



2022 NCAA Convention Division III Legislative Proposals
Question and Answer Guide
Approved November 17, 2021, by the
Division III Interpretations and Legislation Committee

Please note this is the first edition of the 2022 NCAA Convention Division III Legislative Proposals Question and Answer Guide. Future editions may be developed as questions are presented to the NCAA staff or the NCAA Division III Interpretations and Legislation Committee. On release of subsequent editions of this guide, newly approved questions and answers will be shaded in gray.

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Understanding How to Read the 2022 NCAA Convention Division III Official Notice.

1. **How to read the NCAA Division III legislative proposals.** When reviewing legislative proposals, it is important to note that:

- The letters and words that appear in ~~*italics and strikethrough*~~ are letters and words in the current NCAA Division III rule that would be deleted with the adoption of the proposal;
- The letters and words that appear in **bold face and underlined** are letters and words that would be added with the adoption of the proposal; and
- The letters and words that appear in normal text are letters and words in the current Division III rule that would remain unchanged with the adoption of the proposal.

2. **What appears in the white pages of the NCAA Division III Official Notice?**

The white pages of the NCAA Division III Official Notice contain the legislative proposals that will be voted on individually at the NCAA Division III business session. Anticipated questions and answers related to the proposals appearing in the white pages are contained in this question-and-answer guide.

3. **What is the difference between the Presidents Council grouping and the General grouping of proposals?**

The NCAA Division III Presidents Council has determined that it will focus primarily on those national issues in Division III athletics that prompt widespread concern among Division III chancellors or presidents.

The Presidents Council has identified four proposals that it believes is of particular interest to Division III chancellors or presidents and has included those proposals in the Presidents Council grouping. There are five proposals included in the general grouping for the 2022 convention. All proposals have been identified by the Presidents Council for a roll-call vote.

4. **What appears in the blue pages of the Official Notice?**

The blue pages of the Official Notice contain three types of legislative proposals. The proposals appearing in the blue pages have already been adopted by the authority of the NCAA Division III Management Council or Presidents Council. These proposals have an immediate effective date from the time of adoption. These groups of proposals will be ratified by the NCAA Division III membership during the Division III business session. If a delegate objects to the incorporation of any one of these legislative proposals, that objection should be raised prior to the ratification of the package of proposals. (It is

preferred that any delegate intending to raise an objection also inform a member of the NCAA academic and membership affairs staff of that intent before the Division III business session.) The Division III membership would then vote on the proposal in question via separate action.

The questions and answers document does not address proposals that are included in the blue pages. The blue pages, however, include an "additional information" section with each proposal that provides additional clarification regarding the proposal.

The three types of legislation contained within the blue pages are listed below:

- Interpretations to be incorporated in the NCAA Division III Manual. These interpretations have already been accepted by the membership and the only issue that is before the membership is whether they should be set forth in the Division III Manual.
- Noncontroversial legislation adopted by the Management Council. These proposals constitute all noncontroversial legislative changes the Management Council or Presidents Council has adopted during the past year. The Councils are permitted to adopt such legislation, if it is necessary, to promote the normal and orderly administration of the Association's legislation.
- Modifications of wording. These proposals are modifications to current legislation that have been shown to be consistent with the intent of the membership in adopting the current legislation. To approve such a change, the Management Council has determined that sufficient documentation and testimony exists to establish clearly that the original wording of the legislation requires modification to better reflect the original intent. There are no modifications of wording to be approved this year.

NCAA Division III Proposal No. 2022-1 (2-2)

Title: LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY AND PROCESS -- AMENDMENT PROCESS -- EMERGENCY LEGISLATION

Effective Date: Immediate.

Source: NCAA Division III Presidents Council [Management Council (Interpretations and Legislation Committee)].

Intent: To permit the Division III Presidents Council to sponsor and adopt emergency legislation under defined circumstances.

General application.

Question No. 1: What process is currently used to enact legislation between conventions?

Answer: Management or Presidents Council may use the noncontroversial legislative amendment process in the interim between conventions. That process allows the Management or Presidents Council, by a three-fourth majority, to adopt noncontroversial legislative amendments which are clearly necessary to promote the normal and orderly administration of the division's legislation.

