THE NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

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August 2019

Legislation Prepared By: Stephanie Quigg Smith, Director of Academic and Membership Affairs for Division II; Karen Wolf, Associate Director of Academic and Membership Affairs; and Chelsea Hooks, Assistant Director of Academic and Membership Affairs.

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Initial Publication of Proposed Legislation
Submitted by the Division II Membership
114th Annual Convention

This publication presents all proposed amendments to NCAA legislation that were properly submitted by the Division II membership in accordance with the July 15 deadline in the NCAA legislative calendar. The seven proposals herein are printed in the order in which they would appear, if adopted in the NCAA Division II Manual. No attempt has been made to place them in topical groupings or in the order in which they eventually might appear in the Convention agenda. The order of the seven proposals may change in the Second Publication of Proposed Legislation 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.

This publication is produced directly from LSDBi each time it is downloaded. Therefore, the content of the publication may change each time it is accessed from the NCAA website. 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.

All amendments in the publication have been reviewed by the NCAA Division II Legislation Committee. 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.

Between the date this publication is posted (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 memorandum will be distributed to the designated primary contact persons in August. Sponsors may use the LSDBi "Sponsor-Modification Submission" section to modify the legislative proposals they have submitted. All such modifications must be received in the NCAA national office not later than 5 p.m. Eastern time September 15. In addition, sponsors who wish to withdraw a proposal before September 15 must contact their academic and membership affairs legislative contact; 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 II membership for the 2020 Convention as the July 15 deadline has passed. 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 early in the period 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:

**September 23** - Second Publication of Proposed Legislation (SPOPL), including the proposals submitted by the Division II membership as modified on or prior to September 15, as well as all legislation submitted by the NCAA Division II Presidents Council. The submission deadline for the Presidents Council is September 1. Amendment-to-amendment forms will also be available at this time.

**November 15** - Official Notice of the 2020 Convention. This will contain all Division II legislation for the Convention, including all amendments-to-amendments and resolutions submitted by the November 1 deadline.

**2019-20 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 II 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.

**July 15:** Legislation Committee Review. The committee reviews all proposals by the membership and works with the primary contact person for each amendment to ensure that the proposal meets the intent of the sponsor, to ensure that the placement of the amendment is consistent with the organizational integrity of the relevant divisional Manual, and to edit the intent and rationale statements of the sponsors for clarity and brevity.
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.

August 15: Posting of Initial Publication of Proposed Legislation (IPOPL).

August 15 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. Additionally, 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.

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 proposal.

September 23: Posting of SPOPL. This publication includes all Division II membership-sponsored proposals (as modified) and all proposals sponsored by the Presidents Council.

September 23 through November 1: Amendment-to-Amendment Period. The Presidents Council as well as the membership (see Constitution 5.3.4.2) may submit amendments to the Division II proposals in the SPOPL. These amendments-to-amendments may not increase the modification of the provisions to be amended; they must fall between the provisions of the circularized amendment and the current provisions.

November 1: Deadline for resolutions and 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 Board of Governors are authorized to submit further amendments-to-amendments at the Convention if it deems such action necessary.

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

January 22-25, 2020: NCAA Convention. All delegates have the opportunity to download the NCAA Events app prior to arriving at the Convention. The NCAA Events app contains the most up-to-date meeting schedule and other helpful Convention information.

Division II Legislation Committee

Chair - Cherrie Wilmoth, Southeastern Oklahoma State University
Molly Belden, Northeast-10 Conference
Peggy Davis, Virginia State University
Chris Gregor, Saint Martin's University
Diana Kling, Peach Belt Conference
Scott Larson, Lubbock Christian University
David Marsh, Northwood University
Deiontae Nicholas, Wayne State University (Michigan)
Darnell Smith, University of Central Oklahoma
Keith Vitense, Cameron University
Scott Young, University of Indianapolis
114th 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 to propose any other effective date prior to the first day of August, a two-thirds majority of all delegates present and eligible to vote on the amendment is required to approve the immediate or alternative effective date. Further, all amendments with an effective date other than the first day of August following the Convention, will contain in the rationale statement reasons for such effective date. Those proposals that receive the required vote to carry an immediate effective date and that are adopted, become effective upon adjournment of the Convention.]

[Note: In the following proposals:

- Those letters and words that appear in *italics* and strikethrough are to be deleted;
- Those letters and words that appear in **bold** and *underlined* are to be added; and
- Those letters and words that appear in normal text are unchanged from the current Division II legislation.]
Membership

No. 1-1  NCAA MEMBERSHIP -- MEMBER CONFERENCE -- COMPOSITION OF ACTIVE CONFERENCES -- REQUIREMENT FOR CURRENT CONFERENCES

Intent: To require that a current active Division II member conference maintain a minimum of eight active member institutions.

