



Divisions I, II and III 2023-24 Infractions Annual Report



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Executive Summary

The NCAA's enforcement and hearing operation staffs, along with the Committees on Infractions and Infractions Appeals Committees, are committed to preserving fairness and credibility within college sports. The peer review process prioritizes fair and timely resolutions to hold those responsible for violations accountable.

Snapshots of 2023-24

724

Reports of Information Received

Information reported to the NCAA enforcement staff from self-reports, the call center, social media, public submissions and/or source development.

86

Cases Opened

Reports of information that were credible and specific enough to warrant NCAA enforcement to open a case and assign an investigator, which may have resulted in a formal investigation.

69

Allegations

Number of enforcement-submitted allegations the Committees on Infractions decided. Other reports were either still under investigation, not substantiated, did not constitute violations, were handled through other NCAA procedures or were included in the 3,573 violations processed as Level III/secondary.

16

Division I Decisions

Number of Division I Committee on Infractions case decisions.

14* Negotiated resolutions, average processing time: 5 days

1 Written record, average processing time: 41 days

1 Remand, average processing time: 48 days

**This number includes a negotiated resolution that was rejected by the Committee on Infractions.*

2

Division II Decisions

Number of cases processed by the Division II Committee on Infractions. Both cases were processed as negotiated resolutions. Average processing time: 7 days

2

Division III Decisions

Number of cases processed by the Division III Committee on Infractions. Both cases were processed as summary dispositions. Average processing time: 46 days

1

Division I Appeals Decisions

Number of cases processed by the Division I Infractions Appeals Committee. The committee considered one case on the written record.

(Note: The Infractions Appeals Committee had an additional decision released during the 2023-24 academic year. It was submitted during the 2022-23 academic year and is included in the 2022-23 annual report because it was the last case decided under the prior infractions appeals process and standards. The new infractions appeals process went into effect for all appeals submitted after Jan. 1, 2023.) There were no appeals for Division II or Division III during the 23-24 academic year.

Infractions Changes Continue, Focus Penalties on Responsible Individuals

With 24 members from the NCAA membership and the general public, the NCAA Division I Committee on Infractions continued to represent and reflect the viewpoints of the membership during the 2023-24 academic year. The COI is led by Chair Kay Norton, president emerita at the University of Northern Colorado, and Vice Chair Jason Leonard, executive director of compliance at the University of Oklahoma.

The 2023-24 academic year saw an uptick in COI activity and cases. A large part of the year focused on implementing newly adopted individual accountability measures, which aim to hold individuals, as well as institutions, appropriately accountable for violations. In addition, the membership implemented a new financial penalty structure. The COI collaborated with governance committees to further define the role of exemplary cooperation and the potential consequences for parties who are repeat violators. Similarly, the COI gained valuable feedback on the vacation of records penalty from the membership, compliance stakeholders and the Division I Council, which confirmed that the penalty remains an important and effective deterrent to address ineligible competition.

From a case standpoint, the COI saw case-related activity increase with a significant number of cases involving multiple resolution methods. The COI is encouraged that the infractions process continues to function well by meeting the expectations of the NCAA membership, as the vast majority of the COI's cases continue to be processed via negotiated resolution. The negotiated resolution process fully embraces the goals of accountability and efficiency articulated in the mission of the infractions program.

The NCAA Division II COI undertook a comprehensive review of the Division I individual accountability reforms to determine if any of those measures should be implemented within the division. After a thorough review, the Division II COI made meaningful recommendations to the Division II Management Council. The Management Council will consider adoption of those recommendations at the 2025 NCAA Convention.

The NCAA Division III COI adjudicated two cases during the 2023-24 reporting period. Both cases used the summary disposition process.

Lastly, all three divisional committees navigated the complex adjudication of sports wagering/betting violations and the appropriate accountability for individuals and institutions when those violations occurred.

With respect to the NCAA Division I Infractions Appeals Committee, in the fall of 2024, Allison Rich, the director of athletics at the University of New Hampshire, became the chair of the committee, and Julie Vannatta, retired senior associate athletics director - legal and senior associate general counsel for athletics at The Ohio State University, became the vice chair of the committee.

Significant reforms to the infractions appeals process, adopted in January 2023, changed what may be appealed and the standard of review. The reforms limited the appeal of core penalties. Now, core penalties within the ranges in Figure 19-1 of the Division I Manual (the penalty matrix) may no longer be directly appealed.

Additionally, appeals of determinations by the Division I Committee on Infractions will be reviewed under one standard of review. The appealing party is required to show that the case record did not contain information to support the appealed determination and that no reasonable person would have made the appealed determination for the Infractions Appeals Committee to vacate a factual finding, conclusion, violation, case level, classification or penalty.

Only one infractions appeal decision has been issued under the new process; however, additional decisions are expected in late 2024-25 or in 2025-26.

The NCAA Division II and Division III Infractions Appeals Committees did not hear any appeals during the 2023-24 reporting period.

Contacts

Have questions, concerns or feedback? Or would you simply like to connect with the NCAA staff that helps oversee this member-driven process?

Derrick Crawford, vice president, hearing operations, dcrawford@ncaa.org

Wendy Walters, managing director, Infractions Appeals Committees Office, wwalters@ncaa.org

Matt Mikrut, managing director, Office of the Committees on Infractions, mmikrut@ncaa.org

Jon Duncan, vice president, enforcement, jduncan@ncaa.org

Brynna Barnhart, managing director, enforcement, bbarnhart@ncaa.org

Mark Hicks, managing director, enforcement, mhicks@ncaa.org

Chris Strobel, managing director, enforcement, cstrobel@ncaa.org

Infractions Peer-Review Process Overview

The NCAA peer-review infractions process begins and ends with membership presidents and chancellors, athletics directors, administrators and former coaches. These decision-makers come mostly from campus and conference settings. As a result, they understand how their decisions in the infractions process play out on a school level.

Framework

The peer-review process is made up of three bodies (NCAA enforcement as well as the Division I, II and III Committees on Infractions and Infractions Appeals Committees) that work to produce fair, efficient and timely outcomes. Cases are presented to the Committees on Infractions in three different paths (negotiated resolution, summary disposition and contested hearing). Further, some cases may be appealed for further review. All of these paths are explained in detail in this report.

