



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION III INTERPRETATIONS AND LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
APRIL 16, 2020, TELECONFERENCE**

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative Items.

a. Noncontroversial Legislation – To Permit a Local Civic Organization to Provide an Award to an Individual Student-Athlete [Division III Bylaw 16.1.4.4].

- (1) Recommendation. Approve in concept noncontroversial legislation that permits a local civic organization (e.g. Rotary Club, Touchdown Club) to provide an award to individual student-athletes.
- (2) Effective date. Immediate.
- (3) Rationale. Current legislation permits a local civic organization to provide an award to a team but not an individual student-athlete. Provided that the award is approved by the institution and counted in the institution's limit for institutional awards, a local civic organization should be permitted to provide an award to an individual student-athlete. Additionally, by extending this opportunity to individual student-athletes it expands the opportunity for the institution's engagement in the community.
- (4) Budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. Provides additional opportunity for a student-athlete to receive awards and recognition.

b. Noncontroversial Legislation – To Eliminate the 100-Mile Radius Restriction on a Booster Club Recognition Banquet [Division III Bylaw 16.1.6.1].

- (1) Recommendation. Approve in concept noncontroversial legislation that eliminates the current 100-mile radius restriction on an institution's athletics booster club recognition banquet.
- (2) Effective date. Immediate.
- (3) Rationale. Current legislation specifies that for a booster club to provide a team transportation expenses to a recognition banquet, the event must occur within a 100-mile radius of the institution's campus. The elimination of the mileage radius restriction will ease the burden on compliance administrators

and provide institutions with additional venues for a booster club recognition banquet.

- (4) Budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

c. Noncontroversial Legislation – To Eliminate the 30-Mile Radius Restriction for a Student-Athlete to Receive Transportation and Meal Expenses in Conjunction with Participation in a Meeting of a Booster Club or Civic Organization [Division III Bylaw 16.10.1.4].

- (1) Recommendation. Approve in concept noncontroversial legislation that eliminates the 30-mile radius restriction for student-athlete's receipt of transportation and meal expenses in conjunction with participation in a meeting of a booster club or civic organization.
- (2) Effective date. Immediate.
- (3) Rationale. Current legislation allows a prospective student-athlete to receive transportation and meal expenses in conjunction with participation in a meeting of a booster club or civic organization, provided the meeting occurs within a 30-mile radius of the institution's main campus. The legislation is unduly restrictive and should be amended to specify that a student-athlete may accept transportation and meal expenses for booster club or civic organization meetings regardless of location. Further, eliminating the current mileage restriction will provide additional opportunities for student-athletes to connect with alumni and organizations associated with the institution.
- (4) Budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

d. Noncontroversial Legislation – To Allow a Student-Athlete to Retain Used Equipment at the End of the Individual's Collegiate Participation [Division III Bylaw 16.11.1.8].

- (1) Recommendation. Approve in concept noncontroversial legislation that permits a student-athlete to retain used equipment at the end of the individual's collegiate participation.
- (2) Effective date. Immediate.

