



**2026 DIVISION II OFFICIAL NOTICE**  
**120th Annual Convention**  
**January 13-16, 2026**  
**WASHINGTON, D.C.**

# **DIVISION II**

## **LEGISLATION**



THE NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

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December 2025

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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

### 120th Annual Convention

On behalf of the NCAA Board of Governors, the Division I Board of Directors, the Division II Executive Board, the Division III Presidents Councils, the Division I Cabinet and the Divisions II and III Management Councils, we extend a cordial invitation to each NCAA member to be represented at the Association's 120th annual Convention scheduled January 13 through 16, 2026, in Washington, D.C.

It is our pleasure to issue this Official Notice of the 2026 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 institutions in the provisional membership process.

This Official Notice contains legislation for consideration at the Division II business session of the 2026 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 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 NCAA State of College Sports and Honors on Wednesday afternoon.

We hope that each member of the Association will participate in the 2026 Convention. We look forward to seeing you.

*James Phillips*  
Commissioner, Atlantic Coast Conference  
Chair, NCAA Board of Governors

*Timothy Sands*  
CEO, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University  
Chair, Division I Board of Directors

*Colleen Perry Keith*  
President, Goldey-Beacom College  
Chair, Division II Executive Board

*Jim Troha*  
President, Juniata College  
Chair, Division III Presidents Council

December 10, 2025

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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 2025, 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, 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 Friday, October 10, and \$450 for all delegates who registered by Friday, November 28. Member registration fees on or after November 29 are \$600.

The registration fee includes all NCAA Convention programming in addition to one ticket for the Welcome Reception and Delegates Breakfasts. Additional tickets to the welcome reception may be purchased for \$40 on a first-come, first-served basis. Available tickets can be reserved during the Convention registration process.

## Meetings and Reservations

A listing of Convention meetings of the NCAA and its affiliated organizations was distributed to the membership in mid-October 2025. 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 2026 Convention, please contact us.

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.

The Convention officially begins at the NCAA State of College Sports and Honors when it convenes Wednesday, January 14 at 5 p.m., Eastern time. Adjournment of the Convention has been scheduled for Friday, January 16.

## Proposed Amendments

The proposed amendments to be considered at the 120th 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 Division II Convention legislation for the 2026 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 Executive Board, NCAA Division II Management 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 Division II Executive Board or Division II Management Council proposes an amendment originally recommended by a committee, the committee is indicated as well.

All proposals designated by the Division II Management 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 proposal.

Please note that the Division II Executive Board 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 Division II Executive Board and Division II Management Council had until September 1 to submit their legislative proposals. All proposals were provided to the membership September 23, 2025, in the 2026 NCAA Convention Division II Educational Resources.

The Division II Executive Board, 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 2026 Convention unless they are sponsored by the Division II Executive Board and distributed before or during the business session.

## Withdrawal of Proposal

Sponsors who intend to withdraw a proposal are urged to notify the Division II Governance and



Member Services 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 Association's Convention office prior to 1 p.m., Thursday, January 15, the day preceding the Division II business session of the Convention.

## **Emergency Legislation Adopted by the Executive Board**

The Executive Board 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 Executive Board deems it appropriate to limit or avoid NCAA liability as a result of litigation, ADR or governmental proceedings, per Bylaw 9.3.1.1.2. Such "emergency" legislation shall be adopted by at least a three-fourths majority of the members of the Executive Board present and voting. The Executive Board 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 Executive Board during the Division II business session on Friday, January 16, 2026, ratifies the Executive Board'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 Friday, January 16, 2026, 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 Executive Board, or an entity designated by the Executive Board (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 8.2.2-(c) and 9.3.1.1.1. That authorization requires a three-fourths majority vote of the Executive Board, or the entity designated by the Executive Board (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 2025 appear in Appendix B. Acceptance of the report of the Management Council during the Division II business session on Friday, January 16, 2026, approves the Management Council's actions in this regard.

## **Order of Business**

The NCAA State of College Sports and Honors of the 120th annual Convention will begin Wednesday, January 14 at 5 p.m., Eastern time, with remarks by the NCAA president being 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 xii.

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.

Delegates are urged to register and receive their voting materials before the opening business session begins Wednesday, January 14 at 5 p.m., Eastern time. 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 2025. 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, December 19. 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, the Division II Executive Board and Division II 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 by the Division II Governance and Member Services 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 11, 2025. 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 Tuesday, January 13, 2026. The resulting interpretations will be duplicated and distributed to the conferences for their pre-Convention meetings before the beginning of the business session on Friday, January 16, 2026.

## TOPICAL GROUPINGS OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS 120th ANNUAL CONVENTION

### *Proposal Number*

1

2 through 3

4

5

6

7

8 through 13

14 through 16

17

### *General Topic*

Emerging Sports for Women

National Collegiate Championships

Division II Championships

Recruiting

Eligibility

Financial Aid

Playing and Practice Seasons

Championships Administration

Resolution

## 120th 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 ~~strikethrough~~ 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.]

### 2026 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 2026 Convention Division II Legislative Proposals Question and Answer Guide at [www.ncaa.org](http://www.ncaa.org).

[Note: The sponsors of the 10 membership proposals approved the information included in the additional information section for those proposals.]

### DIVISION II LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS

*Legislative proposals developed by the Division II committees must be submitted to the Division II Executive Board or Division II Management Council for review. They cannot be placed on the agenda for consideration at the Convention unless the Executive Board or Management Council agrees to sponsor them.*

*Those proposals with an asterisk before the proposal number have been identified by the Management 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.]*

No. 2026-1 NCAA DIVISION II MEMBERSHIP AND INSTITUTIONAL CONTROL, FINANCIAL AID AND PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS -- EMERGING SPORTS FOR WOMEN -- WOMEN'S FLAG FOOTBALL

**Intent:** To add women's flag football as an emerging sport for women and establish legislation related to membership, financial aid and playing and practice seasons, as specified.

**A. Bylaws:** Amend 7.02.2, as follows:

[Division II, Roll Call]

7.02.2 Emerging Sports for Women. The following shall be considered emerging sports for women:

(a) Team Sports: acrobatics and tumbling, **flag football**, rugby and stunt; and

[7.02.2-(b) unchanged.]

[7.02.2.1 unchanged.]

**B. Bylaws:** Amend 7.3.1.7, as follows:

[Division II, Roll Call]

7.3.1.7.1.1.6 Contests Versus Club Teams. A contest against a collegiate institution's club team may not be counted toward meeting minimum-contest requirements. However, a member is not precluded from scheduling club teams.

[7.3.1.7.1.1.6.1 unchanged.]

**7.3.1.7.1.1.6.2 Exception -- Women's Flag Football. In women's flag football, an institution may count up to three contests per year against collegiate club teams toward meeting minimum contest requirements.**

**C. Bylaws:** Amend 7.3.1.7.1.1, as follows:

[Division II, Roll Call]

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
<b><u>Women's Flag Football</u></b>	<b><u>12</u></b>				
Football	9		Golf	7	4
Men's Ice Hockey	20		Men's Gymnastics	6	6
Women's Ice Hockey	20		Women's Gymnastics	6	5

Men's Lacrosse	10		Rifle	8	4
Women's Lacrosse	10		Skiing	5	5
Women's Rowing	6		Swimming and Diving	8	9
Women's Rugby	9		Tennis	10	5
Soccer	10		Track and Field, Indoor	4	10
Softball	24		Track and Field, Outdoor	4	10
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.]

**D. Bylaws:** Amend 15.4.2, as follows:

[Division II, Roll Call]

#### 15.4.2 Equivalency Sports.

[15.4.2.1 unchanged.]

15.4.2.1.2 Women's Sports. There shall be a limit on the value (equivalency) of financial aid awards (per Bylaw 15.2.1) that an institution may provide in any academic year to counters in each women's sport, as follows:

Acrobatics and Tumbling	9.0	Rowing	20.0
Basketball	10.0	Rugby	12.0
Beach Volleyball	5.0	Skiing	6.3
Bowling	5.0	Soccer	9.9
Cross Country/Track and Field (see Bylaw 15.4.2.1.4 for institutions that sponsor cross country but not indoor or outdoor track and field)	12.6	Softball	7.2
Equestrian	15.0	Stunt	9.0
<b><u>Flag Football</u></b>	<b><u>10.0</u></b>		
Fencing	4.5	Swimming and Diving	8.1
Field Hockey	6.3	Tennis	6.0
Golf	5.4	Triathlon	5.0
Gymnastics	6.0	Volleyball	8.0

Ice Hockey	18.0	Water Polo	8.0
Lacrosse	9.9	Wrestling	10.0

[15.4.2.1.3 through 15.4.2.1.4 unchanged.]

[15.4.2.2 unchanged.]

**E. Bylaws:** Amend 17, as follows:

[Division II, Roll Call]

## 17 Playing and Practice Seasons

[17.01 through 17.02 unchanged.]

17.02.16 Varsity Intercollegiate Sport. A varsity intercollegiate sport is a sport that has been accorded that status by the institution's president or chancellor or committee responsible for intercollegiate athletics policy and that satisfies the following conditions:

[17.02.16-(a) through 17.02.16-(c) unchanged.]

17.02.16.1 Team Sports. The following are classified as team sports for purposes of this bylaw:

Acrobatics and Tumbling	Rowing, Women's
Baseball	Rugby, Women's
Basketball	Soccer
Beach Volleyball	Softball
Field Hockey	Stunt
<b><u>Flag Football, Women's</u></b>	
Football	Volleyball
Ice Hockey, Men's and Women's	Water Polo, Men's and Women's
Lacrosse	

[17.02.16.2 unchanged.]

[17.02.17 through 17.02.18 unchanged.]

[17.1 through 17.10 unchanged.]

**17.11 Flag Football, Women's. Regulations for computing the women's flag football playing season are set forth in Bylaw 17.1, General Playing-Season Regulations. (See Figure 17-1 and Figure 17-2).**

**17.11.1 Length of Playing Season. The length of an institution's playing season in women's flag football shall be limited to a 132-day season, which may consist of two segments (each with consecutive days) and which may exclude only required off days per Bylaw 17.1.6.5 and official vacation, holiday and final-examination periods during which no practice or competition shall occur.**

**17.11.2 Preseason Practice. A member institution shall not commence practice sessions in women's flag football prior to September 1 or the institution's first day of classes, whichever is earlier.**

**17.11.3 First Contest. A member institution shall not engage in its first contest (game or scrimmage) with outside competition in women's flag football prior to September 1 or the institution's first day of classes, whichever is earlier.**

**17.11.4 End of Regular Playing Season. A member institution shall conclude all practice and competition by Memorial Day (see Bylaw 17.1.7 for additional regulations regarding the end date of practice and competition).**

**17.11.5 Number of Contests.**

**17.11.5.1 Maximum Limitations -- Institutional. A member institution shall limit its total playing schedule with outside competition in women's flag football during the institution's flag football playing season to 24 contests (games and scrimmages), except for those contests excluded under Bylaws 17.11.5.3, 17.11.5.4 and 14.4.7.5.**

**17.11.5.1.1 In-Season Foreign Competition. A member institution may play one or more of its countable contests in women's flag football in one or more foreign countries on one trip during the prescribed playing**



season. However, except for contests played in Canada and Mexico or on a certified foreign tour (see Bylaw 17.33), the institution may not engage in such in-season foreign competition more than once every four years.

17.11.5.2 Maximum Limitations -- Student-Athlete. An individual student-athlete may participate in each academic year in 24 contests in women's flag football. This limitation includes those contests in which the student-athlete 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.

17.11.5.3 Annual Exemptions. The maximum number of contests in women's flag football shall exclude the following:

- (a) Conference Championship. Competition in one conference championship tournament in women's flag football;
- (b) National Governing Body Championship. Competition in the flag football national governing body championship;
- (c) Alumni Contest. One contest each year against an alumni team of the institution;
- (d) Hawaii, Alaska, Puerto Rico, Canada. Any women's flag football contest played in Hawaii, Alaska, Puerto Rico or Canada, respectively, either against or under the sponsorship of an active member institution located in Hawaii, Alaska, Puerto Rico or Canada, by a member institution located outside the area in question;
- (e) U.S. National Team. One contest against a U.S. national team as selected by the appropriate national governing body for women's flag football;
- (f) Fundraising Activity. Any activities in which student-athletes from more than one of the institution's athletics teams participate with and against alumni and friends of the institution, the purpose of which is to raise funds to benefit the institution's athletics or other programs, provided the student-athletes do not miss class as a result of their participation; and
- (g) Celebrity Sports Activity. Competition involving a maximum of two student-athletes from a member institution's team who participate in local celebrity activities in women's flag football conducted for the purpose of raising funds for charitable organizations, provided:
  - (1) The student-athletes do not miss class as a result of the participation; and
  - (2) The involvement of the student-athletes has the approval of the institution's athletics director.

17.11.5.4 Discretionary Exemptions. The following may be exempted from an institution's maximum number of contests in women's flag football each year. An institution may exempt not more than three from this list annually:

- (a) Foreign Team in United States. A contest against a foreign team in the United States played in the facility in which the member institution regularly plays its home contests;
- (b) Non-Division II Four-Year Collegiate Institution. An exhibition contest against a non-Division II four-year collegiate institution; or
- (c) Scrimmages. A scrimmage with outside competition, provided the scrimmage is conducted without official scoring.

17.11.5.4.1 Official Scoring. For purposes of Bylaw 17.11.5.4-(c), official scoring has occurred when either institution participating in the scrimmage satisfies either of the following conditions:

- (a) The signing of a scorebook by an official; or
- (b) The score is used for individual or seasonal statistics.

17.11.5.5 Once-in-Four-Year Exemption -- Foreign Tours. An institution may exempt the contests played on a foreign tour, provided the tour occurs only once in a four-year period and is conducted in accordance with the procedures set forth in Bylaw 17.33.

17.11.6 Out-of-Season Athletically Related Activities. Student-athletes and members of the coaching staff shall not engage in countable athletically related activities outside the institution's declared playing season per Bylaw 17.11.1, except as permitted in Bylaw 17.1.6.3.

**17.11.6.1 Summer Practice.** Practice that is organized or financially supported by a member institution shall be prohibited during the summer unless specifically authorized in the bylaws (e.g., foreign tour) or through official interpretations approved by the Management Council. An institution may pay fees associated with the use of institutional practice and competition facilities by student-athletes engaged in voluntary athletically related activities in their sport.

**17.11.7 Camps and Clinics.** There are no limits on the number of student-athletes in women's flag football who may be employed (e.g., as counselors) in camps or clinics (see Bylaw 13.9). Currently enrolled student-athletes may not participate as campers in their institution's camps or clinics.

**17.11.8 Other Restrictions.**

**17.11.8.1 Noncollegiate, Amateur Competition.**

**17.11.8.1.1 In Season.** A student-athlete shall be denied eligibility for intercollegiate women's flag football competition for the remainder of the season if, after enrollment in college and during any year in which the student-athlete is a member of an intercollegiate women's flag football squad or team, they compete or have competed as a member of any outside women's flag football team in any noncollegiate, amateur competition (e.g., team invitational meets, exhibition meets or other activity) during the institution's intercollegiate women's flag football season that ends with the national governing body championship (see Bylaw 14.4.7.5 for exceptions and waivers).

**17.11.8.1.1.1 Exception -- Olympic, Paralympic and National Team Development Program.** A student-athlete may participate in Olympic, Paralympic and national team development programs while a member of an intercollegiate women's flag football squad or team and during the segment that concludes with a season-ending tournament. Such programs may also include a coach and student-athlete from the same institution provided:

**(a) The national governing body conducts and administers the development program; and**

**(b) The national governing body selects the coaches involved in the development program.**

**17.11.8.1.2 Out of Season.** There are no limits on the number of student-athletes with eligibility remaining in intercollegiate women's flag football who may practice or compete out of season on an outside, amateur women's flag football team.

**17.11.8.1.2.1 Involvement of Coaching Staff.** No member of the coaching staff of a member institution may be involved in any capacity (e.g., coach, official, player or league/team administrator) at any time (i.e., during the academic year, vacation periods and summer) with an outside team that involves any student-athlete with remaining eligibility from that institution's women's flag football team, except as provided under Bylaws 14.4.7.5, 16.8.1.3.1 and 17.33.

**17.11.8.1.2.2 Olympic, Paralympic and National Team Development Program.** There are no limits on the number of student-athletes from the same institution who may participate in Olympic, Paralympic and national team development programs. Such programs may also include a coach and student-athlete from the same institution.

**17.11.8.2 Equipment Issue, Squad Pictures.** It shall be permissible to designate a single date for issuing women's flag football equipment and for taking squad pictures after the beginning of classes in the fall term or the day before the beginning of a segment as specified in Bylaw 17.11.2.

[17.11 through 17.33 renumbered as 17.12 through 17.34, unchanged.]

**Source:** NCAA Division II Management Council (Committee on Women's Athletics).

**Effective Date:** Immediate

**Rationale:** The continued growth in high school women's flag football and the number of collegiate institutions sponsoring the sport demonstrate the rapid growth of the sport and its potential to reach NCAA championship status at the collegiate level. Enough women's flag football teams met the prescribed guidelines of the Emerging Sports for Women Program application to demonstrate significant interest and sustainability within college athletics. Additionally, the sport is relatively inexpensive to sponsor and attracts additional demographics of potential student-athletes. Also, there is a shared commitment at the collegiate level to increase participation opportunities from institutions and conferences, as well as funding and resources from national governing bodies to further support the sport's growth. Finally, the immediate effective date will allow schools that sponsor the

sport in the 2026 spring championship season to count towards the requirement of 40 institutions to establish a national collegiate championship in a women's sport.

### Frequently Asked Questions:

**Question No. 1:** What is the proposed championship segment for women's flag football?

**Answer:** Spring.

**Question No. 2:** If the proposal is adopted, when would women's flag football be considered an emerging sport?

**Answer:** Immediately, with the 2026 spring championship season.

**Question No. 3:** If an institution has a varsity women's flag football team, will that team need to apply NCAA Division II legislation?

**Answer:** Yes. Any team recognized by the institution as a varsity team must apply the constitution, bylaws, interpretations and other legislation of the Association.

**Question No. 4:** May an emerging sport be used to satisfy sports sponsorship requirements?

**Answer:** Yes. A Division II institution may use emerging sports to help meet the NCAA minimum sports sponsorship requirements, provided minimum contest requirements for the sport are met.

**Question No. 5:** Are all three divisions considering proposals to add women's flag football to the emerging sports list for women?

**Answer:** Yes.

**Question No. 6:** Do all three divisions need to adopt a proposal to add women's flag football to the emerging sports list for women?

**Answer:** No.

**Question No. 7:** How many NCAA institutions are projected to sponsor women's flag football during the 2025-26 academic year based on sports sponsorship data?

**Answer:** According to sports sponsorship numbers reported to the NCAA by member institutions, there are 40 projected programs across all three divisions in 2025-26. Two in Division I, 15 in Division II and 23 in Division III.

### No. 2026-2 NATIONAL COLLEGIATE CHAMPIONSHIPS -- ACROBATICS AND TUMBLING

**Intent:** In acrobatics and tumbling, to establish a National Collegiate Championship; further, to establish an acrobatics and tumbling committee.

**A. Bylaws:** Amend 7.02.2, as follows:

[Division II, Roll Call]

7.02.2 Emerging Sports for Women. The following shall be considered emerging sports for women:

(a) Team Sports: ~~acrobatics and tumbling~~, rugby and stunt; and

[7.02.2-(b) unchanged.]

[7.02.2.1 unchanged.]

**B. Bylaws:** Amend 7.3.2.1, as follows:

[Common provision, all divisions, divided vote, Roll Call]

7.3.2.1 Eligibility for National Collegiate Championships. An active member institution in good standing, regardless of division, is eligible for the National Collegiate Championships, if a division championship in the respective sport is not offered in its division. Such an institution is required to meet only the institutional and individual eligibility requirements of its division that govern the sport in question. Separate championships in each division are not sponsored in the following sports:

**Women's acrobatics and tumbling**

Women's beach volleyball

Women's bowling

Men's and women's fencing

Men's gymnastics

Women's gymnastics

Women's ice hockey

Men's and women's rifle

Men's and women's skiing

Men's volleyball

Men's and women's water polo

Women's wrestling

[7.3.2.1.1 through 7.3.2.1.2 unchanged.]

**C. Bylaws:** Amend 8.8, as follows:

[Common provision, all divisions, divided vote, Roll Call]

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

[8.8.1 unchanged.]

**8.8.2 Acrobatics and Tumbling Committee, Women's. The Women's Acrobatics and Tumbling Committee shall consist of six members. The committee shall include at least one representative from each division.**

[8.8.2 through 8.8.8 renumbered as 8.8.3 through 8.8.9, unchanged.]

**D. Bylaws:** Amend 18.3, as follows:

[Common provision, all divisions, divided vote, Roll Call]

18.3 Current Championships. The Association currently administers ~~9293~~ national championships. There are ~~1314~~ National Collegiate Championships. Additionally, there are 26 Division I championships, 25 Division II championships and 28 Division III championships. (See Bylaw 9.3.10 for the voting requirements for the establishment of a new championship.) The current championships are as follows:

18.3.1 National Collegiate Championships (~~1314~~).

**Men (4)**

Fencing

Gymnastics

Volleyball (Divisions I and II)

Water Polo

**Men and Women (2)**

Rifle

Skiing

**Women (~~78~~)**

**Acrobatics and Tumbling**

Beach Volleyball

Bowling

Fencing

Gymnastics

Ice Hockey (Divisions I and II)

Water Polo

Wrestling

[18.3.2 unchanged.]

**Source:** NCAA Division II Management Council (Committee on Women's Athletics).

**Effective Date:** Immediate

**Rationale:** Acrobatics and tumbling has been an emerging sport in all divisions since 2020. In spring of 2025, based on unofficial data, 44 NCAA member institutions met minimum sports sponsorship requirements, putting the sport above the legislatively required threshold of 40 varsity programs to be considered for National Collegiate championship status. It is anticipated that the announcement of sponsoring an NCAA championship would continue to drive membership interest. After consultation with various committees in the NCAA governance structure and a financial and championship examination of projected costs to establish a new national collegiate championship, the Committee on Women's Athletics agreed acrobatics and tumbling should be added as an NCAA championship. The sport has continued to grow in the collegiate space and has received continued interest in the youth/k-12 level from related sports. Acrobatics and tumbling has a diverse recruiting pool of student-athletes competing in gymnastics, cheerleading, diving, dance and weightlifting, among other sports, which has created more participation opportunities for women with over 1,100 student-athletes competing in 2023-24

across all divisions. The immediate effective date will permit the acrobatics and tumbling committee to begin its work in January 2026 to prepare for the first NCAA national championship in spring 2027.

### Frequently Asked Questions:

**Question No. 1:** What are the current requirements to establish a National Collegiate Championship?

**Answer:** Per NCAA Division II Bylaw 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.

**Question No. 2:** Do all three divisions need to adopt this proposal to establish a National Collegiate Championship for acrobatics and tumbling?

**Answer:** Yes. All three divisions are considering proposals to establish a National Collegiate Championship for acrobatics and tumbling.

**Question No. 3:** If the proposal is adopted, when would the first NCAA Acrobatics and Tumbling National Championship be conducted?

**Answer:** The women's acrobatics and tumbling committee would begin its work in January 2026 to prepare for the first national collegiate championship in spring 2027.

**Question No. 4:** If acrobatics and tumbling is adopted as a National Collegiate Championship, is the division precluded from establishing a Division II Championship in the future?

**Answer:** No. A Division II championship may be established if 35 Division II institutions sponsor the sport at the varsity level and legislation is adopted by the membership.

**Question No. 5:** How are National Collegiate Championships funded?

**Answer:** National Collegiate Championships are included in the Division I championships budget and do not impact the Division II championships budget. The NCAA Board of Governors approved a budget for the Acrobatics and Tumbling National Collegiate Championship in August 2025 using Association-wide funds that will be allocated to the Division I championships budget.

**Question No. 6:** How many NCAA institutions sponsored acrobatics and tumbling during the 2024-25 academic year?

**Answer:** During the 2024-25 academic year, 47 institutions sponsored acrobatics and tumbling across all three divisions.

**Question No. 7:** How many NCAA institutions are projected to sponsor acrobatics and tumbling during the 2025-26 academic year?

**Answer:** There are 48 projected programs across all three divisions in 2025-26. 11 in Division I, 28 in Division II and 9 in Division III.

### No. 2026-3 NATIONAL COLLEGIATE CHAMPIONSHIPS – STUNT

**Intent:** In stunt, to establish a National Collegiate Championship; further, to establish a stunt committee.

**A. Bylaws:** Amend 7.02.2, as follows:

[Division II, Roll Call]

7.02.2 Emerging Sports for Women. The following shall be considered emerging sports for women:

(a) Team Sports: acrobatics and tumbling; and rugby ~~and stunt~~; and

[7.02.2-(b) unchanged.]

[7.02.2.1 unchanged.]

**B. Bylaws:** Amend 7.3.2.1, as follows:

[Common provision, all divisions, divided vote, Roll Call]

7.3.2.1 Eligibility for National Collegiate Championships. An active member institution in good standing, regardless of division, is eligible for the National Collegiate Championships, if a division championship in the respective sport is not offered in its division. Such an institution is required to meet only the institutional and individual eligibility requirements of its division that govern the sport in question. Separate championships in each division are not sponsored in the following sports:

Women's beach volleyball	Men's and women's rifle
Women's bowling	Men's and women's skiing
Men's and women's fencing	<b><u>Women's stunt</u></b>
Men's gymnastics	Men's volleyball
Women's gymnastics	Men's and women's water polo
Women's ice hockey	Women's wrestling

[7.3.2.1.1 through 7.3.2.1.2 unchanged.]

C. **Bylaws:** Amend 8.8, as follows:

[Common provision, all divisions, divided vote, Roll Call]

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

[8.8.1 through 8.8.5 unchanged.]

**8.8.6 Stunt Committee, Women's. The Women's Stunt Committee shall consist of six members. The committee shall include at least one representative from each division.**

[8.8.6 through 8.8.8 renumbered as 8.8.7 through 8.8.9, unchanged.]

D. **Bylaws:** Amend 18.3, as follows:

[Common provision, all divisions, divided vote, Roll Call]

18.3 Current Championships. The Association currently administers ~~9293~~ national championships. There are ~~1314~~ National Collegiate Championships. Additionally, there are 26 Division I championships, 25 Division II championships and 28 Division III championships. (See Bylaw 9.3.10 for the voting requirements for the establishment of a new championship.) The current championships are as follows:

18.3.1 National Collegiate Championships (~~1314~~).

<b>Men (4)</b>	<b>Men and Women (2)</b>	<b>Women (<del>78</del>)</b>
Fencing	Rifle	Beach Volleyball
Gymnastics	Skiing	Bowling
Volleyball (Divisions I and II)		Fencing
Water Polo		Gymnastics
		Ice Hockey (Divisions I and II)
		<b><u>Stunt</u></b>
		Water Polo
		Wrestling

[18.3.2 unchanged.]

**Source:** NCAA Division II Management Council (Committee on Women's Athletics).

**Effective Date:** Immediate

**Rationale:** Stunt has been an emerging sport in Divisions I and II since August 2023, and Division III since August 2024. In spring of 2025, based on unofficial data, 41 NCAA member institutions met minimum sports sponsorship requirements, putting the sport above the legislatively required threshold of 40 varsity programs to be considered for National Collegiate championship status. It is anticipated that the announcement of sponsoring an NCAA championship would continue to drive membership interest in the sport. After consultation with various

committees in the NCAA governance structure and a financial and championship examination of projected costs to establish a new national collegiate championship, the Committee on Women's Athletics agreed stunt should be added as an NCAA championship. Stunt has grown rapidly both in the collegiate space and in the youth/K-12 level with increased stunt competition opportunities. Stunt has also created more participation opportunities for women within the NCAA. In 2023-24, a total of 704 student-athletes competed in stunt in Divisions I and II (stunt was not yet an emerging sport in Division III). The immediate effective date will permit the stunt committee to begin its work in January 2026 to prepare for the first NCAA national championship in spring 2027.