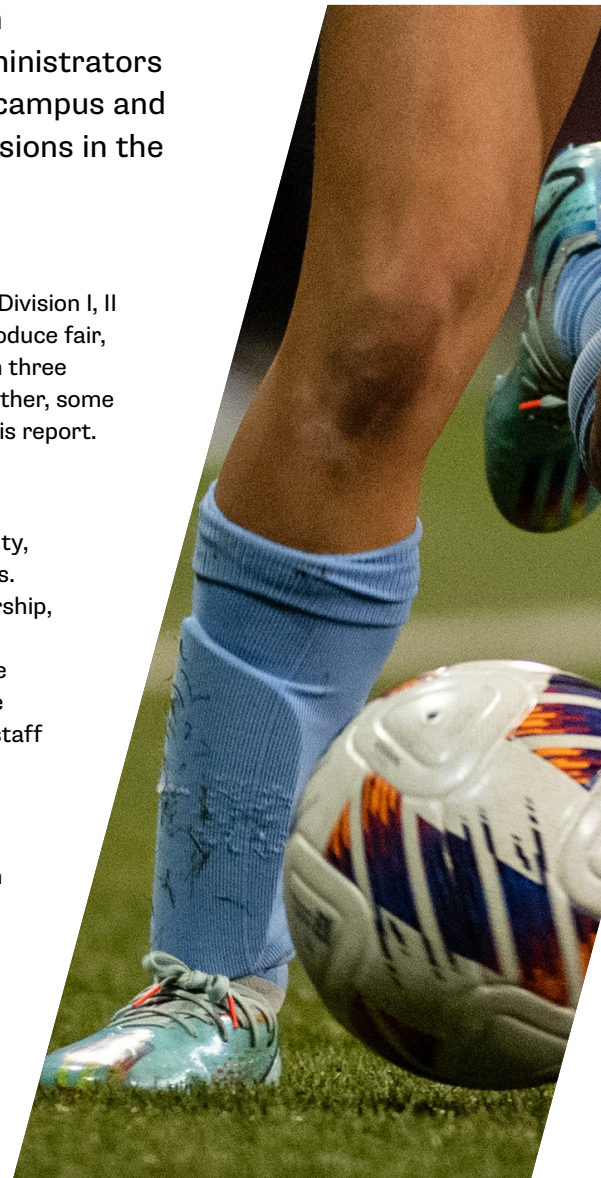
Member-Driven

The NCAA membership proposes and adopts rules that affect student-athletes' eligibility, recruiting, academic standards, playing and practice seasons, scholarships and benefits. Potential violations of those rules are decided by representatives of the NCAA membership, who make up the divisional Committees on Infractions. In the event of an appeal, the decisions by the Committees on Infractions are also reviewed by representatives of the NCAA membership, who make up the divisional Infractions Appeals Committees. These bodies review, hear and decide specific infractions cases that the NCAA enforcement staff initially investigates.

Levels of Violations

In Division I, violations of NCAA rules fall into three categories (Levels I, II and III), with Level III including conduct that is isolated, limited and provides minimal advantages. Level I violations include conduct that seriously undermines or threatens the integrity of college sports; provides a substantial or extensive recruiting, competitive or other advantage; or constitutes a substantial or extensive impermissible benefit. Level II violations include conduct that is less substantial than a Level I violation but more serious than a Level III violation. The NCAA membership agreed to guidelines that are considered and provide clarity around some of the most severe violations – lack of institutional control, failure to monitor and unethical conduct.

In Divisions II and III, however, there are two types of violations – major and secondary. The divisional Committees on Infractions and Infractions Appeals Committees only review major infractions cases. Secondary infractions cases are resolved by the enforcement staff. Appeals of those decisions are heard by the COI. Secondary infractions cases are reviewed by the enforcement staff.



Process Overview for Divisions I, II and III



Enforcement

When the enforcement staff receives information about potential NCAA rules violations, it decides whether to conduct a formal investigation. If the enforcement staff believes information substantiates violations, it submits allegations of Level I, Level II or major violations to the Committees on Infractions.

Average time spent with enforcement staff for cases submitted to the COI:

4 to 20 months



Parties' Written Submissions

The parties and enforcement, in consultation with the Committee on Infractions when needed, determine the appropriate resolution method and present allegations through a negotiated resolution, summary disposition, written record or full hearing. For full hearing cases, parties have five months of legislated time to prepare and submit their positions to the Committees on Infractions. For summary disposition cases, parties typically have three months.

Average time spent in the parties' written submissions process:

2 to 6 months



Committees on Infractions

The Committees on Infractions decide the facts of the case and consider positions of all the parties when concluding whether NCAA violations occurred. The committees consider and review whether the schools and involved individuals violated the NCAA membership's adopted rules. Members of the divisional committees deliberate, conclude whether violations occurred, prescribe appropriate penalties and then issue a written decision. The committees also monitor schools on probation.

Outside of the legislated time frame for parties to submit a case, the average time that a case remains with the Committees on Infractions:

7 days to 4 months
(depending on case type)



Infractions Appeals Committees

The decisions by the Committees on Infractions can be reviewed by the divisional Infractions Appeals Committees if a school or involved individual does not agree with the factual findings, conclusions of violations, level (Division I only), classification (Division I only) and/or penalties. For Division I, the stay of an appealed penalty is not automatic; however, the appellant may direct the committee to stay an appealed penalty. For Divisions II and III, the stay of an appealed penalty is automatic once the notice of intent to appeal form is submitted by the school or involved individual.

The Infractions Appeals Committees consider the arguments presented by the appealing party and the divisional Committees on Infractions, then deliberate and conclude whether to affirm or vacate the appealed findings, conclusions, level (Division I only), classification (Division I only) and/or penalties in their written decisions. The legislation and the committees' internal operating procedures prescribe the timeline for the parties' written submissions considered during the appeal. On average, parties provide their written submissions within three months. For Division I, appeals are generally reviewed by the Infractions Appeals Committee through a written record review. For Divisions II and III, based on the availability of the parties and the committees' oral argument schedule, an oral argument is generally held approximately two weeks to two months after the receipt of the written submissions.

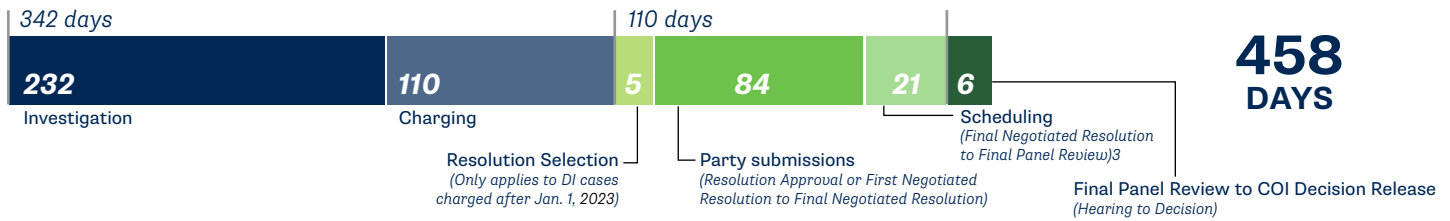
After the written submissions are received and/or an oral argument is held, the average time a case remains with the Infractions Appeals Committees:

3 months*

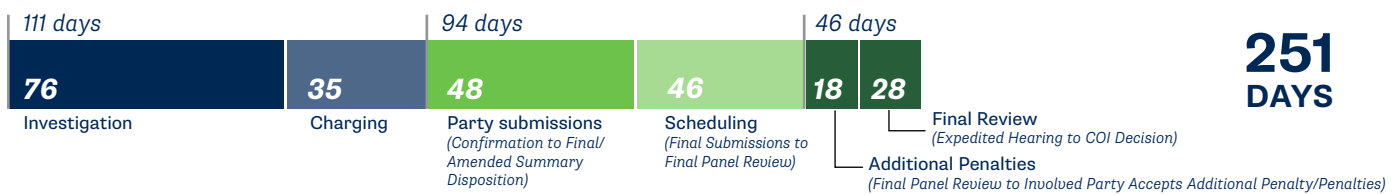
**Includes 17-day decision review and release process.*

Timeline for Various Case Tracks Across Divisions I, II and III

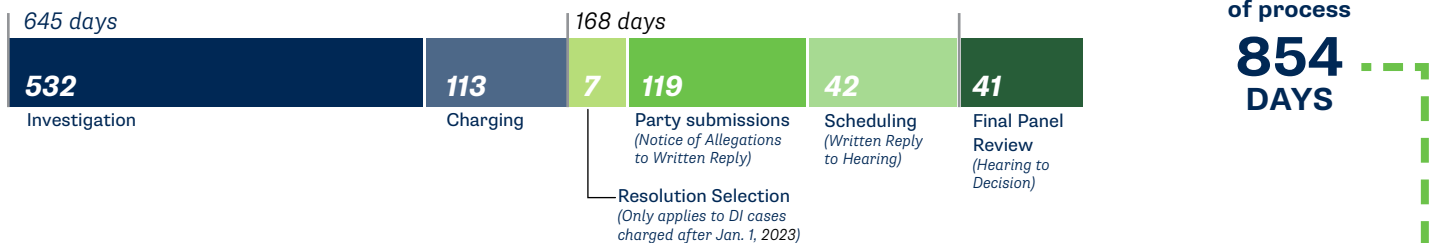
Negotiated Resolution



Summary Disposition

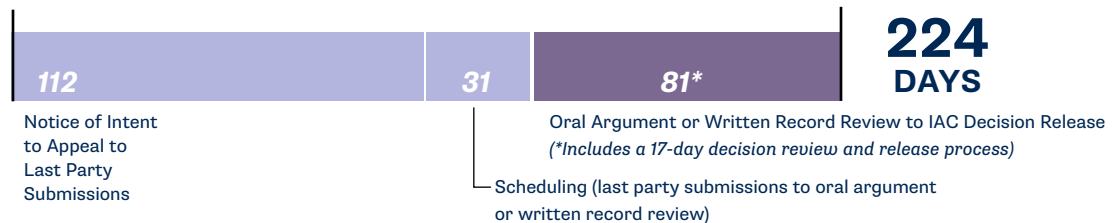


Written Record



*Full hearings are another available resolution method for parties. However, no cases were resolved through a full hearing in 2023-24.

