

REPORT OF THE NCAA DIVISION III MANAGEMENT COUNCIL SUBCOMMITTEE FOR LEGISLATIVE RELIEF MARCH 21, 2025, VIDEOCONFERENCE

ACTION ITEMS.

None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

- 1. Welcome and introductions. The chair, Rob Larson, welcomed the subcommittee and introduced new members at 10:32 a.m. Eastern time and requested members review the roster for accuracy.
- **2. Review of NCAA Division III Philosophy Statement.** NCAA staff provided the subcommittee with the Division III Philosophy Statement for review and the subcommittee took no action.
- **3. Approval of fall 2024 report.** The subcommittee reviewed and approved the report from the August 2024 videoconference.
- 4. Review of Division III Management Council Subcommittee for Legislative Relief Policies and Procedures. The subcommittee reviewed policies and procedures.
- **5.** Review subcommittee's information standards, guidelines and directives. The subcommittee reviewed the standing information standards, guidelines and directives.
- 6. Review Division III previously approved wavier checklist. The subcommittee reviewed its previously approved waivers checklist, which provides flexibility for an institution to grant relief of NCAA legislation and submit a report to its conference office rather than filing a formal legislative relief waiver request.
- 7. Cases decided from August 1, 2024, through January 31, 2025, at the staff and subcommittee level. From August 1, 2024, through January 31, 2025, the subcommittee and/or staff received a total of 66 Division III waiver requests, 56 of which were decided and 10 of which were withdrawn or cancelled. The following is a summary of the decisions made by the staff and subcommittee:
 - a. Staff approved 35 waivers, 23 of which were approved with conditions. Of the 35 waivers approved, 28 waivers were approved based on totality of circumstances and/or student-athlete well-being and six waivers were approved based on the subcommittee's information standards, guidelines and directives. Nineteen cases were denied by staff and not appealed to the subcommittee; and
 - b. Institutions appealed two staff denials to the subcommittee and the subcommittee affirmed the staff position in both cases.

The subcommittee also reviewed the case summaries for the 28 waivers approved with a rationale of totality of circumstances and/or student-athlete well-being. The subcommittee did not move to archive any cases from searchable precedent.

- 8. Review of legislative relief waivers from Union College. The subcommittee reviewed the legislative relief waivers submitted during the 2024-25academic year by the Union College requesting individual student-athletes be permitted to compete while enrolled less than full time (two courses). The subcommittee directed Union to continue to submit individual waiver requests to be processed by the NCAA staff. The subcommittee requested Union College demonstrate they can confidently monitor their student-athlete's enrollment throughout the academic year to confirm each student-athlete averaged enrollment of 2.66 courses per trimester. The subcommittee will revisit waivers submitted by Union College at the conclusion of the 2025-26 academic year to determine if the member institution has demonstrated proper compliance, and if a waiver specific to Union College's circumstances is warranted.
- 9. Update from Office of Legal Affairs. The subcommittee received an update from the Office of Legal Affairs on litigation affecting the association and Division III as well as the status of eligibility reviews currently being conducted in Divisions I and II.
- **10. Future meetings.** The chair confirmed the day and time for the subcommittee's standing weekly appeal call. The chair also reminded the subcommittee of its upcoming August 2025 videoconference meeting.
- 11. Adjournment. The subcommittee adjourned at 11:43 a.m. Eastern time.

Subcommittee Chair: Rob Larson, Luther College

Staff Liaisons: Becca Trovato, Academic and Membership Affairs.

Julie Zike, Academic and Membership Affairs.

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Attendees:

Peter Bothner, Nazareth University.

Kristie Bowers, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

Ryan Erwin, East Texas Baptist University.

Rob Larson, Luther College.

Heather MacCulloch, Baruch College.

Keiko Price, Emory University

Patrick Summers, New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference.

Absentees:

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None.
NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:
Becca Trovato and Julie Zike
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:
Jeff Myers and Luke Schultheis.