**Frequently Asked Questions:**

**Question No. 1:** What are the current requirements to establish a National Collegiate Championship?

**Answer:** Per NCAA Division II Bylaw 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.

**Question No. 2:** Do all three divisions need to adopt this proposal to establish a National Collegiate Championship for stunt?

**Answer:** Yes. All three divisions are considering proposals to establish a National Collegiate Championship for stunt.

**Question No. 3:** If the proposal is adopted, when would the first NCAA Stunt National Championship be conducted?

**Answer:** The women's stunt committee would begin its work in January 2026 to prepare for the first national collegiate championship in spring 2027.

**Question No. 4:** If stunt is adopted as a National Collegiate Championship, is the division precluded from establishing a Division II Championship in the future?

**Answer:** No. A Division II championship may be established if 35 Division II institutions sponsor the sport at the varsity level and legislation is adopted by the membership.

**Question No. 5:** How are National Collegiate Championships funded?

**Answer:** National Collegiate Championships are included in the Division I championships budget and do not impact the Division II championships budget. The NCAA Board of Governors approved a budget for the Stunt National Collegiate Championship in August 2025 using Association-wide funds that will be allocated to the Division I championships budget.

**Question No. 6:** How many NCAA institutions sponsored stunt during the 2024-25 academic year?

**Answer:** During the 2024-25 academic year, 45 institutions sponsored stunt across all three divisions.

**Question No. 7:** How many NCAA institutions are projected to sponsor stunt during the 2025-26 academic year?

**Answer:** There are 54 projected programs across all three divisions in 2025-26. 7 in Division I, 30 in Division II and 17 in Division III.

No. 2026-4	DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIPS -- WOMEN'S BOWLING
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**Intent:** In bowling, to establish a Division II Women's Bowling Championship; further, to establish an NCAA Division II Women's Bowling Committee.

**A. Bylaws:** Amend 8, as follows: *(Immediate)*

[Division II, Roll Call]

Figure 8.2 Sports Committee Membership

**FIGURE 8-2**  
**Division II Sports Committee Membership**

<b>Committee</b>	<b>Number of Members</b>
Baseball Committee	8
Basketball Committee, Men's	8
Basketball Committee, Women's	8
<b><u>Bowling, Women's</u></b>	<b><u>5, including a secretary-rules editor, who shall be a nonvoting member.^</u></b>
Cross Country Committee, Men's and Women's	8, four members shall represent men's cross country interests and four members shall represent women's cross country interests with three positions allocated for those who identify as male, three positions allocated for those who identify as female, and two positions unallocated. There shall be one representative elected from each of the Division II cross country regions.
Field Hockey Committee	4
Football Committee	8, consisting of two representatives from each of the four Division II football regions and each member shall represent a different member conference or independent institution.
Golf Committee, Men's	4
Golf Committee, Women's	4
Lacrosse Committee, Men's	4, each of the Division II lacrosse regions shall be represented.
Lacrosse Committee, Women's	4, consisting of equal representation from each region.
Rowing Committee, Women's	3
Soccer Committee, Men's	8
Soccer Committee, Women's	8
Softball Committee, Women's	8
Swimming and Diving Committee, Men's and Women's	5, two members shall represent men's swimming and diving interests and two members shall represent women's swimming and diving interests with one position allocated for someone who identifies as male, and one position allocated for someone who identifies as female with one additional member representing diving interests.
Tennis Committee, Men's and Women's	8, consisting of three positions allocated for those who identify as male, three positions allocated for those who identify as female, and two unallocated positions.
Track and Field, Men's and Women's	8, four members shall represent men's track and field interests and four members shall represent women's track and field interests with three positions allocated for those who identify as male, three positions allocated for those who identify as female, and two positions unallocated. There shall be one representative elected from each of the Division II track and field regions*.
Volleyball Committee, Women's	8
Wrestling Committee, Men's	6

**^ The Women's Bowling Committee shall have playing rules and championships administration responsibilities.**

\* The Men's and Women's Track and Field Committee shall be responsible for the Division II indoor track and field, and outdoor track and field championships.



**B. Bylaws:** Amend 8.8.3, as follows: (August 1, 2027)

[Common provision, all divisions, divided vote, Roll Call]

~~8.8.3 Bowling Committee, Women's. The Women's Bowling Committee shall consist of seven members, including the secretary-rules editor, who shall be a nonvoting member.~~

[8.8.4 through 8.8.8 renumbered as 8.8.3 through 8.8.7, unchanged.]

**C. Bylaws:** Amend 17, as follows: (August 1, 2027)

[Division II, Roll Call]

17 Playing and Practice Seasons

[17.01 through 17.1 unchanged.]

17.1.4 Sports Subject to Segment Limitations. Playing-season-segment limitations are applicable to all team sports that are listed in Bylaw 17.02.16.1 and all individual sports listed under Bylaw 17.02.16.2. In those sports for which the National Collegiate Championship is the only NCAA championships opportunity (i.e., men's and women's fencing, men's and women's gymnastics, men's and women's rifle, men's and women's skiing, men's volleyball, men's water polo, women's ice hockey, women's water polo, ~~women's bowling~~, women's beach volleyball, women's wrestling), an institution's playing season shall be limited to the same length as Division I institutions, and this limitation shall be implied in all following legislative references affecting the sport.

[17.1.5 through 17.1.10 unchanged.]

[17.2 through 17.5 unchanged.]

17.6 Bowling, Women's.

[17.6.1 unchanged.]

17.6.2 **Weight Training, Conditioning, Team Activities and/or** Preseason Practice. A member institution shall not commence **weight training, conditioning and/or team activities in accordance with Bylaw 17.1.6.3 and** practice sessions in bowling before ~~October 1~~ **September 7 or the institution's fourth day of classes for the fall term (as set forth in its catalog, counting Monday through Friday only), whichever is earlier.**

17.6.3 First Date of Competition. A member institution shall not engage in its first date of competition (game or scrimmage) with outside competition in bowling before ~~October 1~~ **September 7 or the institution's fourth day of classes for the fall term (as set forth in its catalog, counting Monday through Friday only), whichever is earlier.**

**17.6.3.1 Exceptions. The following bowling dates of competition may be conducted at any time during the bowling playing and practice season:**

**(a) Alumni meet [see Bylaw 17.6.6.3-(d)];**

**(b) Fundraising activity [see Bylaw 17.6.6.3-(f)];**

**(c) Celebrity sports activity [see Bylaw 17.6.6.3-(g)]; and**

**(d) Discretionary exemptions (see Bylaw 17.6.6.4).**

**17.6.4 Limitations on Countable Athletically Related Activities and Transportation -- Winter Break. (See Bylaw 17.02.18 for definition of the winter break.)**

**17.6.4.1 Countable Athletically Related Activities. A student-athlete shall not participate in any countable athletically related activities during the winter break (see Bylaw 17.02.1).**

**17.6.4.2 Transportation. An institution shall not provide transportation in conjunction with away-from-home competition during the winter break.**

**17.6.4.2.1 Exception -- Travel on the First Day of the Winter Break. An institution may travel on the first day of winter break after an away-from-home competition, provided that is the earliest practical opportunity to return to campus.**

[17.6.4 through 17.6.5 renumbered as 17.6.5 through 17.6.6, unchanged.]

17.6.56.1 Maximum Limitations – Institutional. A member institution shall limit its total playing schedule with outside competition in bowling during the institution's bowling playing season to 32 dates of competition (games and scrimmages), except for those dates of competition excluded under Bylaw 17.6.56.3, **17.6.6.4 and 17.6.6.5** (see Bylaw 7.3.1.7.1.1 for minimum contests and participants requirements).

[17.6.5.1.1 renumbered as 17.6.6.1.1, unchanged.]

[17.6.5.2 renumbered as 17.6.6.2, unchanged.]

17.6.56.3 Annual Exemptions. The maximum number of dates of competition in bowling shall exclude the following:

[17.6.5.3-(a) renumbered as 17.6.6.3-(a) unchanged.]

**(b) Independents Championship. Competition in one championship meet or tournament among independent member institutions that are not members of an intercollegiate athletics conference in all sports, or for a specific sport that is not part of a conference, conducted at the end of the championship segment and prior to the NCAA championship;**

**(c) Season-Ending Tournament. Competition in one season-ending tournament (e.g., NCAA championship, NAIA championship). A season-ending tournament involves competition after the end of the regular season between teams that are not identified until the close of the regular season;**

*(b) NCAA Championship. Competition in the National Collegiate Bowling Championship;*

[17.6.5.3-(c) relettered as 17.6.5.3-(d) renumbered as 17.6.6.3-(c) relettered as 17.6.6.3-(d), unchanged.]

*(d) Foreign Team in United States. One date of competition each year with a foreign opponent in the United States;*

[17.6.5.3-(e) through 17.6.5.3-(g) renumbered as 17.6.6.3-(e) through 17.6.6.3-(g) unchanged.]

[17.6.5.3-(g)-(1) renumbered as 17.6.6.3-(g)-(1) unchanged.]

(2) The involvement of the student-athletes has the approval of the institution's athletics director.; **and**

**(h) U.S. National Team. One date of competition against a U.S. national team as selected by the appropriate national governing body in that sport.**

**17.6.6.4 Discretionary Exemptions. The following may be exempted from an institution's maximum number of dates of competition in bowling each year. An institution may exempt not more than three from this list annually:**

**(a) Foreign Team in United States. A date of competition against a foreign team in the United States played in the facility in which the member institution regularly plays its home dates of competition;**

**(b) Non-Division II Four-Year Collegiate Institution. An exhibition date of competition against non-Division II four-year collegiate institution(s); or**

**(c) Scrimmages. A scrimmage with outside competition, provided the scrimmage is conducted without official scoring.**

**17.6.6.4.1 Official Scoring. For purposes of Bylaw 17.6.6.4-(c), official scoring has occurred when either institution participating in the scrimmage satisfies either of the following conditions:**

**(a) The signing of a scorebook by an official; or**

**(b) The score is used for individual or seasonal statistics.**

[17.6.5.4 renumbered as 17.6.6.5, unchanged.]

[17.6.6 through 17.6.8 renumbered as 17.6.7 through 17.6.9, unchanged.]

17.6.89.1.1 In Season. A student-athlete shall be denied eligibility for intercollegiate competition for the remainder of the season in bowling if, after enrollment in college and during any year in which the student-athlete is a member of an intercollegiate squad or team, they compete or have competed as a member of an outside team in any noncollegiate, amateur competition (e.g., team invitational meet, exhibition meets or other activity) during the segment that concludes with the *National Collegiate Bowling* **NCAA** Championship (see Bylaw 14.4.7.5 for exceptions and waivers).

[17.6.8.1.2 renumbered as 17.6.9.1.2, unchanged.]

[17.6.8.2 renumbered as 17.6.9.2, unchanged.]

[17.7 through 17.33 unchanged.]

**D. Bylaws:** Amend 18.3, as follows: (*August 1, 2027*)

[Common provision, all divisions, divided vote, Roll Call]

18.3 Current Championships. The Association currently administers 92 national championships. There are 13 National Collegiate Championships. Additionally, there are 26 Division I championships, ~~25~~26 Division II championships and 28 Division III championships. (See Bylaw 9.3.10 for the voting requirements for the establishment of a new championship.) The current championships are as follows:

18.3.1 National Collegiate Championships (13).

<b>Men (4)</b>	<b>Men and Women (2)</b>	<b>Women (7)</b>
Fencing	Rifle	Beach Volleyball
Gymnastics	Skiing	Bowling ( <b><u>Divisions I and III</u></b> )
Volleyball (Divisions I and II)		Fencing
Water Polo		Gymnastics
		Ice Hockey (Divisions I and II)
		Water Polo
		Wrestling

18.3.2 NCAA Division II Championships (~~25~~26).

<b>Men (12)</b>	<b>Women (<del>13</del><u>14</u>)</b>
Baseball	Basketball
Basketball	<b><u>Bowling</u></b>
Cross Country	Cross Country
Football	Field Hockey
Golf	Golf
Lacrosse	Lacrosse
Soccer	Rowing
Swimming and Diving	Soccer
Tennis	Softball
Indoor Track and Field	Swimming and Diving
Outdoor Track and Field	Tennis
Wrestling	Indoor Track and Field
	Outdoor Track and Field
	Volleyball

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

**Effective Date:**

Section A: Immediate

Sections B, C, D: August 1, 2027

**Rationale:** Membership survey results indicate strong support for establishing a Division II-specific championship from the existing National Collegiate championship. Those results indicated that among those institutions that sponsor women's bowling, there is a strong preference for competing in and winning a Division II championship as opposed to a National Collegiate championship. As of the 2023-24 academic year, 38 Division II institutions sponsored women's bowling, which triggered a review of whether to establish a Division II Women's Bowling Championship. The immediate effective date for the formation of a Division II women's bowling committee will

permit the women's bowling committee to begin its work in January 2026 to prepare for the first Division II championship in April 2028.

### Frequently Asked Questions:

**Question No. 1:** What are the requirements to establish a Division II championship?

**Answer:** Per NCAA Division II Bylaw 18.4.1.2 (women's sports), a Division II championship may be established if at least 35 institutions sponsor the sport.

**Question No. 2:** How many active Division II member institutions sponsored women's bowling during the 2024-25 academic year?

**Answer:** During the 2024-25 academic year, 35 active Division II member institutions sponsored women's bowling.

**Question No. 3:** How many active Division II member institutions are projected to sponsor women's bowling during the 2025-26 academic year?

**Answer:** For the 2025-26 academic year, 36 active Division II member institutions indicated intent to sponsor women's bowling.

**Question No. 4:** If the proposal is adopted, when would the first NCAA Division II Women's Bowling Championship be conducted?

**Answer:** Winter 2028. The Division II Women's Bowling Committee would begin its work immediately to prepare for the first Division II Women's Bowling Championship in winter 2028.

**Question No. 5:** If the proposal is adopted, will Division II women's bowling programs continue to participate in the National Collegiate Bowling Championship until the first Division II Women's Bowling Championship?

**Answer:** Yes.

**Question No. 6:** If the proposal is adopted, will Division II women's bowling programs be required to participate in the Division II Women's Bowling Championship or will there be an option to participate in the National Collegiate Bowling Championship?

**Answer:** Division II institutions would only be eligible to participate in the Division II Women's Bowling Championship.

**Question No. 7:** How are Division II championships funded?

**Answer:** Division II championships are included in the Division II budget. Funding for any new Division II championship will not negatively impact the budget of current Division II championships. The NCAA Division II Executive Board and the NCAA Division II Management Council approved a budget for the Division II Women's Bowling Championship in summer 2025.

### No. 2026-5 RECRUITING -- DEFINITIONS AND APPLICATIONS -- FOOTBALL RECRUITING DEAD PERIOD

**Intent:** In football, to specify the following as recruiting dead periods: (1) December 22-January 1; (2) Monday through Wednesday during the week of the annual American Football Coaches Association Convention; and (3) Saturday before Memorial Day through Memorial Day.

**Bylaws:** Amend 13, as follows:

[Division II, Football Only, Roll Call]

13 Recruiting

[13.01 through 13.02 unchanged.]

~~13.02.10 Institutional Athletics Aid Agreement Signing Dates. The following provisions set forth the dates when a prospective student-athlete may sign an institutional athletics aid agreement (see Bylaw 13.02.10.2):~~

~~(a) First Date for Football Midyear Two-Year College Transfers. The Wednesday before the first Saturday in December.~~

~~(b) First Date for Football Regular Signing. The first Wednesday in February.~~

*(c) First Date for All Other Sports. The second Wednesday in November.*

**13.02.10 Dead Period** A dead period is that period of time when it is not permissible to make in-person recruiting contacts or evaluations on or off the member institution's campus or to permit official or unofficial visits by prospective student-athletes to the institution's campus. The provision of complimentary admissions to a prospective student-athlete during a dead period is prohibited, except as provided in Bylaw 13.4.2.3 for a prospective student-athlete who visits an institution as part of a group. During such a dead period, a coaching staff member may not serve as a speaker at or attend a meeting or banquet at which prospective student-athletes are in attendance, except as provided in Bylaws 13.1.5, and may not visit the prospective student-athletes' educational institutions. It remains permissible, however, for an institutional staff member to communicate with prospective student-athletes during such a dead period.

13.02.10.1 Institutional Athletics Aid Agreement Signing Dates. The following provisions set forth the dates when a prospective student-athlete may sign an institutional athletics aid agreement (see Bylaw 13.02.10.2):

[13.02.10.1-(a) through 13.02.10.1-(c) unchanged.]

13.02.10.1.1 Signing Date Dead Period. The period of time when it is not permissible to make in-person recruiting contacts or evaluations on or off the member institution's campus or to permit official or unofficial visits by prospective student-athletes to the institution's campus.

13.02.10.21.2 Signing Date. The period 48 hours before 7 a.m. on the date for signing in the applicable sport.

**13.02.10.2 Football Dead Period. The following dead periods shall apply to football:**

**(a) December 22 through January 1;**

**(b) Monday through Wednesday during the week of the annual American Football Coaches Association Convention; and**

**(c) The Saturday before Memorial Day through Memorial Day.**

[13.02.11 through 13.02.16 unchanged.]

[13.1 unchanged.]

13.1.5 Banquets, Meetings and NCAA Promotional Activities. A coach may speak at a meeting or banquet and have contact with a prospective student-athlete(s) or their relatives or legal guardians, provided: [D]

[13.1.5-(a) through 13.1.5-(c) unchanged.]

(d) It does not take place during ~~the signing date~~ a dead period.

[13.2 through 13.7 unchanged.]

13.7.4.1 Press Conferences and Celebratory Events. It is permissible for an institution to hold press conferences, receptions, dinners and similar meetings for the purpose of making such an announcement. A prospective student-athlete who has signed the institution's written offer of admission and/or financial aid or the institution has received their financial deposit in response to its offer of admission may attend institutional press conferences and celebratory events provided the event does not occur during ~~the signing date~~ a dead period. Any benefits provided to a prospective student-athlete in conjunction with press conferences or celebratory events are subject to Bylaw 13 restrictions. [D]

[13.8 through 13.9 unchanged.]

13.9.1.3 Dead Period. An institution's camps or clinics may not be conducted during ~~the signing date~~ a dead period.

[13.9.1.4 unchanged.]

[13.9.2 unchanged.]

[13.10 through 13.12 unchanged.]

**Source:** Anderson University (South Carolina), Carson-Newman University, Colorado Mesa University, Emporia State University, Fort Hays State University, Missouri Southern State University, Missouri Western State University, Northwest Missouri State University, Pittsburg State University, University of Central Missouri, University of Central Oklahoma, University of Nebraska at Kearney, Washburn University, Western Colorado University and Wingate University.

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2026

**Rationale:** Currently, there are only two football dead periods around signing dates, the 48 hours before the Wednesday before the first Saturday in December for midyear two-year college transfers and the 48 hours before the first Wednesday in February for regular football signings. Beyond those dead periods, the rest of the annual football recruiting calendar is now a contact period. This creates an unsustainable, always-on recruiting mentality and environment for coaches and programs and directly contradicts Division II's Life in the Balance philosophy. The addition of three new annual football dead periods in late December/January and around Memorial Day will provide much-needed breaks in the recruiting calendar during the year. It will permit attendance at the annual American Football Coaches Association (AFCA) Convention for professional development without expectations of recruiting responsibilities, and also permit coaches and staff to spend more time with loved ones without having to worry about potential recruiting concerns and disadvantages during holidays such as Christmas, New Years Eve and Memorial Day, as they do in the currently legislated environment.

### **Frequently Asked Questions:**

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

**Answer:** Currently, there are only two football recruiting dead periods surrounding the football signing dates: (1) 48 hours before the Wednesday preceding the first Saturday in December for football, midyear two-year college transfers; and (2) 48 hours before the first Wednesday in February. [See NCAA Division II Bylaw 13.02.10 (institutional athletics aid agreement signing dates)].

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

**Answer:** This proposal will create three additional recruiting dead periods in football: (1) December 22 through January 1; (2) Monday through Wednesday during the week of the annual American Football Coaches Association Convention; and (3) The Saturday before Memorial Day through Memorial Day.

**Question No. 3:** What is a dead period?

**Answer:** A dead period is that period of time when it is not permissible to make in-person recruiting contacts or evaluations on or off the member institution's campus or to permit official or unofficial visits by prospective student-athletes to the institution's campus.

**Question No. 4:** May contact occur during a dead period with a prospective student-athlete that has signed 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 admissions?

**Answer:** Yes.

**Question No. 5:** May communication with a prospective student-athlete occur during the recruiting dead periods? [See Bylaw 13.02.2 (communication)].

**Answer:** Yes.

**Question No. 6:** Do these additional recruiting dead periods apply to all sports?

**Answer:** No. This proposal is specific to football.

**Position Statement(s):** *NCAA Division II Football Committee.*: The committee agreed to support this proposal. The committee supported this proposal based on the rationale that it provides coaches time off; it promotes Life in the Balance and encourages attendance of coaches at the American Football Coaches Association (AFCA) Convention.

*NCAA Division II Legislation Committee.*: The committee agreed to support this proposal. The committee noted that this change would support the Life in the Balance philosophy in Division II. Specifically, the committee noted that this change would give football coaches and support staff a greater work-life balance and a break from recruiting. Additionally, the committee noted that this change would better align with the football recruiting calendar in Division I.

*NCAA Division II Management Council.*: The council agreed to support this proposal. The council noted that this change would support the Life in the Balance philosophy in Division II. Specifically, the council noted that this change would give football coaches and support staff a greater work-life balance and a break from recruiting. The council also noted that this change would give prospective student-athletes a break from recruiting. Finally, the council noted that this change would better align with the football recruiting calendar in Division I.

No. 2026-6 ELIGIBILITY -- ATHLETICS ELIGIBILITY -- SEASONS OF COMPETITION: 10-SEMESTER/15-QUARTER  
RULE -- FIVE SEASONS OF COMPETITION IN 10-SEMESTERS/15-QUARTERS

**Intent:** To amend the seasons of competition legislation, as follows: (1) To permit a student-athlete to engage in five seasons of intercollegiate competition in any one sport during their first 10-semester or 15-quarters of full-time enrollment; (2) To eliminate the currently legislated exceptions and waivers associated with the seasons of competition legislation; and (3) To amend the exceptions and waivers for the period of eligibility, as specified.

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

[Division II, Roll Call]

14 Eligibility: Academic and Athletics Requirements

[14.01 through 14.2 unchanged.]

14.2.3.1.7.3.2 Practice or Competition -- Postseason. The student-athlete granted eligibility to compete under this provision shall be eligible for any NCAA championship that begins within 60 days after said semester or quarter, provided the student-athlete has not exhausted the 10 semesters/15 quarters for completion of the individual's ~~four~~**five** seasons of eligibility (see Bylaw 14.4.3). Thereafter, the student-athlete shall forfeit eligibility in all sports, unless the student-athlete completes all degree requirements during that semester or quarter and is eligible to receive the baccalaureate diploma on the institution's next degree-granting date.

[14.2.3.1.7.3.2.1 unchanged.]

[14.2.3.1.7.4 through 14.2.3.1.7.6 unchanged.]

[14.2.3.1.8 unchanged.]

[14.2.4 through 14.2.6 unchanged.]

14.2.7 Recognized Foreign Exchange/Study Abroad Program. A student-athlete who participates in a formal and established educational foreign exchange or study abroad program recognized by the certifying institution's academic authorities shall not be considered a transfer student-athlete upon return to the certifying institution. ~~A student-athlete participating in such a program shall not trigger the use of a season of competition for participation in intercollegiate competition that occurs during the certifying institution's nonchampionship segment.~~ In sports other than basketball, a student-athlete shall not be subject to the outside competition legislation while participating in such a program. All amateurism regulations still apply.

[14.2.8 through 14.2.10 unchanged.]

[14.3 through 14.4 unchanged.]

14.4.3 Seasons of Competition: 10-Semester/15-Quarter Rule. A student-athlete shall not engage in more than ~~four~~**five** seasons of intercollegiate competition in any one sport (see Bylaws 14.02.12 and 14.4.3.2). 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:

[14.4.3.2 unchanged.]

~~14.4.3.2.3 Transgender Female Exception. A member institution may approve a two-semester or three-quarter extension of the 10-semester/15-quarter period of eligibility for a transgender female (male to female) student-athlete who uses two semesters or three quarters while completing one calendar year of testosterone suppression treatment or surgical intervention.~~

**14.4.3.2.3 Service Exceptions to the 10-Semester/15-Quarter Rule. Time spent in the armed services, on official religious missions or with recognized foreign aid services of the U.S. government is exempt from the application of the 10-semester/15-quarter rule. Among such services that qualify a student-athlete for an extension of the 10-semester/15-quarter rule are:**

**(a) Military Sea Transport Service;**

**(b) Peace Corps; or**

**(c) Service as a conscientious objector ordered by the Selective Service Commission (or the equivalent authority in a foreign nation) in lieu of active military duty.**

**14.4.3.2.3.1 Collegiate Enrollment Concurrent With Service Assignment.** Any time in which a student-athlete is enrolled for a minimum full-time load as a regular student in a collegiate institution while simultaneously on active duty in the U.S. military, on an official religious mission or with a recognized foreign aid service of the U.S. government shall count against the 10 semesters or 15 quarters in which the ~~four~~**five** seasons of eligibility must be completed.

[14.4.3.2.4 unchanged.]

**14.4.3.2.4.1 Waiver Criteria.** A waiver of the 10-semester/15-quarter period of eligibility is designed to provide a student-athlete with the opportunity to participate in ~~four~~**five** seasons of intercollegiate competition within a 10-semester/15-quarter period. This waiver may be granted, based upon objective evidence, for reasons that are beyond the control of the student-athlete and the institution, which deprive the student-athlete of the opportunity to participate for more than one season in their sport within the 10-semester/15-quarter period. The Student-Athlete Reinstatement Committee reserves the right to review requests that do not meet the more-than-one-year criteria detailed in this bylaw for extraordinary circumstances or extreme hardship.

[14.4.3.2.4.1.1 through 14.4.3.2.4.1.2 unchanged.]

**14.4.3.2.4.1.3 Circumstances Within Control.** Circumstances that are considered to be within the control of the student-athlete and the institution and cause a participation opportunity to be used include, but are not limited to, the following:

[14.4.3.2.4.1.3-(a) through 14.4.3.2.4.1.3-(c) unchanged.]

~~(d) Redshirt year, unless it meets the exception pursuant to Bylaw 14.4.3.2.4.1.4;~~

[14.4.3.2.4.1.3-(e) through 14.4.3.2.4.1.3-(f) relettered as 14.4.3.2.4.1.3-(d) through 14.4.3.2.4.1.3-(e), unchanged.]

