



**2025 NCAA Convention Division III Legislative Proposals**  
**Question and Answer Guide**  
**Approved November 27, 2024, by the**  
**Division III Interpretations and Legislation Committee**

Please note this is the first edition of the 2025 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 2025 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 one proposal, that it believes is of particular interest to Division III chancellors or presidents and has included that proposal in the Presidents Council grouping. There are three proposals included in the general grouping for the 2024 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 four 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 four types of legislation contained within the blue pages are listed below:

- Emergency legislation adopted by Division III Presidents Council. The Presidents Council by at least three-fourths majority of its members present and voting may adopt emergency legislation that shall be effective immediately in the following situations: (a) When the NCAA must respond to or comply with a court, alternative dispute resolution (ADR) or government order; (b) When the Presidents Council deems it appropriate to limit or avoid NCAA liability as a result of litigation, ADR or governmental proceedings; or (c) 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 because of the delay in its effective date. There are no emergency legislative proposals to be approved this year.
- Interpretations to be incorporated in the 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. There is one interpretation to be incorporated to be approved this year.
- Noncontroversial legislation adopted by the Division III Management Council. These proposals constitute all noncontroversial legislative changes the Management Council or Presidents Council have 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 is one modification of wording to be approved this year.

### **NCAA Division III Proposal No. 2025-1**

**Title:** DIVISION III COMMITTEES -- ELIGIBILITY OF MEMBERSHIP -- STUDENT-ATHLETE ADVISORY COMMITTEE -- CHANGE IN COMPOSITION

**Effective Date:** Immediate.

**Source:** American Rivers Conference and Great Northeast Athletic Conference.

**Intent:** Allow for each multi-sport conference and the group of independents to have a primary representative on National SAAC.

#### **General Application.**

**Question No. 1:** What is the current composition of the Division III National Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC)?

**Answer:** Currently, National SAAC consists of one student-athlete from each multisport conference in Division III and one student-athlete who collectively represents Division III independent institutions. The SAAC conference partnership program divides the larger group into pairings, where one student-athlete in each pair is a “primary” member of National SAAC and the other student-athlete is an “associate” member. The paired conferences alternate between serving as a primary or associate SAAC members in a three-year cycle. Primary National SAAC members attend four committee meetings annually (January/NCAA Convention, April, July and November), whereas associate members only attend two (January/NCAA Convention and July).

**Question No. 2:** If adopted, how would the proposal change the composition of National SAAC?

**Answer:** This proposal would eliminate the conference partnership program and have one student-athlete from each multisport conference and one student-athlete who collectively represents the independent institutions on National SAAC. Thus, using the current number of Division III multisport conferences, this proposal would increase the composition of the committee from 21 student-athletes to 42 student-athletes.

**Question No. 3:** If adopted, how would this proposal impact the National SAAC budget?

**Answer:** This proposal would have an approximate budget impact of \$33,000 to account for the increase of student-athlete representatives at National SAAC's in-person meetings. These additional funds will come from the overall Division III budget and could change if the number and/or nature of National SAAC meetings is adjusted.

**Question No. 4:** If adopted, would the proposal change the National SAAC selection process?

**Answer:** **No.** This proposal would not change the current National SAAC selection process, as all nominations would continue to be selected through the Division III Nominating Committee. The number of nominations considered by the Nominating Committee, however, would increase because associate members are currently appointed by their multisport conference.

**Question No. 5:** If adopted, when would the first meeting of the newly constituted National SAAC take place?

**Answer:** The first meeting would be the July 2025 in-person meeting. The immediate effective date of the proposal would allow for the nomination, appointment and orientation process to occur during the spring and summer in preparation for the July meeting.

#### **NCAA Division III Proposal No. 2025-2**

**Title:** MULTISPORT CONFERENCE MEMBERSHIP SIZE MINIMUM REQUIREMENT

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2025.

**Source:** Coast-To-Coast Athletic Conference, North Coast Athletic Conference and Upper Midwest Athletic Conference.

**Intent:** To align NCAA Division III legislative requirements for a multisport conference to be consistent with the membership size requirements for a single sport conference as well as to align legislative requirements for membership size for a multisport conference with the NCAA Division III legislation related to eligibility for Automatic Qualifiers and access to NCAA Division III Championships.

