



DIVISION III
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2026 NCAA Convention

Division III Legislative Proposals

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Game Plan.

- Continue our 2026 Convention prep.
 - Provide **two updates** on the Blue Pages;
 - Locate the Convention legislation **resources**; and
 - Quickly review the **parts** of a proposal and how **voting** works.
- Review the 2026 slate of **governance** and **membership** sponsored proposals; and
- (hopefully!) Save time for **questions**.



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Update #1: Sports Betting/Wagering.

- NC-2026-15 was adopted by the Division III Management Council in October.
- Because the sports wagering rules are **common** across all three divisions, any changes must be adopted by **ALL** divisions.
- Division I rescinded its adoption on November 21, meaning **the rules remain unchanged for everyone.**



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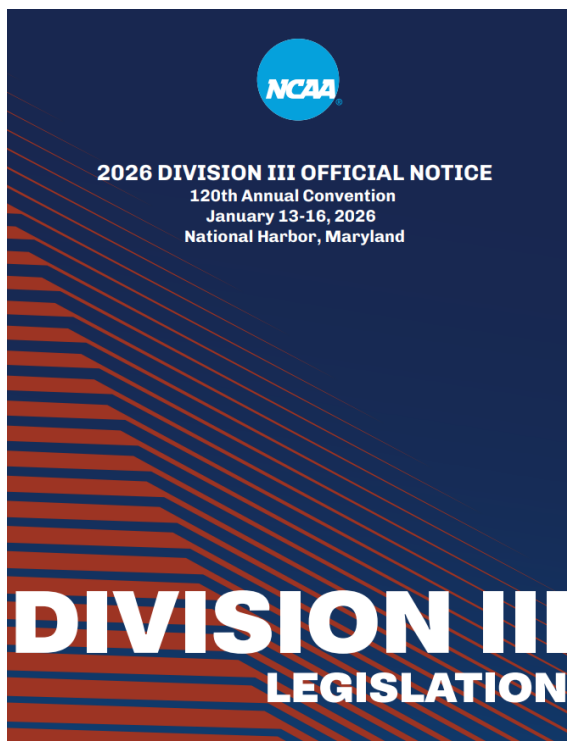
Update #2: Playing Rule Exemption.

- Management Council has acted to **exempt** Division III from a new playing rule adopted by the Playing Rules Oversight Panel (PROP).
- Beginning with the 2027 season, Women's Lacrosse officials will be **permitted** to use headsets, but it will **not** be mandatory.



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Convention Legislation Resources.



[Legislative Actions and Issues](#)

2026 NCAA Convention Division III Legislative Proposals
Question and Answer Guide
Approved November 19, 2025, by the
Division III Interpretations and Legislation Committee

Please note this is the first edition of the 2026 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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[Convention Resources](#)



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Parts of a Proposal.

- **INTENT** What is the proposal trying to change/fix?
- **TEXT** What will: stay, ~~go~~ or be added in?
- **SOURCE** Who thinks this is a good idea?
- **EFFECTIVE DATE** When would the proposal become a rule?
- **RATIONALE** Why is this a good idea?



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How Voting Works.

- Each active institution and multisport conference, as well as National SAAC, gets one vote.
- If a proposal is **adopted**, the legislation changes as of the Effective Date.
- If a proposal is **defeated**, the legislation does not change.



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Presidents Council Grouping



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Women's Wrestling.

Sponsored by: CCIW, American Rivers & MAC.

- To establish a **Division III** women's wrestling championship starting in 2027-28 academic year; and
- To establish a Division III Women's Wrestling Committee.



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Use of a Season.

Sponsored by: Empire 8, Atlantic East & Little East.

- To specify that a student-athlete would be charged with a season only if the student-athlete **competes** at any point during the traditional season.



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NIL Resolution.

Sponsored by: SCIAC & NCAC.

