

LEGISLATION



2017 NCAA CONVENTION

DIVISION III INITIAL PUBLICATION OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION

111th Annual Convention

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Nashville, Tennessee

THE NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION
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**Initial Publication of Proposed Legislation (IPOPL) Submitted by the
NCAA Division III Membership
111th Annual Convention**

This publication presents all proposed amendments to NCAA legislation that were properly submitted by the NCAA Division III membership in accordance with the July 15 deadline in the NCAA legislative calendar. The six proposals herein are printed in the order in which they would appear, if adopted, in the NCAA Division III Manual. No attempt has been made to place them in topical groupings or in the order in which they eventually might appear in the 2017 NCAA Convention agenda. **The order of the six proposals may change in the Second Publication of Proposed Legislation (SPOPL) and in the Official Notice. Therefore, the numeral 1 will be placed in front of each proposal number to help identify it in future legislative publications as having originated in the initial (first) publication.**

Each proposal is accompanied not only by a statement of intent and proposed effective date, but also by a statement of rationale and a listing of the primary contact person designated by the sponsors of the amendment.

This publication is produced directly from the Legislative Services Database for the Internet each time it is downloaded. Therefore, the content of the publication may change each time it is accessed from the NCAA webpage. As modifications or corrections are made to proposals during the sponsor modification period, updates will be made to LSDBi and those changes will be reflected in this document.

Between the date this publication is posted (not later than August 15) and September 15, sponsors of these proposals are permitted to refine and change the amendments in any manner that is germane to the proposal as printed in this publication. Such changes may either increase or decrease the modification set forth in the original proposal - i.e., the sponsors may alter the proposal to make greater or lesser changes in the current legislation than they originally submitted. A sponsor-modification form and explanatory memorandum will be distributed to designated primary contact persons in mid-August. Sponsors may use this form to modify the legislative proposals they have submitted. All such modifications must be received in the NCAA national office not later than September 15. In addition, sponsors who wish to withdraw a proposal before September 15 at 5 p.m. Eastern time may use the sponsor-modification form for that purpose; however, please note that proposals withdrawn after September 15 will still appear in the Second Publication of Proposed Legislation.

No new proposals may be submitted by the Division III membership for the Convention after the July 15 deadline has passed; however, proposals are available for co-sponsorship until September 1. Member institutions and conferences that wish to offer suggested revisions to an amendment are encouraged to contact the designated primary contact person, as listed with each proposal. Such contacts should be made as early as possible in the period of time between the date this publication is posted and September 15, to assure time for appropriate consideration by the sponsors.

This represents the first in a series of three publications dealing with Convention legislation, as dictated by the provisions of NCAA Constitution 5. The other publications will be as follows:

Second Publication of Proposed Legislation. Issued not later than September 23 and includes the proposals submitted by the Division III membership as modified on or prior to September 15, as well as all legislation submitted by the NCAA Division III Presidents Council and the NCAA Division III Management Council in accordance with the September 1 deadline. Amendment-to-amendment forms will also be available at this time.

Official Notice of the 2017 Convention. Issued on November 15; and contains all Division III legislation for the Convention, including all amendments-to-amendments and resolutions submitted by the November 1 deadline.

2016-17 Legislative Calendar

The legislative calendar, as set forth in Constitution 5, is summarized here for convenience of reference.

July 15: Deadline for submission of amendments by the Division III membership. Each amendment must include a statement of intent and a separate statement of rationale (200 words or less), as well as identification of the designated primary contact person, and must be sponsored by at least one conference or at least 10 of the 20 individual institution sponsors.

July 21-22: Management Council consideration. The Management Council considers legislative proposals that it may wish to sponsor. It also reviews proposals submitted by the membership in accordance with the July 15 deadline.

August 7: Presidents Council consideration. The Presidents Council considers legislative proposals that it may wish to sponsor. It also reviews the proposals submitted by the membership in accordance with the July 15 deadline.

Not Later Than August 15: Posting of Initial Publication of Proposed Legislation.

Date IPOPL is Posted through September 15: Sponsor-modification period. Sponsors are permitted to refine and change their proposals in any manner germane to the original proposal. Member institutions and conferences are invited to offer any suggested revisions of a proposal to the primary contact person listed with the proposal. Also, members that believe an amendment should not be modified should so inform the primary contact person.

September 1: Deadline for submission of amendments sponsored by the Presidents Council or Management Council.

September 1: Deadline for proper co-sponsorship of membership proposals. The proposals must receive proper co-sponsorship from one additional conference (if originally sponsored by one conference) or 10 additional individual institutions (if originally sponsored by 10 institutions) or it will be withdrawn.

September 15: Deadline for submission by all sponsors (with submission by the primary contact person) of any modification to their original amendments. These modifications may represent either greater or lesser changes; they need only be germane to the original amendment.

Not Later Than September 23: Posting of Second Publication of Proposed Legislation. This publication includes all membership-sponsored proposals as modified and includes all proposals sponsored by the Presidents Council or Management Council.

Date SPOPL is Posted through November 1: Amendment-to-amendment period. The Presidents Council and Management Council as well as the membership (see Constitution 5.3.5.3) may submit amendments to the proposals in the Second Publication of Proposed Legislation. These amendments-to-amendments may not increase the modification of the provisions to be amended; they must fall between the provisions of the original proposed amendment and the current provisions.