Constitution: Amend 3.4, as follows:

[Division II, Roll Call]

3.4 Member Conference.

3.4.1 Eligibility.

   [3.4.1.1 unchanged.]

   3.4.1.2 Composition of Active Conferences. All of the members of the conference shall be active members of this Association. A conference with 40 eight or more active NCAA members may accept an institution in the provisional period of the Division II membership process (see Bylaw 20.2.2) into active conference membership.

     [3.4.1.2.1 unchanged.]

     [3.4.1.3 through 3.4.1.6 unchanged.]

   [3.4.2 through 3.4.6 unchanged.]

Source: East Coast Conference, Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference, Conference Carolinas, Great Northwest Athletic Conference, Gulf South Conference, Northeast-10 Conference and Pennsylvania State Athletic Conference.

Effective Date: August 1, 2022

Rationale: In 2012, the member conference legislation was amended to require existing conferences to have a minimum of 10 members by 2022. The aim was to ensure long term stability of leagues. While there has been some membership growth, there has also been increased instability within conferences. Schools have changed affiliations, institutions closed, reclassified, merged or dropped athletic programs altogether. These are difficult times for smaller private and public institutions, many of which are in a battle for enrollment and resources. Forecasts show a strong potential for increases in institutions closing or merging and, in turn, athletic programs being negatively affected. While there is a waiver available for active conferences that may fall below the 10-member requirement, without a guarantee of a waiver for as long as needed, the concern about a conference’s ability to operate will always be an issue, causing schools to seek other affiliations. Maintaining the eight institution requirement for active Division II conferences will allow current conferences that may be unable to locate new members due to attrition, location or other factors to continue to provide services to their membership. This proposal does not impact the current requirements for new conferences to have 10 active members.

Frequently Asked Questions:

Question No. 1: What is the current minimum number of institutions required to become a Division II conference?

Answer: Current legislation requires an active Division II conference to have a minimum of eight active Division II institutions. By 2022, a conference will be required to have 10 active Division II institutions.

Question No. 2: Does this proposed change apply to active and new conferences alike?

Answer: No. This change applies to the active conferences within Division II. A new conference applying to Division II would be required to have 10 member institutions.

Question No. 3: Will there be a waiver opportunity for a conference that falls below the minimum of eight active institutions?

Answer: Yes. Such waivers will be considered on a case-by-case basis by the Division II Membership Committee.
Primary Contact Person:
Melissa Reilly, Associate Commissioner, SWA
East Coast Conference
Email: mreilly@eccsports.org
Recruiting

No. 1-2 RECRUITING -- CONTACTS AND EVALUATIONS -- FOUR-YEAR COLLEGE PROSPECTIVE STUDENT-ATHLETES -- NOTIFICATION OF TRANSFER

Intent: To replace the "permission to contact" legislation related to four-year college transfer student-athletes with a "notification of transfer" model; further, to specify that an institution must place a student-athlete’s written request for transfer into the NCAA Transfer Portal within seven-consecutive calendar days of receipt of written notification of transfer.

A. Bylaws: Amend 13.1.1.2, as follows:

[Division II, Roll Call]

13.1.1.2 Four-Year College Prospective Student-Athletes. An athletics staff member or other representative of the institution’s athletics interests shall not make contact with the student-athlete of an NCAA Division II institution, directly or indirectly, without first obtaining the written permission of the first institution’s athletics director (or an athletics administrator designated by the athletics director) to do so, regardless of who makes the initial contact, or authorization through the notification of transfer process. Before making contact, directly or indirectly, with a student-athlete of an NCAA Division I or Division III institution, an athletics staff member or other representative of the institution’s interest shall comply with the rules of the applicable division for making contact with a student-athlete. If permission is not granted, the second institution shall not encourage the transfer and shall not provide athletic related financial assistance to the student-athlete until the student-athlete has attended the second institution for one academic year. If permission is granted to contact the student-athlete, all applicable NCAA recruiting rules apply. (See Bylaw 13.1.5 for legislation regarding contacts and Bylaw 13.1.3.1 for legislation regarding telephone calls.) If an institution receives a written request from a student-athlete to permit another institution to contact the student-athlete about transferring, the institution shall grant or deny the request within 14 consecutive calendar days of receipt of the request. If the institution fails to respond to the student-athlete’s written request within 14 consecutive calendar days, permission shall be granted by default and the institution shall provide written permission to the student-athlete. Permission to contact is not required for Before making contact, directly or indirectly, with a student-athlete at an NAIA institution; however, the Division II institution’s director of athletics (or an individual designated by the director of athletics) must send notification of recruitment to the NAIA institution prior to contact with an NAIA student-athlete.

