

2019 NCAA Convention Division III Legislative Proposals Chart

Proposal Number	Title	Source	Effective Date	Intent	Rationale
BOG-2019-1	ORGANIZATION – BOARD OF GOVERNORS – INDEPENDENT MEMBERS	NCAA Board of Governors (Commission on College Basketball Association-Wide Issues Topical Working Group)	08/01/2019	To amend legislation related to the NCAA Board of Governors, as follows: (1) Increase the number of members from 20 to 25 by adding five independent voting members; (2) Define an independent member; (3) Specify that an independent member shall be appointed to a three-year term that is renewable for an additional three-year term, and that an independent member who has served two terms shall not serve further; (4) Specify that the Board of Governors shall issue a call for nominations when a vacancy for an independent member occurs; and (5) Specify that the Board of Governors shall serve as the final authority for the selection of and additional duties assigned to independent members.	The Commission on College Basketball recommended that the NCAA restructure its highest governance body, the Board of Governors, to include at least five independent members with the experience, stature and objectivity to assist the NCAA in re-establishing itself as an effective, respected leader and regulator of college sports. One independent member will also serve on the Board of Governors Executive Committee. The current Board of Governors includes 16 institutional presidents or chancellors representing each division as voting members, the chairs of the Division I Council and the Division II and III Management Councils as ex-officio nonvoting members, and the NCAA president (who may vote in case of a tie). Like public companies, major nonprofit associations typically include outside board members to provide objectivity, relevant experience, perspective and wisdom. Board members with those qualities will provide valuable insight to the NCAA as it works towards the restoration of public confidence in college basketball and college sports in general. The Board of Governors will issue a formal call for nominations to fill vacancies; appoint the Board of Governors Executive Committee as the nominating committee; and serve as the final authority for the selection of and additional duties assigned to independent members.
2019-2	PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS – FOOTBALL -- ESTABLISHING PRESEASON START DATE 23 DAYS BEFORE THE INSTITUTION'S FIRST CONTEST	NCAA Division III Presidents Council [Management Council (Playing and Practice Seasons Subcommittee)].	08/01/2019	To amend the football preseason legislation as follows: (1) Establish the first permissible practice date as 23 days before the institution's first regular season contest; and (2) Prohibit physical athletically related activity one day each week of the preseason following the five-day acclimatization period.	The Interassociation Consensus: Year-Round Football Practice Contact for College Student-Athletes Recommendations include the discontinuation of traditional two-a-day contact practices. Pursuant to those recommendations, the Division III Management Council adopted noncontroversial legislation in April 2017 to eliminate multiple on-field traditional contact practices on the same day. The noncontroversial legislation, however, did not change the calculation method for determining the first permissible preseason practice date, which assumes the permissibility of two-a-day practices. Consequently, the current calculation method could produce inequitable start dates and lost practice opportunities. This proposal seeks to rectify those potential inequities by providing consistent practice opportunities for all football sponsoring institutions. Institutions could start 23 days before their first contest, resulting in up to 21 practice days, while still providing student-athletes with two days off from physical athletically related activity during the preseason (During the off days, film review, team meetings, leadership and entertainment activities are permissible). This proposal maintains the health and safety provisions outlined in the Interassociation Recommendations and provides more equitable practice opportunities.
2019-2-1	PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS – FOOTBALL -- ESTABLISHING	NCAA Division III Presidents Council (Management	08/01/2019	To establish that the first-permissible practice date for an institution that conducts its first contest on the Thursday of the opening weekend	This amendment-to-amendment will maintain the current requirement that if an institution conducts its first contest on the Thursday of opening weekend, it counts back from the following Friday. This is consistent with the rationale of