November 1: Deadline for all amendments-to-amendments to be received in the national office. No amendments-to-amendments sponsored by the membership may be submitted after this date. The Presidents Council and Management Council are authorized to submit further amendments-to-amendments at the Convention if they deem such action necessary.

November 15: Mailing of the Official Notice of the Convention. This publication includes all Division III proposed legislation and the properly submitted amendments-to-amendments and resolutions.

January 18-21, 2017: NCAA Convention. All delegates receive the Convention program when they register at the Convention. The Convention program contains the most up-to-date meeting schedule and other helpful Convention information.

NCAA Division III Interpretations and Legislation Committee

Amy J. Backus, Case Western Reserve University

Chuck Brown, Pennsylvania State Erie, The Behrend College

Sean Cain, Adrian College (Student-Athlete)

Jim Cranmer, St. Mary's College of Maryland

Shantey M. Hill, St. Joseph's College (Long Island)

Sara Beth Holman, Lawrence University
Gregg Kaye, Commonwealth Coast Conference
Shana Levine, Lewis and Clark College (chair)

111th Annual Convention
LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS SUBMITTED BY THE MEMBERSHIP

[Note: Pursuant to Constitution 5.3.12, all amendments shall become effective not earlier than the first day of August following adoption by the Convention; however, if a voting delegate wishes to propose an immediate effective date, or an effective date other than the first day of August following the Convention, the rationale statement shall contain reasons why the amendment has an alternative effective date. Those proposals that are given an immediate effective date and that are adopted, become effective on adjournment of the Convention.]

[Note: In the following proposals:

- Those letters and words that appear in *italics* and ~~striketrough~~ are to be deleted;
- Those letters and words that appear in **boldface** and are underlined are to be added; and
- Those letters and words that appear in normal text are unchanged from the current Division III legislation.]

No. 1-1 LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY AND PROCESS -- AMENDMENT PROCESS -- RECONSIDERATION -- ELIMINATE WINDOW OF RECONSIDERATION AND PROHIBIT ADDITIONAL RECONSIDERATION

Intent: To eliminate the opportunity to reconsider an amendment following confirmation of an affirmative or negative vote on that amendment by the presiding officer.

A. Bylaws: Amend 5.3.13.2, as follows:

5.3.13.2 Vote on Division Dominant Provisions. ~~Before adjournment of any Convention, an affirmative or negative vote on an amendment to a division dominant provision may be subjected to one motion for reconsideration of that action by any member that voted on the prevailing side in the original consideration. Reconsideration of the vote must occur in the appropriate division business session.~~ **An affirmative or negative vote on a division dominant provision is final and may not be reconsidered once that vote has been confirmed by the presiding officer.**

B. Bylaws: Amend 5.3.13.3, as follows:

5.3.13.3 Vote on Federated Provisions. ~~Before adjournment of any Convention, an affirmative or negative vote on an amendment to a federated provision may be subjected to one motion for reconsideration of that action by any member that voted on the prevailing side in the original consideration. Reconsideration of the vote must occur in the business session.~~ **An affirmative or negative vote on a federated provision is final and may not be reconsidered once that vote has been confirmed by the presiding officer.**

Source: Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference and Southern California Intercollegiate Athletic Conference

Effective Date: August 1, 2017

Rationale: The window of reconsideration for items just debated and voted on is unnecessary. Voting delegates have ample time to research and determine their institutional opinion, debate the merits, and cast informed final votes on proposals. Allowing any additional opportunity to discuss and revote on a previously decided proposal is superfluous. The window of reconsideration provides opportunities for unethical voting. Many delegates may depart after an initial vote on Convention proposals; as a result, a delegate could strategically vote on the prevailing side of a proposal with the intent to use the window of reconsideration to take advantage of the change in the composition of the room and reverse the outcome on the proposal. Removing the window of reconsideration and any additional opportunity to request a revote will be a positive change and will streamline the business session at Convention.

Primary Contact Person:

Dan McKane, Executive Director
Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference
8030 Old Cedar Ave S
Suite 222
Bloomington, MN 55425

No. 1-2 RECRUITING -- TRYOUTS AND CAMPS AND CLINICS -- DEREGULATING CAMPS AND CLINICS

Intent: To deregulate the tryout events and camps and clinics legislation to allow institutions to host or conduct events involving prospective student-athletes, provided those events are: (1) open to the general public; and (2) do not offer free or reduced admission to prospective student-athletes.

Bylaws: Amend 13, as follows:

13 Recruiting.

[13.01 and 13.02 unchanged.]

[13.1 through 13.10 unchanged.]

13.11 ~~Tryouts~~ **Events Involving Prospective Student-Athletes.**

13.11.1 Prospective Student-Athlete Defined for ~~Tryout Rule~~ **Purposes of this Section.** For purposes of this section, the phrase "prospective student-athlete" shall include any individual who has started classes for the

ninth grade and is not enrolled in the member institution at the time of the activity described. For an incoming student, the limitations of this section do not apply to preseason participation if the student has been accepted by the institution for enrollment in a regular, full-time program of studies and is no longer enrolled in the previous educational institution.