~~14.4.3.2.4.1.4 Waiver -- Student-Athlete Who Does Not Use Season of Competition During Initial Year of Collegiate Enrollment. For a student-athlete who does not use a season of competition during their initial year of full-time collegiate enrollment at any institution, a waiver may be granted if all of the following conditions are met:~~

~~(a) The student-athlete was academically and athletically eligible and was on the institution's eligibility list (formerly squad list) during their initial year of collegiate enrollment; and~~

~~(b) The student-athlete was denied one participation opportunity per Bylaw 14.4.3.2.4.1 following their initial year of collegiate enrollment.~~

~~14.4.3.2.4.1.4.1 Application of Waiver. If the waiver is granted, it must be used during the next available opportunity [e.g., next semester(s) or quarter(s)].~~

[14.4.3.2.4.2 unchanged.]

**14.4.3.2.5 Academic Study Abroad Exception.** Time spent participating in a full-time study-abroad program during a regular term of an academic year may be exempt from the application of the 10-semester/15-quarter rule, provided:

**(a) The institution recognizes the student-athlete as a full-time student at the time of participation in the study-abroad program;**

**(b) At the time of participation in the study-abroad program, the student-athlete is academically eligible for competition and is not subject to an athletically related suspension;**

**(c) The student-athlete does not participate in competition with the institution's team and does not engage in outside competition while participating in the study-abroad program;**

**(d) The student-athlete satisfactorily completes the study-abroad program; and**

**(e) The student-athlete earns a baccalaureate degree within five years or fewer.**

**14.4.3.2.6 Internship or Cooperative Educational Work Experience Program Exception.** Time spent participating in a full-time internship or cooperative educational work experience program during a regular term of an academic year may be exempt from the application of the 10-semester/15-quarter rule, provided:



- (a) The institution recognizes the student-athlete as a full-time student at the time of participation in the internship or cooperative educational work experience program;
- (b) At the time of participation in the internship or cooperative educational work experience program, the student-athlete is academically eligible for competition and is not subject to an athletically related suspension;
- (c) The student-athlete does not participate in competition with the institution's team and does not engage in outside competition while participating in the internship or cooperative educational work experience program;
- (d) The student-athlete satisfactorily completes the internship or cooperative educational work experience program; and
- (e) The student-athlete earns a baccalaureate degree within five years or fewer.

[14.4.3.3 unchanged.]

14.4.3.3.5 Eligibility for Practice. A student-athlete receiving athletics aid after having engaged in ~~four~~**five** seasons of intercollegiate competition in a sport may continue to take part in organized, institutional practice sessions in that sport without being a counter (see Bylaw 15.02.4), provided the individual has eligibility remaining under the 10-semester/**15-quarter** rule.

[14.4.3.4 unchanged.]

~~14.4.3.4.1.2 Exception — Two-Year College Scrimmages. A two-year college prospective student-athlete may compete in a scrimmage as a member of a two-year college team without counting such competition as a season of competition, provided the scrimmage is conducted without official scoring.~~

~~14.4.3.4.1.2.1 Official Scoring. Official scoring has occurred when either institution participating in the scrimmage satisfies either of the following conditions:~~

- ~~(a) The signing of a scorebook by an official; or~~
- ~~(b) The score is used for individual or seasonal statistics.~~

~~14.4.3.4.1.3 Exception — Competition in the Nonchampionship Segment and Spring Football. In field hockey, football, men's and women's soccer, men's and women's volleyball and men's and women's water polo, a student-athlete may engage in outside competition during the segment of the playing season that does not conclude with the NCAA championship without using a season of competition, provided the student-athlete was academically eligible during the segment in the same academic year that concludes with the NCAA championship. In baseball, women's beach volleyball, softball and men's and women's lacrosse, a student-athlete may engage in outside competition during the segment of the playing season that does not conclude with the NCAA championship without using a season of competition. Prior to participating against outside competition during the nonchampionship segment and spring football practice, student-athletes shall be certified as eligible (e.g., amateurism, enrolled full time).~~

~~14.4.3.4.1.4 Recognized Foreign Exchange/Study Abroad Program. A student-athlete who participates in a formal and established educational foreign exchange or study abroad program recognized by the certifying institution's academic authorities shall not use a season of competition for participation in intercollegiate competition that occurs during the certifying institution's nonchampionship segment.~~

~~14.4.3.4.1.5 Alumni Game, Fundraising Activity or Celebrity Sports Activity. A student-athlete may engage in outside competition in either one alumni game, one fundraising activity or one celebrity sports activity during a season without counting such competition as a season of competition, provided the event is exempted from the institution's maximum number of contests or dates of competition as permitted in the particular sport per Bylaw 17.~~

~~14.4.3.4.1.6 Preseason Exhibition Contests or Dates of Competition/Preseason Scrimmages. A student-athlete may compete in preseason exhibition contests or dates of competition and preseason scrimmages (as permitted in the particular sport per Bylaw 17) that occur prior to the first countable contest or date of competition in the sport without counting such competition as a season of competition.~~

~~14.4.3.4.1.7 Exception — Participation During Initial Year of Collegiate Enrollment. A student-athlete representing a Division II institution, in their initial year of collegiate enrollment, may participate in up to 30 percent of the maximum permissible number of contests or dates of competition set forth in Bylaw 17 in their sport without using a season of competition.~~

[14.4.3.4.2 through 14.4.3.4.5 unchanged.]

~~14.4.3.5 Hardship Waiver. A student-athlete may be granted an additional year of competition by the conference or the Student-Athlete Reinstatement Committee for reasons of "hardship." Hardship is defined as an incapacity resulting from an injury or illness that has occurred under all of the following conditions:~~

- ~~(a) The incapacitating injury or illness occurs in one of the four seasons of intercollegiate competition at any two-year or four-year collegiate institution;~~
- ~~(b) The injury or illness occurs prior to the first competition of the second half of the playing season that concludes with the NCAA championship in that sport (see Bylaw 14.4.3.5.2.3) and results in an incapacity to compete for the remainder of that playing season; and~~
- ~~(c) The injury or illness occurs when the student-athlete has not participated in more than three contests or dates of competition (whichever is applicable to that sport), or 30 percent of the maximum permissible number of contests or dates of competition set forth in Bylaw 17 in their sport (see Bylaw 14.4.3.5.2.5.1.1 for information regarding percent calculation in track and field and Bylaw 14.4.3.5.2.5.1.2 for information regarding percent calculation in basketball). Competition (excluding alumni games, fundraising activities, celebrity sports activities, scrimmages and exhibition contests per Bylaw 17 in the applicable sport) against outside participants during the playing season that concludes with the NCAA championship, or, if so designated, during the official NCAA championship playing season in that sport (e.g., spring baseball, fall soccer), shall be countable under this limitation. In basketball, contests played as part of a region challenge shall be countable under this limitation.~~

~~14.4.3.5.1 Administration of Hardship Waiver. The hardship waiver shall be administered by the member conferences of the Association or, in the case of an independent member institution, by the Student-Athlete Reinstatement Committee. An institution may appeal a decision by its conference to the Student-Athlete Reinstatement Committee.~~

~~14.4.3.5.2 Criteria for Administration of Hardship Waiver. The following criteria are to be employed in the administration of the hardship waiver:~~

~~14.4.3.5.2.1 Nature of Injury/Illness. It is not necessary for the incapacitating injury or illness to be the direct result of the student's participation in the institution's organized practice or game competition. The student-athlete may qualify for the hardship waiver as a result of any incapacitating injury or illness occurring after the individual becomes a student-athlete by reporting on call for regular squad practice or after attending the first day of classes as a full-time student at a member institution.~~

~~14.4.3.5.2.2 Medical Documentation. Contemporaneous medical documentation from a physician or medical doctor that establishes the student-athlete's inability to compete for the remainder of the playing season as a result of an injury or illness shall be submitted with any hardship-waiver request. Chiropractic records do not constitute medical documentation for purposes of administering a hardship-waiver request. For circumstances involving psychological or mental illnesses, the required contemporaneous or other appropriate medical documentation may be provided by an individual who is qualified and licensed to diagnose and treat the particular illness (e.g., psychologist).~~

~~14.4.3.5.2.3 First-Half-of-Season Calculation. The first half of the season is measured by the maximum permissible number of contests or dates of competition set forth in Bylaw 17 in the sport. Any computation of the first half of the season that results in a fractional portion of a contest or date of competition shall be rounded to the next whole number. The first full contest or date of competition immediately following the rounded value is the first contest or date of competition in the second half of the season (e.g., 50 percent of an 11-game football schedule — 5.5 games — shall be considered six games and any injury or illness must have occurred prior to the start of the seventh contest).~~

~~14.4.3.5.2.3.1 Contests or Dates of Competition Based on Championship Selection. In sports in which the playing season is divided into two segments, but championship selection is based on competition throughout the season (e.g., golf and tennis), the first half of the season shall be measured by the Bylaw 17 maximum for the entire season (e.g., nonchampionship and championship segments). In sports in which the playing season may be divided into two segments but the championship selection is based on competition during only one segment of the season (e.g., spring baseball, fall soccer), the first half of the season shall be measured by the maximum number of contests or dates of competition set forth in Bylaw 17 for the championship segment.~~

~~14.4.3.5.2.3.2 First-Half-of-Season Calculation — Track and Field. For an institution that sponsors both indoor and outdoor track and field, the first half of the season calculation for indoor and outdoor track~~

~~and field shall be based on the institution's number of completed varsity dates of competition in the respective season. For example, if the institution completes six dates of competition in indoor track, the injury or illness must have occurred prior to the beginning of the fourth date of competition. For an institution that sponsors only indoor track and field or outdoor track and field, but not both, and a student-athlete who only competes in indoor track and field or outdoor track and field, but not both, the first half of the season shall be measured by the maximum number of dates of competition set forth in Bylaw 17.~~

~~14.4.3.5.2.3 First Half-of-Season Calculation – Basketball. If an institution participates in a region challenge event, the first half of the season shall be measured by the maximum number of contests set forth in Bylaw 17 plus the number of contests played in the region challenge event. For example, if an institution participates in two contests as part of a region challenge event, the injury or illness must have occurred prior to the start of the 15th contest (e.g., 26 contests plus two region challenge contests).~~

~~14.4.3.5.2.4 Reinjury in Second Half of Season. A student-athlete who suffers an injury in the first half of the season that concludes with the NCAA championship, attempts to return to competition during the second half of that season and then is unable to participate further as a result of aggravating the original injury does not qualify for the hardship waiver.~~

~~14.4.3.5.2.5 Percent Calculation. The following requirements apply in determining the percent calculation under this waiver provision: (Note: The percent calculation requirements set forth in Bylaws 14.4.3.5(c) and 14.4.3.5.2.3 apply only to the waiver provisions of this section and do not apply to the maximum- and minimum-contests requirements in Bylaws 7 and 17.)~~

~~14.4.3.5.2.5.1 Denominator in Percent Computation. The denominator in the percent calculation shall be based on the maximum number of contests or dates of competition set forth in Bylaw 17 for the applicable sport.~~

~~14.4.3.5.2.5.1.1 Denominator in Percent Computation – Track and Field. For an institution that sponsors both indoor and outdoor track and field, the denominator in the percent calculation for indoor and outdoor track and field shall be based on the institution's number of completed varsity dates of competition in the respective season. For example, if the institution completes six dates of competition in indoor track, the denominator in the percent calculation for a hardship waiver in indoor track and field would be six. For an institution that sponsors only indoor track and field or outdoor track and field, but not both, and a student-athlete who only competes in indoor track and field or outdoor track and field, but not both, the institution's number of completed varsity dates of competition or the maximum number of dates of competition set forth in Bylaw 17 may be used in the denominator.~~

~~14.4.3.5.2.5.1.2 Denominator in Percent Calculation – Basketball. If an institution participates in a region challenge event, the denominator shall include the number of contests played in the region challenge event. For example, if an institution participates in two contests as part of a region challenge event, the denominator in the percent calculation would be 28 (e.g., 26 contests plus two region challenge contests).~~

~~14.4.3.5.2.5.2 Fraction in Percent Computation. Any computation of the percent limitation that results in a fractional portion of a contest or date of competition shall be rounded to the next whole number (e.g., 30 percent of a 26-game basketball schedule – 7.8 games – shall be considered eight games).~~

~~14.4.3.5.2.6 Transfer Student-Athletes. The hardship-waiver criteria for a transfer student-athlete who suffers an injury or illness while attending an NCAA Division I or Division III institution may be based on the method that would be most beneficial to the student-athlete (the rule applicable to the member division in which the injury or illness occurred or the Division II rule). The application of a particular division's legislation must include all the applicable elements of that division's legislation, as opposed to selected elements of the legislation of each division.~~

~~14.4.3.5.2.7 Foreign-Tour Competition. A student-athlete who qualifies for a hardship for the previous academic year would not use a season of competition if the student-athlete represents the institution on a certified foreign tour during the summer-vacation period at the conclusion of that academic year.~~

~~14.4.3.6 Season-of-Competition Waiver – Competition While Ineligible. In conjunction with a request for restoration of eligibility and any conditions imposed thereon per Bylaw 14.1.4, a student-athlete may be granted an additional season of competition by the Student-Athlete Reinstatement Committee when they participated in a limited amount of competition under either of the following circumstances:~~

- (a) ~~As a result of a good-faith, erroneous formal declaration of eligibility by the institution's appropriate certifying authority; or~~
- (b) ~~As a result of a student-athlete's good-faith, erroneous reliance upon a coaching staff member's decision to place the student-athlete into competition prior to the coaching staff member receiving a formal declaration of eligibility for the student-athlete from the institution's appropriate certifying authority.~~

~~14.4.3.6.1 Applicable Conditions. The competition must have occurred under all of the following conditions:~~

- (a) ~~The competition occurred while the student-athlete was representing an NCAA member institution;~~
- (b) ~~The student-athlete did not participate in more than two events or 10 percent (whichever number is greater) of the institution's scheduled or completed events in their sport. All competition (including a scrimmage) against outside participants shall be countable under this limitation in calculating both the number of events in which the student-athlete participated and the number of completed events during that season (both segments) in the sport;~~
- (c) ~~The student-athlete was involved innocently and inadvertently in the erroneous declaration of eligibility, which permitted the student-athlete to compete while ineligible; and~~
- (d) ~~The student-athlete, in the case of a coaching staff member's erroneous decision, had reason to believe they were eligible to participate, and the student-athlete did not contribute to the coaching staff member's erroneous decision to allow the student-athlete to participate.~~

~~14.4.3.6.2 Administrative Criteria. The following criteria shall be employed in the administration of the season-of-competition waiver:~~

~~14.4.3.6.2.1 Ten Percent Calculation. The following requirements are to be met in determining the percent calculation under this waiver provision: (Note: The percent calculation requirements set forth in Bylaws 14.4.3.6.1(b) and 14.4.3.6.2.1 apply only to the waiver provisions of this section and do not apply to the maximum- and minimum-contest requirements in Bylaws 7 and 17.)~~

~~14.4.3.6.2.1.1 Denominator in Percent Computation. The denominator in the institution's percent calculation shall be based on the institution's number of scheduled or completed varsity contests or dates of competition [see Bylaw 14.4.3.6.1(b)] as computed for playing and practice season purposes in Bylaw 17 for the applicable sport. Exempted events in Bylaw 17 are included in the percent calculation, except for discretionary exemptions in the applicable sport.~~

~~14.4.3.6.2.1.2 Fraction in Percent Calculation. Any computation of the percent limitation that results in a fractional portion of a contest or date of competition shall be rounded to the next whole number (e.g., 10 percent of a 26-game basketball schedule -- 2.6 games -- shall be considered three games).~~

~~14.4.3.6.2.1.3 Conference Championships. A conference championship shall be counted as one contest or date of competition in determining the institution's scheduled or completed contests or dates of competition in the sport, regardless of the number of dates or games involved in the championship. However, for purposes of this regulation, the calculation of scheduled contests or dates of competition in a particular season does not include postseason competition conducted after the completion of the institution's regular-season schedule and conference tournament.~~

~~14.4.3.6.2.1.4 NCAA Regional Cross Country Meet. The NCAA regional cross country meet may be counted as one date of competition in determining the institution's scheduled or completed dates of competition, provided no qualifying standards exist for participation in the meet.~~

~~14.4.3.7 Season-of-Competition Waiver -- Competition While Eligible. A student-athlete may be granted an additional season of competition by the Student-Athlete Reinstatement Committee when, due to extenuating circumstances (per Bylaw 14.4.3.7.1.3), the student-athlete, while eligible, did not compete in more than three contests or dates of competition (whichever is applicable to that sport) or 30 percent (whichever number is greater) of the maximum permissible number of contests or dates of competition set forth in Bylaw 17. The competition must occur prior to the first competition of the second half of the playing season that concludes with the NCAA championship in that sport. All competition (including a scrimmage) against outside participants shall be countable under this limitation in calculating the number of contests or dates of competition in which the student-athlete participated.~~

~~14.4.3.7.1 Administrative Criteria. The following criteria shall be employed in the administration of this season-of-competition waiver:~~

~~14.4.3.7.1.1 Thirty Percent Calculation. The requirements specified in Bylaw 14.4.3.6.2.1 shall apply to the 30 percent calculation specified in this waiver.~~

~~14.4.3.7.1.2 First Half of Season Requirement. The first half of season requirements specified in Bylaw 14.4.3.5.2.3 shall apply to the first half of season requirement specified in this waiver.~~

~~14.4.3.7.1.3 Extenuating Circumstances. Extenuating circumstances include, but are not limited to, the following:~~

- ~~(a) The student-athlete is unable to compete as a result of a life-threatening injury or illness suffered by a member of the student-athlete's immediate family, which clearly is supported by contemporaneous medical documentation;~~
- ~~(b) The student-athlete is unable to compete as a result of extreme financial difficulties as a result of a specific event (e.g., layoff, death in family) experienced by the student-athlete or an individual on whom the student-athlete is legally dependent. These circumstances must be clearly supported by objective documentation (e.g., decree of bankruptcy, proof of termination) and must be beyond the control of the student-athlete or the individual on whom the student-athlete is legally dependent;~~
- ~~(c) The student-athlete's institution dropped the sport (in which the student has practiced or competed) from its intercollegiate program; and~~
- ~~(d) The student-athlete participated in nonregular-season competition (e.g., alumni contest, exhibition contests, scrimmages, nonchampionship segment contests) due to a coach's documented misunderstanding of the legislation. The competition must have occurred while the student-athlete was representing an NCAA institution.~~

~~14.4.3.7.1.4 Review Authority. In cases where a student-athlete does not meet the extenuating circumstances listed in Bylaw 14.4.3.7.1.3, the Student-Athlete Reinstatement Committee shall have authority to review and grant waivers based on additional documented extenuating circumstances.~~

[14.4.4 through 14.4.8 unchanged.]

14.4.8.4 Athletics Eligibility Status if Professional in Another Sport. A professional athlete in one sport may represent a member institution in a different sport. The institution may award institutional financial aid to a student-athlete, provided the student-athlete is not professional in the sport in which the student-athlete will participate at the certifying institution. However, a student-athlete who currently is receiving institutional financial aid and signs a contract in the same sport or receives compensation from an agent or a professional-sport organization may continue to receive such aid for the remainder of the term of the award, provided the student-athlete has completed their ~~four~~**five** seasons of competition. (See Bylaw 15.1.1.4.)

[14.4.8.4.1 unchanged.]

[14.4.8.5 through 14.4.8.6 unchanged.]

[14.4.9 unchanged.]

**B. Bylaws:** Amend 15.1.1.4, as follows:

[Division II, Roll Call]

15.1.1.4 Athletics Aid to Professional Athlete. An institution may not award athletics aid to a student-athlete who is under contract to or currently receiving compensation from a professional sports organization in the sport in which the student-athlete will participate at the certifying institution. It is permissible to award athletics aid to a student-athlete provided the student-athlete is not a professional in the sport in which the student-athlete will participate at the certifying institution. However, a student-athlete who currently is receiving athletics aid and signs a contract in the same sport or receives compensation from an agent or a professional sports organization may continue to receive such aid for the remainder of the term of the award, provided the student-athlete has completed their ~~four~~**five** seasons of competition.

[15.1.1.4.1 unchanged.]

**C. Bylaws:** Amend 17.11.9, as follows:

[Division II, Roll Call]

17.11.9 Out-of-Season Athletically Related Activities. Student-athletes and members of the coaching staff shall not engage in countable athletically related activities outside the playing season, except for the following:

[17.11.9-(a) through 17.11.9-(b) unchanged.]

[17.11.9-(b)-(1) through 17.11.9-(b)-(9) unchanged.]

(10) An institution may participate in a scrimmage against a four-year collegiate institution and the scrimmage shall count as one of the three sessions that may be devoted primarily to 11-on-11 scrimmages. The scrimmage against a four-year collegiate institution may not occur until on or after the 10th spring practice. ~~[See Bylaw 14.4.3.4.1.3 for participation during the nonchampionship segment].~~

[17.11.9-(b)-(11) through 17.11.9-(b)-(12) unchanged.]

[17.11.9.1 unchanged.]

**Source:** NCAA Division II Executive Board [Management Council (Eligibility Review Working Group)].

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2026, for student-athletes that have not exhausted their eligibility before or at the conclusion of the 2024-25 academic year.

**Rationale:** The Eligibility Review Working Group was formed to perform a comprehensive review of eligibility rules. The working group focused on issues surrounding seasons of competition and period of eligibility and developed guidelines for its review, including using data to make recommendations, developing recommendations consistent with the Life in the Balance Philosophy, and limiting exceptions and waivers as much as possible. The working group reviewed 2022-23 Division II Academic Performance Census data as well as data from pre-pandemic years regarding time to degree for Division II student-athletes and determined the data supported a recommendation for an additional season of competition. Further, initial membership feedback indicated that three-quarters of respondents believed the 10-semester/15-quarter legislation is still appropriate. The working group agreed that the current 10-semester/15-quarter rule allows flexibility for student-athletes who necessitate a break in college attendance that a five-year consecutive clock following initial full-time collegiate enrollment would not provide. Exceptions and waivers to the period of eligibility rule would be available in limited and well-defined instances. Finally, based on the initial survey the working group agreed that current legislation regarding transfers from non-Division II institutions and Division III transfer student-athletes that only practice should continue to apply.

### Frequently Asked Questions:

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

**Answer:** Currently, a student-athlete may participate in four seasons of intercollegiate competition during their first 10-semesters or 15-quarters of full-time enrollment. Additionally, a student-athlete has access to certain exceptions and waivers regarding use of a season of competition and extension of eligibility (i.e., additional semesters/quarters).

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

**Answer:** If the proposal is adopted, a student-athlete may participate in up to five seasons of intercollegiate competition in a sport during their first 10-semesters or 15-quarters of full-time enrollment. Additionally, the current exceptions and waivers for use of a season of competition will be eliminated. Therefore, any competition will count as use of a season. Finally, current extension of eligibility (i.e., additional semesters/quarters) exceptions will remain available to student-athletes along with a few new exceptions, and waivers will remain available in limited and well-defined circumstances.

**Question No. 3:** How will the effective date apply to student-athletes?

**Answer:** If a student-athlete exhausted their seasons of competition or their 10-semesters/15-quarters of eligibility after the conclusion of the 2024-25 academic year, then they will not have access to the legislation.

A student-athlete that has both a season(s) of competition **and** semester(s)/quarter(s) remaining at the conclusion of the 2024-25 academic year will have access to the legislation.

**Question No. 4:** If the proposal is adopted, will a non-Division II transfer student-athlete have access to a fifth season of competition?

**Answer:** It depends. A non-Division II transfer student-athlete may have access to a fifth season of competition if they have not exhausted their seasons of competition or their 10-semesters/15-quarters of eligibility before or after the

conclusion of the 2024-25 academic year. Please note, the student-athlete must also meet four-year college transfer requirements to be immediately eligible upon transfer to the Division II institution [see NCAA Division II Bylaw 14.3.5 (four-year college transfers)].

For example, if a Division I student-athlete exhausted their seasons of competition during the 2024-25 academic year, then they would not have access to a fifth season of competition in Division II. Additionally, if a Division I student-athlete exhausted their semesters/quarters during the 2024-25 academic year, then they would not have access to a fifth season of competition in Division II.

**Question No. 5:** If the proposal is adopted, will any financial aid equivalency relief be provided for the 2026-27 academic year?

**Answer:** The NCAA Division II Management Council issued a blanket waiver (contingent on adoption of the proposal) to permit a student-athlete, regardless of sport, who would have used their final season of competition during or at the conclusion of the 2025-26 academic year, to receive athletics aid for the 2026-27 academic year without counting toward team equivalency limits. This relief would only apply if the student-athlete remains at their original institution. If the student-athlete transfers for the 2026-27 academic year, the athletics aid received at the new institution will count toward team equivalency limits.

No. 2026-7 FINANCIAL AID -- ELIGIBILITY FOR ATHLETICS AID -- ELIGIBILITY OF STUDENT-ATHLETES FOR ATHLETICS AID -- RETROACTIVE ATHLETICS AID -- ISSUANCE OF RETROACTIVE ATHLETICS AID

**Intent:** To permit an institution to provide retroactive athletics aid during an academic year.

**Bylaws:** Amend 15.1.1.3, as follows:

[Division II, Roll Call]

15.1.1.3 Retroactive Athletics Aid. Athletics aid awarded to an enrolled student-athlete after the first day of classes in any term may ~~not exceed the remaining food and housing charges and educational expenses for that term and may not~~ be made retroactive to the beginning of that ~~term~~**academic year**. ~~Payments credited to a student-athlete's account that are not refundable need not become the student's obligation.~~

**Source:** Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference and South Atlantic Conference.

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2026

**Rationale:** Currently, an institution must prorate a student-athlete's athletics aid if it is awarded after the period of the award begins. This is a somewhat misunderstood bylaw, and the prorating calculations are tedious and time-consuming for compliance and the Financial Aid office. Institutions are already permitted to increase athletics aid at any time for any reason. Additionally, institutions are permitted to retroactively award students, other than student-athletes, with scholarships, loans and grants to the beginning of the academic year. This proposal does not increase the amount of aid an institution may provide to an individual student-athlete, nor does it increase the amount an institution may provide to a team. It provides greater flexibility for coaches and administrators in awarding athletics aid; and reduces the financial aid calculation burden on compliance and the Financial Aid office. Finally, this would be permissive legislation, and institutions would not be required to provide retroactive athletics aid.

**Frequently Asked Questions:**

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

**Answer:** Currently, an institution is prohibited from awarding retroactive athletics aid to a student-athlete. For example, if an institution decides to award a student-athlete with athletics aid one month into the fall term, the institution may not retroactively provide the student-athlete with aid for expenses already incurred during the first month of the term. The institution must prorate and may only award athletics aid to cover the student-athlete's remaining expenses for that term.

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

**Answer:** An institution would be permitted to provide a student-athlete with athletics aid that is retroactive to the beginning of that academic year.

**Question No. 3:** If the proposal is adopted, may a student-athlete's athletics aid be retroactively increased for any reason at any time during the academic year?

**Answer:** Yes.

**Question No. 4:** If adopted, may a student-athlete receive an initial award of athletics aid at any point during the academic year that is retroactive to the beginning of that academic year?

**Answer:** Yes.

**Question No. 5:** If a student-athlete was not previously receiving athletics aid but is later awarded retroactive athletics aid, does the student-athlete become a counter?

**Answer:** Yes.

**Question No. 6:** If a student-athlete is awarded retroactive athletics aid, will that athletics aid count towards equivalency limits?

**Answer:** Yes.

**Position Statement(s):** *NCAA Division II Legislation Committee.*: The committee agreed to support this proposal. The committee noted that membership feedback supports allowing an institution to provide retroactive athletics aid and it provides flexibility for student-athletes.

*NCAA Division II Management Council.*: The council agreed to support this proposal. The council noted that membership feedback supports allowing an institution to provide retroactive athletics aid and it provides flexibility for student-athletes. Additionally, the council noted that this change is student-athlete friendly and it reduces the financial aid calculation burden on compliance administrators and financial aid offices.