**General Application.**

**Question No. 1:**      What is the current minimum size requirement for a multisport conference?

**Answer:**              A multisport conference must have at least seven core institutions.

**Question No. 2:**      If adopted, how would the proposal change the current minimum size requirement?

**Answer:**              A multisport conference would need to have at least six core institutions.

**Question No. 3:**      What is the definition of a core institution?

**Answer:**              A core institution is an active Division III member institution that is a member of an NCAA Division III multisport conference and participates in that conference in more than one conference-sponsored sport. An institution can be a core institution in only one conference. [Note: Provisional or reclassifying member institutions in their third year of the membership process may be considered core for purposes of comprising a conference provided there are at least four active member institutions in the conference.]

**Question No. 4:**      If adopted, would this proposal apply to a single-sport conference?

**Answer:**              No. Single-sport conferences already require a minimum of six active NCAA member institutions.

**Question No. 5:**      If adopted, would this proposal address the NCAA Division III Championships Automatic Qualifier minimum requirements for a conference?

**Answer:**              No. This proposal is only relevant to the minimum size requirement for a multisport conference.

**Question No. 6:**      What happens if a conference is not meeting the minimum size requirement?

**Answer:** The conference would enter the grace period provided it maintains at least four core members (See Bylaw 20.9.1.2.4). At the end of the grace period, if the conference does not meet the composition requirement to continue to qualify as a member conference, it will enter restricted status, which would include the loss of such membership privileges as voting, automatic qualification to NCAA Division III Championships, and grant and initiative funding. This will not change if the proposal is adopted.

### **NCAA Division III Proposal No. 2025-3 (2-2)**

**Title:** LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY AND PROCESS -- AMEND THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS

**Effective Date:** Immediate.

**Source:** NCAA Division III Management Council (Interpretations and Legislation Committee).

**Intent:** Amend the Division III Legislative process as follows: (a) establish an initial membership proposal submission deadline of July 1st that only requires statements of intent and rationale, along with the impacted bylaws; (b) allow for a comment period for proposals through September 1; (c) establish an alternate membership proposal submission deadline of September 15 if the proposal meets the sponsorship threshold of four multisport conferences or 20 member institutions representing four multisport conferences; (d) establish September 15 as the final sponsorship date for governance proposals; (e) produce a publication of proposed legislation on October 1; and (f) permit four multisport conferences or 20 institutions representing four multisport conferences or the Division III Presidents or Management Councils (by a three-quarter vote) to offer amendments-to-amendments that increase the modification of a proposal.

#### **I. Establish an initial membership proposal submission deadline of July 1st that only requires statements of intent and rationale, along with the impacted bylaws.**

**Question No. 1:** What is the current initial submission deadline for membership-sponsored proposals and what is required?

**Answer:** Currently all membership-sponsored proposals must be submitted to the national office, in final legislative format, by July 15.



**Question No. 2:**      What is the current initial sponsorship threshold for membership-sponsored proposals?

**Answer:**              Currently, a membership-sponsored proposal must be submitted no later than July 15th by at least 10 active member institutions or one active multisport conference [full sponsorship must then be satisfied by September 1].

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

**Answer:**              Membership-sponsored proposals would have to be submitted to the national office by July 1, which is an earlier date. Sponsors would only be required to provide the statements of intent and rationale, along with the impacted bylaws, and not the full proposal in final legislative format.

**Question No. 4:**      If adopted, would the proposal change the initial sponsorship threshold (i.e., one conference or ten member institutions)?

**Answer:**              No.

**II.      Allow for a comment period for proposals through September 1.**

**Question No. 5:**      Does the current legislative process offer a membership comment period?

**Answer:**              No.

**Question No. 6:**      If adopted, how would the proposal change the current legislation?

**Answer:**              From July 1 to September 1, membership-sponsored proposals and any proposals from the governance structure would be posted and available to the Division III membership for comment. Following the comment period, all feedback would be shared with the proposal sponsors for consideration.

**III.      Establish an alternate membership proposal submission deadline of September 15 if the proposal meets the sponsorship threshold of four multisport conferences or 20 member institutions representing four multisport conferences.**

**Question No. 7:** Does the current legislative process offer an alternate membership-sponsored proposal submission deadline?