13.11.2 Prohibited Physical Activities Involving Prospective Student-Athletes.

13.11.2.1 Traditional Tryout. It is impermissible for an athletics department coaching staff member to observe or conduct physical workouts or other recreational activities designed to test the athletics abilities of a prospective student-athlete. [D]

13.11.2.1.1 Permissible Observation of Recreational Activities. A coaching staff member who observes a prospective student-athlete engaging in recreational activities is not considered to be conducting a tryout, provided:

- (a) The documented job responsibilities for the coaching staff member include monitoring of an institutional facility for purposes of safety and facility security; and **the observation occurs while the coaching staff member performs this monitoring responsibility; or**
- (b) The **activity meets one of the criteria outlined in 13.11.3.** ~~observation occurs while the coaching staff member performs this monitoring responsibility.~~

~~This **The** exception **in Bylaw 13.11.2.1-(a)** does not permit a coaching staff member to direct, supervise or provide instruction to prospective student-athletes, but permits a coaching staff member to stop any activity that is dangerous to a prospective student-athlete or other students.~~

~~13.11.2.2 Tryout Events. It is impermissible for a member institution or conference to host, sponsor or conduct a tryout camp, clinic, group workout or combine (e.g., combination of athletics skills test or activities) devoted to agility, flexibility, speed and strength tests for prospective student athletes. An institution's staff member may only attend such an event sponsored by an outside organization if the event occurs off the institution's campus and is open to all institutions. [D]~~

[13.11.2.3 renumbered as 13.11.2.2, unchanged.]

13.11.3 Permissible ~~Physical Activities~~ **Events** Involving Prospective Student-Athletes. ~~Any activity not specifically prohibited in Bylaw 13.11.2 and its subsections is permissible. Permissible activities include, but are not limited to, the following:~~

13.11.3.1 ~~Athletics Events or Activities Involving Prospective Student Athletes.~~ **Competition-Only Events.** ~~It is permissible for a member institution to host, sponsor, promote or conduct any type of athletics event or activity involving prospective student athletes that is not specifically prohibited within Bylaw 13.11.2. **An institution or an athletics department staff member may conduct an event involving prospective student-athletes in which prospective student-athletes are engaged solely in competition.**~~

13.11.3.2 Sports Camps and Clinics **and Other Athletics Events.** ~~See Bylaw 13.12. **An institution or an athletics department staff member may host, conduct or be employed by an event involving prospective student-athletes, provided:**~~

- (a) The event is open to the general public (limited only by number and age);**
- (b) The event does not offer free or reduced admission to any individual who has started classes for the ninth grade;**
- (c) Any awards or mementos received by student-athletes are included in the admissions fees charged for participation in the event; and**
- (d) No athletics department staff member is employed (either on a salaried or volunteer basis) in any capacity by an event established, sponsored or conducted by a recruiting or scouting service (events established, sponsored or conducted by a recruiting or scouting service are permitted to occur on an institution's campus).**

13.11.3.2.1 Institutional Camps/Clinics and Other Athletics Events. Institutional camps and clinics may provide results of an evaluation only to the specific prospective student-athlete to which that evaluation pertains.

13.11.3.2.2 Service or Religious Organization Camps and Conferences. Events conducted by service or religious organizations are exempt from NCAA restrictions on events involving prospective student-athletes.

[13.11.3.3 and 13.11.3.4 unchanged.]

13.11.3.5 High School All-Star Games. ~~A member institution's facilities may be made available for a high school all-star game provided the provisions of Bylaw 13.13.1 are met~~ **See Bylaw 13.13.**

13.11.4 Employment at Competition Events, Sports Camps and Clinics and Other Events.

13.11.4.1 Prospective Student-Athletes. An institution may employ a prospective student-athlete at its event provided all compensation received by the prospective student-athlete is for work actually performed and at a rate commensurate with the going rate in that locality for similar services.

13.11.4.2 Student-Athlete Employment. Student-athletes may be employed by athletics events (institutional or non-institutional) involving prospective student-athletes, provided:

- (a) The student-athlete performs administrative duties in addition to any coaching or officiating duties;**
- (b) A student-athlete who only lectures or demonstrates may not receive compensation for his/her appearance; and**
- (c) A student-athlete with remaining eligibility is not permitted to conduct his or her own event involving prospective student-athletes.**

~~13.12 Sports Camps and Clinics.~~

~~13.12.1 Institution's Sports Camps and Clinics.~~

~~13.12.1.1 Definition. An institution's sports camp or instructional clinic shall be any camp or clinic that is owned or operated by a member institution or an employee of the member institution's athletics department, either on or off its campus.~~

~~13.12.1.1.1 Format of Camps or Clinics. An institution's sports camp or clinic shall include instruction or practice programming. The sports camp or clinic may also include competition, but shall not be solely comprised of competition. Additionally, the camp or clinic shall be one that:~~

- ~~(a) Places special emphasis on a particular sport or sports and provides specialized instruction or practice and may include competition;~~
- ~~(b) Involves activities designed to improve overall skills and general knowledge in the sport; or~~
- ~~(c) Offers a diversified experience without emphasis on instruction, practice or competition in any particular sport.~~

