



DIVISION III
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2026 NCAA Division III Convention

Noncontroversial Legislation

October 2025

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The Goals.

- Visit “The Blue Pages” of the Division III Official Notice.
 - What might be in there?
 - What do you need to know?
- Review the 2026 Noncontroversial Legislation.
- Answer your questions!



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The Blue Pages.



2026 DIVISION III OFFICIAL NOTICE
120th Annual Convention
January 13 - 16, 2026
Washington, DC

DIVISION III
LEGISLATION

Appendix A

Emergency Legislation Adopted by the NCAA Division III Presidents Council

Pursuant to NCAA Bylaw 9.3.1.1.2, the NCAA Division III Presidents Council is permitted to adopt emergency legislative amendments if it must respond to, or comply with, a court, alternative dispute resolution (ADR) or government order or when the Presidents Council deems it appropriate to amend NCAA legislation as a result of litigation, ADR or governmental proceedings. This action will be referenced in the report of this Official Convention Notice during the 2024 NCAA Division III business session, and acceptance of the report will constitute approval of this action and incorporation amendment, that objection is delegate intending to raise at that time before the Division eligible voters whether to rescind.

There is no emergency legislation.

Appendix B

Interpretations to be Included in the 2024-25 NCAA Division III Manual

In accordance with its authority to recommend incorporation of interpretations to the next printing of the NCAA Division III Manual, the NCAA Division III Interpretations and Legislation Committee has recommended, and the NCAA Division III Management Council has approved, inclusion of the following in the Division III Manual. This will be referenced in the report of this Official Convention Notice during the 2024 Division III business session. Approval of the Official Notice will constitute the incorporation of these interpretations. If a delegate objects to incorporation of a particular interpretation, that objection should be raised at the time of the report of the Official Notice. (It is preferred that any delegate intend to raise matters of interpretation at the time of the report of the Official Notice.)

Appendix C

Noncontroversial Legislation Adopted by the NCAA Division III Management Council or Presidents Council

Pursuant to NCAA Bylaws 21.10.2 (b), 21.11.3 (b) and 9.3.1.1.1, the NCAA Division III Management Council or Presidents Council has adopted the following noncontroversial legislative amendments during the past year. The Management Council and Presidents Council are permitted to adopt such legislation if it is necessary to promote the normal and orderly administration of the Division III Manual.

This Official Convention Notice constitutes ratification of the amendments. If a delegate objects to ratification of a particular amendment, that objection should be raised at the time of the report. (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 then will decide by majority vote of the eligible voters whether to ratify that amendment.

Appendix D

Modifications of Wording Adopted by the NCAA Division III Management Council

Pursuant to NCAA Division III Bylaw 9.4.1.1.1, the NCAA Division III Management Council, by a two-thirds majority of its members present and voting, has determined that the following proposals are consistent with the intent of the membership in adopting the original legislation and that sufficient documentation and testimony exists to establish clearly that the original wording of the legislation was inconsistent with that intent. These actions will be referenced in the report of this Official Convention Notice during the 2024 Division III business session. Approval of this Official Notice will constitute ratification of these actions and incorporation in the 2024-25 NCAA Division III Manual. If a delegate objects to ratification of a particular amendment, that objection should be raised at the time of the report. (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 then will decide by majority vote of the eligible voters whether to ratify that amendment.

There is one modification of wording submitted for approval during the 2024 NCAA Convention.

NO. 34-2024-1 AMATEURISM - INVOLVEMENT WITH PROFESSIONAL TEAMS - TRYOUTS WITH PROFESSIONAL TEAMS

Intent: To specify that all individuals after full-time collegiate enrollment may try out with a professional team and receive actual and necessary expenses from the professional team for up to 48 hours.

Bylaws: Amend 12.2, as follows:

12.2 Involvement With Professional Teams.

12.2.1 Tryouts.

12.2.1.1 Typical With Professional Team. Following initial full-time collegiate enrollment, an individual student-athlete may try out with a professional athletics team in a sport or permit a professional athletics team to conduct medical examinations at any time outside the ~~individual's~~ **individual's** semester's playing and practice season. ~~The individual's~~ **individual's** expenses may include actual and necessary expenses related to the tryout as long as the tryout does not exceed 48 hours.

12.2.1.2 Outside Competition Prohibited. During a tryout, an individual may not take part in any outside competition (games or scrimmages) as a representative of a professional team.

[12.2.2 through 12.2.5 unchanged.]

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

Effective Date: Immediate.

Budget Impact: None.

Additional Information:

After reviewing Bylaw 12.2 (involvement with professional teams), an inconsistency was noted in the use of the terms "individual" and "student-athlete" within Bylaw 12.2.1. The inconsistency of these terms in Bylaw 12.2.1 establishes greater restrictions on non-NCAA collegiate students than NCAA students regarding participating in professional tryouts. This could negatively impact individuals participating in Division III. The intent of the bylaw was not to treat these students differently. Rather, both an Official Interpretation (06/06/91) [Student-athletes Enrolled in Non-NCAA Institutions] and noncontroversial Proposal No. NC-2006-12 reinforce consistency in the use of the terms "individual" and "student-athlete." Therefore, this modification of wording is appropriate to eliminate the inconsistency and ensure that all individuals after full-time enrollment are eligible for the same opportunities with professional teams.



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What's In There?

- Incorporations of Interpretations.
- Modifications of Wording.
- Noncontroversial Legislation.
- Emergency Legislation.



