



118th Annual Convention

This educational resource presents all proposed amendments to NCAA Division II legislation that were properly submitted in accordance with the July 15 deadline (for membership-sponsored proposals) and September 1 deadline (for Presidents Council proposals) in the NCAA legislative calendar. The proposals herein appear in the order in which they would appear, if adopted, in the NCAA Division II Manual. No attempt has been made to place them in topical groupings or in the order in which they eventually might appear in the NCAA Convention agenda. Each proposal is accompanied not only by the traditional statement of intent and proposed effective date, but also by a statement of rationale.

No new proposals may be submitted for the 2024 Convention inasmuch as the July 15 and September 1 deadlines have passed. Member institutions and conferences, as well as the Division II Presidents Council, have until 5 p.m. Eastern time November 1 to submit amendments to these proposals. Such amendments-to-amendments may not increase the modification set forth in the printed proposal. Amendments-to-amendments submitted by the membership must have eight sponsors from active member institutions in Division II. In addition, amendments-to-amendments may be sponsored by at least one member conference (on behalf of eight or more of their active member institutions) in Division II. It should be noted that proposals that are withdrawn after the September 15 sponsor-modification deadline will be included in the Official Notice to indicate the sponsor's intent to withdraw the proposal at the Convention.

Member institutions and conferences are encouraged to request interpretations (see below) of the proposed legislation in this educational resource.

Request for Interpretation.

Member institutions and conferences are encouraged to request interpretations of the proposed legislation in this educational resource. Interpretations related to the proposed legislation in this educational resource may be requested via electronic mail to the primary contact persons at chooks@ncaa.org or rdenton@ncaa.org, not later than December 14, 2023. When submitting such a request, please include the proposal number in question, your institution's name and your title. All resulting interpretations will be made available to the delegates prior to the divisional business session held in conjunction with the Annual Convention.

Pursuant to NCAA Division II Bylaw 9.3.6.2.1, the first official publication will be the Official Notice of the 2024 Convention and will be released no later than December 10, 2023. This publication will contain all Division II legislation for the Convention, including all amendments-to-amendments and resolutions submitted by the November 1 deadline.

2023-24 Legislative Calendar

The legislative calendar, as set forth in Bylaw 9, is summarized here for convenience of reference.

July 15: Deadline for submission of amendments by the Division II membership. Each amendment must include a statement of intent and a separate statement of rationale (200 words or less), as well as identification of the designated primary contact person.

August 2: Presidents Council Consideration. The NCAA Division II Presidents Council considers legislative proposals that it may wish to sponsor. The Presidents Council also reviews the amendments submitted by the membership in accordance with the July 15 deadline. See "July 15" above. The Presidents Council reviewed these proposals to determine committee review assignments.

August 15 through September 15: Sponsor-Modification Period. Sponsors are permitted to refine and change their proposals in any manner germane to the original proposal. Member institutions and conferences are invited to offer any suggested revisions of a proposal to the primary contact person listed with the proposal. Additionally, members that believe an amendment should not be modified should so inform the primary contact person.

August 30: Administrative Committee Videoconference. On behalf of the Presidents Council, the Administrative Committee reviews all amendments to be included on the 2024 NCAA Convention agenda for placement in the 2024 NCAA Convention Division II Official Notice.

September 1: Deadline for submission of amendments sponsored by the Presidents Council.

September 15: Deadline for submission by all sponsors (with submission by the primary contact person) of any modification to their original amendments. These modifications may represent either greater or lesser changes; they need only be germane to the original proposal.

September 23: Posting of educational resources. This includes the educational resource that includes all Division II membership-sponsored proposals (as modified), all proposals sponsored by the Presidents Council and the Division II 2024 Convention Voiceover video.

September 23 through November 1: Amendment-to-Amendment Period. The Presidents Council as well as the membership (see Bylaw 9.3.4.2) may submit amendments to the Division II proposals in the educational resource. These amendments-to-amendments may not increase the modification of the provisions to be amended; they must fall between the provisions of the circularized amendment and the current provisions.

October 7: Deadline for Committee review. Any Association-wide and/or Division II committee charged by the Presidents Council to evaluate a membership-sponsored amendment must complete its evaluation not later than October 7. The committee must then report the results of its review to the Management Council. The Management Council will review each committee's evaluation at its October videoconference. If the committee issued a position statement, the position must be publicized in the Official Notice.

November 1: Deadline for all resolutions and amendments-to-amendments to be received in the national office. No amendments-to-amendments sponsored by the membership may be submitted after this date. The Presidents Council and Board of Governors are authorized to submit further amendments-to-amendments and resolutions at the Convention if it deems such action necessary.

By December 10: Posting of the Official Notice of the Convention. This publication includes all Division II proposed legislation, resolutions and properly submitted amendments-to-amendments.

January 10-13, 2024: NCAA Convention. All delegates have the opportunity to download the NCAA Events app prior to the Convention. The NCAA Events app contains the most up-to-date schedule and other helpful Convention information.

