



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

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative items.

- None.

2. Nonlegislative items.

- **Resolution – Name, Image and Likeness Activities in Division III. (Bylaw 22)**

- (1) Recommendation. That NCAA Division III Management Council approve the approach outlined in the attachment to review name, image and likeness (NIL) activities in Division III, as required by the adoption of Proposal 2026-3 at the 2026 NCAA Convention.
- (2) Effective date. Immediate.
- (3) Rationale. The Division III membership via its vote on Proposal No. 2026-3, dictated that a review of NIL is necessary given the current landscape of NIL, and the challenges in determining whether NIL opportunities and outcomes are consistent with Division III's philosophy. While the framework outlined in the attachment details the goals, structure and timeline to complete a review of NIL in Division III, it does not restrict the review from adding new goals or presenting deliverables on an advanced timeline.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. A greater understanding of NIL across the division and the association will permit Division III to provide resources, guidance and/or legislative changes that will aid student-athletes in the pursuit of permissible NIL activities.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

- 1. Review February report.** The committee reviewed and approved the report from its February 18 and 20, 2026, videoconference.
- 2. Resolution: Name, Image and Likeness.** The committee reviewed a proposed framework for the review of name, image and likeness in Division III and approved its elevation to the Management Council (see Action Item 2).

3. **Review of use of a season of participation for different student-athletes.** The committee continued its discussion of when student-athletes with different designations (e.g., student manager, student coach) use a season of participation and requested that staff consult with legal before moving forward with recommendations. Additionally, the committee requested that the Division III Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement review the hardship waiver legislation for opportunities to reduce burden and bureaucracy for student-athletes who are injured prior to the start of the season and did not meaningfully participate with their team.
4. **Discuss Division III legislative Process: consent agenda and speaker limit.** Staff provided the committee with possible options for a consent agenda and individual speaker time limit to be used annually at the Division III Business Session at the NCAA Convention. The committee provided feedback on the options and requested that staff consult with the parliamentarian and present more focused options at a future meeting.
5. **Transfer portal educational module script.** The committee reviewed and provided feedback on a proposed script for the Division III Transfer Portal educational module. Staff will incorporate the committee feedback and work with the e-learning staff to develop the module ahead of the Proposal 2026-9 effective date of August 1, 2026.
6. **Future meetings.** The committee reviewed its future meeting schedule.
7. **Other Business.** None.
8. **Adjournment.** The committee concluded its business and adjourned at 2:37 p.m. Eastern time, March 18, 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

Division III Interpretations and Legislation Committee March 18, 2026, Videoconference
Attendees:
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.
Absentees:
Bella Nesbeth, Grinnell College. (SAAC representative)
Guests in Attendance:
None.
NCAA Staff Liaisons (or Staff Support if subcommittee) in Attendance:
Corey Berg, Jeff Myers and Sarah Turner.
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:
Joan Nissen and Bill Regan.

**Name, Image and Likeness Review
Resolution No. 2026-3**

Issue.

The NCAA Division III Management is asked to review the proposed framework in response to the membership's adoption of Resolution No. 2026-3 and recommend formal approval to the NCAA Division III Presidents Council. The following approach is based on the NCAA Division III Interpretation and Legislation Committee's discussion during its February and March 2026 meetings.

Goals of the NIL review.

1. Develop a clearer understanding of the current NIL climate as it affects Division III, including:
 - a. The legal landscape surrounding NIL, with attention to the status and implications of state laws.
 - b. The landscape surrounding NIL in Division I and Division II.
 - c. The types of NIL opportunities currently being experienced by Division III student-athletes.
 - d. The role, scope, and influence of collectives and third-party support entities.
 - e. Institutional approaches to NIL education, support, and oversight.
 - f. Prospective student-athlete expectations and experiences related to NIL.
2. Identify practical and philosophical concerns arising from the current NIL environment, particularly where those concerns intersect with Division III values and operating principles.
3. Assess whether additional resources, (e.g., educational, best practices) could assist the membership in navigating NIL-related issues.
4. Determine whether clarification of existing NCAA legislation or the development of new legislative proposals should be considered.

Structure of the NIL review.

The Interpretation and Legislation Committee is proposing the formation of a dedicated working group to conduct this review. This recommendation reflects two primary considerations:

1. Scope and focus: The breadth and complexity of NIL-related issues suggest the need for sustained focused attention that may exceed the ILC's existing workload capacity.
2. Subject-matter expertise: A working group model allows for the intentional inclusion of individuals with relevant experience or expertise, while also permitting the engagement of external experts as appropriate.

Reporting and governance.

1. The working group would report to the Management Council.
2. The Management Council would, in turn, provide regular updates to the Presidents Council.
3. The working group would be identified by NCAA staff, recommended by the Interpretations and Legislation Committee and approved by the NCAA Division III Administrative Committee (this is in lieu of the Management Council due to timing).

Composition of the working group.

1. The working group would consist of approximately six to ten members, based on expressed interest and identified expertise.
2. The group would have the flexibility to consult with or bring in additional experts as needed to inform specific aspects of the review.

Timeline and benchmarks of the NIL review.

The proposed timeline is structured around two primary benchmarks, allowing for both interim engagement and longer-term assessment.

Benchmark one 2027 NCAA Convention.

The first benchmark is the 2027 NCAA Convention, at which time the working group would:

1. Report on findings and observations developed to date.

2. Engage the membership in focused discussion at the Issues Forum, particularly around emerging themes or areas of concern.

There is no expectation that legislative proposals would be brought forward for action at the 2027 Convention.

Key steps leading to this benchmark include.

1. April: Presidents Council approval of the recommendation to establish the working group.
2. May: Formal establishment of the working group. Updates provided to the membership through NCAA Regional Rules Seminars.
3. June: Initial two-hour virtual working group meeting to:
 - a. Clarify goals and purpose.
 - b. Discuss outreach strategies and information-gathering approaches.
4. Ongoing: Monthly working group meetings following the initial session.

Benchmark two June 2027.

The second benchmark occurs in June 2027, at which point the working group would determine whether further action is appropriate.

Between the 2027 Convention and June 2027, the group would:

1. Continue monthly virtual meetings.
2. Incorporate and build upon feedback received from the Convention Issues Forum.

At its final meeting in June 2027, the working group would consider and make recommendations, as appropriate, regarding:

- Potential legislative changes.
- Potential interpretive guidance.
- Development of best practices.
- Creation or expansion of educational resources.
- Whether ongoing monitoring or additional structural support is needed.

Note: The working group would not be precluded from making recommendations earlier if deemed appropriate.