Question No. 2: If this proposal is adopted, what will change?

Answer: This proposal will allow the Presidents Council, by a three-fourths majority, to adopt emergency legislation to address the following:

1. When the NCAA must respond to or comply with a court, alternative dispute (ARD), or government order; or
2. When it's appropriate to limit or avoid NCAA liability; or
3. 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 the Division III membership.

Question No. 3: Will this proposal eliminate any of the other legislative processes?

Answer: No.

Question No. 4: Would the membership review emergency legislation?

Answer: Yes. Like noncontroversial legislation, any emergency legislation adopted by the Presidents Council must be ratified by the membership at its next regularly scheduled Convention.

Question No. 5: Do Division I and/or Division II have the authority to adopt emergency legislation?

Answer: Yes. Both Divisions I (Council) and II (Presidents Council) have the ability to adopt emergency legislation.

Question No. 6: Can the Administrative Committee adopt emergency legislation on behalf of the Presidents Council?

Answer: Yes. The Administrative Committee may act between meetings of the Presidents Council to conduct business necessary to promote the normal and orderly administration of Division III. However, the action must be ratified by the Presidents Council.

NCAA Division III Proposal No. 2022-2 (2-3)

Title: AMATEURISM -- AMATEUR STATUS -- REQUIRING ELIGIBILITY CENTER CERTIFY AMATEUR STATUS OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENT-ATHLETES

Effective Date: For student-athletes enrolling on or after August 1, 2023.

Source: Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference; Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletics Conference; and Little East Conference.

Intent: To utilize the NCAA Eligibility Center in certifying the amateur status of international student-athletes to provide more consistency and efficiency to the certification process.

General application.

Question No. 1: How is the amateur status and pre-enrollment participation for international student-athletes enrolling in a Division III institution currently determined?

Answer: Division III institutions are responsible for determining the amateur and pre-enrollment participation eligibility for all student-athletes enrolling in a Division III institution.

Question No. 2: What would change if this proposal is adopted?

Answer: The determination of an international student-athlete's amateurism and pre-enrollment participation status would be conducted by the NCAA Eligibility Center.

Question No. 3: Who is considered an international student-athlete for purpose of this proposal?

Answer: An international student is defined as any student who attended a secondary or post-secondary school outside the United States, participated in athletics outside the United States or whose permanent residence is outside the United States.

A student-athlete who is on a U.S. team that travels internationally (e.g., Canada) for an amateur tournament is not considered an international student-athlete.

Question No. 4: When will this proposal become effective?

Answer: If adopted, this proposal would become effective for international prospective student-athletes enrolling in a Division III institution on or after August 1, 2023.

Question No. 5: Would this proposal apply to only first year students?

Answer: No. This proposal would apply to any international prospective student-athlete initially enrolling at a Division III institution on or after August 1, 2023. This would include both first year students and students transferring to a Division III institution for the first time.

Students transferring from Division I and II institutions and enrolling in a Division III institution on or after August 1, 2023, will need to be reviewed under Division III legislation if they do not have a Division III amateurism certification decision issued by the NCAA Eligibility Center. This is consistent with inter-divisional transfers between Divisions I and II.

An international student-athlete who enrolled full-time prior to August 1, 2023, at a Division III institution will not need to have their amateur and pre-enrollment participation status determined by the Eligibility Center.

Question No. 6: Will the Eligibility Center charge a fee to review and determine the amateur and pre-enrollment status of an international prospective student-athlete?

Answer: Yes. The Eligibility Center will charge an international prospective student-athletes a fee to provide an amateurism certification. That fee is still being determined by the Eligibility Center.

If an international prospective student-athlete has a full certification account from Divisions I or II, the student will not have to pay any additional fees. That fee is a one-time only fee.

Question No. 7: Does the Eligibility Center offer any waiver of the fee?

Answer: An international prospective student-athlete who has only attended international secondary school(s) is not eligible for a waiver of the fee charged by the Eligibility Center.

Question No. 8: May an institution pay the fee for a prospective student athlete?

Answer: No. The fee charged by the Eligibility Center may only be paid by the international prospective student-athlete, the student's family, or legal guardian.