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What Do You Need to Know?

- It's all been reviewed (**twice!**) by Management Council.
- It's all **currently effective**.
- The full Division III membership will have the opportunity to **ratify** it all at Convention in January.
- If something is pulled and ultimately **defeated**, DIII reverts to the previous legislation.



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2026 Convention Noncontroversial Legislation.



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NC-2026-1: Committee on Access, Opportunity and Impact.

To transition the Committee on Women's Athletics and Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee into **one comprehensive committee** that shall focus on Association-wide issues regarding diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging.



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NC-2026-1: Committee on Access, Opportunity and Impact.

Bylaw 21.2.3

[Common provision, all divisions, divided vote]

21.2 Association-Wide Committees -- General Committees.

[21.2.1 through 21.2.2 unchanged.]

21.2.3 Committee on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging.

21.2.3.1 Composition. The Committee on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging shall consist of 25 members, including positions allocated for individuals who serve as athletics administrators, coaches, chief diversity officers, faculty, higher education DEIB practitioners/researchers/experts, student-athletes and Title IX coordinators. The committee shall include a minimum of eight members who identify as an ethnic minority, eight members who identify as women and eight members who identify as men. In addition to the division-specific positions, the committee shall include a minimum of three members from each division, including one from each subdivision of Division I. The membership of the committee shall be constituted as follows:

- (a) **One student-athlete from each divisional Student-Athlete Advisory Committee;**
- (b) **One chancellor or president from each division;**
- (c) **One athletics diversity and inclusion designee from each division (two must be from within athletics and one may be from outside athletics);**
- (d) **One representative from the Division I governance structure;**
- (e) **One representative from the Division II Management Council;**
- (f) **One representative from the Division III Management Council;**
- (g) **One director of athletics;**
- (h) **One conference commissioner;**
- (i) **Two institutional or conference senior woman administrators;**
- (j) **One faculty athletics representative (preference to be from the FARA DEI Committee);**
- (k) **One chief diversity officer; and**
- (l) **Seven members who serve in one or more of the following positions at a member institution or conference:**
 - (1) **DEIB practitioner/researcher (preference for two);**
 - (2) **Campus and/or athletics student services professional (preference for one);**
 - (3) **Coach (preference for one);**
 - (4) **Higher education and/or athletics legal, policy, or governance expert (preference for one); and**
 - (5) **Title IX coordinator (preference for one).**

21.2.3.2 Duties. The committee shall:

- (a) **Advise on DEIB educational resources, programming, and awards for the Association;**
- (b) **Cultivate equitable experiences and treatment and inclusive environments for student-athletes at NCAA championships and events as well as across intercollegiate athletics;**
- (c) **Provide guidance for the office NCAA Inclusion, Education, and Community Engagement's strategic initiatives and engagements;**
- (d) **Support increased student-athlete participation opportunities, particularly for those from marginalized communities;**
- (e) **Review and make recommendations on DEIB-related policy, legislation, and other Association matters; and**
- (f) **Support diverse leadership across intercollegiate athletics that reflects the increasingly diverse student-athlete community.**

21.2.3.4 Honors Committee.

21.2.3.4.1 Composition. The Honors Committee shall consist of nine members, including one current or former chancellor or president from a member institution, one member from each division and subdivision of Division I and three nationally distinguished citizens, one of whom must be a former NCAA honor recipient. Division II and Division III will be represented each by a member of the Management Council. Two positions shall be allocated for those who identify as male, two allocated for those who identify as female and five unallocated.

21.2.3.4.2 Term of Office. A member's term of service shall commence on the day following adjournment of the NCAA Convention following the member's appointment.

21.2.3.4.3 Duties. The committee shall receive nominations for the Theodore Roosevelt Award, the Silver Anniversary Awards, the Today's Top 10 Awards, the Award of Valor, the Gerald R. Ford Award, the Pat Summitt Award and the Inspiration Award and shall select the recipients of those awards.

21.2.4 Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee.

21.2.4.1 Composition. The Minority Opportunities and Interests Committee shall consist of 18 members, including one current chancellor or president from each division. There shall be six members from Division I, six members from Division II and six members from Division III. One student-athlete from each division (who shall have one vote each) shall serve as a member of the committee. Each student-athlete may serve on the committee up to one year after completion of their intercollegiate athletics eligibility. Committee membership shall include a minimum of eight ethnic minorities, including at least four who identify as male and four who identify as female.

21.2.4.2 Duties. The committee shall:

- (a) **Review issues related to the interests and advocacy of student-athletes, coaches and administrators who are ethnic minorities, LGBTQ or who have disabilities; and**
- (b) **Review and advocate for NCAA programs and policies that affect and include, but are not limited to, ethnic minorities, individuals with disabilities and the LGBTQ community.**

[21.2.5 through 21.2.6 unchanged.]

21.2.7 Women's Athletics Committee on

21.2.7.1 Composition. The Committee on Women's Athletics shall consist of 18 members, including one current chancellor or president from each division. There shall be six members from Division I, six members from Division II and six members from Division III. Six positions shall be allocated for those who identify as male, six allocated for those who identify as female and six unallocated. One student-athlete from each division (who shall have one vote each) shall serve as a member of the committee. Each student-athlete may serve on the committee up to one year after completion of their intercollegiate athletics eligibility.

