



121st Annual Convention

This educational resource presents all proposed amendments to NCAA Division II legislation that were properly submitted in accordance with the July 15 deadline (for membership-sponsored proposals) and September 1 deadline (for governance-sponsored proposals) in the NCAA legislative calendar. Each proposal is accompanied not only by the traditional statement of intent and proposed effective date, but also by a statement of rationale.

No new proposals may be submitted for the 2027 Convention inasmuch as the July 15 and September 1 deadlines have passed. Member institutions and conferences, as well as the NCAA Division II Executive Board, have until 5 p.m. Eastern time, Sunday, November 1, to submit amendments to these proposals. Such amendments-to-amendments may not increase the modification set forth in the printed proposal. Amendments-to-amendments submitted by the membership must have eight sponsors from active member institutions in Division II. In addition, amendments-to-amendments may be sponsored by at least one member conference (on behalf of eight or more of their active member institutions) in Division II. It should be noted that proposals that are withdrawn after the September 15 sponsor-modification deadline will be included in the Official Notice.

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

Request for Interpretation.

Member institutions and conferences are encouraged to request interpretations of the proposed legislation in this educational resource. Interpretations related to the proposed legislation in this educational resource may be requested via email to Angela Red (ared@ncaa.org) or Rachel Denton (rdenton@ncaa.org) not later than December 11, 2026. When submitting such a request, please include the proposal title in question, your institution's or conference's name and your title. All resulting interpretations will be made available to the delegates prior to the divisional business session held in conjunction with the Annual Convention.

Pursuant to NCAA Division II Bylaw 9.3.6.2.1 (official notice), the Official Notice for the 2027 Convention will be released not later than December 10, 2026. This publication will contain all Division II legislation for the Convention, including all amendments-to-amendments and resolutions submitted by the November 1 deadline.

2026-27 Legislative Calendar.

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

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

July 20-21: NCAA Division II Management Council Meeting. The Management Council considers legislative proposals that it may wish to sponsor. The Management Council also reviews the

amendments submitted by the membership in accordance with the July 15 deadline [see "July 15" above]. The Management Council reviews these proposals to determine committee review assignments.

August 5: NCAA Division II Executive Board Meeting. The Executive Board considers legislative proposals that it may wish to sponsor.

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

August 27: NCAA Division II Administrative Committee Videoconference. On behalf of the Executive Board and Management Council, the Administrative Committee reviews all amendments to be included on the 2027 Convention agenda for placement in the 2027 NCAA Convention Division II Official Notice.

September 1: Deadline for submission of amendments sponsored by the governance structure.

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

September 23: Posting of educational resources. This includes the educational resource that includes all Division II membership-sponsored proposals (as modified), all proposals sponsored by the governance structure and the 2027 Convention Division II Voiceover video.

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

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

November 1: Deadline for all resolutions and amendments-to-amendments to be received by the national office. No amendments-to-amendments sponsored by the membership may be submitted after this date. The Executive Board and the NCAA Board of Governors are authorized to submit

further amendments-to-amendments and resolutions at the Convention if it deems such action necessary.

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

January 13-15, 2027: NCAA Convention. All delegates have the opportunity to download the NCAA Events app prior to the Convention. The NCAA Events app contains the most up-to-date schedule and other helpful Convention information.

Division II Legislation Committee.