Question No. 9: What is the process for the Eligibility Center to render an amateurism certification?

Answer: The international prospective student-athlete will register with the Eligibility Center by creating an amateurism only account or a full certification account. After registering, the international prospective student-athlete will receive a 10-digit NCAA ID number. The international prospective student-athlete will then submit all required information and documentation. Once all required information and documentation has been submitted, the NCAA Eligibility Center will certify the amateur and pre-enrollment participation status to the date of the international prospective student-athlete's request for final amateurism certification or until initial full-time enrollment at an NCAA school, whichever occurs earlier.

As coaches start the recruiting process, your institution enters the international prospective student-athlete's 10-digit NCAA ID number to your institution's institutional request list (IRL). By adding the prospective student-athlete to the IRL, your institution is requesting the NCAA Eligibility Center start the amateurism review. Please note that a student can be on multiple IRLs but needs a minimum of one to be put in line for review.

Question No. 10: How long does the amateurism review take?

Answer: After the student's file is complete and ready to process, the NCAA Eligibility Center conducts amateurism reviews within 10 business days. Processing times are shorter than this for most of the year. Additionally, any file that is ready to process may receive an urgent review request. With the urgent tag, the review occurs within 1-2 business days.

Question No. 11: Is this process different for an international prospective student athlete who is considering enrolling as a Division I or II institution?

Answer: The amateurism certification process is the same regardless of division, but each division's amateurism review will be based on division-specific legislation. International students attending a Division I or II institution may also be required to have an academic certification, which is not needed for Division III.

Question No. 12 What is the process to appeal any determination made by the Eligibility Center?

Answer: Like Division I and II amateurism certifications, the NCAA Eligibility Center has processes in place to reconsider and resolve factual discrepancies. Additionally, the current legislative relief waiver and student-athlete reinstatement processes can still be utilized by an institution, if applicable.

NCAA Division III Proposal No. 2022-3 (2-4)

Title: ELIGIBILITY -- CRITERIA FOR DETERMINING SEASON OF ELIGIBILITY -- MINIMUM AMOUNT OF PARTICIPATION -- ONLY COMPETITION TRIGGERING USE OF A SEASON

Effective Date: August 1, 2022.

Source: Atlantic East Conference, Empire 8 and Liberty League.

Intent: To specify that a student-athlete would be charged with a season of eligibility if the student-athlete competes at any point during the traditional season.

General application.

Question No. 1: What is the current rule regarding how Division III determines when a student-athlete uses a season of eligibility?

Answer: In Division III, a student-athlete is charged with one of their four permissible seasons of eligibility in a sport if the student-athlete practices or competes during or after the first contest in the traditional segment of the playing season after the student-athlete begins participating. (Student-athlete may also use a season of eligibility if they compete during the non-traditional segment in a sport other than baseball, field hockey, lacrosse, soccer, softball and volleyball.)

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

Answer: A student-athlete will only be charged with one of their four permissible seasons of eligibility in a sport when the student-athlete competes in intercollegiate competition. If a student-athlete only practices with a team and does not compete against outside competition, that student-athlete would not use a season of eligibility. This includes competition in the nontraditional segment for sports other than baseball, field hockey, lacrosse, soccer, softball and volleyball).

Question No 3: Will the current exceptions that allow competition without using a season of eligibility still apply?

Answer: Yes. The current exceptions will still exist, including allowing student-athletes to compete in the nontraditional segment in the sports of baseball, field hockey, lacrosse, soccer, softball and volleyball without using a season.

Question No. 4: Will the number of seasons of eligibility change?

Answer: No. A student-athlete will still be limited to four seasons per sport.

Question No 5. Will the number of semesters/quarters change?

Answer: No. This proposal will not change the maximum number of full-time semesters (10) or quarters (15) a student-athlete has to use their seasons of eligibility.

Question No. 6. Will student-athletes be able to retroactively apply this rule to preserve previously used seasons of eligibility?

Answer: No. The effective date of this proposal is August 1, 2022. It applies to activities that occur at any time on or after August 1, 2022. There is no retroactive application of this proposal to student-athletes who used seasons of eligibility for practicing in the traditional segment before August 1, 2022.