**Answer:** No. Currently all membership-sponsored proposals must be submitted to the national office by July 15.

**Question No. 8:** If adopted, how would the proposal change the current legislation?

**Answer:** If a membership-sponsored proposal does not meet the original deadline (i.e., July 1), it may be submitted up until September 15.

**Question No. 9:** If a membership-sponsored proposal is submitted between July 1 and September 15, would there be a different minimum sponsorship threshold?

**Answer:** Yes. If a membership-sponsored proposal does not meet the original deadline (i.e., July 1), it must be submitted on behalf of at least four active multisport conferences, or at least 20 active member institutions representing four multisport conferences.

**Question No. 10:** If a membership-sponsored proposal is submitted between July 1 and September 15, would there be any different submission requirements?

**Answer:** Yes. Sponsors submitting by the alternative date would be required to provide the proposal in final legislative format, not just the intent, rationale and impacted bylaws. (Additionally, the proposal would not have the benefit of the proposed comment period.)

**IV. Establish September 15 as the final sponsorship date for governance proposals.**

**Question No. 11:** What is the current sponsorship deadline for governance-sponsored proposals?

**Answer:** Currently, all governance-sponsored proposals must be sponsored by September 1.

**Question No. 12:** What is the current sponsorship threshold for governance-sponsored proposals?

**Answer:** Currently, a governance-sponsored proposal must be sponsored by either the Division III Management Council or Presidents Council.

**Question No. 13:** If adopted, how would the proposal change the current legislation?

**Answer:** Governance-sponsored proposals would have to be submitted by September 15.

**Question No. 14:** If adopted, would the proposal change the sponsorship threshold?

**Answer:** No.

**V. Produce a publication of proposed legislation on October 1.**

**Question No. 15:** What are the current publications of proposed legislation and when are they available?

**Answer:** The initial publication of proposed legislation (IPOPL), published by August 15 includes all membership proposals that satisfied the initial sponsorship threshold.

The second publication of proposed legislation (SPOPL), published by September 23, includes all fully sponsored membership proposals and governance proposals.

The official notice, published by November 15, includes all proposals, resolutions and amendments to be voted on at the NCAA Convention.

**Question No. 16:** If adopted, how would the proposal change the publications of proposed legislation and when would they be available?

**Answer:** A publication of proposed legislation would be available on October 1 and include all membership-sponsored and governance-sponsored proposals. The IPOPL and SPOPL would no longer be published.

The official notice, which identifies all proposals, resolutions and amendments to be voted on at the NCAA Convention, would continue to be published by November 15.

**VI. Permit four multisport conferences or 20 institutions representing four multisport conferences or the Division III Management or Presidents Councils (by a three-quarter vote) to offer amendments-to-amendments that increase the modification of a proposal.**

**Question No. 17:** What are the current ways an amendment-to-amendment may be sponsored?

**Answer:** An amendment-to-amendment that does not increase the modification of the original proposal may be sponsored by: (1) Management or Presidents Council; (2) twenty or more active Division III institutions; or (3) two or more active multisport conferences. All proposal amendments must be submitted by November 1.

An amendment-to-amendment that increases the modification of a proposal may only be submitted by the original sponsors of the proposal and not later than November 1.

**Question No. 18:** What does it mean to “increase the modification”?

**Answer:** Increasing the modification means making a greater change to the current legislation than the original proposal.

**Question No. 19:** If adopted, what would change about how an amendment-to-amendment may be sponsored?

**Answer:** The proposal would maintain the ability of the original sponsors to submit an amendment-to-amendment to increase the modification of the original proposal and would also add to the list of those who may make such submissions. Specifically: (1) Management or Presidents Council by a three-fourths voting majority; (2) twenty or more Division III institutions from four or more multisport conferences; or (3) four or more multisport conferences, would be permitted to submit an amendment-to-amendment to increase the modification of a proposal through November 1.

The proposal would not change the current process for submitting an amendment-to-amendment that does not increase the modification of the proposal.

**General Application.**

**Question No. 20:**     Can this proposal be divided?

**Answer:**               Yes. A delegate at the convention could move to divide parts of the proposal for separate votes. The motion is appropriate when each part of the proposed division can stand alone as a new complete amendment(s).

A motion to divide should confirm which parts of the proposal should be separated out and/or grouped together.