Infractions Appeals Process



[Link to Division I Infractions Dashboard - ncaa.org](https://ncaa.org)

For more information on Division I infractions, go to the Division I Infractions Dashboard. The Dashboard provides case volume numbers by current status, timelines associated with various resolution methods and the number of resolved cases by year.

Infractions Process Committee

Division I Infractions Process Committee

The Division I Infractions Process Committee supports the Board of Directors in its oversight of the infractions process. Specifically, the committee shall:

- Provide the Board of Directors with periodic reports, including recommendations, analysis and data with regard to infractions processes and matters.
- Review the overall effectiveness of the infractions process structure and operation including the internal NCAA Division I Committee on Infractions, the Division I Infractions Appeals Committee and the external Independent Accountability Resolution Process*. Reviews should include internal reports and performance metrics. The chair of the Division I Board of Directors will annually provide the Infractions Process Committee recommendations for topics or areas that should be reviewed in an effort to enhance the quality of all processes.

The Infractions Process Committee, in consultation with the chair of the Board of Directors, may recommend reviews by outside representatives capable of assessments of the adjudication processes. Recommendation of outside reviews require approval of the Board of Directors.



Geoffrey Mearns

Chair

President, Ball
State University

Kimberly Rene Cline, *President*, Long Island University

Kyle Conder, *Director of Athletics*, California State University, Bakersfield

Ellen Ferris, *Senior Associate Commissioner*, American Athletic Conference

Roshan Kalikasingh, *Student-Athlete Representative*, Marist College

Brian Noland, *President*, East Tennessee State University

Joel Pawlak, *Faculty Athletics Representative*, North Carolina State University

Greg Sankey, *Commissioner*, Southeastern Conference

Stefany Valentino, *Senior Associate Athletics Director*, California State University, Fresno

*The IARP was terminated in October 2023 by Division I Board of Directors.



Enforcement Overview

Enforcement resides in the middle of the process that starts with member-adopted rules and ends with members prescribing penalties. The NCAA enforcement staff works to uphold integrity and fair play among member schools, ensures that compliant schools and student-athletes are not disadvantaged by their compliance, and provides fair procedures and timely resolution of cases.

Trust and collaboration between the enforcement staff, schools and conferences are vital to upholding that mission successfully. The NCAA enforcement development staff works with member schools and their athletics departments to identify issues and concerns affecting college sports, to prevent violations and to encourage the reporting of potential violations as early as possible. Information on possible violations is provided to the enforcement staff in several ways, such as self-reports, social media, public submissions and source development.

Enforcement investigators charged with reviewing information about potential violations are committed to doing so in a fair, accurate, collaborative and timely manner. The enforcement staff works together with schools and other parties to uncover the facts and assess whether violations may have occurred. Not all reported behaviors are violations of NCAA rules, and not all potential violations are substantiated.

At the completion of an investigation, the enforcement staff works collaboratively with parties to prepare potential Level I, Level II and major violations for review by the NCAA Committees on Infractions via legislated timelines, documents and processes. Additionally, the enforcement staff processes member self-reported and substantiated Level III and secondary violations.

Potential Resolution Methods

RULE CREATION

WHO IS INVOLVED:
NCAA membership

NCAA rules are proposed, considered and adopted to uphold the NCAA's values and protect the integrity of college sports.

Potential Violation

Information is received from self-reports, call center reports, social media, public submissions and source development.

Investigation

INVOLVES

E **S/I**

The enforcement staff reviews information about potential violations. If further investigation is needed, it issues a notice of inquiry and works together with the school to discover the facts.

If no violations are found
CASE CLOSED
Average time with enforcement staff: 4 months across 58 closed cases

Negotiated Resolution

INVOLVES

E **COI**
S/I

- Parties agree on the facts, violations, level and classification, and penalties.
- A COI panel reviews and approves a report compiled by the parties.
- There is no opportunity to appeal.

OR

Summary Disposition

INVOLVES

E **IP**
S/I

- Parties agree to the facts and level of the case and draft a report.
- The report is submitted to a COI panel, which issues penalties and a decision.
- An expedited hearing about penalties can be requested.
- Those penalties may be appealed.

OR

Full Hearing and Written Record

INVOLVES

E **IP**
S/I **COI**

- Enforcement staff's allegations are challenged.
- All parties review the allegations with a COI panel.
- The COI panel decides violations and penalties.