NCAA Division III Proposal No. 2022-4 (2-8)

Title: DIVISION MEMBERSHIP -- SPORT CLASSIFIED IN DIVISION I -- APPLYING DIVISION I FINANCIAL AID LEGISLATION

Effective Date: Immediate.

Source: Empire 8, Liberty League and State University of New York Athletic Conference.

Intent: To permit Division III member institutions with Division I sports to apply all Division I legislation, including Bylaw 15 (financial aid), to the Division I sports.

General application.

Question No. 1: What is the current rule regarding athletically related financial aid for Division III institutions with one or more sports classified in Division I?

Answer: Under the current rule a Division III member institution, which has one or more sports classified in Division I, may follow Division I legislation in all areas, except financial aid. For financial aid, institutions must follow Division III regulations unless it satisfies the exception set forth in Bylaw 20.7.1.1.1. That exception requires an institution to have been granted a waiver of Division III legislation by the NCAA Division III Membership Committee prior to January 1, 2004.

Question No. 2: If adopted, how would this proposal change the current rule?

Answer: If this proposal is adopted, a member institution that has one or more sports classified in Division I may choose to apply Division I legislation to those sports in all areas, including financial aid.

Question No. 3: If adopted, would Division III institutions that sponsor Division I sports be required to provide athletically related financial aid?

Answer: No. The proposal permits but does not require an institution to offer athletically related financial aid to any of its Division I student-athletes.

Question No. 4: How many Division III institutions sponsor Division I sports and how many currently award athletically related financial aid?

Answer: Ten, with five currently awarding athletically related financial aid.

Question No. 5: Can Division III institutions reclassify any of their sports to Division I?

Answer: Currently, Division I legislation prohibits any additional Division II or III institutions from reclassifying an existing sport to Division I. Similarly, Division I institutions are not permitted to sponsor sports at the Division III level.

The only current exception is for a Division III institution that sponsors a Division I sport for one gender to petition to add it for the other gender. All of the sports at Division III institutions that are classified as Division I were classified as such during the 2010-11 academic year, when the Division I prohibition was adopted.

Question No. 6: May a Division I sport student-athlete who accepts athletically related financial aid also compete in a Division III sport during the same academic year?

Answer: No. Per Bylaw 20.7.1.1.1.1, if an institution awards athletically related financial aid to a student-athlete in a Division I sport in a given academic year, that student-athlete may not also participate in a Division III sport at the institution during that same academic year.

NCAA Division III Proposal No. 2022-5 (2-9)

Title: EXECUTIVE REGULATIONS -- SELECTION OF TEAMS AND INDIVIDUALS FOR CHAMPIONSHIPS PARTICIPATION -- REDUCE THE CONFERENCE AUTOMATIC QUALIFICATION MINIMUM TO SIX INSTITUTIONS

Effective Date: August 1, 2022.

Source: Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference, Atlantic East Conference, Empire 8, Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference, and Massachusetts State Collegiate Athletic Conference.

Intent: To reduce the minimum number of conference members required for automatic qualification for Division III championships from seven to six.

General application.

Question No. 1: What is the current rule regarding the number of conference members required for automatic qualification (AQ) for Division III championships?

Answer: While there are several conditions to both obtain and maintain an AQ, the current rule requires a minimum threshold of seven conference members sponsoring the sport on a varsity intercollegiate basis. This proposal would not change any of the conditions to obtain and maintain the AQ except for reducing the minimum threshold to six conference members that sponsor the sport.

Question No. 2: Will this proposal permit a conference to have more than one AQ?

Answer: No. Each conference would still be limited to one AQ.

Question No. 3: Will this proposal also apply to single sport conferences?

Answer: Yes. The minimum threshold of six conference members required for the AQ would also apply to single sport conferences.

Question No. 4: Will this proposal change the minimum number of institutions required to form a multisport conference?

Answer: No, the minimum number of institutions required to form a multisport conference would remain at seven.

Question No. 5: Will this proposal change the minimum number of institutions required to form a single sport conference?

Answer: No. The minimum number of institutions required to form a single sport conference will remain unchanged. (Proposal No. 2022-6 would decrease the number of institutions to form a single sport conference from seven to six.)