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	PRESEASON START DATE 23 DAYS BEFORE THE INSTITUTION'S FIRST CONTEST- EXCEPTION THURSDAY CONTEST	Council).		is 23 days before the following Friday.	the original proposal by ensuring an equitable start date without unnecessarily expanding the preseason.
2019-3	PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS -- FIELD HOCKEY AND SOCCER PRESEASON -- ESTABLISHING A THREE-DAY ACCLIMATIZATION PERIOD	City University of New York Athletic Conference and New Jersey Athletic Conference	08/01/2019	To amend preseason practice in the sports of field hockey and soccer as follows: (1) to add three additional days to the preseason practice period; (2) to require an acclimatization period during the first three days of the preseason practice period, during which a team would be limited to one single practice session no longer than three hours in duration, followed by a one-hour walk through, with a minimum of three hours of rest required in between the two activities; and (3) to mandate that on every preseason practice day following the three-day acclimatization period, a team would be limited to conducting no more than two on-field practices per day and a maximum of six hours of athletically related activity total during the two practices combined, with a minimum of three hours of rest required in between practice sessions.	Under current NCAA legislation, the preseason practice time that is allotted in the sports of field hockey and soccer is insufficient in regard to the time needed to properly prepare student-athletes for intercollegiate competition. Due to the time constraints that coaches are faced with in the preseason practice period, programs are forced to engage in strenuous practice activities, including multiple training sessions often in extreme conditions. The additional three practice opportunities will provide programs extra time to prepare for competition, resulting in a reduced workload during each practice day in the preseason. In addition, the implementation of an acclimatization period for health and safety reasons will allow student-athletes who are returning from summer break to adjust to a return to strenuous play in potentially extreme temperatures.
2019-4	MEMBERSHIP -- CONDITIONS AND OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBERSHIP -- STUDENT-ATHLETE GRADUATION RATE REPORTING	NCAA Division III Presidents Council [Management Council (Diversity and Inclusion Working Group)]	August 1, 2019 [First report is due June 1, 2020]	To include as a condition and obligation of Division III active membership, that an institution submit on an annual basis student-athlete graduation rate reporting data for the academic success rate in a form prescribed by the Management Council; further to establish that annual championships eligibility is contingent upon submission of the student-athlete graduation rate data.	Currently, institutions are required to annually submit student-body enrollment and graduation information to the NCAA. Voluntary reporting of Division III student-athlete graduation rates during the last eight years has annually reflected lower rates for male African-American student-athletes, and in particular football players, than their student-athlete peers, as well as rates lower than the student-body. This proposal allows for the private identification and communication of student-athlete graduation rates at each member school. A mandatory collection also provides the data to develop Division III evidence-based best practices to improve the retention and graduation of all student-athletes, including male African-Americans and football student-athletes. Institution-specific rates will not be publicized; rather, institutions will be able to view their student-athlete graduation rates privately in the NCAA Institutional Performance Program (IPP) for assessment and bench-marking. In addition, a mandated division-wide graduation-rate submission program also allows for the better promotion of Division III's overall positive academic success story.
2019-5	AMATEURISM -- PRE-ENROLLMENT	NCAA Division III Management	08/01/2019	To permit individuals to accept educational expenses (e.g. tuition, fees, room, board and	Current legislation precludes prospective student-athletes from receiving educational expenses for secondary education when athletics participation is

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	EDUCATIONAL EXPENSES	Council (Interpretations and Legislation Committee).		books) prior to collegiate enrollment from any individual or entity other than an agent, professional sports team/organization or representative of an institution's athletics interests, provided such expenses are disbursed directly through the recipient's educational institution (e.g., preparatory school, high school).	considered. This standard is more restrictive than the standard that is imposed on current student-athletes who are permitted to receive such assistance in recognition of high school athletics leadership, ability, participation or performance from an established and continuing program. It seems inconsistent that prospective student-athletes should be held to a higher standard than current student-athletes as it relates to the receipt of educational expenses to attend a secondary institution. This proposal would allow for consistency in application between prospective student-athletes and current student-athletes.
2019-6	ELIGIBILITY – FINAL TERM BEFORE EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING REQUIREMENT	NCAA Division III Management Council (Interpretations and Legislation Committee).	08/01/2019	To extend the existing final term exception to the full-time enrollment requirement to include student-athletes that are carrying (for credit) all courses necessary to complete degree requirements but have an outstanding experiential learning requirement.	This proposal provides flexibility for student-athletes who are unable to satisfy an experiential learning requirement in the same term in which they complete the other credits necessary for graduation. The proposal would save student-athletes from incurring the additional expense of taking courses unnecessary for their degree solely for the purpose of playing their final season.
2019-7	RECRUITING – SOCIAL MEDIA AND PUBLICITY – EXCEPTIONS – CONNECT WITH PROSPECTIVE STUDENT-ATHLETES	NCAA Division III Management Council (Interpretations and Legislation Committee).	Immediate	To establish an exception to the restrictions on electronic transmissions and publicity before commitment legislation to permit athletics department staff members to (1) connect with (e.g., "friend," "follow," etc.) prospective student-athletes on social media platforms, and (2) take actions (e.g., "like," "favorite," republish, etc.) on social media platforms that indicate approval of content generated by users of the platforms other than institutional staff members or representatives of an institution's athletics interests.	This proposal provides continuity among the three divisions regarding public social media communication, thereby minimizing confusion for prospective student-athletes and ensuring equitable access for Division III coaches. First, the proposal allows prospective student-athletes to receive electronic notifications automatically generated by the social media platform (e.g., the platform notifies a prospective student-athlete that he or she has received a friend request); coaches may not include any additional language in either the request or the reply. Next, the proposal permits coaches to respond to content produced by prospective student-athletes. By limiting coaches' initial social media correspondence to a response, this proposal allows prospective student-athletes to control a level of privacy and the extent to which they would like to engage in the recruiting process on social media platforms. Under current legislation, it is difficult to monitor all coaches and their social media activities (e.g., "likes," "favorites," republishing, etc.). This proposal creates an exception to publicity related to recruiting on social media platforms and attempts to maintain pace with the frequent creation and/or enhancement of social media applications. The immediate effective date will provide relief from the current application of the legislation without detrimentally impacting prospective student-athlete well-being.