



REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION II STUDENT-ATHLETE REINSTATEMENT COMMITTEE
May 15, 2025, VIDEOCONFERENCE

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative Item.

- None.

2. Nonlegislative Items.

a. Mental Health Hardship Waiver Pilot Program.

- (1) Recommendation. That the NCAA Division II Management Council extend the mental health hardship waiver pilot program for the 2025-26 academic year by allowing student-athletes access to a hardship waiver based on mental health assertions, as specified, for an additional year.
- (2) Effective date. Immediate, for hardship waivers with mental health assertions during the 2025-26 academic year.
- (3) Rationale. The rise in mental health concerns amongst student-athletes remains an area of importance for the Association. Furthermore, allowing student-athletes ongoing access to the mental health hardship waiver pilot program while awaiting the Division II Eligibility Review Working Group's recommendation, assists the Association in its efforts to better support student-athletes with mental health concerns asserted as the reason they competed limitedly and broadens the documentation standards.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. Student-athletes will continue to 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. NCAA Division II Student-Athlete Reinstatement Committee Sports Wagering Guidelines.

- (1) Recommendation. That the Management Council approve amendments to the sports wagering guidelines specific to wagering on professional sports, as specified [Attachment].
- (2) Effective date. May 15, 2025.
- (3) Rationale. Sports wagering legislation has long been legislated as a common provision across all three divisions. This approach has facilitated consistent enforcement, educational efforts, and collaborative efforts with legal and

regulated gambling entities. As sports wagering laws across the United States have rapidly evolved, the Division I Council, Division II Management Council and Division III Management Council began a comprehensive review of the sports wagering legislation. Through a thorough review of all elements of the sports wagering legislation, it was determined that the three divisions should focus on permitting student-athletes, athletics department and conference office staff members to wager, as permitted by law and through legal and regulated methods, on any professional athletics activity. The amended guidelines offer the opportunity for the NCAA Division II Student-Athlete Reinstatement Committee and NCAA national office student-athlete reinstatement staff to provide relief that no longer includes mandatory withholding from competition in such cases.

- (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. **Discussion regarding sports wagering legislation and guidelines.** The committee discussed next steps for potential Division II relief if the legislation to deregulate the prohibition on wagering on professional sports is not supported by all three divisions this summer (see Nonlegislative Item No. 2-b). The committee also expressed support for amending the legislation that prohibits wagering on professional sports. Finally, the committee requested the staff review and bring recommendations regarding whether the dollar value for wagering on intercollegiate competition should be updated.
2. **Discussion on staff review of season-of-competition waivers.** The committee discussed staff's current practices for reviewing season-of-competition waivers. The committee noted even with the adoption of NCAA Division II Proposal No. 2025-5, the NCAA student-athlete reinstatement staff is instructed to consider season-of-competition waivers on a case-by-case basis.
3. **Discussion on postseason competition in season-of-competition and hardship waivers.** The committee reviewed a summary of hardship waivers and season-of-competition waivers where student-athletes competed in postseason competition. The committee noted the evolving landscape specific to a meaningful participation opportunity and instructed staff to continue reviewing cases on a case-by-case basis. In cases where the student-athlete participated limitedly, including during postseason competition, staff should rely on mitigation and supporting documents to determine if approval is appropriate.

4. **Review of the committee's guideline related to misadvisement from appropriate source.** The committee discussed modifying its guideline related to a student-athlete being misadvised on their remaining period of eligibility to add a coach as an appropriate source. The committee affirmed its guideline noting there are very limited scenarios where coaches are the main source for academic guidance and therefore, supported the current position that coaches are not an appropriate source unless they also have academic duties as part of their job description.
5. **Review of NCAA Division II Student-Athlete Reinstatement Committee Guidelines.** The committee reviewed and approved editorial revisions to its NCAA Division II Student-Athlete Reinstatement Committee Guidelines. Additionally, the committee reviewed its current violations and provided feedback regarding whether modifications to starting points were warranted to better align them with the changing environment and needs of modern student-athletes. Specifically, the committee affirmed NCAA Division II Bylaws 10.1 (unethical conduct), part D of amateurism issues post enrollment, miscertification of amateur status, parts A and B of 14.2.10.2.1 (pre-enrollment academic misconduct), 14.9.1 (post-enrollment academic misconduct), 14.2.9 (progress toward degree), 14.3 (transfer violations, part a of 14.4.6 (use of athletics skill for pay) and academic year-of-residence and sit-a-season penalties. Finally, the committee directed reinstatement staff to draft an updated guideline pertaining to Bylaw 14.2.8 (freshman eligibility violations) for review during a future meeting.
6. **Update from Division II governance.** The committee received an update regarding the winter and spring 2025 summary of actions from the NCAA Division II Executive Board and Management Council meetings. In addition, the committee received an update on the ongoing work of the Division II Eligibility Review Working Group, including an overview of the four concepts the working group identified for broader membership feedback.
7. **Update from the NCAA office of legal affairs.** The committee received an update from the office of legal affairs.
8. **Review of proposals adopted at the 2025 NCAA Convention.** The committee received an update on proposals adopted at the 2025 Convention relevant to student-athlete reinstatement.
9. **Review of Division II Student-Athlete Reinstatement Committee Policies and Procedures.** The committee approved changes to its policies and procedures related to the process for taking a position on a membership-sponsored proposal.
10. **Approval of the Student-Athlete Reinstatement Committee December 5, 2024, videoconference meeting report.** The committee reviewed and approved its December 5, 2024, videoconference meeting report.

