.3.2.4.3.4** English as a Second Language Course. It is permissible to use an advanced level English as a Second Language (ESL) course to satisfy a core-curriculum requirement, provided the course is qualitatively and quantitatively the same as the comparison course in the regular course offering and the course appears on the high school's list of approved core courses. Further, an advanced-level ESL course must be exclusively for ESL students and all students in the course must be at the same level.

~~14.32.18.3.2.5~~ **14.32.18.3.2.5.3.5** Courses for Students With Education-Impacting Disabilities. High school courses for students with education-impacting disabilities may be used to fulfill the core-curriculum requirements, even if such courses appear to be taught at a level below the high school's regular academic instructional level (e.g., special education courses), if the high school principal submits a written statement to the NCAA Eligibility Center indicating that courses are substantially comparable, quantitatively and qualitatively, to similar core-course offerings in that academic discipline and the courses appear on the high school's list of approved core courses. Students with education-impacting disabilities still must complete the required core courses and achieve the minimum required grade-point average in the core curriculum. The fact that the title of a course includes a designation such as "remedial," "special education," "special needs," or other similar titles used for courses designed for students with education-impacting disabilities does not, in and of itself, disqualify a course from satisfying core-curriculum requirements.

~~14.32.18.3.2.6~~ **14.32.18.3.2.6.3.6** Grade Value of Core Courses. The following grade values are to be used in determining a student's grade-point average in the core courses: A = 4 quality points, B = 3 quality points, C = 2 quality points, D = 1 quality point. In determining the core-curriculum grade-point average, each grade earned in a course (including all numerical grades) must be converted to this 4.000 scale on an individual-course basis. Pluses or minuses within a grade level shall not receive greater or lesser quality points. A school's normal practice of weighting honors or advanced courses may be used to compute the quality points awarded in those courses and the cumulative grade-

## 2025 Noncontroversial Proposals

point average, provided a written statement verifying the grading policy accompanies the prospective student-athlete's official grade transcript. An honors or an advanced course shall receive not greater than 1.000 additional quality point (e.g., A = 5.000). In calculating the grade in a weighted honors or advanced course, if a high school does not assign quality points to its courses, quality points shall be added to each course before calculating the student's grade-point average and not added to a student's cumulative core-course grade-point average. The core-curriculum grade-point average may be calculated using the student's 16 best grades from courses that meet the distribution requirements of the core curriculum. Additional core courses (beyond the 16 required) may be used to meet the core-curriculum grade-point average, provided the distribution requirements are met.

~~14.32.18.32.63.16.1~~ **14.32.18.32.63.16.1** Grade-Point Average Computation. In determining a student-athlete's eligibility, it is not permissible to round the student's high school grade-point average, regardless of the number of digits to which the computation is carried (e.g., a high school grade-point average of 1.9999 would not make a prospective student-athlete a partial qualifier).

~~14.32.18.32.63.26.2~~ **14.32.18.32.63.26.2** Multiple Grade-Point Average Calculations. If a high school uses more than one method to compute cumulative grade-point averages for all of its students, the high school may use the method most beneficial to a prospective student-athlete, provided that under its normal procedures the high school actually computes (without any special request by the student or a member institution) a cumulative grade-point average, using that same method for each student at the high school.

~~14.32.18.32.63.36.3~~ **14.32.18.32.63.36.3** Multiple High School Attendance. When a prospective student-athlete attends more than one high school, it is necessary for the high school from which the student graduated to provide the student's total high school grade-point average. Eligibility shall not be established solely on the basis of work accomplished at the high school from which the student graduated.

~~14.32.18.32.73.7~~ **14.32.18.32.73.7** Pass-Fail Grades. Courses that are awarded pass-fail grades may be used to satisfy core-curriculum requirements. The NCAA Eligibility Center shall assign the course the lowest passing grade that the high school assigns for a pass-fail course.

~~14.32.18.32.83.8~~ **14.32.18.32.83.8** Repeat Courses. A repeated course may be used only once to satisfy core-curriculum requirements. The best grade in that course may be used to calculate the grade-point average in the core curriculum.

~~14.32.18.32.93.9~~ **14.32.18.32.93.9** Multiple High School Attendance. For a student-athlete who attends more than one high school, a Form 48-H (core-course form) and an official transcript from each high school the student-athlete attended must be used. However, the NCAA Eligibility Center may receive the official transcript from either the student-athlete's original high school or the high school from which the student-athlete graduated, or from an institution's admissions office.

~~14.32.18.42.4~~ **14.32.18.42.4** Early Admissions Program Waiver. A waiver may be granted by the Academic Requirements Committee for a student who left high school after completion of the junior year or during the senior year to enter a member institution under an early admissions program (open to students solely on the basis of outstanding academic performance and promise), provided the following conditions are met:

[14.2.8.2.4-(a) through 14.2.8.2.4-(b) unchanged.]

### ~~14.32.28.3~~ **14.32.28.3** Determination of Freshman Eligibility.

~~14.32.28.13.1~~ **14.32.28.13.1** Equivalency Test/Diploma. A prospective student-athlete who does not graduate from high school but completes a state high school equivalency test [e.g., General Educational Development (GED)] and obtains a state high school equivalency diploma may satisfy the graduation requirement, provided the equivalency test is completed on or after the high school graduation date of the prospective student-athlete's class [as determined by their first year of enrollment in high school (ninth grade) or the international equivalent as specified in the NCAA Guide to International Academic Standards for Athletics Eligibility].

~~14.32.28.23.2~~ **14.32.28.23.2** Advanced Placement. If the student-athlete is admitted with a minimum of 24-semester hours or a minimum of 36-quarter hours of advanced placement from a College Entrance Examination Board (CEEB) examination (or from a similar proficiency examination) and/or concurrent high school/

## 2025 Noncontroversial Proposals

college credit without previous enrollment at a collegiate institution, the student-athlete shall be immediately eligible. Credits earned from extension or summer-session courses may not be counted in satisfaction of this requirement. A "similar proficiency examination" must be an advanced or higher level, nationally administered proficiency exam with a uniform grading scale that is taken after high school graduation.

~~14.32.28.23.12.1~~ **14.32.28.23.12.1** International Certification. An institution shall use the NCAA Eligibility Center to determine whether a "similar proficiency examination" taken by an international student-athlete is an advanced or higher level, nationally administered proficiency exam with a uniform grading scale that is taken after high school graduation. In addition, the Eligibility Center shall certify the eligibility of an international student-athlete based on the number of advanced placement and concurrent high school/college credit hours accepted by the certifying institution.

~~14.32.28.3.3~~ **14.32.28.3.3** International Academic Standards. A student from a foreign country shall satisfy the requirements outlined in the NCAA Guide to International Academic Standards for Athletics Eligibility and the test-score requirements set forth in Bylaw ~~14.3.1.2.8.2.1~~ **14.3.1.2.8.2.1**-(b) to be certified as a qualifier.

~~14.32.38.4~~ **14.32.38.4** Notification of Initial-Eligibility Standards. The NCAA Eligibility Center shall provide information regarding the initial-eligibility standards contained in Bylaw ~~14.32.8.2~~ **14.32.8.2** to a prospective student-athlete and their parents or legal guardians after they have registered with the Eligibility Center.

~~14.32.48.5~~ **14.32.48.5** Initial-Eligibility Waivers. The Academic Requirements Committee shall have the authority to waive all initial-eligibility requirements based on objective evidence that demonstrates circumstances that warrant the waiver of the normal application of this regulation. The committee shall establish the process for granting such waivers and shall report at least annually to the Management Council and to the membership, the actions taken, in summary, aggregate form.

~~14.42.9~~ **14.42.9** Progress-Toward-Degree Requirements.

~~14.42.19.1~~ **14.42.19.1** Progress-Toward-Degree Requirements. To be eligible to represent an institution in intercollegiate athletics competition, a student-athlete shall maintain progress toward a baccalaureate or equivalent degree at that institution. (See Bylaw 7.3.1.5.5 regarding the obligations of members to publish their progress-toward-degree requirements for student-athletes.)

~~14.42.19.1.1~~ **14.42.19.1.1** Exchange Student. The eligibility of an exchange student shall be based on satisfactory completion of at least:

- (a) Nine-semester or eight-quarter hours of academic credit during the preceding regular academic term in which the student has been enrolled full time at any collegiate institution (see Bylaw ~~14.4.3.2.9.3.2~~ **14.4.3.2.9.3.2**);
- (b) Credit hours earned during the regular academic year as set forth in Bylaw ~~14.4.3.3.2.9.3.3~~ **14.4.3.3.2.9.3.3**;
- (c) Credit hours earned for the annual credit-hour requirement set forth in Bylaw ~~14.4.3.4.2.9.3.4~~ **14.4.3.4.2.9.3.4**; and
- (d) Cumulative minimum grade-point average as set forth in Bylaw ~~14.4.3.5.2.9.3.5~~ **14.4.3.5.2.9.3.5**.

~~14.42.19.2.1.2~~ **14.42.19.2.1.2** Temporary Student. A student-athlete having the status of temporary, transient or exchange student shall not represent an institution in intercollegiate athletics competition, unless such status is specifically allowed and governed by provisions adopted by the membership.

~~14.42.29.2~~ **14.42.29.2** Eligibility for Financial Aid and Practice. Eligibility for institutional financial aid and practice during each academic year after a student-athlete's initial year in residence or after the student-athlete has used one season of eligibility in a sport shall be based upon the rules of the institution and the conference(s), if any, of which the institution is a member. See Bylaw ~~14.1.7.2.3~~ **14.1.7.2.3** for additional rules regarding eligibility for practice.

~~14.42.39.3~~ **14.42.39.3** Eligibility for Competition.

~~14.42.39.3.1~~ **14.42.39.3.1** Good Academic Standing. To be eligible to represent an institution in intercollegiate athletics competition, a student-athlete shall be in good academic standing, as determined by the academic authorities who determine the meaning and application of such phrases for all students at the institution, subject to controlling legislation of the conference(s) or similar association of which the institution is a

## 2025 Noncontroversial Proposals

member. A student-athlete shall maintain a grade-point average that places the individual in good academic standing, as established by the institution for all students who are at an equivalent stage of progress toward a degree. A student-athlete who is not in good academic standing is not eligible for competition even if the individual satisfies the progress-toward-degree requirements. The definition of good academic standing applied to student-athletes shall be a standard at least as demanding as the minimum standard applied to all students in order to participate in extracurricular activities at the institution.

~~14.42.39.23.2~~ **Term-By-Term Credit-Hour Requirement.** To be eligible to represent an institution in intercollegiate athletics competition, a student-athlete must earn nine-semester or eight-quarter hours of academic credit the preceding regular academic term in which the student-athlete has been enrolled full time at any collegiate institution.

~~14.42.39.23.12.1~~ **Application of Rule to Transfer Student.** For purposes of certifying eligibility for a transfer student from a two-year or four-year collegiate institution per Bylaw ~~14.43.22.9.3.2~~, the nine-semester or eight-quarter hours must be transferable degree credit. (See Bylaw ~~14.54.5.33.4.5.3~~.)

~~14.42.39.23.2.2~~ **Calculation of Credit Hours.** During the first two years of enrollment, the calculation of credit hours to meet this requirement (see Bylaw ~~14.43.22.9.3.2~~) shall be based on hours earned or accepted for degree credit toward any of the institution's degree programs. Beginning with the student-athlete's fifth semester or seventh quarter of collegiate enrollment, credits used to meet the term-by-term credit-hour requirement must be degree credit toward the student-athlete's designated degree program.

~~14.42.39.23.2.12.1~~ **Exception -- Final Academic Year of Degree Program.** A student-athlete who is in the final academic year (final two semesters or three quarters) of their designated degree program may use credit hours acceptable toward any of the institution's degree programs to satisfy the nine-semester or eight-quarter hour requirement per Bylaw ~~14.43.22.9.3.2~~, provided the institution certifies, through review by appropriate academic officials, that the student-athlete is carrying (for credit) the courses necessary to complete degree requirements at the end of the two semesters or three quarters. Thereafter, the student-athlete shall forfeit eligibility in all sports, unless the student-athlete completes all degree requirements during the final two semesters or three quarters and is eligible to receive the baccalaureate diploma on the institution's next degree-granting date.

~~14.42.39.23.2.12.1.1~~ **Waivers.** The Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement shall establish appropriate criteria for waiver requests seeking relief of the forfeiture of eligibility penalty.

~~14.42.39.3.3~~ **Credit Hours Earned During the Regular Academic Year.** To be eligible to represent an institution in intercollegiate athletics competition, a student-athlete must complete 18-semester or 27-quarter hours since the beginning of the previous fall term or since the beginning of the certifying institution's preceding regular two semesters or three quarters. Credit hours earned in the period after the regular academic year at the institution (e.g., hours earned in summer school) shall not be used to satisfy the academic credit-hour requirements of this regulation.

~~14.42.39.3.3.1~~ **Regular Academic Year.** For purposes of Bylaw ~~14.43.22.9.3.3~~, the regular academic year consists of the time beginning with the opening of the institutions' fall term and concluding with the institution's spring commencement exercises.

~~14.42.39.3.23.2~~ **Application of Rule.** The following student-athletes are subject to the credit-hour requirement set forth in Bylaw ~~14.43.22.9.3.3~~:

[14.2.9.3.2-(a) through 14.2.9.3.2-(c) unchanged.]

~~14.42.39.3.23.12.1~~ **Application to a Midyear Enrollee.** A student-athlete entering the institution at the beginning of the second semester or the second or third quarter of an academic year (e.g., midyear transfer) is not subject to the credit hours required under Bylaw ~~14.43.22.9.3.3~~ for the fall term immediately following the student-athlete's initial full-time enrollment at the certifying institution. In subsequent years, the student-athlete's completion of the 18-semester or 27-quarter hour requirement shall be certified prior to the start of each academic year based on the student-athlete's record since the beginning of the previous fall term.

## 2025 Noncontroversial Proposals

~~14.42.39.3.3~~ **14.42.39.3.3** Calculation of Credit Hours. During the first two years of enrollment, the calculation of credit hours to meet this requirement (see Bylaw ~~14.43.32.9.3.3~~) shall be based on hours earned or accepted for degree credit toward any of the institution's degree programs. Beginning with the student-athlete's fifth semester or seventh quarter of collegiate enrollment, credits used to meet the credit-hour requirement must be degree credit toward the student-athlete's designated degree program. Credit hours earned in the period after the regular academic year at the institution (e.g., hours earned in summer school) shall not be used to satisfy the academic credit-hour requirements of this regulation.

~~14.42.39.3.4.3~~ **14.42.39.3.4.4** Part-Time Enrollment. Credit hours earned during a term in which a student-athlete is enrolled less than full-time may be used to satisfy the 18-semester/27-quarter hour requirement only if such credits are combined with credits earned during a term that immediately precedes or immediately follows a term in which the student-athlete is enrolled as a full-time student. Credits earned during a part-time term may be completed at an institution other than the certifying institution.

~~14.42.39.4.3.4~~ **14.42.39.4.3.4** Annual Credit Hour Requirement. To be eligible to represent an institution in intercollegiate athletics competition, a student-athlete must earn 24-semester or 36-quarter hours of academic credit during any year in which the student-athlete is enrolled full time in at least one academic term. A student-athlete may satisfy this requirement based on the student-athlete earning:

[14.2.9.3.4-(a) through 14.2.9.3.4-(c) unchanged.]

~~14.42.39.4.3.4.1~~ **14.42.39.4.3.4.1** Application of Rule. The following student-athletes are subject to annual credit-hour requirements:

[14.2.9.3.4.1-(a) through 14.2.9.3.4.1-(c) unchanged.]

~~14.42.39.4.3.4.1.1~~ **14.42.39.4.3.4.1.1** Application to a Midyear Enrollee. A student-athlete entering the institution at the beginning of the second semester or the second or third quarter of an academic year (e.g., midyear transfer) shall be subject to the credit hours required under Bylaw ~~14.43.42.9.3.4~~ for the fall term immediately following the student-athlete's initial full-time enrollment at the certifying institution; however, the annual credit hours may be adjusted to require completion of 12 units per term of actual attendance during the initial regular academic year of attendance. (See Bylaw ~~14.43.8.22.9.3.8.2~~.)

~~14.42.39.4.3.4.2~~ **14.42.39.4.3.4.2** Academic Year in Residence. The definition of "year in residence" for purposes of determining whether a student-athlete is subject to the annual credit-hour requirement is based on full-time enrollment and attendance during any portion of a term in an academic year, except that when a student-athlete is granted a medical-absence waiver per Bylaw ~~14.43.9.12.9.3.9.1~~ during the first year of academic residence, that term is not counted in determining whether the student-athlete has been in residence at the certifying institution for one academic year.

~~14.42.39.4.3.4.3~~ **14.42.39.4.3.4.3** Calculation of Credit Hours. During the student-athlete's first four semesters or six quarters of collegiate enrollment, the calculation of credit hours to meet this requirement (see Bylaw ~~14.43.42.9.3.4~~) shall be based on hours earned or accepted for degree credit toward any of the institution's degree programs. Beginning with the student-athlete's fifth semester or seventh quarter of collegiate enrollment, credits used to meet the annual credit-hour requirement must be degree credit toward the student-athlete's designated degree program. Credit hours earned in the period after the regular academic year at the institution (e.g., hours earned in summer school) may be used to satisfy the academic credit requirements of this regulation.

~~14.42.39.4.3.4.4~~ **14.42.39.4.3.4.4** Regaining Eligibility. A student-athlete who does not meet the 24-semester or 36-quarter credit-hour requirement since the beginning of the previous fall term, may become eligible at the beginning of the next academic term by successfully completing 24-semester or 36-quarter hours during the previous two semesters or three quarters.

~~14.42.39.5.3.5~~ **14.42.39.5.3.5** Fulfillment of Minimum Grade-Point Average Requirements. To be eligible to represent an institution in intercollegiate athletics competition, a student-athlete must achieve a minimum cumulative grade-point average of 2.000 prior to the beginning of each fall term. The eligibility of a student-athlete

## 2025 Noncontroversial Proposals

who does not satisfy the grade-point average requirement prior to the fall term may be recertified prior to the next regular academic term.

~~14.42.39.53.15.1~~ Application of Rule. The following student-athletes are subject to minimum grade-point average requirements:

[14.2.9.3.5.1-(a) through 14.2.9.3.5.1-(c) unchanged.]

~~14.42.39.53.15.1.1~~ Application to a Midyear Enrollee or Transfer Student. The provisions of Bylaw ~~14.4.3.5.2.9.3.5~~ shall be applicable to the eligibility of a midyear enrollee or transfer student from a two-year or four-year collegiate institution in the fall term following their initial enrollment at the certifying institution.

~~14.42.39.53.25.2~~ Academic Year in Residence. The definition of "year in residence" for purposes of determining whether a student-athlete is subject to the annual grade-point average requirement is based on full-time enrollment and attendance during any portion of a term in an academic year, except that if a student-athlete is granted a medical-absence waiver per Bylaw ~~14.4.3.9.12.9.3.9.1~~ during the first year of academic residence, that term is not counted in determining whether the student-athlete has been in residence at the certifying institution for one academic year.

~~14.42.39.53.35.3~~ Calculation of Minimum Grade-Point Average. A student-athlete must meet the minimum cumulative grade-point average at the certifying institution based on the method of calculation used by the institution for calculating cumulative grade-point averages for all students, and the calculation shall include only course work normally counted by the certifying institution in calculating the cumulative grade-point average for graduation (regardless of whether an institution requires multiple minimum grade-point averages for graduation).

~~14.42.39.53.45.4~~ Applicable Credit Hours. All credit hours (e.g., part time, transfer, advanced placement) that are accepted and appear on the student-athlete's transcript at the certifying institution shall be used in determining the minimum grade-point average requirements.

~~14.42.39.53.5.5~~ Regaining Eligibility. A student-athlete who does not meet the minimum cumulative grade-point average of 2.000 prior to the beginning of a fall term, may become eligible at the beginning of the next academic term by successfully earning a minimum cumulative grade-point average of 2.000.

~~14.42.39.63.6~~ Designation of Degree Program. A student-athlete shall designate a program of studies leading toward a specific baccalaureate degree at the certifying institution by the beginning of the third year of enrollment (fifth semester or seventh quarter) and thereafter shall make progress toward that specific degree. This provision shall be applicable to the eligibility not only of a continuing student, but also of a transfer student from a four-year or two-year collegiate institution who is entering their third year of collegiate enrollment, even if the student has not yet completed an academic year in residence or used a season of eligibility in a sport at the certifying institution. An institution shall not incur a violation if a student-athlete fails to designate a degree program prior to their third year of enrollment (fifth semester or seventh quarter), provided the student-athlete designates a degree prior to competing. Designation of a specific baccalaureate degree program may be accomplished by: [D]

[14.2.9.3.6-(a) through 14.2.9.3.6-(b) unchanged.]

~~14.42.39.63.6.1~~ Documentation of Degree Program Designation. If the designation is in accordance with Bylaw ~~14.42.9.3.6-(a)~~, the official enrollment records of the institution shall constitute the documentation of the program against which progress toward degree under this regulation shall be measured. If the designation is in accordance with Bylaw ~~14.42.9.3.6-(b)~~, the record of the degree program designation, approved by the appropriate academic official, shall constitute that documentation. For purposes of certifying eligibility for competition, an appropriate academic official shall affirm in writing the number of credit hours applicable to the designated degree program that have been completed satisfactorily. The institution's records for all student-athlete degree program designations and progress-toward-degree evaluations shall be retained for inspection (on request) by an authorized representative of the NCAA. [D]

~~14.42.39.73.7~~ Regulations for Administration of Progress Toward Degree.

## 2025 Noncontroversial Proposals

~~14.42.39.73.17.1~~ **14.42.39.73.17.1** Nontraditional Terms. An institution that determines registration other than on a traditional semester- or quarter-hour basis shall submit a statement describing the progress-toward-degree requirements applicable to its student-athletes for approval by the Academic Requirements Committee.

~~14.42.39.73.27.2~~ **14.42.39.73.27.2** Credit Hours Earned Prior to Initial Full-Time Enrollment at the Certifying Institution. Credit hours earned at another institution before initial enrollment at the certifying institution may not be used to satisfy progress-toward-degree requirements. In the first year of collegiate enrollment (or during the first two years of collegiate enrollment if using Bylaw ~~14.42.9.3.4~~(c) to satisfy the annual credit hour requirement), this restriction does not apply to credit hours earned while a student was enrolled as a high school student (e.g., courses that qualify as high school and college credit). Such credit hours shall not be used to meet the required minimum number of credit hours earned during the regular academic year (see Bylaw ~~14.43.32.9.3.3~~).

~~14.42.39.73.37.3~~ **14.42.39.73.37.3** Advanced-Placement Tests/Credit by Examination. Credit received through advanced-placement tests or by examination or International Baccalaureate Program examinations may be used by a student-athlete to meet the minimum progress-toward-degree requirements, provided the subject for which the examination is an alternative is offered by the institution as acceptable degree credit. If such credit was earned while the student-athlete was enrolled in high school, it may be used to meet both initial-eligibility and progress-toward-degree requirements in the first year of collegiate enrollment (or in the first two years of collegiate enrollment if using Bylaw ~~14.42.9.3.4~~(c) to satisfy the annual credit-hour requirement), provided the credit was earned prior to high school graduation. However, such credit, if earned prior to initial full-time enrollment at the certifying institution, may not be used to meet the required minimum number of hours earned during the regular academic year (see Bylaw ~~14.43.32.9.3.3~~).

~~14.42.39.73.47.4~~ **14.42.39.73.47.4** Remedial, Tutorial or Noncredit Courses. Remedial, tutorial or noncredit courses may be used by a student-athlete to satisfy the progress-toward-degree requirements of Bylaws ~~14.43.22.9.3.2~~, ~~14.43.32.9.3.3~~ and ~~14.43.42.9.3.4~~ only if such courses meet all of the following conditions:

[14.2.9.3.7.4-(a) through 14.2.9.3.7.4-(d) unchanged.]

~~14.42.39.73.57.5~~ **14.42.39.73.57.5** Incomplete Grades. A student-athlete who receives an incomplete grade in a course may use the course in question to satisfy the progress-toward-degree requirements of Bylaws ~~14.43.22.9.3.2~~, ~~14.43.32.9.3.3~~ and ~~14.43.42.9.3.4~~, subject to the following conditions:

[14.2.9.3.7.5-(a) through 14.2.9.3.7.5-(c) unchanged.]

~~14.42.39.73.67.6~~ **14.42.39.73.67.6** Repeated Courses. Credit for courses that are repeated may be used by a student-athlete to satisfy the progress-toward-degree requirements of Bylaws ~~14.43.22.9.3.2~~, ~~14.43.32.9.3.3~~ and ~~14.43.42.9.3.4~~ only under the following conditions:

[14.2.9.3.7.6-(a) through 14.2.9.3.7.6-(c) unchanged.]

~~14.42.39.73.77.7~~ **14.42.39.73.77.7** Credit Hours Earned or Accepted for Degree Credit After Change of Degree Program. A student-athlete who changes their designated degree program after their fifth semester or seventh quarter of collegiate enrollment may comply with the credit-hour requirements set forth in Bylaws ~~14.43.22.9.3.2~~, ~~14.43.32.9.3.3~~ and ~~14.43.42.9.3.4~~ if:

[14.2.9.3.7.7-(a) through 14.2.9.3.7.7-(c) unchanged.]

~~14.42.39.73.87.8~~ **14.42.39.73.87.8** Credit Hours Earned or Accepted Toward a Major. A student-athlete who has designated a specific degree program with an identified major may not use a course to fulfill the credit-hour requirements set forth in Bylaws ~~14.43.22.9.3.2~~, ~~14.43.32.9.3.3~~ and ~~14.43.42.9.3.4~~ even if the course fulfills an elective component of the student-athlete's degree program, if the student-athlete ultimately must repeat the course to fulfill the requirements of the student's major.

~~14.42.39.73.97.9~~ **14.42.39.73.97.9** Credit Hours Earned or Accepted Toward a Minor. A student-athlete who has designated a specific degree program may use credits earned in a minor to fulfill the credit-hour requirements for meeting progress toward degree if the minor is a required element for all students to obtain the original baccalaureate degree. A student-athlete who has designated a voluntary or

## 2025 Noncontroversial Proposals

optional minor (i.e., a minor that is not a required element of the original baccalaureate degree program for all students) may use a maximum of six credit hours per academic term (regular academic year, summer) earned in the minor to fulfill the credit-hour requirements for meeting progress toward degree.

~~14.42.39.73.10~~~~7.10~~ **14.42.39.73.10** Nontraditional Courses From Another Institution. Nontraditional courses (e.g., distance-learning, correspondence, extension, Internet/virtual courses, independent study or any other course or credit that is not earned in a face-to-face classroom environment with regular interaction between the instructor and the student) completed at an institution other than the one in which a student-athlete is enrolled as a full-time student may be used in determining progress toward degree, provided the following conditions are met:

[14.2.9.3.7.10-(a) through 14.2.9.3.7.10-(c) unchanged.]

~~14.42.39.73.11~~~~7.11~~ **14.42.39.73.11** Cooperative Educational, Work Experience and Study-Abroad Programs. A student-athlete shall not be required to complete nine-semester or eight-quarter hours of academic credit the preceding regular academic term of full-time enrollment during any term or terms of enrollment in a cooperative educational or work experience program (e.g., co-op, internship, practicum, student-teaching) or an institutionally approved study-abroad program.

~~14.42.39.73.11~~~~7.11~~~~11.1~~ **14.42.39.73.11.1** Adjustment of Progress-Toward-Degree Requirements. A student-athlete who participates in a cooperative educational, work experience or an institutionally approved study abroad program, may be adjusted to require completion of 12 hours per term of actual attendance in traditional coursework.

~~14.42.39.83.8~~ **14.42.39.83.8** Exceptions to Progress-Toward-Degree Requirements.

~~14.42.39.83.8.1~~~~8.1~~ **14.42.39.83.8.1** Missed Term Exception. One time during a student-athlete's entire period of collegiate enrollment, the provisions of Bylaws ~~14.4.3.2.9.3.3~~ and ~~14.4.3.4.2.9.3.4~~ may be adjusted to require completion of 12 hours per term of actual attendance, if the student-athlete misses a complete term or consecutive terms during an academic year, subject to the following conditions:

[14.2.9.3.8.1-(a) through 14.2.9.3.8.1-(c) unchanged.]

(d) At the time of certification, the student-athlete has fulfilled the progress-toward-degree requirements (per Bylaws ~~14.4.3.2.9.3.2~~, ~~14.4.3.3.2.9.3.3~~ and ~~14.4.3.4.2.9.3.4~~) for the terms in which the student was in attendance. It is not permissible to use this one-time exception during the first academic year in residence at the certifying institution in order to maintain eligibility during the second year in residence. Hours earned while enrolled as a part-time student during the "missed term" may not be counted in meeting the progress-toward-degree requirement.

~~14.42.39.83.28.2~~~~28.2~~ **14.42.39.83.28.2** Midyear Enrollment Exception. For student-athletes entering the institution at the beginning of the second semester or the second or third quarter of an academic year (e.g., midyear transfer), the annual credit hours required per Bylaw ~~14.4.3.4.2.9.3.4~~ may be adjusted to require completion of 12 units per term of actual attendance during the initial regular academic year of attendance.

~~14.42.39.83.38.3~~~~38.3~~ **14.42.39.83.38.3** Nonrecruited, Nonparticipant Exception. A student-athlete may qualify for an exception to the application of the progress-toward-degree regulations for the initial season of eligibility, if the student has been in residence at the certifying institution for at least one academic year; was not recruited; has not received athletically related financial assistance; has never practiced or participated in intercollegiate athletics, except that a student may have participated in limited preseason tryouts; and is otherwise eligible under all institutional, conference and NCAA rules. The student-athlete's eligibility in future seasons would be governed by the progress-toward-degree requirements, which would be applied from the beginning of the first term the student began participation.

~~14.42.39.83.48.4~~~~48.4~~ **14.42.39.83.48.4** Graduate Student Exception. A student-athlete who is a graduate student or a student-athlete who graduates and returns for a second baccalaureate degree or who is taking coursework that would lead to the equivalent of another major or degree who is otherwise eligible for regular-season competition shall be exempt from the progress-toward-degree requirements.

## 2025 Noncontroversial Proposals

~~14.42.39.83.58.5~~ **Two-Year Non-Participation or Minimal Participation Exception.** A student-athlete may qualify for an exception to the application of the progress-toward-degree regulations if, for a consecutive two-year period immediately before the date on which the student begins participation (countable athletically related activities), the student-athlete has not competed and has not participated in other countable athletically related activities (see Bylaw 17.02.1) in any sport beyond a 14-consecutive calendar-day period, or has not participated in organized noncollegiate amateur competition while enrolled as a full-time student in a collegiate institution; and is otherwise eligible under all institutional, conference and NCAA rules. The 14-consecutive calendar-day period begins with the date on which the student-athlete first engages in any countable athletically related activity. The two-year period does not include any period of time before the student-athlete's initial collegiate enrollment. The student-athlete's eligibility in future seasons would be governed by the progress-toward-degree requirements, which would be applied from the beginning of the first term the student-athlete began participation.

~~14.42.39.93.9~~ **Waivers of Progress-Toward-Degree Requirements.** The Academic Requirements Committee shall establish appropriate criteria for waivers of this legislation. Such waivers shall be administered by the conference members of the Association or, in the case of an independent institution, by the Academic Requirements Committee. Waivers of the progress-toward-degree requirements may be granted under the following conditions:

~~14.42.39.93.9.1~~ **Medical Absence Waiver.** The credit hours required under the progress-toward-degree regulations of Bylaws ~~14.43.22.9.3.2~~, ~~14.43.32.9.3.3~~ and ~~14.43.42.9.3.4~~ may be adjusted to require completion of 12 units per term of actual attendance during an academic year in which a student misses a term or is unable to complete a term as a full-time student as a result of an injury or illness. Such an exception may be granted only when circumstances clearly supported by appropriate medical documentation establish that a student-athlete is unable to attend a collegiate institution as a full-time student as a result of an incapacitating physical injury or illness involving the student-athlete or a member of the student-athlete's immediate family. Credits earned by the student-athlete during the term to which the waiver applies may not be used in determining progress toward degree. A Division II conference office has the authority to administer medical absence waivers for terms that occurred at an NCAA institution prior to a student-athlete's enrollment at a member institution within the conference.

~~14.42.39.93.9.2~~ **International Competition Waiver.** The credit hours required under the progress-toward-degree regulations of Bylaws ~~14.43.22.9.3.2~~, ~~14.43.32.9.3.3~~ and ~~14.43.42.9.3.4~~ may be adjusted to require completion of 12 hours per term of actual attendance during an academic year in which a student is not enrolled for a term or terms or is unable to complete a term as a result of participation in the Pan American, Parapan American, Olympic, Paralympic, World Championships, World Cup, World University Games (Universiade) or World University Championships (including final Olympic or Paralympic tryouts and the officially recognized training program that directly qualifies participants for those tryouts). This waiver provision may be applied to not more than two semesters or three quarters.

~~14.42.39.103.10~~ **Olympic or Paralympic Games Waiver.** The Academic Requirements Committee may waive the progress-toward-degree requirements for any participant in the Olympic or Paralympic Games who, because of such participation, may lose eligibility for practice and competition in any sport.

~~14.42.39.113.11~~ **Student-Athletes With Education-Impacting Disabilities Waiver.** The Academic Requirements Committee may waive the progress-toward-degree requirements for a student-athlete when objective evidence demonstrates that the institution has defined full-time enrollment for that student-athlete to be less than 12 hours to accommodate for the student's education-impacting disability.

~~14.42.39.123.12~~ **Additional Progress-Toward-Degree Waivers.** The Academic Requirements Committee shall have the authority to waive all other progress-toward-degree requirements based on objective evidence that demonstrates circumstances that warrant the waiver of the normal application of those regulations. The committee shall establish the process for granting such waivers and shall report at least annually to the Management Council and to the membership, the actions taken in summary, aggregate form.

# 2025 Noncontroversial Proposals

## **14.2.10 Academic Misconduct.**

~~14.02.9~~**10.1** Institutional Staff Member. For purposes of Bylaw 14, an institutional staff member is any individual, excluding a student employee, who performs work for the institution or the athletics department, regardless of whether they receive compensation for such work.

~~14.02.9~~**10.1.1** Student Employee. For purposes of Bylaw 14, a student employee is an institutional staff member if:

[14.2.10.1.1-(a) unchanged.]

(b) They engage in academic misconduct or provides impermissible academic assistance at the direction of a nonstudent employee, an institutional staff member per Bylaw ~~14.02.9.1 (a)~~**14.2.10.1.1-(a)** or a representative of the institution's athletics interests.

## **14.2.10.2 Pre-Enrollment.**

~~14.12.2~~**10.12.1** Pre-Enrollment Academic Misconduct. A prospective student-athlete, student-athlete, representative of athletics interests or a current or former institutional staff member shall not:

[14.2.10.2.1-(a) through 14.2.10.2.1-(b) unchanged.]

~~14.92.1~~**10.3** Policies and Procedures. An institution must:

[14.2.10.3-(a) through 14.2.10.3-(b) unchanged.]

~~14.92.1~~**10.13.1** Exception. An institution may establish a policy that permits an expedited investigation and adjudication of academic misconduct by a student-athlete, provided other applicable policies and procedures are observed and the policy for expedited review is approved through the institution's normal process for approving such policies and is approved by the institution's president or chancellor (or their designee). Further, the policy that permits an expedited review must be kept on file or must be accessible on the institution's website.

~~14.92.2~~**10.4** Post-Enrollment Academic Misconduct.

~~14.92.2~~**10.14.1** Student-Athlete. A student-athlete shall not be involved in:

[14.2.10.4.1-(a) through 14.2.10.4.1-(c) unchanged.]

~~14.92.2~~**10.24.2** Institutional Staff Member or Representative of Athletics Interests. A current or former institutional staff member or a representative of an institution's athletics interests shall not be involved (with or without knowledge of the student-athlete) in:

[14.2.10.4.2-(a) through 14.2.10.4.2-(b) unchanged.]

~~14.92.2~~**10.34.3** Impermissible Academic Assistance -- Institutional Staff Member or Representative of Athletics Interests. A current or former institutional staff member or a representative of an institution's athletics interests shall not provide impermissible academic assistance to a student-athlete (see Bylaw 14.02.8**11**).

~~14.92.2~~**10.34.13.1** Application. If an institution determines, pursuant to its policies and procedures, that academic misconduct has occurred, a violation of Bylaw ~~14.9.2.3~~**2.10.4.3** shall not be cited by the institution or through an enforcement investigation. If an institution determines, pursuant to its policies and procedures, that academic misconduct has not occurred, the conduct in question may still constitute a violation of Bylaw ~~14.9.2.3~~**2.10.4.3**.

~~14.5~~**3** Transfer Regulations.

~~14.53.1~~**1** Residence Requirement -- General Principle. A student who transfers (see Bylaw ~~14.53.2~~) to a member institution from any collegiate institution is required to complete one full academic year of residence (see Bylaw ~~14.02.14~~**21**) at the certifying institution before being eligible to compete for or to receive travel expenses from the member institution (see Bylaw 16.8.1), unless the student satisfies the applicable transfer requirements or receives an exception or waiver as set forth in this bylaw.

## 2025 Noncontroversial Proposals

**14.53.1.1** Disciplinary Suspension. A student (including a student enrolling in a graduate program, professional school or second baccalaureate or equivalent degree program per Bylaw ~~14.1.8.12.4.1~~) who transfers to any NCAA institution from a collegiate institution while the student is disqualified or suspended from the previous institution for disciplinary reasons (as opposed to academic reasons) must complete one calendar year of residence at the certifying institution.

**14.53.1.2** Outside Competition -- Partial Qualifier. A two-year college transfer student who is a partial qualifier and does not meet the applicable transfer requirements may participate in the institution's intramural program (provided the intramural team is not coached by a member of the institution's athletics department staff), but such an individual is not permitted to practice or compete on an institution's club team or an outside sports team during the first academic year in residence. A four-year college transfer student who is a partial qualifier and who has not completed an academic year in residence may participate in the institution's intramural program (provided the intramural team is not coached by a member of the institution's athletics department staff), but such an individual is not permitted to practice or compete on an institution's club team or an outside sports team during the first academic year in residence.

**14.53.1.3** NCAA Championship Eligibility. A transfer student who is required to fulfill an academic year of residence shall not be eligible to participate in any NCAA championship that occurs during the vacation period immediately following the academic year of residence.

**14.53.1.4** Foreign Institution Transfers. A transfer student from a foreign collegiate institution (college, university or two-year college) is subject to the one-year residence requirement set forth in Bylaw ~~14.5.5.1~~ (see Bylaw ~~14.5.3.2~~ regarding the exchange student exception).

**14.53.2** Conditions Affecting Transfer Status. A transfer student is an individual who transfers from a collegiate institution after having met any one of the following conditions at that institution:

[14.3.2-(a) through 14.3.2-(h) unchanged.]

**14.53.3** Conditions Not Constituting Transfer Status. Unless otherwise covered by conditions set forth in Bylaw **14.53.2**, a student-athlete is not considered a transfer under the following enrollment conditions:

**14.53.3.1** Summer School, Extension Courses or Night School. The student has been enrolled in or attended classes only in a summer school, extension course or night school, unless the night school is considered by the institution to be a regular term (semester or quarter) the same as its day school, the student is enrolled for a minimum full-time load in this regular night term, and the student is considered by the institution to be a regularly enrolled student.

**14.53.3.2** Branch School. The student has been enrolled in or attended classes only in a branch school, provided the branch school does not conduct an intercollegiate athletics program. If the branch school conducts an intercollegiate athletics program, the student shall be considered a transfer if they enroll at the parent institution directly from the branch school. (For definition of "branch school," see Bylaw **14.02.24**.)

**14.53.3.3** Academic Exchange Program. The student participates in a regular academic exchange program between two four-year institutions that requires a participant to complete a specified period of time at each institution, and the program provides for the student-athlete to receive at least two baccalaureate or equivalent degrees at the conclusion of this joint academic program.

**14.53.3.4** Recognized Foreign Exchange/Study Abroad Program. The student participates in a formal and established educational foreign exchange or study abroad program recognized by the certifying institution's academic authorities and returns to the certifying institution.

~~14.103.23.5~~ **Transfer Status Service Academies.** A student who has attended as a freshman (plebe) only in the official summer-enrollment program of one of the four national service academies is not considered a transfer in the application of the transfer regulations of Bylaw **14.53**.

**14.53.4** Two-Year College Transfers. A student who transfers to a member institution from a two-year college or from a branch school that conducts an intercollegiate athletics program must complete an academic year of residence (see Bylaw ~~14.02.1421~~), unless the student meets the following eligibility requirements

## 2025 Noncontroversial Proposals

applicable to the division of which the certifying institution is a member. (See Bylaw ~~14.42.9~~ for progress-toward-degree requirements for transfer student-athletes.)

**14.53.4.1** Eligibility for Competition, Practice and Athletics Aid -- Graduation From Two-Year College. A transfer student from a two-year college who has graduated from the two-year college is eligible for competition, practice and athletics aid during the first academic year in residence, provided:

[14.3.4.1-(a) unchanged.]

(b) At least 25 percent of the credit hours used to fulfill the student's academic degree requirements are earned at the two-year college that awards the degree per Bylaw ~~14.54.5.4~~**3.4.5.4** (see Bylaw ~~14.42.9~~ for progress-toward-degree requirements for transfer student-athletes).

**14.53.4.1.1** Application.

[14.3.4.1.1-(a) unchanged.]

(b) Transfer Previously Attended a Four-Year Institution as a Full-Time Student. If a two-year college transfer has previously attended a four-year institution as a full-time student during their academic career, then only the full-time semester(s)/quarter(s) and academic degree(s) earned at the two-year college(s) after the last full-time enrollment at a four-year college (e.g., '2-4-2-4 transfer') shall be considered for purposes of meeting the requirements of Bylaw ~~14.53.4.1~~.

**14.53.4.1.2** Exception -- Previous Four-Year College Attendance -- Graduation After One Semester or Quarter. A student who transfers from a four-year college to a two-year college and then to the certifying institution is eligible for competition, practice and athletics aid during their first year at the certifying institution, provided the student:

[14.3.4.1.2-(a) through 14.3.4.1.2-(b) unchanged.]

**14.53.4.2** Eligibility for Competition, Practice and Athletics Aid -- Qualifier With No Four-Year College Attendance and Only One Term of Attendance at a Two-Year College. A transfer student from a two-year college who was a qualifier (per Bylaw ~~14.3.1.12.8.2.1~~), has not previously attended a four-year collegiate institution and has only attended a two-year college for one academic term (semester or quarter), is eligible for competition, practice and athletics aid during the first academic year in residence at the certifying institution, provided:

[14.3.4.2-(a) through 14.3.4.2-(b) unchanged.]

(c) The student-athlete has presented a minimum grade-point average of 2.200 earned in transferable degree credit (see Bylaw ~~14.54.5.3.2~~**3.4.5.3.2**).

**14.53.4.2.1** Use of Physical Education Activity Courses. Not more than two credit hours of physical education activity courses may be used to fulfill the transferable degree credit and grade-point average requirements. However, a student-athlete enrolling in a physical education degree program or a degree program in education at the certifying institution that requires physical education activity courses may use up to the minimum number of credits of physical education activity courses that are required for the specific degree program to fulfill the transferable degree credit and grade-point average requirements. Additional credit hours of physical education activity courses may not be used to fulfill elective requirements.

**14.53.4.2.2** Practice and Receipt of Athletics Aid. Qualifiers who do not meet the requirements set forth in Bylaws ~~14.54.2.3.4.2~~ or ~~14.54.3.3.4.3~~ may practice and receive athletics aid (but may not compete) at the certifying institution during their first academic year of residence.

**14.53.4.3** Eligibility for Competition, Practice and Athletics Aid -- All Other Qualifiers and Partial Qualifiers. A transfer student from a two-year college is eligible for competition, practice and athletics aid during the first academic year in residence at the certifying institution, provided:

[14.3.4.3-(a) through 14.3.4.3-(c) unchanged.]

(d) The student-athlete has presented a minimum grade-point average of 2.200 earned in transferable degree credit (see Bylaw ~~14.54.5.3.2~~**3.4.5.3.2**).

## 2025 Noncontroversial Proposals

~~14.53.4.3.1~~ Use of Physical Education Activity Courses. Not more than two credit hours of physical education activity courses may be used to fulfill the transferable degree credit and grade-point average requirements. However, a student-athlete enrolling in a physical education degree program or a degree program in education at the certifying institution that requires physical education activity courses may use up to the minimum number of credits of physical education activity courses that are required for the specific degree program to fulfill the transferable degree credit and grade-point average requirements. Additional credit hours of physical education activity courses may not be used to fulfill elective requirements.

~~14.53.4.3.2~~ Application.

[~~14.3.4.3.2~~-(a) unchanged.]

(b) Transfer Previously Attended a Four-Year Institution as a Full-Time Student. If the two-year college transfer has previously attended a four-year institution as a full-time student during their academic career, then only the full-time semester(s)/quarter(s) and transferable degree credit(s) (including part-time hours) earned at the two-year college(s) attended after the last full-time enrollment at a four-year college shall be considered for purposes of meeting the requirements of Bylaw ~~14.54.33.4.3~~-(a), -(b) and -(d).

~~14.53.4.3.3~~ Practice and Receipt of Athletics Aid -- Qualifiers and Partial Qualifiers. A two-year college transfer who does not meet the requirements set forth in Bylaw ~~14.54.33.4.3~~ may practice and receive athletics aid (but may not compete) at the certifying institution during their first academic year in residence.

~~14.53.4.4~~ Subvarsity Competition. A transfer from a two-year college who has not met the eligibility requirements set forth in Bylaws ~~14.54.13.4.1~~, ~~14.54.23.4.2~~ or ~~14.54.33.4.3~~ shall be eligible to compete only at the subvarsity level at the certifying institution. Such subvarsity competition shall count as a season of competition in the sport involved. A transfer student from a two-year college who was a partial qualifier and who has not met the eligibility requirements set forth in Bylaws ~~14.54.13.4.1~~ or ~~14.54.33.4.3~~ shall not be eligible to compete at the subvarsity level during the first year in residence at the certifying institution.

~~14.53.4.5~~ Two-Year College Transfer Regulations. The following regulations shall be applied in administering the eligibility requirements for two-year college transfers.

~~14.53.4.5.1~~ Previous Enrollment at Two-Year Institution. The two-year college transfer requirements set forth in Bylaw ~~14.54.3.4~~ apply to all two-year college transfers regardless of whether the student-athlete attended one or more four-year colleges prior to their full-time enrollment at the two-year institution.

~~14.53.4.5.2~~ Credit Earned at Four-Year Institution. If a student-athlete attends a two-year college and, before regular enrollment at the certifying institution, attains additional credits as a part-time student in a four-year collegiate institution, the hours accumulated at the four-year institution may be used by the certifying institution in determining the student-athlete's eligibility under the credit-hour requirement of the two-year college transfer provisions, provided:

[~~14.3.4.5.2~~-(a) through ~~14.3.4.5.2~~-(b) unchanged.]

~~14.53.4.5.3~~ Determination of Transferable Degree Credit. For the purpose of determining transferable degree credit, the institution may count those courses accepted as degree credit in any of its colleges, schools or departments.

~~14.53.4.5.3.1~~ Transferable Credit, Unacceptable Grade. Credit hours for courses with grades not considered acceptable for transferable degree credit for all students at an institution shall not be counted in determining whether the transfer requirement for total number of hours is satisfied.

~~14.53.4.5.3.2~~ Calculation of Grade-Point Average for Transferable Credit. Grades earned in all courses that are normally transferable to an institution shall be considered in determining the qualitative grade-point average for meeting transfer requirements, regardless of the grade earned or whether such grade makes the course unacceptable for transferable degree credit.

## 2025 Noncontroversial Proposals

Only the last grade earned in a course that has been repeated shall be included in the grade-point-average calculation.

**14.53.4.5.4 Academic Degree.** In order to satisfy the two-year-college graduation requirement for eligibility immediately on transfer from a two-year college to a member institution, a student-athlete must receive an associate or equivalent degree in an academic, rather than a vocational or technical, curriculum. The Academic Requirements Committee shall have the authority to determine whether a two-year college degree is academic, rather than vocational or technical, in nature.

**14.53.4.5.5 Transfer to Four-Year College Prior to Completion of Requirements.** The requirements set forth in Bylaw **14.53.4** must be met before a student-athlete's transfer to the certifying institution. Thus, if a two-year college student transfers (as defined in Bylaw **14.53.2**) to an institution before the completion of applicable transfer requirements, the student is subject to the one-year residence requirement at the certifying institution, even though the student transfers back to the two-year college and completes the necessary requirements.

**14.53.4.5.6 Transfer to Original Institution After Completion of Two-Year College Transfer Requirements.** A student-athlete with a previous progress-toward-degree deficiency who transfers to the four-year college from which they transferred to the two-year college may be immediately eligible upon returning to the certifying institution provided the student-athlete has met the two-year college transfer requirements prior to participation.

**14.53.4.5.7 Competition in Year of Transfer.** A transfer student from a two-year institution, who has met the two-year transfer eligibility requirements (per Bylaw **14.53.4**), is not eligible to compete during the segment that concludes with the NCAA championship at the certifying institution if the student-athlete has competed during that segment of the same academic year in that sport at the previous two-year institution.

**14.53.4.5.7.1 Exception - Competition During the Nonchampionship Segment.** A transfer student-athlete who competes during the nonchampionship segment where the contest(s) count toward championships selection criteria (e.g., golf, tennis) may be immediately eligible for competition during the segment that concludes with the NCAA championship at the certifying institution upon transfer during the same academic year.

**14.53.4.5.7.2 Alternate Playing Season.** In the sports of baseball, golf and tennis, during the fall term, a student-athlete who participates in competition where the institution and/or conference declares the alternate playing season may not be immediately eligible for competition upon transfer to the certifying institution that does not declare the alternate playing season during the same academic year.

**14.53.4.6 Exceptions or Waivers for Transfer From Two-Year Colleges.** A transfer student from a two-year college or from a branch school that conducts an intercollegiate athletics program is not subject to the residence requirement at the certifying institution, if any one of the following conditions is met. An individual who is a partial qualifier shall not be permitted to use the exceptions under this bylaw.

**14.53.4.6.1 Discontinued/Nonsponsored Sport Exception.** The student changed institutions in order to continue participation in a sport because the student's original two-year college dropped the sport from its intercollegiate program (even though it may re-establish that sport on a club basis) or never sponsored the sport on the intercollegiate level while the student was in attendance at that institution, provided the student never attended any other collegiate institution that offered intercollegiate competition in that sport and the student earned at least a minimum 2.200 grade-point average (see Bylaw **14.53.4.5.3.2**) at the two-year college.

**14.53.4.6.1.1 Original Collegiate Institution.** In applying this provision for an exception to the residence requirement, the original collegiate institution shall be the two-year college in which the student was enrolled immediately before the transfer to the certifying institution, provided that, if the student is transferring from a two-year college that never sponsored the sport on the intercollegiate level, the student never shall have attended any other collegiate institution that offered intercollegiate competition in that sport.

## 2025 Noncontroversial Proposals

~~14.53~~4.6.1.2 Application -- COVID-19 Season Cancellations. If the student's original two-year college does not participate in competition during the 2020-21 academic year due to COVID-19, the student does not have access to this exception to be immediately eligible for competition upon transfer.

~~14.53~~4.6.2 Nonrecruited Student Exception. The student transfers to the certifying institution and the following conditions are met:

[~~14.3~~4.6.2-(a) through ~~14.3~~4.6.2-(c) unchanged.]

~~14.53~~4.6.3 Two-Year Nonparticipation or Minimal Participation Exception. The student transfers to the certifying institution from a two-year college and, for a consecutive two-year period immediately before the date on which the student begins participation (countable athletically related activities), the student has not competed and has not participated in other countable athletically related activities (see Bylaw 17.02.1) in the involved sport beyond a 14-consecutive-calendar-day period, or has not participated in organized noncollegiate amateur competition while enrolled as a full-time student in a collegiate institution. The 14-consecutive-calendar-day period begins with the date on which the student-athlete first engages in any countable athletically related activity. The two-year period does not include any period of time before the student's initial collegiate enrollment.

~~14.53~~4.6.4 Return to Original Institution Exception. The student returns to the four-year college from which they transferred to the two-year college, provided the student did not have an unfulfilled residence requirement at the time of the transfer from the four-year college. The amount of time originally spent in residence at the first four-year college may be used by the student in completing the unfulfilled residence requirement at that institution. The student must satisfy all progress-toward-degree requirements the student triggered during their previous enrollment at the certifying institution (e.g., annual credit-hour requirement) before being eligible for competition. (See Bylaw ~~14.53~~4.5.6).

~~14.53~~4.7 Waivers. The Academic Requirements Committee shall have the authority to waive all two-year college transfer requirements based on objective evidence that demonstrates circumstances that warrant the waiver of the normal application of those regulations.

~~14.53~~5 Four-Year College Transfers. See Bylaw 13.1.1.2 for prohibition against contacting student-athletes of another four-year collegiate institution without first obtaining authorization through the notification of transfer process. (See Bylaw ~~14.4~~~~2.9~~ for progress-toward-degree requirements for transfer student-athletes.)

~~14.53~~5.1 General Rule. A transfer student from a four-year institution shall not be eligible for intercollegiate competition at a member institution until the student has fulfilled a residence requirement of one full academic year (two full semesters or three full quarters) at the certifying institution (see Bylaw 14.02.~~14~~~~21~~).

~~14.53~~5.1.1 Attendance for One Academic Year. A transfer student from a four-year institution who attended a four-year institution at least one academic year shall be eligible for financial aid and practice at a Division II institution under the rules of the institution and the conference of which the institution is a member, regardless of the student's qualification status (per Bylaw ~~14.3~~~~12.8.2~~) at the time of initial enrollment.

~~14.53~~5.1.2 Attendance for Less Than One Academic Year. A transfer student from a four-year institution who was a partial qualifier (as defined in Bylaw 14.02.~~13~~~~9.2~~) and who attended the four-year institution less than one full academic year shall not be eligible for competition during the first academic year of attendance at the certifying institution. Participation in practice sessions and the receipt of financial aid during the first academic year of attendance at the certifying institution by such students is governed by the provisions of Bylaw ~~14.3~~~~12.8.2.2~~ (partial qualifiers).

~~14.53~~5.1.2.1 Attendance at Four-Year Institution for Less Than One Academic Year Following Transfer from a Two-Year Institution. A student-athlete who initially enrolls at a two-year college, transfers to another four-year institution and attends the four-year institution for less than one full academic year before transferring to a Division II institution (e.g., '2-4-4 transfer') is not eligible to use a four-year college transfer exception unless the student-athlete would have been immediately eligible for competition under the Division II two-year college transfer regulations

## 2025 Noncontroversial Proposals

had the student-athlete transferred directly from the two-year college to the Division II institution.

**14.53.5.2 Subvarsity Competition.** A transfer student from a four-year institution who was a qualifier shall be eligible to compete immediately at the subvarsity level only at the certifying institution before meeting the transfer eligibility requirements. Such subvarsity competition shall count as a season of competition in the sport involved. A transfer student from a four-year institution who was not a qualifier shall not be eligible to compete at the subvarsity level during the first academic year in residence at the certifying institution.

**14.53.5.3 Exceptions for Transfers From Four-Year Colleges.** A transfer student (other than one under disciplinary suspension per Bylaw 14.53.1.1) from a four-year collegiate institution is not subject to the residence requirement for intercollegiate competition, provided the student does not have an unfulfilled residence requirement at the institution from which they are transferring (except for the return to the original institution without participation exception) and any of the following exceptions are satisfied. However, during the student-athlete's first academic year of full-time collegiate enrollment, such conditions may serve as a basis for an exception to the residence requirement for transfer students to a Division II institution who, at the time of initial collegiate enrollment, met the requirements for "qualifiers" (set forth in Bylaw ~~14.3.1.2.8.2.1~~ in Division II. See Bylaw 14.53.5.1.2.1 for additional information regarding the eligibility of a 2-4-4 transfer who attended the initial four-year institution for less than one academic year.

**14.53.5.3.1 Educational Exchange Exception.** The student returns to their original institution under any of the following conditions:

[14.3.5.3.1-(a) through 14.3.5.3.1-(c) unchanged.]

**14.53.5.3.2 Exchange Student Exception.** The student is enrolled in the certifying institution for a specified period of time as an exchange student participating in a formal and established educational exchange program recognized by the institution's academic authorities. (See Bylaw ~~14.42.9.1.1~~.)

**14.53.5.3.3 Discontinued Academic Program Exception.** The certifying institution concludes that the student changed institutions in order to continue a major course of study because the original institution discontinued the academic program in the student's major.

**14.53.5.3.4 Military Service, Religious Mission Exception.** The student returns from at least 12 months of active service in the armed forces of the United States, or from at least 12 months of active service on an official religious mission.

**14.53.5.3.4.1 Collegiate Enrollment Concurrent With Military Service or Religious Mission.** The amount of time that an individual is enrolled as a regular student in a collegiate institution while concurrently on active military duty or engaged in active service on an official religious mission may not be counted as a part of the 12-month active-duty period that qualifies a student for an exception to the transfer residence requirement.

**14.53.5.3.5 Discontinued/Nonsponsored Sport Exception.** In a particular sport when the student transfers at any time to the certifying institution and participates in the sport on the intercollegiate level after any of the following conditions has occurred:

[14.3.5.3.5-(a) through 14.3.5.3.5-(b) unchanged.]

**14.53.5.3.5.1 Original Institution.** In applying this provision for an exception to the residence requirement, the original collegiate institution shall be the one in which the student was enrolled immediately before transfer to the certifying institution, it being understood that, if the student is transferring from an institution that never sponsored the sport on the intercollegiate level, the student never shall have attended any other collegiate institution that offered intercollegiate competition in that sport.

**14.53.5.3.5.2 Application -- COVID-19 Season Cancellations.** If the student's original four-year collegiate institution does not participate in competition during the 2020-21 academic year due

## 2025 Noncontroversial Proposals

to COVID-19, the student does not have access to this exception to be immediately eligible for competition upon transfer.

~~14.53.5.3.6~~ **14.53.5.3.6** Two-Year Nonparticipation or Minimal Participation Exception. The student transfers to the certifying institution from another four-year college and, for a consecutive two-year period immediately before the date on which the student begins participation (countable athletically related activities), the student has not competed and has not participated in other countable athletically related activities (see Bylaw 17.02.1) in the involved sport beyond a 14-consecutive-calendar-day period, or has not participated in organized noncollegiate amateur competition while enrolled as a full-time student in a collegiate institution. The 14-consecutive-calendar-day period begins with the date on which the student-athlete first engages in any countable athletically related activity. The two-year period does not include any period of time before the student's initial collegiate enrollment.

~~14.53.5.3.7~~ **14.53.5.3.7** Return to Original Institution Without Participation or With Minimal Participation Exception. The student enrolls at a second four-year collegiate institution, does not compete and does not participate in other countable athletically related activities (see Bylaw 17.02.1) in the involved sport at the second institution beyond a 14-consecutive-calendar-day period and returns to the original institution. The 14-consecutive-calendar-day period begins with the date on which the student-athlete first engages in any countable athletically related activity. A student may use this exception even if they have an unfulfilled residence requirement at the institution from which they are transferring. The student must satisfy all progress-toward-degree requirements the student triggered during their previous enrollment at the certifying institution (e.g., annual credit-hour requirement) before being eligible for competition.

~~14.53.5.3.8~~ **14.53.5.3.8** Nonrecruited Student Exception. The student transfers to the certifying institution, and the following conditions are met:

[14.3.5.3.8-(a) through 14.3.5.3.8-(c) unchanged.]

~~14.53.5.3.9~~ **14.53.5.3.9** One-Time Transfer Exception. The student transfers to the certifying institution from another four-year collegiate institution, and all of the following conditions are met (for graduate students, see Bylaw ~~14.1.8.12.4.1~~ **14.1.8.12.4.1**):

(a) The student has not transferred previously from one four-year institution, unless, in the previous transfer, the student-athlete received an exception per Bylaw ~~14.5.5.3.5.3.5~~ **14.5.5.3.5.3.5** (discontinued/nonsponsored sport exception) or Bylaw 14.8.2.1-(d) (residence requirement). A student-athlete who, prior to the transfer to the certifying institution, attended two four-year institutions ("4-2-4-4" transfer), does not meet this condition regardless of whether the student was enrolled at a two-year institution between attendance at the two previous four-year institutions;

[14.3.5.3.9-(b) through 14.3.5.3.9-(c) unchanged.]

(d) The student must provide written notification of transfer to the institution by June 15 (see Bylaw ~~14.53.5.3.9.1~~ **14.53.5.3.9.1** for an exception for midyear and non-Division II transfers); and

[14.3.5.3.9-(e) unchanged.]

~~14.53.5.3.9.1~~ **14.53.5.3.9.1** Application of Notification Dates to Midyear and Non-Division II Transfers. A midyear transfer student-athlete or student-athlete transferring from a non-Division II institution (e.g., Division I, Division III or NAIA) is not required to have provided notification of transfer to the institution by the notification deadline in the previous academic year.

~~14.53.5.3.9.2~~ **14.53.5.3.9.2** Waivers. The Academic Requirements Committee shall have the authority to waive academic components of the one-time transfer exception. Those components include good academic standing, progress-toward-degree requirements, and the 12-semester or 12-quarter hour requirement for a transfer student who has one season of competition remaining in their sport or two full-time semesters or three full-time quarters or fewer remaining to complete eligibility and who has not earned a baccalaureate degree. The Committee for Legislative Relief shall have the authority to waive all remaining components of the one-time transfer exception.

## 2025 Noncontroversial Proposals

~~14.53.5.4~~ Competition in Year of Transfer. A transfer student from a four-year institution, who has received a waiver of or exception to the transfer residence requirement (per Bylaw ~~14.18.12.4.1~~ or ~~14.53.5.3~~), is not eligible to compete at the certifying institution during the segment that concludes with the NCAA championship if the student-athlete has competed during that segment of the same academic year in that sport at the previous four-year institution. Therefore, if the institution from which a student-athlete transfers declares separate segments of its playing and practice season, a student-athlete may compete during the segment that does not conclude with the NCAA championship for such an institution and during the segment that does conclude with the NCAA championship for the certifying institution during the same academic year in the same sport, provided the student-athlete is otherwise eligible for competition.

~~14.53.5.4.1~~ Exception - Competition During the Nonchampionship Segment. A transfer student-athlete who competes during the nonchampionship segment where the contest(s) count toward championships selection criteria (e.g., golf, tennis) may be immediately eligible for competition during the segment that concludes with the NCAA championship at the certifying institution upon transfer during the same academic year.

~~14.53.5.4.2~~ Alternate Playing Season. In the sports of baseball, golf and tennis, during the fall term, a student-athlete who participates in competition where the institution and/or conference declares the alternate playing season may not be immediately eligible for competition upon transfer to the certifying institution that does not declare the alternate playing season during the same academic year.

### **14.4 Athletics Eligibility.**

~~14.14.12~~ Postseason and Regular-Season Competition. To be eligible for regular-season competition, NCAA championships, and for postseason football bowl games, the student-athlete shall meet all of the Association's general eligibility requirements and any additional eligibility requirements adopted by the applicable membership division.

~~14.14.12.1~~ Ineligibility for Use of Banned Drugs. A student-athlete who, as a result of a drug test administered by the NCAA, is found to have used a substance on the list of banned drugs, as set forth in Bylaw 18.2.1.2.1, shall be declared ineligible for further participation in postseason and regular-season competition in accordance with the ineligibility provisions in Bylaws 18.2.1.2.2 and 18.2.1.2.3.

