



Constitution Amendment #1 – APPROVED

SUBJECT: ANNUAL MEETING AND VOTING PROCEDURES

Amend NAIA Constitution Article X, Section C, as follows:

The NAIA shall recognize a quorum to be **one third of NAIA active members.** 425 **Such number must be** authorized **as** voting delegates at the annual meeting in order to conduct the official business of the Association.

INTENT: Establish one third of NAIA active members as the number of registered delegates required to make quorum at the NAIA annual business meeting.

EFFECTIVE DATE: AUGUST 1, 2013

SUBMITTED BY: NAIA Council of Presidents



Bylaws Amendment #01 - APPROVED

SUBJECT: FREQUENCY OF PLAY

Amend NAIA Bylaws Article I, Section F, Item 1 as follows:

1. The maximum number of varsity games, contests or playing dates an institution may schedule is listed below. The number of junior varsity or freshman games, contests or playing dates scheduled during a given term cannot exceed the number of varsity games, contests or playing dates scheduled during that term. Further, no student may compete in a sport in an academic year in more than the number of games, contests or playing dates listed below (this includes varsity, junior varsity, freshman, etc.), excluding NAIA approved postseason participation.

Sport	Number of Games/ Contests/Playing Dates
Baseball	55 contests
Basketball (M & W)	30 games. A student who participates in a varsity contest and a junior varsity contest, on the same day, and at the same location, is considered to have participated only in one game. A student is limited to participating in no more than 40 games.
Cross Country (M & W)	8 meets
Football	11 games, with a student limited to participating in no more than 15 contests (this includes varsity, junior varsity, freshman games and scrimmages)
Golf	14 matches/tournaments
Soccer (M & W)	18 games played at any time during the sport season. Three (3) additional dates to be played only after the fall term has concluded. The three additional dates may be played only during weekends and other nonscheduled class dates, according to the academic calendar.
Softball	28 dates
Swimming and Diving (M & W)	12 meets
Tennis	24 dates/tournaments and/or scrimmages (except for the ITA exception listed below).
Indoor Track (M & W)	10 meets counted on the basis of an individual student's participation in the meet.
Outdoor Track (M & W)	10 meets or 12 meets if indoor track is not sponsored counted on the basis of an individual student's participation in the meet.
Volleyball	28 dates
Wrestling	20 dates

In the sports listed above (except basketball) of baseball, cross country, golf, soccer, softball, swimming and diving, tennis, indoor track, outdoor track, volleyball and wrestling, an institution is allowed one exhibition competition per season. The competition must meet the definition of an exhibition under Article V, Section B, item 6 of the NAIA bylaws. The exhibition competition will count as one varsity game, contest or playing date within the limits stated above.



Exhibition competition is not allowed in the sport of football.

For the sport of basketball, an institution is allowed one or more exhibition competitions per season so long as the total number of games, exhibitions and scrimmages does not exceed 32. For the sport of basketball, an exhibition competition will not count as a varsity game.

EXCEPTION: In the sport of tennis, the Fall ITA regional and national singles and doubles tournaments shall not count towards the student's playing limits.

INTENT: To prohibit exhibition competition in the sport of football.

EFFECTIVE DATE: August 1, 2013

SUBMITTED BY: NAIA Football Coaches Association

CO-SPONSORED BY: Heart of America Athletic Conference



Bylaws Amendment #04 - APPROVED

SUBJECT: POSTSEASON RESTRICTION

Amend NAIA Bylaws Article I, Section H as follows:

1) NAIA institutions that make formal application for NCAA membership shall not be allowed to participate in NAIA postseason contests beginning with the second full academic year after application for NCAA membership has been made, unless a waiver is granted by the National Administrative Council.

If ~~the~~ an NAIA institution withdraws from the NCAA membership application process, the institution will be allowed to participate in NAIA postseason competition, provided:

- a) the institution maintains NAIA membership,
- b) the institution submits written verification to the National Administrative Council that the institution is no longer involved in the formal NCAA application process, and
- c) the National Administrative Council grants the institution permission to participate in NAIA postseason competition.

2) NAIA institutions that make two or more formal applications for NCAA membership in a five-year period shall not be allowed to participate in NAIA postseason contests beginning with the academic year immediately following the second application for NCAA membership has been made, unless a waiver is granted by the National Administrative Council. An institution's subsequent withdrawal from the NCAA membership process shall not negate this postseason prohibition.