Division II Legislation Committee

Chair – Audra Kedy, Great American Conference
Brenda Cates, University of Mount Olive
Matt Green, Flagler College
Molly Hansen, University of Montevallo
Kayla Lothian, Dominican University of California
Dawn Makofski, University of Montevallo
Christopher Ratcliff, Rogers State University
Deborah Rodgers, Tuskegee University
Suzanne Sanregret, Michigan Technological University
Kevin Schriver, Southwest Baptist University
Melissa Thacker, Cameron University
Vaughn Williams, Bentley University



2024 NCAA Division II Convention Proposals

PROPOSAL, EFFECTIVE DATE, TITLE and AFFECTED BYLAWS	INTENT STATEMENT RATIONALE STATEMENT <i>[in italics]</i>	SPONSORS
<p>Proposal Number: 2024-1</p> <p>Effective Date: August 1, 2024.</p> <p>Title: PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS -- FOOTBALL -- PRESEASON PRACTICE AND FIRST CONTEST -- FIRST PERMISSIBLE CONTEST</p> <p>Affected Bylaws: 17.11.3 and 17.11.4</p>	<p><i>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.</i></p> <p><i>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.</i></p>	<p>Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association,</p> <p>Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association,</p> <p>Gulf South Conference,</p> <p>Lone Star Conference; and</p> <p>Southern Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.</p>
<p>Proposal Number: 2024-2</p> <p>Effective Date: August 1, 2024.</p> <p>Title: PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS -- SOFTBALL -- NUMBER OF CONTESTS -- MAXIMUM LIMITATIONS -- INSTITUTIONAL AND STUDENT-ATHLETE --</p>	<p><i>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.</i></p> <p><i>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</i></p>	<p>East Coast Conference,</p> <p>Gulf South Conference,</p> <p>Albany State University (Georgia),</p> <p>Metropolitan State University of Denver,</p>

PROPOSAL, EFFECTIVE DATE, TITLE and AFFECTED BYLAWS	INTENT STATEMENT RATIONALE STATEMENT <i>[in italics]</i>	SPONSORS
<p>CHAMPIONSHIP AND NONCHAMPIONSHIP CONTESTS</p> <p>Affected Bylaws: 17.21.7.1 and 17.21.7.2</p>	<p><i>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.</i></p>	<p>Minnesota State University, Mankato,</p> <p>Montana State University Billings,</p> <p>Union University,</p> <p>University of Alabama in Huntsville; and</p> <p>University of West Alabama.</p>
<p>Proposal Number: 2024-3</p> <p>Effective Date: August 1, 2024.</p> <p>Title: CHAMPIONSHIPS ADMINISTRATION -- ADMINISTRATION OF DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIPS -- MINIMUM SPONSORSHIP FOR DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIPS -- MINIMUM NUMBER OF SPONSORING INSTITUTIONS AND THREE-YEAR GRACE PERIOD</p> <p>Affected Bylaws: 18.4.1.1, 18.4.1.2, 18.4.1.3, 18.4.1.3.1 and 18.4.1.3.2</p>	<p>Intent: <i>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.</i></p> <p>Rationale: <i>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</i></p>	<p>NCAA Division II Presidents Council [Management Council (Championships Committee)].</p>

PROPOSAL, EFFECTIVE DATE, TITLE and AFFECTED BYLAWS	INTENT STATEMENT RATIONALE STATEMENT <i>[in italics]</i>	SPONSORS
	<p><i>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.</i></p>	
<p>Proposal Number: 2024-4 Effective Date: August 1, 2024. Title: CHAMPIONSHIPS ADMINISTRATION -- ADMINISTRATION OF DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIPS -- CRITERIA FOR SELECTION OF PARTICIPANTS -- AUTOMATIC QUALIFICATION -- AUTOMATIC QUALIFICATION IN ALL TEAM SPORTS OTHER THAN FOOTBALL Affected Bylaws: 18.4.3.3</p>	<p>Intent: <i>In all team sports other than football, to specify that automatic qualification privileges shall be granted to all conferences that sponsor the sport.</i></p> <p>Rationale: <i>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 as an incentive for sponsorship.</i></p>	<p>NCAA Division II Presidents Council [Management Council (Championships Committee)].</p>

PROPOSAL, EFFECTIVE DATE and TITLE	INTENT STATEMENT RATIONALE STATEMENT <i>[in italics]</i>	SPONSORS
<p>Proposal Number: 2024-5 Effective Date: August 1, 2024. Title: CHAMPIONSHIPS ADMINISTRATION -- ADMINISTRATION OF DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIPS -- CRITERIA FOR SELECTION OF PARTICIPANTS -- EARNED ACCESS -- FOOTBALL -- EARNED ACCESS FOR ALL FOOTBALL-SPONSORING CONFERENCES</p> <p>Affected Bylaws: 18.4.3.4</p>	<p><i>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.</i></p> <p><i>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.</i></p>	<p>NCAA Division II Presidents Council [Management Council (Championships Committee)].</p>