**NCAA Division III Proposal No. 2025-4**

**Title:**                   FEDERATED PLAYING RULES EXEMPTIONS

**Effective Date:**       Immediate.

**Source:**               Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference, Little East Conference, Massachusetts State Collegiate Athletic Conference and Presidents' Athletic Conference.

**Intent:**               To establish a process by which Division III may consider federating sport-specific playing rules that have either a financial or philosophical impact for Division III institutions.

**I.     General Playing Rules Definitions.**

**Question No. 1:**       What are playing rules?

**Answer:**               Playing rules are what happens on the field, court, pool, pitch, mat, rink, lane, track or slope when an opponent and officials are present and are not the same as NCAA compliance rules or legislation found in the NCAA Division III Manual. Playing rules are specific to each NCAA sport.

**Question No. 2:**       What is a common playing rule?

**Answer:**               A common playing rule is one that is consistent across all three divisions.

**Question No. 3:**       What is a federated playing rule?

**Answer:** A federated playing rule is one that is not common and therefore can apply to a single or multiple divisions but not all three divisions.

**Question No. 4:** What is a playing rules committee?

**Answer:** A playing rules committee is a group of individuals from all three divisions that, subject to the final authority of the Playing Rules Oversight Panel, is responsible for establishing and maintaining the rules of a specific sport.

Generally, a sport's playing rules committee is comprised of 50% Division I, 25% Division II and 25% Division III members. For example, the Baseball Playing Rules Committee is comprised of four members from Division I, two members from Division II and two members from Division III.

**Question No. 5:** What is the Playing Rules Oversight Panel?

**Answer** The Playing Rules Oversight Panel (commonly known as PROP) consists of 12 members (six from Division I and three each from Divisions II and III) and is responsible for overseeing all NCAA playing rules committees, including the approval of playing rules recommendations (see Bylaw 21.1.4 for a complete list of PROP's duties).

## **II. Current Process for Establishing Common Playing Rules.**

**Question No. 6:** How are playing rules established?

**Answer:** The following link provides an overview of the process for establishing playing rules: [Rules: What Is A Playing Rule.pdf](#).

**Question No. 7:** What is the Playing Rules Oversight Panel's playing rules review authority for sports in which the association maintains rules committees?

**Answer:** The Playing Rules Committee for each sport approves playing rules subject to review by PROP. A rule from the Playing Rules Committee will be approved by PROP unless there is a determination that the rule: (1) creates an unsafe environment for student-athletes; (2) places an unreasonable financial burden on the membership; or (3) harms the image of the game.

**Question No. 8:** What is the Playing Rules Oversight Panel's review authority for sports in which the association does not maintain playing rules committees?

**Answer:** The process is generally the same as those sports where the NCAA maintains playing rules committees. In these sports, a rules modification subcommittee of the divisional championships sport committees may approve modifications to the outside organization's rules for purposes of NCAA competition. These modifications are subject to approval by PROP in the same manner as rules that come from playing rules committees (see response to question no. 7).

Please note: Bylaw 31.1.6 identifies the sports in which the NCAA does not have playing rules committees and uses playing rules from another organization (e.g., International Field Hockey Rules).

### **III. Division III Federated Playing Rules Process.**

**Question No. 9:** What is the federated playing rules process for Division III?

**Answer:** Division III Management Council established the policy governing the federated rules process for Division III during the summer of 2023. The Council then amended the process in October 2024.

The process is the same as the process for common playing rules except that the Division III members on the sport's playing rules committee, or rules modification subcommittee, are the only ones that vote on federating a Division III specific playing rule. If a Division III federated playing rule goes to PROP, then only the Division III members of PROP vote on the rule proposal.

Additionally, the sport's championship committee and a subcommittee of Management Council meet with the Division III members of the sport's playing rules committee, or rules modification subcommittee, to assist in identification of rules that should be considered for federation and review of the membership's comments related to proposed rule changes.

The subcommittee of Management Council may also meet separately and forward guidance directly to the Division III members of PROP.

The following link provides an overview of that process and details how the Division III process fits within the association-wide process: [Playing Rules Resource pdf](#).