21.2.7.2 Duties. The committee shall:

- (a) **Study and make policy recommendations concerning opportunities for women in athletics at the institutional, conference and national levels;**
- (b) **Study and make policy recommendations concerning other issues directly affecting women's athletics; and**
- (c) **Appoint and oversee the Woman of the Year Selection Committee and the process.**



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NC-2026-4: Presidential Terms.

To require that all terms on Division III committees will be four-year terms, including for **presidents and chancellors**.



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NC-2026-4: Presidential Terms.

Bylaw 21.9.2.

21.9 Division III Committees.

[21.9.1 unchanged.]

21.9.2 Term of Office.

21.9.2.1 Length of Term. ~~Division III presidents or chancellors serving on all Division III general committees (per Bylaw 21.9.5) are limited to a two-year term of service. Presidents or chancellors may be reappointed or re-elected to one additional term, resulting in four years of service.~~ Unless otherwise specified, all ~~other~~ Division III members of **general** committees **(per Bylaw 21.9.5), including Division III presidents or chancellors,** shall be appointed or elected for one four-year term. Unless otherwise specified, the terms of service of general committee members (per Bylaw 21.9.5) shall commence in January following the adjournment of the annual NCAA Convention following the member's election or appointment. The terms of service of all other committee members shall commence on the first day of September following the member's election or appointment.

[21.9.2.2 through 21.9.2.5 unchanged.]

[21.9.3 through 21.9.6 unchanged.]



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NC-2026-5: Endocrinologists.

To specify that the **CSMAS position** designated for a physician with expertise in endocrinology may be filled by an individual who is either "on the staff" at a member institution or a member of the "general public".



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NC-2026-5: Endocrinologists.

Bylaw 21.2.2.1.

[Common provision, all divisions, divided vote]

21.2.2.1 Composition. The Committee on Competitive Safeguards and Medical Aspects of Sports shall consist of 25 members, including seven positions allocated those who identify as male, seven allocated those who identify as female and 11 unallocated. The membership of the committee shall be constituted as follows:

[21.2.2.1-(a) through 21.2.2.1-(c) unchanged.]

(d) Five members from the field of medicine, of whom at least two shall identify as female. One shall be a primary-care physician, who is board certified in family practice, internal medicine or emergency medicine, and shall have a current Certificate of Added Qualifications in Sports Medicine. One shall be a board certified orthopedic surgeon. One shall be a physician with expertise in endocrinology **(who may be a member of the general public)**. One shall be a physician with expertise in drug-testing. One shall be a physician who is a member of the general public,

[21.2.2.1-(e) through 21.2.2.1-(p) unchanged.]



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NC-2026-6: Sports Wagering Violations.

- To codify the long-standing application of case classification for institutions and individuals; and
- To amend the Bylaw 19 processing requirements to separate the individual culpability of an involved individual from that of an institution in select cases involving sports wagering.



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NC-2026-6: Sports Wagering Violations.

Bylaw 19.02.2.1.

19 Infractions Program.

[19.01 through 19.02 unchanged.]

19.02.2 Types of Violations.

19.02.2.1 Application of Violation Structure. The classification of a violation attaches to the conduct, not to the individual. Therefore, an institution shall be held responsible for violations committed by staff members at the same classification. Further, if violations from multiple classifications are identified, the case shall be processed pursuant to procedures applicable to the most serious violation(s) alleged.

19.02.2.1.1 Exception for Limited Sports Wagering Violations. Violations of Bylaw 10.3 involving behaviors that compromise or are intended to compromise the integrity of collegiate contests and/or lack of institutional oversight shall be processed at the same classification for the involved individual and the institution. In all other instances, violations of Bylaw 10.3 may be processed at different classification for the involved individual and institution.

19.02.2.2 Violation, Secondary. A secondary violation is a violation that is isolated or inadvertent in nature, provides or is intended to provide only a minimal recruiting or competitive or other advantage and does not include any significant impermissible benefits, including but not limited to extra benefits, recruiting inducements, preferential treatment or financial aid. Multiple secondary violations by a member institution collectively may be considered as a major violation.

19.02.2.3 Violation, Major. All violations other than secondary violations are major violations, specifically including those that provide an extensive recruiting or competitive advantage.

[19.02.3 unchanged.]

[19.1 through 19.7 unchanged.]



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NC-2026-7: AdCom Composition.

To align current practice with the existing bylaw and clarify the compositional requirements of the **Division III Administrative Committee**.



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NC-2026-7: AdCom Composition.

Bylaw 21.1.3.1.

21.1.3.1 Composition. The Administrative Committee shall consist of five members, including the chair of the Presidents Council, the vice chair of the Presidents Council, ~~and~~ the chair of the Management **Council and the vice chair of the Management Council**. If the chair **or vice chair** of the Management Council is a chancellor or president, the committee also shall include ~~an two~~ athletics **director** ~~administrators~~ who **is a** ~~are~~ senior members of the Management Council. If the chair **or vice chair** of the Management Council is not a chancellor or president, the committee also shall include **the most tenured** a chancellor or president serving on the Management Council ~~and a senior member of the Management Council~~



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NC-2026-14: Honors Committee.

To rename, increase the composition of, and expand the duties of the Honors Committee, as specified.



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NC-2026-14: Honors Committee.

Bylaw 21.2.3.

21.2 Association-Wide Committees -- General Committees.

[21.2.1 through 21.2.2 unchanged.]

21.2.3 ~~Honors~~**Awards** Committee.