No. 2026-8 PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS – GENERAL PLAYING-SEASON REGULATIONS – TIME LIMITS FOR ATHLETICALLY RELATED ACTIVITIES – DAILY AND WEEKLY HOUR LIMITATIONS – NONCHAMPIONSHIP SEGMENT – BASEBALL

**Intent:** In baseball, to increase the weekly hour limitation during the nonchampionship segment from 15 hours per week to 18 hours per week; further, to specify that during the nonchampionship segment, an intrasquad scrimmage may exceed the four-hours-per-day limitation provided the student-athlete does not exceed the 18 hours per week.

**Bylaws:** Amend 17.1.6.2, as follows:

[Division II, Roll Call]

17.1.6.2 Daily and Weekly Hour Limitations - Nonchampionship Segment. During the nonchampionship segment, a student-athlete's participation in countable athletically related activities (see Bylaw 17.02.1) shall be limited to a maximum of four hours per day and 15 hours per week.

[17.1.6.2.1 unchanged.]

**17.1.6.2.2 Exception -- Baseball. In baseball, during the nonchampionship segment, a student-athlete's participation in countable athletically related activities (see Bylaw 17.02.1) shall be limited to a maximum of four hours per day and 18 hours per week. An intrasquad scrimmage may exceed the four-hours-per-day limitation, but the weekly limit of 18 hours shall remain in effect.**

**Source:** Colorado Mesa University, Albany State University (Georgia), American International College, Angelo State University, Augustana University (South Dakota), Catawba College, East Stroudsburg University of Pennsylvania, Emporia State University, Georgia Southwestern State University, Lubbock Christian University, New Mexico Highlands University, South Atlantic Conference, St. Edward's University, St. Mary's University (Texas), The University of Texas at Tyler, The University of Texas Permian Basin and Walsh University.

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2026

**Rationale:** Currently during the nonchampionship segment, a student-athlete's participation in countable athletically related activities is limited to a maximum of four hours per day and 15 hours per week. All sports place specific, yet vastly different demands upon student-athletes and coaches. In recent years the governing bodies of college athletics have acknowledged these differences by drafting and approving sport-specific amendments that helped to establish the flexibility required to focus on student-athlete safety, growth and development. In baseball, the current model has unintentionally pushed student-athletes toward outside training organizations and/or internet-based training routines to develop their skillset. Student-athletes are participating in programs that are not fully monitored, less controlled and often dangerous because they cannot receive the training they need from their



coaches. Increasing the weekly hour limitation from 15 to 18 hours would grant coaches an enhanced ability to balance their student-athletes' on-field development with proper supervision and protocols. Additionally, given the large squad sizes often carried by baseball teams, as an enrollment tool for their institutions, the extra time would allow coaches to give more attention and opportunities to all members of the team. This would enhance the student-athlete experience and retention.

### **Frequently Asked Questions:**

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

**Answer:** Currently, during the nonchampionship segment a student-athlete's participation in countable athletically related activities is limited to four hours per day and 15 hours per week.

Additionally, a baseball intrasquad scrimmage (i.e., a scrimmage within the institution's own team) shall not exceed four hours per day.

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

**Answer:** During the nonchampionship segment, a student-athlete's participation in countable athletically related activities will be limited to four hours per day and 18 hours per week.

Additionally, a baseball intrasquad scrimmage may exceed four hours per day provided a student-athlete does not exceed the limit of 18 hours per week.

**Question No. 3:** Will this proposal change the daily and weekly limit on countable athletically related activities during the championship segment?

**Answer:** No.

**Question No. 4:** Will this proposal change the number of required days off for a student-athlete during the nonchampionship segment?

**Answer:** No.

**Question No. 5:** May an institution's **intersquad** scrimmage (i.e., against outside competition) exceed four hours per day?

**Answer:** No. [See NCAA Division II Bylaw 17.1.6.4.2.1 (exempted scrimmages and exhibitions)].

**Position Statement(s):** *NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports.*: The committee agreed to take no position on this proposal. The committee noted that the Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports Prevention and Performance Subcommittee was unaware of any evidence suggesting that the proposed changes would better support student-athlete health and safety. However, the subcommittee noted no known health and safety rationale to oppose the proposal. The committee also noted that increasing the amount of permissible countable athletically related activities (CARA) may decrease the amount of unsupervised voluntary athletically related activity that may occur, which could potentially benefit student-athlete health and safety. Further, the committee noted that increasing the amount of athletically related activity carries increased risk of injury. Finally, the committee noted that the proposed legislation will likely increase time demands on the sports medicine staff, with the biggest burden placed on athletic trainers. Specifically, the committee noted that institutions should be aware of guidance regarding current athletic trainer workforce issues and how increasing athletic trainer workload demands are contributing to athletic trainers leaving the profession and/or collegiate setting.

*NCAA Division II Baseball Committee.*: The committee agreed to support this proposal. The committee noted that given the length of time it takes to play a baseball game, a unique situation exists that warrants additional time to be provided. Further, the committee noted that with continually increasing rosters, this additional time will allow for development of additional players and preparation for competition. Finally, with this proposed legislation being permissive, the committee noted that institutions can manage their programs accordingly.

*NCAA Division II Legislation Committee.*: The committee agreed to oppose this proposal. The committee noted that this change could result in other sports seeking more time to participate in CARA. Additionally, the committee noted this proposal goes against the Life in the Balance philosophy in Division II. Finally, the committee noted that the current weekly hour limitation (four hours per day and 15 hours per week) is still appropriate.

*NCAA Division II Management Council.*: The council agreed to oppose this proposal. The council noted the impact this change would have on the Life in the Balance philosophy. Specifically, the council noted that an increase in

the weekly hour limitation may impact a baseball student-athlete's opportunity to engage in nonathletically related activities (i.e., jobs) or impact their opportunity to focus on their academics. The council also noted that this change could result in other sports seeking more time to participate in CARA. Further, the council noted that this change will not stop a baseball student-athlete from continuing to seek training from an outside organization to develop their skills. The council also noted that the current weekly hour limitation (four hours per day and 15 hours per week) is still appropriate. Finally, the council noted that the proposed legislation will likely increase time demands on the sports medicine staff, with the biggest burden being placed on athletic trainers.

**No. 2026-9 PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS -- BASEBALL -- NUMBER OF CONTESTS -- MAXIMUM LIMITATIONS -- INSTITUTIONAL -- STUDENT-ATHLETE**

**Intent:** In baseball, to increase the institutional and student-athlete playing season maximum limitation to 52 contests (games and scrimmages).

**Bylaws:** Amend 17.3.7, as follows:

[Division II, Roll Call]

**17.3.7 Number of Contests.**

17.3.7.1 Maximum Limitations -- Institutional. A member institution shall limit its total playing schedule with outside competition in baseball during the institution's baseball playing season to ~~50~~**52** contests (games and scrimmages), except for those contests excluded under Bylaws 17.3.7.3, 17.3.7.4 and 14.4.7.5.

[17.3.7.1.1 unchanged.]

17.3.7.2 Maximum Limitations -- Student-Athlete. An individual student-athlete may participate in each academic year in ~~50~~**52** baseball contests. 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.

[17.3.7.3 through 17.3.7.5 unchanged.]

**Source:** Colorado Mesa University, Albany State University (Georgia), Angelo State University, Augustana University (South Dakota), Catawba College, East Stroudsburg University of Pennsylvania, Eastern New Mexico University, Georgia Southwestern State University, Lewis University, Lubbock Christian University, Missouri Southern State University, Montana State University Billings, New Mexico Highlands University, Regis University (Colorado), St. Edward's University, St. Mary's University (Texas), Texas A&M University-Kingsville and The University of Texas at Tyler.

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2026

**Rationale:** In baseball, an institution and student-athlete must limit its playing season with outside competition to 50 contests. In March of 2023, the NCAA Division I Committee for Legislative Relief approved a blanket waiver for Division I baseball programs to increase their squad size from 35 to 40 players, while also raising the 27-scholarship counter cap to 32 players. These developments point to a drastic shift in college baseball and as the recruiting challenges in Division II increase, they mark a need for increased team-related opportunities for student-athletes in a sport where roster size often exceeds 45 or more players. Student-athletes often attend colleges for the opportunity to play their sport and raising the maximum number of baseball contests from 50 to 52 will create more opportunities for them to do so while growing and developing within a team environment. Additionally, a significant percentage of coaches mentioned that a schedule of 52 games allows teams to even up their schedules and not have to seek an awkward series to get to 50 total contests. Finally, softball allows a maximum of 56 contests during its playing season.

**Frequently Asked Questions:**

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

**Answer:** Currently, an institution's and student-athlete's baseball playing season is limited to 50 contests (games and scrimmages).

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

**Answer:** An institution's and student-athlete's baseball playing season will be limited to 52 contests (games and scrimmages).

**Question No. 3:** Will this proposal change Division II sports sponsorship requirements in baseball?

**Answer:** No.

**Question No. 4:** If adopted, will this proposal change the number of discretionary exemptions an institution may exempt from their maximum number of contests?

**Answer:** No.

**Question No. 5:** May an institution choose whether to participate in the 52 contests during the championship or nonchampionship segment?

**Answer:** Yes. The contests may be played in either segment.

**Position Statement(s):** *NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports.*: The committee agreed to take no position on this proposal. The committee noted that the CSMAS Prevention and Performance Subcommittee was unaware of any evidence suggesting that the proposed changes would better support student-athlete health and safety. However, the subcommittee noted no known health and safety rationale to oppose the proposal. The committee also noted that increasing the amount of permissible CARA may decrease the amount of unsupervised voluntary athletically related activity that may occur, which could potentially benefit student-athlete health and safety. Further, the committee noted that increasing the amount of athletically related activity carries increased risk of injury. Finally, the committee noted that the proposed legislation will likely increase time demands on the sports medicine staff, with the biggest burden placed on athletic trainers. Specifically, the committee noted that institutions should be aware of guidance regarding current athletic trainer workforce issues and how increasing athletic trainer workload demands are contributing to athletic trainers leaving the profession and/or collegiate setting.

*NCAA Division II Baseball Committee.*: The committee agreed to support this proposal. The committee noted that these additional two games would allow teams to more easily schedule games with a traditional four game series approach. This would also allow for additional opportunities for student-athletes to play, particularly given larger roster sizes that many teams now have. With this being permissive legislation, the committee believes institutions can manage their teams accordingly and play these additional games if their budgets allow. Finally, the committee noted the number of games that softball is allowed (56), and this increase would bring these sports closer in alignment.

*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. Additionally, the committee noted that the rationale for the proposal does not directly correlate to a need for increased contests in baseball (e.g., Division I baseball roster increase).

*NCAA Division II Management Council.*: The council agreed to oppose this proposal. The council noted that although this is permissive legislation, adding two additional contests could have a financial impact on institutions, which could include increased costs for officials and additional travel expenses. The council also noted the impact this change would have on the Life in the Balance philosophy in Division II. Finally, the council noted that the proposed legislation will likely increase time demands on the sports medicine staff, with the biggest burden being placed on athletic trainers.

#### No. 2026-10      PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS – BASKETBALL – FIRST PERMISSIBLE CONTEST

**Intent:** In basketball, to specify that a member institution shall not play its first contest (game or scrimmage) with outside competition before the Monday that is 17 weeks before the Division II men's and women's championship selection dates.

**Bylaws:** Amend 17.4.3, as follows:

[Division II, Roll Call]

17.4.3 First Contest. A member institution shall not play its first contest (game or scrimmage) with outside competition in basketball before the ~~second Friday of November~~ **Monday that is 17 weeks before the Division II men's and women's championship selection dates**, except as provided under Bylaw 17.4.3.1.

[17.4.3.1 unchanged.]

17.4.3.2 Exceptions – Preseason Events. The following basketball games may be played ~~on or after November 1~~ **up to 10 days before the first permissible contest**:

[17.4.3.2-(a) through 17.4.3.2-(c) unchanged.]

~~(1) Games in the Division II Conference Commissioners Association's Tip-Off Classic may be played beginning on the Friday immediately preceding November 1 in calendar years when November 1 falls on a Saturday, Sunday or Monday.~~

**Source:** Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association, California Collegiate Athletic Association and Northeast-10 Conference.

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2026

**Rationale:** Under current legislation an institution shall not play its first contest (game or scrimmage) with outside competition in basketball before the second Friday of November, with a few exceptions. However, the second Friday in November can sometimes fall as late as November 14. This results in fewer days and weeks to schedule and complete regular season contests, a severely compressed window to schedule and complete non-conference contests and an increasingly difficult or even total inability to schedule and compete in region challenge events. Amending the current legislation and taking a similar approach as Division I men's and women's basketball will standardize the length of the regular season, provide for additional days earlier in the season to schedule and complete non-conference contests, allow for those teams looking to participate in region challenge events to do so without additional scheduling burdens and alleviate and/or eliminate the type of scheduling compression that occurs under current legislation when the second Friday in November falls as late as November 14.

**Frequently Asked Questions:**

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

**Answer:** Currently, in basketball, an institution may participate in its first permissible contest with outside competition the second Friday of November.

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

**Answer:** An institution may participate in its first permissible basketball contest with outside competition the Monday that is 17 weeks before the Division II men's and women's championship selection dates.

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. 2026-10 is Adopted	Men's and Women's Championship Selection Date
2026-27	November 13, 2026	November 9, 2026	March 7, 2027
2027-28	November 12, 2027	November 8, 2027	March 5, 2028
2028-29	November 10, 2028	November 6, 2028	March 4, 2029
2029-30	November 9, 2029	November 12, 2029	March 10, 2030
2030-31	November 8, 2030	November 11, 2030	March 9, 2031

**Question No. 3:** What is the current legislation surrounding the permissible date for preseason events outlined in NCAA Division II Bylaw 17.4.3.2 (exceptions – preseason events)?

**Answer:** The events outlined in Bylaw 17.4.3.2 may be played on or after November 1.

**Question No. 4:** If the proposal is adopted, how will this proposal change the current legislation surrounding the permissible date for preseason events outlined in Bylaw 17.4.3.2?

**Answer:** The events outlined in Bylaw 17.4.3.2 may be played up to 10 days before the first permissible contest.

**Question No. 5:** If the proposal is adopted, will this proposal amend when a region challenge event may occur?

**Answer:** No. A region challenge event may not occur before the first permissible contest date. For example, if the proposal is adopted, in the 2026-27 academic year, the first permissible contest date is Monday, November 9. Therefore, a region challenge event may not occur until Friday, November 13, 2026.

**Question No. 6:** If adopted, will this proposal amend the first permissible on-court preseason practice date in basketball?

**Answer:** No.

**Position Statement(s):** *NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports.*: The committee agreed to take no position on this proposal. The committee noted that the CSMAS Prevention and Performance Subcommittee was unaware of any evidence suggesting that the proposed change is necessary; however, it noted no known health and safety rationale to oppose the proposal. Additionally, the CSMAS Prevention and Performance Subcommittee noted that this change may support student-athlete health and safety by mitigating potential match compression in calendar years where the second Friday in November is later in the month.

*NCAA Division II Legislation Committee., NCAA Division II Management Council.*: The committee and council agreed to support this proposal. The committee and council noted that standardizing the length of the season would be beneficial for teams and coaches. Specifically, it creates a clear time frame for coaches to build their schedule. Under current legislation, the first permissible contest date can fall later in November which makes it difficult for coaches to schedule their contests during the compressed time frame; therefore, this proposal will provide more flexibility in scheduling.

*NCAA Division II Men's and Women's Basketball Committees.*: The committees agreed to support this proposal. The committees noted that the proposal aims to prevent multiple competitions within a single week. Additionally, the committees believe this approach serves the best interests of student-athletes and aligns with the Division II Life in the Balance philosophy.

#### No. 2026-11 PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS – GOLF – NUMBER OF DATES OF COMPETITION – MAXIMUM LIMITATIONS – INSTITUTIONAL – STUDENT-ATHLETE

**Intent:** In golf, to increase institutional and student-athlete playing season maximum limitation to 24 dates of competition; further, to specify that an institution may participate in no more than 10 regular season events.

**Bylaws:** Amend 17.12.7, as follows:

[Division II, Roll Call]

#### 17.12.7 Number of Dates of Competition.

17.12.7.1 Maximum Limitations – Institutional. A member institution shall limit its total playing schedule with outside competition during the permissible golf playing season to ~~24~~**24** dates of competition with no more than 10 regular season events, except for those dates of competition excluded under Bylaws 17.12.7.3, 17.12.7.4 and 17.12.7.5 (see Bylaw 7.3.1.7.1.1 for minimum contests and participants requirements).

[17.12.7.1.1 through 17.12.7.1.3 unchanged.]

17.12.7.2 Maximum Limitations – Student-Athlete. An individual student-athlete may participate in each academic year in ~~24~~**24** dates of competition with no more than 10 regular season events in golf. This limitation includes those dates of competition 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.

[17.12.7.3 through 17.12.7.5 unchanged.]

**Source:** Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association and Peach Belt Conference.

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2026

**Rationale:** In golf, an institution and student-athlete must limit its playing season with outside competition to 21 dates of competition. With the increasing number of three-day events, this change allows institutions to play in two to three three-day events without losing a tournament. Currently, if an institution plays two three-day events, they lose a tournament with only using 20 dates of competition. This change will help from a budget standpoint by reducing the number of entry fees needed. Cost savings by playing in two three-day events (two entry fees) as opposed to three two-day events (three entry fees) alone could help save anywhere from \$2,500-\$5,000. Additionally, this change will decrease the number of 36-hole days, providing more down time for rest and academics. The proposal could also decrease missed class time, because three-day events are typically held Saturday-Tuesday. If an institution participated in two three-day events, they would miss four class days (two Mondays and Tuesdays) as opposed to three two-day events where the institution would miss six class days (three Mondays and Tuesdays).

**Frequently Asked Questions:**

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

**Answer:** Currently, an institution's and student-athlete's golf playing season is limited to 21 dates of competition.

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

**Answer:** An institution's and student-athlete's golf playing season will be limited to 24 dates of competition with no more than 10 regular season events. Per NCAA Division II Bylaw 17.12.7.1.1 (tournament limitations), a regular season event may not exceed three days.

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

**Answer:** No.

**Question No. 4:** If the proposal is adopted, will participation in a discretionary exemption count towards the institution's limit of 10 regular season events?

**Answer:** No.

**Question No. 5:** If the proposal is adopted, will participation in an annual exemption count towards the institution's limit of 10 regular season events?

**Answer:** No.

**Position Statement(s):** *NCAA Division II Legislation Committee., NCAA Division II Management Council.:* The committee and council agreed to take no position on this proposal.

*NCAA Division II Men's and Women's Golf Committees.:* The committees agreed to support this proposal. The committees noted this proposal will provide institutions with greater flexibility with the growing number of three-day events. Further, under the current limit, teams participating in two three-day events lose a tournament date while only using 20 dates. Expanding to 24 dates would eliminate that issue while also generating potential cost savings of \$2,500 to \$5,000 by reducing entry fees. Finally, the committees noted that the adjustment would lessen the number of 36-hole days, support student-athlete rest and academic balance, and decrease missed class time since three-day events are most often scheduled Saturday through Tuesday.

**No. 2026-12 PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS -- SOCCER -- PRESEASON PRACTICE AND FIRST DATE OF PRACTICE -- CHAMPIONSHIP SEGMENT**

**Intent:** In soccer, to specify that preseason practice shall begin with a four-day acclimatization period for both first-time participants and continuing student-athletes; further, to specify that an institution shall not commence practice sessions before 21 days before the first permissible contest or nine days before the institution's first day of classes, whichever is earlier.

**Bylaws:** Amend 17.20, as follows:

[Division II, Roll Call]

17.20 Soccer.

[17.20.1 through 17.20.2 unchanged.]

17.20.2.1 First Date of Practice – Championship Segment. A member institution shall not commence practice sessions in soccer in the championship segment before ~~17~~**21** days before the first permissible contest or ~~five~~**nine** days before the institution's first day of classes, whichever is earlier.

**17.20.2.2 Four-Day Acclimatization Period.** Preseason practice shall begin with a four-day acclimatization period for both first-time participants (e.g., freshmen and transfers) and continuing student-athletes. All student-athletes, including walk-ons who arrive to preseason practice after the first day of practice, are required to undergo a four-day acclimatization period.

**(a) Institutions may not conduct conditioning, speed, strength or agility tests prior to the start of the four-day acclimatization period.**

**(b) Participants shall not engage in more than one on-field practice per day during the four-day acclimatization period. On-field practices shall last no longer than three hours.**

**(1) Exception -- During the four-day acclimatization period, an institution has the option of conducting one on-field practice per day, not to exceed three hours in length, or one on-field testing session (speed, conditioning, or agility tests) per day, not to exceed one hour in length and one on-field practice, not to exceed two hours in length. Student-athletes must be provided with at least three continuous hours of recovery time between any session occurring that day. During this time, student-athletes may not attend any meetings or engage in other athletically related activities (e.g., weightlifting); however, time spent receiving medical treatment and eating meals may be included as part of the recovery time.**

**(c) During the four-day acclimatization period, no contests, including scrimmages or exhibitions, against outside competition shall occur.**

**(d) An institution shall provide student-athletes with at least one day off before the first contest or the institution's first day of classes, whichever is earlier.**

**17.20.2.2.1 Weightlifting.** Weightlifting is not considered an on-field activity per Bylaw 17.20.2.2.

**17.20.2.2.3 Preseason Activities Before the First Day of Classes or First Scheduled Contest.** During the preseason practice period before the institution's first day of classes or the first scheduled contest, whichever is earlier, student-athletes shall not engage in more than six hours of countable athletically related activities per day, only five of which may be devoted to physical activities (e.g., practice, weight training, conditioning). In addition, any session with physical activities shall not exceed three hours in length. Student-athletes must be provided with at least three continuous hours of recovery time between any session occurring that day. During this time, student-athletes may not attend any meetings or engage in other athletically related activities (e.g., weightlifting); however, time spent receiving medical treatment and eating meals may be included as part of the recovery time. **(See Bylaw 17.20.2.2 for restrictions during the four-day acclimatization period.)**

[17.20.3 unchanged.]

17.20.3.1 Exception -- Division II National Championships Fall Festival. In years in which the Division II National Championships Festival occurs in the fall, a member institution shall not engage in its first contest in soccer before the Thursday preceding August 30. **(See Bylaw 17.20.2.2 for restrictions during the four-day acclimatization period.)**

[17.20.3.2 unchanged.]

[17.20.4 through 17.20.10 unchanged.]

**Source:** Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference, Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference and Peach Belt Conference.

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2026

**Rationale:** Interassociation guidance in Preventing Catastrophic Injury and Death in Collegiate Athletes emphasizes structured preseason acclimatization and a progressive transition before regular-season play to support student-athlete health and safety. Injury risk is highest early in the preseason and when training loads increase abruptly. Requiring a four-day transition period that phases countable athletically related activities at the start of the fall segment is intended to limit rapid workload spikes, reduce preventable injuries, and improve readiness for the competitive season. To implement this transition without reducing essential team preparation time, the proposal advances the first permissible practice by four days and adjusts the alternate "before first day of classes" trigger accordingly. This preserves overall practice opportunities while embedding a required acclimatization period for

all participants, including returning student-athletes and late arrivals. The change also promotes competitive equity and planning consistency across institutions with different academic calendars.

### **Frequently Asked Questions:**

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

**Answer:** Currently, an institution may begin participating in soccer preseason practice 17 days before the first permissible contest date or five days before the institution's first day of classes, whichever is earlier.

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

**Answer:** An institution may begin participating in soccer preseason practice 21 days before the first permissible contest or nine days before the institution's first day of classes, whichever is earlier.

Additionally, soccer preseason practice shall begin with a four-day acclimatization period for both first-time participants and continuing student-athletes.

**Question No. 3:** If an institution chooses to begin preseason practice later than 21 days before the first permissible contest or nine days before the institution's first day of classes, whichever is earlier, must they adhere to the four-day acclimatization period?

**Answer:** Yes. Participation in the four-day acclimatization period is mandatory regardless of when an institution begins preseason practice.

**Question No. 4:** If the proposal is adopted, during the four-day acclimatization period, may contests, including scrimmages or exhibitions, with outside competition occur?

**Answer:** No.

**Question No. 5:** If the proposal is adopted, during preseason practice must institutions provide student-athletes with at least one day off before the first scheduled contest or the institution's first day of classes, whichever is earlier?

**Answer:** Yes.

**Position Statement(s):** *NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports.*: The committee agreed to take no position on this proposal. The committee noted that the CSMAS Prevention and Performance Subcommittee was unaware of any evidence suggesting that the proposed changes would better support student-athlete health and safety. Specifically, the subcommittee noted that the current preseason schedule provides sufficient time for schools to be in alignment with existing guidance for transition periods, as provided in the Interassociation Recommendations for Preventing Catastrophic Injury and Death in Collegiate Athletes. The committee also noted that increasing the amount of athletically related activity carries increased risk of injury. Finally, the committee noted that the proposed legislation will likely increase time demands on the sports medicine staff, with the biggest burden placed on athletic trainers. Specifically, the committee noted that institutions should be aware of guidance regarding current athletic trainer workforce issues and how increasing athletic trainer workload demands are contributing to athletic trainers leaving the profession and/or collegiate setting.

*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. The committee noted this change would result in financial hardship for institutions. Specifically, the committee noted that this proposal would bring student-athletes to campus earlier, which would result in institutions having to pay for housing and food for those additional days. The committee also noted concerns that this may prompt other sports to request to start their season earlier. Finally, the committee noted the rationale does not clarify why four additional days are necessary to implement a transition period, versus establishing a transition period within the current soccer practice season.

*NCAA Division II Management Council.*: The council agreed to oppose this proposal. The council noted the impact this change would have on the Life in the Balance philosophy and that this change may prompt other sports to request starting their season earlier. The council noted the CSMAS Prevention and Performance Subcommittee's feedback that they were unaware of any evidence suggesting that the proposed changes would better support student-athlete health and safety. The council also noted this change could result in financial hardship for institutions. Specifically, the council noted that this proposal would bring student-athletes to campus earlier, which would result in institutions having to pay for housing and food for those additional days. Finally, the council noted the proposed legislation will likely increase time demands on the sports medicine staff, with the biggest



burden placed on athletic trainers.

*NCAA Division II Men's and Women's Soccer Committees.*: The committees agreed to support this proposal. The committees noted that this change will move the sport in the right direction from a student-athlete preparedness and health and safety standpoint, requiring the four-day acclimatization period regardless of whether an institution takes advantage of the four additional days that are allowed. The committees also noted that requiring the four-day acclimatization period is the best option to get more training prior to the start of competition. Further, the committees noted that the additional days, if used, align better with other divisions and associations, allowing for preseason matches to take place after the four-day acclimatization period occurs, as opposed to immediately after arriving on campus, which is currently commonplace. Finally, the committees noted that the current practice puts student-athletes at an increased risk of injury and any potential cost, if the extra permissible days are utilized, is worth the ability to better prepare student-athletes and potentially prevent injury.

**No. 2026-13 PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS -- SOFTBALL -- NUMBER OF CONTESTS -- MAXIMUM LIMITATIONS -- INSTITUTIONAL AND STUDENT-ATHLETE -- NONCHAMPIONSHIP SEGMENT**

**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 that concludes with the NCAA championship and four dates of competition (games and scrimmages) during another segment.

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

[Division II, Roll Call]

17.21 Softball.

[17.21.1 through 17.21.7 unchanged.]