[D]

13.1.1.2.1 Hearing Opportunity. If the institution decides to deny a student-athlete’s request to permit any other institution to contact the student-athlete about transferring, the athletics director (or his or her designee) shall inform the student-athlete in writing, within 14 consecutive calendar days from receipt of a student-athlete’s written request, that he or she, on request, shall be provided a hearing conducted by an institutional entity or committee outside of the athletics department (e.g., the office of student affairs; office of the dean of students; or a committee composed of the faculty athletics representative, student-athletes and nonathletics faculty/staff members). The notification of the hearing opportunity shall include a copy of the institution’s policies and procedures for conducting the required hearing, including the deadline by which a student-athlete must request such a hearing. The institution shall conduct the hearing and provide written results of the hearing to the student-athlete within 30 consecutive calendar days of receiving a student-athlete’s written request for the hearing. The student-athlete shall be provided the opportunity to actively participate (e.g., in person, via telephone) in the hearing. If the institution fails to conduct the hearing or provide the written results to the student-athlete within 30 consecutive calendar days, permission to contact the student-athlete shall be granted by default and the institution shall provide written permission to the student-athlete.

13.1.1.2.1 Notification of Transfer. A student-athlete may initiate the notification of transfer process by providing his or her institution with a written notification of transfer at any time. The student-athlete’s institution shall enter his or her information into the NCAA Transfer Portal within seven-consecutive calendar days of receipt of a written notification of transfer from the student-athlete. [D]

13.1.1.2.2 Student-Athlete Withdrawn From Four-Year College. A member institution may contact a student-athlete who has withdrawn officially from a four-year collegiate institution without obtaining permission from the first institution authorization through the notification of transfer process only if at least one academic year has elapsed since the withdrawal.

13.1.1.2.3 Transfer from Institution on Probation. It is not necessary for an institution to obtain permission in writing authorization through the notification of transfer process to recruit a student-athlete at an institution that has been placed on probation with sanctions that preclude it from competing in postseason competition during
the remaining seasons of the student-athlete's eligibility. However, the student-athlete's institution must be notified of the recruitment.

[13.1.1.2.4 unchanged.]

13.1.1.2.5 Discontinued Sport Exception. Permission to contact Authorization through the notification of transfer process is not required for a student-athlete at an institution that indicates through public announcement that the student-athlete's sport will be discontinued.

B. **Bylaws:** Amend 13.6.1.3.1, as follows:

[Division II, Roll Call]

13.6.1.3.1 Transfer Student. If a student-athlete attending a four-year institution desires to transfer and that institution provides the permission authorization required (per Bylaw 13.1.1.2), it is permissible for a second institution to provide the student-athlete one official visit to that institution's campus.

C. **Bylaws:** Amend 14.5.5, as follows:

[Division II, Roll Call]

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 of that institution’s athletics director first obtaining authorization through the notification of transfer process. (See Bylaw 14.4 for progress-toward-degree requirements for transfer student-athletes.)

[14.5.5.1 through 14.5.5.4 unchanged.]

D. **Bylaws:** Amend 15.1.1, as follows:

[Division II, Roll Call]

15.1.1 Eligibility of Student-Athletes for Athletics Aid. A student-athlete must meet applicable NCAA (see Bylaw 14), conference and institutional regulations to be eligible for athletics aid. A student-athlete may be awarded athletics aid during any term in which a student-athlete is in regular attendance (i.e., was enrolled initially in a minimum full-time program of studies as defined by the certifying institution during that term). If these regulations are met, the student-athlete may be granted athletics aid for a maximum of 10 semesters/15 quarters. Any athletics financial aid provided after 10 semesters/15 quarters is left to the discretion of the institution consistent with institutional policies for awarding financial aid in general. [Note: See Bylaw 13.1.1.2 for the financial aid implications in the prohibition against contacting student-athletes of another four-year collegiate institution without permission of that institution’s athletics director.]

[15.1.1.1 through 15.1.1.4 unchanged.]

**Source:** Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference and East Coast Conference.

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2020, for any four-year college student-athlete transferring during the 2020-21 academic year, and thereafter.

