



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION III MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 26 AND 27, 2025, VIDEOCONFERENCE**

ACTION ITEMS.

- None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

- 1. Welcome and announcements.** The NCAA Division III Membership Committee commenced business at 1:01 p.m. Eastern.
- 2. Membership Committee Roster and Conflict of Interest.** Committee members were reminded of the NCAA Conflict of Interest Policy and proper procedures for recusal if a conflict of interest might arise. Committee members reviewed the roster and conflict of interest documentation and updated it, as necessary. Committee members followed the recusal procedures during all deliberations.
- 3. Review policies and procedures.** The committee reviewed the policies and procedures documents.
- 4. Review of November meeting report.** The committee reviewed and approved the report from the November 21, 2024, videoconference.
- 5. Division III provisional, reclassifying, and exploratory membership.**
 - a. Application for Provisional Membership.** The committee approved the provisional membership applications from:
 - (1) Johnson & Wales University - Charlotte.
 - (2) Regent University.

Chris Roekle, Coast-To-Coast Athletic Conference, was recused from the discussions.
 - b. Provisional/Reclassifying/Exploratory Chart and mentor assignments.** The committee reviewed the Provisional/Reclassifying/Exploratory Chart and mentor assignments.
 - c. Convention attendance update for provisional and reclassifying members.** Staff provided the committee with an update on attendance for provisional and reclassifying member institutions required at select NCAA Convention sessions.

6. Division III active membership.

- a. **Regional Rules Seminar attendance waiver request.** The committee reviewed and approved a waiver request from Linfield University for the 2025 Regional Rules Seminar attendance (Bylaw 20.8.4.15) based on sufficient mitigation. The institution must attend the Regional Rules Seminar in 2026.
- b. **Discussion of Bylaw 20.11.4.3 (Calculation of Enrollment Figures).** The committee discussed the waiver framework for reviewing membership waiver requests of Bylaw 20.11.4.3. The committee confirmed it would be reasonable to consider institutional policy in some circumstances, specifically when a subset of the general student body is prohibited or precluded from participation in intercollegiate athletics. The committee directed staff to ensure waivers for the method of calculation include the institution's documented policies for eligibility, the implementation timeline of the policy, eligibility confirmation procedures, and institutional waiver policies. These requests can be submitted proactively or during the academic year in question, and the committee may approve the request for one academic year at a time.

7. Division III conference membership.

- a. **2024-25 Division III conference membership.** The committee received an update from staff on current conference membership and realignment.
- b. **Single sport conference application.** The committee reviewed and approved the single-sport conference application from the Colonial Women's Golf Conference. The conference will become an active Division III member on September 1, 2025. Chris Roekle, Coast-To-Coast Athletic Conference, and Anthony Berich, Stockton University, were recused from the discussion.
- c. **Request from the Coast-To-Coast Athletic Conference.** The committee approved the request from the Coast-To-Coast Conference to waive the current application of Bylaw 20.9.1.2 (composition of conference) and apply the new legislated standard immediately. Chris Roekle, Coast-To-Coast Conference, was recused from the discussion.

8. Educational initiatives.

- a. **Regional Rules Seminar.** The committee received an update on the 2025 NCAA Regional Rules Seminar, May 28-30, Indianapolis

- b. **Division III Conference Rules Seminar.** The committee received an update on the 2025 Division III Conference Rules Seminar, June 18, 2025, Wellesley, MA.
 - c. **Debrief on the New Member Education.** The committee received an update about the new member education session which occurred at the 2025 NCAA Convention and provided staff with feedback to consider for future sessions.
9. **Referral of convention proposal.** The committee reviewed information pertaining to the referral of the proposal that sought to establish eligibility opportunities for graduate-level student-athletes enrolled at a non-member institution with a formal academic agreement with the certifying institution. The committee concluded:
 - a. A pilot program to determine the scope and substance of these arrangements would be appropriate;
 - b. During the pilot program, institutions would submit student-athlete eligibility waivers to be reviewed by the Division III Management Council Subcommittee for Legislative Relief;
 - c. The Subcommittee for Legislative Relief would seek input and involvement from the committee when appropriate; and
 - d. There should be specific criteria required and/or requested as part of the waiver submission.

The committee will continue its discussion regarding the specific criteria at its March meeting and will provide a recommendation to be considered during the spring council meetings.
10. **Review sports sponsorship waiver resource.** The committee provided staff with feedback to update the sports sponsorship waiver resource.
11. **NCAA Division III governance update.** The Division III governance staff updated the committee on key topics within the Division III governance structure.
12. **Future meeting dates.** The committee reviewed its upcoming meeting schedule.
13. **Other business.** None.

14. **Adjournment.** The committee concluded its business and adjourned 4:08 p.m., Eastern time, February 27.

Committee Chair: Miriam Merrill, Pomona-Pitzer Colleges
Staff Liaison(s): Eric Hartung, Division III Governance
 Brittany Higgins, Academic and Membership Affairs
 Sarah Turner, Academic and Membership Affairs

NCAA Division III Membership Committee February 26 and 27, 2025, Videoconference	
Attendees:	
Tony Berich, Stockton University.	
Lillian Case, Juniata College. (SAAC representative).	
Frederick Clark, Bridgewater State University.	
Greg Cooper, Heidelberg University.	
Kim Fierke, State University of New York at Oneonta.	
Christine Hagedorn-Nordenholt, Rosemont College.	
Brian Johnson, North Central College.	
Wayne Lewis, Houghton University.	
Miriam Merrill, Pomona-Pitzer Colleges.	
Chris Roekle, Coast-To-Coast Conference.	
Absentees:	
None.	
Guests in Attendance:	
None.	
NCAA Staff Support in Attendance:	
Eric Hartung, Brittany Higgins, and Sarah Turner.	
Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:	
Jeff Myers, Joan Nissen, Bill Regan, and Julie Zike.	