E Enforcement Staff

S/I School and/or Individuals

COI Committee on Infractions

IP Infractions Panel

IAC Infractions Appeals Committee

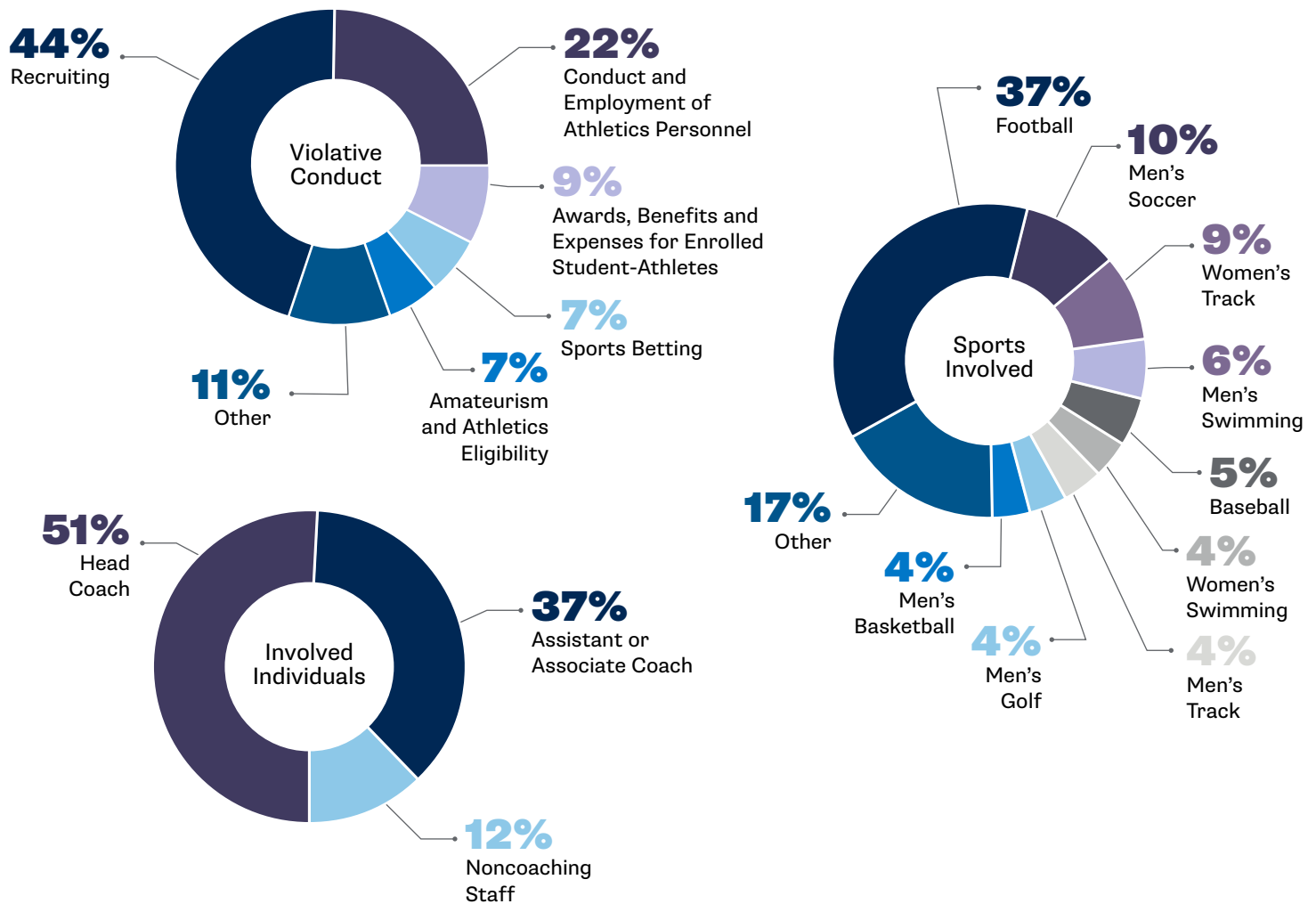
Appeals

INVOLVES

S/I **COI** **IAC**

The Infractions Appeals Committee in each division is the final say in a case appealed by a school or involved individual.

Level I, II and Major Violations



Level III/Secondary Violations in the 2023-24 Academic Year

3,573

enforcement
Level III/secondary
violations processed,
average processing time:
19 days

131

coach suspensions
from Level III/secondary
violations

80

head coach suspensions
from Level III/secondary
violations

[Link to Penalties for Level III/Secondary Violations](#)

Committees on Infractions Overview

The Committees on Infractions form the heart of the peer-review model and are central to the NCAA's infractions process, which aims to promote fair competition, integrity and sportsmanship – core principles for NCAA member schools. These commitments are the foundation of the membership-created infractions process, safeguarding integrity, holding parties accountable for their actions and ensuring fairness in the ever-changing world of college athletics. It is critically important that those schools and student-athletes abiding by NCAA rules are not disadvantaged by their commitment to compliance.

Similar to how the NCAA membership proposes and adopts rules, the Committees on Infractions that decide infractions cases are made up of representatives from NCAA member schools and conferences, along with individuals from the general public who have legal training.

When cases are submitted to the Committees on Infractions, Division I cases are heard by panels of either three, five or seven members that are generated based on experience, availability and the absence of a conflict of interest. Division II and Division III cases are heard by the full committee within their respective division. Through these panels (Division I) or full committees (Division II and Division III), the committees decide infractions cases developed during the enforcement staff's investigation. Based on the level of agreement in a case, there are different levels of committee engagement: full hearing resolution, limited resolution and negotiated resolution (Division I and Division II only). Full hearings are reserved for select contested cases involving alleged behaviors that significantly undermine the integrity of the collegiate model, cases that implicate NCAA core values and/or cases that are otherwise best resolved through a comprehensive review of the whole record. For cases resolved via a full hearing, a divisional Committee on Infractions holds a hearing and then finds the facts, concludes whether the conduct violated NCAA rules and, if applicable, determines what the appropriate penalties should be. Penalties are informed by the membership-approved penalty guidelines, which set ranges of required penalties depending on case severity. Given the complexities, full hearing cases take more time to resolve than other processing options.

When a case is not appropriate for a full hearing or the parties are unable to reach the requisite level of agreement for a negotiated resolution, a committee can resolve a case via limited resolution methods: written record or summary disposition. Written record resolution is appropriate when a Committee on Infractions must resolve less complicated contested issues. Cases resolved via written record are decided on an accelerated timeline. Summary disposition is appropriate when parties agree to the violations and overall processing level of the case, but do not agree to the penalties. In those cases, the divisional Committee on Infractions reviews the parties' agreed-upon violations and, if appropriate, prescribes penalties. The Committee on Infractions also reviews and approves negotiated resolutions agreed to by the enforcement staff and parties. Negotiated resolutions involve complete agreement on facts, violations and penalties. The negotiated resolution path allows parties in agreement to work together in an efficient, cost-effective way.

In processing and deciding cases, the Committees on Infractions leverage membership-approved tools, such as importing information from outside proceedings and considering petitions for immediate penalties when parties fail to meet the responsibility to cooperate. These tools are intended to expedite investigations and develop a complete case record for the committee.



Parties may resolve cases one of four ways – a negotiated resolution, summary disposition, full hearing or written record.

Negotiated Resolution - Applicable to Division I and Division II cases only

Negotiated resolution cases, implemented in Division I in 2019 and in 2022 for Division II, typically take less than a week to be released after final review from the Committee on Infractions. To use this path within Division I, the enforcement staff, school and involved individuals must agree on the violations, the level of violations, the applicable aggravating and mitigating factors, the classification of the case and penalties. For Division II, the enforcement staff, school and involved individuals must agree on the violations, the level of violations and penalties. There are no aggravating and mitigating factors or classification levels within Division II. The committee reviews each negotiated resolution to determine whether the agreement is in the best interest of the NCAA and whether the agreed-upon penalties are appropriate. Negotiated resolutions do not set precedent and cannot be appealed.

Summary Disposition

This path is used when the enforcement staff, involved individuals (if participating) and the school agree on the facts, violations and processing level. In the summary disposition path, the NCAA enforcement staff is not involved with penalties and does not make recommendations on the penalties. Instead, a hearing panel from a divisional Committee on Infractions reviews the jointly submitted report, prescribes appropriate penalties and issues a decision. This path avoids the need for an in-person hearing before the Committee on Infractions, eliminates the costs associated with such a hearing and reduces the amount of time needed to resolve a case.

Summary Disposition With an Expedited Hearing

In a summary disposition, a school or involved individual may challenge the penalties proposed by the panel members from a divisional Committee on Infractions. In those instances, the panel will hold an expedited penalty hearing. After deliberations, the panel will issue an infractions decision with its final decision on the challenged penalties. Only information regarding the penalties is discussed at this hearing.

Full Hearing or Written Record

In cases in which parties do not agree on some or all the facts, violations or violation levels, a divisional Committee on Infractions will hold a hearing or consider a case on the written record.

Meet the Division I Committee on Infractions



Kay Norton

Chair

President emerita,
Northern Colorado



Jason Leonard

Vice chair

Executive director of
athletics compliance,
Oklahoma

Douglas Archie

Norman C. Bay

Bryan Blair

Tricia Turley Brandenburg

Jody Conradt

Susan Cross-Lipnickey

Richard Ensor

Joshua Gordon

Kendra Greene

Jeremy Jordan

Cassandra Kirk

Stephen A. Madva

Vince Nicaastro

Joe Novak

Amy Parsons

Roderick Perry

Jill Redmond

Mary Schutten

Christian Spears

James Stapleton

Steve Waterfield

Maureen Weston

[Link to Current Committee Member Biographies](#)

THE COMMITTEE INCLUDES UP TO **24 VOLUNTEER MEMBERS**

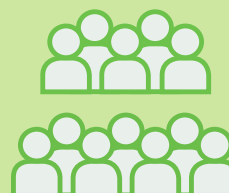
- Members of the Division I Board of Directors appoint committee members to serve full or partial terms.
 - A full term is three years, with members capped at three terms.
 - Terms are staggered to ensure enough overlap and that significant numbers of committee members do not rotate off the committee simultaneously, thereby affecting the overall experience of the Committee on Infractions.