**Rationale:** This proposal presents a notification-based alternative to replace the existing permission to contact model and improve the recruiting environment associated with four-year college transfer student-athletes. Pursuant to a notification model, a student-athlete would be permitted to explore transfer opportunities at another institution once written notification is provided. Once a notification of transfer has been submitted, the student-athlete would be entered into the NCAA Transfer Portal, which will provide more transparency for coaches and student-athletes. Separating access to athletics aid from a permission to contact or notification model enhances student-athlete well-being because a student-athlete’s eligibility for financial aid at a new institution would be based on the general legislative requirements applicable to all student-athletes.

**Frequently Asked Questions:**

**Question No. 1:** How does the notification of transfer legislation differ from permission to contact?

**Answer:** The charts below summarize the current and proposed legislation for transfers.
### RECRUITING LEGISLATION:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current Legislation: Permission to Contact</th>
<th>Proposed Legislation: Notification of Transfer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A student-athlete must request permission to contact another institution. Current institution may grant or deny permission to contact. Permission to contact is provided in writing or through the NCAA Transfer Portal and is specific to one institution.</td>
<td>A student-athlete provides written notification of transfer to current institution. Current institution may not block communication between a student-athlete and another institution. A student-athlete’s information is entered into the NCAA Transfer Portal within seven-consecutive calendar days, which is visible to all institutions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• If permission to contact is granted, the institution may contact the transfer student-athlete. All NCAA recruiting rules apply.</td>
<td>• A student-athlete may receive athletics aid at the subsequent institution upon transfer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• If permission to contact is denied, the institution may not contact the transfer student-athlete or provide athletics aid during the first academic year.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
## ELIGIBILITY LEGISLATION:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current Legislation:</th>
<th>If Proposal No. 2020-6 is adopted:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A transfer student-athlete must fulfill one academic year of residence at the second institution; or Meet a legislated transfer exception or have a legislative relief waiver approved. Institutions may approve or deny use of the one-time transfer exception for immediate eligibility.</td>
<td>A transfer student-athlete must fulfill one academic year of residence at the second institution; or Meet a legislated transfer exception or have a legislative relief waiver approved. Institutions may approve or deny use of the one-time transfer exception for immediate eligibility.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## FINANCIAL AID:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current Legislation:</th>
<th>If Proposal No. 2020-6 is adopted:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A request for permission to contact does not constitute voluntary withdrawal. An institution may not cancel athletics aid during the period of award after a student-athlete requests permission to contact.</td>
<td>Notification of transfer does not constitute voluntary withdrawal. An institution may not cancel athletics aid during the period of award after a student-athlete provides written notification of transfer.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Question No. 2:** If this proposal is adopted, will institutions still be able to deny the use of the one-time transfer exception to prevent the student-athlete from being immediately eligible?

**Answer:** Yes.

**Question No. 3:** May an institution place restrictions within the NCAA Transfer Portal on which institutions a student-athlete may contact?

**Answer:** No.

**Question No. 4:** May an institution reduce or cancel a student-athlete’s athletics aid once the student-athlete is placed into the NCAA Transfer Portal?

**Answer:** No. A student-athlete’s written notification to be placed into the NCAA Transfer Portal does not, in and of itself, constitute a voluntary withdrawal from a sport. Therefore, it is not permissible for an institution to reduce or cancel a student-athlete’s athletics aid during the period of the award based on their written notification of transfer.

**Question No. 5:** If a student-athlete, who has signed an athletics aid agreement prior to July 1 for the following academic year, requests to be placed in the NCAA Transfer Portal, may an institution cancel their athletics aid?

**Answer:** No. An institution may only reduce or cancel the student-athlete’s athletics aid after the period of the award (i.e., by July 1 of the following year).

**Primary Contact Person:**
Ellen O'Brien, Associate Commissioner/SWA
Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference
Email: eobrien@caccathletics.org

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No. 1-3 RECRUITING -- LETTER-OF-INTENT PROGRAMS, FINANCIAL AID AGREEMENTS -- TRANSSCRIPT PRIOR TO NATIONAL LETTER OF INTENT OR WRITTEN OFFER OF ATHLETICS AID -- ELIMINATION OF CURRENT TRANSCRIPT REQUIREMENT
Intent: To eliminate the requirement that a current transcript must be provided to an institution prior to issuing a National Letter of Intent or written offer of athletics aid.

Bylaws: Amend 13.9, as follows:

13.9 Letter-of-Intent Programs, Financial Aid Agreements.

[13.9.1 unchanged.]