21.2.3.1 Composition. The ~~Honors~~**Awards** Committee shall consist of ~~nine~~**10** members, including **one former student-athlete who was a Woman of the Year nominee**, one ~~current or former chancellor or president~~**senior-level administrator** from a member institution **or conference**, one member from each division and subdivision of Division I and three nationally distinguished citizens, one of whom must be a former NCAA ~~honors~~**awards** recipient. Division II and Division III will be represented each by a member of the Management Council. Two positions shall be allocated for those who identify as male, two allocated for those who identify as female and ~~five~~**six** unallocated.

[21.2.3.2 unchanged.]

21.2.3.3 Duties. The committee shall receive nominations for the Theodore Roosevelt Award, the Silver Anniversary Awards, the Today's Top 10 Awards, the Award of Valor, the Gerald R. Ford Award, the Pat Summitt Award, **the Woman of the Year Award** and the Inspiration Award and shall select the recipients of those awards.

[21.2.4 through 21.2.7 unchanged.]



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NC-2026-17: Fencing.

In men's and women's fencing, to establish **separate** national collegiate championships.



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NC-2026-17: Fencing.

Bylaw 18.3 & Bylaw 21.12.1.

20.12 Eligibility for National Collegiate and Division Championships.

20.12.1 Eligibility for National Collegiate Championships. Separate championships in each division are not sponsored in the following sports:

Women's beach volleyball
Women's bowling
Men's ~~and women's~~ fencing
Women's fencing
Men's gymnastics
Women's gymnastics
Women's ice hockey (Divisions I and II)

Men's and women's skiing
Men's volleyball (Divisions I and II)
Men's water polo
Women's water polo
Women's wrestling

An active member institution in good standing, regardless of division, is eligible for the National Collegiate Championships if a division championship in the respective sport is not offered in its division. Such an institution is required to meet only the institutional and individual eligibility requirements of its division that govern the sport in question.

[20.12.2 unchanged.]

18.3 Current Championships. The Association currently administers ~~9492~~ national championships. ~~Twelve~~ **Thirteen** are National Collegiate Championships. Additionally, there are 26 Division I championships, 25 Division II championships and 28 Division III championships (see Bylaw 31.02.2 for information about the classification and terminology of championships and see Bylaw 18.2.1 for the voting requirements for the establishment of a new championship). The current championships are as follows:

18.3.1 National Collegiate Championship (~~12~~ **13**).

Men (34)	Men and Women (32)	Women (67)
<u>Fencing</u>	<i>Fencing</i>	Beach Volleyball
Gymnastics	Rifle	Bowling
Volleyball (Divisions I and II)	Skiing	<u>Fencing</u>
Water Polo		Gymnastics
		Ice Hockey (Divisions I and II)
		Water Polo
		Wrestling

[18.3.2 unchanged.]



NC-2026-18: Negotiated Resolution.

To establish a structured resolution process that enables institutions and involved individuals to address infraction cases collaboratively with NCAA enforcement staff.



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NC-2026-18: Negotiated Resolution.

Bylaw 19.1.3.

19.1 Committee on Infractions. The Management Council shall appoint a Committee on Infractions, which shall be responsible for administration of the NCAA infractions program.

[19.1.1 through 19.1.2 unchanged.]

19.1.3 Duties of Committee. The duties of the committee shall be as follows:

[19.1.3-(a) through 19.1.3-(d) unchanged.]

(e) Upon concluding that one or more violations occurred, prescribe an appropriate penalty or show-cause requirement on a member found to be involved in a major violation (or, on appeal, on a member found to be involved in a secondary violation), or recommend to the Management Council suspension or termination of membership; *and*

(f) Review negotiated resolutions (See Bylaw 32.8); and

[19.1.3-(f) retitled as 19.1.3 (g), unchanged.]



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NC-2026-19: Multiple Resolution Methods.

Amends Bylaw 19 to allow multiple resolution methods within one case. This change would speed up agreements for some parties while still allowing hearings for those contesting violations.



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NC-2026-19: Multiple Resolution Methods.

Bylaw 32.6.2.

32.6 Resolution Methods (Major Cases).

32.6.1 Methods of Resolution (Major Cases). Cases involving allegations of major violations will be presented to and resolved by the Committee on Infractions. The Committee on Infractions shall resolve major allegations through a hearing pursuant to Bylaw 32.10, summary disposition pursuant to Bylaw 32.8 and/or negotiated resolution pursuant to Bylaw 32.9.

32.6.2 Impact of Multiple Resolution Methods. When different resolutions methods are appropriate for different parties in a single case, the enforcement staff shall notify the parties of the possibility for differing outcomes. Parties will submit written confirmation of understanding of the potential for differing outcomes with the submission of the case. Outcomes that differ across resolution methods in a single case do not support an argument on appeal that the Committee on Infractions erred.



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Checking In...



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NC-2026-2: Tryouts with Pro Teams.

To permit a student-athlete to accept **actual and necessary expenses** from a professional athletics team to participate in a tryout with that team beyond the previous 48-hour limit.



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NC-2026-2: Tryouts with Pro Teams.

Bylaw 12.2.1.1.

12.2.1.1 Tryout With Professional Team. Following initial full-time collegiate enrollment, an individual may try out with a professional athletics team in a sport or permit a professional athletics team to conduct medical examinations at any time outside the institution's playing and practice season. The professional athletics team may also provide the individual ~~may receive~~ actual and necessary expenses related to the tryout ~~as long as the tryout does not exceed 48 hours.~~



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NC-2026-3: Intercollegiate Competition.

