

2020 NCAA Convention Division III Legislative Proposals Chart

Proposal Number	Title	Source	Effective Date	Intent	Rationale
2020-1	NCAA MEMBERSHIP -- ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP AND MEMBER CONFERENCE -- CONDITIONS AND OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBERSHIP -- ATHLETICS DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION DESIGNEE	NCAA Division III Presidents Council [Management Council (Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee)].	08/01/2020	To specify that an active member institution or conference shall designate an athletics diversity and inclusion designee to be the primary contact and conduit for diversity and inclusion-related information.	The designation of an athletics diversity and inclusion designee symbolically and practically represents the Association's recognition of inclusion as a core value. It also supports the Presidential Pledge and Commitment to Promoting Diversity and Gender Equity in Intercollegiate Athletics. It is the responsibility of each member institution to establish and maintain an environment that values cultural diversity and gender equity as acknowledged in Constitution 2.2.2 (Cultural Diversity and Gender Equity). While the NCAA national office provides valuable resources and programming to support the membership's efforts toward creating and maintaining inclusive environments, often institutional and conference personnel are not aware of available resources or opportunities. This proposal seeks to create a network of colleagues who will serve as the conduit for consistent and thorough dissemination of diversity and inclusion-related information between conference offices, campuses, the athletics departments and the NCAA. The staff member given the designation may be either internal or external to the athletics department. The contact information for the designated staff member will be entered on the institution or conference's NCAA Sports Sponsorship and Demographics Form.
2020-2	DIVISION MEMBERSHIP -- APPLICATION PROCESS -- PROVISIONAL INSTITUTION -- REDUCE WAITING PERIOD FROM FOUR YEARS TO THREE YEARS PLUS AN EXPLORATORY YEAR	American Collegiate Athletic Association; American Southwest Conference; and USA South Athletic Conference	08/01/2020	To amend legislation related to the Division III provisional process as follows: (1) For non-NCAA members, reduce the provisional process from four to three years; (2) Expect that process will continue to require an exploratory year; (3) While a waiver of exploratory membership will remain in place, there will no longer be a waiver during the provisional process; (4) Specify that if an institution is unable to gain full active membership within this time frame, there is a one-time opportunity to repeat a year in question, through recommendation of Membership Committee.	Division III has in place, strategies to limit membership growth. Those limiters have included a four-institution cap on applications of new members annually, an imposed moratorium to suspend applications, a five-year application process, and a number of reports and actions to move from one year to the next. While these steps have been successful in limiting growth, one inadvertent consequence has been the impression that we in Division III are exclusive. Many current enrollment-driven institutions find it extremely challenging to commit to a division that provides no access to NCAA national championships for an entire generation of students. Prospective members not currently associated with the NCAA need additional time to develop a full understanding of administrative and cultural expectations of our organization. To this end, a three-year waiting period is proposed for provisional members. This adjustment also allows for a flexible process should our organization need to quickly modify our approach to membership. If the institution fails to meet legislated expectations of membership, consistent with current legislation, they would have a one-time opportunity to repeat a year in the process.
2020-3	DIVISION MEMBERSHIP -- APPLICATION	American Collegiate Athletic Association; American Southwest Conference and USA South Athletic	08/01/2020	To amend legislation related to the Division III reclassifying process as follows: (1) For current NCAA members	Division III has strategies in place to manage membership growth. Those limits have included a four-institution cap on applications of new members annually, an imposed moratorium to suspend applications, a five-year