13.9.2 Transcript Prior to National Letter of Intent or Written Offer of Athletics Aid. An institution shall not provide a high school, college-preparatory school, two-year or four-year college prospective student-athlete with a National Letter of Intent or written offer of athletics aid until the prospective student-athlete presents the institution with a current high school, college-preparatory school or college transcript (official or unofficial). [D]

13.9.2.1 Exception — High School or College Preparatory School Prospective Student Athlete With a Final Academic Certification. An institution may provide a high school or college preparatory school prospective student-athlete with a National Letter of Intent or written offer of athletically related financial aid without having received a current high school or college preparatory transcript, provided the prospective student-athlete’s final academic certification has been issued by the NCAA Eligibility Center.

[13.9.3 unchanged.]

Source: Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference and Northeast-10 Conference.

Effective Date: Immediate

Rationale: This proposal helps ease the burden of compliance for prospective student-athletes, high school counselors, collegiate coaches and institutional compliance administrators without a negative impact on the recruiting process. Eliminating the current transcript requirement prior to offering a National Letter of Intent or written offer of athletics aid would avoid additional paperwork for prospective student-athletes, high school counselors, collegiate coaches and institutional compliance administrators. The immediate effective date would eliminate the requirement to receive a current transcript prior to offering a National Letter of Intent or written offer of athletics aid during spring 2020.

Frequently Asked Questions:

Question No. 1: What is the current legislation?

Answer: Prior to an institution providing a high school, college-preparatory school, two-year or four-year college prospective student-athlete with a National Letter of Intent or written offer of athletically related financial aid, the prospective student-athlete must first present a Division II institution with a current high school, college-preparatory school or college official or unofficial transcript.

Question No. 2: Would this proposal eliminate the need for a transcript?

Answer: No, the proposal only eliminates the requirement that the transcript be current. A prospective student-athlete would still be required to provide a transcript prior to the institution offering a National Letter of Intent or written offer of athletically related financial aid.

Primary Contact Person:
Kirsten Ford, Associate Commissioner
Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference
Email: kford@rmacsports.org

No. 1-4 RECRUITING -- TRYOUTS -- PERMISSIBLE ACTIVITIES -- TRYOUTS -- EXCEPTION - LENGTH OF TRYOUT ACTIVITIES FOR GOLF

Intent: In golf, to increase the permissible length of tryout activities for a prospective student-athlete to five hours.

Bylaws: Amend 13.11.2.1, as follows:

13.11.2.1 Tryouts. A member institution may conduct a tryout of a prospective student-athlete only on its campus or at a site at which it normally conducts practice or competition beginning June 15 immediately preceding the prospective student-athlete’s junior year in high school and only under the following conditions (see Bylaw 17.02.15 for tryouts of currently enrolled students):

[13.11.2.1-(a) through 13.11.2.1-(e) unchanged.]
(f) The time of the tryout activities (other than the physical examination) shall be limited to two hours; and

(1) **Exception. In golf, the time of the tryout activities (other than the physical examination) shall be limited to five hours.**

[13.11.2.1-(g) unchanged.]

**Source:** Peach Belt Conference and Gulf South Conference.

**Effective Date:** Immediate

**Rationale:** Currently, the length of a tryout for a prospective student-athlete shall not exceed two hours. In golf, however, it takes approximately five hours to complete a round of golf, which exceeds the two hours allowed for a permissible tryout. Due to the unique nature of the sport, it is necessary for a Division II coach to observe a prospective student-athlete for an entire round of golf in order to effectively evaluate a prospect's ability to manage the mental and physical requirements of the sport. This change will align the tryout legislation with other areas of the legislation like the daily and weekly hour limitations where golf has been provided extended time for activities due to the time required to complete a round of golf. An immediate effective date will allow Division II golf prospective student-athletes to participate in an extended tryout during the spring and summer of 2020.

**Frequently Asked Questions:**

**Question No. 1:** What is the current legislation?

**Answer:** Currently, a prospective student-athlete in all sports may participate in a tryout lasting up to two hours.

**Question No. 2:** Will a golf prospective student-athlete be required to participate in a tryout for the entire five hours?

**Answer:** No. It will be left to the institution to determine the length of the tryout, but it may not exceed five hours.

**Question No. 3:** Will this proposal increase the daily and weekly hour limitations for currently enrolled golf student-athletes participating in the tryout?

**Answer:** No. A current golf student-athlete would need to adhere to the daily and weekly hour limitations set forth in Bylaws 17.1.6.1 (daily and weekly hour limitations - playing season) and 17.1.6.3 (weekly hour limitations - outside of playing season).

