



# **2024 DIVISION II OFFICIAL NOTICE**

**118th Annual Convention**

**January 10-13, 2024**

**Phoenix, Arizona**

# **DIVISION II**

## **LEGISLATION**



THE NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

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December 2023

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Distributed to presidents or chancellors, directors of athletics, faculty athletics representatives, senior woman administrators, senior compliance administrators and conference commissioners.

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## Official Notice 118th Annual Convention

On behalf of the NCAA Board of Governors, the Division I Board of Directors, the Divisions II and III Presidents Councils, the Division I Council and the Divisions II and III Management Councils, we extend a cordial invitation to each NCAA member to be represented at the Association's 118th annual Convention scheduled January 10 through 13, 2024, in Phoenix, Arizona.

It is our pleasure to issue this Official Notice of the 2024 Convention. This publication is sent to the president or chancellor, director of athletics, faculty athletics representative, senior woman administrator and senior compliance administrator at each active NCAA Division II member institution, as well as to the officers of member conferences and provisional member institutions.

This Official Notice contains legislation for consideration at the Division II business session of the 2024 Convention, including amendments-to-amendments. It also contains the necessary information concerning the accreditation of delegates, voting procedures and other Convention policies. We encourage each member to review the information related to the activities in which you will be involved before participating in the Convention. It is particularly important that each Division II delegate have access to the Official Notice during the Convention. The Official Notice will be the only publication containing the Board of Governors legislation and Division II Convention legislation.

In addition to the consideration of legislation, Division II delegates also will participate in educational and discussion sessions about topics of concern within the division and the Association.

We hope you will join delegates from all divisions at the Convention Welcome and Awards Presentation, which will feature the State of College Sports on Wednesday afternoon.

We hope that each member of the Association will participate in the 2024 Convention. We look forward to seeing you.

*Linda A. Livingstone  
President, Baylor University  
Chair, NCAA Board of Governors*

*Steven Shirley  
President, Minot State University  
Chair, Division II Presidents Council*

*Jere Morehead  
President, University of Georgia  
Chair, Division I Board of Directors*

*James Schmidt  
Chancellor, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire  
Chair, Division III Presidents Council*

December 10, 2023

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## Accrediting of Delegates

Association policy provides that the appointment of accredited and visiting delegates is the responsibility of the president or chancellor of each member institution or organization. **In November 2023, a link to the appointment of delegates website was emailed to the president or chancellor of all member institutions and organizations. If a president, chancellor, director of athletics or commissioner needs to have the information resent, contact [ncaaconvention@shortstravel.com](mailto:ncaaconvention@shortstravel.com).**

It is important that the voting delegate be properly accredited, and appointing officers are urged to submit the required information to the NCAA national office at their earliest convenience.

An institution's or organization's president or chancellor shall appoint the voting and alternate delegates by completing the online delegate appointment form. The transfer of voting rights among the delegates is a matter of institutional or organizational discretion.

Please note that the governance structure of each division urges member institutions and organizations to include women in their NCAA Convention delegations.

If an institution's or organization's president or chancellor fails to submit the online delegate appointment form, that institution's or organization's representatives will be registered as visitors until the president or chancellor certifies in writing the voting and alternate delegates. No other institutional or organizational representatives are permitted to complete a delegate appointment form.

Once the online delegate appointment form has been verified by the president or chancellor, no one may be added as a voting or alternate delegate without written instructions from that president or chancellor. Thus, no individual appointed as a visitor may become a voter or alternate without written authorization from the president or chancellor.

Visiting delegates, except in certain situations, do not have speaking privileges at the Convention.

At the Convention, each individual representing a member institution or conference who registers will receive an orange Convention badge designating the individual as a delegate. In addition, each president and chancellor will receive a badge with a purple color designation signifying their professional title. Speakers and presenters for education sessions will receive badges with a lime color designation. Convention vendors will receive badges with a teal color designation. Media will receive badges with a red color designation. Individuals attending the Convention as a visitor will receive a badge with a goldenrod color designation.

Voting delegates receive red lanyards and alternate delegates receive blue lanyards. Other delegates with speaking rights receive green lanyards. Delegates without speaking rights and other observers receive white lanyards.

The Convention registration fee for NCAA members was \$325 for all delegates who registered on or before Wednesday, October 11, and \$450 for all delegates who registered by Sunday, November 26. Member registration fees on or after Monday, November 27, are \$600.

The registration fee includes one ticket to the Welcome Reception, Delegates Reception and Delegates Breakfast (s). In addition, attendees will have the opportunity to attend the NCAA Convention Welcome and Awards Presentation and Woman of the Year Awards Presentation.

## Meetings and Reservations

A listing of Convention meetings of the NCAA and its affiliated organizations was distributed to the membership in mid-October 2023. At this time, an online registration process was also made available for event registration and hotel reservations. If there is anything further the NCAA can do to facilitate your attendance at the Association's 2024 Convention, please contact us.

Please note that the Convention schedule of events is available on the NCAA website ([Convention - NCAA.org](https://www.ncaa.org/convention)). In addition, the Convention Program (available through the Convention app) contains the most up-to-date schedule of meetings held in conjunction with the Convention.

Please also note that the Convention officially begins at the Convention Welcome and Awards Presentation when it convenes at 5 p.m., Wednesday, January 10. Adjournment of the Convention has been scheduled for Saturday, January 13.

## Proposed Amendments

The proposed amendments to be considered at the 118th annual Convention begin on Page 1. All amendments, if adopted, become effective as indicated in each proposal.

**It is particularly important that each Division II delegate have a copy of the Official Notice during the Convention. The Official Notice will be the only publication containing all Association-wide and Division II Convention legislation for the 2024 Convention.**

In accordance with the provisions of Bylaw 9.3, an amendment to the Association's legislation may be proposed by the NCAA Board of Governors, NCAA Division II Presidents Council, by any 15 or more active Division II member institutions or by two active conferences on behalf of 15 or more active member institutions eligible to vote on the matter. The source of the amendment is indicated in each proposal. When the Presidents Council proposes an amendment originally recommended by a committee, the committee is indicated as well.

All proposals designated by the Division II Presidents Council for roll-call votes are indicated with an asterisk preceding the proposals in this publication, as well as in the voting designation accompanying each such proposal.

Please note that the Presidents Council is authorized to distribute during division or general business sessions information detailing positions on key legislative proposals.

## Amendments-to-Amendments

All sponsors of amendments submitted by the membership in accordance with the July 15 deadline were permitted to revise them in any manner until September 15. In the interim, the NCAA Division II Presidents Council had until September 1 to submit their legislative proposals. All proposals were provided to the membership September 22, 2023, in the 2024 NCAA Convention Division II Educational Resources.

The Division II Presidents Council, any eight or more active Division II member institutions or one active conference on behalf of eight or more active member institutions eligible to vote on a given issue had until November 1 to submit amendments to the original proposals, provided the amendment to the amendment did not increase the modification proposed by the original amendment. As a result of that deadline, all amendments-to-amendments, if any, are included in this Official Notice with the proposals they are intended to amend. Resolutions also were handled in accordance with those same deadlines and are included in this publication, if any. No additional amendments-to-amendments or resolutions are permitted for the 2024 Convention unless they are sponsored by the Division II Presidents Council and distributed before or during the business session.

## Withdrawal of Proposal

Sponsors who intend to withdraw a proposal are urged to notify the academic and membership affairs staff as soon as possible before the business session of the Convention at which the proposal is scheduled to be considered.

## Review of Interpretations

The Legislation Committee issues interpretations as to the scope, meaning or effect of the constitution and bylaws applicable to Division II. These rulings are subject to review by the Division II membership upon the request of any member in accordance with NCAA Bylaw 9.4.1.4. Any Division II member to which an interpretation applies may request a review of the interpretation by making such a request in writing to the academic and membership affairs staff via electronic mail to the primary contact individuals – [chooks@ncaa.org](mailto:chooks@ncaa.org) or [rdenton@ncaa.org](mailto:rdenton@ncaa.org) – not later than Thursday, December 14, 2023.

## Emergency Legislation Adopted by the Presidents Council

The Presidents Council may adopt "emergency" legislation that shall be effective immediately in situations when significant values or harm are at stake and the use of the regular legislative cycle is likely to cause undue hardship to the Association or Division II Membership because of the delay in effective date or the NCAA must respond to, or comply with a court, alternative dispute resolution (ADR) or government order or when the Presidents Council deems it appropriate to limit or avoid NCAA liability as a result of litigation, ADR or governmental proceedings, per Bylaw

9.3.1.2. Such "emergency" legislation shall be adopted by at least a three-fourths majority of the members of the Presidents Council present and voting. The Presidents Council then submits to the next annual Division II business session the amendments that it has adopted under this authorization. Acceptance of the report of the Presidents Council during the Division II business session on Saturday, January 13, 2024, ratifies the Presidents Council's actions in this regard.

## **Interpretations to be Included in the NCAA Division II Manual**

The Legislation Committee and the Academic Requirements Committee are authorized to approve interpretations to be incorporated in next academic year's NCAA Division II Manual. Such incorporations appear in the Official Notice of the Convention in Appendix A. Any additional interpretations approved by the Management Council are distributed to the delegates at the Division II business session. Acceptance of the report of the Management Council during the Division II business session on Saturday, January 13, 2024, will approve incorporation of the interpretations as distributed. A delegate may object to the incorporation of a particular interpretation at the time of the Management Council report, and the Division II membership will decide by majority vote of the eligible voters whether to incorporate that specific interpretation.

## **Noncontroversial Legislation Adopted by the Management Council**

The Presidents Council, or an entity designated by the Presidents Council (the Management Council), is authorized to adopt, in the interim between annual Conventions, noncontroversial legislative amendments that are necessary to promote the normal and orderly administration of the Association's legislation, per Bylaws 8.1.2-(e) and 9.3.1.1. That authorization requires a three-fourths majority vote of the Presidents Council, or the entity designated by the Presidents Council (the Management Council). The Management Council then submits to the next annual Division II business session the amendments that it has adopted under this authorization. The noncontroversial amendments adopted by the Management Council in 2023 appear in Appendix B. Acceptance of the report of the Management Council during the Division II business session on Saturday, January 13, 2024, approves the Management Council's actions in this regard.

## **Order of Business**

The Convention Welcome and Awards Presentation of the 118th annual Convention will begin at 5 p.m., Wednesday, January 10. The "State of College Sports" remarks by the NCAA president will be presented orally during that session.

The various proposals will be taken up in their numerical order, unless that order is changed at the Convention. Amendments for the annual Convention are grouped topically by area and will be presented as indicated on page x.

In each grouping of related items (either amendments or amendments-to-amendments), the Association's established procedure will be followed (consider first the proposal that contemplates the greatest modification of the present circumstance, followed by other proposals in the order of decreasing modification). In some instances, when a proposal in such a grouping is adopted, those that follow in that grouping may become moot.

## **Voting Procedures**

Each voting delegate when registering, receives a "voting paddle" for use in indicating the institution's vote when the chair calls for a "paddle" vote (Appendix C). Voting delegates receive orange paddles.

For roll-call votes, the Association utilizes an electronic voting system. Upon registering for the Convention, each voting delegate moves to the general registration area to receive the voting unit identification card that has been coded for that member institution or conference. The voting delegates must turn in the voting unit identification card contained in the registration envelope to obtain the electronic unit. Amendments to federated provisions are voted on by divisions, with a majority vote required for approval. In such instances involving federated provisions, each division is committed to the result of its counted vote. Any member that voted on the prevailing side can request reconsideration of the recorded vote of its division on an issue at any time before the conclusion of voting during that session. Each proposal includes a designation of the division(s) that votes on that item and the type of vote involved (federated or common).



Delegates are urged to register and receive their voting materials before the opening business session begins at 5 p.m., Wednesday, January 10. In addition, all voting in the division business session shall be by show of paddles (or by electronic roll-call votes), rather than by voice or hand.

## **Memorial Resolutions**

At the time of the annual Convention, members of the Association honor by memorial resolution those persons closely associated with intercollegiate athletics who we have lost in the last year. Your assistance is needed to create a complete and accurate memorial list of current and former staff members or current student-athletes who passed away in 2023. Click [here](#) to enter the names of any individuals from your conference or institution who meet the criteria. The deadline for submitting names is Friday, Dec. 15. If you have any questions, please contact Melody Lawrence at [mlawrence@ncaa.org](mailto:mlawrence@ncaa.org).

## **Administrative Structure**

Rosters of the NCAA Board of Governors, and the Division II Presidents Council and Management Council, are listed in Appendix D.

## **Request for Interpretations**

Division II member institutions and conferences are encouraged to request interpretations of the proposed legislation in this Official Notice in advance of the Convention.

All such requests must be received to the NCAA academic and membership affairs staff via email to the primary contact individuals, [chooks@ncaa.org](mailto:chooks@ncaa.org) or [rdenton@ncaa.org](mailto:rdenton@ncaa.org), not later than Thursday, December 14, 2023. Requests will be considered by the appropriate interpretative entities and the decisions will be reviewed by the Division II Management Council in its pre-Convention meeting Wednesday, January 10, 2024. The resulting interpretations will be duplicated and distributed to the conferences for their pre-Convention meetings before the beginning of the business session on Saturday, January 13, 2024.

## TOPICAL GROUPINGS OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS 118th ANNUAL CONVENTION

### *Proposal Number*

1 through 2

3 through 5

### *General Topic*

Playing and Practice Seasons

Championships Administration

# 118th Annual Convention

## LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS SUBMITTED BY THE MEMBERSHIP AND DIVISION II GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE

[Note: In the following proposals:

- Those letters and words that appear in *italics* and ~~striketrough~~ are to be deleted;
- Those letters and words that appear in **boldface** and underlined are to be added; and
- Those letters and words that appear in normal text are unchanged from the current Division II legislation.]

### 2024 NCAA CONVENTION OFFICIAL NOTICE FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

The frequently asked questions section following each Division II proposal in the white pages is designed to provide further clarification regarding the application of the proposal and/or the rationale for the legislative change. The information includes frequently asked questions, figures and other information. Further information regarding the application of the proposals is available in the 2024 Convention Division II Legislative Proposals Question and Answer Guide at [www.ncaa.org](http://www.ncaa.org).

[Note: The sponsors of the two membership proposals approved the information included in the additional information section for those proposals.]

### DIVISION II LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS

*The NCAA Division II Presidents Council has determined that it will deal primarily with those national issues in Division II athletics that prompt widespread concern among Division II presidents or chancellors.*

*Legislative proposals developed by the Division II Management Council or by Division II committees reporting to it must be submitted to the Division II Presidents Council for review. They cannot be placed on the agenda for consideration at the Convention unless the Presidents Council agrees to sponsor them. This procedure was established to affirm presidential control of intercollegiate athletics in Division II.*

*The Division II Presidents Council has identified those proposals that it believes are of particular interest to Division II presidents or chancellors and has included them in the Presidents Council grouping. It should be noted, however, that inclusion of proposals in the Presidents Council grouping does not necessarily constitute a position by the Division II Presidents Council for or against a proposal. Those proposals with an asterisk before the proposal number have been identified by the Presidents Council as roll-call votes. Delegates should refer to each proposal's source line for information regarding the sponsor of each proposal.*

*[Note: Pursuant to Bylaw 9.3.12, all amendments shall become effective not earlier than the first day of August following adoption at the NCAA Convention; however, if a voting delegate wishes to propose an immediate effective date, or to propose any other effective date prior to the first day of August, a two-thirds majority of all delegates present and eligible to vote on the amendment is required to approve the immediate or alternative effective date. Those proposals that receive the required vote to carry an immediate effective date and that are adopted, become effective upon adjournment of the Convention.]*

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## Playing and Practice Seasons

### No. 2024-1 PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS -- FOOTBALL -- PRESEASON PRACTICE AND FIRST CONTEST -- FIRST PERMISSIBLE CONTEST

**Intent:** In football, to specify that a member institution shall not participate in its first contest with outside competition in the championship segment before one week prior to the Thursday preceding September 6.

**Bylaws:** Amend 17.11, as follows:

[Division II, Football Only, Roll Call]

#### 17.11 Football.

[17.11.1 through 17.11.2 unchanged.]

#### 17.11.3 Preseason Practice.

17.11.3.1 First Practice Date -- Championship Segment. A member institution shall not commence official preseason football practice sessions in the championship segment, for the varsity, junior varsity or freshman team, before 24 days before the institution's first permissible contest or 10 days before the institution's first day of classes, whichever is earlier.

[17.11.3.2 through 17.11.3.4 unchanged.]

17.11.4 First Contest -- Championship Segment. A member institution shall not play its first contest with outside competition in the championship segment before the week prior to the Thursday preceding September 6.

[17.11.5 through 17.11.10 unchanged.]

**Source:** Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association, Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association, Gulf South Conference, Lone Star Conference and Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2024

**Rationale:** Currently, an institution may participate in its first permissible regular-season contest in the sport of football on the Thursday preceding September 6. Amending the first permissible contest date to allow institutions to play their first regular-season contest with outside competition one week prior to the Thursday preceding September 6, will provide institutions with the flexibility to schedule and play the maximum allowable 11 contests over a 12-week period, if desired. As a result, institutions will have the ability to schedule an off/bye week during the season which will benefit student-athlete health and safety. This proposal will also lessen the burden of finding available non-conference opponents and will create added flexibility and financial benefits to include unique opportunities such as sponsored or destination-site contests with opponents outside or within an institution's own conference.

#### Frequently Asked Questions:

**Question No. 1:** What is the current legislation surrounding the first permissible contest date?

**Answer:** Currently, in the sport of football, an institution may participate in its first permissible contest with outside competition the Thursday preceding September 6.

**Question No. 2:** If adopted, how will this proposal change the current legislation surrounding the first permissible contest date?

**Answer:** If adopted, in the sport of football, an institution would be able to participate in their first permissible contest with outside competition one week prior to the Thursday, preceding September 6. [See Question No. 3 below]

**Question No. 3:** If adopted, when will an institution be permitted to participate in their first permissible contest for the 2024 football season?

**Answer:** For the 2024 football season, the Thursday preceding September 6 is September 5, 2024. Therefore, if adopted, an institution would be able to participate in its first permissible contest on or after Thursday, August 29, 2024.

The chart below outlines the first permissible contest under current legislation and the first permissible contest in future years if the proposal is adopted.

Year	First Permissible Contest under Current Legislation	First Permissible Contest if Division II Proposal No. 2024-1 is Adopted
2025	September 4, 2025	August 28, 2025
2026	September 3, 2026	August 27, 2026
2027	September 2, 2027	August 26, 2027
2028	August 31, 2028	August 24, 2028
2029	August 30, 2029	August 23, 2029

**Question No. 4:** If adopted, how will this proposal amend the first permissible practice date?

**Answer:** Currently an institution may begin participating in preseason practice 24 days before the first permissible contest date or 10 days before the institution's first day of classes, whichever is earlier.

If adopted, an institution would utilize the **institution's first contest date**, as opposed to the first permissible contest date, to determine when the 24 days would begin. The legislation would still permit an institution to begin their preseason practice 10 days before the institution's first day of classes.

For example, for the 2024 football season, if an institution schedules its first contest on August 29, 2024, an institution would be permitted to begin its preseason practice period on August 5, 2024, or 10 days before the institution's first day of classes, whichever is earlier.

The chart below outlines when an institution may begin participating in preseason practice in future years if Division II proposal is adopted.

Year	Institution's First Contest Date	Start of Preseason Practice
2025	August 28, 2025	August 4, 2025 or 10 days before the institution's first day of classes, whichever is earlier.
2026	August 27, 2026	August 3, 2026 or 10 days before the institution's first day of classes, whichever is earlier.
2027	August 26, 2027	August 2, 2027 or 10 days before the institution's first day of classes, whichever is earlier.
2028	August 24, 2028	July 31, 2028 or 10 days before the institution's first day of classes, whichever is earlier.
2029	August 23, 2029	July 30, 2029 or 10 days before the institution's first day of classes, whichever is earlier.

[Note: The chart above outlines the start of the preseason practice period based on an institution participating in its first contest one week prior to the Thursday, preceding September 6. The start of the preseason practice period may vary depending on when an institution schedules its first permissible contest].

**Position Statement(s):** *NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports, NCAA Division II Championships Committee:* The committees agreed to take no position on this proposal.  
*NCAA Committee on Women's Athletics:* The committee agreed to oppose this proposal. The committee noted that this proposal would treat football differently than other fall sports, including women's sports, as well as

create inequities in the opportunities for certain sports (e.g., soccer) to participate in an acclimatization period. Finally, the committee noted the proposal could create a financial burden on institutions already concerned about equitable resource allocation.

*NCAA Division II Football Committee:* The committee agreed to support this proposal. The committee noted that this proposal will provide the ability for member institutions and/or conferences to have more flexibility in scheduling (e.g., scheduling nonconference opponents). Further, it was noted the option for institutions to have a bye week will permit institutions to play their 11 contests over a 12-week period. Finally, the committee noted that this proposal is equitable by not allowing a member institution more preseason practice days than another member institution before their first scheduled contest.

*NCAA Division II Legislation Committee:* The committee agreed to oppose this proposal. The committee noted the impact this change would have on the Life in the Balance philosophy in Division II. Specifically, the committee noted concerns related to the student-athlete experience and student-athletes feeling compelled to forgo participating in nonathletically related activities, such as summer jobs and internships. The committee also noted the impact on the work-life balance of athletics administrators. Additionally, it was noted that this proposal may prompt other Division II sports to feel the need to begin their playing and practice seasons earlier. Finally, the committee noted that although the change may be permissive, there is a potential competitive advantage since some Division II institutions may not be able to bring in their student-athletes earlier due to budget constraints.

*NCAA Division II Presidents Council, NCAA Division II Management Council:* The councils agreed to oppose this proposal due to the proposal being contrary to the Life in the Balance philosophy. Specifically, the councils noted concerns related to the student-athlete experience and student-athletes feeling compelled to forgo participating in nonathletically related activities, such as summer jobs and internships. The councils also noted the potential impact this proposal would have on athletic administrators. Further, the councils noted the budget impact this proposal would have on institutions, as well as institutions having to potentially cut institutional programming short (e.g., camps) due to football teams coming back early. Finally, the councils noted that there are other possible solutions (e.g., playing 10 contests, adding a 12th week at the end of the football season and adjusting the postseason schedule to be played one week later) to accomplish what the proposal is seeking to accomplish.

#### No. 2024-2 PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS -- SOFTBALL -- NUMBER OF CONTESTS -- MAXIMUM LIMITATIONS -- INSTITUTIONAL AND STUDENT-ATHLETE -- CHAMPIONSHIP AND NONCHAMPIONSHIP CONTESTS

**Intent:** In softball, to specify that an institution or student-athlete shall limit its playing season to 56 contests (games and scrimmages) during the segment in which the NCAA championship is conducted and eight contests (games and scrimmages) during another segment.

**Bylaws:** Amend 17.21, as follows:

[Division II, Roll Call]

##### 17.21.7 Number of Contests.

17.21.7.1 Maximum Limitations -- Institutional. A member institution shall limit its total playing schedule with outside competition in softball ~~during the institution's softball playing season~~ to 56 contests (games and scrimmages) **during the segment that concludes with the NCAA championship and eight contests during another segment**, except for those contests excluded under Bylaws 17.21.7.3, 17.21.7.4 and 17.21.7.5.

[17.21.7.1.1 unchanged.]

17.21.7.2 Maximum Limitations -- Student-Athlete. An individual student-athlete may participate in each academic year in 56 softball **contests during the segment that concludes with the NCAA championship and eight contests during another segment**. This limitation includes those contests in which the student represents the institution in accordance with Bylaw 17.02.8, including competition as a member of the varsity, junior varsity or freshman team of the institution.

[17.21.7.3 through 17.21.7.5 unchanged.]

**Source:** East Coast Conference, Gulf South Conference, Albany State University (Georgia), Metropolitan State University of Denver, Minnesota State University, Mankato, Montana State University Billings, Union University, University of Alabama in Huntsville and University of West Alabama.