Question No. 6: Does this proposal change the grace period (Bylaw 31.3.3.1.3) for falling below the minimum required institutions?

Answer: No.

Question No. 7: Does this proposal change the minimum required four core institutions to satisfy the grace period (Bylaw 31.3.3.1.3)?

Answer: No. For the grace period to apply under both the current rule and the proposed rule, a conference would have to maintain at least four core members.

Question No. 8: Will this proposal expand the number of institutions included in the NCAA championships fields?

Answer: No. The principles of establishing bracket sizes in Bylaw 31.3.1.1, including access ratios, will remain unchanged.

NCAA Division III Proposal No. 2022-6 (2-1)

Title: NCAA MEMBERSHIP -- MEMBER CONFERENCE -- SINGLE-SPORT CONFERENCE -- REDUCE NUMBER OF MEMBER INSTITUTIONS

Effective Date: August 1, 2022.

Source: Empire 8 and Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference.

Intent: To reduce the minimum number of member institutions required to form a single-sport conference from seven to six.

General application.

Question No. 1: What is a single-sport conference?

Answer: A single-sport conference is an NCAA Division III member conference that sponsors only one sport. A conference that sponsors one sport, but sponsors both men's and women's competition in that sport, is not a single-sport conference.

Question No 2: What is the current rule regarding composition of a single sport conference?

Answer: Currently, conference status may be granted to a single-sport conference provided it has seven NCAA member institutions. A single-sport conference may use provisional and reclassifying member institutions in year three of the membership process to satisfy the seven-institution minimum, provided there are at least four active member institutions.

Question No. 3: If adopted, how would the proposal change the current rule?

Answer: If adopted, the minimum number of member institutions required to form a single-sport conference will be reduced from seven to six. Four of those would still have to be active members.

Question No. 4: Will this proposal be considered by the membership at the 2022 Convention before or after Proposal No. 2022-5 which reduces the number of conference members necessary for automatic qualification?

Answer: According to the order of voting, this proposal will be considered after Proposal No.2022-5.

Question No. 5: Will this proposal change if the proposal that reduces the number of institutions needed for a conference's automatic qualification is not adopted by the membership at the 2022 Convention?

Answer: No. The membership will still have the opportunity to vote on this proposal.

NCAA Division III Proposal No. 2022-7 (2-7)

Title: PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS -- FOOTBALL -- PRACTICE MODIFICATIONS

Effective Date: Immediate.

Source: NCAA Division III Management Council (Interpretations and Legislation Committee [The Football Concussion Task Force Working Group]).

Intent: To specify permissible contact opportunities and equipment use for the football preseason, regular season and spring period.

I. Preseason.

Question No. 1: How does the proposal change the preseason practice period?

Answer: The proposal would change the preseason practice period in the following three ways: (1) Increase the acclimatization period from five to six days; (2) Establish a maximum of eight practices in full pads; and (3) Establish contact limitations of no more than 75 minutes of contact per day and no more than two consecutive days of full contact.

Question No. 2: Does this proposal change when an institution may start practice?

Answer: No.

Question No. 3: What is considered the preseason practice period?

Answer: The preseason period is from the first permissible practice date to the first contest.

Question No. 4: How is the acclimatization period structured under the proposal?

Answer: Days one through four are the same as the current model.

Day five: Student-athletes are only allowed to wear helmets and shoulder pads as opposed to full pads. The other conditions associated with day five under the current model (e.g., one practice and one walk-through, three-hour recovery time, etc.) remain unchanged.

Day six: Student-athletes are permitted to participate in full pads. The day is subject to the same conditions as set forth for days two through five under the current model (e.g., one practice and one walk-through, three-hour recovery time, etc.).

Question No. 5: Does the full padded practice that occurs during the acclimatization period count as one of the eight allowable full padded practices?

Answer: Yes.

Question No. 6: What are the contact limitations during the preseason?

Answer: Full- contact may only occur on full pad days. Student-athletes may not engage in more than 75 minutes of contact (full or 'thud') in any one practice. Full contact may not occur on more than two consecutive days.