The committee members include:

- Current or former university presidents and chancellors.
- Current or former athletics directors.
- Conference commissioners and other representatives.
- Former NCAA coaches.
- Campus and conference compliance officials.
- Faculty athletics representatives.
- Other university staff or faculty.
- Members of the public with formal legal training.

Division I Committee on Infractions Panels

Most cases are considered by panels of five to seven members.



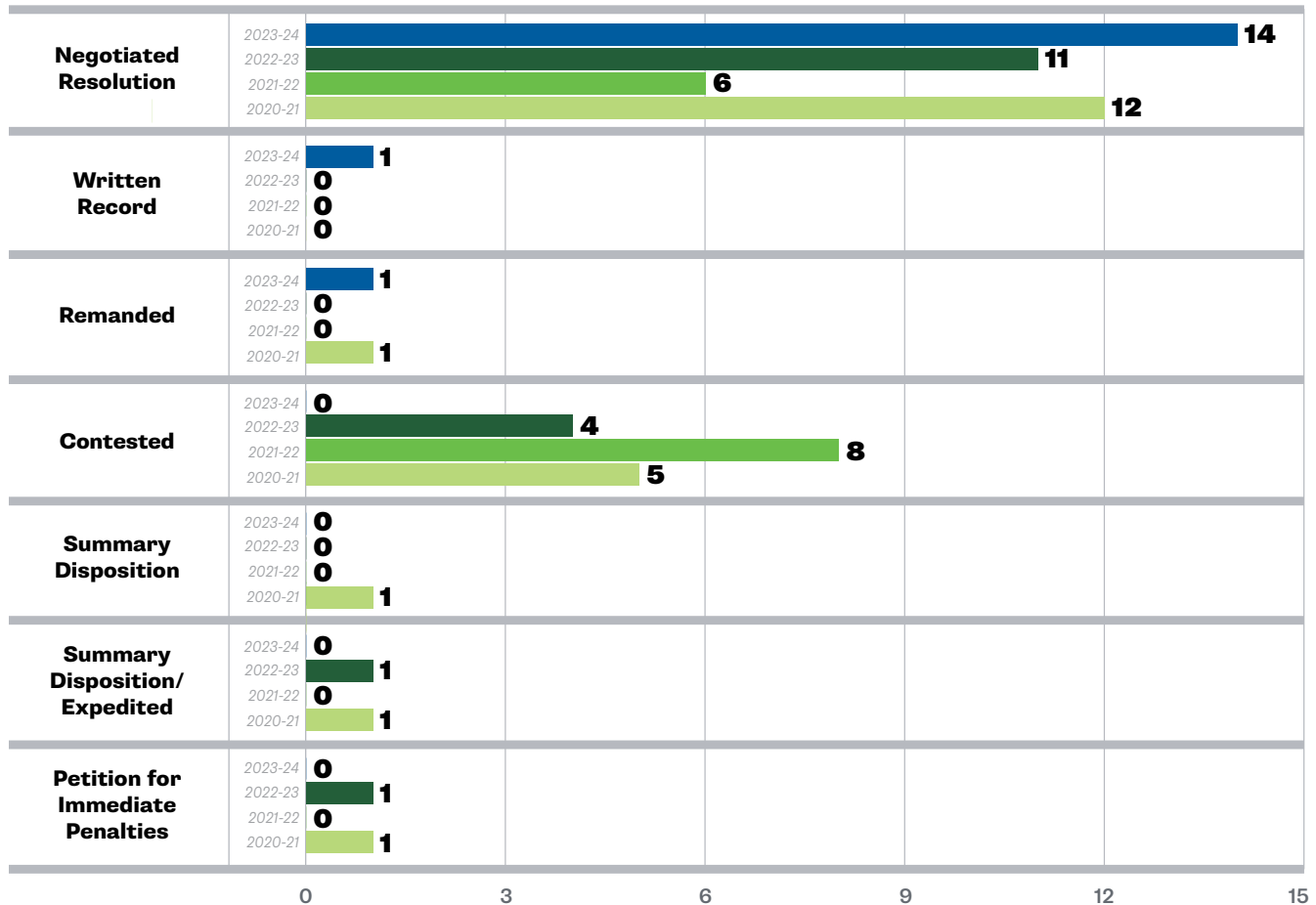
A three-member panel may be assigned when appropriate based on the number and/or nature of allegations. The smaller panel may also review negotiated resolutions.



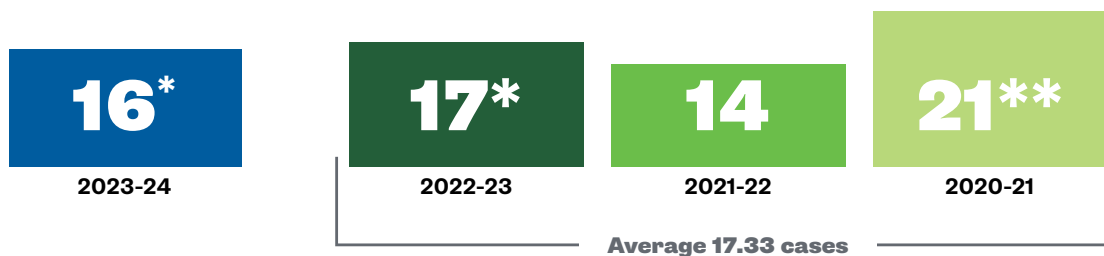
Division I Infractions Annual Report Data

Committee on Infractions Data

Reviewed cases/held hearings: 2023-24 compared with previous years.



Number of Case Decisions by Year



*This number includes resolutions that were rejected by the Committee on Infractions.

**This number includes a remanded case as well as a negotiated resolution that was rejected by the Committee on Infractions.

Division I Case Efficiency

Review of the case by the Division I Committee on Infractions is part of the overall infractions process.

After thoroughly investigating potential violations, the enforcement staff may issue allegations. Parties to an infractions case often delay the investigation and final resolution by regularly seeking extension requests. Parties have requested extensions in 33% of Division I contested cases during the past five years, adding an average of 30 days to case resolution. Moreover, the membership has provided the parties with a five-month period to submit formal positions related to those allegations under Bylaw 19. Throughout that period and in the weeks that follow, the committee prepares for the hearing. This preparation includes panel members reviewing the entire case record, and the Committee on Infractions staff combing through the record, producing preparation materials, finalizing logistics, generating panels, and assisting the committee’s leadership with resolving conflicts of interest and procedural issues. Hearings generally occur one to two months after the parties’ formal submissions. Generally, decisions are released relatively quickly after hearings. If a party appeals the committee’s decision, that can add months to the process.

In negotiated resolution and summary disposition, which are resolution methods that are built on party agreement, the preparation time is shorter, and panels are generated when the negotiated resolution or summary disposition is submitted. They generally are considered within a matter of weeks after submission. Likewise, decision release timelines are also faster. The nature and size of contested cases involve a longer timeline with multiple submissions (i.e., notice of allegations, responses, written reply). In those circumstances, panels are generated earlier in the process – roughly three months before the hearing – so panels have time to prepare for the case by reviewing the case record and party submissions.

When necessary in negotiated resolution cases, the Committee on Infractions may seek clarification or additional information regarding the parties’ initial submission. This process can take about a month and is aimed at ensuring that the agreement is in the best interest of the Association and that the penalties are reasonable. Now that the negotiated resolution process has been in effect for roughly five years, the need for clarifications and additional information is less frequent. Once the Committee on Infractions receives the final submission, it takes a little more than a week to schedule the review, and once approved, the decision is released in two to 10 days.