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2024

**Rationale:** In softball, an institution must limit its playing season with outside competition to 56 contests (games and scrimmages). Further, a student-athlete may participate in 56 contests each academic year. The legislation also permits an institution and student-athlete to participate in up to three discretionary exemptions annually. These exemptions are excluded from an institution's and student-athlete's maximum contests limit. Currently,

softball is at a disadvantage from a developmental standpoint comparative to other sports (i.e., soccer, volleyball) since the current legislation only permits three discretionary exemptions. Any contests scheduled outside of the three discretionary exemptions would count against an institution's and student-athlete's maximum contests limit. Permitting eight additional contests during the nonchampionship segment, in addition to the three discretionary exemptions, will allow for proper in-game development, especially for incoming student-athletes, and scheduling flexibility for institutions.

### **Frequently Asked Questions:**

**Question No. 1:** Under current legislation, how many softball contests may an institution and student-athlete participate in during the playing season?

**Answer:** An institution and student-athlete may participate in a maximum of 56 contests (games and scrimmages) during the nonchampionship segment and championship segment.

**Question No. 2:** If adopted, will this proposal amend the maximum number of contests in the sport of softball?

**Answer:** Yes. An institution and student-athlete may participate in eight contests (games and scrimmages) during the nonchampionship segment and 56 contests (games and scrimmages) during the championship segment.

**Question No. 3:** If adopted, will this change the number of discretionary exemptions an institution may exempt from their maximum number of contests?

**Answer:** No. An institution will still be permitted to exempt no more than three discretionary exemptions listed in NCAA Division II Bylaw 17.21.7.4 (discretionary exemptions).

**Question No. 4:** If adopted, will the contests played during the nonchampionship segment count towards championships selection?

**Answer:** No.

**Question No. 5:** If adopted, will the contests played during the nonchampionship segment count towards an institution's and student-athlete's statistics for NCAA purposes?

**Answer:** No.

**Position Statement(s):** *NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports:* The committee agreed to oppose this proposal. The committee noted that additional athletic activity entails additional risk of injury. In addition, and of timely concern, the committee noted the impact and burden on institutional medical and athletic training staff, especially given the current membership concerns with the state of the collegiate athletic training workforce.

*NCAA Division II Championships Committee:* The committee agreed to oppose this proposal. The committee noted that the change may infringe on the division's Life in the Balance philosophy (i.e., "season creep") and potentially disadvantage institutions that are unable to schedule that many contests.

*NCAA Division II Legislation Committee:* The committee agreed to oppose this proposal. The committee noted that the change may result in some inequities between institutions who are able to participate in all contests (56 contests during the championship segment and eight during the nonchampionship segment) and those institutions unable to do so. The committee also noted the impact this change would have on the Life in the Balance philosophy in Division II since this may prompt more sports to increase the number of competitions or contests they participate in.

*NCAA Division II Management Council, NCAA Division II Presidents Council:* The councils agreed to oppose this proposal. The councils noted the impact this change would have on the Life in the Balance philosophy in Division II. The councils also noted that softball is a contest sport, whereas other sports (e.g., soccer during the nonchampionship segment and volleyball) are dates of competition sports and, therefore, are not the same. Further, the councils noted that all sports, except football, may participate in three discretionary exemptions during their playing season. The councils noted that softball currently can participate in all 56-contests during both the nonchampionship and championship segments and, therefore, is not at a disadvantage. The councils also noted the potential disadvantage among institutions that will be able to participate in the eight contests during the nonchampionship segment and those institutions that will be unable to participate in the eight contests due primarily to weather. Finally, the councils noted the impact this proposal may have on athletic trainers and facilities staff.

*NCAA Division II Softball Committee:* The committee agreed to support this proposal. The committee noted the scheduling flexibility this proposal would provide Division II institutions, especially those that are unable to



participate in contests during the nonchampionship segment due to weather. The committee also noted that the 56 contests will only be permitted to be played during the championship segment, with the eight contests only being allowed to be played during the nonchampionship segment. Finally, the committee noted that this proposal will provide freshman softball student-athletes with an opportunity to develop at the collegiate-level during the nonchampionship segment.

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## Championships Administration

### No. 2024-3 CHAMPIONSHIPS ADMINISTRATION -- ADMINISTRATION OF DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIPS -- MINIMUM SPONSORSHIP FOR DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIPS -- MINIMUM NUMBER OF SPONSORING INSTITUTIONS AND THREE-YEAR GRACE PERIOD

**Intent:** To amend the minimum number of sponsoring institutions required to establish and maintain a Division II championship to 35 institutions for both men's and women's sports; further, to establish a three-year grace period during which a sport that falls below the minimum sponsorship requirement may regain the necessary sponsoring institutions before the championship is discontinued.

**Bylaws:** Amend 18.4, as follows:

[Division II, Roll Call]

#### 18.4 Administration of Division II Championships.

##### 18.4.1 Minimum Sponsorship for Division II Championships.

18.4.1.1 Men's Sports. A Division II championship may be established in a men's sport if at least ~~50~~**35** institutions sponsor the sport.

18.4.1.2 Women's Sports. A Division II championship may be established in a women's sport if at least ~~40~~**35** institutions sponsor the sport.

~~18.4.1.3 Failure to Meet Minimum Sponsorship Requirement~~**Grace Period.** ~~A Division II championship shall be discontinued automatically at the conclusion of the academic year in which it falls below the applicable minimum sponsorship number set forth in Bylaws 18.4.1.1 or 18.4.1.2.~~ **A sport that falls below the applicable minimum sponsorship number set forth in Bylaws 18.4.1.1 or 18.4.1.2 shall have three years to regain the minimum number of sponsoring institutions before the Division II championship is discontinued. The three-year grace period begins with the academic year in which the Division II Championships Committee confirms that the sport has fallen below the applicable minimum sponsorship number set forth in Bylaws 18.4.1.1 or 18.4.1.2.**

~~18.4.1.3.1 Exception -- Olympic Sports. A Division II championship in any Olympic sport shall be exempt from the minimum-sponsorship requirements of Bylaws 18.4.1.1 and 18.4.1.2. The membership may adopt specific legislation to discontinue the championship in an Olympic sport.~~

~~18.4.1.3.2 Exception -- Men's and Women's Lacrosse. A Division II championship in the sports of men's and women's lacrosse shall be exempt from the minimum-sponsorship requirements of Bylaws 18.4.1.1 and 18.4.1.2.~~

[18.4.2 through 18.4.3 unchanged.]

**Source:** NCAA Division II Presidents Council [Management Council (Championships Committee)].

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2024

**Rationale:** The proposal was originally recommended by the NCAA Division II Implementation Committee's championships subcommittee during its review of Division II bylaws and subsequently referred to the NCAA Division II Championships Committee for further review. The Championships Committee collaborated with various membership stakeholder groups to vet the proposal and gather feedback through membership surveys which indicated broad support for both reducing the minimum sponsorship requirement and making it consistent across both men's and women's sports. The Championships Committee believes 35 is an appropriate benchmark that both reflects membership interest and commitment meriting a Division II championship and gives emerging sports a reasonable target to transition to championship status. Additionally, the Championships Committee determined that a three-year grace period provides sufficient time for a given sport to recover should it fall below the minimum requirement without unduly extending the grace period and tying up resources that could otherwise be devoted to championships in good standing and emerging sports that merit championship consideration.

#### Frequently Asked Questions:

**Question No. 1:** If adopted, how will this proposal change the current legislation?

**Answer:** The minimum number of Division II institutions required to maintain and/or establish a Division II Championship will be 35 for both men's and women's sports. Further, a three-year grace period will be established for a sport that falls below the 35-minimum threshold. Finally, the exceptions for men's and women's lacrosse and the Olympic sports will be eliminated.

**Question No. 2:** If an emerging sport does not have the minimum number of institutions required to establish a National Collegiate Championship (50 for men and 40 for women), but meets the 35-minimum threshold required to establish a Division II Championship, may a Division II Championship be established?

**Answer:** No. If there is only one championship offered, it must be a National Collegiate Championship. An emerging sport must have the required 40 institutions to establish a National Collegiate Championship first before it can establish a Division II Championship.

**Question No. 3:** If adopted, when will the three-year grace period begin?

**Answer:** The three-year grace period will begin in the academic year the Championships Committee confirms that the sport has fallen below the 35-minimum threshold.

For example, if the Championships Committee confirms a sport has fallen below the 35-minimum threshold in October 2024, the 2024-25 academic year would be the first year of the grace period. The 2025-26 academic year would be the second year and the 2026-27 academic year would be the third year. The championship would be discontinued after the 2026-27 academic year.

**Question No. 4:** If the proposal is adopted at the 2024 Convention, when is the earliest a Division II Championship may be discontinued?

**Answer:** The 2027-28 academic year based on the confirmation of sports sponsorship by the Championships Committee occurring in the 2024-25 academic year.

No. 2024-4 CHAMPIONSHIPS ADMINISTRATION – ADMINISTRATION OF DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIPS – CRITERIA FOR SELECTION OF PARTICIPANTS – AUTOMATIC QUALIFICATION – AUTOMATIC QUALIFICATION IN ALL TEAM SPORTS OTHER THAN FOOTBALL

**Intent:** In all team sports other than football, to specify that automatic qualification privileges shall be granted to all conferences that sponsor the sport.

**Bylaws:** Amend 18.4.3.3, as follows:

[Division II, Roll Call]

18.4.3.3 Automatic Qualification. ~~Each governing sports committee may recommend annually to the Championships Committee those multisport voting conferences that should receive one automatic qualification position for their teams into NCAA championships conducted in team sports, timed individual sports and other individual sports as identified in Bylaw 17.02.16. The decision of the Championships Committee shall be final.~~

**18.4.3.3.1 Team Sports Other Than Football. Each governing sport committee shall recommend annually to the Championships Committee those multisport voting conferences that meet the requirements outlined in Bylaw 18.4.3.3.1. The decision of the Championships Committee shall be final.**

**18.4.3.3.2 Timed Individual Sports and Other Individual Sports. Each governing sports committee may recommend annually to the Championships Committee those multisport voting conferences that should receive one automatic qualification position for their teams into NCAA championships. The decision of the Championships Committee shall be final.**

[18.4.3.3.1 through 18.4.3.3.3 renumbered as 18.4.3.3.3 through 18.4.3.3.5, unchanged.]

**Source:** NCAA Division II Presidents Council [Management Council (Championships Committee)].

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2024

**Rationale:** Currently, sport committees have the option of recommending when and if to apply automatic qualification to their selection processes for team sports. However, the concept of requiring automatic qualification rather than maintaining it as an option emerged during the Division II Implementation Committee's review process as being a core tenet of the Division II championships program. The Division II Championships Committee believes that all conferences should be provided access to NCAA Division II Championships in all team sports when bracket sizes are appropriate to do so. The Championships Committee also notes that

automatic qualification has long been regarded as the most effective way to grow a sport, as it establishes an equitable path for member institutions to participate in NCAA championships and an incentive for sponsorship.

### Frequently Asked Questions:

**Question No. 1:** What is the current legislation?

**Answer:** Currently, the sport committees have the option of recommending to the Division II Championships Committee when and if to apply automatic qualification to their selection processes. If approved by the Championships Committee, the sport will have automatic qualification and then each conference must request automatic qualification for the conference from the respective sport committee.

**Question No. 2:** If adopted, how will this proposal change the current legislation?

**Answer:** Team sport committees (other than football) will be required to apply automatic qualification to their selection process for those Division II conferences that meet the requirements in NCAA Division II Bylaw 18.4.3.3.1 (requirements – division championship). It will no longer be an option on whether to recommend automatic qualification. Conferences will still be required to annually request automatic qualification from the respective sport committee.

**Question No. 3:** If adopted, when will all team sports (other than football) have automatic qualification?

**Answer:** The 2024-25 academic year.

**Question No. 4:** If adopted, how will this proposal impact bracket sizes in team sports?

**Answer:** If adopted, the Championships Committee will establish a policy that specifies that no more than 60% of a team's bracket may be made up of automatic qualifiers. If a sport reaches a 50% threshold, the committee will also establish as policy that bracket expansion be considered. However, should a sport exceed the 60% threshold while being considered for bracket expansion, the committee may maintain automatic qualification while the field size is being addressed.

Note: As part of the 2024-27 triennial budget process, the Championships Committee has recommended bracket increases for the field hockey and men's and women's lacrosse championships effective for the 2024-25 academic year. If approved by the Division II Management Council and Division II Presidents Council in January 2024, these sports would be in line with this policy.

#### No. 2024-5 CHAMPIONSHIPS ADMINISTRATION – ADMINISTRATION OF DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIPS – CRITERIA FOR SELECTION OF PARTICIPANTS – EARNED ACCESS – FOOTBALL – EARNED ACCESS FOR ALL FOOTBALL-SPONSORING CONFERENCES

**Intent:** In football, to amend the earned access legislation to specify that all football-sponsoring conferences shall be represented in the bracket; further, to specify, that the highest-ranked team in a football-sponsoring conference that is not already represented in the bracket shall be included.

**Bylaws:** Amend 18.4, as follows:

[Division II, Football Only, Roll Call]

18.4 Administration of Division II Championships.

[18.4.1 through 18.4.3 unchanged.]

18.4.3.4 Earned Access – Football. The Division II Football Committee shall award earned access to the NCAA Division II Football Championship to all Division II football-playing conferences that meet the requirements of Bylaw 18.4.3.4.1 for which at least one member institution finishes no more than two spots lower than the super region bracket size in the final NCAA Division II football regional ranking. To be awarded earned access, the conference shall have a minimum of six active football-playing members. The earned access shall go to the conference's highest-ranked team that is not already represented in the bracket in the final regional Top 10 poll.

[18.4.3.4.1 through 18.4.3.4.2 unchanged.]

[18.4.3.5 unchanged.]

**Source:** NCAA Division II Presidents Council [Management Council (Championships Committee)].

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2024

**Rationale:** Currently, in football, earned access only applies if at least one member institution finishes no more than two spots lower than the super region bracket size in the final NCAA Division II football regional ranking. This proposal will amend earned access in football to require representation in the bracket from all football-sponsoring conferences. The Division II Championships Committee believes that all conferences should be provided access to the NCAA Division II Football Championship when bracket sizes are appropriate to do so. The Championships Committee also notes that earned access has long been regarded as the most effective way to provide guaranteed access to the championship.

#### **Frequently Asked Questions:**

**Question No. 1:** What is the current legislation?

**Answer:** Currently, earned access only applies if a conference that is not currently represented in the bracket has a team within the top nine in the super region. A conference whose highest ranked team is outside of the top nine is not granted earned access to the field.

**Question No. 2:** If adopted, how will this proposal change the current legislation?

**Answer:** All football-sponsoring conferences will be represented in the bracket. This proposal will also require that the highest-ranked team in a football-sponsoring conference that is not already represented in the bracket be included. Therefore, earned access will be determined by the Division II Football Committee, as opposed to the team being selected by the conference.

**Question No. 3:** If adopted, when will the Division II Football Committee begin utilizing the new earned access process?

**Answer:** The 2024-25 academic year.

**Question No. 4:** If adopted, how will this proposal impact the bracket size in the sport of football?

**Answer:** If adopted, the Division II Championships Committee will establish as policy a 60% threshold for earned access in the bracket. To mitigate the possibility of exceeding the 60% threshold, the committee will also establish as policy that bracket expansion be considered at the next budget opportunity whenever the sport reaches a 50% threshold. However, should the sport exceed the 60% threshold while being considered for bracket expansion, the Championships Committee may maintain earned access while the field size is being addressed.

### Interpretations to be Included in the 2024-25 NCAA Division II Manual

In accordance with its authority, the NCAA Division II Academic Requirements Committee and the NCAA Division II Legislation Committee have approved inclusion of the following interpretations in the 2024-25 NCAA Division II Manual. This will be referenced in the oral report of the Management Council to the 2024 Division II business session on Saturday, January 13, and acceptance of that report will constitute approval of the incorporation of these interpretations. If a delegate objects to incorporation of a particular interpretation, that objection should be raised at the time of the Management Council report. The Division II membership then will decide by majority vote of the eligible voters whether to incorporate the interpretations.

It should be noted that these interpretations already have been accepted by the membership, and the only issue concerning these interpretations that is before the Division II membership is whether they should be set forth in the 2024-25 Division II Manual and subsequent Division II Manuals. If the membership votes not to incorporate a particular interpretation into the Manual, the interpretation will still be binding on the membership; it simply will not be included in the Manual.

For each of these interpretations approved by the Division II Academic Requirements Committee or Division II Legislation Committee, the provisions of Bylaw 9.4.1.4 also would apply (any Division II member to which the interpretation applies may request a review of that interpretation at the 2024 Division II business session on Saturday, January 13, by making such a request in writing to the Association's Convention office prior to 1 p.m. Friday, January 12, the day preceding the Division II business session of the Convention). If an interpretation is not challenged per Bylaw 9.4.1.4 and the incorporation of the interpretation into the 2024-25 Manual also is not challenged, it will appear in the 2024-25 Manual as noted.

#### NO. I-2024-1 RECRUITING -- PUBLICITY -- COMMENTS PRIOR TO SIGNING AND MEDIA RELEASE REGARDING SIGNING -- FINANCIAL DEPOSIT IN RESPONSE TO OFFER OF ADMISSION

**Bylaws:** Amend 13.10, as follows:

13.10 Publicity.

[13.10.1 unchanged.]

13.10.2 Comments Prior to Signing. Before the signing of a prospective student-athlete to a National Letter of Intent or an institution's ~~receives the prospective student-athlete's signed~~ written offer of admission and/or financial aid **or before the institution has received their financial deposit in response to its offer of admission**, a member institution may comment publicly only to the extent of confirming its recruitment of the prospective student-athlete. [See Bylaws 13.1.3.3.1 and 13.4.4]. [D]

[13.10.2.1 through 13.10.2.3 unchanged.]

[13.10.3 unchanged.]

13.10.4 Media Release Regarding Signing. Publicity released by an institution concerning a prospective student-athlete's commitment to attend the institution shall occur only after the prospective student-athlete has signed a National Letter of Intent or after the ~~institution receives the~~ prospective student-athlete's signed acceptance of the institution's written offer of admission and/or financial aid **or after the institution has received their financial deposit in response to its offer of admission**. Such communications, which are not limited in number or content, may be released to media outlets at the institution's discretion. [D]

[13.10.4.1 unchanged.]

**Source:** NCAA Division II Legislation Committee.

**Effective Date:** Immediate

**Additional Information:**

Incorporating the December 14, 2022, official interpretation will clarify that a Division II institution may publicly comment on a prospective student-athlete's commitment to attend their institution upon receiving a financial deposit in response to its offer of admission.

## Noncontroversial Legislation Adopted by the NCAA Division II Management Council

Pursuant to NCAA Bylaws 8.1.2-(e) and 9.3.1.1, the NCAA Division II Management Council has adopted the following noncontroversial legislative amendments during the past year. The Presidents Council, or an entity designated by the Presidents Council (the Management Council), is permitted to adopt such legislation if it is noncontroversial and necessary in the normal and orderly administration of the Association's legislation. These actions will be referenced in the oral report of the Management Council at the 2024 Division II business session on Saturday, January 13, and acceptance of the report will constitute approval of these actions and incorporation in the 2024-25 NCAA Division II Manual. If a delegate objects to incorporation of a particular amendment, that objection should be raised at the time of the Management Council report. The Division II membership then will decide by majority vote of the eligible voters whether to incorporate that amendment.

NO. NC-2024-1 DIVISION II ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE – PRESIDENTS COUNCIL – MANAGEMENT COUNCIL – ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE – PLANNING AND FINANCE COMMITTEE – EFFECTIVE DATE FOR MANAGEMENT COUNCIL'S COMPOSITION AND DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

**Intent:** To amend the effective date of Sections C (Management Council composition) and D (Management Council duties and responsibilities) of NCAA Division II Proposal No. 2023-7 from August 1, 2023, to February 1, 2024.

**A. Bylaws:** Amend 8.1, as follows: (February 1, 2024)

### 8.1 Division II ~~Presidents Council~~**Executive Board**.

8.1.1 Composition. The composition of the ~~Presidents Council~~**Executive Board** shall ~~be based on a weighted regional representation by institutions that shall include one~~**eight** ~~chancellor or president~~**presidents/chancellors** ~~per region for every 22 institutions in that region (see Bylaw 8.1.1.4.1).~~**based on Division II championships region. In addition, two** ~~one~~ "at-large" ~~positions shall exist~~**president/chancellor** ~~to enhance efforts to achieve diversity of representation and to accommodate independent institutions~~**on the board, and two independent members who are not salaried by an NCAA member institution, conference or affiliated member and shall be approved, appointed and verified as independent by the Executive Board.** The ~~Presidents Council~~**Executive Board** shall also include two ~~members~~**student-athletes** ~~of~~**serving on and chosen by** the Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (one representing male sports and one representing female sports) (see Bylaw 21.8.5.9.5). **The chair of the Division II Management Council shall serve on the Executive Board as an ex-officio, nonvoting member.**

8.1.1.1 Same Conference. To the extent possible, chancellors or presidents from the same conference shall not serve concurrently on the ~~Presidents Council~~**Executive Board**.

8.1.1.2 Same Institution. To the extent possible, members of the ~~Presidents Council~~**Executive Board** and the Management Council (see Bylaw 8.2) shall not be employed at the same institution.

~~8.1.1.3 Eligibility for Membership. The Presidents Council shall be composed of chancellors or presidents representing Division II active member institutions.~~

#### ~~8.1.1.4 Geographical Areas.~~

~~8.1.1.4.1 Geographical Areas. For the purpose of representation on the Presidents Council, the Association shall be divided into geographical areas. The Division II geographical areas are as follows:~~

- ~~(a) Region 1 -- Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia;~~
- ~~(b) Region 2 -- Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Puerto Rico, South Carolina, Tennessee;~~
- ~~(c) Region 3 -- Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Wisconsin; and~~
- ~~(d) Region 4 -- Alaska, Arizona, British Columbia, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Texas, Utah, Washington, Wyoming.~~



*8.1.1.5 Student-Athlete Advisory Committee Members. The two members of the Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee shall each have a vote on the Presidents Council.*

[8.1.2 unchanged.]

8.1.3 Election/Term of Office.

*8.1.3.1 Selection Process. When a vacancy on the Presidents Council occurs, a formal call for nominations shall be published on the NCAA website. In addition, an informational letter to solicit nominations will be mailed to institutions and conference offices in the region in which the vacancy exists. The members of the Council shall select an individual to fill a vacancy after reviewing nominations submitted by institutions and/or conference offices.*

8.1.3.21 Term of Office. ~~Members~~**Presidents, chancellors and independent members** of the Presidents Council~~Executive Board~~ shall serve ~~six~~**two**-year terms, ~~which shall conclude following the annual NCAA Convention~~**that are renewable for an additional two-year term**. Presidents Council members are not eligible for immediate re-election. A Presidents Council member may be elected to an additional term on the Presidents Council after three years have elapsed. An individual who has served two terms on the Presidents Council may not serve further on the Presidents Council.**The two student-athletes appointed to the Executive Board shall serve one-year terms that are renewable for an additional one-year term.**

8.1.3.21.1 Chair and Vice Chair. The chair and the vice chair of the ~~Council~~**Executive Board** shall each serve terms not to exceed ~~three~~**two** years. The chair and vice chair shall not be eligible for immediate re-election to that position. In addition, a member must serve a minimum of one year on the ~~Presidents Council~~**Executive Board** before serving as chair or vice chair.

*8.1.3.2.2 Student-Athletes. The two student-athletes appointed to the Presidents Council shall each serve a one-year term that is renewable for an additional one-year term.*

[8.1.4 unchanged.]

**B. Bylaws:** Amend 8.1.2, as follows: (February 1, 2024)

8.1.2 Duties and Responsibilities. The ~~Presidents Council~~**Executive Board** shall:

(a) Implement policies adopted by the ~~Association's~~**NCAA** Board of Governors;

[8.1.2-(b) unchanged.]