**Primary Contact Person:**

Diana Kling, Associate Commissioner
Peach Belt Conference
Email: dkling@peachbeltconference.org

**Bylaws:** Amend 13.17.2, as follows:

13.17.2 Women's Basketball. The following contact and evaluation periods shall apply to women's basketball:

[13.17.2-(a) through 13.17.2-(g) unchanged.]

(h) March 1 through 30 days after the Saturday after the initial date for the Division I women's basketball spring signing of the National Letter of Intent the third weekend in May: Contact Period

[13.17.2-(i) through 13.17.2-(j) unchanged.]

(k) During four nonscholastic women's events occurring between May 18 and June 14 selected at the discretion of the institution and designated in writing in the office of the director of athletics: **Evaluation Period**

[13.17.2-(l) relettered as 13.17.2-(k), unchanged.]

**Source:** Bentley University, American International College, Assumption College, East Stroudsburg University, Franklin Pierce University, Le Moyne College, Pace University, Saint Anselm College, Saint Michael's College,

**Date Printed:** 03/30/2020
Southern Connecticut State University, Southern New Hampshire University, Stonehill College, The College of Saint Rose, Thomas Jefferson University and University of New Haven.

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2020

**Rationale:** With Life in the Balance serving as Division II’s philosophy, this proposal seeks to provide balance for both prospective student-athletes, their families and current head and assistant women’s basketball coaches. Establishing a quiet period following the third weekend in May through June 14 will allow coaches to have these weekends free from recruiting obligations, providing for balance in their personal and professional lives. Eliminating this evaluation period will create consistency with Division II men’s basketball and would also effectively align this portion of the spring recruiting calendar with Division I Women’s Basketball. This proposal supports responsible use of time, staffing and resources across Division II.

**Frequently Asked Questions:**

**Question No. 1:** If this proposal is adopted, how will the current legislation be impacted?

**Answer:** The chart below outlines the current and proposed legislation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current Legislation</th>
<th>Proposed Legislation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>An institution’s coach may have in-person, off-campus recruiting contact and evaluations from March 1 through 30 days after the Saturday after the initial date for the Division I women’s basketball spring signing of the NLI.</td>
<td>An institution’s coach may have in-person, off-campus recruiting contact and evaluations from March 1 through the third weekend in May.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>An institution’s coach may be involved in off-campus activities designed to assess the academic qualifications and playing ability of prospective students during four nonscholastic events occurring between May 18 and June 14.</td>
<td>An institution’s coach may not make in-person, off-campus recruiting contact or evaluations after the conclusion of the third weekend in May through June 14.</td>
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**Question No. 2:** If this proposal is adopted, how will the Division II women’s basketball recruiting calendar compare to the Division II men’s basketball and Division I women’s basketball recruiting calendar?

**Answer:** The chart below outlines how the proposed change will align with the Division II men’s basketball recruiting calendar and Division I women’s basketball recruiting calendar.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proposed Division II Women's Basketball</th>
<th>Division I Women's Basketball</th>
<th>Division II Men's Basketball</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>An institution’s coach may have in-person, off-campus recruiting contact and evaluations from March 1 through the third weekend in May.</td>
<td>An institution’s coach may have in-person, off-campus recruiting contact and evaluations the third weekend in May.</td>
<td>An institution’s coach may not make in-person, off-campus recruiting contact or evaluations after the</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Primary Contact Person:
Molly Belden, Associate Commissioner for Compliance Northeast-10 Conference
Email: mmyers@northeast10.org
Intent: In basketball, to specify that contests played as part of a conference challenge event shall be included in both the numerator and denominator and the first-half-of-season calculation for a hardship waiver.

Bylaws: Amend 14.2.5, as follows:

14.2.5 Hardship Waiver. A student-athlete may be granted an additional year of competition by the conference or the Committee on Student-Athlete Reinstatement for reasons of “hardship.” Hardship is defined as an incapacity resulting from an injury or illness that has occurred under all of the following conditions: 

[14.2.5-(a) through 14.2.5-(b) unchanged.] 

(c) The injury or illness occurs when the student-athlete has not participated in more than three contests or dates of competition (whichever is applicable to that sport), or 30 percent of the maximum permissible number of contests or dates of competition set forth in Bylaw 17 in his or her sport (see Bylaw 14.2.5.2.5.1.1 for information regarding percent calculation in track and field and Bylaw 14.2.5.2.5.1.2 for information regarding percent calculation in basketball). Competition (excluding alumni games, fundraising activities, celebrity sports activities, scrimmages and exhibition contests per Bylaw 17 in the applicable sport) against outside participants during the playing season that concludes with the NCAA championship, or, if so designated, during the official NCAA championship playing season in that sport (e.g., spring baseball, fall soccer), shall be countable under this limitation. In basketball, contests played as part of a conference challenge shall be countable under this limitation.

