NCAA Division III Legislative Process

PRESIDENTS COUNCIL
The top leadership group in Division III, the Presidents Council is composed of presidents and chancellors and establishes and directs general policy.
- Establishes a strategic plan for Division III.
- Implements policies adopted by the NCAA Board of Governors.
- Can sponsor legislative proposals that are considered by Division III members each year at the NCAA Convention.
- Can adopt some administrative bylaws and regulations without approval of full membership.
- Approves the Division III budget.
- Approves championships regulations.
- Orders proposals for voting at the Convention business session.

23 Members**:
- 23 Members (chair and vice chair)

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE
Take action on issues that arise between meetings of the Presidents Council and Management Council.

6 Members:
- 2 - Presidents Council (chair and vice chair)
- 1 - Management Council (chair, vice chair, and most-tenured president)

MANAGEMENT COUNCIL
The Management Council is composed primarily of individuals who have day-to-day knowledge of athletics operations, including faculty athletics representatives—those who participate in activities related to athletics.
- Implements policies adopted by the Presidents Council and Board of Governors.
- Recommends policy-oriented legislation proposed for sponsorship by the Presidents Council.
- Makes interpretations of Division III bylaws.
- Makes recommendations to the Presidents Council related to Division III.
- Reviews appeals by members of decisions made with the Division III governance structure.
- Sponsors proposals for membership vote to be considered by members at the NCAA Convention.

23 Members***:
- 10 - Directors of athletics or senior women administrators
- 2 - Presidents or chancellors
- 2 - College athletics department administrators
- 2 - Faculty athletics representatives
- 1 - from Student-Athlete Advisory Committee

CONVENTION

Proposal votes

Start

It all starts here, with the schools and athletics conferences that make up Division III. The idea-generator might be an athletics director interested in allowing football players to autograph protective gear during spring practices, a faculty athletics representative who wants the division to limit how many hours student-athletes can travel for competition or a coach who thinks scrimmage rules are too restrictive. No matter its origin, the proposal begins life as a discussion topic in one or more Division III committees.

Some legislation is proposed by the members themselves. In order to submit a proposal, 20 active Division III schools or two conferences must sign as sponsors. If those thresholds are met, the proposal will reach the Convention floor no matter what position the division’s committees and Councils take.

** Each Division III championship sport has a committee made up of coaches and athletics administrators with knowledge of that sport.

*** Effective Aug. 1, 2024, all multisport conferences will be represented on councils. The number of non-student-athlete council members will depend on the number of active multisport Division III conferences.

* DIII personnel is a member school or conference administrator, faculty athletics representative or other person who works daily as a member institution or conference.