~~13.12.1.2 Attendance Restriction. A member institution's sports camp or clinic shall be open to any and all entrants (limited only by number and age).~~

~~13.12.1.3 Advertisements. Restrictions relating to advertisements of an institution's sports camps and clinics in recruiting publications are set forth in Bylaw 13.4. Such restrictions do not apply to sports camp and clinic advertisements in nonrecruiting publications (e.g., a member institution's game program). (See Bylaw 12.5.1.7) [D]~~

~~13.12.1.4 Prospective Student Athletes/No Free or Reduced Admission Privileges. In operating a sports camp or clinic, an institution, members of its staff or a representative of its athletics interests shall not give free or reduced admission privileges to any individual who has started classes for the ninth grade. [R]~~

~~13.12.1.4.1 Payment of Expenses. A representative of an institution's athletics interests may not pay a prospective student athlete's expenses to attend a member institution's sports camp or clinic. [R]~~

~~13.12.1.4.2 Awards and Mementos. Prospective student athletes may receive awards and mementos from a member institution's sports camp or clinic. The cost of such awards are included in the admissions fees charged for participants in the camp or clinic. [R]~~

~~13.12.1.5 Recruiting Activities. Athletics department staff members shall not engage in recruiting activities during institutional sports camps or clinics. Nonathletics institutional staff members may present and provide general institutional information to camp participants.~~

~~13.12.2 Employment at Camp or Clinic.~~

~~13.12.2.1 Prospective Student Athletes. An institution may employ a prospective student athlete at its institutional sports camp and/or clinic provided all compensation received by the prospective student athlete is for work actually performed and at a rate commensurate with the going rate in that locality for similar services.~~

~~13.12.2.2 Student Athletes.~~

~~13.12.2.2.1 General Rule. A student athlete who is employed in any sports camp or clinic must meet the following requirements: [R]~~

~~(a) The student athlete must perform duties that are of a general supervisory character in addition to any coaching or officiating assignments;~~

~~(b) Compensation provided to the student athlete shall be commensurate with the going rate for camp or clinic counselors of like teaching ability and camp or clinic experience and may not be paid on the basis of the value that the student athlete may have for the employer because of the athletics reputation or fame the student athlete has achieved. It is not permissible to establish varying levels of compensation for a student athlete employed in a sports camp or clinic based on the level of athletics skills of the student athlete; and~~

~~(c) A student athlete who only lectures or demonstrates at a camp/clinic may not receive compensation for his or her appearance at the camp/clinic.~~

~~13.12.2.2.1.1 Self-Employment. A student athlete with remaining eligibility is not permitted to conduct his or her own camp or clinic. [R]~~

~~13.12.2.2.1.2 Travel Expenses. A student-athlete may receive actual travel expenses (including lodging and meals in transit and prepaid plane tickets or cash advances) provided such expenses are paid for all employees of the camp/clinic. [R]~~

~~13.12.2.2.1.3 Cash Advances Based on Anticipated Earnings. In the case in which all employees do not receive travel expenses, a cash advance based on anticipated earnings may be provided to a student-athlete only if such advance does not exceed the estimated actual and necessary cost of travel or the student-athlete's estimated employment earnings, whichever is less, and such a benefit is available to all camp employees. [R]~~

~~13.12.2.2.2 Employment in Own Institution's Camp or Clinic. A member institution (or employees of its athletics department) may employ its student-athletes as counselors in camps or clinics, provided the student-athletes do not participate in organized practice activities other than during the institution's playing season in the sport (see Bylaw 17.1.1). [D]~~

~~13.12.2.3 High School, Preparatory School or Two-Year College Coaches. A member institution (or employees of its athletics department) may employ a high school, preparatory school or two-year college coach at its camp or clinic.~~

~~13.12.2.4 Athletics Staff Members. A member institution's athletics staff member may be involved in sports camps or clinics unless otherwise prohibited in this section. [D]~~

~~13.12.2.4.1 Camp/Clinic Providing Recruiting or Scouting Service. No athletics department staff member may be employed (either on a salaried or a volunteer basis) in any capacity by a camp or clinic established, sponsored or conducted by an individual or organization that provides recruiting or scouting services concerning prospective student-athletes. This provision does not prohibit an athletics department staff member from participating in an officiating camp in which participants officiate for, but are not otherwise involved in, a scouting services camp. [D]~~

~~13.12.2.5 Concession Arrangement. A prospective or enrolled student-athlete, at his or her own expense, may not operate a concession to sell items related to or associated with the institution's camp. However, the institution may employ the prospective or enrolled student-athlete at a rate commensurate with the going rate in that locality for similar services. [R]~~

~~13.12.3 Service or Religious Organization Camps and Conferences. Camps, clinics and conferences conducted by service or religious organizations are exempt from NCAA restrictions on camps and clinics.~~

~~13.12.4 Privately Owned Camp. An institution's athletics department personnel may serve in any capacity (e.g., guest lecturer, consultant) in a privately owned camp, clinic or coaching school at which prospective student-athletes who have started the ninth grade are employed, provided the camp or clinic operates in accordance with the following conditions:~~

~~(a) The camp or clinic shall be open to the general public; and~~

~~(b) The camp or clinic shall not give free or reduced admission privileges to any individual who has started classes for the ninth grade.~~

~~13.12.4.1 Payment of Expenses. It is not permissible for a representative of an institution's athletics interests to pay a prospective student-athlete's expenses to attend a privately owned sports camp, clinic or coaching school.~~

~~13.12.4.2 Advertisements. Restrictions related to the advertising of private camps or clinics involving student athletes are set forth in Bylaw 12.5.1.7.~~

[13.13 through Figure 13-1 renumbered as 13.12 through Figure 13-1, unchanged.]

