



**REPORT OF THE  
NCAA DIVISION III COMMITTEE ON STUDENT-ATHLETE REINSTATEMENT  
DECEMBER 9, 2025, VIDEOCONFERENCE**

**ACTION ITEMS.**

**1. Legislative Items.**

- None

**2. Nonlegislative Items.**

- a. Recommendation: That the Management Council approves the amendments to the Division III Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement Policies and Procedures, Cross-Divisional Issues policy. (Attachment)

- b. Effective date. Immediate.

- c. Rationale. As the result of the federation of the Association-Wide Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement, the Division III Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement reviewed the Division III Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement Policies and Procedures. Specifically, the Committee discussed the policy specific to cross-divisional issues.

The proposed policy eliminates confusion surrounding cross-divisional issues and eliminates the administrative burden on the NCAA Governance and Member Services staff when given reinstatement requests and waivers involving cross-divisional issues. Moving forward they will be processed by the respective divisional staff of the applicant institution.

- d. Estimated budget impact. None.

- e. Student-athlete impact. Division III student-athletes who have transferred from a non-Division III institution will have the opportunity to have waivers previously denied by NCAA Division I or Division II Committees on Student-Athlete Reinstatement, to be re-reviewed by the Division III Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

1. **Update of recent AMA/Governance merger.** The NCAA Division III Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement received an update on the merger of NCAA Governance and Academic and Membership Affairs staffs. The merger has resulted in the creation of the Division III Governance and Member Services team. Finally, as part of the merger, the Student-Athlete Reinstatement staff was federated and incorporated into each divisional governance and member services team.

2. **Review of Student-Athlete Reinstatement Philosophy Statement.** The committee reviewed the Division III Student-Athlete Reinstatement Philosophy Statement.
3. **Review of the NCAA Division III Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement May 25, 2025, report.** The committee reviewed and approved the report from its May 2025 meeting.
4. **Review of Reinstatement Guidelines.** The committee reviewed its guidelines and discussed when and if an outcome of permanent ineligibility is appropriate. Further, the committee reviewed and approved editorial revisions to the Division III Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement Guidelines.
5. **Review of Legislative Items.** The committee reviewed proposals to be voted on at the 2026 NCAA Convention. ‘
6. **Continuation of Safe Harbor/Immunity Conversation.** The committee continued its discussion surrounding sports wagering, specifically focusing on concepts to consider for reduced penalties. The committee discussed the concepts of deferment, reduced penalties, application of additional discretion, and a review of the reinstatement guidelines. The committee agreed that it is appropriate to support student-athletes who struggle with gambling addiction and emphasized the importance of offering harm reduction strategies and education. The committee will continue its conversation during the 2026 spring meeting.
7. **Update from the NCAA Office of Legal Affairs.** The committee received an update on ongoing legal proceedings from the NCAA Office of Legal Affairs.
8. **Update from NCAA Division III Governance.** The committee received a governance update from the managing director of NCAA Division III governance.
9. **Review of NCAA Division III Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement and Amateurism Certification Process Guidelines.** The committee reviewed and approved changes made to the guidelines during the May 2025 meeting.
10. **Review of flexible student-athlete reinstatement decisions.** The committee reviewed and accepted all recent staff decisions that provided relief from established case precedent and/or committee guidelines. All cases will remain available as precedent within RSRO, consistent with NCAA Division III Committees on Student-Athlete Reinstatement policies and procedures.
11. **Other business.** None.

**12. Future meetings.** The committee established the following future meeting dates and locations:

- a. May/June 2026, videoconference; TBD.
- b. November/December 2026, videoconference; TBD.

*Committee Chair:* Kaitlin Leach, Vassar College.

*Staff Liaisons:* Liz Perry, Division III Governance and Member Services.  
Julie Zike, Division III Governance and Member Services

NCAA Division III Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement December 9, 2025, Meeting	
<b>Attendees:</b>	
Charles Foster, Mississippi College for Women	
Merlin A. Joseph Jr., State University of New York at Oswego	
Kaitlin Leach, Vassar College	
Taylor Texeira, New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference	
<b>Absentees:</b>	
Myranda Nash, Brevard College.	
Kyle Neibch, Wheaton College (Illinois).	
<b>Guests in Attendance:</b>	
None.	
<b>NCAA Support Staff in Attendance:</b>	
Clint Hangebrauk, Jerry Vaughn, Carrey Wheelhouse, and Leeland Zeller.	
<b>Other NCAA Staff Members in Attendance:</b>	
Will Morrison, Jeff Myers, and Bill Regan.	

1. The current policy states:

- **Cross-divisional issues.**
  - a. **Application of reinstatement conditions to transfer student-athletes.** The committees determined that a waiver approved by the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement for a student-athlete who transfers between divisions (e.g., Division I to Division III) applies at the new institution to which the student-athlete transfers, regardless of the difference in division. Further, any appeals of the waiver decision will be reviewed by the divisional committee associated with the legislation under which the waiver was reviewed. If the student-athlete has already received an approved waiver, the case does not need to be re-examined based on the new division's guidelines.
  - b. **Season-of-competition waivers.** Season-of-competition waiver requests will be reviewed pursuant to the legislation of the division in which the competition occurred. Any appeals would be heard by the divisional committee associated with the institution at which the competition occurred unless the student-athlete did not use a season of competition based on that division's legislation. When this occurs, the appeal will be reviewed by the divisional committee associated with the institution to which the student-athlete transferred.
  - c. **Hardship waivers.** Hardship waiver requests will be reviewed pursuant to the legislation of the division where the injury or illness occurred or based on the legislation applicable to the student-athlete's current institution (whichever is most beneficial). The appeal would be heard by the division applicable to the legislation applied.

2. The proposed policy change:

- **Cross-divisional issues.**
  - a. **Application of reinstatement conditions to transfer student-athletes.** The committee determined that a student-athlete who was involved in a violation and then transfers between divisions (e.g., Division I to Division III) will be subject to the reinstatement guidelines of the division in which the violation occurred. Further, any appeals of the reinstatement condition will be reviewed by the divisional committee associated with the institution at which the violation occurred. If the student-athlete has already been provided a reinstatement condition or has already fulfilled a reinstatement condition at the time of transfer, the case does not need to be re-examined based on the new division's guidelines.

- b. Application of waiver decisions to transfer student-athletes.** The committee determined that a waiver approved by the Athletics Eligibility Subcommittee (Division I), Student-Athlete Reinstatement Committee (Division II) or Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement (Division III) for a student-athlete who transfers between divisions (e.g., Division I to Division III) applies at the new institution to which the student-athlete transfers, regardless of the difference in division.
- c. Extension of eligibility waivers.** Extension of eligibility waiver requests will be reviewed pursuant to the legislation of the division of the applicant institution.
- d. Season-of-participation waivers.** Season-of-participation waiver requests will be reviewed pursuant to the legislation of the division in which the sport at the applicant institution is a member. Any appeals would be heard by the divisional committee associated with the sport of the applicant institution.
- e. Hardship waivers.** Hardship waiver requests will be reviewed pursuant to the legislation of the division where the injury or illness occurred or based on the legislation applicable to the student-athlete's current institution (whichever is most beneficial). The appeal will be heard by the division applicable to the legislation applied