Chair – Ashley Grimm, Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania

Vice chair – Jennifer Mercurio, Florida Institute of Technology

Doug Blais, Southern New Hampshire University

Darcey Dorris, Central State University

Connor Fournier, Minnesota State University, Mankato

Lynn Griffin, Coker University

Shane Hansen, Northwestern Oklahoma State University

Drew Howard, Florida Southern College

Brittany Lauritsen, Bemidji State University

Laura Dahlby Nicolai, Great Northwest Athletic Conference

Deborah Rodgers, Tuskegee University

Suzanne Sanregret, Michigan Technological University

Melissa Thacker, Cameron University

2027 NCAA Division II Convention Proposals

Governance Sponsored Proposals

TITLE, EFFECTIVE DATE AND AFFECTED BYLAWS	INTENT STATEMENT RATIONALE STATEMENT <i>[in italics]</i>	SPONSORS
Title: NATIONAL COLLEGIATE CHAMPIONSHIPS -- WOMEN'S FLAG FOOTBALL Effective Date: Immediate Affected Bylaws: 7.02.2, 7.3.2.1, 8.8, 18.3 and 18.3.1	Intent: <i>In women's flag football, to establish a National Collegiate Championship; further, to establish a women's flag football committee.</i> Rationale: <i>Flag football has been an emerging sport in all three divisions since January 2026. In spring 2026, based on unofficial data, 40 NCAA member institutions met minimum sports sponsorship requirements, putting the sport at the legislative required threshold of 40 varsity programs to be considered for National Collegiate championship status. Additionally, more than 120 member institutions have indicated their intent to sponsor flag football during the 2026-27 academic year, demonstrating continued growth. Sponsorship of flag football as an NCAA championship is expected to further accelerate interest and participation. The NCAA's continued focus and investment in expanding women's sports, investing in championship opportunities, and strengthening the NCAA's media rights agreements make this an opportune time to elevate a new women's sport. According to the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS), youth and K-12 participation have grown significantly, with girls' high school flag football experiencing a 60% year-over-year growth. NFHS also reported that there were approximately 69,000 reported high school participants in 2024-25. Flag football attracts a varied recruiting pool of student-athletes and has relatively low barriers to entry. Flag football will be an Olympic sport in 2028, and a professional league is expected to begin operations soon.</i>	NCAA Division II Management Council (NCAA Committee on Access, Opportunity, and Impact).
Title: FINANCIAL AID -- MAXIMUM INSTITUTIONAL GRANT-IN-AID LIMITATIONS BY SPORT -- EQUIVALENCY SPORTS -- MAXIMUM EQUIVALENCY LIMITS -- MEN'S SPORTS -- OVERALL LIMIT -- ELIMINATION OF OVERALL LIMIT Effective Date: August 1, 2027 Affected Bylaws: 15.4.2.1.1.1	Intent: <i>In all men's sports other than football and basketball, to eliminate the limit of 60 total awards in any academic year.</i> Rationale: <i>Following the adoption of the new constitution at the 2022 Convention, the NCAA Division II President's Council, now named the NCAA Division II Executive Board, established the NCAA Division II Implementation Committee, which was charged with starting and leading the work to review the division's rules and policies and make recommendations to ensure that changes were consistent with the principles agreed upon in the new constitution. The NCAA Division II Legislation Committee was tasked with reviewing various bylaws, which included Bylaw 15. Currently, an institution may not provide more than 60 total awards in all men's sports other than</i>	NCAA Division II Executive Board [Management Council (Legislation Committee)].