Question No. 7: How is full contact and thud contact defined per this proposal?

Answer: Full contact is any contact that involves tackling to the ground.

"Thud" contact is contact that occurs at competitive speed but remains above the waist and players stay on their feet.

Question No. 8: How does the 75-minute-contact limitation apply?

Answer: The 75-minute limitation is a per student limitation. For example, linemen can engage in contact drills during the first 75 minutes of practice while the backs can engage in contact drills the last 75 minutes of practice. The 75 minutes applies to both full and thud contact.

Question No. 9: Are the two allowable preseason scrimmages/exhibitions/joint practices considered part of the preseason and subject to the contact and equipment limitations?

Answer: Yes and No. They are considered part of the preseason and would count as one of the eight allowable full padded practices. These activities would also count when considering no more than two consecutive days of full contact.

However, the two allowable preseason scrimmages/exhibitions/joint practices are not subject to the 75-minute contact limitations.

II. Regular season.

Question No. 10: How does this proposal change the regular season?

Answer: Currently there are no legislated restrictions regarding what equipment a student-athlete may wear during a regular season practice. This proposal would limit an institution to two full padded practices per week during the regular season. If an institution has a bye week, then it is permitted up to three practices in full pads during that bye week. Institutions may only engage in full contact during full padded practices.

III. Spring period.

Question No. 11: How does this proposal change the current spring period?

Answer: This proposal would allow student-athletes to wear helmets during all 16 days of the spring period. On four of the 16 days student-athletes would be permitted to also wear shoulder pads and engage in drills focused on teaching appropriate tackling and blocking.

For the 12 days of helmets only, there is no change in what constitutes a permissible activity.

During the four days of shoulder pads, student-athletes would be permitted to engage in limited drills focused on teaching blocking and tackling. The focus is on 1 v. 1 blocking and tackling drills, but there may not be tackling to the ground. Any equipment (e.g., tackling dummies, blocking sled) deemed necessary to teach appropriate blocking and tackling is allowed during these four days.

Timing of when an institution may conduct the 16 days is not changed by this proposal.

Question No.12: When can an institution conduct the four days of shoulder pads?

Answer: An institution may conduct the four days of shoulder pads after its fourth day of athletically related activities. The institution has the discretion to conduct the shoulder pad practices on four consecutive practices or may spread them out through the remaining twelve practices.

NCAA Division III Proposal No. 2022-8 (2-5)

Title: DIVISION MEMBERSHIP -- ESTABLISHING EQUESTRIAN AS AN EMERGING SPORT FOR WOMEN

Effective Date: August 1, 2022.

Source: Massachusetts State Collegiate Athletic Conference and Southern Athletic Association.

Intent: To add equestrian as an emerging sport for women and to establish legislation related to playing and practicing seasons and membership.

General application.

Question No. 1: What is an emerging sport?

Answer: An emerging sport is a women's sport recognized by the NCAA that is intended to help schools provide more athletics opportunities for women and see if the sport grows to championship-level. The NCAA Committee on Women's Athletics is charged with identifying and managing progress of emerging sports for women. Additional information about the NCAA emerging sports for women program, including the policies and procedures may be located through the following link: <http://www.ncaa.org/about/resources/inclusion/emerging-sports-women>

Question No. 2: How long will a sport remain an emerging sport?

Answer: NCAA bylaws require that emerging sports must gain championship status in 10 years or show steady progress toward that goal to remain on the list.

Question No. 3: How many institutions must sponsor women's equestrian as a sport for it to gain championship status?

Answer: Because women's equestrian is an individual sport, at least 40 institutions across all three divisions must sponsor women's equestrian in order to establish a National Collegiate Championship. For a Division III championship, at least 40 Division III member institutions must sponsor the sport.

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

Answer: Institutions may use emerging sports to help meet the NCAA membership minimum sports-sponsorship requirements provided minimum contest and participant requirements are met.

Question No. 5: If the institution has a varsity women's equestrian team, will that team need to apply NCAA Division III legislation?

Answer: Yes. If women's equestrian becomes an emerging sport for women and is recognized by the institution as a varsity team, the institution must apply the constitution, bylaws, interpretations and other legislation of the Association to the institution's varsity women's equestrian team.