~~14.24.3~~ Seasons of Competition: 10-Semester/15-Quarter Rule. A student-athlete shall not engage in more than four seasons of intercollegiate competition in any one sport (see Bylaws ~~14.02.102~~ and ~~14.2-24.3.2~~). An institution shall not permit a student-athlete to represent it in intercollegiate competition unless the individual completes all of their seasons of participation in all sports within the time periods specified below:

~~14.24.13.1~~ Collegiate Enrollment Concurrent With Service Assignment. Any time in which a student-athlete is enrolled for a minimum full-time load as a regular student in a collegiate institution while simultaneously on active duty in the U.S. military, on an official religious mission or with a recognized foreign aid service of the U.S. government shall count against the 10 semesters or 15 quarters in which the four seasons of eligibility must be completed.

~~14.24.23.2~~ Ten-Semester/15-Quarter Rule. A student-athlete shall complete their seasons of participation during the first 10 semesters or 15 quarters in which the student is enrolled in a collegiate institution in at least a minimum full-time program of studies, as determined by the regulations of that institution. For an institution that conducts registration other than on a traditional semester or quarter basis, the Academic Requirements Committee shall determine an equivalent enrollment period.

~~14.24.23.12.1~~ Use of Semester or Quarter. A student-athlete is considered to have used a semester or quarter under this rule when the student-athlete is officially registered in a collegiate institution (domestic or foreign) in a regular term of an academic year for a minimum full-time program of studies, as determined by the institution, and attends the first day of classes for that term, even if the student-athlete drops to part-time status during that first day of classes (see Bylaw ~~14.2-34.3.3~~).

~~14.24.23.2.2~~ Pregnancy Exception. A member institution may approve a two-semester or three-quarter extension of this 10-semester/15-quarter period of eligibility for a pregnant student-athlete.

## 2025 Noncontroversial Proposals

~~14.24.23.32.3~~ **Transgender Female Exception.** A member institution may approve a two-semester or three-quarter extension of the 10-semester/15-quarter period of eligibility for a transgender female (male to female) student-athlete who uses two semesters or three quarters while completing one calendar year of testosterone suppression treatment or surgical intervention.

~~14.24.23.42.4~~ **Ten-Semester/15-Quarter Rule Waivers.** The Management Council, or a committee designated by the Management Council to act for it, by a two-thirds majority of its members present and voting, may approve waivers to the 10-semester/15-quarter rule as it deems appropriate.

~~14.24.23.42.14.1~~ **Waiver Criteria.** A waiver of the 10-semester/15-quarter period of eligibility is designed to provide a student-athlete with the opportunity to participate in four seasons of intercollegiate competition within a 10-semester/15-quarter period. This waiver may be granted, based upon objective evidence, for reasons that are beyond the control of the student-athlete and the institution, which deprive the student-athlete of the opportunity to participate for more than one season in their sport within the 10-semester/15-quarter period. The Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement reserves the right to review requests that do not meet the more-than-one-year criteria detailed in this bylaw for extraordinary circumstances or extreme hardship.

~~14.24.23.42.14.1.1~~ **Application of Waiver.** If the waiver is granted, it shall be applied during the next available opportunity to enroll (e.g., next semester(s), quarter(s)).

~~14.24.23.42.14.2.1.2~~ **Circumstances Beyond Control.** Circumstances considered to be beyond the control of the student-athlete and the institution and do not cause a participation opportunity to be used shall include, but are not limited to, the following:

[14.4.3.2.4.1.2-(a) through 14.4.3.2.4.1.2-(e) unchanged.]

~~14.24.23.42.14.3.1.3~~ **Circumstances Within Control.** Circumstances that are considered to be within the control of the student-athlete and the institution and cause a participation opportunity to be used include, but are not limited to, the following:

[14.4.3.2.4.1.3-(a) through 14.4.3.2.4.1.3-(c) unchanged.]

(d) Redshirt year, unless it meets the exception pursuant to Bylaw ~~14.2.2.4.1.4.3.2.4.1.4~~ **14.3.2.4.1.4**;

[14.4.3.2.4.1.3-(e) through 14.4.3.2.4.1.3-(f) unchanged.]

~~14.24.23.42.14.4.1.4~~ **Waiver -- Student-Athlete Who Does Not Use Season of Competition During Initial Year of Collegiate Enrollment.** For a student-athlete who does not use a season of competition during their initial year of full-time collegiate enrollment at any institution, a waiver may be granted if all of the following conditions are met:

[14.4.3.2.4.1.4-(a) unchanged.]

(b) The student-athlete was denied one participation opportunity per Bylaw ~~14.2.2.4.1.4.3.2.4.1~~ **14.3.2.4.1** following their initial year of collegiate enrollment.

~~14.24.23.42.14.4.1.4.1~~ **Application of Waiver.** If the waiver is granted, it must be used during the next available opportunity (e.g., next semester(s) or quarter(s)).

~~14.24.23.42.24.2~~ **Practice While Waiver Is Pending.** A student-athlete, who has exhausted their 10-semester/15-quarter period of eligibility, may practice, but not compete, for 30 consecutive calendar days, provided the institution has filed a 10-semester/15-quarter waiver request with the NCAA national office. If such a request is denied prior to exhausting the 30-day practice period, the student-athlete must cease all practice activities upon the institution's notification of the denial.

~~14.24.3.3~~ **Additional Applications of the 10-Semester/15-Quarter Rule.**

~~14.24.3.3.1~~ **Athletics Competition.** Even though a student is enrolled for less than a minimum full-time program of studies at a collegiate institution, a student shall use a semester or quarter under the 10-semester/15-quarter period of eligibility if the individual represents the institution in intercollegiate athletics.

## 2025 Noncontroversial Proposals

~~14.24.3.2~~~~3.2~~ **Nonrecognized College.** Enrollment in a postsecondary, noncollegiate institution (e.g., technical school, seminary or business college) in the United States that is not accredited at the college level by an agency or association recognized by the secretary of the Department of Education and legally authorized to offer at least a one-year program of study creditable toward a degree, constitutes enrollment in the application of the 10-semester/15-quarter rule (Bylaw ~~14.24.3~~) only if:

[14.4.3.2-(a) through 14.4.3.2-(b) unchanged.]

~~14.24.3.3~~~~3.3~~ **Joint College/High School Program.** A student-athlete's eligibility under the 10-semester/15-quarter rule does not begin while a student is enrolled in a collegiate institution in a joint high school/college academic program for high school students, in which the courses count as both high school graduation credit and college credit, provided the student has not officially graduated from high school and does not practice (including limited preseason tryouts) or compete for the college's athletics programs.

~~14.24.3.4~~~~3.4~~ **Vocational Program.** A student-athlete's eligibility under the 10-semester rule does not begin while the student is enrolled in a minimum full-time program of studies as a part of a special vocational program that combines enrollment in regular college courses and participation in vocational training courses, provided the student is not considered to be regularly matriculated by the institution, does not go through the customary registration and testing procedures required of all regular entering students and is not eligible for the institution's extracurricular activities, including athletics.

~~14.24.3.5~~~~3.5~~ **Eligibility for Practice.** A student-athlete receiving athletics aid after having engaged in four seasons of intercollegiate competition in a sport may continue to take part in organized, institutional practice sessions in that sport without being a counter (see Bylaw 15.02.4), provided the individual has eligibility remaining under the 10-semester rule.

### ~~14.24.4~~~~4~~ **Criteria for Determining Season of Eligibility.**

~~14.24.4.1~~~~4.1~~ **Minimum Amount of Competition.** Any competition (including a scrimmage with outside competition), regardless of time, during a season in an intercollegiate sport shall be counted as a season of competition in that sport. This provision is applicable to intercollegiate athletics competition conducted by a two-year or four-year collegiate institution at the varsity or subvarsity level.

~~14.24.4.1.1~~~~4.1.1~~ **Transfer from a Non-Division II Institution.** The Division II season of competition legislation does not apply to a transfer student-athlete's previous participation at a non-Division II institution (e.g., NCAA Division I or III, NAIA, two-year college). A transfer student-athlete is subject to the legislation applicable to the division or association of which the previous institution was a member during the student-athlete's term(s) of participation.

~~14.24.4.1.1.1~~~~4.1.1.1~~ **Exception -- Division III Transfer.** A Division III student-athlete who is charged with a season of participation for practice only under Division III legislation will not be charged with a season of competition upon transfer to a Division II institution.

~~14.24.4.1.2~~~~4.1.2~~ **Exception -- Two-Year College Scrimmages.** A two-year college prospective student-athlete may compete in a scrimmage as a member of a two-year college team without counting such competition as a season of competition, provided the scrimmage is conducted without official scoring.

~~14.24.4.1.2.1~~~~4.1.2.1~~ **Official Scoring.** Official scoring has occurred when either institution participating in the scrimmage satisfies either of the following conditions:

[14.4.3.4.1.2.1-(a) through 14.4.3.4.1.2.1-(b) unchanged.]

~~14.24.4.1.3~~~~4.1.3~~ **Exception -- Competition in the Nonchampionship Segment and Spring Football.** In field hockey, football, men's and women's soccer, men's and women's volleyball and men's and women's water polo, a student-athlete may engage in outside competition during the segment of the playing season that does not conclude with the NCAA championship without using a season of competition, provided the student-athlete was academically eligible during the segment in the same academic year that concludes with the NCAA championship. In baseball, women's beach volleyball, softball and men's and women's lacrosse, a student-athlete may engage in outside competition during the segment of the playing season that does not conclude with the NCAA championship

## 2025 Noncontroversial Proposals

without using a season of competition. Prior to participating against outside competition during the nonchampionship segment and spring football practice, student-athletes shall be certified as eligible (e.g., amateurism, enrolled full time).

~~14.24.43.14.4~~**14** Recognized Foreign Exchange/Study Abroad Program. A student-athlete who participates in a formal and established educational foreign exchange or study abroad program recognized by the certifying institution's academic authorities shall not use a season of competition for participation in intercollegiate competition that occurs during the certifying institution's nonchampionship segment.

~~14.24.43.14.5~~**15** Alumni Game, Fundraising Activity or Celebrity Sports Activity. A student-athlete may engage in outside competition in either one alumni game, one fundraising activity or one celebrity sports activity during a season without counting such competition as a season of competition, provided the event is exempted from the institution's maximum number of contests or dates of competition as permitted in the particular sport per Bylaw 17.

~~14.24.43.14.6~~**16** Preseason Exhibition Contests or Dates of Competition/Preseason Scrimmages During Initial Year. During a student-athlete's initial year of collegiate enrollment, they may compete in preseason exhibition contests or dates of competition and preseason scrimmages (as permitted in the particular sport per Bylaw 17) that occur prior to the first countable contest or date of competition in the sport without counting such competition as a season of competition.

~~14.24.43.14.7~~**17** Exception -- Football. In football, a student-athlete representing a Division II institution, in their initial year of collegiate enrollment, may participate in up to three contests in a season without using a season of competition.

~~14.24.43.24.2~~**2** Participation in Organized Competition Before Initial Collegiate Enrollment. An individual who does not cease participation by October 1 or March 1 (whichever occurs earlier) immediately after one calendar year has elapsed following their high school graduation date, shall use one season of intercollegiate competition for each consecutive 12-month period after October 1 or March 1 and before initial full-time collegiate enrollment in which the individual participates in organized competition per Bylaw 14.2.4.2.1.2.

~~14.24.43.24.12.1~~**1** Administration of Participation in Organized Competition.

~~14.24.43.24.12.1.1~~**1.1** High School Graduation. An individual's high school graduation date (or the international equivalent as specified in the NCAA Guide to International Academic Standards for Athletics Eligibility) shall be considered to be the graduation date of the final high school class (e.g., junior, senior) of which they were a member.

~~14.24.43.24.12.1.1.1~~**1.1.1** Early High School Graduation. If an individual graduates early from high school, they become a member of that class and the date of graduation for the individual is the expected date of that class.

~~14.24.43.24.12.1.2~~**1.2** Late High School Graduation -- Required Repeat Year. If an individual is required to repeat an entire year of high school attendance, they become a member of that class and the date of graduation for the individual is the expected date of that class.

~~14.24.43.24.12.1.3~~**1.3** Discontinued High School Enrollment. An individual who discontinues high school enrollment and then participates in organized competition per Bylaw 14.24.3.4.2.1.2 shall use one season of intercollegiate competition for each consecutive 12-month period after October 1 or March 1 (whichever occurs earlier) immediately after one calendar year has elapsed following the discontinued enrollment and before initial full-time collegiate enrollment.

~~14.24.43.24.12.2~~**2** Organized Competition. Athletics competition shall be considered organized if any one of the following conditions exists:

[14.4.3.4.2.1.2-(a) through 14.4.3.4.2.1.2-(i) unchanged.]

~~14.24.43.24.12.3~~**3** Academic Year in Residence. An individual who uses a season of competition in a specific sport per Bylaw ~~14.2.4.24.3.4.2~~ shall fulfill an academic year in residence at any

## 2025 Noncontroversial Proposals

member institution before being eligible to represent the certifying institution in that specific sport in intercollegiate competition.

~~14.24.43.24.12.31.13.1~~ **14.24.43.24.12.31.13.1** Exception -- Transfer Student. A student who has attended a two-year or a four-year collegiate institution for at least two full-time semesters or three full-time quarters and who has satisfactorily completed an average of at least 12-semester or 12-quarter hours of transferable degree credit for each full-time academic term of attendance at the two-year or four-year collegiate institution is not required to fulfill an academic year in residence before being eligible to represent the certifying institution in that specific sport in intercollegiate competition. This exception shall not apply to the use of a season(s) of intercollegiate competition for each 12-month period after the one-year time period and before initial full-time collegiate enrollment in which an individual participates in organized competition per Bylaw ~~14.24.3.4.2.1.2~~. (See Bylaws ~~14.42.9~~ and ~~14.53~~ for *progress-toward-degree and transfer requirements***transfer and progress-toward-degree requirements**.)

~~14.24.43.24.12.31.23.2~~ **14.24.43.24.12.31.23.2** Exception -- Graduate Student. A student who transfers and enrolls in a graduate program, professional school or equivalent degree program is not required to fulfill an academic year in residence before being eligible to represent the certifying institution in that specific sport in intercollegiate competition. (See Bylaws ~~14.182.4~~ and ~~14.42.9~~ for progress-toward-degree and transfer requirements.)

~~14.24.43.24.2.2~~ **14.24.43.24.2.2** Exceptions to Participation in Organized Competition. An individual who does not cease participation by October 1 or March 1 (whichever occurs earlier) immediately after one calendar year has elapsed following their high school graduation, shall not be charged with a season of intercollegiate competition, provided the individual satisfies any of the following exceptions for each consecutive 12-month period in which the individual participates in organized competition per Bylaw ~~14.24.3.4.2.1.2~~ following October 1 or March 1 and before initial full-time collegiate enrollment.

~~14.24.43.24.2.12.1~~ **14.24.43.24.2.12.1** Service Exceptions. Participation in organized competition during time spent in the armed services, on official religious missions or with recognized foreign aid services of the U.S. government and the period between completion of the service commitment and the first opportunity to enroll as a full-time student in a regular academic term is exempt from the application of Bylaw ~~14.24.3.4.2~~.

~~14.24.43.24.2.2.2~~ **14.24.43.24.2.2.2** National/International Competition Exception. For a maximum of one year, participation in organized competition per Bylaw ~~14.24.3.4.2.1.2~~ shall be excepted if the competition is national or international competition that includes participation in:

[14.4.3.4.2.2.2-(a) through 14.4.3.4.2.2.2-(c) unchanged.]

~~14.24.43.24.2.32.3~~ **14.24.43.24.2.32.3** Skiing Exception. For a maximum of two years, participation in organized competition per Bylaw ~~14.24.3.4.2.1.2~~ shall be excepted in skiing when such participation is part of competition sanctioned by the U.S. Skiing Association and its international counterparts.

~~14.24.43.24.2.42.4~~ **14.24.43.24.2.42.4** Men's Ice Hockey Exception. In men's ice hockey, for a maximum of two years, participation in organized competition per Bylaw ~~14.24.3.4.2.1.2~~ shall be excepted.

~~14.24.43.24.2.42.14.1~~ **14.24.43.24.2.42.14.1** Major Junior Ice Hockey -- Men's Ice Hockey. An individual who participates on a Major Junior men's ice hockey team shall use a season of intercollegiate competition for each consecutive 12-month period in which the individual participates, regardless of when such participation occurs. The individual shall fulfill an academic year of residence (see Bylaw ~~14.24.3.4.2.1.3~~) before being eligible to represent the institution in intercollegiate competition in men's ice hockey.

~~14.24.43.24.32.3~~ **14.24.43.24.32.3** Waiver. The Committee for Legislative Relief shall have the authority to review and grant waivers of the organized competition legislation.

~~14.24.43.34.3~~ **14.24.43.34.3** Road Racing. Participation in road racing is essentially the same as cross country or track and field competition and cannot be separated effectively from those sports for purposes of organized competition before initial collegiate enrollment. Therefore, an individual who does not cease participation by October 1 or March 1 (whichever occurs earlier) immediately after one calendar year has elapsed following their high school graduation date and participates in a road race(s) shall use one

## 2025 Noncontroversial Proposals

season of intercollegiate competition in cross country and track and field for each consecutive 12-month period after October 1 or March 1 and before initial full-time collegiate enrollment. The individual shall also fulfill an academic year in residence at any member institution before being eligible to represent the certifying institution in cross country or track and field competition.

~~14.24.43.4.4~~ **14.24.43.4.4** Track and Field and Cross Country. Cross country, indoor track and field, and outdoor track and field shall be considered separate sports.

~~14.24.43.8.4.5~~ **14.24.43.8.4.5** Foreign-Tour Competition. A student-athlete who did not compete during the institution's season just completed and who represents the institution in a certified foreign tour after that intercollegiate season and before the start of the next academic year shall not be charged with a season of eligibility (see Bylaw 17.32.1.5).

~~14.24.53.5~~ **14.24.53.5** Hardship Waiver. A student-athlete may be granted an additional year of competition by the conference or the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement for reasons of "hardship." Hardship is defined as an incapacity resulting from an injury or illness that has occurred under all of the following conditions:

[14.4.3.5-(a) unchanged.]

(b) The injury or illness occurs prior to the first competition of the second half of the playing season that concludes with the NCAA championship in that sport (see Bylaw ~~14.24.3.5.2.3~~ **14.24.3.5.2.3**) and results in an incapacity to compete for the remainder of that playing season; and

(c) The injury or illness occurs when the student-athlete has not participated in more than three contests or dates of competition (whichever is applicable to that sport), or 30 percent of the maximum permissible number of contests or dates of competition set forth in Bylaw 17 in their sport (see Bylaw ~~14.24.3.5.2.5.1.1~~ **14.24.3.5.2.5.1.1** for information regarding percent calculation in track and field and Bylaw ~~14.24.3.5.2.5.1.2~~ **14.24.3.5.2.5.1.2** for information regarding percent calculation in basketball). Competition (excluding alumni games, fundraising activities, celebrity sports activities, scrimmages and exhibition contests per Bylaw 17 in the applicable sport) against outside participants during the playing season that concludes with the NCAA championship, or, if so designated, during the official NCAA championship playing season in that sport (e.g., spring baseball, fall soccer), shall be countable under this limitation. In basketball, contests played as part of a region challenge shall be countable under this limitation.

~~14.24.53.15.1~~ **14.24.53.15.1** Administration of Hardship Waiver. The hardship waiver shall be administered by the member conferences of the Association or, in the case of an independent member institution, by the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement. An institution may appeal a decision by its conference to the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement.

~~14.24.53.25.2~~ **14.24.53.25.2** Criteria for Administration of Hardship Waiver. The following criteria are to be employed in the administration of the hardship waiver:

~~14.24.53.25.12.1~~ **14.24.53.25.12.1** Nature of Injury/Illness. It is not necessary for the incapacitating injury or illness to be the direct result of the student's participation in the institution's organized practice or game competition. The student-athlete may qualify for the hardship waiver as a result of any incapacitating injury or illness occurring after the individual becomes a student-athlete by reporting on call for regular squad practice or after attending the first day of classes as a full-time student at a member institution.

~~14.24.53.25.2.2~~ **14.24.53.25.2.2** Medical Documentation. Contemporaneous medical documentation from a physician or medical doctor that establishes the student-athlete's inability to compete for the remainder of the playing season as a result of an injury or illness shall be submitted with any hardship-waiver request. Chiropractic records do not constitute medical documentation for purposes of administering a hardship-waiver request. For circumstances involving psychological or mental illnesses, the required contemporaneous or other appropriate medical documentation may be provided by an individual who is qualified and licensed to diagnose and treat the particular illness (e.g., psychologist).

~~14.24.53.25.32.3~~ **14.24.53.25.32.3** First-Half-of-Season Calculation. The first half of the season is measured by the maximum permissible number of contests or dates of competition set forth in Bylaw 17 in the sport. Any computation of the first half of the season that results in a fractional portion of a contest or date of competition shall be rounded to the next whole number. The first full contest or date of

## 2025 Noncontroversial Proposals

competition immediately following the rounded value is the first contest or date of competition in the second half of the season (e.g., 50 percent of an 11-game football schedule -- 5.5 games -- shall be considered six games and any injury or illness must have occurred prior to the start of the seventh contest).

~~14.24.53.25.32.13.1~~ **14.24.53.25.32.13.1** Contests or Dates of Competition Based on Championship Selection. In sports in which the playing season is divided into two segments, but championship selection is based on competition throughout the season (e.g., golf and tennis), the first half of the season shall be measured by the Bylaw 17 maximum for the entire season (e.g., nonchampionship and championship segments). In sports in which the playing season may be divided into two segments but the championship selection is based on competition during only one segment of the season (e.g., spring baseball, fall soccer), the first half of the season shall be measured by the maximum number of contests or dates of competition set forth in Bylaw 17 for the championship segment.

~~14.24.53.25.32.23.2~~ **14.24.53.25.32.23.2** First-Half-of-Season Calculation -- Track and Field. For an institution that sponsors both indoor and outdoor track and field, the first half of the season calculation for indoor and outdoor track and field shall be based on the institution's number of completed varsity dates of competition in the respective season. For example, if the institution completes six dates of competition in indoor track, the injury or illness must have occurred prior to the beginning of the fourth date of competition. For an institution that sponsors only indoor track and field or outdoor track and field, but not both, and a student-athlete who only competes in indoor track and field or outdoor track and field, but not both, the first half of the season shall be measured by the maximum number of dates of competition set forth in Bylaw 17.

~~14.24.53.25.32.3.3~~ **14.24.53.25.32.3.3** First Half-of-Season Calculation - Basketball. If an institution participates in a region challenge event, the first half of the season shall be measured by the maximum number of contests set forth in Bylaw 17 plus the number of contests played in the region challenge event. For example, if an institution participates in two contests as part of a region challenge event, the injury or illness must have occurred prior to the start of the 15th contest (e.g., 26 contests plus two region challenge contests).

~~14.24.53.25.42.4~~ **14.24.53.25.42.4** Reinjury in Second Half of Season. A student-athlete who suffers an injury in the first half of the season that concludes with the NCAA championship, attempts to return to competition during the second half of that season and then is unable to participate further as a result of aggravating the original injury does not qualify for the hardship waiver.

~~14.24.53.25.52.5~~ **14.24.53.25.52.5** Percent Calculation. The following requirements apply in determining the percent calculation under this waiver provision: (Note: The percent calculation requirements set forth in Bylaws ~~14.24.3.5-(c)~~ and ~~14.24.3.5.2.3~~ apply only to the waiver provisions of this section and do not apply to the maximum- and minimum-contests requirements in Bylaws 7 and 17.)

~~14.24.53.25.52.15.1~~ **14.24.53.25.52.15.1** Denominator in Percent Computation. The denominator in the percent calculation shall be based on the maximum number of contests or dates of competition set forth in Bylaw 17 for the applicable sport.

~~14.24.53.25.52.15.1.1~~ **14.24.53.25.52.15.1.1** Denominator in Percent Computation -- Track and Field. For an institution that sponsors both indoor and outdoor track and field, the denominator in the percent calculation for indoor and outdoor track and field shall be based on the institution's number of completed varsity dates of competition in the respective season. For example, if the institution completes six dates of competition in indoor track, the denominator in the percent calculation for a hardship waiver in indoor track and field would be six. For an institution that sponsors only indoor track and field or outdoor track and field, but not both, and a student-athlete who only competes in indoor track and field or outdoor track and field, but not both, the institution's number of completed varsity dates of competition or the maximum number of dates of competition set forth in Bylaw 17 may be used in the denominator.

~~14.24.53.25.52.15.2.1.2~~ **14.24.53.25.52.15.2.1.2** Denominator in Percent Calculation - Basketball. If an institution participates in a region challenge event, the denominator shall include the number of contests played in the region challenge event. For example, if an institution participates in

## 2025 Noncontroversial Proposals

two contests as part of a region challenge event, the denominator in the percent calculation would be 28 (e.g., 26 contests plus two region challenge contests).

~~14.24.53.25.52.25.2~~ **Fraction in Percent Computation.** Any computation of the percent limitation that results in a fractional portion of a contest or date of competition shall be rounded to the next whole number (e.g., 30 percent of a 26-game basketball schedule -- 7.8 games -- shall be considered eight games).

~~14.24.53.25.62.6~~ **Transfer Student-Athletes.** The hardship-waiver criteria for a transfer student-athlete who suffers an injury or illness while attending an NCAA Division I or Division III institution may be based on the method that would be most beneficial to the student-athlete (the rule applicable to the member division in which the injury or illness occurred or the Division II rule). The application of a particular division's legislation must include all the applicable elements of that division's legislation, as opposed to selected elements of the legislation of each division.

~~14.24.53.25.72.7~~ **Foreign-Tour Competition.** A student-athlete who qualifies for a hardship for the previous academic year would not use a season of competition if the student-athlete represents the institution on a certified foreign tour during the summer-vacation period at the conclusion of that academic year.

~~14.24.63.6~~ **Season-of-Competition Waiver -- Competition While Ineligible.** In conjunction with a request for restoration of eligibility and any conditions imposed thereon per Bylaw ~~14.13.1.4~~, a student-athlete may be granted an additional season of competition by the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement when they participated in a limited amount of competition under either of the following circumstances:

[14.4.3.6-(a) through 14.4.3.6-(b) unchanged.]

~~14.24.63.16.1~~ **Applicable Conditions.** The competition must have occurred under all of the following conditions:

[14.4.3.6.1-(a) through 14.4.3.6.1-(d) unchanged.]

~~14.24.63.26.2~~ **Administrative Criteria.** The following criteria shall be employed in the administration of the season-of-competition waiver:

~~14.24.63.26.12.1~~ **Ten Percent Calculation.** The following requirements are to be met in determining the percent calculation under this waiver provision: (Note: The percent calculation requirements set forth in Bylaws ~~14.24.3.6.1-(b)~~ and ~~14.24.3.6.2.1~~ apply only to the waiver provisions of this section and do not apply to the maximum- and minimum-contest requirements in Bylaws 7 and 17.)

~~14.24.63.26.12.1.1~~ **Denominator in Percent Computation.** The denominator in the institution's percent calculation shall be based on the institution's number of scheduled or completed varsity contests or dates of competition [see Bylaw ~~14.24.3.6.1-(b)~~] as computed for playing and practice season purposes in Bylaw 17 for the applicable sport. Exempted events in Bylaw 17 are included in the percent calculation, except for discretionary exemptions in the applicable sport.

~~14.24.63.26.12.2.1.2~~ **Fraction in Percent Calculation.** Any computation of the percent limitation that results in a fractional portion of a contest or date of competition shall be rounded to the next whole number (e.g., 10 percent of a 26-game basketball schedule -- 2.6 games -- shall be considered three games).

~~14.24.63.26.12.3.1.3~~ **Conference Championships.** A conference championship shall be counted as one contest or date of competition in determining the institution's scheduled or completed contests or dates of competition in the sport, regardless of the number of dates or games involved in the championship. However, for purposes of this regulation, the calculation of scheduled contests or dates of competition in a particular season does not include postseason competition conducted after the completion of the institution's regular-season schedule and conference tournament.

~~14.24.63.26.12.4.1.4~~ **NCAA Regional Cross Country Meet.** The NCAA regional cross country meet may be counted as one date of competition in determining the institution's scheduled or

## 2025 Noncontroversial Proposals

completed dates of competition, provided no qualifying standards exist for participation in the meet.

~~14.24.73.7~~ **Season-of-Competition Waiver -- Competition While Eligible.** A student-athlete may be granted an additional season of competition by the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement when, due to extenuating circumstances (per Bylaw ~~14.24.3.7.1.3~~), the student-athlete, while eligible, did not compete in more than three contests or dates of competition (whichever is applicable to that sport) or 30 percent (whichever number is greater) of the maximum permissible number of contests or dates of competition set forth in Bylaw 17. The competition must occur prior to the first competition of the second half of the playing season that concludes with the NCAA championship in that sport. All competition (including a scrimmage) against outside participants shall be countable under this limitation in calculating the number of contests or dates of competition in which the student-athlete participated.

~~14.24.73.17.1~~ **Administrative Criteria.** The following criteria shall be employed in the administration of this season-of-competition waiver:

~~14.24.73.17.1.1~~ **Thirty Percent Calculation.** The requirements specified in Bylaw ~~14.24.3.6.2.1~~ shall apply to the 30 percent calculation specified in this waiver.

~~14.24.73.17.2.1.2~~ **First-Half-of-Season Requirement.** The first-half-of-season requirements specified in Bylaw ~~14.24.3.5.2.3~~ shall apply to the first-half-of season requirement specified in this waiver.

~~14.24.73.17.3.1.3~~ **Extenuating Circumstances.** Extenuating circumstances include, but are not limited to, the following:

[14.4.3.7.1.3-(a) through 14.4.3.7.1.3-(d) unchanged.]

~~14.24.73.17.4.1.4~~ **Review Authority.** In cases where a student-athlete does not meet the extenuating circumstances listed in Bylaw ~~14.24.3.7.1.3~~, the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement shall have authority to review and grant waivers based on additional documented extenuating circumstances.

~~14.104.4~~ **U.S. Service Academies, Special Eligibility Provisions.**

~~14.104.14.1~~ **10-Semester/15-Quarter Rule.** The Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement may approve waivers to the 10-semester/15-quarter rule (see Bylaw ~~14.24.3~~) for student-athletes of the national service academies who have exhausted eligibility in one sport but wish to compete in another sport or sports in which they have eligibility remaining.

~~14.74.7~~ **Outside Competition, Effects on Eligibility.** The eligibility of a student-athlete who engages in outside competition (see Bylaws ~~14.3.1.2.2.2.8.2.2.2~~ and 17.02.10) is affected as set forth in the following regulations.

~~14.74.17.1~~ **Outside Competition, Sports Other Than Basketball.** A student-athlete becomes ineligible for intercollegiate competition in their sport (other than basketball) if, after enrollment in college and during any year in which the student-athlete is a member of an intercollegiate squad or team, they compete or have competed as a member of any outside team in any noncollegiate, amateur competition (e.g., tournament play, exhibition games or other activity) during the institution's intercollegiate season in the sport (see Bylaw ~~14.4.7.5~~ for exceptions) until eligibility is restored by the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement.

~~14.74.17.1.1~~ **Recognized Foreign Exchange/Study Abroad Program.** A student-athlete who participates in a formal and established educational foreign exchange or study abroad program recognized by the certifying institution's academic authorities shall not be subject to the outside competition legislation while participating in the program.

~~14.74.17.2.1.2~~ **Additional Restriction -- Men's and Women's Wrestling.** In men's and women's wrestling, a student-athlete may compete outside of the institution's intercollegiate season as a member of an outside team in any noncollegiate, amateur competition, except during the period between the beginning of the institution's academic year and November 1. The number of student-athletes from any one institution shall not exceed the applicable limits set forth in Bylaw 17.32.2.

**14.4.7.1.3 Triathlon and Cross Country, Track and Field and Swimming. Triathlon and cross country are considered separate sports, triathlon and track and field are considered separate**

# 2025 Noncontroversial Proposals

## sports, and triathlon and swimming are considered separate sports for purposes of the outside competition legislation.

~~14.74.27.2~~ **14.4.7.2** Outside Competition, Basketball. A student-athlete who participates in any organized basketball competition except while representing the institution in intercollegiate competition in accordance with the permissible playing season specified in Bylaw 17.4 becomes ineligible for any further intercollegiate competition in basketball (see Bylaw ~~14.4.7.5~~ for exceptions).

~~14.74.37.3~~ **14.4.7.3** Additional Applications of Outside-Competition Regulations, Sports Other Than Basketball.

~~14.74.37.3.1~~ **14.4.7.3.1** Eligibility Status. A student-athlete is considered to be a member of the institution's team, and therefore bound by this regulation in that sport, if the student-athlete:

[14.4.7.3.1-(a) through 14.4.7.3.1-(c) unchanged.]

~~14.74.37.3.1.1~~ **14.4.7.3.1.1** Exception. A student-athlete who fails to make the institution's team after participation only in limited preseason tryouts shall not be considered a member of the team for purposes of this regulation.

~~14.74.37.3.2~~ **14.4.7.3.2** Competition Between Seasons. If an institution conducts separate fall and spring practice or playing seasons in a sport, it is permissible for a student-athlete to participate in that sport on an outside team during the period between the two seasons without affecting their eligibility.

~~14.74.37.3.3~~ **14.4.7.3.3** Postseason Competition. An institution's intercollegiate season includes any scheduled participation in the conference championship in the sport in question but excludes the period between the last regularly scheduled competition and the NCAA championship in that sport.

~~14.74.37.4.3.4~~ **14.4.7.4.3.4** Competition as Individual/Not Representing Institution. It is permissible for a student-athlete to participate in outside competition as an individual during the academic year in the student-athlete's sport, provided:

[14.4.7.3.4-(a) through 14.4.7.3.4-(d) unchanged.]

~~14.74.37.4.3.4.1~~ **14.4.7.4.3.4.1** No Competition Between Beginning of Academic Year and November 1 -- Men's and Women's Wrestling. In men's and women's wrestling, a student-athlete shall not participate in outside competition as an individual between the beginning of the institution's academic year and November 1.

~~14.74.37.5.3.5~~ **14.4.7.4.5.3.5** Exempt Teams. In the individual sports (see Bylaw 17.02.16.2), such units as "pro-am" golf teams, doubles tennis teams, and relay teams in track and field are not considered to be outside teams for purposes of this legislation.

~~14.74.47.4~~ **14.4.7.4** Additional Applications of Outside-Competition Regulations, Basketball.

~~14.74.47.4.1~~ **14.4.7.4.1** Organized Basketball Competition. Outside basketball competition, including competition involving teams with fewer than five players, shall be considered "organized" if any one of the following conditions exists:

[14.4.7.4.1-(a) through 14.4.7.4.1-(i) unchanged.]

~~14.74.47.2.4.2~~ **14.4.7.4.2.4.2** Individual Subject to Outside-Competition Regulations. Once a student-athlete becomes a candidate for the institution's basketball team (i.e., has reported for the squad), or if the student was recruited by a member institution in part for basketball ability and enrolls in the institution, this prohibition against outside organized basketball competition remains applicable until the student-athlete's intercollegiate basketball eligibility has been exhausted. This includes time while the student is officially withdrawn from college, fulfilling a residence requirement following transfer to another college, awaiting transfer or enrolled in a nonmember collegiate institution.

~~14.74.47.3.4.3~~ **14.4.7.4.3.4.3** Nonrecruited, Nonparticipant. Participation by a student-athlete in organized basketball competition while enrolled in a member institution and having participated in a sport other than basketball would not jeopardize the student's eligibility in basketball, if the individual had not been recruited in basketball and had not participated on or been a candidate for the institution's intercollegiate basketball team.

## 2025 Noncontroversial Proposals

~~14.74.57.5~~ **14.57.5** Exceptions to Outside-Competition Regulations. The following exceptions to the outside-competition regulations are permitted.

~~14.74.57.5.1~~ **14.57.5.1** In All Sports:

[14.4.7.5.1-(a) through 14.4.7.5.1-(f) unchanged.]

~~14.74.57.5.2~~ **14.57.5.2** Additional Exceptions for Basketball Only:

[14.4.7.5.2-(a) through 14.4.7.5.2-(c) unchanged.]

~~14.74.57.5.3~~ **14.57.5.3** National-Team Criteria. A national team shall meet the following criteria:

[14.4.7.5.3-(a) through 14.4.7.5.3-(c) unchanged.]

~~14.74.67.6~~ **14.67.6** Collegiate All-Star Contests. A student-athlete who competes as a member of a squad in any college all-star contest shall be denied further intercollegiate eligibility in that sport.

~~14.2.4.5 Triathlon and Cross Country, Track and Field and Swimming. Triathlon includes elements of competition similar to cross country, track and field and swimming competition and cannot be separated effectively from those sports for purposes of organized competition. Therefore, triathlon and cross country are considered the same sport, triathlon and track and field are considered the same sport, and triathlon and swimming are considered the same sport for purposes of the organized competition legislation.~~

~~14.2.4.6 Volleyball and Beach Volleyball. Volleyball and beach volleyball are considered the same sport for purposes of Bylaw 14.2.4.2.~~

~~14.2.4.7 Intercollegiate Competition. A student-athlete is considered to have engaged in a season of intercollegiate competition when they compete in an athletics event involving any one of the conditions characterizing intercollegiate competition per Bylaw 14.02.10.~~

~~14.3.1.1 Qualifier. A qualifier is defined as one who is a high school graduate and who has a minimum cumulative core course grade point average of 2.200 (based on a maximum 4.000) in a minimum of 16 academic courses. The 16 core courses shall include the following:~~

English	3 years
Mathematics	2 years
Natural or physical science (including at least one laboratory course if offered by the high school)	2 years
Additional courses in English, mathematics or natural or physical science	3 years
Social science	2 years
Additional academic courses (in any of the above areas or foreign language, philosophy or nondoctrinal religion (e.g., comparative religion) courses)	4 years

~~The record of the above courses and course grades must be certified by the NCAA Eligibility Center using an official high school transcript forwarded directly from the high school or on a high school transcript forwarded by an institution's admissions office; and~~

~~14.7.1.3 Volleyball and Beach Volleyball. Volleyball and beach volleyball are considered the same sport for purposes of Bylaw 14.7.~~

~~14.8 Additional Waivers for Eligibility Requirements. Conditions under which exceptions are permitted or waivers may be granted to specific eligibility requirements in this bylaw are noted in other sections of this bylaw. Other than these, there shall be no waiver by the Association of any of the provisions of this bylaw except as follows:~~

~~14.8.1 Management Council Waivers. The Management Council, by a two-thirds majority of its members present and voting, may waive specific provisions of this bylaw as follows:~~

~~14.8.1.1 Academic and General Requirements. The academic and general eligibility requirements may be waived under the following conditions or circumstances:~~

## 2025 Noncontroversial Proposals

*(a) For student-athletes in times of national emergency;*

*(b) For member institutions that have instituted a trimester or other accelerated academic program, provided any member institution applying for a waiver shall demonstrate a reasonable need for such waiver. Further, the Management Council shall grant no waiver that permits a student-athlete to compete in more than four seasons of intercollegiate competition. Under the waiver allowed, if a student in an accelerated academic program completes the requirements for a degree before completing eligibility, the student may participate in competition that begins within 90 days after completion of the requirements for the degree. The Management Council shall include a report of each such exception in its annual report to the Convention; and*

*(c) For institutions that have suffered extraordinary personnel losses from one or more of their intercollegiate athletics teams due to accident or illness of a disastrous nature.*

*14.8.2 Committee for Legislative Relief Waivers. The Committee for Legislative Relief may waive specific provisions of this bylaw as follows:*

*14.8.2.1 Residence Requirement. The one-year residence requirement for student-athletes may be waived under the following conditions or circumstances:*

*(a) For a student-athlete who transfers to a member institution for reasons of health. Such request for a waiver shall be initiated by any member institution and shall be supported by contemporaneous medical documentation and medical recommendations of that institution's team physician and/or the student-athlete's personal physician;*

*(b) For a student-athlete who transfers to a member institution after loss of eligibility due to a violation of the regulation prohibiting pay for participation in intercollegiate athletics (see Bylaw 12.1.4) or a violation of recruiting regulations (see Bylaw 13.01.5), or for a student-athlete who transfers to a Division I institution after loss of eligibility due to involvement in a violation of the freshman or transfer eligibility requirements for financial aid, practice and competition set forth in Bylaws 14.3.1, 14.5.4 and 14.5.5. The Management Council may waive these requirements only upon a determination of the innocence or inadvertent involvement of the student-athlete in the violation;*

*(c) On the recommendation of the Committee on Infractions, for a student-athlete who transfers to a member institution to continue the student-athlete's opportunity for full participation in a sport because the student-athlete's original institution was placed on probation by the NCAA with sanctions that would preclude the institution's team in that sport from participating in postseason competition during all of the remaining seasons of the student-athlete's eligibility (see Bylaw 13.1.1.2.3);*

*(d) For a student-athlete who transfers to a member institution to continue the student-athlete's opportunity for full participation in a sport because the student-athlete's original institution lost regional accreditation (or no longer meets the accreditation standard for an international institution (see Bylaw 7.1.4.1.2.1)) and forfeited immediately its membership in the Association per Bylaw 7.3.4.2.*

*14.9 Post-Enrollment Academic Misconduct.*

### **Review History:**

Sep 13, 2023: Recommends Approval - NCAA Division II Legislation Committee.

Oct 17, 2023: Approved in Concept - NCAA Division II Management Council.

### **Additional Information:**

Following the adoption of the new NCAA constitution at the 2022 NCAA Convention, the NCAA Division II Presidents Council established the Division II Implementation Committee which was charged with reviewing the division's rules and policies to ensure that changes were consistent with the principles agreed upon in the new constitution. The Implementation Committee tasked the NCAA Division II Legislation Committee with reviewing various bylaws, which included Bylaw 12. Upon further review of Bylaw 12, the Legislation Committee determined that incorporating Bylaw 12 into Bylaws 7 and 14 was appropriate. Further, the

## 2025 Noncontroversial Proposals

Legislation Committee recommended renaming Bylaw 14 due to the incorporation and reorganization of Bylaw 14.

---



REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION II ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS COMMITTEE  
AUGUST 28, 2023, ELECTRONIC VOTE

**ACTION ITEMS.**

- None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **NCAA Division II Academic Requirements Committee vice chair election.** The committee elected Danny McCabe, director of athletics, Adelphi University, as vice chair, effective immediately.
2. **Approval of Subcommittee Assignments.** The committee approved subcommittee assignments, effective September 1, 2023.

*Committee Chair:* Karen Hjerpe, Pennsylvania Western University, California  
*Staff Liaisons:* Jeremy Christoffels, Academic and Membership Affairs  
 Robert Turick, Research

NCAA Division II Academic Requirements Committee August 28, 2023, Electronic Vote
<b>Attendees:</b>
Timothy Briles, Georgian Court University.
Cathy Cox, Georgia College.
David Haase, University of West Georgia.
Karen Hjerpe, Pennsylvania Western University, California.
Dani Mabry, Rockhurst University.
Danny McCabe, Adelphi University.
Deborah Narang, University of Alaska Anchorage.
Madison Peterson, Augustana University.
Ryan Quann, Goldey-Beacom College.
Kelli Wooley, Cameron University.
<b>Absentees:</b>
None.
<b>NCAA Liaisons in Attendance:</b>
Jeremy Christoffels and Robert Turick.
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>
Chelsea Hooks and Angela Red.



REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION II ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS COMMITTEE  
DECEMBER 1, 2023, ELECTRONIC VOTE

**ACTION ITEMS.**

- None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEM.**

- **Academic Performance Census (APC) Submission Extension.** The NCAA Division II Academic Requirements Committee approved an extension of the deadline for APC data submissions to Tuesday, January 16, 2024. The extension gives institutions that have not yet submitted their APC data more time to navigate the technological challenges that are being experienced due to the rollout of Compliance Assistant 2.0.

*Committee Chair:* Karen Hjerpe, Pennsylvania Western University, California  
*Staff Liaisons:* Jeremy Christoffels, Academic and Membership Affairs  
 Robert Turick, Research

NCAA Division II Academic Requirements Committee December 1, 2023, Electronic Vote
<b>Attendees:</b>
Cathy Cox, Georgia College.
Karen Hjerpe, Pennsylvania Western University, California.
Jason Jones, Catawba College.
Liz Jorn, Truman State University.
Danny McCabe, Adelphi University.
Deborah Narang, University of Alaska Anchorage.
Madison Peterson, Augustana University.
Krista Plummer, Northwood University.
Ryan Quann, Goldey-Beacom College.
<b>Absentees:</b>
Dani Mabry, Rockhurst University.
<b>NCAA Liaisons in Attendance:</b>
Jeremy Christoffels and Robert Turick.
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>
Chelsea Hooks, Maritza Jones and Angela Red.



REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIPS COMMITTEE  
NOVEMBER 2, 2023, VIDEOCONFERENCE

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative items.

- None.

2. Nonlegislative items.

a. Baseball squad size increase.

(1) Recommendation. Increase the squad size for teams participating in the Division II Baseball Championship by one student-athlete (from 25 to 26).

(2) Effective date. September 1, 2024.

(3) Rationale. In its review of budget requests from sport committees for the 2024-27 triennium, the Division II Championships Committee supported the request from the Division II Baseball Committee to increase the travel party size from 29 to 30 individuals but was not prompted to consider the baseball committee's accompanying request to increase the squad size. Accordingly, the Championships Committee revisited the request and agreed to support increasing the squad size by one student-athlete (from 25 to 26). The Championships Committee noted that historically, an increase in travel party coincides with a like increase in squad size. The committee considered the baseball committee's original request of increasing the squad size by as many as three student-athletes but ultimately determined that matching the travel party increase was more appropriate. The Championships Committee also felt that an increase of more than one student-athlete could place a financial burden on institutions because it would result in the four non-student-athletes allowed in the travel party exceeding the limit of 30 and not being reimbursed by the NCAA.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. The recommendation allows an additional student-athlete to participate in the championship.

b. Baseball visible pitch clock rule referral.

(1) Recommendation. Refer a review of the visible pitch clock rule in baseball to the NCAA Baseball Rules Committee as it pertains to Division II and consider making the rule permissive rather than mandatory. Further, as part of the review, request feedback from the NCAA Division II Baseball Committee.

(2) Effective date. Immediate.

(3) Rationale. In August 2022, the NCAA Playing Rules Oversight Panel approved a requirement that the between-innings and action clocks in baseball be visible on the field by Jan. 1, 2024, for all Division I games and by Jan. 1, 2025, for all Divisions II and III games. After that decision, several Division II conference commissioners expressed concern regarding the ability to obtain and install the necessary equipment by Jan. 1, 2025, and suggested that the rule be delayed or at least made permissive. The Division II Conference Commissioners Association surveyed its membership regarding the matter and enough respondents expressed concern to warrant recommending that the rule be referred to the Baseball Rules Committee for further review. The Championships Committee supported this action and also supported the rule as permissive rather than mandatory in order to provide the most flexibility for the membership (i.e., allowing institutions with either logistical or financial challenges to opt out while ensuring institutions that have already purchased the clocks not having made the expenditure in vain).

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

**c. Minimum contest requirements for sports sponsorship and championship selection purposes in men's and women's golf.**

(1) Recommendation. Adjust the additional minimum contest requirements for at-large selections in men's and women's golf to the following:

- 50 Division II opponents, **or**
- 50% of the total opponents for the year must be Division II and at least 40 of those must be Division II in-region opponents.

(2) Effective date. 2023-24 season.

(3) Rationale. As part of the recent examination conducted by the Division II Championships Committee and the Division II Membership Committee to ensure consistency between minimum contest requirements for sports sponsorship and championship selection purposes across sports, the men's and women's golf committees requested adjusting the additional minimum contests for at-large selections as specified in the recommendation. The Championships Committee supports the request and believes the recommended adjustment will align the requirements in men's and women's golf and provide scheduling flexibility and fewer restrictions, especially given current budget restraints and tournament availability.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Welcome and review of agenda.** Championships Committee Chair Nathan Gibson welcomed the group and previewed the agenda. The committee also recognized Kristy Bayer for being selected as a member of the Division II Management Council effective at the conclusion of the 2024 NCAA Convention. Staff noted that the Division II Nominating Committee is soliciting nominees for her replacement on the Championships Committee and that a new member is expected to be in place by the committee's February 2024 meeting.
2. **Review of previous reports.** The committee approved the report from its October 5 videoconference as presented.
3. **Sport reports.**

- a. **Baseball.**

- (1) **Squad size request.** The committee reviewed the request from the Division II Baseball Committee to increase the squad size for teams participating in the Division II Baseball Championship by up to three student-athletes. After discussion, the Championships Committee agreed to recommend an increase of one student-athlete to coincide with the one-person increase already approved for the travel party effective with the 2025 championship. (See Nonlegislative Action Item 2-a.)

- (2) **Visible pitch clock.** The committee noted concerns from the Division II Conference Commissioners Association regarding the visible pitch clock rule set to become effective in Division II on Jan. 1, 2025, and agreed to support a recommendation to refer a review of the rule to the NCAA Baseball Rules Committee. The committee also agreed to seek input from the Division II Baseball Committee. (See Nonlegislative Action Item 2-b.)

- b. **Men's and women's basketball.** The Championships Committee received the report from the men's and women's basketball committees' October 4 joint videoconference as information, noting that the committees are supporting a legislative exception allowing Division II men's and women's basketball coaches to attend the NCAA College Basketball Academy. Currently, attendance is permitted via a blanket waiver issued by the Division II Presidents Council and Division II Committee for Legislative Relief. The Division II Legislation Committee will consider recommending a legislative exception at its November 2023 meeting.

The Championships Committee also noted the ongoing media rights negotiations that could impact the Division II men's and women's basketball championships. Staff provided an update regarding the status of those negotiations.

- c. **Men's and women's cross country.** The Championships Committee received the report from the men's and women's cross country committee's October 5 meeting as information,

noting that the committee has discussed a proposal from the coaches association to have only one regional site for the men's and women's championships. The sport committee does not support the proposal due to the cost impact on institutions but is willing to continue discussing other regional format options during its annual meeting at the championships and has invited representatives from the coaches association to join the conversation.

- d. **Men's and women's golf.** The committee supported a request from the men's and women's golf committees to adjust the minimum contest requirements for sports sponsorship and championship selection purposes as specified (See Nonlegislative Action Item 2-c.)

The Championships Committee also noted that the NCAA has selected Clippd, a leader in the golf technology industry, to provide NCAA golf scoring and ranking services, taking over from Spikemark, which previously had been chosen for that service but subsequently encountered technological challenges outside of the company's control that impeded its ability to execute the agreement as specified. Clippd is a golf data platform that provides performance insights for more than 100 NCAA Division I, II and III college programs. The committee urged staff to ensure that the transition be fully communicated with the membership to help golf coaches understand how to navigate the new process.

- e. **Women's rowing.** The Championships Committee received the report from the women's rowing committee's September 29 meeting as information.

#### 4. **Review of 2024 NCAA Convention proposals.**

- a. **Process to establish a divisional championship.** Given the Division II proposal at the 2024 Convention regarding requirements necessary to establish a championship, the committee reviewed a draft process should the proposal be adopted. The process resembles the one used to establish a National Collegiate Championship from emerging sport status, with the necessary Division II-specific steps. The proposed timeline assumes championship funding must come through the triennial budget cycle, which means a new championship could not be established before the 2027-28 academic year. However, the Division II Strategic Planning and Finance Committee also will review the proposed process and timeline during a future videoconference and discuss whether a championship could be added outside of the triennial budget cycle.
- b. **Review of 2024 Convention question and answer guide.** Staff walked the committee through the Q&A documents for the three proposals the committee recommended for the 2024 Convention. The documents are designed to provide the membership with the information they need to vote on a proposal. The committee offered feedback and approved the documents as amended.

#### 5. **Other business.**

- a. **Softball date formula recommendation.** Staff and members of the committee who serve on the Division II Management Council updated the group on discussions the council engaged in during its October meeting regarding the proposal to move the Division II

Softball Championship finals to the week after Memorial Day Weekend (Thursday-Wednesday). The proposal would result in the softball championship being removed from the spring championships festival. The council expressed support for the date formula change in non-festival years but referred the matter to the Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee for input regarding the proposal's effect on the festival. The SAAC meets later in November and will discuss the matter at that time, so the Championships Committee will have the opportunity to review that input during its December videoconference and make a recommendation to the Management Council if desired.

- b. Streaming agreement.** The committee noted that the NCAA has negotiated an exclusive partnership with Hudl and NCAA Digital, managed by Warner Bros. Discovery Sports, to stream more than 200 NCAA Division II championship contests in 2023-24. This partnership includes live and on-demand coverage of the Division II Football and Women's Volleyball Championships this fall and the Division II Men's and Women's Basketball Championships this winter. The committee had been apprised of the potential for this agreement during previous meetings and regards this announcement (which as it happens was released publicly during this meeting) as a significant advancement in gaining exposure for Division II championships.

**6. Future meetings and videoconferences.**

- December 7, 2-3:30 p.m. Eastern time (monthly videoconference).
- January 4, 2024, 2-3:30 p.m. Eastern time (monthly videoconference).
- February 23-24, 2024 (meeting conducted virtually).
- June 17-18, 2024 (in-person meeting; Indianapolis).
- August 29, 2024 (site selection meeting).

*Committee Chair: Nathan Gibson, University of Colorado, Colorado Springs*

*Staff Liaison(s): Karen Kirsch, Championships and Alliances  
Micaela Liddane, Championships and Alliances  
Chelsea Hooks, Academic and Membership Affairs*

<b>Division II Championships Committee November 2, 2023, Videoconference</b>
<b>Attendees:</b>
Kristy Bayer, Rockhurst University.
Terry Beattie, West Chester University of Pennsylvania.
Marcus Clarke, Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association.
Chris Colvin, Conference Carolinas.
Karen Haag, The College of Saint Rose.

Regan McAthie, Concordia University, St. Paul.
Courtney Medwin, West Chester University of Pennsylvania.
Nathan Gibson, University of Colorado, Colorado Springs.
Carrie Michaels, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania (Management Council chair).
Sandee Mott, Texas Woman's University.
Gary Pine, Azusa Pacific University.
Carol Rivera, California Collegiate Athletic Association.
Cade Smith, University of Alabama in Huntsville.
Jerry Wollmering, Truman State University of Pennsylvania (Management Council vice chair).
<b>Absentees:</b>
None.
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>
Gary Brown, NCAA Contractor.
<b>NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:</b>
Karen Kirsch, Championships and Alliances.
Micaela Liddane, Championships and Alliances.
Chelsea Hooks, Academic and Membership Affairs.
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>
Eric Breece, Ashley Caldwell, Terri Gronau, Leslie Havens, Kendee Hilliard, Maritza Jones, Ryan Jones Julia Longo and Angela Red.



REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIPS COMMITTEE  
DECEMBER 7, 2023, VIDEOCONFERENCE

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative items.

- None.

2. Nonlegislative items.

- **Football super region alignment.**

- a. Recommendation. Approve the football super region alignment, as specified, for the 2025 season when Conference Carolinas begins sponsoring football. (See Attachment.)
- b. Effective date. 2025 season.
- c. Rationale. Fifteen conferences currently sponsor football, but this will increase to 16 in the 2025 season when Conference Carolinas begins sponsoring the sport. The alignment recommendation ensures having four conferences aligned in each of the four super regions; reduces the range of the number of institutions in each of the four super regions (from 32 to 46 institutions to 36 to 47 institutions); and keeps most institutions within a specific super region more closely aligned to each other geographically than is the case in the current super regional alignment. Historical or perceived strength of conferences did not factor into this recommendation.

[Note: The Division II Championships Committee acknowledges the potential ramifications on counting opponents that were scheduled before this super region alignment was developed as in-region for the purposes of selections but does not believe this should detract from supporting the recommendation at this time. The committee has asked staff to consult the football-playing commissioners to provide information for each of their institutions to ensure the committee has an accurate list of institutions that may be affected in this regard (i.e., schools that have contracts already in place for 2025 with opponents that would have been considered in region under the current alignment but not under the new alignment) and whether the contiguous state principle in the regionalization model would mitigate those concerns. The commissioners are being asked to provide this information for the Championships Committee to consider during its February meeting.]

- d. Estimated budget impact. None.
- e. Student-athlete impact. None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Welcome and review of agenda.** Championships Committee Chair Nathan Gibson welcomed the group and previewed the agenda.
2. **Review of previous reports.** The committee approved the report from its November 2 videoconference, as presented.
3. **Golf date formula review.** The Championships Committee revisited but decided to table until January, a recommendation from the Division II Men's and Women's Golf Committees to modify the deadline by which conferences determine their automatic qualifiers to 12 days prior to the date of regional competition, and to modify the selection date to 10 days prior to the practice date of regional competition, effective September 1, 2025. The Championships Committee had asked staff to seek additional input from the Division II Conference Commissioners Association and will consider that feedback during either its January videoconference or February meeting.
4. **Softball date formula recommendation.** The committee revisited its support and the Division II Management Council's subsequent approval in October of a date formula change in softball that moves the championship finals to the week after Memorial Day Weekend (Thursday-Wednesday) in light of feedback received from the Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee. The Management Council in taking its action to approve the proposal also asked for the Division II SAAC to weigh in on the matter, particularly because of how the proposal would affect softball student-athletes and the Division II National Championships Festival for spring sports (i.e., eliminating softball from the festival). The Division II SAAC discussed the proposal at its November meeting and unanimously agreed that the date formula should revert to its current format during festival years. The SAAC believes the festival experience is a key element of the Division II experience, and committee members shared the overwhelmingly positive feedback they heard from their peers about the festival experience. SAAC members in fact referred to the festival as being a once-in-a-lifetime experience, and that removing it for softball student-athletes would take away an opportunity that student-athletes who compete in it look forward to, enjoy and value.

While the Championships Committee appreciated the SAAC's input, the committee decided to stand by its original position on the matter. The committee noted the positive experiences the festivals provide but also noted the negative impact on softball student-athletes of essentially losing a week of their season during festival years. The committee also reiterated that the Division II Softball Committee upon submitting the proposal affirmed that it had been thoroughly vetted through the coaches association and the Division II Coaches Connection, as well as with other stakeholders. Feedback indicated that while people understood the impact on the festivals, they thought the benefits gained by aligning the softball season not only with Divisions I and III softball but also with Division II baseball in all years was in the best interests of the experience for Division II softball student-athletes. The Championships Committee also vetted this proposal at length during its September meeting and stands by its rationale.

The Championships Committee acknowledged that the Management Council will receive the input from the SAAC during its January meeting at the NCAA Convention and has the purview of adjusting the proposal if desired.

5. **Football super region alignment.** The Championships Committee reviewed and supported the recommendation from the Division II Football Committee to align the super regions as specified beginning in 2025 when Conference Carolinas begins sponsoring the sport. (See Nonlegislative Action Item.)
6. **Regionalization review.** The committee reviewed and provided feedback on an updated discussion document for sport committees to use during their annual meetings in 2024 regarding the Division II regionalization model and opportunities to revise the current approach to bracketing. The committee also discussed the timeline and approach to gathering feedback in winter and spring of 2024 in advance of the committee's June meeting during which the committee is expected to determine concepts and recommendations for further review. Committee members suggested that the liaisons to sport committees (and potentially other members as needed) should participate in the portions of sport committee meetings during which the regionalization document is discussed in order to clarify issues and hear the deliberations. The committee believes that participation will help inform its final recommendations. Staff will notify sport committees to invite the Championships Committee liaisons to their meetings.
7. **Sport committee liaison openings.** Due to Kristy Bayer being selected to serve on the Division II Management Council at the conclusion of the 2024 NCAA Convention, staff invited committee members to express their interest in filling the resulting liaison openings for football and volleyball by December 15. If multiple members are interested, seniority on the committee will be the determining factor.
8. **Other business.**
  - a. **Update on the Hudl initiative.** Committee members asked for an update during a subsequent meeting on Hudl and its streaming of more than 200 NCAA Division II championship contests in 2023-24, including live and on-demand coverage of the Division II Football and Women's Volleyball Championships this fall and the Division II Men's and Women's Basketball Championships this winter. The committee will receive an update from staff at its February meeting on the fall championships results. The review will include comparative data of viewership from the previous two years when these championships were not behind a paywall.
  - b. **Division I initiatives.** The committee noted the December 5 email NCAA President Charlie Baker sent to a collection of Division I stakeholders regarding modernizing the division and providing a forward-looking framework to better serve NCAA institutions and student-athletes. The project is multifaceted and involves membership classification issues within Division I. As was the case with recommendations from the Division I Transformation Committee, the Division II governance staff will monitor these discussions in Division I and

track any potential impact on the Division II membership for review within the Division II governance structure and by affiliate groups.

**9. Future meetings and videoconferences.**

- January 4, 2024, 2-3:30 p.m. Eastern time (monthly videoconference).
- February 13-14, 2024 (meeting conducted virtually).
- June 17-18, 2024 (in-person meeting; Indianapolis).
- August 29, 2024 (site selection meeting).

*Committee Chair: Nathan Gibson, University of Colorado, Colorado Springs*

*Staff Liaison(s): Karen Kirsch, Championships and Alliances  
Micaela Liddane, Championships and Alliances  
Chelsea Hooks, Academic and Membership Affairs*

<b>Division II Championships Committee December 7, 2023, Videoconference</b>
<b>Attendees:</b>
Kristy Bayer, Rockhurst University.
Terry Beattie, West Chester University of Pennsylvania.
Marcus Clarke, Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association.
Chris Colvin, Conference Carolinas.
Karen Haag, The College of Saint Rose.
Regan McAthie, Concordia University, St. Paul.
Courtney Medwin, West Chester University of Pennsylvania.
Nathan Gibson, University of Colorado, Colorado Springs.
Carrie Michaels, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania (Management Council chair).
Sandee Mott, Texas Woman's University.
Gary Pine, Azusa Pacific University.
Carol Rivera, California Collegiate Athletic Association.
Cade Smith, University of Alabama in Huntsville.
Jerry Wollmering, Truman State University of Pennsylvania (Management Council vice chair).
<b>Absentees:</b>
None.
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>
Gary Brown, NCAA Contractor.
<b>NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:</b>
Karen Kirsch, Championships and Alliances.
Chelsea Hooks, Academic and Membership Affairs.
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>

Division II Championships Committee

December 7, 2023, Videoconference

Page No. 5

---

Randy Buhr, Terri Steeb Gronau, Leslie Havens, Kendee Hilliard, Maritza Jones, Ryan Jones, Angela Red and Alyssa Rice.