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	PROCESS -- RECLASSIFYING INSTITUTION -- REDUCE WAITING PERIOD FROM FOUR YEARS TO THREE YEARS	Conference		reclassifying to Division III, reduce the number of years in the reclassifying process from four to three years; (2) The process will eliminate the one-year exploratory membership requirement; (3) Specify that if an institution is unable to gain full active membership within this time frame, there is a one-time opportunity to repeat a year in question, through recommendation of Membership Committee.	application process, and a number of reports and actions to move from one year to the next. While these steps have been successful in limiting growth, one inadvertent consequence has been the impression that we in Division III are exclusive. Many current enrollment driven institutions find it challenging to commit to a division that provides no access to NCAA national championships and/or grant funding for an entire generation of students. This proposal accepts that current NCAA Divisions I or II members reclassifying understand the philosophy, history and culture of the NCAA and are committed to compliance as outlined in the Division III operating manual. Therefore, this proposal reduces the time to gain full membership by eliminating the exploratory year and one reclassifying year. This adjustment also allows for a flexible process should our organization need to quickly modify our approach to membership. If the institution fails to meet legislated expectations of membership, consistent with current legislation, they would have a one-time opportunity to repeat a year in the process.
2020-4	AWARDS AND BENEFITS -- HOUSING AND MEALS -- EXCEPTIONS -- SNACKS AND NUTRITIONAL SUPPLEMENTS INCIDENTAL TO PARTICIPATION	Alvernia University; Berry College; East Texas Baptist University; Emory University; Farmingdale State College; Howard Payne University; Hardin-Simmons University; Knox College; LeTourneau University; Loras College; Maine Maritime Academy; McMurry University; Moravian College; Salve Regina University; Swarthmore College; Sweet Briar College; University of Dubuque; University of Lynchburg; University of Mary Hardin-Baylor; University of Texas at Dallas; University of Wisconsin-Whitewater; and Wilmington College (Ohio).	08/01/2020	To specify that an institution may provide snacks and permissible nutritional supplements to student-athletes as a benefit incidental to participation in intercollegiate athletics.	In addition to meals benefits allowed under current legislation, this proposal will permit an institution to provide snacks and permissible nutritional supplements to all-student-athletes at its discretion as a benefit incidental to participation in intercollegiate athletics. Such measures will help ensure that all student-athletes' nutritional needs are met incidental to practice and other activities. This proposal is intended to provide flexibility to meet the student-athletes' nutritional needs and to alleviate administrative burdens related to accounting for such benefits. Nutrition is not an issue of competitive advantage, but rather an issue of student-athlete health and safety. This proposal allows institutions to more fully provide for overall well-being of Division III student-athletes.
2020-5	AWARDS AND BENEFITS -- EXPENSES PROVIDED BY THE INSTITUTION FOR PRACTICE AND COMPETITION -- PERMISSIBLE PRACTICE EXPENSES -- EXCEPTIONS FOR GOLF	American Rivers Conference and Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference.	Immediate	To allow an institution to provide practice expenses in the sports of Golf and Swimming and Diving during an official vacation period regardless of location.	Student-athletes should have the ability to prepare under the right conditions without having to worry about fulfilling an artificial competition requirement. Our conferences have seen multiple violations of this legislation over the years in the sports of golf and swimming & diving. Golf for institutions in colder climates faces several challenges. Unlike some sports that routinely take trips to warmer climates during official vacation periods, golf and swimming and diving student-athletes' best preparation for competition is enhanced significantly by outdoor participation. Golf and swimming & diving competition throughout the playing season is

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	AND SWIMMING AND DIVING				predominantly in multi-team events. Standalone dual matches are uncommon. Regardless, both formats have been difficult for our conferences' members to organize during vacation-period trips. Finally, many institutions artificially manufacture competitions against outside competition (e.g., an alumni team that might only consist of recreational golfers or swimmers) or a joint practice with outside competition where a head-to-head scoring component isn't even required. This proposal has an immediate effective date so women's and men's golf teams can use the exception this spring.
2020-5-1	AWARDS AND BENEFITS -- EXPENSES PROVIDED BY THE INSTITUTION FOR PRACTICE AND COMPETITION -- PERMISSIBLE PRACTICE EXPENSES -- EXCEPTION FOR GOLF	American Rivers Conference and Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference	Immediate	To allow an institution to provide practice expenses in the sport of Golf during an official vacation period regardless of location.	The cosponsors have reconsidered the original exception of swimming and diving because those student-athletes are able to prepare adequately with indoor training whereas golf student-athletes are not. Swimming and diving is no longer included in the proposal.
2020-6	ATHLETICALLY RELATED ACTIVITIES -- LEADERSHIP PROGRAMMING OUT-OF-SEASON INVOLVING ATHLETICS RELATED INFORMATION AND CONTENT (GENERAL IN NATURE)	North Coast Athletic Conference and Upper Midwest Athletic Conference.	08/01/2020	To allow student-athletes serving in a team leadership capacity to voluntarily participate in leadership programming involving general, athletics-related content/information outside of the declared playing season with any member of an institution's coaching staff, provided the content of the programming does not include any: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Field, floor, or on-court activity; b) Setting up offensive or defensive alignment; c) Chalk talk; d) Lecture on or discussion of strategy related to the specific-sport of the student-athlete(s); e) Activities using equipment related to the sport; f) Discussion or review of game films, motion pictures or videotapes related to the sport; or g) Any other athletically related activity. 	Leadership development is inherent to the NCAA Division III philosophy. Large-group leadership opportunities hold value; however, powerful growth happens in small, experience-based settings. Allowing coaches to work with team leaders is the most effective means of mentoring and experiential learning. NCAA-supported and facilitated leadership programs affirm that small group and individualized approaches are more effective than large-group programming for student-athletes. <p>Additionally, with increased attention and awareness of mental health concerns among student-athletes, additional engagement between coaches and student-athletes strengthens the support networks student-athletes build during their season and could assist in identifying mental health concerns to ensure appropriate resources and support are provided out-of-season to student-athletes.</p> <p>Intercollegiate athletics plays an integral role in enrollment management strategies at Division III institutions. The retention of student-athletes is critical in the success of not only intercollegiate athletics programs, but the entire institution for many Division III members. With the transfer rate continuing to increase in Division III, allowing additional time for student-athletes and coaches to discuss leadership development-related content will positively impact the overall experience and growth for student-athletes as well as institutional retention rates.</p>