Question No. 6: Are all three divisions considering proposals to add women's equestrian to the emerging sport list for women?

Answer: No. Divisions I and II already recognize equestrian as an emerging sport for women.

Question No. 7: Have the playing rules and competition format been developed for women's equestrian?

Answer: Currently, the NCAA does not create or administer playing rules or the competition format for an emerging sport until there is an established National Collegiate Championship or division championship for that sport.

During the period before playing rules are created or administered by the NCAA, programs are not required to follow a specific competition format.

Question No. 8: What is the proposed championship segment for women's equestrian?

Answer: Spring.

Question No. 9: What would be the length of the playing and practice season for women's equestrian?

Answer: The length of the playing and practice season would be 19 weeks, in accordance with the period limitations in Bylaw 17.1.1.3.3.4 (Golf, Rowing and Tennis).

Question No. 10: What are the maximum dates of competition for the team and the student-athlete?

Answer: A member institution must limit its total playing schedule with outside competition in women's equestrian to 16 dates of competition for the team and individual student-athletes.

Question No. 11: What are the minimum number of participants and contests required for an institution to use equestrian for sport sponsorship?

Answer: An institution must complete at least four contests against programs from four-year, degree-granting collegiate institutions. In addition, the institution must have at least a minimum of six participants in each contest that is used to count toward meeting the minimum-contests requirements.

Question No. 12: May an institution use contests against a collegiate club team to meet minimum sports sponsorship requirements?

Answer: Yes, for the sport of women's equestrian, an institution may count up to three contests against collegiate club teams toward meeting minimum sport sponsorship requirements.

Mixed teams.

Question No 13: What is a mixed team?

Answer: A mixed team is a varsity intercollegiate sports team on which at least one male and one female student-athlete competes.

Question No. 14: How would mixed equestrian teams be treated for sports sponsorship purposes?

Answer: Mixed equestrian teams would be considered men's teams for sports sponsorship purposes.

Question No 15: If an institution's varsity equestrian team is considered a mixed team does the team need to follow DIII legislation?

Answer: No.

Question No. 16: Does an institution's varsity equestrian mixed team, count toward the minimum programs necessary for establishing a Division III or National Collegiate Championship?

Answers: No. Only a varsity women's equestrian team (as opposed to a mixed team) may be used to meet the minimum number of programs needed to sponsor a championship in the sport.

Prize, awards and benefits.

Question No. 17: If the proposal is adopted could an institution pay riding fees and stable fees?

Answer: Yes. These types of expenses would be permissible practice and competition expenses for the sport under Bylaw 16 and are not considered financial aid for purposes of NCAA bylaws.

Question No. 18: In the sport of women's equestrian, is it permissible for a student-athlete to accept prize money or expenses based on performance in an event?

Answer: Only during the institution's summer vacation period (and outside the declared playing and practice season) may student-athletes, in individual sports, accept prize money not to exceed actual and necessary expenses based on place, finish or performance in an open athletics event (an event that is not invitation only) [Bylaw 12.1.5.1]. Further, such prize money may be provided only by the sponsor of the open event. actual and necessary expenses include necessary travel, lodging and meals, entry fees, and apparel and equipment for the specific event. The calculation of actual and necessary expenses shall not include the expenses for anyone other than the student-athlete (e.g., parent).

Question No. 19: May a women's equestrian student-athlete receive an award for participating in a competition?

Answer: Any award (e.g., saddle) received by a student-athlete for participating in any competition while not representing the institution must conform to the regulations of the recognized amateur organization that governs the competition.

Any award received by the student-athlete for participation in competition while representing their institution must comply with the limitations in Bylaw 16.1.

Question No. 20: Would women's equestrian student-athletes be permitted to accept prize money awarded in disciplines in which the performance of the student-athlete's horse is judged?

Answer: No. NCAA legislation does not distinguish equestrian disciplines in which the rider is judged from those disciplines in which the horse is judged. Therefore, prize money won in any equestrian discipline is attributable to the student-athlete and subject to the parameters of Bylaws 12.1.5.1 and

12.1.5.2, regardless of whether the performance of the student-athlete, the student-athlete's horse, or both is being judged.