## 2023 Division II Football Super Regional Alignments

Super Region 1  46	<b><u>Great Midwest Athletic Conference (10)</u></b>	<b><u>Mountain East Conference (11)</u></b>	<b><u>Northeast-10 Conference (9)</u></b>	<b><u>Pennsylvania St. Athletic Conference (16)</u></b>
	Ashland	Charleston (WV)	American Int'l	Bloomsburg
	Findlay	Concord	Assumption	California (PA)
	Hillsdale	Fairmont St.	Bentley	Clarion
	Ky. Wesleyan	Frostburg St.	Franklin Pierce	East Stroudsburg
	Lake Erie	Glenville St.	New Haven	Edinboro
	Northwood	Notre Dame (OH)	Pace	Gannon
	Ohio Dominican	UNC Pembroke	Post (Independent in 2023)	Indiana (PA)
	Tiffin	West Liberty	Southern Conn. St.	Kutztown
	Thomas More	West Va. Wesleyan	St. Anselm	Lock Haven
	Walsh	West Virginia St.		Mercyhurst
		Wheeling		Millersville
				Seton Hill
			Shepherd	
			Shippensburg	
			Slippery Rock	
			West Chester	
Super Region 2  46	<b><u>Central Intercollegiate Athletic Assoc. (12)</u></b>	<b><u>Gulf South Conference (9)</u></b>	<b><u>South Atlantic Conference (12)</u></b>	<b><u>Southern Intercollegiate Ath. Conf. (13)</u></b>
	Bluefield St.	Chowan	Barton	Albany St. (GA)
	Bowie St.	Delta St.	Carson-Newman	Allen
	Elizabeth City St.	Mississippi Col.	Catawba	Benedict
	Fayetteville St.	North Greenville	Emory & Henry	Central St. (OH)
	Johnson C. Smith	Shorter	Erskine	Clark Atlanta
	Lincoln (PA)	Valdosta St.	Lenoir-Rhyne	Edward Waters
	Livingstone	West Ala.	Limestone	Fort Valley St.
	Saint Augustine's	West Florida	Mars Hill	Kentucky St.
	Shaw	West Ga.	Newberry	Lane
	Virginia St.		Tusculum	Miles
	Virginia Union		UVA Wise	Morehouse
	Winston-Salem		Wingate	Savannah St.
			Tuskegee	
Super Region 3  39	<b><u>Great American Conference (12)</u></b>	<b><u>Great Lakes Intercollegiate Ath. Conf. (7)</u></b>	<b><u>Great Lakes Valley Conference (8)</u></b>	<b><u>Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Assoc. (12)</u></b>
	Ark.-Monticello	Davenport	McKendree	Central Mo.
	Arkansas Tech	Ferris St.	Missouri S&T	Central Okla.
	East Central	Grand Valley St.	Quincy	Emporia St.
	Harding	Michigan Tech	Southwest Baptist	Fort Hays St.
	Henderson St.	Northern Mich.	Truman St.	Lincoln (MO)
	Northwestern Okla.	Saginaw Valley	UIndy	Missouri Western
	Okla. Baptist	Wayne St. (MI)	Upper Iowa	Mo. Southern St.
	Ouachita Baptist		William Jewell	Neb.-Kearney
	Southeastern Okla.			Northeastern St.
	Southern Ark.			Northwest Mo. St.
	Southern Nazarene			Pittsburg St.
	Southwestern Okla.			Washburn
Super Region 4  32	<b><u>Lone Star Conference (9)</u></b>	<b><u>Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conf. (13)</u></b>	<b><u>Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference (10)</u></b>	
	Angelo St.	Augustana (SD)	Adams St.	
	Central Wash.	Bemidji St.	Black Hills St.	
	Eastern N.M.	Concordia-St. Paul	Chadron St.	
	Midwestern St.	Mary	Colo. Sch. of Mines	
	Tex. A&M-Kingsville	Minn. Duluth	Colorado Mesa	
	Tex. Permian Basin	Minnesota St.	CSU Pueblo	
	West Tex. A&M	Minot St.	Fort Lewis	
	Western N.M.	MSU Moorehead	N.M. Highlands	
	Western Ore.	Northern St.	South Dakota Mines	
		Sioux Falls	Western Colo.	
		Southwest Minn. St.		
		Wayne St. (NE)		
	Winona St.			



# 2025 Division II Football Super Regional Alignments Under Consideration by the Division II Football Committee

Super Region 1	<u>Central Intercollegiate Athletic Assoc. (12)</u>	<u>Mountain East Conference (10)</u>	<u>Northeast-10 Conference (9)</u>	<u>Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference (16)</u>
47	Bluefield St. Bowie St. Elizabeth City St. Fayetteville St. Johnson C. Smith Lincoln (PA) Livingstone Saint Augustine's Shaw Virginia St. Virginia Union Winston-Salem	Charleston (WV) Concord Fairmont St. Frostburg St. Glenville St. Notre Dame (OH) West Liberty West Va. Wesleyan West Virginia St. Wheeling	American Int'l Assumption Bentley Franklin Pierce New Haven Pace Post Southern Conn. St. St. Anselm	Bloomsburg California (PA) Clarion East Stroudsburg Edinboro Gannon Indiana (PA) Kutztown Lock Haven Mercyhurst Millersville Seton Hill Shepherd Shippensburg Slippery Rock West Chester

Super Region 2	<u>Conference Carolinas (6)</u>	<u>Gulf South Conference (6)</u>	<u>South Atlantic Conference (11)</u>	<u>Southern Intercollegiate Ath. Conf. (13)</u>
36	Barton Chowan Erskine North Greenville Shorter UNC Pembroke	Delta St. Mississippi Col. Valdosta St. West Ala. West Florida West Ga.	Anderson (SC) Carson-Newman Catawba Emory & Henry Lenoir-Rhyne Limestone Mars Hill Newberry Tusculum UVA Wise Wingate	Albany St. (GA) Allen Benedict Central St. (OH) Clark Atlanta Edward Waters Fort Valley St. Kentucky St. Lane Miles Morehouse Savannah St. Tuskegee

Super Region 3	<u>Great Lakes Intercollegiate Ath. Conf. (7)</u>	<u>Great Lakes Valley Conference (9)</u>	<u>Great Midwest Athletic Conference (10)</u>	<u>Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conf. (13)</u>
39	Davenport Ferris St. Grand Valley St. Michigan Tech Northern Mich. Saginaw Valley Wayne State (MI)	Lincoln (MO) McKendree Missouri S&T Quincy Southwest Baptist Truman St. UIndy Upper Iowa William Jewell	Ashland Findlay Hillsdale Ky. Wesleyan Lake Erie Northwood Ohio Dominican Tiffin Thomas More Walsh	Augustana (SD) Bemidji St. Concordia-St. Paul Mary Minn. Duluth Minnesota St. Minot St. MSU Moorehead Northern St. Sioux Falls Southwest Minn. St. Wayne St. (NE) Winona St.

Super Region 4	<u>Great American Conference (12)</u>	<u>Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Assoc. (11)</u>	<u>Lone Star Conference (9)</u>	<u>Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference (10)</u>
42	Ark.-Monticello Arkansas Tech East Central Harding Henderson St. Northwestern Okla. Okla. Baptist Ouachita Baptist Southeastern Okla. Southern Ark. Southern Nazarene Southwestern Okla.	Central Mo. Central Okla. Emporia St. Fort Hays St. Missouri Western Mo. Southern St. Neb.-Kearney Northeastern St. Northwest Mo. St. Pittsburg St. Washburn	Angelo St. Central Wash. Eastern N.M. Midwestern St. Tex. A&M-Kingsville Tex. Permian Basin West Tex. A&M Western N.M. Western Ore.	Adams St. Black Hills St. Chadron St. Colo. Sch. of Mines Colorado Mesa CSU Pueblo Fort Lewis N.M. Highlands South Dakota Mines Western Colo.





REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIPS COMMITTEE  
JANUARY 4, 2024, VIDEOCONFERENCE

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative items.

- None.

2. Nonlegislative items.

- None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Welcome and review of agenda.** Championships Committee Chair Nathan Gibson welcomed the group and previewed the agenda.

2. **Sport committee assignments.** The committee reviewed sport committee liaison assignments for the coming year.

3. **Review of previous reports.** The committee approved the report from its December 7 videoconference, as presented.

4. **Division II Nominating Committee report.**

a. **Sport committee appointments.** The committee approved the following sport committee appointments, effective immediately:

(1) **Baseball** (immediate appointment replacing Miles Gallagher) – **Guy Robertson**, senior associate director of athletics, Frostburg State University, Mountain East Conference.

(2) **Men's and women's track and field** (immediate appointment replacing Jackie Duvall) – **Austin Weyant**, assistant director of athletics, Lynn University, Sunshine State Conference.

b. **Sport committee nomination review process.** The Division II Nominating Committee asked the Division II Championships Committee for input regarding whether there is value in enhancing or adding steps to the process the Nominating Committee uses to gather feedback on the slate of nominees for sport committees. The Championships Committee agreed that the current process works well and did not indicate a desire to alter it at this time; however, the committee did ask staff to explore internally how information regarding individuals who have been involved in misconduct violations can be shared with the Nominating Committee as a factor in evaluating candidates. Staff will work on this and report back to the Championships Committee at a subsequent meeting.

5. **Golf date formula review.** The Championships Committee reviewed feedback from the Division II Conference Commissioners Association (CCA) regarding the recommendation from the Division II Men's and Women's Golf Committees to modify the deadline by which conferences determine their automatic qualifiers in men's and women's golf to 12 days before the date of regional competition, and to modify the selection date for the Division II Men's and Women's Golf Championships to 10 days before the practice date of regional competition, effective September 1, 2025. The CCA did not express concerns with moving the dates for men's golf but cited potential issues on the women's side. The CCA feedback also has been shared with the golf committees, and they will provide input to the Championships Committee for further review during its February meeting.
6. **2025 Division II Wrestling Championships super region replacement host.** The committee approved the University of Central Missouri as a replacement host in Super Region Four for the 2025 Division II Wrestling Championships. The original host is no longer able to fulfill its commitment.
7. **Regionalization review.** The committee reviewed and approved an updated discussion document for sport committees to use during their annual meetings in 2024 regarding the Division II regionalization model and opportunities to revise the current approach to bracketing. The committee noted that its liaisons to sport committees will participate in the portions of sport committee meetings during which the regionalization document is discussed in order to clarify issues and hear the deliberations. The Championships Committee will review the sport committee feedback and make recommendations accordingly during upcoming meetings.
8. **Other business.**
  - a. **NCAA media rights agreement.** The committee noted the [announcement](#) made earlier today regarding the agreement between ESPN and the NCAA on a new, eight-year media rights contract beginning Sept. 1, 2024, that includes domestic rights to a record 40 NCAA championships – 21 women's and 19 men's events – and international rights to those same NCAA championships plus the Division I men's basketball tournament. The agreement includes coverage of the Division II Men's Basketball Championship semifinals (the men's championship game will continue to be televised on CBS as part of the current contract through 2032), the Division II Women's Basketball Championship semifinals and final, and the Division II Women's Volleyball Championship semifinals and final. The Division II Football Championship semifinals and final will also continue as part of the agreement. Division II also will realize an increase in revenue because of the new agreement, and the governance structure will begin deliberating those allocations in the coming weeks.
  - b. **Outgoing members.** The committee acknowledged the outstanding contributions of members Kristy Bayer and Courtney Medwin. Ms. Bayer will begin serving on the Division II Management Council after the 2024 NCAA Convention. Ms. Medwin has another year remaining on her term with the Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee but may be assigned to a different Division II governance committee for 2024. Championships

Committee members also expressed their heartfelt thoughts to Karen Haag, associate director of athletics and senior woman administrator at The College of Saint Rose, regarding the recent announcement that the school will cease operations at the end of the 2023-24 academic year.

**9. Future meetings and videoconferences.**

- February 14-15 (meeting conducted virtually; 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Eastern time both days).
- March 7, 2-3:30 p.m. Eastern time (monthly videoconference).
- April 4, 2-3:30 p.m. Eastern time (monthly videoconference).
- May 2, 2-3:30 p.m. Eastern time (monthly videoconference).
- June 17-18 (in-person meeting; Indianapolis).
- July 11, 2-3:30 p.m. Eastern time (monthly videoconference).
- August 8, 2-3:30 p.m. Eastern time (monthly videoconference).
- August 29, 2-3:30 p.m. Eastern time (site selection meeting).

*Committee Chair:* Nathan Gibson, University of Colorado, Colorado Springs

*Staff Liaison(s):* Karen Kirsch, Championships and Alliances  
Micaela Liddane, Championships and Alliances  
Chelsea Hooks, Academic and Membership Affairs

<b>Division II Championships Committee January 4, 2024, Videoconference</b>	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Kristy Bayer, Rockhurst University.	
Terry Beattie, West Chester University of Pennsylvania.	
Marcus Clarke, Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association.	
Chris Colvin, Conference Carolinas.	
Karen Haag, The College of Saint Rose.	
Regan McAthie, Concordia University, St. Paul.	
Nathan Gibson, University of Colorado, Colorado Springs.	
Courtney Medwin, West Chester University of Pennsylvania.	
Carrie Michaels, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania (Management Council chair).	
Sandee Mott, Texas Woman's University.	
Gary Pine, Azusa Pacific University.	
Carol Rivera, California Collegiate Athletic Association.	
Cade Smith, University of Alabama in Huntsville.	
Jerry Wollmering, Truman State University of Pennsylvania (Management Council vice chair).	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
None.	

<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>
Gary Brown, NCAA Contractor.
<b>NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:</b>
Karen Kirsch, Championships and Alliances.
Chelsea Hooks, Academic and Membership Affairs.
Micaela Liddane, Championships and Alliances.
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>
Lindsey Eldred, Terri Steeb Gronau, Leslie Havens, Kendee Hilliard, Ashley Jenkins, Maritza Jones, Ryan Jones, Angela Red and Jennifer Roe.



REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION II LEGISLATION COMMITTEE  
NOVEMBER 29-30, 2023, IN-PERSON MEETING

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative Items.

a. **Noncontroversial Legislation -- NCAA Division II Bylaw 12.2.1.1 – Amateurism -- Involvement with Professional Teams -- Tryouts -- Tryout after Enrollment -- Eliminate 48-hour Limit.**

(1) Recommendation. Adopt noncontroversial legislation to amend NCAA Division II Bylaw 12.2.2.1 (tryout after enrollment) to permit a student-athlete to accept actual and necessary expenses from a professional sports organization or the national governing body to participate in a tryout or combine with a professional team, beyond the current 48-hour limit; further, to permit a student-athlete to miss class time to participate in a tryout or combine with a professional team.

(2) Effective date. Immediate.

(3) Rationale. Currently, a student-athlete may only accept actual and necessary expenses to participate in one 48-hour tryout or combine with a professional team. If the tryout or combine extends beyond 48 hours, the student-athlete must finance any additional expenses incurred. Extending the permissible time a student-athlete may participate in a tryout or combine and receive actual and necessary expenses supports student-athlete well-being by providing the requisite time to engage in the necessary activities to inform the draft process and adequately explore the professional opportunity. Further, allowing a student-athlete to miss class time to participate in a professional team tryout or combine is appropriate given the current technology available to make up any missed class work, and is best governed by institutional policy regarding missed class time.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

b. **Noncontroversial Legislation -- Bylaw 13.1.1.2 -- Recruiting -- Contacts and Evaluations -- Contactable Prospective Student-Athletes -- Four-Year College Prospective Student-Athletes -- NCAA Division I Contact with Division II Student-Athletes Outside of Applicable Division I Transfer Window.**

(1) Recommendation. Adopt noncontroversial legislation to amend Bylaw 13.1.1.2 (four-year college prospective student-athletes) to clarify that Division I institutions may not contact a Division II student-athlete outside of the applicable Division I transfer window.

- (2) Effective date. August 1, 2024.
- (3) Rationale. Currently, Division II institutions must comply with Division I legislation that states that a student-athlete currently enrolled at a Division I Institution may only initiate written notification of transfer during an applicable window for their sport, unless an exception applies, regardless of the division the Division I student-athlete is transferring to. However, Division I institutions may permissibly contact a Division II student-athlete outside of the applicable Division I transfer windows. Prohibiting a Division I institution from contacting a Division II student-athlete outside of the applicable transfer window promotes recruiting equity across both Divisions I and II.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. A Division II student-athlete could not be contacted by a Division I institution outside of the applicable Division I transfer window.

**c. Noncontroversial Legislation -- Bylaw 13.12.2.5.2 -- Recruiting -- Sports Camps and Clinics -- Employment at Camp or Clinic -- Athletics Staff Member -- Other Noninstitutional Privately Owned Camps/Clinics -- NCAA College Basketball Academy.**

- (1) Recommendation. Adopt noncontroversial legislation to amend Bylaw 13.12.2.5.2 (other noninstitutional privately owned camps/clinics) to permit Division II men's and women's basketball coaches to coach participants of the College Basketball Academies.
- (2) Effective date. Immediate.
- (3) Rationale. Current legislation does not allow an institution's athletics department personnel to serve in any capacity in a noninstitutional, privately owned camp or clinic that is not open to the public. The College Basketball Academies are invite-only. However, allowing Division II men's and women's basketball coaches to participate in the College Basketball Academy and coach participants gives coaches the opportunity to increase their institution's exposure. Additionally, removing the specification that a coach must be in the locale of the host site to participate in the College Basketball Academies permits all Division II coaches to accept an invite, regardless of the location of the host site.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

**d. Noncontroversial Legislation -- Bylaw 17.22 -- Playing and Practice Seasons -- Stunt.**

(1) Recommendation. Adopt noncontroversial legislation to amend Bylaw 17.22 (stunt), as specified.

(2) Effective date. August 1, 2024.

(3) Rationale. Amending Bylaw 17.22 (stunt) will align the playing and practice season for Division II with the Division I playing and practice season legislation for stunt. Division II traditionally aligns playing and practice season legislation with Division I for emerging sports.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

**2. Nonlegislative Items.**

**a. Referral to the NCAA Division II Committee for Legislative Relief.**

(1) Recommendation. That the NCAA Division II Management Council request that the Committee for Legislative Relief review Bylaw 13.5.4 (transportation to enroll) and determine whether the legislation should be added to the Division II Previously Approved Waiver Checklist.

(2) Effective date. Immediate.

(3) Rationale. Under current legislation, it is impermissible for an institution or its representatives to provide transportation to a prospective student-athlete, directly or indirectly, to the institution's campus to enroll. Allowing an institution to utilize the previously approved waiver checklist to determine whether to provide transportation for prospective student-athletes would assist those prospective student-athletes who are unable to find their own transportation to campus.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

**b. Request for Feedback from the NCAA Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.**

- (1) Recommendation. That the Management Council request that the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee provide feedback on whether it is appropriate to eliminate Bylaw 13.10 (publicity).
- (2) Effective date. Immediate.
- (3) Rationale. Under current legislation, an institution is limited in what they are allowed to post as it relates to prospective student-athletes during the recruiting process. Based on membership feedback, the Legislation Committee believes that deregulating the publicity legislation would allow institutions and their coaches to publicly comment on the recruitment of prospective student-athletes at any time. This would ease the burden on compliance administrators to regulate permissible publicity regarding prospective student-athletes as social media platforms continue to evolve. However, eliminating the publicity legislation may raise privacy concerns for prospective student-athletes. Therefore, the Legislation Committee is seeking feedback from the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

**c. Legislative Referral to the NCAA Division II Football Committee.**

- (1) Recommendation. That the Management Council request the Football Committee review NCAA Division I Proposal No. 2023-31 (playing and practice seasons -- football -- spring practice -- use of spider pads) for consideration of a potential legislative change in Division II:

Whether protective equipment used during noncontact spring practice sessions should be restricted to helmets and spider pads, similar to noncontact practice sessions during the preseason acclimatization period.

- (2) Effective date. Immediate.
- (3) Rationale. Current legislation limits protective equipment during noncontact spring practice sessions to headgear. By limiting protective equipment during noncontact spring practice sessions to helmets and spider pads, the legislation would align with other noncontact practice sessions

that occur throughout the football playing and practice season (e.g., the preseason acclimatization period).

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

**d. Referral to the Division II Management Council to Discuss Bylaw 9.3.10.2 (Voting on Football Issues).**

(1) Recommendation. That the Management Council continue discussions regarding Bylaw 9.3.10.2 (voting on football issues) and whether any legislative changes are warranted.

(2) Effective date. Immediate.

(3) Rationale. Currently, when a legislative proposal affects only the sport of football, only football sponsoring institutions and conferences are eligible to vote on the proposal at the NCAA Convention. This voting procedure is only applicable for football-specific legislation. Equity concerns regarding football only votes have been raised by the membership since no other sports have similar restrictive voting. Further, although a proposal may be specific to the sport of football, other non-football sponsoring member institutions may still be impacted by the legislative amendment.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

- 1. Review of 2024 NCAA Convention Division II Legislative Grid and the Legislative Proposals Question and Answer Guide.** The committee reviewed the Division II Legislative Grid, as well as the Division II Legislative Proposals Question and Answer Guide to resolve all possible questions and procedural issues prior to the 2024 Convention Division II business session on January 13, 2024. The Question and Answer Guide was approved, as amended. NCAA staff noted that the final version of the guide for the 2024 Convention will be available to the membership no later than December 10, along with the release of the Division II Official Notice.
- 2. Review of the membership survey feedback on the recommended concepts of Division II Bylaw 13 (recruiting) and Division II Bylaw 16 (awards, benefits, expenses for enrolled student-athletes).** The Legislation Committee reviewed feedback from the

membership survey regarding the recommended concepts of Bylaw 13. The Legislation Committee determined whether, based on the feedback, the recommended concepts were still appropriate, should be amended, or not moved forward [see Attachment]. The Legislation Committee also agreed to refer Bylaw 13.5.4 (transportation to enroll) to the Committee for Legislative Relief to consider adding an exception to the Division II Previously Approved Waiver Checklist [see Nonlegislative Action Item No. 2a]. Additionally, the Legislation Committee agreed to seek additional feedback from the Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee on Bylaw 13.10 (publicity) [See Nonlegislative Action Item No. 2b]. The Legislation Committee will review this feedback, as well as the membership feedback regarding Bylaw 16 (awards, benefits, expenses for enrolled student-athletes) during its March 2024 meeting.

3. **NCAA Division II University update.** The Legislation Committee reviewed data from the 2023-24 coaches' certification required educational modules. The Legislation Committee also received an update on two new modules that have been released to the membership: sports wagering and officiating. The Legislation Committee discussed and selected six educational modules that will be required for certification in the 2024-25 academic year, as follows: (a) Bylaw 17 and Life in the Balance; (b) Elevating Respect; (c) Eligibility: General Eligibility Requirements; (d) Recruiting: Benefits for Coaches and Prospective Student-Athletes (PSAs); (e) Recruiting: Use of Recruiting Funds; and (f) Recruiting: Local Sports Clubs. The committee will review and approve test questions for the six modules prior to its March 2024 meeting.
4. **Discussion regarding the Division I transfer windows.** The Legislation Committee discussed the Division I transfer windows and its application to Bylaw 13.1.1.2 (four-year college prospective student-athletes). Specifically, whether a Division I institution should be permitted to contact a Division II student-athlete outside of the applicable Division I transfer window. The Legislation Committee recommended sponsoring noncontroversial legislation to amend the contact legislation to clarify that a Division I institution may not contact a Division II student-athlete outside of the applicable Division I transfer window. [see Legislation Action Item No. 1b]
5. **Discussion Regarding the Division I Name, Image and Likeness concepts and feedback.** The Legislation Committee reviewed the concepts developed by the NCAA Division I Council Working Group on Name, Image and Likeness (NIL) in the following areas: (1) Voluntary registration process for professional service providers; (2) Disclosure requirements surrounding NIL activities; (3) Recommended contract terms between student-athletes and NIL entities; and (4) Education to student-athletes and other involved individuals. Additionally, the Legislation Committee reviewed feedback from the Division II Management Council, various Division II committees and affiliate groups regarding the Division I NIL concepts and discussed whether the Division I concepts are necessary in Division II.

Based on the feedback, the Legislation Committee discussed whether a registry would be beneficial to Division II. The committee believed that a national registry may be beneficial and agreed that it would be beneficial for Division II institutions to be able to direct student-athletes to such a resource as the NIL environment evolves. The committee also discussed whether student-athletes should be required to disclose their NIL deals to campus administrators and determined that disclosure should be left to institutional policy and state law. Additionally, the committee noted the lack of knowledge for both student-athletes and administrators regarding the topic of NIL. The committee discussed ideas to educate Division II student-athletes and administrators regarding NIL. Staff will continue providing updates to the Legislation Committee on development of the registry and other resources once Division I adopts legislation regarding these concepts to determine what may be used as resources in Division II.

6. **Discussion regarding the College Basketball Academies.** The committee discussed the College Basketball Academies and whether legislation should permit Division II men's and women's basketball coaches to coach participants of the Academies. The committee recommended sponsoring noncontroversial legislation to amend Bylaw 13.12.2.5.2 (other noninstitutional privately owned camps/clinics) to permit Division II men's and women's basketball coaches to coach participants of the College Basketball Academies [see Legislative Action Item No. 1c].
7. **Discussion regarding Bylaw 13.6.2.1 (high school or preparatory school prospective student-athletes), Bylaw 13.9.1 (NCAA Eligibility Center registration and institutional request list) and profile accounts with the NCAA Eligibility Center.** The committee discussed the profile accounts with the Eligibility Center and its application to Bylaws 13.6.2.1 (high school or preparatory school prospective student-athletes) and 13.9.1 (NCAA Eligibility Center registration and institutional request list). The committee agreed to issue an official interpretation to confirm that a profile account may be used to satisfy Bylaw 13.6.2.1 but may not be used to satisfy Bylaw 13.9.1, as follows:

Profile Accounts with the NCAA Eligibility Center (II).

The Legislation Committee confirmed that a profile account with the Eligibility Center may be used to permit an institution to provide a prospective student-athlete with an official visit per NCAA Division II Bylaw 13.6.2.1 (high school or preparatory school prospective student-athlete). However, the Legislation Committee confirmed that a profile account with the Eligibility Center may not be used to issue a written offer of athletically related financial aid per Division II Bylaw 13.9.1 (NCAA Eligibility Center registration and institutional request list).

[References: NCAA Division II Bylaws 13.6.2.1 (high school or preparatory school prospective student-athlete) and 13.9.1 (NCAA Eligibility Center registration and institutional request list)].

8. **Discussion regarding Bylaw 9.3.10.2 (voting on football issues).** The committee discussed Bylaw 9.3.10.2 (voting on football issues) and whether the legislation is still appropriate. The committee raised concerns that allowing football only voting creates inequities for other sports. The committee also noted that all other sport specific legislation can be voted on by all Division II voting members, even if that sport is not sponsored by the voting member's institution. The committee agreed to request that the Management Council discuss Bylaw 9.3.10.2 (voting on football issues) at their January meeting [see Nonlegislative Action Item No. 2d].
9. **Discussion regarding Division II Proposal No. 2023-6 (NCAA Division II membership and institutional control, financial aid and playing and practice seasons -- emerging sports for women -- stunt).** The Legislation Committee discussed whether Bylaw 17.22 (playing and practice seasons -- stunt) should be amended to mirror Division I Proposal No. 2022-38 (division membership, personnel, financial aid and playing and practice seasons -- emerging sports for women -- women's stunt). The committee recommended sponsoring noncontroversial legislation to amend Bylaw 17.22 (playing and practice seasons -- stunt), as specified [see Legislative Action Item No. 1d].
10. **Discussion regarding the Legislative Process and Compliance Subcommittee priority two and three items.** The Legislation Committee began its discussion on Bylaw 14 (eligibility: academic and general requirements). Additionally, the committee provided staff with feedback on the best way to complete the review of Bylaw 17 (playing and practice seasons). The Legislation Committee will continue its discussion at its March in-person meeting.
11. **Review of the 2023-24 Division II Priorities.** Staff provided an overview of the 2023-24 Division II Priorities.
12. **Update from the NCAA Division II Presidents Council and Management Council October 2023 meetings.** The committee received an update on the actions taken at the October 2023 Presidents Council and Management Council quarterly meetings.
13. **Review of the August 28, 2023, teleconference and September 25, 2023, videoconference reports of the Interpretations Subcommittee of the Division II Legislation Committee.** The committee reviewed and approved the Interpretations Subcommittee reports from the August 28, 2023, teleconference and the September 25, 2023, videoconference.
14. **Review of the November 14, 2023, videoconference report of the Legislative Review Subcommittee of the Division II Legislation Committee.** The committee reviewed and approved the Legislative Review Subcommittee report from the November 14, 2023, videoconference. The committee approved the subcommittee's recommendation for sponsorship of one noncontroversial proposal [see Legislative Action

Item No. 1a]. Additionally, the committee reviewed and approved the referral of one legislative concept to the Division II Football Committee [see Nonlegislative Action Item No. 2c]. Finally, the committee agreed to review Division I Proposal No. 2022-36 (playing and practice seasons -- women's beach volleyball -- nonchampionship segment competition -- eliminate institutional limitation) and Division I Proposal No. ER-2023-8 (playing and practice seasons -- foreign tours -- eligibility for competition, practice, and travel expenses) during its review of Bylaw 17 (playing and practice seasons) at its March 2024 meeting.

15. **Review of September 13, 2023, videoconference report of the Division II Legislation Committee.** The Legislation Committee reviewed and approved its September 13, 2023, videoconference report.
16. **Recognition of outgoing members.** The Legislation Committee recognized the service of two outgoing Legislation Committee members: Brenda Cates, University of Mount Olive, and Molly Hansen, University of Montevallo. Additionally, the Legislation Committee recognized Carrie Michaels, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania, whose term as the chair of the Division II Management Council expires at the conclusion of the 2024 Convention.
17. **Future meeting dates.**
  - a. March 26-27, 2024, in-person meeting; Indianapolis.
  - b. June 25-26, 2024, videoconference; timing to be determined.
  - c. November 6-7, 2024, in-person; Indianapolis.

Report of the NCAA Division II Legislation Committee

In-Person Meeting

November 29-30, 2023

Page No. 10

*Committee Chair:* Audra Kedy, Great American Conference  
*Staff Liaison(s):* Chelsea Hooks, Academic and Membership Affairs  
Rachel Denton, Academic and Membership Affairs  
Megan McDonald, Academic and Membership Affairs

<b>NCAA Division II Legislation Committee November 29-30, 2023, In-Person Meeting</b>	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Brenda Cates, University of Mount Olive.	
Matt Green, Flagler College.	
Molly Hansen, University of Montevallo.	
Audra Kedy, Great American Conference.	
Kayla Lothian, Dominican University of California.	
Dawn Makofski, University of Montevallo.	
Carrie Michaels, Shippensburg 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.	
Melissa Thacker, Cameron University.	
Vaughn Williams, Bentley University.	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
None.	
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>	
None.	
<b>NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:</b>	
Rachel Denton, Chelsea Hooks and Megan McDonald.	
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>	
Michele Forte-Osborne, Terri Steeb Gronau, Doug Healey, Kendee Hilliard, Maritza Jones, Angela Red, Drea Rog and Robert Turick.	



NCAA Division II Legislation Committee  
Priority Two and Three Items

*Deregulation Concepts*

DIVISION II BYLAW	ACTION	RECOMMENDATION
13.02.1 (community engagement activity)	Amend	To amend the community engagement legislation to specify that an institution and/or conference shall make the determination of what constitutes community engagement.
13.02.4 (contact and evaluation periods)	Eliminate	To eliminate the evaluation, quiet and dead period legislation, making everything a contact period.
13.1.3 (telephone calls to prospective student-athletes)	Amend	To permit telephone calls with prospective student-athletes at any time.
13.1.6 (contact restrictions at specified sites)	Amend	To permit an institutional staff member to have on-campus contact prior to any athletics competition provided the competition is taking place on the institutional staff member's campus.
13.2.2 (institutional pre-enrollment fees)	Amend	Amend the institutional pre-enrollment fees legislation to permit an institution to use their discretion in determining what constitutes pre-enrollment fees.
13.4 (recruiting materials)	Amend	To permit an institution to provide athletically related recruiting material at any time.
13.4.4 (electronic transmission)	No Change	N/A
13.5.2.1 (general restrictions)	Amend	To permit an institution to pay the prospective student-athlete's round trip cost for an official visit to its campus.
13.5.4 (transportation to enroll)	Referral to the Division II Committee for Legislative Relief	To permit an institution to provide a prospective student-athlete with transportation to enroll or to attend the first day of classes.
13.6.5 (accommodations on official visit)	Amend	To permit an institution to provide a prospective student-athlete on an official visit with lodging similar to accommodations provided to student-athletes; further, to specify that the lodging must be located in the locale of the institution.
13.6.6.2 (complimentary admissions)	Eliminate	To eliminate the limit of complimentary admissions an institution may provide a prospective student-athlete, on an official visit, to a campus athletics event.
13.6.6.2.1 (off-campus home competition)	Eliminate	To eliminate the 30-mile radius requirement.
13.7 (unofficial (nonpaid) visit)	Eliminate	To eliminate the limit of complimentary admissions an institution may provide a prospective student-athlete, on an unofficial visit, to a home athletics event.
13.7.2.1.1 (meals)	Eliminate	To eliminate the restriction on the number of meals an institution may provide a prospective student-athlete during an unofficial visit.
13.8 (entertainment reimbursement and employment on high school/college-preparatory school/two-year college coaches)	Amend	To permit an institution to provide meals and/or the cost of transportation to and from the campus to coaches that accompany a prospective student-athlete on an official visit and meals for coaches that accompany a prospective student-athlete on an unofficial visit.

DIVISION II BYLAW	ACTION	RECOMMENDATION
13.8.1.1 (transportation reimbursement)	Amend	To permit an institution to reimburse transportation expenses to a high school, college-preparatory school or two-year college coach for transportation expenses for official visits.
13.8.2.2 (gifts at coaches' clinic)	No change	N/A
13.10 (publicity)	Referral to the Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee	To eliminate the publicity legislation.
13.11.1.4 (nonscholastic-based basketball)	Eliminate	To eliminate the nonscholastic-based basketball legislation.
13.11.1.5 (tryout camps)	Eliminate	To eliminate the tryouts camps legislation.
13.11.2.4 (local sports club)	Amend	To amend the local sports club's legislation, as followed: (1) Rename the bylaw to sports club; (2) Remove the restriction on the sport of basketball; and (3) Eliminate the 100-mile radius requirement.
13.11.3.7 (permissible facility usage)	Amend	To amend the permissible facility usage legislation to specify that an institution may permit a group that includes prospective student-athletes to utilize the institution's facilities provided institutional involvement is consistent with institutional policies for hosting outside organizations; further, to specify that athletic departments and representatives of athletics interests remain subject to all applicable NCAA recruiting legislation during the event.
13.15.2.2.1 (athletics equipment, apparel and monetary donations) 13.15.2.2.2 (nonathletics equipment)	Amend	To permit an institution or conference to provide athletics and nonathletics equipment, apparel and a monetary donation to all organizations that include prospect-aged individuals.
13.17 (recruiting calendars)	Eliminate	To eliminate the recruiting calendars.

*Modernization/Streamlining Concepts*

DIVISION II BYLAW	ACTION	RECOMMENDATION
13.1.2.2 (general exception)	Amend	To amend the legislation to specify that individuals (significant other of prospective student-athlete's coach, established family friend/neighbor, and other family members and significant other of staff member) who have a pre-established relationship with a prospective student-athlete shall not be subject to the restrictions under the recruiting contact legislation.
13.2.4 (awards to prospective student-athletes)	Amend	To permit an institution to provide awards to prospective student-athletes for outstanding athletic achievement and awards that are in the name of an NCAA member institution.
13.2.5 (employment of prospective student-athletes)	Amend	To permit a prospective student-athlete to be employed at any time provided they are treated like current student-athletes (e.g., paid for the work performed).
13.6.1 (limitations on official visit)	Amend	To permit an institution to finance one additional official visit for a prospective student-athlete after a new head coach is hired when the prospective student-athlete previously received an official visit to the institution.
13.6.6.5 (student host)	Amend	To increase the amount of funds provided to student host from \$30 to \$50.
13.6.7 (lodging for additional persons)	Amend	To permit an institution to pay the cost of lodging for relative(s) or legal guardian(s) who are accompanying a prospective student-athlete during an official visit.
13.11.2.1 (tryouts)	Amend	To permit an institution to conduct a tryout for a high school, preparatory school or two-year college transfer at any time.
13.12.2.2.1.1 (self-employment)	Amend	To permit a student-athlete to conduct their own camp or clinic at any time.
13.14.3 (recruiting services)	Eliminate	To eliminate Bylaw 13.14.3, further, to specify that coaches are still prohibited from being employed by recruiting and scouting services.

**Jones, Maritza S.**

---

**From:** Jones, Maritza S.  
**Sent:** Monday, July 17, 2023 11:46 AM  
**To:** Alao\_Obafemi; Patrick Britz; Cates, Brenda B.; Bennett Cherry; Marcus Clarke; mcorino@caldwell.edu; Jeremy Elliott; Theresa Marie Grosbach; Kim E Hancock; David Hansburg; tahanson@sfu.ca; Amy Henkelman; kkiefer@fairmontstate.edu; Emma Kramer; Erin Lind; Loh, Katherine; Daniel P. McCabe; McKnight, Cindy; Michaels, Carrie; Mott, Sandee; Roberta Page; Pagliasotti, Bo; Ramey, Sarah; cwhetsel@augusta.edu; Williams, Vaughn; jerryw@truman.edu; Anthony Holloman; karaamos1@gmail.com; austin.mondello@gmail.com  
**Cc:** Gronau, Terri; Jones, Maritza S.; Jones, Ryan; Waddell, Jill; Kirsch, Karen; Red, Angela; McGuire, Corbin; Hooks, Chelsea C.; Hilliard, Kendee; Liddane, Micaela; Lysiak, Jordan; Turick, Robert; Denton, Rachel  
**Subject:** Historical Information Regarding Voting on Issues Affecting Only Football  
**Attachments:** S33\_DII Man Co\_April 2014\_FB Only Vote (2).pdf

Division II Management Council members,

As promised, attached is a discussion document that the Management Council reviewed in April of 2014 regarding voting on football issues. This document was drafted at the request of council members following a vote on a football-only proposal at the 2014 NCAA Convention.

Following discussion of this item in April 2014, the Management Council and Presidents Council recommended sponsorship of a proposal for a vote at the 2015 NCAA Convention to eliminate legislation that allows for a football-only vote on issues affecting only football. The Management Council also asked to seek feedback concerning the recommendation from the membership. (See excerpt below)

**Football-Only Votes—Constitution 5.3.10.3—Legislative Process—Amendment Process—Special Voting Requirements—Voting on Football Issues.**

Management Council. The Management Council recommended that the Presidents Council sponsor legislation for the 2015 Convention to eliminate NCAA Constitution 5.3.10.3, which precludes an active member institution or voting member conference that does not sponsor football from voting on issues affecting only football, effective August 1, 2015. Additionally, the Management Council agreed that conference representatives should seek feedback concerning the potential change to Constitution 5.3.10.3 and the issues involved, and provide feedback to the Council during its July 2014 meeting.

Presidents Council. The Presidents Council agreed to sponsor the legislation.

Following membership feedback, the Management Council recommended the Presidents Council not sponsor the proposal for the 2015 Convention based on the feedback from the membership (see excerpt below.)

**(4) Proposal 2015-4 (NCAA Membership—Legislative Authority and Process—Amendment Process—Special Voting Requirements—Voting on Football Only Issues).**

Management Council. The Management Council defeated this proposal and recommended that the Presidents Council not sponsor this legislation for the 2015 NCAA Convention. In April, the Management Council agreed to seek feedback from every conference regarding this issue. In July, members of the Council discussed the feedback gathered and, ultimately, decided to not approve the proposal due to concerns with unique aspects of the sport, which require significant resources in terms of scholarships, travel, etc.

Presidents Council. The Presidents Council took the actions on the proposal above, as recommended by the Management Council.

We hope this is helpful. Please let us know if you have any questions or would like to continue this discussion,

## **NCAA Constitution 5.3.10.3 – Legislative Process – Amendment Process – Special Voting Requirements – Voting on Football Issues**

### **Issue:**

Whether the NCAA Division II Management Council should recommend that the NCAA Division II Presidents Council sponsor legislation for the 2015 NCAA Convention to eliminate NCAA Constitution 5.3.10.3 (voting on football issues), which precludes an active member institution or voting member conference that does not sponsor football from voting on issues affecting only football.

### **Background:**

At the 2014 Convention, the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Association and the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletic Association sponsored NCAA Proposal No. 2014-13 (playing and practice seasons – general playing season regulations – time limits for athletically related activities – institutional vacation period – strength and conditioning personnel designing and conducting workout programs during summer vacation period – football), which specified that in football, beginning June 1 through the conclusion of the institution’s summer vacation period, strength and conditioning personnel may design and conduct workout programs for student-athletes, as specified. The proposal was adopted by 64 percent of the football playing institutions and conferences.

During the post-Convention Management Council meeting, members inquired as to the legislative history of the special voting legislation on football issues because of concern that the adoption of Proposal No. 2014-13 reaches far beyond football. For example, many delegates questioned why the proposal was not extended to other fall sports based on the health and safety argument identified by the sponsors supporting the proposed change. Thereafter, the Council directed staff to research the legislative history of the special voting requirements on football issues.

### **Analysis:**

In January 1988, the membership adopted Proposal No. 1988-6 (football voting privileges) as a common provision<sup>1</sup> to affirm that only football-playing institutions may vote on issues affecting only football. Per Constitution 5.02.1.2, a common provision is a regulation that applies to more than one of the divisions of the Association. A common provision shall be adopted by each of the applicable divisions acting separately pursuant to the divisional legislative process described the constitution, and must be approved by all applicable divisions to be effective. Proposal No. 1988-6 was included in the consent package at the 1988 Convention; therefore, there was no discussion on the floor of the business session in regard to this provision.

---

<sup>1</sup> A common provision is legislation that is derived from the common bylaws (9, 10, 12 and 13) in the 1988-89 Manual. All such legislation is identified by a pound sign [#].

In the 1988-89 Manual, the NCAA designated new voting requirements, including dominant provisions.<sup>2</sup> Constitution 5.02.1.1 specifies that a dominant provision is a regulation that applies to all members of the Association and is of sufficient importance to the entire membership that it requires a two-thirds majority vote of all delegates present and voting in joint session at an annual or special Convention. At that point, the voting line of the legislation for the special voting requirement for football issues was changed from a common provision to a dominant provision.

The legislation was not amended further until the governance structure of the Association was federated in 1997. The voting line of current Constitution 5.3.10.3 was revised from a dominant provision to a federated provision as part of the membership restructuring of the constitution and bylaws to permit a divisional vote on the issue rather than requiring a vote of the entire NCAA membership. (See Constitution 5.02.1.3 for the definition of a federated provision.)

At the time of federation, Division III also required this special voting provision for football playing institutions and conferences. However, in 2002, Division III removed the legislation from its constitution via noncontroversial legislation (see Division III Proposal No. NC-2002-4).

Since federation in 1997, there have been approximately 16 proposals on the agenda at Division II business sessions where Constitution 5.3.10.3 was invoked and active member institutions or voting member conferences that sponsor football voted on issues affecting only football. [Attachment] Although Constitution 5.3.10.3 specifies the membership groups that may vote on football only issues, because the legislation itself affects all institutions and conferences, any future amendment to this provision would be voted on by all active member institutions and conferences. Essentially, any proposal to amend Constitution 5.3.10.3 is a membership-wide issue that does not only impact football.

### **Questions to Consider:**

1. What are the benefits of the special voting legislation on football issues?
2. Are there any disadvantages to the special voting legislation on football issues?
3. What impact would the removal of the special voting legislation on football issues have on institutions and conferences that sponsor football?

---

<sup>2</sup> A dominant provision is legislation that is derived from the constitution in the 1988-89 Manual (the manual format that was employed until the membership approved the revised format at the 1989 Convention). All such legislation is identified by an asterisk [\*].

4. Should the division retain the special voting legislation for institutions and conferences that sponsor football?
5. Are there any unintended consequences that will result if the special voting legislation on football issues is removed from the Manual?
6. Should staff reach out to institutions and conferences that sponsor football for feedback on a potential change to the rule?

**Conclusions:**

1. The Management Council **recommends** staff seek feedback from active member institutions and conferences regarding a potential change to Constitution 5.3.10.3, and provide feedback at its July 2014 in-person meeting.
2. The Management Council **recommends** that the Presidents Council sponsor legislation for the 2015 NCAA Convention to eliminate Constitution 5.3.10.3, which will permit all active member institutions and voting member conferences to vote on issues affecting only football with an effective date of August 1, 2015.
3. The Management Council **does not recommend** that the Presidents Council sponsor legislation to eliminate Constitution 5.3.10.3.

**Excerpt from Summary of Winter 2014 Quarterly Meetings:**

- (2) **Football Only Votes.** As a result of the discussion surrounding the football only vote (Proposal No. 2014-13—Playing and Practice Seasons—General Playing Season Regulations—Time Limits for Athletically Related Activities—Institutional Vacation Period—Strength and Conditioning Personnel Designing and conducting Workout Programs during summer Vacation Period—Football), that occurred during the course of the Business Session, the Management Council discussed the philosophy behind such a vote for selected institutions only. It was the consensus of the Council that a review of the legislative history should be undertaken to determine how and why legislation that includes only specific voting groups was passed initially by the division.

## **Associated References**

### **Division II Constitution:**

**5.02.1.1 Dominant.** A dominant provision is a regulation that applies to all members of the Association and is of sufficient importance to the entire membership that it requires a two-thirds majority vote of all delegates present and voting in joint session at an annual or special Convention. Dominant provisions are identified by an asterisk (\*).

**5.02.1.2 Common.** A common provision is a regulation that applies to more than one of the divisions of the Association. A common provision shall be adopted by each of the applicable divisions, acting separately pursuant to the divisional legislative process described in Constitution 5.3, and must be approved by all applicable divisions to be effective. Common provisions are identified by the pound sign (#).

**5.02.1.3 Federated.** A federated provision is a regulation adopted by a majority vote of the delegates present and voting of one or more of the divisions or subdivisions of the Association, acting separately pursuant to the divisional legislative process described in Constitution 5.3. Such a provision applies only to the division(s) or subdivision(s) that adopts it.

**5.3.10.3 Voting on Football Issues.** An active member or voting member conference with no football program shall not be permitted to vote on issues affecting only football.

### **Division II Proposals:**

*[Note: See Attachment for the 16 proposals that have been voted on by football-sponsoring institutions and conferences per Constitution 5.3.10.3.]*

### **Division III Proposal:**

**Title:** VOTING RIGHTS -- FOOTBALL ISSUES

**Date Submitted:** January 25, 2001

**Effective Date:** Immediate

**Official Notice Number:** NC-2002-4

**Source:** NCAA Division III Presidents Council [Management Council (Interpretations and Legislation Committee)].

**Category:** Noncontroversial

**Topical Area:** Membership

**Status:** Adopted

**Intent:** To eliminate legislation permitting only conferences and institutions that sponsor the sport of football to vote on proposals related to the sport of football.

**A. Constitution:** Amend 3.3.2.2.4, as follows:

[Division III]

*"3.3.2.2.4 Football Issues. In addition to meeting the requirements of Constitution 3.3.2.2.3 for men's and/or women's sports, conference championship competition shall be conducted in the sport of football in order for the conference to vote on issues pertaining only to football."*

**B. Constitution:** Amend 5.3.11.4, as follows:

[Division III]

*"5.3.11.4 Voting on Football Issues. An active member or voting member conference with no football program shall not be permitted to vote on issues affecting only football."*

## Division II Football Only Proposals

**Title:** FINANCIAL AID -- DIVISION II MAXIMUM EQUIVALENCY LIMITS -- FOOTBALL

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2001

**SPOPL Number:** 12

**Official Notice Number:** 1998-6

**Source:** Abilene Christian University; Bemidji State University; Fairmont State College; Ferris State University; Fort Lewis College; Michigan Technological University; University of Minnesota, Duluth; University of Minnesota, Morris; Moorehead State University; Quincy University; St. Joseph's College (Indiana); Wayne State University (Michigan); West Virginia Wesleyan College; Western State College of Colorado; and Winona State University.

**Category:** Membership Proposal

**Topical Area:** Financial Aid

**Status:** Defeated

**Intent:** To decrease the limit on the value (equivalency) of financial aid awards (per 15.02.4.1) that an institution may provide in any academic year to counters in Division II football from 36 to 30.

**Bylaws:** Amend 15.5.3.2.1, as follows:

[Division II, football only]

"15.5.3.2.1 Division II Men's Sports. There shall be a limit on the value (equivalency) of financial aid awards (per 15.02.4.1) that an institution may provide in any academic year to counters in each Division II men's sport, as follows:

"Football ~~36.0~~ 30.00"

**Rationale:** With 60 percent of all Division II football playing institutions already providing less than the value of 30 equivalencies, this proposal will not dilute the quality of football or the quality of student-athletes that can be recruited at the Division II level. The survey results from the financial aid project team showed that the average Division II football equivalency per institution is 24.1. The "phase in" period of three years will allow institutions providing in excess of 30 equivalencies to reduce financial aid awards at their own pace and will permit all current student-athletes to finish their playing careers at the same scholarship level. Division II institutions that sponsor football have difficulty being in compliance with Title IX because of the cost to operate a successful football program. This proposal will allow the monies saved to be transferred to the women's program to assist an institution in achieving gender equity.

**Position Statement(s)**

*Legislative Review Subcommittee:* The committee took no position on this proposal.

**Title:** PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS -- SPRING PRACTICE -- DIVISION II FOOTBALL

**Effective Date:** Immediate

**SPOPL Number:** 15

**Official Notice Number:** 1998-7

**Source:** NCAA Division II Presidents Council (Division II Management Council upon recommendation from the NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports).

**Category:** Presidents Council

**Topical Area:** Playing and Practice Seasons

**Status:** Adopted

**Intent:** In Division II football, to specify that 12 of the spring practice sessions may involve contact, provided contact does not occur prior to the third practice session; to specify that full contact 11-on-11 sessions are limited to three of the 12 practice session; further, to reduce the number of spring football contact sessions that may involve tackling to eight.

**Bylaws:** Amend 17.10.6, pages 217-218, as follows:

[Division II, Roll Call]

"17.10.6 Out-of-Season Athletically Related Activities. Student-athletes and members of the coaching staff shall not engage in countable athletically related activities outside the playing season, except for the following:

[17.10.6-(a) unchanged.]

"(c) Spring Practice -- Division II. In Division II, 15 postseason practice sessions [including intrasquad scrimmages and the spring game permitted in 17.10.5.2-(a)] are permissible, provided they are conducted within a period of 29 consecutive calendar days, omitting vacation and examination days officially announced on the institution's calendar and days during which the institution closed due to inclement weather, with no practices permitted on Sundays. Any such practice sessions held during vacation days may not be of longer duration than those normally held when academic classes are in session. Only ~~10~~ 12 of the 15 sessions may involve contact **and such contact shall not occur prior to the third practice session. The noncontact practice sessions may involve headgear as the only piece of protective equipment. Of the 12 permissible contact sessions, eight sessions may involve tackling and no more than three of the eight tackling sessions may be devoted to 11-on-11 scrimmages. Tackling shall be prohibited in four of the 12 contact sessions.** An institution has the discretion to determine the practice activities (other than tackling) that may occur during the four noncontact nontackling sessions (e.g., use of blocking dummies), provided no football gear or as well as the protective equipment *other than head gear, shoulder pads, shoes, pants and porous*

~~lightweight jerseys are~~ **to be** worn by the *involved* student-athletes. **If an institution conducts a "spring game" per 17.10.5.2-(a), the game shall be counted as one of the three sessions that can be devoted primarily to 11-on-11 scrimmages.** A student-athlete's participation in countable athletically related activities (see 17.02.1.1) during the spring practice period shall be limited to a maximum of four hours per day and 20 hours per week;"

**Rationale:** Currently, the NCAA's national injury surveillance system (ISS) shows a two to three times higher risk of total and serious injury (e.g., concussion, fractures, surgeries and knee injuries) in spring football practice when compared to fall. This proposal should assist in reducing serious injury in spring football by (a) reducing the number of days where tackling is permitted from 10 to eight (these practices are where 90 percent of the serious injuries occur); (b) reducing the number of practices where over 50 percent of the practice time is devoted to 11-on-11 scrimmaging from a potential of 10 to three (almost half of the injuries reported in spring practice occur in this type of scrimmage activity); and (c) requiring the first two days of practice to involve no contact (helmet only) to allow acclimatization to the activity (current legislation would allow a full-pad scrimmage on the first day of spring practice). This proposal is based on reliable injury data provided by athletics trainers and focuses on contact type rather than quantity. Its potential effectiveness has been endorsed by the American Football Coaches Association and the NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports.

**Title:** RECRUITING -- TELEPHONE CALLS -- DIVISION II FOOTBALL

**Effective Date:** Immediate

**SPOPL Number:** 2

**Official Notice Number:** 1999-9

**Source:** NCAA Division II Presidents Council [Management Council (Legislation Committee)].

**Category:** Presidents Council

**Topical Area:** Recruiting

**Status:** Adopted

**Intent:** In Division II football, to permit one telephone call to a football prospect (or the prospect's relatives or legal guardians) during the month of May of the prospect's junior year in high school; further, to preclude any additional telephone calls until September 1 at the beginning of the prospect's senior year in high school.

**A. Bylaws:** Amend 13.01.6, pages 75-76, as follows:

[Division II, football only]

"13.01.6 Time Periods for Telephone Calls and Contacts. In Divisions I and II, telephone calls or in-person, off-campus recruiting contacts shall not be made with a prospect or the prospect's relatives or legal guardians prior to July 1 (~~August 15 in Division II football and~~ September 1 in Divisions I-A and I-AA football **and Division II football**) following the prospect's completion of the junior year in high school. In Division III, in-person, off-campus contacts with a prospect's relatives or legal guardian(s) may not be made until the prospect has completed the junior year in high school. In Divisions I and II football and basketball, such contacts are confined to specific contact periods. In all Divisions I and II sports, time periods are established during which no on- or off-campus contacts are permitted (see 30.11 and Figures 13-1 through 13.7).

**"13.01.6.1 Exception -- Division II Football. In Division II football, one telephone call to a prospect [or prospect's relatives or legal guardian(s)] may be made during the month of May of the prospect's junior year in high school."**

**B. Bylaws:** Amend 13.1.1.1, as follows:

[Division II, football only]

"13.1.1.1 High-School Prospects. In Divisions I and II, in-person, off-campus recruiting contacts shall not be made with a prospect or the prospect's relatives or legal guardian(s) prior to July 1 following the prospect's completion of the junior year in high school. Telephone calls shall not be made with a prospect [or the prospect's parents or legal guardian(s)] prior to July 1 (~~August 15 in Division II football and~~ September 1 in divisions I-A and IAA football **and Division II football**) following the prospect's completion of the junior year in high school. In Division III, in-person, off-campus recruiting contacts shall

not be made with a prospect or the prospect's relatives or legal guardian(s) until the prospect has completed the junior year in high school. U.S. service academy exceptions to this provision are set forth in 13.17.1.

**"13.1.1.1.1 Exception -- Division II Football. In Division II football, one telephone call may be made during the months of May of the prospect's junior year in high school."**

C. **Bylaws:** Amend 13.1.3.1.1, as follows:

[Division II, football only]

"13.1.3.1.1 Exception -- Division II Football. In the sport of Division II football, **one** telephone calls to a prospect [or a prospect's relatives or legal guardian(s) may ~~not~~ be made ~~prior to August 15 following the completion~~ **during the month of May** of the prospect's junior year in high school. **Additional telephone calls to a prospect [or a prospect's relatives or legal guardian(s)] may not be made prior to September 1 of the beginning of the prospect's senior year in high school**; thereafter, such telephone contact is limited to once per week outside of a contact period. During a contact period, such telephone contact may be made at the institution's discretion."

**Rationale:** Because many football prospective student-athletes are recruited by both Divisions I-AA and II institutions, differences in recruiting legislation for the two divisions causes confusion. Prospects, as well as their parents and high-school coaches, likely will question a Division II institution's level of interest if that institution does not call the prospect until July 1, when Division I-AA institutions have previously called him the prior May. The rationale expressed for the current Division I-AA legislation also is applicable to Division II institutions. Having an early opportunity to gauge a prospect's interest will allow institutions to spend recruiting dollars wisely. In short, making Division II legislation governing initial telephone contact for football prospects consistent with that in Division I-AA will eliminate confusion and the existence of a needless recruiting advantage for Division I-AA institutions. Prior to the adoption of Division Proposal No. 97-5(b), Divisions II and I-AA had the same telephone contact restrictions.

**Title:** RECRUITING -- RECRUITING CALENDAR -- DIVISION II FOOTBALL

**Effective Date:** August 1, 1999

**SPOPL Number:** 22

**Official Notice Number:** 1999-12

**Source:** All members of the Lone Star Conference, Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association and the Rocky Mountain Conference.

**Category:** Membership Proposal

**Topical Area:** Recruiting

**Status:** Adopted

**Intent:** In Division II, to permit contact with a two-year college football prospect at the conclusion of the two-year college prospect's football season.

**Bylaws:** Amend 30.11.6, as follows:

[Division II, football only]

"30.11.6 Football, Division II. The following contact and evaluation periods apply to football in Division II:

[30.11.6-(a) and 30.11.6-(b) unchanged.]

"(c) November 1 through November 30 **except for (1) below**: Evaluation Period

**"(1) For two-year college prospects, the conclusion of the prospect's two-year college football season through November 30: Contact Period"**

[Remainder of 30.11.6 unchanged.]

**Rationale:** The initial signing date for the National Letter of Intent for a midyear two-year college transfer is December 16, 1998 (and a similar date in future years), which allows approximately two weeks from the initial contact date of December 1 for institutions to contact prospects. If coaches are permitted to contact prospects following the conclusion of the two-year college football season, it would allow institutions approximately two additional weeks for a total of approximately four weeks, which is not excessive but more reasonable.

**Title:** GEOGRAPHICAL SCHEDULING WAIVER -- FOOTBALL

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2000

**SPOPL Number:** 34

**Official Notice Number:** 2000-23

**Source:** NCAA Division II Presidents Council [Management Council (Membership Committee)].

**Category:** Presidents Council

**Topical Area:** Membership

**Status:** Adopted

**Intent:** To eliminate the geographic scheduling waiver in the sport of football that is based on athletically-related aid awarded by the institution.

**Bylaws:** Amend 20.10.4.3.4, as follows:

[Division II, football only]

*"20.10.4.3.4 Geographical Waiver -- Division II Football. The Management Council, by a two-thirds majority of its members present and voting, may waive the provisions of 20.10.4.1 for a Division II institution that does not offer athletically related financial aid in the sport of football, or which offers fewer than 20 percent of the maximum allowable number of scholarships in Division II football, if it is determined that fewer than six other Division II football programs exist within a 500-mile radius of the institution's campus that do not offer athletically related financial aid in the sport of football or offer fewer than 20 percent of the maximum allowable number of scholarships in Division II football. An institution shall calculate the applicable percentage based upon the amount of athletically related financial aid received by its student athletes in the sport of football as opposed to including all institutional aid in that sport."*

**Rationale:** The geographical waiver of the 50-percent scheduling requirement in the sport of football should be eliminated inasmuch as such a waiver in Division II should not be contingent upon the amount of athletically-related financial aid an institution awards in football or the number of institutions granting minimal aid that are located in close proximity to the institution. This legislation was written specifically to assist Division I-AA institutions and does not have a practical application in Division II. An institution that has legitimate geographical difficulty in scheduling opponents may apply for a waiver per Bylaw 20.10.4.4.

**Title:** CONTEST EXEMPTION -- DIVISION II FOOTBALL -- MINERAL WATER BOWL

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2000

**Official Notice Number:** 2000-42

**Source:** All members of the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association and all members of the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference.

**Category:** Membership Proposal

**Topical Area:** Championships/Postseason Events

**Status:** Adopted

**Intent:** To permit teams from the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association and the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference to participate in the Mineral Water Bowl and to exempt such participation from the limitations governing the permissible number of contests.

**A. Bylaws:** Amend 17.10.4, pages 224-225, as follows:

[Division II, football only]

[17.10.4.1 and 17.10.4.2, unchanged.]

**"17.10.4.3 Mineral Water Bowl Restrictions. All members of the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association and the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference shall participate in the Division II Football Championship, if eligible and selected for participation. In addition, members of those conferences that participate in the Division II Football Championship shall not participate in the Mineral Water Bowl during the same year."**

[17.10.4.3 renumbered as 17.10.4.4, unchanged.]

**B. Bylaws:** Amend 17.10.5.2, pages 226-227, as follows:

[Division II, football only]

"17.10.5.2 Annual Exemptions. The maximum number of football contests shall exclude the following (see Figure 17-13):

[17.10.5.2-(a) through 17.10.5.2-(d), unchanged.]

**"(e) Mineral Water Bowl. Participation in the Mineral Water Bowl held between representatives of the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association and the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference."**

[17.10.5.2-(e) through 17.10.5.2-(r) relettered as 17.10.5.2-(f) through 17.10.5.2-(s), unchanged.]

**Rationale:** This proposed legislation would afford a representative from the Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association and a representative from the Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference to participate in a postseason bowl game. All members of both conferences would continue to participate in the NCAA Division II Football Championship,

if eligible and selected for participation. This game would involve only teams not selected for the Division II football playoffs. This legislation is modeled after the Pioneer Bowl which matches teams from the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association and the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.

**Position Statement(s)**

*Championships Committee:* The Committee took no position on this proposal.

**Title:** CONTEST EXEMPTION -- FOOTBALL -- TEXAS BOWL

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2001

**SPOPL Number:** 40

**Official Notice Number:** 2001-41

**Source:** All members of the Lone Star Conference and all members of the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference.

**Category:** Membership Proposal

**Topical Area:** Championships/Postseason Events

**Status:** Adopted

**Intent:** To permit teams from the Lone Star Conference and the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference to participate in the Texas Bowl beyond the legislated end of the playing season and to exempt such participation from the maximum permissible number of contests.

**A. Bylaws:** Amend 17.10.4, pages 224-225, as follows:

[Division II, football only]

[17.10.4-(a) unchanged.]

"(b) Bowl Games, NCAA and NAIA Championships, International Competition, Heritage Bowl ~~and~~ , Pioneer Bowl **and Texas Bowl**. One postseason game ~~approved by the Division I Championships/ Competition Cabinet or those games~~ played in the National Collegiate Division I-AA, Division II and Division III Football Championships; football contests played on a foreign tour certified by the member institution, or the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics football championships. ~~In Division I-AA only, a member institution's last contest also may include participation in the Heritage Bowl to be held between representatives of the Mid Eastern Athletic Conference and the Southwestern Athletic Conference no earlier than the Monday after the conclusion of the National Collegiate Division I-AA Football Championship. In Division II only, a~~ **A** member institution's last contest also may include participation in the Pioneer Bowl to be held between representatives of the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association and the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference no earlier than one week after the conclusion of the National Collegiate Division II Football Championship **or may include participation in the Texas Bowl to be held between representatives of the Lone Star Conference and the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference.**"

[17.10.4.2 unchanged.]

**"17.10.4.3 Texas Bowl Restrictions. All members of the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference and the Lone Star Conference shall participate in the Division II Football Championship, if eligible and selected for participation. In addition, members of those conferences that participate in the Division II Football Championship shall not participate in the Texas Bowl during the same year."**

[17.10.4.3 renumbered as 17.10.4.4 unchanged.]

**B. Bylaws:** Amend 17.10.5.2, pages 226-227, as follows:

[Division II, football only]

[17.10.5.2-(a) through 17.10.5.2-(d) unchanged.]

**"(e) Texas Bowl. Participation in the Texas Bowl, held between representative of the Lone Star Conference and the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference."**

[17.10.5.2-(e) through 17.10.5.2-(r) relettered as 17.10.5.2-(f) through 17.10.5.2-(s), unchanged.]

**Rationale:** This proposed legislation would afford a representative from the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference and a representative from the Lone Star Conference to participate in a postseason bowl game. All members of both conferences would continue to participate in the NCAA Division II Football Championship, if selected. This game would involve only teams not selected for the Division II football playoffs. This legislation is modeled after the Pioneer Bowl and Mineral Water Bowl currently in effect for selected Division II conferences.

**Position Statement(s)**

*Championships Committee:* The committee took no position on this proposal.

**Title:** CONTEST EXEMPTION -- FOOTBALL -- WEST COAST BOWL

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2001

**SPOPL Number:** 41

**Official Notice Number:** 2001-42

**Source:** All members of the Pacific West Conference and all members of the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference.

**Category:** Membership Proposal

**Topical Area:** Championships/Postseason Events

**Status:** Adopted

**Intent:** To permit teams from the Pacific West Conference/Columbia Football Association and the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference to participate in the West Coast Bowl beyond the legislated end of the playing season and to exempt such participation from the maximum permissible number of contests.

**A. Bylaws:** Amend 17.10.4, pages 224-225, as follows:

[Division II, football only]

[17.10.4-(a) unchanged.]

"(b) Bowl Games, NCAA and NAIA Championships, International Competition, Heritage Bowl ~~and~~ Pioneer Bowl **and West Coast Bowl**. One postseason game ~~approved by the Division I Championships/ Competition Cabinet or those games~~ played in the National Collegiate Division I-AA, Division II and Division III Football Championships; football contests played on a foreign tour certified by the member institution, or the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics football championships. ~~In Division I-AA only, a member institution's last contest also may include participation in the Heritage Bowl to be held between representatives of the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference and the Southwestern Athletic Conference no earlier than the Monday after the conclusion of the National Collegiate Division I-AA Football Championship. In Division II only, a~~ **A** member institution's last contest also may include participation in the Pioneer Bowl to be held between representatives of the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association and the Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference no earlier than one week after the conclusion of the National Collegiate Division II Football Championship **or may include participation in the West Coast Bowl to be held between representatives of the Pacific West Conference/Columbia Football Association and the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference.**"

[17.10.4.2 unchanged.]

