



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION III INTERPRETATIONS AND LEGISLATION COMMITTEE
SEPTEMBER 17-18, 2024, MEETING**

ACTION ITEMS.

1. *Legislative Items.*

a. Noncontroversial Legislation – Eliminate the 48-Hour Limit for Student-Athletes to Receive Expenses While Trying Out With a Professional Team.

- (1) Recommendation. That the NCAA Division III Management Council approve in concept noncontroversial legislation to permit a student-athlete to accept actual and necessary expenses from a professional athletics team to participate in a tryout with that team beyond the current 48-hour limit.
- (2) Effective date. Immediate.
- (3) Rationale. Current Division III legislation permits a student-athlete to accept actual and necessary expenses from a professional team for 48-hours to participate in a tryout with that team. If the tryout extends beyond the 48-hours, the student-athlete may still participate in the tryout but must finance any additional expenses, including the expense for transportation home. Eliminating the time limit during which a student-athlete may receive actual and necessary expenses from the professional team supports student-athlete pursuing the professional opportunity in the same manner as general students who pursue job opportunities.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. It removes the financial burden on the student-athlete who may already permissibly participate in the professional team tryout.

b. Noncontroversial Legislation – Defining Intercollegiate Competition.

- (1) Recommendation. That the NCAA Division III Management Council approve in concept noncontroversial legislation to clarify the definition of intercollegiate competition in Bylaw 14 and Bylaw 17. Specifically, Intercollegiate Competition. Intercollegiate competition is considered to have occurred when a student-athlete in either a two-year or a four-year collegiate institution competes while representing the institution in any contest against outside competition, regardless of how the competition is classified (e.g., scrimmage, exhibition or joint practice session with another institution's team) or whether the student is enrolled in a minimum full-time program of studies or when the student-athlete receives expenses (e.g., transportation, meals, housing, entry fees, use of uniforms, apparel or equipment purchased and still in use by the institution) from the institution for the competition.

- (2) Rationale. This proposed change clarifies when a student-athlete triggers the definition of intercollegiate competition, which may only permissibly occur during the playing and practice season. It confirms that the definition is triggered when a student-athlete represents the institution in any competition or when the institution provides any expenses for the competition, including expenses in the form of uniforms, apparel or equipment paid for and still in use by the institution. As a result, institutions will be able to more fully advise student-athletes on their options for participation outside of the collegiate season.

Further, because the proposed change would apply to both Bylaw 14.02.6 and Bylaw 17.02.9, there will be consistency in definitions in both the eligibility bylaw and playing and practice season bylaw.

- (3) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (4) Student-athlete impact. Permits student-athletes to use any equipment, apparel or uniforms they have purchased themselves while participating in outside competition.

2. Non-Legislative Item.

a. 2025 NCAA Convention Proposal Grouping.

- (1) Recommendation. That Management Council recommend to Presidents Council to approve the voting order as outlined in Attachment for the 2025 NCAA Convention.
- (2) Effective date. Immediate.
- (3) Rationale. While Presidents Council is responsible for establishing the order of proposal voting, the committee conducts an initial review and makes a recommendation. The committee submits a proposed voting order as outlined in Attachment.
- (4) Estimated budget impact. None.
- (5) Student-athlete impact. None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Review NCAA Division III Strategic Positioning Platform.** The committee reviewed the NCAA Division III Strategic Positioning Platform and took no action.

2. **Interpretations and Legislation Committee roster.** The committee reviewed the roster and agreed to submit any corrections to staff.
3. **Review July report.** The committee reviewed the report from its July 10, 2024, videoconference and did not recommend any changes.
4. **Review of Interpretations and Legislation Committee Policies and Procedures.** The committee reviewed its written policies and procedures and took no action.
5. **Review Divisions I, II and III Staff Interpretations.** The committee reviewed staff interpretations issued in Divisions I and III between January 1 and July 31, 2024, and took no action. It was noted there were no staff interpretations issued by Division II during this period.
6. **Review Divisions I and II Official Interpretations.** The committee reviewed official interpretations issued in Divisions I and II between January 1 and July 31, 2024. The committee discussed a Division II Official Interpretation (Triathlon Bicycle Road Racing are Considered the Same Sport) and instructed staff to draft a similar interpretation for Division III. The committee will review the draft interpretation at a future meeting.
7. **Review Divisions I and II Legislative Actions.** The committee reviewed legislative actions in Divisions I and II between January 1 and July 31, 2024. The committee discussed a Division II proposal that would eliminate the 48-hour expense limit associated with professional team tryouts [See Action Item No. 1(a)].
8. **Review Division III Editorial Revisions.** The committee reviewed the one editorial revision issued in Division III between January 1 and July 31, 2024, and took no action.
9. **Review Division III Educational Columns.** The committee reviewed the one educational column issued in Division III between February 1 and July 31, 2024, and took no action.
10. **Requests/Self-Reports Online (RSRO) 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 details on the bylaw areas of the requests.
11. **Update on governance issues.** The Division III governance staff updated the committee on the primary topics within the Division III governance structure.
12. **NCAA Transfer Portal update.** The committee received a general overview of the Division III membership's use of the NCAA Transfer Portal.

13. Eligibility Center update. The committee received a general overview from the NCAA Eligibility Center on the 2024-25 amateurism certification cycle for international prospective student-athletes.

14. Discuss Name, Image and Likeness (NIL). The committee reviewed the legislative changes in Division I and proposed legislative changes in Division II regarding institutional involvement with student-athlete NIL activities. The committee will continue to review the topic, as needed, at future meetings. Additionally, it was noted that the Division III-specific NIL resources have been moved from the Taking Action page to the Division III compliance page on www.ncaa.org.