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 in which the NCAA championship is conducted and four dates of competition (games and scrimmages) 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 in which the NCAA championship is conducted and four dates of competition (games and scrimmages) 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.]

[17.21.8 through 17.21.10 unchanged.]

**Source:** Minnesota State University, Mankato, East Coast Conference, Montana State University Billings and South Atlantic Conference.

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2026

**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. Current legislation has been extremely limiting for the sport of softball with no legislated nonchampionship segment opportunities, thereby requiring any program that wishes to partake in outside competition during the nonchampionship segment to utilize annual and/or discretionary exemptions. Even if a program utilizes their three discretionary exemptions, that proportionally equates to five percent of softball's regular season contests, which pales in comparison to other sport ratios (e.g., soccer at 28 percent). This inequity in nonchampionship segment opportunities puts softball student-athletes at a disadvantage compared to student-athletes in other sports in that it provides fewer opportunities for softball student-athletes to perform and be evaluated by coaches in games that do not count towards championship selection.

**Frequently Asked Questions:**

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

**Answer:** Currently, 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 the proposal is adopted, how will this proposal change the current legislation?

**Answer:** If the proposal is adopted, an institution and student-athlete may participate in four dates of competition during the nonchampionship segment and 56 contests (games and scrimmages) during the championship segment.

**Question No. 3:** What is a date of competition?

**Answer:** Per NCAA Division II Bylaw 17.02.5 (date of competition), a date of competition is a single date on which any game(s), match(es), meet(s), exhibition(s), scrimmage(s) or joint practice session(s) with another institution's team takes place, regardless of its formality, between an intercollegiate athletics team or individual representing a member institution and any other outside team or individual not representing the intercollegiate athletics program of the same member institution.

**Question No. 4:** If an institution does not participate in all four dates of competition during the nonchampionship segment, may they be utilized during the championship segment?

**Answer:** No.

**Question No. 5:** If the proposal is 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 Bylaw 17.21.7.4 (discretionary exemptions).

**Question No. 6:** If adopted, will this proposal change when an institution may participate in a discretionary exemption?

**Answer:** No. [See Bylaw 17.21.3.2 (exceptions)].

**Position Statement(s):** *NCAA Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports.*: The committee agreed to take no position on this proposal. The committee noted that the CSMAS Prevention and Performance Subcommittee was unaware of any evidence suggesting that the proposed changes would better support student-athlete health and safety. However, the subcommittee noted no known health and safety rationale to oppose the proposal. The committee also noted that increasing the amount of athletically related activity carries increased risk of injury. Finally, the committee noted that the proposed legislation will likely increase time demands on the sports medicine staff, with the biggest burden placed on athletic trainers. Specifically, the committee noted that institutions should be aware of guidance regarding current athletic trainer workforce issues and how increasing athletic trainer workload demands are contributing to athletic trainers leaving the profession and/or collegiate setting.

*NCAA Division II Legislation Committee., NCAA Division II Management Council.*: The committee and council agreed to oppose this proposal. The committee and council noted the impact this change would have on the Life in the Balance philosophy in Division II since this may prompt other sports to increase the number of contests/dates of competition in their sport. Additionally, the committee and council noted that this change would create an increased burden on athletic trainers and other athletics administrators. The committee and council also noted that this change would not ease the burden on compliance administrators, because compliance administrators would still need to monitor dates of competition used in the nonchampionship segment. The committee and council also noted that softball recently changed their date formula which moved their championship one week later to align with Divisions I and III, giving the sport one extra week of regular-season participation. The change in the date formula provided softball student-athletes with the opportunity to compete in more contests. Finally, the committee and council noted that softball's current maximum limitation of 56 contests can be used between the nonchampionship and championship segments.

*NCAA Division II Softball Committee.*: The committee agreed to support this proposal. The committee noted that roster sizes are continuing to increase, and under current legislation there is minimal time to evaluate student-athletes during the nonchampionship segment. This inequity in nonchampionship segment opportunities puts softball student-athletes at a disadvantage compared to student-athletes in other sports in that it provides fewer opportunities for softball student-athletes to perform and be evaluated by coaches in games that do not count toward championship selection. Additionally, since softball is currently a "contest" sport, if an institution participates in multiple contests during the day, each contest counts as one contest (i.e., a double header played on the same day counts as two contests). However, if adopted, this proposal will allow teams to maximize budgets by allowing multiple games played on a single date to count as one date of competition.

No. 2026-14 CHAMPIONSHIPS ADMINISTRATION -- ADMINISTRATION OF DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIPS -- MINIMUM SPONSORSHIP FOR DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIPS -- EXCEPTION FOR FIELD HOCKEY AND WOMEN'S ROWING

**Intent:** In field hockey and women's rowing, to permit the continuation of the Division II championship if the sport falls below the 35-minimum threshold required to maintain a Division II championship.

**Bylaws:** Amend 18.4.1, as follows:

[Division II, Roll Call]

18.4.1 Minimum Sponsorship for Division II Championships.

[18.4.1.1 through 18.4.1.2 unchanged.]

**18.4.1.2.1 Exception -- Field Hockey and Women's Rowing. A Division II championship in the sport of field hockey and women's rowing shall be exempt from the minimum-sponsorship requirement of Bylaw 18.4.1.2.**

[18.4.1.3 unchanged.]

**Source:** Great Northwest Athletic Conference and Northeast-10 Conference.

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2026

**Rationale:** During the 2024 NCAA Convention, Division II amended the minimum number of sponsoring institutions required to establish and maintain a Division II championship. With the amendment, the long-standing exception for Olympic Sports was removed. Furthermore, Division I has eliminated any future opportunities for these programs to declare themselves eligible for Division I if a Division II championship is discontinued. Field hockey and women's rowing are currently budgeted in the Division II championships budget, therefore, if adopted there would be no additional financial increases. Women's rowing is conducted jointly with Divisions I and III, further contributing to cost-containment. While these sports have encountered net declining sponsorship recently due to institutions reclassifying or closing, in an age of enrollment driven strategies for institutions, these women's sports do support critical enrollment and participation goals at sponsoring Division II institutions. With mounting financial pressures across the higher education landscape, decline in enrollment and barriers to international student enrollment, Division II must preserve these opportunities and thus reduce additional pressures that would be brought by removing championship access. The absence of guaranteed access will make it difficult, if not impossible, to grow beyond current sponsorship numbers.

**Frequently Asked Questions:**

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

**Answer:** Currently, the minimum number of Division II institutions required to maintain a Division II championship is 35 for both men's and women's sports. A sport that falls below the 35-minimum threshold has three years to regain the minimum number of sponsoring institutions before the Division II championship is discontinued.

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

**Answer:** This proposal will permit the continuation of the Division II championship in field hockey and women's rowing if either sport falls below the 35-minimum threshold, regardless of the number of sponsoring institutions.

**Question No. 3:** Does the exception apply to all sports?

**Answer:** No. The exception is specific to field hockey and women's rowing since all other Division II sports are above the 35-minimum requirement as of the 2024-25 academic year.

**Question No. 4:** What are the current sponsorship numbers for field hockey and women's rowing?

**Answer:** During the 2024-25 academic year, there were 36 active Division II institutions that sponsored field hockey and 11 that sponsored women's rowing.

**Question No. 5:** How many active Division II member institutions are projected to sponsor field hockey and women's rowing during the 2025-26 academic year?

**Answer:** For the 2025-26 academic year, 37 active Division II member institutions indicated intent to sponsor field hockey and 14 indicated intent to sponsor women's rowing.

**Question No. 6:** If this proposal is not adopted, and field hockey or women's rowing falls below the 35-minimum threshold and the championship is discontinued, may Division II field hockey or women's rowing programs participate in another NCAA championship?

**Answer:** No, there is no other NCAA championship opportunity available for Division II institutions if the Division II championship is discontinued.

**Position Statement(s):** *NCAA Division II Championships Committee:* The committee agreed to support this proposal.

The committee acknowledged that although they initially recommended sponsorship of NCAA Division II Proposal 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), which eliminated the Olympic sport exception, the intercollegiate landscape has changed significantly and unexpectedly (i.e., due to various reclassifications and school closures, as well as policy changes in Division I precluding access to Division I championships for Division II members) since the proposal's adoption. Therefore, the committee believes that the addition of the exception for both the field hockey and women's rowing championships is warranted. The committee also noted that if this proposal is adopted, the committee will review the access ratio for each sport to assure the competitive integrity of each championship.

*NCAA Division II Field Hockey Committee:* The committee agreed to support this proposal. The committee noted that the sport of field hockey supports critical enrollment and participation goals at sponsoring Division II institutions. The committee also noted that Division II should preserve these participation opportunities; thus, reducing additional pressures that would come with removing championship access. Finally, the committee noted that the absence of guaranteed championship access will make it difficult, if not impossible, to grow beyond current sport sponsorship numbers.

*NCAA Division II Management Council:* The council agreed to take no position on this proposal. The council acknowledged that if the Division II field hockey and women's rowing championships are discontinued, there would not be another NCAA championship opportunity available for these student-athletes, which warrants consideration of this exception. However, the council noted concerns regarding low sponsorship numbers, especially in women's rowing, and the lack of a specific timeframe in the proposal by which the sports would need to show continued growth to remain Division II championships. The council also raised concerns regarding the financial investment of Division II funds for sports that are below the minimum sponsorship threshold. Finally, the council requested that if the proposal is adopted, the Division II Championships Committee continue to monitor the growth of these two sports to address the concerns noted above. After a vote was conducted, a position of no position was taken given the Management Council voting requirements and its policies and procedures that require a two-thirds majority for either a position of support or opposition.

*NCAA Division II Women's Rowing Committee:* The committee agreed to support this proposal. The committee noted that the sport of rowing supports critical enrollment and participation goals at sponsoring Division II institutions. The committee also noted that the option for a Division II institution to participate in the Division I Rowing Championship no longer exists, therefore, there is no path to continue to compete in an NCAA championship if the Division II Rowing Championship is discontinued.

No. 2026-15 CHAMPIONSHIPS ADMINISTRATION – ADMINISTRATION OF DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIPS –  
CRITERIA FOR SELECTION OF PARTICIPANTS – CRITERIA FOR SELECTION IN TEAM SPORTS –  
REQUIRED SELECTION CRITERIA AND SPORT-SPECIFIC SELECTION CRITERIA – NCAA POWER INDEX

**Intent:** To specify that Division II team sports shall use the NCAA Power Index (NPI) for championship selections beginning with the 2026-27 academic year.

**Bylaws:** Amend 18.4.3.1, as follows:

[Division II, Roll Call]

18.4.3.1 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:

[18.4.3.1-(a) unchanged.]

(b) Nullification; **and**

(c) Required Selection Criteria. Following confirmation of the availability of student-athletes for NCAA championships and the application of any nullification, ~~the following required selection criteria shall be applied in no particular order~~ **team sports shall be selected using the NCAA Power Index (NPI). Sport committees, with the approval of the Championships Committee, shall establish the weight for Division II winning percentage versus strength of schedule (e.g., winning percentage could be worth 25 percent to 75 percent for strength of schedule). Division II strength of schedule shall be the average of a team's opponent's NPI. The sport committee, with approval of the Championships Committee, may also choose to apply any of the following:**

~~(1) In-region winning percentage;~~

~~(2) Division II winning percentage;~~

~~(3) Division II strength of schedule (opponents' average winning percentage and opponents' opponents' average winning percentage);~~

~~(4) Division II head-to-head competition; and~~

~~(5) Results versus Division II common opponents.~~

**(1) Home-away multiplier. Assign different weight to home contests and away contests;**

**(2) Quality Win Bonus. Assign a bonus for a quality win (e.g., a win over an opponent that finished in the top 50 of the final NPI); and**

**(3) Overtime results. Assign a different weight to an overtime win or loss.**

~~(d) Sport-Specific Selection Criteria. A governing sport committee may select not more than three additional sport-specific selection criteria from a list approved by the Division II Championships Committee.~~

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

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2026

**Rationale:** The NCAA Power Index (NPI), which has been used in the NCAA ice hockey championships for several years and was adopted by Division III last year for all team sport committees, is a system of statistical data that objectively applies the selection criteria to the data based on a sport committee's established weighted criteria. The metric can be adjusted by what are referred to as "dials," or specific components of the metric that each sport committee has the authority to set, thus placing any desired subjectivity within the criteria themselves that are then applied objectively. The Division II Championships Committee discussed the merits of the NPI at length over the past year and gathered feedback from sport committees and other membership stakeholders, indicating strong support for using the metric as the sole selection criterion for team sports. Because the NPI eliminates the need for the sport committees to conduct rankings throughout the season, Regional Advisory Committees would be eliminated, effective with the 2026-27 academic year.

### **Frequently Asked Questions:**

**Question No. 1:** What is the NPI?

**Answer:** The NPI is a system that objectively applies the selection criteria to the data based on the sport committee's established weighted criteria. NPI is a combination of the following: winning percentage; strength of schedule; home-away multiplier; quality win bonus; overtime results (when relevant); and minimum wins.

The weight of winning percentage versus strength of schedule is often referred to as one of the "dials" that a sport committee can adjust, placing any subjectivity within the criteria themselves. For example, a sport committee could set the dials to 30/70 (winning percentage/strength of schedule); 25/75, etc. Other "dials" a sport committee can also choose to apply are home and away multiplier, quality win bonus (QWB), and overtime win/loss weights. A sport committee can also elect to require a minimum number of wins to be retained in the NPI adjustment.

**Dials** = The data points that are factored into the NPI calculation. The standard dials are winning percentage and strength of schedule. The optional dials are home and away multiplier, quality win bonus (QWB), and overtime win/loss weights. Sport committees determine whether to use the optional dials, subject to approval by the Championships Committee.

**Weights** = The value applied to each dial. Sport committees determine the weight of each dial, subject to approval by the Championships Committee.

**Question No. 2:** Why update the current championship selection process?

**Answer:** The Championships Committee has been reviewing the current team at-large selection process to ensure that selection criteria is applied consistently to teams during selections. The current championships selection process involves data analysis by each sport committee, which can result in varying approaches. NPI objectively applies the selection criteria to the data based on a sport committee's established weighted criteria. This does not eliminate subjectivity entirely; however, the subjectivity is within the sport committee's dial setting process that applies a weight to each dial, which is done prior to the season and not during the selections process.

**Question No. 3:** Does this mean our current selection criteria goes away?

**Answer:** Winning percentage and strength of schedule will continue to be used and results against Division II opponents will remain the only results considered.

The following criteria will no longer be used: Division II in-region winning percentage, Division II head-to-head competition; results versus common Division II opponents; and the selected sport-specific criteria (up to three). Additionally, the requirement that a team have a .500 or better record will also be eliminated.

**Question No. 4:** Will any new selection criteria be adopted?

**Answer:** The NPI will continue to use winning percentage and strength of schedule along with a home/away multiplier, quality win bonus (QWB); overtime results; and minimum wins.

The home/away multiplier can be used to increase the weight of away wins and home losses while decreasing the weight of home wins and away losses. The QWB provides a bonus for wins against top-level teams, the degree of which is determined by the sport committee. Overtime win/loss weights allow results to be weighted less than regulation wins/losses. The home/away multiplier, QWB and overtime results weights are all optional and do not have to be used if a sport committee elects not to do so.

**Question No. 5:** Will selections continue to be done regionally?

**Answer:** Yes. Sport committees will continue to select and bracket teams regionally. However, the Championships Committee is committed to a review of bracketing principles as part of the new Division II operating plan, which will be released in January 2026. If adopted, NPI could be used to evaluate the placement of teams to balance strength more evenly across the bracket.

**Question No. 6:** If/when changes are made, how is the membership going to be made aware of the changes?

**Answer:** Changes to the NPI weights/dials will be communicated to the membership through the sport committee's annual meeting report, published on its NCAA.org landing page, and through various membership communications including the Championships Newsletter and the Division II Monthly Update. The established weights (e.g., how the dials are set) will also be published in each sport's pre-championship manual annually.

**Question No. 7:** What will happen to regional advisory committees?

**Answer:** Regional Advisory Committees (RACs) will be eliminated. Since teams will be selected by the NPI, there is no longer a need for RACs to review data and provide recommendations to the national committee.

No. 2026-16 CHAMPIONSHIPS ADMINISTRATION -- ADMINISTRATION OF DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIPS -- CRITERIA FOR SELECTION OF PARTICIPANTS -- AUTOMATIC QUALIFICATION -- REQUIREMENTS -- DIVISION CHAMPIONSHIP -- INSTITUTIONS IN FINAL YEAR OF DIVISION II MEMBERSHIP PROCESS

**Intent:** To permit a member conference to count institutions in the final year of the membership process towards the minimum of six institutions needed to satisfy the sponsorship requirement for automatic qualification.

**Bylaws:** Amend 18.4.3.2.3, as follows:

[Division II, Roll Call]

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

[18.4.3.2.3-(a) unchanged.]

(b) Have at least six active members that sponsor the sport at the varsity intercollegiate level in which automatic qualification 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 the automatic qualifier.



Institutions that are affiliate members of a conference in a particular sport **and institutions in the final year of the expedited or three-year membership process** may be used to satisfy the sponsorship requirement for automatic qualification in that sport.

**Source:** Peach Belt Conference, Northeast-10 Conference, Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference, Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference and South Atlantic Conference.

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2026

**Rationale:** Current legislation does not permit a conference to use institutions in the membership process to satisfy the requirement that it have six active members for purposes of earning automatic qualification (AQ) in a sport. By the time an institution reaches the final year of the membership process, they would have been conducting their athletics programs in accordance with all Division II rules and regulations. With the number of institutions dropping sports and/or changing conferences with little notice, conferences can lose the opportunity to have a team receive an AQ to NCAA Championships if they cannot replace a team within the three-year grace period. Allowing institutions in the final year of the membership process to count will allow conferences to maintain the AQ while working towards adding additional teams, if necessary. Although the proposal will not provide institutions in the final year of the membership process an ability to win the AQ or participate in an NCAA Championship, it will benefit the well-being of the remaining teams in the conference as they will not be at a disadvantage in recruiting and will be able to retain current student-athletes who want to be guaranteed an opportunity to play for an AQ.

**Frequently Asked Questions:**

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

**Answer:** Currently, to be eligible for automatic qualification in any Division II championship, a member conference must have at least six active members that sponsor the sport at the varsity intercollegiate level. An institution in the membership process may not be used to satisfy this requirement.

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

**Answer:** An institution in the final year of the membership process (i.e., second year of the expedited process or third year of the three-year process), may be used to satisfy the sponsorship requirement of six active institutions for automatic qualification in a sport.

**Question No. 3:** If a conference does not meet the six-institution minimum, is there a grace period?

**Answer:** Per NCAA Division II Championships Committee policy, the conference would 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 six-institution minimum, provided the conference remains within one member institution of that minimum (i.e., five institutions). The grace period does not apply if the conference has four or fewer members.

**Question No. 4:** Is there a limit on the number of institutions in the final year of the membership process a conference can count to meet the minimum sponsorship requirements for automatic qualification?

**Answer:** No.

**Question No. 5:** Can an institution in the final year of the membership process earn the conference's automatic qualification entry?

**Answer:** No. Only active members can earn the conference automatic qualification entry or be selected as an at-large participant.

**Position Statement(s):** *NCAA Division II Championships Committee., NCAA Division II Management Council.:* The committee and council agreed to take no position on this proposal.

No. R-2026-17      RESOLUTION – DIVISION II FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP DATE FORMULA

**Resolution:**

[Division II, Football Only, Roll Call]

Whereas, the NCAA Division II Football Championship is currently the only football championship that concludes in December, resulting in a compressed competitive calendar.

*Whereas*, moving the Division II Football Championship to January and adding an additional week in the regular season would align the Division II Football Championship with other NCAA divisions by providing comparable opportunities for student-athlete rest and recovery.

*Whereas*, effective with the 2025 Division II Football Championship, the football championship bracket was expanded to 32 teams, which may require Division II football student-athletes to play up to 16-consecutive games without a break if an institution plays an 11-game schedule without utilizing week zero.

*Whereas*, while the Division II membership adopted 2024 Convention legislation which added week zero to the Division II football playing and practice season, creating greater scheduling flexibility for many Division II institutions, using week zero often has an increased cost. The current structure allows for a bye week in the football season, but significantly increases expenses for those teams that elect to use week zero by requiring an earlier return to campus.

*Whereas*, moving the Division II Football championship to January would provide all teams with an additional week in the regular season, retaining week zero, and align the Division II Football Championship with the Football Championship Subdivision, which always plays its national championship in January; and with the Division III Football Championship, which began playing their national championship in January beginning with the 2024 football season.

*Whereas*, Division III successfully maintained national broadcasting visibility while enhancing rest and recovery opportunities for student-athletes as the most recent division to transition its national championship to January.

*Whereas*, moving the Division II Football Championship to January would also ease scheduling challenges for conferences with an odd or smaller number of football-playing institutions, reduce reliance on week zero scheduling, while maintaining it as an option, and create increased opportunities for conference championship games to determine automatic qualifiers.

*Whereas*, if the Division II Football Championship is moved to January, only two teams would see their playing season extended beyond the current postseason schedule and winter break period.

*Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved*, that the Division II governance structure revisits the consideration of adding an additional week in the regular season to the current Division II football date formula.

*Be it Further Resolved*, that the Division II governance structure report its findings to the membership and, if so determined, amend the football date formula to be effective no later than the 2028 football season.

**Source:** Mountain East Conference, Great American Conference and Northeast-10 Conference.



### Interpretations to be Included in the 2025-26 NCAA Division II Manual

In accordance with its authority, the NCAA Division II Legislation Committee has approved inclusion of the following interpretations in the 2025-26 NCAA Division II Manual. This will be referenced in the oral report of the Management Council to the 2026 Division II business session on Friday, January 16, 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 2025-26 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 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 2026 Division II business session on Friday, January 16, by making such a request in writing to the Association's Convention office prior to 1 p.m. Thursday, January 15, 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 2025-26 Manual also is not challenged, it will appear in the 2025-26 Manual as noted.

NO. I-2026-1 RECRUITING -- CONTACTS AND EVALUATIONS -- SIGNED PROSPECTIVE STUDENT-ATHLETES -- DURATION OF CONTACT PROHIBITION -- INSTITUTION'S CLOSURE OR DISCONTINUATION OF SPORT PROGRAM

**Bylaws:** Amend 13.1.1.2.1, as follows:

13.1.1.2.1 Duration of Contact Prohibition. Contact with a prospective student-athlete who has signed an athletics aid agreement with another institution is prohibited until: [D]

[13.1.1.2.1-(a) through 13.1.1.2.1-(d) unchanged.]

**(e) The prospective student-athlete's institution publicly announces its closure or discontinuation of the prospective student-athlete's sport. An institution shall update the prospective student-athlete's status in the applicable NCAA database within seven business days from when an institution indicates through public announcement its closure or discontinuation of the prospective student-athlete's sport.**

[13.1.1.2.1.1 unchanged.]

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

**Effective Date:** Immediate

**Additional Information:**

Incorporating the April 7, 2025, official interpretation will clarify that: (1) a signed prospective student-athlete may be released from the contact prohibition once an institution announces its closure or discontinuation of the signed prospective student-athlete's sport; and (2) an institution must remove the prospective student-athlete's designated signed status in the applicable NCAA database within seven business days of the closure or announcement.

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

Pursuant to NCAA Bylaws 8.2.2-(c) and 9.3.1.1.1, the Division II Management Council has adopted the following noncontroversial legislative amendments during the past year. The Executive Board, or an entity designated by the Executive Board (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 2026 Division II business session on Friday, January 16, and acceptance of the report will constitute approval of these actions and incorporation in the 2025-26 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-2026-1 ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE AND COMMITTEES -- ASSOCIATION-WIDE COMMITTEES -- GENERAL COMMITTEES -- COMMITTEE ON DIVERSITY, EQUITY, INCLUSION AND BELONGING

**Intent:** To transition the Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee and Committee on Women's Athletics to one committee that shall focus on Association-wide issues regarding diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging.

**Bylaws:** Amend 8.6, as follows:

[Common provision, all divisions, divided vote]

8.6 Association-Wide Committees -- General Committees.

[8.6.1 through 8.6.2 unchanged.]

#### **8.6.3 Committee on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging.**

**8.6.3.1 Composition. The Committee on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging shall consist of 25 members, including positions allocated for individuals who serve as athletics administrators, coaches, chief diversity officers, faculty, higher education Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging practitioners/researchers/experts, student-athletes and Title IX coordinators. The committee shall include a minimum of eight members who identify as an ethnic minority, eight members who identify as male and eight members who identify as female. In addition to the division-specific positions, the committee shall include a minimum of three members from each division, including one from each subdivision of Division I. The membership of the committee shall be constituted as follows:**

- (a) One student-athlete from each divisional Student-Athlete Advisory Committee;**
- (b) One chancellor or president from each division;**
- (c) One athletics diversity and inclusion designee from each division (two must be from within athletics and one may be from outside athletics);**
- (d) One representative from the Division I governance structure;**
- (e) One representative from the Division II Management Council;**
- (f) One representative from the Division III Management Council;**
- (g) One director of athletics;**
- (h) One conference commissioner;**
- (i) Two institutional or conference senior woman administrators;**
- (j) One faculty athletics representative (preference to be from the FARA Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee);**
- (k) One chief diversity officer; and**

(I) Seven members who serve in one or more of the following positions at a member institution or conference:

- (1) Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging practitioner/researcher (preference for two);
- (2) Campus and/or athletics student services professional (preference for one);
- (3) Coach (preference for one);
- (4) Higher education and/or athletics legal, policy, or governance expert (preference for one); and
- (5) Title IX coordinator (preference for one).

8.6.3.2 Duties. The committee shall:

- (a) Advise on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging educational resources, programming and awards for the Association;
- (b) Cultivate equitable experiences and treatment and inclusive environments for student-athletes at NCAA championships and events as well as across intercollegiate athletics;
- (c) Provide guidance for the office of NCAA Inclusion, Education, and Community Engagement's strategic initiatives and engagements;
- (d) Support increased student-athlete participation opportunities, particularly for those from marginalized communities;
- (e) Review and make recommendations on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging-related policy, legislation and other Association matters; and
- (f) Support diverse leadership across intercollegiate athletics that reflects the increasingly diverse student-athlete community.

[8.6.3 renumbered as 8.6.4, unchanged.]

~~8.6.4 Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee.~~

~~8.6.4.1 Composition. The Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee shall consist of 18 members, including a current chancellor or president from each division. There shall be six members from Division I, six members from Division II and six members from Division III. 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. Committee membership shall include a minimum of eight ethnic minorities, including at least four who identify as male and four who identify as female.~~

~~8.6.4.1.1 Student-Athlete Representation. The Division II student-athlete member of the Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee shall also be a member of the Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.~~

~~8.6.4.2 Duties. The committee shall:~~

- ~~(a) Review issues related to the interests and advocacy of student-athletes, coaches and administrators who are ethnic minorities, LGBTQ or who have disabilities; and~~
- ~~(b) Review and advocate for NCAA programs and policies that affect and include, but are not limited to, ethnic minorities, individuals with disabilities and the LGBTQ community.~~

[8.6.5 through 8.6.6 unchanged.]