TITLE, EFFECTIVE DATE AND AFFECTED BYLAWS	INTENT STATEMENT RATIONALE STATEMENT [in italics]	SPONSORS
	<i>football and basketball in any academic year. This proposal does not change team equivalency limits and institutions will remain responsible for adhering to Title IX requirements. Finally, Division I previously had an overall equivalency limit in Division I men's sports, but that limit was eliminated in 1985.</i>	
Title: DIVISION II CHAMPIONSHIPS -- MEN'S VOLLEYBALL Effective Date: Immediate for establishing the committee and August 1, 2028, to allow the first NCAA Division II Men's Volleyball Championship to occur in spring 2029. Affected Bylaws: Figure 8-2, 17, 17.1.4, 17.28, 17.28.1.1, 17.28.1.2, 17.28.1.3, 17.28.1.4, 17.28.1.5.3, 17.28.1.6, 17.28.1.6.1, 18.3, 18.3.1 and 18.3.2	Intent: <i>In men's volleyball, to establish a Division II Men's Volleyball Championship; further, to establish an NCAA Division II Men's Volleyball Committee.</i> Rationale: <i>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 men's volleyball, there is a strong preference for competing in and winning a Division II championship as opposed to a National Collegiate championship. As of the 2025-26 academic year, 36 Division II institutions sponsored men's volleyball, which triggered a review of whether to establish a Division II Men's Volleyball Championship. The immediate effective date for the formation of a Division II men's volleyball committee will permit the men's volleyball committee to begin its work in January 2027 to prepare for the first Division II championship in spring 2029.</i>	NCAA Division II Executive Board [Management Council (Championships Committee)].
Title: ELIGIBILITY -- GENERAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS -- NAME, IMAGE AND LIKENESS -- INSTITUTIONAL INVOLVEMENT IN STUDENT-ATHLETE NAME, IMAGE AND LIKENESS OPPORTUNITIES Effective Date: August 1, 2027 Affected Bylaws: 14.1.5 and 14.1.5.3	Intent: <i>To amend the name, image and likeness legislation, as specified.</i> Rationale: <i>Currently, an institution may not communicate with a name, image and likeness (NIL) entity regarding specific student-athlete requests or demands for compensation or encourage the NIL entity to fulfill a student-athlete's request. Further, an institution's athletics department staff members may not assist in matching specific student-athletes with third-party NIL opportunities. Allowing more institutional involvement in student-athlete NIL opportunities will enhance the student-athlete experience by allowing institutions to directly connect student-athletes with available NIL opportunities and provide student-athletes with more support as they navigate potential NIL opportunities. It will remain impermissible for an institution to enter into an NIL agreement or provide payment to a student-athlete. It would also remain impermissible for an institutional athletics staff member to be employed by an NIL entity.</i>	NCAA Division II Management Council (Legislation Committee).

TITLE, EFFECTIVE DATE AND AFFECTED BYLAWS	INTENT STATEMENT RATIONALE STATEMENT [in italics]	SPONSORS
Title: PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS -- GENERAL PLAYING-SEASON REGULATIONS -- USE OF LOGOS ON EQUIPMENT, UNIFORMS AND APPAREL Effective Date: August 1, 2027 Affected Bylaws: 17.1.10 and 17.1.10.2	Intent: <i>To permit the placement of additional commercial or nonprofit trademarks or logos on a student-athlete's athletics equipment, uniforms and apparel in non-NCAA championship athletics competition and pregame and postgame activities, as specified.</i> Rationale: <i>The landscape of intercollegiate athletics has undergone a profound transformation in recent years, driven largely by the opportunities for student-athletes to benefit from their name, image and likeness. This shift has opened the door to new commercial opportunities for student-athletes and institutions alike. Amending these rules would not only reflect the evolving nature of intercollegiate athletics but also provide tangible benefits to athletics programs, student-athletes and the institutions they represent. This proposal applies appropriate limitations on the number and placement of commercial trademarks or logos, striking a balance between tradition and innovation, offering financial and developmental benefits while maintaining the core values of intercollegiate athletics.</i>	NCAA Division II Management Council (Legislation Committee).

Membership-Sponsored Proposals

TITLE, EFFECTIVE DATE AND AFFECTED BYLAWS	INTENT STATEMENT RATIONALE STATEMENT [in italics]	SPONSORS
Title: PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS -- BASKETBALL -- FIRST PERMISSIBLE CONTEST Effective Date: August 1, 2027 Affected Bylaws: 17.4.3	Intent: <i>In basketball, to specify that a member institution shall not play its first contest (game or scrimmage) with outside competition before the Friday preceding the Monday that is 17 weeks before the Division II men's and women's championship selection dates.</i> Rationale: <i>Under current legislation an institution shall not play its first contest (game or scrimmage) with outside competition in basketball before the Monday that is 17 weeks before the Division II men's and women's championship selection date, with a few exceptions. This change will provide institutions with the opportunity to start the basketball season on Friday in order to participate in region challenge events which are played that first week (Friday - Saturday - Sunday).</i>	Mid-America Intercollegiate Athletics Association and Great Lakes Valley Conference.