[14.2.5.1 unchanged.]

14.2.5.2 Criteria for Administration of Hardship Waiver. The following criteria are to be employed in the administration of the hardship waiver:

[14.2.5.2.1 through 14.2.5.2.2 unchanged.]

14.2.5.2.3 First-Half-of-Season Calculation. The first half of the season is measured by the maximum permissible number of contests or dates of competition set forth in Bylaw 17 in the sport. In determining if an injury or illness occurs prior to the first competition of the second half of the season that concludes with the NCAA championship in a sport with an odd number of contests or dates of competition, the injury or illness must have occurred prior to the beginning of the contest or date of competition that starts the second half of the season that concludes with the NCAA championship (e.g., an injury or illness occurring at any time after the beginning of the scheduled sixth game of an 11-game schedule would be considered to be after the first half of the institution's season and would not qualify the student-athlete for a hardship waiver).

[14.2.5.2.3.1 through 14.2.5.2.3.2 unchanged.]

14.2.5.2.3.3 First Half-of-Season Calculation - Basketball. If an institution participates in a conference challenge event, the first half of the season shall be measured by the maximum number of contests set forth in Bylaw 17 plus the number of contests played in the conference challenge event. For example, if an institution participates in two contests as part of a conference challenge event, the injury or illness must have occurred prior to the start of the 15th contest (e.g., 26 contests plus two conference challenge contests).

[14.2.5.2.4 unchanged.]

14.2.5.2.5 Percent Calculation. The following requirements apply in determining the percent calculation under this waiver provision: (Note: The percent calculation requirements set forth in Bylaws 14.2.5-(c) and 14.2.5.2.3 apply only to the waiver provisions of this section and do not apply to the maximum- and minimum-contests requirements in Bylaws 17 and 20.)

14.2.5.2.5.1 Denominator in Percent Computation. The denominator in the percent calculation shall be based on the maximum number of contests or dates of competition set forth in Bylaw 17 for the applicable sport.
Denominator in Percent Calculation - Basketball. If an institution participates in a conference challenge event, the denominator shall include the number of contests played in the conference challenge event. For example, if an institution participates in two contests as part of a conference challenge event, the denominator in the percent calculation would be 28 (e.g., 26 contests plus two conference challenge contests).

Effective Date: August 1, 2020, for any incapacitating injury or illness, or other extenuating circumstance occurring on or after August 1, 2020.

Rationale: Basketball student-athletes are currently at a disadvantage when determining the percent calculation, as well as the first-half-of-season calculation for hardship waivers. For the percent calculation, conference challenge event contests are included in the numerator but not in the denominator. The first-half-of-season calculation is also based on the maximum permissible number of contests for basketball, which does not include conference challenge event contests. These contests should be included in these calculations because they count toward regional and national rankings. However, the calculations should be altered to also include the conference challenge event contests in the denominator for percent calculations, as well as overall for first-half-of-season calculations, to avoid an unfair disadvantage for basketball student-athletes.

Frequently Asked Questions:

Question No. 1: What is the current legislation regarding conference challenge events?

Answer: Current legislation permits an institution to exempt a maximum of two basketball contests played as part of a conference challenge event from the maximum number of contest limitations.

Question No. 2: What is the current legislation regarding the inclusion of the conference challenge events in the denominator and first-half-of-the-season calculation?

Answer: Currently, when determining the percent calculation, conference challenge events are included in the numerator, however, they are not included in the denominator. When determining the first half of the season calculation, conference challenge contests are not taken into account.

Question No. 3: If adopted, how will this proposal impact the application of the legislation?

Answer: An institution that participates and exempts a conference challenge event will be permitted to include the contest(s) in the denominator in the percent and first-half-of-season calculations. For example, if an institution participates in two contests as part of a conference challenge event, the first half of the season calculation and denominator for the percent calculation shall be the maximum number of contests set forth in Bylaw 17 for the sport of basketball plus two contests played in the conference challenge event (i.e., 26 contests plus two conference challenge event contests).

Question No. 4: If this proposal is adopted, when would the new criteria become effective?