~~8.6.7 Committee on Women's Athletics.~~

~~8.6.7.1 Composition. The Committee on Women's Athletics shall consist of 18 members, including a current chancellor or president from each division. There shall be six members from Division I, six members from Division II and six members from Division III. Six positions shall be allocated for those who identify as male, six allocated for those who identify as female and six unallocated. 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.~~

~~8.6.7.2 Duties. The committee shall:~~

- ~~(a) Study and make policy recommendations concerning opportunities for women in athletics at the institutional, conference and national levels;~~

- ~~(b) Study and make policy recommendations concerning other issues directly affecting women's athletics; and~~  
~~(c) Appoint and oversee the Woman of the Year selection committee and the process.~~

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

**Effective Date:** September 1, 2025

**Additional Information:**

Following the adoption of a new NCAA Constitution in January 2022, the Board of Governors began a review of Association-wide committees to determine the relevance of those committees and whether potential changes could occur to better align the committees' work with the requirements outlined in the new Constitution. The Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committees Review Working Group was established to carry out the review of the Committee on Women's Athletics, the Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee, the Board of Governors Committee to Promote Cultural Diversity and Equity, and the Gender Equity Task Force. The working group collaborated with governance and membership groups to determine how best to advance Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging (DEIB) principles and initiatives through the Association. One centralized DEIB committee will be: (1) More effective and efficient with a unified, focused effort to lead on core dimensions of diversity and their intersections; and (2) More recognizable and reputable across the Association for its leadership on DEIB matters and its alignment with the NCAA Constitution's principles of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion and Gender Equity as well as the Board of Governors approved inclusion statement.

NO. NC-2026-2 ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE AND COMMITTEES -- ASSOCIATION-WIDE COMMITTEES -- GENERAL COMMITTEES -- COMMITTEE ON COMPETITIVE SAFEGUARDS AND MEDICAL ASPECTS OF SPORTS -- COMPOSITION -- ENDOCRINOLOGIST

**Intent:** To specify that the position designated for an endocrinologist on the Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports may be filled by a member of the general public.

**Bylaws:** Amend 8.6, as follows:

[Common provision, all divisions, divided vote]

8.6 Association-Wide Committees -- General Committees.

[8.6.1 unchanged.]

8.6.2 Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports.

8.6.2.1 Composition. The Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports shall consist of 25 members, including seven positions allocated for those who identify as male, seven allocated for those who identify as female and 11 unallocated. The membership of the committee shall be constituted as follows:

[8.6.2.1-(a) through 8.6.2.1-(c) unchanged.]

(d) Five members from the field of medicine, of whom at least two shall be those who identify as female. One shall be a primary-care physician who is board certified in family practice, internal medicine or emergency medicine, and shall have a current Certificate of Added Qualifications in Sports Medicine. One shall be a board-certified orthopedic surgeon. One shall be a physician with expertise in endocrinology (**who may be a member of the general public**). One shall be a physician with expertise in drug-testing. One shall be a physician who is a member of the general public;

[8.6.2.1-(e) through 8.6.2.1-(p) unchanged.]

[8.6.2.1.1 unchanged.]

[8.6.2.2 through 8.6.2.3 unchanged.]

[8.6.3 through 8.6.7 unchanged.]

**Source:** NCAA Division II Management Council (Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports).

**Effective Date:** Immediate

**Additional Information:**

The purpose of the Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports (CSMAS) is to provide the membership with expert guidance on mental and physical health, safety and performance topics. As such, its composition reflects the need for experts with specific medical, scientific, research and sports medicine expertise. These perspectives are more relevant and more essential to the work of the CSMAS than conference affiliation. Without this recommended change, limited nominations for an expert in endocrinology may be submitted for this position due to the specialized qualification required, and it may be difficult to find a qualified replacement. If the position designated for an endocrinologist on the CSMAS is filled by a member of the general public, this individual shall not be considered the one physician who is a member of the general public as also required by the legislation.

#### NO. NC-2026-3 RECRUITING -- PUBLICITY -- PHOTOGRAPH OF PROSPECTIVE STUDENT-ATHLETE -- INSTITUTIONAL CAMP OR CLINIC ADVERTISEMENT

**Intent:** To permit an institution to use a prospective student-athlete's photo to advertise an institutional camp or clinic, provided the institution receives written consent from the prospective student-athlete as required by institutional and/or conference policy.

**Bylaws:** Amend 13.7.3, as follows:

13.7.3 Photograph of Prospective Student-Athlete. It is permissible for an institution to photograph a prospective student-athlete during a campus visit to be used in the institution's permissible publicity and promotional activities (e.g., press release, media guide) once the prospective student-athlete has signed a written offer of admission and/or financial aid or the institution has received their financial deposit in response to its offer of admission. An electronic copy of the photograph may be given to the prospective student-athlete at any time. [D]

**13.7.3.1 Exception -- Advertisement for Institutional Camps and Clinics. An institution may use the photo of a prospective student-athlete who has not signed a written offer of admission and/or financial aid or the institution has not received their financial deposit in response to its offer of admission so long as the prospective student-athlete provides written consent as required by institutional and/or conference policy.**

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

**Effective Date:** Immediate

**Additional Information:**

Currently, an institution may use a prospective student-athlete's photo to advertise an institutional camp or clinic provided the photograph is a part of an action shot and is not staged (e.g., candid), there is no focus on one prospective student-athlete and the prospective student-athlete is not identifiable. Allowing an institution to use a photograph of a prospective student-athlete to advertise their institutional camp or clinic, while also requiring the institution to first obtain written consent before they may utilize the prospective student-athlete's photograph, will provide an institution with the flexibility to advertise their camps or clinics while also allowing a prospective student-athlete to maintain control over their privacy and their recruiting process. Finally, this will not create an additional burden on compliance administrators as many institutions and/or conferences already have policies regarding obtaining consent for publicity that can be included on institutional camp and/or clinic forms.

#### NO. NC-2026-4 INFRACTIONS PROGRAM -- PENALTIES -- INDIVIDUAL ACCOUNTABILITY MEASURES

**Intent:** To implement changes to Bylaw 19 to focus meaningful infractions penalties on the individuals responsible for the underlying rules violations, as specified.

**A. Bylaws:** Amend 11.1.2, as follows:

11.1.2 Responsibility for Violations of NCAA Regulations. Institutional staff members found in violation of NCAA regulations shall be subject to disciplinary or corrective action as set forth in the provisions of the NCAA enforcement procedures, whether such violations occurred at the certifying institution or during the individual's previous employment at another member institution.

**11.1.2.1 Responsibility of Head Coach. ~~It shall be the responsibility of an institution's head coach to promote an atmosphere for compliance within the program supervised by the coach and to monitor the activities regarding compliance of all assistant coaches and other administrators involved with the program who report directly or indirectly to the coach.~~ An institution's head coach shall be held responsible for the head coach's actions and the actions of all institutional staff members who report, directly or indirectly, to the head coach. In order to assist the NCAA Division II Committee on Infractions in penalty deliberations, the enforcement staff will gather information regarding whether the head coach promoted an atmosphere of compliance within the program and monitored the activities of all institutional staff members involved with the program who report, directly or indirectly, to the coach.**

**B. Bylaws:** Amend 19, as follows:

19 Infractions Program.

[19.01 through 19.2 unchanged.]

19.3 Public Disclosure. Except as provided in this article, the Committee on Infractions, Infractions Appeals Committee and enforcement staff shall not make public disclosures about a pending case until the case has been announced in accordance with prescribed procedures. An institution and any individual subject to the NCAA bylaws involved in a case, including any representative or legal counsel, shall not make public disclosures about the case until a final decision has been announced in accordance with prescribed procedures.

[19.3.1 unchanged.]

**19.3.2 Public Infractions History. If the Committee on Infractions concludes an individual committed a major violation of NCAA legislation, the NCAA national office shall maintain a record of the individual's violations and penalties (if any) and make the record publicly available.**

[19.4 through 19.10 unchanged.]

19.11 Committee on Infractions Decisions.

19.11.1 Infractions Decision. After resolution of all allegations pursuant to Bylaws 19.8, 19.9 and/or Bylaw 19.10, the Committee on Infractions shall prepare and approve the final written infractions decision, which shall contain a statement of the findings of fact, conclusions of violations, penalties, corrective actions, requirements and (for institutions) any other conditions and obligations of membership. **The decision shall identify by name all involved individuals and boosters who committed major violations. It may also identify by name the chancellor or president of the institution in cases involving lack of institutional control and the director of athletics and/or any individual with direct responsibility and oversight of the athletics department in cases involving lack of institutional control or failure to monitor.** The decision shall be sent to the chancellor or president of the involved institution (or a designee), any involved individuals and the vice president of enforcement.

19.11.2 Public **Release of** Infractions Decision. Once the infractions decision has been provided to the institution and involved individuals, the ~~public~~ infractions decision, ~~with names of individuals deleted~~, shall be released **publicly. The decision shall identify by name all involved individuals and boosters who committed major violations. It may also identify by name the chancellor or president of the institution in cases involving lack of institutional control and the director of athletics and/or any individual with direct responsibility and oversight of the athletics department in cases involving lack of institutional control or failure to monitor.** The Committee on Infractions shall forward a copy of the infractions decision, ~~with names of individuals deleted~~, to the Infractions Appeals Committee at the time of the public announcement.

[19.11.3 through 19.11.5 unchanged.]

[19.12 unchanged.]

19.12.4.1 Show-Cause Order. If a determination is made by the committee that an institution has not taken appropriate disciplinary or corrective actions regarding an individual found in violation of the NCAA bylaws, the committee may issue an order that the institution take additional disciplinary or corrective action, including but not limited to restriction of some or all athletically related duties unless the institution appears before the committee to show cause why the additional penalties should not be applied. Decisions regarding disciplinary or corrective actions involving personnel shall be made by the institution, but the determination of whether the action satisfies the institution's obligation of NCAA membership shall rest solely with the Committee on Infractions. **Show-cause orders begin with the release of the infractions decision pursuant to Bylaw 19.11.2. The show-cause order is prospective in nature.**

**19.12.4.1.1 Institutional or Sport Program Penalties within a Show-Cause Order. In addition to restrictions on athletically related duties, the Committee on Infractions may also attach institutional and/or sport program specific penalties (e.g., scholarship reductions, recruiting restrictions, countable athletically related activities limitations, postseason bans) as conditions of an involved individual's show-cause order. Institutional and/or sport program specific penalties may be appropriate if, for example, the involved individual's conduct was intentional, egregious, or the conduct provided or was intended to provide an institution or sport program with a competitive advantage. Institutional or sport program penalties within a show-cause order shall apply to any employing institution during the designated period of the penalties. An employing institution may appear before the committee to show cause why the penalties should not be applied.**



[19.12.4.2 unchanged.]

**19.12.4.3 Suspensions.** If a determination is made that an employing institution has not taken appropriate disciplinary or corrective action regarding an involved individual found in violation of NCAA legislation, the Committee on Infractions may issue and/or approve an order that the institution suspend the involved individual for a period of time unless the institution appears before the committee to show cause why the suspension should not be applied. Unless otherwise specified by the committee, the suspension shall apply to all athletically related duties during the designated time period. Decisions regarding disciplinary or corrective actions involving personnel shall be made by the institution, but the determination of whether the action satisfies the institution's obligation of NCAA membership shall rest solely with the committee. The suspension shall begin following the release of the infractions decision with the next scheduled contest of the championship segment, unless a different starting date is specified by the committee (e.g., conference schedule, postseason, etc.).

[19.12.4.3 through 19.12.4.7 renumbered as 19.12.4.4 through 19.12.4.8, unchanged.]

[19.13 unchanged.]

19.13.6 Decision of the Infractions Appeals Committee. After considering the appeal and deliberating privately, the Infractions Appeals Committee shall prepare a written decision and provide a copy to any appealing party (including the president or chancellor of an institution currently employing an involved individual), the chair of the Committee on Infractions, the committee appeals advocate and the vice president of enforcement, unless otherwise ordered by the committee. Once the decision has been provided to the parties, the committee shall release a public appeal decision. ~~The public appeal decision will not include names of individuals.~~ **The decision shall identify by name all involved individuals and boosters who committed major violations. It may also identify by name the chancellor or president of the institution in cases involving lack of institutional control and the director of athletics and/or any individual with direct responsibility and oversight of the athletics department in cases involving lack of institutional control or failure to monitor.**

[19.13.7 unchanged.]

[19.14 unchanged.]

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

**Effective Date:** Immediate

**Additional Information:**

The NCAA Division II Committee on Infractions (COI) reviewed the individual accountability measures recently adopted in Division I with NCAA Division I Proposal No. 2023-55 (infractions program – penalties – individual accountability measures). The COI also reviewed similar legislative changes captured under NCAA Division I Proposal No. 2022-17 (infractions program – peer-review infractions process prior to appellate phase). The committee determined that several changes are appropriate for adoption in Division II to ensure that individuals responsible for an underlying wrongdoing are held appropriately accountable through meaningful penalties. These changes will provide Division II with the necessary tools and authority to effectively hold individual actors accountable by expanding upon existing penalty authority and also establishing new approaches to individual accountability, such as publicizing the names of culpable individuals in infractions decisions and a public database.

NO. NC-2026-5 ELIGIBILITY – ATHLETICS ELIGIBILITY – SEASONS OF COMPETITION: 10-SEMESTER/15-QUARTER  
RULE – CRITERIA FOR DETERMINING SEASON OF ELIGIBILITY – PARTICIPATION IN ORGANIZED  
COMPETITION BEFORE INITIAL COLLEGIATE ENROLLMENT – ELIMINATION OF ACADEMIC YEAR  
IN RESIDENCE REQUIREMENT

**Intent:** To specify that a student-athlete who initially enrolls at a Division II institution and is charged with the use of a season of competition per the organized-competition legislation, is not required to fulfill an academic year in residence before being eligible for competition in that sport.

**Bylaws:** Amend 14.4.3.4.2, as follows:

14.4.3.4.2 Participation in Organized Competition Before Initial Collegiate Enrollment. An individual 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 date, shall use one season of intercollegiate competition for each consecutive 12-month period after October 1 or March 1 and before initial full-time collegiate enrollment in which the individual participates in organized competition per Bylaw 14.4.3.4.2.1.2.

[14.4.3.4.2.1 unchanged.]

~~14.4.3.4.2.1.3 Academic Year in Residence. An individual who uses a season of competition in a specific sport per Bylaw 14.4.3.4.2 shall fulfill an academic year in residence at any member institution before being eligible to represent the certifying institution in that specific sport in intercollegiate competition.~~

~~14.4.3.4.2.1.3.1 Exception -- Transfer Student. A student who has attended a two-year or a four-year collegiate institution for at least two full-time semesters or three full-time quarters and who has satisfactorily completed an average of at least 12-semester or 12-quarter hours of transferable degree credit for each full-time academic term of attendance at the two-year or four-year collegiate institution is not required to fulfill an academic year in residence before being eligible to represent the certifying institution in that specific sport in intercollegiate competition. This exception shall not apply to the use of a season(s) of intercollegiate competition for each 12-month period after the one-year time period and before initial full-time collegiate enrollment in which an individual participates in organized competition per Bylaw 14.4.3.4.2.1.2. (See Bylaws 14.2.9 and 14.3 for transfer and progress-toward-degree requirements.)~~

~~14.4.3.4.2.1.3.2 Exception -- Graduate Student. A student who transfers and enrolls in a graduate program, professional school or equivalent degree program is not required to fulfill an academic year in residence before being eligible to represent the certifying institution in that specific sport in intercollegiate competition. (See Bylaws 14.2.4 and 14.2.9 for progress-toward-degree and transfer requirements.)~~

[14.4.3.4.2.2 through 14.4.3.4.2.3 unchanged.]

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

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2025, for individuals who initially enroll full time at a Division II institution on or after August 1, 2025.

**Additional Information:**

Currently, an individual who is charged a season of competition due to the organized-competition legislation must serve an academic year in residence before being immediately eligible to represent the certifying institution in competition, unless they meet an exception. After reviewing feedback from the Division II membership and other affiliate groups, the NCAA Division II Legislation Committee determined that charging a prospective student-athlete with a season of competition was an appropriate penalty without requiring the individual to also serve an academic year in residence. Further, eliminating the academic year in residence requirement under the organized-competition legislation would enhance recruitment and student-athlete retention.

NO. NC-2026-6 ELIGIBILITY -- ATHLETICS ELIGIBILITY -- SEASONS OF COMPETITION: 10-SEMESTER/15-QUARTER RULE AND INVOLVEMENT WITH PROFESSIONAL TEAMS -- CRITERIA FOR DETERMINING SEASON OF ELIGIBILITY AND COMPETITION -- PARTICIPATION IN ORGANIZED COMPETITION BEFORE INITIAL COLLEGIATE ENROLLMENT AND COMPETITION WITH PROFESSIONALS -- ELIMINATION OF MAJOR JUNIOR ICE HOCKEY PENALTY

**Intent:** In men's ice hockey, to eliminate the penalty associated with an individual's participation on a Major Junior ice hockey team.

**A. Bylaws:** Amend 14.4.3.4.2, as follows:

14.4.3.4.2 Participation in Organized Competition Before Initial Collegiate Enrollment. An individual 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 date, shall use one season of intercollegiate competition for each consecutive 12-month period after October 1 or March 1 and before initial full-time collegiate enrollment in which the individual participates in organized competition per Bylaw 14.4.3.4.2.1.2.

[14.4.3.4.2.1 through 14.4.3.4.2.2 unchanged.]

~~14.4.3.4.2.2.4.1 Major Junior Ice Hockey -- Men's Ice Hockey. An individual who participates on a Major Junior men's ice hockey team shall use a season of intercollegiate competition for each consecutive 12-month period in which the individual participates, regardless of when such participation occurs. The individual shall fulfill an academic year of residence (see Bylaw 14.4.3.4.2.1.3) before being eligible to represent the institution in intercollegiate competition in men's ice hockey.~~

[14.4.3.4.2.3 unchanged.]

**B. Bylaws:** Amend 14.4.8, as follows:



#### 14.4.8 Involvement With Professional Teams.

[14.4.8.1 through 14.4.8.3 unchanged.]

~~14.4.8.3.2.3 Major Junior Ice Hockey -- Men's Ice Hockey. An individual who competes on a Major Junior ice hockey team shall be subject to the seasons of competition regulations set forth in Bylaw 14.4.3.4.2, regardless of when such competition occurs.~~

[14.4.8.3.2.4 renumbered as 14.4.8.3.2.3, unchanged.]

[14.4.8.3.3 unchanged.]

[14.4.8.4 through 14.4.8.6 unchanged.]

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

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2025

#### **Additional Information:**

Currently, under the organized-competition legislation, a men's ice hockey prospective student-athlete may participate in organized competition for a maximum of three years after they graduate high school, without being charged with a season of competition. However, if a men's ice hockey prospective student-athlete participates on a Major Junior ice hockey team, they would be charged with a season of competition for each consecutive 12-month period that they participate on the team, regardless of the timing of participation. With there only being six Division II institutions that sponsor Division II men's ice hockey, eliminating the penalty tied to Major Junior ice hockey participation creates consistency in the application of the organized-competition legislation in men's ice hockey for those institutions.

#### NO. NC-2026-7 INFRINGEMENTS PROGRAM -- VIOLATION STRUCTURE -- APPLICATION OF VIOLATION STRUCTURE AND EXCEPTION FOR LIMITED SPORTS WAGERING VIOLATIONS

**Intent:** To incorporate the long-standing application of case classification for institutions and individuals; further, to specify: (1) violations of the sports wagering activities legislation involving behaviors that compromise or are intended to compromise the integrity of collegiate contests and/or lack of institutional oversight shall be processed at the same classification for the involved individuals and the institution; and (2) in all other instances, violations of the sports wagering activities legislation may be processed at different classifications for the involved individual and institution.

**Bylaws:** Amend 19, as follows:

#### 19 Infrctions Program.

[19.01 through 19.02 unchanged.]

#### 19.1 Violation Structure.

**19.1.1 Application of Violation Structure. The classification of a violation attaches to the conduct, not to the individual. Therefore, an institution shall be held responsible for violations committed by staff members at the same classification. Further, if violations from multiple classifications are identified, the case shall be processed pursuant to procedures applicable to the most serious violation(s) alleged.**

**19.1.1.1 Exception for Limited Sports Wagering Violations. Violations of Bylaw 10.3 involving behaviors that compromise or are intended to compromise the integrity of collegiate contests and/or lack of institutional oversight shall be processed at the same classification for the involved individual and the institution. In all other instances, violations of Bylaw 10.3 may be processed at a different classification for the involved individual and institution.**

[19.1.1 through 19.1.2 renumbered as 19.1.2 through 19.1.3, unchanged.]

[19.2 through 19.14 unchanged.]

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

**Effective Date:** Immediate

#### **Additional Information:**

NCAA Division II Bylaw 19 (infrctions program) establishes that the infrctions program shall hold institutions and their coaches accountable at the institutional and individual level. However, the Bylaw 19 structure does not

contemplate assigning different classifications to parties based on the same conduct. Rather, violation classification is based on the nature and severity of the conduct, and not the identity of the actor. Therefore, the same underlying conduct cannot be major for one party and secondary for another. Consistent with this structure, the NCAA Division II Committee on Infractions (COI) holds the institution and institutional staff member responsible for the violation at the same classification and differentiates culpability through application of penalties. This proposal codifies this long-standing application of case classification for institutions and individuals. Further, the COI recommended a limited exception to this violation structure to allow an institution's portion of a sports wagering case to be processed at a lower level than an individual's, provided certain factors are met. The COI made this recommendation after reviewing feedback on strategies to manage the increase in sports wagering violations and ensure infractions process resources are primarily focused on sports wagering cases that impact the integrity of intercollegiate athletics.

**NO. NC-2026-8 ELIGIBILITY AND AWARDS AND BENEFITS -- ATHLETICS ELIGIBILITY AND EXPENSES PROVIDED BY THE INSTITUTION FOR PRACTICE AND COMPETITION -- OUTSIDE COMPETITION, EFFECTS ON ELIGIBILITY AND PERMISSIBLE -- EXCEPTIONS TO OUTSIDE-COMPETITION REGULATIONS AND OTHER COMPETITION**

**Intent:** To permit institutions to provide a student-athlete with actual and necessary expenses to participate in: (1) qualifying competition for regional and national championships; (2) qualifying competition for Olympic, Paralympic, Pan American, Parapan American, World Championships, World Youth Championships, World Cup, World University Games (Universiade) and World University championships or the junior-level equivalent competition; and (3) National team training and competition used for consideration for selection or to determine members of a national team.

**A. Bylaws:** Amend 14.4.7.5.1, as follows:

14.4.7.5.1 In All Sports:

[14.4.7.5.1-(a) unchanged.]

~~(b) Olympic or Paralympic Games. A student-athlete may participate in the official Olympic or Paralympic Games, in final tryouts that directly qualify competitors for the Olympic or Paralympic Games and in officially recognized competition directly qualifying participants for final Olympic or Paralympic Games tryouts.~~

~~(c) Official Pan American or Parapan American Games Tryouts and Competition. A student-athlete may participate in official Pan American or Parapan American Games tryouts and competition, including junior-level tryouts and competition.~~

~~(d) U.S. National Teams. A student-athlete may participate in official tryouts and competition involving national teams sponsored by the appropriate national governing bodies of the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Committee (or, for the student-athletes representing another nation, the equivalent organization of that nation or, for student-athletes competing in a non-Olympic or Paralympic sport, the equivalent organization of that sport)~~**national team training, tryouts or competition events used for consideration for selection or to determine members of a national team that will participate in the Olympic Games, Paralympic Games, Pan American Games, Parapan American Games, World Championships, World Cup, World University Games (Universiade) and World University Championships or the junior-level equivalent competition.**

~~(e) Official World Championships, World University Games (Universiade), World University Championships, World Youth Championships and World Cup Tryouts and Competition. A student-athlete may participate in official World Championships, World University Games (Universiade), World University Championships, World Youth Championships and World Cup tryouts and competition, including junior-level tryouts and competition.~~

[14.4.7.5.1-(f) relettered as 14.4.7.5.1-(c), unchanged.]

**(d) Established Regional and National Championships. A student-athlete may participate in established regional (e.g., North American Championships, European Championships) and national championship events (including junior regional and national championships) and qualify competition for such events.**

**(e) International Events. A student-athlete may participate in the Olympic, Paralympic, Pan American, Parapan American, World Championships, World Youth Championships, World Cup, World University Games (Universiade) and World University Championships or the junior-level equivalent competition (e.g., Youth Olympic Games, Junior World Championships, U19 World University Games) and qualifying competition (e.g., Olympic or Paralympic Trials) for such events.**

**B. Bylaws:** Amend 16.8.1.3, as follows:

16.8.1.3 Other Competition. During an academic year in which a student-athlete is eligible to represent an institution in athletics competition (or in the next summer), an institution may provide actual and necessary expenses related to participation in the following activities: [R]

- (a) Established regional (e.g., North American Championships, European Championships) and national championship events (including junior **regional and** national championships) **and qualifying competition for such events**;
- (b) ~~One qualifying competition event per academic year for~~ The Olympic, Paralympic, Pan American, Parapan American, World Championships, World Youth Championships, World Cup, World University Games (Universiade) and World University Championships or the junior-level equivalent competition (e.g., Youth Olympic Games, Junior World Championships, U19 World University Games) **and qualifying competition (e.g., Olympic or Paralympic Trials) for such events**;
- (c) National team **training, tryouts or** competition events **used for consideration for selection or to determine members of a** ~~including events from which participants are selected for another tier of tryout competition or events from which final selections are made for the~~ national team that will participate in the Olympic Games, Paralympic Games, Pan American Games, Parapan American Games, World Championships, World Cup, World University Games (Universiade) and World University Championships or the junior-level equivalent competition; and

[16.8.1.3-(d) unchanged.]

[16.8.1.3.1 unchanged.]

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

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2025

**Additional Information:**

Following the adoption of the new constitution at the 2022 NCAA Convention, the NCAA Division II Presidents Council, now named the NCAA Division II Executive Board, established the NCAA Division II Implementation Committee, which was charged with starting and leading the division's work. The Implementation Committee reviewed the division's rules and policies and made recommendations to ensure that changes were consistent with the principles agreed upon in the new constitution. The Legislation Committee determined that deregulating the types of events student-athletes may participate in and receive actual and necessary expenses from their institution, will provide student-athletes with additional opportunities to participate in elite-level competition. Further, this proposal will provide Division II student-athletes with access to opportunities currently available to Division I student-athletes, while also allowing institutions to support the athletic endeavors of their student-athletes.

NO. NC-2026-9 PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS -- ICE HOCKEY -- NUMBER OF CONTESTS -- ANNUAL EXEMPTIONS -- WOMEN'S ICE HOCKEY -- SCRIMMAGE/EXHIBITION CONTEST

**Intent:** In women's ice hockey, to specify that a student-athlete may participate in one scrimmage or exhibition contest each year and exempt the scrimmage or exhibition contest from the maximum number of contests set forth in Bylaw 17.

**Bylaws:** Amend 17.14.5.4, as follows:

17.14.5.4 Annual Exemptions -- Women's Ice Hockey. The maximum number of women's ice hockey contests/dates of competition shall exclude the following:

[17.14.5.4-(a) through 17.14.5.4-(i) unchanged.]

**(j) Scrimmage/Exhibition Contest. One ice hockey scrimmage or exhibition contest each year against outside competition.**

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

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2025

**Additional Information:**

Permitting Division II women's ice hockey programs to participate in and exempt one scrimmage or exhibition contest each year will align the playing and practice season with Division I women's ice hockey. Further, Division II traditionally aligns its playing and practice seasons legislation with Division I for National Collegiate Championship sports.

NO. NC-2026-10 PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS -- WATER POLO -- PRESEASON PRACTICE AND FIRST DATE OF COMPETITION

**Intent:** In men's and women's water polo, to specify that an institution shall not engage in its first date of competition with outside competition (other than an alumni scrimmage) prior to the Friday that is 14 weeks before the start of the NCAA National Collegiate Water Polo Championship. Further, in women's water polo, to specify that an institution shall not commence practice sessions in the championship segment prior to 16 calendar days before the first scheduled intercollegiate contest.