15. Bylaw 16 review. The committee continued its holistic review of Bylaw 16, focusing on the awards, expenses for practice and competition and select benefits provisions. The committee noted opportunities for modernization or elimination and will continue its discussion at future meetings. The committee also reviewed a specific request from the Division III Championships Committee:

- **100-Mile Restriction for Practice Expenses.** The committee agreed that the current provision has inconsistent application depending upon location of institution. Instead, the committee noted that practice expenses should be left to institutional discretion, regardless of distance from campus, provided the student-athletes do not miss class for practice activities.

16. Review of 2025 NCAA Convention Division III proposals. The committee reviewed the Division III proposals under consideration for the 2025 NCAA Convention and offered suggestions for the annual question and answer document. The committee also responded to a request from Management Council to review a membership-sponsored proposal under consideration:

- **Division III Proposal – Federated Playing Rules Exemption.** The committee recommends that Management Council not take a position on this proposal. While the committee fundamentally supports the intent behind the proposal, it has lingering questions about the proposal's application and how the exemption process would work. Additionally, the committee questioned whether the existing federated rules process has been in effect long enough to necessitate change.

17. Division III Interpretative and Legislative Issues.

- a. Discuss Intercollegiate Competition Definition.** The committee discussed clarifying the definition of intercollegiate competition [See Action Item No. 1(b)].
- b. Bylaw 17 – Playing and Practice Seasons feedback for review.** The committee reviewed feedback from various Division III coaches association about how the first year of the new

playing and practice season went on campuses. The feedback was largely positive. The committee directed staff to continue to monitor for additional issues but took no action.

- 18. Sports Wagering.** The committee received an overview of the sports betting environment, the on-going discussions regarding deregulating wagering on professional sports as well as harm reduction strategies. The committee will continue to monitor this issue and consult with the Committee on Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sport (CSMAS) as needed.
- 19. Alternative Meeting Schedule.** The committee reviewed the alternative meeting schedule that it has been operating under for the 2022-23 and 2023-24 academic years and approved an addition to its policies and procedures to incorporate the schedule.
- 20. Update on NCAA Compliance Forms.** The committee provided staff with feedback on how the existing NCAA compliance forms are used for student-athlete education on campus and suggested updates should that be required.
- 21. Season of Participation Discussion.** The committee engaged in an open discussion regarding how the seasons of participation legislation applies differently to different student-athletes, sometimes being dependent on the individual's arrival in Division III. The committee will continue to monitor this topic and review it at future meetings, focusing on what is a consistent approach that aligns with the current environment in Division III.
- 22. Adjournment.** The committee concluded its business and adjourned at 11:30 a.m. Eastern time, September 18, 2024.

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 September 17-18, 2024, Meeting	
Attendees:	
Rashana Bhat, Claremont McKenna-Harvey Mudd-Scripps Colleges.	
Crystal Gibson, St. Mary's College of Maryland.	
Andrew Green, Central College (Iowa).	
Jack Langan, Cornell College, SAAC representative.	
Michael Mattia, Gettysburg College.	
Danielle O'Leary, William Peace University.	
Sarah Otey, University Athletic Association.	
Andrea R. Ricketts-Preston, Mount Holyoke College.	
Absentees:	
Harry Dumay, Elms College and Bethany Marren, Rochester Institute of Technology.	
Guests in Attendance:	
None.	
NCAA Staff Liaison (or Staff Support if subcommittee) in Attendance:	
Corey Berg, Jeff Myers, Becca Trovato, and Sarah Turner.	
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:	
Clint Hangebrauck, Natalia Herrera, Corey Jackson, Erika Klages, Joan Nissen, John Parsons, Susan Peal, Bill Regan and Tori Sutherland.	



**Division III Interpretations and Legislation Committee
2025 NCAA Convention Proposals: Proposed Voting Grouping and Order**

Proposal Grouping and Order.

At its fall meeting, the Division III Presidents Council determines the voting order and grouping of proposals for the January NCAA Convention. The Division III Interpretations and Legislation Committee makes the initial recommendation for this order and grouping. The draft below reflects the grouping as defined by the Division III Presidents Council and Management Council Joint Legislative Steering Subcommittee, with an initial draft order to start discussion.

Presidents' Grouping.

1. DIVISION III COMMITTEES -- ELIGIBILITY OF MEMBERSHIP -- STUDENT-ATHLETE ADVISORY COMMITTEE -- CHANGE IN COMPOSITION.
2. MULTISPORT CONFERENCE MEMBERSHIP SIZE MINIMUM REQUIREMENT.
3. LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY AND PROCESS -- AMENDMENT PROCESS -- AMEND THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS.
4. ELIGIBILITY -- GENERAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS -- ADMISSION AND ENROLLMENT -
- CREATE AN EXCEPTION FOR GRADUATED STUDENTS ENROLLED AT A NON-MEMBER INSTITUTION THAT HAS A FORMAL INSTITUTIONAL ACADEMIC RELATIONSHIP WITH A DIVISION III INSTITUTION.

General Grouping.

5. FEDERATED PLAYING RULES EXEMPTIONS.
6. DIVISION MEMBERSHIP -- CHANGE OF DIVISION MEMBERSHIP -- THREE-YEAR PROVISION -- ESTABLISH A WAIVER.
7. NATIONAL COLLEGIATE CHAMPIONSHIP -- WOMEN'S WRESTLING.