NOTE 1: An institution must submit an official request for a postseason waiver prior to the beginning of the full academic year in which the institution seeks to compete in NAIA postseason competition. All requests are to be reviewed by the National Administrative Council.

NOTE 2: If active NCAA membership is achieved, the institution's individual sports program(s) will be allowed to participate in NAIA postseason competition, as a dual member, provided the institution maintains NAIA membership.

INTENT: Require that NAIA institutions obtain a waiver from the National Administrative Council prior to participating in NAIA postseason play when the institution withdraws from the NCAA membership application process; further, prohibit NAIA member institutions from participating in NAIA approved postseason competition when an institution makes two or more applications to the NCAA for membership within a five-year period.

EFFECTIVE DATE: August 1, 2013

SUBMITTED BY: NAIA National Administrative Council

CO-SPONSOR: NAIA Conference Commissioners Association



Bylaws Amendment #05 - APPROVED

SUBJECT: DECLARATION OF INTENT

Amend NAIA Bylaws Article I, Section L as follows:

No later than ~~May~~ **April** 1 each year, each active member institution shall be required to submit to the National Office its declaration of intent to participate in the national championship program in all NAIA sponsored sports. Declarations apply to the academic year following the ~~May~~ **April** 1 deadline.

The remainder of the bylaw is unchanged

INTENT: Move the deadline for submitting an institutional declaration of intent from May 1 to April 1.

EFFECTIVE DATE: August 1, 2013

SUBMITTED BY: NAIA National Administrative Council



Bylaws Amendment #06 - APPROVED

SUBJECT: CRITERIA FOR AFFILIATED CONFERENCES

Amend NAIA Bylaws Article I, Section T, Item 7 as follows:

Authorize the **Council of Presidents** ~~National Administrative Council~~ to conduct periodic reviews of affiliated conference operations and determine sanctions related to violations of conference requirements. Conference sanctions would be consistent with those currently in place for institutional violations of NAIA rules.

And

Amend NAIA Bylaws Article IV, Section C as follows:

The NAIA governing body is the Council of Presidents.

For the transaction of business by the Council of Presidents, a quorum shall consist of one third of the members of the Council.

Qualifications, composition, and elections for openings on the Council of Presidents are listed in Article V of the Constitution.

The Council of Presidents shall exercise full authority in the following matters.

1. Initiating operational policies necessary to perform those duties reserved in the Constitution and Bylaws to the Council of Presidents.
2. All fiscal matters of the Association.
3. The employment and supervision of the NAIA President/Chief Executive Officer and, through the NAIA President/Chief Executive Officer, all personnel of the National Office.
4. The submission at the NAIA National Convention of a detailed report on all receipts and disbursements during the preceding fiscal year ending June 30. The audited financial statement shall be printed and distributed to the membership in such form as to facilitate a comparison of the items of income and expenditure in connection with the various activities of the Association during the fiscal year just concluded with the corresponding items for the preceding year.
5. Authorization of the Executive Committee of the Council of Presidents to transact necessary business of the Association in the interim between meetings of the Council of Presidents.
6. The review and action on all recommendations submitted by the appropriate committee/association through the authorized councils.
7. Decisions on withdrawal of membership or denial of specific sports sponsorship for a member institution. The enumeration of the above responsibilities and duties shall not be construed to deny the right of the Council of Presidents to exercise any other power or to perform any other duty within the field of governance of the affairs of the NAIA. No policies and procedures exercised by the Council of Presidents shall conflict with established policies of the constituent assembly.
- 8. Administrative supervision of the Conference Commissioners Association.**
- 9. Periodic review of affiliated conference operations and sanctions related to violations of conference requirements.**



and

Amend NAIA Bylaws Article IV, Section E and renumber as follows:

The National Administrative Council shall exercise authority in the following matters:

1. Initiating operational policies for conference, independent and national competition, national statistical services, and national awards;
2. Providing administrative supervision of all NAIA Coaches Associations, the Athletics Trainers Association, the Conduct and Ethics Committee, and those associations/committees assigned by them which deal with conference, independent and national competition;
3. Annually reviewing and establishing the conference, independent and national qualification plans for postseason competition for all sports;
4. Reviewing and acting on all recommendations from those associations/committees within their area of responsibility;
- ~~5. Conducting periodic review of affiliated conference operations and determining sanctions related to violations of conference requirements; and~~
6. Conducting nominations and elections in accordance with the Constitution when openings on the Council arise.