Parties have requested extensions in 24% of contested cases during the past five years, adding an average 21 days to case resolution.

WRITTEN RECORD

2023-24

41

days from COI panel review to COI decision release

NEGOTIATED RESOLUTION

2023-24

5

days from COI panel review to COI decision release

REMANDED

2023-24

48

days from case remand to COI decision release

Division I Penalty Analysis

The membership has stressed the importance of penalizing those most responsible for the underlying conduct and that penalties should be proportional to the severity of the violations that occurred. Data from 2023-24 shows that the Division I Committee on Infractions continues to answer the membership's call for more egregious violations to be met with stronger consequences.

	LEVEL I	LEVEL II
Total Case Decisions	9	7
Aggravated	1	0
Standard	1	3
Mitigated	7	4
Average Probation	2.8 years	1.7 years
Show-Cause Average	6.1 years	1.0 years
Cases Involving Postseason Ban(s)	1	0
Head Coach Suspensions	6	4
Cases Involving Scholarship Reduction(s) Percentage of cases	1 (11%)	1 (14%)
Cases Involving Recruiting Restrictions Percentage of cases	5 (56%)	5 (71%)
Cases Involving Ineligible Competition Percentage of cases	3 (33%)	2 (29%)
Percentage of Cases Involving Vacation of Records	100%	100%

Meet the Division II Committee on Infractions



Richard Loosbrock

Chair

Faculty Athletics
Representative, Adams
State University



Leslie Schuemann

Vice chair

Senior Woman Administrator/
Deputy Commissioner, Great
Midwest Athletic Conference

Amber Feldman

David Hansburg

Brooke Marie Parsons

Sara Richwine

Jason Sobolik

[Link to Current Committee Member Biographies](#)

THE COMMITTEE INCLUDES UP TO **7 VOLUNTEER MEMBERS**

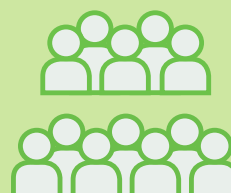
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 - A full term is three years, with members capped at three terms.
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The committee members include:

- Current or former athletics directors.
- Conference commissioners and other representatives.
- Campus and conference compliance officials.
- Other university staff or faculty.
- Members of the public with formal legal training.

Division II Committee on Infractions

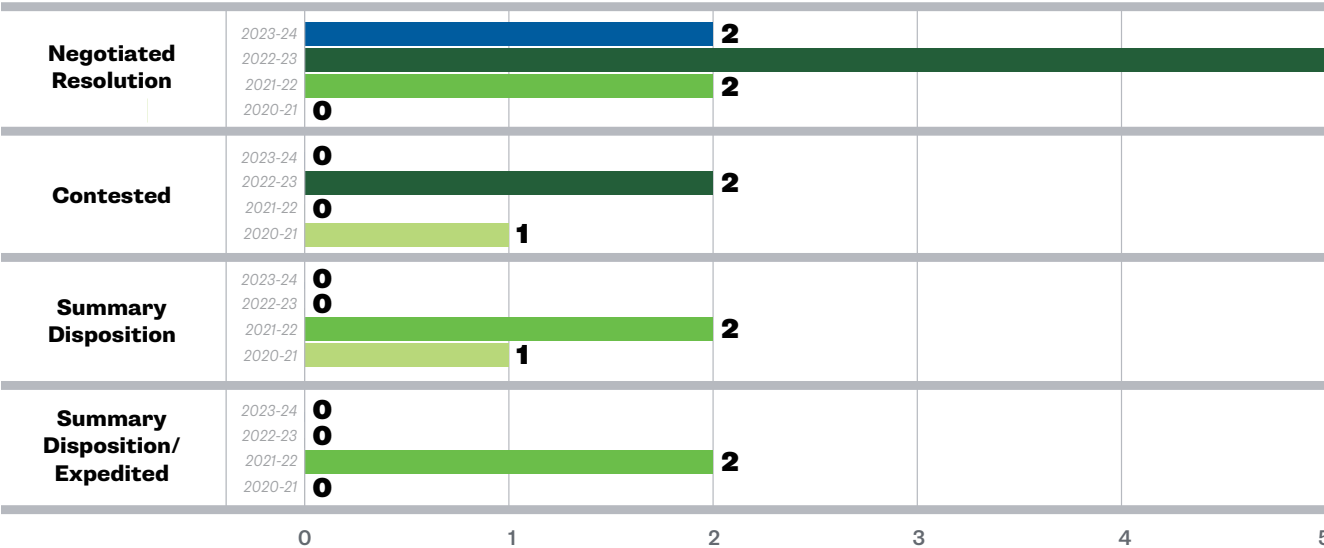
Absent recusals, the full body of seven considers each case.



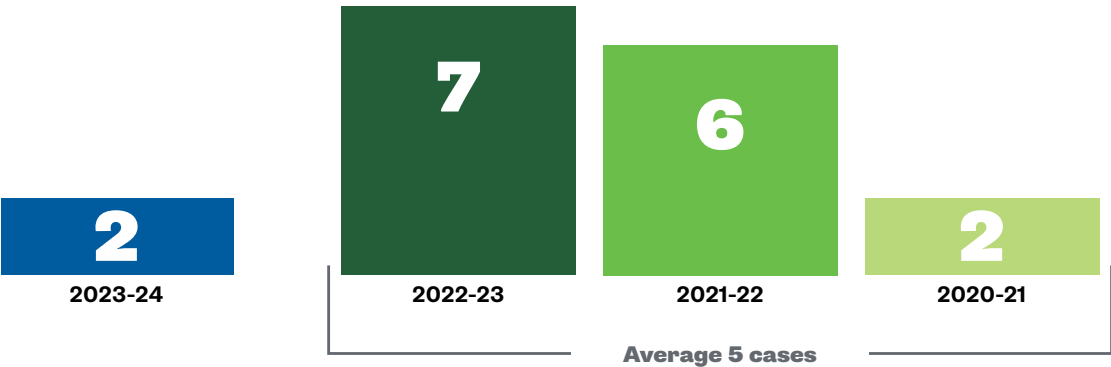
Division II Infractions Annual Report Data

Committee on Infractions Data

Reviewed cases/held hearings: 2023-24 compared with previous years.



Number of Case Decisions by Year



Division II Case Efficiency

Review of the case by the Division II Committee on Infractions is part of the overall infractions process.

After thoroughly investigating potential violations, the enforcement staff may issue allegations. Parties to an infractions case often delay the investigation and final resolution by regularly seeking extension requests. Parties have requested extensions in 33% of Division II contested cases during the past five years, adding an average of 45 days to case resolution. Refer to the Division I case efficiency page for additional information. Once the Committee on Infractions receives the final submission, it takes a little more than a week to schedule the review, and once approved, the decision is released in two to 10 days.

Parties have requested extensions in 33% of contested cases during the past five years, adding an average 45 days to case resolution.

NEGOTIATED RESOLUTION

2023-24

8

days from COI final panel review
to COI decision release

Division II Penalty Analysis

Data from 2023-24 shows that the Division II Committee on Infractions continues to answer the membership's call for more egregious violations to be met with stronger consequences. Unlike Division I, Division II does not have classification levels (aggravated, standard, mitigated).

