



**REPORT OF THE
NCAA DIVISION III MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE
SEPTEMBER 20, 2018, TELECONFERENCE**

ACTION ITEMS.

- None.

LEGISLATIVE ITEMS.

- None.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.

1. **Welcome and Announcements.** The call commenced at 1:05 p.m. Eastern time Thursday, September 20, 2018.
2. **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 followed the recusal procedures during all deliberations.
3. **Review August 16, 2018, Teleconference Report.** The committee reviewed and approved its August 16, 2018, teleconference report.
4. **Review Centenary University (New Jersey) sports-sponsorship case.** The committee denied a request from Centenary University (New Jersey) for a waiver of NCAA Bylaw 20.11.3.8 (minimum contests and participants). Specifically, the institution failed to meet minimum sports-sponsorship requirements in women's cross country. In denying the waiver, the committee noted that a lack of monitoring participant minimums based on staff turnover is not a mitigating circumstance that warrants relief of the legislation. The committee further noted that proper monitoring of the team's roster could have prevented the shortfall in this case.

The committee further noted that a model Division III athletics program shall feature a designated compliance coordinator whose primary responsibility is the oversight of the institution's compliance system, the coordination of the institution's rules education and the monitoring of rules compliance and further noted that the primary compliance coordination role is not handled by the director of athletics.

5. **Review of new sports-sponsorship information submitted by State University of New York Polytechnic Institute.** The committee reconsidered a sports-sponsorship waiver request on behalf of State University of New York Polytechnic Institute and overturned its original decision to deny the waiver of Bylaw 20.11.3.8 (minimum contests and participants) for the 2017-18 academic year for failure to satisfy minimum sports-sponsorship requirements in women's softball. In its decision to overturn the original denial and grant the waiver of sport-sponsorship minimums, the committee noted that the

institution was able to provide additional documentation that demonstrated a good faith effort to reschedule contests canceled or delayed due to inclement weather.

6. **Report on outcomes of the 2017-18 sports-sponsorship audit.** Staff informed the committee that 10 institutions were randomly selected to be audited to insure satisfaction of sports-sponsorship requirements for the 2017-18 academic year, and none were found to have fallen short of sports-sponsorship minimums.

Following submission of the annual sports-sponsorship data, the NCAA research staff identified seven institutions that appeared to not meet sports-sponsorship minimums. These seven institutions were reviewed ‘for cause’ by staff. Six of the seven institutions had previously submitted or received a waiver by the Membership Committee. Of the seven institutions, only one appears to have not met the sports-sponsorship minimum requirements nor sought relief through a waiver. The staff will follow-up with that institution in the coming days.

7. **Discuss plans for 2019 NCAA Convention social reception.** The committee discussed the format for the new member social reception to be held at the 2019 NCAA Convention. It was agreed that the feedback from last year’s reception was more positive than in the past and so the committee agreed to mirror that same format this year.
8. **Update on membership status of Benedictine College (Illinois).** The staff informed the committee that Benedictine College (Illinois) has decided to remain in Division III after having applied to begin the Division II membership process. The staff is working with the institution to determine if any violations of Division III rules occurred as the institution was exploring reclassification.
9. **Adjournment.** The committee concluded its business and adjourned at 1:39 p.m. Eastern time.

Committee Chair: Julie Kline, Earlham College, Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference

Staff Liaisons: Jay Jones, Division III Governance, primary liaison

Tiffany Alford, Academic and Membership Affairs

Corey Berg, Academic and Membership Affairs

| September 20, 2018, Teleconference |
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| Attendees: |
| William Fell, United States Merchant Marine Academy. |
| Jessica Huntley, Centennial Conference. |
| Charles Harris, Averett University. |
| Kristyn King, Rockford University. |
| Julie Kline, Earlham College. |

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| Rob Larson, Luther College. |
| Laura Mooney, Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts, led call. |
| Steven Rackley, Alma College. |
| Susan Stuebner, Colby-Sawyer College. |
| Absentees: |
| Jonathan Harper, Newbury College. |
| Guests in Attendance: |
| None. |
| NCAA Staff Support in Attendance: |
| Tiffany Alford. |
| Corey Berg. |
| Jay Jones. |
| Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance: |
| Shannon Blevins. |