Source: North Coast Athletic Conference, Landmark Conference and Middle Atlantic Conferences

Effective Date: Immediate

Rationale: Camps and clinics provide benefits to institutions and conveniences to prospective student-athletes; they are one of the most effective recruiting tools for any institution. Additionally, athletic departments and athletics staff can realize revenue and income from these events. Much confusion exists surrounding the application of the existing legislation and the nuances in the legislation do little to minimize recruiting advantages or demand on prospective student-athletes. This proposal would allow for instruction, practice-type activities and competition amongst prospective student-athletes without the unnecessary restrictions that exist in the current legislation. This proposal would continue to require that events involving prospective student-athletes are open to the general public and could not offer free or reduced admission to prospective student-athletes. Additionally, institution-hosted events would continue to be precluded from offering recruiting or scouting services. Maintaining those limited restrictions while eliminating all other existing criteria related to camps and clinics will make it easier for institutions to productively host events involving prospective student-athletes without opening the door for abuse. An immediate effective date will allow institutions to take advantage of the more reasonable restrictions beginning in 2017.

Primary Contact Person:

Keri Alexander Luchowski, Executive Director
North Coast Athletic Conference
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No. 1-3 ELIGIBILITY -- GRADUATE AND POSTBACCALAUREATE TRANSFERS

Intent: To permit a graduate student to participate in intercollegiate athletics at the institution of his or her choice.

A. Bylaws: Amend 14.1.9, as follows:

14.1.9 Graduate Student/Postbaccalaureate Participation. A student-athlete ~~who is enrolled in a graduate or professional school of the institution he or she most recently attended as an undergraduate (regardless of whether the individual has received a U.S. baccalaureate degree or its equivalent), a student athlete who is enrolled and seeking a second baccalaureate or equivalent degree at the same institution, or a student athlete who has graduated and is continuing as a full-time student at the same institution while taking course work that would lead to the equivalent of another major or degree as defined and documented by the institution, may participate in intercollegiate athletics, provided the student has eligibility remaining and such participation occurs within the applicable 10-semester/15-quarter period set forth in Bylaw 14.2 (see Bylaw 14.1.8.1.6.2).~~ **may participate as a graduate or postbaccalaureate student, provided:**

(a) The student is enrolled and seeking a second baccalaureate or graduate degree;

(b) The student has eligibility remaining; and

(c) The student's participation occurs within the applicable 10-semester/15-quarter period set forth in Bylaw 14.2.

[14.1.9.1 unchanged.]

B. Bylaws: Amend 14.5, as follows:

14.5 Transfer Regulations.

[14.5.1 unchanged.]

14.5.2 Conditions Affecting Transfer Status. A transfer student is an individual who transfers from a collegiate institution after having met any one of the following conditions at that institution:

[14.5.2-(a) through 14.5.2-(g) unchanged.]

(h) The student received a baccalaureate or equivalent degree.

[14.5.3 and 14.5.4 unchanged.]

14.5.5 Four-Year College Transfers. See Bylaw 13.1.1.2 for prohibition against contacting student-athletes of another four-year collegiate institution without permission.

14.5.5.1 General Rule. A transfer student from a four-year institution shall not be eligible for intercollegiate competition until the student has fulfilled an academic year of residence (see Bylaw 14.02.10) at the certifying institution unless the student qualifies for one of the transfer exceptions set forth in Bylaws 14.5.5.1.1, 14.5.5.1.2 or 14.5.5.1.3. A transfer student (other than one under disciplinary suspension per Bylaw 14.5.1.2) may qualify for an exception to the academic year of residence requirement provided he or she does not have an unfulfilled residence requirement at the institution from which he or she is transferring. (See Bylaw 14.1.12, for student-athletes participating in a recognized foreign exchange/study abroad program).

14.5.5.1.1 Exception. A student who transfers to the certifying institution shall be immediately eligible if:

[14.5.5.1.1-(a) through 14.5.5.1.1-(c) unchanged.]

(d) The student graduated from the previous institution.

[14.5.5.1.2 and 14.5.5.1.3 unchanged.]

Source: Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference and Little East Conference

Effective Date: August 1, 2017

Rationale: Current legislation permits a graduate or postbaccalaureate student to participate only at the institution from which the student-athlete received his or her undergraduate degree. This legislation is overly restrictive in that it prohibits student-athletes who have already achieved the primary goal of collegiate enrollment (i.e., the attainment of an undergraduate degree) from continuing to pursue athletics endeavors while simultaneously progressing toward a postgraduate degree and the ultimate fulfillment of their academic and career goals. Currently, student-athletes on the verge of earning a baccalaureate degree with both seasons of participation and terms of attendance remaining must either delay graduation or potentially enroll in a graduate program that is not consistent with their career aspirations in order to continue their athletics participation.