**17.10.4.3 Texas Bowl Restrictions. All members of the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference and the Lone Star Conference shall participate in the Division II Football Championship, if eligible and selected for participation. In addition, members of**

**those conferences that participate in the Division II Football Championship shall not participate in the Texas Bowl during the same year.**"

[17.10.4.3 renumbered as 17.10.4.4 unchanged.]

**B. Bylaws:** Amend 17.10.5.2, pages 226-227, as follows:

[Division II, football only]

[17.10.5.2-(a) through 17.10.5.2-(d) unchanged.]

**"(e) West Coast Bowl. Participation in the West Coast Bowl, held between representative of the Pacific West Conference/Columbia Football Association and the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference."**

[17.10.5.2-(e) through 17.10.5.2-(r) relettered as 17.10.5.2-(f) through 17.10.5.2-(s), unchanged.]

**Rationale:** This proposed legislation would afford a representative from the Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference and a representative from the Pacific West Conference/Columbia Football Association to participate in a postseason bowl game. All members of both conferences would continue to participate in the NCAA Division II Football Championship, if selected. This game would involve only teams not selected for the Division II football playoffs. This legislation is modeled after the Pioneer Bowl and Mineral Water Bowl currently in effect for selected Division II conferences.

**Position Statement(s)**

*Championships Committee:* The committee took no position on this proposal.

**Title:** RECRUITING -- FOOTBALL RECRUITING CALENDAR

**Effective Date:** Immediate

**IPOPL Number:** 5

**SPOPL Number:** 11

**Official Notice Number:** 2002-33

**Source:** Gulf South Conference

**Category:** Membership Proposal

**Topical Area:** Recruiting

**Status:** Adopted

**Intent:** To revise the football recruiting calendar by changing the spring evaluation period to April 15 through May 31 and to specify that four weeks of evaluation is selected at the discretion of the institution.

**Bylaws:** Amend 30.11.3, as follows:

[Division II]

"30.11.3 Football. The following contact and evaluation periods apply to football ~~in~~  
*Division II:*

[30.11.3-(a) through 30.11.3-(d) unchanged.]

"(e) The 31st day after the Saturday after the initial date for signing the National Letter of Intent through ~~April 30~~ **April 14**: Quiet Period

"(f) ~~May 1~~ **April 15** through May 31 [**except (g) below**]: Evaluation Period

**"(1) Four weeks (excluding Memorial Day and Sundays) selected at the discretion of the member institution and designated in writing in the office of the director of athletics**

**"(g) Those days in April/May not designated in (f) for evaluation opportunities: Quiet Period"**

[30.11.3-(g) relettered as 30.11.3-(h) unchanged]

**Rationale:** Current legislation in Division I permits evaluations to begin April 15. Evaluations by Division II coaches may not begin until May 1. This difference results in two-year college scrimmages being conducted in late April at which Division II coaches are unable attend. This proposal does not extend the period of evaluation beyond the four weeks as permitted in current legislation. This changes does, however, "level the field" by permitting Division II coaches to evaluate in the same time period as Division I.

**Position Statement(s)**

*Presidents Council, Management Council and Legislation Committee:* The Councils and committee support this proposal.

**Title:** PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS -- WEEKLY HOUR LIMITATIONS --  
FOOTBALL

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2002

**SPOPL Number:** 23

**Official Notice Number:** 2002-36

**Source:** NCAA Division II Presidents Council [Management Council (Legislation Committee)].

**Category:** Presidents Council

**Topical Area:** Playing and Practice Seasons

**Status:** Adopted

**Intent:** In the sport of football, to permit student-athletes to view a maximum of two hours of game film per week as part of the permissible eight hours of required weight-training and conditioning activities that may occur during the academic year outside of the playing season.

**Bylaws:** Amend 17.1.5.2, as follows:

[Division II]

"17.1.5.2 Weekly Hour Limitations -- Outside of Playing Season. Outside of the playing season during the academic year, only a student-athlete's participation in the countable athletically related activities specified in 17.02.1-(c), 17.02.1-(d), *and* 17.02.1-(e) **and in the sport of football, 17.02.1-(a)-(6)** shall be permitted. A student-athlete's participation in such activities shall be limited to a maximum of eight hours per week, of which not more than two hours per week may be spent on individual skill workouts set forth in 17.02.1-(e) and 17.1.6.2.1, **and in the sport of football, the viewing of game film per 17.02.1-(a)-(6)**. A student-athlete may not participate in any countable athletically related activities outside the playing season during any institutional vacation period (e.g., summer, academic year)."

**Rationale:** Currently, student-athletes in the sport of football are the only student-athletes excluded from the skill-instruction opportunities outside the playing season during the academic year. The opportunity to view a maximum of two hours of game film with the coaching staff as part of the eight hours of permissible weekly conditioning is a good alternative to actual skill-related instruction. This proposed change does not increase the time for out-of-season activities; it simply permits another type of activity during that time.

**Title:** PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS -- FOOTBALL SPRING PRACTICE --  
CONDITIONING ACTIVITIES AND/OR REVIEW OF GAME FILM

**Effective Date:** Immediate

**IPOPL Number:** 4

**SPOPL Number:** 44

**Official Notice Number:** 2004-50

**Source:** Lone Star Conference and Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletic Association.

**Category:** Membership Proposal

**Topical Area:** Playing and Practice Seasons

**Status:** Withdrawn

**Intent:** In football, during the spring practice period, to specify that an institution is not required to count as one of its 15 designated days, any day during which countable athletically related activities are limited solely to required conditioning activities and/or review of video/film.

**Bylaws:** Amend 17.11.8, as follows:

[Division II, football only]

"17.11.8 Out-of-Season Athletically Related Activities. Student-athletes and members of the coaching staff shall not engage in countable athletically related activities outside the playing season, except for the following:

[17.11.8-(a) unchanged.]

"(b) Spring Practice. Fifteen postseason practice sessions (including intrasquad scrimmages) and the spring game are permissible, provided they are conducted within a period of 29 consecutive calendar days, omitting vacation and examination days officially announced on the institution's calendar and days during which the institution is closed due to inclement weather. **An institution is not required to count as one of its 15 designated days any day during which countable athletically related activities are limited solely to required conditioning activities and/or review of video/film.** Any such practice sessions held during vacation days may not be of longer duration than those normally held when academic classes are in session. Only 12 of the 15 sessions may involve contact, and such contact shall not occur before the third practice session. The noncontact practice sessions may involve headgear as the only piece of protective equipment. Of the 12 permissible contact sessions, eight sessions may involve tackling, and no more than three of the eight tackling sessions may be devoted primarily (greater than 50 percent of practice time) to 11-on-11 scrimmages. Tackling shall be prohibited in four of the 12 contact sessions. An institution has the discretion to determine the practice activities (other than tackling) that may occur during the four contact nontackling sessions as well as the protective equipment to be worn by the student-athletes. If an institution conducts a "spring game" per Bylaw

17.1.9.1-(j), the game shall be counted as one of the three sessions that can be devoted primarily to 11-on-11 scrimmages. A student-athlete's participation in countable athletically related activities (see Bylaw 17.02.1.1) during the spring practice period shall be limited to a maximum of four hours per day and 20 hours per week."

**Rationale:** The proposal permits Division II institutions to meet on off-days to view video/film and/or engage in required conditioning activities during spring football practice and the institution would not be required to count the day as one of its 15 designated days. The ability to view video/film and/or engage in required conditioning activities on off-days does not increase the limitation on the number of hours per week of countable athletically-related activity because these hours will be counted in that limitation. Presently, teams meet on days in which they practice to view video/film of the previous practice. This adds more hours onto an already long day and is a bigger inconvenience for student-athletes than meeting for an hour in the afternoon on off days. When the 20 hours per week are used should not matter. Division I has adopted this legislation to permit institutions to meet on off-days to view video/film during spring football practice. This proposal has an immediate effective date, in order for institutions to take advantage of this legislation for spring football practice in 2004.

**Position Statement(s)**

*Presidents Council, Management Council and Legislation Committee:* The Councils and committee take no position on this proposal.

**Title:** FINANCIAL AID -- MAXIMUM EQUIVALENCY LIMITS -- FOOTBALL

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2006

**IPOPL Number:** 5

**SPOPL Number:** 25

**Official Notice Number:** 2005-28

**Source:** Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference and Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference.

**Category:** Membership Proposal

**Topical Area:** Financial Aid

**Status:** Defeated

**Intent:** In football, to reduce the maximum limit on the value (equivalency) of financial aid awards from 36 to 24.

**Bylaws:** Amend 15.5.2.1.1, as follows:

[Division II, football only]

"15.5.2.1.1 Men's Sports. There shall be a limit on the value (equivalency) of financial aid awards (per 15.02.4.1) that an institution may provide in any academic year to counters in each men's sport, as follows:

"Football ~~36.0~~ 24.0"

**Rationale:** During the 2000-01 academic year, of the Division II institutions that sponsored football, 50 percent of them awarded 24 or fewer scholarships to football student-athletes. This proposal reduces the maximum number, measured in equivalencies, of financial aid awards in football from 36 to 24 to assist competitive balance, access to championships and gender equity by limiting all institutions at the level chosen by the majority of institutions that sponsored football in 2000-01. This legislation permits one full scholarship for each offensive and defensive position as well as two scholarships for special teams. The effective date for this proposal is August 1, 2006 to provide institutions time to comply with the new equivalency limit.

**Position Statement(s)**

*Division II:* (NCAA Division II Presidents Council, Management Council and Legislation Committee): The Councils and committee oppose the proposal for the following reasons: (1) Research indicates that institutions that offer near the financial aid equivalency limit in a particular sport do not earn greater access to championships due to the aid being provided. Other factors contribute to a team's success; (2) Changes to the limits would cause harm to student-athletes because financial aid is a benefit to student-athletes and provides access to higher education; (3) Changes to the limits would further accentuate the difference between public and private institutions, with an adverse impact on private institutions; and (4)

Changes to the limits would cause harm to institutions in less populated areas because the ability to provide financial aid attracts some student-athletes from different regions.

**Title:** PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS -- FOOTBALL FIVE-DAY  
ACCLIMATIZATION PERIOD -- WALK-THROUGHS

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2006

**SPOPL Number:** 35

**Official Notice Number:** 2006-37

**Source:** NCAA Division II Presidents Council [Management Council (Legislation Committee)].

**Category:** Presidents Council

**Topical Area:** Playing and Practice Seasons

**Status:** Adopted

**Intent:** In football, to permit an institution to conduct one one-hour walk-through per day during the five-day acclimatization period, provided protective equipment (e.g., helmets, shoulder pads) is not worn, equipment related to football (e.g., footballs, blocking sleds) is not used and conditioning activities do not occur.

**A. Bylaws:** Amend 17.11.2.4.1, page 206, as follows:

"17.11.2.4.1 Exception - "Walk-Through".

"During the preseason practice period ~~only and subsequent to the five-day acclimatization period~~, on-field walk-throughs are not considered an on-field activity under Bylaw 17.11.2.4, provided protective equipment (e.g., helmets, shoulder pads) is not worn, equipment related to football (e.g., footballs, blocking sleds) is not used and conditioning activities do not occur. The walk-through shall not last longer than one hour and may only be conducted on days in which one practice is permitted. Further, student-athletes must be provided with at least three continuous hours of recovery time between the on-field practice and the walk-through. During this recovery time, student-athletes may not attend any meetings or engage in other athletically related activities, including weightlifting; however, time spent receiving medical treatment and eating meals may be included as part of the recovery time."

**B. Bylaws:** Amend 17.11.2.3, page 205, as follows:

"17.11.2.3 Five-Day Acclimatization Period. Preseason practice shall begin with a five-day acclimatization period for both first-time participants (e.g., freshmen and transfers) and continuing student-athletes. All student-athletes, including walk-ons who arrive to preseason practice after the first day of practice, are required to undergo a five-day acclimatization period. The five-day acclimatization period shall be conducted as follows:

[17.11.2.3-(a) unchanged.]

"(b) Participants shall not engage in more than one on-field practice per day during the five-day acclimatization period. On-field practices shall last no longer than three hours.

**"(1) Exception -- During the five-day acclimatization period, an institution has the option of conducting one on-field practice per day, not to exceed three hours in length, or one on-field testing session (speed, conditioning, or agility tests) per day, not to exceed one hour in length and one on-field practice, not to exceed two hours in length. In addition, an institution may conduct one one-hour walk-through session per day of the acclimatization period, provided protective equipment (e.g., helmets, shoulder pads) is not worn, equipment related to football (e.g., footballs, blocking sleds) is not used and conditioning activities do not occur. Student-athletes must be provided with at least three continuous hours of recovery time between any session (i.e., testing, practice or walk-through) occurring that day. During this time, student-athletes may not attend any meetings or engage in other athletically-related activities (e.g., weight lifting); however, time spent receiving medical treatment and eating meals may be included as part of the recovery time."**

**Rationale:** After experiencing the first couple of years of preseason football practice under the new out-of-season conditioning model, teams should be able to engage in on-field "walk-throughs" that provide for critical teaching/learning opportunities without compromising the health and well-being of student-athletes during the five-day acclimatization period. Further, the proposed time limitations will help prevent encroachment on academic orientation activities.

**Title:** FINANCIAL AID AND EXECUTIVE REGULATIONS -- ELIGIBILITY FOR CHAMPIONSHIPS -- STRUCTURE OF FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP CLASSIFICATIONS

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2008, for those conferences and institutions participating in the championship segment on or after August 1, 2009.

**SPOPL Number:** 21

**Official Notice Number:** 2007-7

**Source:** NCAA Division II Presidents Council [Management Council (Football Task Force) (Developed by the Football Task Force and introduced by the NCAA Division II Management Council to fulfill its obligation to the membership by recommending a proposal to address issues regarding the Division II football championship structure)].

**Category:** Presidents Council

**Topical Area:** Financial Aid

**Status:** Defeated

**Intent:** In football, to establish two championship classifications, based on the total number of financial aid equivalencies provided by an institution; further, to specify that an institution or conference on behalf of its member institutions shall declare once every three years the championship classification in which its member institutions will participate.

**A. Bylaws:** Amend 15.5.2.1.1, pages 156-157, as follows:

[Roll Call, football only]

"15.5.2.1.1 Men's Sports. There shall be a limit on the value (equivalency) of financial aid awards (per 15.02.4.1) that an institution may provide in any academic year to counters in each men's sport (See Bylaw 31.3.1.1 regarding additional football equivalency limitations for championships.), as follows:"

**B. Administrative:** Amend 31.2 by adding new 31.2.1, pages 322-326, as follows:

[Roll Call, football only]

"31.2 Eligibility for Championships

"31.2.1 Institution or Conference Eligibility -- Football. To be eligible to enter teams or individual student-athletes in an NCAA Division II football championship (see Bylaw 31.3.1.1), an institution or conference on behalf of its member institutions shall declare the championship classification in which it will participate. The institution or conference eligibility declaration shall be completed by September 1, and is binding on the institution or conference for a period of three years.

"31.2.1.1 Compliance with Deadline. Any dues payment or approved form(s) shall be received in the national office by the applicable date or must have been postmarked not later than seven days before the applicable date."

[31.2.1 through 31.2.3 renumbered as 31.2.2 through 31.2.4, unchanged.]

**C. Administrative:** Amend 31.3.1 by adding new 31.3.1.1, as follows:

[Roll Call, football only]

"31.3.1 Size of Championships Fields. The size of all NCAA championships fields shall be established by the Championships Committee to provide for efficient management of the events, adequate NCAA championship opportunities relative to the nationwide quality of competition and sound economic administration of the financial resources of the Association and its championships.

**"31.3.1.1 Size of Football Championship Classifications. The size of the two football championship classifications are based on the total number of financial aid equivalencies provided annually by an institution. Per Bylaw 31.2.1, an institution or conference on behalf of its member institutions shall declare the championship classification in which it will participate. One football championship classification is open to institutions or conferences' member institutions who provide up to the maximum financial aid equivalency limit or less in Bylaw 15.5.2.1.1. The other football championship classification is open to institutions or conferences' member institutions who provide 50 percent or less than the maximum financial aid equivalency limit in Bylaw 15.5.2.1.1. All other policies and procedures regarding the administration of the two football championship classifications shall be established by the Championships Committee."**

**Rationale:** Following the 2005 NCAA Convention, the Division II Football Task Force was created to study a possible change to the Division II football championship structure that would provide more competitive equity. The consensus was that the current maximum financial aid equivalency limit in football should be protected; however, new opportunities should be considered to give programs that offer significantly fewer scholarships a chance to be competitive in the postseason. This proposal will establish two national championship classifications in Division II football. One championship classification will be established for institutions that provide financial aid from zero to 36 total equivalencies. The other championship classification will be established for institutions that provide 50 percent or less than the maximum financial aid equivalency limit, or zero to 18 total equivalencies. This new Division II football championship model will take effect for the 2009 championship season. In addition, this proposal will also require institutions or conferences on behalf of its member institutions to declare once every three years, its level of playoff competition. This commitment will be binding for three years. The creation of this model will enhance and preserve the competitive equity in Division II football, while improving the student-athlete experience.

**Review History:**

*May 4, 2006:* Recommends Approval - Football Task Force

*July 18, 2006:* Approved in Legislative Format - Management Council Review

*August 3, 2006:* Approved in Legislative Format - Presidents Council Review

*August 30, 2006:* Approved in Legislative Format - Administrative  
Subcommittee Review

**Title:** PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS -- GENERAL PLAYING SEASON REGULATIONS -- TIME LIMITS FOR ATHLETICALLY RELATED ACTIVITIES -- INSTITUTIONAL VACATION PERIOD -- STRENGTH AND CONDITIONING PERSONNEL DESIGNING AND CONDUCTING WORKOUT PROGRAMS DURING SUMMER VACATION PERIOD -- FOOTBALL

**Effective Date:** June 1, 2014

**IPOPL Number:** 1

**SPOPL Number:** 20

**Official Notice Number:** 2014-13

**Source:** Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference and Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association.

**Category:** Membership Proposal

**Topical Area:** Playing and Practice Seasons

**Status:** Adopted

**Intent:** In football, to specify that beginning June 1 through the conclusion of an institution's summer vacation period, strength and conditioning personnel may design and conduct workout programs for student-athletes, as specified.

**A. Bylaws:** Amend 17.02.1, as follows:

[Roll Call, football only]

17.02.1 Countable Athletically Related Activities. Countable athletically related activities include any required activity with an athletics purpose, involving student-athletes and at the direction of, or supervised by, any member or members of an institution's coaching staff (including strength and conditioning coaches) and must be counted within the weekly and daily limitations under Bylaws 17.1.6.1 and 17.1.6.2. Administrative activities (e.g., academic meetings, compliance meetings) shall not be considered as countable athletically related activities. **(See Bylaw 17.1.6.2.6.1 for further information regarding the exception for summer workouts in football.)**

**B. Bylaws:** Amend 17.02.13, as follows:

[Roll Call, football only]

17.02.13 Strength and Conditioning Personnel. Strength and conditioning personnel may monitor voluntary individual workouts (e.g., summer workouts) for safety purposes without considering such supervision as a countable athletically related activity per Bylaw 17.02.1. Although an institution may designate more than one strength and conditioning coach, it is not permissible for an institution to designate a specific strength and conditioning coach for each of the institution's intercollegiate teams. If the strength and conditioning coach is also a coaching staff member for one of the institution's intercollegiate teams, such assistance may be provided only if that staff member performs

such duties for all intercollegiate teams. This exception shall apply during and outside the declared playing and practice season (see Bylaw 17.1.6.2). **(See Bylaw 17.1.6.2.6.1 for further information regarding the exception for summer workouts in football.)**

C. **Bylaws:** Amend 17.1.6.2.6, as follows:

[Roll Call, football only]

17.1.6.2.6 Institutional Vacation Period. A student-athlete may not participate in any countable athletically related activities outside the playing season during any institutional vacation period (e.g., summer, academic year).

**17.1.6.2.6.1 Exception -- Football. In football, beginning June 1 through the conclusion of an institution's summer vacation period, a student-athlete may participate in workouts designed and conducted by the institution's strength and conditioning personnel, provided such workouts are voluntary and conducted at the request of the student-athlete. Strength and conditioning personnel who conduct such workouts must perform strength and conditioning duties for at least one of the institution's other intercollegiate teams during the academic year, must be certified through a national strength and conditioning program and must maintain current certification in first aid, cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and automatic external defibrillator (AED) use.**

**Rationale:** This proposal would permit strength and conditioning personnel to design and conduct specific workout programs for football student-athletes during the summer as they do during the academic year, provided such workouts are voluntary and conducted at the request of the student-athlete. This recommendation also promotes student-athlete well-being by allowing conditioning programs to occur in a safe and controlled environment and by permitting strength and conditioning personnel to work more closely with football student-athletes, rather than only stepping in during voluntary workouts if there is a safety issue. Permitting strength and conditioning personnel to design and conduct workouts administered at the request of the student-athlete beginning June 1 ensures football student-athletes are afforded individual conditioning instruction and the opportunity to prepare for the physical demands of preseason practice. Further, amending the legislation regarding the permissible involvement of strength and conditioning personnel with football student-athletes alleviates confusion as to whether such activities are considered countable athletically related activities. The June 1, 2014, effective date will allow strength and conditioning personnel to design and conduct specific workout programs for student-athletes during the summer of 2014.

**Position Statement(s)**

*Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports:* The Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sport agreed to support this proposal. The committee noted that the proposal requires strength and conditioning coaches conducting voluntary summer workouts to have strength and conditioning certification through a nationally recognized certification program; further, the proposal requires such strength and conditioning coaches to maintain current first aid, CPR and AED certification. By requiring

strength and conditioning coach certification, the legislation helps assure that football players are afforded protection during voluntary summer conditioning. In addition the committee noted that the NCAA Sports Medicine Handbook recommends that member institutions have on file an annually updated Emergency Action Plan. The committee further noted that there is a limit to when these conditioning sessions can occur and the proposal requires such sessions to remain voluntary.



REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION II MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE  
NOVEMBER 8, 2023, VIDEOCONFERENCE

**ACTION ITEMS.**

- None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Discussion regarding a request from the Division II Conference Commissioners Association (CCA) to consider an expedited process for institutions that meet predetermined benchmarks in the provisional membership process.** The NCAA Division II Membership Committee continued its discussion regarding a request from the Division II CCA that the committee consider an expedited, two-year process for institutions that meet predetermined benchmarks in the membership process. NCAA staff provided an overview of trends within the Division II membership, highlighting the number of active member institutions, the changes which impacted the number of active members (e.g., reclassification, institutional closures) and the number of institutions in the Division II provisional membership process, from the 2010-11 through the 2023-24 academic year. During its discussion, the committee emphasized the importance of the current benchmarks that must be met during each year of the provisional membership process and noted that any expedited process should maintain those standards prior to advancement to active membership. The committee agreed to continue this conversation during its February in-person meeting.
2. **Discussion regarding Division I institutions reclassifying to Division II.** The committee reviewed its policies and procedures for Division I institutions reclassifying to Division II. Specifically, the committee discussed how the process should apply to a former Division II institution that is currently in the Division I reclassification process and wishes to return to Division II. The committee agreed that all Division I institutions, regardless of its status as a former Division II institution are bound to the two-year reclassification process, as specified. [Attachment]
3. **Update on the work of the NCAA Division I Name, Image and Likeness (NIL) Working Group and timeline for Division II to review and discuss proposals developed by Division I.** Staff provided an update regarding the work of the Division I NIL Working Group. Specifically, the committee received an update on the NIL proposals being considered in Division I and the anticipated timeline in which Division II will review the proposals being developed and consider whether any changes in Division II are necessary.
4. **Update on referral from the NCAA Division II Championships Committee regarding sports sponsorship requirements in swimming and diving and track and field.** Staff provided an update on a referral from the Division II Championships Committee related to the sports sponsorship requirements for swimming and diving and track and field. Specifically, the committee has been asked to consider whether any reductions should be made to the minimum contests or minimum participants requirements. The committee will begin this discussion at its February in-person meeting.

5. **Review of 2024 NCAA Convention Division II legislative proposals.** Staff provided an overview of the five legislative proposals that will be voted on by the membership during the Saturday, January 13, 2024, business session, during the NCAA Convention.
6. **Review of Convention meeting with provisional institutions.** Staff provided an overview of the programming for the provisional member meeting that will occur Thursday, January 11, 2024, during the Convention.
7. **Review of Convention assignments.** The committee discussed its role and responsibilities during the Convention for credentialing and vote counting during the business session.
8. **Update on institutions in the membership process.** The committee received an update on the 11 institutions currently in the membership process.
9. **Update regarding review of for-profit institutions.** Staff provided an update regarding the review of the for-profit Division II institutions. All three active for-profit Division II institutions (Academy of Art, Post University and Salem University) have submitted forms affirming their compliance with the for-profit institution legislation outlined in NCAA Division II Bylaw 7.3.1.3.1.1. The next affirmation by the for-profit institutions will be due in 2025.
10. **Discussion regarding vendor contract for post-application visits.** The committee reviewed and discussed the contract of The Compliance Group (TCG), which is the current vendor used to conduct post-application visits for institutions that apply for Division II membership. The committee agreed to extend the contract with TCG until July 31, 2025.
11. **Review and approval of the September 25, 2023, videoconference report.** The committee reviewed and approved its September 25, 2023, videoconference report.
12. **Review of the Division II Membership Committee policies and procedures.** The committee reviewed and approved an updated version of its policies and procedures for the 2023-24 academic year.
13. **Update from the October 2023 NCAA Division II Management Council and Presidents Council summary of actions.** Staff provided an update on key items from the October Management Council and Presidents Council meetings.
14. **Update from the October 2023 Division II Conference Commissioners Association and Division II Athletics Directors Association meetings.** Staff provided an update on the October meetings of the Conference Commissioners Association and Athletics Directors Association.
15. **Future scheduled meetings/videoconferences.**
  - a. February 13, 2024, in-person meeting; Indianapolis.

- b. April 10, 2024, videoconference; timing to be determined.
- c. July 9-10, 2024, in-person meeting; Indianapolis.
- d. September 2024, videoconference; timing to be determined.
- e. November 13, 2024, videoconference; timing to be determined.

*Committee Chair:* Debbie Snell, Hawaii Pacific University

*Staff Liaisons:* Jeremy Christoffels, Academic and Membership Affairs

Jordan Lysiak, Academic and Membership Affairs

<b>NCAA Division II Membership Committee November 8, 2023, Videoconference</b>	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Michael Bazemore, Montana State University Billings.	
Melanie Brunson, Winona State University.	
Troy Dell, Frostburg State University.	
Robert Mallory, Missouri Southern State University.	
Jessica McIntyre, Lee University.	
Cindy McKnight, Ursuline College.	
Carrie Michaels, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania (Management Council chair).	
Thomas Newsom, Southeastern Oklahoma State University.	
Will Prewitt, Great American Conference.	
Debbie Snell, Hawaii Pacific University.	
Christina Whetsel, Augusta University.	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
Keri Becker, Grand Valley State University.	
Christie Ward, Catawba College.	
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>	
None.	
<b>NCAA Liaisons in Attendance:</b>	
Jeremy Christoffels and Jordan Lysiak.	
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>	
Dana Conner, Terri Steeb Gronau, Chelsea Hooks, Maritza Jones, Angela Red and Drea Rog.	



REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION II NOMINATING COMMITTEE  
OCTOBER 12, 2023, MEETING

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative Items.

- None.

2. Nonlegislative Items.

- NCAA Division II Nominating Committee Policies and Procedures.

- (1) Recommendation. Approve a change to the Division II Nominating Committee policies and procedures to seek feedback on a slate of nominees for a committee vacancy from the committee with the vacancy.
- (2) Effective Date. August 1, 2024.
- (3) Rationale. This addition to the policies and procedures would create transparency by providing committees with a vacancy the full slate of nominees. The Nominating Committee would review feedback from the committee with a vacancy (sample attached), which would offer another tool to base their decision. The committee recommendations form will note that the recommendations are advisory only and that although the Nominating Committee would seriously consider the recommendations, the application of various factors may result in the appointment of other qualified nominees. A committee's recommendation for filling a vacancy or vacancies shall include a description of how each recommended nominee is qualified for or possesses specific skills that are desired to fill specific needs as it relates to the committee's duties and responsibilities. The committee with the vacancy may elect to provide feedback on the nominees in the form of a recommendation from the chair of the committee. The feedback should not be limited to one individual, unless only one individual is nominated for a vacancy. In addition, committees must describe the process by which the recommendations were developed (e.g., committee chair recommendation, administrative committee or full committee discussion). Names of nominees on the feedback form are to be provided in alphabetical order without ranking.
- (4) Estimated Budget Impact. None.
- (5) Student-Athlete Impact. None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Reports from Previous Meetings.** The committee approved the reports from its September 12 videoconference, and September 15 electronic action.
2. **NCAA Division II Ethnic Minority and Women's Internship Grant Selection Committee.** The Nominating Committee appointed **John Kietzmann**, associate director of athletics, Metropolitan State University of Denver, Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference; and **Wendy Snodgrass**, director of athletics, Pennsylvania Western University, Clarion, Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference, to fill two immediate vacancies on the committee.
3. **Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee Referral.** The committee discussed a referral from the Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee related to whether there is a need to update the committee's composition to include a Division II national Student-Athlete Advisory Committee member. The committee agreed that given the committee's purpose is to recommend Division II nominees to fill committee vacancies, it is important to know the nominees and the roles they manage in their athletics department. The committee also felt that its meeting frequency and the timing of the meetings would be difficult for a student-athlete representative.
4. **Future Meetings.**
  - a. Videoconference: 2 to 3 p.m. Eastern time Tuesday, December 12, 2023.
  - b. In-person meeting: February 21, 2024 (NCAA national office, Indianapolis).

*Committee Chair: Molly Belden, Northeast-10 Conference*  
*Staff Liaisons: Jen Roe, Governance and Policy*  
*Robert Turick, Research*

<b>NCAA Division II Nominating Committee October 12, 2023, Meeting</b>	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Molly Belden, Northeast-10 Conference.	
Patrick Britz, South Atlantic Conference.	
Jessica Chandler, University of Missouri-St. Louis.	
David Haase, University of West Georgia.	
Bridget Johnson-Tetteh, Great Northwest Athletic Conference.	
Roberta Page, Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania.	
Matthew Pope, Carson-Newman University.	
Derrick Price, Bluefield State University.	
Todd Thurman, Metropolitan State University of Denver.	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
James Crawley, Dominican University New York.	
Eric Schoh, Winona State University.	
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>	
Carrie Michaels, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania.	
<b>NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:</b>	
Robert Turick.	
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>	
Lynn Dickey and Ryan Jones.	

## DIVISION II NOMINATING COMMITTEE

### Committee Nominee Feedback

Committee:

Number of Vacancies:

Desired Qualities (optional):

**Describe the process by which the recommendations were developed (e.g., committee chair recommendation, administrative committee or full committee discussion).**

RECOMMENDATIONS: (Committee's recommendations are advisory only and that although the recommendations are seriously considered, the application of various factors may result in the appointment of other qualified nominees. If there is more than one nominee for a vacancy you must forward more than one name for consideration ~~or the Council Coordination Committee may not consider the feedback in the appointment process.~~)

***Please provide the nominees in alphabetical order without rankings.***

**General comments (optional):**

**1. *Nominee's Name***

Describe how recommended nominee is qualified for service, or possesses specific skills related to the committee's duties and responsibilities:

**2. *Nominee's Name***

Describe how recommended nominee is qualified for service, or possesses specific skills related to the committee's duties and responsibilities:

**3. *Nominee's Name***

Describe how recommended nominee is qualified for service, or possesses specific skills related to the committee's duties and responsibilities:



EXCERPT FROM REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION II NOMINATING COMMITTEE  
DECEMBER 12, 2023, MEETING

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative Items.

- None.

2. Nonlegislative Items.

a. Referral to the NCAA Division II Championships Committee.

- (1) Recommendation. That the NCAA Division II Management Council request that the Championships Committee discuss the need for/value of a proposed change to filling sport committee vacancies in which feedback on nominees would be sought from the committee with the vacancy or vacancies.
- (2) Effective Date. Immediate.
- (3) Rationale. Under current policies and procedures, the Division II Nominating Committee reviews materials submitted by nominees and feedback from conference commissioners when filling sport committee vacancies. The Nominating Committee has discussed the potential value that would be added if sport committees with vacancies were given an opportunity to comment on their committee's slate of nominees. Comments/recommendations would help inform conversation, though an application of various factors may result in the appointment of other qualified nominees. The committee noted potential burden placed on sport committees to review nominee information and provide feedback and decided it would be best to seek feedback from the Championships Committee before recommending a potential change.
- (4) Estimated Budget Impact. None.
- (5) Student-Athlete Impact. None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **NCAA Division II Nominating Committee Policies and Procedures.** The committee discussed a recommendation approved during its October 12 videoconference which would change the Division II Nominating Committee policies and procedures to seek feedback on a slate of nominees for a committee vacancy from the committee with the vacancy. Following discussion regarding the need for/value of seeking feedback from Division II governance committees on the slate of nominees that have been put forward to fill

vacancies within those committees, the committee decided to withdraw its previous recommendation as it relates to governance committees. The committee noted that the current process works well and there is no need to add additional steps to the process, which may delay appointments.

The committee also agreed to seek feedback from the Division II Championships Committee as it relates to whether there is a need for/value in seeking feedback on nominees for sports committees.

2. **Reports from Previous Meetings.** The committee approved the report from its October 12 videoconference.
3. **NCAA Honors Committee.** The committee approved the list of nominees for the NCAA Honors Committee.
4. **Future Meetings.**
  - a. In-person meeting: February 21, 2024 (NCAA national office, Indianapolis).
  - b. Videoconference: 2 to 3 p.m. Eastern time Tuesday, March 12, 2024.

*Committee Chair: Molly Belden, Northeast-10 Conference*

*Staff Liaisons: Jen Roe, Governance and Policy*

*Robert Turick, Research*

<b>NCAA Division II Nominating Committee December 12, 2023, Meeting</b>	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Molly Belden, Northeast-10 Conference.	
Patrick Britz, South Atlantic Conference.	
Jessica Chandler, University of Missouri-St. Louis.	
James Crawley, Dominican University New York.	
David Haase, University of West Georgia.	
Bridget Johnson-Tetteh, Great Northwest Athletic Conference.	
Roberta Page, Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania.	
Derrick Price, Bluefield State University.	
Eric Schoh, Winona State University.	
Todd Thurman, Metropolitan State University of Denver.	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
Matthew Pope, Carson-Newman University.	
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>	
Carrie Michaels, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania.	
<b>NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:</b>	
Robert Turick.	
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>	
Lynn Dickey and Maritza Jones.	



REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION II PLANNING AND FINANCE COMMITTEE  
DECEMBER 13, 2023, VIDEOCONFERENCE

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative Items.

- None.

2. Nonlegislative Items.

a. Division II Surplus Recommendations.

- (1) Recommendation. Approve allocating the fiscal year 2022-23 surplus plus the fiscal year 2023-24 unallocated revenue equaling \$4,425,118 in the following ways:

Item	Notes	Amount
Division II Supplemental Distribution (285 institutions eligible)	Approximately \$13,510 per institution	\$3,850,473
Joint Championships Roll-Over		\$340,053
Division II 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Roll-Over		\$205,000
Championships Festival Roll-Over		\$14,592
Additional Expenses for Division II		\$15,000
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$4,425,118</b>

*Notes:*

Supplemental Distribution. Sent to each active and eligible institution that received the Division II Institutional Equal Distribution Fund in April 2023 and is still an active Division II institution at the time of the distribution in February 2024.

Joint Championships Roll-Over. This line item is rolled over each fiscal year to ensure dollars are available for joint championships events.

50th Anniversary Celebration Roll-Over. In January 2023, the Division II Presidents Council approved the use of \$300,000 (including \$50,000 for signage) to celebrate Division II's 50th anniversary over the 2023-24 academic year. The remaining funds from the FY23 budget will be used to cover expenses in FY24.

*Championships Festival Roll-Over. The remaining funds from FY23 will be used to pay for the spring national championships festival expenses in FY24.*

*Additional Expenses for Division II. Per the new NCAA Constitution, previous overhead charges ceased with FY22. Starting in FY23, an annual review is conducted to validate additional Association service expenses that Division II pays for directly from its 4.37 percent allocation. Expenses for FY24 are expected to be higher than originally anticipated.*

- (2) Effective date. Immediate.
- (3) Rationale. The Planning and Finance Committee reviewed a recommendation for using the surplus and agreed that the uses outlined in the above chart are appropriate. The surplus included unexpected unallocated revenue from FY24. After submitting FY24 budget requests approved by the Planning and Finance Committee and Presidents Council in April 2023, Division II governance received information in August that the FY24 budget increase was \$1,336,270 more than originally noted (\$2,535,488 total new revenue for FY24 vs \$1,199,218 known in March 2023). The additional dollars were added to the Division II reserve. Since the dollars remain unallocated, the Planning and Finance Committee added the unallocated dollars to the FY23 surplus and used them to increase the supplemental distribution to the Division II membership in February 2024. In 2024, the Strategic Planning and Finance Committee can discuss how to allocate the increased FY24 revenue.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. N/A.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. The recommendation prioritizes the membership distribution to help with supporting programs that benefit the student-athlete experience.

**b. 2024-27 Division II Championships Triennial Budget Recommendations.**

- (1) Recommendation. Approve the Division II championships triennial budget recommendations listed in Attachment A.
- (2) Effective Date. 2024-27 budget triennium.
- (3) Rationale. The Division II Presidents Council and the Division II Planning and Finance Committee allocated \$1.5 million to the base budget for championships for the triennial cycle beginning in fiscal year 2024-25. The Division II Championships Committee discussed all requests from Division II sport committees, which totaled more than \$3 million, and prioritized

them accordingly, collaborating with sport committees throughout the process to ensure all stakeholders were aware of the conditions and constraints. The Planning and Finance Committee supported the prioritized listing in Attachment A and recommends approval by the Presidents Council.

- (4) Estimated Budget Impact. The recommendations total \$1,292,831. The remaining \$207,169 of the \$1.5 million allocation will be reserved for future championship initiatives.
- (5) Student-Athlete Impact. All of the recommendations, in one way or another, directly enhance the student-athlete experience at Division II championships, either by increasing participation opportunities or improving championship administration.

#### **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Welcome and review of agenda.** Planning and Finance Committee Chair Colleen Perry Keith welcomed the group and previewed the meeting agenda.
2. **Review of previous reports.** The committee approved the report from its September 20 videoconference, as presented.
3. **Review of budget-to-actuals.** The committee reviewed the final Division II budget-to-actuals for the 2022-23 fiscal year.
4. **Fiscal-year 2022-23 surplus recommendations.** The committee reviewed the surplus from the 2022-23 fiscal year and the unallocated revenue for the 2023-24 fiscal year and agreed to allocate the funds as specified in Nonlegislative Action Item 2-a above.
5. **2024-27 Division II championships triennial budget recommendations.** The committee reviewed and supported the championship enhancement recommendations from the Division II Championships Committee for the 2024-27 budget triennium (See Nonlegislative Action Item 2-b above.)
6. **Review of Division II Operating Plan.** The committee reviewed and approved a revised Operating Plan (see Attachment B) based on input received during the fall meetings of the Division II Management Council, Division II Presidents Council, and the Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee. The Operating Plan is designed to enable the Division II governance structure to begin determining key goals and objectives for the 2026-32 Division II Strategic Plan. The document is based on the new NCAA Operating Plan outlined by NCAA President Charlie Baker and includes a vision statement and a series of commitments and strategic priorities that could help shape the new plan. The revised Operating Plan will be shared with the councils and Division II SAAC for further discussion in January. Specific questions will be developed regarding each strategic priority area for

the councils and SAAC to discuss in roundtables. Following the January discussions, governance committees and affiliate organizations will be asked to provide feedback.

**7. Division II Conference Strategic Priorities Fund.**

**a. Guidelines and Principles.** The committee reviewed and approved its revised Conference Strategic Priorities Fund Guidelines and Principles document that reflects the transition to the new Strategic Planning and Finance Committee as the overseeing body beginning in February 2024. The updated guidelines also include conference allocations for the 2024-25 academic year. Finally, the updated guidelines include the addition of WeCOACH Professional Growth and Leadership Development Program as a permissible use in the Diversity and Inclusion strategic positioning outcome area.

**b. Use of funds to provide tuition assistance to part-time intern.** The committee considered an inquiry from a conference office regarding use of Conference Strategic Priorities Funds to pay for tuition as part of a part-time intern's salary. The committee acknowledged the request as being unique and not directly addressed in the fund's guidelines but agreed that it could be a permissible expense so long as the conference ties the expense to one of the strategic positioning outcome areas.

**8. Division II revenue distribution.**

**a. Revenue distribution policy.** The committee reviewed and approved the updated revenue distribution policy.

**b. Estimates for April 2024 Division II conference sports sponsorship fund distributions.** Staff reviewed the 2024 conference sports sponsorship fund distributions. Conferences were notified of their 2024 estimated distributions last month following the November 1 verification deadline.

**c. Fines for late submission.** The committee was notified that a conference did not submit its sports sponsorship verification information by the November 1 deadline but submitted an appeal that notes a clerical error as the cause of the late submission. After discussion, the committee approved a one-time waiver of the fine. In addition, the committee asked staff to discuss potential updates to the software to ensure that conferences receive a verification notice that their submission has been received.

**9. Future meetings and videoconferences.** This was the final meeting for this iteration of the Planning and Finance Committee, which will transition to the new Strategic Planning and Finance Committee beginning in February. Staff will conduct two orientation calls with the new committee members before the group meets formally for the first time in March. President Keith thanked members for their contributions and commitment to excellence during their terms.

*Committee Chair:* Colleen Perry Keith, President, Goldey-Beacom College

*Staff Liaisons:* Terri Steeb Gronau, Division II Governance

Maritza Jones, Division II Governance

Ryan Jones, Division II Governance

Andrea Worlock, Administrative Services

<b>Division II Planning and Finance Committee December 13, 2023, Videoconference</b>	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
	Carlos Campo, Ashland University.
	Mark Corino, Caldwell University.
	Michael Driscoll, Indiana University of Pennsylvania.
	Colleen Perry Keith, Goldey-Beacom College.
	Erin Lind, Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference.
	Steven Shirley, Minot State University.
	Jerry Wollmering, Truman State University.
<b>Absentees:</b>	
	Carrie Michaels, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania.
	Frank Wu, Queens College (New York).
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>	
	None.
<b>NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:</b>	
	Terri Steeb Gronau, Maritza Jones, Ryan Jones and Andrea Worlock.
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>	
	Gary Brown, Becca Burchette, Kendee Hilliard, Karen Kirsch and Jill Waddell.

**Division II Championships Committee  
2024-27 Triennial Budget Recommendations**

**ATTACHMENT A**

<b>Sport</b>	<b>New Initiatives (Sport Committee Requests)</b>	<b>Amount</b>
All	General championship enhancements	\$25,000
All	Preliminary round signage (25% increase)	\$18,690
All	Officiating fee increase (DIII + \$10)	\$26,040
All	Banquets (\$30 to \$50)	\$114,280
Baseball	Finals site format change to best of three series	\$44,330
Baseball	Super regional format change to three days	\$58,810
Baseball	Increase squad size (25 to 26) and travel party (29 to 30) by one	\$75,000
Basketball - M/W	Regional evaluator stipend (\$6,000 per gender)	\$12,000
Field Hockey	Increase bracket to eight teams (from six to eight)	\$85,000
Football	Increase officiating fees (from \$270 to \$325)	\$10,395
Football	Increase video evaluator fee (from \$110 to \$150)	\$1,080
Football	Increase alternate fees (from \$120 to \$200) and pay travel	\$28,000
Golf - M/W	Live scoring leaderboard at final site (\$10,000 per gender)	\$20,000
Golf - W	Increase regionals field size to 72 teams (from 48 to 72)	\$135,494
Lacrosse - M	Increase bracket to 16 teams (from 12 to 16)	\$135,000
Lacrosse - W	Increase bracket to 24 teams (from 16 to 24)	\$191,000
Soccer - M/W	Staggered start at final site	\$7,500
Soccer - M/W	Separation of third and quarterfinal rounds (Men's - \$35,028, Women's - \$25,244)	\$60,272
Softball	Additional cameras for video replay at final site	\$3,850
Swimming/Diving - M/W	Gifts for relay-only swimmers	\$6,200
Track - Indoor M/W	Set field sizes - updated request	\$29,000
Track - Outdoor M/W	Set field sizes	\$136,000
Volleyball	National coordinator of officials	\$17,500
Volleyball	Travel expenses for line judges	\$36,000
Volleyball	Increase game fee for line judges at final site	\$240
Wrestling	Independent video review	\$12,500
Wrestling	Increase officials fees by \$25 per session	\$3,650
	<b>Allocated</b>	<b>\$1,292,831</b>
	<b>Remaining</b>	<b>\$207,169</b>

**Sport Committee Requests Not Recommended**

All	Honorariums (20%)	\$42,420
All	Mementos (\$75 to \$100)	\$142,850
Basketball - M/W	DV Sport at regional sites (\$85,604 per gender)	\$171,208
Golf - W	Increase final site field size to 20 teams (from 18 to 20)	\$25,506
Softball	Increase squad size to 24, travel party to 30	\$306,000
Softball	Increase squad size to 22, travel party to 28	\$154,000
Swimming/Diving - M	Increase field size by 30	\$72,000
Track - Outdoor M/W	Four day outdoor championship; no increase to field size	\$187,590
Wrestling	Expenses for athletic trainer at final site	\$86,000

**Division II Championships Committee**  
**2024-27 Triennial Budget Recommendations**

**Items Rendered Moot by Recommendations Above**

Field Hockey	Increase bracket to seven teams (from six to seven)	\$42,000
Football	Increase alternate fees (from \$120 to \$200)	\$2,160
Golf - W	Increase regionals field size to 80 teams (from 48 to 80)	\$178,494
Lacrosse - M	Increase bracket to 14 teams (from 12 to 14)	\$68,000
Lacrosse - W	Increase bracket to 20 teams (16 to 20)	\$95,500
Track - Indoor M/W	Set field sizes	\$46,000
Track - Outdoor M/W	Set field sizes - updated request option 1	\$96,000
Track - Outdoor M/W	Set field sizes - updated request option 2	\$85,000

## Division II Operating Plan

**NCAA Mission:** Provide a world-class athletic and academic experience for student-athletes that fosters lifelong well-being.

**DII Vision:** Provide an environment in which student-athletes develop well-being and life skills through their desired academic pursuits, through participation in high-level athletics, and through impactful civic engagement.

### DII Commitments:

- Empower student-athletes to excel in their chosen academic curricula and ensure that athletics is an integral component of the holistic educational experience.
- Provide programs and resources to enhance student-athletes' physical, mental and social well-being.
- Deliver an outstanding championships program that provides equitable and rewarding postseason experiences.
- Conduct meaningful civic engagement activities to strengthen relationships within the campus and surrounding communities.
- Support student-athletes' personal and professional development as they successfully transition to life after sport.
- Operate an efficient, effective, and inclusive governance structure informed by diligent research that enables Division II members to actualize the mission and vision.
- Promote and celebrate the Division II brand through the Make It Yours platform to enhance the public's knowledge and appreciation of the Division II experience.

### DII Strategic Priorities

#### Student-Athlete Experience

- **Academics**
  - Maintain rules and policies that enable institutions to support student-athletes' academic achievement.
  - Continue to achieve a student-athlete graduation rate above that of the general student body.
  - Promote and honor student-athletes, institutions and conferences that achieve a high level of academic success.
  - Support student-athletes in their efforts not only to complete their undergraduate degrees but also pursue postgraduate work.
  - Ensure that student-athletes are afforded the opportunity to develop the skills they need to succeed in life after college.
- **Athletics**
  - Seek innovative approaches to support up-and-coming sports that offer new, exciting and equitable opportunities.

- Create a game environment at the campus, conference and national levels that is welcoming, inclusive, fan-friendly, entertaining and civil.
  - Celebrate student-athletes' success in regular-season and postseason competition.
  - Implement a championships access ratio and selection methodology that enhances the postseason for participants and fans without compromising the regional model as a core tenet of the Division II regular-season experience.
  - Help student-athletes maximize their opportunities related to Name, Image and Likeness.
  - Develop initiatives and practices that strengthen the officiating pool; provide education, training and resources to support current officials and attract new officials.
- **Health and Wellness**
    - Collaborate with the Sport Science Institute and the NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports to create an environment/culture that supports and enhances total wellness for all individuals (physical, mental, social and personal well-being).
    - Prioritize destigmatizing mental health concerns and foster a culture of acceptance and wellness; emphasize mental wellness as an asset to athletic performance.
    - Provide education and training that allow athletics department personnel to manage mental wellness issues.
    - Emphasize access and opportunity as a best business practice at the campus, conference and national levels.
    - Collaborate within the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee network to activate the DII SAAC's commitments and goals, including empowering student-athletes with resources, empathizing with their concerns, and enhancing their voice and experience.

### Membership Experience

- **Governance**
  - Maintain a diverse and inclusive governance and committee structure that represents all Division II constituents through the one school/one vote legislative process at the NCAA Convention.
  - Increase participation in the governance and committee structure from all levels (e.g., presidents/chancellors, athletics directors, commissioners, compliance administrators, senior woman administrators, faculty athletics representatives, coaches, student-athletes, staff).
  - Ensure a strong student-athlete presence in decision-making at the campus, conference and national levels.
  - Use research and data points to inform decision making.
  - Emphasize effective communication and transparency in decision making to strengthen trust.
- **Operations and Positioning**

- Maintain achievable and meaningful membership standards that position Division II as a destination of choice for current and potential new members.
- Maintain presidential oversight of the division's budgeting process that protects membership interests and supports excellent championships programming.
- Help institutions and conferences enhance their community engagement operations and strengthen relationships.
- Develop educational materials and resources that help institutions support a culture of compliance.
- Provide leadership and professional development opportunities for student-athletes, athletics administrators, coaches and faculty members.
- Seek new revenue streams and opportunities to increase ticket sales, corporate sponsorships and media partnerships.



SUPPLEMENT NO. 25  
 DII Management Council 01/24  
**FY 2023-24 DII Budget to Actual**  
 (through 11/30/23)

	FY 2022-23		FY 2023-24		
	Actual YTD	Actual YE	Actual	Budget	Variance
<b>Revenue</b>					
DII/DIII Allocation-Based Revenue	\$46,807,823	\$52,203,104	\$51,602,115	\$51,602,115	\$0
Surplus	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Revenue Total</b>	<b>\$46,807,823</b>	<b>\$52,203,104</b>	<b>\$51,602,115</b>	<b>\$51,602,115</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Expenses</b>					
<b>Championship Expenses</b>					
<b>Men's Championships</b>					
DII Men's Baseball	(\$3,560)	\$2,576,141	\$58,577	\$2,612,685	\$2,554,108
DII Men's Basketball	\$4,761	\$2,143,039	\$10,062	\$2,101,589	\$2,091,527
DII Men's Cross Country	\$40,104	\$786,765	\$406,446	\$689,925	\$283,479
DII Men's Football	\$1,269,721	\$3,448,464	\$1,854,555	\$3,327,760	\$1,473,205
DII Men's Golf	\$67	\$958,651	\$15,286	\$1,008,644	\$993,358
DII Men's Lacrosse	\$21	\$468,959	\$32,105	\$520,184	\$488,079
DII Men's Soccer	\$400,659	\$1,500,963	\$354,530	\$1,466,193	\$1,111,663
DII Men's Swimming and Diving	(\$1,432)	\$487,278	\$22,879	\$546,941	\$524,062
DII Men's Tennis	\$203	\$701,551	\$293	\$855,139	\$854,846
DII Men's Track Indoor	(\$4,925)	\$741,484	\$27,079	\$738,730	\$711,651
DII Men's Track Outdoor	\$1,393	\$921,925	\$7,880	\$973,528	\$965,649
DII Men's Wrestling	(\$3,218)	\$668,059	\$21,294	\$700,908	\$679,615
Other	\$0	\$151	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,703,793</b>	<b>\$15,403,427</b>	<b>\$2,810,985</b>	<b>\$15,542,226</b>	<b>\$12,731,241</b>
<b>Women's Championships</b>					
DII Women's Basketball	\$6,209	\$2,239,712	\$19,540	\$2,299,008	\$2,279,468
DII Women's Cross Country	\$33,757	\$785,297	\$437,975	\$665,610	\$227,635
DII Women's Field Hockey	\$40,536	\$429,974	\$73,990	\$252,041	\$178,051
DII Women's Golf	\$2,866	\$732,859	\$13,944	\$752,786	\$738,842
DII Women's Lacrosse	(\$1,637)	\$692,981	\$5,091	\$647,376	\$642,285
DII Women's Rowing	\$181	\$317,156	\$9,108	\$509,237	\$500,129
DII Women's Soccer	\$614,070	\$1,886,547	\$756,711	\$1,787,718	\$1,031,007
DII Women's Softball	\$156	\$2,254,827	\$6,140	\$2,589,872	\$2,583,732
DII Women's Swimming and Diving	(\$2,131)	\$546,095	\$26,380	\$663,839	\$637,459
DII Women's Tennis	(\$3,372)	\$671,670	\$822	\$776,082	\$775,260
DII Women's Track Indoor	(\$1,360)	\$749,860	\$26,803	\$741,653	\$714,850
DII Women's Track Outdoor	(\$4,224)	\$920,250	\$11,792	\$960,355	\$948,564
DII Women's Volleyball	\$284,346	\$1,649,575	\$130,717	\$1,777,759	\$1,647,043
Other	\$0	\$151	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$969,396</b>	<b>\$13,876,954</b>	<b>\$1,519,012</b>	<b>\$14,423,336</b>	<b>\$12,904,324</b>
<b>Championship Expenses Total</b>	<b>\$2,673,189</b>	<b>\$29,280,382</b>	<b>\$4,329,997</b>	<b>\$29,965,562</b>	<b>\$25,635,565</b>



## FY 2023-24 DII Budget to Actual (through 11/30/23)

	FY 2022-23		FY 2023-24		
	Actual YTD	Actual YE	Actual	Budget	Variance
<b>Non-Championship Expenses</b>					
APPLE Training Institute and NCAA Inclusion Forum	\$3,750	\$222,640	\$246,750	\$350,000	\$103,250
Approved Supplemental Distribution	\$0	\$2,312,000	\$0	\$0	\$0
Championships Festival	\$106,039	\$730,311	\$55,786	\$700,000	\$644,214
Coaches' Connection Program	\$93,599	\$182,275	\$108,479	\$254,000	\$145,521
Coaching Enhancement Grant	\$244,614	\$243,414	\$328,800	\$370,000	\$41,200
Community Engagement at DII Championships	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$100,000	\$100,000
Conference Strategic Priorities Fund	\$3,435,999	\$3,435,999	\$3,428,000	\$3,444,000	\$16,000
Degree Completion	\$6,250	\$444,495	\$18,750	\$450,000	\$431,250
DII University	\$11,990	\$137,490	\$51,350	\$300,000	\$248,650
Drug Testing Enhancement	\$43,980	\$175,921	\$60,400	\$181,198	\$120,798
Exploratory/Provisional Membership	\$0	\$102,498	\$0	\$0	\$0
FAR Institute	\$18,289	\$52,430	\$29,159	\$75,000	\$45,841
Game Day	\$106,188	\$335,745	(\$1,022)	\$0	\$1,022
Governance Outreach	\$6,345	\$34,016	\$4,851	\$38,000	\$33,149
Grant to ADA	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$0
Grant to CCA	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$0
Grant to College Sports Communicators	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$0
Grant to MOAA	\$71,075	\$71,075	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$0
Grant to NAAC	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$0
Grant to Women Leaders in College Sports	\$70,000	\$71,803	\$75,000	\$75,000	\$0
Identity Initiatives, Communications and Marketing	\$43,707	\$725,098	\$165,955	\$1,203,500	\$1,037,545
Identity Workshop	\$3,040	\$109,234	\$0	\$165,000	\$165,000
Insurance	\$132,678	\$132,678	\$132,460	\$135,000	\$2,540
Internship Grant	\$165,000	\$172,388	\$133,592	\$218,500	\$84,908
Joint Championships	\$0	\$109,947	\$2,247	\$0	(\$2,247)
Leadership Conference	\$0	\$280,955	\$902	\$358,000	\$357,098
Membership Education	\$13,209	\$96,094	\$5,056	\$145,000	\$139,944
Mentor Program	\$11,092	\$64,786	\$16,920	\$88,500	\$71,580
NCAA Annual Convention	\$14,919	\$149,500	\$2,650	\$147,000	\$144,350
New AD Orientation	\$19,713	\$21,908	\$17,311	\$41,000	\$23,689
Regular Season and Championships Media	\$0	\$338,703	\$0	\$400,000	\$400,000
Conference Sports Sponsorship Fund	\$0	\$5,774,299	\$0	\$5,947,524	\$5,947,524
Institutional Equal Distribution Fund	\$0	\$1,924,740	\$0	\$1,982,508	\$1,982,508
SAAC Super Region Convention	\$0	\$264,675	\$47,417	\$300,000	\$252,583
Strategic Alliance Matching Grant	\$622,827	\$642,248	\$728,600	\$775,000	\$46,400
<b>Non-Championship Expenses Total</b>	<b>\$ 5,544,303</b>	<b>\$19,659,364</b>	<b>\$6,034,413</b>	<b>\$18,618,730</b>	<b>\$ 12,584,317</b>
<b>Additional Expenses for Division II</b>	<b>\$ 40,000</b>	<b>\$ 174,513</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 164,800</b>	<b>\$ 164,800</b>
<b>Expenses Total</b>	<b>\$8,257,492</b>	<b>\$49,114,259</b>	<b>\$10,364,410</b>	<b>\$48,749,092</b>	<b>\$38,384,682</b>
Surplus (Deficit)	\$38,550,331		\$41,237,705	\$2,853,023	
Add: Prior Year Reserve Balance	\$51,681,847		\$51,681,847	\$51,681,847	
Estimated Reserve Balance	\$90,232,178		\$92,919,552	\$54,534,870	



REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION II STUDENT-ATHLETE ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
NOVEMBER 16, 2023, IN-PERSON MEETING

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative Items.

- **Noncontroversial Legislation -- NCAA Division II Bylaws 21.8.5.2.1 and 21.8.5.6.1 -- Championships Committee and Legislation Committee -- Composition.**

- a. Recommendation. Adopt noncontroversial legislation to amend Bylaws 21.8.5.2.1 (Championships Committee – composition) and 21.8.5.6.1 (Legislation Committee – composition) to include a second member of the NCAA Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee on the NCAA Division II Championships Committee and NCAA Division II Legislation Committee; further to specify that the one additional student-athlete appointed to the Championships Committee and one additional student-athlete appointed to the Legislation Committee shall: 1) each have one vote; 2) serve a one-year term that is renewable for one year; and 3) be elected by the Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.

The following will be the preferences for student-athlete representatives on the Championships Committee:

- One male student-athlete and one female student-athlete.
- One student-athlete from a team sport and one student-athlete from an individual sport.

The following will be the preferences for student-athlete representatives on the Legislation Committee:

- One male student-athlete and one female student-athlete.
- Diversity of sport.
- Diversity of region.

- b. Effective Date. April 1, 2024.

- c. Rationale. Currently, Division II SAAC is represented by one student-athlete on the Championships Committee and one student-athlete on the Legislation Committee. The committee believes adding one student-athlete to both the Championships Committee and Legislation Committee will strengthen the student-athlete voice by providing additional perspectives in committee discussions that often directly impact student-athletes. The one additional student-athlete on the Championships Committee and one

additional student-athlete on the Legislation Committee will enhance the gender and sport diversity and the conference representation that the current student-athlete members provide. Further, having an additional student-athlete serve on the two committees will increase opportunities for SAAC members to serve on Division II committees. The additional student-athletes will offer support for the current student-athlete members on the Championships Committee and Legislation Committee, which are largely composed of Division II athletics administrators.

- d. Estimated Budget Impact. The addition of one student-athlete to the Championships Committee and one student-athlete to the Legislation Committee will have a minimal budget impact (i.e., travel, meals and per diem for in-person meetings).
- e. Estimated Student-Athlete Impact. The recommended amended compositions elevate the student-athlete voice by adding a second student-athlete member.

## 2. Nonlegislative Items.

- None.

### INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Establish Division II SAAC Positions for 2024 NCAA Convention.** The committee reviewed and supported two of the five legislative proposals that will be voted on by the Division II membership at the 2024 Convention. Committee members discussed how their conference voted on the proposals and offered additional feedback they received.

The committee discussed the following pieces of proposed legislation:

- a. **Proposal No. 2024-1:** Playing and Practice Seasons – Football – Preseason Practice and First Contest – First Permissible Contest. **Committee Position: Opposes.**

The committee opposed NCAA Division II Proposal No. 2024-1 due to the proposal reducing one week of the summer break and extending the season by one week, the potential for injuries to occur as a result of the extra week of the season, the bye week not being utilized for rest and recovery, and the additional responsibilities it will place on athletics department staff who the committee stated are already overworked.

- b. **Proposal No. 2024-2:** Playing and Practice Seasons – Softball – Number of Contests – Maximum Limitations – Institutional and Student-Athlete – Championship and Nonchampionship Contests. **Committee Position: Opposes.**

The committee opposed Proposal No. 2024-2 due to concerns that additional games in an already full season could negatively impact softball student-athletes' physical, mental and overall well-being.

- c. **Proposal No. 2024-3:** Championships Administration – Administration of Division II Championships – Minimum Sponsorship for Division II Championships – Minimum Number of Sponsoring Institutions and Three-Year Grace Period. **Committee Position: Supports.**
- d. **Proposal No. 2024-4:** Championships Administration – Administration of Division II Championships – Criteria for Selection of Participants – Automatic Qualification – Automatic Qualification in All Team Sports Other Than Football. **Committee Position: Supports.**
- e. **Proposal No. 2024-5:** Championships Administration – Administration of Division II Championships – Criteria for Selection of Participants – Earned Access – Football – Earned Access for All Football-Sponsoring Conferences. **Committee Position: Opposes.**

The committee opposed Proposal No. 2024-5 due to it resulting in fewer bids being available to football conferences that usually receive multiple bids as a result of the strength of their teams.

- 2. **Preparation for 2024 Convention Division II Business Session.** The committee assigned members to speak on legislative proposals for the 2024 Division II business session.
- 3. **2024 Convention Overview.** The committee was presented with the 2024 Convention schedule. The SAAC will attend its January meeting, then participate in Convention programming.
- 4. **2024 Convention Programming.** The committee discussed possible topics for the joint SAAC, NCAA Division II Management Council and NCAA Division II Presidents Council breakfast and meeting. Education sessions will be dedicated to developing a strong campus or conference SAAC; mental wellness; diversity, equity and inclusion; name, image and likeness in Division II; and resources for faculty athletics representatives.
- 5. **2024 SAAC Elections.** The committee will hold its annual elections during its January committee meeting. The committee received a preview of the positions that will be open for election. Committee members will submit nominations for the open positions before the January committee meeting.
- 6. **Updates on 2023-24 SAAC Goals.** The committee discussed the current progress towards the three E's – empowering student-athletes with resources, empathizing with their

concerns and enhancing the student-athlete voice and experience. The committee added additional members to the social media subcommittee to allow for more creativity and content diversity. The subcommittee asked the committee for feedback for future content planning. Based on feedback received from institutions and conferences, there is a desire for more education on civic engagement activities to support the division's annual civic engagement day, held on the Tuesday after the first Monday in November every year. The committee discussed creating guidelines for the day and formed a working group to create a resource.