To clarify the **definition and application** of intercollegiate competition in Bylaw 14 and Bylaw 17.



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NC-2026-3: Intercollegiate Competition.

Bylaw 14.02.6 & Bylaw 17.02.9.

14.02.6 Intercollegiate Competition. Intercollegiate competition is considered to have occurred when a student-athlete in either a two-year or a four-year collegiate institution does ~~any~~either of the following:

- (a) Competes while representing the institution in any contest against outside competition, regardless of how the competition is classified (e.g., scrimmage, exhibition or joint practice session with another institution's team) or whether the student is enrolled in a minimum full-time program of studies; or
- ~~(b) Competes in the uniform of the institution or, during the academic year, uses any apparel (excluding apparel no longer used by the institution) or equipment received from the institution that includes institutional identification (see Bylaw 16.11.1.9 for regulations governing the use of equipment during the summer); or~~
- (e b) Competes and receives expenses (e.g., transportation, meals, housing, ~~or~~ entry fees or uniforms, apparel or equipment purchased and still in use by the institution) from the institution for the competition (see Bylaw 16.11.1.9 for regulations governing the use of equipment during the summer).



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NC-2026-8: Major Junior Ice Hockey.

- To confirm that **Major Junior ice hockey** participation is subject to the same standards as all other pre-enrollment participation.
- Effective: For those enrolling in **DIII for the first time** on or after August 1.



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NC-2026-8: Major Junior Ice Hockey.

Bylaw 14.2.4.4.3.

14.2.4 Criteria for Determining Season of Eligibility.

[14.2.4.1 through 14.2.4.3 unchanged.]

14.2.4.4 Participation in Organized Competition Before Initial Collegiate Enrollment. An individual who does not enroll in a collegiate institution as a full-time student by October 1 or March 1 (whichever occurs earlier) immediately after one calendar year has elapsed following their high school graduation date (or the international equivalent as specified in the NCAA Guide to International Academic Standards for Athletics Eligibility) shall use a season of intercollegiate participation for each consecutive 12-month period after October 1 or March 1 and before the initial collegiate enrollment in which the individual participates in activities that meet the criteria set forth in Bylaw 14.2.4.4.2.

[14.2.4.4.1 through 14.2.4.4.2 unchanged.]

~~14.2.4.4.3 Major Junior Ice Hockey. An individual who participates on a Major Junior ice hockey team shall use a season of intercollegiate participation for each calendar year or sport season in which the individual participates, regardless of when such participation occurs (including participation during high school enrollment). The individual must also fulfill an academic year of residence (see Bylaw 14.02.10) before being eligible to represent the institution in intercollegiate competition in the sport of ice hockey.~~



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NC-2026-9: Recognition Banquets.

To clarify that student-athletes **may** receive expenses to attend a recognition banquet and may receive an award at that banquet.



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NC-2026-9: Recognition Banquets.

Bylaw 16.1.4.4, Bylaw 16.1.6.1 & Bylaw 16.10.

16.1.4.4 Local Civic Organization ~~and~~ **Booster Clubs**. A local civic organization (e.g., Rotary Club, Touchdown Club) **and booster clubs** may provide awards to an individual student-athlete or member institution's team(s). The following regulations shall apply to such an event: [R]

(a) All awards ~~must~~ be approved by the institution and must be counted in the institution's limit for institutional awards; ~~and~~

(b) The organization may not recognize or provide awards to prospective student-athletes at the banquet; **and**

(c) Student-athletes may receive actual and necessary expenses to attend the event.

~~16.1.6.1 Booster Club Recognition Banquet. One time per year, an institution's athletics booster club may finance an intercollegiate team's transportation expenses to a recognition banquet, provided all expenses are paid through the institution's athletics department and no tangible award is provided to members of the team. [R]~~

16.10.1.4 Luncheon Meeting Expenses. A student-athlete may accept transportation and meal expenses in conjunction with participation in a luncheon meeting of a booster club or civic organization, ~~provided no tangible award is provided to the student-athlete.~~ **(See Bylaw 16.1.4.4 if an award is to be provided to a student-athlete).** [R]



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NC-2026-10: Meals.

- To permit an institution to **provide meals** to student-athletes not on a meal plan in the same manner as those on a meal plan when meals are missed for practice activities, or during a vacation period.
- Additionally, to permit a student-athlete or team to receive an **occasional meal**, at any location, from an institutional staff member, a relative of a student-athlete or booster, **consistent with institutional policy**.



NC-2026-10: Meals.

Bylaw 16.5.1 & Bylaw 16.11.1.5.

[16.5.1-(a) unchanged.]

(b) Vacation-Period Expenses. The institution may provide the cost of housing and food including an additional meal (or cash in an amount equal to the cost of an additional meal) to student-athletes to meet nutritional needs during the institution's official vacation periods in the following circumstances: [R]

(1) Student-athletes who are required to remain on the institution's campus for **attend** organized practice sessions or competition during the institution's official vacation period during the regular academic year. *If the student-athlete lives at home during the vacation period, the cost of housing and food may not be provided by the institution, other than to permit the student-athlete to participate in team meals incidental to practice sessions.* If an institution does not provide a meal to its student-athletes, a cash allowance may be provided that not to exceed the amount provided by the institution to institutional staff members on away-from-campus trips.

