



**REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION II COMMITTEE ON STUDENT-ATHLETE REINSTATEMENT  
May 15-16, 2024, IN-PERSON MEETING**

**ACTION ITEMS.**

**1. Legislative Items.**

- a. 2025 NCAA Convention Legislation -- NCAA Division II Bylaw 14.2.4.1 -- Eligibility -- Seasons of Competition: 10-Semester/15-Quarter -- Criteria for Determining Season of Eligibility -- Participation During Initial Year of Collegiate Enrollment.**
- (1) Recommendation. Sponsor legislation for the 2025 NCAA Convention to specify that a student-athlete representing a Division II institution, in their initial year of collegiate enrollment, may participate in up to 30% of the maximum permissible number of contests or dates of competition set forth in Bylaw 17 (playing and practice seasons) without using a season of competition.
  - (2) Effective date. August 1, 2025.
  - (3) Rationale. Under current legislation, 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. Allowing a Division II student-athlete in any sport to participate in minimal competition during their initial year of collegiate enrollment will provide consistency in applying the season of competition legislation. Further, the opportunity for all sports to participate in minimal competition will ease the decision for coaches and help with student-athlete development and transition to the college game. Additional flexibility with substitutes may allow starters and more experienced student-athletes additional rest and/or to feel less pressure to play through injuries. Finally, amending the season of competition legislation to allow minimal competition in all sports will assist with roster management and student-athlete retention.
  - (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
  - (5) Student-athlete impact. Student-athletes in all sports would be provided an opportunity to represent a Division II institution in minimal competition during their initial year of enrollment without using a season of competition.
- b. Noncontroversial Legislation -- Bylaw 14.2.4.1.6 -- Eligibility -- Season of Competition: 10-Semester/15-Quarter -- Criteria for Determining Season of Eligibility -- Minimum Amount of Competition -- Preseason Exhibition Contests**

**or Dates Competition/Preseason Scrimmage During Initial Year – Participation During Any Year.**

- (1) Recommendation. Adopt noncontroversial legislation to specify that a student-athlete may participate in preseason exhibition contests or dates of competition and preseason scrimmages (competition that occurs prior to the first countable contest or date of competition) during any year of their collegiate enrollment and not use a season of competition. [See Attachment.]
- (2) Effective date. August 1, 2024.
- (3) Rationale. Under current legislation, a student-athlete in their initial year of collegiate enrollment may participate 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. Expanding the legislation to permit a student-athlete to participate in preseason exhibition contests or dates of competition and preseason scrimmages, regardless of their year of collegiate enrollment, and not use a season of competition, will enhance the student-athlete experience. Further, amending the legislation will create consistency of the application across all sports while also reducing the burden on athletics administrators. Finally, allowing this sort of participation during any year will improve student-athlete retention.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. A student-athlete, regardless of their year of enrollment, would be provided the opportunity to participate in preseason exhibitions and scrimmages and not use a season of competition.

**2. Nonlegislative Items.**

- None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Review of NCAA Proposal No. EM-2025-1 and impact to student-athletes who served a transfer year-in-residence during the 2023-24 academic year.** The committee reviewed Proposal No. EM-2025-1 (eligibility -- academic and general requirements -- transfer regulations -- four-year transfer -- four-year undergraduate transfer student-athletes) which eliminated the transfer year-in-residence requirement for undergraduate student-athletes transferring from other four-year institutions and implemented new

academic standards for immediate eligibility. The committee directed the reinstatement staff to consider the 2023-24 academic year a denied participation opportunity as part of an extension of eligibility waiver request for any student-athlete that could have been otherwise academically eligible to compete but for serving a year in residence given the timing of when the proposal was adopted and the immediate effective date of the proposal to the 2023-24 academic year. The committee also directed reinstatement staff if a spring sport student-athlete became eligible for competition with the adoption of Proposal No. EM-2025-1 and chose to compete in the limited season that was remaining, reinstatement staff should assess those cases under the current season-of-competition waiver legislation.