The chair of the National Administrative Council shall serve as an ex officio member of the Council of Presidents.

and

Amend NAIA Bylaws Article VI, Section B, Item 6 as follows:

6. Violations of Requirements for Affiliated Conferences

Should an affiliated conference fail to meet established requirements, the **Council of Presidents** ~~National Administrative Council~~ may apply sanctions including, but not limited to, the following:

- a. Place the conference on official warning for a specified time. A warning is notification that a violation has occurred and notification that future violations will lead to stronger penalties.
- b. Place the conference on official reprimand for a specified time. A reprimand is notification that a violation has occurred, which requires a written response of corrective measures to be taken by the institution.
- c. Place the conference on probation for a specified time. Probation is notification that a serious violation has occurred, which requires a written response of corrective measures to be taken by the conference. Any future violation while on probation may lead to suspension of the conference. Probation shall be listed on the NAIA website.
- d. Place the conference on suspension for a specified time. Suspension of a conference shall cause the institutions which are members of the conference to forfeit all automatic bids (either conference bids or unaffiliated groupings) to NAIA national championships competition. Teams from suspended conferences may be selected for NAIA national championship events through the at-large process.

INTENT: To shift specified oversight and administrative supervision of the Conference Commissioners Association to the Council of Presidents.



EFFECTIVE DATE: April 23, 2013

SUBMITTED BY: NAIA Council of Presidents

CO-SPONSOR: NAIA Conference Commissioners Association, NAIA National Administrative Council



Bylaws Amendment #07 - APPROVED

SUBJECT: FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Amend Article II, Section B as follows:

Assignment of scholarships, grants in aid, or student loans shall be controlled by the faculty through the regularly constituted committee on student loans and scholarships.

Any financial aid or assistance to prospective or enrolled students in money or in kind, except that which comes from members of their immediate family or from those upon whom they are legally dependent, shall be administered by the institution under policies and procedures established by the institution through its regularly constituted committee on student loans and scholarships. Under no conditions may an individual or organization provide direct financial assistance to a previously enrolled or prospective student.

Scholarships, grants in aid, and student loans shall be awarded on such bases as will not discriminate for or against presumed or recognized athletes. Athletes and non-athletes shall be required to maintain the same minimum academic standing to qualify for such scholarships.

All donations to the general athletics program and/or the athletics scholarship fund by outside organizations shall be deposited in an institutional fund and be administered by appropriate institutional committees under the control of the chief executive officer.

A member institution shall award no more financial aid to a student-athlete than the actual cost of:

1. Tuition;
2. Mandatory fees, books, and supplies required for courses in which the student-athlete is enrolled; and
3. Board and room for the student-athlete only, based on the official board and room allowance listed in the official institutional publication.

Further financial assistance to a student-athlete by a member institution, other than listed above, is prohibited.

EXCEPTION: An institution may pay for necessary medical and dental expenses incidental to a student-athlete's participation in intercollegiate athletics at the member institution. Necessary expenses may include medical, surgical, medication and therapy expenses incurred as a result of an athletic injury; medical examination costs; and athletic related medical insurance. Institutions shall not provide assistance for expenses for treatment of a student-athlete's illness or injury not resulting from intercollegiate athletics participation.

This regulation regarding maximum financial aid to a student-athlete is not intended to place pressure on any member institution to increase its program to this level. This regulation is made to protect the NAIA from overly ambitious programs and to help protect the amateur status of student-athletes.



INTENT: To include athletic-related medical and dental expenses within the permissible scope of financial assistance allowed.

EFFECTIVE DATE: August 1, 2013

SUBMITTED BY: American Midwest Conference

CO-SPONSORED BY: NAIA Athletic Trainers Association



Bylaws Amendment #10 - APPROVED

SUBJECT: DEFINITION OF IDENTIFICATION

Amend NAIA Bylaws Article V, Section B, Item 8 as follows:

8. Identification: Representing an institution in an intercollegiate contest or enrolling in 12 or more institutional credit hours with a minimum of nine institutional credit hours at the NAIA member institution in any given term (excluding summer session) as reported by the institution's registrar on an official transcript based on the institution's official census date.