(2) Student-athletes who return to campus during the institution's official vacation period occurring during a regular academic term (e.g., not including vacation periods between terms) from competition as outlined in Bylaw 16.8.1.2. Under such circumstances, housing and food expenses may be provided beginning with the student-athlete's arrival on campus until the institution's regular dormitories and dining facilities reopen. *If the student-athlete lives at home during the vacation period, the cost of housing and food may not be provided by the institution.*

(3) Student-athletes who return to campus during a vacation period between regular academic terms (e.g., summer vacation period) from competition as outlined in Bylaw 16.8.1.2. Under such circumstances, housing and food expenses may be provided for no more than a 48-hour period, beginning with the student-athlete's return to campus. *If the student-athlete lives at home during the vacation period, the cost of housing and food may not be provided by the institution.*

[16.5.1-(c) unchanged.]

(d) Meals Missed Due to Practice Activities. An institution may provide a student-athlete with a meal when one is missed due to practice activities. *The meal must be one that a student-athlete has previously paid for through food allowance and an institution must certify that institutional dining facilities are unavailable.*

16.11.1.5 Occasional Meals. A student-athlete or the entire team in a sport may receive an occasional meal, **at any location**, from an institutional staff member, **a relative of a student-athlete** or representative of the institution's athletics interests, **consistent with institutional policy**, under the following conditions: [R]

(a) The occasional meal may be provided at any location in the locale of the institution;

(b) Meals must be restricted to infrequent and special occasions; and

(c) Institutional staff members and representatives of the institution's athletics interests may provide transportation to student-athletes to attend such meals.

16.11.1.5.1 Meal Provided by Representative of Athletics Interests -- Outside Locale of Institution. A representative of the institution's athletics interests may pay for or provide a meal to a student-athlete or team outside of the locale of the institution as long as the meal is in conjunction with, or en route to or from, an away-from-home contest. [R]

16.11.1.6 Occasional Meals Provided by the Relative of a Student-Athlete. A student-athlete or a team may receive an occasional meal provided by the relative of a student-athlete at any location.



DIVISION III
DISCOVER | DEVELOP | DEDICATE

NC-2026-11: Apparel & Equipment.

To permit institutions to issue **non-athletics apparel** and allow student-athletes to **retain their athletics apparel and equipment**, consistent with institutional policy.



DIVISION III
DISCOVER | DEVELOP | DEDICATE

NC-2026-11: Apparel & Equipment.

Bylaw 16.11.1.7 & Bylaw 16.11.1.8.

16.11.1 Permissible.

[16.11.1.1 through 16.11.1.6 unchanged.]

16.11.1.7 Nonathletics Apparel Provided by the Institution. An institution may provide a student-athlete with ~~nonathletics apparel~~ one shirt (e.g., polo or oxford style) bearing the institution's logo each academic year, consistent with institutional policy. The apparel to be used for team travel or other events at which the student-athlete is representing the institution. The shirt may bear the manufacturer's or distributor's normal trademark or logo not to exceed 2 1/4 square inches in area, including any additional material surrounding the normal trademark or logo. ~~Further, an institution may issue other nonathletics apparel to student-athletes for team travel or other events in which they represent the institution on an issuance and retrieval basis.~~ [R]

~~16.11.1.8 Retention of Athletics Apparel and Equipment.~~ A student-athlete may retain athletics apparel items and used equipment at the end of the playing season, consistent with institutional policy in individual's collegiate participation. [R]



DIVISION III
DISCOVER | DEVELOP | DEDICATE

NC-2026-12: Academic & Other Support Services.

To **consolidate** the existing bylaws addressing academic, career and other support services and to clarify that **institutional policy** is the standard to determine the permissibility of such programming.



DIVISION III
DISCOVER | DEVELOP | DEDICATE

NC-2026-12: Academic & Other Support Services.

Bylaw 16.3.2.

16.3 Academic and Other Support Services.

16.3.1 **General** Academic-Based Programming and Services. An institution may finance and provide **general academic and support-based** programming and services for student-athletes, **consistent with institutional policy (see Bylaw 16.4.1 for information on mental health resources and services)**, provided similar services are provided or are generally available to the institution's students or to any particular segment of the student body determined on a basis unrelated to athletics ability. **Examples of such programming and support services include, but are not limited to:**

- (a) Academic advising;
- (b) Career counseling and career-related programming;
- (c) Leadership programming;
- (d) Life skills programming;
- (e) Coaching, officiating and athletics administration career educational programs;
- (f) Priority registration; or
- (g) Programming and services designed to protect and enhance the physical and educational well-being of student-athletes (e.g., cultural diversity programming, time management programming) [see Article 1-D].

16.3.2 **Support Services and Other Programming.** An institution may finance and provide support services and other programming for student-athletes, provided similar programming is provided or is generally available to the institution's students or to any particular segment of the student body determined on a basis unrelated to athletics ability. Examples of such programming and support services include, but are not limited to: [R]

(a) Leadership programming;

(b) Career counseling and career-related programming; or

(c) Programming and services designed to protect and enhance the physical and educational well-being of student-athletes (e.g., cultural diversity programming, time management programming) [see Article 1-D].

16.3.2.1 **Exception -- In-Season Athletically Related Activities.** Support services and other programming involving sports-related information and having an athletics purpose (e.g., team motivational speakers, leadership-related programming with an athletics nexus) (see Bylaw 17.02.1.1) may be provided exclusively for student-athletes, provided such activity occurs during the declared playing season.