2. **Review and discuss feedback from NCAA Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, Division II Coaches Connection, Division II Conference Commissioner Association Compliance Administrators and Division II Institutional Compliance Administrators regarding Bylaws 14.2.4.1 (minimum amount of competition), 14.2.4.1.6 (preseason exhibition contests or dates of competition/preseason scrimmage during initial year) and 14.2.5 (hardship waivers).** The committee reviewed feedback from the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, Coaches Connection, Conference Commissioner Association Compliance Administrators and institutional compliance administrators regarding the application of Bylaws 14.2.4.1, 14.2.4.1.6 and 14.2.5. Based on the feedback, the committee recommended sponsoring 2025 Convention legislation (see Legislative Action Item 1a) and noncontroversial legislation (see Legislative Action Item 1b). The committee did not recommend amending Bylaw 14.2.5 at this time.
3. **Update on the review of NCAA sports wagering legislation.** The committee received an update on a current review of sports waiver legislation, as well as next steps on the review.
4. **Update on Division II Mental Health Hardship Waiver pilot program.** The committee received an update specific to the mental health hardship waiver pilot program and data surrounding cases reviewed under the program.
5. **Review of NCAA Divisions I, II, and III Committees on Student-Athlete Reinstatement Policies and Procedures.** The committee provided initial feedback on a comprehensive review of the committee's policies and procedures. Based on the committee's initial feedback, reinstatement staff will draft updated policies and procedures for review during a future meeting.
6. **Review of final status report from the NCAA Division I Transformation Committee.** The committee received an update on the work of the NCAA Division I Transformation Committee.
7. **Review and discuss Division II Operating Plan.** The committee reviewed and provided feedback related to the Division II Operating Plan.

8. **Update from the NCAA Office of Legal Affairs.** The committee received an update from the office of legal affairs.
9. **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.
10. **NCAA Division II Summary of Legislative Actions.** The committee received an update on legislative actions relevant to student-athlete reinstatement.
11. **Approval of the November 15, 2023, videoconference meeting report of the Division II Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement.** The committee reviewed and approved its November 15, 2023, in-person meeting report.
12. **Chair election.** The committee elected Lynn Griffin, director of athletics, Coker University, as the new chair of the committee effective September 1, 2024.
13. **Future meetings.** The committee established the following future meeting dates:
  - a. November/December 2024 videoconference; timing to be determined.
  - b. May/June 2025 in-person meeting; Indianapolis.

*Committee Chair:* Jessica Harbison-Weaver, Pacific West Conference.  
*Staff Liaison(s):* Maison Hubbard, Academic and Membership Affairs.  
Jess Rigler, Academic and Membership Affairs.

NCAA Division II Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement May 15-16, 2024, In-Person Meeting	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Addison Courtney, Fairmont State University.	
Lynn Griffin, Coker University.	
Jessica Harbison-Weaver, Pacific West Conference.	
Jerry Haywood, Fort Valley State University.	
Chad Williams, Pennsylvania Western University, Edinboro.	
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, Gary Brown, Connor Bush, Dana Conner, Tianna Hill, Chelsea Hooks, Maritza Jones, Liz Perry, Jared Tidemann, Robert Turick, Angela Red and Jerry Vaughn.	

**Division:** II

**Proposal Number:** NC-2025-20

**Title:** ELIGIBILITY -- SEASONS OF COMPETITION: 10-SEMESTER/15-QUARTER -- CRITERIA FOR DETERMINING SEASON OF ELIGIBILITY -- MINIMUM AMOUNT OF COMPETITION -- PRESEASON EXHIBITION CONTESTS OR DATES OF COMPETITION/PRESEASON SCRIMMAGES DURING INITIAL YEAR -- PARTICIPATION DURING ANY YEAR

**Convention Year:** 2025

**Date Submitted:** June 20, 2024

**Status:** Last Review

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2024

**Source:** NCAA Division II Management Council (Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement).

**Category:** Noncontroversial

**Topical Area:** Eligibility

**Intent:** To specify that a student-athlete during any year of their collegiate enrollment may participate in preseason exhibition contests or dates of competition and preseason scrimmages (competition that occurs prior to the first countable contest or date of competition) and not use a season of competition.

**Bylaws:** Amend 14.4.3.4.1, as follows:

14.4.3.4.1 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.

[14.4.3.4.1.1 through 14.4.3.4.1.5 unchanged.]

14.4.3.4.1.6 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.

[14.4.3.4.1.7 unchanged.]

**FAQ:**

**Co-sponsorship - Conference:**

None

**Co-sponsorship - Institution:**

None

**Position Statements:**

**Review History:**

May 15,  
2024:

Recommends Approval - NCAA Division II Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement.

**Additional Information:**

Under current legislation, a student-athlete in their initial year of collegiate enrollment may participate 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. Expanding the legislation to permit a student-athlete to participate in preseason exhibition contests or dates of competition and preseason scrimmages, regardless of their year of collegiate enrollment, and not use a season of competition, will enhance the student-athlete experience. Further, amending the legislation will create consistency of the application across all sports while also reducing the burden on athletics administrators. Finally, allowing this sort of participation during any year will improve student-athlete retention.

**Legislative References**

Legislative Cite	Title
14.4.3.4.1	Minimum Amount of Competition.
14.4.3.4.1.6	Preseason Exhibition Contests or Dates of Competition/Preseason Scrimmages During Initial Year.

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