

REPORT OF THE NCAA DIVISION III MANAGEMENT COUNCIL SUBCOMMITTEE FOR LEGISLATIVE RELIEF SEPTEMBER 20, 2024, VIDEOCONFERENCE

ACTION ITEMS.

None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

- 1. Welcome and introductions. The chair, Rob Larson, welcomed the subcommittee and introduced new members at 11:30 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 March 2024 report.** The subcommittee reviewed and approved its March 2024 videoconference report.
- 4. Review of Division III Management Council Subcommittee for Legislative Relief Policies and Procedures. Staff provided the subcommittee with its policies and procedures for review and the subcommittee took no action.
- 5. Review of Division III Management Council Subcommittee for Legislative Relief Information Standards, Guidelines and Directives. Staff provided the subcommittee with its information standards, guidelines and directives for review. The subcommittee reviewed the document and agreed to editorial revisions specific to the recently adopted emergency transfer legislation, EM-2025-1.
- 6. **Discussion of Transfer Waiver Guidelines.** The subcommittee reviewed the current transfer waiver guidelines and discussed if they were still appropriate in response to the emergency transfer legislation, EM-2025-1, recommended by Division III Presidents Council during August 2024. The subcommittee noted that the current guidelines remain relevant and requested that staff continue to monitor and report if there is an increase in case volume. Further, the subcommittee noted that athletically motivated transfers should not deter staff from approving waivers if additional mitigation exists to warrant an approval. Finally, the committee noted that any waivers asserting misadvisement, specific to the timing of transfer should be appealed to the subcommittee for legislative relief.
- 7. Discussion of Proposal 2025-C, Graduate Student Enrolled at a Nonmember Institution. The subcommittee reviewed Proposal 2025-C, which would create an exception to allow a student-athlete who has graduated from a Division III institution to maintain their athletics eligibility at that same Division III institution while enrolled in an accredited non-NCAA member institution without a varsity program, provided there is a

Report of the Division III Management Council Subcommittee for Legislative Relief Videoconference September 20, 2024 Page No. 2

formal academic relationship between the Division III institution and the accredited non-member institution.

- 8. RSRO Case No. 1223824 Blanket Waiver Request for Playing and Practice Season in the Sport of Women's Rugby. The subcommittee reviewed an extension on the pre-existing blanket legislative relief waiver. Specifically, the University of New England requested a three-year blanket waiver on behalf of the women's rugby community. The subcommittee was not supportive of a three-year blanket waiver; however, was in support of approving the waiver through the 2025-26 academic year and requested that future waivers be submitted annually.
- 9. 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. The subcommittee took no action.
- 10. Cases decided from February 1 through July 31, 2024, at the staff and subcommittee level. From February 1 through July 31, 2024, the subcommittee and/or staff received a total of 39 Division III waiver requests, 36 of which were decided and three of which were cancelled. The following is a summary of the decisions made by the staff and subcommittee:
 - a. Staff decided on 32 waivers, of which 26 were approved with conditions. Of the 26 waivers approved, 18 waivers were approved based on totality of circumstances and/or student-athlete well-being and six waivers were approved based on the Subcommittee for Legislative Relief Information Standards, Guidelines and Directives;
 - b. Staff denied six waivers that were not appealed. Additionally, institutions appealed three staff denials and the subcommittee affirmed the staff position in two cases and approved another; and
 - c. One waiver was reviewed directly by the subcommittee and approved.
- **11. Future meetings.** The chair confirmed the standing weekly meeting time for the 2024-25 academic year.
- **12. Other business.** None.
- **13. Adjournment.** The subcommittee adjourned at 1:03 p.m. Eastern time.

Report of the Division III Management Council Subcommittee for Legislative Relief Videoconference September 20, 2024 Page No. 3

Subcommittee Chair: Rob Larson, Luther College

Staff Liaisons: Becca Trovato, Academic and Membership Affairs.

Julie Zike, Academic and Membership Affairs.

NCAA Division III Management Council Subcommittee for Legislative Relief September 20, 2024, Videoconference

Attendees:

Kristie Bowers, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

Tom DiCamillo, State University of New York Athletic Conference.

Rob Larson, Luther College.

Heather MacCulloch, Baruch College.

Nicki Pieart, Lake Forest College.

Bill Stiles, Alvernia University.

Absentees:

Keiko Price, Emory University.

NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:

Becca Trovato and Julie Zike.

Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:

Corey Berg and Tori Sutherland.