(c) Establish a strategic plan **and/or a set of strategic priorities** for Division II;

[8.1.2-(d) unchanged.]

~~(e) Adopt noncontroversial and intent-based amendments, administrative bylaws and regulations to govern Division II;~~

[8.1.2-(f) through 8.1.2-(g) relettered as 8.1.2-(e) through 8.1.2-(f), unchanged.]

~~(h) g) Identify, before the printing of the notice of any Convention, Division II proposals for which a roll-call vote of the eligible voters may be required and designate during the Convention the roll-call votes that must occur~~**Adopt emergency legislation;**

~~(i) Establish the final sequence of legislative proposals in the agenda for the Division II business session at the annual Convention;~~

[8.1.2-(j) through 8.1.2-(k) relettered as 8.1.2-(h) through 8.1.2-(i), unchanged.]

~~(l) j)~~ **Approve recommendations of the Management Council (see Bylaw 8.2), including the composition of the Management Council;**

[8.1.2-(m) relettered as 8.1.2-(k), unchanged.]

~~(n) l)~~ **Ensure that** there is gender and ethnic diversity among its membership, the membership of the Management Council (see Bylaw 8.2) and the membership of each of the other bodies in the Division II governance structure;

~~(o) m) Develop and a~~**Approve the budget and the use of funds allotted to Division II (e.g., institutional equal distribution funds, funds for the operation of championships);**

[8.1.2-(p) through 8.1.2-(r) relettered as 8.1.2-(n) through 8.1.2-(p), unchanged.]

~~(s) q)~~ **Appoint a Division II Presidents CouncilExecutive Board** member to the NCAA Board of Governors;



[8.1.2-(t) through 8.1.2-(u) relettered as 8.1.2-(r) through 8.1.2-(s), unchanged.]

- (v ~~t~~) ~~Appoint such~~**Create** committees or ~~subcommittees as may be necessary for executing the provisions of this constitution or the Division II bylaws~~**other bodies (e.g., project teams) to study and recommend courses of action on specific issues or to fulfill duties and responsibilities of Division II.**

8.1.2.1 Duties of the Chair. The chair of the ~~Presidents Council~~**Executive Board** shall:

[8.1.2.1-(a) unchanged.]

(b) Preside at ~~Presidents Council~~**Executive Board** meetings;

[8.1.2.1-(c) through 8.1.2.1-(d) unchanged.]

(e) Serve as an ex officio, nonvoting member of the Division II **Strategic** Planning and Finance Committee.

8.1.2.2 Duties of the Vice Chair. The vice chair of the ~~Presidents Council~~**Executive Board** shall:

[8.1.2.2-(a) through 8.1.2.2-(c) unchanged.]

(d) Serve ~~as chair of~~**on** the Division II **Strategic** Planning and Finance Committee.

**C. Bylaws:** Amend 8.2, as follows: (February 1, 2024)

8.2 Division II Management Council.

8.2.1 Composition. The **composition of the** Management Council shall ~~be comprised of~~**include** one ~~administrator or representative~~**member** from each of the Division II multisport voting conferences; ~~one administrator or representative of Division II independent institutions provided there are at least eight Division II independent institutions; two~~**four** "at-large" ~~positions~~**members** to enhance efforts to achieve diversity of representation; and two ~~members of~~**student-athletes serving on and chosen by** the **Division II** Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (**one representing male sports and one representing female sports**) (~~per see~~ Bylaw 21.8.5.9.4). The members shall be representatives of Division II active member institutions. The members of the Council shall include:

- (a) At least ~~four~~**five** directors of athletics;
- (b) At least ~~four~~**five** senior woman administrators;
- (c) At least ~~four~~**five** faculty athletics representatives; and
- (d) At least ~~one~~**two** conference ~~administrator~~**office staff**.

**Once the minimums are met, the Council may include individuals working in athletics administration and individuals that supervise athletics, including but not limited to a vice president, athletic trainer, assistant/associate/deputy director of athletics, and/or other individuals involved in the administration of athletics.**

[8.2.1.1 through 8.2.1.3 unchanged.]

[8.2.2 through 8.2.4 unchanged.]

**D. Bylaws:** Amend 8.2.2, as follows: (February 1, 2024)

8.2.2 Duties and Responsibilities. The Management Council shall:

- (a) Implement policies adopted by the Association's **NCAA** Board of Governors and the ~~Presidents Council~~**Executive Board**;
- (b) Make recommendations to the ~~Presidents Council~~**Executive Board** on matters it deems appropriate;
- (c) ~~Recommend the adoption of~~**Adopt** noncontroversial and intent-based amendments, administrative bylaws and regulations to govern Division II; ~~subject to ratification by the Presidents Council~~;
- (d) Sponsor legislative proposals for a vote at the annual NCAA Convention;**
- ~~(d e)~~ Take final action on matters delegated to it by the ~~Presidents Council~~**Executive Board**;
- ~~(e) Make interpretations of the bylaws of Division II;~~
- (f) Review and act on the recommendations of the Division II committee structure and the recommendations of ~~Division II representatives to~~ committees with Association-wide functions;

[8.2.2-(g) unchanged.]

**(h) Identify, before the printing of the Official Notice for any Convention, Division II proposals for which a roll-call vote of the eligible voters may be required and designate during the Convention the roll-call votes that must occur;**

**(i) Establish the final sequence of legislative proposals in the agenda for the Division II business session at the annual Convention;**

[8.2.2-(h) through 8.2.2-(j) relettered as 8.2.2-(j) through 8.2.2-(l), unchanged.]

**(k m) Recommend the ~~appointment of such committees or subcommittees as may be necessary for executing the provisions of this constitution or the~~ creation of committees or other bodies to study and suggest courses of action on specific issues or to fulfill the duties and responsibilities of** Division II bylaws, subject to ~~ratification~~**approval** by the ~~Presidents Council~~**Executive Board**.

8.2.2.1 Duties of the Chair. The chair of the Management Council shall:

[8.2.2.1-(a) through 8.2.2.1-(f) unchanged.]

8.2.2.2 Duties of the Vice Chair. The vice chair of the Management Council shall:

[8.2.2.2-(a) through 8.2.2.2-(b) unchanged.]

(c) Serve as a member of the Division II **Strategic** Planning and Finance Committee; and

[8.2.2.2-(d) unchanged.]

[8.2.2.3 unchanged.]

**E. Bylaws:** Amend 8.3, as follows: (August 1, 2023)

8.3 Division II Administrative Committee.

8.3.1 Composition. The Administrative Committee shall consist of five members, including the chairs and vice chairs of the ~~Presidents Council~~**Executive Board** and, Management Council, **and the chair of the Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.** ~~The fifth member shall be another member of the Presidents Council.~~

[8.3.1.1 unchanged.]

[8.3.2 through 8.3.3 unchanged.]

**F. Bylaws:** Amend 8.4, as follows: (February 1, 2024)

8.4 Division II **Strategic** Planning and Finance Committee.

8.4.1 Composition. The Division II **Strategic** Planning and Finance Committee shall consist of ~~seven~~**11** members, including the vice chair of the ~~Presidents Council~~**Executive Board**, **two members** ~~the vice chair~~ of the Management Council, **one of which must include the vice chair, three additional members of the Presidents Council and two additional members of the Management Council. one conference commissioner, one member from the Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, and six additional members.** ~~The chairs of the Presidents Council and the Management Council shall serve as ex officio, nonvoting members.~~ **At least one of the 11 members shall be from a minority-serving institution.**

[8.4.1.1 unchanged.]

8.4.2 Duties. The Division II **Strategic** Planning and Finance Committee shall:

(a) ~~Review budgetary recommendations related to the annual Division II budget~~**Monitor the Division II strategic plan/ strategic priorities; and assess and report on its implementation and recommend updates, when necessary, consistent with the Division II philosophy, strategic position and direction from the Division II Executive Board;**

(b) ~~Advise both the Division II Presidents Council and Management Council regarding the division's financial affairs~~**Provide regular reports on the implementation of the strategic plan/strategic priorities of the Division II Management Council and Executive Board;**

(c) ~~Monitor the Division II strategic plan, assess and report on its implementation and recommend updates of the plan, when necessary, consistent with the Division II philosophy, strategic position and direction from the Division II~~

~~Presidents Council~~**Make recommendations related to the Division II budget and budget guidelines and principles;**  
~~and~~

- (d) ~~Provide regular reports on the implementation of the strategic plan to the Division II Management Council and Presidents Council.~~**Ensure alignment of the division's strategic plan/strategic priorities with financial allocations; and**

- (e) Advise both the Division II Executive Board and Management Council regarding the division's financial affairs.**

**Source:** NCAA Division II Presidents Council (Management Council).

**Effective Date:**

Sections A, B, C, D, F: February 1, 2024

Section E: August 1, 2023

**Additional Information:**

Delaying the effective date for the change in composition and duties and responsibilities for the Management Council will provide an opportunity for an expanded pool of candidates to meet the new requirements in Proposal No. 2023-7 (Division II organizational structure -- presidents council -- management council -- administrative committee -- planning and finance committee).

NO. NC-2024-2 COMMITTEES -- ASSOCIATION-WIDE COMMITTEES -- GENERAL COMMITTEES -- RESEARCH COMMITTEE -- ELIMINATION OF RESEARCH COMMITTEE

**Intent:** To eliminate the NCAA Research Committee.

**Bylaws:** Amend 21.2, as follows:

[Common provision, all divisions, divided vote]

21.2 Association-Wide Committees -- General Committees.

[21.2.1 through 21.2.6 unchanged.]

~~21.2.7 Research Committee.~~

~~21.2.7.1 Composition: The Research Committee shall consist of 10 members, including four representatives from Division I, two each from Divisions II and III and two unallocated. In addition, three positions shall be allocated for men, three allocated for women and four unallocated. The membership of the committee shall consist of at least three athletics administrators and at least three faculty athletics representatives with appropriate research experience.~~

~~21.2.7.2 Duties: The committee shall:~~

- ~~(a) Promote and encourage graduate student research on psychosocial aspects of intercollegiate athletics by administering the Association's Graduate Student Research Grant Program;~~
- ~~(b) Assist staff in the evaluation of data-sharing requests submitted by the membership, as needed;~~
- ~~(c) Study and make recommendations to the NCAA research staff and governance committees concerning opportunities for Association or collaborative research at the nexus of higher education and athletics;~~
- ~~(d) Confer with research staff on issues related to the Research Review Board, its policies and standard operating procedures; and~~
- ~~(e) Monitor progress of the most significant research endeavors undertaken by the NCAA research staff at the behest of the Association.~~

[21.2.8 through 21.2.10 renumbered as 21.2.7 through 21.2.9, unchanged.]

**Source:** NCAA Division II Management Council (Board of Governors).

**Effective Date:** Immediate

**Additional Information:**

The NCAA Board of Governors commissioned a review of NCAA Association-Wide committees and potential changes to better align the committees' work with the new NCAA constitution. The result of a preliminary review was a recommendation to eliminate the NCAA Research Committee. Over time the work in this area changed and is no longer necessary to serve the membership. This proposal is recommended as noncontroversial legislation, inasmuch as broader consultation and debate are unlikely to improve the proposal in any substantial way, significant disagreement or alternative points of view will not be generated and there does not appear to be a significant impact on existing or proposed legislation.

NO. NC-2024-3 COMMITTEES – PLAYING RULES OVERSIGHT PANEL AND RULES COMMITTEES – DUTIES –  
ELIMINATION OF COMMON RULES REQUIREMENT

**Intent:** To eliminate the requirement that playing rules shall be common for all divisions of the Association.

**A. Bylaws:** Amend 21.1, as follows:

[Common provision, all divisions, divided vote]

21.1 Playing Rules Oversight Panel.

[21.1.1 through 21.1.3 unchanged.]

21.1.4 Duties. The panel shall:

[21.1.4-(a) through 21.1.4-(d) unchanged.]

~~(e) Review and act on requests from any division to exempt it from applying or delaying implementation of a playing rule for financial reasons;~~

[21.1.4-(f) through 21.1.4-(g) relettered as 21.1.4-(e) through 21.1.4-(f), unchanged.]

[21.1.5 through 21.1.6 unchanged.]

**B. Bylaws:** Amend 21.3, as follows:

[Common provision, all divisions, divided vote]

21.3 Association-Wide Committees – Rules Committees Without Championships Administration Responsibilities.

21.3.1 Selection, Composition, Duties, Term of Office and Operation.

[21.3.1.1 through 21.3.1.2 unchanged.]

21.3.1.3 Duties. Subject to the final authority of the Playing Rules Oversight Panel, each rules committee shall establish and maintain rules of play in its sport consistent with the sound traditions of the sport and of such character as to ensure good sportsmanship and safe participation by the competitors. ~~These playing rules shall be common for all divisions of the Association, and differences among the divisions shall not be permitted, except for the division-specific playing regulations developed to address significant financial impact and approved by the divisions and the Playing Rules Oversight Panel.~~ Playing rules committees shall have the authority to permit rules experimentation in the nontraditional/nonchampionship season without the Playing Rules Oversight Panel approval. Experimentation in the regular season shall be subject to the Playing Rules Oversight Panel review.

[21.3.1.4 through 21.3.1.6 unchanged.]

[21.3.2 through 21.3.14 unchanged.]

**C. Bylaws:** Amend 21.4, as follows:

[Common provision, all divisions, divided vote]

21.4 Common Committees – Committees With Playing Rules and Championships Administration Responsibilities.

21.4.1 Selection, Composition, Duties, Term of Office and Operation.

[21.4.1.1 through 21.4.1.4 unchanged.]

21.4.1.5 Duties.

21.4.1.5.1 Rules of Play. Subject to the final authority of the Playing Rules Oversight Panel, each rules committee shall establish and maintain rules of play in its sport consistent with the sound traditions of the sport and of such character as to ensure good sportsmanship and safe participation by the competitors. ~~These playing rules shall be common for all divisions of the Association, and differences among the divisions shall not be permitted, except for the division-specific playing regulations developed to address significant financial impact and approved by the divisions and the Playing Rules Oversight Panel.~~ Playing rules committees shall have the authority to permit rules experimentation in the nontraditional/nonchampionship season without the Playing Rules Oversight Panel approval. Experimentation in the regular season shall be subject to Playing Rules Oversight Panel review.

[21.4.1.5.2 through 21.4.1.5.4 unchanged.]

[21.4.1.6 unchanged.]

[21.4.2 through 21.4.7 unchanged.]

**D. Administrative:** Amend 31.1.6, as follows:

[Common provision, all divisions, divided vote]

31.1.6 Playing Rules.

[31.1.6.1 through 31.1.6.2 unchanged.]

~~31.1.6.3 Modifications to Non-NCAA Rules – Consistency Among Divisions: Rules modifications for sports in which the Association does not publish rules must be consistent among all three divisions.~~

**Source:** NCAA Division II Management Council (Playing Rules Oversight Panel).

**Effective Date:** Immediate

**Additional Information:**

The new NCAA constitution, which was adopted by the membership in January 2022 and was effective August 1, 2022, includes a provision that calls for flexibility at the divisional level in establishing the rules for sports competitions. This proposal is intended to effectuate the application of the flexibility required by the constitution. Rules committees and committees with both playing rules and championship administration responsibilities will be maintained as common committees (requiring inclusion of members from each applicable division). Maintaining the committees as such will encourage the establishment and maintenance of common playing rules insofar as it is prudent and appropriate. However, the committees will have the flexibility to establish differences in divisional playing rules as the divisions deem necessary. The process for recommending divisional differences in the playing rules would be determined by each division through its policies and procedures. The Playing Rules Oversight Panel would still have the authority to not approve recommendations that the panel determines would harm the image of the games, create an unsafe environment for student-athletes or place an unreasonable financial burden on the membership of a particular division. This proposal would enact the flexibility contemplated in the new NCAA constitution but would maintain appropriate involvement of all divisions to balance the need for flexibility with the appropriate level of consistency among the divisions.

NO. NC-2024-4 ELIGIBILITY -- TRANSFER REGULATIONS -- FOUR-YEAR COLLEGE TRANSFERS -- EXCEPTIONS FOR TRANSFERS FROM FOUR-YEAR COLLEGES -- ONE-TIME TRANSFER EXCEPTION -- TRANSFER FROM A NON-DIVISION II INSTITUTION

**Intent:** To specify that the June 15 written notification of transfer date is not applicable to a student-athlete transferring from a non-Division II institution (e.g., Division I, Division III or NAIA).

**Bylaws:** Amend 14.5, as follows:

14.5 Transfer Regulations.

[14.5.1 through 14.5.4 unchanged.]

14.5.5 Four-Year College Transfers. See Bylaw 13.1.1.2 for prohibition against contacting student-athletes of another four-year collegiate institution without first obtaining authorization through the notification of transfer process. (See Bylaw 14.4 for progress-toward-degree requirements for transfer student-athletes.)

[14.5.5.1 through 14.5.5.2 unchanged.]

14.5.5.3 Exceptions for Transfers From Four-Year Colleges. A transfer student (other than one under disciplinary suspension per Bylaw 14.5.1.1) from a four-year collegiate institution is not subject to the residence requirement for intercollegiate competition, provided the student does not have an unfulfilled residence requirement at the institution from which they are transferring (except for the return to the original institution without participation exception) and any of the following exceptions are satisfied. However, during the student-athlete's first academic year of full-time collegiate enrollment, such conditions may serve as a basis for an exception to the residence requirement for transfer students to a Division II institution who, at the time of initial collegiate enrollment, met the requirements for "qualifiers" (set forth in Bylaw 14.3.1.1) in Division II. See Bylaw 14.5.5.1.2.1 for additional information regarding the eligibility of a 2-4-4 transfer who attended the initial four-year institution for less than one academic year.

[14.5.5.3.1 through 14.5.5.3.8 unchanged.]

14.5.5.3.9 One-Time Transfer Exception. The student transfers to the certifying institution from another four-year collegiate institution, and all of the following conditions are met (for graduate students, see Bylaw 14.1.8.1):

[14.5.5.3.9-(a) through 14.5.5.3.9-(c) unchanged.]

(d) The student must provide written notification of transfer to the institution by June 15 (see Bylaw 14.5.5.3.9.1 for an exception for midyear and non-Division II transfers); and

[14.5.5.3.9-(e) unchanged.]

14.5.5.3.9.1 Application of Notification Dates to Midyear and Non-Division II Transfers. A midyear transfer student-athlete or student-athlete transferring from a non-Division II institution (e.g., Division I, Division III or NAIA) is not required to have provided notification of transfer to the institution by the notification deadline in the previous academic year.

[14.5.5.3.9.2 unchanged.]

[14.5.5.4 unchanged.]

**Source:** NCAA Division II Management Council (Legislation Committee).

**Effective Date:** Immediate, for student-athletes transferring for the 2023-24 academic year, and thereafter.

**Additional Information:**

During the 2022 NCAA Convention, the adoption of NCAA Division II Proposal No. 2022-4 (recruiting, eligibility and financial aid – transfer regulations – four-year college transfers – exceptions for transfers from four-year colleges – notification of transfer, one-time transfer exception and financial aid legislation) required, among other conditions, that a transfer student-athlete provide their current institution with written notification of transfer by June 15 in order to utilize NCAA Division II Bylaw 14.5.5.3.9 (one-time transfer exception). Since its adoption, there has been an increase in legislative relief waivers for non-Division II transfer student-athletes due to missing the June 15 written notification of transfer date. The majority of waivers were approved. Removing the June 15 written notification of transfer date for non-Division II transfer student-athletes will eliminate staff legislating through the waiver process. This proposal will not eliminate the need for student-athletes transferring from non-Division II institutions (e.g., Division I, Division III or NAIA) to satisfy the remaining conditions of Division II Bylaw 14.5.5.3.9 (one-time transfer exception) in order to be immediately eligible upon transfer.

NO. NC-2024-5 COMMITTEES – ASSOCIATION-WIDE COMMITTEES – GENERAL COMMITTEES – COMMITTEE ON SPORTSMANSHIP AND ETHICAL CONDUCT – ELIMINATION OF COMMITTEE ON SPORTSMANSHIP AND ETHICAL CONDUCT

**Intent:** To eliminate the NCAA Committee on Sportsmanship and Ethical Conduct.

**Bylaws:** Amend 21.2, as follows:

[Common provision, all divisions, divided vote]

21.2 Association-Wide Committees – General Committees.

[21.2.1 through 21.2.6 unchanged.]

*21.2.7 Committee on Sportsmanship and Ethical Conduct.*



~~21.2.7.1 Composition. The Committee on Sportsmanship and Ethical Conduct shall consist of 11 members. One student-athlete from each division (who shall have one vote each) shall serve as a member of the committee. Each student-athlete may serve on the committee up to one year after completion of their intercollegiate athletics eligibility.~~

~~21.2.7.1.1 Student-Athlete Representation. The Division II student-athlete shall serve as a member of the committee in an advisory capacity and may serve on the committee up to one year after completion of their intercollegiate athletics eligibility.~~

~~21.2.7.2 Duties. The committee shall be responsible for promoting sportsmanship and ethical conduct within the Association.~~

[21.2.8 through 21.2.9 renumbered as 21.2.7 through 21.2.8, unchanged.]

**Source:** NCAA Division II Management Council (Board of Governors).

**Effective Date:** Immediate

**Additional Information:**

The NCAA Board of Governors commissioned a review of NCAA Association-wide committees and potential changes to better align the committees' work with the new NCAA constitution. The continued review has resulted in a recommendation to eliminate the NCAA Committee on Sportsmanship and Ethical Conduct. The work associated with sportsmanship and ethical conduct has expanded so significantly that it has been supported and absorbed by the NCAA national office and other councils and committees in the divisional governance structures, which reflects the importance of sportsmanship and ethical conduct to the Association. This proposal is being recommended as noncontroversial legislation, inasmuch as broader consultation and debate are unlikely to improve the proposal in any substantial way, significant disagreement or alternative points of view will not be generated and there does not appear to be a significant impact on existing or proposed legislation.

NO. NC-2024-6 COMMITTEES -- DIVISION II COMMITTEES -- DIVISION II GENERAL COMMITTEES -- CHAMPIONSHIPS COMMITTEE -- DUTIES -- FINAL AUTHORITY

**Intent:** To specify that the Division II Championships Committee shall have final authority to approve Division II sport and rules committee appointments.

**Bylaws:** Amend 21.8, as follows:

21.8 Division II Committees.

[21.8.1 through 21.8.4 unchanged.]

21.8.5 Division II General Committees. To conduct Division II business in an efficient and orderly fashion, the following Division II committees shall be established and shall report directly to the Division II Management Council.

[21.8.5.1 unchanged.]

21.8.5.2 Championships Committee.

[21.8.5.2.1 unchanged.]

21.8.5.2.2 Duties. The committee shall:

[21.8.5.2.2-(a) through 21.8.5.2.2-(e) unchanged.]

(f) Select **and approve** sports **and rules** committee representatives, ~~subject to ratification by the Division II Management Council;~~

[21.8.5.2.2-(g) through 21.8.5.2.2-(h) unchanged.]

[21.8.5.2.2.1 unchanged.]

[21.8.5.3 through 21.8.5.9 unchanged.]

[21.8.6 unchanged.]

**Source:** NCAA Division II Management Council (Championships Committee).

**Effective Date:** Immediate

## Additional Information:

Currently, the NCAA Division II Management Council is the final authority for approving Division II sport and rules committee appointments. However, given the new governance structure adopted at the 2023 Convention that revises the duties of the Management Council and drives decision making through the structure, the Division II Championships Committee is well positioned to take on this responsibility due to their familiarity with the duties of sport and rules committees and the individuals assigned to them. The Management Council would continue to review the appointments as part of the Championships Committee reports, as informational items.

