

2018 NCAA Convention – Division III Adopted Proposals

Proposal Number	Title	Intent	Rationale	Effective Date	Status
2018-1	ELIGIBILITY -- ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT AND IMPERMISSIBLE ACADEMIC ASSISTANCE	To define pre-enrollment and post-enrollment academic misconduct; clarify the individuals and activities to which the legislation applies; and clarify when an institution must report an academic misconduct violation. Specifically, academic misconduct as an NCAA violation is primarily conditioned first on a finding by the institution that its own policies have been violated, and then if the institutional violation involved any of the following: (1) an institutional staff member or athletics representative along with a student athlete; (2) an erroneous declaration of eligibility; or (3) an alteration of a transcript or academic record (alteration by an institutional staff member would constitute academic misconduct regardless if it violated the institution's policies). Further, if an institution's policies were not violated and academic misconduct was not found, then establish an impermissible academic assistance analysis in lieu of an extra benefit analysis.	The current regulatory structure regarding academic misconduct is confusing, unclear and imprecise and appropriate revisions to the academic misconduct legislation will serve to benefit individual institutions and the Association as a whole. Despite changes in the academic landscape, academic misconduct legislation has not been revised since 1983 when the legislation was added to the Manual. Under the current regulatory structure, it can be unclear when academic misconduct involving student-athletes falls within the purview of the NCAA and when academic misconduct should be an institutional matter. Current terms, definitions and gaps in the academic misconduct legislation result in confusion and lack of clarity. The regulatory structure for academic misconduct is currently located in bylaws, interpretations and educational columns and should be consolidated in a single article (Bylaw 14). This proposal will expand the application of academic misconduct legislation to any situation in which an institutional staff member is involved and replaces the current academic extra benefit analysis with a specific and limited definition of impermissible academic assistance. In addition, the proposal will require institutional policies and procedures regarding academic misconduct for the general student body.	08/01/2018	Adopted Final
2018-2	ETHICAL CONDUCT -- SPORTS WAGERING ACTIVITIES -- SANCTIONS -- ELIMINATION OF LEGISLATED SANCTIONS	To eliminate the legislated penalty for sports wagering activities.	The student-athlete reinstatement process offers the opportunity for the NCAA Division III Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement and NCAA student-athlete reinstatement staff to review cases on an individual basis and consider the totality of the circumstances. For violations that trigger the legislated sports-wagering sanctions, the minimum penalty is automatic and cannot be appealed. To promote increased fairness, it is important to conduct a case-by-case review of these sports-wagering violations and also provide for an appellate opportunity. Further, if the proposal is adopted, the legislated sanctions will be incorporated into the Division III Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement guidelines, which would recognize the Association's continued emphasis on the severity of sports-wagering violations. Note: Bylaw 10.3.2 is a common provision across NCAA Divisions I, II and III.	Immediate	Adopted Final
2018-3	DIVISION III COMMITTEES -- ELIGIBILITY OF MEMBERSHIP -- STUDENT-ATHLETE ADVISORY COMMITTEE -- CHANGE IN COMPOSITION	Allow for each conference and the group of independents to have a representative on National SAAC.	Currently, conferences share the National SAAC representative on an alternating basis; however, with the growth and emphasis on student athlete input, it is imperative that the interests of student athletes within a conference are represented at the national level. By sharing the National SAAC representative with another conference, the interests of the student athletes are not always served. For example, the SUNYAC currently shares its National SAAC Representative with the Empire 8. The conferences are completely different with the SUNYAC comprised of state universities and the Empire 8 comprised of private institutions.	08/01/2018	Adopted Final