11. **Review of flexible student-athlete reinstatement decisions.** The committee reviewed recent reinstatement staff decisions that provided relief from established case precedent and/or committee guidelines.
12. **Future meetings.** The committee reviewed future meeting dates:
 - a. November/December 2025, videoconference; timing to be determined.
 - b. May/June 2026, videoconference; timing to be determined.

Committee Chair: Lynn Griffin, Coker University.
Staff Liaison(s): Tianna Hill, Academic and Membership Affairs.
Jess Rigler, Academic and Membership Affairs.

NCAA Division II Student-Athlete Reinstatement Committee May 15, 2025, Videoconference	
Attendees:	
Shareef Amer, California State University, San Bernardino.	
Lynn Griffin, Coker University.	
Jerry Haywood, Fort Valley State University.	
Roberta Page, Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania (<i>Management Council chair</i>).	
Chad Williams, Pennsylvania Western University, Edinboro.	
Denise Wisniewski, Chestnut Hill College.	
Absentees:	
None.	
Guests in Attendance:	
None.	
NCAA Support Staff in Attendance:	
Tianna Hill and Jess Rigler.	
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:	
Cynthia Alanis, James Bullock, Connor Bush, Rachel Denton, Jennifer Henderson, Maritza Jones, Liz Perry, Angela Red, Jared Tidemann and Sean Tuttle.	

1. Guidelines for violations reported on or after November 15, 2023, through May 14, 2025:
 - a. 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)*
 - b. 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)*
 - c. 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):
 - (1) \$200 or less = participation in sports wagering rules and prevention education.
 - (2) Greater than \$200 to \$500 = 10% withholding condition and participation in sports wagering rules and prevention education.
 - (3) Greater than \$500 to \$800 = 20% withholding condition and participation in sports wagering rules and prevention education.
 - (4) Greater than \$800 = 30% withholding condition and participation in sports wagering rules and prevention education.
 - (5) 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)*
 - d. 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)*
 - e. 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)*

2. Guidelines for violations reported on or after May 15, 2025:

For situations when student-athletes wager on intercollegiate competition only:

- a. 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 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, affirmed May 2025)*
- b. 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, affirmed May 2025)*
- c. For all other violations of Bylaw 10.3 related to only wagering on intercollegiate competition (e.g., in-game betting, person-to-person wagers), the following guidelines shall apply (dollar value is cumulative amount wagered or risked):
 - (1) \$200 or less = participation in sports wagering rules and prevention education.
 - (2) Greater than \$200 to \$500 = 10% withholding condition and participation in sports wagering rules and prevention education.
 - (3) Greater than \$500 to \$800 = 20% withholding condition and participation in sports wagering rules and prevention education.
 - (4) Greater than \$800 = 30% withholding condition and participation in sports wagering rules and prevention education.
 - (5) 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, affirmed May 2025)*
- d. For any violation where a student-athlete receives winnings associated with any intercollegiate sports wagering activity, the student-athlete must make repayment of full value received. *(December 2011, affirmed May 2013, affirmed November 2023, affirmed May 2025)*
- e. If the student-athlete is determined to have been involved in a later violation of any intercollegiate sports wagering, the committee directed staff to begin its withholding

analysis at permanent loss of eligibility in all sports. (*affirmed November 2023, affirmed May 2025*)

For situations when student-athletes wager on professional competition only:

- In situations where a student-athlete participates in any sports wagering activity involving only professional sports, the committee directed the reinstatement staff to require the student-athlete to participate in sports wagering rules and prevention education. (*May 2025*)

For situations when student-athletes wager on both intercollegiate and professional competition:

- In situations where a student-athlete participates in sports wagering activities involving both professional sports and intercollegiate competition, the guidelines above will apply separately to wagers on professional and intercollegiate competition. (*May 2025*)