### NO. NC-2024-7 CHAMPIONSHIPS AND POSTSEASON FOOTBALL AND EXECUTIVE REGULATIONS -- MERGING BYLAW 18 AND 31

**Intent:** To amend and combine Bylaws 18 and 31, as specified.

**A. Bylaws:** Amend 7, as follows:

#### **7.8 Institutional Eligibility.**

**B. Bylaws:** Amend 14, as follows:

14 Eligibility: Academic and General Requirements

[14.01 through 14.1 unchanged.]

14.1.1 Postseason and Regular-Season Competition. To be eligible for regular-season competition, NCAA championships, and for postseason football bowl games, the student-athlete shall meet all of the Association's general eligibility requirements and any additional eligibility requirements adopted by the applicable membership division.

[14.1.1.1 unchanged.]

**14.1.1.2 General Institutional Requirements. The institution shall refrain from entering a student-athlete as an individual or as a member of a team in an NCAA championship, if it is acknowledged by the institution or established through the Association's enforcement procedures that the institution or representative(s) of its athletics interests violated NCAA regulations in the recruiting of the student-athlete. The institution may appeal to the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement for restoration of the student-athlete's eligibility (see Bylaw 14.13).**

[14.1.2 through 14.1.11 unchanged.]

[14.2 through 14.13 unchanged.]

**14.13.4 Protest of Eligibility Status. If a student-athlete has been certified by the institution as eligible to compete in an NCAA championship and the student-athlete's eligibility is protested or a protest is filed, the student-athlete shall not be withheld nor shall the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement rule on such a protest received during the period beginning 24 hours before the event and ending with the conclusion of the event. If there is a break in the continuity of the championship (e.g., between rounds of a basketball tournament) when no competition is being conducted, the student may be withheld from further competition in the championship, provided the protest is made or filed at least 24 hours before the next segment of the championship.**

**C. Bylaws:** Amend 18, as follows:

~~18.4.2.1~~ **18.2.1 General Institutional Requirements. To be eligible to enter a team or an individual in NCAA championship competition:**

~~(a)~~ *The institution shall be an active member in good standing in the appropriate division, or have its sport so classified, and be eligible under the rules of the member conference of which it is a member;*

~~(b)~~ **a** The institution shall have paid its membership dues for the current year in accordance with the deadlines set forth in Bylaw ~~31.2.1~~ **18.2.2.1**;

~~(c)~~ **b** The institution shall designate (in accordance with Bylaw ~~207~~) its athletics program as Division I, Division II or Division III for competition and possible eligibility for championships in those intercollegiate sports recognized by the NCAA;

~~(d)~~ **c** The institution's director of athletics shall certify, annually by October 15, the institution's compliance with Bylaw ~~18.4.2.1~~ **17.8.1.1**;



- (e ~~d~~) The institution shall have confirmed annually its sponsorship of a varsity intercollegiate team in the sport and submitted its race and demographic information by so reporting on the NCAA official information form; ~~and~~
- (f ~~e~~) The institution shall have submitted its race and demographic information to the NCAA through the official submission process; ~~and~~.
- (g) ~~The institution shall refrain from entering a student-athlete as an individual or as a member of a team in an NCAA championship, if it is acknowledged by the institution or established through the Association's enforcement procedures that the institution or representative(s) of its athletics interests violated NCAA regulations in the recruiting of the student-athlete. The institution may appeal to the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement for restoration of the student-athlete's eligibility (see Bylaw 14.13).~~

~~187.48.21.1.4~~ Certification of Compliance – Requirements. The institution's director of athletics shall certify that the following conditions have been satisfied. (See Bylaw 7.3.1.5.7.)

~~187.48.21.1.1.4~~ NCAA Rules Review. The director of athletics or a designated representative, has reviewed with all athletics department staff members the rules and regulations of the NCAA as they apply to the administration and conduct of intercollegiate athletics.

7.8.1.1.2 Coaching Staff Disciplinary Actions. At the time of such certification, and as a result of involvement in a violation of the Association's legislation as determined by the Committee on Infractions or the Management Council, no current member of the institution's coaching staff:

[7.8.1.1.2-(a) through 7.8.1.1.2-(c) unchanged.]

~~187.48.21.1.12.21.4~~ Period of Suspension or Prohibition. The period of suspension or prohibition established by the Committee on Infractions or the Management Council must be in effect for the provisions set forth in Bylaw ~~18.4.2.1.1.27.8.1.1.2~~ to apply.

~~187.48.21.1.12.2.2~~ Due-Process Requirement. The affected coaching staff member must be given through the appropriate institution notice of an opportunity to be heard at both the NCAA hearing resulting in the finding of involvement in the violation and the institutional hearing resulting in suspension or prohibition.

~~187.48.21.1.13.3~~ Certification of Policies, Procedures and Practices. The policies, procedures and practices of the institution, its staff members and representatives of athletics interests are in compliance at the present time with the Association's legislation insofar as the director or athletics can determine.

~~187.48.21.1.14.4~~ Maintenance of Compliance. It is the intention of the institution to maintain such compliance.

~~187.48.21.12.2~~ Additional Requirements. Other requirements for institutional eligibility for championships are set forth in Bylaw ~~31.2.118.2.2~~.

~~187.48.2.2~~ Championships. To be eligible to enter a team or an individual in an NCAA championship, a member institution shall, in addition to meeting the general institutional eligibility requirements set forth in Bylaw ~~18.4.2.17.8.1~~:

[7.8.2-(a) through 7.8.2-(b) unchanged.]

- (c) Report annually to the NCAA through the president or chancellor, on a form approved by the Management Council, the admissions and graduation-rate data specified in Bylaw ~~18.4.2.2.17.8.2.1~~. The data shall be received in the national office not later than January 2. Any data received after that date shall appear on a form postmarked not later than December 26.

~~187.48.2.21.4~~ Admissions and Graduation-Rate Disclosure. An institution shall not be eligible to enter a team or an individual competitor in an NCAA championship unless it has submitted federal graduation rate and enrollment data to the NCAA national office on or before the applicable deadline. (See Bylaw 13.3 for additional regulations.)

~~187.48.2.2.2~~ Exemption From Maximum Awards Limitation. A member institution may be exempt from the maximum awards limitation in a sport provided the institution:

[7.8.2.2-(a) through 7.8.2.2-(c) unchanged.]

## 18 Championships ~~and Postseason Football~~ **Administration**

[18.01 unchanged.]

~~18.01.2 Postseason Competition Not Sponsored by a Collegiate Entity. Competition by member institutions in postseason contests that are not sponsored, promoted, managed and controlled by a collegiate entity shall conform to the requirements set forth in this article and all other applicable legislation of the Association, which may include penalties for violations of these requirements by sponsoring agencies.~~

**18.201.2** Criteria for Establishment or Continuation of Championships. The establishment or continuation of an ~~NCAA National Collegiate Championship or a Division II e~~Championship in a given sport shall be determined on the basis of the requirements in the following bylaws, with sponsorship of a sport based on the Association's records as of September 30 each year **(see Bylaws 18.4.1 and 18.5.2).**

[18.02 unchanged.]

18.02.1.1 National Collegiate Championship. A National Collegiate Championship for a particular sport is postseason competition conducted by the Association for eligible student-athletes and teams of active member institutions to determine the NCAA champion in that sport for all divisions that do not have a separate division championship in that sport. A National Collegiate Championship is established or continued in accordance with the criteria set forth in Bylaws ~~18.2.3 and 18.2.4~~**18.5.2.**

18.02.1.2 Division Championship. A division championship for a particular sport is postseason competition conducted by the Association for eligible student-athletes or teams of active member institutions to determine the division champion in that sport. A division championship is established or continued in accordance with the criteria set forth in Bylaws ~~18.2.3 and 18.2.4~~**18.4.1.**

18.02.2 Mixed Team. A mixed team is a varsity intercollegiate sports team on which at least one individual of each gender competes ~~(see Bylaw 18.2.8.3).~~

[18.02.2 unchanged.]

~~18.02.3 Open Date. An open date is a regular weekend playing date before the end of an institution's regular football schedule on which an institution is not playing a game, or a date approved by the Management Council, by a two-thirds majority of its members present and voting, to enable an institution to assist financially in meeting an unforeseen hardship situation resulting directly from the institution's intercollegiate athletics activities.~~

~~18.02.4 Postseason Football Bowl Game. A postseason football bowl game is a football contest conducted after the regular football season and involving two teams selected because of their regular-season performance (e.g., won-lost record, conference championship).~~

[18.02.4 through 18.02.5 renumbered as 18.02.2 through 18.02.3, unchanged.]

[18.1 unchanged.]

**18.41.21** Institutional Eligibility. **To be eligible to enter a team or an individual in NCAA championship competition the institution shall be an active member in good standing in the appropriate division, or have its sport so classified, and be eligible under the rules of the member conference of which it is a member.**

[18.2 unchanged.]

**18.42.1** Student-Athlete Eligibility. To be eligible for NCAA championships, a student-athlete shall meet all applicable individual-eligibility requirements set forth in NCAA legislation. The general and academic eligibility requirements are set forth in detail in Bylaw 14. **An institution that holds membership in a member conference may not enter teams or individuals in an NCAA championship unless they are eligible for such competition under the rules of that conference.**

**18.42.1.42** Ineligibility for Use of Banned Drugs. A student-athlete who, as a result of a drug test administered by the NCAA, tests positive for use of a substance in a banned drug class, ~~as set forth in Bylaw 31.2.3.1~~, shall be declared ineligible for further participation in postseason and regular-season competition in accordance with the ineligibility provisions in this bylaw.

**18.42.1.42.12** Penalty – Banned Drug Classes Other Than Cannabinoids and Narcotics. A student-athlete who, as a result of a drug test administered by the NCAA, tests positive for use of a substance in a banned drug class other than cannabinoids and narcotics (in accordance with the testing methods authorized by the Board of Governors), shall be subject to the following:

[18.2.1.2.2-(a) through 18.2.1.2.2-(c) unchanged.]

~~18.42.1.42.12.1~~ **18.42.1.42.12.1** Second Positive Test. If a student-athlete who previously tested positive for the use of a substance in a banned drug class other than cannabinoids and narcotics tests positive a second time for the use of a substance in a banned drug class other than cannabinoids and narcotics, they shall lose all remaining regular-season and postseason eligibility in all sports. If a student-athlete who previously tested positive for the use of a substance in a banned drug class other than cannabinoids and narcotics tests positive for the use of a substance in the banned drug class cannabinoids, they shall engage, along with the institution, in an education and management plan for substance misuse as developed and facilitated by the institution (e.g., engagement with campus counseling services, participation in identified programs to address the substance misuse, enrollment in evidence-based educational sessions). If a student-athlete who previously tested positive for the use of a substance in a banned drug class other than cannabinoids and narcotics tests positive for the use of a substance in the banned drug class narcotics, they shall be ineligible for competition for 50 percent of a season in all sports (the first 50 percent of regular-season contests or dates of competition in the season following the positive test). The student-athlete shall remain ineligible until the prescribed penalty is fulfilled and they test negative pursuant to the policies and procedures of the NCAA Drug-Testing Program.

**18.42.1.42.23** Penalty – Narcotics. A student-athlete who, as a result of a drug test administered by the NCAA, tests positive for use of a substance in the banned drug class narcotics (in accordance with the testing methods authorized by the Board of Governors) shall be ineligible for competition during 50 percent of a season of competition in all sports (i.e., 50 percent of all contests or dates of competition in the season following the positive test). The student-athlete shall remain ineligible until the prescribed penalty is fulfilled and they test negative pursuant to the policies and procedures of the NCAA Drug-Testing Program.

**18.42.1.42.23.1** Second Positive Test. If a student-athlete who previously tested positive for the use of a substance in the banned drug class narcotics tests positive a second time for the use of a substance in the banned drug class narcotics or if a student-athlete who previously tested positive for the use of a substance in the banned drug class narcotics tests positive for use of a substance in a banned drug classes other than cannabinoids or narcotics or tests positive for use of a substance in the banned drug class cannabinoids, they shall be subject to the penalties set forth in Bylaws ~~18.4.1.4.1 or 18.4.1.4.3~~ **18.2.1.2.2 or 18.2.1.2.4**.

**18.42.1.42.34** Penalty – Cannabinoids. A student-athlete who, as a result of a drug test administered by the NCAA, tests positive for use of a substance in the banned drug class cannabinoids (in accordance with the testing methods authorized by the Board of Governors) shall engage, along with the institution, in an education and management plan for substance misuse as developed or facilitated by the institution (e.g., engagement with campus counseling services, participation in identified programs to address the substance misuse, enrollment in evidence-based educational sessions). If a student-athlete who previously tested positive for the use of a substance in the banned drug class cannabinoids tests positive for use of a substance other than cannabinoids (substance in a banned drug classes other than cannabinoids or narcotics, substance in the banned drug class narcotics), they shall be subject to the penalties set forth in Bylaws ~~18.4.1.4.1 or 18.4.1.4.2~~ **18.2.1.2.2 or 18.2.1.2.3**.

**18.42.1.42.34.1** Second Positive Test. If a student-athlete who previously tested positive for the use of a substance in the banned drug class cannabinoids tests positive a second time for the use of a substance in the banned drug class cannabinoids, the institution must attest that the student-athlete was compliant with the education and management plan required following the student-athlete's first positive test, as specified by the NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports' policies and procedures, and has agreed to continue to engage in an education and management plan for substance misuse as developed or facilitated by their institution and designed to mitigate any identified at-risk behavior (e.g., engagement with campus counseling services, participation in identified programs to address substance misuse, enrollment in evidence-based educational sessions). If a student-athlete who previously tested positive for the use of a substance in the banned drug class cannabinoids tests positive for use of a substance other than cannabinoids (substance in a banned drug classes other than cannabinoids or narcotics, substance in the banned drug class narcotics), they shall be subject to the penalties set forth in Bylaws 18.4.1.4.1 or 18.4.1.4.2.

**18.42.1.42.34.1.1** Failure to Attest. If an institution cannot or does not attest, the student-athlete shall be considered ineligible for competition during 25-percent of a season in all sports (25-percent of the NCAA Bylaw 17 maximum regular-season contests or dates of competition).

**18.42.1.42.34.2** Third Positive Test and Beyond. If a student-athlete who previously tested positive for the use of a substance in the banned drug class cannabinoids tests positive a third time or more for the use of a substance in the banned drug class cannabinoids, the institution must attest that the student-athlete was compliant with the education and management plan required following the student-athlete's first positive test,

as specified by the NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports' policies and procedures, and has agreed to continue to engage in an education and management plan for substance misuse as developed or facilitated by their institution and designed to mitigate any identified at-risk behavior (e.g., engagement with campus counseling services, participation in identified programs to address substance misuse, enrollment in evidence-based educational sessions). If a student-athlete who previously tested positive for the use of a substance in the banned drug class cannabinoids tests positive for use of a substance other than cannabinoids (substance in a banned drug classes other than cannabinoids or narcotics, substance in the banned drug class narcotics), they shall be subject to the penalties set forth in Bylaws ~~18.4.1.4.1 or 18.4.1.4.2~~ **18.2.1.2.2 or 18.2.1.2.3**.

**18.42.1.42.34.2.1** Failure to Attest. If the institution cannot or does not attest, the student-athlete shall be considered ineligible for competition during 50-percent of a season in all sports (50-percent of the NCAA Bylaw 17 maximum regular-season contests or dates of competition).

**18.42.1.42.45** Breach of NCAA Drug-Testing Program Protocol. A student-athlete who is in breach of the NCAA drug-testing program protocol (e.g., no show) shall be considered to have tested positive for the use of any drug other than a cannabinoid or narcotic.

**18.42.1.42.45.1** Tampering With a Drug-Test Sample. A student-athlete who is involved in a case of clearly observed tampering with an NCAA drug test sample (e.g., urine substitution and related methods), as documented per NCAA drug-testing protocol by a drug-testing crew member, shall be subject to the following:

[18.2.1.2.5.1-(a) through 18.2.1.2.5.1-(c) unchanged.]

**18.42.1.42.56** Transfers. If the student-athlete transfers to another NCAA institution while ineligible, the institution from which the student-athlete transferred must notify the student-athlete's new institution that the student-athlete is ineligible. If the student-athlete transfers to a non-NCAA institution while ineligible and competes in intercollegiate competition during the prescribed period of ineligibility at a non-NCAA institution:

[18.2.1.2.6-(a) through 18.2.1.2.6-(c) unchanged.]

**18.42.1.42.67** Appeals. An institution may appeal the penalty to the Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports (or a designated subcommittee), as specified by the committee's policies and procedures. The committee determination shall be final, binding and conclusive and shall not be subject to further review by an other authority.

**18.42.1.42.8** Non-NCAA Athletics Organization's Positive Drug Test. The Board of Governors shall authorize methods for drug testing any student-athlete who has disclosed in the student-athlete statement (see Bylaw 14.1.3.1) that they have a positive drug test administered by a non-NCAA athletics organization that has adopted the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) code. A student-athlete under a drug-testing suspension from a national or international sports governing body that has adopted the WADA code shall not participate in NCAA intercollegiate competition for the duration of the suspension.

[18.2.1.1 renumbered as 18.2.2.1, unchanged.]

~~18.2.2 Division Championship. A division championship in a particular sport may be established by a majority vote of the Board of Directors in Division I or, in Divisions II and III, a simple majority of all members of that division present and voting at an annual Convention subject to the requirements, standards and conditions regarding the required number of members sponsoring the sport as prescribed in this bylaw.~~

[18.2.2 unchanged.]

~~18.2.3 Championships Existing During 1993-94. A National Collegiate Championship or a division championship that existed during the 1993-94 academic year may be continued if at least 40 member institutions sponsor the sport.~~

~~18.2.4.3 Sponsorship Criteria.~~

~~18.2.4.3.1 Minimum Period. The applicable minimum sponsorship number must exist for one academic year in order for a championship to be established. Legislation to establish the championship may be proposed during the year in which the minimum sponsorship number exists. Varsity sports sponsored before August 1, 1994, shall count toward the minimum one- or two-year sponsorship requirement.~~

~~18.2.4.3.2 National Collegiate and Division Championship in Same Sport. If a National Collegiate Championship and a division championship exist in the same sport, sponsorship of the sport in the division in which the division~~

~~championship is conducted shall not count toward the minimum sponsorship number for the National Collegiate Championship.~~

~~18.2.5 Establishment of Single Championship in Sport. If only one championship is established or continued in accordance with Bylaws 18.2.3 and 18.2.4, it shall be a National Collegiate Championship for which any active member institution in good standing can be eligible.~~

~~18.2.6 Establishment of Three Championships in Sport. If a National Collegiate Championship and two division championships exist in the same sport, the National Collegiate Championship automatically shall become a division championship for the remaining division that does not sponsor a division championship in that sport.~~

~~18.2.7 Establishment of Two Championships in Sport. If a National Collegiate Championship and one division championship exist in the same sport, only the members of the division sponsoring the division championship may participate in the division championship, and that division's membership may not participate in the National Collegiate Championship in that sport.~~

~~18.2.8 Determination of Sponsorship Requirements.~~

~~18.2.8.1 Single-Gender Athletics Programs. For purposes of meeting the required minimums set forth in Bylaws 18.2.3 and 18.2.4, member institutions sponsoring no varsity intercollegiate athletics programs for men shall not be included in making calculations concerning men's championships, and member institutions sponsoring no varsity intercollegiate athletics programs for women shall not be included in making calculations concerning women's championships.~~

~~18.2.8.2 Separate Men's and Women's Teams, Same Sport. For purposes of meeting the required minimums set forth in Bylaws 18.2.3 and 18.2.4 for a combined men's and women's championship, separate varsity intercollegiate men's and women's teams in the same sport at a member institution shall be counted separately.~~

~~18.2.8.3 Mixed Team. For purposes of meeting the required minimums set forth in Bylaws 18.2.3 and 18.2.4, a mixed team (as defined in Bylaw 18.02.2) shall be counted as one team. A mixed team shall count toward the minimum-sponsorship percentage for men's championships.~~

~~18.2.9 Subdivision Requirements. If a division subdivides for the administration of a sport, resulting in less than the applicable minimum number of the division's active members sponsoring the sport on a varsity intercollegiate basis in that subdivision, the subdivision shall meet the requirement within three years of the date the subdivision was created. It may establish and conduct a championship in the interim.~~

18.3 Current Championships. The Association currently administers 90 national championships. There are 11 National Collegiate Championships. Additionally, there are 26 Division I championships, 25 Division II championships and 28 Division III championships. (See ~~Bylaw 31.02.2 for information about the classification and terminology of championships and see~~ Bylaw 9.3.10.1 for the voting requirements for the establishment of a new championship.) The current championships are as follows:

18.3.1 National Collegiate Championships (11).

18.3.2 NCAA Division II Championships (25).

18.4 ~~Eligibility for~~**Administration of Division II** Championships.

18.24.41 Minimum Sponsorship for **Division II** Championships.

~~18.4.1.1 Institution's Responsibility. The responsibility of an institution to withhold from all intercollegiate competition a student-athlete who is ineligible under any NCAA legislation is set forth in Bylaw 14.12.1.~~

~~18.4.1.2 Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement Authority. The Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement shall have final authority to determine all matters pertaining to the eligibility of student-athletes competing in the various NCAA championships submitted by member institutions (see Bylaw 14.13).~~

~~18.4.1.3 Protest of Eligibility Status. If a student-athlete has been certified by the institution as eligible to compete in an NCAA championship and the student-athlete's eligibility is protested, the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement shall not rule on such a protest received during the period beginning 24 hours before the event and ending with the conclusion of the event. (See Bylaw 31.2.2.3 regarding protests received during a break in the continuity of a championship.)~~

18.24.41.1 Men's Sports. A ~~National Collegiate~~**Division II** Championship ~~or a division championship~~ may be established in a men's sport if at least 50 institutions sponsor the sport.



~~18.24.41.2~~ Women's Sports. A ~~National Collegiate C~~**Division II** championship ~~or a division championship~~ may be established in a women's sport if at least 40 institutions sponsor the sport.

~~18.24.101.3~~ Failure to Meet Minimum Sponsorship Requirements. A **Division II** championship shall be discontinued automatically at the conclusion of the academic year in which it falls below the applicable minimum sponsorship number set forth in Bylaws ~~18.2.3 or 18.2.4~~**18.4.1.1 or 18.4.1.2**.

~~18.24.101.13.1~~ Exception -- Olympic Sports. A ~~National Collegiate C~~**Division II** championship ~~or a division championship~~ in any Olympic sport shall be exempt from the minimum-sponsorship requirements of Bylaws ~~18.2.3 and 18.2.4~~**18.4.1.1 and 18.4.1.2**. The membership may adopt specific legislation to discontinue the championship in an Olympic sport.

~~18.24.101.23.2~~ Exception -- Men's and Women's Lacrosse. A ~~National Collegiate C~~**Division II** championship ~~or division championship~~ in the sports of men's and women's lacrosse shall be exempt from the minimum-sponsorship requirements of Bylaws ~~18.2.3 and 18.2.4~~**18.4.1.1 and 18.4.1.2**.

#### **18.4.2 Championship Site Selection.**

~~18.4.1.4.7 Banned Drugs and Drug-Testing Methods. The Board of Governors shall adopt a list of banned drug classes and shall authorize methods for drug testing of student-athletes on a year-round basis. The list of banned drug classes and the procedure for informing member institutions about authorized methods for drug testing are set forth in Bylaw 31.2.3.~~

**18.4.3.3.2 Impact of Nullification on Automatic Qualification for Use of Ineligible Player(s).** The Championships Committee may impose a penalty on an institution's team for permitting ineligible student-athlete(s) to compete in intercollegiate competition (see Bylaws 18.02.1 and 18.4.3.2 regarding nullification penalties for permitting an ineligible student-athlete to compete in intercollegiate competition). An institution that receives a nullification penalty may be denied the right to participate in the appropriate NCAA championship.

**18.4.3.4.2 Impact of Nullification on Earned Access for Use of Ineligible Player(s).** The Championships Committee may impose a penalty on an institution's team for permitting ineligible student-athlete(s) to compete in intercollegiate competition (see Bylaws 18.02.1 and 18.4.3.2 regarding nullification penalties for permitting an ineligible student-athlete to compete in intercollegiate competition). An institution that receives a nullification penalty may be denied the right to participate in the NCAA championship.