7. **Discussion on Softball Date Formula During Festival Years.** The committee discussed the softball date formula during festival years and the positives and negatives with changing the date formula to permit softball student-athletes to participate in festival years. Ultimately, the committee agreed that the date formula should permit softball student-athletes to compete in the festival. The SAAC believes the festival experience is a key element of the Division II experience. Committee members shared the overwhelmingly positive feedback they heard from their peers about the festival experience. Committee members referred to the festival as being a “once in a lifetime experience” and a “once in a career experience” and removing it for softball student-athletes would take away an opportunity that student-athletes who compete in it look forward to, enjoy and value.
8. **Congressional Engagement Update.** The committee discussed two student-athlete letters that were sent from the Great American Conference SAAC and SAAC member Davaris Cheeks to the Senate Judiciary Committee for the October 17 hearing. Both letters amplified the voice of Division II student-athletes. The committee and Division II student-athletes were encouraged to continue writing letters to their state and government officials and continue to use the congressional engagement [resources](#) provided by and for student-athletes.
9. **Discussion of Key Goals for Division II Strategic Plan.** The committee discussed the division's key goals for its new strategic plan that will launch in January 2026.
10. **Discussion on Campus and Conference SAAC Guides.** A working group is continuing to update the committee's campus and conference SAAC guides. The goal is for the documents to be finalized and shared in the spring semester with Division II institutions and conferences.
11. **Discussion on Division I Name, Image and Likeness Working Group.** The committee provided feedback on several questions related to legislative proposals that have been created by the NCAA Division I's Name, Image and Likeness Working Group.
12. **2023 Dr. Dave Pariser Faculty Mentor Award.** The committee chose its 2023 Dr. Dave Pariser Faculty Mentor Award winner. The award honors an institutional faculty member who has demonstrated dedication, support and guidance to student-athletes and the institution's athletics program. The story on the 2023 Dr. Dave Pariser Faculty Mentor Award winner will be announced on NCAA.org and the division's social media channels prior to the 2024 Convention. The winner will be recognized during a reception at the

2024 Convention.

13. **2024 Division II Award of Excellence.** The committee received an update on the 2024 Division II Award of Excellence nominations. Fifty-two institutions and two conferences self-nominated and 19 conferences were represented. The Honors, Awards and Recognition Subcommittee will choose the 2024 Division II Award of Excellence national winner, runner-up and third place finalist in December. The top three recipients will be recognized during the 2024 Division II business session.
14. **November 2023 SAAC Super Region Convention.** The committee prepared to lead and facilitate discussions for the division's sixth SAAC Super Region Convention for conferences and institutions in the South and Southeast regions November 17-19 at the Westin Peachtree Plaza in Atlanta, Georgia. Student-athletes and administrators from the Conference Carolinas, Gulf South Conference, Peach Belt Conference, South Atlantic Conference, Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference and Sunshine State Conference attended. SAAC will host its next super region convention for the Central and Midwest regions in April 2025 and South Central and West regions in November 2025 at locations to be determined.
15. **Make-A-Wish®.** The committee received an update on the division's total donations and number of wish reveals granted for the 2022-23 academic year in Division II. Division II [raised](#) more than \$160,000 for Make-A-Wish. Three Division II institutions raised over \$10,000 and six institutions earned wish reveals by receiving supplemental funds from the division's championships and enforcement fine dollars. The committee was reminded of the Make-A-Wish [tool kit](#) available. The next Week of Wishes will occur February 17-24, 2024.  
  
The committee was reminded that all donations for the 2023-24 academic year should be [submitted directly](#) to Make-A-Wish; and to view the Division II specific Make-A-Wish page at [ncaadii.wish.org](http://ncaadii.wish.org). This page includes an option to register, donate and frequently asked questions about fundraising. For questions, the committee was asked to contact a new Make-A-Wish representative, Maggie Gibbons ([mgibbons@wish.org](mailto:mgibbons@wish.org)).
16. **Team IMPACT®.** The committee was informed that Division II donated approximately \$115,000 from its championships and enforcement fines to Team IMPACT.
17. **New Allocation Model for Division II Championships and Enforcement Fines.** Starting with the 2024-25 academic year, Division II will utilize a new model for allocating its championships and enforcement fine dollars. The fine dollars will impact Division II honorees of the Division II Award of Excellence, Team IMPACT and Make-A-Wish. Starting with the 2024-25 academic year, \$7,500 of the fine dollars will enhance Award of Excellence prize money, and of the remaining funds, 60-percent will be distributed to Team IMPACT and 40-percent will be distributed to Make-A-Wish.

18. **Division II 50th Anniversary Celebration.** The division continues to celebrate its 50th anniversary. The celebration will last through the 2023-24 academic year and culminate with the 2024 Division II Baseball Championship finals.
  - a. **Gold Award.** On November 13, 45 individuals were recognized as finalists for the Division II Gold Award. This award recognizes individuals who have made a lasting and positive impact in Division II. Two Gold Award overall winners (one male, one female) will be announced and recognized at the 2024 Convention in Phoenix, Arizona.
  - b. **Scholarship Opportunity.** Beginning January 22, 2024, nominations will open in NCAA Program Hub for Division II active member institutions to nominate one male and one female student-athlete for the 50th anniversary \$1,000 scholarship. Student-athlete nominees should exhibit the core values of Division II and have athletics eligibility remaining through the 2024-25 academic year. By May 20, 2024, one male and one female student-athlete will be selected from each of the division's 23 conferences and one male and one female student-athlete will represent the division's independent institutions. Scholarship recipients will be announced during the 2024 NCAA Division II National Championships Festival in Orlando, Florida.
19. **Division II Committee and Subcommittee Reports.** Committee members serving on NCAA Division II committees provided updates on their respective committees. The committees represented were the NCAA Division II Academic Requirements Committee, NCAA Division II Administrative Committee, Championships Committee, Legislation Committee, Management Council and Presidents Council. The committee also received an update from the Management Council Identity Subcommittee.
20. **Association-Wide Committee Reports.** Committee members representing Association-wide committees provided updates on their respective committees. The Association-wide committees represented were the NCAA Board of Governors Student-Athlete Engagement Committee and NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports.
21. **Board of Governors Update.** The committee received an update from the NCAA Board of Governors Division II student-athlete representative Madeleine McKenna. The update included various tasks the Board of Governors are working on and an update on congressional engagement and sports wagering.
22. **Scholarship Opportunities.** The committee received an overview of the scholarships available for Division II student-athletes, including the 2024-25 NCAA Division II Degree Completion Award, Jim McKay Graduate Scholarship, Walter Byers Graduate Scholarship, NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship Program and Ethnic Minority and Women's Enhancement Graduate Scholarship.

**23. July and August meeting reports.** The July and August committee meeting reports were reviewed and approved.

**24. Future Meetings.**

- a. January 9-13, 2024, in conjunction with 2024 Convention; Phoenix, Arizona.
- b. April 13-14, 2024, SAAC meeting; videoconference
- c. July 19-21, 2024, Management Council/SAAC Summit; Indianapolis.
- d. November 23-24, 2024, SAAC meeting; videoconference.
- e. January 14-18, 2025, SAAC meeting in conjunction with 2025 NCAA Convention; Nashville, Tennessee.

*Committee Chair:* Emma Kramer, Simon Fraser University, Great Northwest Athletic Conference  
*Staff Liaisons:* Ryan Jones, Governance  
 Amanda Benzine, Women’s Basketball  
 Marcus Brown, Academic and Membership Affairs  
 Megan McDonald, Academic and Membership Affairs  
 Becca Burchette Medel, Governance

<b>NCAA Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee November 16, 2023, In-Person Meeting</b>
<b>Attendees:</b>
Kara Amos, Missouri Southern State University, Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association.
Eddie Baker, The College of Saint Rose, At-Large.
Scott Borgmann Jr., Wilmington University (Delaware), Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference.
Michaela Boyd, Azusa Pacific University, At-Large.
Davaris Cheeks, Concordia University, St. Paul, Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference.
Ben Cherry, California State University, San Marcos, California Collegiate Athletic Association.
Addison Courtney, Fairmont State University, Mountain East Conference.
Alexis Devlin, Catawba College, South Atlantic Conference.
Cullen Dore, Francis Marion University, Conference Carolinas.
Haley Gilbert, Augusta University, Peach Belt Conference.
Theresa Grosbach, Missouri Western State University, Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association.
Molly Hansen, University of Montevallo, Gulf South Conference.
Shani Idlette, Clark Atlanta University, Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.
Myles Jackson, Queens College (New York), At-Large.
Emma Kramer, Simon Fraser University, Great Northwest Athletic Conference.
Dani Mabry, Rockhurst University, Great Lakes Valley Conference.

David Mayser, University of Hawaii at Hilo, Pacific West Conference.
Courtney Medwin, West Chester University, Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference.
Alexis Montalvo, Ashland University, Great Midwest Athletic Conference.
Tanner Olson, University of Wisconsin-Parkside, Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.
Katie Williamson, Southern Connecticut State University, Northeast-10 Conference.
Justin Zavala, Bowie State University, Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association.
<b>Absentees:</b>
Laura Amaya, Roberts Wesleyan University, East Coast Conference.
DJ Guest Jr., California State University, Dominguez Hills, California Collegiate Athletic Association.
JJ Hayes, Palm Beach Atlantic University, Sunshine State Conference.
Avery Hellmuth, Oklahoma Baptist University, Great American Conference.
Scout Huffman, Texas Woman's University, Lone Star Conference.
Austin Mondello, Colorado Mesa University, Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference.
Sandra Woodley, University of Texas of Permian Basin, Lone Star Conference.
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>
Madeleine McKenna and Carrie Michaels.
<b>NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>
Amanda Benzine, Marcus Brown, Dawn Buth, Terri Steeb Gronau, Kendee Hilliard, Chelsea Hooks, Anna Lynn Houk, Maritza Jones, Ryan Jones, Karen Kirsch, Megan McDonald, Becca Burchette Medel, Angela Red, Alyssa Rice and Sarah Vollaro.



REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION II COMMITTEE ON STUDENT-ATHLETE REINSTATEMENT  
NOVEMBER 15, 2023, VIDEOCONFERENCE

**ACTION ITEMS.**

1. **Legislative Items.**

- **None.**

2. **Nonlegislative Items.**

a. **Mental Health Hardship Waiver.**

- (1) Recommendation. Approve a two-year pilot program for the 2023-24 and 2024-25 academic years establishing a hardship waiver based on mental health assertions, as specified. [Attachment A]
- (2) Effective date. Immediately, for hardship waivers with mental health assertions during the 2023-24 and 2024-25 academic years.
- (3) Rationale. Mental health concerns have risen related to student-athletes in recent years. Recognizing this is an area of importance for the Association, establishing a mental health hardship waiver would better support student-athletes with mental health concerns asserted as the reason they competed limitedly. Expanding the documentation standards recognizes student-athletes may not know to seek help until after the season in question. Further, mental health conditions are documented differently than physical injuries, so traditional contemporaneous medical documentation that establishes an individual is incapacitated from competing might not be appropriate in every mental health scenario.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. Student-athletes would have a specific waiver type available for their institutions to file when mental health is asserted as the reason the student-athlete competed limitedly.

b. **Request for Feedback from the NCAA Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, NCAA Division II Coaches Connection, Division II Conference Commissioners Association Compliance Administrators and Division II Institutional Compliance Administrators -- NCAA Division II Bylaw 14.2.4.1 -- Eligibility -- Seasons of Competition: 10-Semester/15-Quarter Rule -- Criteria for Determining Season of Eligibility -- Minimum Amount of Competition.**

- (1) Recommendation. That the NCAA Division II Management Council request the Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, Division II Coaches Connection, Division II Conference Commissioners Association Compliance

Administrators and Division II institutional compliance administrators provide feedback on the current application of Division II Bylaw 14.2.4.1 (minimum amount of competition). Specifically, the committee requests feedback on the following:

- (a) Is Division II Bylaw 14.2.4.1 (minimum amount of competition) still appropriate?
- (b) Should certain participation (e.g., scrimmage) trigger a season of competition, regardless of the year?
- (c) Should there be a minimum threshold of competition that a student-athlete participates in before they trigger a season of competition (e.g., 30% of Bylaw 17 maximums)?
- (d) Would it be beneficial to student-athletes to expand Division II Bylaw 14.2.4.1 (minimum amount of competition)?
- (e) Are there any unintended consequences to expanding the legislation (e.g., prolong graduation)?

(2) Effective date. Immediate.

(3) Rationale. As part of the work of the Division II Implementation Committee, the Division II Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement was charged with reviewing the season-of-competition legislation. The committee would like to seek feedback from practitioners and others before recommending any changes to the legislation.

(4) Estimated budget impact. None.

(5) Student-athlete impact. None.

**c. Request for Feedback from the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, Coaches Connection and Compliance Administrators -- Bylaw 14.2.4.1.6 -- Eligibility -- Seasons of Competition: 10-Semester/15-Quarter Rule -- Criteria for Determining Season of Eligibility -- Minimum Amount of Competition -- Preseason Exhibition Contests or Dates of Competition/ Preseason Scrimmage During Initial Year.**

- (1) Recommendation. That the Management Council request the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, Coaches Connection and Division II compliance administrators provide feedback on Bylaw 14.2.4.1.6 (preseason exhibition contests or dates of competition/preseason

scrimmage during initial year). Specifically, the committee requests feedback on the following:

- (a) Should Division II Bylaw 14.2.4.1.6 (preseason exhibition contests or dates of competition/preseason scrimmage during initial year) be amended to permit student-athletes to participate in preseason exhibition contests or dates of competition or preseason scrimmages beyond their initial year of collegiate enrollment and not use a season of competition?
- (b) Is this legislation still appropriate?

- (2) Effective date. Immediate.
- (3) Rationale. As part of the work of the Division II Implementation Committee, the Division II Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement was charged with reviewing the season-of-competition legislation. The committee would like to seek feedback from practitioners and others before recommending any changes to the legislation.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

**d. Feedback from the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, Coaches Connection and Conference Commissioners Association Compliance Administrators – Bylaw 14.2.5.2.3 -- Eligibility -- Seasons of Competition: 10-Semster/15-Quarter Rule -- Criteria for Determining Season of Eligibility -- Hardship Waiver -- Criteria for Administration of Hardship Waiver -- First-Half-of-Season Calculation.**

- (1) Recommendation. That the Management Council request the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, Coaches Connection and Conference Commissioners Association Compliance Administrators provide feedback on the current application of Bylaw 14.2.5.2.3 (first-half-of-season calculation) and whether the first-half-of season calculation legislation is still appropriate in Division II.
- (2) Effective date. Immediate.
- (3) Rationale. As part of the work of the Division II Implementation Committee, the Division II Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement was charged with reviewing the hardship waiver legislation. The committee would like to seek feedback from practitioners and others before recommending any changes to the legislation.

- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
  - (5) Student-athlete impact. None.
- e. **NCAA Division II Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement Sports Wagering Guidelines.**
- (1) Recommendation. That the Management Council approve amendments to the sports wagering guidelines, as specified. [Attachment B]
  - (2) Effective date. Immediate, for violations reported on or after November 2023.
  - (3) Rationale. The legislative codification of the prohibition on sports wagering dates back over 30 years. Over time, the Division II membership incrementally modernized the legislation to better reflect the nature of the sports betting landscape, including the elimination of the legislated sports wagering sanctions in 2018. Since that time there has been an unprecedented proliferation of legal and regulated sports wagering in the United States, including drastic changes in the Internet-based nature of the majority of that wagering (e.g., through Internet sportsbooks, daily fantasy sites). There have also been changes to NCAA sports wagering championships hosting policy which now allows states that have single-game sports betting the opportunity to host NCAA championship events. Further, signaling an evolving landscape in this area, institutions and conferences have entered official partnerships with gaming companies. The amended guidelines offer the opportunity for the Division II Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement and NCAA student-athlete reinstatement staff to review cases on an individual basis and consider the totality of the circumstances while recognizing the Association’s continued emphasis on the severity of sports wagering violations.
  - (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
  - (5) Student-athlete impact. Student-athletes will be provided the benefit of additional consideration of mitigating factors, as appropriate.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

- 1. **Review of NCAA Division II Implementation Committee’s recommendation to review hardship waivers, season-of-competition waivers and extension of eligibility waivers.** The committee reviewed a recommendation from the Division II Implementation Committee to review hardship waivers, season-of-competition waivers and extension of eligibility waivers and discussed Division II Bylaw 14.2 (seasons of competition:

10-semester/15-quarter rule). Specifically, the committee agreed it is important to support student-athlete mental health and more flexibility should be afforded when mental health is the assertion for why a student-athlete participated limitedly. As such, the committee recommended a two-year pilot program that would establish a hardship waiver for mental health [see Nonlegislative Action Item 2a]. The committee also recommended that the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, Coaches Connection, Conference Commissioners Association Compliance Administrators and institutional compliance administrators provide feedback on the application of Bylaw 14.2.4.1 (minimum amount of competition) [see Nonlegislative Action Item 2b], Bylaw 14.24.1.6 (preseason exhibition contests or dates of competition/preseason scrimmage during initial year) [see Nonlegislative Action Item 2c] and Bylaw 14.2.5.2.3 (first-half-of-season calculation) [see Nonlegislative Action Item 2d]. Additionally, the committee was supportive of staff using a year a student-athlete is unable to compete in intercollegiate athletics due to training or competition with their country's national team as a denied participation opportunity. Finally, the committee emphasized situations that are within the student-athlete's or the institution's control should not be the sole basis for waivers being approved.

2. **Review of sports wagering dollar-value based withholding guidelines.** The committee reviewed its guidelines for sports wagering violations. The committee instructed staff to continue reviewing cases on a case-by-case basis. The committee also noted staff should continue acknowledging the evolving landscape specific to sports wagering while underscoring the severity of activities designed to influence the integrity of competitions and addressing the growing need to re-center student-athlete health and well-being as a primary focus within the sports wagering policy. Additionally, the committee noted mitigating factors for relief should not include: (1) Student-athletes self-reporting their sports wagering violations; and (2) The dollar value of a wager in regard to wagering on college athletics. Further, in violations that present well-being concerns, the committee will continue discussing opportunities to prioritize treatment and education over sanction. [See Nonlegislative Action Item No. 2e.]
3. **Review of the Division II Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement Guidelines.** The committee reviewed and approved editorial revisions to the Division II Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement Guidelines.
4. **NCAA Division II Summary of Legislative Actions.** The committee received an update on legislative actions relevant to student-athlete reinstatement.
5. **Review of the 2023-24 Division II Priorities.** The committee received an update on the Division II priorities for 2023-24.
6. **Approval of the June 15, 2023, in-person meeting report of the Division II Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement.** The committee reviewed and approved its June 15, 2023, in-person meeting report.
7. **Future meetings.** The committee established the following future meeting dates:

- a. May/June 2024, in-person meeting; Indianapolis.
- b. November/December 2024, videoconference; timing to be determined.

*Committee Chair:* Jessica Harbison-Weaver, Pacific West Conference.  
*Staff Liaison(s):* Maison Hubbard, Academic and Membership Affairs.  
 Jess Rigler, Academic and Membership Affairs.

<b>NCAA Division II Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement November 15, 2023, Videoconference</b>
<b>Attendees:</b>
Lynn Griffin, Coker University.
Jessica Harbison-Weaver, Pacific West Conference.
Kristi Kiefer, Fairmont State University.
Scott Larson, Black Hills State University.
Dani Mabry, Rockhurst University.
Denise Wisniewski, Chestnut Hill College.
<b>Absentees:</b>
None.
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>
None.
<b>NCAA Support Staff in Attendance:</b>
Maison Hubbard and Jess Rigler.
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>
Cynthia Alanis, James Bullock, Connor Bush, Dana Conner, Chelsea Hooks, Sarah L’Hommedieu, Maritza Jones, Liz Perry, Angela Red, Brad Rochman, Jerry Vaughn and Julie Zike.

## NCAA DIVISION II: MENTAL HEALTH HARDSHIP WAIVER RECOMMENDATION

<u>Current Legislation: Hardship Waiver:</u>	<u>Incorporating Committee Feedback:</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Student-athlete cannot compete in more than 30% of the playing season.</li> <li>• All competition has to occur during first half of the championship playing season.</li> <li>• Injury or illness has to occur during first half of traditional playing season.</li> <li>• School is required to provide contemporaneous medical documentation demonstrating student-athlete remained incapacitated remainder of the season.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Student-athlete cannot compete in more contests or dates of competition than a number equivalent to three or 30% of the standard denominator, where the standard denominator is determined by the maximum number of contests or dates of competition.</li> <li>• All <u>competition</u> must occur during first half of championship playing season. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Note: A student-athlete who meets the criteria for receipt of a mental health hardship waiver may practice and/or participate in rehabilitative activities for the remainder of the season and still qualify for a hardship waiver.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Contemporaneous <i>or</i> noncontemporaneous medical documentation from a licensed practitioner qualified to provide mental health services (see Interassociation Consensus: Mental Health Best Practices) must demonstrate that the student-athlete’s mental health issue or condition occurred during the season in question, occurred before completion of the first half of the championship playing season, and prevented the student-athlete from competing in more than three or 30% of the traditional playing season in that sport for the season being waived.</li> </ul>

- a. Guidelines for violations reported on or after November 15, 2023:
- (1) In situations where a student-athlete engages in activities designed to influence the outcome or integrity of an intercollegiate contest or in an effort to affect win-loss margins ("point shaving"), who participates in any sports wagering activity involving the student-athlete's institution, or who knowingly provides information to individuals involved in or associated with any type of sports wagering activities, the committee directed the reinstatement staff to begin its withholding analysis at permanent loss of eligibility in all sports. *(May 2018, **affirmed November 2023**)*
  - (2) In situations where a student-athlete participates in any sports wagering activity involving another collegiate institution, the committee directed the reinstatement staff to require the student-athlete participate in sports wagering rules and prevention education and begin its withholding analysis at sit-one-season of competition and charge the use of one season of competition. *(May 2018, updated November 2023)*
  - (3) For all other violations of Bylaw 10.3 (e.g., in-game betting, person-to-person wagers), the following guidelines shall apply (dollar value is cumulative amount wagered or risked):
    - (a) \$200 or less = participation in sports wagering rules and prevention education.
    - (b) Greater than \$200 to \$500 = 10% withholding condition and participation in sports wagering rules and prevention education.
    - (c) Greater than \$500 to \$800 = 20% withholding condition and participation in sports wagering rules and prevention education.
    - (d) Greater than \$800 = 30% withholding condition and participation in sports wagering rules and prevention education.

In cases where the impermissible sports wagering activity greatly exceeds \$800, the committee directed the reinstatement staff to consider whether additional withholding, including permanent ineligibility, may be appropriate. *(December 2011, affirmed May 2013, updated November 2023)*
  - (4) For any violation where a student-athlete receives winnings associated with any sports wagering activity, the student-athlete must make repayment of full value received. *(December 2011, affirmed May 2013, affirmed November 2023)*
  - (5) If the student-athlete is determined to have been involved in a later violation of any portion of Bylaw 10.3, the committee directed staff to begin its withholding analysis at permanent loss of eligibility in all sports. *(affirmed November 2023)*



REPORT OF THE NCAA  
DIVISION II MANAGEMENT COUNCIL IDENTITY SUBCOMMITTEE  
DECEMBER 11 AND 13, 2023, VIDEOCONFERENCES

**ACTION ITEMS.**

- None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Discussion on Gold Award finalists.** The NCAA Division II Management Council Identity Subcommittee discussed the male and female finalists for the Division II 50th Anniversary Gold Award and determined one male winner and one female winner, both of whom will be announced January 12 at the Division II Keynote Session.
2. **Gold Award communication plan and confidentiality.** The committee discussed the importance of keeping the information pertaining to the Division II 50th Anniversary Gold Award confidential until the Gold Award winners are announced January 12.
3. **Keynote Session at the 2024 Convention.** The Division II Keynote Session will be held January 12 and will feature a panel of 50th Anniversary Gold Award finalists. The following individuals will serve on the panel: James Barber, former coach at Southern Connecticut State University; Brenda Cates, University of Mount Olive faculty athletics representative; Jacqie McWilliams Parker, Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association commissioner; Pennie Parker, Rollins College associate vice president of athletics; and Roy Pickerill, Kentucky Wesleyan College sports information emeritus. Courtney Medwin, women’s lacrosse student-athlete at West Chester University of Pennsylvania and a national Division II SAAC member will serve as the panel’s moderator. The panel will highlight each panelists’ journey throughout Division II.
4. **Future meetings.** The subcommittee will meet April 15, 2024, after the first day of the Management Council meeting. Following the April meeting, the subcommittee noted a May 2024 virtual meeting will be scheduled to discuss the 50th Anniversary Scholarship.

*Committee Chair: Sandee Mott, Texas Woman’s University, Lone Star Conference*  
*Staff Liaison(s): Ryan Jones, Division II Governance*  
*Terri Steeb Gronau, Division II Governance*  
*Maritza Jones, Division II Governance*  
*Becca Burchette Medel, Division II Governance*

<b>Division II Management Council Identity Subcommittee December 11 and 13, 2023, Videoconferences</b>
<b>Attendees:</b>
Patrick Britz, South Atlantic Conference
Brenda Cates, University of Mount Olive.
Bennett Cherry, California State University, San Marcos.

Theresa Grosbach, Missouri Western State University.
Amy Henkelman, Dominican University of California.
Emma Kramer, Simon Fraser University.
Katherine Loh, Florida Southern College.
Danny McCabe, Adelphi University.
Carrie Michaels, Shippensburg University.
Austin Mondello, Colorado Mesa University.
Sandee Mott, Texas Woman's University.
Vaughn Williams, Bentley University.
<b>Absentees:</b>
Theresa Grosbach, Missouri Western State University ( <i>December 13</i> ).
Austin Mondello, Colorado Mesa University ( <i>December 13</i> ).
Danny McCabe, Adelphi University ( <i>December 11</i> ).
Jerry Wollmering, Truman State University.
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>
None.
<b>NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:</b>
Terri Steeb Gronau, Maritza Jones, Ryan Jones and Becca Burchette Medel.
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>
Kendee Hilliard.



REPORT OF THE  
NCAA COMMITTEE ON COMPETITIVE SAFEGUARDS  
AND MEDICAL ASPECTS OF SPORTS  
SEPTEMBER 19-20, 2023, MEETING

ACTION ITEM.

1. **Legislative Item.**

- **NCAA Bylaw 18 – Remove Cannabinoids from the List of NCAA Banned Drug Classes.**

(1) Recommendation. That each division introduce and adopt legislation to remove cannabinoids from the list of NCAA banned drug classes.

(2) Effective Date. Immediate.

(3) Rationale. The NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports recommended the removal of cannabinoids from the list of NCAA banned substances based on extensive study informed by subject matter experts (including medical doctors, substance misuse experts and membership practitioners), consensus opinion from the 2022 Summit on Cannabis in Collegiate Athletics and referrals from Divisions II and III to consider banning only performance enhancing drugs. Removing cannabinoids from the list of banned substances does not condone or promote cannabinoid use; instead, it acknowledges the ineffectiveness of existing policy (prevention and penalty) and aims to recenter student-athlete health while recognizing the shifting cultural and legal landscapes surrounding cannabinoid use. In summary, removing cannabinoids from the list of banned substances:

1. Acknowledges the ineffectiveness of existing policy (prevention and penalty);
2. Affirms the role of the NCAA drug-testing program to address only performance-enhancing substances;
3. Emphasizes the importance of moving toward a harm-reduction strategy, like alcohol, that prioritizes education and support over penalty;
4. Realigns toward local testing and education efforts to identify problematic cannabinoid use; and
5. Notes that educating student-athletes on the health threats posed by contemporary cannabis and methods of use is more effective than a prevention approach.

Finally, the committee determined that the proposal, if adopted, would apply retroactively to any penalty associated with a previous positive test; thereby, rendering the penalty moot.

(4) Estimated Budget Impact. None.

(5) Student-Athlete Impact. The recommendation aims to recenter student-athlete health by taking a harm-reduction approach to cannabinoid use.

## 2. **Nonlegislative Items.**

- None.

## INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Approval of June 13-14, 2023, meeting report.** The NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports approved the report of its June 13-14, 2023, meeting.

## 2. **Mental health.**

- a. Mental Health Advisory Group update. CSMAS received an update on the work of the NCAA Mental Health Advisory Group. The Mental Health Advisory Group met June 28-29 and discussed feedback from CSMAS' June meeting on recommended foundational statements for updating the NCAA Mental Health Best Practices, including association-wide feasibility (Attachment A). It also discussed emerging topics for consideration as part of its recommendations, including social media, suicide contagion and supporting the mental health of LGBTQ+ student-athletes.
- b. Mental Health Best Practices update. CSMAS reviewed and provided feedback on a working draft of the Second Edition of the Mental Health Best Practices document as recommended by the Mental Health Advisory Group. CSMAS supported the proposed updates and noted that it will meet in December and expects to recommend that the NCAA Board of Governors take final action to approve the document at its January 2024 meeting.
- c. Webinar series update. CSMAS received an update on the SSI Spotlight on Mental Health Best Practices webinar series. The five-installment series was created to generate interest for pending updates to the Mental Health Best Practices and highlight current membership initiatives on mental health. CSMAS noted that the

series has been successful and supported its continuation to educate the membership on other timely topics.

**3. Litigation updates.** CSMAS received a briefing on the ongoing litigation relevant to its work.

**4. Governance updates.**

a. Divisional updates. CSMAS received a governance update from each of the divisions.

b. CSMAS Contributions to Division I Transformation Committee. CSMAS referred the management of work on health and safety related outcomes from the NCAA Division I Transformation Committee (including recommendations from the NCAA Division I Strategic Vision and Planning Committee and NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports Health and Safety Subgroup) and the student-athlete holistic model to the NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports Administrative Subcommittee.

c. Division III Mental Health Hardship Waiver. CSMAS received an update on work completed by the NCAA Division III Student-Athlete Reinstatement Committee to refine requirements for Division III hardship waivers involving mental health as mitigation. It is possible that the Division III Student-Athlete Reinstatement Committee may request additional feedback from CSMAS at a future meeting.

d. Division III Athletic Training Working Group. CSMAS received an update on the creation of a Division III Athletic Training Working Group to discuss athletic training work force issues.

**5. Subcommittee reports.**

a. **Administrative Subcommittee.**

(1) Review of subcommittee activity. CSMAS received the reports of its Administrative Subcommittee videoconferences since June 2023.

(2) Athletic training workforce issues. CSMAS continued to discuss ongoing athletic training workforce issues. It reviewed the report (Attachment B) of a recent meeting between leadership of athletic training organizations and representatives from the membership and approved a complementary statement to assist in standardizing the membership's understanding of AT workforce dynamics and to emphasize possible solutions (Attachment C).

- (3) Legislative proposals. CSMAS took positions, as recommended by the AdCom, on 2024 NCAA Convention Division II proposals, as follows:
  - (a) Proposal No. 2024-1 (playing and practice seasons – football – preseason practice and first contest – first permissible contest). CSMAS agreed to take no position.
  - (b) Proposal No. 2024-2 (playing and practice seasons – softball – number of contests – maximum limitations – institutional and student-athlete – championship and nonchampionship contests). CSMAS opposed this proposal. CSMAS noted that additional athletic activity entails additional risk of injury. In addition, and of timely concern, CSMAS noted the impact and burden on institutional medical and athletic training staff, especially given the current membership concerns with the collegiate athletic training workforce.
- (4) NCAA Board of Governors review of Association-wide committees. CSMAS was informed of the AdCom's response to the Board of Governors' request for information to support its review of Association-wide committees following the adoption of the new NCAA Constitution. This work was referred to the AdCom in June 2023.

**b. Drug-Testing Subcommittee.**

- (1) Review of subcommittee activity. CSMAS received the reports of its Drug-Testing Subcommittee videoconferences since June 2023.
- (2) Cannabinoid education and messaging. CSMAS received an update on work following the 2022 Summit on Cannabis in Collegiate Athletics to create consensus-based, foundational statements to create education and messaging for schools as they work to prevent, identify and manage problematic cannabinoid use in student-athletes. A final plan for education and communication is expected by early 2024.
- (3) Cannabinoid policy. CSMAS recommended the creation of a robust question and answer document to support its recommendation that each division introduce and adopt legislation to remove cannabinoids from the list of NCAA banned substances (see Legislative Action Item).

- c. **Research Subcommittee.**
  - (1) Review of subcommittee activity. CSMAS received the reports of its Research Subcommittee videoconferences since June 2023.
  - (2) IPP Health & Safety Survey update. CSMAS approved changes to the 2023-24 Institutional Performance Program Health and Safety Survey, as recommended by the Research Subcommittee. Completion of the updated annual IPP Health and Safety Survey is required of NCAA Divisions I and II schools. The survey will be distributed to Division I and II schools on Tuesday November 21, 2023, and will close on Friday, January 26, 2024.
6. **Drug Free Sport International update.** CSMAS received an update from Drug-Free Sport International on the NCAA year-round and championship drug-testing programs for the 2022-23 academic year. The program summary included the rate of NCAA banned substances detected, the number of appeals conducted, and the number of administrative reviews conducted for student-athlete exit tests.
7. **NCAA Injury Surveillance Program.**
  - a. Operational update. CSMAS received an update on membership participation in the NCAA Injury Surveillance Program. Consistent efforts to promote membership participation have been underway for the past year, and there is some evidence that participation levels in Divisions II and III are slowly increasing from post-COVID levels.
  - b. Seasonal ISP report review. CSMAS reviewed the 2022-23 fall sport report that was generated from ISP data.
8. **National Federation of State High School Association update.** CSMAS received an update on the National Federation of State High School Associations' Sports Medicine Advisory Committee.
9. **NCAA Sports Medicine Handbook update.** CSMAS received an update on the status of substantive updates to the Sports Medicine Handbook. The revisions are expected to be finalized prior to the 2024-25 academic year.
10. **NCAA transgender student-athlete participation policy update.** CSMAS discussed the current NCAA transgender student-athlete participation policy and received an overview of emerging trends in sport-governing body policies, state laws and proposed federal regulations. It noted that the AdCom, in collaboration with other relevant committees, will

consider if any recommendations should be made for the 2024-25 academic year. Recommendations, if any, would be considered at CSMAS' December meeting for Board of Governors' consideration in January 2024.

**11. Concussion.**

- a. Recommendations for Concussion Safety Protocol Checklist. CSMAS approved updates to the Concussion Safety Protocol Checklist (Attachment D), as recommended by the NCAA Concussion Safety Advisory Group. The updated checklist and corresponding Concussion Safety Protocol Template (Attachment E) will be effective January 15, 2024.
- b. Fact Sheets. CSMAS approved updates to the three fact sheets (for student-athletes, educators and coaches) (Attachments F, G and H), as recommended by the Concussion Safety Advisory Group. The fact sheets will be released to the membership along with the updated Concussion Safety Protocol Checklist and Concussion Safety Protocol Template.
- c. Sports Medicine Handbook Concussion Guideline. CSMAS supported proposed revisions to the concussion chapter in the NCAA Sports Medicine Handbook.
- d. Mind Matters Update. CSMAS referred to the Research Subcommittee review and authority to approve a plan to use remaining funds allocated to Mind Matters. Mind Matters is part of the NCAA-U.S. Department of Defense Grand Alliance. Mind Matters fosters research and programming aimed at changing concussion safety behaviors and the culture of concussion reporting and management.

**12. CSMAS Advisory Groups.** CSMAS approved revised charters for the Concussion Safety Advisory Group and the Mental Health Advisory Group. It was also updated on the development of three additional advisory groups commissioned in June 2023: (a) Sport-Related Illness and Injury; (b) Performance and Training; and (c) Social and Interpersonal Health. It is expected that the Performance and Training Advisory Group will take shape during the 2023-24 academic year with a Performance Technology Summit to occur prior to the end of 2024.

*Committee Chair: James Houle, The Ohio State University*  
*Staff Liaisons: Leilani Hubbard, NCAA Academic and Membership Affairs*  
*John Parsons, NCAA Sport Science Institute*  
*Anne Rohlman, NCAA Sport Science Institute*

<b>September 19-20, 2023, Meeting</b>
<b>Attendees:</b>
Matt Barany, University of Richmond
Pam Hinton-Bruzina, University of Missouri, Columbia
Deena Casiero, University of Connecticut
Jami Clinton, University of Texas at Dallas
Timothy Coffey, Longwood University
Bob Colgate, National Federation High School Association
Sarah Dowd, Michigan Technological University
Jack Enriken, Kutztown University of Pennsylvania
Kenneth Ferguson, University of Missouri-Kansas City
Deanna Hand, Houghton University
Alan Hirahara, California State University, Sacramento
Richard Hendricks, Shorter University
James Houle, The Ohio State University
Nadine Mastroleo, Binghamton University
Ally Meehan, Wagner College
Austin Mondello, Colorado Mesa University
Amanda Phillips, University of Louisiana at Lafayette
Jamie Potter, University of California, Irvine
Sarah Ramey, West Texas A&M University
Rohan Springer, University of Texas at Dallas
Leah Thomas, Georgia Institute of Technology
Michelle Walsh, Vassar College
Rich Wanninger, Patriot League
<b>Absentees:</b>
Brad Anawalt, University of Washington
Jack Turban, Physician
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>
Avinash Chandran, Michelle Dorsey and Neel Rao.

<b>NCAA Staff Liaison (or Staff Support if subcommittee) in Attendance:</b>
---

Leilani Hubbard, John Parsons and Anne Rohlman.
---

<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>
--

Laura Arnett, Amanda Conklin, Rachel Denton, Amanda Dickey, LaGwyn Durden, Alicia Fine, Brian Hainline, Greg Johnson, Maritza Jones, Mallory Mickus, Leilyn Miles, Greg Pottorff, Alex Purcell, Stephanie Quigg, Crystal Rogers, Luke Schultheis, Jared Tidemann, Jerry Vaughn and Carey Wheelhouse.
--



REPORT OF THE  
NCAA MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY GROUP  
JUNE 28-29, 2023, VIDEOCONFERENCE

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Scope of work and consensus-building update.** The NCAA Mental Health Advisory Group continued developing recommendations to update the [Interassociation Consensus Document: Mental Health Best Practices](#). Specifically, the MHAG discussed the results of the MHAG representative consensus-building survey. Survey results demonstrated consensus for all foundational premise statements and for the usefulness of best practice recommendation statements. Survey results also indicated consensus on the feasibility of most best practice recommendation statements. The MHAG discussed qualitative survey feedback and suggested considerations for enhancing feasibility.

At the conclusion of its work to review the Mental Health Best Practices, the MHAG will provide final consensus-based recommendations, including foundational premise statements and best practice recommendation statements, to the NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports. It is expected CSMAS will consider final recommendations at its December 2023 meeting.

2. **CSMAS feedback review and discussion.** The MHAG discussed CSMAS feedback on MHAG recommendation statements, including association-wide feasibility of the recommendations, as well as considerations in the areas of quality improvement, trauma-informed practices and mental health resources.

Additionally, the MHAG received an overview of a potential webinar series to highlight membership implementation of the existing Mental Health Best Practices and to provide information about the pending updates.

3. **Emerging topics.** The MHAG discussed emerging topics for consideration as part of the MHBP update, including social media and mental health, suicide contagion and supporting the mental health of LGBTQ+ athletes. The discussion included presentations from subject matter experts and consideration of potential resources.

4. **Future meeting schedule.** The MHAG will convene via videoconference in October 2023.

*Staff Liaison: Carey Wheelhouse, NCAA Sport Science Institute*

<b>NCAA Mental Health Advisory Group June 28-29, 2023, Videoconference</b>
<b>Attendees:</b>
Scott Anderson, College Athletic Trainers' Society
Laura Amaya, NCAA Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee
Anna Baeth, Athlete Ally
Randy Barker, NCAA Division III Governance

Jessica Bartley, United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee
Rebecca Benghiat, JED Foundation
JoAnne Bullard, Faculty Athletics Representatives Association
Peggy Davis, NCAA Division II Governance
Stacy Desmond, NCAA Division III Governance *alternative representative
Carla Edwards, International Society for Sport Psychiatry
Sofia España Pérez, NCAA Division I Governance
Rachel Frank, American Orthopaedic Society for Sports Medicine
Darcy Gruttadaro, National Alliance on Mental Illness
Bob Harmison, Association for Applied Sport Psychology
Brandon Harris, Society for Sport, Exercise & Performance Psychology
James Houle, NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports
Megan Koch, NCAA Division III Student-Athlete Advisory Committee
Alan Lorenz, Higher Education Mental Health Alliance
Jennifer O'Donoghue, National Athletic Trainer's Association
Casey Pick, The Trevor Project
Ashwin Rao, American Medical Society for Sports Medicine
Jerry Reynolds, Alliance for Social Workers in Sports
Mark Rogers, American Osteopathic Academy of Sports Medicine
Jeni Shannon, Clinical/Counseling Sport Psychology Association
Allyson Meehan, NCAA Division I Student-Athlete Advisory Committee
Alisia (Giac-Thao) Tran, Asian American Psychological Association
Jon Vore, NCAA Division I Student-Athlete Advisory Committee
William Neupert, NCAA Division I Student-Athlete Advisory Committee *alternative representative
<b>Absentees:</b>
Vedika Anand, NCAA Board of Governors Student-Athlete Experience Committee
Allison Brager, Sleep Research Society
Daniel Foster, Society of Indian Psychologists
Myles Jackson, NCAA Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee
Division III SAAC Representative, TBD
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>
Mary Bowman, Jonathan Briggs, Rafael Campos, Vivek Murthy, Office of the Surgeon General, Jane Richter, Tyler Rodgers and Robin Scholefield.
<b>NCAA Staff Liaison (or Staff Support if subcommittee) in Attendance:</b>
Carey Wheelhouse.
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>
Laura Arnett, Amanda Dickey, LaGwyn Durden, Alicia Fine, Kelsey Gurganus-Wright, Dallas Hack, Brian Hainline, Charlie Henry, Emily Kroshus, Jean Merrill, John Parsons, Greg Pottorff, Alex Purcell, Crystal Rogers, Anne Rohlman.



**STAKEHOLDER MEETING ON  
ATHLETIC TRAINING WORKFORCE ISSUES  
JUNE 21, 2023  
REPORT**

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Meeting purpose, objectives, and structure.** Industry and membership stakeholders in athletic training, including meeting participants from the National Athletic Trainers' Association, the Board of Certification, the Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education and the NCAA shared information and discussed the collegiate athletic training workforce, which is of increasing interest and concern to the NCAA membership. The meeting was held in conjunction with the annual meeting of the National Athletic Trainers' Association in Indianapolis, Indiana and was hosted by the NATA.
  
2. **Workforce implications of athletic training credentialing and credential holders.** Meeting participants discussed if and how athletic training credentialing and the number of credential holders may be impacting athletic training shortages in the collegiate athletic setting. It was noted that the number of "ATC" credential holders is consistent with historical trends, and there is no indication of a decline in the total number of certified athletic trainers. Approximately 16% of certified ATs work in the collegiate setting, which has for years been one of the three most frequent practice settings. In recent years, there has been an increase in the number of athletic training practice settings, including the military, corporate/industrial, occupational health, physician practice settings and performing arts, and all are seeing increases in the number of ATs practicing in those settings. Meeting participants agreed that there has been a dispersion of ATs across more practice settings, but not a reduction in the total number of credentialed ATs.
  
3. **Workforce implications of athletic training education.** Meeting participants discussed the system of athletic training education and noted what may be relevant to workforce issues.
  - a. **Professional degree change.** Meeting participants discussed recent changes to the athletic training professional degree level. Specifically, in health professions education, the *professional degree* is the degree level at which a student achieves the requisite knowledge and skills required to enter the profession. Confirmation that the student has achieved the requisite knowledge and skills is typically demonstrated by challenging a credentialing examination. Historically, the athletic training professional degree was at the baccalaureate level. In 2015, the professional degree was elevated to the master's degree level, a change that reflected the profession's assessment of the clinical practice requirements of current and future ATs in a changing healthcare environment. A strong foundation of health-related basic sciences is necessary to prepare students for contemporary athletic training clinical practice. Additional justification for the degree change included:

- (1) Improved quality of clinical care.
  - (2) Attracting students who have made a more intentional commitment to the AT profession, and who are less likely to be lost to other health professions at the post-baccalaureate level.
  - (3) A more mature system of professional education that is aligned with those of peer health professions, including physical therapy, occupational therapy, physician associates, nurse practitioners, and clinical nurse specialists.
- b. **Athletic training graduate assistantships.** Meeting participants discussed the impact the recent professional degree level change had on athletic training graduate assistantships. Specifically, a byproduct of the professional degree change was the loss of graduate assistant athletic trainers, many of whom bolstered the full-time athletic training staffs of NCAA member schools. While a disruption of the graduate assistantship system was not a primary justification for the professional degree change, the profession recognized that graduate assistantships created several problems:
- The graduate degrees pursued by students were frequently outside of the athletic training discipline and made only limited contributions to an “advanced” body of athletic training clinical knowledge and skill.
  - The presence of AT graduate assistantships distorted the athletic health care marketplace and devalued, both in real and perceived terms, the value of the collegiate AT. Arguably, many of the current athletic training collegiate workforce issues are the consequence of this distorted market dynamic, and solutions will likely require a re-balancing of that marketplace.

Meeting participants agreed that the athletic training profession believes that a restoration of the graduate assistantship system is not in the best interest of the profession, student-athletes, or its system of education for many reasons, including: a restoration of the graduate assistantship system would require a repeal of recent professional degree changes; and the athletic training profession has no appetite for reconsidering the professional degree level and considers the move to a master’s-level professional degree to be final.

- c. **Production capacity of the system of athletic training education.** Meeting participants discussed the production capacity of the athletic training education system. Currently, there are 278 professional athletic training education programs, including both the remaining baccalaureate-level (n = 37) and master’s-level programs (n = 241). Recent declines in matriculating and graduating students are attributed to the pandemic, and similar declines have been observed in peer health

professions. It was noted that these declines are subsiding. And while the number of baccalaureate-level matriculants has steeply declined, this was expected, and is offset by steep increases in graduate-level matriculants. Emerging evidence is also emerging that students graduating from graduate-level programs are remaining in the profession and not being lost to other health professions.

Meeting participants agreed that there is no existing evidence of a decline in the production capacity of the athletic training education system.

4. **The state of the athletic training collegiate workforce.** Meeting participants discussed information about the attitudes, perceptions, and trends of the national athletic training workforce as collected from a survey of collegiate ATs conducted by the National Athletic Trainers' Association.

In recent years, athletic training clinical practice in the collegiate settings has increasingly prioritized 1-on-1 patient care, reflecting a growing understanding of the importance of assessing and treating movement dysfunction and the provision of manual therapy. These clinical trends contribute to a more time-intensive clinical environment. The more time-intensive clinical demands are compounded by growing policy obligations and administrative expectations for AT staff. The net effect is that athletic training practice in the collegiate setting is more time consuming than it used to be, and different than athletic training practice in other practice settings.

The meeting participants also noted that the "Great Resignation" affected health care workers across medical disciplines and clinical practice setting, and athletic training was no exception. Additionally, the collegiate setting has been uniquely susceptible to turnover, with general estimates suggesting 48% turnover of all positions in the collegiate athletic setting in the past two years. For collegiate athletic training, the meeting participant noted this trend is aggravated by:

- Compensation: rate of salary increases for collegiate ATs is less than the average increase across all athletic training practice settings and ranks second-to-last of all athletic training practice settings. (*Source: NATA Salary Survey*)
- Culture: the culture of collegiate athletic setting often challenges the provision of patient-centered care and independent medical decision-making, which increases AT frustration and threatens the quality of patient care.
- Value: ATs perceive limited philosophical and financial support from athletic administrators. These perceptions are reinforced by comparisons to the much higher salaries of less-educated athletic staff with job responsibilities that are less critical to student-athlete wellbeing.

- Burnout: Previously stated factors, combined with the pandemic, insufficient staffing and sometimes hostile work environments have increased rates of athletic trainer burnout, which has led to departures. Student athletic trainers exposed to this kind of practice environment also may become less willing to accept collegiate job offers.
- Demographic changes. The demographics of the athletic training workforce are also changing. Most athletic trainers are now women (57%), and 70% of active ATs are 40 years of age or younger. Together with the generational priorities of today's students, these demographic changes suggest different beliefs and priorities about work and work-life balance. Where these beliefs and priorities are at odds with the realities of the collegiate athletic training practice setting, ATs are leaving the setting.
- Benefits and recruitment. Simultaneously, trends in athletic training workplace benefits are changing and further incentivizing AT migration into other practice settings. For example, an increased number of ATs working outside of the collegiate environment are reporting increased salaries and enhanced employment benefits, such as sign-on bonuses and moving expenses. Until recently, these kinds of workplace benefits have rarely been seen in athletic training workplace recruitment and retention tactics. Their absence in the collegiate setting represents additional obstacles to the recruitment and retention of ATs.

5. **Ideas for addressing athletic training collegiate workforce issues.** Meeting participants shared and discussed the following ideas:

- **(re)Assess the culture of athletic health care delivery.** Meeting participants agreed that this is best accomplished locally and to account for regional market differences. Cultural factors that may be assessed can include, but are not limited to:
  - AT patient loads and volumes.
  - AT to student-athlete patient ratios: emerging evidence suggests that both injury rates and return to play times can be impacted by this factor.
  - Tolerance for medicolegal risks, including documentation quality and compliance.
  - Awareness of, and respect for, independent medical care principles and accountability for those principles.
  - Support for family and personal obligations.

- **(re)Assess athletic trainer value.** Meeting participants agreed that consulting with human resources on the performance of an AT compensation analysis, preferably benchmarking AT responsibilities and time demands against the local allied health / medical market may be helpful. Prior to a compensation analysis, athletic training job descriptions should be reviewed to ensure they reflect current role expectations and responsibilities.

Attention should be given to the actual value that athletic training services contribute to maintaining a student-athlete's ability to participate in athletics, which has significant implications for student recruitment and retention, especially in Division III schools. Additionally, efforts to assess athletic trainer value may also attempt to account for the foundational contribution that ATs make to the student-athlete experience. As noted by adoption of the new NCAA Constitution, the work of the NCAA Division I Transformation Committee and others, elevating and transforming the student-athlete experience is a top-priority of the Association and some accounting of the ATs role and contribution to that experience may be appropriate.

The identification of various forms of alternative compensation complementary to actual salary might be helpful to a school's AT recruitment and/or retention efforts, depending on local market trends.

Lastly meeting participants urged that going forward, the sources of athletic trainer salary data be enhanced to better account for local market variability, and if possible, include benchmarking information about what AT salaries should be, rather than just reporting on current salary levels.

- **Stakeholder engagement.** Because school presidents and chancellors often have final say in personnel decisions, meeting participants agreed that discussions about the current athletic training workplace challenges and potential remedies should occur with school presidents and chancellors. Presidents and chancellors may be sufficiently removed from these athletic department personnel dynamics and could be otherwise unaware of their impact on factors such as the quality of athletic healthcare, medicolegal exposure, and student recruitment and retention.

Meeting participants also felt that engagement with school risk managers could be helpful for properly assessing the role and contributions that athletic trainers make to the school's risk minimization strategy.

Meeting participants agreed that any resources that might facilitate these stakeholder conversations would be useful.

- Alternative models of athletic health care delivery.** Meeting participants acknowledged that several different models now exist for the provision of athletic health care services to collegiate student-athletes. The traditional model is one where athletic health care providers are employed directly by the athletic department. However, various alternative models now exist, and may offer various opportunities and/or advantages, both financial and otherwise. While no single model can yet be recommended, schools might consider exploring one or more of these alternative care delivery models.

<b>Stakeholder Meeting on Athletic Training Workforce Issues June 21, 2023 Meeting</b>	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Stevie Baker-Watson, DePauw University, DIII	
Brant Berkstresser, NATA Intercollegiate Council for Sports Medicine Chair	
Mary-Beth Cooper, Springfield College, DIII	
Kathy Dieringer, NATA President (Co-Chair)	
A.J. Duffy, NATA President-Elect	
Glory Fung, Concordia University Irvine, DII	
David Harris, University of Northern Iowa, DI	
Steve Hillmer, University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, DIII	
Tamesha Logan, NATA Associate Executive Director	
Christopher May, Saint Louis University, DI	
Anne Minton, BOC Chief Executive Officer	
Jennifer O'Donoghue, Intercollegiate Council for Sports Medicine, DI	
Nicole Piart, Lake Forest College, DIII (Co-Chair)	
Rene Revis Shingles, BOC President	
Julie Rochester, Northern Michigan University, DII	
Dave Saddler, NATA Executive Director	
Eric Sauers, CAATE President	
Trent Stratton, Kent State University, DI	
Toni Torres-McGehee, CAATE President-Elect	
Dale West, CAATE Executive Director	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
Michelle Menard, Palm Beach Atlantic University, DII	
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>	
None.	
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>	
Amanda Conklin, LaGwyn Durden, Alicia Fine, Brian Hainline, Maritza Jones, John Parsons, Alex Purcell and Bill Regan.	



**NCAA COMMITTEE ON COMPETITIVE SAFEGUARDS  
AND MEDICAL ASPECTS OF SPORTS  
STATEMENT ON WORKFORCE ISSUES IN COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC TRAINING**

In June, the NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports co-lead [a meeting](#) with industry and membership stakeholders in athletic training, the purpose of which was to share information and discuss the collegiate athletic training workforce and related issues of interest and concern to the NCAA membership.

CSMAS recognizes the significant impact athletic trainers have on the student-athlete experience, perhaps second only to coaches. In addition to responding to athletic emergencies, traumas, and treating athletic injuries and illness, athletic trainers have also become frontline providers on mental health issues. Beyond these clinical services, ATs also serve as designated athletics health care administrators in more than 60% of member schools. AHCAs are central to on-campus athletic health care administration and policy and are the primary conduit from the NCAA national office to campus athletic health care providers. Volatility in the AT workforce; therefore, may challenge the continuity of both the administration and delivery of athletic health care.

CSMAS seeks to highlight and amplify several themes from the June meeting:

1. **The national AT workforce is not smaller and the capacity of the AT profession to produce adequate numbers of ATs is currently unchanged.** While recent changes in the AT professional degree may eventually impact production capacity, there is no evidence to suggest that is currently the case. CSMAS will remain engaged with AT organizations to monitor these trends over time.
2. **The type of available work settings for ATs is rapidly expanding and this is placing competitive pressures on the collegiate work setting.** Opportunities in work settings, such as industrial companies, military organizations, and physician offices, are rapidly expanding for ATs. While the total AT workforce is the same, the collegiate setting now competes with other, often more attractive, work settings.
3. **The COVID-19 pandemic had a broad and deleterious effect on the national healthcare workforce and the “great resignation” was especially acute amongst healthcare providers.** ATs are healthcare providers and were not spared from this impact. Most AT workloads increased disproportionately during the pandemic. This increase caused burnout, which caused many ATs to leave the profession or the collegiate space.
4. **Shortages in the AT workforce are setting-specific and suggest that in the competition with other employment settings for ATs, colleges and universities are losing.** Competitive variables include traditional employment factors, such as salary, schedules, and culture. Other settings are addressing these issues more effectively and are attracting ATs away from the collegiate setting. For decades, the graduate assistantship model on which many schools relied to secure AT services, distorted the athletic health care marketplace and devalued the value of the collegiate AT. Arguably, many of the current athletic training collegiate workforce issues are the consequence of this distorted market dynamic and solutions will likely require a re-balancing.

5. **While all divisions appear to be challenged with this issue, there are likely divisional and school differences in the impact of local shortages in AT availability.** Therefore, solutions will likely be local in nature, and there is no single solution and especially not one that can be effectuated by the NCAA national office. Divisions, conferences and individual schools must assess their unique factors and customize their solutions.

CSMAS notes three strategies / solutions for membership consideration:

1. **President/chancellor engagement is critical.** This has been the most common sentiment expressed by both membership and AT stakeholders. It reflects the reality that presidents / chancellors are often the gatekeepers to campus hiring, budget and resource decisions. It is especially important that presidents and chancellors are involved in any operational and/or risk assessment arising from campus AT shortages.
2. **Basic recruitment and retention strategies, in coordination with human resources, should be used to re-assess and, if necessary, recalibrate AT positions.** The goal is to align collegiate AT positions with the national and regional salary averages for health care professionals. As noted above, other employment factors, such as work schedules, support and culture may also be considered. AT industry stakeholders (e.g., the National Athletic Trainers' Association) may also provide resources to inform such deliberations. These efforts may help bolster schools' recruitment and retention efforts and make them more effective in the national competition for AT services.
3. **Alternative employment and administrative models.** Not all member schools use the traditional model of athletic health care delivery, where athletic health care providers are employed directly by the athletic department. Alternative models do exist and may be effective for addressing a host of issues, including AT recruitment and retention and important Association policy requirements, such as independent medical care. The committee is committed to learning more about these models and assisting the membership in its understanding of them.

Moving forward toward a solution must begin with a shared understanding of the relevant professional and market dynamics. We encourage all campus stakeholders to closely review the [meeting report](#) and this statement and to share these documents with presidents, chancellors, human resource and risk-management offices and conference offices. CSMAS commits to continuing to monitor this situation with its athletic training partners and to understanding emerging athletic health care services and employment models and the role they may play in addressing this issue.



## Concussion Safety Protocol Checklist

*Updated September 2023*

Below is a checklist\* that will help the athletics health care administrator ensure that the member school's concussion safety protocol is compliant with the Concussion Safety Protocol Legislation. This checklist, which has been recommended by the NCAA Concussion Safety Advisory Group and prescribed by the NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sport, provides a foundation for member school concussion safety protocols that are important to clinicians and stakeholders who manage concussion and head injury in collegiate athletes. The checklist is not intended as a clinical practice guideline or legal standard of care and should not be interpreted as such. This checklist serves as a guide and, as such, is of a general nature, consistent with the reasonable practice of the healthcare professional. Individual treatment will depend on the facts and circumstances specific to each individual case.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to the NCAA Sport Science Institute at [ssi@ncaa.org](mailto:ssi@ncaa.org) if you have any questions or concerns.

\*Highlighted content represents an update from the prior checklist.

### ***Concussion Definition:***

According to the *Consensus statement on concussion in sport: the 6th International Conference on Concussion in Sport – Amsterdam, October 2022:*

Sport-related concussion is a traumatic brain injury caused by a direct blow to the head, neck or body resulting in an impulsive force being transmitted to the brain that occurs in sports and exercise-related activities. This initiates a neurotransmitter and metabolic cascade, with possible axonal injury, blood flow change and inflammation affecting the brain. Symptoms and signs may present immediately, or evolve over minutes or hours, and commonly resolve within days, but may be prolonged.

No abnormality is seen on standard structural neuroimaging studies (computed tomography or magnetic resonance imaging T1- and T2-weighted images), but in the research setting, abnormalities may be present on functional, blood flow or metabolic imaging studies. Sport-related concussion results in a range of clinical symptoms and signs that may or may not involve loss of consciousness. The clinical symptoms and signs of concussion cannot be explained solely by (but may occur concomitantly with) drug, alcohol, or medication use, other injuries (such as cervical injuries, peripheral vestibular dysfunction) or other comorbidities (such as psychological factors or coexisting medical conditions).

# Concussion Safety Protocol Checklist

## *Pre-Season Education:*

Education management plan that specifies:

- Institution has provided and allowed an opportunity to discuss concussion education material (e.g., NCAA concussion education fact sheet) or other applicable material annually to the following parties:
  - Student-athletes.
  - Coaches.
  - Team physicians.
  - Athletic trainers.
  - Directors of athletics.
  - Other personnel involved in student-athlete health and safety decision making.
- Each party provides a signed acknowledgement of having reviewed and understood the concussion material.

# Concussion Safety Protocol Checklist

## *Pre-Participation Assessment:*

Pre-participation management plan that specifies:

- Documentation that each NCAA student-athlete has received a pre-participation baseline concussion assessment\* at the member institution that addresses:
  - History of concussion or brain injury, neurologic disorder, and mental health symptoms and disorders.
  - Symptom evaluation.
  - Cognitive assessment.
  - Balance evaluation.
  - Team physician determines pre-participation clearance and/or the need for additional consultation or testing. \*\*

*\*Baseline testing may inform post-injury evaluation; however, student-athletes who have suffered a concussion may perform at the same level or even better than their baseline testing, as motivation and other factors may differ in post-concussion testing. Ultimately, baseline testing serves as one of many potential factors in making a clinical decision.*

*\*\*Consider a new baseline concussion assessment six months or beyond for any NCAA student-athlete with a documented concussion, especially those with complicated or multiple concussion history.*

# Concussion Safety Protocol Checklist

## *Recognition and Diagnosis of Concussion:*

Recognition and diagnosis of concussion management plan that specifies:

- Medical personnel with training in the diagnosis, treatment and initial management of acute concussion must be “present” at all NCAA competitions in the following contact/collision sports: acrobatics and tumbling; Alpine skiing; baseball; basketball; beach volleyball; diving; equestrian; field hockey; football; gymnastics; ice hockey; lacrosse; pole vault; rugby; soccer; softball; volleyball; water polo; wrestling. To be present means to be on site at the campus or arena of the competition. Medical personnel may be from either team or may be independently contracted for the event.
- Medical personnel with training in the diagnosis, treatment and initial management of acute concussion must be “available” at all NCAA practices in the following contact/collision sports: acrobatics and tumbling; Alpine skiing; baseball; basketball; beach volleyball; diving; equestrian; field hockey; football; gymnastics; ice hockey; lacrosse; pole vault; rugby; soccer; softball; volleyball; water polo; wrestling. To be available means that, at a minimum, medical personnel can be contacted at any time during the practice via telephone, messaging, email, beeper or other immediate communication means. Further, the case can be discussed through such communication, and immediate arrangements can be made for the athlete to be evaluated.
- Any student-athlete with signs/symptoms/behaviors consistent with concussion:
  - Must be removed from practice or competition for evaluation.
  - Signs that warrant immediate removal from the field include: actual or suspected loss of consciousness, seizure, tonic posturing, ataxia, poor balance, confusion, behavioral changes and amnesia.
  - Evaluation must be by an athletic trainer or team physician (or physician designee) with concussion experience.
  - Allow ample time (up to 10-15 minutes) when conducting a multimodal screen (e.g., SCAT6) to evaluate a potential concussion.
  - Must be removed from practice/play for that calendar day if concussion is confirmed or suspected.
  - May only return to play the same day if concussion is no longer suspected after evaluation\*.

*\*Even in such cases, consider next day follow-up assessment because initial symptoms may evolve over hours.*

# Concussion Safety Protocol Checklist

## *Initial Suspected Concussion Evaluation:*

- Initial suspected concussion evaluation management plan that specifies:
- Immediate assessment/neurological screen for 'red flags' or observable signs (as noted in the Concussion Emergency Action Plan below)
- A multi-modal evaluation, as clinically indicated, which may include:
  - Clinical assessment for cervical spine trauma, skull fracture, intracranial bleed or other catastrophic injury.
  - Symptom assessment.
  - Physical and neurological exam.
  - Cognitive assessment.
  - Balance exam.

# Concussion Safety Protocol Checklist

## ***Concussion Emergency Action Plan:***

- A Concussion Emergency Action Plan includes:
- Immediate removal from play and assessment for possible transport to a local hospital/trauma center when any of the following are present:
  - Neck pain or tenderness.
  - Seizure or convulsion.
  - Double vision.
  - Loss of consciousness.
  - Weakness or tingling/burning in more than one arm or in the legs.
  - Deteriorating conscious state.
  - Vomiting.
  - Severe or increasing headache.
  - Increasingly restless, agitated or combative Glasgow Coma Scale Score < 15.
  - Visible deformity of the skull.

## ***Off-Field Same-Day and up to Three-Day Post-Concussion Management:***

- Mechanism for serial evaluation and monitoring following injury same day and up to 72 hours (see Return-to-Learn and Return-to-Play below).
- Documentation that post-concussion plan of care was communicated to both student-athlete and another adult responsible for the student-athlete, in oral and/or written form.

## ***Subacute (72 hours to weeks postinjury) Management Plan:***

- Mechanism for evaluation and monitoring of the following:
  - Symptom evaluation.
  - Immediate and delayed memory.
  - Concentration.
  - Orthostatic vital signs.
  - Cervical spine assessment.
  - Neurological evaluation.
  - Balance and tandem gait assessment.
  - Modified VOMS.
- Consider further evaluation, as clinically indicated:
  - Screen for fear, anxiety or depression or other mental health issues.
  - Screen for sleep disturbance.
  - Graded aerobic exercise testing.