Primary Contact Person:

Gary F. Karner, Commissioner
Wisconsin Intercollegiate Athletic Conference
780 Regent Street
Madison, WI 53715

No. 1-4 PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS -- BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL -- ESTABLISHING AN OPTIONAL FALL COMPETITION PERIOD

Intent: To provide member institutions with the option, in the sports of baseball and softball, of: (1) continuing to conduct a nontraditional segment in the fall and a traditional segment in the spring; or (2) establishing a two-period model that allows for traditional segment practice and competition during the fall.

A. Bylaws: Amend 17.1.1.3, as follows:

17.1.1.3 Length of Playing Season.

[17.1.1.3.1 through 17.1.1.3.4 unchanged.]

17.1.1.3.5 Baseball and Softball. For each sport, the institution shall have the option of conducting its season according to the segment model set forth in Bylaw 17.1.1.3.3 or the period model set forth in Bylaw 17.1.1.3.4.

B. Bylaws: Amend 17.2, as follows:

17.2 Baseball. Regulations for computing the baseball playing season are set forth in Bylaw 17.1, General Playing-Season Regulations. (See Figure 17-1) **An institution has the option of structuring its playing season pursuant to the segment model set forth in Bylaw 17.1.1.3.3 or the period model set forth in Bylaw 17.1.1.3.4.**

17.2.1 Length of Playing Season. (See Bylaw 17.1.1.3.3 ~~for spring NCAA championship sports~~ **if using the segment model or Bylaw 17.1.1.3.4 if using the period model.**)

17.2.2 Preseason Practice. (See Bylaw 17.1.1.3.3.1 **if using the segment model and Bylaw 17.1.1.3.4.1 if using the period model.**)

17.2.3 First Contest and Date of Competition. (See Bylaw 17.1.1.3.3.1 **if using the segment model and Bylaw 17.1.1.3.4.1 if using the period model.**)

17.2.4 End of Playing Season. (See Bylaw 17.1.1.3.3.1 **if using the segment model and Bylaw 17.1.1.3.4.1 if using the period model.**)

17.2.5 Number of Contests and Dates of Competition.

17.2.5.1 Maximum Limitations -- Institutional. ~~(For in-season foreign competition, see Bylaw 17.1.4.3.) A member institution shall limit its total playing schedule against outside competition in baseball during the institution's baseball playing season to a maximum of 40 contests (games, scrimmages and exhibitions) during the traditional segment, and one date of competition during the nontraditional segment, except for those contests excluded under Bylaw 17.2.5.3. During the traditional segment, countable contest limitations apply separately to multiple teams (e.g., varsity, subvarsity and freshman). During the nontraditional segment all teams (e.g., varsity, subvarsity and freshman) shall be treated as one team for purpose of the countable contest limitations. For in-season foreign competition, see Bylaw 17.1.4.3.~~

(a) Segment Model. A member institution shall limit its total playing schedule against outside competition in baseball during the institution's baseball playing season to a maximum of 40 contests (games, scrimmages and exhibitions) during the traditional segment, and one date of competition during the nontraditional segment, except for those contests excluded under Bylaw 17.2.5.3. During the traditional segment, countable contest limitations apply separately to multiple teams (e.g., varsity, subvarsity and freshman). During the nontraditional segment all teams (e.g., varsity, subvarsity and freshman) shall be treated as one team for purpose of the countable contest limitations.

(b) Period Model. A member institution shall limit its total playing schedule against outside competition in baseball during the institution's playing season to a maximum of 40 contests (games, scrimmages and exhibitions) except for those contests excluded under Bylaw 17.2.5.3. Of those 40 contests an institution shall play a minimum of six and no more than 10 contests during the fall period (subject to cancellation for weather and unforeseen circumstances). When using the period model, countable contest limitations apply separately to multiple teams (e.g., varsity, subvarsity and freshman).

17.2.5.2 Maximum Limitations -- Student-Athlete. ~~An individual student-athlete may participate in each academic year in a maximum of 40 baseball contests (games, scrimmages and exhibitions) during the traditional segment and one date of competition during the nontraditional segment. This~~**The following** limitations includes those contests in which the student-athlete represents the institution, including competition as a member of the varsity, junior varsity or freshman team of the institution in accordance with Bylaws 17.02.4 and 17.02.9.

(a) Segment Model. A student-athlete may participate in each academic year in a maximum of 40 baseball contests (games, scrimmages and exhibitions) during the traditional segment and one date of competition during the nontraditional segment.

(b) Period Model. A student-athlete may participate in each academic year in a maximum of 40 baseball contests (games, scrimmages and exhibitions) in the fall and spring periods combined.

[17.2.5.3 unchanged.]

[17.2.6 unchanged.]