16.3.2 Athletics-Based Programming and Services. Any support services and other programming involving sports-related information and having an athletics purpose (e.g., team motivational speakers, leadership-related programming with an athletics nexus) must occur during the playing and practice season unless otherwise noted in Article 17 Playing and Practice Seasons.

16.3.3 **Student-Athlete Advisory Committee Meetings.** An institution or conference may provide actual and necessary expenses for a student-athlete to attend conference, regional or national student-athlete advisory committee meetings. **Actual and necessary expenses for institutional/institutional-based student-athlete advisory committee programming may be provided consistent with institutional policy,** must be generally available to the institution's students or must be provided pursuant to Bylaws 16.3.1 or 16.3.2 in order for an institution to offer such programming to student-athletes or provide actual and necessary expenses. [R]

16.3.4 **Life-Skills Programming.** An institution may provide programming to student-athletes through life-skills programs, provided the programming is generally available to the institution's students or is provided pursuant to Bylaws 16.3.1, 16.3.2 or 16.4. [R]



DIVIS
DISCOVER | DE

NC-2026-13: Third Party Relationships.

To **deregulate** the limitations on financial donations and sponsorships from outside organizations and allow for institutions and conferences to pursue partnerships and sponsorships with third parties, including **professional sport organizations**.



DIVISION III
DISCOVER | DEVELOP | DEDICATE

Bylaw 14.2.4.4.3.

12.6.2.3 Academic Performance. A member institution may accept funds donated to its athletics program from a nonprofessional sports organization based on an individual's or a team's academic performance (e.g., the number of academic All-American award recipients).

NC-2026-16: Mental Health Hardship Waiver.

- In the administration of a hardship waiver, to permit the use of contemporaneous or **noncontemporaneous** medical documentation from a physician, or **any licensed practitioner qualified to provide mental health services** when the assertion is the student-athlete's mental health condition.
- Effective: **All** academic years!



DIVISION III
DISCOVER | DEVELOP | DEDICATE

NC-2026-16: Mental Health Hardship

Waiver. Bylaw 14.2.4.4.3.

14.2.5 Hardship Waiver. A student-athlete may be granted an additional year of participation (per Bylaw 14.2.4) by the conference or the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement for reasons of "hardship." Hardship is defined as an incapacity resulting from a season-ending injury or illness **(including a mental health condition)** that has occurred under all of the following conditions:

[14.2.5-(a) through 14.2.5-(b) unchanged.]

[14.2.5.1 through 14.2.5.2 unchanged.]

14.2.5.2.2 Medical Documentation. Contemporaneous or other appropriate medical documentation from a physician (i.e., a medical doctor), who administered care at the time of the injury or illness, that establishes the student-athlete's inability to compete for the remainder of the traditional playing season as a result of that injury or illness shall be submitted with any hardship-waiver request. Chiropractic records do not constitute medical documentation for purposes of administering a hardship-waiver request. *In cases involving a psychological or mental illness, such documentation may be provided by an individual who is qualified and licensed to diagnose and treat the particular illness (e.g., psychiatrist, psychologist).*

14.2.5.2.2.1 Exception for Mental Health Condition. Where the assertion for the hardship waiver is based on a mental health condition, the information submitted may be contemporaneous or noncontemporaneous medical documentation provided by an individual who is licensed to diagnose the mental health condition (e.g., psychiatrist, psychologist).

[14.2.5.2.3 through 14.2.5.2.7 unchanged.]

[14.2.5.3 through 14.2.5.4 unchanged.]



DIVISION III
DISCOVER | DEVELOP | DEDICATE

NC-2026-20: Playing Rules Structure & Process.

Establish a new **playing rules structure** and **process** for Division III as specified.



DIVISION III
DISCOVER | DEVELOP | DEDICATE

NC-2026-20: Playing Rules Structure & Process.

Bylaw 21.1.1, Bylaw 21.3.1 and Bylaw 21.4.1.

21.1 Playing Rules Oversight Panel.

21.1.1 Composition. The panel shall consist of 12 members, including six members ~~from Division I and three representatives each from Divisions II and III.~~ A single conference may not have more than one representative on the panel. Individuals with only coaching responsibilities and no administrative responsibilities are not eligible to serve. The appointments of the panel shall be as follows:

- (a) One appointed by the Division II Championships Committee;
- (b) One appointed by the Division III Championships Committee;
- (c) One appointed by the Division II Management Council;
- (d) One appointed by the Division III Management Council;
- (e) One appointed by the Division II Conference Commissioners Association;
- (f) One reserved for a Division III Conference Commissioner appointed by the Division III Nominating Committee; and
- (g) The remaining three representatives from Division II and three representatives from Division III will be appointed at-large through the division's nominating committee process.

21.1.2 Method of Selection. ~~Three of the six Division I representatives shall be appointed by the Division I Championships/Sports Management Cabinet (these members must be current members of the Championships/Competition Cabinet) and one of those members must have experience working with playing rules. The remaining three shall be appointed by the Division I Collegiate Conference Commissioners Association. Two of those three shall have experience working with playing rules. One of the three Division II and III representatives shall be appointed by the divisions' Championships Committees (these members must be current members of the divisions' Championships Committee). The remaining two representatives in Divisions II and III will be appointed at-large and one of those representatives shall have experience working with playing rules.~~

21.1.2.1 Definition of "Working with Playing Rules." The following experience will be considered to be the equivalent of "working with playing rules": officiating experience, previous service on a rules committee, previous service on a committee with responsibility for playing rules administration or coaching.