[18.4.2.1 renumbered as 18.4.4.1, unchanged.]

~~18.4.2.1.3 Petitioning for Division I Classification. A Division II institution petitioning for Division I institutional membership or eligibility in a sport (in accordance with Bylaw 7) shall have operated in conformity with the requirements of Bylaw 18.4.2.2(a) for a period of two years before the effective date of its Division I membership or be ineligible for Division I championships.~~

[18.4.2.2 renumbered as 18.4.4.2, unchanged.]

[18.4.3 renumbered as 18.4.5, unchanged.]

#### **18.5 National Collegiate Championships.**

~~18.5.1 Division Championship. To be eligible for automatic qualification into any Division II Championship, a conference shall meet the requirements set forth in Bylaw 31.3.4.~~

~~18.25.1~~ National Collegiate Championship. A National Collegiate Championship for which any active member in good standing is eligible (per Bylaw 7.3.2) may be established by action of all three divisions acting through each division's governance structure, subject to the requirements, standards and conditions regarding the required number of members sponsoring the sport as prescribed in this bylaw.

#### **18.5.2 Minimum Sponsorship for National Collegiate Championships.**

**18.5.2.1 Men's Sports.** A National Collegiate Championship may be established in a men's sport if at least 50 institutions sponsor the sport.

**18.5.2.2 Women's Sports.** A National Collegiate Championship may be established in a women's sport if at least 40 institutions sponsor the sport.

**18.5.2.3 Failure to Meet Minimum Sponsorship Requirements. A championship shall be discontinued automatically at the conclusion of the academic year in which it falls below the applicable minimum sponsorship number set forth in Bylaws 18.5.2.1 or 18.5.2.2.**

**18.5.2.3.1 Exception -- Olympic Sports. A National Collegiate Championship in any Olympic sport shall be exempt from the minimum-sponsorship requirements of Bylaws 18.5.2.1 and 18.5.2.2. The membership may adopt specific legislation to discontinue the championship in an Olympic sport.**

**18.5.2.3.2 Exception -- Men's and Women's Lacrosse. A National Collegiate Championship in the sports of men's and women's lacrosse shall be exempt from the minimum-sponsorship requirements of Bylaws 18.5.2.1 and 18.5.2.2.**

~~18.25.32.14~~ National Collegiate and Division II Championship in Same Sport. If a National Collegiate Championship and a ~~division~~**Division II** championship exist in the same sport, **Division II** sponsorship of the sport ~~in the division in which the division championship is conducted~~ shall not count toward the minimum sponsorship number for the National Collegiate Championship.

18.5.3 Automatic Qualification ~~by Conference~~.

18.5.23.1 National Collegiate Championship. To be eligible for automatic qualification into any National Collegiate Championship, a conference shall:

[18.5.3.1-(a) unchanged.]

- (b) Meet all applicable requirements for conference automatic qualification into any National Collegiate Championship as set forth in Bylaw ~~31.3.4~~**18.5.3.1.1**.

**18.5.3.1.2 Limitation on Automatic-Qualifying Positions. A member conference that satisfies the general requirements for automatic qualification is eligible for one automatic qualification per applicable sport.**

[18.5.3.1.1 renumbered as 18.6.2.1.1, unchanged.]

[18.5.4 renumbered as 18.6.3, unchanged.]

18.67 Playing Rules for Championships. In sports in which the Association maintains rules committees, the rules adopted by said committees shall govern the conduct of all NCAA-sponsored events in those sports. ~~In those sports in which the Association does not maintain rules committees, the rules to be used are specified in Bylaw 31.1.6.~~

[18.6.1 through 18.6.2 renumbered as 18.7.1 through 18.7.2, unchanged.]

**D. Administrative:** Amend 31, as follows:

~~31~~**18.02.1** Automatic Qualification. Automatic qualification is the automatic entry into a championship field by a team or individual student-athletes representing a member conference recommended by the appropriate sports committee and approved by the Championships Committee (see Bylaw 31.3.4).

~~31~~**18.02.34** Misconduct. Misconduct in an NCAA championship is any act of dishonesty, unsportsmanlike conduct, unprofessional behavior or breach of law, occurring from the time the championship field is announced through the end of the championship that discredits the event or intercollegiate athletics.

~~31~~**18.02.45** Nullification. Nullification is a penalty imposed on an institution by the Championships Committee for permitting an ineligible student-athlete to compete in intercollegiate competition.

~~31~~**18.2** Eligibility for Championships.

~~31~~**18.2.1.71** Notification of Ineligibility. An institution shall advise the NCAA championships staff if a student-athlete who has participated in regular-season competition becomes ineligible before the date on which the governing sports committee selects championship participants, as indicated in the appropriate championships handbook.

~~31~~**18.2.31.42.1** Banned Drugs. The following is the list of banned-drug classes, which aligns with the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) list of prohibited classes, with the exception of the glucocorticoid class. The Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports (or a designated subcommittee) has the authority to identify banned drugs within each class. The institution and student-athletes shall be held accountable for all drugs within the banned-drug classes regardless of whether they have specifically identified.

[18.2.1.2.1-(a) through 18.2.1.2.1-(i) unchanged.]

~~31~~**18.2.31.42.1.1** Drugs and Procedures Subject to Restrictions. The use of the following drugs and/or procedures is subject to certain restrictions and may or may not be permissible, depending on limitations expressed in these guidelines and/or quantities of these substances used:

[18.2.1.2.1.1-(a) through 18.2.1.2.1.1-(f) unchanged.]

~~31~~**18.2.31.2.9** Medical Exceptions. Exceptions to the prohibition on use of any substance in a banned-drug class may be provided to a student-athlete, as specified in the policies and procedures of the Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports.

~~31~~**18.2.31.32.10** Methods for Drug Testing. The methods and any future modifications authorized by the Board of Governors for drug testing of student-athletes shall be posted to the NCAA website. Copies of the modifications shall be available to member institutions.

~~31~~**18.2.31.42.11** Events Identified for Drug Tests. The Board of Governors shall determine the regular-season and postseason competition for which drug tests shall be made and the procedures to be followed in disclosing its determinations.

~~31~~**18.2.31.52.12** Individual Eligibility – Team Sanctions. Executive regulations pertaining to team-eligibility sanctions for positive tests resulting from the NCAA drug-testing program shall apply only in the following situation: If a student-athlete is declared ineligible before an NCAA team championship or a certified postseason football game and the institution knowingly allows them to participate, all team-ineligibility sanctions shall apply (i.e., the team shall be required to forfeit its awards and any revenue distribution it may have earned, and the team's and student-athlete's performances shall be deleted from NCAA records). In the case of certified postseason football contests, the team's and student-athlete's performances shall be deleted from NCAA records.

~~31~~**18.2.12** Institutional Eligibility. To be eligible to enter teams or individual student-athletes in NCAA championships, an institution shall ~~recognize the sport involved as a varsity intercollegiate sport (see Bylaw 17.02.16) and shall meet the institutional requirements set forth in Bylaw 18.4.2 applicable to the division in which the institution is a member or for which it is petitioning for eligibility in a sport~~**be an active member in good standing and list the sport on the NCAA sports sponsorship report by the established deadline for the applicable year (see Bylaw 18.2.2.1).** An institution that holds membership in a member conference may not enter teams or individuals in an NCAA championship unless they are eligible for such competition under the rules of that conference ~~[see Bylaw 18.4.2.1(a)]~~, as well as any additional requirements specified in the applicable pre-championship manual.

~~31~~**18.2.12.21** Deadline. The institutional eligibility requirements for entry into NCAA championships ~~(see Bylaw 18.4.2)~~ must be met by the following dates:

[18.2.2.1-(a) through 18.2.2.1-(c) unchanged.]

~~31~~**18.2.12.32** Deadline Waivers. Institutions that fail to meet a deadline for institutional eligibility in NCAA championships may appeal to the Championships Committee for a waiver. This waiver is available only in those instances when the institution officially sponsors the sport and fails to list the sport on the NCAA sports sponsorship report prior to the appropriate deadline. If the Championships Committee grants the appeal, then the institution's eligibility may be restored for NCAA championships.

~~31~~**18.14.32.21.1** Criteria for Regional Site Determination. The top-seeded team, as determined by the governing sports committee, shall be provided the opportunity to host the regional competition, provided the specific criteria that have been developed by the governing sports committee have been met as well as ~~the following~~**any** general site-selection criteria:**outlined in Championships Committee policy.**

~~(a) Quality and availability of the facility and other necessary accommodations;~~

~~(b) Revenue potential (e.g., a financial guarantee or guideline that ensures fiscal responsibility and is appropriate for the particular event, as recommended by the governing sports committee and approved by the Championships Committee); and~~

~~(c) Attendance history and potential.~~

~~31~~**18.4.12.2** Host Institution's Responsibility. The host institution shall administer the finances of an NCAA championship in accordance with ~~this bylaw~~**championship policy** and consistent with the institution's championship budget, as submitted to and approved by the governing sports committee and the Championships Committee.

~~31~~**18.34.3** Criteria for Selection of Participants.



~~31.18.14.3.21.1.1~~ Team Championships Pairings. Sports committees shall pair teams strictly within their regions.

~~31.18.34.3.12~~ Criteria for Selection in Team Sports. To be considered for championship selection, a team must satisfy all scheduling requirements as outlined by championships policy in that sport (e.g., minimum number of Division II or in-region contests). The following criteria shall be employed by a governing sports committee in selecting participants for NCAA championships competition:

[18.4.3.2-(a) through 18.4.3.2-(d) unchanged.]

~~31.18.34.43.3~~ Automatic Qualification. Each governing sports committee may recommend annually to the Championships Committee those multisport voting conferences that should receive **one** automatic qualification **position** for their teams into NCAA championships conducted in team sports, timed individual sports and other individual sports as identified in Bylaw 17.02.16. The decision of the Championships Committee shall be final. *Before recommending that a conference receive automatic qualification, a governing sports committee shall ensure that the member conference meets the requirements specified in Bylaws 31.3.4.1 and 31.3.4.2.*

~~31.18.34.43.13.1~~ Requirements -- Division Championship. To be eligible for automatic qualification in any Division II championship, a member conference must meet the following general requirements:

- (a) Been a multisport voting member conference of the Association for five consecutive academic years (see Bylaw 7.3.5.1.3.); **and**

[18.4.3.3.1-(b) unchanged.]

*Once a conference has satisfied the requirements for automatic qualification in a Division II championship set forth in Bylaws 31.3.4.1-(a) and 31.3.4.1-(b), the conference must also meet the following criteria:*

- ~~(c) Conference Membership. All institutions may hold membership in only that conference in the sport in which automatic qualification is sought and may participate in only that conference's process to determine the automatic qualifier.~~
- ~~(d) Conference Competition and Selection of Champion. Conference competition conducted in accordance with Bylaw 7.1.4.2 must be conducted in the applicable sport and the conference champion in that sport must be determined not later than the date on which participants are selected for the NCAA championship, either by regular in-season conference competition or a conference meet or tournament, as indicated at the time of application.~~
- ~~(e) Conference With Subdivisions and Selection of Champion. A conference may establish subdivisions and conduct competition within each subdivision to determine a conference champion, provided each subdivision consists of at least four members. Conferences with subdivisions of four members must conduct double round-robin competition within each subdivision, plus a postseason tournament, to determine their champion. Conferences with subdivisions of five or more members may conduct either single or double round-robin competition within each subdivision, plus a postseason tournament, to determine their champion.~~
- ~~(f) Conference Selection of Champion Due to Unforeseen Circumstances.~~
  - ~~(1) Championship That Results in Tie. In the event of a tie for the conference championship, the conference shall have the responsibility of determining which team or individual shall represent the conference in NCAA competition. If a playoff is held, such competition shall be considered conference competition, not NCAA competition.~~
  - ~~(2) Unexpected Termination of Championship. If a conference's competition to determine its automatic qualifier is unexpectedly terminated (e.g., due to inclement weather), the conference may designate its qualifier, provided it has established objective criteria for making that designation and has communicated that information to the appropriate sports committee by a specified deadline.~~
- ~~(g) Conference Champion Ineligible, Declines to or Cannot Compete. All eligible member institutions must agree to participate in the appropriate NCAA championship. If a conference's automatic qualifier is ineligible to compete, declines to compete or cannot compete for any reason, automatic qualification shall be withdrawn for that year, and the remaining conference members shall be considered at large. Conference policy shall determine how a conference's automatic qualifier is determined for championship selection.~~
- ~~(h) Conference Champion Declines to Compete Based on Religious Practices. Automatic qualification for a conference shall not be withdrawn if a conference champion declines to compete in an NCAA championship for reasons related to written religious policies against competition on certain days. Under such circumstances, the~~

~~conference's second-place team (as determined by the conference), shall receive the automatic bid to the NCAA championship.~~

- ~~(i) Quality of Competition. Competition in the applicable sport must be of sufficient quality to warrant automatic qualification. The criteria for determining the quality of competition shall be win-loss record and strength of schedule of both the conference as a whole and its individual member institutions.~~
- ~~(j) Conference Compliance Requirement. The conference must maintain and actively enforce compliance with eligibility rules at least as stringent as those in Bylaw 14 applicable to its members.~~
- ~~(k) Impact of Nullification on Automatic Qualification for Use of Ineligible Player(s). The Championships Committee may impose a penalty on an institution's team for permitting ineligible student-athlete(s) to compete in intercollegiate competition (see Bylaws 31.02.4 and 31.3.3 regarding nullification penalties for permitting an ineligible student-athlete to compete in intercollegiate competition). An institution that receives a nullification penalty may be denied the right to participate in the appropriate NCAA championship.~~

~~31.18.34.43.73.3~~ **Limitation on Automatic-Qualifying Positions.** A member conference that satisfies the general requirements for automatic qualification is eligible for one automatic qualification per applicable sport (see Bylaws 31.3.4.1 and 31.3.4.2).

~~31.18.34.53.4~~ **Earned Access – Football.** The Division II Football Committee shall award earned access to the NCAA Division II Football Championship to Division II football-playing conferences for which at least one member institution finishes no more than two spots lower than the super region bracket size in the final NCAA Division II football regional ranking. To be awarded earned access, the conference shall have a minimum of six active football-playing members. The earned access shall go to the conference's highest-ranked team in the final regional Top 10 poll.

~~31.18.34.53.74.1~~ **Requirements.** To be eligible for earned access to the football championship, a member conference must meet the following general requirements:

[18.4.3.4.1-(a) unchanged.]

- (b) Have at least six active members that sponsor football at the varsity intercollegiate level in which earned access is sought and that are eligible for the NCAA championship, and have had at least six active members that are eligible for the NCAA championship participate in the process that determines possible earned access. Institutions that are affiliate members of a Division II football-playing conference may be used to satisfy the sponsorship requirement for earned access in football.

~~[Once a conference has satisfied the requirements for earned access set forth in Bylaw 31.3.5.1-(a) and Bylaw 31.3.5.1-(b) the conference must also meet the following criteria:]~~

- ~~(c) Conference Membership. All institutions may hold membership in only that conference in football in which earned access is sought and may participate in only that conference's process to determine if earned access is provided.~~
- ~~(d) Conference Compliance Requirement. The conference must maintain and actively enforce compliance with eligibility rules at least as stringent as those in Bylaw 14 applicable to its members.~~
- ~~(e) Impact of Nullification on Earned Access for Use of Ineligible Player(s). The Championships Committee may impose a penalty on an institution's team for permitting ineligible student-athlete(s) to compete in intercollegiate competition (see Bylaws 31.02.4 and 31.3.3 regarding nullification penalties for permitting an ineligible student-athlete to compete in intercollegiate competition). An institution that receives a nullification penalty may be denied the right to participate in the NCAA championship.~~

~~31.18.34.63.5~~ **Selection of Balance of Championship Field.** Once the official representative(s) of each qualifying conference is determined, the governing sports committee responsible for selection of the balance of the championship field shall consider objectively and without prejudice the competitive records of all other eligible student-athletes and teams (including representatives of the other members of the conferences receiving automatic qualification). To the best of its ability, the committee shall select the most highly qualified individuals and teams to complete the championship field in accordance with the regional structure, if any, approved for the particular championship.

~~31.18.35.43.21.1~~ **Requirements – National Collegiate Championship.** To be eligible for automatic qualification in a National Collegiate Championship, a member conference must meet the following general requirements:

[18.5.3.1.1-(a) through 18.5.3.1.1-(d) unchanged.]

~~31.18.35.74~~ **Institution Trademarks.** Participation in a National Collegiate Championship constitutes acquiescence by the member institution that the Association may use the institution's name, mascot and other identifying marks in championship-related activities, including television, promotion, licensing and merchandising programs incident to the championship. Revenues derived from such activities, less expenses, will be remitted to the member institution.

~~31.18.16.61.7~~ **Non-NCAA Rules, Men's Sports.** In those men's sports in which the Association does not publish rules, the NCAA championships shall be conducted according to the following, except where those rules are superseded by modifications recommended by the appropriate governing sports committee and approved by the Playing Rules Oversight Panel (see Bylaw 18.6):

[18.6.1-(a) through 18.6.1-(g) unchanged.]

~~31.18.16.62.2~~ **Non-NCAA Rules, Women's Sports.** In those women's sports in which the Association does not publish rules, the NCAA championships shall be conducted according to the following, except where those rules are superseded by modifications recommended by the appropriate governing sports committee and approved by the Playing Rules Oversight Panel (see Bylaw 18.6):

[18.6.2-(a) through 18.6.2-(h) unchanged.]

## 31 Executive Regulations

### ~~31.01 General Principles.~~

~~31.01.1 Names of Championships.~~ All NCAA championships (see Bylaw 18.3) have formal designations that identify their appropriate category and sport classification (see Bylaw 31.02.2). The name of each championship is the property of the Association (see Bylaw 31.6).

~~31.01.2 Postseason Championship Opportunities.~~ NCAA championships are intended to provide national championship competition among the best eligible student-athletes and teams at the conclusion of the respective sport seasons, with consideration for regional structures that may be approved for certain championships.

~~31.01.3 Size of Championships Fields.~~ The size of all NCAA championships fields shall be established by the Championships Committee to provide for efficient management of the events, adequate NCAA championship opportunities relative to the nationwide quality of competition and sound economic administration of the financial resources of the Association and its championships. (See Bylaw 31.3.1 for the criteria to be considered in establishing the size of the championship field.)

~~31.01.4 Economy of Operation.~~ Every sports committee (see Figure 21-1) and games committee (Bylaw 31.1.2) shall exercise all possible economy in the conduct of an NCAA championship.

### ~~31.02 Definitions and Applications.~~

#### ~~31.02.2 Championships Classification and Terminology.~~

~~31.02.2.1 Team Championships.~~ Team championships are those conducted for the team sports (see Bylaw 17.02.16.1). The title of a team championship is always singular and is identified as a National Collegiate Championship or a division championship (e.g., National Collegiate Women's Rifle Championship, Division II Men's Basketball Championship).

~~31.02.2.2 Individual-Team Championships.~~ Individual-team championships are those conducted for the individual sports (see Bylaw 17.02.16.2). The title of an individual-team championship is always plural, reflecting the fact that both individual and team championships are determined (e.g., National Collegiate Men's Gymnastics Championships, Division II Women's Tennis Championships).

### ~~31.1 Administration of NCAA Championships.~~

~~31.1.1 Authority of Championships and Sports Committees.~~ As specified in Bylaw 18.1, all NCAA championships shall be conducted in accordance with the general policies established by the Championships Committee, the Management Council, the Presidents Council and/or the Board of Governors and shall be under the control, direction and supervision of the appropriate sports committees, subject to the standards and conditions set forth in these executive regulations. Additional policies of an administrative nature are set forth in the respective championships handbooks and are to be followed in the administration of NCAA championships.

~~31.1.1.1 Appeal of Decisions of Sports Committees.~~ An appeal of a decision of a governing sports committee, or a subcommittee designated by it, concerning questions of individual or institutional eligibility or the conduct of a championship will not be considered by the Championships Committee at any time during the championship or 48 hours immediately before the championship. During such period, the governing sports committee, or a

~~subcommittee designated by it, shall be the final authority in acting upon appeals concerning the conduct of the championship, subject to the provisions of Bylaw 31.2 regarding institutional and individual eligibility questions.~~

~~31.1.1.2 Appeal of Nullification Decisions of Championships Committee. An appeal of a nullification will be considered by the Championship Committee, or a subcommittee designated by it, within 72 business hours (8 a.m.-5 p.m. in all time zones) of a nullification decision. During such period, the Championships Committee, or a subcommittee designated by it, shall be the final authority acting on appeals concerning nullification decisions.~~

~~31.1.1.3 Waivers. The NCAA president shall be authorized to grant waivers of executive regulations governing the conduct of an NCAA championship when warranted by special and unusual circumstances.~~

~~31.1.2 Games Committee. The governing sports committee shall appoint a games committee to supervise actively the conduct of each championship session. The games committee conducting any NCAA championship shall limit participation to eligible student-athletes and may limit the number of entries or reject any application for entry in any event in order that the competition shall best promote the welfare and interest of the sport involved.~~

~~31.1.3 Sites and Dates. The governing sports committees recommend to the Championships Committee the sites and dates for all NCAA championships.~~

~~31.1.3.1 Championships Committee Approval. Championships Committee approval shall be obtained before final site commitments are made to the host institution or any other individual or organization associated with the management of an NCAA championship. However, in the sports of baseball, basketball, field hockey, football, ice hockey, lacrosse, soccer, softball and volleyball, the governing sports committees are authorized to select sites for preliminary rounds of competition without prior Championships Committee approval.~~

~~31.1.3.2 Site Selection. The governing sports committees shall evaluate prospective sites for NCAA championships in terms of the specific criteria approved by the Championships Committee. The division championships committees may assign specific priorities to these criteria for their respective championships. These shall be specified in the appropriate pre-championships manuals. A governing sports committee that desires to use additional criteria shall obtain Championships Committee approval before doing so.~~

~~31.1.3.2.2 Criteria for National Championship Site Determination. The following criteria are to be used in the evaluation of sites for all national championships:~~

- ~~(a) Quality and availability of the facility and other necessary accommodations;~~
- ~~(b) Revenue potential (e.g., financial guarantee or guideline that ensures fiscal responsibility and is appropriate for the particular event, as recommended by the governing sports committee and approved by the Championships Committee);~~
- ~~(c) Attendance history and potential; and~~
- ~~(d) Geographical location (e.g., a site that minimizes travel expenses).~~

~~31.1.3.2.3 Nonpredetermined Site. When a championship site is not predetermined, the governing sports committee may award the site to the higher-ranked team if the above criteria, and any priorities established by the respective division championships committee, are met.~~

~~31.1.3.2.4 On-Campus Versus Off-Campus Sites. Preference shall be given to conducting competition on the grounds or in the buildings of educational institutions unless there are compelling reasons, based on evaluation of the criteria in Bylaw 31.1.3.2.1 (which shall be applied to both on-campus and off-campus sites), to conduct the competition in an off-campus facility. In those instances in which it is advisable to conduct the competition at off-campus sites, the host institution(s) shall have complete control, supervision and management of the facility being used.~~

~~31.1.3.2.5 Reconsideration of Host Institution. The Championships Committee may reconsider the designation of a host institution for an NCAA championship if that institution's team or individual student-athletes are not eligible to compete in the championship.~~

~~31.1.3.3 Concluding Dates. NCAA championships competition shall be concluded not later than May 31 each year unless later dates are approved by the Championships Committee.~~

~~31.1.4 Day of Competition. NCAA championships competition may be scheduled or conducted on any day, provided the governing sports committee has received the prior approval of the Championships Committee and the following regulations are applied.~~