# Concussion Safety Protocol Checklist

## *Rest and Exercise:*

- Symptom-limited, light aerobic physical activity can begin within 24-48 hours (e.g., walking).
- Reduced screen use as necessary in the first 48 hours after injury.

# Concussion Safety Protocol Checklist

## *Re-Evaluation Plan:*

- Re-evaluation by a physician for a student-athlete with atypical presentation or persisting symptoms > 4 weeks in order to consider additional diagnoses, \* best management options, and consideration of referral.

*\*Additional diagnoses include, but are not limited to:*

- *Fatigue and/or sleep disorder.*
- *Migraine or other headache disorders.*
- *Mental health symptoms and disorders.*
- *Ocular dysfunction.*
- *Cervical and vestibular dysfunction.*
- *Cognitive impairment.*
- *Autonomic dysfunction, including orthostatic intolerance and postural orthostatic tachycardia syndrome.*
- *Pain.*

# Concussion Safety Protocol Checklist

## *Return-to-Learn:*

The vast majority of young adults have a full return-to-learn with no additional academic support by 10 days post-injury.

Return-to-learn management plan should specify:

- Identification of a point person within athletics who will navigate return-to-learn with the student-athlete.
- Avoid complete rest and isolation, even for initial 24-48 hours.
- Identification of a multi-disciplinary team\* that will navigate more complex cases of prolonged return-to-learn:

*\*Multi-disciplinary team may include, but not be limited to:*

- *Team physician.*
  - *Athletic trainer.*
  - *Psychologist/counselor.*
  - *Neuropsychologist consultant.*
  - *Faculty athletics representative.*
  - *Academic counselor.*
  - *Course instructor(s).*
  - *College administrators.*
  - *Office of disability services representatives.*
  - *Coaches.*
- Individualized initial plan that includes return to classroom/studying as tolerated. The plan may address environment, physical, curriculum and/or testing adjustments.
  - Re-evaluation by team physician (or their designee) if concussion symptoms worsen with academic challenges.

## Concussion Safety Protocol Checklist

- Modification of schedule/academic accommodations, as indicated, with help from the identified point-person.
- Re-evaluation by team physician and members of the multi-disciplinary team, as appropriate, for student-athlete with atypical presentation or persistent symptoms lasting longer than two weeks.
- Engaging campus resources for cases that cannot be managed through schedule modification/academic accommodations.
  - Such campus resources must be consistent with ADAAA, and include at least one of the following:
    - Learning specialists.
    - Office of disability services.
    - ADAAA office.

# Concussion Safety Protocol Checklist

## *Return-to-Sport:*

Return-to-Sport management plan that specifies:

- Final determination of unrestricted return-to-sport is from the team physician or medically qualified physician designee.
- Each NCAA student-athlete with concussion must undergo a supervised stepwise progression\* management plan by a health care provider with expertise in concussion that specifies:
  - Step 1:** Symptom-limited activities of daily living.
  - Step 2:** Aerobic exercise with light resistance training as tolerated (no more than mild<sup>+</sup> or brief<sup>++</sup> exacerbation of symptoms).
    - 2a: Light (up to approximately 55% maximum heart rate); then
    - 2b: Moderate (up to approximately 70% maximum heart rate).
  - Step 3:** Individual sport-specific exercise and activity without any risk of inadvertent head-impact exposure.

*Proceed to Step 4 only after resolution of signs and symptoms related to the current concussion, including with and after physical exertion.*

- Step 4:** Non-contact practice with progressive resistance training.
- Step 5:** Unrestricted practice or training.
- Step 6:** Unrestricted return-to-sport. \*\*

*\*It is typical for each step to be  $\geq 24$  hours.*

*\*\*Unrestricted return-to-sport should not occur prior to unrestricted return-to-learn for injuries occurring while the athlete is enrolled in classes.*

<sup>+</sup>Mild is defined as an increase of no more than 2 points on a 0-10 point scale when compared with the pre-exercise resting value.

<sup>++</sup>Brief is defined as less than one hour.

# Concussion Safety Protocol Checklist

## *Reducing Head Impact Exposure:*

Reducing head impact exposure in a manner consistent with *Interassociation Recommendations: Preventing Catastrophic Injury and Death in Collegiate Athletes and Consensus statement on concussion in sport: the 6th International Conference on Concussion in Sport – Amsterdam, October 2022*. For example:

- All practices and competitions adhere to existing ethical standards.
- Using playing or protective equipment (including the helmet) as a weapon is prohibited during all practices and competitions.
- In all practices and competitions, deliberately inflicting injury on another player is prohibited.
- All playing and protective equipment (including helmets), as applicable, meet relevant equipment safety standards and related certification requirements.
- All contact/collision, helmeted practices and competitions adhere to keeping the head out of blocking and tackling.
- Emphasizing education of proper technique to reduce head impact exposure for all contact and collision sports, with a special emphasis in the pre-season.
- Limit the number and duration of contact and collision in practices, intensity of contact in practices, and promote strategies restricting collision time in practices in contact-collision sports.
- Adherence to policy and rules in sport that reduce collisions.
- Consideration of participation in neuromuscular training warm-up programs.



## Concussion Safety Protocol Template

The following template is designed as an aid for NCAA schools to consider using in order to satisfy NCAA Divisions I, II and III concussion safety protocol legislation. The template highlights all components of the updated NCAA Concussion Safety Protocol Checklist and provides shaded cells that schools may use to personalize their protocol. The NCAA Concussion Safety Advisory Group recommended modifications to the prior Concussion Safety Protocol Checklist, and these recommendations were prescribed by the NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports. The updated Checklist items are highlighted so that the prior Concussion Safety Protocol Template can be modified more easily. Template content that is outside the scope of the Checklist has been indicated with an asterisk (\*) and is included for your convenience and consideration. A signature line for the athletics health care administrator is included in the template. Additional signature lines may be personalized based on the requirements of a school or conference office.

Schools are not required to use the template; rather, it is offered as a resource to support athletic departments in their concussion safety efforts. The content of this template is offered for educational purposes only and is not intended to constitute, or be a substitute for, medical or legal advice. The content is not intended to be exhaustive, and we encourage membership to review these materials with applicable campus medical, legal and risk management authorities to determine whether and how best to use this information to address individual institutional risks and requirements. All concussion safety protocols, regardless if developed using the template or another mechanism, must be consistent with all applicable divisional legislative requirements.

Highlighted content represents an update from the prior template.

**School Name**

### Concussion Safety Protocol

School Name Concussion Safety Protocol

#### Introduction

School Name is committed to protecting the health of and providing a safe environment for each of its participating NCAA student-athletes. To this end, and in accordance with NCAA legislation, School Name has adopted the following Concussion Safety Protocol for all NCAA student-athletes. This protocol identifies expectations for institutional concussion management practices as they relate to (1) the definition of sport-related concussion\*; (2) independent medical care\*; (3) preseason education; (4) pre-participation assessment; (5) recognition and diagnosis; (6) initial suspected concussion evaluation; (7) post-concussion management; (8) return-to-learn management; (9) return-to-sport management; (10) reducing head impact exposure; and (11) written certificate of compliance signed by the athletics health care administrator.

**1. Definition of Sport-Related Concussion\***

There is no uniform definition of concussion. The Consensus Statement on Concussion in Sport, which resulted from the 6th international conference on concussion in sport, defines sport-related concussion as follows:

Sport-related concussion is a traumatic brain injury caused by a direct blow to the head, neck or body resulting in an impulsive force being transmitted to the brain that occurs in sports and exercise-related activities. This initiates a neurotransmitter and metabolic cascade, with possible axonal injury, blood flow change and inflammation affecting the brain. Symptoms and signs may present immediately, or evolve over minutes or hours, and commonly resolve within days, but may be prolonged.

No abnormality is seen on standard structural neuroimaging studies (computed tomography or magnetic resonance imaging T1- and T2-weighted images), but in the research setting, abnormalities may be present on functional, blood flow or metabolic imaging studies. Sport-related concussion results in a range of clinical symptoms and signs that may or may not involve loss of consciousness. The clinical symptoms and signs of concussion cannot be explained solely by (but may occur concomitantly with) drug, alcohol, or medication use, other injuries (such as cervical injuries, peripheral vestibular dysfunction) or other comorbidities (such as psychological factors or coexisting medical conditions).

**2. Independent Medical Care\***

As required by NCAA Independent Medical Care legislation, team physicians and athletic trainers shall have unchallengeable autonomous authority to determine medical management and return-to-activity decisions, including those pertaining to concussion and head trauma injuries, for all student-athletes.

**3. Preseason Education**

All NCAA student-athletes will be provided and allowed an opportunity to discuss concussion educational material (e.g., the NCAA Concussion Education Fact Sheet) or other applicable material and will be required to sign an acknowledgement, on an annual basis and prior to participation, that they have been provided, reviewed and understood the concussion education material.

All coaches, team physicians, athletic trainers, directors of athletics and other personnel involved in NCAA student-athlete health and safety decision making will be provided and allowed an opportunity to discuss educational material (e.g., the NCAA Concussion Education Fact Sheet) or other applicable material and will be

required to sign an acknowledgement, on an annual basis, that they have been provided, reviewed and understood the concussion education material.

#### 4. **Pre-Participation Assessment**

All NCAA student-athletes will undergo a pre-participation baseline concussion assessment. This assessment assumed individualized medical care, which means: Each athlete and each injury are different. Depending on the severity of prior injuries, the number of concussions, other individual concerns and based on the developing state of science, the team physician/primary health care provider should review each athlete's history and consider discussing with the student-athlete concerns about concussion and repetitive head impact as warranted, including potential risks and benefits from playing sport. Such discussion allows the athlete to make an informed decision about their participation in sport.

This pre-participation assessment will be conducted at **School Name** and, at a minimum, will include assessment for the following:

- History of concussion or brain injury, neurologic disorder, and mental health symptoms and disorders.
- Symptom evaluation. (Identify tool to be used, e.g., Symptom evaluation in **SCAT6**)
- Cognitive assessment. (Identify and describe, e.g., ImPACT, Axon, paper and pencil)
- Balance evaluation. (Identify and describe, e.g., BESS, modified BESS, **SCAT6**, other)

The team physician will determine pre-participation clearance and/or the need for additional consultation or testing and will consider a new baseline concussion assessment at six months or beyond for any NCAA student-athlete with a documented concussion, especially those with complicated or multiple concussion history. Importantly, baseline testing may inform post-injury evaluation; however, student-athletes who have suffered a concussion may perform at the same level or even better than their baseline testing, as motivation and other factors may differ in post-concussion testing. Ultimately, baseline testing serves as one of many potential factors in making a clinical decision.

#### 5. **Recognition and Diagnosis of Concussion**

Medical personnel with training in the diagnosis, treatment and initial management of acute concussion **must** be present at all NCAA competitions in the following contact/collision sports: (list all sports that your institution sponsors from the following: acrobatics and tumbling; Alpine skiing; baseball; basketball; beach

volleyball; diving; equestrian; field hockey; football; gymnastics; ice hockey; lacrosse; pole vault; rugby; soccer; softball; volleyball; water polo; wrestling).

**NOTE:** To be present means to be on site at the campus or arena of the competition. Medical personnel may be from either team or may be independently contracted for the event.

Medical personnel with training in the diagnosis, treatment and initial management of acute concussion **must** be available at all NCAA practices in the following contact/collision sports: (list all sports that your institution sponsors from the following: acrobatics and tumbling; Alpine skiing; baseball; basketball; beach volleyball; diving; equestrian; field hockey; football; gymnastics; ice hockey; lacrosse; pole vault; rugby; soccer; softball; volleyball; water polo; wrestling).

**NOTE:** To be available means that, at a minimum, medical personnel can be contacted at any time during the practice via telephone, messaging, email, beeper or other immediate communication means and that the case can be discussed through such communication, and immediate arrangements can be made for the athlete to be evaluated.

Any NCAA student-athlete that exhibits signs, symptoms or behaviors consistent with concussion **must be removed from practice or competition for evaluation. Examples of signs that warrant immediate removal from the field include: actual or suspected loss of consciousness, seizure, tonic posturing, ataxia, poor balance, confusion, behavioral changes, amnesia).**

Concussion evaluation:

- Must be evaluated by an athletic trainer or team physician (or physician designee) with concussion experience.
- Allow ample time (e.g., 10-15 minutes) when conducting a multi-modal screen (e.g., SCAT6) to evaluate a potential concussion.
- Must be removed from practice/play for that calendar day if concussion is confirmed or suspected.
- May only return to play the same day if the athletic trainer, team physician or physician designee determines that concussion is no longer suspected after evaluation. Even in such cases, consider next day follow-up assessment because initial symptoms may not appear for several hours.

## 6. Initial Suspected Concussion Evaluation

The initial concussion evaluation **must include an immediate assessment/neurological screen for “red flags” or observable signs (as noted in the**

Concussion Emergency Action Plan below). The assessment may include a multi-modal evaluation as clinically indicated such as:

- Clinical assessment to rule out cervical spine trauma, skull fracture, intracranial bleed or other catastrophic injury.
- Symptom assessment. (Identify the name of the tool)
- Physical and neurological exam. (Identify by name any additional special tests, such as King-Devick, Visual Ocular Motor Screen, etc.)
- Cognitive assessment. (Identify the name of the tool)
- Balance exam. (Identify the name of the tool)

A Concussion Emergency Action Plan should be in place and include:

A student-athlete must be immediately removed from play and assessed for possible transport to a local hospital/trauma center when any of the following signs/symptoms/behaviors are present:

- Neck pain or tenderness.
- Seizure or convulsion.
- Double vision.
- Loss of consciousness.
- Weakness or tingling/burning in more than one arm or in the legs.
- Deteriorating conscious state.
- Vomiting.
- Severe or increasing headache.
- Increasingly restless, agitated or combative.
- Glasgow Coma Scale Score <15.
- Visible deformity of the skull.

## 7. Post-concussion Management

For all cases of diagnosed concussion, there must be documentation that post-concussion plan of care was communicated to both the student-athlete and another adult responsible for the student-athlete, in oral and/or written form. Because symptoms may evolve or manifest over time, for all suspected or diagnosed concussions, there will be in place a mechanism for serial evaluation of the student-athlete off-field the same day and up to 72 hours.

There should be in place a subacute (three days to weeks post-injury) management plan that includes a mechanism for evaluation and monitoring of the following:

- Symptom evaluation.

- Immediate and delayed memory.
- Concentration.
- Orthostatic vital signs.
- Cervical spine assessment.
- Neurological evaluation.
- Balance and tandem gait assessment.
- Modified VOMS.

In addition, the subacute management plan may consider\* evaluating for the following, as clinically indicated:

- Screen for fear, anxiety or depression or other mental health issues.
- Screen for sleep disturbance.
- Graded aerobic exercise testing.

\*Evaluation tools, such as the recently released SCOAT6 may be helpful in providing a standardized framework from which a clinical, office-based evaluation can be conducted, especially for school athletic health care settings in which physicians are not embedded.

For all concussion management plans:

Consideration of symptom-limited, light aerobic physical activity within 24-48 hours (e.g., walking).

Consideration of reduced screen use in the first 48 hours after injury.

#### Re-Evaluation:

Any NCAA student-athlete with atypical presentation or **persisting** symptoms **> 4 weeks** will be re-evaluated by a physician in order to consider additional diagnoses, best management options, and consideration of referral. Additional diagnoses include but are not limited to: fatigue and/or sleep disorder; migraine or other headache disorders; mental health symptoms and disorders; ocular dysfunction; **cervical and vestibular dysfunction**; **cognitive impairment and autonomic dysfunction including orthostatic intolerance and postural orthostatic tachycardia syndrome**; pain.

## **8 Return-to-Learn Management**

The vast majority of young adults have a full return-to-learn with no additional academic support by 10 days post-injury. Complete rest and isolation should be avoided, even during the initial 24-48 hours post-injury. Relative rest is important

in the first 24 hours. For those student-athletes with persisting symptoms a more formal plan may be in order.

The return-to-learn concept should follow an individualized and step-wise process overseen by a point person within the athletics department, who will navigate return-to-learn with the student-athlete and, in more complex cases of prolonged return-to-learn, work in conjunction with a multi-disciplinary team that may vary student-to-student depending on the specifics of the case but may include, but is not limited to:

(List all that apply.)

- Team physician.
- Athletic trainer.
- Psychologist/counselor. (Identify if student health services or department of athletics)
- Neuropsychologist.
- Medical specialists.
- Faculty athletics representative.
- Academic counselor.
- Course instructor(s).
- College administrators.
- Office of disability services representative.
- Coaches.

A student-athlete who has suffered a concussion will return to classroom/studying as tolerated with modification of schedule/academic accommodations, as indicated, with help from the identified point-person. The plan may address environment, physical, curriculum and/or testing adjustments. Campus resources will be engaged for cases that cannot be managed through schedule modification/academic accommodations. Campus resources will be consistent with the ADA and will include one of the following:

- Learning specialists.
- Office of disability services.
- ADA office.

A student-athlete will be re-evaluated by a team physician (or their designee) and members of the multi-disciplinary team, as appropriate, if concussion symptoms worsen with academic challenges or in the event of atypical presentation or persisting symptoms.

## 9. Return-to-Sport Management

Unrestricted return-to-sport should not occur prior to unrestricted return-to-learn for concussions diagnosed while the student-athlete is enrolled in classes. Complete rest and isolation should be avoided, even for initial 24-48 hours. Relative rest is important in the first 24 hours. Final determination of unrestricted return-to-sport will be made by a School Name team physician or their medically qualified designee following implementation of an individualized, supervised stepwise progression management plan that includes:

- Step 1. Symptom-limited activities of daily living.
- Step 2. Aerobic exercise with light resistance training as tolerated [no more than mild or brief (<1 hour) exacerbation of symptoms].
  - 2a. Light (up to approximately 55% maximum heart rate); then
  - 2b. Moderate (up to approximately 70% maximum heart rate).
- Step 3. Individual sport-specific exercise and activity without any increased risk of inadvertent head impact exposure.

Proceed to step 4 only after resolution of signs and symptoms related to the current concussion, including with and after physical exertion.

- Step 4. Non-contact practice with progressive resistance training.
- Step 5. Unrestricted practice or training.
- Step 6. Unrestricted return-to-sport.

The above stepwise progression will be supervised by a health care provider with expertise in concussion, with it being typical for each step in the progression to last at least 24 hours.

**NOTE:** If at any point the student-athlete becomes symptomatic (more symptomatic than baseline), the team physician or physician designee will be notified, and adjustments will be made to the return-to-sport progression. \* For example, testing stops with an increase of more than 2 points on a 0 to 10 point scale when compared with the pre-exercise resting value.

## 10. Reducing Head Impact Exposure

School Name is committed to protecting the health of and providing a safe environment for each of its participating NCAA student-athletes. *To this end and in accordance with NCAA association-wide policy, School Name will reduce student-athlete head impact exposure in a manner consistent with Interassociation Recommendations: Preventing Catastrophic Injury and Death in Collegiate Athletes and Consensus statement on concussion in sport: the 6<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Concussion in Sport.* For example:

- *School Name teams will adhere to existing ethical standards in all practices and competitions.*
- *Using playing or protective equipment (including the helmet) as a weapon will be prohibited during all practices and competitions.*
- *Deliberately inflicting injury on another player will be prohibited in all practices and competitions.*
- *All playing and protective equipment (including helmets), as applicable, will meet relevant equipment safety standards and related certification requirements.*
- *School Name will keep the head out of blocking and tackling in contact/collision, helmeted practices and competitions.*
- *School Name will emphasize education of proper technique to reduce head impact exposure for all contact and collision sports, with special emphasis in pre-season.*
- *School Name will adhere to policies and rules in sport that limit the number and duration of contact practices and activities in contact-collision sports.*
- *Consideration of participation in neuromuscular training warm-up programs.*
- *For ice hockey: it is recommended that all players wear a mouthguard.*



**Compliance Certification\***  
**Academic Year 2023-24**

**School Name**

**Concussion Management Plan**

By signing and dating this form, I hereby acknowledge, on behalf of the institution identified above, that for the 2023-24 academic year, the attached **School Name** Concussion Safety Protocol is consistent with the NCAA Concussion Safety Protocol Checklist and otherwise fulfills the requirements of all applicable NCAA Concussion Management Plan legislation.

*Required Signature*

*Athletics Health Care Administrator*

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Sign: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: Click or tap to enter a date.

*Optional Signature\*\**

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Sign: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: Click or tap to enter a date.

*Optional Signature\*\**

**Print Name:** Click or tap here to enter text.

**Sign:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** Click or tap to enter a date.

*Optional Signature\*\**

**Print Name:** Click or tap here to enter text.

**Sign:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** Click or tap to enter a date.

\*\* The form allows for additional optional signatures to accommodate conference or institutional signature requirements beyond the signature required by NCAA legislation.

## WHAT STUDENT-ATHLETES NEED TO KNOW

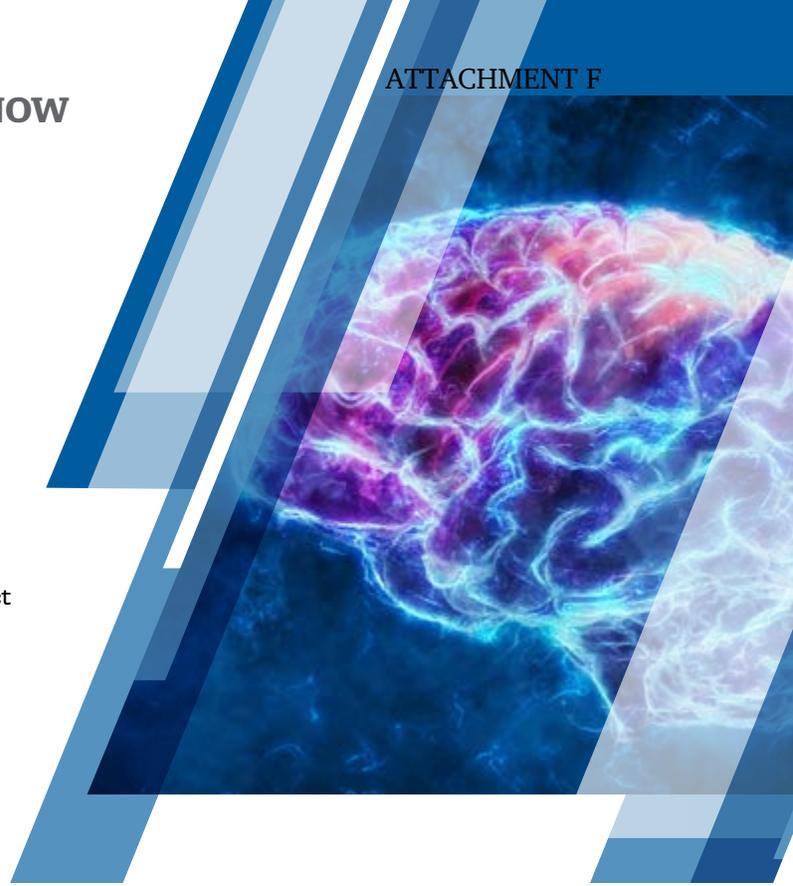
# Concussion Safety

## What Is a Concussion?

The Consensus Statement on Concussion in Sport, which resulted from the sixth international conference, defines sport-related concussion as follows:

Sport-related concussion is a traumatic brain injury caused by a direct blow to the head, neck or body resulting in an impulsive force being transmitted to the brain that occurs in sports and exercise-related activities. This initiates a neurotransmitter and metabolic cascade, with possible axonal injury, blood flow change and inflammation affecting the brain. Symptoms and signs may present immediately, or evolve over minutes or hours, and commonly resolve within days, but may be prolonged.

Additional information on concussion diagnosis, management and prevention in collegiate athletes, including a complete definition of concussion, can be found [here](#).



## How Can I Keep Myself Safe?

### 1. Know the symptoms.

You may experience ...

- Headache or head pressure.
- Nausea.
- Balance problems or dizziness.
- Double or blurry vision.
- Sensitivity to light or noise.
- Feeling sluggish, hazy or foggy.
- Confusion, concentration or memory problems.

### 2. Speak up.

- If you think you have a concussion, stop playing and talk to your coach, athletic trainer or team physician immediately.

### 3. Take time to recover.

- Follow your team physician and athletic trainer's directions during concussion recovery.
- When managed properly, most student-athletes recover fully from concussion. Exercise, under medical supervision, is a core component of concussion management.
- There may be negative consequences when concussion is left untreated.
- Once you've recovered from a concussion, talk with your physician about the risks and benefits of continuing to participate in your sport.

## How Can I Be a Good Teammate?

### 1. Know the signs.

You may notice that a teammate ...

- Appears dazed or stunned.
- Forgets an instruction.
- Is confused about an assignment or position.
- Is unsure of the game, score or opponent.
- Appears less coordinated, unsteady on feet or wobbly.
- Answers questions slowly.
- Loses consciousness.

### 2. Encourage teammates to be safe.

- If you think one of your teammates has a concussion, tell your coach, athletic trainer or team physician immediately.
- Help create a culture of safety by encouraging your teammates to report any concussion symptoms.

### 3. Support your injured teammates.

- If one of your teammates has a concussion, let them know you and the team support playing it safe and following medical advice during recovery.
- Being unable to practice or join team activities can be isolating. Make sure your teammates know they're not alone.

*No two concussions are the same. Symptoms may appear several hours after the initial impact or even the next day. Symptoms may also evolve over several days. If you are unsure if you have a concussion, talk to your athletic trainer or team physician immediately.*

## What Happens If I Get a Concussion and Keep Practicing or Competing?

- Due to brain vulnerability after a concussion, an athlete may be more likely to suffer another concussion while symptomatic from the first one.
- In rare cases, repeat head trauma can result in brain swelling, permanent brain damage or even death.
- Continuing to play after a concussion increases the chance of sustaining other injuries too, not just concussion.
- Athletes with concussion have reduced concentration and slowed reaction time. This means that you won't be performing at your best.
- Athletes who delay reporting concussion take longer to recover fully.

## What is the Recovery Time for a Concussion?

- Each athlete is different, but emerging information indicates that most athletes fully recover from concussion.
- Some athletes experience persisting post-concussive symptoms, which are managed with exercise and targeted treatment.
- If your symptoms persist, you may also have another treatable condition unrelated to your concussion. If you are experiencing any ongoing symptoms, please seek medical care with the team physician.

## What Do I Need to Know About Repeated Head Impacts?

- Research into the new concept of repeated head impacts is evolving rapidly.
- Most head impacts in sport occur at low levels well below the force needed to cause a sports-related concussion.
- The medical and scientific community continues to conduct research to determine if long-term exposure to head impacts may be deleterious to brain health.
- While many questions remain unanswered, the NCAA Concussion Checklist recommends that efforts should be made to reduce head impact exposure in both practice and game settings.

## Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy (“CTE”)

- In recent years, there has been ongoing research into CTE, and more research is needed to answer important questions.
- According to the Centers for Disease Control website, research-to-date suggests that CTE is associated with long-term exposure to repeated head impacts at levels that would cause injury to the brain.
- According to the CDC, there is no strong scientific evidence that shows that getting one or more concussions (or other mild traumatic brain injuries) or occasional hits to the head leads to CTE.

More research is needed to better understand:

- The causes of CTE, including the role of repeated head impacts.
- Other potential risk factors for CTE, including the role of a person's sex, genetics, medical history, and environmental and lifestyle factors.
- How the CTE pathology develops, and what symptoms CTE pathology may cause.
- Why some people develop CTE and others do not.

You can find more information on the emerging CTE research at various sources including the [CDC](#), [NINDS](#) and the [Consensus Statement on Concussion in Sport](#).

If you are concerned or have questions, please talk to your medical doctor.

## Did You Know?

- NCAA rules require that team physicians and athletic trainers manage your concussion and injury recovery independent of coaching staff, or other non-medical, influence.
- We're learning more about concussion every day. To find out more about the largest concussion study ever conducted, which is being led by the NCAA and U.S. Department of Defense, visit [ncaa.org/concussion](http://ncaa.org/concussion).

# CONCUSSION TIMELINE



## Baseline Testing

Balance, cognitive and neurological tests that help medical staff manage and diagnose a concussion.



## Concussion

If you show signs of a concussion, NCAA rules require that you be removed from play and medically evaluated.



## Recovery

Your school has a concussion management plan, and team physicians and athletic trainers are required to follow that plan during your recovery.



## Return-to-Learn

Return-to-learn should be done in a step-by-step progression in which adjustments are made as needed to manage your symptoms.



## Return-to-Sport

Final return-to-sport only happens after you have returned to your pre-concussion baseline and you've gone through a step-by-step progression of increasing activity.

## WHAT EDUCATORS NEED TO KNOW

# Concussion Safety

## What Is a Concussion?

The Consensus Statement on Concussion in Sport, which resulted from the 6th international conference, defines sport-related concussion as follows:

Sport-related concussion is a traumatic brain injury caused by a direct blow to the head, neck or body resulting in an impulsive force being transmitted to the brain that occurs in sports and exercise-related activities. This initiates a neurotransmitter and metabolic cascade, with possible axonal injury, blood flow change and inflammation affecting the brain. Symptoms and signs may present immediately, or evolve over minutes or hours, and commonly resolve within days, but may be prolonged.

No abnormality is seen on standard structural neuroimaging studies (computed tomography or magnetic resonance imaging T1- and T2-weighted images), but in the research setting, abnormalities may be present on functional, blood flow or metabolic imaging studies. Sport-related concussion results in a range of clinical symptoms and signs that may or may not involve loss of consciousness. The clinical symptoms and signs of concussion cannot be explained solely by (but may occur concomitantly with) drug, alcohol, or medication use,

other injuries (such as cervical injuries, peripheral vestibular dysfunction) or other comorbidities (such as psychological factors or coexisting medical conditions).

Additional information on concussion diagnosis, management and prevention in collegiate athletes, including a complete definition of concussion, can be found [here](#).

## What Is Your Role in Concussion Recovery?

- Each athletics department should have a concussion management plan that outlines the steps to be taken by team physicians and athletic trainers following a sport-related concussion diagnosis and during a student-athlete's recovery.
- The concussion management plan should provide for the identification of an academic point person who will navigate return-to-learn activities with a student-athlete who has been diagnosed with a sport-related concussion.
- The return-to-learn pathway is considered part of the suggested medical management plan and, in more complex cases of return-to-learn, the academic point person will be part of a broader multidisciplinary team.
- Return-to-learn should be done in a step-by-step progression that fits the needs of the individual, with adjustments to be made as needed to manage the student-athlete's unique symptoms and recovery response.
- As an academic point person or other member of academic staff, it is beneficial to understand the science underlying concussion management and the rationale behind related return-to-learn considerations.

## Specific Return-to-Learn Considerations

Return-to-learn guidelines assume that both physical and cognitive activities require functional brain activity that may be negatively impacted by concussion. The student-athlete may appear physically normal but may be unable to perform as expected due to concussion symptoms.

The unique nature of concussion symptoms and recovery make it difficult to provide prescriptive recommendations for return-to-learn. Importantly, unrestricted return-to-sport should not occur before unrestricted return-to-learn for injuries occurring while the athlete is enrolled in classes. The broad return-to-learn recommendations outlined on the next page are based on available data and related expert consensus, and portions of the content have been previously published by the NCAA as part of its [Concussion Safety Protocol Checklist](#) and corresponding [Concussion Safety Protocol Template](#).

## Return-to-Learn Recommendations

### Stepwise Progression

The first step of return-to-learn is relative physical and cognitive rest, although complete rest and isolation should be avoided. Relative cognitive rest involves minimizing potential cognitive stressors, such as reading and schoolwork. The necessary period of time that a concussed student-athlete waits before resuming class or homework should be individualized with a return to classroom/studying as tolerated. However, some student-athletes may not require a formal plan or accommodations. Return-to-learn should be gradual with specific attention to any significant worsening of concussion symptoms following cognitive exposure or symptoms lasting longer than two weeks. According to currently available expert consensus:

- If the student-athlete cannot tolerate light cognitive activity, they should remain at home or in the residence hall.
- Once the student-athlete can tolerate light cognitive activity, they should return to the classroom as tolerated, often in graduated increments.
- If the student-athlete experiences prolonged worsening of symptoms with academic challenge (i.e., more symptomatic than baseline), or scores on clinical/cognitive measures decline, the team physician or return-to-learn 'point person' should be notified, and the student-athlete's return-to-learn activity reassessed.

### Common Academic Adjustments

For the student-athlete whose academic schedule requires a minor modification in the first one to two weeks following a sport-related concussion, adjustments can often be accomplished through consultation between the student-athlete and the academic point person without

material changes to schedules, curriculum or testing environments. Recovery and return-to-learn schedules will vary on a case-by-case basis but the vast majority of young adults have a full return-to-learn with no additional academic support by 10 days post-injury.

### Persisting Symptoms

- In the case of persisting symptoms, the extent of necessary academic adjustments/accommodations should be decided in consultation with a broader multi-disciplinary team that may include, among others, the team physician, athletic trainer, faculty athletics representative, coach, teachers, office of disability representatives, neuropsychologist or psychologist/counselor.
- Cases that cannot be managed through schedule or academic accommodations may require the engagement of other campus resources. These resources should be engaged in a manner consistent with the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act and should include learning specialists and/or representatives from the campus office of disability services or ADA/AA.

### Implementation of Return-to-Learn

The successful implementation of return-to-learn depends on several variables, including the following:

- Recognition that concussion symptoms vary widely among student-athletes, and even within the same individual who may be suffering a repeat concussion.
- Identification of an academic point person who can work with the recovering student-athlete to navigate the challenges that may occur in the academic space.
- Identification of symptoms that may warrant additional medical attention or impair cognitive recovery, such as fatigue, headache, mental health symptoms and disorders, ocular dysfunction, cervical and vestibular dysfunction, cognitive impairment, autonomic dysfunction and pain.
- Identification of additional campus resources that can help assure that the rights of the recovering student-athlete are adequately considered during this transition period.

### Available Campus Resources

Campus resources vary, and may include the following:

- Learning specialists. Many college campuses have certified learning specialists who have specialized knowledge of medical conditions such as concussion and post-concussion syndrome.
- Office of disability services. Most campuses have a disability office that is responsible for verifying each student's impairment under the Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act and some institutions also offer a separate ADA/AA office.

## WHAT COACHES NEED TO KNOW

# Concussion Safety

## What Is a Concussion?

Concussion is a mild traumatic brain injury that results from either a direct blow to the head or an impulsive force to the body that causes significant head motion. Concussion symptoms can result immediately or develop over many hours.

## How Can I Tell If an Athlete Has a Concussion?

You may notice the athlete has a change in behavior or balance following a hit or impact, or other manifestations such as:

- Appears dazed or stunned.
- Forgets an instruction.
- Is confused about an assignment or position.
- Is unsure of the game, score or opponent.
- Appears less coordinated, unsteady on feet or wobbly.
- Answers questions slowly.
- Loses consciousness.

### The athlete may tell you he or she is experiencing ...

- A headache, head pressure or that he or she doesn't feel right following a blow to the head.
- Nausea.
- Balance problems or dizziness.
- Double or blurry vision.
- Sensitivity to light or noise.
- Feeling sluggish, hazy or foggy.
- Confusion, concentration or memory problems.

## What Happens If an Athlete Gets a Concussion and Keeps Practicing or Competing?

- Due to brain vulnerability after a concussion, an athlete may be more likely to suffer another concussion while symptomatic from the first one.
- In rare cases, repeat head trauma can result in brain swelling, permanent brain damage or even death.
- Continuing to play after a concussion increases the chance of sustaining other injuries too, not just concussion.
- Athletes with a concussion have reduced concentration and slowed reaction time. This means they won't be performing at their best.
- Athletes who delay reporting concussion may take longer to recover fully.

## What Is the Recovery Time for a Concussion?

- Each athlete is different, but emerging information indicates that most athletes fully recover from concussion.
- Some athletes experience persisting post-concussive symptoms, which are managed with exercise and targeted treatment.
- If an athlete's symptoms persist, they may also have another treatable condition unrelated to their concussion. If the athlete is experiencing any ongoing symptoms, they should seek medical care with the team physician.

## What Do I Need to Know About Repeated Head Impacts?

- Research into the new concept of repeated head impacts is evolving rapidly.
- Most head impacts in sport occur at low levels well below the force needed to cause a sports-related concussion.
- The medical and scientific community continues to conduct research to determine if long-term exposure to head impacts may be deleterious to brain health.
- While many questions remain unanswered, the NCAA Concussion Checklist recommends that efforts should be made to reduce head impact exposure in both practice and game settings.

*No two concussions are the same. Symptoms may appear several hours after the initial impact or even the next day. Symptoms may also evolve over several days. All possible concussions must be evaluated by an athletic trainer or team physician (or physician designee) with concussion experience.*

## Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy (“CTE”)

- In recent years, there has been ongoing research into CTE, and more research is needed to answer important questions.
- According to the Centers for Disease Control website, research-to-date suggests that CTE is associated with long-term exposure to repeated head impacts at levels that would cause brain injury.
- According to the CDC, there is no strong scientific evidence that shows that getting one or more concussions (or other mild traumatic brain injuries) or occasional hits to the head leads to CTE.

More research is needed to better understand:

- The causes of CTE, including the role of repeated head impacts.
- Other potential risk factors for CTE, including the role of a person’s sex, genetics, medical history, and environmental and lifestyle factors.
- How the CTE pathology develops, and what symptoms CTE pathology may cause.
- Why some people develop CTE and others do not.

You can find more information on the emerging CTE research at various sources including the [CDC](#), [NINDS](#) and the [Consensus Statement on Concussion in Sport](#).

## Did You Know?

- Most contact or collision teams have at least one student-athlete diagnosed with a concussion every season.
- Your school has a concussion management plan, and team physicians and athletic trainers are expected to follow that plan during a student-athlete’s recovery.
- NCAA rules require that team physicians and athletic trainers have the unchallengeable authority to make all medical management and return-to-sport decisions for student-athletes.
- We’re learning more about concussion every day. To find out more about the largest concussion study ever conducted, which is being led by the NCAA and U.S. Department of Defense, visit [ncaa.org/concussion](https://ncaa.org/concussion).



## What Can I Do to Keep Athletes Safe?

	Preseason	In-Season	Time of Injury	Recovery
What can I do?	Create a culture in which concussion reporting is encouraged and promoted.	Know the signs and symptoms of concussions.	Remove athletes from play immediately if you think they have a concussion and refer them to the team physician or athletic trainer.	Follow the recovery and return-to-sport protocol established by team physicians and athletic trainers.
Why does it matter?	Athletes who don’t immediately seek care for a suspected concussion take longer to recover.	The more people who know what to look for in a concussed athlete, the more likely a concussion will be identified.	Early removal from play can mean a quicker recovery and help avoid further, potentially serious injury.	Team physicians and athletic trainers have the training to follow best practices related to the concussion recovery process.
Tips and strategies	Be present when your team physician or athletic trainer provides concussion education material to your team. Tell your team that this matters to you.	Check in with your team physician or athletic trainer if you want to learn more about concussion safety.	Provide positive reinforcement when an athlete reports a suspected concussion.	Tell athletes that health decisions, including clearance for unrestricted return to sport are determined by the team physician and athletic trainer.

*You play a powerful role in setting the tone for concussion safety on your team. Let your team know that you take concussion seriously and reporting the symptoms of a suspected concussion is an important part of your team’s values.*



REPORT OF THE  
NCAA HONORS COMMITTEE  
SEPTEMBER 20, 2023, VIDEOCONFERENCE

**ACTION ITEMS.**

- None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Welcome.** The chair welcomed the committee members.
2. **Committee report.** The committee approved the report of its June 29, 2023, videoconference.
3. **Policies and procedures and ranking guidelines.** NCAA staff reviewed the policies and procedures and ranking guidelines for the Today's Top 10 Award. After the committee selects the honorees, the next step is to confirm the honorees' participation with the nominators.
4. **Today's Top 10 Award selection.** The committee selected the 2024 Today's Top 10 Award recipients and two alternates. Committee members also asked staff to develop a plan for increasing worthy nominations and encouraging a diverse pool of Today's Top 10 nominees, particularly for Division II and III.
5. **Committee terms ending in 2024.** The terms for two of the "nationally distinguished citizens" committee members will end in January. Committee members will submit recommendations for possible members by September 27. These will be combined with NCAA staff research and emailed to committee members for a vote. The committee's recommendations for new members will be forwarded in early October to the three divisional governance bodies for approval.
6. **Selection of the 2024 committee chair.** The committee unanimously approved Andrew Alia, Associate Commissioner of the Northeast Conference, to serve a second year as committee chair.
7. **NCAA Board of Governors' Association-wide committee review.** The NCAA Honors Committee reviewed a summary of its legislated committee composition, duties, and charge and last five-years of key actions. The committee noted the important role it plays in recognizing exemplary former scholar-athletes. They agreed that the original duties and charge for this committee remain and that no other governance committees/councils and/or national office staff has absorbed this work. The committee unanimously agreed that the NCAA Honors Committee is appropriately structured to continue its charge.

**8. Future dates.** NCAA staff provided information about the NCAA Convention Welcome and Awards Presentation, which will be Wednesday, January 10, in Phoenix. In October, committee members will receive details about travel, hotel accommodations and ticket arrangements.

In 2024, committee meetings will be held virtually in June or July and in September or October.

**9. Adjournment.** The videoconference was adjourned at approximately 3:30 p.m. Eastern time.

*Committee Chair:* Andrew Alia, Northeast Conference  
*Staff Liaisons:* Nora Loechel, Regulatory Affairs  
 Stacey Preston, Communications  
 Russell Register, Regulatory Affairs

<b>NCAA Honors Committee September 20, 2023, Videoconference</b>	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Andrew Alia, Northeast Conference.	
Jessica Brown, North Central College.	
Christopher Davis, Microsoft.	
Anita DeFrantz, The Tubman Truth Corporation.	
Kim Hancock, Ferris State University.	
Nick Joos, Iowa State University.	
Austin Lane, Southern Illinois University of Carbondale.	
LaRee Sugg, University of Richmond.	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
Chaunte Lowe. Olympian and motivational speaker.	
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>	
None.	
<b>NCAA Staff Liaisons (or Staff Support if Subcommittee) in Attendance:</b>	
Nora Loechel, Stacey Preston and Russell Register.	
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>	
Melody Lawrence, Stephanie Quigg and Jennifer Roe.	



REPORT OF THE  
NCAA MINORITY OPPORTUNITIES AND INTERESTS COMMITTEE  
SEPTEMBER 18, 2023, MEETING

ACTION ITEMS.

- None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Welcome and announcements and review of committee mission and duties.** Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee Vice Chair Marshall Fey welcomed the group and noted this is the committee's first in-person meeting since 2019. Committee members introduced themselves, including new members. After introductions, the committee reviewed its mission and duties.
2. **Review of previous reports.** The committee approved its May 9, 2023, videoconference report.
3. **Athletics Diversity and Inclusion Designee (ADID) update.**
  - a. **Programs and outreach for 2023-24.** Staff updated the committee on the scheduled 2023-24 engagements for ADIDs, including virtual Community Connections sessions as well as the second annual ADID Summit in April 2024 in conjunction with the NCAA Inclusion Forum.
  - b. **Division I Strategic Vision and Planning Committee DEIB and Education Subgroup report.** Staff updated the committee about the Division I Strategic Vision and Planning Committee's DEIB and Education Subgroup proposal regarding the athletics diversity and inclusion designee. The proposal would require Division I member institutions to designate a senior level administrator with appropriate training as an athletics diversity and inclusion designee. The ADID's primary responsibilities would include initiatives related to the institution's obligation to create environments and an atmosphere of respect for and sensitivity to the dignity of every person as required by the NCAA constitution. It is anticipated that the subgroup will recommend that the Division I Council adopt the proposal as emergency legislation during its October 3-4 meeting.

MOIC members discussed the proposal at length and appreciated the subcommittee's work to enhance diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging at the senior management level. The committee also agreed that the provisions in the proposal to ensure appropriate training and resources for the ADID to effectively administer responsibilities are essential. MOIC also discussed that while the ADID proposal is a Division I-specific recommendation, that if approved, it will be shared with Divisions II and III for consideration.

4. **Division I Senior Minority Administrator discussion and next steps.** The committee continued its conversation regarding a potential Senior Minority Administrator designation in the context of state laws impacting DEI work and the Division I Strategic Vision and Planning Committee's DEIB and Education Subgroup legislative proposal, which

5. recommends an expanded role for the ADID to satisfy the Division I Transformation Committee's diversity and inclusion recommendations.

MOIC agreed that the best strategy is to establish a nine-member exploratory group composed of four members of the MOIC, two members from the NCAA Committee on Women's Athletics, and one member each from the Minority Opportunities Athletics Association, LEAD1, and the Asian American & Pacific Islander Athletics Alliance, to explore the demographics, trends and opinions regarding how best increase the number of ethnic minorities in senior management positions and make a recommendation to MOIC at the May 2024 meeting.

6. **NCAA Student-Athlete Advisory Committee divisional updates.**

- a. **Division I.** The Division I SAAC representative was not present to provide an update.
- b. **Division II.** The Division II SAAC representative updated the committee on SAAC's engagement efforts with Congress, noting a letter sent in June to select members of Congress stating that the DII SAAC encourages the continued evolution of college athletics with an emphasis on the student-athlete voice being critical in identifying their ever-changing needs. The Division II SAAC also refined its goals for the coming year to focus on "the three E's": (1) Empower student-athletes to make the college experience their own and prepare for success in life after sport; (2) Empathize with student-athletes to protect their mental wellness and their shared values regarding diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging; and (3) Enhance the connections among SAACs at the national, conference and campus levels to increase communication and strengthen the student-athlete voice in the Division II governance and decision-making process. The Division II SAAC also will conduct its sixth SAAC super region convention Nov. 17-19 in Atlanta for the South Region.
- c. **Division III.** The Division III SAAC representative noted the SAAC's recent efforts to draft a statement affirming the value of intercollegiate athletics and the commitment to providing a welcoming environment and a place of belonging for all student-athletes. Division III SAAC members believe such a statement is necessary given the evolving challenges in the social justice space. The Division III SAAC representative read the draft statement to the committee and asked for feedback. MOIC members applauded the effort and urged the Division III SAAC to continue making a positive difference. The Division III SAAC also continues focusing on its working groups devoted to enhancing diversity, equity, and inclusion, and supporting student-athlete mental wellness.

7. **2023 Diversity and Inclusion Social Media Campaign.** Staff updated the committee on this year's Diversity and Inclusion Social Media Campaign, which will be conducted October 17-19. MOIC members reviewed this year's themes: (Day 1) Understanding and personalizing the "why" for supporting individuals who have different identities and experiences; (Day 2) Defining what "belonging" really means within the context of a team/athletics community; and (Day 3) Identifying the shared responsibilities and action steps for fostering belonging and

inclusive excellence. Staff noted that interviews with select student-athletes will be posted each day to help inspire conversation and interaction.

- 8. Champions of Diversity and Inclusion update.** The committee reviewed its Champions of Diversity and Inclusion recognition program that was established in 2015 to honor individuals for their work in supporting ethnic minorities and other underrepresented populations in athletics. The current process is for champions to be selected in mid-April and then recognized in late spring and early summer. However, MOIC agreed that moving the nominations to November, selecting recipients in January and recognizing them in February and early spring would bring more visibility to both the recipients and the program. These changes to the process would also help distinguish the Champions of Diversity and Inclusion recognition from the Award for Diversity and Inclusion. The committee asked staff to proceed with making those changes to the process for this coming year.
- 9. NCAA MOAA Award for Diversity and Inclusion information and update.** The committee reviewed the process for selecting the Award for Diversity and Inclusion and discussed the selection committee thoughts on potentially honoring three recipients (one recipient for each division) rather than the current process of selecting one overall recipient. MOIC members supported the concept and urged staff to develop more details and consult with MOAA to gauge their interest, as well as determine whether there would be a budget impact depending on how the honorees would be recognized (i.e., whether the current practice of sending a crew to the recipient's campus to create a video would be expanded or whether another recognition method would be considered). The committee agreed to maintain the current process for the 2024 award, noting that applications close October 7 and that the recipient will be announced at the NCAA Convention in January 2024. If ultimately approved, the concept of honoring divisional recipients would become effective in 2025.
- 10. Selection of the NCAA Social Justice Working Group representative.** Staff updated the committee on the status of the working group, noting that its charge is to increase engagement, education and understanding of social justice issues throughout the Association, by examining current resources and areas of unmet need and creating social justice-focused program opportunities. Due to working group vacancies, staff asked for a member of MOIC to volunteer to serve on the working group and noted that the Committee on Women's Athletics will be asked to fill a vacancy as well. Femi Alao assistant, director of athletics/senior woman administrator at Roberts Wesleyan University, agreed to fill the MOIC vacancy.
- 11. Current issues and impact on intercollegiate athletics discussion.** The committee discussed current issues that may have an impact on intercollegiate athletics, particularly as it relates to the effects on diversity and inclusion. The discussion focused primarily on resources and best practices to facilitate interaction among constituents with differing viewpoints. The committee also discussed workshops that should be considered for the ADID Summit.

**12. Future meetings.** The committee will meet jointly with the NCAA Committee on Women's Athletics on Tuesday, September 19, from 8:30 a.m.-noon Eastern time. The committee also will convene twice in spring 2024.

**13. Adjournment.** The meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m. Eastern time.

*Committee Chair:*        *Stuart Robinson, New York University.*  
*Staff Liaisons:*        *Niya Blair Hackworth, Office of Inclusion.*  
                                  *Dee Kennedy, Enforcement.*  
                                  *Sadé Sleet, Office of Inclusion.*

<b>NCAA Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee September 18, 2023, Meeting</b>	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Cheryl Aaron, Wentworth Institute of Technology (via videoconference).	
Femi Alao, Roberts Wesleyan University.	
Amanda Braun, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee (via videoconference).	
Marshall Fey, Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association.	
Lonnie Folks, Maryville University of St. Louis.	
Shani Idlette, Clark Atlanta University.	
Tommye Robinson, University of Arkansas, Fort Smith.	
Myora Slaughter, Rosemont College.	
Zulma Toro, Central Connecticut State University.	
Alexis Watson, McDaniel College.	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
Lisa Freeman, Northern Illinois University.	
William Kelly, U.S. Coast Guard Academy.	
Stuart Robinson, New York University.	
Jason Johnson Jr., Alabama A&M University.	
Dwaun Warmack, Claflin University.	
<b>NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:</b>	
Niya Blair Hackworth, Dee Kennedy and Sadé Sleet.	
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance for Portions of the Meeting:</b>	
Amanda Conklin, Kina Davis, Felicia Martin, Angela Tressel, Amy Wilson and Donovan Wilson.	



REPORT OF THE  
NCAA COMMITTEE ON WOMEN'S ATHLETICS  
SEPTEMBER 18, 2023, MEETING

**ACTION ITEMS.**

**1. Legislative items.**

**Division I Only.**

• **Legislation – NCAA Division I Bylaw 15.5.3.1.2 – Equivalency Sports – Maximum Equivalency Limits – Women's Sports – Stunt.**

- (1) Recommendation. Introduce and adopt legislation into the January 2024 council-governance legislative cycle, in stunt, to increase the maximum equivalency limit from nine to 14.
- (2) Effective date. Immediate.
- (3) Rationale. The Committee on Women's Athletics reviewed a request from the women's stunt coaches association to increase the maximum equivalency limit in Division I from nine to 14. Division I adopted legislation during the 2022-23 academic year to add stunt as an emerging sport for women with an equivalency limit of nine. The women's stunt coaches association thought the limit was intended to be 14 and asked CWA to recommend an increase. After review, the CWA agreed with the recommendation. Women's stunt has large rosters with an average of 26 – 50 student-athletes. Like other sports with large rosters and higher equivalencies, women's stunt could benefit from a higher equivalency to help grow the sport and support student-athlete participation opportunities, particularly in the early stages of its emerging status. Increasing the maximum to 14 is permissive and allows institutions the opportunity to support additional equivalencies for female athletes.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. Dependent on institutional decision-making.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. Will vary depending on institutional decision-making.

**2. Nonlegislative items.**

- **None.**

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

- 1. Welcome and announcements.** Committee on Women's Athletics Chair, Ragean Hill, welcomed committee members and previewed key agenda items.

2. **Approval of previous reports.** The committee approved the report from its May 12 videoconference, as presented.
3. **2024 NCAA Convention Division II Proposal No. 2024-1.** The Division II Presidents Council and Management Council referred 2024 NCAA Convention Division II Proposal No. 2024-1 (Playing and Practice Seasons – Football – Preseason Practice and First Contest – First Permissible Contest) to the committee for a position and to discuss whether it would have a gender equity impact.

The proposal specifies that, in football, a member institution shall not participate in its first contest with outside competition in the championship segment before one week prior to the Thursday preceding September 6. Sponsors note that this change would permit institutions to schedule and play the maximum allowable 11 football contests over a 12-week period.

The committee agreed to oppose the proposal noting that it would treat football differently from other fall sports, including women's sports, and could create inequities in resource allocation and acclimatization. The committee also noted that while permissive in nature, the proposal would likely result in institutions bringing their football student-athletes to campus a week earlier than under the current playing and practice seasons model and other fall sport programs, including women's sports, would not have the same opportunities.

4. **NCAA Policy on Campus Sexual Violence.** NCAA staff provided an overview of the NCAA Board of Governors Policy on Campus Sexual Violence, its six components and the deadline for schools to attest for the 2022-23 academic year. The committee discussed the policy's implementation on campus and noted the impact on institutional staffs to obtain accurate information and complete the attestation by the stated deadline, as well as complications that may arise in cases when a student-athlete transfers.
5. **Selection of the 2023 NCAA Woman of the Year.** The committee received an overview of the 2023 NCAA Woman of the Year award, which honors graduating female student-athletes who have distinguished themselves throughout their collegiate careers in the areas of academic achievement, athletics excellence, service, and leadership.

A record 619 nominations were submitted for the 2023 award. The Woman of the Year Selection Committee worked diligently to choose the Top 30 nominees (10 from each division) and then select the Top 9 nominees (three from each division) to position the committee to select the overall winner.

The committee reviewed the nominations of the nine finalists and narrowed its selection to the top three nominees before ultimately agreeing on the winner, which will be announced at the award ceremony held January 11, 2024, during the 2024 NCAA

Convention. An announcement sharing information about the Top 30 and Top 9 honorees will be released later this fall.

6. **Emerging sports updates.** The committee received updates on the progress of the six emerging sports currently in the program, including: acrobatics & tumbling; equestrian; rugby; stunt; triathlon; and women's wrestling. The committee discussed each sport and raised any relevant questions or concerns regarding their progress. The committee also addressed topics in the following sports:

a. **Stunt – Request to increase the Division I maximum equivalency limit.** The committee approved a request from the women's stunt coaches association to introduce and adopt into the January 2024 Division I council-governance legislative cycle, in stunt, to increase the maximum equivalency limit from nine to 14. (See Legislative Action Item.)

b. **Women's wrestling – potential transition to national collegiate championship sport status.** The committee noted that women's wrestling has reached the threshold of 40 sponsoring institutions to be considered for national collegiate championship sport status. As such, the committee began discussing the possible establishment of a National Collegiate Championship for women's wrestling. Committee members noted that several steps must be accomplished to make the transition, including socializing the concept among the three divisions and formalizing the budget necessary to support the championship.

The committee directed staff to gather additional information for discussion at the committee's February 2024 meeting, where it would likely recommend that the three divisions introduce and adopt legislation to add women's wrestling as a national collegiate championship during the 2024-25 legislative cycle or at the 2025 NCAA Convention. The committee acknowledged that the earliest a national collegiate championship could be staged would be in winter 2026.

7. **Trends in women's sports and interest in the emerging sports for women program.** Staff updated the committee regarding the increased interest and investment in women's sports and the numerous inquiries the national office has received about prospective emerging sports. Staff also noted increased interest and engagement from the United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee (USOPC) in this space and its commitment to growing sports in the Olympic pipeline. Additionally, the committee discussed that the new NCAA Operating Plan emphasizes the importance of women's sport growth. The committee received brief updates on flag football, open-water swimming, table tennis, squash, and pickleball.

8. **Emerging Sports for Women Process Guide and application edits.** The committee received an update from the subcommittee appointed to review the existing process guide and the suggested edits. Staff also solicited feedback from the leadership of the current

emerging sports regarding potential changes to the guide and program. The committee reviewed a revised document that incorporates many of the suggestions to date, and members also reviewed other ideas submitted for consideration. The committee offered feedback and asked staff to continue refining the draft and looking into program improvements with the subcommittee for review to finalize at the committee's next meeting.

**9. NCAA Student-Athlete Advisory Committee updates.**

- a. Division I.** The Division I SAAC representative updated the committee on the SAAC's efforts to meet with all Division I conferences to emphasize the need for increased communication among SAACs at the campus and conference levels to heighten awareness of issues that the national SAAC can address. It was further noted that the Division I SAAC is working within the Division I governance structure to potentially shorten the notification-of-transfer windows to be less burdensome on student-athletes. Finally, the SAAC representative shared that the SAAC also is working to develop a feedback instrument to satisfy the recommendation from the Division I Transformation Committee that Division I student-athletes be surveyed annually regarding their experience.
  - b. Division II.** The Division II SAAC representative updated the committee on SAAC's engagement efforts with congress, noting a letter sent in June to select U.S. senators and representatives stating that DII SAAC encourages the continued evolution of college athletics with an emphasis on the student-athlete voice being critical in identifying their ever-changing needs. It was also noted that the Division II SAAC refined its goals for the coming year to focus on "the three E's": (1) Empower student-athletes to make the college experience their own and prepare for success in life after sport; (2) Empathize with student-athletes to protect their mental wellness and their shared values regarding diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging; and (3) Enhance the connections among SAACs at the national, conference and campus levels to increase communication and strengthen the student-athlete voice in the Division II governance and decision-making process. Finally, the SAAC representative noted that the Division II SAAC also will conduct its sixth super region convention November 17-19 in Atlanta, Georgia, for the South Region.
  - c. Division III.** The Division III SAAC representative was not present to provide an update.
- 10. Future meetings.** The committee will meet jointly with the Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee on Tuesday, September 19, from 8:30 a.m. to noon Eastern time. The committee will also convene in February and May 2024, on dates to be determined.
- 11. Adjournment.** The meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m. Eastern time.

*Committee Chair:* Ragean Hill, University of North Carolina at Charlotte.  
*Staff Liaisons:* Maison Hubbard, Academic and Membership Affairs.  
 Micaela Liddane, Championships and Alliances.  
 Ashlesha Lokhande, Office of Inclusion.  
 Gretchen Miron, Office of Inclusion.

<b>NCAA Committee on Women's Athletics September 18, 2023, Meeting</b>	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Laura Amaya, Roberts Wesleyan University (via videoconference).	
Greg Bamberger, Fairmont State University.	
Elise Byun, University of California, Berkeley (via videoconference).	
Katherine Rowe Fell, University of Findlay.	
Sharief Hasim, Susquehanna University.	
Ragean Hill, University of North Carolina at Charlotte.	
Marybeth Lamb, Bridgewater State University.	
Katherine Loh, Florida Southern College.	
LaWanda Miller, Fayetteville State University.	
Michael Perez, California State University, Fullerton.	
Quinton Ross, Alabama State University.	
Tracy Shoemake, Texas State University.	
Steve Stoute, Canisius University.	
Sean Sullivan, Salve Regina University.	
Marion Terenzio, State University of New York at Cobleskill.	
Dawn Turner, Lander University.	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
Gabby Elliott, Denison University.	
Chuck Sack, Neumann University.	
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>	
Renie Shields, Saint Joseph's University, Chair of the Woman of the Year Selection Committee (via videoconference).	
<b>NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:</b>	
Maison Hubbard, Ashlesha Lokhande, and Gretchen Miron.	
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance for Portions of the Meeting:</b>	
Gail Dent, Rachel Denton, Jessi Faulk, Chelsea Hooks, Felicia Martin, Corbin McGuire, Jean Merrill, Greg Pottorff, Stacey Preston, Stephanie Quigg, Angela Red and Amy Wilson.	



REPORT OF THE  
NCAA COMMITTEE ON WOMEN'S ATHLETICS  
AND MINORITY OPPORTUNITIES AND INTERESTS COMMITTEE AND  
SEPTEMBER 19, 2023, JOINT MEETING

ACTION ITEMS.

- None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Welcome and introductions.** Committee on Women's Athletics Chair, Ragean Hill, and Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee Vice Chair, Marshall Fey, welcomed members from both committees and previewed key agenda items.
2. **Review and approval of joint reports.** The committees approved their October 22, 2022, and May 12, 2023, videoconference joint reports.
3. **Chair updates.** Representatives from both committees provided key takeaways from the Committee on Women's Athletics and the Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee's September 18 meetings.
  - a. **Committee on Women's Athletics.** CWA welcomed nine new members; selected the 2023 NCAA Woman of the Year; received updates from six emerging sports; discussed the potential transition of women's wrestling from an emerging sport to championship sport status; discussed trends in women's sports and interest in the emerging sports for women program; suggested edits to the emerging sports process guide and application form; reviewed and agreed to oppose 2024 NCAA Convention Division II Proposal No. 2024-1 (playing and practice seasons – football – preseason practice and first contest – first permissible contest) regarding the football playing and practice season; and reviewed the NCAA Board of Governors Policy on Campus Sexual Violence, its six components and the attestation deadline for the 2022-23 academic year.
  - b. **Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee.** MOIC welcomed four new members; reviewed the diversity and inclusion social media campaign slated for October 17-19; discussed a potential new process for the NCAA/MOAA Award for Diversity and Inclusion to recognize winners in all three divisions rather than one overall winner starting in 2025; revised the schedule of nominations, selection and recognition for the MOIC Champions of Diversity and Inclusion recognition to bring more visibility to the recipients; and reviewed the schedule of engagements with athletics diversity and inclusion designees for the 2024-25 academic year.
4. **Social Justice Working Group status.** Staff updated the committees on the status of the working group, which included their August meeting and key takeaways. Staff also shared the working group's charge, which is to provide leadership and assistance to the Association in its efforts to advance initiatives related to social justice, and to strategize intentional actions that members can use with the purpose of creating safe, inclusive, and equitable environments across the membership. The working group is comprised of current and previous members of

the CWA and MOIC. Due to some of the members having rotated off the working group, staff requested participation from one member from MOIC and one from CWA to fill vacancies.

5. **Update on Division I DEIB legislation and national issues.** The committees discussed the proposal the Division I Strategic Vision and Planning Committee's DEIB and Education Subcommittee is recommending that the Division I Council adopt as emergency legislation during its October 3-4 meeting [see NCAA Division I Proposal No. 2023-43 (division membership – active membership – conditions and obligations of membership – athletics diversity and inclusion designee)]. The proposal specifies that an active Division I member institution shall designate a senior level administrator with appropriate training as an athletics diversity and inclusion designee, whose primary responsibilities shall include initiatives related to the institution's obligation to create environments and an atmosphere of respect for and sensitivity to the dignity of every person as required by the NCAA constitution. The proposal emerged in response to recommendations made by the Division I Transformation Committee, and the Board of Directors directed the development of legislation to enhance membership expectations in support of the Association's constitutional commitment to promoting environments and an atmosphere of respect and sensitivity to the dignity of every person.
6. **Senior Minority Administrator (SMA) status.** It was noted that MOIC agreed not to recommend the SMA proposal introduced in 2021. Instead, the committee agreed to establish a nine-member group to explore the demographics, trends, research and viewpoints regarding how best to increase the number of ethnic minorities in senior management positions within intercollegiate athletics. The exploratory group will be composed of four members of the MOIC, two members from the NCAA Committee on Women's Athletics, and one member each from the Minority Opportunities Athletics Association, LEAD1, and the Asian American & Pacific Islander Athletics Alliance. The group will make a recommendation to MOIC at the May 2024 meeting.
7. **Gender equity review update.** The committees received a presentation outlining NCAA external gender equity reviews and noted items from the recent progress report from Lewis Rice LLC that supports the NCAA's efforts to implement gender equity principles to enhance student-athletes' experiences, especially for those participating at NCAA championships across all sports. The presentation highlighted that nearly all recommendations from the external gender equity reviews are addressed or in progress. The report also acknowledged the strong leadership from membership committees, particularly the DEI committees, in ensuring the NCAA's commitment to equity. In the two years since the initial external report was issued, the national office has made substantial progress on effective ways to assess equity at NCAA championships.
8. **Status of the equity definition and equity review process.** Staff updated the committees on the status of the process underway to address recommendation 1.8 in the Phase I Report issued in August 2021. The recommendation from the NCAA Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee and NCAA Committee on Women's Athletics was to request that the divisional committees require an evaluation of equity impact prior to approving legislation and that the

NCAA Board of Governors require an evaluation of equity impact prior to it approving any policy action. In October 2021, the CWA and MOIC collaborated with the Board of Governors' Committee to Promote Cultural Diversity and Equity and the NCAA Gender Equity Task Force to create the Gender Equity Review Process to support recommendation 1.8. The committees also agreed to expand the statement to encompass all equity, not just gender equity.

