

REPORT OF THE NCAA DIVISION III INTERPRETATIONS AND LEGISLATION COMMITTEE OCTOBER 16, 2025, VIDEOCONFERENCE

ACTION ITEMS.

1. Legislative items.

- Noncontroversial Legislation. Eligibility -- Criteria for Determining Season of Eligibility -- Participation in Organized Competition Before Initial Collegiate Enrollment -- Elimination of Academic Year of Residence.
 - a. <u>Recommendation</u>. That NCAA Division III Management Council approve in concept noncontroversial legislation eliminating Bylaw 14.2.4.4.1 (Academic Year of Residence) as a condition for student-athletes who participate in organized competition after delaying their initial full-time collegiate enrollment.
 - b. Effective date. Immediate.
 - c. <u>Rationale</u>. Currently, prospective student-athletes who delay their initial full-time collegiate enrollment and continue to participate in organized competition after the legislated one-year grace period (1) Lose a season of eligibility for each 12-month period they continued to participate; and (2) Must sit out from competition during their initial year of residence at a Division III institution. During that time, however, individuals are still eligible to practice, which means they must decide whether they use a season of participation by practicing when they are not also permitted to compete.

Loss of a season is an appropriate condition for when an individual delays their initial collegiate enrollment past the grace period because it negates any competitive advantage gained. There is no need to also require the student to serve an academic year of residence during their initial year in Division III, prohibiting them from being immediately eligible for competition.

- d. Estimated budget impact. None.
- e. <u>Student-athlete impact</u>. Permits student-athletes who receive delayed enrollment conditions to be immediately eligible for Division III competition, provided they are otherwise academically and athletically eligible.

2. Nonlegislative items.

• None.

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INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

- **1. Review September Report.** The committee reviewed and approved the report from its September 16-17 in-person meeting.
- 2. 2026 NCAA Convention question and answer guide. The committee reviewed and provided the staff with feedback and suggested edits to include in the 2026 NCAA Convention Division III Legislative Proposals Question and Answer guide. The committee will conduct its final review of the document at its November videoconference.
- 3. Referral Request: Year of Residence Amateurism Condition. The committee reviewed a referral request from the Division III Management Council Subcommittee for Legislative Relief and determined that the residence condition is no longer appropriate for student-athletes who delay their collegiate enrollment. See [Action Item 1]
- **4. Future meetings.** The committee reviewed its future meeting schedule.
- 5. Other Business. None.
- **6.** Adjournment. The committee concluded its business and adjourned at 2:46 p.m. Eastern time.

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

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Attendees:

Rachana Bhat, Claremont McKenna-Harvey Mudd-Scripps Colleges.

Crystal Gibson, St. Mary's College of Maryland.

Matt Grawrock, State University of New York at Morrisville.

Andrew Green, Central College (Iowa).

Bethany Marren, Rochester Institution of Technology.

Bella Nesbeth, Grinnell College. (SAAC representative)

Danielle O'Leary, William Peace University.

Sarah Otey, University Athletic Association.

Andrea R. Ricketts-Preston, Mount Holyoke College.

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Absentees:

Harry Dumay, Elms College.

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:

Will Morrison and Bill Regan.