~~31.1.4.1 Institutional Policy. If a participating institution has a written policy against competition on a particular day for religious reasons, it shall inform the NCAA national office prior to September 1 of each academic year in order for it or one of its student-athletes to be excused from competing on that day. The championship schedule shall be adjusted to accommodate that institution.~~

~~31.1.4.2 Individual Championships. In individual championships, an athlete must compete according to the institution's policy regarding Sunday competition (i.e., if the institution has no policy against Sunday competition, the athlete shall compete on Sunday if required by the schedule).~~

~~31.1.4.3 Rescheduling, Emergency or Competitive Development. If an emergency develops that causes postponement of an NCAA championship, or if the competitive situation dictates a more expeditious completion of the meet or tournament, Sunday competition may be permitted, provided the competing institutions are agreeable and advance approval is obtained from the Division II Championships Committee or the relevant sports committee.~~

~~31.1.4.4 Noon Start Time. NCAA competition conducted on Sunday may not begin before noon, local time.~~

~~31.1.4.4.1 Exception. Sports committees may reschedule competition to begin prior to noon on Sunday if extenuating circumstances arise (e.g., weather) that would otherwise cause postponement of the championship.~~

~~31.1.4.4.2 Exception – Women's Rowing Championship. In instances where the final day of the women's rowing championship occurs on a Sunday, competition may begin prior to noon.~~

~~31.1.4.4.3 Exception – Men's and Women's Fencing Championships. Competition conducted on Sunday in the men's and women's fencing championships may begin prior to noon.~~

~~31.1.5 Squad Limits. In any championship where a squad limit has been established by the governing sports committee or by the bylaws, the number of eligible student-athletes in competitive uniform at the start of the competition shall not exceed the prescribed number. An institution that is advised that it is in violation of this regulation and that does not promptly conform to it automatically shall forfeit the competition. There shall be no inordinate delay of the competition to allow the institution to conform to the rule.~~

~~31.1.6 Playing Rules.~~

~~31.1.7 Medical Disqualification. The student-athlete's team physician shall examine each athlete injured during NCAA competition and make a recommendation to the athlete, the coach and the chair of the governing sports committee, or the chair's designated representative, as to the advisability of continued participation or disqualification of the athlete. In the absence of said team physician, the NCAA tournament physician, as recommended by the host institution and approved by the governing sports committee, shall examine the injured athlete and make a recommendation as noted above. The chair of the governing sports committee, or the chair's designated representative, shall be responsible for enforcement of the medical recommendation if it involves disqualification.~~

~~31.1.8 Misconduct. Each games committee shall hold a pretournament meeting with the coaches of participating institutions to review and explain the policies related to misconduct (as defined in Bylaw 31.02.3).~~

~~31.1.8.1 Hearing Opportunity. An act of misconduct may be found upon an administrative hearing granted to the student-athlete or the institutional representative involved by the Appeals Subcommittee.~~

~~31.1.8.2 Misconduct Incident to Competition. If the act of misconduct occurs during the competition, under normal circumstances the individual shall be allowed to complete the competition in which they are participating at the time of the incident. An administrative hearing shall be held at the conclusion of the day's competition, during a break in the continuity of the championship (e.g., between rounds of a basketball tournament) when no competition is being conducted or at the conclusion of the championship. However, if the act of misconduct is so flagrant that it obviously violates the principles of fair play and sportsmanship, the games committee may immediately withdraw the student-athlete or institutional representative from the competition and conduct the hearing after this action. Other acts of misconduct shall be dealt with in a timely manner by the governing sports committee.~~

~~31.1.8.3 Penalty for Misconduct. A governing sports committee (or the games committee authorized to act for it) may impose any one or a combination of the following penalties on an institution or any student-athlete or representative of an institution guilty of misconduct that occurs incident to, en route to, from or at the locale of the competition or practice:~~

~~(a) Public or private reprimand of the individual;~~

~~(b) Disqualification of the individual from further participation in the NCAA championship involved;~~

~~(c) Banishment of the individual from participation in one or more future championships of the sport involved;~~

- ~~(d) Cancellation of payment to the institution of the Association's travel guarantee for the individual involved;~~
- ~~(e) Banishment of the institution from participation in one or more future championships in which its team in that sport otherwise would be eligible to participate;~~
- ~~(f) Disqualification of an institution for a period of time from serving as host institution for one or more NCAA championships;~~
- ~~(g) Cancellation of all or a portion of the honorarium for hosting an NCAA championship; and~~
- ~~(h) Financial or other penalties different from (a) through (g) above, but only if they have prior approval of the Championships Committee.~~

~~31.1.8.4 Ban From Future Championship. When a student-athlete or institutional representative is banned from participation in a future championship, such penalty shall be applied to the next tournament(s) in which the individual's team is involved and the individual otherwise is eligible to participate. In the case of an individual event, the penalty shall be applied to the next meet(s) or tournament(s) for which the individual qualifies and otherwise is eligible to participate.~~

~~31.1.8.5 Review of Action. Any action related to misconduct may be reviewed by the governing sports committee on request of any institution participating in the championship.~~

#### ~~31.1.9 Failure to Adhere to Policies and Procedures.~~

~~31.1.9.1 Financial Penalties. Pursuant to established policies and procedures, a governing sports committee may assess a financial penalty against an institution for failure of any of its representatives to adhere to the policies and procedures governing championships administration, subject to review by and appeal to the Appeals Subcommittee.~~

~~31.1.9.2 Late-Entry Fines. Institutions shall not be charged entry fees for teams or student-athletes competing in NCAA championships, but governing sports committees may establish late-entry fines, subject to the approval of the Championships Committee.~~

~~31.1.10 Awards. The Association has created standard, participant and commemorative awards for individuals and teams that participate in NCAA championships. The number of such awards for each championship shall be determined by the governing sports committee, subject to the approval of the Championships Committee. These official NCAA awards shall be the only awards presented by the Association to teams and individuals for participation in NCAA championships competition and shall be the only awards presented at the site of an NCAA championship. "At the site" is intended to include the period from the time access to the site is available to spectators until all patrons have left the facility or area used for competition.~~

~~31.1.10.1 Additional Awards. An institution may purchase additional standard, participant or commemorative awards for participation in NCAA championships. There is no limit on the number of additional awards an institution may purchase. An institution may provide, at its discretion, the awards to any individual. The NCAA awards form shall be used to purchase additional awards.~~

~~31.1.10.2 Other Permissible Awards. The above provision places no restriction on the presentation of awards at banquets or meetings held in conjunction with the championship or at sites other than that of the championships competition itself.~~

~~31.1.11 Admission and Tickets. Admission shall be charged at all NCAA championships unless a governing sports committee determines that charging admission is not feasible because of facility configuration or the expense relative to the event's attendance history. Ticket prices shall be determined by the respective games committees with the approval of the governing sports committee.~~

~~31.2.1.1 Commitment to Participate. Eligible members in a sport who are not also members of the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) will participate (if selected) in the NCAA championship or in no postseason competition in that sport.~~

~~31.2.1.2.1 Compliance With Deadline. Any dues check or approved form required shall be received in the national office by the applicable date or must have been postmarked not later than seven days before the applicable date.~~

~~31.2.1.3.1 Penalty for Deadline Waiver. Such an institution that fails to meet a deadline a future time may be granted a waiver only on payment of a penalty of \$150 for the second offense and \$300 for each additional offense during the five-year period after the last offense. On approval of the Championships Committee of such~~

~~waiver and receipt of the institution's check in the national office, the institution may compete in NCAA championships, provided it is otherwise eligible.~~

~~31.2.1.4 Joint-Declaration Program. The NCAA, the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) and the National Christian Collegiate Athletic Association (NCCAA), respectively, will administer a joint-declaration program in those men's and women's sports in which there is a date conflict between the national championships of the NCAA and either the NAIA or NCCAA. In such championships, each institution that holds membership in the NCAA and either the NAIA or NCCAA must declare by August 15 each year whether it will participate (if selected) in the NAIA championship or in the NCCAA championship, in the NCAA championship or in no postseason competition in that sport. An institution that fails to submit the joint-declaration form by the established deadline shall be ineligible to compete in the NCAA and either the NAIA or NCCAA championships in the particular sport(s) that year. An appeal process exists for such institutions. An institution in the joint-declaration program may participate in the championship for which the institution declared, even when the championship occurs outside the permissible NCAA playing season. Institutions in the joint-declaration program must abide by all other NCAA regulations for all sports, including the length of the playing season.~~

~~31.2.1.5 National Collegiate Championships. In team sports in which the NCAA offers only one national championship, all member institutions in good standing are eligible to compete in accordance with the requirements of division membership (see Bylaw 7.3.2.1) and institutional eligibility (per Bylaw 31.2.1).~~

~~31.2.1.6 Division Championships. In those sports in which national-championship competition is offered in more than one division, only those member institutions that meet the membership requirements of the respective divisions or requirements applicable to institutions competing outside their membership divisions are eligible to compete in such division championships (see Bylaw 7).~~

~~31.2.1.7.1 Failure to Report Ineligible Player Prior to Selection. If an institution fails to report an ineligible player before being selected to participate in the championship, the governing sports committee may declare the institution ineligible to participate in the tournament for one or two years.~~

~~31.2.1.7.2 Discovery of Ineligibility of Player Following Selection. When an institution fails to report an ineligible player and the omission is not discovered until after the institution is selected to participate in the championship, necessitating the institution's withdrawal from the championship, that withdrawal shall be considered as one of the years of ineligibility, provided another member institution participates in the championship in place of the disqualified institution. If the discovery of the ineligible student-athlete(s) occurs so near the beginning of the championship that the governing sports committee does not have a reasonable period of time to replace the disqualified institution in the bracket, that fact shall be taken into consideration in determining the number of years the disqualified institution shall be ineligible to participate.~~

~~31.2.1.7.3 Review of Violation of Terms of Availability Questionnaire. When an institution is alleged to have violated the terms of an availability questionnaire (e.g., failing to report an ineligible student-athlete), it may be represented at the meeting of the governing sports committee when the committee determines whether a violation occurred and, if so, whether the institution shall be ineligible to participate in the tournament for one or more years. The institution may submit a written statement or make an in-person presentation, or both. After the governing sports committee has ruled on the matter, its decision shall be final unless the institution appeals the decision to the Championships Committee. The Championships Committee shall hear the appeal at one of its regularly scheduled meetings unless there are compelling reasons to conduct a special meeting for such purpose.~~

~~31.2.1.7.4 Protest Regarding Eligibility of Team. Any team that has been duly certified as eligible for an NCAA championship shall not be withheld from participation because of any protest made or filed during the progress of the competition or during a period 24 hours immediately before the championship. If there is a break in the continuity of the championship (e.g., between rounds of a basketball tournament) when no competition is being conducted, a team may be withheld from further competition in the championship, provided such protest is made or filed at least 24 hours before the next segment of the championship.~~

~~31.2.2 Student-Athlete Eligibility. To be eligible to enter teams or individual student-athletes in an NCAA championship, an institution shall recognize the sport involved as a varsity intercollegiate sport (see Bylaws 7.3.1.5.4 and 17.02.16) and shall meet the institutional requirements in Bylaw 18.4.2 applicable to the division in which the institution is a member or for which it is petitioning for eligibility in a sport, as well as any additional requirements specified in the applicable championships handbooks. All student-athletes must satisfy all general eligibility requirements established for NCAA championships participation. The general and academic eligibility requirements are set forth in detail in Bylaw 14. Other specific requirements for eligibility for NCAA championships are included in other bylaws in this Manual and are applicable and binding for championships participation.~~

~~31.2.2.1 Eligibility Requirements. A member institution shall not enter a student-athlete, as an individual or as a member of a team, in an NCAA championship unless the student-athlete satisfies all eligibility requirements of Bylaw 14.~~

~~31.2.2.2 Conference Eligibility. An institution that holds membership in a member conference may not enter teams or individuals in an NCAA championship unless they are eligible for such competition under the rules of that conference [see Bylaw 18.4.2.1-(a)].~~

~~31.2.2.3 Protest of Eligibility Status. Any student-athlete duly certified by the institution for an NCAA championship shall not be withheld from participation because of any protest made or filed during the championship or during the 24 hours immediately before the championship. If there is a break in the continuity of the championship (e.g., between rounds of a basketball tournament) when no competition is being conducted, the student may be withheld from further competition in the championship, provided the protest is made or filed at least 24 hours before the next segment of the championship.~~

~~31.2.2.5 Institutional Penalty for Ineligible Participation. When an ineligible student-athlete participates in an NCAA championship and the student-athlete or the institution knew or had reason to know of the ineligibility, the Committee on Infractions may prescribe a financial penalty.~~

~~31.2.3 Ineligibility for Use of Banned Drugs. See Bylaw 18.4.1.4 for further details regarding ineligibility for use of banned drugs.~~

~~31.2.3.1.2 Positive Drug Test -- Non-NCAA Athletics Organization. A student-athlete under a drug-testing suspension from a national or international sports governing body that has adopted the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) code shall not participate in NCAA intercollegiate competition for the duration of the suspension.~~

~~31.3 Selection of Teams and Individuals for Championships Participation. A list of the institutions in good standing shall be supplied by the championships staff liaison to the chair of each governing sports committee prior to selection of the championship participants in each Division II championship sport.~~

~~31.3.1 Size of Championships Fields. The size of all NCAA championships fields shall be established by the Championships Committee to provide for efficient management of the events, adequate NCAA championship opportunities relative to the nationwide quality of competition and sound economic administration of the financial resources of the Association and its championships.~~

~~31.3.2 Selection Decisions of Sports Committees. The determination of sites, selection of teams or individuals, or their site assignment in championships competition made by a governing sports committee (or a designated subcommittee) may not be appealed.~~

~~31.3.3.1.1 Countable Competition. For NCAA team-championship selection purposes, competition is countable only when the teams played are varsity intercollegiate teams of four-year, degree-granting institutions that conduct a majority of their competition in that team sport against varsity intercollegiate teams (see Bylaw 7.3.1.5.4) of four-year, degree-granting institutions located in Canada, Mexico and the United States, its territories or possessions. Competition against service teams, professional teams, semiprofessional teams, amateur teams, two-year colleges and club teams shall be excluded.~~

~~31.3.3.2 Qualifying Standards in Individual and Team Sports. Individuals and teams required to meet performance standards to qualify for NCAA championships competition shall achieve such standards in meets held during the same academic year as the particular championship.~~

~~31.3.3.3 Unavailable Players on Team. The presence on a varsity squad of one or more players who are unavailable for NCAA championships competition does not necessarily disqualify that team from consideration.~~

~~31.3.3.4 Nullification(s) When a Student-Athlete Participates in Competition While Ineligible for Use of Banned Drugs. Nullifications shall only be imposed when an institution permits a student-athlete to participate in intercollegiate competition after the institution and the student-athlete receive notification of the confirmed positive drug test.~~

~~31.3.3.5 Committee Member Participation in Selection Process. All members of a governing sports committee may participate in committee deliberations and vote on the teams or student-athlete(s) under consideration for selection. If a team or student-athlete(s) of the institution of a member of the governing sports committee is under consideration for selection a member of the regional advisory committee in that sport, who represents another member conference, shall participate in the discussions affecting that particular selection.~~



~~31.3.3.5.1 Waiver Opportunity. The conference shall advise the NCAA championships staff in writing by September 1 of each year whether it wishes the selection process set forth in Bylaw 31.3.3.5 to be applied or waived. Once the conference has indicated its intention regarding the application or waiver of this regulation, it may not be changed during that year.~~

~~31.3.3.5.1.1 First Waiver. Conferences that fail to meet the deadline may appeal to the Management Council for a waiver of the deadline. Such an appeal must be submitted to the national office not later than October 15. If the Management Council grants the appeal, the conference shall be granted a waiver.~~

~~31.3.3.5.1.2 After Waivers. Such a conference that fails to meet the September 1 deadline in a future year may be granted a waiver only on payment of a penalty of \$150 for the second offense and \$300 for each additional offense during the five-year period after the last offense. On approval of the Management Council of such waiver and receipt of the conference's check in the national office, the conference may use the selection process set forth in Bylaw 31.3.3.5, provided it is otherwise eligible to do so.~~

~~31.3.3.6 Exclusion of Institution Reclassifying From Division II to Division I. In all sports, any Division II institution that has forwarded to the national office written notice of its intention to change its membership classification to Division I, no longer shall be eligible to participate in any future NCAA Division II championship.~~

~~31.3.4.3 Notification, Automatic Qualification in Jeopardy. The Championships Committee must issue a written warning to a conference that is in jeopardy of losing its automatic qualification. The warning must be issued during the academic year prior to the potential loss of automatic qualification. (Note: This regulation does not apply to championships in which a play-in system has been established.)~~

~~31.3.4.4 Exception -- Multisport Conference. A multisport conference that adds a conference-sponsored sport may be considered for automatic qualification in that sport, provided the conference includes at least six active NCAA Division II institutions that have conducted conference competition together at the Division II level in the sport the preceding two years and the sport is sponsored by less than 50 percent of the Division II membership.~~

~~31.3.4.5 Grace Period. A conference shall remain eligible for automatic qualification for three years following the date of withdrawal of the institution(s) that causes the conference's membership to fall below the minimum number of institutions required for active membership, provided the conference remains within one member institution of that minimum number.~~

~~31.3.4.6 Sport Groupings for Automatic Qualification. For purposes of evaluating criteria for automatic qualification, the various sports shall be grouped as follows:~~

- ~~(a) Team sports -- baseball, basketball, bowling, field hockey, ice hockey, lacrosse, soccer, softball, tennis, volleyball and water polo;~~
- ~~(b) Timed individual sports -- indoor track and field, outdoor track and field, and swimming; and~~
- ~~(c) Other individual sports -- cross country, fencing, golf, gymnastics, rifle, skiing and men's wrestling.~~

~~31.3.4.8 Waiver -- Five-Year Waiting Period. The Championships Committee, by a two-thirds majority of its members present and voting, may grant a waiver for an active member conference of the five-year waiting period for automatic qualification set forth in Bylaw 31.3.4.2-(a).~~

~~31.3.4.9 Waiver -- Minimum Number of Members in a Conference. The Membership Committee, by a two-thirds majority of its members present and voting, may grant a waiver for an active member conference that falls below the required minimum number of active institutions set forth in Bylaw 31.3.4.2-(c), if it deems that unusual circumstances warrant such action. The Management Council shall hear and act on a conference's appeal of a decision made by the Membership Committee.~~

~~31.3.5.2 Grace Period. A football-playing conference shall remain eligible for earned access for three years following the date of withdrawal of the institution(s) that causes the conference's membership to fall below six football-playing institutions, provided the conference maintains at least five active football-playing members.~~

#### ~~31.4 Financial Administration of Championships.~~

~~31.4.1.1 Institution's Financial Report. A financial report from each championship site shall be submitted to the NCAA president not later than 60 days after the conclusion of the competition and shall bear certification of the athletics director of the host institution. The report shall be submitted on a form approved and provided by the NCAA president.~~

~~31.4.1.1.1 Exclusions. A host institution or sponsoring agency shall not include, in its financial report or in its percentage of net receipts, television rights fees or income from the sale of championships merchandise. Also, income from program advertising or sales shall not be included in the host institution's or sponsoring agency's financial report or percentage of net receipts if the program is produced and sold under contract between the NCAA and an outside agency.~~

~~31.4.2 Gross Receipts. Gross receipts shall be all revenues derived from the championship, including:~~

- ~~(a) Sale of tickets. All tickets shall be accounted for at face value and shall become a part of gross receipts. Working passes may be provided to bona fide working personnel, including media representatives; and participation passes may be provided to student athletes competing in the championship, as well as to their coaches, athletic trainers, managers and other members of the participating institution's official party as defined by the Association;~~
- ~~(b) Net revenue from marketing items sold at the site through or by an outside agency under contract with the NCAA;~~
- ~~(c) Program sales and advertising;~~
- ~~(d) Radio, television and movie rights; and~~
- ~~(e) Any other income derived from the operation of the championship.~~

~~31.4.2.1 Exclusions. Income from concessions and parking shall accrue to the host institution or sponsoring agency and is not included in gross receipts. Sales commissions received by a host institution for selling marketing items on behalf of an outside agency under contract with the NCAA shall accrue to the host institution.~~

~~31.4.2.2 Waiver. Any waiver of the policies for the gross receipts of championships shall be approved in advance by the Championships Committee.~~

~~31.4.3 Game Expenses. Game expenses are the actual costs directly related to the administration and conduct of the championship, including specifically the costs for tickets (printing, selling and collecting), sales taxes, ushers, game officials, police, buildings and grounds expenses, printing of related materials, motion pictures of the competition (if authorized by the Championships Committee), reasonable entertainment, expenses of selection committees authorized by the governing sports committee and any other out-of-pocket expense directly related to the administration and conduct of the championship.~~

~~31.4.3.1 Exclusions. The following items shall not be included as game expenses:~~

- ~~(a) The cost of permanent equipment, local transportation of competing teams and on-campus facility rental charges; and~~
- ~~(b) A fee or honorarium for athletics department staff members of the host institution (e.g., athletics director, assistant athletics director, business manager, ticket manager, coach, sports information director or athletic trainer). (Note: Such a payment could be made from the host institution's share of net receipts.)~~

~~31.4.3.2 Waiver. Any waiver of the policies for game expenses shall be approved in advance by the Championships Committee.~~

~~31.4.4 Institutional Allowance. The host institution may share in the balance remaining after game expenses are deducted from the gross receipts. Television rights fees and income from championships programs and merchandise produced and sold under contract between the NCAA and an outside agency shall not be included in determining the host institution's allowance.~~

~~31.4.4.1 Permissible Allowances. The amount of institutional allowance varies with the sport, the level of championships competition, whether there is a common site for men's and women's championships and whether an institution's facilities are used. The permissible institutional allowances (from balance of gross receipts after deduction of game expenses) are as follows:~~

	TEAM <sup>1,2,3</sup>		INDIVIDUAL <sup>1,2,3</sup>	
	Preliminary	Final	Preliminary	Final
One day	\$575	\$1,150	\$700	\$1,725
Two days	\$750	\$1,450	\$870	\$2,000
Three or more days	\$920	\$1,725	\$1,150	\$2,300

<sup>1</sup> For championships conducted at institutional facilities, hosts may deduct the permissible allowance above or a maximum of 15 percent of gross receipts after deduction of game expenses, whichever is greater.

<sup>2</sup> ~~For championships conducted at off-campus facilities, hosts may deduct the permissible allowance or a maximum of 10 percent of gross receipts after deduction of game expenses, on the recommendation of the sports committee and approval of the Championships Committee.~~

<sup>3</sup> ~~Amount is doubled for common-site men's and women's championships.~~

~~31.4.4.2 Restrictions. The following restrictions apply to allowances to host institutions:~~

- ~~(a) If an institution's department of intercollegiate athletics must pay a rental fee for the use of an on-campus facility, such fee shall be deducted from the institution's share of the net receipts or allowance; and~~
- ~~(b) No other sum from the receipts of an NCAA championship, or from any other source, shall be paid to the college or university sponsoring or acting as host of the NCAA championship except to cover actual and necessary expenses directly incurred in the conduct of the championship as noted in Bylaw 31.4.3.~~

~~31.4.5 Administrative Expenses. After the institution's allowance has been deducted, the athletics director of the host institution shall forward the remaining receipts to the NCAA president, who then deducts administrative expenses and costs incurred by governing sports committees and their representatives in matters of championships administration.~~

~~31.4.6 Transportation and Per Diem Expenses. Subject to the availability of funds, the Association may pay transportation and per diem expenses incurred by teams and individual competitors in NCAA championships competition. Transportation expenses and per diem allowances for the official traveling parties of competing institutions in Division II championships, National Collegiate Championships and individual-team championships shall be determined and provided in accordance with policies and procedures established by the Championships Committee. On an annual basis, the Championships Committee shall determine and announce to the membership the percentage of transportation expense and the per diem allowance to be paid in each championship for the next academic year.~~

~~31.4.7 Net Receipts. After payment of game and administrative expenses for each championship, the NCAA president shall place the remaining moneys in the general operating fund of the Association to be used to cover other expenses of the Association and to be apportioned among member institutions, as directed by the Championships Committee.~~

~~31.4.8 Distribution of Forfeited Receipts. An institution may be obligated to return its share of the revenue distribution for permitting an ineligible student-athlete to participate in the championship (see Bylaw 31.2.2.5). If so, such funds shall be distributed among other member institutions according to a formula prescribed by the Championships Committee.~~

~~31.4.9 Publication of Championships Financial Summaries. A financial summary of each championship shall be published in the membership reports of the Association.~~

~~[31.6 through 31.8 renumbered as 31.1 through 31.3, unchanged.]~~

~~31.94 National Statistics Program. A national statistics program shall be maintained for active member institutions in baseball, men's and women's basketball, field hockey, football, men's and women's ice hockey, men's and women's lacrosse, men's and women's soccer, softball, and men's and women's volleyball. The Management Council shall oversee the statistics program and approve its policies and procedures.~~ The national statistics program policies and procedures shall be published on the NCAA website.