Answer: The new criteria would be effective for any injury, illness or extenuating circumstance that occurs on or after August 1, 2020. Any injury, illness or extenuating circumstance that occurs prior to August 1, 2020, would be evaluated under the current legislation.

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# Playing and Practice Seasons

**No. 1-7 PLAYING AND PRACTICE SEASONS – GENERAL PLAYING-SEASON REGULATIONS – TIME LIMITS FOR ATHLETICALLY RELATED ACTIVITIES – WEEKLY HOUR LIMITATIONS - OUTSIDE OF PLAYING SEASON – FALL CHAMPIONSHIP SPORTS – FOURTH DAY OF CLASSES**

**Intent:** In fall championship sports, to specify that an institution shall not commence weight training, conditioning and/or team activities before the institution’s fourth day of classes for the second term of the academic year (e.g., winter quarter, spring semester).

**Bylaws:** Amend 17.1.6.3, as follows:

17.1.6.3 Weekly Hour Limitations – Outside of Playing Season.

17.1.6.3.1 Sports Other Than Football. In sports other than football, outside of the playing season during the academic year, only a student-athlete's participation in weight training, conditioning and/or team activities shall be permitted, as follows:

[17.1.6.3.1-(a) through 17.1.6.3.1-(b) unchanged.]

(c) In fall championship sports, from the beginning of the institution’s **fourth day of classes for the** second term of the academic year (e.g., winter quarter, spring semester) through the day before the institution's declared start date of the nonchampionship segment, a student-athlete's participation in weight training, conditioning and/or team activities shall be limited to a maximum of eight hours per week, of which not more than four hours per week may be spent on team activities;

[17.1.6.3.1-(d) through 17.1.6.3.1-(e) unchanged.]

17.1.6.3.2 Football. In football, outside of the playing season during the academic year, only a student-athlete's participation in weight training, conditioning, individual skill instruction and review of game film shall be permitted, as follows:

[17.1.6.3.2-(a) unchanged.]

**b) During the institution's second term of the academic year (e.g., winter quarter, spring semester), a student-athlete's participation may not begin until the fourth day of classes:**

[17.1.6.3.2-(b) through 17.1.6.3.2-(c) relettered as 17.1.6.3.2-(c) through 17.1.6.3.2-(d), unchanged.]

[17.1.6.3.3 through 17.1.6.3.6 unchanged.]

**Source:** Rocky Mountain Athletic Conference and Northeast-10 Conference.

**Effective Date:** August 1, 2020

**Rationale:** Current legislation does not permit spring championship sports to begin countable athletically-related activities until September 7 or the fourth day of classes in the fall semester. The same restriction does not occur during the second term (e.g., spring semester, winter quarter) of the academic year for fall championship sports. The three days allowed for spring championship sport student-athletes at the beginning of the fall term provides time for those individuals to acclimate themselves to their classes, prior to beginning weightlifting, conditioning, and team activities; which, supports student-athlete well-being and academic success. However, fall championship sport student-athletes do not have the same accommodation. This proposal would more closely align legislation for fall sport student-athletes with spring sport student-athletes. In addition, midyear transfers in fall championship sports would have more time to assimilate to a new institution before beginning out-of-season activities. Administratively, this also provides a three-day period at the beginning of the term to focus on certification issues that arise for sports in the championship season before addressing out-of-season student-athletes.

**Frequently Asked Questions:**

**Question No. 1:** Currently, when are fall championship sports permitted to participate in weight training, conditioning and/or team activities during the second term of the academic year?

**Answer:** In fall championship sports, a student-athlete may begin participating in weight training, conditioning and/or team activities from the beginning of the institution’s second term of the academic year (e.g., winter quarter, spring semester) through the day before the institution’s declared start date of the nonchampionship segment.
**Question No. 2:** If adopted, when will fall championship sports be permitted to participate in weight training, conditioning and/or team activities during the second term of the academic year?

**Answer:** Fall championship sports student-athletes will not be permitted to begin weight training, conditioning and/or team activities until the institution’s fourth day of classes for the second term of the academic year (e.g., winter quarter, spring semester).

**Question No. 3:** Will this proposal alter the permissible start date of the nonchampionship segment for fall championship sports?

**Answer:** No. Fall championship sports will not be permitted to start practice or participate in intercollegiate competition in the nonchampionship segment before February 15.

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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 IPOPL before Convention. Interpretations related to the proposed legislation in this IPOPL may be requested via electronic mail to the primary contact persons. When submitting such a request, please include the proposal number in question, your institution's name and your title. All resulting interpretations will be distributed prior to the conference meetings held in conjunction with the Convention.