- (3) Rationale. Current legislation allows a prospective student-athlete to retain athletics apparel items at the end of the individual's collegiate participation, but used equipment must be purchased by student-athletes on the same cost basis as any other individual interested in purchasing such equipment. The legislation is unnecessarily restrictive and allowing student-athletes to retain used equipment at the end of their collegiate careers will ease a compliance burden associated with valuation and sale of used equipment].
 - (4) Budget impact. None.
 - (5) Student-athlete impact. None.
- e. **Noncontroversial Legislation – To Allow an Institution to Pay Expenses for a Student-Athlete to Attend the Funeral of an Institutional Staff Member or Former Teammate and for a Student-Athlete to Be Present When a Student-Athlete From Another Team at the Institution Suffers an Injury, Illness or Death [Division III Bylaw 16.6.1.1].**
- (1) Recommendation. Approve in concept noncontroversial legislation that permits an institution to pay expenses for a student-athlete to attend the funeral of an institutional staff member or former teammate and for a student-athlete to be present when a student-athlete from any team at the institution suffers an injury or illness or death.
 - (2) Effective date. Immediate.
 - (3) Rationale. Currently, an institution may pay transportation, housing and meal expenses for relatives (or legal guardians) of a student-athlete and for the student-athlete's current teammates to be present in situations in which a student-athlete suffers an injury or illness or, in the event of a student-athlete's death, to provide these expenses in conjunction with funeral arrangements. For the institution to pay expenses for student-athletes to attend an institutional staff member or former teammate's funeral, an institution must file a legislative relief waiver. Amending the legislation to allow student-athletes to receive expenses to attend the funeral of a former student-athlete, a student-athlete from a different team at the institution or institutional staff member or to receive expenses to be present in situations when a student-athlete from another team suffers an injury or illness, will decrease confusion on whether such expenses are permissible, and eliminate the need to file an urgent legislative relief waiver, which are routinely approved.
 - (4) Budget impact. Will vary among institutions.

- (5) Student-athlete impact. Promotes opportunities for student-athletes to support one another and institution staff as well as enhance student-athlete well-being.

2. Nonlegislative Items.

a. Approve Official Interpretation – Hardship Waiver – Competition in Second Half of Season.

- (1) Recommendation. Approve the following official interpretation:

Hardship Waiver -- Competition in Second Half of Season: The academic and membership affairs confirmed that a student-athlete does not qualify for a hardship waiver if the individual engages in any outside competition during the second half of the institution's traditional season, including competition while not representing the institution.

[References: Bylaws 14.2.5 (hardship waiver); 14.2.5.2.4 (reinjury in second half of season)]

- (2) Rationale. During its April 2020 teleconference, the NCAA Division III Interpretations Committee reviewed a current Division III April 13, 1994, Staff Interpretation regarding a student-athlete's eligibility for a hardship waiver when the student-athlete competes in the second half of the season aligned with the Division I official interpretation. The committee confirmed its application for Division III. The committee believes that elevating this staff interpretation to an official interpretation will help ensure the consistent understanding and application of the legislation
- (3) Budget Impact. None.
- (4) Student-Athlete Impact. None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Review March Report.** The committee reviewed the report from its March 19, 2020, teleconference.
2. **Review of Division I and II Legislative Actions.** The committee completed its review of legislative actions in Division I and II from September 2019 through January 2020. The committee requested the staff include Division II NC 2020-7, which eliminated the

requirement for an institution to submit a report to its conference office for an official visit that exceeded 48 hours, as part of its comprehensive review of Division III recruiting legislation.

3. Review Division III Editorial Revisions. The committee reviewed editorial revisions issued in Division III between September 1, 2019, and January 31, 2020.

4. Future Meetings. The committee reviewed its future meeting schedule.

Adjournment. The committee adjourned at 2:00 p.m. Eastern Time.

Committee Chair: Angie Morenz, Blackburn College

Staff Liaisons: Jeff Myers, Academic and Membership Affairs

Kaitlyn Purcell, Academic and Membership Affairs

Bill Regan, Academic and Membership Affairs

NCAA Division III Interpretations and Legislation Committee April 16, 2020, Teleconference	
Attendees:	
Amy Backus, Case Western Reserve University.	
Anthony Francois, John Jay College of Criminal Justice.	
Matt Hill, University of Northwestern – St. Paul.	
Allie Littlefox, Mills College.	
Angie Morenz, Blackburn College.	
Joseph Pavlow, Rosemont College.	
Patrick B. Summers, New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference.	
Mila C. Su, Plattsburgh State University of New York.	
Absentee:	
None.	
NCAA Staff Liaisons in Attendance:	
Kaitlyn Purcell, and Bill Regan.	
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:	
Anyssa Barbosa.	