



**REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION III INTERPRETATIONS AND LEGISLATION COMMITTEE  
JUNE 12, 2025, VIDEOCONFERENCE**

**ACTION ITEMS.**

**1. Legislative items.**

**a) Convention Legislation. Awards, Benefits and Expenses for Enrolled Student-Athletes – Types of Awards, Awarding Agencies, Maximum Value and Numbers of Awards – Remove Exact Dollar Amounts and References to Award Values (Bylaw 16.1.4).**

- (1) Recommendation. That NCAA Division III Management Council sponsor 2026 NCAA Convention legislation that would remove the exact dollar amounts and references to the value of awards from the awards legislation.
- (2) Effective date. August 1, 2026.
- (3) Rationale. Current legislation limits awards to a specific dollar amount and restricts the manner these awards may be purchased. The specific dollar amounts have not been adjusted in nearly 15 years and have not been regularly monitored. Due to the rising costs, it is becoming increasingly difficult to purchase the same or similar types of awards from year to year. Removing the exact dollar amounts would eliminate the need to monitor and modify award limitations moving forward. This awards legislation remains permissive legislation; thus, it is left to the institution and/or conference policies to determine the amount which can be spent on awards to student-athletes and provides flexibility in spending on awards.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. May vary based on institutional interest in providing awards.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. Enhance the student-athlete experience.

**b) Convention Legislation. Awards, Benefits and Expenses for Enrolled Student-Athletes – Permit Actual and Necessary Expenses for One All-Star Contest or Other Post-Eligibility Event (Bylaw 16.1.7.1).**

- (1) Recommendation. That NCAA Division III Management Council sponsor 2026 NCAA Convention legislation that would permit institutions to provide actual and necessary expenses for student-athletes to participate in one collegiate all-star contest or similar post-eligibility competitive event.
- (2) Effective date. August 1, 2026.

- (3) Rationale. Current legislation prohibits an institution from providing expenses for a student-athlete to participate in a collegiate all-star contest or similar competitive event. An institution may, however, provide a student-athlete with a one-time award for their participation, which could be used towards an expense costing \$400 or less, but could not be contributed toward an expense costing more than \$400. This proposal would eliminate the confusion and permit institutions to provide actual and necessary expenses for a student-athlete to participate in a single all-start contest or similar post-eligibility competitive event.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. May vary based on institution's interest in providing expenses for student-athletes who qualify a collegiate all-star event or similar post-eligibility competitive event.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. May reduce the financial burden for student-athletes who are selected to participate in such events.

**c) Convention Legislation. Team Entertainment – Professional Sports Tickets (Bylaws 16.7.1 and 16.7.1.1).**

- (1) Recommendation. That NCAA Division III Management Council sponsor 2026 NCAA Convention legislation that would (1) clarify that institutions may provide reasonable entertainment during the playing season; and (2) that reasonable entertainment could include providing professional sports tickets.
- (2) Effective date. August 1, 2026.
- (3) Rationale. While current legislation permits an institution to provide reasonable entertainment to student-athletes in conjunction with practice or competition, there is a specific prohibition against providing professional sports tickets as such entertainment, unless it is in conjunction with an away from home contest. Regulating certain types of entertainment expenses is overly burdensome and institutions should have discretion to determine when to provide entertainment expenses to student-athletes during the team's declared playing season. This proposal would provide flexibility for entertainment while also maintaining the prohibition of providing cash for such entertainment.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. May vary depending on the institution's interest in providing entertainment expenses.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. Reasonable entertainment can enhance the student-athlete experience.