NOTE 1: For any student seeking eligibility as a first-time participant in any NAIA sport, this definition of identification shall be applied to all terms, regardless of the dates during which the terms occurred.

NOTE 2: For all other students, this definition of identification only applies to terms that begin after April 16, 2012. For terms that begin prior to April 16, 2012, the definition of identification in effect during the term shall apply.

NOTE 3: Participation in an intercollegiate contest in the fall before school starts identifies the student with the institution and charges the student with a season of competition and a term of attendance, even if the student decides to transfer or leave school before classes start. The Progress Rule (Article V, Section C, Item 9) shall apply for participation in the same sport.

However, the term shall not be applied in determining the Nine-Hour Rule or the 24/36-Hour Rule in that attendance after the census date did not take place.

INTENT: Identification by any student seeking eligibility as a first-time NAIA participant shall be evaluated under the current definition of identification.

EFFECTIVE DATE: April 23, 2013

SUBMITTED BY: Cascade Collegiate Conference

CO-SPONSOR: Frontier Conference



Bylaws Amendment #11 - APPROVED

SUBJECT: DEFINITION OF SCRIMMAGE

Amend NAIA Bylaws Article V, Section B, Item 17 as follows:

17. Scrimmage: A competition against competitors not identified with the institution when:
- The competition is not listed or is noted as a scrimmage on the institutional schedule; **and**
 - No scores or statistics are reported by either institution; ~~and~~
 - ~~No admission is charged.~~

Scrimmages shall not be allowed in the following intercollegiate sports: cross country, golf, swimming and diving, indoor and outdoor track and field, and wrestling.

Students must be certified as eligible prior to participating in a scrimmage. Seasons of competition will not be charged to students who participate only in scrimmages. Transfer students shall be governed by the association under which they competed.

INTENT: Remove the prohibition on charging admission from the definition of scrimmage.

EFFECTIVE DATE: August 1, 2013

SUBMITTED BY: NAIA Men's Soccer Coaches Association

CO-SPONSORS: Crossroads League



Bylaws Amendment #12 - APPROVED

SUBJECT: DEFINITION OF SEASON OF COMPETITION

Amend NAIA Bylaws Article V, Section B, Item 18 as follows:

- a. Participation in one or more intercollegiate contests whether in a varsity, junior varsity, or freshman program. The NAIA shall count seasons of competition based on intercollegiate participation charged by another intercollegiate athletic association.
- b. Participation in any elite-level competition **on or after the first day of the thirteenth month following** ~~September 1 in the year of~~ high school graduation or the equivalent. The NAIA shall count seasons of competition based on non-collegiate participation charged by another intercollegiate athletic association. Additional seasons of competition, based on non-collegiate participation, will be charged when the student is not enrolled in a collegiate institution, or is enrolled but does not represent the institution in intercollegiate competition.

EXCEPTION 1: An individual who trains or competes as a member of a non-collegiate postsecondary education (i.e. preparatory school) team will not be charged a season of competition.

EXCEPTION 2: While enrolled as a full-time collegiate student at an NAIA institution,** a student will not be charged a season of competition based on participation as an unattached student-athlete. A student is considered to be competing as an unattached student-athlete if the following seven criteria are met:

1. A coach or representative of the athletics department does not enter the student(s) in the event;
2. The institution or its representative does not provide transportation to the event, from the event, or at the event;
3. The institution or its representative does not provide meals or housing to the student(s) with regard to the event;
4. The student(s) does not wear an institutional uniform nor use the institution's name in the event;
5. Student(s) competing "unattached" are not covered by institutional athletic insurance;
6. Student(s) are made aware that they are not covered by institutional athletic insurance; and
7. All competition and participation must conform to NAIA amateur status regulations.

** (Interpreted by the National Eligibility Committee)

NOTE:

1. For purposes of this bylaw, eligibility shall be determined by a national third-party administrator (NAIA Eligibility Center) authorized by the Council of Presidents.
2. If high school graduation or its equivalent cannot be ascertained then ~~age 19 will be used as the determinant. If no graduation date can be determined,~~ **the date of a student's 18th birthday will be used as the date of high school graduation.**
3. Unless specified elsewhere in the NAIA Bylaws (i.e. Article V, Section F, Item 10) no student shall be charged more than one season of competition during any 12-month period. Participation in elite-level competition after May 15 shall be charged within the 12-month period that includes the subsequent academic year.
4. Athletes charged a season of competition pursuant to this paragraph must also comply with other applicable NAIA Bylaws, including Article VII (Amateur Rules) and Article V, Section C (Eligibility Requirements).