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2018-3-1	DIVISION III COMMITTEES -- ELIGIBILITY OF MEMBERSHIP -- STUDENT-ATHLETE ADVISORY COMMITTEE -- PARTNER CONFERENCE STUDENT-ATHLETE ADVISORY COMMITTEE LIAISON	To create a Partner Conference Student-Athlete Advisory Committee Liaison structure, as opposed to increasing the size of the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee.	A committee with over 40 members will be inefficient. This amendment will retain the efficiency and effectiveness of the current SAAC while addressing the relevant communication and representation concerns set forth by the sponsors of the related proposal. It also avoids the excessive cost (\$115,000) associated with that proposal.	08/01/2018	Adopted Final
2018-4	ELIGIBILITY -- GRADUATE AND POSTBACCALAUREATE ELIGIBILITY -- STUDENTS GRADUATING FROM DIVISION III INSTITUTIONS	To permit a student that has graduated from an NCAA Division III institution to participate in intercollegiate athletics at the Division III institution of his or her choice provided: (1) The student is enrolled and seeking a second baccalaureate or graduate degree; (2) The student has eligibility remaining (i.e., seasons of participation); and (3) The participation occurs within the applicable 10-semester/15-quarter period set for in Bylaw 14.2.	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. Allowing Division III students with eligibility remaining to continue participation at a Division III institution following completion of a baccalaureate degree allows those students to make academic and athletic choices that are in their best interests. Because these are Division III students, there is not the concern of student-athletes taking advantage of a redshirt year to participate at Division III institutions and thereby diluting the philosophical tenet that promotes athletic participation as primarily a four-year, undergraduate experience. This proposal is also consistent with the Division III membership's feedback from the 2017 NCAA Convention regarding NCAA Division III Proposal 2017-2. Finally, the current waiver conditions for graduate participation would continue to apply for all students that did not attend a Division III institution.	Immediate	Adopted Final
2018-6	PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS -- ANNUAL CONTEST EXEMPTIONS -- ALUMNI CONTEST	To permit the stand-alone annual exemption of one alumni contest per sport during any segment/period, with the exception of football.	Proposal 2017-4 served to standardize the annual contest and date of competition exemptions. However, we believe the legislation went too far by eliminating the alumni contest as a stand-alone exemption. This proposal restores the alumni contest exemption as it existed in all sports that had them prior to the passage of Proposal 2017-4. Alumni contests are events that serve a distinctly different purpose than preseason scrimmages and exhibition games against organized teams (e.g., Division III member squads, foreign club teams), which are intended to prepare a team for regular season competition. Alumni contests are friendly competitions that are intended to build or maintain good will among former players and current student-athletes and to keep them connected with the institution through a friendly athletic activity. Often times these will occur in the non-traditional season or vacation periods. By standardizing an alumni game exemption separate and distinct from the preseason scrimmage/exhibition/joint practice exemptions, this legislation will more logically reflect the inherent difference between these two types of athletic activities and allow them to more properly meet their intended purposes.	08/01/2018	Adopted Final
2018-7	PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS -- BASKETBALL --	In basketball, to establish the first permissible contest date as November 8. When November 8 falls on a	This proposal establishes an earlier first contest date in basketball, which would allow for more balance in institutions' schedules. More game dates	08/01/2018	Adopted Final

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	FIRST PERMISSIBLE CONTEST – NOVEMBER 8TH	Saturday, Sunday or Monday, a member institution may play its first contest on the Friday immediately preceding November 8.	would be allowed in the first semester, which could create fewer contests in the second semester and a better balance between semesters. This proposal would establish a set first contest date that shortens the month-long preseason by one week. The proposal does not extend the 19 week playing and practice season, but allows for programs to better distribute weeks for practice and/or contests.		
2018-8	PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS – ICE HOCKEY – FIRST PERMISSIBLE ON-ICE PRACTICE DATE – SECOND MONDAY IN OCTOBER	In ice hockey, to establish the first permissible on ice practice date as the second Monday in October.	This proposal establishes an earlier first on-ice practice date in ice hockey. The additional on-ice practices will allow student-athletes and teams to properly prepare for contests from a health and safety standpoint. Currently, teams have 10 on-ice days to prepare for a season during the academic year. This proposal will help ensure the safety of the student-athletes during pre-season training sessions. This proposal does not change the 19-week allowance, but allows for teams to better use their weeks to prepare student-athletes.	08/01/2018	Adopted Final
2018-9	AMATEURISM – PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES – INSTITUTIONAL, CHARITABLE, EDUCATIONAL OR NONPROFIT PROMOTIONS – EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENT	To amend the promotional activities legislation by requiring institutions to provide educational material in lieu of obtaining a release statement from the authorized representative of the charitable, educational, nonprofit or government agency confirming the student-athlete's name, image or appearance will be used in a manner consistent with Bylaw 12 regulations.	The current legislation requires an institution to have an authorized representative of the charitable, educational or nonprofit agency sign a release statement insuring the student-athlete's name, image or appearance is used in a manner consistent with the requirements of the promotional activities legislation. By eliminating the signature requirement for an authorized representative of the charitable, educational or nonprofit agency, while still requiring education on the requirements of the promotional activities legislation, will maintain the intent of the legislation and reduce the administrative burden.	08/01/2018	Adopted Final