CWA and MOIC members offered feedback on a draft equity statement and recommended that the Social Justice Working Group be consulted for input as well. Staff noted that an updated statement would be presented at the joint committee meeting in winter 2024. The Board of Governors Committee to Promote Cultural Diversity and Equity and the Gender Equity Task Force will review the definition at their upcoming meetings.

9. **NCAA Board of Governors review of Association-wide committees.** Staff updated the committees on the Board of Governors review of the Association-wide committees in the NCAA governance structure following the adoption of the new NCAA constitution. The board is examining the function and duties of the Association-wide committees to assess whether potential changes would better align the committees' work with the new constitution and determine how to streamline the Association-wide governance structure. The NCAA DEI committees, including CWA and MOIC, are the next committees to conduct the review. The committees agreed to appoint a small working group of representatives to join representatives from the other two DEI groups to begin answering the prescribed questions. The initial reaction from the committees was to note that diversity, equity and inclusion, and gender equity, are separate principles in the new NCAA Constitution, and that accordingly, the working group should ensure that the committees are aligned with those principles.

10. **NCAA transgender student-athlete participation policy updates.**

- **Update on DEI representatives engaging with the Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports (CSMAS) and the Sport Science Institute.** Staff from the Sport Science Institute walked the committees through a comprehensive overview of the NCAA's transgender student-athlete participation policy. It was noted that in January 2023, the Board of Governors voted to extend Phase 2 of the policy through the 2023-24 academic year and thus delayed implementation of Phase 3 with Phase 3 to be effective in the 2024-25 academic year. The CSMAS is continuing to evaluate whether implementation of Phase 3 in 2024-25 is feasible or whether it should recommend that the Board of Governors extend Phase 2 for another academic year. It was noted that CSMAS intends to finalize its recommendation for the Board of Governors to consider during its meeting at the January 2024 NCAA Convention. CSMAS is also monitoring the Office for Civil Rights notice of proposed rulemaking on athletics eligibility under Title IX, which offers guidance on how the office wishes to interpret transgender student-athlete participation in athletics under Title IX. SSI staff confirmed that previously identified DEI committee members will have the opportunity to engage with CSMAS as they continue to determine policy next steps and recommendations.

**11. Other business,**

- a. **Schedule of relevant events.** The committees reviewed notable dates of events during the 2024 Convention, including the Woman of the Year Award Ceremony and the Award for Diversity and Inclusion, and the second annual ADID Summit April 23-24, 2024, to be conducted in conjunction with the NCAA Inclusion Forum April 24-26, 2024.
- b. **Conflict of interest forms.** Staff reminded committee members to complete the 2023-24 conflict of interest statement if they have not done so already.

**12. Future meetings.** The next joint meeting will be in spring 2024 on a date to be determined.

**13. Adjournment.** The meeting adjourned at 10:54 a.m. Eastern time.

*Committee Chairs:* CWA: Ragean Hill, University of North Carolina at Charlotte.  
MOIC: Marshall Fey, Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association

*Staff Liaisons (CWA):* Maison Hubbard, Academic and Membership Affairs.  
Micaela Liddane, Championships and Alliances.  
Ashlesha Lokhande, Office of Inclusion.  
Gretchen Miron, Office of Inclusion.

*Staff Liaisons (MOIC):* Niya Blair Hackworth, Office of Inclusion.  
Dee Kennedy, Enforcement.  
Sadé Sleet, Office of Inclusion.

<b>NCAA Committee on Women's Athletics and Minority Opportunities and Interests          Committee September 19, 2023, Joint Meeting</b>
<b>Attendees:</b>
Cheryl Aaron, Wentworth Institute of Technology (via videoconference).
Femi Alao, Roberts Wesleyan University.
Greg Bamberger, Fairmont State University.
Amanda Braun, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee (via videoconference).
Katherine Rowe Fell, University of Findlay.
Marshall Fey, Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association.
Lonnie Folks, Maryville University of St. Louis.
Sharief Hashim, Susquehanna University.
Ragean Hill, University of North Carolina at Charlotte.
Shani Idlette, Clark Atlanta University.
Marybeth Lamb, Bridgewater State University.
Katherine Loh, Florida Southern College.
LaWanda Miller, Fayetteville State University.
Michael Perez, California State University, Fullerton.
Tommye Robinson, University of Arkansas, Fort Smith.
Quinton Ross, Alabama State University.
Tracy Shoemake, Texas State University.
Myora Slaughter, Rosemont College.
Steve Stoute, Canisius University.
Sean Sullivan, Salve Regina University.
Zulma Toro, Central Connecticut State University.
Dawn Turner, Lander University
Alexis Watson, McDaniel College.
Marion Terenzio, State University of New York at Cobleskill.
<b>Absentees:</b>
Lisa Freeman, Northern Illinois University
Elise Byun, University of California, Berkeley.
Gabby Elliott, Denison University.
William Kelly, Christopher Newport University
Laura Amaya, Roberts Wesleyan University.
Stuart Robinson, New York University.
Chuck Sack, Neumann University
Dwaun Warmack, Claflin University.
<b>NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:</b>
Niya Blair Hackworth, Maison Hubbard, Dee Kennedy, Micaela Liddane, Ashlesha Lokhande, Gretchen Miron, and Sadé Sleet.

Report of the NCAA Committee on Women's Athletics and  
Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee  
Joint Meeting  
September 19, 2023  
Page No. 6

---

<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance for Portions of the Meeting:</b>
--

Gary Brown, Kina Davis, Gail Dent, Felicia Martin, Jean Merrill, Stephanie Quigg, Jennifer Roe, Anne Rohlman, Amy Wilson, and Donovan Wilson
--



DIVISION II

**MAKE IT *YOURS***®

**NCAA Division II  
Management Council  
Policies and Procedures**

*Last Updated: ~~April-October~~ 2023  
(Effective: Feb. 1, 2024)*

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

**NCAA DIVISION II MANAGEMENT COUNCIL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

**NCAA Structure**..... 1

**Division II Management Council Structure**..... 1

    Term of Office ..... 2

    Management Council Vacancies..... 3

    Process of Submitting Nominations..... 4

    Voting Procedures to Fill Vacancies..... 4

    Ratification..... 6

    Emergency Election Procedure..... 6

**Chair and Vice-Chair**..... 6

    Duties..... 6

    Election Process..... 7

    Special Circumstances ..... 8

**Role and Purpose/Responsibilities** ..... 8

**Management Council Operating Policies**..... 9

    Management Council/ Executive Board ~~Presidents Council~~ Relationship..... 8

    Appeals, Appearances and Hearings..... 9

**Committees and Subcommittees Issues**..... 12

    Committees ..... 12

    Committee Vacancies..... 13

    Removal from a Committee ..... 13

    Defense and Indemnification Policy ..... 14

    Subcommittees ..... 16

Project Teams .....	16
<b>Interpretations of Constitution and Bylaws.....</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Management Council Meetings .....</b>	<b>16</b>
Expense Policies .....	16
Meeting Location and Format.....	17
Procedures.....	17
Missed Meetings .....	18
Agenda .....	18
Business .....	19
Reports.....	19
Confidentiality Policy.....	20
Conflict of Interest Statement. ....	20
Speaking Agent Policy .....	21
Guiding Principle Relating to Student-Athlete Well-Being.....	21
Amending Policies and Procedures .....	21
<b>Basic Responsibilities of Management Council Members .....</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Membership Notification of Management Council Action .....</b>	<b>24</b>

## NCAA DIVISION II MANAGEMENT COUNCIL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

The NCAA Division II Management Council Policies and Procedures outline the operations and authority of the NCAA Division II Management Council. The Management Council shall have the authority to adopt or revise the policies and procedures specified herein as needed. The NCAA Division II ~~Presidents Council~~Executive Board, at its discretion, may review, amend and/or act on any policy or procedure adopted by the Management Council.

### *NCAA Structure*

The NCAA Board of Governors establishes and directs the general policy of the Association; provides final approval and oversight of the Association's budget; internal and external audits; enterprise risk management; strategic planning; allocation of assets; establishes policies related to fiduciary responsibility; and employs the NCAA president (see NCAA Constitution, Article 2.A.3.d for full list of duties and responsibilities).

Each Division shall have independent authority to organize itself, consistent with the principles of the Association (see Constitution, Article 2.B.1).

The Division II ~~Presidents Council~~Executive Board establishes and directs the general policy of Division II (see NCAA Bylaw 8.1).

The Division II Management Council handles the day-to-day responsibilities and operations of Division II (see Bylaw 8.2).

The Division II Administrative Committee is empowered in the interim between meetings of the Division II Executive Board ~~Presidents Council~~ and Management Council to conduct business necessary to promote the normal and orderly administration of Division II (see Bylaw 8.3).

### *Division II Management Council Structure*

The Management Council is a governance group whose composition is based on conference representation. Currently, there are ~~298~~ representatives on the Management Council (one member from each of the Division II multisport voting conferences; four "at-large" members to enhance efforts to achieve diversity of representation; and two student-athletes serving on and chosen by the Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (one representing male sports and one representing female sports.) The members shall be representatives of Division II active member institutions or confernces. The members of the Council shall include:23 ~~Division II voting conference representatives, two at-large representatives, one representative for Division II independent institutions [provided there are at least eight Division II independent institutions] and two members of the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee).~~

- (a) At least five directors of athletics;
- (b) At least five senior woman administrators;

- (c) At least five faculty athletics representatives; and
- (d) At least two conference office staff.

Once the minimums are met, the Council may include individuals working in athletics administration and individuals that supervise athletics, including but not limited to a vice president, athletic trainer, assistant/associate/deputy director of athletics, and/or other individuals involved in the administration of athletics. Individuals shall not be full-time coaches.

~~The only positions to be represented on the Management Council are director of athletics, senior woman administrator, faculty athletics representative, conference administrator and student-athlete.~~

~~Among the Management Council members, there must be at least four directors of athletics, at least four senior woman administrators, at least four faculty athletics representatives and at least one conference administrator.~~

The two members of the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee shall serve as voting members on the Management Council (see Bylaw 8.2.1.3). The Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee policies and procedures will determine eligibility, selection process, terms, duties and any other policies related to the service of Student-Athlete Advisory Committee representatives on the Management Council.

The Management Council is committed to the principle of diversity within governance structures that promotes gender and ethnic minority representation at all levels of the Division II governance structure.

### Term of Office

Management Council members serve terms of four years, which shall conclude following the annual NCAA Convention. The Division II Administrative Committee shall have the authority to amend terms of service of Management Council members, as necessary, to stagger the expiration of terms to provide for continuity of service.

Management Council members are not eligible for election to another term on the Management Council until three years have elapsed. A member may not serve on the Management Council more than two terms.

Individuals serving on the Management Council shall be salaried on a regular basis by a Division II active member institution or conference and perform a regular staff function representing at least 50 percent of the normal workload for a staff member at that institution or conference, unless otherwise specified.

If an individual's employment is altered to the extent that they are no longer serving in the position for which that person was appointed to the Management Council (e.g., individual appointed to Management Council as director of athletics resigns as director of athletics of institution but continues as senior woman administrator), that person may be replaced immediately and they may not attend the next scheduled meeting of the Management Council. The Administrative Committee may grant a waiver (on a case-by-case basis) to provide for a Management Council representative

to remain in their position on the Management Council in certain situations where a Management Council representative's position is altered, but there are compelling reasons as to why the change should take place and allow them to remain on the Management Council.

A Management Council member on sabbatical or other temporary leave for a period not exceeding 12 consecutive months may continue their service on the Council. A Management Council member on terminal leave or on leave in excess of 12 consecutive months shall not be eligible to serve on the Management Council.

At the time a Management Council member's institution has forwarded to the national office written notice of its intention to change its membership classification to Division I, Division III or another association, that individual shall be ineligible to serve on the Management Council and an election will occur to replace that member on the Council.

### Management Council Vacancies

When a vacancy on the Division II Management Council occurs, each conference shall propose a slate of nominees that includes at minimum a director of athletics, a senior woman administrator (or, if the senior woman administrator is also the institution's director of athletics, a female professional athletics administrator who is a member of the institution's senior athletics management team) and a faculty athletics representative. A single individual may not be nominated more than once on the slate (e.g., the slate shall not contain the same nominee for the athletics director and senior woman administrator positions).

The slate also may include ~~a conference administrator. A single individual may not be nominated more than once on the slate (e.g., the slate shall not contain the same nominee for the athletics director and senior woman administrator positions).~~

Finally, the slate may include other individuals working in athletics administration and individuals that supervise athletics, including but not limited to vice president, athletic trainer, assistant/associate/deputy director of athletics. However, these nominees may not be a full-time coach. If the conference elects to add one or two individuals beyond the positions of director of athletics, senior woman administrator, faculty athletics representative and conference administrator, the slate must include at least two women and one person of color.

Conferences are required to develop a selection process that is supported by their member institutions and an explanation of this process must be kept on file at the conference office and submitted with its slate of nominees. In addition, a statement will be included on the "slate of candidates" form that reiterates the division's commitment to the principle of diversity at all levels of the governance structure.

The members of the Management Council shall select individuals to fill vacancies from the slate(s) of nominees. Individuals selected by the Management Council to fill a vacancy must be ratified by the Division II ~~Executive Board~~Presidents Council.

When filling vacancies on the Management Council, every effort should be made to not drop below the gender and ethnicity breakdown of the Management Council as it existed before the vacancy

occurred. Further, to the extent possible, members of the ~~Executive Board Presidents Council~~ and the Management Council shall not be employed at the same institution.

The Management Council may reject a slate of candidates when any of the following circumstances exist:

- (1) When the slate of candidates is incomplete (e.g., the slate does not include a senior woman administrator <or designee> or the senior woman administrator on the slate has expressed an unwillingness to serve).
- (2) When the conference does not utilize its selection procedures (i.e., the procedures on file at the conference office and submitted with its slate) to select a slate of candidates.
- (3) When the conference's slate does not permit the Management Council to fulfill its obligation to assist the division's commitment to the principle of diversity.

At-large vacancies on the Management Council are to be filled by candidates who enhance ethnic and/or gender diversity. A nominee to fill an at-large vacancy should not be considered if the nominee's institution already is represented on the Management Council. Likewise, a nominee to fill a conference vacancy should not be considered if the nominee's institution already is represented by an at-large member.

~~The independent institution vacancy will be open to selected representatives (directors of athletics, senior woman administrators, faculty athletics representatives) from any Division II independent institution and nominations will be accepted from all Division II institutions. If the total number of independent institutions falls below eight, the position allocated for independent institutions shall become an at-large position as soon as the position becomes vacant. In such situations, the Management Council shall try to fill one of the at-large vacancies with a representative from an independent institution, if such a representative applies for service.~~

### **Process of Submitting Nominations**

When a Management Council vacancy exists for a member conference, the conference will be sent a copy of the Management Council policies and procedures to share with interested candidates who have questions regarding the Management Council's duties and responsibilities. In addition, when submitting a slate of candidates to fill a Management Council vacancy, a conference must certify each nominee's willingness to serve as a Management Council representative.

Each conference must designate a president or chancellor from a member institution within the conference who shall sign the conference's nomination form (slate of candidates or reelection form) before the form is submitted. A conference is not required to be on record with the NCAA national office as to which president or chancellor in the conference has authority to sign off on a slate of candidates. A president or chancellor that a conference authorizes to sign off on a slate of candidates may designate someone else from the conference to perform this task as long as that person is a president or chancellor at another member institution within that conference.

A nomination to the Management Council may not be retracted without the nominee's permission. A conference may, however, modify its slate of candidates when extenuating circumstances exist (e.g., an individual changes his or her job after the slate of candidates has been submitted).

### Voting Procedures to Fill Vacancies

- ◆ If more than one vacancy exists, a Management Council Subcommittee will be established by the Management Council chair and vice-chair before each election. The duties of the subcommittee include monitoring the composition of the Management Council to ensure its continued diversity, tracking the history of conference representatives by position on the Management Council, reviewing the pool of Management Council candidates prior to each election and providing the Management Council with a possible election outcome(s) after considering the gender, ethnic minority and position breakdown of the Management Council at the time of the election. In elections involving nominations for the at-large position(s), the subcommittee may also conduct phone interviews with certain nominees to better evaluate credentials and a willingness to serve.
- ◆ If more than one vacancy exists, the conference, ~~independent~~ and at-large vacancies will be voted on as a group (as opposed to individually) by written ballot and the ballot will consist of the slate of candidates from each conference with a vacancy (and/or the list of ~~independent and~~ at-large nominees).
- ◆ The slate of candidates signed by each conference, as well as the nominee information forms completed by each conference ~~and~~, at-large ~~and independent~~ nominees, will be provided to the members of the Management Council for consideration.
- ◆ At the meeting, Management Council members who wish to speak on behalf of a particular candidate will be permitted to make a brief statement about the nominee; a Management Council member from a conference with a vacancy should provide a brief overview of each candidate's qualifications, without stating a preference for a particular candidate. Management Council members from conferences with vacancies will be permitted to cast a vote for their replacements.
- ◆ Management Council members will be asked to vote for one nominee per conference (and one at-large nominee ~~and one independent nominee~~, when necessary). The ballots will be tabulated by the Division II governance staff. If one candidate receives a majority vote of the Management Council members present and voting, the voting is considered final for that day.
- ◆ If no candidate from a conference (or at-large, ~~independent~~ nominees) receives a majority vote, the candidate with the fewest number of votes will be eliminated from the slate of candidates, and another vote (in writing) will be taken. The voting will continue in this manner until one nominee receives a majority vote of those Management Council members present and voting.
- ◆ After the voting takes place on the first day of the Management Council meeting, the staff will compile the results and prepare a grid showing the composition of the Management Council (as determined by the first day's vote) by gender, ethnicity and position.

- ◆ The Management Council will review the grid on the second day of the meeting and determine whether it is comfortable with the overall composition of the group and whether a revote is necessary.
- ◆ The names of the nominees from each conference and the at-large ~~and independent~~ candidates who have been elected shall be forwarded to the Executive Board~~Presidents Council~~ for ratification. Notification to the candidates, the conference and the Management Council shall occur after the Executive Board ~~Presidents Council~~ has made its decision.
- ◆ If a conference representative is not ratified by the Executive Board~~Presidents Council~~, the conference will be asked to submit a new slate of candidates for the Management Council to consider.
- ◆ If an at-large representative ~~or independent representative~~ is not ratified by the Executive Board~~Presidents Council~~, a call for nominations will be sent to the membership (unless a sufficient number of candidates exist from a vacancy that has occurred within the previous three months).

### Ratification.

Election and reelection decisions made by the Management Council shall be forwarded to the Division II Executive Board ~~Presidents Council~~ for ratification.

### Emergency Election Procedure.

If an interim vacancy occurs on the Management Council, the Division II Administrative Committee will determine whether the vacancy has occurred at such a time that the vacancy must be filled prior to the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Management Council. If the Administrative Committee determines that the vacancy does require an election prior to the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Management Council, the election may occur either by ballot or telephone conference of the Management Council.

### *Chair and Vice-Chair*

The chair and vice-chair are elected by the Management Council and ratified by the Executive Board~~Presidents Council~~, for a maximum two-year term. The individual seeking a second year of the maximum two-year term must be reelected by the Management Council at a quarterly meeting prior to the expiration of the first term.

The term of office of the chair and vice chair runs from January to January (term ends upon adjournment of the NCAA Business Session at the annual Convention).

The vice chair is a separately elected position and does not ascend to the chair role automatically.

Representatives from the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee on the Management Council shall not be eligible to serve as chair or vice-chair of the Management Council.

## Duties

The chair of the Management Council shall: (8.2.2.1)

- ◆ Preside at Management Council meetings;
- ◆ Serve as an ex officio, nonvoting member of the Board of Governors;
- ◆ Serve as a member of the Division II Administrative Committee;
- ◆ Report to the Division II membership at the annual Convention the activities of the Management Council and Division II committees;
- ◆ Serve as an ex officio, nonvoting member of any Division II committee that reports to the Division II Management Council; and
- ◆ Serve as an ex officio, nonvoting member of the Division II Planning and Finance Committee.

[Note: The Management Council chair also represents Division II on the NCAA President's Advisory Group for Marketing and Promotional Issues. (See Bylaw 31.16.4.2.)]

The vice-chair of the Management Council shall: (8.2.2.2)

- ◆ Take the chair's place and perform the chair's duties if the chair is absent or incapacitated;
- ◆ Serve as a member of the Division II Administrative Committee;
- ◆ Serve as a member of the Division II Strategic Planning and Finance Committee;
- ◆ Serve as an ex officio, nonvoting member of the Division II Championships Committee and all Division II sports committees.

## Election Process

The Management Council will conduct the chair and vice-chair elections using a written ballot. Each candidate will be limited to a two-minute speech, and there will be no discussion by the Management Council of the various candidates. [Note: The chair and vice-chair candidates will be permitted to vote.]

In order to be elected as chair or vice-chair, the individual must receive a majority vote of all Management Council members present and voting.

In the case there are more than two candidates running and none receive a majority vote, the candidate with the fewest number of votes will be eliminated from the ballot, and another vote will be taken. The voting will continue in this manner until one candidate receives a majority vote of those Management Council members present and voting.

If there is a tie vote, the vote shall be retaken. Each candidate may be allowed another two-minute speech, and there will be no discussion by the Management Council of the two candidates. If the tie persists after the second vote, the names of the two candidates are to be written on paper and pulled from a container by the chair of the Management Council. If the chair of the Management Council is a candidate, the vice-chair will pull the paper from the container. If the chair and vice-chair of Management Council are the two candidates tied, the vice president of Division II will pull the paper from the container.

The vote results will be announced during the Management Council meeting, with the understanding that such results are confidential until the election has been ratified by the Executive Board~~Presidents Council~~.

### **Special Circumstances.**

- ◆ In the event that the chair of the Management Council leaves the position of chair prior to expiration of their term as chair, there will be an election to fill the vacancy. The vice-chair of the Management Council will assume the duties of the chair on an interim basis (and also will continue to serve as vice-chair) until the chair vacancy has been filled. [Note: The election to fill the vacancy may be immediate and occur either by ballot or ~~telephone~~-videoconference of the Management Council if the Administrative Committee agrees to expedite the process. Otherwise, the election would occur at the next regularly scheduled Management Council meeting.]
- ◆ In the event that the vice-chair of the Management Council leaves the position of vice-chair prior to expiration of their term as vice-chair, there will be an election to fill the vacancy. [Note: The election to fill the vacancy may be immediate and occur either by ballot or videoconference ~~telephone conference~~ of the Management Council if the Administrative committee agrees to expedite the process. Otherwise, the election would occur at the next regularly scheduled Management Council meeting.]
- ◆ In the event both the Management Council chair and vice chair are absent or unable to lead a Management Council meeting or videoconference~~teleconference~~, another member of the Management Council may be selected to lead the meeting or videoconference ~~teleconference~~ by a majority vote of all members of the Council present at the meeting or on the teleconference. If time permits and the absence of the chair and vice chair, or their inability to lead the meeting or videoconference~~teleconference~~, is known in advance, the election of another member may take place via e-mail vote.

### ***Role and Purpose/Responsibilities***

The Division II Management Council is responsible for the day-to-day operations of Division II.

Bylaw 8.2.2 specifies the following responsibilities for the Management Council:

- ◆ Implement policies adopted by the NCAA Board of Governors and the Executive Board;
- ◆ Make recommendations to the Executive Board on matters it deems appropriate;
- ◆ Adopt noncontroversial and intent-based amendments, administrative bylaws and regulations to govern Division II;
- ◆ Sponsor legislative proposals for a vote at the annual NCAA Convention;
- ◆ Take final action on matters delegated to it by the Executive Board;
- ◆ Review and act on the recommendations of the Division II committee structure and the recommendations of committees with Association-wide functions;
- ◆ Appoint the members of the Division II committee structure and appoint the Division II representatives to committees with Association-wide functions;

- ◆ Identify, before the printing of the Official Notice for any Convention, Division II proposals for which a roll-call vote of the eligible voters may be required and designate during the Convention the roll-call votes that must occur;
- ◆ Establish the final sequence of legislative proposals in the agenda for the Division II business session at the annual Convention;
- ◆ Elect a chair and vice chair;
- ◆ Organize and participate in an annual "summit" with the Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee;
- ◆ Hear and act on appeals by member institutions of decisions made by a Division II committee or the NCAA staff regarding the application of NCAA legislation (excluding actions of any committee that has final authority over issues subject to appeal); and
- ◆ Recommend the creation of committees or other bodies to study and suggest courses of action on specific issues or to fulfill the duties and responsibilities of Division II bylaws, subject to approval by the Executive Board.
- ~~◆ Implement policies adopted by the Association's Board of Governors and the Division II Presidents Council;~~
- ~~◆ Make recommendations to the Division II Presidents Council on matters it deems appropriate;~~
- ~~◆ Recommend the adoption of noncontroversial and intent-based amendments, administrative bylaws and regulations to govern Division II, subject to ratification by the Division II Presidents Council;~~
- ~~◆ Take final action on matters delegated to it by the Division II Presidents Council;~~
- ~~◆ Make interpretations of the bylaws of Division II;~~
- ~~◆ Review and act upon the recommendations of the Division II committee structure and the recommendations of Division II representatives to committees with Association-wide functions;~~
- ~~◆ Appoint the members of the Division II committee structure and appoint the Division II representatives to committees with Association-wide functions;~~
- ~~◆ Elect a chair and vice chair;~~
- ~~◆ Organize and participate in an annual "summit" with the Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee;~~
- ~~◆ Hear and act on appeals by member institutions of decisions made by a Division II committee or the NCAA staff regarding the application of NCAA legislation (excluding actions of any committee that has final authority over issues subject to appeal); and~~
- ~~◆ Recommend the appointment of such committees or subcommittees as may be necessary for executing the provisions of the Constitution or the Division II bylaws, subject to ratification by the Presidents Council.~~

### *Management Council Operating Policies*

The following operating policies are not included in the NCAA Manual. They have been grouped under the following headings for convenience of reference.

#### Management Council/ ~~Executive Board Presidents Council~~ Relationship

The Management Council is committed to working closely with the Executive Board Presidents Council to enhance the efficiency and administration of the Division II governance structure.

The actions of the Management Council are subject to review and final approval by the Executive Board~~Presidents Council~~. The Board of Governors has final authority over all Association-wide matters (e.g., the Association-wide budget).

The Management Council and Executive Board ~~Presidents Council~~ each receive the minutes of the other's meetings, and the Executive Board ~~Presidents Council~~ receives a report at each meeting on the activities of the Management Council. Both groups have authorized their respective chairs and vice-chairs to communicate with each other between meetings.

Management Council officers will attempt to attend Executive Board ~~Presidents Council~~ meetings and Executive Board~~Presidents Council~~ officers will attempt to attend Management Council meetings as often as possible. Further, the chair of the Management Council shall attend the quarterly Executive Board ~~Presidents Council~~ meeting to share the activities and actions of the Management Council.

The Management Council and Executive Board ~~Presidents Council~~ will attempt to conduct one joint meeting per year to further the communication efforts between the two governing bodies.

### **Appeals, Appearances and Hearings**

The Management Council has authority to review appeals of committee decisions in only limited situations. (See Bylaw 8.2.2.) In most cases, the Management Council Subcommittee has been authorized to hear appeals of committee decisions. Bylaw 8.2.2.3 notes the authority of the Management Council Subcommittee to hear and act on specific waiver requests. The Management Council Subcommittee shall be comprised of nine members of the Management Council.

The presence of new relevant and significant information directly related to the original findings shall be required to be heard by the original committee inasmuch as the new information may alter the original committee's decision.

Requests by member institutions or others to appear in person before the Management Council to discuss proposed legislation will be denied, inasmuch as it would be logistically impossible for the Management Council to entertain all such requests for appearances on legislative matters.

In all appeals or appearances that are granted, not more than three persons shall represent the appellant. Such appearances will be granted only when extraordinary circumstances exist and such appearances that occur in person shall be at the appellant's expense. The Division II Administrative Committee must approve such requests for personal appearances before the Management Council (or ~~a~~ the Management Council Subcommittee).

However, no appeal by institutions of Membership Committee decisions involving applications for Division II membership or status of institutions in the membership process shall be heard in person. In such cases, the appealing institution may request that its appeal be heard via ~~teleconference~~ videoconference and the Management Council Subcommittee shall grant the request without having to seek Administrative Committee approval. If the appealing institution does not request the appeal to be heard via ~~teleconference~~ videoconference with the submission of the appeal, the appeal shall be handled on the basis of the written record. The Management Council has adopted procedures to apply only to appeals by institutions of decisions by the Membership Committee

involving applications for Division II membership and the status of institutions in the membership process. These separate procedures are attached to this policies and procedures document.

In cases involving a conference's status in the Division II membership process, the appellant is granted the personal appearance, if requested, without having to seek Administrative Committee approval.

For all appearances before the Management Council (or the Management Council Subcommittee), a 15-minute limit on presentation(s) shall apply, unless the Administrative Committee or Management Council officers (chair and vice-chair) specify a lesser amount of time.

For purposes of parliamentary procedure, the Management Council (or the Management Council Subcommittee) shall constitute a "board," rather than a "committee," in applying the provisions of Robert's Rules of Order, Newly Revised; therefore, parliamentary procedures shall be those specified for boards by Robert's Rules in such matters as appeals, hearings or other appearances before the Management Council. [Note: This affects such matters as motions to reconsider, amend or rescind earlier actions.]

The Management Council has adopted the following procedures to apply to appeals of any committee action other than those by the Membership Committee involving applications for Division II membership and the status of institutions in the membership process, Division II Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement and the Division II Committee for Legislative Relief (or any other committee with authorized final jurisdiction over a matter):

1. In order to appeal a decision of a Division II committee, the involved institution must submit a written notice of appeal, to be received in the national office not later than 30 calendar days after it has received notification of the committee's decision. The appeal shall be submitted by the institution's chancellor/president, faculty athletics representative, director of athletics or senior woman administrator and shall specify the reasons the institution believes the committee's decision is erroneous.
2. In each appealed case, the involved Division II committee shall provide the Management Council with a written report setting forth the basis for its decision. The report shall identify the involved NCAA rules and interpretations and shall specify the information and precedent relied upon by the committee in reaching its decision. The report of the involved committee shall be submitted to the Management Council or the Management Council Subcommittee (and the appealing institution) at least seven days prior to the Council's or subcommittee's review of the matter, unless the appealing institution and the Administrative Committee or the Management Council officers approve a shorter period of time.
3. Each request for an appeal that is reviewed by the full Management Council may be reviewed by the Administrative Committee or Management Council officers (chair and vice-chair) and shall be placed on the appropriate agenda. The Administrative Committee or Management Council officers shall determine whether the appeal is to be handled on the basis of the written record or whether a personal appearance is necessary. If a personal appearance is thought necessary, both the institution and the appropriate committee shall be represented.

4. Reviews of appeals by the full Management Council shall take place only in conjunction with regularly scheduled meetings of the Management Council.
5. When an institution is approved for a personal appearance, it shall be represented by its chancellor/president, faculty athletics representative, director of athletics, senior woman administrator or conference office representative, and it may be represented by other involved institutional staff members, student-athletes and/or legal counsel, as approved by the Administrative Committee or Management Council officers. Only three representatives shall be permitted to speak within the institution's 15-minute time period. A representative of the appropriate committee, as well as an appropriate member of the national office staff (usually the liaison to the committee), also will participate in the hearing.
6. Once all parties participating in an in-person appeal have been introduced, the chair shall call on the institutional representatives, and they shall be provided an opportunity to describe the situation and explain the reasons they believe the committee's decision is erroneous. Next, the representative of the involved committee and/or the national office staff will describe the current status of the matter, including the committee's decision. Neither the committee's nor the institution's presentation may exceed 15 minutes in length, unless the Administrative Committee or Management Council officers (chair and vice-chair) approve in advance a longer time period. All participants in the hearing will be permitted to ask questions of any other participants. Once an in-person hearing has concluded, representatives of the member institution involved, representatives of the involved committee and the national office staff member involved in the case shall leave the hearing.
7. When reviewing appeals of committee or subcommittee decisions, Management Council members who participated in the original committee or subcommittee decision shall not vote. Additionally, any Management Council member who has a conflict of interest (see conflict of interest statement in this policies and procedures document) shall be recused from the proceedings and the vote. Action will be taken by the Management Council or the Management Council Subcommittee by a majority vote. All votes may be conducted by a show of hands or by voice vote.
8. Upon conclusion of an in-person hearing or a review of the written record, the Management Council or the Management Council Subcommittee shall reach a decision and notify the national office staff of its conclusion. The national office staff shall notify the involved institution and shall provide a written confirmation of the decision. The notification should occur as soon as practical after the decision is reached and after adjournment of the meeting. No notification, formal or informal, should occur before adjournment of the Management Council meetings. The appellant also should be notified of any additional procedures available to it. No public announcement shall be made until the Management Council meeting has adjourned.
9. If, in reviewing the appeal, the Management Council or Management Council Subcommittee concludes that new information that was not made available to the involved committee at the time of its initial decision has been reported and that the information is of such importance, in the judgment of the Management Council or Management Council Subcommittee, to make a different result reasonably probable, the case shall be redirected to the committee that initially considered it for further review.

10. The Management Council or Management Council Subcommittee shall not alter the decision of the committee that initially decided the matter, unless it concludes that the committee erred in its decision in a manner that, in the judgment of the Management Council or Management Council Subcommittee, affected the decision of that committee. The finding of such an error shall be based upon a determination (1) that the committee improperly applied NCAA legislation or official interpretations, (2) that the committee took an action inconsistent with established precedent, (3) that the committee deviated from its approved procedures; or (4) that the decision of the committee is clearly erroneous.

Request for a waiver of NCAA legislation shall only be presented to the Management Council or the Management Council Subcommittee when there is specific authority in NCAA legislation to grant a waiver of the involved rule by the Management Council or the Management Council Subcommittee. Any other waiver requests in which no other committee, subcommittee or conference has the authority to act, will be reviewed by the Committee for Legislative Relief in accordance with Bylaw 21.8.5.4.2.

---

### *Committees and Subcommittees Issues*

---

#### Committees

All Division II committees with fewer than seven members that report directly to the Management Council shall include at least one Management Council member, and Division II committees with more than six members that report directly to the Management Council shall include at least two Management Council members.

In addition, at least one of the Division II representatives on committees functioning in an Association-wide capacity shall be a member of the Management Council.

Unless otherwise specified, Management Council members shall serve as voting members of Division II general committees and Association-wide committees.

A Management Council member's term of service on a general committee or Association-wide committee shall commence in January after adjournment of the annual Convention and shall be concurrent with their term of service on the Management Council.

A Management Council member must terminate service on such a general committee or an Association-wide committee at the expiration of their term on the Management Council.

If a member of an Association-wide or Division II general or sports committee is appointed to the Management Council, that individual must terminate service from such committee(s) unless they are asked to continue on the committee as the Management Council representative.

Management Council members who serve as the Management Council representatives to committees are responsible for presenting committee reports to the Management Council and are expected to be prepared to answer questions and give background information regarding any

recommendations. [Note: The staff liaison to the committee is expected to provide all the necessary materials to the Management Council representative.]

The Management Council will receive copies of reports of the meetings of all Division II committees, even in instances in which it already has acted upon any recommendations therein.

The Management Council shall review, on an annual basis, the composition of all Association-wide and Division II committees on which Management Council members serve.

The Administrative Committee shall make appointments to fill vacancies on Association-wide or Division II committees only if there is an immediate need to make such an appointment.

The Championships Committee must seek approval of its actions by the Management Council when decisions have an economic impact on the Division II budget or involve a major change in an established Division II policy.

### **Committee Vacancies**

When the Management Council receives recommendations for vacancies on Association-wide or Division II committees, the Management Council will use a ballot to determine the candidate who will fill each vacant position. The Management Council will take into consideration the Nominating Committee's top choice(s), but will also consider other factors that it deems appropriate regarding each vacancy.

The Division II ~~Executive Board~~~~Presidents Council~~, Management Council and Nominating Committee shall not consider candidates for appointment to Division II committees and Councils once the institution's official paperwork to begin the reclassification process to another division or another association has been received in the NCAA national office. The policy is applicable for appointments to Division II general committees, Division II appointments to Association-wide committees and Division II appointments to the Management Council and ~~Executive Board~~~~Presidents Council~~.

### **Removal from a Committee**

An institution or conference requesting removal of an individual serving on a committee or Council through appointment or through conference representation may do so provided the following information is provided.

#### **Individual through Appointment:**

The chancellor or president of the institution shall submit in writing a request for removal of said individual from committee or Council service.

#### **Individual through Conference Representation:**

The chair of the conference's presidential body shall submit in writing, on behalf of the conference, a request for removal of said individual from committee or Council service. The conference shall

be required to submit a slate of candidates to fill the open conference position within 20 working days of the date of the letter requesting the removal.

Further, the chair of a committee is authorized to recommend to the Management Council that a member be replaced if such member is not discharging the member's duties properly. In addition, a member who is absent from two consecutive meetings with reasons approved by the Management Council shall be removed from the committee.

When a removal from the Council occurs, the Management Council will follow its normal process for filling a vacancy.

### **Defense and Indemnification Policy**

The Association shall defend and indemnify any present or former employee, committee member or agent of the Association who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to, or who is to be subpoenaed to be deposed or to give evidence in, any civil, criminal, administrative or investigative action or proceeding, including those brought by the Association, provided the conditions enumerated below are met. For purposes of this policy, "committee" shall include all Association committees, boards, cabinets, councils, subcommittees and panels.

Conditions for Defense and Indemnification:

1. The person requesting defense and indemnification is being named as a party or subpoenaed to be deposed or to give evidence by reason of the fact that the person was or is an employee, committee member or agent of the Association or is or was serving at the request of the Association as a director, officer, employee or agent of another association, corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise.
2. The person is determined to have been acting within the scope of the person's duties to the Association.
3. The person is determined to have been acting in good faith and in a manner the person reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the Association in the performance of the person's duties to the Association. In respect to any alleged criminal action or proceeding, the person must also be determined to have had no reasonable cause to believe the alleged conduct was unlawful.

Note: The termination of any action or proceeding by judgment, order, settlement, conviction or upon a plea of nolo contendere or its equivalent, shall not, of itself, create a presumption in regard to these determinations. However, if a person is adjudged to be liable for negligence or misconduct in the performance of the person's duty to the Association, there shall be no indemnification unless and only to the extent that the court in which such action or suit was brought shall determine that, despite the adjudication of liability but in view of all circumstances of the case, such person is fairly and reasonably entitled to indemnity for such expenses as the court shall deem proper.

4. The person promptly and timely notifies the Association's general counsel of the actual or threatened service of process, subpoena, notice of deposition or other legal process before incurring attorney fees or other expenses.
5. The person accepts counsel provided or approved by the Association and agrees to accede to the legal strategies approved by the Association's general counsel, including any settlement determinations. In the event that the person wishes to hire other counsel or not accede to the Association's legal strategies, the Association shall not be obligated to defend or indemnify the person, except when it is determined that a conflict of interest exists with the Association such that retaining separate counsel is warranted.
6. The person agrees to repay any expenses, including attorney fees, incurred in bringing or defending a civil or criminal action or proceeding paid by the Association in advance of the final disposition of such action or proceeding if it is ultimately determined that the person is not entitled to be indemnified by the Association as authorized in this policy.

For purposes of this policy, "indemnification" shall consist of payment against expenses (including attorneys' fees), judgments, fines and amounts paid in settlement actually and reasonably incurred by the person in connection with such action or proceeding.

Determinations as to whether indemnification is proper in the circumstances because the person has met the applicable standards of conduct set forth in this policy shall be made:

- a. By the NCAA Board of Governors by a majority vote of a quorum consisting of members who are not parties to such action or proceeding, or
- b. If such a quorum is not obtainable, or, even if obtainable if a quorum of disinterested Board of Governors members so directs, by independent legal counsel in a written opinion, or
- c. by the Association's president if so delegated by the Board of Governors.

The indemnification provided by this policy is not exclusive of any other rights to which those indemnified may be entitled under any bylaw, agreement, vote of members or disinterested Board of Governors members or otherwise, both as to action in the person's official capacity and as to action in another capacity while holding such office, and shall continue as to a person who has ceased to be an employee, committee member or agent and shall inure to the benefit of the heirs, executors and administrators of such a person.

The Association may purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of any person who is or was an employee, committee member or agent of the Association, or is or was serving at the request of the Association as a director, officer, employee or agent of another association, corporation, partnership joint venture, trust or other enterprise against any liability asserted against the person and incurred by the person in any such capacity or arising out of the person's status as such, whether or not the Association would have the power to indemnify the person against such liability under the provisions of this policy.

*Effect of Change in Indemnification Law.* If any change in any applicable law, statute, or rule expands the power of the Association to indemnify a person, the change shall be within the purview of the

person's rights and the Association's obligations under this policy. If any change in any applicable law, statute, or rule narrows the right of the Association to indemnify a person, the change shall have no effect on this policy or the parties' rights and obligations under this policy, except to the extent otherwise required by law, statute, or rule to be applied to this policy.

### **Subcommittees**

In order to carry out the functions of the Management Council, it may be necessary to appoint Management Council subcommittees. Service on a subcommittee will be considered in light of the Management Council members' responsibilities and service on other committee.

### **Project Teams**

In order to address specific Division II issues or handle a specific project, the Management Council has authority to establish a project team. The composition of the project team may include individuals who are not on the Management Council or ~~Executive Board~~~~Presidents Council~~. The work of a project team shall be limited in scope and duration. The chair of the Management Council has responsibility regarding project team appointments and replacements. The chair will work with NCAA staff to determine when the work of a project team has been completed.

---

### ***Interpretations of Constitution and Bylaws***

---

In the event an institution seeks to change an interpretation of proposed legislation acted upon by the Management Council during its pre-Convention meeting, the chair of the business session may direct the Management Council to take under advisement the Convention discussion in the Management Council's post-Convention review of legislative actions. If the Management Council becomes aware of such concerns in advance of meeting during the Convention, the interpretation in question may be reviewed at that time.

---

### ***Management Council Meetings***

---

#### **Expense Policies.**

The NCAA travel policies are given to each new member of the Management Council. The Association's policies regarding meeting expenses are set forth in Bylaw 31.7.2 in the NCAA Manual. In short, the NCAA pays for transportation to and from Management Council meetings, hotel room and tax charges at the meetings, and a \$75 per diem for each day or part thereof involved in traveling to and from and attendance at the meeting. All members are expected to use Short's Travel, the Association's travel agency, for their transportation arrangements to Management Council meetings.

Transportation and the hotel room and tax are billed directly to the NCAA; the member needs only to pay incidental charges to their room when leaving the meeting site. Following the meeting, each member will receive a form on which to claim per diem and any other expenses permitted under NCAA policies. The member will receive reimbursement for those expenses from the NCAA national office within a reasonable time after each meeting. Also, early in each calendar year, each member will receive a Form 1099 reporting the amounts thus paid during the preceding year, if

that amount exceeds \$600. In such instances, the member then will declare that amount in filing his or her income tax return for that year. Some Management Council members prefer to have their expense reimbursement paid directly to their institutions to eliminate the need for such personal record keeping.

### **Meeting Location and Format.**

The Management Council must meet in locations that are in accordance with the Association's meeting policies and, at minimum, all meetings must be held in the contiguous 48 states.

Generally, Management Council meetings will be scheduled for two days. In the usual Management Council in-person meeting format (except for the Convention meeting), the Management Council meeting begins at 8:30 a.m. on the first day. At the Convention, the current Management Council meets prior to the Division II Business Session and the new Management Council meets via ~~teleconference~~videoconference after the Convention. The post-Convention ~~teleconference~~videoconference shall be limited to essential items of business. In all cases, a continental breakfast is provided each morning and a luncheon each full day of Management Council sessions.

For the Convention meetings, the Management Council members will have expenses covered according to the policies mentioned above beginning with the pre-Convention Management Council meeting through the end of the Division II Business Session.

The Management Council and ~~Executive Board Presidents Council~~ will attempt to conduct one joint meeting per year to further the communication efforts between the two governing bodies.

Meetings of other NCAA committees should not be scheduled at the same time as (i.e., in conflict with) meetings of the Management Council.

### **Procedures.**

The Management Council procedures are intended to achieve three goals:

- ◆ Assure emphasis on major policy issues in Management Council meetings.
- ◆ Promote thorough discussion of significant issues while curtailing discussions that become unproductive or unnecessary.
- ◆ Enhance efficiency and communication in the ~~Executive Board Presidents Council~~Management Council relationship.

The following procedures will apply to all Management Council meetings:

### **Missed Meetings.**

If a Management Council member must miss a Management Council meeting, it is that individual's responsibility to inform their conference (if the individual is representing a conference), the chair of the Management Council and the vice-president for Division II. In the event that a Management Council member misses two or more Management Council meetings, formal notification of each

absence will be sent by the vice-president for Division II to the president of the conference and the conference commissioner.

If a conference's Management Council representative is unable to attend a Management Council meeting, the conference will only be invited to send an observer to the meeting when the Administrative Committee (or its designee) decides that unique and extenuating circumstances justify such an invitation.

### **Agenda.**

Management Council meetings are considered closed business meetings and are not open to the membership or the public at-large. The Administrative Committee has authority to approve requests for special guests or observers to attend Management Council meetings.

Management Council members will be asked to bring with them to meetings such basic reference materials as the NCAA Manual.

Institutions must submit agenda items for consideration by the Management Council through their Management Council representative. To place such items on the agenda, the Management Council representative must forward a written request to the vice-president for Division II at least ten business days prior to the Management Council meeting.

All supplements to the agendas are sent to all Management Council members in advance of the meeting, except in a rare circumstance where that is not possible to achieve. The Management Council receives by electronic communication, approximately two weeks ahead of the meeting, the agenda and all available supplements. All Management Council members will then have the opportunity to peruse all materials prior to arrival at the meeting site.

During each meeting, the Management Council will review reports and recommendations from the various Division II committees, as well as the Association-wide committees, when applicable. These reports will be presented by the Management Council member who serves as the Management Council representative to that committee.

### **Business.**

For the transaction of business, a quorum shall consist of a majority of the members of the Management Council.

For all actions (unless otherwise specified), a simple majority of Management Council members present and voting (either affirmative or negative) shall be required.

A two-thirds vote of the Division II Management Council members present and voting (either affirmative or negative) is required to recommend that the Executive Board ~~Presidents Council~~ cosponsor or sponsor a specific legislative proposal.

A two-thirds vote of the Division II Management Council members present and voting (either affirmative or negative) is required to support or oppose a specific legislative proposal. If a two-thirds majority to support or oppose is not achieved, the Management Council will take no position.

Any Management Council member whose conference or institution has sponsored a proposal should be recused from the vote on the Management Council's official position on such membership-sponsored proposal. In addition, while a Management Council member whose conference or institution has sponsored a proposal may participate in the proceedings related to the Management Council's official position on such membership-sponsored proposal, such Management Council member should not influence the position of the Council (see conflict of interest statement in this policies and procedures document).

~~The Presidents Council has delegated the authority to adopt noncontroversial legislation to the Management Council.~~ The Management Council, in the interim between annual Conventions, by a three-fourths majority of its members present and voting, may adopt noncontroversial legislative amendments clearly necessary to promote the normal and orderly administration of the division's legislation.

Abstentions will not be counted in the determination of a simple ~~majority, a majority, a~~ two-thirds majority or a three-fourths majority.

No proxy voting (i.e., voting when not present by having another member vote on your behalf or informing the chair of your vote without attending a meeting) of any kind shall be permitted for a Management Council member unable to attend a regular Management Council meeting.

When disseminating information to the media and the general public, only the chair or the vice-chair of the Management Council and/or an appointed designee from the Management Council and the Division II vice-president shall speak on behalf of the Management Council regarding Management Council actions.

A tobacco-free environment will be maintained during Management Council meetings.

### Reports.

Minutes of all NCAA meetings should be restricted to actions only (formal votes or stated "sense of meeting") and such factual data as may be needed. Discussion and general commentary shall be included in reports only when formally directed by the Management Council chair or formally required by a Management Council member.

Reports of Management Council meetings shall be placed for public view on the NCAA Web site ([www.ncaa.org](http://www.ncaa.org)).

### Confidentiality Policy.

- Management Council members may not report the actions of the Management Council to individuals outside the Management Council until the meeting adjourns.
- Actions the Management Council takes that have to be ratified/approved by the Executive Board ~~Presidents Council~~ should not be reported until ratification by the Executive Board ~~Presidents Council~~. These are issues that the chair, in consultation with the staff liaisons, should look for and identify throughout the meeting (e.g., those issues that are of

such a sensitive nature that they should not be reported until after ratification by the presidents).

- When an issue is extremely sensitive, an "executive session" will be called, alerting the Management Council to the fact that the issue cannot be discussed at any time outside the meeting. Calling an "executive session" does not require the staff to leave the meeting.

### **Conflict of Interest Statement.**

The NCAA is a voluntary Association comprised of public and private institutions and conferences governed through a membership-led committee structure. Within the governance structure, committee members must carefully balance their responsibilities to their respective institutions and/or conferences with the obligation to advance the interests of the Association, the division or the sport, and ultimately enhance the student-athlete experience. While the fiduciary obligations of committee members to their own institution, their conference and to the Association ordinarily are not in conflict, it is recognized that as a representative membership organization, committee members' fiduciary obligations are first to their institution, second to their conference and third to the Association. NCAA committee service involves important ethical and moral obligations. Committee integrity is critical to the decision-making process and includes trust, confidentiality and honesty in all issues and aspects of service and representation. NCAA committee members shall disclose any conflict or potential conflict between their respective personal, professional, institutional, conference or business interests and the interests of the Association that may affect or otherwise threaten such integrity, in any and all actions taken by them on behalf of the Association, for committee evaluation under this statement. When considering disclosures, keep in mind those may result in an "excess benefit transaction" under Section 4958 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code") or other tax or other laws that may apply.

A committee member who receives information under confidential or nondisclosure terms, including but not limited to Association business or litigation matters, shall adhere to those confidential obligations as a primary matter. In addition to any fiduciary obligation to their institution and conference, committee members also have a fiduciary duty to the Association not to use nonconfidential knowledge or information obtained solely due to service on that committee to the disadvantage of the Association. Further, a committee member shall not participate in the committee's discussion or vote on any action that might bring direct or indirect personal financial benefit to the member or any organization (other than the member's institution or conference) in which the member is financially interested. A committee member should also not participate in a discussion or vote for which the member's institution or conference is to be accorded a special benefit beyond benefits shared with other institutions or conferences or is to receive a penalty or disqualification. A violation of either of the above rules by a member of the committee shall not invalidate the action taken by the committee if, following disclosure of the conflict of interest, the committee authorizes, ratifies or approves the action by a vote sufficient for the purpose, without counting the vote of the committee member with the conflict of interest, and the appropriate oversight body approves the action.

A committee member is responsible for advising the chair of any actual or potential conflicts of interest or obligations which they may have hereunder and should recuse themselves from participating in proceedings, as may be warranted by this policy. Abuse of one's position as a member of a committee may result in dismissal from that position. Where such abuse appears

evident, a committee member will be notified by the committee chair and will have the opportunity to present a rebuttal or details of the situation. A committee member who acts contrary to this policy may void defense and indemnity privileges that are provided by the Association in connection with committee service.

### **Speaking Agent Policy.**

The president of the Association and the chair of the Board of Governors are the only individuals authorized to speak on behalf of the Association except as outlined below.

An individual representing a member institution or conference who speaks or opines on an Association issue only has the authority to express the view of that individual or the member institution or conference unless the individual has been designated by the Board of Governors of the Association as a speaking agent of the Association on that issue.

Committee chairs are hereby designated as speaking agents of their committees regarding issues within their committees' jurisdiction on which there is consensus, except that positions of advocacy on behalf of the committee or the Association to be communicated in writing or orally to persons or entities external to the Association must have prior approval by the NCAA Board of Governors or the president of the Association.

The president of the Association is hereby granted authority to designate additional speaking agents of the Association. (*April 2001 Board of Governors (formerly Executive Committee) minutes*)

### **Guiding Principle Relating to Student-Athlete Well-Being.**

The Management Council endorsed and should adhere to the following guiding principle in all of its processes and decision making:

*The well-being of student-athletes is at the center of all we do:*

1. *Any process must be flexible and timely and include effective communication.*
2. *Decisions must be fair, reasonable and consider the potential impact on the student-athlete.*

### **Amending and Publishing Policies and Procedures.**

The Management Council shall have the authority to adopt or revise the policies and procedures specified herein as needed. The ~~Executive Board~~Presidents Council, at its discretion, may review, amend and/or act on any policy or procedure adopted by the Management Council.

---

## *Basic Responsibilities of Management Council Members*

---

### 1. **General Requirements:**

- a. Division II Management Council members must be actively involved in campus and conference athletics issues. This will allow Management Council members to bring informed opinions to Management Council meetings. Management Council members must serve as liaisons to national issues for their conference members.
- b. Attendance and participation at all Management Council meetings, including the Management Council/Student-Athlete Advisory Committee Summit and the annual NCAA Convention, are required. If a Management Council member must miss a meeting, it is that individual's responsibility to inform their conference (if the individual is representing a conference), the chair of the Management Council and the vice-president for Division II. If a Management Council member misses two or more Management Council meetings, formal notification of each absence will be sent by the Management Council chair and the vice-president for Division II to the president of the conference and the conference commissioner.
- c. A Management Council member who represents a conference must establish a working relationship with the Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) representative from that conference. It is important for Management Council members to understand the Division II student-athlete perspective on legislative proposals and other key Division II issues.
- d. Attendance and participation at committee and project team meetings, as assigned by the Management Council, are required. Management Council members serve as liaisons between the committees/project teams and the Management Council.
- e. Management Council members who experience difficulty in fulfilling their responsibilities will work with the vice-president and the Management Council chair to resolve this issue.

### 2. **Specific Pre-Management Council Meeting Responsibilities:**

- a. Management Council members should solicit agenda items or issues from conference members (or independent institutions) for the next Management Council meeting. To place items on the agenda, Management Council representatives should forward a written request to the vice-president for Division II at least ten business days prior to the start of the Management Council's meeting.
- b. Management Council members should make necessary travel arrangements for Management Council in-person meetings through Short's Travel (airline) and NCAA staff (accommodations).

[Note: Air reservations should be made 30 days in advance, when possible, and Management Council members are expected to arrive by the published start time of the meeting and should not schedule a departure from the meeting site prior to the published adjournment time of the Management Council meeting.]

- c. Management Council members should review the agenda and supplements to become knowledgeable on all issues and to understand the action the Management Council will be asked to consider.
- d. Management Council members should visit with their conference commissioners, Division II SAAC representatives, and other key personnel about agenda items and issues to form a conference position, when necessary.
- e. Management Council members should bring resource materials (e.g., Division II Manual, minutes from committee meetings) to the Management Council meeting.
- f. Management Council members should visit with NCAA committee staff liaisons to prepare report(s) to present to the Management Council for a committee supplement that a Management Council representative has been assigned.
- g. The Management Council representative's name will appear next to the committee agenda item, which indicates that the representative is responsible to provide the report and request action on any and all issues on which a Management Council decision is necessary (the staff liaison can assist with this).
- h. If the committee does not have a written supplement, the Management Council representative should be prepared to provide a brief "oral" update of the work of the committee.
- i. No issue may be requested for action by the Management Council unless it is contained as part of a written supplement. The Management Council will not take action unless an issue is presented in writing.
- j. It is not necessary and, in fact, the Management Council discourages the representative of a committee from reading the entire background of information on a given issue. The Management Council has received a written report as part of the agenda/supplements and is responsible to be prepared for the report. Management Council representatives should highlight the key components related to the committee request, ask for a motion, if necessary, and then be prepared to answer questions regarding the issue. Knowledge of how Divisions I and III have reacted to the issue may be helpful.

3. **Specific Post-Management Council Meeting Responsibilities:**

- a. Management Council members should inform conference members (including the commissioner) and the Division II SAAC representative of decisions made by the Management Council. In that regard, Management Council members should identify those decisions that still need Executive Board Presidents Council action or ratification.
  - b. Management Council members serving on committees should inform other committee members regarding the actions the Management Council took on specific committee recommendations. In that regard, Management Council members should identify those decisions that still need Executive Board Presidents Council action or ratification.
  - c. Management Council members should review Management Council meeting summaries and Management Council minutes for accuracy.
4. **Specific Committee/Project Team Responsibilities.** All Management Council members are expected to serve on Association-wide committees, Division II committees and/or Division II project teams, as assigned. As a committee or project team representative, Management Council members will serve as the liaison between the committee/project team and the Management Council. This link is the system by which committees/project teams make specific requests to the Management Council (and ultimately to the Executive Board Presidents Council) and the system that provides the Management Council with the background and context it needs to process such requests. The specific Management Council responsibilities for committee/project team assignments are:
- a. Attend and participate in all committee/project team meetings and telephone/video conferences;
  - b. Be knowledgeable on all committee/project team issues and recommendations that are forwarded to the Management Council for consideration and be prepared to answer specific questions regarding such requests; and
  - c. Work with committee staff liaisons (e.g., a “prep” session by telephone) to be prepared to deliver the committee/project team report at Management Council meetings.

---

***Membership Notification of Management Council Action***

---

Proper notification of Management Council actions includes, but is not limited to, the following, unless otherwise specified by the Management Council: notification in The NCAA News, as well as The NCAA News section on the Association’s World-Wide Web page, NCAA Online (www.ncaa.org).

Updated 04/18/23/MSJ/jcw



## Discussion Regarding Policy for Sponsorship of Convention Legislation

### Background

With the adoption of NCAA Proposal No. 2023-7, the Division II Management Council will be permitted to sponsor legislation for the annual Convention as part of its duties, effective February 1, 2024. With the new legislation, the new Division II Executive Board is still permitted to sponsor legislation for the NCAA Convention.

One goal of the proposal adopted at the 2023 Convention was to have the Management Council take greater ownership and responsibility to sponsor legislation for the Convention to provide the new Executive Board the opportunity to focus on the strategic priorities for the division.

The Management Council and Presidents Council are asked to consider establishing a policy to better define those legislative recommendations for the annual Convention that should be sponsored by the Executive Board and not just the Management Council.

Further, the Management Council and Presidents Council are asked to consider whether a similar policy should be established for when the Executive Board would take a position (e.g., support, opposition, no position) on membership-sponsored proposals.

### Potential Policy Recommendation for Sponsorship of Legislation for the Annual Convention

As a general rule, the Management Council will review and consider any legislative recommendation from Division II and Association-wide committees and determine whether to sponsor legislation for the NCAA Convention without requiring Executive Board sponsorship.

If the legislative recommendation has a significant financial impact to the Division II budget and/or on Division II schools and conferences, the Management Council shall recommend that the Executive Board sponsor the legislation for a vote at the annual Convention.

A two-thirds majority of the Management Council members present and voting is necessary to sponsor legislation for the annual Convention or to recommend sponsorship of legislation by the Executive Board (e.g., for recommendations with a significant financial impact). If a legislative recommendation does not receive a two-thirds majority, but receives a majority approval of the Management Council members present and voting, the legislative recommendation will be shared with the Executive Board for notice and awareness.

The Management Council will approve the legislative form for all proposals sponsored by the governance structure for a vote at the Convention, regardless of whether they were sponsored by the Management Council or the Executive Board. The Executive Board is not asked to act on the legislative form and will receive the legislative form of the proposals as an informational item in the Management Council report to the Executive Board.

The Executive Board will see all legislation sponsored by the Management Council for the annual Convention as an informational item in the Management Council report to the Executive Board.

Potential Policy Recommendation for Executive Board to Take a Position on Membership-Sponsored Proposals

Division II legislation requires that all amendments submitted by the membership shall be evaluated by an appropriate NCAA committee before they can be included on the agenda for an NCAA Convention.

Current Management Council policies and procedures state:

*A two-thirds vote of the Division II Management Council members present and voting (either affirmative or negative) is required to support or oppose a specific legislative proposal. If a two-thirds majority to support or oppose is not achieved, the Management Council will take no position. Any Management Council member whose conference or institution has sponsored a proposal should be recused from the vote on the Management Council's official position on such membership-sponsored proposal. In addition, while a Management Council member whose conference or institution has sponsored a proposal may participate in the proceedings related to the Management Council's official position on such membership-sponsored proposal, such Management Council member should not influence the position of the Council (see conflict of interest statement in this policies and procedures document).*

The Management Council and Executive Board are asked to consider whether when taking a position on a membership-sponsored proposal, should a similar threshold be established for when the Executive Board is asked to take a position: Specifically, the policy would state that the Management Council shall take a position on any membership-sponsored proposal and the Executive Board will only take a position if the legislative proposal has a significant financial impact to the Division II budget and/or on Division II schools and conferences.

Current legislation does not require the Management Council or Presidents Council/Executive Board to take a position on membership-sponsored proposals; therefore, a standard can be established as policy.