INTENT: Establish a one-year grace period following a student's high school graduation, during which a student will not be charged seasons of competition for elite-level competition outside of intercollegiate participation.

EFFECTIVE DATE: May 1, 2013

SUBMITTED BY: Midwest Collegiate Conference

CO-SPONSOR: NAIA Competitive Experience Committee



Bylaws Amendment #14 - APPROVED

SUBJECT: FRESHMAN ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS – HOME-SCHOOLED STUDENTS

Amend NAIA Bylaws Article V, Section C, Item 2, as follows:

NOTE 1: GED and Home-Schooled Students

The GED will be recognized as satisfying the grade point average equivalent. The GED student must achieve a score of 18 on the Enhanced ACT or 860 on the SAT to meet the freshman requirements.

~~Home-schooled students must receive the certificate (or equivalent) granted by the appropriate state verifying successful completion of home schooling requirements and achieve the minimum ACT/SAT score to meet the freshman requirements.~~

EXCEPTION:

NOTE 2: Home-schooled Students

Home-schooled students who complete a home schooling program conducted in accordance with the laws of the student's state of residence and achieve a minimum score of 20 on the ACT or 950 (Critical Reading and Math) on the SAT will meet entering freshmen requirements.

Any student who completes a home schooling program, conducted in accordance with the laws of the student's state of residence, may request a home school waiver from the NAIA Home School Committee if the student fails to achieve the required test scores. A student receiving a home school waiver will be recognized as meeting entering freshman requirements. The Council of Faculty Athletics Representatives shall establish policy governing the issuance of a home school waiver by the NAIA Home School Committee.

NOTE 23: International Students

An incoming freshman who graduated from a high school outside of the United States or one of the U.S. territories shall meet the same eligibility criteria required of a regular freshman student listed in Article V, Section C, Item 1 and Article V, Section C, Item 2. High school graduation and cumulative grade point averages shall be determined based on current published NAIA initial-eligibility academic guidelines for international students.

AND

Amend NAIA Bylaws Article V, Section C, Item 2, as follows:

An institution (chief executive officer, athletics director or faculty athletics representative) shall have the right to request an appeal of a ruling by the National Eligibility Committee, the National Conduct and Ethics Committee, the National Administrative Council, the Competitive Experience Committee, the Home School Committee and/or the Council of Faculty Athletics Representatives on behalf of the institution and/or student to the National Coordinating Committee, within 30 days of notification, provided:



1. There is new or additional evidence pertinent to the case that was not considered in reaching the initial decision;
2. The decision reached was demonstrably capricious or arbitrary; and/or
3. There was demonstrable bias or discrimination which influenced the decision.

The remainder of the bylaw is unchanged

INTENT: To establish the NAIA Home School Committee as the body recognized for granting home school waivers for home-schooled students failing to meet stated freshman eligibility requirements.

EFFECTIVE DATE: April 23, 2012

SUBMITTED BY: NAIA National Eligibility Committee



Bylaws Amendment #16 - APPROVED

SUBJECT: DEFINITION OF AN AMATEUR

Amend NAIA Bylaws Article VII, Section A, Item 2as follows:

2. A student who becomes a professional in a particular sport recognized by the NAIA is considered a professional in that sport only (except for the sport-specific exception listed below) and therefore is ineligible for intercollegiate competition in that sport, except as permitted by the governing legislation of the NAIA.

EXCEPTION 1: A student who becomes a professional in cross country, indoor track and field or outdoor track and field is considered a professional in all three sports.

EXCEPTION 2: A student who becomes a professional in indoor or arena football is considered a professional in the sport of football.

EXCEPTION 3: A student who becomes a professional in indoor soccer is considered a professional in the sport of soccer.

EXCEPTION 4: A student who becomes a professional in beach volleyball is considered a professional in the sport of volleyball.

INTENT: To create an additional exception whereby a student-athlete is considered a professional in the sport of volleyball when the student engages in acts in the sport of beach volleyball that result in the loss of amateur standing.

EFFECTIVE DATE: August 1, 2013

SUBMITTED BY: NAIA Volleyball Coaches Association

CO-SPONSOR: Heart of America Athletic Conference