**IV. How the Proposal Would Change the Current Playing Rules Process.**

**Question No. 10:** If adopted, how would the proposal change the current process?

**Answer:** If adopted, the proposal would not change the process for the establishment of common playing rules or federated playing rules. Instead, this proposal would establish the authority of Management Council to determine whether Division III members should be exempt from applying a particular rule after the association-wide process has taken place.

**Question No. 11:** What rules would be subject to review by the Division III Management Council pursuant to this proposal?

**Answer:** If adopted, the Division III Management Council could only review common playing rules that have been approved by PROP but are not yet effective.

Existing playing rules are not subject to review by the Division III Management Council, and changes to existing playing rules would have to go through the standard playing rules process during a rules change year.

**Question No. 12:** If adopted, how would a common playing rule be reviewed by Management Council?

**Answer:** If adopted, the Division III Management Council could choose to review a common playing rule at its discretion, or at the request of: (1) two Division III member conferences; or (2) a group of 20 Division III member institutions.

**Question No. 13:** If adopted, what does it practically mean to exempt the division from applying a common playing rule?

**Answer:** If adopted, exempting Division III from applying a common playing rule would have one of two possible outcomes.



- (1) A mandatory rule may become permissive. If a sport playing rule is permissive, a Division III institution or conference may apply the rule if it chooses to do so, but it is not required to apply that particular playing rule. This outcome would not apply to all playing rules, as some rules would have to be uniform throughout Division III; or
- (2) A mandatory rule may revert to the previous playing rule. Under this circumstance the entirety of Division III would apply the previous playing rule on a federated basis.

**Question No. 14:** If adopted, which common playing rules would the Division III Management Council be able to exempt Division III members from applying?

**Answer:** The Division III Management Council would only be permitted to exempt the membership from applying common playing rules that the council determines place an unreasonable financial burden on Division III institutions or are otherwise incompatible with Division III philosophical principles.

**Question No. 15:** If adopted, would this proposal give the Division III Management Council authority to create new playing rules?

**Answer:** No. This proposal would only address playing rules that have been approved by PROP but are not yet effective.

The existing playing rules process (as described previously) would be the means to change an existing playing rule or create a new playing rule.

**Question No. 16:** If adopted, how would the Division III membership ratify the Management Council's actions, as is required by the proposal?

**Answer:** Similar to non-controversial proposals, modifications of wording, incorporations of interpretations and emergency proposals (which are included in the blue pages of the Official Notice), the Division III membership would review and ratify playing rule actions of the Management Council at the Division III business session at the National Convention.

Only actions by the Division III Management Council resulting in an exemption from a common playing rule require ratification by the Division III Membership.

**Question No. 17:** If adopted, what would happen if the Division III Management Council approves an exemption to a common playing rule, but the membership ultimately does not ratify the action at Convention?

**Answer:** If the Division III membership does not ratify Management Council's action, then that particular exemption would become void, and the division would revert to following the common playing rule as approved by PROP. [Note: The timing of reverting back to the common playing rule will be done in a manner that is practical for the sport.]

#### **NCAA Division III Proposal No. 2025-5**

**Title:** DIVISION MEMBERSHIP -- CHANGE OF DIVISION MEMBERSHIP -- THREE-YEAR PROVISION -- ESTABLISH A WAIVER

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2025.

**Source:** NCAA Division III Management Council (Membership Committee).

**Intent:** To establish a waiver of the reclassification three-year provision to shorten the process from three years to two years.

#### **General Application.**

**Question No. 1:** What is the current process for a reclassifying member?

**Answer:** Currently, Division I or II institutions that are interested in reclassifying to Division III undergo a three-year process to become active members. There are no waivers to expedite the process. [Note: The Division III Membership Committee may extend the reclassifying process for any institution that is not progressing as expected (see Bylaw 20.6.8.3)].

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

**Answer:** A reclassifying member could request a waiver of the third year of the process and become active after year two. The waiver request would be

submitted following year two of the membership process, in conjunction with its year two annual report submission to the Division III Membership Committee. The institution would only be permitted to request the waiver at this time.

**Question No. 3:** If adopted would the standards for becoming a Division III member change?

**Answer:** No. However, the reclassifying member would need to satisfy those standards earlier in the process. For example, a student-athlete who had received athletics aid prior to the institution entering the reclassification process could not participate in athletics if they continued to receive that aid after year one of the reclassification process as opposed to after year two.