**NCAA Division II Management Council  
Committee and Project Team Assignments for 2024  
(Effective Jan. 13, 2024, unless otherwise noted)**

*(Mentor assignments are listed in italics below new Management Council members' names)*

<b>Management Council Representative (<i>Mentor</i>)</b>	<b>Committees/Project Teams</b>
Femi Alao	NCAA Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee Division II Management Council Subcommittee
<b>Kristy Bayer</b> <i>(Sande Mott)</i>	<b>Division II Degree-Completion Awards Committee</b> <b>Division II Management Council Subcommittee</b>
Patrick Britz	Division II Management Council Identity Subcommittee Division II Management Council Subcommittee Division II Nominating Committee
Bennett Cherry	Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee Division II Management Council Identity Subcommittee
<b>Carlin Chesick</b> <i>(Marcus Clarke)</i>	<b>Division II Academic Requirements Committee</b> <b>Division II Management Council Identity Subcommittee</b> <b>Division II Management Council/Championships Committee Appeals Subcommittee</b>
Marcus Clarke	Division II Championships Committee Division II Management Council Subcommittee (chair)
<b>Peter Crabb</b> <i>(Bo Pagliasotti)</i>	<b>Division II Management Council Liaison to the Faculty Athletics Representatives Association (FARA)</b> <b>Division II Strategic Planning and Finance Committee</b> <i>(effective Feb.1, 2024)</i>
Jeremy Elliott	Division II Management Council Subcommittee ( <b>chair</b> ) NCAA Walter Byers Scholarship Committee
Theresa Grosbach	Division II Management Council Identity Subcommittee Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee
Kim Hancock	NCAA Honors Committee Division II Convention Planning Project Team
David Hansburg	NCAA Olympic Sports Liaison Committee <b>Division II Convention Planning Project Team</b> Division II Committee on Infractions
<b>Jerry Haywood</b> <i>(Bennett Cherry)</i>	<b>Division II Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement</b> <b>Division II Management Council Subcommittee</b> <i>(effective immediately)</i>
Amy Henkelman	Division II Convention Planning Project Team Division II Committee for Legislative Relief Division II Management Council Identity Subcommittee
<b>David Hicks</b> <i>(Danny McCabe)</i>	<b>Division II Infractions Appeals Committee</b> <b>Division II Management Council Liaison to College Sports Communicators</b>
Erin Lind, <i>vice chair</i>	NCAA Board of Governors Student-Athlete Engagement Committee <b>Division II Administrative Committee</b> <b>Division II Championships Committee</b> <i>(ex officio)</i> <b>Division II Management Council/Championships Committee Appeals Subcommittee</b> <b>Division II Management Council Identity Subcommittee</b> <i>(ex officio)</i> Division II Strategic Planning and Finance Committee

<b>Management Council Representative (Mentor)</b>	<b>Committees/Project Teams</b>
	<del>Division II Convention Planning Project Team</del> Division II Management Council Liaison to the Division II Conference Commissioners Association (CCA)
Katherine Loh	NCAA Committee on Women's Athletics Division II Management Council Identity Subcommittee
Danny McCabe	Division II Academic Requirements Committee Division II Convention Planning Project Team (chair) Division II Management Council Identity Subcommittee
Cindy McKnight	<del>Division II Degree Completion Awards Committee</del> Division II Management Council Subcommittee Division II Membership Committee
Austin Mondello	Division II Management Council Identity Subcommittee
Sandee Mott	Division II Championships Committee Division II Management Council Identity Subcommittee ( <i>chair</i> )
<b>Kristina Ortiz</b> (Christina Whetsel)	<b>Division II Convention Planning Project Team</b> <b>Division II Legislation Committee</b>
Roberta Page, <i>chair</i>	<del>NCAA Board of Governors (<i>ex officio</i>)</del> <del>Division II Administrative Committee</del> <del>Division II Management Council Identity Subcommittee (<i>ex officio</i>)</del> <del>Division II Convention Planning Project Team</del> <del>Division II Management Council Subcommittee (<i>chair</i>)</del> <del>Division II Nominating Committee</del>
Bo Pagliasotti	NCAA Postgraduate Scholarship Committee Division II Convention Planning Project Team Division II Management Council Subcommittee ( <b>chair</b> )
<b>Kim Pate</b> (Amy Henkelman)	<b>Division II Nominating Committee</b> ( <i>effective Feb.1, 2024</i> ) <b>Division II Management Council Liaison to Division the II Athletics Directors Association (ADA)</b> ( <i>effective Feb.1, 2024</i> )
Sarah Ramey	Management Council Liaison to Women Leaders in College Sports NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports
<b>Rubin Stevenson</b> (David Hansburg)	<b>Division II Convention Planning Project Team</b> ( <i>effective Feb.1, 2024</i> ) <b>Division II Management Council Identity Subcommittee</b> ( <i>effective Feb.1, 2024</i> )
Christina Whetsel	Division II Membership Committee Division II Management Council Liaison to National Association for Athletics Compliance (NAAC) Division II Management Council Subcommittee ( <i>chair</i> )
Vaughn Williams	Division II Management Council Identity Subcommittee Division II Management Council Liaison to the Minority Opportunities Athletics Association (MOAA) Division II Legislation Committee
<b>SAAC Member TBD</b>	<b>Division II Management Council Identity Subcommittee</b>

Management Council Subcommittee chairs:

- Appeals of Membership Committee decisions on provisional membership status: **Jeremy Elliott**
- Appeals of Academic Requirements Committee decisions on waivers involving the Academic Performance Census and the Academic Success Rate: Christina Whetsel

- Appeals of Legislative Review Subcommittee decisions involving the amateur status of prospective student-athletes: Marcus Clarke
- Appeals of Championships Committee decisions: **Bo Pagliasotti**



**NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports  
Question and Answer Document  
Legislative recommendation to remove cannabinoids from list of NCAA Banned Substances**

*This document contains information, questions and answers to assist the NCAA membership in its understanding of the NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports legislative recommendation to remove cannabinoids from the list of NCAA banned substances.*

**Background and history.**

At its September 2023 meeting, the NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports made a legislative recommendation to each of the appropriate divisional governance bodies to consider removing cannabinoids from the list of NCAA banned substances. The recommendation was based on extensive study informed by subject matter experts (including medical doctors, substance misuse experts and membership practitioners), consensus opinion from the 2022 Summit on Cannabis in Collegiate Athletics and referrals from Divisions II and III. Importantly, removing cannabinoids from the list of banned substances does not condone or promote cannabinoid use, instead, removing cannabinoids from the list of banned substances:

1. Acknowledges the ineffectiveness of existing policy (banning, testing and penalizing) and acknowledges that educating student athletes on health threats posed by contemporary cannabis, coupled with effective individual campus management strategies are more effective than a punitive approach.
2. Affirms the role of the NCAA drug-testing program to address only performance enhancing substances.
3. Aims to recenter student-athlete health by promoting local testing and education to identify problematic cannabinoid use coupled with local harm reduction, cannabis use disorder and cannabis/co-morbid mental health disorder management strategies.
4. Emphasizes the importance of moving toward a harm reduction strategy, similar to alcohol, that prioritizes education, support and evidence- and consensus-based management over penalty.

CSMAS first recommended the removal of the class of drugs that included cannabinoids in 2014. NCAA Task Force work in 2012 and 2013 noted that existing penalties were ineffective deterrents of problematic cannabinoid use and agreed that other intervention strategies should be pursued. While the 2014 recommendation was not adopted by the membership, CSMAS recognized, then and now, that the environment (cultural, legal, scientific and medical information and membership opinion) around cannabinoids continues to evolve.

In 2022, to better understand the current literature, policy and research about cannabinoids CSMAS commissioned the Summit on Cannabis in Collegiate Athletics. The summit included more than 60 individuals representing industry and subject matter experts and the NCAA membership.

Specifically, the summit aimed to develop potential consensus recommendations that could inform future education, policy, management and research opportunities regarding cannabinoid use in collegiate sport. Attendees of the summit reached a consensus opinion that cannabinoids are not a performance-enhancing drug, that national-level testing for cannabinoids is not an effective intervention strategy and that a harm reduction approach to cannabinoids, like alcohol, is best implemented at the local level.

Importantly, a robust educational program is recommended in parallel to this recommended change to educate both the membership and student-athletes about contemporary cannabinoids and the harm associated with problematic use.

The following questions and answers attempt to address specific questions and concerns identified since CSMAS formalized its recommendation.

---

**Question No. 1:** Does removal of the cannabinoids class from the list of NCAA banned substances indicate support for cannabinoid use?

**Answer:** No. Instead, the NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports agrees that this change better supports the health of student-athletes by acknowledging the ineffectiveness of existing policy and promoting more-effective harm-reduction strategies at the local level that are aimed at education, support and prevention and management of problematic cannabinoid use.

**Question No. 2:** Has national-level testing for cannabinoids proven to be an effective deterrent for NCAA student-athlete cannabinoid use?

**Answer:** No.

**Question No. 3:** If the recommendation is adopted, will the NCAA provide additional educational resources and programming that address substance misuse and impact of modern cannabinoids?

**Answer:** Yes.

**Question No. 4:** Are substances in the cannabinoids class considered performance-enhancing?

**Answer:** No. CSMAS agrees with the consensus opinion from the Summit on Cannabis in Collegiate Athletics that cannabinoids are not performance-enhancing substances.

**Question No. 5:** Does the NCAA drug-testing program prohibit alcohol?

**Answer:** No.

**Question No. 6:** If the cannabinoids class is removed from the banned substance list, does local testing remain a valuable harm-reduction strategy?

**Answer:** Yes. Local testing can be a valuable harm-reduction strategy. However, schools are encouraged to create a harm-reduction strategy that best serves its student-athletes. This may include testing, educational resources, programming, screening, or any combination of these strategies.

**Question No. 7:** If the cannabinoids class is removed from the banned substance list, will the NCAA provide schools with information on how to operate effective drug-testing programs?

**Answer:** Yes.

**Question No. 8:** When does the NCAA test for cannabinoids?

**Answer:** Currently, NCAA drug-testing includes cannabinoids during championship testing. It is not included as part of the year-round or summer testing program. Other testing occasions, such as exit tests, follow-up tests and breach of protocol, may include testing for all banned-substance classes.

**Question No. 9:** What is the penalty for testing positive for a substance in the cannabinoids class?

**Answer:** Currently, there is no penalty if the student-athlete engages with the school in an education and management plan for substance misuse, as developed or facilitated by the school.

**Question No. 10:** If the recommendation is adopted, would the NCAA continue to test for substances in the cannabinoids class?

**Answer:** No.

**Question No. 11:** What substances are included in the cannabinoids class?

**Answer:** Any substance chemically/pharmacologically related to the cannabinoids class. Examples include marijuana, synthetic cannabinoids (Spice; K2; JWH-018; JWH-073), tetrahydrocannabinol (THC, Delta-8).

**Application and Effective Date.**

**Question No. 12:** When will the divisions consider the recommendation?

**Answer:** Each division will follow its legislative process to consider the recommendation.

**Question No. 13:** What is the recommended effective date for the recommendation?

**Answer:** Immediate; if adopted, any penalty associated with a previous positive test would be rendered moot.

**Question No. 14:** If the recommendation is adopted, would a student-athlete serving a withholding penalty associated with a previous positive NCAA drug-test for cannabinoids be required to serve the remainder of their penalty?

**Answer:** No.

**Question No. 15:** If all the divisions do not adopt the recommendation, how would a positive cannabinoid test apply to a student-athlete who transfers from a division where cannabinoids are banned to a division where cannabinoids are not banned?

**Answer:** The recommendation would defer to divisional preference.



CONVENTION



2024

# Trends in NCAA Division II Graduation Rates

Division II Management Council – January 2024



CONVENTION



2024

# 2023 Four-Class Division II Graduation Rates

(Aggregate six-year graduation rates for 2013-16 entering cohorts)

	Student-Athletes		Student Body
	ASR	Federal Rate	Federal Rate
<b>DII Overall</b>	76% +0	60% +0	53% +1
<b>DII Men</b>	69% +0	52% -1	48% +1
<b>DII Women</b>	88% +0	69% +0	57% +1

Notes: ASR = Academic Success Rate. The four-cohort rates reported above are based on the last four single-year cohorts with six-year outcomes available (those first reported in 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023). Numbers in blue indicate percentage point differences in four-cohort rates from those reported in 2022.



CONVENTION



2024

# Impact of COVID-19

- The students in the most-recently added cohort (2016 entry) would typically have been in the second semester of their 4th academic year when the COVID-19 pandemic began in March 2020. Most other members of the latest four-cohort reporting group (e.g., 2013-2015 entry) would have been in years 5 or greater of their graduation window at the beginning of the pandemic. Full pandemic-related impacts on graduation rates will not be completely known for several years.



CONVENTION



2024

# Summary

- Overall Division II student-athlete graduation rates (Academic Success Rate and federal rate) and many subgroup rates are at or near their highest-ever levels.
- Using the federal graduation rate to examine student-athlete vs. student body graduation from initial school in Division II, we see higher rates for student-athletes within every demographic subgroup studied.



CONVENTION



2024

# Summary

- Notable single-cohort student-athlete increases in ASR over the 17 years of calculating this rate in Division II:
  - Overall: (69% to 77%)
  - Black Men: (42% to 51%)
  - Black Women: (61% to 76%)
  - Hispanic/Latino Men: (48% to 66%)
  - Hispanic/Latina Women: (63% to 80%)
- Increase in ASR observed for two-year (57% to 73%) and four-year transfer student-athletes (66% to 77%) in the past 10 years.



CONVENTION



2024

# Four-Cohort Academic Success Rates (ASR)



CONVENTION



2024

# 2023 Four-Cohort Division II Academic Success Rates

(Aggregate six-year graduation rates for 2013-16 entering cohorts)

Student-Athlete Group	ASR
Overall	76%
Black	57%
Hispanic/Latino	71%
White	84%
Black Men	51%
Hispanic/Latino Men	66%
White Men	77%
Black Women	76%
Hispanic/Latino Women	80%
White Women	92%



CONVENTION



2024

# 2023 Four-Cohort ASR for Division II Women's Sports

(Aggregate six-year graduation rates for 2013-16 entering cohorts)

SPORT	ASR
Basketball	84%
Bowling	82%
Cross Country/Track	86%
Field Hockey	95%
Golf	91%
Ice Hockey	95%
Lacrosse	92%
Rowing	88%
Soccer	89%
Softball	89%
Swimming	92%
Tennis	92%
Volleyball	88%
Water Polo	91%



CONVENTION



2024

# 2023 Four-Cohort ASR for Division II Men's Sports

(Aggregate six-year graduation rates for 2013-16 entering cohorts)

SPORT	ASR
Baseball	78%
Basketball	67%
Cross Country/Track	72%
Football	56%
Golf	83%
Ice Hockey	89%
Lacrosse	76%
Soccer	77%
Swimming	79%
Tennis	85%
Volleyball	75%
Wrestling	60%



CONVENTION



2024

# Trends in Academic Success Rates (ASR)



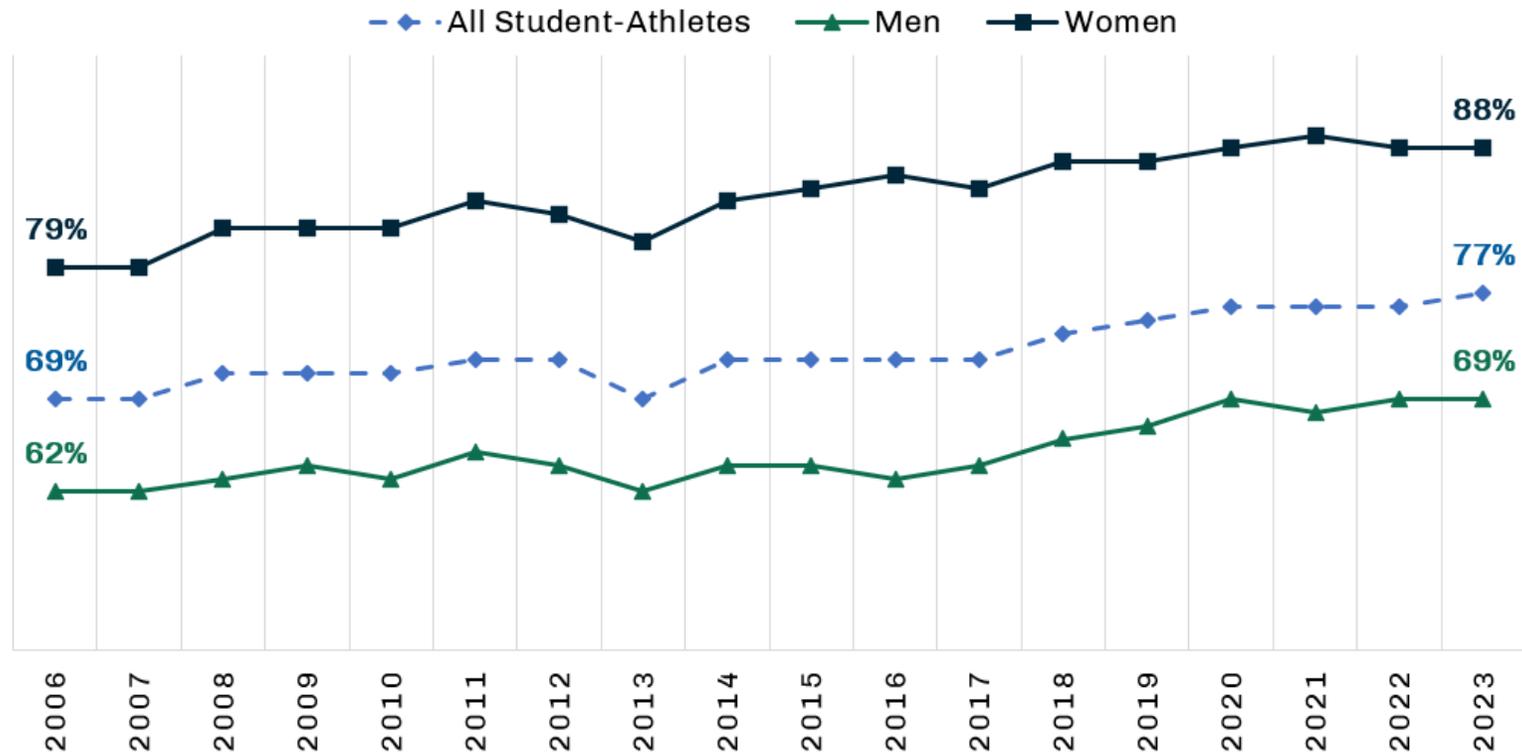
CONVENTION



2024

# Academic Success Rates (ASR) Trends of Division II Student-Athletes

(Single-cohort six-year graduation rates)



\* 2023 reporting year represents 2016-17 entering cohort; 2022 represents 2015-16 entering cohort, etc.



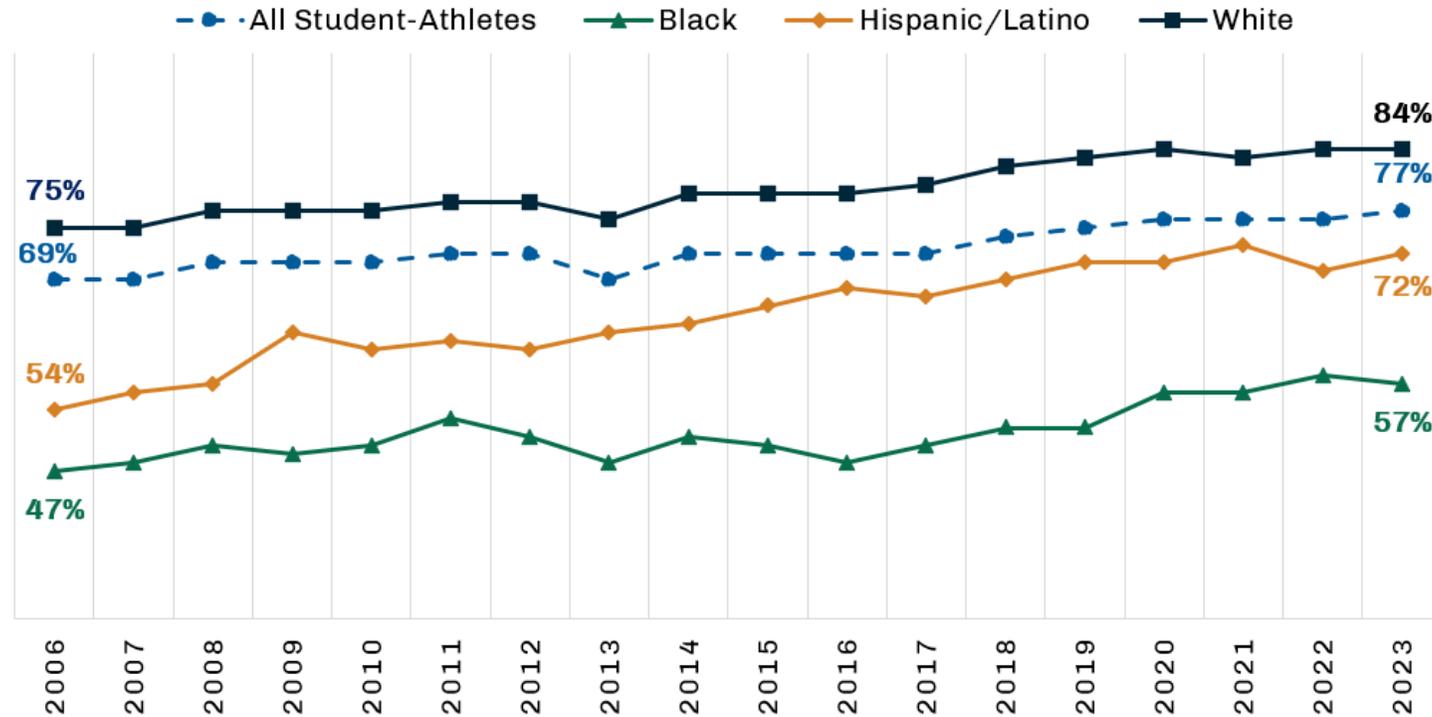
CONVENTION



2024

# Academic Success Rates (ASR) Trends of Division II Student-Athletes

(Single-cohort six-year graduation rates by race/ethnicity)



\* 2023 reporting year represents 2016-17 entering cohort; 2022 represents 2015-16 entering cohort, etc.



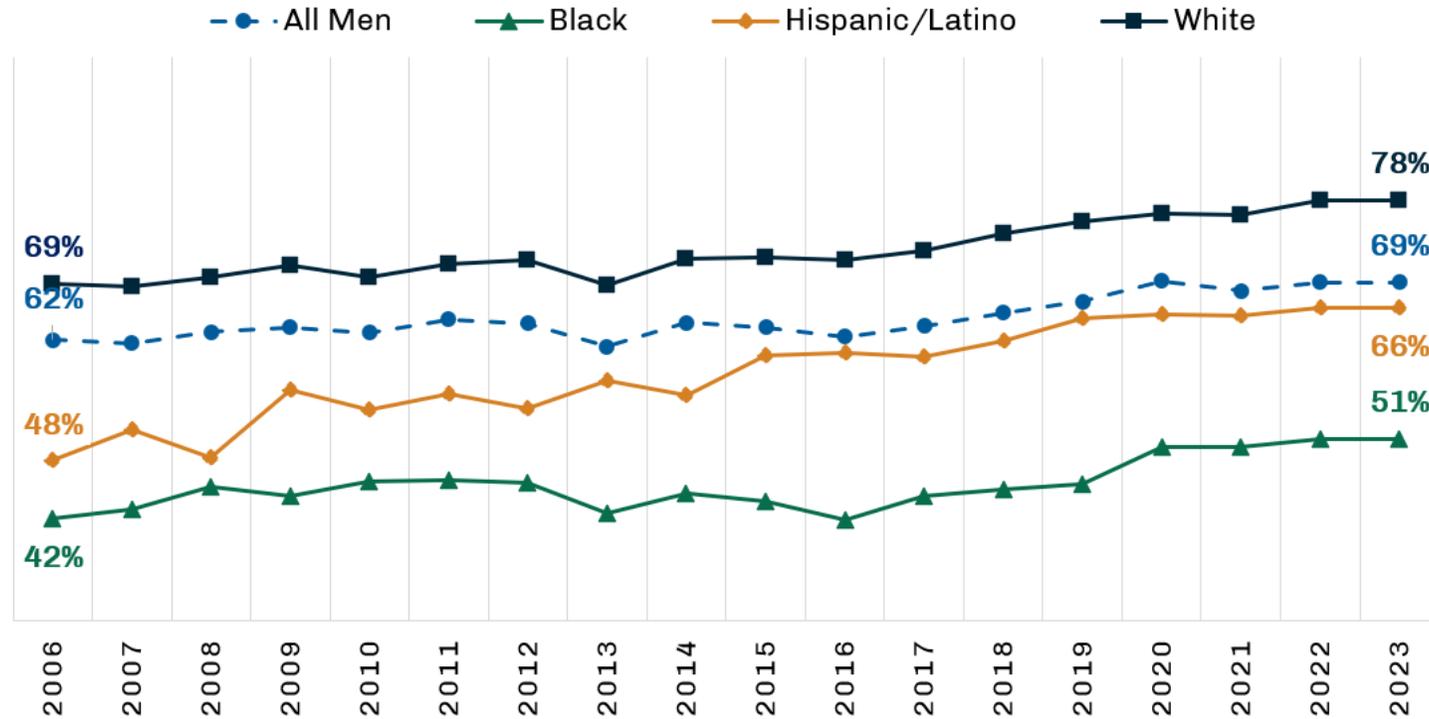
CONVENTION



2024

# Academic Success Rates (ASR) Trends of Division II Student-Athletes

(Single-cohort six-year graduation rates for men by race/ethnicity)



\* 2023 reporting year represents 2016-17 entering cohort; 2022 represents 2015-16 entering cohort, etc.



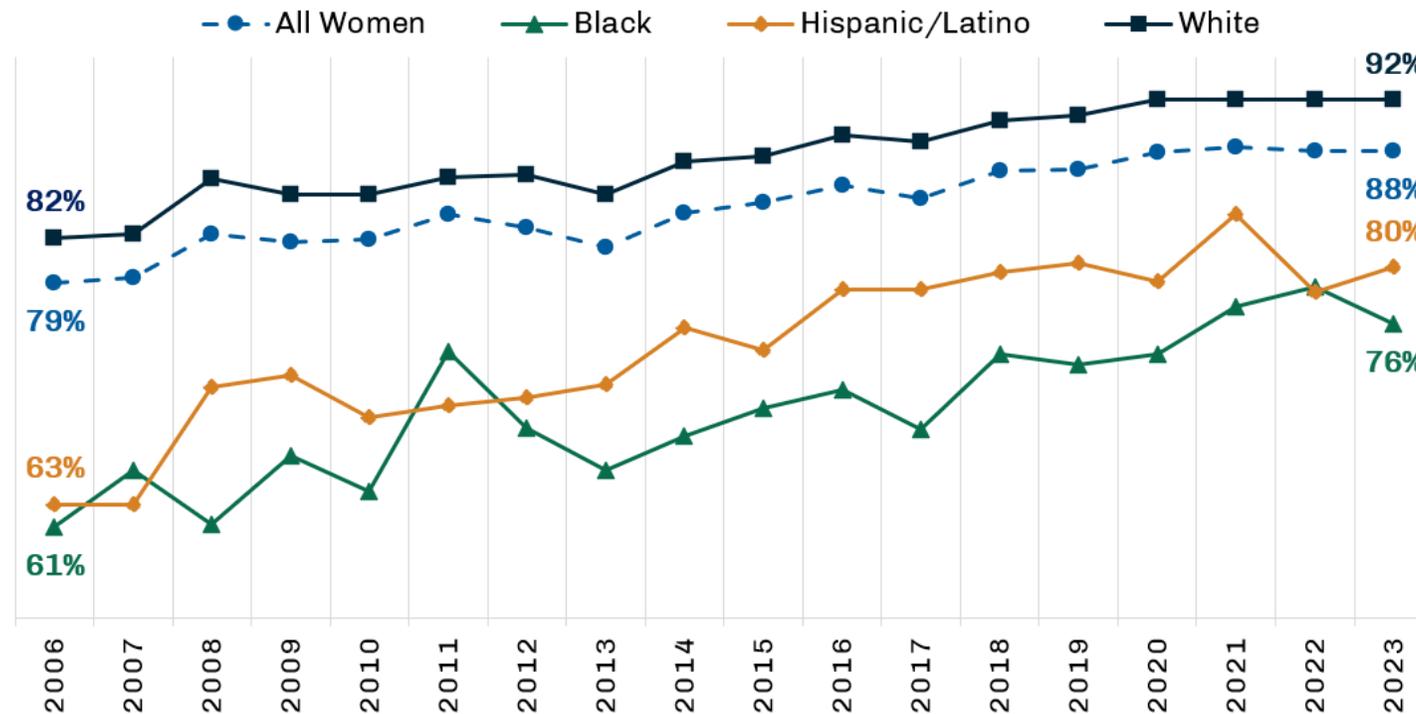
CONVENTION



2024

# Academic Success Rates (ASR) Trends of Division II Student-Athletes

(Single-cohort six-year graduation rates for women by race/ethnicity)



\* 2023 reporting year represents 2016-17 entering cohort; 2022 represents 2015-16 entering cohort, etc.



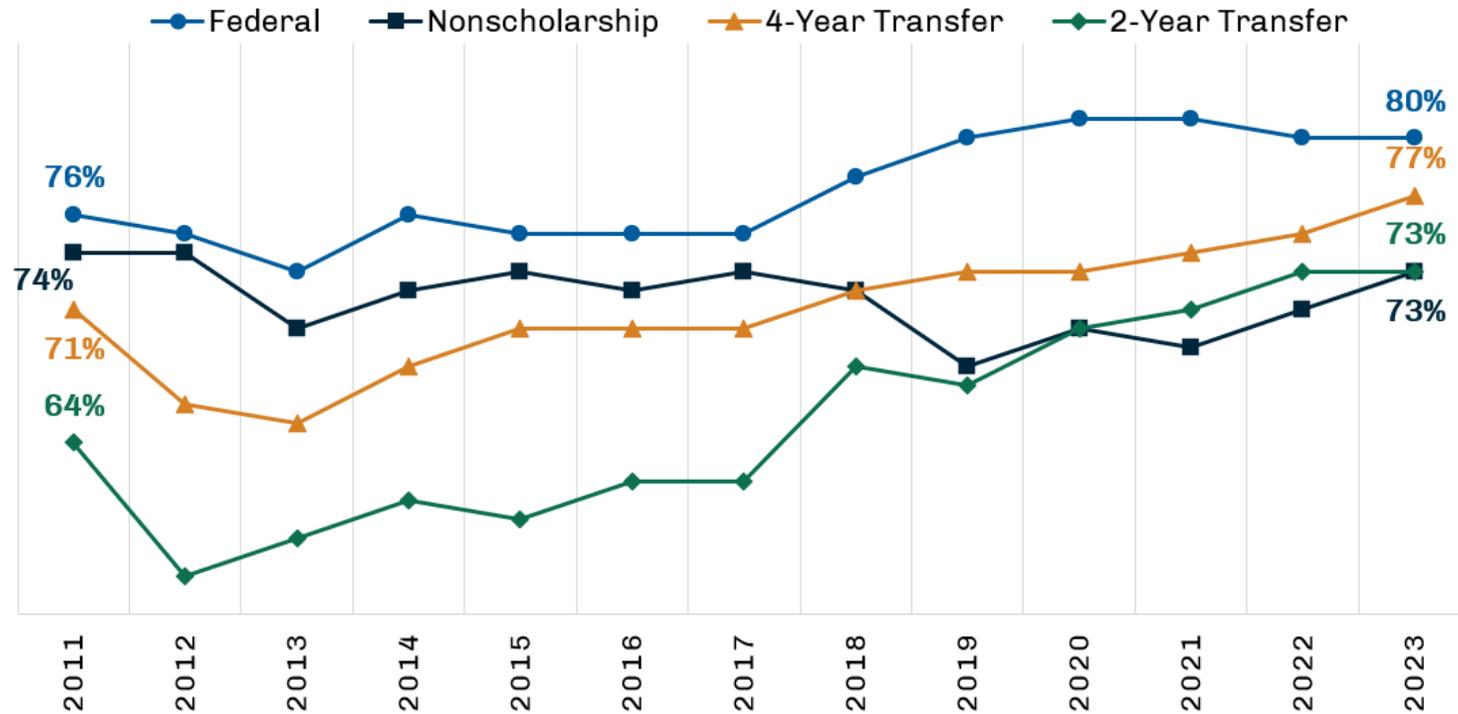
CONVENTION



2024

# Academic Success Rates (ASR) Trends of Division II Student-Athletes

(Single-cohort six-year graduation rates by student type)



\* 2023 reporting year represents 2016-17 entering cohort; 2022 represents 2015-16 entering cohort, etc.



CONVENTION



2024

# Trends in Federal Graduation Rates (FGR)



CONVENTION



2024

# Comparison of Federal Graduation Rates Between Scholarship Student-Athletes with Student Body

(Aggregate six-year FGR for 2013-16 entering cohorts)

	Student-Athlete Federal Rate	Student Body Federal Rate
<b>Overall</b>	60%	53%
<b>Men</b>	52%	48%
<b>Women</b>	69%	57%
<b>Black</b>	44%	37%
<b>Hispanic/Latino</b>	55%	49%
<b>White</b>	65%	58%
<b>Black Men</b>	38%	31%
<b>Hispanic/Latino Men</b>	48%	43%
<b>White Men</b>	59%	53%
<b>Black Women</b>	58%	41%
<b>Hispanic/Latino Women</b>	62%	54%
<b>White Women</b>	72%	61%



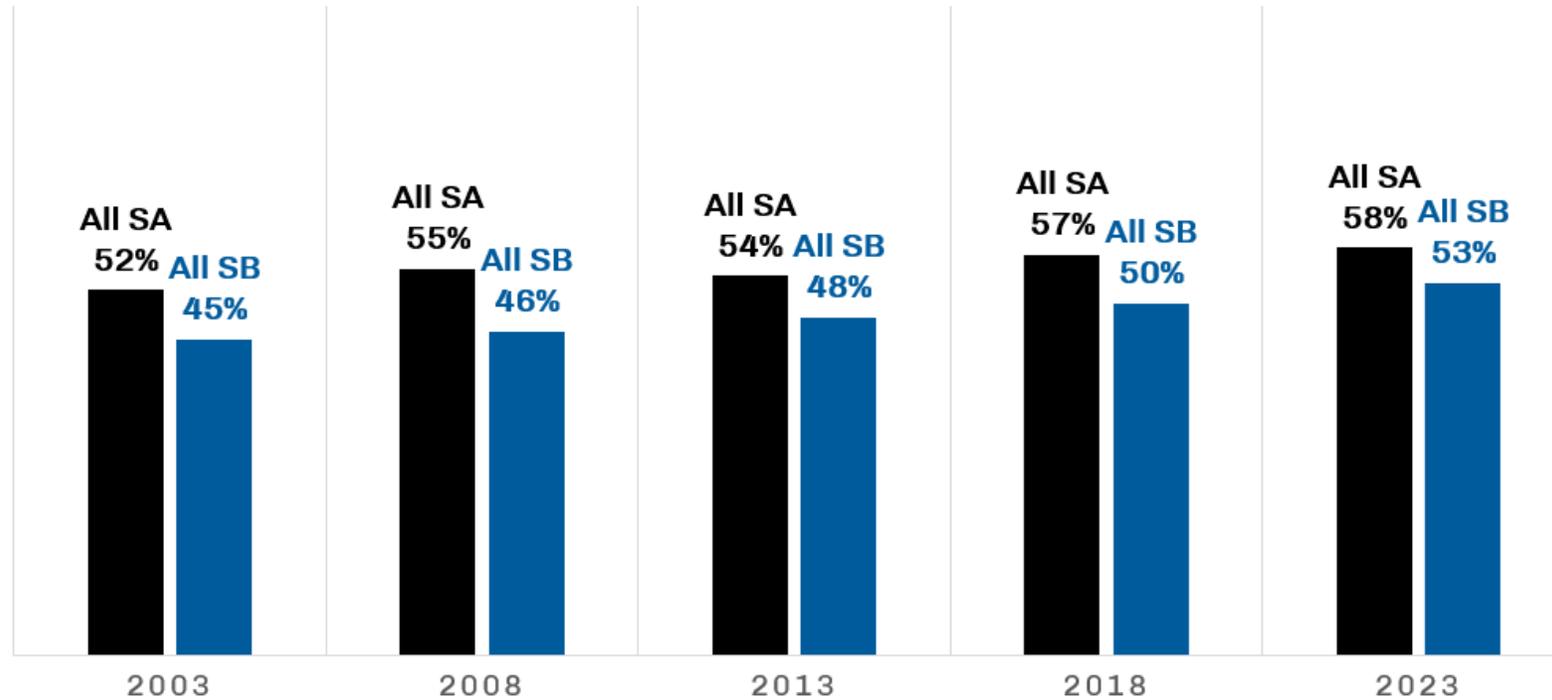
CONVENTION



2024

# Trends in Federal Graduation Rates: Division II Scholarship Student-Athletes v. Student Body

(Single-cohort six-year graduation rates)



\* 2023 reporting year represents 2016-17 entering cohort, etc.



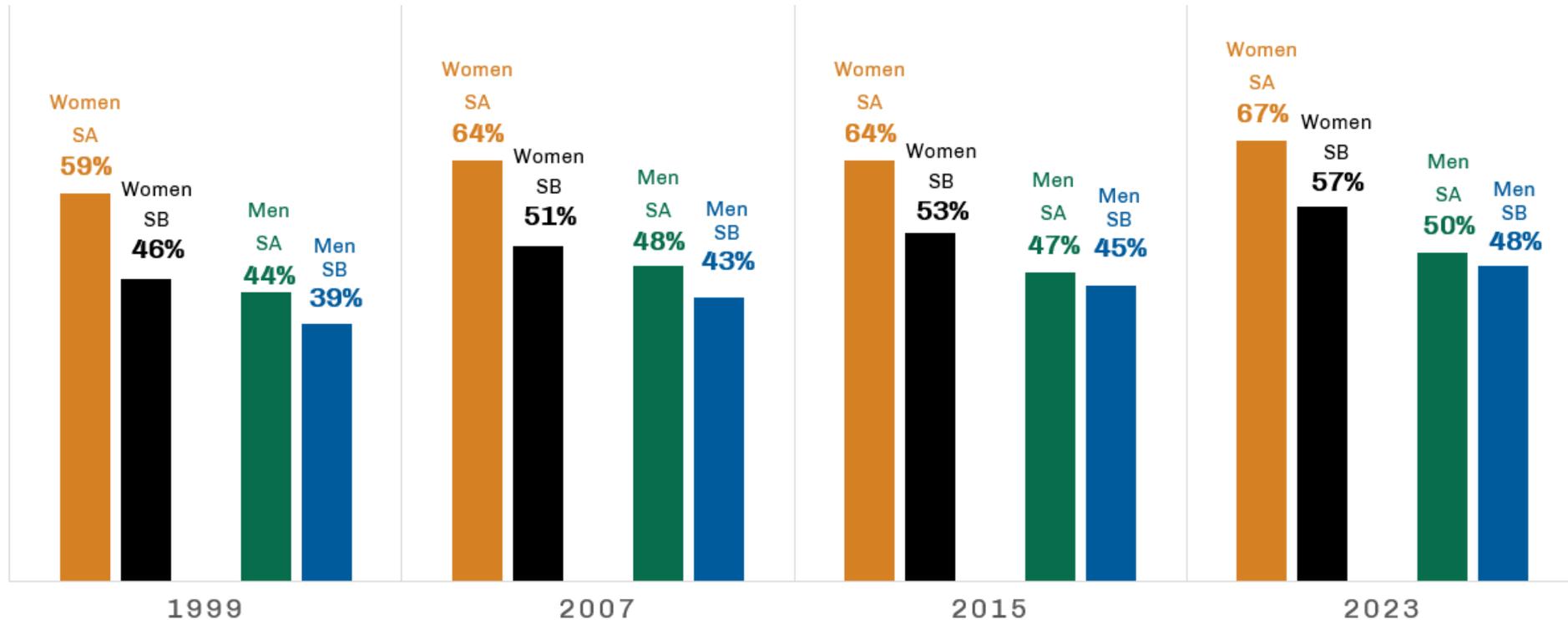
CONVENTION



2024

# Trends in Federal Graduation Rates: Division II Scholarship Student-Athletes v. Student Body

(Single-cohort six-year graduation rates by gender)



\* 2023 reporting year represents 2016-17 entering cohort; 2015 represents 2008-09 entering cohort, etc.



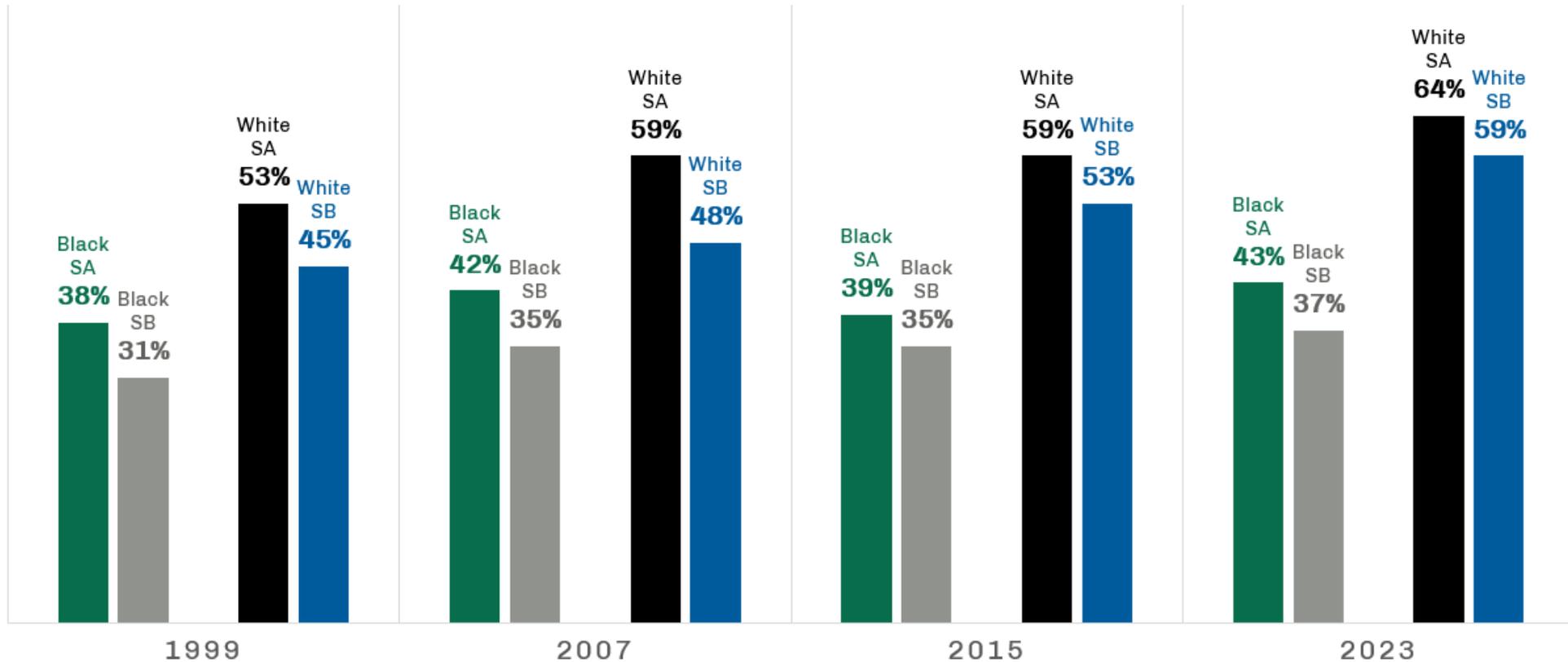
CONVENTION



2024

# Trends in Federal Graduation Rates: Division II Scholarship Student-Athletes v. Student Body

(Single-cohort six-year graduation rates by race/ethnicity)



CONVENTION



2024

# Definitions and Methods



CONVENTION



2024

# Methods

- Detailed information on graduation reporting requirements and graduation rate calculations, as well as links to school reports and an interactive analysis dashboard can be found on the NCAA Research website and at [www.ncaa.org/about/resources/research/graduation-rates](http://www.ncaa.org/about/resources/research/graduation-rates).
- Generally, four-class aggregations are used for reporting rates in isolation; single-class rates are used for examining trends over time.
- Schools can submit student-athlete outcome adjustments for the past four years; all updates are reflected in this report and the online dashboard.



CONVENTION



2024

# Federal Graduation Rate Calculation

- The FGR is federally mandated reporting of student body and student-athlete (if on athletics aid) graduation from an initial school. The rate essentially measures retention at that school.
- Graduation must occur within six years of initial entry.
- The federal rate makes no accommodation for transfers into or out of a school.
  - Incoming transfers into the school are not tracked.
  - Outgoing transfers are recorded as academic failures.



CONVENTION



2024

# Academic Success Rate Calculation

- The ASR is a graduation metric developed by NCAA presidents and chancellors.
- The calculation is mandated for student-athletes only and should not be compared with the federal rate.
- Graduation must occur within six years of initial entry.



CONVENTION



2024

# Academic Success Rate Calculation

- The ASR is more inclusive than the federal rate because it includes transfers into the school, midyear enrollees and nonscholarship student-athletes. Two assumptions are made:
  1. Student-athletes who leave school while academically eligible to compete are removed from the calculation (assumed transfers passed on to another school's cohort).
  2. Student-athletes who leave school while ineligible to compete are coded as nongraduates (even though many are known to transfer).
- Both assumptions are imperfect but lead to an ASR that better approximates a true student-centered graduation rate (student earns a degree within six years of entering higher education).

# Rate Calculations

## Federal

- First-time fall freshmen on athletics aid.



$$\frac{\text{Graduates}}{\text{Cohort} - \text{Exclusions}^*}$$

## ASR

- First-time fall freshmen on athletics aid.
- **Transfers.**
- **Midyear enrollees.**
- **Nonscholarship student-athletes.**



$$\frac{\text{Graduates}}{\text{Cohort} - \text{Exclusions}^* - \text{Left Eligible}}$$

\* Exclusions include death, permanent disability, church mission, and military or foreign service.  
Note: Both rates use a six-year window from initial collegiate enrollment.



# Comparison of ASR & FGR Cohorts

(2020-2023 Reporting Cohorts)

	Federal Rate	ASR
Enrolled (Under Federal Definition)	76,695	76,695
Enrolled as Freshmen in January	0	1,623
Two-Year College Transfers	0	17,542
Four-Year College Transfers	0	16,095
Nonscholarship Athletes	0	31,563
<b>Total Enrolled</b>	<b>76,695</b>	<b>143,518 (+87%)</b>
Allowable Exclusions (Death, Military, Church Mission, etc.)	116	307
Left Eligible	0	34,710
Participants on Teams No Longer Sponsored by School	0	3,374
<b>Total Denominator</b>	<b>76,579</b>	<b>105,127 (+37%)</b>



CONVENTION



2024



[ncaa.org/research](https://ncaa.org/research)

 @ncaaresearch



RESEARCH



Dear Committee Members:

As you know, we have been reviewing the current state of college athletics for the past several months. During this review, several things have become clear:

- For hundreds of thousands of young people – and for tens of millions over time – college sports are a pathway to a college degree, an invaluable learning experience and a major element in the plan that successfully launches them into adulthood.
- Billions of dollars are invested annually by colleges and universities in their athletics programs, their student-athlete support systems and student-athletes. College sports alone delivered \$4 billion in scholarships to hundreds of thousands of young people.
- Graduation rates for student-athletes have risen dramatically over the past 15 years – so much so that across every demographic student-athletes graduate at a higher rate than their peers who are not student-athletes.
- More is being done to build on this success:
  - Starting next year, all Division I schools will be required to guarantee the scholarships they offer to student-athletes, whether they play their sport or not.
  - Starting next year, all Division I schools will be required to provide up to 10 years of ongoing tuition assistance to scholarship athletes until they complete their degree.
  - Starting next year, all Division I schools will be required to provide mental health services to student-athletes consistent with the latest best practices.
  - Starting next year, student-athletes across all three divisions will have access to a nationwide injury insurance program that will provide two years of primary or secondary health insurance coverage if they get injured playing a sport for their school and are still in active treatment when they graduate or their eligibility has expired.

Looking ahead, financial and operational differences among colleges and universities across all three divisions, and even within Division I among the colleges and universities in Division I, are significant and poised to grow:

- Across Division I, schools spend between \$5 million and \$250 million annually on their athletics programs.

- 59 Division I schools spend over \$100 million annually on their athletics programs.
- Another 32 Division I schools spend over \$50 million annually on their athletics programs.
- An additional 259 Division I schools spend less than \$50 million, and of those, 144 Division I schools spend less than \$25 million on their athletics programs.
- Surprisingly, the schools that spend the most on college athletics rely on virtually no student fees to support their programs.
  - On average, 1.8% of an A5 athletics budget is paid for by student fees, while 14%-18% of the budgets for the remainder of Division I schools are funded by student fees.
- 98% of Division II and III schools spend less than \$20 million annually on their athletics programs. Like most of their Division I colleagues, these schools make an investment in sports, and by doing so, they make an investment in the educational experience of their student-athletes. No one could possibly conclude that most of these schools “make money” on college athletics.
- Despite the wide disparity in revenues and spending, the lessons over 500,000 student-athletes learn by participating in intercollegiate athletics are undeniably similar:
  - Student-athletes learn how to put their own interests aside in pursuit of a higher, more challenging, team-based objective.
  - They learn how to get back up when they get knocked down.
  - They learn how to push through adversity to achieve personal and team-based goals and objectives.
  - They learn how to master their craft, one that often requires hours and hours of teaching, coaching and practice.
  - They learn how to win with grace and lose with dignity.
  - They learn the power and importance of process – in both directions. Success is a process, and so is failure.
  - They also learn how to lean on their teammates and coaches in their personal pursuit of excellence – in the classroom and on the field of play.

However, the growing financial gap between the highest resourced colleges and universities and other schools in Division I has created a new series of challenges. The challenges are competitive as well as financial and are complicated further by the intersection of name, image and likeness opportunities for student-athletes and the arrival of the Transfer Portal.

The contextual environment is equally challenging, as the courts and other public entities continue to debate reform measures that in many cases would seriously damage parts or all of college athletics.

Therefore, it is time for us – the NCAA – to offer our own forward-looking

framework. This framework must sustain the best elements of the student-athlete experience for all student-athletes, build on the financial and organizational investments that have positively changed the trajectory of women's sports, and enhance the athletic and academic experience for student-athletes who attend the highest resourced colleges and universities.

To deliver on this framework, we need to make several fundamental changes. First, we should make it possible for all Division I colleges and universities to offer student-athletes any level of enhanced educational benefits they deem appropriate. Second, rules should change for any Division I school, at their choice, to enter into name, image and likeness licensing opportunities with their student-athletes.

These two changes will enhance the financial opportunities available to all Division I student-athletes. They will also help level what is fast becoming a very unlevel playing field between men and women student-athletes because schools will be required to abide by existing gender equity regulations as they make investments in their athletics programs.

Third, a subdivision comprised of institutions with the highest resources to invest in their student-athletes should be required to do two things:

- Within the framework of Title IX, invest at least \$30,000 per year into an enhanced educational trust fund for at least half of the institution's eligible student-athletes.
- Commit to work with their peer institutions in this subdivision to create rules that may differ from the rules in place for the rest of Division I. Those rules could include a wide range of policies, such as scholarship commitment and roster size, recruitment, transfers or NIL.

I look forward to hearing from members and student-athletes as we move ahead. But moving ahead in this direction has several benefits:

- First, it significantly enhances the NCAA's ability to provide world-class educational and athletics experiences to the most elite student-athletes.
- Second, it enables the continued investment in women's sports and women student-athletes at a level that compares with future investments in men's sports.
- Third, it gives the educational institutions with the most visibility, the most financial resources and the biggest brands an opportunity to choose to operate with a different set of rules that more accurately reflect their scale and their operating model.
- Fourth, it gives colleges and universities that are not sure about which direction they should move in an opportunity to do more for their student-athletes than they do now, without necessarily having to perform at the financial levels required to join the subdivision.
- Fifth, it gives other schools in Division I the ability to do whatever might make sense for them and for their student-athletes within a more permissive,

more supportive framework for student-athletes than the one they operate in now.

- Sixth, it provides student-athletes in the most competitive and well-resourced part of Division I with significant educational benefits that they can use to launch themselves once they either graduate or reach the end of their athletics eligibility, and it does so in a way that respects and complies with the rules concerning gender equity.
- Seventh, it gives the schools most impacted by collectives, the Transfer Portal and NIL the opportunity to create rules, programming and resources that are in the best interests of the vast majority of their student-athletes, instead of just a few.
- Eighth, it maintains the existing NCAA national championship model across all existing Division I sports, except FBS football, which continues to operate under the rubric of the College Football Playoff.
- Ninth, it provides an operating model the NCAA and its member institutions can incorporate into ongoing discussions with Congress about the future of college athletics.
- Finally, it kick-starts a long-overdue conversation among the membership that focuses on the differences that exist between schools, conferences and divisions and how to create more permissive and flexible rules across the NCAA that put student-athletes first. Colleges and universities need to be more flexible, and the NCAA needs to be more flexible, too.

It also gives the NCAA a chance to propose a better way to support student-athletes at the highest revenue schools by providing significant financial support to student-athletes in revenue positive and nonrevenue sports alike.

We look forward to continuing this conversation. If you have feedback on this proposal, please email [projectd1@ncaa.org](mailto:projectd1@ncaa.org) or provide comments here: [Project D1 Feedback](#).

---

*This email was sent to Division I Board of Directors, Council, Competition Oversight Committee, Football Bowl Subdivision Oversight Committee, Football Championship Subdivision Oversight Committee, Legislative Committee, Men's Basketball Oversight Committee, Strategic Vision and Planning Committee, Student-Athlete Experience Committee, Women's Basketball Oversight Committee, Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, Conference Commissioner's Association, with a copy to select NCAA staff.*

National Collegiate Athletic Association, 700 W. Washington St., Indianapolis, IN 46204 US

This email was sent to: [tgronau@ncaa.org](mailto:tgronau@ncaa.org)

[Update your preferences](#) | [View in browser](#) | [View privacy policy](#)



## PROJECT DIVISION I December 20, 2023

This is the start of a conversation the NCAA believes it must have now to confront the growing legal and political challenges facing college sports.

The proposal would upgrade the Division I rules to give schools greater ability to provide enhanced, equitable benefits to student-athletes designed by individual schools – but does not alter current pay for play policy.

The NCAA is changing to respond to the challenges facing college sports, but there are some challenges the NCAA cannot address alone that require partnering with Congress, including employment challenges and protecting the NCAA's authority to set basic rules without endless legal challenges.

### **WHY?**

#### **Modernization:**

The proposal recognizes the growing ability of most well-resourced schools to provide greater benefits to student-athletes while being governed by rules appropriate for their level.

While the NCAA is often accused of being reactive, this policy anticipates the environment student-athletes will likely experience in the realignment era and the changing financial positions across Division I.

It builds on a holistic model and recent commonsense reforms to support student-athletes.

#### **Equity:**

In a landscape dominated by collectives, men receive a far greater share of name, image and likeness activity, but this proposal would enable schools to provide greater benefits, subject to Title IX.

#### **Working with Congress remains a priority:**

The NCAA believes it is important to advance this proposal at the same time college sports leaders engage Congress.

The NCAA is advancing this proposal to do everything in its power to transform college sports to benefit student-athletes, but there are some issues the NCAA cannot address alone.

Issues such as empowering conferences and the NCAA to set rules without endless litigation and affirming student-athletes are not employees subject to tax and other regulatory burdens still require partnering with Congress.

The proposal is a clear demonstration that the NCAA is exhausting all its options to address the issues at hand — an expectation many members of Congress believe is prerequisite to acting.

Previously, opponents of granting college sports legislative support cited lack of health protections, lack of academic guarantees and limits on other benefits for student-athletes.

With this proposal, combined with the new health, wellness and academic requirements going into effect next year, and the NIL bylaw work underway, the NCAA is confronting those criticisms head on — hopefully removing barriers to action in D.C.

**What is being proposed:**

The proposal would permit all Division I schools to provide greater benefits to student-athletes by:

- Permitting schools to offer student-athletes any level of enhanced educational benefits they deem appropriate.
- Permitting schools to either help create, or further assist student-athlete's name, image and likeness licensing opportunities.
- Proposing a new Division I subdivision where schools must offer a minimum of \$30,000 educational benefits to at least half of student-athletes on campus. New subdivision members would be granted greater autonomy to set rules for topics such as scholarship and roster limits.
- Keeping all postseason tournament access and revenue distribution unchanged from the current status.
- \$30K is an approximation of the costs associated with pursuing educational and professional development opportunities such as internships and advanced degrees.

This is the first step in a several-months-long legislative process that President Charlie Baker looks forward to undertaking with members.



## Quarterly Report / NCAA Division II December 2023

- **CSC 30 Under 30 Class Recognized:** CSC's second annual 30 Under 30 class was announced Nov. 30 and includes four professionals in NCAA Division II -- Riley Baker (Black Hills State University [he has since moved to Washington State University]), Spencer Honda (University of Hawai'i at Hilo), K.J. Reid (Oklahoma Baptist University) and Angela Roberts (Fort Lewis College). The recognition honors up-and-coming strategic, creative and digital athletics communications professionals throughout the CSC membership. Candidates were considered based on achievement in one or more areas such as professional success, impact on their athletic department/conference office and service to CSC. [Full story here.](#)
- **CSC Convention Registration Opens Feb. 14:** #CSCUnite24, the association's annual convention, will be held June 9-12 at the Mandalay Bay Resort in Las Vegas in conjunction with NACDA & Affiliates Week. The always-popular Divisional Day, with dedicated programming produced by and for each division's CSC members, will be on Monday, June 10. Registration will open on Feb. 14. [Convention home page](#)
- **CSC Executive Board, Selected Divisional Leaders & Staff To Attend NCAA Convention:** CSC's Executive Board, leaders of the organization's Division II and III cabinets and its national staff will attend the 2024 NCAA Convention in Phoenix in mid-January for internal meetings and to meet with various NCAA staff. Michael MacEachern, 2023-24 CSC Division II Cabinet President and Assistant Director of Athletics for Communications at Georgia College & State University, will represent our Division II members.
- **Applications Being Accepted for CSC Convention Attendance Grants:** Applications are currently being accepted for two convention attendance grants. The CSC Convention Attendance Grant recognizes the unique circumstances of the association's membership when it comes to attending a yearly convention by annually selecting 22 deserving members for attendance with two grants designated specifically for people of color in the profession. The NCAA Inclusion CSC Convention Grant presents a professional development opportunity geared towards the inclusion, advancement and retention of ethnic minorities within the field of media relations/communications. [Read about the grants here.](#)
- **CSC Membership Appreciation Week:** CSC's eighth annual Membership Appreciation Week was celebrated Nov. 8-14. The focus this year was on advocacy for the profession and the value of CSC members in communications and the creative space. [Twitter hashtag #CelebrateCSC](#)
- **CSC Membership Purchases and Renewals Through Early December:** CSC membership purchases and renewals for 2023-24 opened in July. As of Dec. 6, 578 Division II members represent 229 schools and 12 conference offices. [Membership Information](#)

**NCAA Government Relations Update**  
December 2023

**FEDERAL ISSUES**

**Congressional Overview**

As the 118<sup>th</sup> Congress winds down for the holidays, Members of the U.S Senate and House of Representatives have worked to address many issues this fall, including avoiding a government shutdown, impeachment inquiries, campus antisemitism concerns, and selecting a new Speaker of the House among other issues. As we head into the new year, attention is expected to shift to the 2024 Presidential election and re-election campaigns for many Members of Congress.

**Employment**

On December 6, Sens. Murphy (D-CT) and Sanders (I-VT), and Rep. Bowman (D-NY) [reintroduced](#) the *College Athlete Right to Organize Act* (CARO), legislation which aims to affirm college athletes as employees under the National Labor Relations Act (NLRA), with the right to organize and collectively bargain for fair compensation and better working conditions.

**Name, Image and Likeness**

To date, eight bills and draft proposals have been introduced related to the regulation of student-athlete name, image and likeness. While Senate Commerce Ranking Member Cruz introduced a draft this summer that effectively addresses all the Association's needs, there are currently no pieces of bipartisan legislation that contain all the Board of Governor's federal priorities.

On October 17, the Senate Committee on the Judiciary hosted a hearing titled, "[Name, Image, and Likeness, and the Future of College Sports,](#)" featuring testimony from Charlie Baker (President, NCAA), Trinity Thomas (student-athlete, University of Florida), Jack Swarbrick (Athletic Director, Notre Dame), Tony Pettiti (Commissioner, Big Ten Conference), Walker Jones (Executive Director, Big Grove Collective), Ramogi Huma (Executive Director, NCPA), and Jill Bodensteiner (Director of Athletics, Saint Joseph's University). In addition to NIL, topics such as conference realignment, employment, and student-athlete health and safety were also discussed.

On October 17, Sens. Blumenthal (D-CT) and Ricketts (R-NE) [introduced](#) the *Name, Image, and Likeness (NIL) for International Collegiate Athletes Act*, which aims to allow international student-athletes access to NIL opportunities at the collegiate level. This bill was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

**Transgender Athlete Participation**

On December 5, the Committee on Oversight and Accountability hosted a hearing titled, "[The Importance of Protecting Female Athletics and Title IX,](#)" featuring testimony from Riley Gaines (former student-athlete, University of Kentucky), Sarah Parshall Perry (Heritage Foundation), Kim Russell (Former Head Women's Lacrosse Coach, Oberlin College) and Fatima Goss Gaves

(National Women's Law Center). During this hearing, GOP Members of Congress expressed concerns with President Biden's proposed regulatory changes to Title IX and criticized the NCAA's transgender participation policy.

On December 12, Rep. Lisa McClain (R-MI) [introduced](#) the *Save Women's Sports Act*; this legislation aims to prohibit schools that receive federal financial assistance from allowing biological males to compete against females in youth and collegiate athletics. Schools that aren't in compliance with the law would be at risk of losing their federal funding if they were to allow participation.

### **Historically Black Colleges and Universities**

On September 28, Rep. Carter, Sr. (D-LA.) [introduced](#) the *Performance, Resources, Inclusion, Matters for Equity (PRIME) Act* to improve available athletic resources at Historically Black Universities and Colleges (HBCUs) and Junior Colleges (JUCOs), which the NCAA supported. This bill would provide competitive grant funding to qualifying HBCUs and JUCOs to maintain athletic facilities and equipment as long as they are in accordance with NCAA guidelines. This bill was referred to the House Committee on Education and the Workforce.

### **Championships**

On December 13, Sens. Rubio (R-FL) and Shaheen (D-NH) [penned](#) a letter to President Biden expressing their support for the emerging sport of women's flag football and requesting for the NCAA to encourage its membership to provide opportunities for women's flag football at the championship level.

## **STATE ISSUES**

### **Name, Image, and Likeness**

Since the NCAA announced its interim policy, nearly 30 states have enacted disparate laws affecting the ability of student-athletes to benefit from their NIL, 28 of which are currently active (AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, GA, IL, KY, LA, MD, ME, MI, MO, MS, MT, NC, NE, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, TN, TX, VA). Three states have enacted laws that would fully repeal the state's preexisting NIL law (AL, FL, SC), while fourteen states have enacted laws that would amend their original NIL laws (AR, CT, CO, IL, LA, MO, MS, NE, NM, NY, OK, OR, TN, TX). Additionally, at least 6 states have introduced or enacted legislation which seeks to limit the NCAA's ability to enforce its rules and/or penalize institutions that violate NCAA rules (AR, MO, NM, NY, OK, TX).

### **Transgender Athlete Participation**

To date, 23 states have enacted laws related to transgender athlete participation in sports (AL, AR, AZ, FL, IA, IN, ID, KS, KY, LA, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, OK, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, WV, WY), 20 of which apply directly to college athletics (AL, AR, AZ, FL, IA, ID, KS, KY, LA, MO, MS, MT, NC, ND, OK, SC, SD, TN, TX, WV).

On October 30, the NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sport (CSMAS) received a letter from Governors Kristi Noem (SD), Sarah Sanders (AR), Tate Reeves (MS), Mike Parson (MO), Greg Gianforte (MT), Joe Lombardo (NV), Kevin Stitt (OK), Greg Abbott (TX), and Mark Gordon (WY) urging the committee to rewrite the Association's Transgender Participation Policy in an effort to ensure fairness in women's athletics. The committee shared a letter in response to the Governors on December 19.

### **Sports Wagering**

Efforts to legalize sports wagering continue in states throughout the country. Currently, sports betting is legal in 40 states and jurisdictions (AZ, AR, CO, CT, DE, DC, FL, IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, LA, ME, MD, MA, ME, MI, MS, MT, NE, NV, NH, NJ, NM, NY, NC, ND, OH, OR, PA, RI, SD, TN, VA, VT, WA, WV, WI, WY), and 36 of those jurisdictions (AZ, AR, CO, CT, DE, DC, IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, LA, MA, MD, MI, MS, MT, NE, NV, NH, NJ, NM, NY, NC, ND, OH, OR, PA, RI, SD, TN, VA, WA, WV, WI, WY) are currently accepting wagers.

### **Transfers**

On December 7 attorneys general in Colorado, Illinois, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Tennessee, and West Virginia [filed](#) an antitrust lawsuit challenging the NCAA's transfer rules. On December 13, a U.S. District Court judge granted a 14-day temporary restraining order and a subsequent agreement was reached that converted the restraining order to a preliminary injunction through the 2023-24 NCAA Championships season.

### **Higher Education Associations**

NCAA government relations staff continues to build strong relationships with various higher education associations. The American Council on Education (ACE), the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU), the Association of American Universities (AAU), the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (NAICU), the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU) and others continue to provide guidance and support on issues of common interest and other issues which impact students and student-athletes.

### **Membership Government Relations Outreach**

With the goal of creating greater information sharing and connectivity with campus government relations representatives and stakeholders, the national office government relations staff began holding monthly webinars for this community in October 2023. These forums provide the opportunity for the NCAA membership to receive relevant government relations and legal updates, share information, and discuss key issues.