**d) Convention Legislation. Recruiting – Contacts and Evaluations – Four-Year College Prospective Student-Athletes – Require Use of the NCAA Transfer Portal.**

- (1) Recommendation. That NCAA Division III Management Council sponsor 2026 NCAA Convention legislation that would (1) replace the current “permission to contact” legislation related to NCAA four-year college transfer student-athletes with a “notification of transfer” model; (2) specify that an institution must place a student-athlete’s written request for transfer into the NCAA Transfer Portal within seven-consecutive calendar days; and (3) maintain the existing processes for the Division III self-release, for student-athletes interested in transferring to another Division III institution.
- (2) Effective date. August 1, 2026.
- (3) Rationale. While the current legislation requires Division III institutions to secure permission to contact another NCAA institution’s student-athlete before recruitment, institutional policy dictates how that permission is gained. Optional use of the NCAA Transfer Portal and differences in institutional transfer tracer forms is overly burdensome and can be difficult for administrators to accurately track. This proposal will streamline the transfer certification process for Division III institutions and establish a system to allow for better tracking and information sharing. Additionally, maintaining the self-release processes will continue to permit Division III student-athletes to continue to pursue transfer opportunities without fear of repercussion from their original institutions.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. All Division III student-athletes interested in transferring would be subject to the same processes.

**2. Nonlegislative items.**

- None.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

- 1. Review Committee Report.** The committee reviewed and approved the reports from its March 20 videoconference and May 23 email feedback.
- 2. Bylaw 16 Recommendations.** The committee finalized its recommended changes within Bylaw 16. [See Action Items 1-a through -c]

3. **Sickle Cell Solubility Testing.** The committee received an update from the Sport Science Institute (SSI) staff regarding the application of the sickle cell trait status legislation and upcoming educational resources aimed at increasing clarity of application for the membership. The committee will review a new interpretation and educational column at a future meeting.
4. **Transfer Portal.** The committee continued its discussion on the NCAA Transfer Portal. Staff provided the committee with membership feedback regarding the required use of the Transfer Portal. [See Action Item 1-d]
5. **Review updates on key Division III Management Council actions.**
  - a. **Regional Rules.** The committee received updates on the 2025 NCAA Regional Rules Seminar in Indianapolis and the 2025 Conference Regional Seminar at Babson College.
  - b. **Division II Eligibility Review.** The committee received an overview of the eligibility concepts being considered by Division II membership during the 2026 NCAA Convention. The committee agreed to monitor the progress of the Division II review as it moves forward.
  - c. **House Settlement.** Staff from the Office of Legal Affairs provided the committee with an update on the House Settlement and other litigation affecting the association.
  - d. **Eligibility Proposal Pilot Program.** Staff provided the committee with an update on the pilot program which allows institutions to submit a legislative relief waiver to request to permit a student-athlete to continue participating at a Division III institution while they are enrolled at another institution with which there is an academic relationship.
6. **Election of committee chair.** The committee elected Sarah Otey, commissioner of the University Athletic Association, as chair.
7. **Future meetings.** The committee reviewed its future meeting schedule.
8. **Other Business.** The committee acknowledged and thanked Mike Mattia and Morgan Shaw for their service on the committee.
9. **Adjournment.** The committee concluded its business and adjourned at 3:01 p.m. Eastern time.

*Committee Chair:* Michael Mattia, Gettysburg College.  
*Staff Liaison(s):* Corey Berg, Academic and Membership Affairs  
Jeff Myers, Academic and Membership Affairs  
Becca Trovato, Academic and Membership Affairs  
Sarah Turner, Academic and Membership Affairs

Division III Interpretations and Legislation Committee June 12, 2025, Videoconference	
Attendees:	
Rachana Bhat, Claremont McKenna-Harvey Mudd-Scripps Colleges.	
Crystal Gibson, St. Mary's College of Maryland.	
Andrew Green, Central College (Iowa).	
Bethany Marren, Rochester Institution of Technology.	
Michael A Mattia, Gettysburg College.	
Danielle O'Leary, William Peace University.	
Sarah Otey, University Athletic Association.	
Andrea R. Ricketts-Preston, Mount Holyoke College.	
Morgan Shaw, Willamette University. (SAAC representative)	
Absentees:	
Harry Dumay, Elms College.	
Guests in Attendance:	
Matt Grawrock, SUNY Morrisville.	
NCAA Staff Liaisons (or Staff Support if subcommittee) in Attendance:	
Corey Berg, Jeff Myers, Becca Trovato and Sarah Turner.	
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:	
Louise McCleary, Joan Nissen, Anne Rohlman and Luke Schultheis.	