

DIII Proposals

Proposal Number	Title	Effective Date	Source	Intent	Rationale
2019-5	AMATEURISM -- PRE-ENROLLMENT EDUCATIONAL EXPENSES	08/01/2019	NCAA Division III Management Council (Interpretations and Legislation Committee).	To permit individuals to accept educational expenses (e.g. tuition, fees, room, board and books) prior to collegiate enrollment from any individual or entity other than an agent, professional sports team/organization or representative of an institution's athletics interests, provided such expenses are disbursed directly through the recipient's educational institution (e.g., preparatory school, high school).	Current legislation precludes prospective student-athletes from receiving educational expenses for secondary education when athletics participation is considered. This standard is more restrictive than the standard that is imposed on current student-athletes who are permitted to receive such assistance in recognition of high school athletics leadership, ability, participation or performance from an established and continuing program. It seems inconsistent that prospective student-athletes should be held to a higher standard than current student-athletes as it relates to the receipt of educational expenses to attend a secondary institution. This proposal would allow for consistency in application between prospective student-athletes and current student-athletes.
2019-7	RECRUITING -- SOCIAL MEDIA AND PUBLICITY -- EXCEPTIONS -- CONNECT WITH PROSPECTIVE STUDENT-ATHLETES	Immediate	NCAA Division III Management Council (Interpretations and Legislation Committee).	To establish an exception to the restrictions on electronic transmissions and publicity before commitment legislation to permit athletics department staff members to (1) connect with (e.g., "friend," "follow," etc.) prospective student-athletes on social media platforms, and (2) take actions (e.g., "like," "favorite," republish, etc.) on social media platforms that indicate approval of content generated by users of the platforms other than institutional staff members or representatives of an institution's athletics interests.	This proposal provides continuity among the three divisions regarding public social media communication, thereby minimizing confusion for prospective student-athletes and ensuring equitable access for Division III coaches. First, the proposal allows prospective student-athletes to receive electronic notifications automatically generated by the social media platform (e.g., the platform notifies a prospective student-athlete that he or she has received a friend request); coaches may not include any additional language in either the request or the reply. Next, the proposal permits coaches to respond to content produced by prospective student-athletes. By limiting coaches' initial social media correspondence to a response, this proposal allows prospective student-athletes to control a level of privacy and the extent to which they would like to engage in the recruiting process on social media platforms. Under current legislation, it is difficult to monitor all coaches and their social media activities (e.g., "likes," "favorites," republishing, etc.). This proposal creates an exception to publicity related to recruiting on social media platforms and attempts to maintain pace with the frequent creation and/or enhancement of social media applications. The immediate effective date will provide relief from the current application of the legislation without detrimentally impacting prospective student-athlete well-being.