**Bylaws:** Amend 17.28, as follows:

17.28 Water Polo.

[17.28.1 unchanged.]

17.28.2 Preseason Practice.

[17.28.2-(a) unchanged.]

(b) Women. A member institution shall not commence practice sessions in women's water polo before ~~September 7 or the institution's first day of classes for the fall term, whichever is earlier.;~~

**(1) Nonchampionship Segment. September 7 or the institution's first day of classes, whichever is earlier.**

**(2) Championship Segment. Sixteen calendar days before the first scheduled intercollegiate contest.**

17.28.3 First Date of Competition.

(a) Men. A member institution shall not engage in its first date of competition (game or scrimmage) with outside competition in men's water polo before the ~~first Saturday in September~~**Friday that is 14 weeks before the start of the National Collegiate Men's Water Polo Championship, except that an alumni scrimmage may be played the weekend before the first permissible date of competition.**

(b) Women. A member institution shall not engage in its first date of competition (game or scrimmage) with outside competition in women's water polo before ~~September 7 or the institution's first day of classes for the fall term, whichever is earlier.;~~

**(1) Nonchampionship Segment. September 7 or the institution's first day of classes, whichever is earlier.**

**(2) Championship Segment. The Friday that is 14 weeks before the start of the National Collegiate Women's Water Polo Championship, except that an alumni scrimmage may be played the weekend before the first permissible date of competition.**

[17.28.4 through 17.28.9 unchanged.]

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

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2025

**Additional Information:**

Establishing a first date of competition dependent on the date of the NCAA National Collegiate Water Polo Championship will promote consistency in the start of the 14-week championship segment. Further, the Division II playing and practice seasons legislation for National Collegiate Championship sports traditionally aligns with the playing and practice seasons in Division I. Therefore, amending the playing and practice seasons legislation in the sport of water polo will align Division II with the Division I playing and practice seasons legislation for water polo.

NO. NC-2026-11 NCAA DIVISION II MEMBERSHIP AND INSTITUTIONAL CONTROL -- PROVISIONAL MEMBERSHIP -- INSTITUTIONS - CHANGE OF DIVISION MEMBERSHIP (ALL SPORTS) -- PRIVILEGES AND VOTING RIGHTS -- USE OF ASSOCIATION'S REGISTERED MARKS -- USE OF DIVISION II-SPECIFIC LOGOS

**Intent:** To eliminate the use of the Association's registered marks by an institution in provisional year three of the Division II provisional membership process; further, to specify that an institution in the Division II membership process is limited to using Division II-specific logos.

**Bylaws:** Amend 7.5.1.7.2, as follows:

7.5.1.7.2 Use of Association's Registered Marks. ~~A provisional member in year three of the membership process set forth in Bylaw 7.5 may use the registered marks of the Association (i.e., the Association's name, logo or other insignia) only in accordance with guidelines established by the Board of Governors.~~ Prior to the provisional year three designation **a provisional member reaching active status**, an institution in the membership process is limited to using Division II-specific logos and a specially designed NCAA logo for provisional institutions.

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

**Effective Date:** Immediate

**Additional Information:**

Under current Division II legislation, an institution in provisional year three of the Division II provisional membership process may use Division II-specific logos and the registered marks of the Association, while institutions in provisional years one and two are limited to using Division II-specific logos. Conversely, as outlined in the Division II Membership Committee's policies and procedures, institutions in the provisional membership process may only use the Division II-specific logo throughout the membership process. The committee determined that it was appropriate to amend the legislation to align with the committee's policies and procedures to specify that access to use of the registered marks of the Association should be limited to active member institutions. Aligning the legislation with the committee's policies and procedures will ensure consistent guidance is provided to provisional institutions.

#### NO. NC-2026-12 RECRUITING AND AWARDS, BENEFITS AND EXPENSES FOR ENROLLED STUDENT-ATHLETES -- ELIMINATION OF REQUIREMENT TO SEND REPAYMENT DOCUMENTATION

**Intent:** To eliminate the requirement that an institution must send documentation of a prospective student-athlete's and student-athlete's repayment of an impermissible benefit to the NCAA enforcement staff; further, to specify that documentation of the prospective student-athlete's and student-athlete's repayment shall be kept on file by the institution.

**A. Bylaws:** Amend 13.9.1.4.4, as follows:

13.9.1.4.4 Restitution. For violations of Bylaw 13.9.1.4 and its subsections in which the value of the benefit is \$200 or less, the eligibility of the prospective student-athlete shall not be affected conditioned on the prospective student-athlete repaying the value of the benefit to a charity of their choice. However, the prospective student-athlete shall remain ineligible from the time the institution has knowledge of receipt of the impermissible benefit until the prospective student-athlete repays the benefit. ~~A violation of this bylaw remains an institutional violations per Bylaw 7.01.9 and documentation of the prospective student-athlete's repayment shall be forwarded~~ **shall be submitted** to the enforcement staff. **Documentation of repayment shall be kept on file by the institution.**

**B. Bylaws:** Amend 16.01.1.1, as follows:

16.01.1.1 Restitution for Receipt of Impermissible Benefits. Unless otherwise noted, for violations of Bylaw 16 in which the value of the benefit is \$200 or less, the eligibility of the student-athlete shall not be affected conditioned upon the student-athlete's repayment of the benefit to a charity of their choice. The student-athlete, however, shall remain ineligible from the time the institution has knowledge of receipt of the impermissible benefit until the student-athlete repays the benefit. Violations of the bylaw remain institutional violations per Bylaw 7.01.9, and ~~documentation of the student-athlete's repayment shall be forwarded~~ **shall be submitted** to the enforcement staff. **Documentation of repayment shall be kept on file by the institution.** For violations of Bylaw 16 in which there is no monetary value to the benefit, violations shall be considered institutional violations per Bylaw 7.01.9; however, such violations shall not affect the student-athlete's eligibility.

**Source:** NCAA Division II Management Council (Student-Athlete Reinstatement Committee).

**Effective Date:** Immediate

**Additional Information:**

Under current legislation, an institution is required to send documentation of a prospective student-athlete's and student-athlete's repayment of an impermissible benefit to the enforcement staff. The enforcement staff have been trying to modernize legislation to no longer require institutions to send proof of repayment by prospective student-athletes and student-athletes to enforcement when reporting institutional violations that impact eligibility but allow for use of the restitution provisions. Eliminating the requirement that an institution must send repayment documentation to the enforcement staff would reflect the long-standing practice of not requiring proof of restitution along with the self-report. Further, requiring an institution to keep the repayment documentation on file is consistent with the adoption of NCAA Division II Proposal No. NC-2020-48 (various bylaws -- eliminate requirements to report and keep on



file). Finally, removing the reporting requirement will not absolve an institution from having to file an institutional violation.

NO. NC-2026-13 NCAA DIVISION II MEMBERSHIP AND INSTITUTIONAL CONTROL -- FINANCIAL DONATIONS FROM OUTSIDE ORGANIZATIONS -- RELATIONSHIPS WITH THIRD-PARTY ORGANIZATIONS

**Intent:** To deregulate the financial donations from outside organizations legislation, as specified.

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

7.4 Financial Donations From Outside Organizations.

7.4.1 Professional Sports Organizations.

~~7.4.1.1 To Noncollegiate Amateur Team. A noncollegiate amateur team or playing league shall not be considered a professional team or league, even if it receives financial support from a national amateur sports administrative organization or its equivalent that in turn receives developmental funds from a professional team or professional sports organization.~~

~~7.4.1.2 To Intercollegiate Event. A professional sports organization may serve as a financial sponsor of an intercollegiate competition event, provided the organization is not publicly identified as such. A professional sports organization may serve as a financial sponsor of an activity or promotion that is ancillary to the competition event and may be publicly identified as such. [D]~~

~~7.4.1.3 Developmental Funds to NCAA. A professional sports organization may provide funds for intercollegiate athletics developmental purposes in a particular sport (e.g., officiating expenses, research and educational projects, the conduct of summer leagues, purchase of equipment). However, such funds shall be provided in an unrestricted manner and administered through the Association's national office.~~

~~7.4.1.4 To Institution. A member institution may receive contributions (e.g., tickets, funds, memorabilia) from a professional sports organization, including financial contributions from a professional sports organization for sponsorship of a specific intercollegiate competition event conducted by the institution, including ancillary activities and promotions.~~

~~7.4.1.5 To Conference. A member conference may receive contributions (e.g., tickets, funds, memorabilia) from a professional sports organization, including financial contributions from a professional sports organization for sponsorship of a specific intercollegiate competition event conducted by the conference, including ancillary activities and promotions.~~

~~7.4.1.6 Revenues Derived From Pro-Am Events. The distribution of revenues from an event involving an intercollegiate athletics team and a professional sports team (e.g., a baseball game in which a member institution's team plays against a professional baseball team) or pro-am event (e.g., golf, tennis) that results in a member institution receiving a share of receipts from such a contest is permitted, provided the institution has a formal agreement with the professional sports team regarding the institution's guarantee or share of receipts and the contractual terms are consistent with agreements made by the professional team or individuals for similar intercollegiate or nonprofessional competition.~~

~~7.4.1.7 Promotion of Professional Athletics Contests. A member institution may host and promote an athletics contest between two professional teams from recognized professional sports leagues as a fundraising activity for the institution.~~

7.4.2 Nonprofessional Sports Organizations.

~~7.4.2.1 Individual Athletics Performance. A member institution shall not accept funds donated from a nonprofessional sports organization based on the place finish of a student-athlete or the number of student-athletes representing the institution in an event. However, the organization may donate an equal amount of funds to every institution with an athlete or team participating in a particular event.~~

~~7.4.2.2 Individual and Team Rankings. A member institution may accept funds donated to its athletics program from a nonprofessional sports organization based on an individual's or a team's national or regional ranking.~~

~~7.4.2.3 Academic Performance. A member institution may accept funds donated to its athletics program from a nonprofessional sports organization based on an individual's or a team's academic performance (e.g., the number of academic All-American award recipients).~~

7.4 Financial Donation From Outside Organizations.

7.4.1 Third-Party Organizations.

7.4.1.1 Institution. A third-party organization may serve as a sponsor or partner of an intercollegiate competition event or a member institution's team and be publicly identified as such. A member institution may receive contributions (e.g., tickets, funds, memorabilia) from a third-party organization, including financial contributions from a third-party organization for sponsorship or partnership agreements a member institution enters into. Sponsorship or partnership agreements entered into between a member institution and third-party organization shall be left to institutional discretion.

7.4.1.2 Conference. A third-party organization may serve as a sponsor or partner of an intercollegiate competition event and be publicly identified as such. A member conference may receive contributions (e.g., tickets, funds, memorabilia) from a third-party organization, including financial contributions from a third-party organization for sponsorship or partnership agreements a member conference enters into. Sponsorship or partnership agreements entered into between a member conference and third-party organization shall be left to conference discretion.

7.4.1.3 NCAA. The NCAA may enter into a relationship with a third-party organization for the specific purpose of marketing or promoting an NCAA championship event, activity or program.

7.4.1.4 Developmental Funds to the NCAA, Institution or Conference. A third-party organization may provide funds for intercollegiate athletics developmental purposes.

#### 7.4.2 Nonprofessional Sports Organizations.

7.4.2.1 Individual Athletics Performance. A member institution shall not accept funds donated from a nonprofessional sports organization based on the place finish of a student-athlete or the number of student-athletes representing the institution in an event. However, the organization may donate an equal amount of funds to every institution with an athlete or team participating in a particular event.

7.4.2.2 Individual and Team Rankings. A member institution may accept funds donated to its athletics program from a nonprofessional sports organization based on an individual's or a team's national or regional ranking.

7.4.2.3 Academic Performance. A member institution may accept funds donated to its athletics program from a nonprofessional sports organization based on an individual's or a team's academic performance (e.g., the number of academic All-American award recipients).

[7.5 through 7.9 unchanged.]

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

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2025

#### **Additional Information:**

Currently, the legislation permits an institution or conference to enter into a sponsorship/partnership agreement with a third-party organization (e.g., professional sport leagues) so long as the organization is not identified as a sponsor. There have been ongoing discussions on ways the national office may build relationships with third-party organizations. Deregulating Bylaw 7.4 (financial donations from outside organizations) will provide institutions, conferences and the national office with the discretion to enter into agreements with a third-party organization, while maintaining appropriate guardrails.

NO. NC-2026-14 ELIGIBILITY -- ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY -- ELIGIBILITY FOR MALE STUDENTS OR MALE STUDENT-ATHLETES TO PRACTICE WITH WOMEN'S TEAMS -- TRAVEL EXPENSES IN CONJUNCTION WITH AWAY-FROM-HOME COMPETITION

**Intent:** To permit a male practice player to receive travel expenses to participate in practice sessions in conjunction with an institution's away-from-home competition.

**Bylaws:** Amend 14.2.6, as follows:

14.2.6 Eligibility for Male Students or Male Student-Athletes to Practice With Women's Teams. A male student or male student-athlete (see Bylaw 17.02.9) may engage in practice sessions with women's teams under the following conditions:

[14.2.6-(a) through 14.2.6-(b) unchanged.]

(c) It is not permissible for an institution to provide male students awards and benefits set forth in Bylaw 16.

**(1) Travel Expenses In Conjunction With Away-From-Home Competition. An institution may provide travel expenses to participate in practice sessions in conjunction with the institution's away-from-home competition.**

[14.2.6-(d) through 14.2.6-(e) unchanged.]

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

**Effective Date:** Immediate

**Additional Information:**

Currently, male practice players may not receive any benefits or expenses set forth in Bylaw 16 (awards, benefits and expenses for enrolled student-athletes), including travel expenses in conjunction with an institution's away-from-home competition. It is common for male practice players to participate in practice sessions with women's teams for a variety of reasons such as roster depletion due to injury/illness. Allowing institutions the discretion to provide male practice players with travel expenses to participate in practice sessions for an institution's away-from-home competition will ensure the team can adequately prepare for an opponent in the same manner it would for a home competition.

**NO. NC-2026-15 PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS -- DEFINITIONS AND APPLICATIONS -- TRYOUTS -- ENROLLED STUDENT -- TIMING OF MEDICAL EXAMINATION**

**Intent:** To clarify that a medical examination for a currently enrolled student must be administered within six-months prior to participation in a tryout.

**Bylaws:** Amend 17.02.15, as follows:

17.02.15 Tryouts -- Enrolled Student. A member institution may conduct a tryout of a full-time student currently enrolled at the institution only on its campus or at a site at which the institution normally conducts practice or competition during the regular academic year. (See Bylaw 13.8.2.1 for tryout regulations of a prospective student-athlete.) The following conditions shall apply to a tryout of an enrolled student:

[17.02.15-(a) unchanged.]

(b) Health and Safety Requirements -- Medical Examination and Sickle Cell Solubility Test (SST). ~~Prior to participation in a tryout, a student is required to undergo a medical examination or evaluation administered or supervised by a physician (e.g., family physician, team physician). The examination or evaluation shall include a sickle cell solubility test (SST), unless documented results of a prior test are provided to the institution. The examination or evaluation must be administered within six months prior to participation in the tryout. The medical examination or evaluation may be conducted by an institution's regular team physician or other designated physician as a part of the tryout.~~**See Bylaw 17.1.5;**

[17.02.15-(c) through 17.02.15-(f) unchanged.]

[17.02.15 unchanged.]

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

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2025

**Additional Information:**

With the adoption of NCAA Division II Proposal No. 2025-2 (recruiting and playing and practice seasons -- tryouts and general playing-season regulations -- mandatory medical examinations -- timing of medical examination), the timing of when a medical examination needs to be conducted prior to a tryout will be extended from six months to one year, effective August 1, 2025. However, since Bylaw 17.1.5 (mandatory medical examination) is a common provision, the timing by which a medical exam must occur prior to a tryout for a currently enrolled student will remain at six months, which conflicts with the legislation outlined in Bylaw 17.02.15 (tryouts -- enrolled student). Amending this bylaw will eliminate any confusion regarding the application of the common provision to currently enrolled students who are participating in a tryout.

**NO. NC-2026-16 NCAA DIVISION II MEMBERSHIP AND INSTITUTIONAL CONTROL -- ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP -- ELIGIBILITY FOR NATIONAL COLLEGIATE AND DIVISION CHAMPIONSHIPS -- ELIGIBILITY FOR NATIONAL COLLEGIATE CHAMPIONSHIPS -- OPTIONS WHEN NO DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIP IS CONDUCTED -- MEN'S ICE HOCKEY**



**Intent:** In men's ice hockey, to specify that an active Division II institution is eligible to compete in the Division I Men's Ice Hockey Championship provided there is not a men's ice hockey championship conducted in Division II.

**Bylaws:** Amend 7.3.2.1.2, as follows:

7.3.2.1.2 Options When No Division II Championship Is Conducted -- **Men's Ice Hockey.** An active **Division II** member institution ~~that holds membership in Division II~~ is eligible to compete in the Division I ~~championship in those sports for which no~~**Men's Ice Hockey Championship if no men's ice hockey championship is conducted in** Division II ~~championship is conducted~~. The institution shall declare its intention ~~with the Championships Committee~~ to compete by June 1. This declaration of intent shall be effective for a minimum of three years.

7.3.2.1.2.1 Participation in Division I Championship. To be eligible for the Division I championship ~~in such a sport~~, the member institution is required to meet all Division I institutional and individual eligibility requirements and may use Division I financial aid limitations in that sport as permitted under Bylaw 7.3.1.6.1.1.

7.3.2.1.2.2 Exception for Maximum Number of Contests or Dates of Competition A member institution that is eligible for ~~a championship in Division I because there is no championship in that sport in Division II~~**the Division I Men's Ice Hockey Championship and declares its intention to participate** shall apply the maximum number of contests ~~or dates of competition in the sport involved that applies in Division I~~**in Division I men's ice hockey**.

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

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2025

**Additional Information:**

Currently, an active Division II institution is eligible to compete in the Division I championship in any sport for which there is no Division II championship conducted. With the adoption of Division I Proposal No. 2024-51 (championships – eligibility for championships – Division I option when no Division II championship is conducted – men's ice hockey), Division I legislation only provides access to the Division I championship for Division II institutions in men's ice hockey. Aligning the legislation with Division I provides clarity for Division II institutions in understanding the championship opportunities that are available in Division I when there is not a Division II championship conducted in a sport.

NO. NC-2026-17 ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE AND COMMITTEES -- ASSOCIATION-WIDE COMMITTEES -- GENERAL COMMITTEES -- HONORS COMMITTEE -- NAME, COMPOSITION AND DUTIES

**Intent:** To amend the name, composition and duties of the NCAA Honors Committee, as follows: (a) Rename the Honors Committee to the Awards Committee; (b) Increase the composition of the committee from nine to 10 members specifying that one position shall be allocated for a former student-athlete who was a Woman of the Year nominee; (c) Replace the position allocated for a current or former chancellor or president from a member institution with a senior-level athletics administrator at a member institution or conference; and (d) Expand the duties of the committee to include oversight, management and selection of the Woman of the Year Award.

**Bylaws:** Amend 8.6, as follows:

[Common provision, all divisions, divided vote]

8.6 Association-Wide Committees -- General Committees.

[8.6.1 unchanged.]

8.6.~~32~~ **HonorsAwards** Committee.

8.6.~~32~~.1 Composition. The ~~Honors~~**Awards** Committee shall consist of ~~nine~~**10** members, including one ~~current or one former chancellor or president~~**senior-level athletics administrator** from a member institution **or member conference**, one member from each division and subdivision of Division I ~~and~~, three nationally distinguished citizens, one of which must be a former NCAA ~~honorsawards~~ recipient **and one former student-athlete who was a Woman of the Year nominee**. Division II and Division III will be represented each by a member of the Management Council. Two positions shall be allocated for those who identify as male, two allocated for those who identify as female and ~~five~~**six** unallocated.

8.6.~~32~~.2 Term of Office. A member's term of service shall commence on the day following adjournment of the NCAA Convention following the member's appointment.

8.6.3.3 Duties. The committee shall receive nominations for the Gerald R. Ford Award, the Theodore Roosevelt Award, the Silver Anniversary Awards, the Pat Summit Award, the Today's Top 10 Awards, the Award of Valor, the Woman of the Year Award and the Inspiration Award and shall select the recipients of those awards.

[8.6.2 through 8.6.7 renumbered as 8.6.3 through 8.6.8, unchanged.]

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

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2025

**Additional Information:**

Currently, the NCAA Committee on Women's Athletics oversees, manages, and selects the Woman of the Year Award. In January 2025, the three divisions adopted legislation to consolidate the four existing DEI committees/task force (including the Committee on Women's Athletics) into one comprehensive committee. The duties of the new committee do not include oversight of the Woman of the Year Award. Instead, it was agreed that the Honors Committee would best manage the Woman of the Year Award to increase consistency with the administration of other awards, such as the NCAA Gerald R. Ford Award and the Pat Summit Award. In addition, amending the committee's composition by adding a former student-athlete who was a Woman of the Year nominee will provide valuable insight and input when evaluating nominations. The committee also noted that its work requires a significant time commitment making it difficult to attract and retain presidents or chancellors. Allocating one position to a senior-level athletics administrator from a school or conference will provide the committee with the experience and perspective of a senior campus or conference leader. Finally, renaming the Honors Committee to the Awards Committee reflects the work of the committee.

NO. NC-2026-18 PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS -- ICE HOCKEY -- LENGTH OF PLAYING SEASON, PRESEASON PRACTICE AND FIRST CONTEST -- WOMEN'S ICE HOCKEY

**Intent:** In women's ice hockey, to amend the playing and practice season, as specified.

**Bylaws:** Amend 17, as follows:

17 Playing and Practice Seasons

[17.01 through 17.1 unchanged.]

17.1.2 Segments of Playing Season. For all sports other than football, basketball, women's ice hockey and track and field, each member institution may divide the playing season into not more than two distinct segments.

[17.1.3 through 17.1.5 unchanged.]

17.1.6 Time Limits for Athletically Related Activities. In all sports, the following time limitations shall apply:

[17.1.6.1 unchanged.]

**17.1.6.1.2 Exception -- Women's Ice Hockey. In women's ice hockey, countable athletically related activities from the start of preseason practice until the first permissible contest shall be limited to eight hours per week [see Bylaw 17.14.2-(b)].**

[17.1.6.2 through 17.1.6.4 unchanged.]

17.1.6.4.5 Preseason Practice. Daily and weekly hour limitations do not apply to countable athletically related activities occurring during preseason practice before the first day of classes or the first scheduled contest, whichever is earlier. (See Bylaws 17.7.2.2, 17.10.2.2, 17.11.3.3, 17.11.3.4, 17.12.5.1.1, **17.14.2**, 17.20.2.2, 17.24.5.1.1 and 17.27.2.2.2 for sport-specific limitations.)

[17.1.6.4.6 through 17.1.6.4.8 unchanged.]

[17.1.6.5 through 17.1.6.9 unchanged.]

[17.1.7 through 17.1.10 unchanged.]

[17.2 through 17.13 unchanged.]

17.14 Ice Hockey.

Regulations for computing the ice hockey playing season are set forth in Bylaw 17.1, General Playing-Season Regulations. ~~Institutions that conduct women's ice hockey shall comply with the same playing and practice season~~

~~legislation that currently exists for men's ice hockey except as noted in Bylaw 17.14.5. (See Figure 17-1 and Figure 17-2.)~~

~~17.14.1 Length of Playing Season. The length of an institution's playing season in ice hockey shall be limited to a 132-day season, which may consist of two segments (each consisting of consecutive days) and which may exclude only required days off per Bylaw 17.1.6.5 and official vacation, holiday and final examination periods during which no practice or competition shall occur.~~

**(a) Men. The length of an institution's playing season in men's ice hockey shall be limited to a 132-day season, which may consist of two segments (each consisting of consecutive days) and which may exclude only required days off per Bylaw 17.1.6.5 and official vacation, holiday and final examination periods during which no practice or competition shall occur.**

**(b) Women. The length of an institution's playing season in women's ice hockey shall be limited to the period of time between the start of preseason practice [see Bylaw 17.14.2-(b)] and the end of the regular playing season [see Bylaw 17.14.4-(b)].**

~~17.14.2 Preseason Practice. A member institution shall not commence practice sessions in ice hockey before September 7 or the institution's first day of classes for the fall term, whichever is earlier.~~

**(a) Men. An institution shall not commence practice sessions in men's ice hockey before September 7 or the institution's first day of classes for the fall term, whichever is earlier.**

**(b) Women. An institution shall not commence practice sessions in women's ice hockey before 11 days before the first permissible contest date [Bylaw 17.14.3-(b)]. Countable athletically related activities from the start of preseason practice until the first permissible contest shall be limited to eight hours per week.**

~~17.14.3 First Contest. A member institution shall not play its first contest (game or scrimmage) with outside competition in ice hockey before September 7 or the institution's first day of classes for the fall term, whichever is earlier.~~

**(a) Men. An institution shall not play its first contest (game or scrimmage) with outside competition in men's ice hockey before September 7 or the institution's first day of classes for the fall term, whichever is earlier.**

**(b) Women. An institution shall not play its first contest (game or scrimmage) with outside competition in women's ice hockey prior to the Friday of the 25th full weekend prior to the start of the National Collegiate Women's Ice Hockey Championship.**

[17.14.3.1 unchanged.]

~~17.14.4 End of Regular Playing Season. A member institution shall conclude all practice and competition (games and scrimmages) in each segment in ice hockey by the last day of final examinations for the regular academic year at the institution (see Bylaw 17.1.7 for additional regulations regarding the end date of practice and competition).~~

**(a) Men. An institution shall conclude all practice and competition (games and scrimmages) in each segment in men's ice hockey by the last day of final examinations for the regular academic year at the institution (see Bylaw 17.1.7 for additional regulations regarding the end date of practice and competition).**

**(b) Women. An institution's last contest (game or scrimmage or postseason tournament contest) with outside competition shall not be played after the National Collegiate Women's Ice Hockey Championship game. An institution may not continue to practice beyond its last regular-season contest, including the conference championship (if any), unless it has reason to believe it is under consideration for selection to participate in the NCAA championship or other postseason national championship event. An institution may not engage in regular-season competition after the beginning of its conference's season-ending tournament that determines automatic qualification into the National Collegiate Women's Ice Hockey Championship (see Bylaw 17.1.7 for additional regulations regarding the end date of practice and competition).**

[17.14.5 through 17.14.8 unchanged.]

[17.15 through 17.33 unchanged.]

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

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2025

**Additional Information:**

The Division II playing and practice seasons legislation for National Collegiate Championship sports traditionally aligns with the playing and practice seasons legislation in Division I. Therefore, amending the playing and practice seasons legislation in women's ice hockey will align Division II with the Division I playing and practice seasons legislation for women's ice hockey.

NO. NC-2026-19 PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS -- FOREIGN TOURS -- OPPONENTS -- ONE GAME AGAINST ANY INSTITUTION

**Intent:** To permit a team to compete in one game against any opponent during an institutional foreign tour.

**Bylaws:** Amend 17.32, as follows:

17.32 Foreign Tours.

[17.32.1 unchanged.]

17.32.1.8 Opponents. The team shall not compete during the tour against other member institutions or American teams (colleges or other U.S. teams) other than teams composed of U.S. armed forces personnel stationed at U.S. military bases in foreign countries.

[17.32.1.8.1 unchanged.]