21.1.3 Term of Office. ~~At-large members of the panel will serve four-year terms. Management Council or Championships/Sports Management Cabinet and Championships Committee members will serve for the duration of their cabinet council's or committee term.~~

21.1.4 Duties. The panel shall:

- (a) ~~Oversee all NCAA Division II and Division III playing rules committees. This includes approval of playing rules recommendations and oversight of other issues pertaining to playing rules.~~

[21.1.4-(b) through 21.1.4-(e) renumbered as 21.1.3-(b) through 21.1.3-(e) unchanged.]

- (f) Oversee. Provide input on the selection process for secretary-rules editors; ~~approve the selections of secretary-rules editors and review waiver requests for secretary-rules editor term limits.~~

21.1.5 Meetings. The Playing Rules Oversight Panel shall meet three times annually (e.g., March, June, August) after the playing rules committees meetings for each season are complete.

21.1.6 Special Operating Rules.

21.1.6.1 Review Process. A recommendation from any rules committee shall be considered valid unless the Playing Rules Oversight Panel determines that the recommendation harms the image of the sport, creates an unsafe environment for student-athletes or places an unreasonable financial burden on the membership.

21.1.6.1.1 Rules Committee Involvement. The Playing Rules Oversight Panel may request that the playing rules committee chairs and/or secretary-rules editors present their case to the Playing Rules Oversight Panel when proposed changes are controversial or unusually complicated.

21.3 Association-Wide Common Committees -- Rules Committees Without Championships Administration Responsibilities.

21.3.1 Selection, Composition, Duties, Term of Office and Operation.

21.3.1.1 Method of Selection. ~~Each division's~~ The Division II and Division III governance structure shall appoint members to serve on the rules committees without championships administration responsibilities. The Division II and Division III Playing Rules Oversight Panel shall oversee provide input on the selection process for secretary-rules editors ~~and approve selections for those positions.~~ The secretary-rules editor ~~may be reappointed but is limited to a term not to exceed eight years in length and shall be a nonvoting member of the committee.~~ The membership of each committee shall include representatives from each of the Association's membership divisions Division II and Division III.

21.3.1.1.1 Waiver -- Secretary-Rules Editor Term Limit. ~~Due to extenuating circumstances, the Playing Rules Oversight Panel may waive the secretary-rules editor's eight-year term limit; however, the term shall not be extended by more than four additional years.~~

21.3.1.2 Composition Requirements. At least 25 percent of the positions on each rules committee shall be filled by athletics directors, associate or assistant athletics directors, senior woman athletics administrators, individuals who are employed full time as administrators by member conferences or individuals who are employed both part time as administrators by member conferences and full time by member institutions. Further, at least 50 percent of the total positions on each rules committee shall be filled by coaching staff members. ~~In order for a district to be represented, at least five of its active members shall sponsor the sport involved on an intercollegiate basis.~~ A conference may not have more than one representative on a rules committee, unless there are two or fewer conferences sponsoring the sport.

21.3.1.3 Duties. Subject to the final authority of the Division II and Division III Playing Rules Oversight Panel, each rules committee shall establish and maintain rules of play in its sport consistent with the sound traditions of the sport and of such character as to ensure good sportsmanship and safe participation by the competitors. Playing rules committees shall have the authority to permit rules experimentation in the nontraditional/nonchampionship season without the Division II and Division III Playing Rules Oversight Panel approval. Experimentation in the regular season shall be subject to the Division II and Division III Playing Rules Oversight Panel review.

21.4.1 Selection, Composition, Duties, Term of Office and Operation.

21.4.1.1 Method of Selection. Each division's governance structure shall appoint members to serve on the committees with playing rules and championships administration responsibilities. The Division II and Division III Playing Rules Oversight Panel shall oversee provide input on the selection process for secretary-rules editors ~~and approve the selections for those positions.~~ The secretary-rules editor ~~may be reappointed but is limited to a term not to exceed eight years in length and shall be a nonvoting member of the committee.~~ The membership of each committee shall include representatives from each of the Association's membership divisions.

21.4.1.1.1 Waiver -- Secretary-Rules Editor Term Limit. ~~Due to extenuating circumstances, the Playing Rules Oversight Panel may waive the secretary-rules editor's eight-year term limit; however, the term shall not be extended by more than four additional years.~~

[21.4.1.2 through 21.4.1.4 unchanged.]

21.4.1.5 Duties.

21.4.1.5.1 Rules of Play. ~~Subject to the final authority of the Playing Rules Oversight Panel,~~ Each committee shall establish and maintain rules of play in its sport consistent with the sound traditions of the sport and of such character as to ensure good sportsmanship and safe participation by the competitors. In Division II and Division III, each committee's actions shall be subject to the final authority of the Division II and Division III Playing Rules Oversight Panel. Each committee shall have the authority to permit rules experimentation in the nontraditional/nonchampionship season ~~without the Playing Rules Oversight Panel approval.~~ For Division II and Division III, experimentation in the regular season shall be subject to the Playing Rules Oversight Panel review.

One More Thing...



DIVISION III
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NC-2026-15: Sports Betting.

- To **eliminate** the prohibition on wagering on professional sports.
- Effective: Stay tuned!



DIVISION III
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Questions?



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