Non-varsity program.

Question No. 21: If the proposal is adopted, will Division III institutions be required to sponsor equestrian as a varsity sport?

Answer: No. Institutions maintain autonomy regarding the sports it sponsors at the varsity level.

Question No.: If a school chooses to have a varsity equestrian team, can it also sponsor a separate club team?

Answer: Yes.

Question No. 22: If an institution has a women's equestrian club team, will that team need to apply NCAA Division III legislation?

Answer: No. The team is not required to adhere to Division III legislation until the institution recognizes the team as a varsity team.

Question No. 23: If an institution sponsors both a varsity equestrian program and a separate non-varsity program that participates in non-NCAA competition, can varsity competitors compete with the non-varsity program?

Answer: No. A student-athlete may compete individually in an outside event, but the institution could not provide expenses for that participation, nor could the student-athlete use any apparel or equipment from the institution.

Question No. 24: If an institution sponsors both a non-varsity program and a varsity program, can a student-athlete transition from the non-varsity program to the varsity team?

Answer: Yes, but the student-athlete would have to be certified (e.g., amateurism, seasons of participation, academic eligibility) in the same manner as any other student-athlete.

Coaches.

Question No. 25: If the proposal is adopted, would coaches of varsity women's equestrian programs be able to teach private riding lessons to prospective student-athletes?

Answer: Yes. A coach of a varsity women's equestrian program would be able to teach private lessons to prospective student-athletes provided the criteria in Bylaw 11.3.2 is followed.

Question No 26: Could the coach run a business to board horses belonging to student-athletes?

Answer: Yes. Provided the opportunity to board a horse is available to the general public and the student-athlete pays the going rate charged to the general public.

Question No. 27: If an institution sponsors both a club team and a varsity team, can an individual be a coach for both teams?

Answer: Yes. (See response to question number 23 regarding prohibition of varsity student-athletes participating on the club team.)

NCAA Division III Proposal No. 2022-9 (2-6)

Title: PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS -- CONFIRMATION OF SICKLE CELL TRAIT STATUS -- ELIMINATION OF WAIVER

Effective Date: August 1, 2022.

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

Intent: To eliminate the option for a student-athlete to sign a waiver declining the sickle cell solubility test.

General application.

Question No. 1: What is the current legislation?

Answer: Under the current legislation, student-athletes beginning their initial year of eligibility and students who are trying out for a team are required to undergo a medical examination which must include a sickle cell solubility test, unless documented results of a prior test are provided, or the prospective student-athlete or student declines the test and signs a written release.

Question No. 2: How does this proposal change the current legislation?

Answer: If adopted, student-athletes in their initial season of eligibility and currently enrolled students would no longer have the option to sign a waiver declining confirmation of sickle cell trait status.

Question No. 3: If adopted, how would the effective date apply?

Answer: The proposal's effective date is August 1, 2022, and it is not retroactive. Specifically, an individual who previously signed a waiver declining confirmation of sickle cell trait status before August 1, 2022, would not be required to provide documented sickle cell solubility test results prior to participation.

Question No. 4: If adopted, would an individual be able to provide documented results of a prior test or must every individual undergo sickle cell solubility testing prior to participation?

Answer: An individual may still provide documented results of a prior test. If they do, a sickle cell solubility test is not required.

Question No. 5: Does the legislation apply to male practice players that intend to practice with a women's team?

Answer: Yes.

Question No. 6: Does a positive sickle cell solubility test render an individual ineligible to participate in intercollegiate athletics?

Answer: No. It is intended that test information be used by institutional and other applicable medical staff to provide more individualized medical monitoring and care.

Question No. 7: Is an institution required to report sickle cell solubility test results to the NCAA?

Answer: No.

Question No. 8: Do all states and U.S. territories require testing for sickle cell trait in newborns?

Answer: Yes. Additionally, many other countries also require testing for sickle cell trait in newborns.

Question No. 9: Where can I find additional information about sickle cell trait?

Answer: Additional information and educational materials about the sickle cell trait are available for student-athletes, coaches and athletics personnel at www.ncaa.org/sport-science-institute/sickle-cell-trait.