**17.32.1.8.2 Exception -- One Game Against a Member Institution or American Team. It is permissible for an institution to compete in one game against a member institution or American team (college or other U.S. teams) during an institutional foreign tour.**

[17.32.1.9 through 17.32.1.10 unchanged.]

[17.32.2 unchanged.]

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

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2025

**Additional Information:**

Under current legislation, a team may not compete against other member institutions or American teams during a foreign tour. Allowing teams to compete in one game against any opponent while on a foreign tour will provide Division II institutions with additional opportunities to participate in guaranteed games during a foreign tour. Finally, this recommendation will increase the exposure of Division II institutions, as the recruitment of international student-athletes continues to increase.

NO. NC-2026-20 NCAA DIVISION II MEMBERSHIP AND INSTITUTIONAL CONTROL AND CHAMPIONSHIPS ADMINISTRATION -- NATIONAL COLLEGIATE CHAMPIONSHIPS -- SEPARATE MEN'S AND WOMEN'S FENCING CHAMPIONSHIPS

**Intent:** In men's and women's fencing, to establish separate National Collegiate Championships.

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

[Common provision, all divisions, divided vote]

7 NCAA Division II Membership and Institutional Control

[7.01 through 7.3 unchanged.]

7.3.2.1 Eligibility for National Collegiate Championships. [#] An active member institution in good standing, regardless of division, is eligible for the National Collegiate Championships, if a division championship in the respective sport is not offered in its division. Such an institution is required to meet only the institutional and individual eligibility requirements of its division that govern the sport in question. Separate championships in each division are not sponsored in the following sports:

Women's beach volleyball  
Women's bowling  
Men's ~~and women's~~ fencing  
**Women's fencing**  
Men's gymnastics

Women's ice hockey  
Men's and women's rifle  
Men's and women's skiing  
Men's volleyball  
Men's and women's water polo

Women's gymnastics

Women's wrestling

[7.3.2.1.1 through 7.3.2.1.2 unchanged.]

[7.3.3 through 7.3.5 unchanged.]

[7.4 through 7.9 unchanged.]

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

[Common provision, all divisions, divided vote]

18 Championships Administration

[18.01 through 18.2 unchanged.]

18.3 Current Championships. The Association currently administers ~~97~~92 national championships. There are ~~12~~13 National Collegiate Championships. Additionally, there are 26 Division I championships, 25 Division II championships and 28 Division III championships. (See Bylaw 9.3.10 for the voting requirements for the establishment of a new championship.) The current championships are as follows:

18.3.1 National Collegiate Championships (~~12~~13).

**Men (~~34~~)**

**Men and Women (~~32~~)**

**Women (~~67~~)**

**Fencing**

*Fencing*

Beach Volleyball

Gymnastics

Rifle

Bowling

Volleyball (Divisions I and II)

Skiing

**Fencing**

Water Polo

Gymnastics

Ice Hockey (Divisions I and II)

Water Polo

Wrestling

[18.3.2 unchanged.]

[18.4 through 18.6 unchanged.]

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

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2025

**Additional Information:**

Under the current scoring format, institutions that sponsor only women's fencing face a statistical impossibility of winning a national championship. The separation of the two championships would allow for a more equitable championship experience and establish a realistic pathway for all teams to compete for a national championship. Establishing a women's fencing championship will support the growth, development and recognition of women's championships.

NO. NC-2026-21 NCAA DIVISION II MEMBERSHIP AND INSTITUTIONAL CONTROL – ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP – INSTITUTIONS – CONDITIONS AND OBLIGATIONS OF ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP – ACADEMIC SUCCESS RATE – FAILURE TO SUBMIT DATA – ELIMINATION OF PENALTY FOR FAILURE TO SUBMIT ACADEMIC SUCCESS RATE DATA IN ANY TWO YEARS DURING A FIVE-YEAR PERIOD

**Intent:** To eliminate the penalty for an active member institution that fails to submit its Academic Success Rate (ASR) data in any two years during a five-year period.

**Bylaws:** Amend 7.3.1.5.12.1, as follows:

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 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 with the next three distributions.~~

[7.3.1.5.12.1.1 unchanged.]

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

**Effective Date:** Immediate

**Additional Information:**

Currently, an active Division II institution that fails to submit its ASR data shall forfeit Division II Institutional Equal Distribution funds with the next distribution. Further, an active Division II institution that fails to submit its ASR data in any two years during a five-year period shall forfeit Institutional Equal Distribution funds with the next three distributions. Eliminating the penalty for an institution that fails to submit its ASR data in any two years during a five-year period will create consistency with the legislated penalties for institutions that fail to submit Academic Performance Census (APC) data or fail to submit the student-athlete health and safety survey. Further, recent data shows that currently no institutions have failed to submit their ASR data twice during a five-year period. This change would provide an additional incentive for institutions to submit their data. Finally, an institution will still be required to submit its ASR data annually and the penalty for failing to submit will remain intact (i.e., forfeit Institutional Equal Distribution funds with the next distribution).

NO. NC-2026-22 ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE AND COMMITTEES -- PLAYING RULES OVERSIGHT PANEL AND RULES COMMITTEES WITHOUT CHAMPIONSHIPS ADMINISTRATION RESPONSIBILITIES -- ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW PLAYING RULES STRUCTURE AND PROCESS

**Intent:** To establish a new playing rules structure and process for Division II, as specified.

**A. Bylaws:** Amend 8, as follows:

[Common provision, all divisions, divided vote]

[To remove Division I from the common application of Bylaws 8.5 and 8.7]

## 8 Organizational Structure and Committees

[8.02 unchanged.]

~~8.02.6.4 Exception -- Playing Rules Committees. Institutional staff members from Division II or III institutions that sponsor a Division I sport may serve on that sport's playing rules committee as a Division I representative, provided at least 25 percent of the institutions that sponsor the sport are Division II or III institutions.~~

[8.02.6.5 renumbered as 8.02.6.4, unchanged.]

[8.02.7 unchanged.]

[8.1 through 8.12 unchanged.]

**B. Bylaws:** Amend 8.4, as follows:

### 8.4 Division II Committees.

[8.4.1 through 8.4.3 unchanged.]

8.4.3.2.2 Duties. The committee shall:

[8.4.3.2.2-(a) through 8.4.3.2.2-(h) unchanged.]

(i) Receive informational updates from the **Division II and Division III** Playing Rules Oversight Panel on issues relating to Division II.

[8.4.3.2.2.1 unchanged.]

[8.4.3.3 through 8.4.3.11 unchanged.]

[8.4.4 unchanged.]

**C. Bylaws:** Amend 8.5, as follows:

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

### 8.5 **Division II and Division III** Playing Rules Oversight Panel.



8.5.1 Composition. The panel shall consist of 12 members, including six members ~~from Division I and three representatives~~ each from Divisions II and III. A single conference may not have more than one representative on the panel. **Individuals with only coaching responsibilities and no administrative responsibilities are not eligible to serve. The appointments of the panel shall be as followed:**

**(a) One appointed by the Division II Championships Committee;**

**(b) One appointed by the Division III Championships Committee;**

**(c) One appointed by the Division II Management Council;**

**(d) One appointed by the Division III Management Council;**

**(e) One appointed by the Division II Conference Commissioners Association;**

**(f) One reserved for a Division III conference commissioner and appointed by the Division III Nominating Committee; and**

**(g) The remaining three representatives from Division II and three representatives from Division III will be appointed at-large through the division's nominating committee process.**

~~8.5.2 Method of Selection. Three of the six Division I representatives shall be appointed by the Division I Council and one of those three must have experience working with playing rules. The remaining three shall be appointed by the Division I Collegiate Commissioners Association (CCA). Two of those three shall have experience working with playing rules. One of the three Divisions II and III representatives shall be appointed by the divisions' Championships Committees (these appointees must be current members of the divisions' Championship Committees). The remaining two representatives in Divisions II and III will be appointed at-large and one of the two per each division shall have experience working with playing rules.~~

~~8.5.2.1 Definition of "Working With Playing Rules." The following experience will be considered to be the equivalent of "working with playing rules:" officiating experience, previous service on a rules committee, previous service on a committee with responsibility for playing rules administration or coaching.~~

8.5.32 Term of Office. ~~At-large and Division I m~~**Members** of the panel will serve four-year terms. **Management Council or Championships Committee** appointments will serve for the duration of their ~~cabinet's~~**council's** or committee's term.

8.5.43 Duties. The panel shall:

(a) Oversee all ~~NCAA~~**Division II and Division III** playing rules committees. This includes approval of playing rules recommendations and oversight of other issues pertaining to playing rules;

[8.5.4-(b) through 8.5.4-(e) renumbered as 8.5.3-(b) through 8.5.3-(e) unchanged.]

(f) ~~Oversee~~ **Provide input on** the selection process for secretary-rules editors, ~~approve the selections of secretary-rules editors and review waiver requests for secretary-rules editor term limits.~~

8.5.54 Meetings. The **Division II and Division III** Playing Rules Oversight Panel shall meet three times annually (e.g., March, June, August) after the playing rules committees meetings for each season are complete.

[8.5.5 renumbered as 8.5.4, unchanged.]

8.5.65 Special Operating Rules.

8.5.65.1 Review Process. A recommendation from any rules committee shall be considered valid unless the **Division II and Division III** Playing Rules Oversight Panel determines that the recommendation harms the image of the games, creates an unsafe environment for student-athletes or places an unreasonable financial burden on the membership.

8.5.65.1.1 Rules Committee Involvement. The **Division II and Division III** Playing Rules Oversight Panel may request that playing rules committee chairs and/or secretary-rules editors present their case to the **Division II and Division III** Playing Rules Oversight Panel when proposed changes are controversial or unusually complicated.

**D. Bylaws:** Amend 8.7, as follows:

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

8.7 ~~Association-Wide~~**Common** Committees -- Rules Committees Without Championships Administration Responsibilities.

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

8.7.1.1 Method of Selection. ~~Each division's~~**The Division II and Division III** governance structure shall appoint members to serve on the rules committees without championships administration responsibilities. The **Division II and Division III** Playing Rules Oversight Panel shall ~~oversee~~**provide input on** the selection process for secretary-rules editors ~~and approve selections for those positions~~. The secretary-rules editor ~~may be reappointed but is limited to a term not to exceed eight years in length and~~ shall be a nonvoting member of the committee. The membership of each committee shall include representatives from ~~each of the Association's membership divisions~~**Division II and Division III**.

~~8.7.1.1.1 Waiver -- Secretary-Rules Editor Term Limit. Due to extenuating circumstances, the Playing Rules Oversight Panel may waive the secretary-rules editor's eight-year term limit; however, the term shall not be extended by more than four additional years.~~

8.7.1.2 Composition Requirements. At least 25 percent of the positions on each rules committee shall be filled by athletics directors, associate or assistant athletics directors, senior woman athletics administrators, individuals who are employed full-time as administrators by member conferences, or individuals who are employed both part-time as administrators by member conferences and full-time by member institutions. Further, at least 50 percent of the total positions on each rules committee shall be filled by coaching staff members. ~~In order for a district to be represented, at least five of its active members shall sponsor the sport involved on an intercollegiate basis~~**A conference may not have more than one representative on a rules committee, unless there are two or fewer conferences sponsoring the sport.**

8.7.1.3 Duties. Subject to the final authority of the **Division II and Division III** 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. Playing rules committees shall have the authority to permit rules experimentation in the nontraditional/nonchampionship season without the **Division II and Division III** Playing Rules Oversight Panel approval. Experimentation in the regular season shall be subject to the **Division II and Division III** Playing Rules Oversight Panel review.

8.7.1.4 Term of Office. Unless otherwise specified, a member of the committees listed in this bylaw shall be appointed for one four-year term. A former member may be appointed to an additional term after three years have elapsed. An individual who has served two terms on a committee may not serve further on that committee. A member's term of service shall commence on the first day of September following the member's election or appointment.

8.7.1.5 Cooperation With Other Organizations. A rules committee may cooperate with other national organizations in the development of common playing rules.

~~8.7.1.6 Operation. The Board of Governors shall ratify policies regarding the length, location and expenses of Association-wide committee meetings.~~

8.7.2 Baseball Rules Committee. The Baseball Rules Committee shall consist of nine members and shall be constituted as follows:

- (a) Four members ~~shall be from Division I, two members~~ shall be from Division II, ~~two~~**four** members shall be from Division III and an additional member shall be secretary-rules editor; and

[8.7.2-(b) unchanged.]

8.7.3 Basketball Rules Committee, Men's. The Men's Basketball Rules Committee shall consist of ~~13~~**nine** members and shall be constituted as follows:

- (a) ~~There shall be at least two representatives from each of the following four geographical regions: Districts 1 and 2; District 3; Districts 4 and 5; and Districts 6, 7 and 8;~~

- (~~b~~ **a**) Six**Four** members shall be from Division I, three members shall be from Division II (**one representative from each of the four championship super regions**), ~~three~~**four** members shall be from Division III and an additional member shall be secretary-rules editor; and

[8.7.3-(c) relettered as 8.7.3-(b), unchanged.]

8.7.4 Basketball Rules Committee, Women's. The Women's Basketball Rules Committee shall consist of ~~13~~**9** members and shall be constituted as follows:



~~(a) There shall be at least two representatives from each of the following four geographical regions: Districts 1 and 2; District 3; Districts 4 and 5; and Districts 6, 7 and 8;~~

~~(b) a~~ **SixFour** members ~~shall be from Division I, three members~~ shall be from Division II **(one representative from each of the four championship super regions)**, ~~threefour~~ members shall be from Division III and an additional member shall be secretary-rules editor; and

[8.7.4-(c) relettered as 8.7.4-(b), unchanged.]

8.7.5 Football Rules Committee. The Football Rules Committee shall consist of ~~13~~**nine** members and shall be constituted as follows:

~~(a) There shall be at least two representatives from each of the following four geographical regions: Districts 1 and 2; District 3; Districts 4 and 5; and Districts 6, 7 and 8;~~

~~(b) a~~ **SixFour** members ~~shall be from Division I, three members~~ shall be from Division II **(one representative from each of the four championship super regions)**, ~~threefour~~ members shall be from Division III and an additional member shall be secretary-rules editor; and

[8.7.5-(c) relettered as 8.7.5-(b), unchanged.]

8.7.6 Ice Hockey Rules Committee, Men's and Women's. The Men's and Women's Ice Hockey Rules Committee shall consist of ~~13~~**nine** members and shall be constituted as follows:

~~(a) Six members shall be from Division I, oneTwo members~~ shall be from a Division II institution that sponsors Division ~~I, II or III~~ men's or women's ice hockey, ~~four~~**six** members shall be from Division III, ~~one member shall be from Division II or III~~ and an additional member shall be secretary-rules editor;

~~(b) Within Divisions II and III, one-half of the members shall represent men's ice hockey interests and one-half of the members shall represent women's ice hockey interests; and~~

[8.7.6-(c) unchanged.]

8.7.7 Lacrosse Rules Committee, Men's. The Men's Lacrosse Rules Committee shall consist of nine members and shall be constituted as follows:

~~(a) Four members shall be from Division I, oneThree members~~ shall be from Division II and ~~three~~**five** members shall be from Division III. One additional member shall serve as a nonvoting secretary-rules editor; and

[8.7.7-(b) unchanged.]

8.7.8 Lacrosse Rules Committee, Women's. The Women's Lacrosse Rules Committee shall consist of nine members and shall be constituted as follows:

~~(a) Four members shall be from Division I, oneThree members~~ shall be from Division II and ~~three~~**five** members shall be from Division III. One additional member shall serve as a nonvoting secretary-rules editor; and

[8.7.8-(b) unchanged.]

8.7.9 Soccer Rules Committee, Men's and Women's. The Men's and Women's Soccer Rules Committee shall consist of nine members and shall be constituted as follows:

~~(a) Four members shall be from Division I, two members~~ shall be from Division II, ~~two~~**four** members shall be from Division III and an additional member shall be secretary-rules editor;

~~(b) Within each division~~**Divisions II and III**, one-half of the members shall represent men's soccer interests, and one-half of the members shall represent women's soccer interests; and

[8.7.9-(c) unchanged.]

8.7.10 Softball Rules Committee, Women's. The Women's Softball Rules Committee shall consist of nine members and shall be constituted as follows:

~~(a) Four members shall be from Division I, two members~~ shall be from Division II, ~~two~~**four** members shall be from Division III and an additional member shall be secretary-rules editor; and

[8.7.10-(b) unchanged.]

8.7.11 Swimming and Diving Rules Committee, Men's and Women's. The Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving Rules Committee shall consist of nine members and shall be constituted as follows:

- (a) Four members ~~shall be from Division I, two members~~ shall be from Division II, ~~two~~**four** members shall be from Division III and an additional member shall be a secretary-rules editor; and

[8.7.11-(b) unchanged.]

8.7.12 Track and Field Rules Committee, Men's and Women's. The Men's and Women's Track and Field Rules Committee shall consist of nine members and shall be constituted as follows:

- (a) Four members ~~shall be from Division I, two members~~ shall be from Division II, ~~two~~**four** members shall be from Division III and an additional member shall be a secretary-rules editor; and

[8.7.12-(b) unchanged.]

8.7.13 Volleyball Rules Committee, Women's. The Women's Volleyball Rules Committee shall consist of nine members and shall be constituted as follows:

- (a) Four members ~~shall be from Division I, two members~~ shall be from Division II, ~~two~~**four** members shall be from Division III and one additional member shall serve as nonvoting secretary-rules editor; and

[8.7.13-(b) unchanged.]

8.7.14 Wrestling Rules Committee, Men's. The Men's Wrestling Rules Committee shall consist of nine members and shall be constituted as follows:

- (a) Four members ~~shall be from Division I, two members~~ shall be from Division II, ~~two~~**four** members shall be from Division III and an additional member shall be a secretary-rules editor; and

[8.7.14-(b) unchanged.]

**E. Bylaws:** Amend 8.8, as follows:

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

8.8 Common Committees -- Committees With Playing Rules and Championships Administration Responsibilities.

[8.8.1 unchanged.]

8.8.1.1 Method of Selection. Each division's governance structure shall appoint members to serve on the committees with playing rules and championships administration responsibilities. The **Division II and Division III** Playing Rules Oversight Panel shall ~~oversee~~**provide input on** the selection process of secretary-rules editors ~~and approve the selections for those positions~~. The secretary-rules editor ~~may be reappointed but is limited to a term not to exceed eight years in length and~~ shall be a nonvoting member of the committee. The membership of each committee shall include representatives from ~~each of the Association's membership divisions~~**Division II and Division III**.

~~8.8.1.1.1 Waiver -- Secretary-Rules Editor Term Limit. Due to extenuating circumstances, the Playing Rules Oversight Panel may waive the secretary-rules editor's eight-year term limit; however, the term shall not be extended by more than four additional years.~~

[8.8.1.2 through 8.8.1.5 unchanged.]

8.8.1.5.1 Rules of Play. ~~Subject to the final authority of the Playing Rules Oversight Panel, e~~Each 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. **In Division II and Division III, each committee's actions shall be subject to the final authority of the Division II and Division III Playing Rules Oversight Panel.** Each committee shall have the authority to permit rules experimentation in the nontraditional/nonchampionship season ~~without the Playing Rules Oversight Panel approval~~. **For Division II and Division III, E**xperimentation in the regular season shall be subject to **Division II and Division III** Playing Rules Oversight Panel review.

[8.8.1.5.2 through 8.8.1.5.4 unchanged.]

[8.8.1.6 unchanged.]

[8.8.2 through 8.8.8 unchanged.]

**F. Bylaws:** Amend 18.6, as follows:

18.6 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.

18.6.1 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 **Division II and Division III** Playing Rules Oversight Panel (see Bylaw 18.6):

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

18.6.2 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 **Division II and Division III** Playing Rules Oversight Panel (see Bylaw 18.6):

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

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

**Effective Date:** September 1, 2025

**Additional Information:**

Given that Division I is revising its governance structure, including how playing rules will be administered, Divisions II and III are required to establish their own playing rules structures. Currently, playing rules are managed Association-wide through the NCAA Playing Rules Oversight Panel (PROP) that includes representatives from all three divisions and provides instances in which playing rules can be federated, if desired. That will change once Division I approves a new governance structure to accommodate the recently finalized settlement that impacts how the division operates going forward. Finally, the Division II Management Council will have oversight over the playing rules process/structure for the division.

**NO. NC-2026-23    INFRACTIONS PROGRAM – USE OF MULTIPLE RESOLUTION METHODS AND NOTIFICATION OF POSSIBILITY OF DIFFERING OUTCOMES**

**Intent:** To clarify that a single infractions case may be resolved through more than one resolution method; further, to specify that participating parties to an infractions case shall be notified of the possibility of differing outcomes should they elect to resolve allegations through different resolution methods.

**Bylaws:** Amend 19, as follows:

19 Infractions Program.

[19.01 through 19.7 unchanged.]

**19.7.7 Impact of Multiple Resolution Methods. When different resolution methods are appropriate for different parties in a single case, the enforcement staff shall notify the parties of the possibility for differing outcomes. Parties will submit written confirmation of understanding of the potential for differing outcomes with the submission of the case. Outcomes that differ across resolution methods in a single case do not support an argument on appeal that the Committee on Infractions erred.**

[19.8 through 19.9 unchanged.]

19.9.1 Summary Disposition ~~Election~~. In major infractions cases, ~~where~~ institutions, involved individuals and/or the enforcement staff ~~may elect to process~~ **reach agreement on the facts and violations but cannot reach agreement on the penalties, the participating parties may submit** the case ~~through the~~ **for resolution via** summary disposition ~~procedures specified below. The enforcement staff, involved individuals, if participating, and the institution must agree to use the summary disposition process. The institution, involved individuals or the enforcement staff may require, as a condition of agreement, that the parties jointly submit the proposed findings to the chair of the Committee on Infractions or their designee for a preliminary assessment of the appropriateness of the use of the summary disposition process.~~

19.9.2 Written Report. The ~~institution, involved individuals and the NCAA enforcement staff~~ **participating parties** shall submit a written report setting forth:

[19.9.2-(a) through 19.9.2-(e) unchanged.]

[19.9.3 through 19.9.4 unchanged.]

[19.10 unchanged.]

19.10.6.1 Approval When Not All Participating Parties Agree on Resolution. If some, but not all parties participating in the case agree on resolution of the case, the Committee on Infractions ~~shall not approve the negotiated resolution until the committee resolves the remainder of the case~~**may approve the negotiated resolution and release a decision in accordance with Bylaw 19.11.**

[19.10.7 unchanged.]

[19.11 through 19.14 unchanged.]

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

**Effective Date:** Immediate

**Additional Information:**

Current legislation provides three options for the resolution of major infractions cases: (1) a contested hearing; (2) summary disposition; and/or (3) negotiated resolution. Additionally, parties to the same infractions case may elect different resolution methods for their case. This proposal amends the legislation to reflect current practices and procedures. Further, when parties to the same infractions case elect different resolution methods, there is a possibility of differing outcomes. This proposal codifies the NCAA enforcement staff's existing practice of providing notice to parties that different resolution methods may result in differing outcomes. Parties would be required to submit written confirmation of their understanding of the potential for differing outcomes, and differing outcomes will not support an argument on appeal that the Committee on Infractions erred.

## 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 Management 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 Management Council 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 – James Phillips

<b>Div.</b>	<b>Name, Institution/Conference</b>	<b>Conference</b>	<b>Term Exp.</b>
FBS	Glenn Boyce, University of Mississippi	Southeastern Conference	AUG 2026
FBS	Ted Carter, The Ohio State University	Big Ten Conference	AUG 2027
FBS	Doug Girod, University of Kansas	Big 12 Conference	AUG 2027
FBS	James Phillips, Atlantic Coast Conference	Atlantic Coast Conference	AUG 2026
FBS	Josh Whitman, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign*	Big Ten Conference	JUN 2026
FCS	Javaune Adams-Gaston, Norfolk State University *	Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference	AUG 2026
I	Morgyn Wynne ^*		AUG 2026
II	Davaris Cheeks ^		AUG 2027
II	Colleen Perry Keith, Goldey-Beacom College	Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference	JAN 2026
II	Roberta Page, Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania*	Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference	JAN 2026
III	Greg Ricketts ^*		AUG 2026
III	Jim Troha, Juniata College	Landmark Conference	JAN 2026
III	Jason Verdugo, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire*	Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference	JAN 2026
Independent	Allison Feaster, VP of Team Operations, Boston Celtics		AUG 2027
Independent	Nadja West, Retired Lt. General		AUG 2026
	Charlie Baker, NCAA President*		

^Graduated student-athlete

\*Ex Officio

#### NCAA Staff Liaisons:

Terri Steeb Gronau, Vice President of Division II Governance and Member Services  
Stephanie Quigg, Managing Director of Governance and Member Services



## Division II Executive Board

Chair – Colleen Perry Keith

### TERM EXP

Roslyn Artis, Benedict College	JAN 2026
Tim Collins, Walsh University	JAN 2028
John Y. Gotanda, Hawaii Pacific University	JAN 2026
Edward Hjerpe, III, Independent	JAN 2027
Roberta Page, Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania	JAN 2026
Derrick Parker II, Grand Valley State University	JAN 2026
Larry Parkinson, Independent	JAN 2028
Colleen Perry Keith, Goldey-Beacom College	JAN 2026
Donna Price-Henry, The University of Virginia's College at Wise	JAN 2026
Steven Shirley, Minot State University	JAN 2026
Blake Thompson, Mississippi College	JAN 2028
Dwaun Warmack, Claflin University	JAN 2028
Haley White, Lincoln Memorial University	JAN 2026
Sandra Woodley, The University of Texas Permian Basin	JAN 2028

\* Ex Officio

#### NCAA Staff Liaisons:

Terri Steeb Gronau, Vice President of Division II Governance and Member Services  
Maritza S. Jones, Managing Director of Division II Governance and Member Services  
Ryan Jones, Director of Division II Governance and Member Services  
Angela Red, Director of Division II Governance and Member Services  
Jill Waddell, Coordinator of Division II Governance and Member Services



## Division II Management Council

Chair – Roberta Page

Femi Alao, Roberts Wesleyan University	JAN 2027
Jackie Armstrong, Point Loma Nazarene University	JAN 2029
Kristy Bayer, Rockhurst University	JAN 2028
Jenn Bell, Converse University	JAN 2029
Patrick Britz, South Atlantic Conference	JAN 2027
Bennett Cherry, California State University, San Marcos	JAN 2027
Carlin Chesick, Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference	JAN 2028
Peter Crabb, Northwest Nazarene University	JAN 2028
Jeremy Elliott, University of Alabama in Huntsville	JAN 2027
Jennifer Flowers, Winona State University	JAN 2029
Eric Gobiell, Assumption University	JAN 2029
Theresa Grosbach, Missouri Western State University	JAN 2027
Kim Hancock, Ferris State University	JAN 2027
Avery Hellmuth, Oklahoma Baptist University	JAN 2026
David Hansburg, Colorado School of Mines	JAN 2026
Jerry Haywood, Fort Valley State University	JAN 2028
Erin Lind, Northern Sun Intercollegiate Conference	JAN 2026
Cindy McKnight, Ursuline College	JAN 2027
Sandee Mott, Texas Woman's University	JAN 2026
Kristina Ortiz, Georgian Court University	JAN 2028
Roberta Page, Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania	JAN 2027
John 'Bo' Pagliasotti, Southwestern Oklahoma State University	JAN 2026
Sarah Ramey, The University of Texas Permian Basin	JAN 2027
Darius Satterfield, Elizabeth City State University	JAN 2026
Rubin Stevenson, Frostburg State University	JAN 2028
Christina Whetsel, Augusta University	JAN 2026
Vaughn Williams, Bentley University	JAN 2027

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