



**REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION III INTERPRETATIONS AND LEGISLATION COMMITTEE  
FEBRUARY 18 AND 20, 2026, VIDEOCONFERENCE**

**ACTION ITEMS.**

**1. Legislative items.**

**a. Noncontroversial Legislation. Playing and Practice Seasons -- Water Polo -- Preseason Practice and First Date of Competition. (Bylaw 17.28)**

a. Recommendation. That NCAA Division III Management Council approve in concept noncontroversial legislation that would specify that in men's water polo, an institution shall not engage in its first date of competition with outside competition (other than an alumni scrimmage) prior to Friday, that is 14 weeks before the start of the NCAA National Collegiate Water Polo Championship. Further, an institution shall not commence preseason practice before the date that permits a maximum of 16 units in the preseason practice formula before the first permissible contest date.

b. Effective date. August 1, 2026.

c. Rationale. The Division III men's water polo playing and practice season does not use the same practice and competition start dates as other fall sports because as a national collegiate sport, it previously aligned with start dates in Divisions I and II. When the other divisions updated their legislation going into the 2025-26 season, the current Division III men's water polo season became unnecessarily different, even from other Division III fall sports. This proposal will align the first permissible contest date with all other water polo programs. However, instead of matching the first practice opportunity of the other divisions, it will use the 16-unit practice formula that all other Division III fall sports except for football use.

d. Estimated budget impact. Will vary based on institution.

e. Student-athlete impact. Division III student-athletes will have the same length for contest opportunities as their Division I and II counterparts in this national collegiate sport.

**b. Noncontroversial Legislation. Amateurism – Promotional Activities – Increasing Size of Manufacturer Logos on Equipment, Uniforms and Apparel. (Bylaw 12.5.3)**

a. Recommendation. That NCAA Division III Management Council approve in concept noncontroversial legislation that would increase the manufacturer or distributor logo on official uniforms from 2¼ square inches to four square inches.

b. Effective date. August 1, 2026.

- c. Rationale. With Division I Proposal No. 2025-35 permitting the increase of a manufacturer or distributor logo on official uniforms to four square inches, it may become difficult for Division III institutions to purchase uniforms meeting the 2¼ square inches requirement. This proposal ensures Division III institutions will not be negatively impacted by changes that manufacturers or distributors may elect to make to their normal label or trademark.
- d. Estimated budget impact. Will vary based on institution.
- e. Student-athlete impact. None.

## 2. Nonlegislative items.

- None.

## INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Review NCAA Division III Strategic Positioning Platform and Philosophy Statement.** The committee reviewed the NCAA Division III Strategic Positioning Platform and Philosophy Statement.
2. **Interpretations and Legislation Committee Roster.** The committee reviewed the roster and agreed to submit any corrections to staff.
3. **Review November Reports.** The committee reviewed and approved the report from its November 11, 2025, videoconference.
4. **Review of Interpretations and Legislation Committee Policies and Procedures.** The committee reviewed and approved changes to its Policies and Procedures to reflect legislative updates as well as updates made by the national office.
5. **Update on Governance Issues.** The committee received an update of the primary topics currently within the Division III governance structure.
6. **Review of Post-Convention Business**
  - a. **2026 NCAA Convention Division III Legislation.** The committee reviewed the question-and-answer document (now education columns) for the legislative proposals adopted at the 2026 NCAA Convention and recommended staff issue a staff interpretation to clarify the application of Question 6 of the educational column for Proposal No. 2026-6 when counting core institutions for the waiting period.

- b. **Transfer Portal Educational Module.** The committee reviewed the current Division II educational module and provided staff with recommendations for the Division III educational module. The committee instructed staff to present options for the Division III module script for review at a future meeting.
- c. **Resolution: Name, Image and Likeness.** The committee considered how to build a framework for reviewing Name, Image and Likeness in Division III. The committee considered what information would be necessary for a successful review, how the review may be conducted, what a possible timeline may be and how NIL interacts within the Division III Philosophy. The committee will continue to discuss it at its March meeting, with the goal of providing a recommendation to the councils before their spring meetings.
- d. **Legislative Process: Consent Agenda.** After hearing most of the 2026 Convention proposals passed with over 90 percent support from the Division III membership, the committee considered adding a consent agenda to the convention voting process. The committee had initial discussions about potential models for implementing a consent agenda, what timing considerations would be important and how to ensure positions, like those of the National Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, are still captured in the official record. The committee also began discussions about time limits for speakers during the business session. The committee will continue discussions about these topics at a future meeting.