**Question No. 4:** If adopted, may a reclassifying member continue in the Division III membership process if its expedited waiver request is denied?

**Answer:** Yes. If the Membership Committee determines the reclassifying member does not meet the criteria for the waiver of year three, the institution would continue to be evaluated under the three-year provision.

**Question No. 5:** If adopted, would the proposal impact institutions that are currently in the reclassifying membership process?

**Answer:** No. There is currently one institution in the reclassifying membership process, and it is already in year three.

**Question No. 6:** If adopted, would the proposal change the number of institutions permitted to be in the Division III provisional/reclassifying membership process at the same time?

**Answer:** No. The current maximums of four new institutions and 12 overall institutions (provisional and reclassifying institutions) in a given year would remain unchanged.

**Question No. 7:** If adopted, would this proposal change the current fee to enter the provisional/reclassifying membership process?

**Answer:** No. The current fee, which is determined by on the Division III Membership Committee's review of services provided during the provisional/reclassifying process, would remain unchanged.

#### **NCAA Division III Proposal No. 2025-6**

**Title:** NATIONAL COLLEGIATE CHAMPIONSHIP -- WOMEN'S WRESTLING

**Effective Date:** Immediate.

**Source:** NCAA Division III Management Council (Committee on Women's Athletics).

**Intent:** In women's wrestling, to establish a National Collegiate Championship and to establish a women's wrestling committee.

#### **General Application.**

**Question No. 1:** What are the current requirements to establish a National Collegiate Championship?

**Answer:** Per NCAA Division III Bylaw 18.2.4.2 (women's sports) a National Collegiate Championship may be established in a women's sport if at least 40 institutions sponsor the sport.

**Question No. 2:** Do all three divisions need to adopt this proposal to establish a National Collegiate Championship for women's wrestling?

**Answer:** Yes.

**Question No. 3:** If adopted, when would the first NCAA Women's Wrestling National Championship be conducted?

**Answer:** The women's wrestling committee would begin its work in 2025 to prepare for the first national collegiate championship in winter 2026.

**Question No. 4:** If women's wrestling is adopted as a National Collegiate Championship, is the division precluded from establishing a Division III Championship in the future?

**Answer:** No. A Division III championship may be established if 40 Division III institutions sponsor the sport at the varsity level.

**Question No. 5:** If this proposal is not adopted in all three divisions, can Division III adopt a divisional championship?

**Answer:** No. If there is only one championship offered, it must be a National Collegiate Championship.

**Question No. 6:** How are National Collegiate Championships funded?

**Answer:** National Collegiate Championships are included in the Division I championships budget and do not impact the Division III championships budget. The NCAA Board of Governors approved a budget for the Women's Wrestling National Collegiate Championship in April 2024 using Association-wide funds that will be allocated to the Division I championship budget.

**Question No. 7:** How will the six members of the NCAA Women's Wrestling Committee be selected?

**Answer:** Consistent with Division III Bylaw 21.4.1.1 (Method of Selection), each Division's governance structure shall appoint members to serve on the committee. Only institutions that sponsor the sport of women's wrestling shall be represented on the committee. Per Bylaw 21.4.1.6 (Term of Office), committee members shall be appointed to four-year terms. A former member may be appointed to an additional term after a three-year time period has elapsed. An individual who has served two terms on the committee may not serve further on the committee.

**Question No. 8:** How many NCAA institutions sponsored women's wrestling during the 2023-24 academic year?

**Answer:** During the 2023-24 academic year, 76 schools sponsored women's wrestling.

**Question No. 9:** How many NCAA institutions are projected to sponsor women's wrestling during the 2024-25 academic year?

**Answer:** There are 93 projected programs across all three divisions: Four in Division I, 34 in Division II and 55 in Division III.

**Question No. 10:** If the sports sponsorship number for women's wrestling falls below 40 after a National Collegiate Championship is established, will the championship be automatically discontinued?

**Answer:** No. NCAA Division III Bylaw 18.2.10.1 (Exception -- Olympic or Paralympic Sports) would apply to exempt the sport from the minimum sponsorship requirements. The membership may adopt specific legislation to discontinue the championship in an Olympic sport if it falls below the minimum sponsorship requirements.