**Source:** NCAA Division II Management Council (Championships Committee).

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2023

**Additional Information:**

When the Division II Implementation Committee was established to review the division's policies and procedures after the new NCAA Constitution was adopted at the 2022 NCAA Convention, the committee created topic-specific subcommittees to help complete its task. Among the duties assigned to the Championships Subcommittee was to review Bylaws 18 and 31 as they relate to Division II national championships and determine which of those rules should remain as legislation, which could be moved to policy, and which (if any) could be removed altogether. The subcommittee reviewed each rule within Bylaws 18 and 31 with those parameters in mind and worked with staff to draft revisions as appropriate. Once the Implementation Committee completed its work in August 2022, this item was among those referred to the Division II Championships Committee for final review.

NO. NC-2024-8 ELIGIBILITY -- SEASONS OF COMPETITION: 10-SEMESTER/15-QUARTER -- CRITERIA FOR DETERMINING SEASON OF ELIGIBILITY -- PARTICIPATION IN ORGANIZED COMPETITION BEFORE INITIAL COLLEGIATE ENROLLMENT -- STANDARDIZED DATES FOR END OF GRACE PERIOD

**Intent:** To permit the NCAA Eligibility Center to use October 1 or March 1 (whichever occurs earlier) immediately after one calendar year has elapsed following a prospective student-athlete's high school graduation date as the standard end date of the prospective student-athlete's grace period.

**Bylaws:** Amend 14.2, as follows:

14.2 Seasons of Competition: 10-Semester/15-Quarter Rule. A student-athlete shall not engage in more than four seasons of intercollegiate competition in any one sport (see Bylaws 14.02.10 and 14.2.2). An institution shall not permit a student-athlete to represent it in intercollegiate competition unless the individual completes all of their seasons of participation in all sports within the time periods specified below:

[14.2.1 through 14.2.3 unchanged.]

14.2.4 Criteria for Determining Season of Eligibility.

[14.2.4.1 unchanged.]

14.2.4.2 Participation in Organized Competition Before Initial Collegiate Enrollment. An individual who does not ~~enroll in a collegiate institution as a full-time student in the regular academic term that begins immediately after a one-year time period (the next opportunity to enroll after the one-calendar-year period has elapsed) following their high school graduation date~~ **cease participation by October 1 or March 1 (whichever occurs earlier) immediately after one calendar year has elapsed following their high school graduation date,** shall use one season of intercollegiate competition for each consecutive 12-month period after ~~the one-year time period~~ **October 1 or March 1** and before initial full-time collegiate enrollment in which the individual participates in organized competition per Bylaw 14.2.4.2.1.2.

[14.2.4.2.1 unchanged.]

14.2.4.2.1.3 Discontinued High School Enrollment. An individual who discontinues high school enrollment and then participates in organized competition per Bylaw 14.2.4.2.1.2 shall use one season of intercollegiate competition for each consecutive 12-month period after ~~a one-year time period (the next opportunity to enroll after one calendar year has elapsed)~~ **October 1 or March 1 (whichever occurs earlier) immediately after one calendar year has elapsed** following the discontinued enrollment and before initial full-time collegiate enrollment.

[14.2.4.2.1.2 through 14.2.4.2.1.3 unchanged.]

14.2.4.2.2 Exceptions to Participation in Organized Competition. An individual ~~who does not enroll in a collegiate institution as a full-time student in the regular academic term that begins immediately after a one-calendar-year time period following high school graduation~~ **who does not cease participation by October 1 or March 1 (whichever occurs earlier) immediately after one calendar year has elapsed following their high school graduation.** shall not be charged with a season of intercollegiate competition, provided the individual satisfies any of the following exceptions for each consecutive 12-month period in which the individual participates in organized competition per Bylaw 14.2.4.2.1.2 following ~~the one-year time period after the individual's high school graduation~~ **October 1 or March 1** and before initial full-time collegiate enrollment.

[14.2.4.2.2.1 through 14.2.4.2.2.4 unchanged.]

[14.2.4.2.3 unchanged.]

14.2.4.3 Road Racing. Participation in road racing is essentially the same as cross country or track and field competition and cannot be separated effectively from those sports for purposes of organized competition before initial collegiate enrollment. Therefore, an individual who does not ~~enroll in a collegiate institution as a full-time student in the regular academic term that begins immediately after a one-calendar-year time period following high school graduation~~ **cease participation by October 1 or March 1 (whichever occurs earlier) immediately after one calendar year has elapsed following their high school graduation date** and participates in a road race(s) shall use one season of intercollegiate competition in cross country and track and field for each consecutive 12-month period after ~~the one-year time period~~ **October 1 or March 1** and before initial full-time collegiate enrollment. The individual shall also fulfill an academic year in residence at any member institution before being eligible to represent the certifying institution in cross country or track and field competition.

[14.2.4.4 through 14.2.4.8 unchanged.]

[14.2.5 through 14.2.7 unchanged.]

**Source:** NCAA Division II Management Council (Legislation Committee).

**Effective Date:** Immediate



## Additional Information:

Under current legislation, during the amateurism certification process, the NCAA Eligibility Center staff are required to utilize varying dates to identify the conclusion of an individual's grace period, creating confusion and lack of uniformity. Because of this, the NCAA Division II Committee for Legislative Relief issued a blanket waiver in February 2022 to permit the Eligibility Center staff to use October 1 or March 1 (whichever occurs earlier) immediately after one calendar year has elapsed following a prospective student-athlete's high school graduation date as the end date of their grace period for the 2022-23 academic year. The utilization of a standard date through the blanket waiver created more consistency and flexibility and helped to ensure simplified messaging was provided to all prospects regarding when organized competition prior to initial full-time collegiate enrollment must end. Permitting the Eligibility Center staff to utilize a standard date (October 1 or March 1) in determining the end of a prospective student-athlete's grace period, will provide more consistency and flexibility for prospective student-athletes and ensure consistent educational messaging related to the amateurism certification process.

### NO. NC-2024-9 AMATEURISM -- VARIOUS BYLAWS -- DEFINITION OF AGENT AND USE OF AGENTS -- EFFECTIVE DATE

**Intent:** To amend the effective date of NCAA Division II Proposal No. 2023-8 from August 1, 2023, to August 1, 2023, for any prospective student-athlete initially enrolling full-time at a Division II institution on or after August 1, 2023.

#### A. Bylaws: Amend 12.02, as follows:

##### 12.02 Definitions and Applications.

12.02.1 Agent. An agent is any individual who, directly or indirectly, recruits or solicits a student-athlete to enter into an agency contract for current or future representation where a student-athlete authorizes the individual to negotiate or solicit on behalf of the student-athlete a professional-sports-services contract or endorsement contract.

12.02.2 Agency Contract. An agency contract is an agreement in which a student-athlete authorizes a person to negotiate or solicit on behalf of the student-athlete a professional-sports-services contract or endorsement contract.

[12.02.3 through 12.02.11 unchanged.]

#### B. Bylaws: Amend 12.2.4, as follows:

##### 12.2.4 Draft and Inquiry.

[12.2.4.1 unchanged.]

12.2.4.2 Draft List. An enrolled student-athlete may enter a professional league's draft an unlimited number of times during their collegiate career and be drafted by any team in the league without jeopardizing eligibility in that sport, provided the student-athlete (or their relatives or friends) does not **accept transportation or other material benefits from** ~~ever agree (orally or in writing) to be represented by~~ an agent **or any person who represents any individual infor the purposes of** marketing their athletics ability or reputation in that sport, sign a professional sport contract or otherwise jeopardize their eligibility status.

12.2.4.3 Negotiations. An individual may request information about professional market value without affecting their eligibility status. Further, the individual, their relatives or legal guardians, the institution's professional sports counseling panel or head coach may enter into negotiations with a professional sports organization without the loss of the individual's eligibility status. ~~An individual who retains an agent in order to secure a professional sports opportunity shall lose eligibility status.~~

#### C. Bylaws: Amend 12.3, as follows:

##### 12.3 Use of Agents.

12.3.1 General Rule. An individual shall be ineligible if they (or their relatives or friends) accept transportation or other material benefits from an agent or any person who represents any individual in the marketing of their athletics ability.

12.3.1.1 Representation for Future Negotiations. An individual may enter into a verbal or written agreement with an agent for representation in future professional sports negotiations.

12.3.2 Professional Service Provider. An individual may utilize a professional service provider for advice and activities related to an individual's name, image and likeness.

12.3.3 Agent to Secure Athletics Scholarship. An individual shall be ineligible if they enter into an agreement (orally or in writing) with an agent for securing initial or continuing enrollment at a particular institution.

[12.3.4 unchanged.]

**Source:** NCAA Division II Management Council (Legislation Committee).

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2023, for any prospective student-athlete initially enrolling full-time at a Division II institution on or after August 1, 2023.

**Additional Information:**

Historically, the effective dates on legislative proposals impacting amateurism have been tied to the academic year in which a prospective student-athlete initially enrolls full-time to ensure equal treatment of incoming recruiting classes. With the proposal's current August 1, 2023, effective date, prospective student-athletes within the same incoming recruiting class (e.g., the incoming 2023-24 class) may be certified under different legislation. Amending the effective date will permit equal application of the legislation to incoming prospective student-athletes.

NO. NC-2024-10 NCAA DIVISION II MEMBERSHIP AND INSTITUTIONAL CONTROL -- ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP -- INSTITUTIONS -- MINIMUM CONTESTS AND PARTICIPANTS REQUIREMENTS FOR SPORTS SPONSORSHIP -- FOOTBALL, MEN'S GOLF, WOMEN'S GOLF AND MEN'S LACROSSE

**Intent:** In the sports of football, men's golf, women's golf and men's lacrosse, to amend the minimum number of contests and participants for sports sponsorship, as specified.

**Bylaws:** Amend 7.3, as follows:

7.3 Active Membership.

7.3.1 Institutions.

[7.3.1.1 through 7.3.1.7 unchanged.]

7.3.1.7.1.1 Minimum Contests and Participants Requirements for Sports Sponsorship. In each sport, the institution's team shall engage in at least a minimum number of intercollegiate contests (against four-year, degree-granting collegiate institutions) each year. In the individual sports and acrobatics and tumbling, the institution's team shall include a minimum number of participants in each contest that is counted toward meeting the minimum-contest requirement. The following minimums are applicable:

Team Sports	Minimum Contests	Minimum Participants	Individual Sports	Minimum Contests	Minimum Participants
Acrobatics and Tumbling	6	18	Women's Bowling	8	5
Baseball	24		Cross Country	4	5
Basketball	22		Equestrian	6	12
Beach Volleyball	8		Men's Fencing	6	5
Field Hockey	10		Women's Fencing	6	5
Football	<del>8</del> 9		Golf	<del>6</del> 7	5
Men's Ice Hockey	20		Men's Gymnastics	6	6
Women's Ice Hockey	20		Women's Gymnastics	6	5
Men's Lacrosse	<del>8</del> 10		Rifle	8	4
Women's Lacrosse	10		Skiing	5	5
Women's Rowing	6		Swimming and Diving	8	11
Women's Rugby	9		Tennis	10	5
Soccer	10		Track and Field, Indoor	4	10
Softball	24		Track and Field, Outdoor	4	14
Stunt	8	16	Men's Wrestling	9	6
Men's Volleyball	9		Women's Wrestling	9	6
Women's Volleyball	15		Women's Triathlon	4	3
Men's Water Polo	15				
Women's Water Polo	10				

[7.3.1.7.1.1.1 through 7.3.1.7.1.1.11 unchanged.]

[7.3.2 through 7.3.5 unchanged.]

**Source:** NCAA Division II Management Council (Membership Committee).

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2023

**Additional Information:**

Among the referrals from the NCAA Division II Implementation Committee to the NCAA Division II Membership Committee was to collaborate with the NCAA Division II Championships Committee to consider aligning minimum contest requirements for sports sponsorship and championships selection purposes. The referral occurred after the Implementation Committee's championships and membership subcommittees each noted the differences in select sports in these two categories and agreed it would be best to conduct a more collaborative review to arrive at numbers that provide a more simple, consistent and equitable process among sports. The review included feedback from sport committees that currently have different standards (football, men's and women's golf, men's lacrosse and men's soccer). The only sport for which the final recommendation differed significantly from the sport committee proposal was men's soccer, which had proposed retaining the 15-contest requirement for championship selection purposes. However, both the Membership Committee and the Championships Committee believed that doing so would not align the numbers for sports sponsorship and championship selection, and that mirroring the sports sponsorship requirement of 10 contests is a more flexible option for institutions (retaining the in-region contest requirement for championships selection mirrors the current sports sponsorship minimums) and aligns with the requirements in women's soccer in the number of contests.

NO. NC-2024-11 NCAA DIVISION II MEMBERSHIP AND INSTITUTIONAL CONTROL -- PROVISIONAL MEMBERSHIP -- INSTITUTIONS - CHANGE OF DIVISION MEMBERSHIP (ALL SPORTS) -- DIVISION II MEMBERSHIP PROCESS -- PROVISIONAL PERIOD -- ASSESSMENT PROGRAM -- REMOVAL OF INSTITUTIONAL SELF-STUDY GUIDE

**Intent:** To eliminate the requirement that institutions in year one of the provisional process must complete a comprehensive self-study and evaluation of its intercollegiate athletics program using the Institutional Self-Study Guide (ISSG).

**Bylaws:** Amend 7.4, as follows:

7.4 Provisional Membership.

7.4.1 Institutions – Change of Division Membership (All Sports).

[7.4.1.1 through 7.4.1.4 unchanged.]

7.4.1.5 Division II Membership Process. Institutions seeking to become active members of Division II in all sports must successfully complete all requirements of the Division II membership process, as specified in Bylaw 7.4.

[7.4.1.5.1 through 7.4.1.5.2 unchanged.]

7.4.1.5.3 Provisional Period. Once an institution receives notice that it has been accepted to begin the Division II membership process, the institution shall enter the provisional period of the membership process on September 1, the beginning of practice in any sport for the fall term or the first day of classes for that fall term, whichever occurs first, following the acceptance of the application. The provisional period shall be a minimum of three years. At the completion of the three-year period, the institution shall receive a determination of its readiness to proceed to active membership.

7.4.1.5.3.1 Assessment Program. Institutions are required to satisfy the following requirements during the provisional period:

[7.4.1.5.3.1-(a) unchanged.]

[7.4.1.5.3.1-(a)-(1) unchanged.]

~~(2) A comprehensive self-study and evaluation of its intercollegiate athletics program using the Division II Institutional Self-Study Guide (ISSG);~~

[7.4.1.5.3.1-(a)-(3) through 7.4.1.5.3.1-(a)-(9) renumbered as 7.4.1.5.3.1-(a)-(2) through 7.4.1.5.3.1-(a)-(8), unchanged.]

[7.4.1.5.3.1-(b) through 7.4.1.5.3.1-(d) unchanged.]

[7.4.1.5.3.2 unchanged.]

[7.4.1.5.4 unchanged.]

[7.4.1.6 through 7.4.1.8 unchanged.]

[7.4.2 unchanged.]

**Source:** NCAA Division II Management Council (Membership Committee).



**Effective Date:** August 1, 2023

**Additional Information:**

With the adoption of NCAA Proposal No. 2023-2 (NCAA Division II membership and institutional control -- active membership -- institutions -- conditions and obligations of active membership -- elimination of self-study and evaluation), active Division II member institutions are no longer required to complete the Institutional Self-Study Guide (ISSG). While understanding that the provisional membership process may include standards not required for active membership, the NCAA Division II Membership Committee noted that the institution's work with the NCAA vendor throughout the provisional membership process covers most topics included in the ISSG, resulting in duplicative work. Further, provisional member institutions are required to submit an annual report each year of the provisional membership process, which can be used to include topics in the ISSG that are not addressed by the vendor.

NO. NC-2024-12 NCAA DIVISION II MEMBERSHIP AND INSTITUTIONAL CONTROL -- PROVISIONAL MEMBERSHIP -- INSTITUTIONS - CHANGE OF DIVISION MEMBERSHIP (ALL SPORTS) -- DIVISION II MEMBERSHIP PROCESS -- PROVISIONAL PERIOD -- ASSESSMENT PROGRAM -- DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS ATTENDANCE AT THE NCAA INCLUSION FORUM

**Intent:** To add the director of athletics as a required institutional representative at the NCAA Inclusion Forum once during the three-year provisional membership process.

**Bylaws:** Amend 7.4, as follows:

7.4 Provisional Membership.

7.4.1 Institutions – Change of Division Membership (All Sports).

[7.4.1.1 through 7.4.1.4 unchanged.]

7.4.1.5 Division II Membership Process. Institutions seeking to become active members of Division II in all sports must successfully complete all requirements of the Division II membership process, as specified in Bylaw 7.4.

[7.4.1.5.1 through 7.4.1.5.2 unchanged.]

7.4.1.5.3 Provisional Period. Once an institution receives notice that it has been accepted to begin the Division II membership process, the institution shall enter the provisional period of the membership process on September 1, the beginning of practice in any sport for the fall term or the first day of classes for that fall term, whichever occurs first, following the acceptance of the application. The provisional period shall be a minimum of three years. At the completion of the three-year period, the institution shall receive a determination of its readiness to proceed to active membership.

7.4.1.5.3.1 Assessment Program. Institutions are required to satisfy the following requirements during the provisional period:

[7.4.1.5.3.1-(a) through 7.4.1.5.3.1-(d) unchanged.]

- (1) Attendance at the NCAA Inclusion Forum. Institutional representatives required to attend are the **director of athletics**, senior woman administrator and a senior level administrator outside of athletics;

[7.4.1.5.3.1-(d)-(2) through 7.4.1.5.3.1-(d)-(3) unchanged.]

[7.4.1.5.3.2 unchanged.]

[7.4.1.5.4 unchanged.]

[7.4.1.6 through 7.4.1.8 unchanged.]

[7.4.2 unchanged.]

**Source:** NCAA Division II Management Council (Membership Committee).

**Effective Date:** Immediate

**Additional Information:**

Currently, provisional member institutions are required to have their senior woman administrator and a senior-level administrator outside of athletics attend the NCAA Inclusion Forum at least one time during the three-year provisional membership process. During its review of the provisional membership process, the Division II Membership Committee

noted that including the director of athletics as a required staff member to attend the Inclusion Forum once during the three-year provisional membership process would provide that individual with invaluable education and resources to enhance efforts on diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging initiatives.

NO. NC-2024-13 ELIGIBILITY AND COMMITTEES -- GENERAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS AND COMMON COMMITTEES -- COMMITTEES WITH GOVERNANCE ADMINISTRATION RESPONSIBILITIES -- HIGH SCHOOL REVIEW COMMITTEE AND STUDENT RECORDS REVIEW COMMITTEE

**Intent:** To eliminate the NCAA Student Records Review Committee; further, to amend the duties of the NCAA High School Review Committee, as specified.

**A. Bylaws:** Amend 14.1, as follows:

14.1 General Eligibility Requirements.

[14.1.1 through 14.1.2 unchanged.]

14.1.2.3 High School Review Committee. The High School Review Committee shall have the authority to establish policies and procedures related to ~~the academic review of~~ **reviewing the validity of any** high schools ~~and to determine the validity of a high school (e.g., core courses, curriculum, grades) for the purpose of meeting initial-eligibility requirements~~ **and the validity of any prospective student-athlete's academic credentials**. ~~A~~**The** review may result in a determination that a high school **or a prospective student-athlete's academic credentials** shall not be used ~~for the purpose of meeting~~ **to meet** initial-eligibility requirements. The **committee's** policies and procedures ~~for the review~~ shall be approved by the Academic Requirements Committee. (See Bylaw 21.6.4.2.)

~~14.1.2.4 Student Records Review Committee. The Student Records Review Committee shall have the authority to establish policies and procedures related to the review of a prospective student-athlete's academic credentials and to determine the validity of a prospective student-athlete's academic credentials for the purpose of meeting initial-eligibility requirements. A review may result in a determination that a prospective student-athlete's academic credentials shall not be used for the purpose of meeting initial-eligibility requirements. The policies and procedures for the review shall be approved by the Academic Requirements Committee. (See Bylaw 21.6.5.2.)~~

[14.1.2.5 renumbered as 14.1.2.4, unchanged.]

[14.1.3 through 14.1.11 unchanged.]

**B. Bylaws:** Amend 21.6, as follows:

[Common provision, Divisions I and II only, divided vote]

21.6 Common Committees -- Committees With Governance Administration Responsibilities.

[21.6.1 through 21.6.4 unchanged.]

21.6.4.2 Duties. The committee shall have the authority to establish policies and procedures related to ~~the academic review of~~ **reviewing the validity of any** high schools ~~and to determine the validity of a high school (e.g., core courses, curriculum, grades) for the purpose of meeting initial-eligibility requirements~~ **and the validity of any prospective student-athlete's academic credentials**. ~~A~~**The** review may result in a determination that a high school **or a prospective student-athlete's academic credentials** shall not be used ~~for the purpose of meeting~~ **to meet** initial-eligibility requirements. The **committee's** policies and procedures ~~for the review and determination of the validity of a high school~~ shall be approved by the Division I Committee on Academics and the Division II Academic Requirements Committee. (See Bylaw 14.1.2.3.)

[21.6.4.3 through 21.6.4.4 unchanged.]

~~21.6.5 Student Records Review Committee.~~

~~21.6.5.1 Composition. The committee shall consist of nine members and shall be constituted as follows:~~

- ~~(a) One admissions officer of a Division I or Division II institution;~~
- ~~(b) One staff member of a Division I or Division II institution or conference office;~~
- ~~(c) One staff member of a Division I institution or conference;~~
- ~~(d) One representative from the Division II Academic Requirements Committee;~~
- ~~(e) Four representatives from the secondary-school community; and~~

~~(f) One member selected at large from either the secondary-school community or a Division I or Division II institution or conference office.~~

~~21.6.5.2 Duties. The committee shall have the authority to establish policies and procedures related to the review of a prospective student-athlete's academic credentials and to determine the validity of a prospective student-athlete's academic credentials for the purpose of meeting initial-eligibility requirements. A review may result in a determination that a prospective student-athlete's academic credentials shall not be used for the purpose of meeting initial-eligibility requirements. The policies and procedures for review of academic credentials and the determination of the validity of such credentials shall be approved by the Division I Committee on Academics and the Division II Academic Requirements Committee. (See Bylaw 14.1.2.4.)~~

~~21.6.5.3 Terms. Committee members shall be appointed to one four-year term. A member's term of service shall commence on the first day of January following the member's appointment. A member may be appointed to one additional term. An individual who has served two terms may not be reappointed. The term of service of the member serving on the Division II Academic Requirements Committee shall run concurrently with their service on that committee.~~

~~21.6.5.4 Appeals. The committee determination shall be final, binding and conclusive and shall not be subject to further review by any other authority.~~

**Source:** NCAA Division II Management Council (Academic Requirements Committee).

**Effective Date:** January 10, 2024

**Additional Information:**

Following the adoption of NCAA Division II Proposal No. 2023-4 (eligibility – freshman academic requirements – elimination of standardized test-score requirements SAT or ACT), which removed standardized test scores from the Division II initial-eligibility standards, the remaining duties of the NCAA Student Records Review Committee (SRRC) related to identifying academic programs and reviewing academic credential validity, align with existing duties of the NCAA High School Review Committee (HSRC) related to reviewing programs and revised transcripts. Eliminating the SRRC and placing their duties related to the validity of academic credentials under the HSRC will streamline oversight and avoid redundancy.