C. Bylaws: Amend 17.20, as follows:

17.20 Softball. Regulations for computing the softball playing season are set forth in Bylaw 17.1 General Playing-Season Regulations (see Figure 17-1). **An institution has the option of structuring its playing season pursuant to the segment model set forth in Bylaw 17.1.1.3.3 or the period model set forth in Bylaw 17.1.1.3.4.**

17.20.1 Length of Playing Season. (See Bylaw 17.1.1.3.3 ~~for spring NCAA championship sports~~ **if using the segment model or Bylaw 17.1.1.3.4 if using the period model.**)

17.20.2 Preseason Practice. (See Bylaw 17.1.1.3.3.1 **if using the segment model and Bylaw 17.1.1.3.4.1 if using the period model.**)

17.20.3 First Contest or Date of Competition. (See Bylaw 17.1.1.3.3.1 **if using the segment model and Bylaw 17.1.1.3.4.1 if using the period model.**)

17.20.4 End of Playing Season. (See Bylaw 17.1.1.3.3.1 **if using the segment model and Bylaw 17.1.1.3.4.1 if using the period model.**)

17.20.5 Number and Dates of Competition.

17.20.5.1 Maximum Limitations -- Institutional **(For in-season foreign competition, see Bylaw 17.1.4.3).** ~~A member institution shall limit its total playing schedule against outside competition during the institution's softball playing season to a maximum of 40 contests (games, exhibitions and scrimmages) during the traditional segment, and one date of competition during the nontraditional segment, except for those contests excluded under Bylaw 17.20.5.3. During the traditional segment, countable contest limitations apply separately to multiple teams (e.g., varsity, subvarsity and freshman). During the nontraditional segment all teams (e.g., varsity, subvarsity and freshman) shall be treated as one team for purpose of the countable contest limitations. For in-season foreign competition, see Bylaw 17.1.4.3.~~

(a) Segment Model. A member institution shall limit its total playing schedule against outside competition in softball during the institution's softball playing season to a maximum of 40 contests (games, scrimmages and exhibitions) during the traditional segment, and one date of competition during the nontraditional segment, except for those contests excluded under Bylaw 17.2.5.3. During the traditional segment, countable contest limitations apply separately to multiple teams (e.g., varsity, subvarsity and freshman). During the nontraditional segment all teams (e.g., varsity, subvarsity and freshman) shall be treated as one team for purpose of the countable contest limitations.

(b) Period Model. A member institution shall limit its total playing schedule against outside competition in softball during the institution's playing season to a maximum of 40 contests (games, scrimmages and exhibitions) except for those contests excluded under Bylaw 17.2.5.3. Of those 40 contests an institution shall play a minimum of six and no more than 10 contests during the fall period (subject to cancellation for weather and unforeseen circumstances). When using the period model, countable contest limitations apply separately to multiple teams (e.g., varsity, subvarsity and freshman).

17.20.5.2 Maximum Limitations -- Student-Athlete. ~~A student-athlete may participate in each academic year in a maximum of 40 softball contests (games, exhibitions or scrimmages) during the traditional segment and one date of competition during the nontraditional segment. This limitation includes those contests in which the student represents the institution, including competition as a member of the varsity, junior varsity or freshman team of the institution in accordance with Bylaws 17.02.4 and 17.02.9. The following limitations includes those contests in which the student-athlete represents the institution, including~~

competition as a member of the varsity, junior varsity or freshman team of the institution in accordance with Bylaws 17.02.4 and 17.02.9:

(a) Segment Model. A student-athlete may participate in each academic year in a maximum of 40 softball contests (games, scrimmages and exhibitions) during the traditional segment and one date of competition during the nontraditional segment.

(b) Period Model. A student-athlete may participate in each academic year in a maximum of 40 softball contests (games, scrimmages and exhibitions) in the fall and spring periods combined.

[17.20.5.3 unchanged.]

[17.20.6 unchanged.]

[17.21 through 17.29 unchanged.]

Source: Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference

Effective Date: August 1, 2017

Rationale: The ability to practice outdoors and complete contests in the sports of baseball and softball are directly affected by the climate in which an institution is located. Tennis, golf and rowing are similarly affected, and are permitted the opportunity to structure their seasons as periods rather than segments. Baseball and softball should also have the opportunity to structure playing seasons using a two-period model. Requiring baseball and softball teams to schedule contests exclusively in the spring disrupts class attendance for those student-athletes. A majority of Division III members are located in areas of the country regularly impacted by winter storms and frequent spring rain that extends well into the playing season, impacting the ability of baseball and softball teams to complete contests. Even if weather is good, fields are often unplayable. Thus, many institutions are forced to frequently reschedule and cancel contests, which negatively impacts both the academic and athletics schedules of student-athletes. This proposal would not require institutions to conduct a two-period model in softball and baseball, but rather would allow each institution the option of structuring its playing season in the way that makes the most sense for its student-athletes.

Primary Contact Person:

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**No. 1-5 PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS -- GENERAL PLAYING SEASON REGULATIONS --
REQUIRED DAY OFF FOR TRACK AND FIELD INDOOR/OUTDOOR AND SWIMMING AND DIVING**

Intent: To eliminate the requirement that the mandatory day off for track and field and swimming and diving programs be the same day for every student-athlete.

Bylaws: Amend 17.1.4.1, as follows:

17.1.4.1 Required Day Off, All Sports. During the playing season (see Bylaw 17.1.1), all athletically related activities shall be prohibited during one calendar day per defined week (see Bylaw 17.1.2-(a)), except during the following:

[17.1.4.1-(a) through 17.1.4.1-(c) unchanged.]