	MAJOR	SECONDARY
Total Case Decisions	2	0
Average Probation	3.0 years	0 years
Show-Cause Average	0 years	0 years
Cases Involving Postseason Ban(s)	0	0
Head Coach Suspensions	0	0
Cases Involving Scholarship Reduction(s) Percentage of cases	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Cases Involving Recruiting Restrictions Percentage of cases	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Cases Involving Ineligible Competition Percentage of cases	2 (100%)	0 (0%)
Percentage of Cases Involving Vacation of Records	100%	0%

Meet the Division III Committee on Infractions



Donna Ledwin

Chair

Commissioner,
Allegheny Mountain
Collegiate Conference

Thomas DiCamillo

Angela Givens Williams

Tom Simmons

Matt Tanney

[Link to Current Committee Member Roster](#)

THE COMMITTEE INCLUDES UP TO **5 VOLUNTEER MEMBERS**

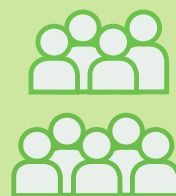
- Members of the Division III Board of Directors appoint committee members to serve full or partial terms.
 - A full term is three years, with members capped at three terms.
 - Terms are staggered to ensure enough overlap and that significant numbers of committee members do not rotate off the committee simultaneously, thereby affecting the overall experience of the Committee on Infractions.

The committee members include:

- Current or former athletics directors.
- Conference commissioners and other representatives.
- Former NCAA coaches.
- Other university staff or faculty.
- Members of the public with formal legal training.

Division III Committee on Infractions

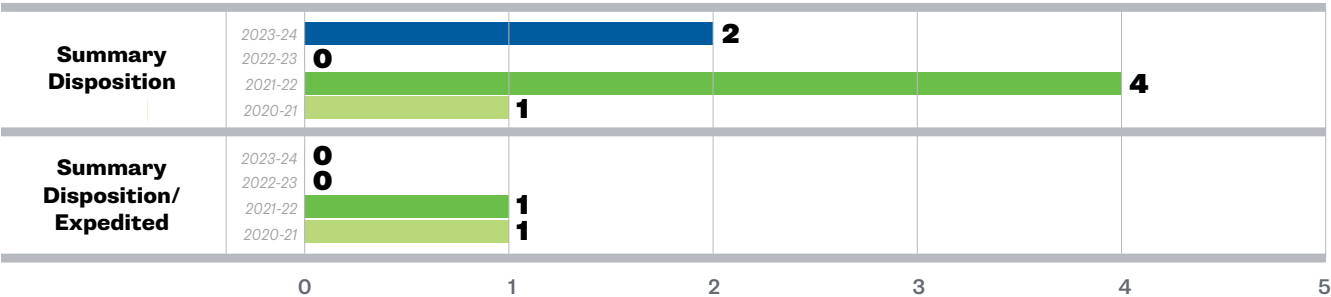
Absent recusals, the full body of five considers each case.



Division III Infractions Annual Report Data

Committee on Infractions Data

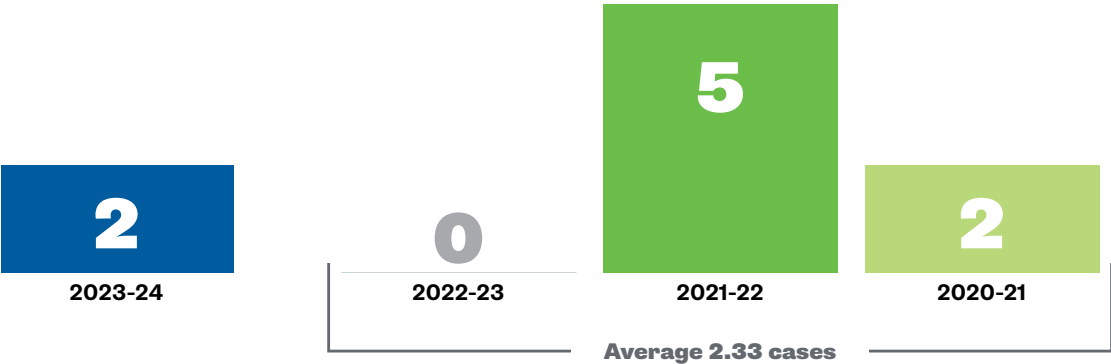
Reviewed cases/held hearings: 2023-24 compared with previous years.



Division III Case Efficiency

There have been no Division III contested cases within the past five years. Therefore, no extension data has been provided.

Number of Case Decisions by Year



SUMMARY DISPOSITION WITH EXPEDITED HEARING

2023-24

47

days from COI panel review
to COI decision release

Division III Penalty Analysis

Data from 2023-24 shows that the Division III Committee on Infractions continues to answer the membership's call for more egregious violations to be met with stronger consequences. Unlike Division I, Division III does not have classification levels (aggravated, standard, mitigated).

	MAJOR	SECONDARY
Total Case Decisions	2	0
Average Probation	1 year	0 years
Show-Cause Average	1 year	0 years
Cases Involving Postseason Ban(s)	0	0
Head Coach Suspensions	1	0
Cases Involving Scholarship Reduction(s) Percentage of cases	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Cases Involving Recruiting Restrictions Percentage of cases	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Cases Involving Ineligible Competition Percentage of cases	0 (0%)	0 (0%)
Percentage of Cases Involving Vacation of Records	0%	0%

Infractions Appeals Committees Overview

If a school or involved individual disagrees with the divisional Committee on Infractions' determination of factual findings, conclusions, findings of violations, level (Division I only), classification (Division I only) and/or prescription of penalties, an appeal may be submitted for review by the divisional Infractions Appeals Committee.

An appeal to a divisional Infractions Appeals Committee is not a second opportunity to argue the full case. Instead, the committee only reviews the matters appealed by the parties. A high standard, as defined by the NCAA membership, must be met for the divisional Infractions Appeals Committees to overturn or remand the determinations of the divisional Committees on Infractions.

Infractions Appeals Committees Office Staff

Wendy Walters

Managing director

Alexander Smith

Director

Kelley Sullivan

Assistant coordinator

Standard of Review for Appeals for Division I

There is one standard of review for appeal cases. The standard states that the Infractions Appeals Committee shall affirm factual findings, violations, level, classification, additional penalties and core penalties outside of the Division I penalty guidelines if there is information in the record supporting the hearing panel's decision.

Further, the Infractions Appeals Committee shall not set aside factual findings, violations, level, classification, additional penalties and core penalties outside of the Division I penalty guidelines except on a showing that no reasonable person could have made the decision after considering the record.

As a reminder, core penalties within the ranges in the Division I penalty guidelines may not be directly appealed.

Standard of Review for Appeals for Divisions II and III

For Divisions II and III, the standards of review for appeal are the same. For the appeal of factual findings, conclusions and violations, the school or involved individual must show one of the following:

- (a) A factual finding is clearly contrary to the information presented to the Committee on Infractions.
- (b) The facts found by the Committee on Infractions do not constitute a violation of the Association's rules.
- (c) There was a procedural error, and but for the error, the Committee on Infractions would not have made the conclusion of a violation.

For the appeal of penalties, the school or involved individual must show that the penalty is excessive such that it constitutes an abuse of discretion.



Meet the Division I Infractions Appeals Committee



Allison Rich

Chair

Director of Athletics,
New Hampshire



Julie Vannatta

Vice chair

Former Senior Associate
General Counsel for
Athletics/Senior Associate
Athletics Director, Ohio State

Other Infractions Appeals Committee Members:

Tom Goss

Colleen Hanycz

Alejandra Montenegro Almonte

David Shipley

Maura Smith

[Link to Current Committee Member Biographies](#)

THE COMMITTEE INCLUDES UP TO

7 VOLUNTEER MEMBERS

- Members of the Division I Board of Directors appoint committee members to serve full or partial terms.
 - A full term is three years, with members capped at three terms.
 - Terms are staggered to ensure enough overlap and that significant numbers of committee members do not rotate off the committee simultaneously, thereby affecting the overall experience of the Infractions Appeals Committee.
- Three of the members are from the general public, do not represent coaches or athletes in any capacity and are not affiliated with a collegiate school, conference, or professional or similar sports organization.