NO. NC-2024-14 RECRUITING – CONTACTS AND EVALUATIONS – CONTACTABLE PROSPECTIVE STUDENT-ATHLETES – FOUR-YEAR COLLEGE PROSPECTIVE STUDENT-ATHLETES – REMOVAL OF NOTIFICATION OF RECRUITMENT REQUIREMENT

**Intent:** To eliminate the requirement that a Division II institution's director of athletics (or an individual designated by the director of athletics) must send written notification of recruitment to an NAIA institution prior to having contact with an NAIA student-athlete.

**Bylaws:** Amend 13.1.1.2, as follows:

13.1.1.2 Four-Year College Prospective Student-Athletes. An athletics staff member or other representative of the institution's athletics interests shall not communicate or make contact with the student-athlete of an NCAA Division II institution, or any individual associated with the student-athlete (e.g., family member scholastic or nonscholastic coach, advisor), directly or indirectly, without first obtaining authorization through the notification of transfer process. Before making contact, directly or indirectly, with a student-athlete of an NCAA Division I or Division III institution, an athletics staff member or other representative of the institution's interest shall comply with the rule of the applicable division for making contact with a student-athlete. ~~Before making contact, directly or indirectly, with a student-athlete at an NAIA institution, the Division II institution's director of athletics (or an individual designated by the director of athletics) must send notification of recruitment to the NAIA institution.~~ [D]

[13.1.1.2.1 through 13.1.1.2.5 unchanged.]

**Source:** NCAA Division II Management Council (Legislation Committee).

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2023

**Additional Information:**

Current legislation requires that a Division II institution's director of athletics, or their designee, provide an NAIA institution with written notification of recruitment prior to contacting a prospective student-athlete at an NAIA institution. Further, prior to having contact with a student-athlete from an NCAA institution, NAIA legislation required that the student-athlete needed to be placed into the NCAA Transfer Portal. However, due to a recent change in the

NAIA's legislation, a student-athlete from an NCAA institution no longer has to be placed into the NCAA Transfer Portal in order for an NAIA institution to have contact. Eliminating the written notification of recruitment requirement will ease the burden on compliance administrators.

NO. NC-2024-15 COMMITTEES -- ASSOCIATION-WIDE COMMITTEES -- GENERAL COMMITTEES -- OLYMPIC SPORTS LIAISON COMMITTEE -- ELIMINATION OF OLYMPIC SPORTS LIAISON COMMITTEE

**Intent:** To eliminate the NCAA Olympic Sports Liaison Committee.

**Bylaws:** Amend 21.2, as follows:

[Common provision, all divisions, divided vote]

21.2 Association-Wide Committees -- General Committees.

[21.2.1 through 21.2.4 unchanged.]

~~21.2.5 Olympic Sports Liaison Committee.~~

~~21.2.5.1 Composition. The Olympic Sports Liaison Committee shall consist of 14 members, including at least one from each division. One student-athlete from each division (who shall have one vote each) shall serve as a member of the committee. Each student-athlete may serve on the committee up to one year after completion of their intercollegiate athletics eligibility.~~

~~21.2.5.1.1 Student-Athlete Representation. The Division II student-athlete member of the Olympic Sports Liaison Committee shall also be a member of the Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.~~

~~21.2.5.2 Duties. The committee shall:~~

~~(a) Act as a liaison between the Association, the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee and national governing bodies; and~~

~~(b) Study and make recommendations concerning the Association's appropriate role in the involvement of student-athletes in international athletics.~~

[21.2.6 through 21.2.8 renumbered as 21.2.5 through 21.2.7, unchanged.]

**Source:** NCAA Division II Management Council (Board of Governors).

**Effective Date:** Immediate

**Additional Information:**

The NCAA Board of Governors commissioned a review of NCAA Association-wide committees and potential changes to better align the committees' work with the new NCAA constitution. The continued review has resulted in a recommendation to eliminate the NCAA Olympic Sports Liaison Committee, as its duties overlap with a partnership between the NCAA and the United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee (USOPC). Further, the committee's legislated duties and charge have been completed. This proposal is being recommended as noncontroversial legislation, inasmuch as broader consultation and debate are unlikely to improve the proposal in any substantial way, significant disagreement or alternative points of view will not be generated and there does not appear to be a significant impact on existing or proposed legislation.

NO. NC-2024-16 NCAA DIVISION II MEMBERSHIP AND INSTITUTIONAL CONTROL -- ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP -- INSTITUTIONS -- CONDITIONS AND OBLIGATIONS OF ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP -- ACADEMIC SUCCESS RATE AND ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE CENSUS -- FAILURE TO SUBMIT AND FINAL AUTHORITY

**Intent:** To specify that the withholding penalty for failure to submit Academic Success Rate (ASR) and Academic Performance Census (APC) data will occur with the next distribution of Division II Institutional Equal Distribution Funds; further, to specify that the NCAA Division II Academic Requirements Committee shall have the final authority over waivers submitted by Division II institutions that fail to submit their ASR and APC data by the deadlines.

**Bylaws:** Amend 7.3.1.5, as follows:

7.3.1.5 Conditions and Obligations of Active Membership.

[7.3.1.5.1 through 7.3.1.5.11 unchanged.]

7.3.1.5.12 Academic Success Rate. Active members shall annually submit data, by the applicable deadline, for the Academic Success Rate in a form prescribed by the Management Council.

7.3.1.5.12.1 Failure to Submit Data. An active member institution that fails to submit data for the Academic Success Rate by the applicable deadline shall forfeit receipt of Division II Institutional Equal Distribution Funds ~~in the following academic year~~**with the next distribution**. Further, an active member institution that fails to submit data for the Academic Success Rate in any two years during a five-year period shall forfeit Division II Institutional Equal Distribution Funds ~~for the following three consecutive academic years~~**with the next three distributions**.

7.3.1.5.12.1.1 Waiver. The Academic Requirements Committee may grant waivers of Bylaw 7.3.1.5.12.1 if it deems that unusual circumstances warrant such action. ~~The Management Council Subcommittee [see Bylaw 8.2.2.3] shall hear and act on an institution's appeal of a decision made by the Academic Requirements Committee~~**The decision of the Academic Requirements Committee shall be considered final.**

7.3.1.5.13 Academic Performance Census – Failure to Submit. If an institution fails to submit its Academic Performance Census by the applicable deadline, in a format approved and administered by the Presidents Council (or a committee designated by the Presidents Council), that institution shall forfeit Division II Institutional Equal Distribution Funds ~~for the following academic year~~**with the next distribution**.

7.3.1.5.13.1 Waiver. The Academic Requirements Committee may grant waivers of Bylaw 7.3.1.5.13 if it deems that unusual circumstances warrant such action. ~~The Management Council Subcommittee [see Bylaw 8.2.2.3] shall hear and act on an institution's appeal of a decision made by the Academic Requirements Committee~~**The decision of the Academic Requirements Committee shall be considered final.**

[7.3.1.5.14 through 7.3.1.5.22 unchanged.]

**Source:** NCAA Division II Management Council (Academic Requirements Committee).

**Effective Date:** Immediate

**Additional Information:**

Under current legislation, the withholding penalty for failure to submit Academic Success Rate (ASR) and Academic Performance Census (APC) data occurs during the following academic year. However, new systems have been implemented that streamlined the process to take place without delay. As a result, in practice, if an institution fails to submit the data, the withholding penalty occurs with the next distribution of Equal Distribution Funds. Therefore, changing the legislated timing of the withholding penalty for failure to submit ASR and APC data will align with current practice. Additionally, current legislation provides a waiver opportunity for institutions that fail to submit ASR and APC data. If the Division II Academic Requirements Committee denies the waiver, current legislation gives the Division II Management Council Subcommittee the authority to hear and act on an institution's appeal of the committee's decision. Granting the Academic Requirements Committee final authority over such waiver decisions places the decision making in the hands of subject matter experts. Further, such waiver decisions have not traditionally been appealed to the Management Council Subcommittee.

#### NO. NC-2024-17 AMATEURISM – USE OF LOGOS ON EQUIPMENT, UNIFORMS AND APPAREL – INCORPORATING INTO PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS LEGISLATION

**Intent:** To move the use of logos on equipment, uniforms and apparel legislation into the playing and practice seasons legislation.

**Bylaws:** Amend 12.5, as follows:

~~7.17.51.10~~**10** Use of Logos on Equipment, Uniforms and Apparel. A student-athlete may use athletics equipment or wear athletics apparel that bears the trademark or logo of an athletics equipment or apparel manufacturer or distributor in athletics competition and pre- and postgame activities (e.g., celebrations on the court, pre- or postgame press conferences), provided the applicable sports playing rules are satisfied and the following criteria are met. [D]

[17.1.10-(a) through 17.1.10-(b) unchanged.]

~~7.17.51.7~~~~10.1~~**10.1** Laundry Label. If an institution's uniform or any item of apparel worn by a student-athlete in competition contains washing instructions on the outside of the apparel on a patch that also includes the manufacturer's or distributor's logo or trademark, the entire patch must be contained within a four-sided geometrical figure (i.e., rectangle, square, parallelogram) that does not exceed 2 1/4 square inches. [D]



~~17.51.210.2~~ Pre- or Postgame Activities. The restriction on the size of a manufacturer's or distributor's logo is applicable to all apparel worn by student-athletes during the conduct of the institution's competition, which includes any pre- or postgame activities (e.g., postgame celebrations on the court, pre- or postgame press conferences) involving student-athletes. [D]

~~17.51.310.3~~ Outside Team Uniforms and Apparel. The provisions of Bylaw ~~12.517.1.10~~(b) do not apply to the official uniforms and apparel worn by outside teams.

~~17.51.410.4~~ Title Sponsor Recognition. Racing bibs and similar competition identification materials (e.g., bowl-game patches) worn by participants may include the name of the corporate sponsor of the competition, provided the involved commercial company is the sole title sponsor of the competition. [D]

**Source:** NCAA Division II Management Council (Legislation Committee).

**Effective Date:** Immediate

**Additional Information:**

As part of the work of the NCAA Division II Implementation Committee, the Legislative Process and Compliance Subcommittee of the Implementation Committee determined that the location of Bylaw 12.5 was no longer the appropriate bylaw to house the legislation. Upon review, the NCAA Division II Legislation Committee determined that eliminating Bylaw 12.5 would diminish the importance of the restrictions surrounding manufacturing logos. Therefore, keeping Bylaw 12.5 in the Division II Manual and incorporating it into Bylaw 17 will maintain the importance of the restrictions surrounding manufacturing logos, while placing it in a more appropriate location within the Division II Manual as the restrictions in Bylaw 12.5 better align with the regulations set forth in Bylaw 17.

NO. NC-2024-18 NCAA DIVISION II MEMBERSHIP AND INSTITUTIONAL CONTROL -- ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP -- INSTITUTIONS -- CONDITIONS AND OBLIGATIONS OF ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP -- STUDENT-ATHLETE HEALTH AND SAFETY SURVEY AND FINANCIAL DATA REQUIREMENT -- FAILURE TO SUBMIT AND WAIVER OPPORTUNITY

**Intent:** To specify that the withholding penalty for failure to submit the student-athlete health and safety survey and financial data will occur with the next distribution of Division II Institutional Equal Distribution Funds; further, to establish a waiver opportunity for an institution that fails to submit the student-athlete health and safety survey and financial data by the deadline.

**A. Bylaws:** Amend 7.3.1.5, as follows: *(Immediate)*

7.3.1.5 Conditions and Obligations of Active Membership.

[7.3.1.5.1 through 7.3.1.5.18 unchanged.]

7.3.1.5.19 Student-Athlete Health and Safety Survey. An active member institution shall complete a student-athlete health and safety survey on an annual basis pursuant to policies and procedures as determined by the Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sport.

7.3.1.5.19.1 Failure to Submit Survey. An institution that fails to submit the student-athlete health and safety survey by the applicable deadline shall forfeit receipt of Division II Institutional Equal Distribution Funds ~~in the following academic year~~**with the next distribution**.

**7.3.1.5.19.1.1 Waiver. The Membership Committee may waive the requirement of Bylaw 7.3.1.5.19.1 if it deems that unusual circumstances warrant such action. The decision of the Membership Committee shall be considered final.**

[7.3.1.5.20 through 7.3.1.5.22 unchanged.]

**B. Bylaws:** Amend 7.3.1.5, as follows: *(August 1, 2025)*

7.3.1.5 Conditions and Obligations of Active Membership.

[7.3.1.5.1 through 7.3.1.5.22 unchanged.]

7.3.1.5.23 Financial Data Requirement -- Failure to Submit. An active member institution that fails to submit its financial data per NCAA Article 2-D-1-c by the applicable deadline, in a format approved and administered by the Membership Committee, shall forfeit Division II Institutional Equal Distribution Funds ~~for the following academic year~~**with the next distribution**.

**7.3.1.5.23.1 Waiver. The Membership Committee may waive the requirement of Bylaw 7.3.1.5.23 if it deems that unusual circumstances warrant such action. The decision of the Membership Committee shall be considered final.**

**Source:** NCAA Division II Management Council (Membership Committee).

**Effective Date:**

Section A: Immediate

Section B: August 1, 2025

**Additional Information:**

Under current legislation, the withholding penalty for failure to submit the student-athlete health and safety survey and financial data occurs during the following academic year. However, new systems have been implemented that streamlined the penalty process to take place without delay. As a result, in practice, if an institution fails to submit the data, the withholding penalty occurs with the next distribution of Division II Equal Distribution Funds. Therefore, changing the legislated timing of the withholding penalty for failure to submit the student-athlete health and safety survey and financial data will align with current practice. Additionally, current legislation does not provide a waiver opportunity for institutions that fail to submit the student-athlete health and safety survey and financial data. Establishing a waiver opportunity will provide institutions with greater opportunities for relief. Further, it will allow the Membership Committee to have final authority over waiver decisions, ensuring that decision making remains in the hands of subject matter experts.



### Convention Voting Procedures

The following terms and procedures involved in voting at NCAA Conventions have been reviewed by the Association's parliamentarian.

#### Significant Terms

1. **Vote Announcement** - After a paddle, roll-call or secret ballot vote, the chair announces the vote and states whether the motion passed or failed.
2. **Retake a Vote** - A retake occurs when a paddle vote is taken again or when a paddle vote is counted. A retake may occur before the statement of the next question. After the statement of the next question, a motion to reconsider must be used to retake a vote. During a retake, voters may change their votes and new eligible voters may participate. A retake motion would be considered dilatory and, therefore, denied after a roll-call vote and out of order after a secret-ballot vote unless it is clear that the question was misunderstood or that fraud had occurred.
3. **Change a Vote** - In a paddle vote, a vote may be changed if a retake occurs or by rising for that purpose before the result is announced by the chair. After the announcement of the vote, but before the next question is stated, a change may be made only by permission of the assembly by a majority vote after a nondebatable motion. In a roll-call vote, a change may occur before closing the polls or the polls may be reopened to change a vote before the statement of the next question. In a secret-ballot vote, no change may be made once the ballot is cast. After the statement of the next question following a roll-call vote and after a vote is cast in a secret ballot, a vote change can occur only through a successful motion to reconsider.
4. **Recount a Vote** - This applies only to a secret-ballot vote. The ballots simply are counted again as cast and can be ordered only by a majority vote of the assembly.
5. **Closing the Polls** - For roll-call and secret-ballot votes, the polls are opened when the chair calls for the vote. When the chair has ascertained that all who so desire have voted or have changed their votes, the chair will state that the polls are closed. If there is disagreement on closing the polls, they may be closed by a two-thirds vote on a nondebatable motion to do so. Once the polls are closed, the polls may be reopened before the statement of the next question by majority vote on a nondebatable motion to do so. Once the polls are closed, however, the chair will move to the next item on the agenda.
6. **Statement of Next Question** - When a new motion is made and seconded, the chair will announce that "The motion before you is.... Is there any discussion?" This is the statement of the next question and ends the opportunity to retake a vote or reopen the polls in regard to the preceding question.
7. **Reconsideration** - After the statement of the next question, only one motion to reconsider any foregoing question may be made before adjournment of the Convention by any member that voted on the prevailing side in the original consideration. Reconsideration of a vote taken in a division or subdivision business session must occur in that division's or subdivision's business session, except that such reconsideration also may occur during a designated period at the beginning of the general business session.

#### Voting Procedures

1. **Paddle Voting**
  - a. The chair calls for a vote by paddles and determines the result by sound or sight from the dais.
  - b. The chair may retake the vote if there is doubt.
  - c. The chair must have the vote counted if requested by a voting delegate. The chair also may choose to retake a paddle vote and have it counted by hand or by the wireless voting system.
  - d. During a retake, new voters may participate, or votes may be changed. Vote changes also may occur before the result is announced by the chair.
  - e. A retake will not be permitted after the next question has been stated. A request to retake a counted vote will be regarded as dilatory by the chair and will not be allowed.
2. **Roll-Call Voting (by Wireless Voting System)**
  - a. A roll-call vote may be designated by the Presidents Council or ordered by a majority of the voters, following a nondebatable motion to vote in that manner. If both a secret-ballot and a roll-call vote are moved, the assembly votes first on whether or not to vote by roll call. A motion to conduct a secret ballot on an issue designated for roll call by the Presidents Councils will be considered out of order.

- b. Once ordered, the chair shall call for a roll-call vote by use of wireless voting system.
- c. The chair shall determine if everyone who wishes to has voted, or if anyone wishes to change a vote. When it appears that all ballots have been cast, the chair shall state that polls are closed.
- d. The chair will move to the next available item on the agenda while votes are being tallied. No new votes, changes or corrections to the prior question are permitted unless the polls are reopened, and such a motion will be out of order after the next question is stated by the chair. Once the new question is stated by the chair, the only way to return to any foregoing question is by reconsideration, and only one motion for reconsideration of a given item is permitted.
- e. Abstentions will not be counted in the determination of a majority.

**3. Ballot Voting (Secret Ballot)**

- a. A secret ballot may be ordered by the assembly before, during or after any ordinary vote (but before the next question is stated) by a majority vote on a nondebatable motion to do so.
- b. Once ordered, the chair shall ask for the vote by wireless voting system. Votes will be tallied electronically, but only a summary printout of results will be reported.
- c. After the chair determines that all who wish to vote have voted, the polls shall be closed. A vote change shall not be permitted once the vote is cast.
- d. The chair will move to the next available item on the agenda while votes are being tallied. Once the next question is stated by the chair, the polls may not be reopened for a new vote on the prior issue.
- e. Abstentions will not be counted in the total for determination of a majority.

## NCAA Governance Structure

### Board of Governors

Chair - Linda A. Livingstone

<b>Div.</b>	<b>Name, Institution</b>	<b>Conference</b>	<b>Term Exp.</b>
FBS	Linda A Livingstone, Baylor University	Big 12 Conference	AUG 2024
FBS	Jere Morehead, University of Georgia	Southeastern Conference	AUG 2024
FBS	Lynda Tealer, University of Florida	Southeastern Conference	JUN 2024
FCS	Javaune Adams-Gaston, Norfolk State University*	Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference	AUG 2024
FCS	Elizabeth E. DeBauche, Ohio Valley Conference	Ohio Valley Conference	AUG 2024
DI	Bryce Choate, Oral Roberts University**	The Summit League	AUG 2024
I	Houston Davis, University of Central Arkansas	Atlantic Sun Conference	AUG 2025
II	Carrie Michaels, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania*	Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference	JAN 2024
II	Madeleine McKenna, Pennsylvania Western University, California**	Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference	AUG 2024
II	Steven Shirley, Minot State University	Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference	JAN 2024
III	Mary Beth Cooper, Springfield College	New England Women's and Men's Athletic Conference	JAN 2025
III	Holly Sheilley, Transylvania University*	Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference	JAN 2024
III	Isaiah Swann, University of Texas at Dallas^	American Southwest Conference	AUG 2024
Independent	Charlie Baker, NCAA President*		
Independent	Allison Feaster, VP of Team Operations, Boston Celtics		AUG 2025
Independent	Nadja West, Retired Lt. General		AUG 2024

^Former student-athlete

\*Ex Officio

#### NCAA Staff Liaisons:

Stephanie Quigg, Managing Director of Law, Policy and Governance

Terri Steeb Gronau, Vice President of Division II

## Division II Presidents Council

Chair - Steven Shirley

<b>Name, Institution</b>	<b>Term Exp.</b>
Roslyn Artis, Benedict College	JAN 2028
Michaela Boyd, Azusa Pacific University	JAN 2024
Carlos Campo, Ashland University	JAN 2026
Davaris Cheeks, Concordia University, St. Paul	JAN 2025
Michael Driscoll, Indiana University of Pennsylvania	JAN 2024
John Y. Gotanda, Hawaii Pacific University	JAN 2026
Donna Price-Henry, The University of Virginia's College at Wise	JAN 2026
Colleen Perry Keith, Goldey-Beacom College	JAN 2026
Steven Shirley, Minot State University	JAN 2024
William Thierfelder, Belmont Abbey College	JAN 2024
Blake Thompson, Mississippi College	JAN 2027
Dwaun Warmack, Claflin University	JAN 2028
Sandra Woodley, University of Texas Permian Basin	JAN 2027
Frank Wu, Queens College (New York)	JAN 2024

### NCAA Staff Liaisons:

Terri Steeb Gronau, Vice President of Division II

Maritza S. Jones, Managing Director of Division II

Ryan Jones, Director of Division II

Angela Red, Director of Academic and Membership Affairs

Chelsea Hooks, Associate Director of Academic and Membership Affairs

Rachel Denton, Assistant Director of Academic and Membership Affairs

Jill Waddell, Coordinator for Division II

## Division II Management Council

Chair - Carrie Michaels

Name, Institution	Term Exp.
Femi Alao, Roberts Wesleyan University	JAN 2027
Patrick Britz, South Atlantic Conference	JAN 2027
Brenda Cates, University of Mount Olive	JAN 2024
Bennett Cherry, California State University, San Marcos	JAN 2027
Marcus Clarke, Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association	JAN 2025
Mark A. Corino, Caldwell University	JAN 2024
Pete Crabb, Northwest Nazarene University	JAN 2028
Jeremy Elliott, University of Alabama in Huntsville	JAN 2027
Theresa Grosbach, Missouri Western State University	JAN 2027
Kim Hancock, Ferris State University	JAN 2027
David Hansburg, Colorado School of Mines	JAN 2026
Jerry Haywood, Fort Valley State University	JAN 2028
Amy Henkelman, Dominican University of California	JAN 2025
Kristi Kiefer, Fairmont State University	JAN 2024
Emma Kramer, Simon Fraser University	JAN 2024
Erin Lind, Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference	JAN 2026
Katherine Loh, Florida Southern College	JAN 2027
Daniel McCabe, Adelphi University	JAN 2025
Cindy McKnight, Ursuline College	JAN 2027
Carrie Michaels, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania	JAN 2024
Austin Mondello, Colorado Mesa University	JAN 2024
Sandee Mott, Texas Woman's University	JAN 2026
Roberta Page, Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania	JAN 2027
John 'Bo' Pagliasotti, Southwestern Oklahoma State University	JAN 2026
Sarah Ramey, West Texas A&M University	JAN 2027
Christina Whetsel, Augusta University	JAN 2026
Vaughn Williams, Bentley University	JAN 2027
Jerry Wollmering, Truman State University	JAN 2024

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Rachel Denton, Assistant Director of Academic and Membership Affairs

Jill Waddell, Coordinator for Division II

Robert Turick, Assistant Director of Research