- To ask that Presidents Council charge the governance structure with monitoring the **changing landscape** around Division I NIL and its impact on Division III.
- To ask that the governance structure **develop strategies, policies and if warranted, propose legislative changes** that would protect valid NIL opportunities consistent with the Division III philosophy.



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In-Region Competition.

Sponsored by: SAA, Coast-To-Coast & CCS.

- To **reduce** the required minimum percentage of in-region competition for championships eligibility to **50%** for all sports except golf and tennis.
- To **expand** the spring break exception to allow institutions hosting contests during another institution's break to also exempt the out-of-region contest even if that hosting institution is not in an institutional vacation period.



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Multiple AQ Model.

Sponsored by: United East & Presidents Athletic Conf.

- Provide **multiple automatic qualifiers** to multi-sport conferences that have 12 or more members that sponsor a sport.
 - Once a conference reaches 12 or more core members sponsoring a sport, the conference would immediately receive a second automatic qualifier.
 - If a conference falls below 12 core members sponsoring a sport, the conference would immediately lose their second automatic qualifier.



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Required Participation for AQ.

Sponsored by: SCIAC, Landmark & NCAC.

- Require core members of a conference to **participate in the conference's established AQ process** in that sport to have access to the NCAA Championships.
- If the institution decides to not participate in their conference's AQ process (including declining participation in the conference's postseason tournament) the institution **is not eligible** for NCAA selections, including at-large selections.



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General Grouping



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AQ Waiting Period.

Sponsored by: MASCAC, Coast-To-Coast & CNE.

- To **reduce the waiting period** from two years to one.



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Mandatory Winter Break.

Sponsored by: NACC & CCS.

- Establish a **seven-consecutive-calendar-day-period break** over the winter break. During the break, student-athletes may not:
 - Be employed at institutional camps and clinics;
 - Participate in any athletically related activities; and
 - Participate in any voluntary athletically related activities on campus unless the facility is open to the general student-body.



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NCAA Transfer Portal.

Sponsored by: Management Council (ILC).

Require use of the NCAA Transfer Portal, beginning with any student-athletes who request to be entered on or after August 1, 2026.

- The self-release option would remain **intact**. After the 30 days of the self-release, the student-athlete's original institution would be required to enter them into the Portal.
- Require that student-athletes be entered by their original institutions within **seven calendar days** of the request being made.
- Require that all student-athletes watch an educational module **before** entry.



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Unofficial Visit Meals.

Sponsored by: CCIW & Little East.

- To permit institutions to provide meals in an on-campus dining facility for a prospective student-athlete **and** those individuals accompanying the prospective student-athlete.



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Practice Expenses.

Sponsored by: Management Council (ILC).

Permit institutions to provide expenses for practice sessions **at any location**, provided:

- The student-athlete is eligible; and
- No class is missed.



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Award Values.

Sponsored by: Management Council (ILC).

- Maintain the current limitations on who may give awards to student-athletes and how often awards may be given but **remove the exact \$ amounts** and references to **the value of awards** in the legislation.



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Post-Eligibility Event Expenses.

Sponsored by: Management Council (ILC).

- Permit institutions to provide **actual and necessary expenses** for a student-athlete to participate in one collegiate **all-star contest** or similar post-eligibility event.



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Professional Sports Tickets.

Sponsored by: Management Council (ILC).

- During a team's declared playing season, permit an institution, to provide **professional sports tickets** as reasonable entertainment.
- Maintain the **prohibition** of providing cash for any entertainment.



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Flag Football for Women.

Sponsored by: Management Council (CWA).

- To add women's flag football as an **emerging sport** for women and establish legislation related to playing and practice seasons and membership.



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Acrobatics & Tumbling.

Sponsored by: Management Council (CWA).

- Establish a **National Collegiate Championship** and to establish a women's acrobatics and tumbling committee.



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Stunt.

Sponsored by: Management Council (CWA).

- Establish a **National Collegiate Championship** and to establish a women's stunt committee.



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Questions?



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