17.1.4.1.1 Exception -- Track and Field, Indoor/Outdoor and Swimming and Diving. The required one calendar day off per defined week may apply individually to each student-athlete.

[17.1.4.1.1 renumbered as 17.1.4.1.2, unchanged.]

Source: Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference and Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference

Effective Date: Immediate

Rationale: Currently, the required day off must apply to each team as a whole. Division III indoor and outdoor track and field and swimming and diving teams have difficulty accommodating the number of different disciplines within the sports and the distinct training regimens amongst those disciplines. A number of variables go into planning practices and athletically related activities for these two sports. Allowing institutions the flexibility to schedule athletically related activities independently for each student-athlete will minimize challenges such as limited facility availability, staffing concerns, and student-athlete class schedule conflicts without increasing the time demands on individual student-athletes. Additional flexibility to accommodate each student-athlete's individual schedule and training requirements will also prevent injuries. An immediate effective date will allow institutions to take advantage of more appropriate scheduling practices during the spring of 2017.

Primary Contact Person:

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No. 1-6 PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS -- FIELD HOCKEY AND LACROSSE -- PRESEASON JOINT PRACTICE, SCRIMMAGE OR EXHIBITION -- EXEMPTION FROM MAXIMUM CONTEST AND DATE OF COMPETITION LIMITATIONS

Intent: To allow field hockey and lacrosse teams to conduct an exempted scrimmage, exhibition or joint practice with outside competition prior to the first permissible contest or date of competition.

A. Bylaws: Amend 17.9, as follows:

17.9 Field Hockey. Regulations for computing the field hockey playing season are set forth in Bylaw 17.1, General Playing-Season Regulations. (See Figure 17-1)

[17.9.1 and 17.9.2 unchanged.]

17.9.3 First Contest or Date of Competition. (See Bylaw 17.1.1.3.1.1, ~~except during the traditional segment~~):

~~(a) An institution may play up to three field hockey scrimmages or exhibition games (which shall not count toward the institution's win-loss record) before the first regular scheduled contest, provided the scrimmages or exhibition games are conducted during the institution's declared playing season per Bylaw 17.9.1 and are counted against the maximum number of contests.~~

~~(b) An institution may conduct an unlimited number of exhibitions or scrimmages on one date during the preseason practice period, which shall count as one of three scrimmages or exhibitions detailed in (a).~~

17.9.3.1 Exceptions.

(a) An institution may play up to three field hockey scrimmages or exhibition games (which shall not count toward the institution's win-loss record) before the first regular scheduled contest, provided the scrimmages or exhibition games are conducted during the institution's declared playing season per Bylaw 17.9.1, one of which may be exempted from the maximum number of contests (see 17.9.5.3.1).

(b) An institution may conduct an unlimited number of exhibitions or scrimmages on one date during the preseason practice period, which shall count as one of three scrimmages or exhibitions detailed in (a).

[17.9.4 unchanged.]

17.9.5 Number of Contests and Dates of Competition.

[17.9.5.1 and 17.9.5.2 renumbered as 17.9.5.2 and 17.9.5.3, unchanged.]

17.9.5.3~~4~~ Exemptions. (See Standard Exemptions set forth in Bylaw 17.1.4.5.)

17.9.5.3.1 Sport-Specific Exemptions. One preseason joint practice (may include competition), scrimmage or exhibition conducted during the preseason practice period per Bylaw 17.9.3.1.

[17.9.6 unchanged.]

B. Bylaws: Amend 17.14, as follows:

17.14 Lacrosse. Regulations for computing the lacrosse playing season are set forth in Bylaw 17.1, General Playing-Season Regulations. (See Figure 17-1.)

[17.14.1 through 17.14.4 unchanged.]

17.14.5 Number and Dates of Competition.

[17.14.5.1 and 17.14.5.2 unchanged.]

17.14.5.3 Exemptions. (See Standard Exemptions set forth in Bylaw 17.1.4.5.)

17.14.5.3.1 Sport-Specific Exemptions. An unlimited number of preseason joint practices (may include competition), scrimmages or exhibitions conducted on one date prior to the institution's first regular season contest.

[17.14.6 unchanged.]

Source: Middle Atlantic Conferences, Empire 8 and Great Northeast Athletic Conference

Effective Date: August 1, 2017

Rationale: At the 2015 Convention, the membership adopted Proposal 2015-13, which established an exempted preseason scrimmage, exhibition or joint practice in the sports of soccer and women's volleyball. Because the conference sponsor of Proposal 2015-13 does not sponsor lacrosse or field hockey, neither of those two sports were included in the proposal. Field hockey and lacrosse are very similar to soccer and should be treated in the same fashion. Thus, field hockey and lacrosse should be afforded the opportunity for a preseason exemption that is already available to soccer. This proposal creates consistency between similar sports, which will ease administrative and tracking burden on institutional campuses.

Primary Contact Person:

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Request for Interpretation

Member institutions and conferences are encouraged to contact primary contact persons, and if necessary, to request interpretations of the proposed legislation in this Initial Publication of Proposed Legislation. Interpretations related to the proposed legislation in this Initial Publication of Proposed Legislation may be requested via electronic mail to sotey@ncaa.org or jmyers@ncaa.org. When submitting such a request please include the proposal number in question, your institution's name and your title.