The committee's mission is to provide a meaningful, reliable and credible appeal opportunity that produces outcomes that have a positive impact on the infractions process and supports the NCAA's commitment to provide a fair and fulfilling competitive environment for student-athletes.

Note: The current members of the Division I Infractions Appeals Committee are listed above. In 2023-24, Ellen Ferris, senior associate commissioner, governance and compliance for the American Athletic Conference, was the chair of the committee, and Jon Alger, president of American University, was a member of the committee. Hanycz and Smith became members of the committee in 2024-25.

What's Next in Division I

Changes made to the infractions appeals process by the Division I Transformation Committee and the NCAA Division I Board of Directors are now applicable in the infractions appeals process. In 2023-24, the committee resolved one case under the updated infractions appeals process. However, the committee expects to resolve additional appeal cases under the new process and issue decisions in 2024-25. Schools and involved individuals considering an appeal should be aware of these key components of the infractions appeals process:

What can be Appealed

A school or involved individual may appeal individually or any combination of the following:

- Factual findings.
- Conclusions.
- Findings of violations.
- Level of violations and case.
- Classification of case.
- Core penalties outside of the Division I penalty guidelines.
- Additional penalties.

Core penalties that are within the Division I penalty guidelines prescribed by the Committee on Infractions CANNOT be directly appealed. For example, for a Level I – Standard infractions case, a scholarship reduction penalty of 12% cannot be directly appealed.

If the appeal of violation(s), level and/or classification is successful (e.g., vacated) and the level or classification of the case changes, this may impact the core penalties prescribed in the case.

Mode or Method for Reviewing and Resolving an Appeal

Generally, the Infractions Appeals Committee will resolve an appeal case through a review of the written record.

Schools or involved individuals may not request a review that includes an oral argument.

The Infractions Appeals Committee may conduct an oral argument in the extenuating circumstance where the committee determines it is unable to resolve the appeal case without an oral argument.

Division I Infractions Appeals Committee Cases by Year

August 2020-July 2021		August 2021-July 2022		August 2022-July 2023		August 2023-July 2024	
4 cases opened	3 cases closed	0 cases opened	5 cases closed	3 cases opened	2 cases closed	1 case opened	2 cases closed
*							

The Infractions Appeals Committee cases include one case submitted during the 2022-23 academic year wherein a decision in the case was released during the 2023-24 academic year. It is included in the 2022-23 annual report because it was the last case decided under the prior infractions appeals process and standards. The new infractions appeals process went into effect for all **appeals submitted after Jan. 1, 2023.

Division I Violations and Penalties

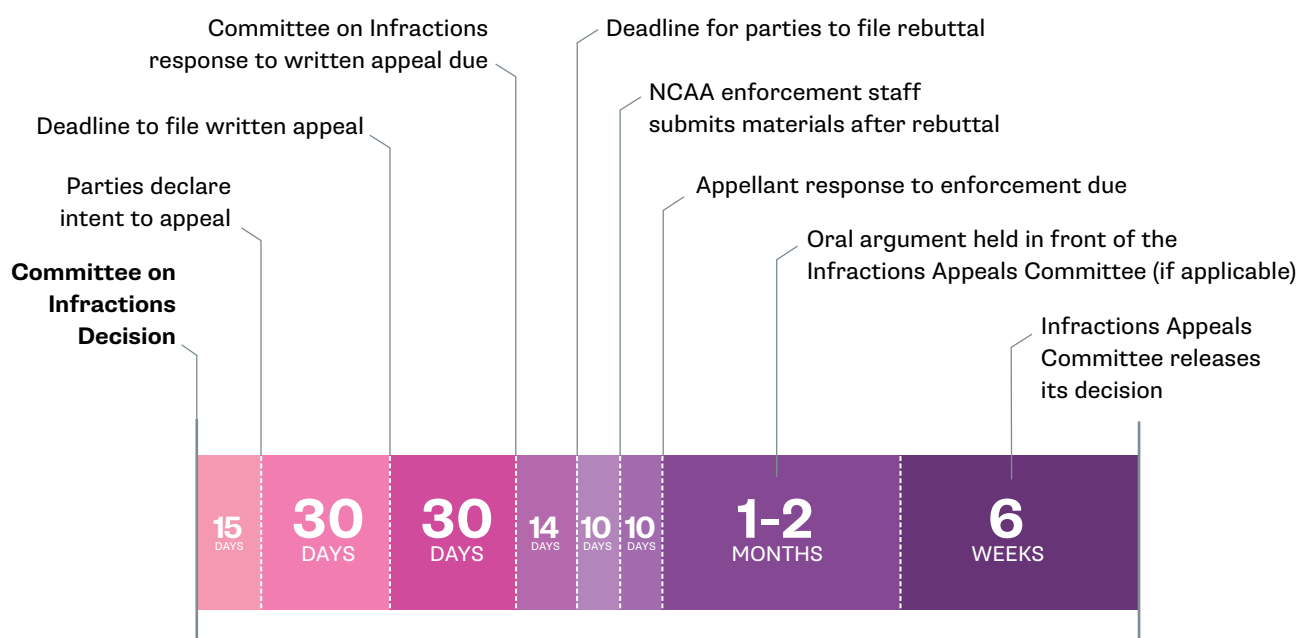
Over the last three years, eight of eight appealed findings of violations and 10 of 13 appealed penalties have been affirmed by the Division I Infractions Appeals Committee.

	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24*
Total violations appealed	4	1	3
Violations affirmed	4	1	3
Violations vacated	0	0	0
Total penalties appealed	8	3	2
Penalties affirmed	7	1	2
Penalties vacated	1	0	0
Penalties remanded	0	2	0

*These numbers include two cases. One case is from the new infractions appeals process and standards, and one case is from the previous infractions appeals process and standards. The new infractions appeals process went into effect for all appeals submitted after Jan. 1, 2023.

Infractions Appeals Timeline

The average Infractions Appeals Committee case takes eight months from the time of appeal until a resolution is reached. These time frames represent legislated benchmarks:



Meet the Division II Infractions Appeals Committee



Eddie Weatherington

Chair

Senior Associate
Commissioner, Central
Intercollegiate Athletic
Association



Douglas Blais

Vice chair

Professor, Southern New
Hampshire University

Other Infractions Appeals Committee Members:

David Hicks

Chris Snyder

[Link to Current Committee Member Biographies](#)

There were no Division II infractions appeals for the 2023-24 academic year.

THE COMMITTEE INCLUDES UP TO

5 VOLUNTEER MEMBERS

- Members of the Division II Management Council appoint committee members to serve full or partial terms.
- Currently, the committee is composed of four volunteer members: one member from the Division II Management Council and three additional individuals selected at large from the membership.
- A full term is three years, with members capped at three terms.
- Terms are staggered to ensure enough overlap and that significant numbers of committee members do not rotate off the committee simultaneously, thereby affecting the overall experience of the Infractions Appeals Committee.
- The committee includes members who not only have experience with administering Division II athletics programs but also members who have experience with or understanding of administrative hearing processes and procedures.

The committee's mission is to provide a meaningful, reliable and credible appeal opportunity that produces outcomes that have a positive impact on the infractions process and supports the NCAA's commitment to provide a fair and fulfilling competitive environment for student-athletes.

Meet the Division III Infractions Appeals Committee



Dale Caldwell

Chair

President, Centenary
University (New Jersey)

Other Infractions Appeals Committee Members:

Lauren Haynie

Betsy Mitchell

Gina Nicoletti-Bellinger

[Link to Current Committee Member Biographies](#)

There were no Division III infractions appeals for the 2023-24 academic year.

Note: The current members of the Division III Infractions Appeals Committee are listed above. In 2023-24, Marc Camille, president, Albertus Magnus College, was the chair of the committee.

THE COMMITTEE INCLUDES UP TO

5 VOLUNTEER MEMBERS

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