## 7. Division III Interpretative Issues.

- a. **Men's Water Polo Playing Season.** The committee reviewed a request from the Division III men's water polo community to adjust the first competition date and the first permissible practice opportunity. [See Action Item 1.]
- b. **Practice Expenses and Use of a Season.** The committee continued its review on whether the receipt of expenses and benefits constitutes use of a season of participation and how participation or receipt of expenses impacts student-athletes, depending on how they are classified on campus. The committee confirmed its previous feedback is still appropriate and directed staff to develop potential concepts for the committee to review at a future meeting.
- c. **Bylaw 12.5.3 Manufacturer Logos.** The committee reviewed a Division I change allowing larger manufacturer logos on uniforms and equipment. [See Action Item 2.]
- d. **4-2-4 Transfer Requirements.** The committee reviewed the current transfer requirements for a 4-2-4 transfer student and confirmed the current legislation is appropriate. Additionally, the

committee confirmed staff's application that two full-time semesters or three full-time quarters refers to regular academic terms, and not summer terms.

8. **Division III Analysis Open Discussion.** The committee had an open discussion about the planned Division III Analysis.
9. **Review Divisions I, II and III Staff Interpretations.** The committee reviewed staff interpretations issued in Divisions I and III between August 1, 2025, and January 31, 2026, and took no action. It was noted there were no Division II staff interpretations issued during this period.
10. **Review Divisions I and II Official Interpretations.** The committee reviewed official interpretations issued in Division I between August 1, 2025, and January 31, 2026, and took no action. It was noted there were no Division II or III official interpretations issued during this period.
11. **Review Division I and II Legislative Actions.** The committee reviewed legislative actions in Divisions I and II between August 1, 2025, and January 31, 2026, and took no action.
12. **Review Division III Editorial Revisions.** The committee reviewed five editorial revisions issued in Division III between August 1, 2025, and January 31, 2026, and took no action.
13. **Review Division III Educational Columns.** The committee reviewed two educational columns issued in Division III between August 1, 2025, and January 31, 2026, and took no action.
14. **Requests/Self-Reports Online Update.** The committee reviewed a summary of the interpretative requests submitted via the Requests/Self-Reports Online case management system. The summary provided the number of interpretive requests, staff response times and bylaw areas of the requests.
15. **Wrestling and Regional Training Centers.** The committee reviewed its Regional Training Center educational column, published December 16, 2024, and USA Wrestling's resources about Regional Training Centers and determined additional review is necessary. The committee directed staff to gather feedback from the wrestling community for review at a future meeting.
16. **Monthly Compliance Webinars.** The committee received an update about the new Division III monthly compliance webinars occurring the second Wednesday of each month.
17. **2026 NCAA Regional Rules Seminar.** The committee received an update about the sessions planned for the 2026 NCAA Regional Rules Seminar in Atlanta, Georgia.

**18. Future meetings.** The committee reviewed its future meeting schedule.

**19. Other Business.** Staff informed the committee that the Subcommittee for Amateurism Fact-Finding (SAFF) will review minor edits for its policies and procedures before making a recommendation to the committee for approval of the policies and procedures. The committee agreed to vote on final approval via email.

**20. Adjournment.** The committee concluded its business and adjourned at 1:12 p.m. Eastern time, February 20, 2026.

*Committee Chair:* Sarah Otey, University Athletic Association  
*Staff Liaison(s):* Corey Berg, Governance and Member Services  
 Jeff Myers, Governance and Member Services  
 Becca Trovato, Governance and Member Services  
 Sarah Turner, Governance and Member Services

<b>Division III Interpretations and Legislation Committee February 18 and 20, 2026, Videoconference</b>
<b>Attendees:</b>
Rachana Bhat, Claremont McKenna-Harvey Mudd-Scripps Colleges.
Katie Boldvich, Landmark Conference.
Ryan Erwin, East Texas Baptist University.
Matt Grawrock, State University of New York at Morrisville.
Andrew Green, Central College (Iowa).
Danielle O’Leary, William Peace University.
Sarah Otey, University Athletic Association.
Andrea R. Ricketts-Preston, Mount Holyoke College.
Jeremy Shepherd, McDaniel College.
<b>Absentees:</b>
Bella Nesbeth, Grinnell College. (SAAC representative)
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>
None.
<b>NCAA Staff Liaisons (or Staff Support if subcommittee) in Attendance:</b>
Corey Berg, Jeff Myers, Becca Trovato and Sarah Turner.
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>
Joan Nissen and Bill Regan.