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					Consistent leadership programming would allow student-athletes opportunities to expand their leadership capacities as part of their holistic experience.
2020-7	DIVISION MEMBERSHIP -- PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS -- EMERGING SPORTS FOR WOMEN -- WOMEN'S EQUESTRIAN	Adrian College; Albion College; Alfred State College; Alvernia University; Berry College; Bethany College (West Virginia); Bridgewater State University; East Texas Baptist University; Emory University; Morrisville State College; Nazareth College; Roger Williams University; Randolph-Macon College; Salve Regina University; State University of New York at Geneseo; State University of New York at New Paltz; Sweet Briar College; University of Lynchburg; Wentworth Institute of Technology; Wesleyan College; and Wilson College.	08/01/2020	To add Equestrian as an emerging sport for women and establish legislation related to playing and practice seasons and membership.	Significant support exists for equestrian to be added as an NCAA sport, moving from the emerging sport for women list, including support from institutions and national governing bodies. It is expected that the addition of women's equestrian will produce a significant increase in participation opportunities for women, as well as provide the membership with a new option for sponsorship of a women's sport. Division I and Division II already have this legislation.
2020-8	DIVISION MEMBERSHIP, PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS -- EMERGING SPORTS FOR WOMEN -- ACROBATICS AND TUMBLING	NCAA Division III Management Council (Committee on Women's Athletics).	08/01/2020	To add acrobatics and tumbling as a emerging sport for women and establish legislation related to playing and practice seasons and membership.	The sport's potential for growth and support from the sport's national governing body supports this proposal. In addition, acrobatics and tumbling leadership demonstrated and articulated how the experience of an acrobatics and tumbling student-athlete is comparable to the experience of an NCAA sport student-athlete and how acrobatics and tumbling student-athletes are fully integrated into athletics departments. Further, the existing organizational structure and bylaws support efforts to integrate NCAA values and legislation into current operations. Finally, there is a commitment at the collegiate level to providing robust participation opportunities during the regular season and post season, including the national championships.
2020-9	DIVISION MEMBERSHIP, PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS -- EMERGING SPORTS FOR WOMEN -- WOMEN'S WRESTLING	NCAA Division III Management Council (Committee on Women's Athletics).	08/01/2020	To add women's wrestling as an emerging sport for women and establish legislation related to playing and practice seasons and membership.	The continued growth in high school girls wrestling and the number of collegiate institutions sponsoring the sport support this proposal. In addition, the sport is relatively inexpensive to sponsor. Finally, there is a commitment at the collegiate level to increase participation opportunities for a diverse population of student-athletes (e.g., race and ethnicity, national, socio-economic status and body size and type), as well as to increase coaching opportunities for a diverse population of female coaches in intercollegiate wrestling.
2020-10	NCAA MEMBERSHIP -- MEMBER CONFERENCE --	NCAA Division III Presidents Council [Management Council (Membership Committee)].	08/01/2020	To specify that institutions in years three and four of the NCAA Division III provisional and reclassifying	Proposal No. 2016-9 modified how provisional schools can be utilized towards earning a conference's automatic qualification bid. That proposal was narrowly focused and did not modify the language related

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	ELIGIBILITY -- COMPOSITION OF CONFERENCE-- PROVISIONAL AND RECLASSIFYING MEMBERS AS CORE MEMBERS			membership process may count towards the requisite seven institutions necessary to comprise a conference provided there are at least four active member institutions.	to institutions in years three and four of the new membership process for determining the composition of a conference. The result is that a provisional and/or reclassifying institution in years three or year four of the new member process can count for the automatic qualification waiting period, but not for the seven core members needed to form a conference. Further, conference instability may be lessened if provisional and/or reclassifying institutions maybe used by a conference in meeting its minimum number of member institutions.
2020-11	DIVISION MEMBERSHIP -- SPORT CLASSIFIED IN DIVISION I -- APPLYING DIVISION I LEGISLATION	NCAA Division III Management Council (Membership Committee).	Immediate	To permit Division III member institutions with Division I sports to apply all Division I legislation, except Bylaw 15 (financial aid), to the Division I sports.	The current legislation requires Division III member institutions with Division I sports to apply the rules of both divisions, or the more stringent rule if both divisions have a rule concerning the same issue. It is often difficult for institutions to distinguish which of the rules is more stringent and tracking the bylaws for two divisions can burden an institution's administrative staff. Currently, ten Division III institutions sponsor a Division I sport. The number of affected schools will not increase, as Division I legislation currently prohibits additional institutions from becoming multidivisional. Since this is primarily intended to reduce confusion and ease burden, an immediate effective date is appropriate.
R-2020-12	RESOLUTION -- SOFTBALL/BASEBALL NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENT TIMING	Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference, Commonwealth Coast Conference, Great Northeast Athletic Conference, Michigan Intercol. Ath. Assn. and North Eastern Athletic Conference			